Tara & April's-

Chit Chat

News for Home and Living

APRIL/MAY 2015



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The Greatest Blessing

A man stopped at a flower shop to order some flowers to be wired to his mother who lived one hundred miles away.

As he got out of his car he noticed a young girl sobbing while sitting on the curb in front of the flower shop. He asked her what was wrong and she replied, "I wanted to buy a red rose for my mother but I only have seventy-five cents, and a rose costs two dollars."

The man smiled and said, "Come inside with me and I'll buy a rose for you." He bought the little girl her rose and then ordered his own mother's flowers. As they were leaving, he watched the little girl walk across the street to the cemetery, where she placed the rose on a freshly dug grave.

The man returned to the flower shop, canceled the wire order, picked up a bouquet of roses and drove the one hundred miles to his mother's house.

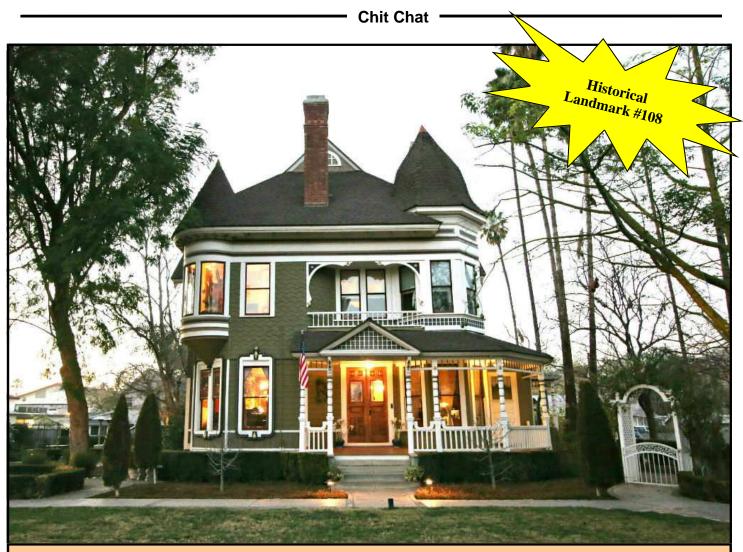
Your mother is your greatest blessing for she gave you life. Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers out there, whether you are a past, present, or soon-to-be mom. May all your days be filled with love, joy, laughter, and memories of your little ones.



Happy Mother's Day to our mom! It probably seems like just yesterday to her when she took this photo of us.

Happy Mother's Day from

- Tara and April



\$695,000

4811 Brockton Avenue, Riverside CA 92506

Built in 1888, this Queen Anne Victorian mansion was once owned by Dr. Wood, namesake of the "Wood Streets" neighborhood. This exquisite and historic home, which was once part of 20 acres, is now Landmark #108 and has been restored with some modern features under the watchful eye of the City of Riverside and the Riverside Historical Society. The 4-bed, 4-bath home, over 3600 sq ft, retains much of its original features, including stained glass windows, 6 fireplaces, chandelier medallions, and elegant staircase.

Too many features to list here, so visit our website to read the photo captions. The modern kitchen boasts stainless steel appliances, granite counters, warming drawer, built-in wine rack, and breakfast bar. Each bedroom has private bathroom access, including a master suite with fireplace and walk-in closet. There is a third floor which has been cordoned off, but could easily be converted back into living space to become the proprietors' quarters if the remainder of the home was turned into a bed and breakfast, an endeavor a past owner attempted (was granted permission by City, but didn't proceed forward for personal reasons). The landscaped yard is just under half an acre with koi pond, citrus trees, and wisteria-covered arbor. A stunning architectural treasure that welcomes you through an inviting doorway into the past!

 \sim for color photos of this home and more information, go to www.TheSisterTeam.com \sim



\$647,900 4681 Rubidoux Avenue, Riverside CA 92506

A majestic one-acre ESTATE in the historical "Wood Streets" neighborhood, with an impressive 5-bedroom, 5-bathroom 2-story colonial mansion, custom built in 1925, showcases a grand staircase, 4 fireplaces, and 3,340 square feet.

