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[www.PeggyRauchGroup.com](http://www.PeggyRauchGroup.com)



Summer is drawing to a close, the kids are back in school, the near non-existent monsoon season is almost over, I've been reading and cooking and golfing and Michael is somewhere doing research on the real estate market . . . he says and interest rates are at an all time low.

What better conditions to get off the fence and make your real estate move a reality. Although you might not get as much for your home as you would have a few years ago, your buying power is stronger than ever.

The next year or two will be the ones everyone will be looking back at and saying "You know what I could have bought this for in 2010/2011?!!!"

Land is at an all-time low and there is lots of it listed. The dichotomy of this is that because there is so much available buyers are reluctant to buy. I can't think of many better places to park money with low carrying costs and great future upside if you can wait for the market to come back. It sure beats what we're earning at B of A.

Be sure to call on us if we can be of any service to you or your friends or family with your Real Estate needs.

## POUND CAKE

*The Best Pound Cake ever*

- 1 Tablespoon vanilla
- ½ Teaspoon baking soda
- 6 large eggs
- 3 cups flour (all-purpose NOT cake flour)
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3 cups sugar
- 2 sticks butter



*I sometimes add ½ cup of oil or milk to make it more moist*

- ♣ Preheat oven to 325 degrees
- ♣ In large mixing bowl, combine and cream the butter, sugar and add the sour cream.
- ♣ Sift the baking soda and flour together.
- ♣ Add the sifted flour to the creamed mixture alternating with eggs, beating each egg one at a time.
- ♣ Add the vanilla and pour the mixture into a greased and floured 10" tube or Bundt pan.
- ♣ Bake 1 hour and 20 minutes

*Don't forget the fresh fruit and home-made whipped cream!!!*

## PEACH COBLER

It's "peach season" so here is my favorite Peach Cobbler recipe courtesy of Paula Dean. Perfect for the dog days!!!


- 1½ cups self rising flour—*it must be self rising flour or this recipe doesn't work*
- 8 Tablespoons butter (one stick)
- ½ cup water
- 2 cups sugar, divided
- 4 cups peeled, sliced peaches—I always use a few more!!!
- 1½ cups milk
- Ground cinnamon

- ♣ Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- ♣ Combine the peaches, 1 cup sugar, and water in a saucepan and mix well. Bring to a boil and simmer for 10 minutes and then remove from heat.
- ♣ Put butter in a 3 qt baking dish and place in oven to melt.
- ♣ Mix the remaining 1 cup sugar, flour and milk slowly to prevent clumping.
- ♣ Pour mixture over melted butter—DO NOT STIR!!!
- ♣ Spoon fruit on top and then gently pour in syrup
- ♣ Bake 30-45 minutes—butter will rise to top during baking
- ♣ To serve, scoop onto a plate and serve with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream and **ENJOY!!!!**



## More kitchen tips . . .


- ♣ Microwave a lemon 15 to 30 seconds and double the juice you get from squeezing
- ♣ Dry foods well with paper towels prior to deep frying. It helps reduce splatter
- ♣ To keep potatoes from budding, place an apple in the bag of potatoes
- ♣ Use paper bags rather than plastic when storing lettuce and celery in the crisper. They will stay fresher longer
- ♣ To make lighter, fluffier mashed potatoes, add a pinch or 2 of baking powder to potatoes before whipping



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## MARKET-UPDATE



**BACK NEXT MONTH . . . DOING RESEARCH!!!!**



## BOOK REVIEW

This past month I have *torn* through books, one after the other. I sometimes go through “dry spells” where nothing quite strikes my fancy; but lately, I have loved all of my reads and I’d like to share two of them.

One of my most favorite was “*The Art of Dancing in the Rain*” by **Garth Stein**. It is the story of a man and his struggles as seen through the eyes of his dog. Now I know that sounds kind of strange and I must confess that I did have my doubts and wasn’t sure I even wanted to read it but, after only the few first pages, I was hooked. *Enzo*, the dog, is as intelligent as any human being and he thinks like one.

*Enzo’s* unhappiness with his status as a dog along with his desire to become a human in his next life provides much of the humor in the story. If you like short, sentimental stories told with humor and humanity, you will enjoy this book

“*Little Bee*” is a novel by **Chris Cleave**. It is the story of a sixteen year old Nigerian refugee girl whose existence changes the lives of a group of English citizens dramatically. Her story provides unique and captivating narrative although, at times, difficult to imagine because of it’s horrific truth. This is an example of great storytelling, skillful in its foreshadowing, offering a careful scattering of clues while not divulging too much at one time. It builds suspense and dread as you turn the pages.

I found the story of this young girl to be at once harrowing, heart rending, compelling and all in all a brilliant piece of prose.

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## DID YOU KNOW???????

- More than half of the coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska!
- Istanbul, Turkey is the only city in the world located on two continents!
- Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined. More than 60% of the world’s lakes are in Canada!
- Next to Warsaw, Chicago has the largest Polish population in the world!
- A pack-a-day smoker will lose approximately 2 teeth every 10 years!
- Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan carries the designation M-1, because it was the first street paved with concrete anywhere!
- Most of us have eaten a spider in our sleep
- Most hospitals make money by selling the umbilical cords cut from women who give birth. They are used in transplant surgery!
- Forty people are sent to the hospital for dog bites every minute!
- 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year!
- The average person over 50 will have spent 5 years waiting in lines!
- The average housefly lives for one month!
- The only two animals that can see behind themselves without turning their heads are the rabbit and the parrot!
- Apples, not caffeine are more efficient at waking you up in the morning!
- The average computer user blinks 7 times a minute!
- Your feet are bigger in afternoon than at any other time of the day!
- The first Harley Davidson motorcycle built in 1903 used a tomato can for a carburetor!



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the season  
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