



# AROUND THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 2016

NEWS FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS



## *Our Services Include:*

- *New Roof Installation*
- *Roof Repairs*
- *Metal Roofs*
- *Tile Roofs*
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- *Energy Efficient Roofs*
- *Roof Diagnostics & Evaluation*
- *Ventilation*
- *Fascia*
- *Gutter Repair/Installation*
- *Skylight*

## **Inside This Issue:**

- **Got 4 Minutes? Cure the Clutter**
- **Learn How to Tell the Difference Between Heartburn and a Heart Attack**
- **Are You Paying More Property Tax than Necessary?**

**Plus much, much more!!!**

## **Valentine's Day Just For You**

While we celebrate Valentine's Day appreciating those we love, we also should take time for ourselves and appreciate where we are in life. Here are some suggestions of things that you can do on Valentine's Day:

1. Look around you and appreciate those who care about you. Be thankful they are in your life.
2. Make a list of all the things you like about yourself. Don't be modest; this list is for you, no one else.
3. Treat yourself on Valentine's Day. Buy that one thing that you want - it doesn't have to be expensive, but it has to be a treat that you will enjoy.
4. Call your mum or your dad, or that someone who made a difference in your life. Thank them for caring about you.
5. Enjoy your day. Remember, what you do today is important because you are exchanging a day of your life for it.
6. Take 5 minutes and sit quietly and reflect on all the blessings in your life. Remember there are always those who are in a worse situation than you.
8. Don't be hard on yourself. When you hear yourself say, "I should have", or "I am so stupid", change your thought. Change your self-talk to positive self-talk. Would you say those things to your best friend, then, why say them to yourself?
9. Cook or buy your favorite meal for dinner. Enjoy!
10. Last but not least, start keeping a journal of your accomplishments. Then when you feel down, or feel that you are not making progress you can review your journal and it will remind you of all the accomplishments you have achieved. And, remember, it is not large accomplishments that make success, it is the little things we do every day that over time turn into success.

### **Not Just Another Day**

Each day is not just another day. It is a day to recognize your own being, your own thoughts, thinking, and actions and behavior. Valentine's Day for you is every day. If you do not celebrate the fact that each day you awake to new horizons, to new challenges, to do well, to appreciate life, no one else will do it for you.

Make each day a day to remember not to regret. Celebrate your own special qualities and the fact that you are a unique individual.

Happy Valentine's Day to You!

## Black History Month 2016 – Hallowed Grounds

Black History Month is observed in February 2016. Black History Month, also known as African-American History Month in America, is an annual observance in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom for remembrance of important people and events in the history of the African diaspora.

The African diaspora refers to the communities throughout the world that are descended from the historic movement of peoples from Africa, predominantly to the Americas, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East, among other areas around the globe.

The expansion of Black History Week to Black History Month was first proposed by the leaders of the Black United Students at Kent State University in February 1969. The first celebration of the Black History Month took place at Kent State one year later, in February 1970.

The history of African Americans unfolds across the canvas of America, beginning before the arrival of the Mayflower and continuing to the present. From port cities where Africans disembarked from slave ships to the battle fields where their descendants fought for freedom, from the colleges and universities where they pursued education to places where they created communities during centuries of migration, the imprint of Americans of African descent is deeply embedded in the narrative of the American past. These sites prompt us to remember and over time became hallowed grounds.

One cannot tell the story of America without preserving and reflecting on the places where African Americans have made history. The Kingsley Plantation, DuSable’s home site, the numerous stops along the Underground Railroad, Seneca Village, Mother Bethel A.M.E. Church and Frederick Douglass’ home — to name just a few — are sites that keep alive the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in our consciousness. They retain and refresh the memories of our forbears’ struggles for freedom and justice, and their belief in God’s grace and mercy. Similarly, the hallowed grounds of Mary McLeod Bethune’s home in Washington, D.C., 125th Street in Harlem, Beale Street in Memphis, and Sweet Auburn Avenue in Atlanta tell the story of our struggle for equal citizenship during the American century.

The Association for the Study of African American Life & History has selected this annual theme to bring attention to the centennial celebration of the National Park Service and the more than twenty-five sites and the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom that are part of America’s hallowed grounds, including the home of the father of black history, Dr. Carter G. Woodson.



"Everyone expects me to be a ham, but my father was a bore."



### Just for Fun

1. Arthur - Kong - Herod
2. Base - Beach - Billiard
3. Coat - Spice - Bicycle
4. Green - Black - Iced
5. Rain - Black - Enchanted
6. Short - Bus - Rest
7. Hound - Bull - Sheep
8. Iron - Bronze - Stone
9. Blood - IQ - Ink Blot
10. Burns - Angles - Temperatures

### COMMONYMS

What's a commonym you ask?

