

## Lori Cain

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**From:** Lori Cain [razncain@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 31, 2011 11:00 AM  
**To:** razncain@cox.net  
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### I ♥ Tulsa

Community News January 2012



## Ready. Willing. Able. Cain.

*Bits & Bytes from the Bloggin' REALTOR!*

## Community News from Lori Cain Real Estate

Dear Lori,

Hope everyone enjoyed a lovely holiday! We are ready to bring in the new year spending a quiet evening at home with the pups - will probably watch a movie and cook for New Year's Day (recipes included in this issue).

I have not checked this out, but someone posted this on Facebook - please spread the word to those who may need

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### Save the Date

Tulsa Ballet's  
Romeo & Juliet  
February 10-12

Mark Morris Dance  
Group February 3-4

this tonight: **Tipsy Tow** offered by AAA: You don't have to be a AAA member, from 6pm-6am on New Year's Eve/Day they will take your tipsy self and your car home for FREE. Save this number... 1-800-222-4357.

**We're healthy and happy right now and hope you are too.** I spent a lot of the holidays playing with my new iPad that my very generous brother gave me. Also, Deme got me a Keurig, so I'm enjoying new bold coffees while downloading apps! Perfect combination.

**Recipes this month** include what we're cooking New Year's Day and nothing low calorie. Healthy recipes will return in February 2012!!

You are welcome and encouraged to forward this newsletter to your friends; however there is an easy sign-up on my web site, [www.LoriCain.com](http://www.LoriCain.com). Also, feel free to e-mail me events you would like included in future issues or any community news you would like to contribute is always welcome.

I'm now also **keeping my newsletters online** - they're easy to find under the "Resources" drop-down menu. So, if mid-month rolls around, instead of looking through your e-mails for the calendar of events, just go to [LoriCain.com](http://LoriCain.com) and view there.

For those of you who FaceBook, check out the "**I HEART Tulsa**" page where you can keep updated on what's going on in Tulsa: <http://tinyurl.com/38xznff>.

For those of you who tweet, please follow me on Twitter: @LoriCainRE - I have lots of fun things to tweet!



Also please visit and subscribe to my blog: <http://LoriCain.com/blog>. I promise it's not all about real estate - lots of info on our neighborhoods, parks, events, local businesses and community!

***I hope this newsletter finds you in good health & good spirits!***

***Please keep scrolling ... the best is at the bottom!***

**"Philanthropy is commendable, but it must not cause the philanthropist to overlook the circumstances of economic injustice which make philanthropy necessary."**

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

# Green Patch

Curbside Recycling Service:  
If you want the convenience of curbside recycling, you can get twice-a-month pickup service for an additional \$2 charge on your monthly utility bill. Your recyclable newspaper, junk mail, magazines, office paper, plastic, glass and aluminum will be collected by the City's contract hauler, Tulsa Refuse Incorporated (TRI). To sign up, call 596-9777 or sign-up online.



The M.e.t. operates 11 recycling centers and three affiliate centers. They also conduct environmental events throughout the year to encourage, educate and facilitate recycling. For information about the City of Tulsa curbside program, call 596-2100. [Read more.](#)

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Found a cool new web site with fun information about REduce, REuse and REcycle: [www.bringrecycling.org](http://www.bringrecycling.org)

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Follow the MET on FaceBook:  
<http://www.facebook.com/tulsamet>

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I found this awesome "Green Directory" on the Sustainable Tulsa web site. They have links for recycling batteries, computers, tires, yard waste and even a link for what can be included in curbside pick-up. Check out this list:  
[http://www.sustainabletulsa.org/green\\_directory](http://www.sustainabletulsa.org/green_directory)  
and thank Sustainable Tulsa for putting this together!

