

April Fool's Day



In sixteenth-century France, the start of the new year was observed on April first. It was celebrated in much the same way as it is today with parties and dancing into the late hours of the night. Then in 1562, Pope Gregory introduced a new calendar for the Christian world, and the new year fell on January first. There were some people, however, who hadn't heard or didn't believe the change in the

date, so they continued to celebrate New Year's Day on April first. Others played tricks on them and called them "April fools." They sent them on a "fool's errand" or tried to make them believe that something false was true. In France today, April first is called "Poisson d'Avril." French children fool their friends by taping a paper fish to their friends' backs. When the "young fool" discovers this trick, the prankster yells "Poisson d'Avril!" (April Fish!)

Contributed by **Lirpa Loof**

Arbor Day

Celebrate Arbor Day by planting 'the right tree' in your yard. A new tree can add beauty to your landscape and value to your home, but choosing its location can be tricky. First, it should be placed to avoid contact with power lines and buildings. Some questions to ask when selecting a tree:

- * How high will this tree grow and how wide will it be? A columnar tree requires less space. Round and V-Shaped species provide more shade.
- * Will it lose its leaves in the winter? What temperature extremes will it tolerate?
- * How long will it take for it to reach its full height? Slow-growing species typically live longer. Fast growers provide beauty and shade in just a few years.
- * Are the soil, sun, and moisture requirements of this tree compatible with where I want to plant it?



The 2010 Household Hazardous Waste Program begins May 1. Visit BucksCounty.org for details and Schedule for the summer

Earth Day - 40 Years

In July 2009, the Earth Day Network set a goal of having people register "a billion acts of green" on their Web site by the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

The network wanted to enlighten millions of people by showing them how others were making small changes in their homes, workplaces and lifestyles. No matter how small each step was, added together, they would do wonders to reduce our carbon footprint.

The count is still running, and whether or not it reaches a billion, there are things each of us can do to help save the planet. When we do our part, we breathe cleaner air, drink cleaner water, and walk on healthier soil.

What can you do?

- * Dispose of waste properly. Practice reusing, recycling and buying products made from recycled materials.
- * Buy the least-toxic product for cleaning or lawn care. Do "grasscycling," letting clippings fall on the lawn.
- * Avoid products that have excessive packaging. Buy in larger quantities and save the trees and landfills.
- * Look for water leaks in your home. Check the meter when no water is being used. After two hours, check it again. If the number has changed, there's a leak somewhere.
- * Plant a tree. It will provide cooling shade and help to keep the air clean.

April 1 - April Fool's Day, 2 - Good Friday, 4 - Easter, 15 - Tax Day, 17 - Daffy Duck is 73 years old, 18 - Paul Revere's Ride, 22 - Earth Day, 28 - Administrative Professional Day, 30 - Arbor Day

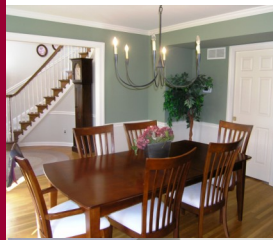
April Events Quiz (Answers above)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Mirror Lake Farms

On a premium 1.38 acre cul-de-sac lot sits this brick-fronted center hall colonial with all of the upgrades & updates one desires.

\$649,000



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Drew's Clues

DREW FERRARA, Your Bucks County Specialist

April 2010



Drew Ferrara

Your Bucks County Realtor!

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Cell: 215.620.1107

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Drew Ferrara, Your Bucks County Specialist

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Ask the Expert

Q Do you have any opinions (or educated guesses) about what home sales will do this year? I'm thinking about buying but don't know when to jump.

A I believe we will see a strong spring selling season, and most agents nationwide agree. We'll probably see cream properties snapped out of the market early in the year, especially as investors move to collect bargains.

There is some evidence that residential buyers are more confident according to The Wall Street Journal's quarterly housing survey.



dence that residential buyers in the housing market, too, Street Journal's quarterly

New surveys of builders show that buyers are more serious this year more comfortable

ers show that buyers are because they are feeling about the future.

Remember the credit expires April 30. Expect to see some movement in this area.

\$8,000 home buyers tax

Inventories are generally down right now. Inventories of homes listed for sale are down sharply in some east and west coast housing markets. The decrease in available homes has caused bidding wars on lower-end properties in some neighborhoods in Boston and Sacramento.