A commonym is group of words that have a common trait in the three words/items listed. For example: A car - A tree - An elephant ... they all have trunks. These will make you think!

Answers on page 9

What do you call a very small Valentine?

Answer on page 9

# Precision Roof Crafters, Inc.

## February Is:

- American Heart Month
- Black History Month
- Canned Food Month
- Great Romance Month
- National Cherry Month
- National Grapefruit Month
- National Weddings Month

## Worx Works

Worx's portable yard and patio-cleaning device is pretty handy.

Most homes with a tree in the yard or a back yard patio already have leaf blowers, but they're heavy, involve dragging heavy extension cords to make them work and take general setup time.

Not so with a cordless leaf blower. Most are fairly light, just pick one up, flip the switch and you can blow leaves or any debris off walkways, front entrances, seating areas, back yard decks and more. They cost about \$100 and run 45 minutes or more without recharging.

If leaves are piled up in fall, you might want a more powerful machine. Worx's portable 56V Air Turbine has more than twice the power (465 cubic-feet-per-minute), but is also twice the price at \$200. Worx says it's so powerful that next fall you'll be free to stroll amid tidy piles of leaves while sipping your favorite beverage.

In winter you can blow away the snow if it's not too deep.

## Four 10-Minute Cures for Clutter

Over time, most people have acquired a lot of food storage containers. Some aren't used, have missing lids or are stained.

In the kitchen, use 10 minutes to pull everything out of your container shelves. Keep only those you often use and have lids that fit. Discard the others and nest the saved containers to save space.

In 10 minutes more, check every lid that has a container it fits. Toss the stray ones, but don't keep more than two lids for any container. Stack lids of similar shape under their nested containers, or place lids together on their sides in a single storage container so they stand up vertically.

Use 10-minute time chunks to clean an area of the refrigerator. Pull all items out of the area you choose and place them on the kitchen table or counter. Throw out any questionable food, produce and leftovers if you wonder whether they're still good. Wipe the shelf or drawer with a clean damp sponge sprinkled with baking soda. Dry with a dish towel and replace the fresh items.

In the bathroom, organize the shelves under the sink (5 minutes). Measure the cabinet and fit stacking drawers inside (buy them or order online). Each stack should be at least two drawers high and narrow enough to fit on either side of the sink's drainpipe. Allow space for taller glass and toilet bowl cleaners.

In your home office, sort scattered papers into stacks and label Call, Write, Pay, Return, or Order. Insert stacks in colored folders and keep them handy and visible. When you have a few minutes, go through a folder and take action. Sometimes you can go through an entire folder in about 10 minutes.

## Heartburn or Heart Attack?

A bad case of heartburn can be very similar to something much worse -- a heart attack.

For heart patients, already hyper-aware of pain, the heartburn bluff can be frightening.

Heartburn and heart attack have some major symptoms in common, including chest pain, but they are entirely different problems. Heartburn is a digestive problem that can cause actual pain as stomach acids irritate the stomach lining and back up into the throat. A heart attack, meanwhile, is all about the heart and has nothing to do with the stomach.

But each does a pretty spooky imitation of the other, causing chest pain, pressure and burning.

When to suspect the heart:

- \* Cardiac pain and pressure radiates from the chest, arms, neck, jaw and back.
- \* Changing position doesn't help. Heartburn, for example, can be somewhat relieved or diminished by sitting up or standing. Heart attack pain does not respond to this.
- \* Cardiac episodes are usually accompanied by nausea and cold sweats.
- \* Shortness of breath and fatigue characterize heart attacks.
- \* Dizziness and lightheadedness.

Most important: When in doubt, call 911.

		1	8					
		4	7	3		8		1
			4			3	9	
	6		9	1	7		4	
	4						2	
	3		5	2	4		7	
	1	6			9			
7		3		4	5	9		
					3	7		

To solve a sudoku, you only need logic and patience. No math is required.  
Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has a number 1 through 9 with only one occurrence of each number.

Each column and row of the large grid must have only one instance of the numbers 1 through 9.

The difficulty rating on this puzzle is easy.

