

Over the Fence

NEWS FROM YOUR REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL...

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Real Estate is my passion.

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Random Acts of Kindness Week is February 11-17

With Valentines Day on the 14th right in the middle. Why not make this the year that you give all week?

Random Acts of Kindness Foundation "inspires people to practice kindness and to "pass it on" to others. They provide free educational and community ideas, guidance, and other resources to kindness participants through their website at www.actsofkindness.org.

The level of our success is limited only by our imagination and no act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted.—Aesop

13 Ideas for acts of kindness all week or even all year:

1. Collect food for a food bank
2. Bring flowers to work and share with coworkers.
3. Pay a compliment at least once a day.
4. Say something nice to everyone you meet this week.
5. Volunteer to read to students in the classroom.
6. Adopt a homeless pet from the humane society.
7. Donate blood.
8. Give another person your parking spot.
9. Offer to fix a leaky faucet for your neighbor.
10. Pay for the meal or toll fee for the person behind you in the drive-thru.
11. Deliver soup and crackers to a sick friend.
12. Plant flowers at a neighborhood school.
13. Shovel snow or rake leaves for a neighbor.

Fixing a leaky faucet.

WASHER TROUBLE: The majority of all faucet leaks are caused by washers which are worn, improperly installed or are the wrong size. Follow the steps below to replace old washers with new:

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Washers of several different sizes.
- An adjustable wrench.
- Screwdriver.

STEP 1: Turn off the main water supply to the sink you're working on. It's usually located under the sink basin or inside a

floor cabinet. Double check that you've turned the water source off by turning on the faucet.

STEP TWO: Turning counter-clockwise, loosen the packing nut. (The packing nut is located just below or inside the individual faucet handles. If you're working with a decorative bathroom faucet handle, you'll first need to remove the decorator covering.) Using the faucet handle, pull out the entire valve unit by twisting and turning it until it pulls free.

STEP THREE: Holding the valve unit in your hand, locate the old washer. (It will most likely be at the bottom of the valve unit itself.) Remove the screw that is holding the old washer in place.

STEP FOUR: Using the old washer as your size guide, replace the old washer with one of equal size. Now replace the screw.

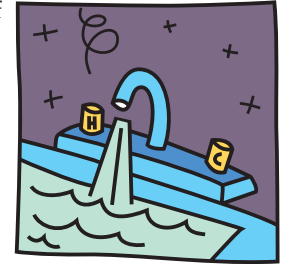
STEP FIVE: Place the valve unit back into the faucet, turning the handle to its proper position before tightening.

STEP SIX: Tighten the packing nut and turn the water back on. Test for leaks.

If your faucet continues to leak and you're fairly certain the washer is to blame, try replacing your old washer with one of a different size.

TIPS: BY WRAPPING the jaws of your pliers or wrench with masking or duct tape you'll prevent marring and damaging the soft metal parts of your faucet.

ALWAYS close the drain before attempting any faucet repair. This will prevent parts from slipping down into the drain as you're working.





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If you are thinking of buying or selling a home in the near future, please call for a personal interview and property assessment with no obligation.



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Leap for Joy! Leap Year is Here!

This year is leap year with 29 days in February. February 2008 has five Fridays—it starts and ends on a Friday.

That means that each of us has an extra 24 hours or 1440 minutes this month. How do you plan to spend your bonus time? Helping others? Making a difference? Spending time with a significant other, your kids, or family?

Why an extra day? In short, our year is measured by how long it takes the earth to go around the sun. It doesn't take 365 days but 365-1/4 days. Actually...365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 46 seconds. So, every four years we effectively lose a day. To prevent drift in our calendar we adjust the four-year period to be 4,161 instead of 4,160 days.



February 2008

February is upon us and there are lots of reasons to celebrate. Check out this list of Celebration Days!

February 2nd: Groundhog Day

February 3rd: Super Bowl XLII

February 5th: Mardi Gras



February 14th: Valentines Day

February 18th: Presidents Day

February 19th: Chocolate Mint Day

February 28th: National Chili Day

February 29th: Leap Year Day



CROCK POT WHITE CHICKEN CHILI

- 1-1/4 lbs. boneless skinless chicken
- 2, 15 oz. cans great northern beans or navy beans
- 1, 15 oz. can hominy or white corn
- 1, 1-1/4 oz. envelope taco seasoning
- 1, 4-1/2 oz. can of chopped green chiles
- 1, 10-3/4 oz. can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1, 14 oz. can chicken broth
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- chopped green onions (optional)
- monterey jack cheese (optional)

Place chicken in a 4 quart slow cooker. Top with beans and corn. In a medium bowl, combine taco seasoning, chiles, condensed soup, and chicken broth. Pour over top of ingredients in the crock pot. Cover and cook on low for 8 to 10 hours. Before serving, stir gently to break up chicken, then stir in the sour cream. Serve topped with green onions and jack cheese, if desired.