



Jared Taylor  
 Tel: (208) 785-4000  
 Cell: (208) 681-9600  
 eMail: jared@jaredtaylor.us

# News ON THE HOUSE

## Summertime is Here!

Be sure to talk to your real estate professional on how you can protect your home & budget with First American



### Breezing through summer

The weather is warming up but there is no reason to lose sweat as this issue guides you through the heat with excellent tips to keep your cool with your family; indoors and outdoors.

I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter that is full of tips and ideas for you as a homeowner. My time as a real estate professional enlightens me with keen insights into my clients' needs and challenges, and I want to let you know that my experience is at your disposal. Please feel welcome to talk to me about any of your real estate needs.

To ensure that you live without worries about your home or appliances, I would like to leave you with a warm note to talk to me about your homebuyer protection plans.



### Easy Ways to Conserve Water for Summer



Oftentimes, it takes mandatory water restrictions enacted during a drought to get consumers thinking about saving water. But using less water every day can help reduce household utility bills, lessen local municipalities' energy use and put less stress on aquifers and water tables.

Half of a home's total water use takes place in the bathroom. Installing water-saving showerheads will reduce gallons of water used per minute in half or more. Older showerheads use 5 to 7 gallons per minute, but new models use only 2.5 gallons.

Similarly, low-flow faucet aerators can be attached to existing faucets in the kitchen and bath to reduce flow per minute. Repair faucet leaks immediately. A slow leak can waste 20 gallons or more of water each day.

Toilets are the single biggest users of household water. Check

toilets periodically for leaks; a leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons of water a day. A constantly running toilet is obvious, but silent leaks are more difficult to detect. To test for leaks, add a drop or two of food coloring to the tank and wait 15 minutes for signs of color in the bowl.



Replacing a poor-fitting toilet flapper is an easy do-it-yourself project. And if you are remodeling, consider replacing outdated toilets with low-flow models, which can save 20 percent.

In the kitchen, fill your dishwasher completely before running it. But in the laundry room, take advantage of your washer's water level settings. When it comes time to replace the washing machine, consider a side-loading model, which uses a third less water than a top-loading machine.



### DID YOU KNOW...

Having **the right home protection plan** helps ensure that **your home & your budget is protected.**

Call your Real Estate Professional today to find out how you can **save time and money** on home repairs.

## Dress Up Your Home, Yard with Brick

Is your house looking a bit drab? Dress it up - maybe even create an outdoor room - with brick.

There are a lot of smaller projects using brick pavers that can really add extra sparkle to your home. These projects can be both creative and practical.

You could put paver brick down in



your backyard to serve as a pad for a grill or underneath a fire pit, for your garbage cans, for underneath a gardening cart or

as an accent next to a water feature.

A brick pad could also dress up the area around your mailbox. Or, you could edge a flower garden with brick pavers, set on end or in a long, lower row.



## Outdoor Entertaining: A Year-Round Experience

Hosting an outdoor party eliminates the worry about messy spills and the need for expensive decorations, since nature can be the backdrop. And no matter the occasion or time of year, grilled foods, good company and outside entertaining are always in season.

Instead of spending hours in the kitchen, prepare simple, easy-to-make finger foods, such as fruit kebabs or this recipe for Grilled Chicken Sandwiches with Pesto Mayo, which can be cut into quarters and made into mini sandwiches - a fun addition to any party.

### Grilled Chicken Sandwiches with Pesto Mayo

(Makes 8 servings)

1 container (7 ounces) Buitoni®

Refrigerated Pesto with Basil, divided

8 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves (about 2 1/2 pounds total)



- 1 cup light mayonnaise
- 8 ciabatta bread or French rolls, split horizontally
- 8 thin slices provolone or other Italian cheese

### Preheat grill or broiler.

Spread 3 tablespoons pesto over chicken breasts. Place remaining pesto and mayonnaise in blender and blend until smooth. Spoon into squeeze bottle or covered container and keep chilled until ready for use.

Grill or broil chicken for 5 minutes over medium heat; turn over. Grill or broil for an additional 3 to 5 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink in center.

Spread pesto mayo over bread; top with chicken and cheese. Add lettuce, sliced tomato and sliced red onion, if desired.



First American Home Buyers Protection Corporation

## Prepare Your Home for a Power Outage

The temperature's soaring with summer around. That means the risk of power outages is increasing.

Staying cool on a hot day requires a lot of extra electricity. The last thing you want during the summer is to be without electricity as a result of a power outage.

Stay out of the dark by following these tips to prepare for a blackout:

- Keep flashlights, fresh batteries, battery-powered radios and clocks easily accessible.
- Have at least 1 gallon of water and a few days' supply of food available.
- Protect your appliances and electronic equipment by investing in an automatic home standby generator. It can power up to 12 circuits in the home within 30 seconds of power loss, and operates on propane or natural gas. Carrier Corp. offers an automatic unit with quiet operation at about half the cost of what such generators were just a few years ago.
- Ensure your car fuel tank is half full. Gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.
- Keep a list of emergency telephone numbers on hand, including the number of your local electric company to report power outages.

