

# Home Scene

## All the Difference in The World

Every Sunday morning I take a light jog around a park near my home. There's a lake located in one corner of the park. Each time I jog by this lake, I see the same



elderly woman sitting at the water's edge with a small metal cage sitting beside her.

This past Sunday my curiosity got the best of me, so I stopped jogging and walked over to her. As I got closer, I realized that the metal cage was in fact a small trap.

There were three

turtles, unharmed, slowly walking around the base of the trap. She had a fourth turtle in her lap that she was carefully scrubbing with a sponge brush.

"Hello," I said. "I see you here every Sunday morning. If you don't mind my nosiness, I'd love to know what you're doing with those turtles."



She smiled. "I'm cleaning off their shells," she replied. "Anything on a turtle's shell, like algae or scum, reduces the turtle's ability to absorb heat and impedes its ability to swim. It can also corrode and weaken the shell over time."

"Wow! That's really nice of you!" I exclaimed.

She went on: "I spend a couple of hours each Sunday morning, relaxing by this lake and helping these little guys out. It's my own strange way of making a difference."

"But don't most freshwater turtles live their whole lives with algae and scum hanging from their shells?" I asked.

"Yep, sadly, they do," she replied.



I scratched my head. "Well then, don't you think your time could be better spent? I mean, I think your efforts are kind and all, but there are

fresh water turtles living in lakes all around the world. And 99% of these turtles don't have kind people like you to help them clean off their shells. So, no offense... but how exactly are your localized efforts here truly making a difference?"

The woman giggled aloud. She then looked down at the turtle in her lap, scrubbed off the last piece of algae from its shell, and said, "Sweetie, if this little guy could talk, he'd tell you I just made all the difference in the world."

**The moral:** You can change the world – maybe not all at once, but one person, one animal, and one good deed at a time. Wake up every morning and pretend like what you do makes a difference. It does.



### By Referral Only™ means ...

**Our business** is designed to provide you with the highest possible level of service and attention. Unlike most Realtors, who spend most of their time searching for new customers from the general public, over 95% of our business comes from our clients' endorsements. As a result, you benefit by getting more of our undivided attention, education, predictability and dedication.

**Our promise** is to give you sound real estate advice and help you understand the future implications of the decisions you make.

**Our goal** is to build a relationship with you based on mutual trust and respect.

**Our vision** is to make a positive difference in your transaction, in your life, and in the world.

# Moving with Pets



Let's be real; moving can be quite stressful. And if it's this stressful for us, how do you think it is for our furry friends? Moving to a new location, going for a long drive, new rooms, new yard – it's a lot for a pet. So, if you're making a move this summer, I wanted to share a few tips to make it easier for you and your pets. Check out four tips to make moving with pets a little easier.



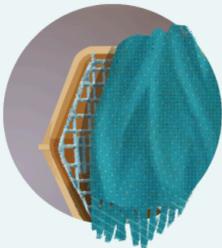
### Prepare a Moving Kit

Create an overnight bag for your pet. Add food, toys, a bed, and litter so that everything they need is easily accessible while you're busy unpacking boxes.



### Keep Your Pet Away From the Hustle

Your moving day will come with a lot of commotion. All of the moving can create anxiety for your pet. Try to keep them away from the hustle. Ask a friend to watch your pet on moving day or take them to a kennel for the day. If that's not possible, let them stay in a quiet room.



### Let Them Ride With You

When everything is loaded and it's time to make a move to your new home, make sure that your pet rides with you. If your pet is really nervous, put them in their crate and cover it with a blanket so that they can't see the changing scenery.



### Ease Your Pet Into Your New Home

If it's possible, set up as much as you can in your new home before moving your pet. If not, keep your pet secluded in a calm area of the house with things they recognize, like toys or a bed, until things look normal for them. Easing them into their new space will make it more comfortable. Don't let your pet outside unattended until they've adjusted to their new neighborhood.

## There is an old saying ...

There is an old saying from Margaret Atwood that goes, “You’re never going to kill storytelling, because it’s built into the human plan. We come with it.”

I send you a story like this each month because stories remind us of who we are.

I hope you find a piece of yourself in this story.

Once upon a time, two brothers were venturing from town to town. Along the way, they saw an old man with a white beard carrying a heavy sack over his shoulder. The old man stopped and asked the boys where they were headed. When he found out, he told them, “I want to help you.” He put a hand in his pocket and pulled out a handful of golden coins.

“Which one of you wants these?” he asked.

“I want them,” replied the big brother immediately.

The old man then put a hand in his other pocket and pulled out a precious gem, shining like the sun, and asked again, “And who wants to have this gem?”

“I want it,” the big brother answered hastily. The old man gave him the coins and the gem.

Then the old man put down his sack and said, “Now who is going to help me carry this sack to the village?”

The big brother said nothing. But the little brother pulled up his sleeves and bent down to help him.

The old man smiled and said, “Take it with you, my boy, along with everything that is inside.”

“No,” said the younger brother. “It’s not mine.”

“Take it.. take it.” said the old man. “It’s my gift to you.”

The little brother opened the sack, and what did he see? The bag was filled with gold coins and precious gemstones. He stood up to thank the old man, but he was nowhere to be found.

Whether you are the big brother - who is assertive and leaps toward opportunity, or the little brother – who believes in hard work, or the old man – who remembers to be fair and generous, I hope you find the best of who you are in this story.



## 30 Frugal Summer Activities for Kids

Here are 30 frugal summer activities for kids that focus on education, family time, and trying new things! Even better? They're all low stress, simple and frugal!

- |                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Go jump roping                    | 15. Create a lemonade stand        |
| 2. Try an outdoor science experiment | 16. Play tic-tac-toe with frisbees |
| 3. Set up a relay race               | 17. Try a Pinterest craft          |
| 4. Have a campfire                   | 18. DIY popsicles                  |
| 5. Go swimming                       | 19. Visit the park                 |
| 6. Go to a movie outdoors            | 20. Try something new              |
| 7. Make no-churn ice cream           | 21. Have a water fight             |
| 8. Play with sidewalk chalk          | 22. Play frisbee                   |
| 9. Go to the beach                   | 23. Visit a friend                 |
| 10. Stargaze                         | 24. Go on a bike ride              |
| 11. Try a new sport                  | 25. Have a BBQ                     |
| 12. Invite friends over for dinner   | 26. Play kickball                  |
| 13. Go camping in your backyard      | 27. Make root beer floats          |
| 14. Have a scavenger hunt            | 28. Try fresh produce              |
|                                      | 29. Have a photo shoot             |
|                                      | 30. Outdoor family game night!     |

## Welcome New Clients

**By Referral Only™ Really Does Work**  
Here are some of the new clients who were referred to our "RE Family" this past quarter.

**Mimi Charron**

Referred by Paul and Frances Maglietta

**Nalu Dorscheid**

Referred by May Vita-Finzi

**Mirela Kasprzyk and her two brothers,  
Michael and Dominic**

Referred by Karen Dunstan

**Amirali Ghassemi**

Referred by Sam Forouzi & Leila Mahjoub

**Ozcar & Gabriela Galvan**

Referred by Eduardo & Gabriela Diconca

**Trudy Trinh**

Referred by Tommy Trinh and Mihee Kim

**Abzel Mohammad**

These former clients are once again putting their trust in us:

**M. Lindan, T. Prescod & A. Lindan**

**Gregory Hines & Charlene Anthony- Hines**

**Jay Slack & Sasha Kardish**

**Donna Hiscock**

**Vlad and Maria Kovalevsky**

**Max Wang & Roseline Kuo**



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