



BARB's HOME NEWS

For the GREATER ALBUQUERQUE AREA

WE'RE NEW for 2008!

by Barbara Madaras

After 5 years of publishing this newsletter, I've decided to make some changes. Everything needs a house cleaning at least once in a while! (Unless you're a Realtor and never have time get to clean your own house!)

First of all—you'll notice our new name! Going forward, you'll continue to see the basic real estate statistics and information that you've come to count on. However, we'll be going more "folksy" again with more personal tidbits. After all, we want you to keep reading! But there will be other changes as well....

Instead of making recipes, we'll be planning travel! Instead of thinking real estate, we'll be thinking Green! Instead of talking about financing, we'll be talking about quality of life!

For your travel planning, I'll be sharing some of the things I consider interesting or special from some of my husband's and my travels.

For your "green" education, I'll be sharing eco-friendly products and services that I have come to know, use and love such ZeroRez Carpet Cleaning shown in this issue.

For your quality of life, I'll be sharing articles by professionals I've met through my EcoBroker Certification who will be writing about how environmental issues as they pertain to your house and household.

I'll be sharing my experiences and to start, here is my

ODE TO MY PRIUS!

I love you, my little gray car!

I love your 47.4 miles to the gallon!

I love the way you zip and fly!
(I don't love that I got my first speeding ticket in 20 years due to your "zip"!)

I love that, No, I don't have to plug you in at night!

I love your headroom. I love your legroom. I love your sound system.

I love your camera view when I'm backing up.

I love your "beep" so people can hear when I back up (because you don't make noise).

I love the way you still rattle me thinking you've stalled 'cause you don't make noise!

I love that you make me feel like I'm contributing something to our future.

I love you, my little gray car. You cute little Green Thing!

Published by



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ForYou.com



IT'S
THE BEST
TIME
IN
A LONG TIME
TO
INVEST IN
ALBUQUERQUE
REAL ESTATE!

Look for the next
edition of
BARB's HOME NEWS
coming to you in
May 2008

TESTING FOR RADON.....

by Michael Dooley

Can save your life!

And if you are selling your home, testing previous to putting the house on the market can certainly save the deal!

Radon is one of those insidious environmental culprits that many people overlook. After all, it is colorless, odorless, and tasteless; you could have it in your home for years and never even know it is there.

Yet nearly one out of every 15 homes in the U.S. is estimated to have elevated radon levels. Worse, there are no convenient detectors—as there are for detecting smoke or carbon monoxide—at this time to wake you up and alert you to the problem.

Radon is a dangerous radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer in people who come in contact with it. In fact, it is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. An estimated 21,000 deaths from exposure to radon occur annually.

Radon comes from the decay of uranium, which is found in soils and rock everywhere. Because ground water moves through soil and rock, it can also be found in water. Granite and shale are two types of rock that often contain greater amounts of it.

(Ed: Guess what most of Northeast Albuquerque is built on? You guessed it—granite!)

Radon can get into the air you breathe indoors by moving up through the ground on which your house

is built. It enters through cracks and other holes in your foundation, slab or crawlspace.

New homes, old homes, well-sealed homes, drafty homes and homes with and without basements are all susceptible to radon.

In fact, there are a number of variables that determine whether or not a house has high radon levels, and just as a tornado can cut a swath that destroys one house and leaves the one next door standing, dangerous radon levels can exist in one house and not the next.

Luckily, it is easy to test for radon.

Homeowners can test for radon themselves or they can have a registered qualified radon service provider (many home inspectors are registered) perform the testing.

Special equipment is needed to test for radon. Two of the most common methods include using charcoal canisters for testing, and using continuous radon monitoring devices, both of which are placed at the lowest livable level of the home to calculate radon levels.

Because radon levels are subject to fluctuations, the length of time for testing should not be less than 48 hours. Also, in order to get the most accurate reading, windows and doors should be closed during the testing, except for when needed for entering or leaving the premises.

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DO YOU KNOW A HERO!

NEW MEXICO'S "HERO PROGRAM" OFFERS HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE MORTGAGE CONSIDERATIONS FOR.....