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

## ***A member of the "Elite"***

***Chinowth & Cohen Realtors***

*When you run into friends or family, neighbors or co-workers who are ready to buy or sell a house, please give them my name and number. As*



**Canned Vegetables**

**Kid-friendly items:** Fat-free, sugar free pudding cups, granola bars, popcorn, graham and/or animal crackers

**Baby Products:** Diapers, wipes, formula, infant cereal

**Hygiene Items:** Feminine products, hand sanitizer, toothbrushes, soap, shaving items, etc.

**Paper Products:** Toilet tissue, paper towels, etc.

**Coats for Kids!**

*Donate new or gently used coats and help Oklahomans stay warm this winter.*

You can still donate children's or adult-sized coats to any Yale Cleaners location. They will clean and mend the coats, and Catholic Charities will distribute them to those in need.

If you NEED a coat, call Catholic Charities at 918-949-HOPE or visit the Coats for Kids Distribution Center at Catholic Charities at 2450 North Harvard Avenue. Please bring a for of ID for each family member who needs a coat.

**Obviously coats are not the only clothing needed.** Clean out your closets! Donate pants, jeans, sweaters, gloves, hats, scarfs and shoes. You can drop these off at the many places suggested at the beginning of this article.



**January 2012 Events**



**Arvest Winterfest**

**Dates:** through January 2, 2012

Location: BOK Center, 200 S Denver Ave

Web: [www.bokcenter.com](http://www.bokcenter.com)

Annual downtown festival offers local music, ice skating, horse-and-carriage rides, local shopping and one of the largest Christmas trees in Oklahoma!

**To Capture the Sun: Gold of Ancient Panama**

**Date:** November 1, 2011 - January 15, 2012

Time: Gilcrease Museum Hours

Location: Gilcrease Museum, 1400 Gilcrease Museum Road

Web: [gilcrease.org](http://gilcrease.org)

**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Texas Legends**

**Date:** January 5, 2012

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>

**Michael Wallis: Way Down Yonder in the Indian Nation**

**Date:** January 6, 2012

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: Performing Arts Center

Web: [www.tulsapac.com](http://www.tulsapac.com)

**Monster Jam**

**Date:** January 6 - 7, 2012

Time: 7:30pm

Location: BOK Center, 200 S Denver Ave, Tulsa

Web: bokcenter.com

**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Maine Red Claws**

**Date: January 7, 2012**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>

**Tulsa Symphony: Musical Migrations**

**Date: January 7, 2012**

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Performing Arts Center

Web: [www.tulsapac.com](http://www.tulsapac.com)

The third concert of the season, conducted by guest conductor Andrew Grams, features Respighi's Gli Uccelli (The Birds), inspired by ancient dance and song. Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 a piece that the composer himself performed at its premiere in 1795 and Schumann's Rhineland-inspired Symphony No. 3 complete the program.

**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Austin Toros**

**Date: January 8, 2012**

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>

**Chili Bowl Nationals**

**Date: January 9 - 15, 2012**

Location: Expo Square QuikTrip Center

Annual National Midget Car Racing

Web: <http://www.chilibowl.com>

**Waiting for Lefty**

**Date: January 13 - 15 and 19-21, 2012**

Location: Liddy Doenges Theatre, Tulsa Performing Arts Center

Web: [www.theatretulsa.org](http://www.theatretulsa.org)

**Tulsa Oilers**

**Date: January 14, 2012**

Time: 7:35pm

Location: BOK Center, 200 S. Denver Ave., Tulsa

Web: [tulsaoilers.com](http://tulsaoilers.com)

**2011 MLK Jr. Commemorative Service**

**Date: January 15, 2011**

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Boston Avenue United Methodist Church



Address: 1301 S. Boston

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Parade and Rally**

**Date: January 16, 2011**

Time: 11:00am

Web: <http://tulsamlksociety.org/>

**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Canton Charge**

**Date: January 16, 2012**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>

**Tulsa Oilers vs. Missouri**

**Date: January 17, 2012**

Time: 7:05pm

Location: BOK Center, 200 S. Denver Ave., Tulsa, OK

Web: [tulsoilers.com](http://tulsoilers.com)

