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November, 2012

When Do You Notice Change?

Sometimes I realize that life has changed around me and I hadn't noticed that it was happening. This old story is a nice expression of that feeling and life's continuous change.

Mother Nature planted a seed and waited. After a while rain came down from the sky, pelting her skin, chilling her. She shivered but didn't leave, not yet.

The sun came out, warming the soil, driving the cold from her bones. She waited. Clouds floated overhead, in a hurry for some reason. The moon rose, stars wheeled, and then the sun rose again.

She didn't just wait, of course. She sang, she remembered old stories, myths and legends. She snoozed under a cloudless sky, waking only briefly when a dragonfly touched down on her nose. She observed its brightly-colored wings, iridescent with refracted sunlight, and drowsed once more after it flew away.

Rain, sun, moon, stars—she enjoyed them all. The seedling broke the soil with a questing green curlicue, looking like a question mark. She sat on it and waited more: days, months, years.

A boy came along and asked her why she had climbed to the top of the tree.

"I didn't," she said.

Have you ever found yourself on top of a tree and wondered how you got there?

Sincerely,

Lisa

Lisa Flashenburg
Your Real Estate Consultant For Life

P.S. Reach out and let me know how things around you have changed. Contact me at lflashenburg@legaledgere.com or 781-975-0803.



Happy Thanksgiving

Lisa's Local Ledger

News To Help You Save Time And Money

November 2012

Don't Doubt The Power Of A Dream

When people share their goals with you, do you help them launch their dreams—or try to bring them back to Earth?

In his book *The Man Who Listens to Horses* (Ballantine), famed horse trainer Monty Roberts tells about the time one of his teachers in high school assigned a paper called "My Goals in Life." The teacher, Mr. Fowler, was interested only in practical goals—not fantasies about going to Hollywood to become a movie star, and the like. But young Monty had a serious dream. The son of a horse trainer, he longed to own a thoroughbred racehorse facility. Monty turned in a detailed plan to achieve his dream.

Mr. Fowler returned his paper with a failing grade. "It's a wild, unattainable dream," he told the teen. "I know your family and background; it would not be possible." He insisted Monty rewrite the paper.

The next day, after talking with his mother, Monty returned his original paper to Mr. Fowler. He included a note saying he believed in his plan and the teacher shouldn't limit his aspirations. Mr. Fowler didn't respond at the time, but Monty got an A in the course.

Monty ultimately achieved his dream through hard work and determination. Many years later, he received a call from Mr. Fowler, who wanted to arrange a tour of Monty's stables for his church group.

After the tour, Mr. Fowler told the group about the term paper and the note Monty had written. "There was a time when I told Monty that this was unattainable," he said. "Now we've all had a good look around, and seen how he proved me wrong." His student, he said, had taught him "the most valuable lesson I ever learned."

When people share their goals with you, do you help them launch their dreams—or try to bring them back to Earth?

Lisa

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Mortgage Rates are at their lowest-
ask me for info!

Notable in November

- November 1st, 1959 - After being hit in the face with a hockey puck, Jacques Plante, goalie for the Canadiens at the time, created the hockey mask out of fiberglass and resin.
- November 3rd, 1718 - The birth of John Montague, Fourth Earl of Sandwich, who hit upon pairing bread and meat slices to sustain him through lengthy gambling sessions.
- November 7th, 1885 – the first transcontinental railroad across Canada, concluded with the driving of the "last spike" in Craigellachie, British Columbia.
- November 8th, 1895 – German physicist Wilhelm Röntgen produced and detected electromagnetic radiation in a wavelength known today as X-ray.
- November 9th, 1989 – The destruction of the Berlin Wall ended nearly three decades of a divided city.
- November 18th, 1928 – Walt Disney's Steamboat Willie, the first completely post-produced synchronized sound animated cartoon, was released.

November Quiz Question

Q: *What can you catch, but not throw?*

Everyone who faxes, emails or calls in the correct answer by the last day of this month will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to The Texas Road House.

October Quiz Question

Q: *I'm full of holes, but still hold water. What am I?*

A: *A sponge.*

Paul Perry of

H&K Insurance

Furnace Readiness Tips

With winter upon us, many of you probably already have your furnace running. If you haven't turned it on yet, or haven't done the maintenance yet, here are some quick tips.

