

# Purvi's Home News

News To Help You Save Time And Money

December 2014

## Chance Favors The Prepared

How does someone decide to be great...even to be the leader of a large country? Here's one lesson about one great leader, as told in a story by Orison Swett Marden from *The Project Gutenberg*:

"I meant to take good care of your book, Mr. Crawford," said the boy, "but I've damaged it a good deal without intending to, and now I want to make it right with you. What shall I do to make it good?"

"Why, what happened to it, Abe?" asked the rich farmer, as he took the copy of Weems's *Life of Washington* which he had lent young Lincoln, and looked at the stained leaves and warped binding. "It looks as if it had been out through all last night's storm. How came you to forget, and leave it out to soak?"

"It was this way, Mr. Crawford," replied Abe. "I sat up late to read it, and when I went to bed, I put it away carefully in my bookcase, as I call it, a little opening between two logs in the wall of our cabin. I dreamed about General Washington all night. When I woke up I took it out to read a page or two before I did the chores, and



Lincoln

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you can't imagine how I felt when I found it in this shape. It seems that the mud-daubing had got out of the weather side of that crack, and the rain must have dripped on it three hours before I took it out. I'm sorry, Mr. Crawford. I want to fix it with you, if you can tell me how, for I have not got money to pay for it."

"Well," said Mr. Crawford, "come and shuck corn three days, and the book is yours."

Had Mr. Crawford told young Abraham Lincoln that he had fallen heir to a fortune the boy could hardly have felt more elated. Shuck corn

only three days, and earn the book that told all about his greatest hero!

"I don't intend to shuck corn, split rails, and the like always," he told Mrs. Crawford, after he had read the volume. "I'm going to fit myself for a profession."

"Why, what do you want to be, now?" asked Mrs. Crawford in surprise.

"Oh, I'll be President!" said Abe with a smile.

"You'd make a pretty President with all your tricks and jokes, now, wouldn't you?" said the farmer's wife.

"Oh, I'll study and get ready," replied the boy, "and then maybe the chance will come."

~ Purvi Shah

## A Holiday Reminder

*"As we struggle with shopping lists and invitations, compounded by December's bad weather, it is good to be reminded that there are people in our lives who are worth this aggravation, and people to whom we are worth the same."*

~ Donald E. Westlake

## The Perfect Dream Gift

The day before Christmas, a young wife told her husband over breakfast, "Last night I dreamed you gave me a diamond necklace for Christmas!" And she smiled. "What do you think that means?" Her husband grinned back. "Maybe you'll find out tomorrow." Christmas Day arrived, and the husband handed his wife a small box. "Merry Christmas, darling." The wife opened it. Inside the box was a book: *The Interpretation of Dreams*.

## The Origin Of The Jolly Fat Man



St. Nicholas, a 4<sup>th</sup> century religious figure, is the origin of our modern day Santa Claus ("Claus" is a shortening of the last portion of the name Nicolas, while Santa is another way of saying Saint.) Nicholas was a kindly Bishop who secretly gave gifts to people in need, expecting nothing for himself in return. It is this selfless generosity which seeks only the good of the other that made Nicholas a saint. But how did an early Christian saint become a roly-poly red-suited American symbol for merry holiday festivity and commercial activity? History tells the tale:

The first US Colonists, primarily Puritans and other Protestant reformers, did not bring Nicholas traditions to the New World. Although it is almost universally believed that the Dutch brought St. Nicholas to New Amsterdam (in what is now the New York area), in the 1600's, scholars find scant evidence of Christmas traditions in

## December Quiz Question

**Q:** *Do penguins have feathers or fur?*

Everyone who texts, emails or calls in the correct answer by the last day of this month will be entered into a drawing for a \$20 gift certificate

## November Question

**Q:** *A flock of crows is called a murder. What is a flock of ravens called? (There are several possible answers.)*

**A:** *A congress, a quorum, unkindness, a conspiracy, or a flight of ravens.*

Dutch New Netherland. Colonial Germans in Pennsylvania kept the feast of St. Nicholas, and several later accounts have St. Nicholas visiting New York Dutch on New Years' Eve, thus adopting an English custom of New Year gift-giving.

In 1773 New York non-Dutch patriots formed the Sons of St. Nicholas, primarily as a non-British symbol to counter the English St. George societies, rather than to honor St. Nicholas. This society was similar to the Sons of St. Tammany in Philadelphia. Not exactly St. Nicholas, the gift-giver.

After the American Revolution, John Pintard, the influential patriot and antiquarian who founded the New York Historical Society in 1804, promoted St. Nicholas as patron saint of both society and city. On St. Nicholas Day in January 1809, Washington Irving published the satirical fiction, Knickerbocker's History of New York, with numerous references to a jolly St. Nicholas character. This was not the saintly bishop, but rather an elfin Dutch burgher with a clay pipe. Irving's work was regarded as the "first notable work of imagination in the New World." Gradually the St. Nicholas feast day of December 6 migrated to Christmas Day and St. Nicholas became Santa Claus.

## House Hunt Happily

Dear Friend,

Here's a quick note to let you know how I can help you—or anyone you feel comfortable introducing me to.

Buying a home starts with looking at homes. While some buyers find their dream home right away, others see 100 homes before finding one they love. Homebuyers, who search for months can get burned out, even give up. So, for buyers who are about to start house hunting, here are three tips to help you stay cool:

First, partner with a good real estate consultant, like me, who will preview homes to help you trim your list before getting in the car. Second, do drive-bys. You can narrow the list of homes to visit by first seeing neighborhood circumstances, yard features, home condition, etc. Finally, stay within your price range. Going to homes you can't afford wastes time and calibrates your expectations too high for your price point.

If you or someone you know is starting to house hunt, contact me at 858-603-8225 or [Purvi02shah@gmail.com](mailto:Purvi02shah@gmail.com). Also get a copy of my report, ***How to Stop Spending Money on Rent and Own a Home Instead.***

Purvi Shah, Your Real Estate Consultant For Life

Remax Associates, 858-603-8225

**P.S.** Who do you know who's thinking about buying a home? Please let them know that I can help them with their search.

# PURVI'S HOME NEWS

## 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.

Mail it to: Purvi Shah 16787 Bernardo Center Dr A#6, San Diego CA 92128

Or just call me at 858-603-8225!

**www.Purvishahrealtor.com email: Purvi02shah@gmail.com**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### Free Reports

- Protect Your Home From Burglars
- Five Deadly Mistakes Home Sellers Make
- Making The Move Easy On The Kids
- How Sellers Price Their Homes
- How To Stop Wasting Money On Rent
- How To Sell Your House For The Most Money In The Shortest Possible Time
- The 10 Dumbest Mistakes Smart People Make When Buying Or Selling A Home

### Free Information

- Send me information about your free, no-obligation HomeFinder service.
- Send me the special computer report showing the features and sale prices of up to 15 of the most recent home sales near the following address:  
\_\_\_\_\_, City: \_\_\_\_\_ or in  
the \_\_\_\_\_ area.
- 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 Purvi's Home News? Provide me with their contact info., and I'll add them to my mailing list.*

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