**The Harlem Globetrotters**

**Date: January 21, 2012**

Time: 7:00pm

Location: BOK Center, 200 S Denver Ave, Tulsa

Web: [bokcenter.com](http://bokcenter.com)

**The Oak Ridge Boys**

**Date: January 21, 2012**

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Osage Event Center, Tulsa

Web: [www.osagecasinos.com](http://www.osagecasinos.com)

**Ladysmith Black Mambazo**

**Date: January 22, 2012**

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Performing Arts Center

Web: [www.tulsapac.com](http://www.tulsapac.com)

**Jeff Porter & The Claptet**

**Date: January 22, 2012**

Time: 2 pm & 4 pm

Location: Performing Arts Center

Web: [www.tulsapac.com](http://www.tulsapac.com)

**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Dakota Wizards**

**Date: January 22, 2012**

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>



**The Addams Family****Date: January 24 - 29, 2012**

Time: Vary

Location: Performing Arts Center

Web: [www.tulsapac.com](http://www.tulsapac.com)

The Addams Family is the new musical Broadway's been dying for "bringing the darkly delirious world of Gomez, Morticia, Uncle Fester, Grandma, Wednesday, Pugsley and, of course, Lurch to spooky and spectacular life. Come meet the family. We'll leave the lights off for you. "A wonderful new musical for the entire family!"

**Dwight Yoakam****Date: January 27, 2012**

Time: 8:00pm; Doors open at 7:00pm

Location: Tulsa Hard Rock Hotel and Casino

Web: [hardrockcasinotulsa.com](http://hardrockcasinotulsa.com)**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Fort Wayne Mad Ants****Date: January 27, 2012**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>**Lady Antebellum****Date: January 27, 2012**

Time: 7:30pm

Location: BOK Center, 200 S Denver Ave

Web: [bokcenter.com](http://bokcenter.com)**Green Country Home and Garden show****Date: January 27-29**

Location: Exchange Center at Expo Square, 4145 E. 21st St.

Noon-8pm, Friday; 10am-8pm, Saturday; 11am-5pm, Sunday

**28th Annual "a Taste of Tulsa"****Date: January 28, 2011**

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: [www.atasteoftulsa.org](http://www.atasteoftulsa.org)

Food from more than 45 area restaurants silent and live auctions dancing - benefitting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma

**Tulsa 66ers Basketball Game Vs. Fort Wayne Mad Ants****Date: January 28, 2012**

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Tulsa Convention Center

Web: <http://www.tulsa66ers.com>**ORU Hosts 3rd Annual Whole Person Indoor Triathlon**

**Date: January 28 - 29, 2012**

Time: The individual competition- Saturday Jan. 28 8 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
teams Jan. 29 from 2 p.m.- 5 p.m.  
Location: ORU Aerobics Center  
Web: www.oru.edu

**Tulsa Oilers vs. Laredo**

**Date: January 29, 2012**

Time: 4:05pm  
Location: BOK Center, 200 S. Denver Ave., Tulsa  
Web: tulsaoilers.com

**Miró Quartet**

**Date: January 29, 2012**

Time: 3:00 p.m.  
Location: Performing Arts Center  
Web: www.tulsapac.com  
Founded in 1995 at the Oberlin Conservatory, the Miró Quartet is one of America's highest-profile groups on the chamber music scene today. Currently the Faculty String Quartet-in-Residence at the University of Texas, the Miró Quartet performs "with explosive vigor and technical finesse," according to The New York Times.