1. Turn off the gas and electricity to the furnace.
2. Vacuum the furnace interior everywhere you can reach.
3. Change the air filter.
4. Check the fan belt for wear--glazing, cracking, or fraying. The belt should be taut. Tighten by loosening the attachment bracket and moving the motor assembly until the belt tightens. Retighten the attachment bracket.
5. Replace furnace cover and turn on gas and electricity.
6. Test your thermostat. Inefficient thermostats can cause the furnace to run longer than necessary.

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**Free Newsletter
Subscription!
See page 7**

Oldest Bird, Not A Bird?

Scientists are thinking that the world's oldest bird may not really be a bird after all.

Paleontologists have long considered the archaeopteryx the world's oldest bird. Fossilized remains were discovered in 1861, revealing an ancient animal with the feathers and wings of a bird, but the tail and teeth of a dinosaur. Classified as an avian, their status is now in doubt thanks to new research conducted by scientists at China's Linyi University.

As reported by the Guardian, researchers studying a chicken-size creature 155 million years old realized it shared common features with the archaeopteryx, but then determined that both the "new" old animal and the archaeopteryx properly belong to a family of dinosaurs called deinonychosaurs (like the velociraptors of Jurassic Park). Thus, the archaeopteryx really can't be

considered the first bird, unless further evidence linking it more firmly to the avian group is uncovered.

Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough. ~Oprah Winfrey

Knowledge Is A Matter Of Perspective

Have you ever been frustrated trying to explain a seemingly obvious idea to someone who just doesn't get it? That's been described as the "curse of knowledge".

An experiment asked subjects to tap out the tune of a popular song (like "Happy Birthday") on a tabletop; others were assigned to listen and identify the song.

The "tappers" predicted that those listening would be able to identify their songs 50 percent of the time, but in fact listeners named the tunes correctly only 2.5 percent of the time.



The tappers could hear the song in their heads, but the listeners were only aware of a series of sounds. It seems that once we know something, we can't imagine what it's like to not know it—which may explain a lot of the communication problems that afflict neighbors, political opponents, and even longtime spouses.

Caring For An Elderly Relative While Working

Caring for an elderly relative can be challenging when you're committed to your career. Many people leave their jobs to care for parents, but that isn't your only option. Consider these strategies for keeping your job—and your sanity:

- Look into workplace regulations for taking time off to care for relatives.
- Flex your work schedule. You may be able to telecommute, work part-time, or take on a flexible schedule. Talk to your manager. If you're a valuable member of your team, your company will probably be eager to accommodate your needs.
- Get help. Hiring a skilled caregiver to take care of your relative at least some of the time can give you some needed respite. Adult daycare centers can also provide your loved one with a safe, enjoyable environment while you work.
- Talk about your situation. Don't complain endlessly, but don't keep your eldercare responsibilities a secret from your co-workers and manager. Chances are they'll be more understanding of your situation when they know what you're dealing with.

DO YOU WANT TO WORK WITH OTHER BUSINESSES THAT GIVE OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER SERVICE?

Request a free copy of my **service directory**. All of the businesses listed in it have a proven track record for providing the kind of outstanding customer service you deserve.

Morality, like art, means drawing a line someplace. ~Oscar Wilde

Facts About Factoids

When writing a newsletter, it's important to find a variety of *factoids*, as in little, insignificant and random things. But where did the word factoid come from?

It seems that the word *factoid* was coined by Norman Mailer in his 1973 biography of Marilyn Monroe. Mailer described a factoid as "facts which have no existence before appearing in a magazine or newspaper," and created the word by combining the word fact and the ending -oid to mean "similar but not the same".



The Washington Times described Mailer's new word as referring to "something that looks like a fact, could be a fact, but in fact is not a fact". The word is defined by the Compact Oxford English Dictionary as "an item of unreliable information that is repeated so often that it becomes accepted as fact."

See An Interesting Home?

No need to wonder about the price or call a high-pressure sales agent who will make you feel obligated. I can send you the information quickly and easily for any house, listed or sold, anywhere in town.

**Just ask me!
It's all part of my free, no-obligation
HomeFinder Service.**

Leave the address on my voicemail, anytime, 24 hours a day, and I'll fax, mail or email all the information on that listing within 24 hours.

5 Tricks Theaters Use

1. Why does popcorn smell so good? The popcorn has chemicals in it to make its aroma fill the theater. It also makes you want to buy.
2. For the first month or two of screening, ticket sale money goes to movie studios. Theaters rely on concession stands to make money. That's why concessions are overpriced; popcorn costs almost nothing to make.
3. They know all the methods you use to sneak in. They just don't always care enough to kick you out for it.
4. Popcorn can "keep" for up to three days.
5. Movies always begin well after the advertised start time. Theaters want you to come early to watch commercials which are a significant profit center.

