

front porch news

Tim Lord | [317-319-9012](tel:317-319-9012) | tim@lordrealestategroup.com

Need a Great
Painter, Plumber,
Handyman, etc.?

Call me when you need help.
I know people!

317-319-9012

RIP the Apostrophe *it's*

Are you confident you know your 'your' from your 'you're'? Your 'lets' from your 'let's'? Or 'its' from 'it's'?

Apostrophes can be tricky. Faced with a choice, many people leave them out. Of course this is technically wrong, even if a slew of companies set a bad example by doing so. Starbucks, anyone? Or is it Starbuck's? Who cares?

One person who cares more than most is John Richards, who founded the *Apostrophe Protection Society* in 2001 to preserve "the correct use of this currently much abused punctuation mark," which he called a "very useful little device."

But in 2019, at the age of 96, he regretfully disbanded the *Apostrophe Protection Society*, lamenting that the "ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won!"

I blame texting. It takes too much effort to find the apostrophe!



Morning Routines to Kick-start Your Amazing Day

We've all heard that eating a good breakfast is important. Here are a few other morning routines that can enhance your day:

- **Have a happy thought.** When you first wake up, even before you get up, think a happy thought. Think about what you're grateful for, or what you're looking forward to about the day. Ignore creeping doubts for now.
- **Take deep breaths.** The oxygen will fire up your neurons and enhance your mood. Stretching, yoga, or brief exercise can help you breathe deeper. Relax your muscles as you breathe. You can do this all through your morning, even as you enjoy a cup of coffee or tea.
- **Plan the day.** Take five or ten minutes to sort through all your appointments and to-do's for the day. Get it out of mind and onto paper or screen. The less clutter in your brain, the more focused you can be.
- **Picture the outcome.** Before you get to work, imagine a positive day, meeting, or project. Get a crystal clear picture of success. Actions tend to follow intentions.



Should you sell your home yet?

If you've been wondering if the price is right to sell your home now, I can provide an estimate of its market value. Call me at [317-319-9012](tel:317-319-9012) or send an email tim@lordrealestategroup.com with a brief description, including the address.

Story: An Object Lesson

A young man traveled a great distance to study with a much-respected sage. He explained that he wanted to learn from the master's wisdom, and immediately began telling him how much he'd learned from other gurus.

The sage listened. When the would-be disciple paused for breath, the elder man offered him a cup of tea.

"Yes, thank you," said the young man. "And so then I went to study with . . ."

The master brought cups and poured tea. As the young man continued talking, the sage kept pouring.

Suddenly the young man realized his cup was overflowing. Still the master poured. "Master, stop!" cried the young man. "The cup is full—it will hold no more!"

"Ah," said the master. "So we cannot add to a container that is already full." He gazed meaningfully at the young man, who was after all wise enough to start listening.



For Laughs: Walked into a Bar...

- A priest, a minister, and a rabbit walk into a bar. The rabbit says, I think I might be a typo.
- Comic Sans walks into a bar. The bartender says, "We don't serve your type here."
- E-flat walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve minors."
- A mushroom walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Hey, you look like a fun guy."

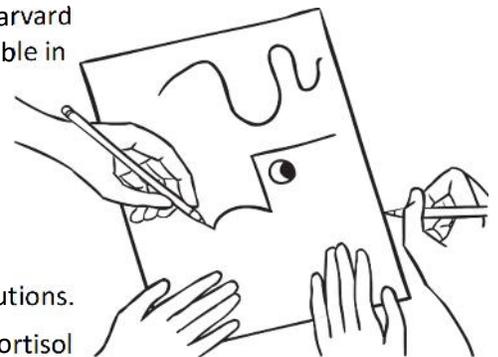
APRIL QUIZ QUESTION

Mr. Smith has 4 daughters. Each of his daughters has a brother. How many children does Mr. Smith have?

When Was the Last Time You Drew Something for Fun?

You might want to take up sketching as a hobby. According to reports from Harvard Health Publishing, The Mayo Clinic, and others, drawing keeps our minds flexible in unique ways. Here are some examples:

- Drawing improves short term memory. In one example, two groups were tested on recall. One group was asked to simply listen to recorded information. The other was asked to doodle images as they listened. The doodlers had a 29% better recall of the information.
- Drawing can help us see new angles on problems and find unique solutions.
- Multiple studies have shown that drawing and painting reduce our cortisol levels, which keeps our minds and bodies healthier.
- Studies have found that people suffering from depression can improve their mood by taking up visual arts as part of their treatment.
- Drawing can prevent mental decline as we age. A study from The Mayo Clinic found that participants who were "artistically active" over many years reported far fewer incidents of cognitive impairment compared to those who never did art. This includes all forms of artistic expression, not just drawing.