**Tulsa Oilers vs. Rio Grande Valley**

**Date: January 31, 2012**

Time: 7:05pm  
Location: BOK Center, 200 S. Denver Ave., Tulsa  
Web: tulsaoilers.com

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**The Drunkard (and The Oleo) The longest  
running play in America!**

**Dates: every Saturday night**

Location: Spotlight Theater, 1381 Riverside Drive

Time: 7:15 pm

Curtain time: 7:30pm. Sing-a-long time starts at 7:15pm. Come see the show and be part of the fun of an evening of "Tulsa's best family entertainment!" Come and be a part of the show! Come and boo and hiss the Villain, cheer and applaud the hero. Sing-a-long with tunes of a bygone era. You may laugh, you may cry, but you will have a great time. Tulsa Spotlighters, Inc. is a non-profit charitable endeavor. We present the old fashioned melodrama "The Drunkard" and "The Oleo" every Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. Web site: <http://www.spotlighttheater.org>. Contact: For reservations call 587-5030.

**Too many things going on at the PAC to list ... visit their web site:**  
**<http://www.tulsapac.com>**

**Tulsa Zoo** web site: [www.tulsazoo.com/](http://www.tulsazoo.com/)

Many runs going on - please check out [http://www.runnersworldtulsa.com/!](http://www.runnersworldtulsa.com/)

## New Year's Day Recipes

### Black-Eyed Peas



#### Ingredients

- 1 pound dry black-eyed peas
- 2 cups chopped cooked ham
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 pinch garlic powder
- 2 onions, diced
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can whole tomatoes

#### Directions

Place black-eyed peas in 8 quart pot. Add enough water to fill pot 3/4 full. Stir in ham and diced onions, and season with salt, pepper, and garlic powder. Place tomatoes in a blender or food processor, and blend until the tomatoes are liquefied. Add tomatoes to pot. Bring all ingredients to boil. Cover the pot, and simmer on low heat for 2-1/2 to 3 hours, or until the peas are tender.

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**Vasilopita**



One of the most beautiful and inspiring traditions of the Greek Orthodox Church is the observance of Vasilopita. The word Vasilopita is a compound Greek word which means the sweet 'bread of Basil'.

This age old tradition commenced in the fourth century, when Saint Basil the Great, who was a bishop, wanted to distribute money to the poor in his Diocese. He commissioned some women to bake sweetened bread, in which he arranged to place gold coins. In cutting the bread to nourish themselves, the families were pleasantly surprised to find the coins.

So of course now, whomever receives the piece of Vasilopita with the coin is promised good luck for the new year!

**Vasilopita**  
**(New Year's Bread)**  
**By Helen Bereolos**

1/2 lb. butter or margarine  
2 cups sugar  
1 cup milk  
5 cups flour  
3 heaping tsp. baking powder

1/2 tsp. salt  
6 eggs  
5 to 6 pieces mastika gum  
1 jigger whiskey  
1 tsp. baking soda  
Juice of 1/2 lemon  
1 cup chopped nuts  
Sesame seeds

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Melt butter. Let cool. Beat with electric mixer until light and fluffy.

Heat milk until warm. Dissolve sugar in warm milk. Combine milk/sugar mixture with butter. Combine baking powder, flour, and salt. Sift this mixture. Crush the gum into powder. Combine 5 eggs, crushed mastika gum powder, and nuts. Dissolve baking soda with lemon juice and whiskey. Add the sifted baking powder/flour/salt mixture to the butter/milk/sugar mixture. Next add the eggs, crushed mastika gum powder mixture. Add the baking soda/lemon juice/whiskey mixture last.

Beat entire mixture well and pour into greased, floured baking pan. Beat one egg and brush mixture over top of batter. Sprinkle with sesame seeds.

Bake at 350 degrees for 35 to 45 minutes or until done.

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## Tasty Collard Greens

### Ingredients

1/4 cup olive oil  
2 tablespoons minced garlic  
5 cups chicken stock  
1 smoked turkey drumstick  
5 bunches collard greens - rinsed, trimmed and chopped  
salt and black pepper to taste  
1 tablespoon crushed red pepper flakes (optional)



### Directions

Heat olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add garlic, and gently saute until light brown. Pour in the chicken stock, and add the turkey leg. Cover the pot, and simmer

for 30 minutes.