The large front yard is accented with a circular driveway, mature trees, a rose garden, and Riverside's famous citrus. In addition to the many original adornments such as glass door knobs, handcrafted fireplace mantels and balusters, pocket doors and original hardwood floors, you'll enjoy modern amenities such as double-pane windows, remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, updated copper plumbing and electrical, central air/heat, and indoor laundry.

The manicured grounds are comprised of two rose gardens, two small citrus groves, an in-ground pool, an outdoor red brick wood-burning fireplace, patio and deck for entertaining, and a 2-car detached garage with attached guest quarters complete with kitchenette and bathroom.

The 1st owner of this estate was a Civil War veteran, whose family lived here until the 1960s, when they sold to the 2nd, and current, family who's lived and raised six children here over the course of 50 years.

This is the largest single family residence level lot in the entire Wood Streets neighborhood!

~ for color photos of this home and more information, go to www.TheSisterTeam.com ~





\$399,900

5762 Riverside Avenue, Riverside CA 92506

"Wood Streets" 1941 Spanish-style, built by Harry Marsh, with a very large family room, living room, sun room, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and over 2,100 sq ft not including the sun room.

Living room and family room both have original hardwood floors and wood-burning fireplaces.

Open and bright sun room with wood-beam ceiling. Lots of storage throughout the home.

In addition to a formal dining room, there's a breakfast bar and desk area in the kitchen with lots of cabinetry, newer farm sink, dishwasher, recessed lighting, and pantry.

Central air/heat, separate indoor laundry room, Spanish tile roof, alarm system, and newer appliances are just some of the modern upgrades to this custom 1941 home that was built for the patriarch of Moss Bros. Motors.

Spacious grassy area in backyard, as well as a poured cement area for patio table and chairs and/or above-ground spa. The front yard is a potpourri of drought-tolerant landscaping, and the total lot size is 10,019 (.23/acre).

Conveniently attached 2-car garage with auto roll-up door.

~ for color photos of this home and more information, go to www.TheSisterTeam.com ~

Welcome New Clients!

Friends Referring Friends:

A great referral is when you introduce someone you care about, to someone you trust...

Bruce and Leisha Clendenen (past and treasured clients)

Jeff Dorough

Kirk and Lisa Petersen

Sherry Syvertson

We love giving recognition to our new friends and our wonderful existing clients who are kind enough to refer their friends and relatives to us.

Absolutely NO ONE sells more homes in The Wood Streets neighborhood than "The Sister Team"!!

we **LIVE** in the neighborhood, we **WORK** in the neighborhood, we **KNOW** the neighborhood, we **SELL** the neighborhood!!!

www.TheSisterTeam.com

April/May Quiz Question

Who has won the most Oscars? Hint: this person is not necessarily an actor or actress.

Everyone (any age) responding by calling or e-mailing us with the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for:

a \$25 VISA gift card to use wherever you like, just like cash!

Drawing to be held on 5/30/2015

Jan/Feb Quiz Answer

Question: Monarch butterflies cannot survive without what type of plant?

Answer: The only type of plant that Monarch caterpillars will eat is milkweed, which is a wildflower.

See page 6 for more info on Monarchs.

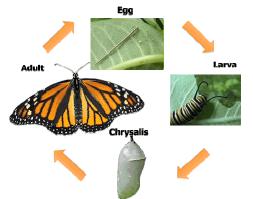
Congratulations to **Madeleine Morgan**

Your name was selected at random from all of the correct quiz entries and you'll receive a \$25 VISA gift card!

Monarchs and Milkweed

Threatened animals like elephants, porpoises and lions grab all the headlines, but what's happening to monarch butterflies is nothing short of a massacre. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service summed it up in just one grim statistic in February 2015: Since 1990, about 970 million have vanished. It happened as farmers and homeowners sprayed herbicides/pesticides on milkweed

plants, which serve as the butterflies' nursery, food source and home.



In an attempt to counter two decades of destruction, the Fish and Wildlife Service is basically announcing steps to reverse the decline of the monarch, including efforts to restore more than 200,000 acres of habitat from Texas to Minnesota. They are also reviewing a petition to list the monarch as an endangered species.

Homeowners can help by planting milkweed in their gardens; however, try to buy local plants/seeds. Do not spray herbicides and pesticides like Roundup which have also caused a collapse of other pollinators like bees and beetles. Without pollinators we would not have a third of the produce and nuts that they produce due to pollination. Visit LiveMonarch.org.