TEACHERS

(Certified Teacher or School Employee)

SAFETY WORKERS

(Criminal Prevention/Detection, Fire Prevention/ Suppression or Employee of state or local Enforcement Agency)

HEALTH CARE WORKERS

(Medical Resident or Fellow, Nurse, Nursing Ass't, Pharmacist, Pharmacist Ass't, Med Tech, Technologist, Therapist)

MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

(Active or Reserve)



CALL

1-800-894-4033 Ext 2367

FOR INFORMATION



The State of New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority is a quasi-public entity financing housing for families throughout the state.

This publication is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed for sale with another broker.

Testing for Radon (continued)

Anything more than 4 pico Curies per liter (pCi/l) is considered by the EPA to be a “recommended action level,” meaning that the level at which you should take action to lower radon levels.

But it’s not as frightening as it sounds..

Elevated radon levels can easily be reduced by installing radon mitigation systems, which can cost anywhere from \$1000 to \$2500 for an average-size home.

Basically, a mitigation system consists of a vent pipe that uses an in-line fan to suck radon from the soil below the home and vent it out above the roof line, where it is quickly diluted.

A house that has had a mitigation system installed should be retested to ensure the system is working correctly and every two years after.

If you are thinking of selling your house, you may want to get a radon test before you put the house on

the market. Then, if you do have high radon levels, you can solve the problem right away with a mitigation system. The alternative is to risk having a potential buyer discover the problem just before closing and decide to pull out of the transaction altogether.

Installing a mitigation system early on will not only get rid of radon; the added protection to the home can actually be a good selling point.

Michael Dooley is the VP of the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) in New Mexico and a board member of the IAQA (Indoor Air Quality Association). He is also the president of ESI (Enviro-Structure Inspections). He is a certified radon inspector. (Visit www.esiinspections.com or contact Michael at 505-884-3690 for more information.)



BARBARA DOES PHOENIX/SCOTTSDALE



BEST PLACE FOR A DRINK (SOPHISTICATED)

MONDRIAN HOTEL

BEST PLACE FOR A DRINK (SUNSET)

PHOENICIAN RESORT (BALCONY)

BEST PLACE FOR A DRINK (SURROUNDINGS)

ARIZONA BILTMORE

BEST PLACE FOR A DRINK (REALLY COOL FIND!)*

KAZIMIERZ WORLD WINE BAR

BEST PLACE FOR A DRINK (WITH THE RICH AND FAMOUS)

THE SANCTUARY

BEST WAY TO SPEND AN EVENING**

LATE NITE CATECHISM

BEST HOTEL (WITH A SANE ROOM RATE!)**

THE HOTEL SCOTTSDALE

BEST BREAKFAST

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

BEST LUNCH

KOKOPELLI WINERY BISTRO

BEST POOL

MARRIOTT DESERT RIDGE (LAZY RIVER POOL)

BEST COOL THING TO DO****

PHOENIX ZOO: Hour between close/re-open for Holiday Lights

BEST PLACE TO LEAVE YOUR HUSBAND WHILE SHOPPING

COFFEE SHOP OUTSIDE NORDSTROMS!

* It’s a Speakeasy! You go in the back unmarked door!

** Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts—HYSTERICAL!

*** www.TheHotelScottsdale.com

**** Tickets required



Traditional steam carpet-cleaning uses heated water mixed with soaps injected into the carpet under pressure. Even though much of the soap, dirt and water is removed, a significant portion of this mixture remains embedded in the carpet. As the carpet dries, this soap roots into the carpet fibers and literally acts as a magnet for dirt, bacteria and other substances.

Conversely, the ZEROREZ® cleaning system does not use soaps, harsh detergents or shampoos to clean, but instead **EMPOWERED WATER™**, a revolutionary non-toxic water based cleaning agent.

EMPOWERED WATER™ is applied to the carpet fibers via low-pressure spray and it loosens embedded dirt and cleans the carpet by eliminating bacteria. The dirt and water is then removed with a unique extraction wand. The carpet is clean without any residue and the dry time is dramatically reduced.

ZEROREZ® is rated the #1 cleaning system in the nation by an independent testing laboratory.