Add the collard greens to the cooking pot, and turn the heat up to medium-high. Let the greens cook down for about 45 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Reduce heat to medium, and season with salt and pepper to taste. Continue to cook until the greens are tender and dark green, 45 to 60 minutes. Drain greens, reserving liquid. Mix in red pepper flakes if desired. Use liquid to reheat leftovers.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Corned Beef and Cabbage



### Ingredients

- 1 medium onion, cut into wedges
- 4 medium potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 1 pound baby carrots
- 3 cups water
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 (3 pound) corned beef brisket with spice packet, cut in half
- 1 small head cabbage, cut into wedges

### Directions

Place the onion, potatoes and carrots in a 5-qt. slow cooker. Combine water, garlic, bay leaf, sugar, vinegar, pepper and contents of spice packet; pour over vegetables. Top with brisket and cabbage. Cover and cook on low for 8-9 hours or until meat and vegetables are tender. Remove bay leaf before serving.

## Kali Orexi (Greek for "Good Eating!")

### Links on Lori's page

#### Lori's Preferred Vendor List

Are you thinking of remodeling or perhaps landscaping? Do you need to know who to call about refinishing hardwoods, purchasing insurance, purchasing specialty items or who to call for general household repairs? Are you looking for an estate planner, painter or a graphic artist? Please visit my list of my "Preferred Vendors" on my web site. Please note that this is a work-in-progress, and not yet an exhaustive list. This list will always be available on my web site:

<http://loricain.com/resources/preferred-vendor-list>

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

Check out the "Community Links" page to my web site which includes links to theaters and events, area chambers of commerce, area entertainment, news sources and schools.



Please visit:

<http://loricain.com/resources/community-links/>

Shopping for homes? [Search here!](#)

## It's per Posterous!

Blog by e-mail!





As you may know, I have several blogs now - different blogs for different reasons. The absolute easiest blog (and free) is Posterous. No set-up or registration - just e-mail your article. Check it out: <http://posterous.com/>

And do visit [my posterous blog!](#)

## Thank you for your referrals!

“  
Throughout this transaction, we were continually shown the difference having a real professional on our side can make. Lori was absolutely the most educated, informed and helpful Realtor we have ever worked with!!

*Misty & Brian Stanton, Home Sellers*

***The greatest compliment to me is a real estate referral from you!***

*My promise to you is that I will do what I say I will do -- sometimes more, but never less.*



[New Year's Resolutions & Traditions](#)



Have you made YOUR New Year's Resolutions? Mine looks a bit like the list above, with "lose weight" at the top of the list!

Even if you don't keep them all, at least make a list and an attempt! GOOD LUCK!

#### FOR LUCK IN THE NEW YEAR

Traditionally, it was thought that one could affect the luck they would have throughout the coming year by what they did or ate on the first day of the year. For that reason, it has become common for folks to celebrate the first few minutes of a brand new year in the company of family and friends. Parties often last into the middle of the night after the ringing in of a new year (you don't say). It was once believed that the first visitor on New Year's Day would bring either good luck or bad luck the rest of the year. It was particularly lucky if that visitor happened to be a tall dark-haired man. (I can rent out Demetrius to you -- he still has hair.)

**Traditional New Year foods** are also thought to bring luck. Many cultures believe that anything in the shape of a ring is good luck, because it symbolizes "coming full circle," completing a year's cycle. For that reason, the Dutch believe that eating donuts on New Year's Day will bring good fortune. (I see Deme driving off to Krispy Kremes now, with a valid excuse!)

