

# Over the Fence

NEWS FROM YOUR REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONAL...

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## Get Ready to Enjoy the Summer!

With Mother's Day and Memorial Day coming up this month, there is plenty of incentive to get those outdoor spaces ready to entertain. Get your house and yard in good order now, and you'll be ready to enjoy the summer days ahead.

- **Paint or stain your home's exterior.** Longer days and generally milder weather makes May a good month to schedule house painting.
- **Check exterior lighting.** Make sure all outdoor lights are in working order, including motion-sensing security lights. Replace bulbs or schedule repairs as needed.
- **Inspect kitchen and bath fixtures.** Keeping an eye on these areas can help prevent costly water damage and repairs later on. Re-grout or caulk around counters and tile as needed.
- **Deep clean the laundry room.** Run the washing machine with specialty tub cleaner (or with vinegar for a natural solution) on a hot water cycle. Wipe the rubber rim inside



**MAY HOME WARRANTY TIP:** Remember to drain a gallon or two of water from your hot water heater at least twice a year to extend its life expectancy.

the door of the washer and dryer and remove lint from the dryer vent with a vent brush or vacuum attachment.

- **Refresh bedrooms.** Rotate the mattresses on all beds and flip over if possible. Dust nightstands, lamps, headboard, blinds and decor. Swap heavy duvets for lighter weight bedding for the warmer months.
- **Clean and prep your grill.** Giving your grill a deep cleaning before the start of the season will help it work more efficiently and prevent flare-ups. Clean the grates and interior with a grill brush and wash the exterior with warm, soapy water.
- **Add a relaxing porch feature.** Make your porch an inviting place to relax and hang out with the addition of a porch swing, rocking chairs or a glider. Crisp white outdoor curtains provide shade and look chic.



For full article visit <http://fnhw.us/2nw8a4d>



## May Calendar

- May 14th: Mother's Day
- May 20th: Armed Forces Day
- May 29th: Memorial Day
- National BBQ Month



## What to Do For Mom on Mother's Day

- **Start a vegetable or herb garden.** Mother's Day is a great time to get lots of veggies and herbs planted. The great thing is that this is a gift she'll enjoy through the summer, with fresh ingredients just steps away from the kitchen.
- **Complete the chores she usually does.** Whether your mother is the one usually on dishwashing duty, mowing the lawn, taking out the trash or folding the laundry, tell her that doing any of that is strictly forbidden on her day.
- **Share your talents with Mom.** If you have great style, help your mother put together some chic looks and accessorize them. Help her get her closet more organized while you're at it.
- **Similarly, if you're technologically talented and your mother isn't, take the time to help her with all of her IT needs today.** Hook up that DVD player, help her get the DVR sorted out, find an app she'll like and teach her how to use it.

For full article visit [fnhw.us/2m5vRmQ](http://fnhw.us/2m5vRmQ)



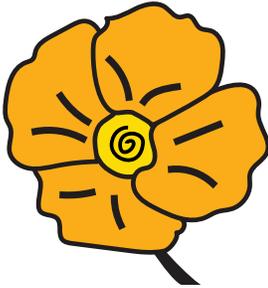
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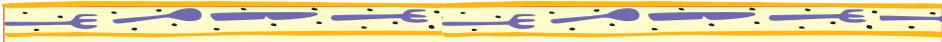
## The Flower of Remembrance

*During the days leading up to Memorial Day, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars take donations for poppies.*

The poppy's significance to Memorial Day is the result of the John McCrae poem "In Flanders Fields." Disabled and needy veterans in VA hospitals have been assembling Buddy Poppies since 1924. Purchase one, and your donation assists in maintaining state and national rehabilitation and service programs for veterans.



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## FIRECRACKER GRILLED ALASKA SALMON— *Fire up the grill for Memorial Day!*

### Ingredients

8 (4 ounce) fillets salmon  
1/2 cup peanut oil  
4 tablespoons soy sauce  
4 tablespoons balsamic vinegar  
4 tablespoons green onions, chopped  
3 teaspoons brown sugar  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger  
2 teaspoons crushed red pepper flakes  
1 teaspoon sesame oil  
1/2 teaspoon salt

### Directions

Place salmon filets in a medium, nonporous glass dish. In a separate medium bowl, combine the peanut oil, soy sauce, vinegar, green onions, brown sugar, garlic, ginger, red pepper flakes, sesame oil and salt. Whisk together well, and pour over the fish. Cover and marinate the fish in the refrigerator for 4 to 6 hours.

Prepare an outdoor grill with coals about 5 inches from the grate, and lightly oil the grate.

Grill the fillets 5 inches from coals for 10 minutes per inch of thickness, measured at the thickest part, or until fish just flakes with a fork. Turn over halfway through cooking.

<http://allrecipes.com/recipe/16699/firecracker-grilled-alaska-salmon/print/?recipeType=Recipe&servings=8>



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**Repair, Replace, Relax** with Fidelity National Home Warranty (FNHW). A home warranty from FNHW provides both the home buyer and seller with "peace-of-mind" when it comes to repairs and/or replacement of a home's major systems and appliances. FNHW prides itself on superior customer service, including quick response time and efficient solutions for homeowners' problems and needs.

*If you are thinking of buying or selling a home in the near future, please call for a personal interview and property assessment with no obligation.*

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