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Open House Safety

Beaver County – Open houses are a great way to let more potential buyers see your home in a short period of time. But you also need to consider that you are letting strangers into your property, and you need to protect yourself and your belongings.

Remove all valuables, such as jewelry and family heirlooms, and store them in a locked closet or safe or with a friend or family member. Medications are another thing to remove, remember to check all your bathrooms for prescriptions you may have forgotten about.

“Your Realtor® will handle working with all of the prospective buyers,” said Beaver County Association of Realtors® President Judy Plakosh. “Your job is to make your house look the best it can be, as well as to protect yourself and your assets.”

Don’t forget about your pets as well. Most pets won’t appreciate all these guests in their home. It also may turn some would-be buyers off. It’s best to find a friend or family member who can house your furry friend until the open house is over.

Storing your personal documents is also something many sellers forget to do. Make sure your birth certificates, social security cards, bank information and so forth are not easily accessible to anyone touring your home. If your open house has a few buyers in at the same time, it’s impossible for your Realtor® to watch everyone intensely, so keep these documents safely stored.

“Hosting an open house can easily lead to your house being sold quickly,” said Plakosh. “Just take a few steps to make sure you are protecting yourself and your valuables.”

The Beaver County Association of REALTORS® is the voice for real estate in Beaver County.