Many parts of the U.S. celebrate the new year by consuming black-eyed peas. These legumes are typically accompanied by either hog jowls or ham. Black-eyed peas and other legumes have been considered good luck in many cultures. The hog, and thus its meat, is considered lucky because it symbolizes prosperity. Cabbage is another "good luck" vegetable that is

consumed on New Year's Day by many. Cabbage leaves are also considered a sign of prosperity, being representative of paper currency. In some regions, rice is a lucky food that is eaten on New Year's Day.

### **AULD LANG SYNE**

The song, "Auld Lang Syne," playing in the background, is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world to bring in the new year. At least partially written by Robert Burns in the 1700's, it was first published in 1796 after Burns' death. Early variations of the song were sung prior to 1700 and inspired Burns to produce the modern rendition. An old Scotch tune, "Auld Lang Syne" literally means "old long ago," or simply, "the good old days."

#### Auld Lang Syne Lyrics

Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
and never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
and days of auld lang syne?  
For auld lang syne, my dear,  
for auld lang syne,  
we'll take a cup of kindness yet,  
for auld lang syne.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
and never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot  
and days of auld lang syne?  
And here's a hand, my trusty friend  
And gie's a hand o' thine  
We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet  
For auld lang syne

## **Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless**



The Day Center serves an average of 400 individuals on a daily basis. At night, they house approximately 115 men and women. Each person can utilize the services available including the Nurse Clinic, laundry facility, restroom and showers, and Community Voice Mail.

Each morning they provide those who spent the night with

a breakfast of cereal or oatmeal. Their eviction prevention case managers work with individuals to prevent homelessness. Bus tokens are distributed by case managers for those who need transportation to a job or doctor's appointment.

They do all this to fulfill their mission of providing a safe and healthy environment for people who are homeless and offer them opportunities and encouragement for achieving self-sufficiency.

**And when the homeless are able to move on . . .**

**The House Warming Project** is a way for groups or individuals to help provide each new household with the basics needed in their transition to self-sufficiency.

Please donate any of the following:

House Warming Box

(for a one person household)

2 plates, bowls & cups

2 drinking glasses

2 sets of flatware (knives, forks & spoons)

1 mixing bowl

1 can opener

1 spatula

1 large spoon

1 ladle

1 sauce pan

1 skillet

2 kitchen towels & cloths

1 potholder

1 dishwashing soap

1 sponge

1 all-purpose cleaner

1 comet or ajax

2 bath towels & washcloths

1 shower curtain liner & rings

1 twin sheet set

1 twin/full blanket

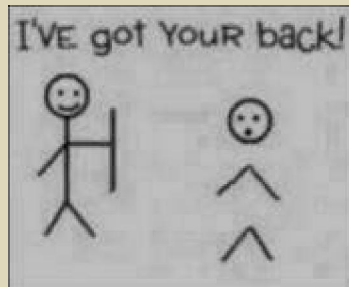
1 alarm clock (with batteries if needed)

We ask that these items be new or very gently used. Many items can be purchased at a "dollar store."

Extras that are especially appreciated but do not go in every box include: small, inexpensive coffee makers or toasters, bed pillows, land-line phones and calendars.

## Tables to Go Food Outreach Ministry

Community of Hope UCC has this amazing program where they feed lower income families living with HIV on a monthly basis. My friend Tess Tucker Trainium was desperate for donations this month, so I promised to help get the word out for future months. There is no overhead on this program. Volunteers bag up donated groceries and deliver. I'm sure they would welcome volunteer time also.



From their Facebook page:

*What we heard over and over again as we listened to those living with HIV and those serving the HIV community was that FOOD is an increasingly urgent need for many. We also heard that the isolation and alienation that often accompany living with AIDS chips away at a person's sense of dignity and community.*

*We have no idea how each relationship with each client will develop, but we anticipate that with time and as trust develops, we may be able to offer assistance with various life tasks and other kinds of support. We also anticipate that the relationships will bless and challenge us in ways we cannot even imagine yet.*

### **Mission:**

The purpose of Tables to Go is to extend the kind of dignifying, communal experience we have around our Communion Table into the homes and lives of our clients by providing both food and companionship to clients who run short of both most months.

