

Are Friendships Good For Our Health?

Dear Friend,

Our friendships aren't only good for us on the surface level, but for our overall health, too. In today's **Service For Life!**® Free consumer newsletter, you'll learn the positive effects our friendships have on our physical and mental health, and how casual interactions with others impact us as well.

You'll also learn what to do if a product you have is recalled, surprising causes of dry skin and types of fences to install in your yard that won't break the bank – plus fun facts, a trivia challenge, and lots more!

Here's what's happening in your neighborhood.

The National Association of REALTORS® unveiled the top 10 homebuying hot spots for 2026 in a new report, [Housing Hot Spots for 2026: The Markets Poised for New Buyer Opportunities](#). The 10 markets were selected based on economic, demographic and housing factors.

NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun revealed the homebuying hot spots and provided a 2026 real estate and economic forecast during NAR's seventh annual Real Estate Forecast Summit: The Year Ahead.

AND OF COURSE COLUMBUS, OHIO WAS LISTED AS ONE OF THE TOP 10 !

Finally, we want you to know that you may call us for any reason. And please let us know if a friend, family member or neighbor needs a caring, competent real estate professional to help in buying or selling.

We truly appreciate your friendship and referrals. Enjoy your issue!

Warmest regards,
Evan & Greg Skinner
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P.S. When you notice people talking about real estate in the next few weeks, can you tell them about the free consumer information we provide?

They may be people looking to buy a home and you can mention our Free Consumer Report: “**8 Secrets For Saving Thousands When Finding, Buying and Financing Your Next Home.**” They’ll be so grateful for this help, and you can give them our phone number – 614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994

Get Free money-saving home tips at my web site: www.soldbyskinner.com



Evan & Greg Skinner's...

Service For Life!®

"Insider Tips For Healthy, Wealthy & Happy Living..."

January 2026
Central Ohio Edition

Recall? No Problem!

From food to electronics, furniture, cars and even toys, at some point most of us will have something that has been recalled. Recalls are issued when something has been deemed unsafe, or in violation of a regulation, and the manufacturer asks consumers to return that item for replacement or a refund.

The website recalls.gov is a good resource for the most current information regarding recalls. Additional resources include SaferProducts.gov, maintained by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and FoodSafetyNews.com for all food recalls.

If something you own is recalled, what is the best way to deal with it? These tips will help guide you through the recall process, and what you may be entitled to.

- **Stop Using the Item:** If a food item is recalled, stop eating it immediately. Similarly, if a product is recalled, stop using it immediately.
- **Check for Compensation:** The recall notice should indicate whether the recalled item will be repaired, replaced, or if you will receive a refund. If it's not clear, a quick visit to the websites above should help you determine the facts.
- **Food Recall:** If a food item in your kitchen has been recalled, simply return it to the store where you bought it and ask for an exchange or a refund; in most cases, a receipt is not necessary. Of course, you can just toss it, too.
- **Product Recall:** Like food, you can take the item back to the store from which you bought it and ask for an exchange (for a non-recalled version) or a refund. You shouldn't need a receipt, but that depends on manufacturer.
- **Vehicle Recall:** Find your VIN number (it's on your dashboard near the driver's side of the window). If you received a mailed notice, it should tell you where you can check to see if your specific car is involved in the recall. If it is, take your vehicle to the dealership to have the recalled item resolved.

Warning Before You Sell Your Home...

Don't put your home on the market without our Free Consumer Guide titled, *"How To Avoid 7 Costly Mistakes When Selling Your Home."* Our exclusive report will give you all the facts for a fast, top dollar sale. Get your free copy by calling us at...614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994

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Word of the Month...

Studies have shown your income and wealth are directly related to the size and depth of your vocabulary. Here is this month's word, so you can impress your friends (and maybe even fatten your wallet!)...

Winsome (win-sum) adjective

Meaning: cheerful, lighthearted

Sample Sentence: Her winsome personality made her a joy to work with.