Remodel With A Financial Blueprint

Home renovations need to be planned with care. Here are some strategies for planning a remodeling project that makes financial sense:

Decide your primary objective. If resale is your biggest concern, a minor kitchen update may enhance resale opportunities more than adding a home office.

Decide how to finance the renovation. Other than cash, there are three basic options: refinancing, home-equity loans and home-improvement loans. If you have little or no equity in your home, lenders are apt to approve a home-improvement loan, which usually costs an extra point. Refinancing means taking out a larger mortgage, but the loan is based on the projected increase in value. Home equity loans are similar but carry lower closing costs offset by paying a half a point at closing. To see which financing option works best for you, have your bank calculate and compare the price of the loan, closing costs, and future interest costs.

Avoid credit card debt. Interest payments are not deductible, and the interest rates are too high.

WELCOME NEW CLIENTS

Here are some of the new clients who became members of our "Real Estate Family" this past month. I'd like to welcome you!

Tiffany Tian

Krassi & Ronni Marchev

Gordon Robbins

We love recognizing our new friends and wonderful existing clients who are kind enough to introduce their friends, family and neighbors to us.

Lost Jobs Lead To New Opportunities

According to a CareerBuilder survey, 54 percent of people who landed new jobs last year found themselves working in new fields. If you're searching for a job, this may be an opportunity to explore something you've always wanted to do, like these people:

- A financial advisor became a school teacher.
- A school teacher became a restaurant manager.
- A restaurant manager turned computer tech.
- A computer tech became a veterinary assistant.
- A veterinary assistant reeducated and took a job as an engineer.
- An engineer took a job as a truck driver.
- A truck driver became a fitness trainer.
- A fitness trainer became a radiology technician.

Lisa's Legends

Send me an interesting story you've seen, a short blurb about your or your business or something interesting that has happened to you recently and you'll be featured in this column!

Conratulations to **Chris Keeley** and Bowdoin Construction Corp For being a Merit Award winner for The Rivers School Campus Center project, selected by The Associated Builders and Contractors of Massachusetts

You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do. ~Henry Ford

Girls, Ask Your Guys

Sadie Hawkins Day is November 10th this year. It's not a holiday, but just a fun day when it's considered OK for girls to ask their guys to marry them. The idea was introduced by Al Capp in his Li'l Abner comic strip on November 15, 1938, at a time in society when it was not considered acceptable for a girl to ask a guy for a date or marriage.

In the old comic strip, the mayor of the hillbilly town of Dogpatch was desperate to marry off his daughter, Sadie Hawkins. He devised an event—a foot race in which the unmarried women would chase eligible males, and any man who was caught would have to marry his pursuer. Sadie caught her man -- and the idea caught on with Capp's readers.

Girl-ask-boy Sadie Hawkins Day dances were the rage for the next 40 years in high schools and colleges across North America. Today, the celebration is usually held on the Saturday closest to November 9th, and is a great excuse to have some fun. Many schools still host Sadie Hawkins Day Dances.



LISA'S LOCAL LEDGER

Free Information Request Form

Please complete the box below and place check marks next to the free reports and information you'd like to receive.

Fax this form to 781-575-9995 or mail it to:

Lisa Flashenburg, 1017 Turnpike St., Ste. 22B., Canton, MA 02021 or just call me at 781-975-0803

www.LegalEdgeRE.com email: Lflashenburg@LegalEdgeRe.com

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal: _____ Fax: _____

Please send me the requested free information selected below via Mail Fax Email.

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Free Information

- Send me information about your free, no-obligation HomeFinder service.
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- Please let me know the listing price and features of the home at the following address:
_____.
- Please let me know the selling price of the home at the following address:
_____.
- Please call me to arrange a free, no-obligation market valuation on my house.

*Do you have a family member or friend who would enjoy a free subscription to **Lisa's Local Ledger**?? Provide me with their contact info., and I'll add them to my mailing list.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal: _____

Lisa's Local Ledger

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Keep Your Eyes On The Prize

A man who was afraid of heights decided to conquer his fear by rappelling down the side of a steep cliff.

A guide was on hand to help him, but as he stood on the edge of the cliff, the sight of the long drop and the rocks waiting for him down below made him freeze.

The guide gave him some simple advice: "Don't look where you don't want to go." By focusing on his goals—not his fears—the man was able to complete his descent successfully and safely. Plus, he learned something about how to get past the things that scared him.