As the year progresses, jobs and mortgage problems will influence the market, the WSJ predicts. Mortgage defaults may put more homes on the market again. Lenders haven't even started the foreclosure process on more than 2.5 million homes now 90 days or more behind on payments.

According to Moodyseconomy.com, mortgage defaults tend to follow unemployment. If unemployment rises even incrementally, we'll see more homes on the market again. It will be an excellent investment and residential home buying market at that time, but interest rates may be higher.

Open-Air Living, Boost the Value of Your Home!

Relaxing and elegant, the new outdoor spaces are features that home buyers love.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau Housing Survey, homeowners spent more than \$40 billion in 2003 improving outdoor areas. Some improvements can fetch 75 percent of the cost when it comes time to sell.

At one time, outdoor living involved mainly a deck with a grill. Today outdoor rooms range from elaborate to simple and there are lots of choices.

At the high end, open-air outdoor rooms can include a full kitchen, dining area, fireplace and television.

New Florida rooms, also called knee rooms, are fully enclosed, climate-controlled, four-season rooms flooded with light from many windows. They often include a door to an open deck.

Finally, fully glassed-in sunrooms or solariums are a favorite to enhance a beautiful view. In cooler climates, sunny days can provide comfortable warmth. In warmer climates, the rooms require special glass so that they don't become too hot in the summer.

Enclosing the Patio

It's easier than ever to transform your patio, deck or breezeway into a place for living and entertaining during the spring, summer and fall. Manufacturer

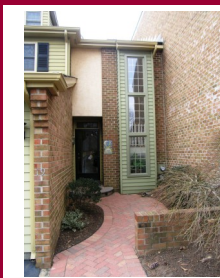
enclosures can be designed to fit your space, lifestyle and budget.

Styles include studio models with cathedral ceiling and gabled roofs. They can include tinted glass, skylights, electrical outlets and phone and cable lines.

All-season patio rooms cost more but are best for those who want to use them during the entire year.



Current Listings View all MLS Listings at HomesInBucksPA.com



Sutphin Pines in Yardley

This beautiful townhome boasts three spacious living levels, large, bright rooms, a lovely updated kitchen with granite counters, and a private brick patio. Contact me for further information on this property.



Oxford Falls

Pennsbury Schools

12 BRAND NEW spacious 2-story town homes with basements & Garages in Langhorne (Falls Township). Impressive list of Standard Features and Luxurious Options. **Starting at \$309,900**



Pine Brook Farms - Yardley

This lovely home features a large out-door living space which overlooks a scenic babbling brook. Enjoy two large main suites, and spacious living areas.

\$379,900



Green valley - Langhorne

Continuously updated over the last 25 years, this home offers a spectacular Kitchen, huge Living & Family Rooms - both with fireplaces, charming Main Bedroom Suite plus a 23' Sun Room overlooking the private .61 acre lot.

\$389,900



Roof Stains? Contact me for information on easy and inexpensive products and services to correct this unsightly problem.



Join LeTip of Newtown and increase your business success!

All members are ready to show you how Professional Networking can be part of your Sales and Marketing strategy.

Contact me for more information, and an invitation to one of our weekly breakfast meetings.



Drew's Clues #5: Using my Database of valued vendors

Being in the real estate industry for so many years has allowed me to built quality relationships with reputable companies that can handle any type of job you may need completed! I have a close network of my trusted, reliable & reasonable contractors that would love to help you!

- Electricians
- Painters
- Roofers
- Chimney Inspection & Cleaning
- Public Adjusters
- Power-Washers
- Flooring Installation
- Movers
- General Construction
- Home Additions
- Loan Officers
- Appraisers
- CPA's
- HVAC Installation & Repair
- All Types of Insurance
- Interior Designers
- Chefs & Caterers
- Driveway Sealing
- Digital Printing
- Dry Cleaners
- Payroll Services
- Professional Cleaning
- Flood & Mold Clean-Up
- Swimming Pool Installation and Maintenance

Water Powered Back-up Sump Pump

Pumping up to 600 gallons per hour at zero feet, these backup pump systems are powered by municipal water pressure; no electricity or batteries are required. They are usually made of corrosion resistant thermoplastic construction for long life. They use an adjustable float switch for automatic operation, and are compatible with any pedestal or submersible sump pump.

