



March 2007

A Monthly Newsletter From The Faust Real Estate Group

Vol. 6 Issue 3

Phone: 402-4107

March means two things - spring and Irish! As the weather starts warming up, break out the green t-shirt, open the windows and breathe in the fresh spring air. You'll be glad you did!

If you have any family, friends, or loved ones this month looking to buy or sell a home, please give them my name!

Home, Home On The Ranch

The ranch is making a comeback. Over half of all homebuyers nationwide bought a single-story residence last year. Steve Hovany, President of Strategy Planning Associates in Schaumburg, Ill says, "The ranch sort of disappeared for a time," but the style is "pretty routinely being introduced in bigger subdivisions". The reason you ask? "On average, the buyer is getting older." Therefore, the key feature that baby boomers are seeking is a first floor bedroom.

Source: Chicago Tribune, Sharon Stangenes (01/26/07)

Top 10 High Tech Trends for Homeowners

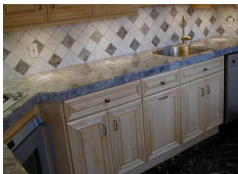
Keeping up with the Joneses has never been this much fun! Here are the top 10 home trends from the International Builders' Show:

1. Home theater or media room
2. Home health-care products & installation
3. Media Center Edition (MCE) computers
4. Microdisplay-based televisions
5. Lighting & automation
6. Security systems
7. Media servers
8. The iPod Revolution
9. Smart sound systems
10. Gaming rooms

Source: The Real Estate Journal

Spruce Up Your Kitchen for Less!

Cabinets - A simple paint job and new hardware can do the trick. Or attach crown molding to the top of the cabinets for a great polished look!



Backsplash - Replace your backsplash using Scrubable options wallpaper, vinyl ceiling tiles, or stick-on vinyl tiles!

New Appliances - Instead of buying all new stainless steel appliances, try some Liquid Stainless Steel paint. Repaint your appliances for

a modern look. It'll be our little secret!

Source: Rachael Ray

March Quote:

No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn. - Hal Borland

Exercise Made Easy:

Exercise doesn't have to be a grueling task!

- Try 30 minutes of modest exercise 3 to 5 days a week.
- Start with 10-minute sessions and progress to 30 minutes.
- People are never too old to start exercising! Even elderly individuals can improve their strength and balance.

Pot-O-Gold Potato Soup

6 Servings

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Ready In: 20 minutes



Ingredients:

3/4 cup chopped celery
 3/4 cup chopped onion
 1/4 cup butter or margarine
 2 (14.5 oz) cans chicken broth
 2 1/2 cup mashed potato flakes
 1 1/2 cup milk

1/2 cup cubed process American cheese
 3.4 teaspoon garlic salt
 3/4 teaspoon chili powder
 1/2 cup sour cream

Directions:

In a 3-qt. saucepan, sauté celery and onion in butter for 2-3 minutes. Stir in broth; bring to boil. Reduce heat. Add potato flakes; cook and stir for 5-7 minutes. Add milk, cheese, garlic salt and chili powder. Cook and stir until cheese is melted. Just before serving, add sour cream and heat through (do not boil).

Source: All Recipes

Warranty Wisdom

Instead of trying to keep track of all the companies you call on to service your house, why not purchase a 2-10 HBW ResaleSM home service agreement. You will only have to make one call describing the covered problem, and the appropriate service person will be sent right to your house.

If your house is already listed with a Realtor®, please disregard this offer.