Did You Know?

We know the old adage that no two snowflakes are alike, but did you know that each is made up of about 200 ice crystals and have six sides? And though they look like they effortlessly float through the sky, snowflakes actually fall at a rate of speed of 3 to 4 miles per hour.

Have A Chuckle

What do you call a line of men waiting to get a haircut?
A barber-queue

How To Clean A Lampshade

No matter how often we clean the house, it's easy to overlook the lampshades scattered throughout. Here, easy ways to clean them quickly and effectively.

- Unplug the lamp, remove the shade and remember to wipe the lightbulb.
- Next, use a feather duster or microfiber cloth to gently lift the dust.
- Shades with pleats are easily cleaned using an electric duster or a new paintbrush.

Quotes To Live By...

"The two most important days in your life are the day you are born... and the day you find out why."

—Mark Twain, writer

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

—Martin Luther King, Jr., activist

"You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated."

—Maya Angelou, poet

Surprising Reasons For Dry Skin

When the weather cools, many of us find ourselves slathering on the lotion to combat dry skin. Though colder temperatures and dry air do cause our skin to dry out, so do some surprising health conditions.

- A vitamin or mineral deficiency can cause extremely dry skin.
- Smoking ages our skin, which in turn causes it to become drier.
- Dry skin can sometimes be a sign of an underlying medical condition like diabetes, thyroid or kidney disease.
- Food allergies can also dry out our skin.
- Medications like statins (cholesterol), retinol (acne), or diuretics (high blood pressure) may cause dry skin.

If you notice your skin is drier than usual, keep an eye out for particularly dry areas, itchiness, or rough patches. It is also a good idea to talk with your doctor to see if there are any underlying health concerns that could be the root cause.

Would You Like To Know How Much Your Neighbor's Home Listed Or Sold For?

Maybe you're just curious. Or maybe you want to know how much your home is worth. Either way, we can help...with no "sales pitches" or run-arounds. Call us at **614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994** and we will give you all the facts !

Friendships For Health

Henry Ford once said, "My best friend is the one who brings out the best in me." But our friendships do so much more; they're good for our health, too.

Research shows that healthy friendships – those that are positive, consistent and vulnerable – can lower our risks of many health issues, keep anxiety at bay, and protect us from the negative effects of stress. Meaningful friendships can also combat feelings of loneliness, which can manifest in headaches, fatigue and nausea. In fact, these friendships have been identified as one of the leading predictors of a long, healthy and satisfying life.

While experts say that most of us are happy with three to five very close friends, we also benefit from interactions with acquaintances and even strangers. So go ahead, have a quick chat with the barista at your local coffee shop. It's good for you!

Brain Teaser...

What's something that belongs to you, but others seem to use it more than you?

(See page 4 for the answer.)

Real Estate Question?

Maybe you want to know how much your home is worth. Or maybe you just need a recommendation for a handyman, carpet cleaner or plumber... Either way, we love hearing from all of our good friends and clients. And we are happy to help answer questions you might have about anything relating to real estate or home-ownership.

If you have a question, tip or idea, call us at **614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994**. We are here to help!

Quickly De-Ice A Windshield

When it's cold outside, the last thing you want to do is stand out there scraping your car's windshield. Use these tips instead:

- Start the car and turn the heater on, and defrost setting on high.
- Mix 2/3 cup of rubbing alcohol and 1/3 cup of water in a spray bottle to store in the car; it won't freeze! For heavy ice built up, spray lightly, wait a moment and use the wipers to clear.

New Sport?

Have you heard of the new sport called quiet tennis?

It's like normal tennis but without the racket.

Sleep Wellness Websites

A good night's sleep boosts overall wellness. These websites can help make the most of your shut-eye.

www.sleepfoundation.org – Expert reviews of pillows, mattresses, bedding and more.

www.thensf.org – Easy to follow guidelines for better sleep.

www.sleepeducation.org – Determine your ideal bedtime and keep a sleep diary.