ZEROREZ of ALBUQUERQUE
505-898-0669

(Please mention that you called at my recommendation)



KICK for NICK

A Program to Provide Soccer to the Children of Iraq

TO
HONOR
PFC
NICHOLAS MADARAS
Age 19
KIA in Iraq
Sept 3, 2006



Nick was an admired soccer player, coach and referee.

His was most respected for his passion as a coach and his whole-hearted dedication to developing his teams to become outstanding young individuals.

Over a thousand soccer balls have been distributed to the Children of Iraq directly by our soldiers in the field.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION OF A USED SOCCER BALL IN ANY CONDITION WILL HELP CONTINUE THE PROGRAM.

CASH CONTRIBUTIONS ARE USED TO COVER INFLATION PUMPS included in each box, SHIPPING and/or MORE BALLS!

DROP OFF BALLS OR CASH AT ANY COLDWELL BANKER LEGACY LOCATION

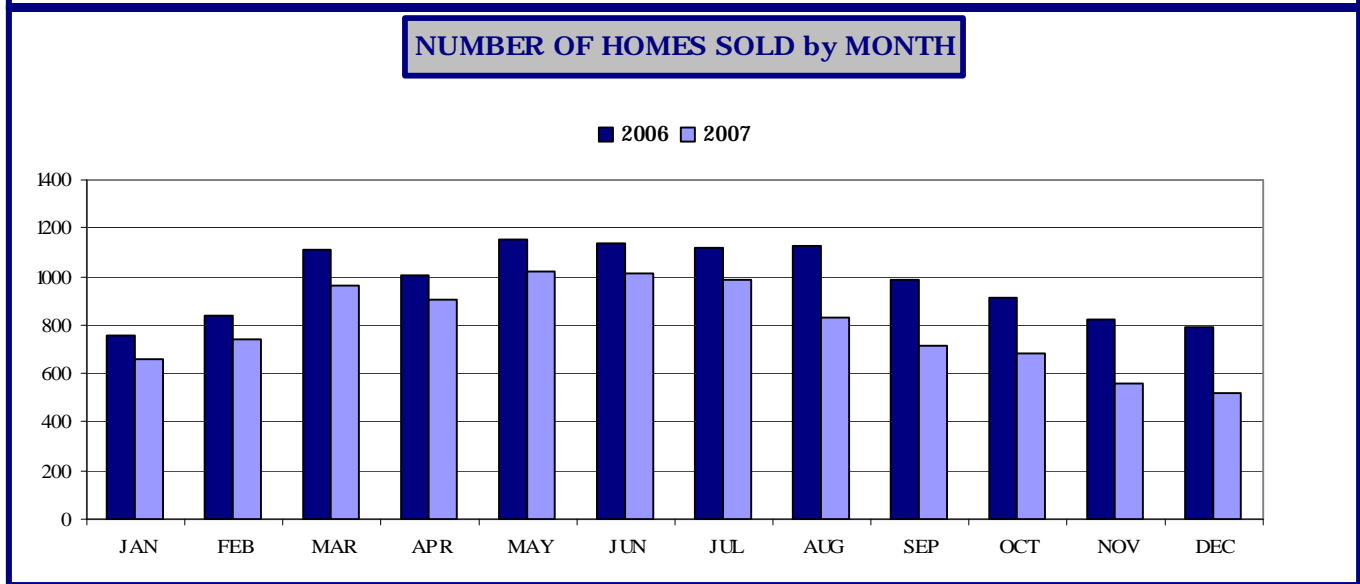
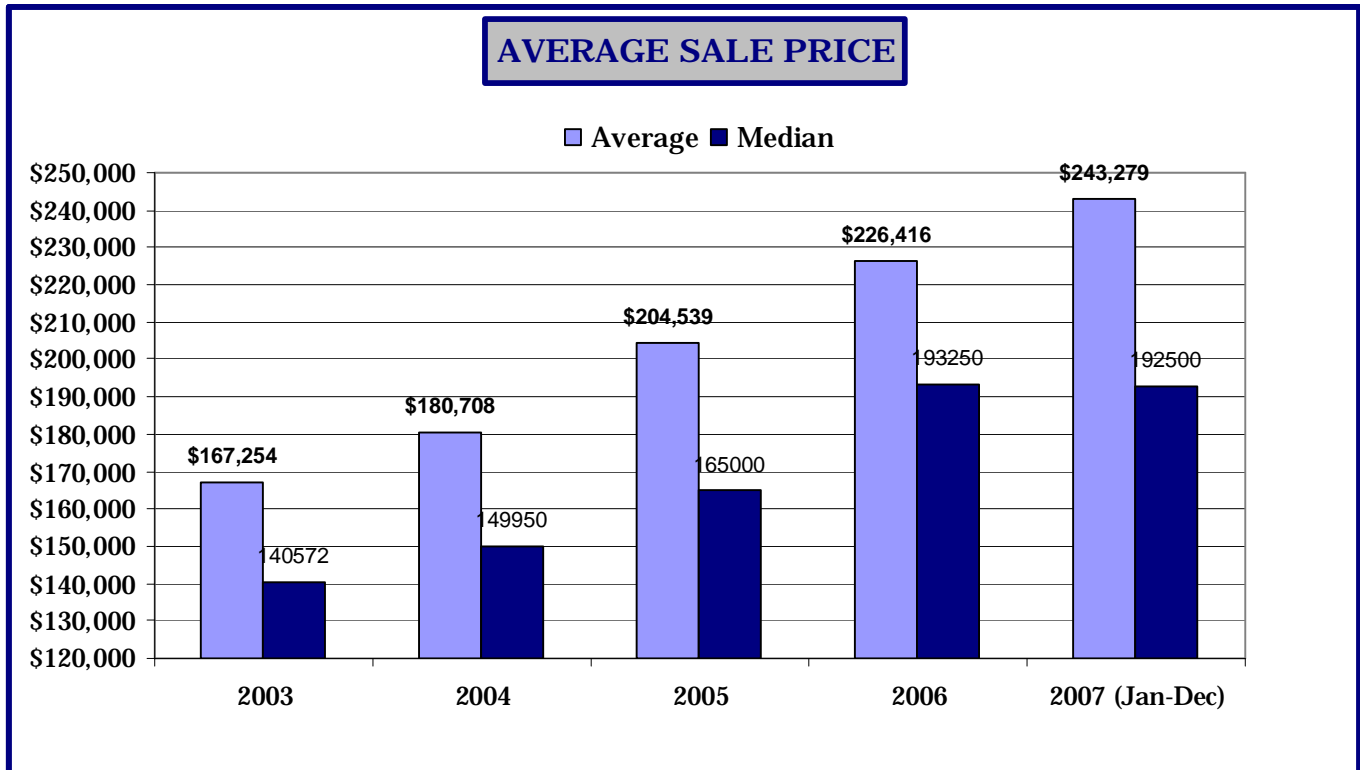
CONTACT: Barbara Madaras 505.301.1033