— adapted from The Washington Post

FREE Cat Spay/Neuter

During the month of April, the Mary S. Roberts Pet Adoption Center (6165 Industrial Ave., Riverside, CA) will be offering FREE spay and neuter surgeries, plus FREE RABIES vaccinations, as part of the "Community Cat" campaign to alter free-roaming cats.

This special free rate is available to ALL RESIDENTS of Riverside County. Residents feeding free-roaming cats who wish to take advantage of this offer MUST MENTION "Community Cat" campaign when scheduling their appointments, which are based on availability. For more info or to schedule an appointment, call (951) 977-8634.

Spaying and neutering is one of the most effective ways to reduce the homeless pet population and is safe for kittens as young as eight to 10 weeks old, according to the American Veterinary Medical Association. Spaying a female cat before the first heat cycle can be beneficial, improving the health of the cat by reducing the risk of certain reproductive cancers and infections.







FREE SHADE TREE PROGRAM

Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) customers will be able to redeem their FREE Shade Tree coupons on the back of their March utility bills again this year. Coupons are good until



June 30th. To date, more than 150,000 shade trees have been planted through utility programs that beautify the city, offset greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce energy use.

If you are an RPU electric customer, you can get up to 5 more FREE shade trees (up to

\$125 maximum value) simply by using the Tree Power shade tree rebate program. Details at GreenRiverside.com.

WATER CONSERVATION RESTRICTIONS

As California's record drought continues with no relief in sight, the Governor issued an Executive Order that sets restrictions for water customers throughout the state:

- All outdoor watering must be reduced to no more than four (4) times per week
- Outdoor watering only between 6 pm and 10 am
- Go to FreeSprinklerNozzles.com for free set of nozzles

For more information, please visit **BlueRiverside.com**.

SAVE THE DATE

68th Annual Riverside Community



FLOWER

"Ocean of Blooms"

Saturday, April 25, 2015

Gardens 10 am - 4 pm • Show 1 - 6 pm (Maps & Tickets available at Elks Lodge at 9 am Sat. Flower Show opens at 1 pm)

Sunday, April 26, 2015

Gardens and Show 10 am - 4 pm

Flower Show at the Elks Lodge

6166 Brockton Ave. Riverside plus 6 Private Gardens

\$10 Presale or \$12 donation at the door



Children under 16 FREE with paying adult Presale locations listed on the website

PayPal

FOR MORE INFO GO TO: RiversideFlowerShow.info OR CALL 951-777-0746

Old Riverside Foundation presents the 24th Annual

Tickets: \$18 pre-sale or \$20 day of tour. Available after April 1st

FOR MORE INFO. CONTACT:

visit us at www.oldriverside.org

Facebook at Old Riverside Foundation

Nancy Parrish (951)509-7682

at Factsgirl@aol.com

check our website for additional ticket sellers in your area!

YARD SALE SIGNS (free for your use)

For years, we've put up signs for local residents to help direct traffic to their yard sales.

Just a reminder that our signs are still available for your use,

year round.

Give us a day or two notice...







Tara: (951) 205-4429
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License #00981891
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License #00981891
License #01224102

Place Stamp Stamp Here

Chit Chat

Happy 13th Birthday, Chit Chat!

This 8-page Chit Chat newsletter, that we have been personally writing and distributing door-to-door to over 2,100 homes every issue, is celebrating its 13th birthday!!

For those of you who have not been in the neighborhood as long as us, you'll be surprised to know that we were delivering real estate tips, sales stats, American flags, and lots of goodies (candy, note pads, calendars, etc.) for more than 5 years *before* the inception of the Chit Chat. This means we've been a full-time **real estate presence** in this neighborhood for **18 years**!



No other Realtors come close to our success here. Absolutely no one lists *and* sells more homes in the Wood Streets than "The Sister Team". This is due to our full-time and long-term commitment to the real estate industry (**27 years**), our knowledge of the Southern California real estate market, and our personal involvement with every single transaction.

Not only do we live here and work here, but we ride our bikes and take walks throughout this amazing and wonderful neighborhood!