

February



From Your Local Real Estate Expert

Winter Storm Preparedness: Stay Safe and Warm

Did You Know...

In the Netherlands, a series of innovative floating homes known as "Waterwoningen" have been developed to adapt to rising sea levels.



- **Check Your Furnace:** Regular maintenance of your furnace is essential. If you encounter any issues, contact your local HVAC service for a quick and reliable fix.
- **Prepare Emergency Kits:** Ensure your emergency kits are stocked with essentials and review your emergency plans with family members.
- **Insulate Pipes:** Protect your pipes from freezing by insulating outdoor ones and using a smart thermostat to regulate the temperature inside.
- **Stock Snow Removal Supplies:** Make sure you have shovels, ice melt, and other snow removal equipment ready.
- **Check for Leaks:** If you're leaving your home in freezing weather, ask someone to check for leaks and show them how to shut off the water if needed.
- **Garage and Closets:** Keep your garage and outdoor closets closed to prevent extreme cold from damaging your belongings and infrastructure.
- **Test Safety Equipment:** Regularly test smoke detectors and purchase fire extinguishers to ensure preparedness for any emergency.
- **Inspect for Storm Damage:** After a storm, quickly check your roof, siding, gutters, and yard for damage. Address any needed repairs immediately to prevent bigger issues.



Heartfelt Fun: Creative Valentine's Day Ideas for Couples and Families

- 1. Family Cooking Party** – Bake heart-shaped cookies or make pizzas together with fun toppings.
- 2. DIY Valentine's Craft** – Have a craft day making homemade Valentine's cards, decorations, or friendship bracelets.
- 3. Valentine's Movie Night** – Watch a family-friendly Valentine's movie with popcorn and heart-themed snacks.
- 4. Family Scavenger Hunt** – Organize a love-themed scavenger hunt around the house with small surprises or love notes.
- 5. Valentine's Bingo** – Create a bingo game with Valentine-themed images or words and play together as a family.
- 6. Decorate the House** – Have a decorating party where everyone helps hang up hearts, streamers, and other festive Valentine's decor.
- 7. Family Game Night** – Play board games or card games with a Valentine's twist, like using heart candies as game pieces.

Weird, but True!

The Victorian and Gothic-style Winchester House in San Jose, California, is renowned for its grand size, architectural oddities, and the many myths and legends surrounding it and its former owner. Among its most peculiar features are staircases that lead to nowhere and doors that open into walls, all shaped by the owner's superstitions.



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