



MAY 2015 - NEWSLETTER

A Note From the Agency Owner

I swear I say it every year, but it seems like the months are just flying by in 2015! As you may have noticed, this year we have redesigned our monthly newsletter, revised our referral program, and created a new customer welcome kit. So far, we have heard positive reviews on our newsletter and have seen more referrals due to the new referral program (see the back of this newsletter for more information). We are excited to see how these programs continue to play out throughout 2015!

As for me, I am most excited to be celebrating my youngest daughter's, Marissa's, graduation this month! She is graduating with her Associate's Degree in General Studies on May 16th from Red Rocks Community College. After graduation, she hopes to find another part-time job (in addition to working here at the office) but also to enjoy some leisurely time watching races at Bandimere and visiting her dad in Idaho. I am very proud of her accomplishment and look forward to seeing what she does in the next chapter of her life!

This summer, keep an eye out for an agency-sponsored community event such as a food or clothing drive. If you have any ideas or suggestions we would love to hear them! Other than that, I, as well as all of us here at the agency, wish you and your family a happy beginning to the summer season!

Lori



Marissa, as a young child, taking care of her horse and now as an adult, ready to take on the real world!

Local Community Calendar

- May 2nd: Fury Scurry at Washington Park and Elitch Gardens Opening Day
- May 2nd-3rd: South Denver Beer Fest at Clement Park
- Every Saturday beginning May 2nd: The Big Wonderful at 26th & Lawrence
- May 10th: Rafting Colorado Mother's Day Special (2 for 1 special!) at Lost Paddle Rafting
- May 21st: Colorado Corks and Cuisine at Four Mile Historic Park
- May 22nd-24th: Downtown Denver Arts Festival at Denver Center for the Performing Arts
- May 29th-31st: Rocky Mountain Airshow at the Aurora Reservoir
- May 31st: Walk to End Lupus at Central Park Stapleton



Megan and Family's New Home!

We are excited to announce that Megan, one of our personal lines agents (but focused more on accounting recently), has finally moved into her new home! After some negotiations with the previous owner, Megan, Quincy, and Tayvian finally got possession of the home on April 22nd and began officially moving in soon after! Megan is excited for her "cute and cozy" new home which boasts a beautiful view of lakes and of Pikes Peak.

The home is on a ranch and hence comes with many outbuildings for which there are many plans. Quincy, Megan's husband, has officially laid claims on the largest building to be his shop, which is justified under the advice of a good friend: "the shop always has to be bigger than the barn, it's the key to a happy marriage!" Megan will use one small building as a milk parlor, the barn will be used as a secure place for the goats to have their babies, and the destiny of the final building is up in the air (but ideas include a place for making homemade soap and cheese, a weight room, or a wood shop).

We wish Megan, Quincy, Tayvian, and all of the animals the very best in their new home!



Top: Megan's home perched up on the hill with outbuildings down below. Bottom: Megan and her nephew, Roland, with her goats and llama (Maggie, Brie, and Elsa

Traditional Spanish Salmorejo Recipe



In recognition of Jan's recent trip to Spain, this dish is very common in Spain's southern region, Andalucia. It is similar to our gazpacho, but with a slight twist.

Ingredients: 8 Medium Tomatoes, 1 Medium Baguette, 1 Cup Extra Virgin Olive Oil, 1 Clove of Garlic, A Splash of Sherry, A Pinch of Salt, 2 Hard Boiled Eggs (1 egg for garnish), Sliced Serrano Ham (for garnish)

Instructions:

1. Scald to peel the tomatoes and cut out the cores. Blend at high-speed for about 30 seconds until the tomatoes are broken down.
2. Take about 2 cups worth of the "guts" out of your baguette and add them to the blended tomatoes. Let the bread soak in the tomato juice for about 5 minutes.
3. Add the splash of vinegar, salt, and garlic and blend until the soup is an even texture and the bread is completely broken down. Slowly add the olive oil as you blend at a moderate speed.
4. Add 1 hardboiled egg and blend until incorporated. Taste and adjust levels of salt, vinegar, garlic, and bread.

SHOULD YOU BE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR APPLIANCE HOSES?

There's a ticking time bomb in your house right now, waiting to strike when you least expect it. We are talking about faulty appliance hoses, of course.

Consider your humble washing machine: According to the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS), washing-machine failures cost an average of more than \$5,000, and faulty hoses are responsible for more than half of those failures. Here are the common hoses and tubes you should be checking:

Washing Machine

Most washing machines come with rubber hoses that connect to your water supply — hoses that can wear out and eventually burst. The IBHS says to check frequently for blisters, worn tubing, stress cracks and loose connections. Even if there is no obvious wear, replace hoses every five years. Use a reinforced steel-braided hose, as they are less likely to fail.

Dryer

Although you should clean the lint trap in your dryer with every load, danger lurks behind the dryer as well. Flexible plastic or foil ducting can easily trap lint and increase the risk of fire, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. The agency recommends the use of a rigid or semi-rigid metal duct instead. Whichever you use, be sure to disconnect and clean the ducting annually.

Refrigerator

If your refrigerator has an icemaker or water dispenser, it also has a hose connecting it to the water supply. Replace the standard hose with a steel-braided line for added security.

Dishwasher

Dishwasher leaks can easily go undetected, so it's important to check these connections regularly as well. Make sure that hoses and lines have no kinks, and periodically remove and clean the filter in the dishwasher, which is designed to stop food pieces from making it into the drain hose.

Gas Grills

At least once a year (typically when you fire up the grill for the first time after winter), check the hose connecting the fuel source to the burners. Simply brush it with some soapy water, turn the gas on (do not light the grill) and check the hose for air bubbles. If you see any, replace the hose and fitting.

In addition to checking your hoses regularly and replacing them when needed, there are monitoring systems available now that can automatically shut off your water supply in the event of a failure. Some detect leaks with moisture indicators, while at least one new system actually checks your water meter for unusual activity.



Unattended leaks can cause huge losses, especially leaks caused by hoses to common appliances. Make sure to check yours on a regular basis to avoid severe damage.

What Our Clients Say

"Our contractor specialty is very precise with what we perform in our industry. This requires added efforts with securing we receive the exact & precise liability coverage. Agent Jim Ziegler went above and beyond to learn our industry and secure he provided adequate coverage. He and his assistant Mary Truckey are assets to your company. Very prompt, courteous and caring."

- Letha Heitman / RLH Specialties, LLC.

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Agency Referral Program

The biggest compliment you can give us is passing our name along to your friends and family. Therefore, we want to make sure you are aware of our recently remodeled referral program. Each month we will draw a winner from all referrals that month. The winner will receive a \$50 gift card to a local store or restaurant and we will make a \$50 donation to their choice of four charities we are supporting in 2015. Also, all entries will be included in a final end of year drawing for a \$500 Visa gift card.

Our March winner is John Andrade! He has chosen Foothills Animal Shelter as the beneficiary of our \$50 donation because he is a proud dog owner!

What qualifies as a referral? A referral is when we are contacted for a new quote from someone saying you referred them to us. Don't worry, we ask how they heard about us on every new quote so we'll be sure to get you entered. Just make sure the person has your first and last name so we can find you in our agency systems.

For complete details, please visit
<http://www.insplace.com/referrals.htm>



If you are chosen as our monthly referral winner, you will get to choose which of these four charities receives our monthly \$50 donation!