**WE WELCOME THIS MONTH'S NEW CLIENTS TO THE "PRECISION ROOF CRAFTERS" FAMILY**

**Here are some of our new clients that became members of the "Precision Roof Crafters' Family" this past month. I'd like to welcome you and wish you all the best!**

Lorna A., Houston  
Sharon A., Houston  
Lester A., Houston  
Vera B., Houston  
Billy B., Huntsville  
Alicia B., Bellaire  
Morris B., Houston  
Melvin B., Houston  
Carolyn C., Texas City  
Gerald D., Houston  
Doug D., Missouri City  
Paul D., Houston  
Linda E., Katy  
Rebecca F., Houston  
Nancy G., Houston  
Corinne G., Sugar Land  
Wayne G., Missouri City  
Barry G., Pearland  
Terry G., Houston  
Scott G., Houston  
Cecil G., Houston  
Monica H., Houston  
Faith H., Sugar Land  
Peter H., Houston  
Omar H., Tomball  
Goeff H., Humble  
Ruth H., Houston  
Lester J., Houston

Marsha J., Houston  
Mike J., Houston  
Holly J., Houston  
Brad J., Houston  
Brian K., Webster  
Marilyn K., Houston  
Debbi L., Galveston  
Karen M., Sugar Land  
Edward M., Houston  
Francisco M., Houston  
Taylor M., Huffman  
Clayton N., Bellaire  
Hung N., Houston  
Anthony P., Houston  
Ben Q., Houston  
Daniel R., Manvel  
Aaron R., Houston  
Jason R., Houston  
Michelle S., Spring  
Asif S., Houston  
Tomer S., Houston  
William S., Houston  
Kyle S., Houston  
Andrew S., Houston  
Connie W., Houston  
Katherine Y., Houston  
Sam Z., Katy  
Derrick Z., Spring

*We are giving recognition to our new clients and our superb friends who are kind enough to refer their neighbors and relatives to us.*

## Smart Glass: All That and More

New smart glass can add privacy, regulate room temperature or conceal a TV set.

Believe it. A room divider or window can feature glass that is entirely opaque until you flick a switch, which makes it transparent.

Switchable privacy glass consists of two panels that sandwich a polymer-dispersed liquid-crystal film that conducts electricity. The glass is opaque until the voltage is switched on, which causes the film's particles to align, turning the glass transparent.

The glass panels are used to divide or conceal rooms and can be hooked up to motion sensors. A shower door turns opaque upon entering, for example, and an open-plan kitchen can vanish when guests are over.

One customer in Bel Air, California, spent \$40,000 to install switchable glass throughout his home, according to The Wall Street Journal, including turning a picture window into a projection screen that could be viewed from an outdoor living room.

Thomas Lee of Glass Apps says an average-size piece of glass uses up about as much electricity as an alarm clock. But the price is \$180 to \$190 a square foot. The product has a limitation. Its clear glass sometimes has a slight haze.

The large exterior walls of a condominium tower in Miami are made of three layers of glass that control heat and deaden noise. Two glass panels sandwich low-emissivity (Low E) coating, a metallic-based layer that blocks UV light, according to developer Consultation Real Estate.

The 6 by 10 foot, extra wide panels are designed to preserve waterfront views. The cost was about \$21.90 a square foot.

For a bathroom mirror that can also be a TV screen, the MirrorVue TV is built onto coated, two-way glass that acts like a TV screen but acts like a mirror when it's off. The MirrorVue costs from \$999 to \$20,000 depending on the size and custom options, such as frames, lighting and etching on TV models.

## Property Tax: Is Yours TOO High?

In the last few years, most property taxes have risen in step with the increase in home values. But it never hurts to find out if your taxes are higher than they should be.

Getting them reduced is a chore that's worth the effort.

\* First, look for errors that may be inflating the value of your house. Check the list of factors used to come up with your assessment on the property record card, which is kept at your assessor's office. Look for obvious errors, such as the incorrect square footage or the wrong number of bathrooms.

\* Because many appraisals are done on a drive-by basis, the assessor may have overlooked defects that could lower your tax bill, such as a wet basement or cracked walls.

If you can show that the assessment was based on erroneous information, you may be able to get your tax bill reduced without going through the appeals process.

\* Check out similar properties. Talk to your neighbors or property owners to see whether their tax bills went up as much as yours did. The homes you check should be of similar size as age as your own.

Sandra Block of Kiplinger's Personal Finance recommends getting several examples. If your assessment is considerably larger than theirs, you have a good shot at winning an appeal.

\* Some localities base assessments on the cost of a home replacement plus the value of the land. An amount for depreciation is subtracted.

Others use recent sales of comparable homes in the neighborhood. You might be able to challenge the assessment by doing your own research.

You can use Zillow.com and Trulia.com to find sales of comparable properties. A real estate agent could provide recent sales prices for comparables.

\* Check to see if the assessor credited you with all the property tax relief available to you, including credits for senior citizens and veterans.

