



Tom Parker

Broker

The Right Connection in Real Estate

www.TomRParker.com

January 2018

Begin Anew

To Our Clients and Friends –

Today is the day! A new year! A new day! A new opportunity to grasp the baton of life and go for it. A new chance to embark on that journey with renewed passion. A new chance to make a difference; to live a life fulfilled; to contribute to the betterment of mankind. And it's all ours, if we desire.

Our journey through life provides us an opportunity to discover our true purpose. We all possess personal gifts and strengths that are often left undiscovered, yet when realized provide a foundation upon which to change the world by helping others awaken to their potential. It's a matter of personal growth and discovery.

It has increasingly occurred to me that there is still more for me to do in pursuit of completing a life fulfilled. I am not ready to just fade away, but am rather energized by the prospect of making a difference for many.

I am here to help!

Although most grateful for the blessings in my life, there remains a nagging compulsion to do more for mankind. I envision the road I am travelling to result in benefiting multitudes who are simply looking for their chance to pursue the American Dream.

With an intentional purpose in mind, I am looking to assist in enabling the willing to unlock their true potential. I guess you could say that in addition to a Real Estate Broker, I am also a Hope & Dream Broker.

If my message resonates with you, I would like to talk with you.

Sincerely,

Tom & Melissa

Spiritually Guided, Divinely Inspired & Intentionally Motivated



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REFERRALS ARE THE ♥ OF OUR BUSINESS!

VISIT US AT WWW.TOMRPARKER.COM

Tom's Home News

January 2018

You can call me (916) 257-0058

Compliments of Tom Parker

The Humble Spark Behind Big Companies

Every great business has started with exactly the same thing—an idea. Here are a few of the ideas that sparked some of today's top tech businesses.

In 1995, a software developer set-up a personal website called AuctionWeb to auction off his girlfriend's Pez dispenser collection. It started as a personal project, but when the amount of web traffic made it necessary to upgrade to a business Internet account, Pierre Omidyar had to start charging people fees. In less than a year, his "little" project had exploded to more than 2 million subscribers and he'd changed the name to eBay.



In 1994, a young businessman was driven by what he describes as his "regret minimization framework," designed to reduce the regret he might otherwise have felt for not participating in the Internet business boom. When trying to decide whether to quit his stable job to create an online bookstore, Jeff Bezos remembers, "If I failed I wouldn't regret that, but I knew the one thing I might regret is not ever having tried. I knew that that would haunt me every day, and so...it was an incredibly easy decision." Today, Amazon is the largest online retailer in the world.

A computer science Ph.D. student at Stanford wrote his dissertation on the structure of the World Wide Web. His interest was piqued, and Larry Page began to focus on defining how web pages linked to each other. He thought there must be something valuable about the number and nature of the links, and as it turns out, the rest of the world seems to agree every time they run a Google search.

Maybe you or someone you know has a humble idea that could lead to a billion dollar business!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- The Humble Spark Behind Big Companies
- The "Myth" Of The American \$2 Bill
- Tolerance For Caffeine Is In Your Genes
- The Secret Box
- Doc, I'm Getting Old
- Debunking The 5-Second Rule
- Punctuation Is Mighty

The “Myth” Of The American \$2 Bill

In the US, someone in the Treasury Department had the bright idea of printing \$2 bills (the first ones were printed in 1862). It's a bill that seemed designed as a response to inflation, but it never caught on. While it's still "legal tender" in the US, it's not very commonly used.

That has sparked some fun stories that now float around the internet. These tales seem designed to showcase ignorance, but they also could plausibly be based in truth. Here are two of the more common tales:



1. **The \$2 Fast Food story.** In this story, a man tries to pay for his \$1.98 soda with a \$2 bill. The employee goes to his manager, who tells the customer he can't pay with "that." When the man asks why not, the manager says, "I think you know why," assuming it's a fake and the man's just trying to be funny, or even criminal. Eventually a policeman is called. He examines the \$2 bill and finally whispers to the manager, asking what's wrong with the bill. The manager looks at the policeman and the customer who are both staring at him, and suddenly realizes that maybe he's made a mistake.
2. **The \$2 Electronics' Store story.** In this story, an annoyed customer goes to the bank and gets a whole stack of \$2 bills. He uses them to pay a \$114 bill that he's tried to pay already online, but the system wouldn't work correctly. The cashier calls the police, who arrest the customer. He's held for three hours before someone finally confirms that \$2 bills are legal.

Tolerance For Caffeine Is In Your Genes

The amount of coffee you drink may be based on your genetic makeup. A study by an international team of researchers, written up in the journal *Scientific Reports*, identified a gene that regulates the expression of other genes connected to caffeine metabolism.

The gene, PDSS2, hampers cells' ability to break caffeine down, which causes it to remain in the body longer. Thus, people with the gene will feel the effects of caffeine longer, reducing their desire for more.

The scientists examined genetic data from two groups of people in Italy, and they asked participants to record how many cups of coffee they drank each day. People with a variation in their PDSS2 gene tended to drink less coffee than those without the variant. The study was replicated in a similar study carried out in the Netherlands.

