

January

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Are you thinking about selling your home and not sure how to get started? We can help not only sell your home, but help you determine if any updates, landscaping or staging assistance is needed. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us anytime by phone, email or text.

Are you thinking about buying a home in 2017? Not sure and just want to search homes online to see what is available? Please do not hesitate to check out our website at DolanRealEstateGroup.com. If you have any questions, please call, text or email us. We would be delighted to put our experience to work for you...

Butterfly Home Update

Hard to believe, but it will be a year in February since we sold the [Butterfly Home](#) (mid-century modern architecture designed by Robert Broward). To checkout the amazing transformation, view on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/7902butterflyhouse/?fref=ts>

Winter Landscaping

Is it time to trim the trees and shrubs? [The Old Farmer's Almanac](#) is a great resource for this information. Check out the Winter Pruning Guide for trees and shrubs:

<http://www.almanac.com/content/winter-pruning-guide-trees-and-shrubs>.

We hope you enjoy our newsletter!

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Thought of the Day:

"The first step toward getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are."

- J.P. Morgan

5 Steps to Setting Attainable Goals

January is the month of fresh beginnings and articulating lofty aspirations in the form of New Year's resolutions and for many people, February is the month of forgetting these aspirations and reverting to bad habits. Whether you are striving to get in shape, accelerate your career, or cultivate stronger relationships, there is nothing more disheartening than realizing that another year has passed and your goals remain unfulfilled.

The key to avoiding end-of-year disappointment is to establish attainable goals in the first place. Here are a few steps to consider:



1. **Limit your list of goals to those that are most important to you.** The new year carries a surge of inspiration, and many people create lengthy lists of resolutions that quickly become overwhelming. This can cause a negative spiral of failing to achieve certain goals, growing discouraged, and losing motivation to pursue other goals. Instead, focus your energy on one or a few of the goals that you would most like to achieve.
2. **Be SMART.** Productivity experts often espouse the SMART formula for goal setting. This mnemonic device represents the idea that goals must be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-sensitive.
3. **Write down your goals.** The annual ritual of writing New Year's resolutions may actually create a strong foundation for goal accomplishment. However, certain techniques will boost the effectiveness of writing down goals. For example, they should be crafted in definitive terms that convey commitment such as I will instead of I want to. After writing them, they should be consistently posted in places where you will revisit them.
4. **Create an action plan.** Many people falter on their goals because they have not given much thought to how they will achieve them. Consider each step and sub-step that will be necessary to fulfilling your goals, and establish a schedule that you can realistically follow.
5. **Celebrate milestones.** Once you have set a plan with specific steps, taking time to acknowledge and celebrate your progress will help you motivate yourself to continue.

Roasted Chicken Legs with Potatoes and Kale

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 pounds tender, young kale, stems and inner ribs removed
- 1 1/2 pounds medium Yukon Gold potatoes, sliced 1/4 inch thick
- 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 8 whole chicken legs (about 10 ounces each)
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- Lemon wedges, for serving



Directions:

- Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F.
- In a very large roasting pan, toss the kale, potatoes and onion with the olive oil. Season with salt and pepper and spread in an even layer.
- Set the chicken on a cutting board, skin side down. Slice halfway through the joint between the drumsticks and thighs. Season with salt and pepper, sprinkle with the paprika and set on top of the vegetables.
- Cover the pan with foil. Roast the chicken in the upper third of the oven for 20 minutes. Remove the foil and roast for 30 minutes longer, until the chicken is cooked through and the vegetables are tender.
- Transfer the chicken to plates and spoon the vegetables alongside. Serve with lemon wedges.

[Recipe from foodandwine.com](http://www.foodandwine.com)

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New Year, New Styles: The Hottest Home Design Trends Expected in 2017

By the end of any year, interior designers are already buzzing about which trends will be the most in-demand in the coming year. From coveted colors to architectural features, homeowners on the cutting edge begin to favor new styles as the seasons change. If your home is for sale, finding ways to incorporate the latest design trends may help you catch buyers' attention and distinguish your property from the competition.

As 2017 begins, here are a few home design trends that industry experts believe will dominate this year:



- **Marble.** Many top designers agree that marble is surging in popularity. Its appeal is amplified when paired with wood and metal, making it an excellent choice for kitchen and bathroom countertops. However, marble tends to be expensive and difficult to maintain. Fortunately, quartz and faux marble are gaining acceptance among high-end homeowners. These materials can create the luxurious appearance of real marble but are less costly and require less maintenance. If you are remodeling a kitchen or bathroom to improve your home's appeal, consider alternative materials that look like marble at a more affordable price.
- **Bold and bright colors.** Each year, Pantone—an internationally respected authority on color in the design industry—announces a color of the year that is bound to be popular in a variety of applications, ranging from fashion to home decor. Although the official color of 2017 has not yet been announced, Pantone recently released a list of contenders. While 2016's colors—Rose Quartz and Serenity—were soft, calming pastels, the Pantone experts anticipate that 2017 will be the year of bold and bright hues inspired by nature. For instance, some of the selections that have caught designers' attention include an earthy green called Kale, a vibrant coral shade called Flame, and a bright but tranquil aqua called Island Paradise. If you are selling your home, it is not necessary to repaint entire rooms in order to feature these colors; consider using accent pieces, such as blankets or small pieces of furniture, that incorporate them.
- **Metals with warm-colored finishes.** In past years, brushed metals with an industrial vibe have been the leading choice for fixtures. However, designers are reporting that homeowners are beginning to favor metals with rich finishes, such as rose gold and brass. These hues add a sense of charm and elegance to any space, and the popular look can easily be achieved by spray painting fixtures if you do not want to replace them.
- **Subway tiles.** Although the trend of using subway tiles as backsplashes in kitchens and bathrooms is not new for 2017, its consistent popularity in recent years has led designers to believe that it will maintain its appeal this year. In addition to being affordable, subway tiles offer the benefit of creating a clean and versatile palette for a variety of styles and finishes.
- **Smart features.** Over the years, technology has seeped into every aspect of daily life, including the home. In 2017, high-tech features ranging from built-in device charging docks and programmable thermostats to full automation systems will become increasingly commonplace. As a growing number of homebuyers hail from the tech-savvy Millennial generation, the smart home trend is expected to skyrocket.



If you are currently working with another Broker please do not consider this a solicitation.