Get Fenced In, Without Breaking the Bank

Whether it's time to replace an existing fence or if you're starting fresh in your yard, you may be surprised when the quotes come rolling in. Just how much for much for sheets of vinyl or slabs of wood? Depending on the type of fence you have in mind, pricing can range from about \$1,500 to upwards of \$13,000, depending on materials, height and length, and any additional bells and whistles. Luckily, there are many options and you should be able to find one that fits your budget.

- **Split Rail:** If your idea for a fence is more about defining space than for privacy, consider installing a split rail fence. Not only does a split rail fence keep costs down, but it is not as restrictive and opens up sight lines.
- **Bamboo:** For a bit more privacy, a bamboo panel fence could be the solution. Sheets of bamboo can be attached to posts without too much fuss.
- **Pallet:** Scope out the delivery areas of your local stores to see if there are any discarded pallets you can repurpose for a fence. Not only are they an affordable alternative, they're trendy, too.
- **Lattice:** Another affordable DIY option is installing lattice work to act as a fence so long as you attach them to something sturdy.
- **Natural Fence:** If you do not need to keep animals or kids constrained, consider planning a natural fence using shrubs and bushes. Not only will you define your space, but you'll enjoy the greenery.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!
Thank you! Thank you!

Thanks to all our clients and friends who support our practice and graciously referred us to your friends and neighbors. Rather than pester people with unwanted calls and visits, we build our business based on the positive comments and referrals from people just like you. We couldn't do it without you !

Call us at 614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994, or email at sales@soldbyskinner.com

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Thanks For Thinking of Me!

Did you know I can help you or any of your friends or family save time and money when buying or selling a home? Thanks for keeping me in mind with your referrals...and spreading the word about my services.

Brain Teaser Answer:

Your name

Old Year's Resolutions?

Traditionally, we make New Year's resolutions at the beginning of the year, intentions to better ourselves in some way. But when and where did that tradition begin? You may be surprised - as long as 4,000 years ago! In ancient times, the Babylonians "made promises to the gods to pay their debts and return any objects they had borrowed." If they kept their promises, they believed the gods would favor them throughout the year. The Romans began a similar tradition in 46 B.C.E.

Long Fear

There are over 500 documented kinds of phobias, many with interesting names - all ending in *-phobia* which means 'fear' in Greek. Claustrophobia, fear of tight spaces, is a common one- but have you heard of hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia? It's the fear of long words!

THANK YOU for reading our Service For Life![®] personal newsletter. We wanted to produce a newsletter that has great content and is fun and valuable to you. Your constructive feedback is always welcome.

AND... whether you're thinking of buying, selling or financing real estate, or just want to stop by and say "Hi," we would love to hear from you...

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this letter is intended for informational purposes. It should not substitute as legal, accounting, investment, medical or other professional services advice. Always seek a competent professional for answers to your specific questions. This letter is not intended to solicit real estate properties currently for sale.



“Who Else Wants To Win A \$25 Dollar Gift Card?”

Guess who all won last month's Trivia Question? We are pleased to announce the lucky winners of last month's quiz. And the winner are ...drum roll please: Lori Boomershine, Bill Burkey, Tony Dea, Bill Diehl, Suzette Doak, Jon MacLean, Jennifer Morbitzer,

What animal hibernates longest?

- a) Bear b) Sloth c) Koala d) Snail

The answer is d) Snails can hibernate up to three years, and hibernate in both cold and hot weather. Bears, on the other hand, can hibernate in their distinct way for up to eight months, while koalas and sloths don't hibernate at all. So let's move on to *this* month's trivia question.

What is the most common street name in the United States?

- a) Main Street b) First Street c) Central Avenue d) Second Street

Call Us At 614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994 OR Email Us At sales@soldbyskinner.com

And You Could Be One Of Our Next Winners!