It sounds like doing a little sketching, drawing, or painting on a daily basis can be as healthy for brain function as physical exercise. What if you did some right now? One idea to get started...make a random squiggle on a page. Then try to make something out of the squiggle.

Thank You!

Thank You friends...

I appreciate your referrals. I hope you'll feel comfortable introducing me to the people in your life you care about.

Want to Win a \$10 Coffee Card?

It's easy to play! Answer the **quiz question** on **page 2**. Each month, all correct entries have a chance of winning a coffee card. Put the word **QUIZ** in the subject and email it to: tim@lordrealestategroup.com

Last Month's Question: *What do you get when you divide 30 by .5 and add 10?*

Last Month's Answer: 70 (not 25). $30 \div .5 = 60, + 10$

Congratulations to last month's winner!



Easily Save \$2,000/year with These Tips



1. Before hitting your regular grocery store, shop at a discount grocery store first. You can save as much as 20% on your grocery bill without coupons!
2. Get free and low-cost stuff on Craigslist. Need a new TV? How about a desk? People give away the most amazing things, often nearly new!
3. Buy yourself a cup of coffee at home instead of at Starbucks. When you pour a cup in the morning, put \$2 into a savings envelop or on an app.
4. Monitor monthly payments. Avoid subscriptions you only use once in a while. Check your cell and cable service to be sure you're not paying for more than you use. Maybe skip the luxury shaving boxes.
5. Plan meals in advance to avoid last minute trips to the store, which can be expensive. Try putting together meals from what you have on hand.
6. Use a no-access jar for coins. Once upon a time, piggy banks had no hole in the bottom and you had to break them to get the money. Get a pickle jar (or similar), punch a slit in the top for coins, then super-glue the lid on. Maybe you can use this for your coffee money (#3).

FREE Report

7 Ways to Sell Your Home Fast at Top Dollar

There are many reasons to sell. You change jobs, retire, need more room. In many cases, you need to sell fast. Often, you have plenty of time, but you don't want to draw it out. In any case, you still want as much money as possible from your sale. **Contact me for a copy of this short report that shows you how.**

317-319-9012

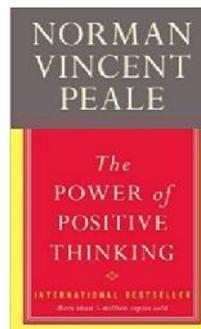
A Classic of Positivity

If you have ever read *The Power of Positive Thinking* by Norman Vincent Peale, the book might have had a profound effect on your thinking patterns, as it has for millions of readers since publication in 1952. If you haven't read it yet, it might be worth a look.

You might find it interesting to know that much of the reason for the book's success (5 million copies) might stem from the hypnotic language patterns used by Peale.

Although Peale says that his theological practice and strategy was directed more at self-analysis, forgiveness, character development, and growth, many expert psychologists and psychiatrists take umbrage at his "supposed" expertise, coming as it does from a lay person. As always, read wisely.

For more on this, see Wikipedia: Norman Vincent Peale.



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Tim Lord
Lord Real Estate Group

Indianapolis, 46268

Can't Find a Home to Buy? Solutions for a Tight Housing Market...

When the housing market tightens up, new or transitioning home buyers can feel left out in the cold. Many choose to skip buying altogether. But I want to encourage them (and you) to reconsider. With careful house-hunting and plenty of patience, it's possible to buy a home and start building equity in the new place, even when supply is low. Here's a story from a client:

"My husband and I just bought our first house together. After a year and a half of looking at houses and putting in multiple offers that were not accepted, we were disillusioned. A friend referred us to you and thank goodness for that! You convinced us to consider a condo instead of a house, which would give us almost everything we want except a big yard. To solve that issue, you went out of your way to find us a condo next to a wild park that almost feels like our yard. Thanks for your help. We recommend you enthusiastically!"

~ Jack and Sarah Rothschild

I can't guarantee a fairy tale solution like this, but if you or someone you know is ready to buy a home, I guarantee I'll work hard to find a solution.

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