The Quandary

Imagine if you had information that would help many (if not all people). And those who would benefit aren't aware of the important information you possess.

What to do?

Reach out with sincerity in all you say and do to influence the right people to join our effort to help others.

Take a look: www.ABetterLifeStartsNow.com

The Secret Box

There once was a man and a woman who had been married for more than 60 years. They talked about everything. They kept no secrets from each other... except that the old woman had a shoe box in the top of her closet that she cautioned her husband never to open it or ask her about it.

For all those years, he had never thought about the box, but one day the little old woman got very sick and the doctor said she would never recover.

In trying to sort out their affairs, the little old man took down the shoe box and took it to his wife's bedside. She agreed it was time that he should know what was in the box.

When he opened it he found two beautifully crocheted doilies and a stack of money totaling over \$25,000. He asked her about the unusual contents.

"When we were married," she said, "My grandmother told me the secret of a happy marriage was to never argue. She told me that if I ever got angry with you, I should just keep quiet and crochet a doily."

The little old man was so moved, he had to fight back tears. Only two precious doilies were in the box. She had only been angry with him two times in all those years of living and loving. He almost burst with joy and happiness.

"Sweetheart," he said, "That explains the doilies, but what about all this money? Where did it all come from?"

Oh," she said, "That's the money I made from selling doilies."



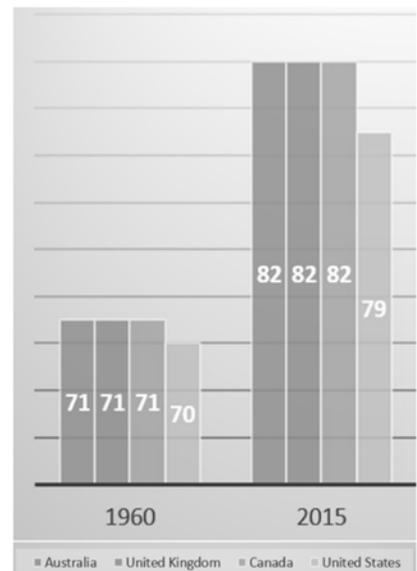
Doc, I'm Getting Old

An elderly gentleman was being treated by his doctor. He was worried about his increasing physical ailments.

"You're in pretty good shape for a man your age," she said. "But I'm only a doctor, not a magician. I can't make you any younger." "I know that," the man said. "I'm not asking you to make me younger. I want you to help me get older for a long time." **Look How Much Longer We're Living**

Life expectancy has increased by many years since 1960.

Here's a comparison among the main English speaking nations between 1960 and 2015, the most recent year with complete data. Australia, the UK, and Canada were at 71 years in 1960, and 82 years in 2015. The US lags a bit behind, starting at 70 in 1960, and 79 in 2015.



The secret of long life is double careers. One to about age sixty, then another for the next thirty years. ~ David Ogilvy

Debunking The 5-Second Rule

We've all heard of the 5-second rule: if a piece of food drops on the floor, it's safe to eat if you grab it in five seconds or less. That may not be true, though, according to an article on the Medical News Today website.

Researchers at Rutgers University decided to test the rule. They used four types of surfaces: stainless steel, ceramic tile, wood, and carpet. They also choose four kinds of food: watermelon, bread, bread with butter, and gummy candy. Finally, they tested four different contact times: less than a second, five seconds, 30 seconds, and 300 seconds.

They cultivated bacteria similar to salmonella and spread it on the different surfaces, allowed it to dry, then dropped each food on each surface for each designated time period. The results: the bacteria was able to contaminate the food almost instantly in every case, although with different degrees of contamination. Watermelon soaked up the most bacteria because of its moisture; the gummy treats were affected the least due to their hard surface.

Nonetheless, the scientists are confident that their findings disprove the 5-second rule. So you're probably safer throwing out any food that hits the floor.



Punctuation Is Mighty

When teaching his students about the virtues of punctuation, one English teacher gives examples of how meaning can change, and lives saved or lost, in the placement of punctuation. Here's one example:

Maria Feodorovna, the wife of Tsar Alexander III of Russia, was known for her charitable works. According to one story, she once saved a condemned man from exile in Siberia by moving a single comma in the warrant signed by her husband. The original document read: "Pardon impossible, to be sent to Siberia." The Empress moved the comma so the warrant read: "Pardon, impossible to be sent to Siberia." The man was saved and released.

Here's another example:

On the cover of a magazine, the headline read: "Rachael Ray finds inspiration in cooking her family and her dog." We hope not. The cover should have read, "Rachael Ray finds inspiration in cooking, her family, and her dog." Still an awkward sentence, but now at least the commas let us know it's a list, not a description of her taste in food.

Real Estate is a crazy market right now!

A great time to sell! And a challenging time to buy.

Let me help you negotiate the pitfalls.

My purpose in life is helping people.

I look forward to helping you!

Call me at 916-257-0058