

Rodney Harvey

Subject: Your August 2024 Real Estate Update



Rodney Harvey

Broker of Record, FRI CLO CRB C-RETS
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Dear Valued Client,

I hope you are enjoying a sun-kissed, restful summer. With the final days of summer closing in, you probably will want to get outside and enjoy it, especially before the return of a busy routine sets in come September.

During these dog days of summer, perhaps you have some time to consider home repairs or renovation projects that have been on your mind. It's always a good idea to stay on top of repairs and improvements before they pile into one big, overwhelming, and expensive list should you decide to.

Remember, if you need recommendations for reputable contractors or service repair people, I have an extensive network of professionals I can recommend. Call today. I would be happy to help.

Sincerely,

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How to Prevent Auto Theft

Unfortunately, auto theft is commonplace these days, with organized crime rings leading the charge, generally to export vehicles overseas. Protect your vehicle with these tips:



- Park your vehicle in a locked garage, or if you must park outside, be sure the area is well-lit.
- Keep your vehicle locked with windows closed.
- Take valuables out of your vehicle.
- Don't leave your vehicle unattended with the engine running.
- Install an audible alarm that goes off if your vehicle is tampered with.
- Have a sticker or unique identifier on your vehicle.
- For keyless cars, keep your fob in a metal box or Faraday box far away from the parked car (i.e., not near the front door) to block the signals that allow thieves to steal keyless cars.
- Install a kill switch (when the car is parked the driver manually switches it off, severing the electrical connection between the battery and the onboard electronics, so a thief can't make off with it). Use a steering wheel locking device to deter thieves.

Ultimately, if you make use of these tips another vehicle is going to be a lot more enticing to take off with than yours.

Into the Future with Home Robotics

With the rapid pace of AI development, automating domestic tasks is no exception. Here's a rundown of some of the handiest home robotics on the market today:



Cleaning – Mops have joined vacuums on the robotics scene, and you can now find units that can do both tasks, charge themselves, and empty dustbins. For windows, there are now robotic window cleaners too.

Security – Patrolling camera robots add an extra layer of security to detect motion, record high-definition video, detect smoke, and alert owners in real time of an emergency or suspicious activity.

Outdoor work – Whether it's weeding, mowing, or cleaning your pool or grill, robots have you covered.

Cooking – Have your own personal chef robot-style. These robots can cook entire meals if you decide on the dish and have the ingredients in place.

Companionship and enrichment – Particularly great for conversing and playing games with children and the elderly, they can also assist with daily tasks, and interactively tutor school subjects, tailored to the student's level.

Pet care – Simplify your life with pet feeders that release food and water at specified times. Self-cleaning litter boxes can take care of cleanup and help reduce unpleasant smells.

Undoubtedly, home robots aren't cheap, but are becoming more cost-effective. If you factor in the time and energy they save you, they may be worth the investment so you can sit back and relax while your robot does the rest.

DIY Outdoor Space Makeover Tips

If you have an outdoor space that you have been able to enjoy time in this summer, perhaps that space is looking a little tired and could use a little refresh right about now.



For a flash of change try adding **new lighting** - a touch of whimsy, string lights on a porch, balcony, or pergola will do the trick. For a modern, sleek look there are smart LED light strips you can connect with a virtual assistant like Alexa. Layer light for dimension and to set the mood.

Adding **plants** is another way to brighten your space. Think colourful annuals grouped in pots, with a colour scheme for cohesion. You could also add a shallow planter of succulents on a table. For privacy, full-leaf plants, fast-growing vines, and ornamental grasses are good options.

To give your patio furniture a fresh new look, **change your cushion covers**. Choose a colour theme and incorporate that with both solid colours and patterns. Ensure the fabric dries quickly and is easy to clean.

Look to your walls and floors as additional ways to transform your space To add visual interest you can incorporate wall art, fountains, statues, birdhouses, clocks, mirrors, or maybe even a chandelier. **Update your flooring** with an outdoor rug or interlocking deck tiles to tie things together.

With a few little tweaks, you can create a whole new ambiance the next time you step outside to relax.

Notable, Quotable, Quotes!



“Doubt indulged soon becomes doubt realized.”

Francis Ridley Havergal

“Don’t be discouraged. It’s often the last key in the bunch that opens the lock.”

Anonymous

“Worry is like a rocking chair – it gives you something to do, but doesn’t get you anywhere.”

Dorothy Galyean

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