



**Summer wishes to our valued clients:** After what seemed like an especially long and stormy winter, we are all happy to be on the "cusp of summer". Our gardens have come to life, such beauty everywhere. Even the real estate market has rebounded somewhat, at least in our corner of the world. We welcome your inquiries and invite you to visit our web site at [www.sawler.com](http://www.sawler.com). Have a wonderful summer.

*Don, Dorothy, Andy*

### Buying and Selling a Home in Today's Market

Because of concerns over the economy, many potential home buyers have taken a "let's wait and see" position resulting in a significant slowdown in the rate of home sales. It is a Buyers Market with affordable yet mainly stable prices. With low interest rates, attractive incentives and rebates, and a nice selection of homes for sale, it's a great time to buy.



On the selling side, RE/MAX has launched a program to help sell a property faster and for the most money. "Fit To Sell" is a series of checklists and video clips prepared by leading home staging specialist, Carla Woolnough, and are available online at [www.fittosell.ca](http://www.fittosell.ca) or by contacting us. You could also win a \$25,000 kitchen!

*Courtesy of Al Demings, FRI, RE/MAX nova*

### Safety Tips

With the change of seasons and the warmth that comes with Spring and Summer, many of us look forward to spending time with family and friends at the beach, cottage or elsewhere in the great outdoors.



The Lifesaving Society, Canada's Lifeguarding Experts recommends you consider the following to make sure that your Summer vacation does not become a Summer nightmare.

1. If your family gathering is at the beach or around the pool, make sure someone is appointed as a backyard lifeguard to keep an eye on the children. It takes only seconds for a child to drown. Far too often, accidents around the water occur when there is confusion about who was looking after the children.
2. Toddlers should never be allowed near the water on their own "If your child is not within arms reach, they have gone too far".
3. Wear your lifejacket when on the water. Over 90% of the people killed in boating accidents were found without their lifejackets on. Thirty seconds of prevention could save your life.

*Courtesy of Gordon Richardson, Executive Director, Lifesaving Society*

### Green Salad Dressing

In these days of summer salads, try this recipe. Even the children love it - must be the sugar!

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1/2 cup olive oil       | 1 tsp dry mustard       |
| 4 Tbsp sugar            | 1 clove garlic, crushed |
| 4 Tbsp red wine vinegar | shake salt & pepper     |



Blend well. Make a few hours ahead. Fabulous!

*Courtesy of Eleanor O'Hara*

### Money Saving Tips for the Home Gardener

Instead of buying herbicides and landscape fabric to control those pesky weeds try this alternative:

Simply fill your wheelbarrow with water and soak newspapers for 5 - 6 minutes. Place around flowers and shrubs, cover with compost, soil or mulch. This will also keep moisture in the soil (less water use) plus less time spent pulling weeds equals less stress on the back and knees!

**Need new plants?** Watch for yard sales that sell only flowers and shrubs. Cole Harbour Farm Museum has great prices, a wonderful selection, and healthy plants. Why not start a plant swap among your friends, neighbours and co-workers? Happy gardening and don't forget your sunscreen!

*Courtesy of Sharon Gallant of "I love to Garden Yard Service" at 221-1088 or 461-0127 (If you need someone to work in your garden, call Sharon. Her garden is beautiful and yours could be too!)*



### Evergreen House: One of Dartmouth's Victorian Estates

26 Newcastle Street is the current headquarters of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum and is open year round to the public. Evergreen was built in 1867 for Judge Alexander James and his wife Harriet Hawthorn.

It highlights a rich local history featuring the stories behind Hawthorne Street and Hawthorn School, Albro Lake & Road, Albert Street, Old Ferry Road and gives a beautiful representation of life in a Victorian estate in Dartmouth in the 1860's.



It was also the 50 year home to folklorist, Helen Creighton, nationally acclaimed for her life's work archiving local folksongs, ghost stories, legends, recipes and much more.

Evergreen also features one of the best views of Halifax Harbour. The upper galleries are dedicated to rotating exhibits of the social history of the area and also hosts the work of local artists. The museum is open Tuesdays to Fridays from 10-5 and Saturdays from 10-1 and 2-5.

*Courtesy of Evergreen House*

*Treat everyone with politeness, even those who are rude to you. Not because they are nice, but because you are. Author Unknown*

**Tulip Tip:** Place a penny in the vase. Your tulips will remain upright. *Courtesy of Diane MacLean*

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