Real Estate Corner...

Q: What Factors Do I Need To Consider When Selling A Home?

A: Finding the right price point is the first consideration. You don't want to price your home too high or too low. The balance of the home should be paid with the money from the sale and you'll want to make a profit to help with your next home purchase. Here are a few other factors to think about.

Make sure you are ready. You should be able to afford to get your house sale-ready as well as to make the move to a new home. The time of year can also make a difference in how quickly you can sell - spring and summer are better times to put your home on the market because people have more free time to look at houses and the nicer weather and longer days make showing easier.

Consider the condition of the home. You may need to make upgrades or repair cosmetic defects. Remember, many homebuyers may not be able to get past the look of your home if there are major issues. If your home is outdated, bringing in fresh appliances, new paint, and making exterior repairs can improve first impressions and increase the value of your home.

Having great exposure is necessary for selling your home. The right homebuyers must know about your property. Those buyers will want what your home has to offer and be able to afford the price. Your realtor will employ professional marketing tactics such as open houses, signage, MLS listings, and website exposure to ensure the perfect buyers see your home.

For definitions of these terms and more financing tips, ask for our Free Consumer Report called **“7 Costly Mistakes When Selling Your Home.”** We will send a copy right to you. Do you have a real estate question you want answered? Feel free to call us at 614-546-8354 & 614-537-1994.

Get Free money-saving home tips at my web site: www.soldbyskinner.com

JUST SOLD BY EVAN AND GREG SKINNER



10700 Laguna Circle - Price: \$749,000



4541 Bent Creek Place - Price: \$556,000



1401 Fergus Road - Price: \$479,900



169 Chestnut Commons Drive - Price: \$470,000



0 Matville Road - Price: \$399,900



3336 Orders Road - Price: \$350,000

Contact Us!

And we will be happy to take some time out of our day to talk with you about your home.

We sell more because we do more, call us for our free no obligation listing presentation.



THE SKINNER GROUP

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Former President Grove City Area Chamber of Commerce

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SHOULD I USE A REALTOR WHEN BUYING A NEW BUILD HOME?

The real question that a buyer should ask is, "Why would I use a Realtor for buying from a builder?"

The answer: There isn't a single reason!

Many buyers are unaware that they can have their Realtor represent them for a new construction. Another common myth that buyers have is that builders will offer lower prices if the buyer buys directly, instead of through a Realtor. This is totally false. In fact, a Realtor could get you a better price or more upgrades than what you can negotiate with a builder.

SOME ADVANTAGES OF USING A REALTOR FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

- A purchase contract is a legal document and most buyers never pay close attention to what they are signing. There is no standard contract for new construction. Every builder has their own version of a purchase contract. Buyers realize a problem only after they get into a dispute during the transaction. A Realtor would explain the contract to you up front and be able to negotiate changes to the contract to your advantage.
- A buyer is purchasing a house that will be delivered in the future (*a few months later*). Most buyers who go directly to the builder to negotiate from a list price (*based on guess-work*) end up paying to the advantage of the builder. A Realtor has more experience and insight into the specific market and can write up a contract that would possibly protect you when you are ready to close.
- The builders usually keep a considerable amount as an up-front deposit. If you ever get into a dispute with a builder, you will have the Realtor as your professional advisor to guide you through, and possibly resolve, the situation, by negotiating on your behalf. It is always your Realtor's priority to protect your deposit.
- Most importantly, it doesn't cost you anything to have a Realtor represent you. It is time the buyers start realizing this free benefit and use it to their advantage. If you are considering building your dream home, let us assist you in the process so you can obtain the best possible deal and walk into your new home, knowing everything is right.

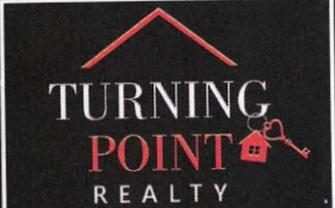


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