View the history of the program at www.cbsnews.com, Video, Search: Madaras

**OUR COMMITMENT IS TO SEND TO NEW MEXICO RELATED SOLDIERS FIRST!
IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A BOX OF BALLS, CALL US!**

SINGLE FAMILY DETACHED HOME SALES (RESALE)

Greater Albuquerque Area



Charts are derived from Multiple Listing Service statistics which are deemed reliable but not necessarily correct.

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE NEEDING ASSISTANCE
WITH BUYING OR SELLING A HOME...
IT WOULD BE MY PLEASURE TO BE OF SERVICE TO THEM

Barbara Madaras

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REAL ESTATE TODAY

For the **GREATER ALBUQUERQUE AREA**

Barbara Madaras, CRS, REALTOR®



LEGACY

8200 Carmel NE

REFERRAL.....

**SENDING SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT
TO SOMEONE YOU RESPECT!**

PLEASE DON'T KEEP ME A SECRET!

KNOW SOMEONE LOOKING TO BUY THEIR FIRST HOME!

**Tell them about our new
FREE HOME FINDER SERVICE.....**

**Have them call our 24-Hour Information Line
1-800-894-4033 Ext 2357**

Please feel free to distribute this publication to your family, friends and neighbors.
Routine distribution of this publication is available to anyone upon request.

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