



Sonia E. Amin

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# Between FRIENDS

26 Years of Real Estate experience.

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**W**ho said buying or selling a home in the winter has to be a hassle? Contact me today and let my expertise guide you on the path to a successful closing.

**A** home warranty plan is a service contract that protects your home systems and appliances for a specified period of time. If a failure occurs during the plan term, a qualified contractor is sent to repair or replace the covered item for a reasonable service call fee. Help is only a phone call away, 24/7, 365 days a year!

Don't let a home system or appliance breakdown get you down! Eliminate stress before, during, and after the sale with a home warranty plan that provides coverage for both the home seller and home buyer.

## OLD REPUBLIC HOME PROTECTION

No home purchase is complete without a home warranty



Visit [orhp.com](http://orhp.com) or talk to your real estate professional to learn more

People Helping People

**C**urious about what your home is worth in today's market? I'm here for you! Contact me for an estimate of your home's present value—I'll explain the latest market forecast!



## Health & Safety

### Spice up your workout routine

**I**f you're feeling bored with your current workout, it's probably time to switch things up! Check out these ways to spice up your exercise routine without going to the gym.

**Put on your dancing shoes.** Dancing is a great way to get your heart pumping. Take a virtual dance class if you are in the mood to learn something new. There's also a wide variety of dancing video games that will test your rhythm and endurance.

**Go on an adventure.** Geocaching is one way to have an adventure while on the move. It's a fun outdoor activity that uses GPS to send participants in search of hidden containers called caches. Geocaching apps will send you coordinates within a specified radius. The apps take you on a virtual scavenger hunt while exploring exciting new locations!

**Take action.** Sign up to volunteer for a non-profit organization. Clean up litter or assist with maintaining a community garden. You'll feel the burn and feel good about giving back.

**Connect with nature.** There's something rejuvenating about being in nature. If weather permits, take a hike on a nearby trail or go for a walk on a sandy beach. You'll be so busy enjoying your surroundings, you might forget you're working out.



## Real Estate Today

### Increase your home's virtual appeal

**L**ooking for a leg up when it comes to showing your house online? Here are a few ways to increase your home's virtual appeal and attract buyers in the digital age.

**Set the stage** — Take photos of your current layout. Then rearrange the furniture and do another photoshoot. Send the shots to your friends and ask them for feedback on which layout looks best in the photos.

**Empty space** — If you've already moved, you can always leave your home empty. But many people prefer a furnished look and rent furniture during the listing period. You can also find an online service to digitally stage your home or download an app to do it yourself.

**The big picture** — If a picture is worth a thousand words, then you better make it count! Consider hiring a professional to take high quality photos and shoot a video walkthrough.

**Share online** — Once you have the perfect virtual tour of your home, your real estate agent can share it with the world. Your future buyer could be just a click away!



**1 1/3 cup flour**

**1/2 tsp. Old Bay seasoning or  
1/4 tsp garlic powder and  
1/4 tsp paprika**

**1 bottle of beer or lager**

**1 large egg beaten**

**2 lb. cod fillets**

**Salt and pepper**

**Vegetable oil, for frying**

**Lemon wedges, for garnish**

Mix together flour, spice, and 1 tsp. salt in a large bowl. Slowly stir in the egg and beer. Set aside to sit for 10 minutes.

Cut fish into 12 equal pieces. Dry fish with paper towel and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Add about three inches of oil to a large, deep pot over medium heat. Heat oil to 375°F.

Dredge four pieces of fish in the batter and carefully place in the oil. Fry fish for 5-6 minutes or until golden, flipping halfway through. Remove fish from oil and place on a paper towel lined plate. Season generously with salt. Repeat until all batches of fish are cooked.

Garnish with lemon and serve with a side of French fries.



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## Household Tips

### A clean getaway: how to keep dust under control

**L**et's face it, dust is unavoidable. But that doesn't mean it has to take over your home. Check out these tips for keeping dust under control.

- Use a microfiber or electrostatic cloth rather than an old rag or duster. These cloths capture the dust rather than move it around on the surface.
- Use a vacuum with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter. Empty your vacuum canister and bags often. Change belts when needed and keep the brush wheel free of hair and foreign objects.
- Replace the air filter on your heating and air vents according to the filter recommendation. If you have pets or allergies, you may need to replace filters more often to ensure optimal air filtration.
- Use an angled, synthetic-bristle broom for tiled or uneven floors. This will allow you to more easily pick up smaller particles. After sweeping, finish off with a damp mop.
- Be mindful of the textiles in your home. Drapery, upholstered furniture, and carpet are magnets for collecting dust.
- Avoid clutter as much as possible. The less clutter you have, the easier is to keep your home clean.

