

Christy's

# SMART MOVE

# FOR HOMEOWNERS

Working Hard to Keep You Informed

No. 3 2017



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## Making Sense of it All

There has been a lot of news about the real estate market lately. You've probably heard stories about soaring prices in some areas, interest rate changes, bubbles bursting, you name it. It can all be very confusing — especially if you're wondering about the value of your property or even considering making a move sometime in the future. Well, you don't have to worry about making sense of it all. You have an expert who can help.

You see, as your REALTOR®, a big part of my job is to be available when you have questions about the market.

For example, you might be surprised by the differences between what's happening in the overall market — which is what is often covered by the news — and what you see in this local market. I can help you understand those differences.

So if you have a question or concern, please give me a call. I'll give you the facts you need.

All the best!

*Christy*

*think,  
act... live!*

*"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."*

**Maya Angelou**

*"We know what we are, but know not what we may be."*

**William Shakespeare**

*"Good, better, best. Never let it rest – till your good is better, and your better is best."*

**St. Jerome**

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## March Trivia

Albert Einstein was born on March 14, 1879. His theory of relativity led to new ways of thinking about time, space, matter and energy. He received a Nobel Prize in 1921 and emigrated to the U.S. in 1933 where he was an outspoken critic of Nazi Germany. Believing the Nazis might develop an atomic bomb, he warned President Roosevelt and urged the development of the U.S. Atomic bomb. He also had a passion for classical music. What instrument did he play?

**Call, text, or email me with your answer and you'll be entered into the drawing for this month's \$50 gift card.**

See who the past winners were and get the answers to previous questions on my website, [www.buyandsellincolorado.com](http://www.buyandsellincolorado.com)

**My job as your REALTOR® is to help you with all your needs – before, during and after the sale.**

*If you want market statistics for your area, please call.*

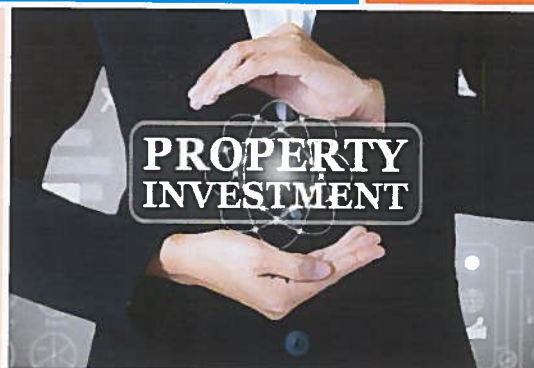
# Before Spring Cleaning, Reduce Clutter



Sometimes it only takes a rainy day (or a dirty window on a sunny day) to inspire us to get serious about spring cleaning. To be most effective, consider reducing clutter first so that you're not cleaning things you may not end up keeping. Start with a common area such as the kitchen, bathroom or family room – one cabinet, closet, shelf or drawer at a time. Sort things into three groups: keep or relocate, sell or give away, recycle or trash. By the time you're done, only "keepers" should remain in the room. Now you're ready to clean.

## An Additional Property May Be More Affordable than You Think

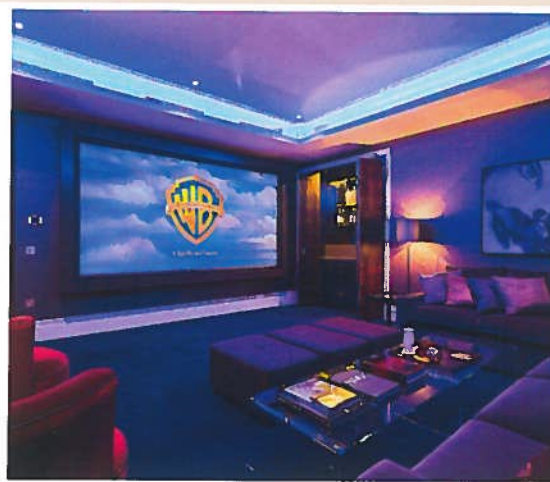
Generally speaking, most homeowners give little consideration to the purchase of a second property, often citing economic limitations for either a down payment or for carrying an extra mortgage. But sometimes an open-minded approach to the idea can create true opportunities. For example, your current property may have enough equity to enable you to secure an additional loan. You may also discover that specific real estate investments have the potential to generate dependable income. It takes homework, but properties in areas where rental units are in demand can generate steady cash



flow, that can contribute to their monthly upkeep. Another option might be owning your own cottage, chalet or resort condo. Rather than taking an expensive family trip this year, imagine using that money towards a vacation property, which can be rented out on long weekends or during the peak season. Alternatively, consider joint-ownership of a time-share property that is arranged as a group purchase with other like-minded investors.

## Interior Lighting Systems for the Entire Ceiling

The latest residential lighting systems employ fiber optics and LED (light-emitting diode) fixtures and bulbs to provide an impressive array of illumination options for homes. These systems can be controlled by simple touch commands on a smartphone or tablet. Bedroom, dining and entertainment room ceilings can be transformed into dazzling star fields, and basement or garage workplace areas can be programmed to replicate natural daylight. Mood-enhancing color tones can also be created to transform a room for various circumstances or occasions. For example, kitchen lighting can evolve from task-enabling to holiday-hosting.



Perhaps the most appealing thing about LED light bulbs is their lifespan. They will last as much as fifty times longer than traditional incandescent bulbs. They also use less electricity to create relatively equal illumination, because their energy consumption is dedicated almost exclusively towards the production of light, rather than wasting a significant amount on the inefficient creation of unintended heat.

## A Home Inspection Can Protect Your Investment

Home inspections are commonly used to help buyers assess the condition of a house before purchase. However, they can also be very beneficial for homeowners – even if they are not intending to sell in the short term. Getting an informed professional opinion about the state of a home can be invaluable in determining priorities for future renovations or ongoing maintenance decisions. The report will give you an objective opinion on the status of the critical elements of the construction and operation of the house, such as its foundation, structure, roofing and drainage, as well as its HVAC, plumbing and electrical systems. This thorough checklist can also be used to request and compare contractor quotations when it's time to act on the inspector's recommendations. Furthermore, it can provide a basis for discussing the current and potential market value of your home.

# HOME INSPECTION

