



Five Ways to WOW Buyers!

Adding the WOW factor to your home can make or break the potential sale of your property. It is estimated that Americans will spend \$219 billion in remodeling costs in 2009. Most people know that an updated kitchen, extra storage space, light and bright rooms, and open floor plans can really impress a buyer. Here are five additional ideas that can really add the WOW factor!

1. Make your home more energy efficient such as better insulation, replacing old windows, caulking, and adding skylights.
2. Add crown molding and wider baseboards. Break away from the cookie cutter home you may live in. Add something different.
3. Creatively, but conservatively, add textured paint or an accent paint wall.
4. Improved flooring. Wood, tile, and new carpet can be a showstopper.
5. Add a deck. A deck can add value to your home.

The Ancient Origin of Halloween

Did you know Halloween originally started as a pagan holiday? The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago, built huge sacred bonfires where people gathered to burn crops and animals as sacrifices to Celtic Deities. During the celebration, the Celts wore costumes, typically consisting of animal heads and skins, and attempted to tell each other's fortunes. Eventually two festivals emerged; The first was Feralia, a day in late October when the Romans traditionally commemorated the passing of the dead. The second was a day to honor Pomona, the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. The symbol of Pomona is the apple and the incorporation of this celebration into Samhain probably explains the tradition of "bobbing" for apples that is practiced today on Halloween.

By the 800's, with the influence of Christianity, it became a new festival on November 1 All Saint's day, a day to honor saints and martyrs. Even later in A.D. 1000, the Church would make November 2 All Soul's Day, a day to honor the dead.

To learn more go to: <http://www.history.com/content/halloween/real-story-of-halloween>.

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20/20 Shout Outs!

A special thanks to the following people for their [referrals](#) this past month:

Dustin Smith -
www.AtYourBidding.com

Upcoming Richmond Events

Ever wonder what's going on in Richmond? Here is a sample of events:

- Highland Games Celtic Festival
10/24/09
Meadow Event Park
- Festival of the Grape
10/24/09
Powhatan County Government
- Halloween Parade
10/31/09
Monroe Park
- Suntrust Richmond Marathon
11/14/09
Downtown Richmond

Would you like to know more details or see additional events in Richmond? Please visit:

www.gorichmondrealestate.com/events



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