## Potato Salmon Patties

### Ingredients

- 1 (14.75 ounce) can salmon, drained and flaked
- 2 eggs, beaten
- ¼ cup garlic and herb seasoned dry bread crumbs
- ¼ cup dry potato flakes
- 1 medium onion, minced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ¼ teaspoon dried dill weed
- ¼ teaspoon celery salt
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons olive oil



### Directions

1. In a medium bowl, mix salmon, eggs, garlic and herb seasoned dry bread crumbs, dry potato flakes, onion, garlic, dill weed, celery salt, salt, and pepper. Form the mixture into 2 inch balls, and flatten into patties about 1/2 inch thick.
2. Heat olive oil in a medium skillet over medium heat. In batches, cook patties about 5 minutes on each side, until lightly browned.

### Cherry Yum Yum



- ¾ cup butter
  - 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
  - 2 tablespoons white sugar
  - ¾ cup chopped pecans
  - 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese
  - 1 (1.3 ounce) envelope whipped topping mix
  - 1 (21 ounce) can cherry pie filling
  - 2 cups confectioners' sugar
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
  2. Combine the butter or margarine, flour, white sugar and chopped pecans. Press mixture into the bottom of one 9x13 inch baking dish and bake at 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) for 20 minutes. Allow crust to cool completely before proceeding.
  3. Prepare the dream whip according to the package directions.
  4. Blend the cream cheese and the confectioners' sugar together. Fold in the dream whip and spread over the top of the cooled crust. Top with the cherry pie filling and refrigerated before serving.

**Call Today  
To Learn  
How To  
Save On  
Your Next  
Home  
Project**

**(800)  
ROOF-PRO**

**(800) 766-  
3776**



**Client of the Month!**

Every month we choose a Precision Roof Crafters' Client Of The Month. It's just our way of saying thanks and giving a little recognition to our good friends and clients who help support us!

This month's client of the month is **Mary Bouquet!** Congratulations! **Mary wins a \$50 Gift Card.**

You can be the client of the month too! Watch for your name here in an upcoming month! You can be the client of the month too!

**SEND A REFERRAL: GET A PRIZE**

For every referral you send our way that becomes a client, you will receive a gift from our company:

"A \$25 Pre-Paid American Express Gift Card"

By referring your family, friends & neighbors, you've helped our business grow. Offering these special rewards is our way of saying, **"Thank you, you're the best!"**

Without you, we couldn't do what we do. To take advantage of our Referral Reward Program, just fill out the enclosed referral sheet and either fax or send it in. That's all there is to it!

**ROCKET REFERRAL REWARD PROGRAM!**

If you use this form, we will be able to make sure you get credit for all of your referrals when they become clients. If you have any questions, just give us a call at (insert your phone number).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Referrals: If you run out of room, please feel free to use a separate sheet of paper.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes! Feel free to use my name as a reference when you contact the referrals!**

**Fax To: 713.334.4458**

**Email To: info@roofprohouston.com Mail To: 3919 Jeanetta St., Houston, TX 77063**





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3	7	1	8	9	6	2	5	4
9	5	4	7	3	2	8	6	1
6	8	2	4	5	1	3	9	7
2	6	8	9	1	7	5	4	3
5	4	7	3	6	8	1	2	9
1	3	9	5	2	4	6	7	8
8	1	6	2	7	9	4	3	5
7	2	3	1	4	5	9	8	6
4	9	5	6	8	3	7	1	2

1. kings
2. balls
3. they have racks
4. teas
5. forests
6. types of stops
7. dogs
8. ages in the history of man
9. tests
10. measured in degrees

Riddle Answer:

A Valentiny!

# Precision Roof Crafters, Inc.

## Money Saving Coupon

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Take Advantage of Our \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

**FEBRUARY SPECIAL**  
**\$20 OFF**  
**Diagnostic & Evaluation**

**Service Call**

**As always you have our Personal Satisfaction Guarantee**

Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.  
Must present this coupon to receive offer.  
Coupon expires March 15, 2016



*New Roof Installation • Roof Repairs • Metal Roofs • Tile Roofs • Flat Roofs • Shingle Roofs • Energy Efficient Roofs • Roof Diagnostic & Evaluation • Ventilation • Fascia • Gutter Repair/Installation • Skylight Repair/Installation • Insurance Claims • New Roof Installation • Roof Repairs • Metal Roofs • Tile Roofs • Flat Roofs • Shingle Roofs • Energy Efficient Roofs • Roof Diagnostic & Evaluation • Ventilation • Fascia • Gutter Repair/Installation • Skylight Repair/Installation • Insurance Claims • New Roof Installation • Roof Repairs •*