You can donate financially online at [www.cohope.com](http://www.cohope.com) or you can contact Tess to have groceries picked up. Email [tablestogo@gmail.com](mailto:tablestogo@gmail.com) or check with me for Tess' personal cell number.

Church address is 2545 South Yale Avenue and you can likely make arrangements to drop off donations also.

***Let's help feed our neighbors in need please.***

## **Lori's Real Estate Corner**

### **My year (and special moments) in Tulsa real estate 2011**



My encounter with **Shelley** Cadamy should have prepared me for my memorable year in real estate. Shelley was relocating from OKC to Tulsa with three children, was starting a new job and planning a wedding - obviously she multi-tasks well. Shelley wanted to see one particular Tulsa home for sale, but I had no idea she was hell-bent to drive to Tulsa to see it in the snow - a LOT of snow!! In

addition to viewing her beautiful home, we met her lovely neighbors who helped dig her car out of the snow after we had dug her fiancé's car out. Shelley started her new job right away and then married **Rick** Munoz one week after closing. I'm delighted that she and her family are in Tulsa!

**Tom and Misty** and I almost bought the wrong house. We all fell in love with one midtown Tulsa home for sale that had multiple offers - and we lost out. Determined to succeed, we hit the ground the next day ready to shop - and found something we all loved so much more. (Lesson learned about "the one that got away.") Also lesson learned about checking out flood history. They're now neighbors, close to Brookside and the bike trails, and we're happy to have them nearby.

Next comes **Kathy and Steve** who sold their home in Southern Pointe to settle into a home they inherited in midtown Tulsa. Before the year ended, they purchased another home in Southern Pointe, and we'll put their midtown Tulsa home for sale on the market at the beginning of 2012. Kathy & Steve are wonderful clients and friends. They are believers in home staging, and you'll be seeing photos soon of their midtown Tulsa home for sale.





Then I met **Linda and Ron** through Anna - they were returning to Tulsa and bought a condo two blocks away from me and Deme. This condo embraced the hottest designer trends of the 1970s, and it only took Linda a few months to renovate it to a contemporary and comfortable home. Demetrius and I went to their house-warming party - what a marvelous transformation! We're delighted to have Linda and Ron as neighbors and friends - fun couple.

Later, Ron and Linda's daughter's family relocated to Tulsa, and we found **Kristen, Andrew and family** the perfect home too. Thankfully, "taste" seems hereditary in that family - along with patience and humor!

**George** sold his Mother's home after she moved in with his family. We never showed Mary her home after George updated it, but I'm certain that she would have approved. The first-time Buyer who purchased her home was likely as excited as she was when she and Pete first purchased it. The home will be well cared for, and I think we all feel good about that.



I was so excited to sell "**the Garden Deva's**" rental home. Sold in four days because it was a kick-ass, tricked out house. I had little to do with Lisa's success but blessed to be part of it. Of course, I turned around and spent my entire commission check at Garden Deva's studio, proving that the saying "what goes around comes around" is absolutely true.

Then I met **Leor and Hillary**. I'm always pleased to receive an Internet inquiry, but I had no idea that I would meet new FRIENDS this special. We ALSO almost bought the wrong house, but lost out in a multiple offer situation. A month+ later, we found a home in Sunset Terrace that suited them so much better. They are just around the corner from us now and we are learning what great cooks they are and how fun they are to be around. Their south Tulsa home is currently under contract and should close mid-January. So, **wonderful friendship and happy ending!**

My fav clients (and friends) **Mike & Gabbi** referred **Gabbi's Mom, Meg**, to me. I've never gone through such a whirl-wind shopping spree with an out-of-state Buyer, but we had a good time shopping together on the Internet. Meg bought a great home, and I can't wait to meet her. **That woman is a pistol.**

**Pat** introduced me to her mother - I had sold two homes in Florence Park for Pat. We sold her Mom, **Emalee's** home to a lovely family who desperately



wanted the four bedrooms and school district. That was a smooth transaction where everyone left with a happy face. Come to think of it, Emalee turns 90 this month and I haven't received an invitation to her birthday party as promised - will have to check on that!

**Brian & Misty** were awesome clients. We had some challenges selling their Owasso home, but they quickly stepped up to the plate each time. Seriously, they were accommodating Sellers!

Each time Lil or I provided feedback, they responded. You would be shocked if you saw how high Brian got on a ladder to paint. And, once we had their Owasso home under contract, we found an awesome Tulsa home purchase in Florence Park - darling bungalow with a pool - and they love it there!

**Welcome to midtown, Brian and Misty!!!**



**Brent & Sandra** were special 1st-time home buyers this year. I lost track of how many homes we viewed, but we finally found the perfect one. We were scheduled to close at a time to accommodate Sandra's doctor appointment, but she surprised us all by giving birth to a son in the early morning hours. Our closer wound up going to the hospital to close and get all signatures, as only

one of us was allowed. So, he got a new house on the day he was born. Wonder what he'll want on his 16th birthday?

**Stan** was smart enough to move OUT of his 4,000 square foot home and purchase his down-sized property to ease the transition and best prepare his south Tulsa home for sale. Updating in progress and all is on schedule. Pics of his home for sale in The Crescent coming soon!

**Roger and Peggy Jo** win the prize for being the cutest couple of the year and wearing matching t-shirts. I think Roger celebrated his 79th birthday shortly before closing. We sold his home in Collinsville, and he purchased a home in Peggy Jo's neighborhood. They enjoy doing a lot of things together, so the drive from Collinsville no longer made sense. They were truly a joy and inspiration to be around.



**Tyler & Samantha** were also first-time home buyers and were able to take advantage of Rural Development financing to purchase Roger's home in Collinsville. Tyler said it looked exactly like the home he grew up in. Multiple repairs were required by the RD Appraiser and in order to make it work, Tyler and Sam spent one weekend painting a barn

and another weekend replacing fencing and windows. I was really proud to see them "get after it" to make this purchase possible. Now, I'm reminded that they owe me a margarita!

**Anna** reminds me a lot of Shelley, so it's fitting that we closed on her home purchase at the end of the year. Anna was hell-bent on getting a good deal on a fixer-upper, which she did. What I love most about Anna is her optimism and vision - she sees possibilities where the rest of us see junk. As soon as she makes this house habitable for her family, we'll be selling her midtown garden oasis home - photos coming out early spring I suspect.



**And, then there was Bernie.** I believe my life is complete now that I have known Bernie. We sold her beautiful four-square vintage home in Stonebreaker Heights, and it is perhaps one of the most amazing homes I've sold. Bernie restored this home with the love of a true artist and it was an honor to be in her midst.

I appreciate my friends who sent me referrals. **Thank you Kari** for referring **David and Dot.** **Thank you Richard for referring Jeff.** And I'm thankful for my internet inquiry from **Randy and Denise** - and we're thankful that Denise transferred to Tulsa to work at St. John's!

Each year in real estate brings a few more gray hairs and a few tears and smiles. I spent this morning struggling through some mold issues and possible moisture intrusion on a stucco veneer, so **don't think that my job is all glamor, giggles and smiles.** Plus, a client called last night at 10:30pm with sewer problems. I thought I would spend the day finishing holiday shopping, but spent the day on the phone with inspectors, repairman and vendors instead.

But my valuable job brings me and others much happiness and lasting friendships. I get to meet some of the most amazing people I otherwise would not encounter. 2011 was a great year for this Tulsa Realtor, and I appreciate each and every client that made it the special year that it turned out to be!!

For more information about home buying and selling, please [visit my real estate blog!](#)

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