

# The Art of Moving

**Br Bobbi Decker**

Contributor

As we move into the New Year there is much of thought as to the changes we may face in the coming year. Some people will consider new diets and/or exercise regimes to improve their health. Others may begin the search for a new job opportunity with higher satisfaction. Then there are those who will opt to change their home and environment. This may be the result of a new job opportunity. Then it may be that the family is expanding and more room is needed. Perhaps the children have grown and are out on their own and now it is time to “downsize.” Whatever the case, there is a true “art” to moving that will decrease the stress level and improve the results. Margaret Fearey Walsh, is an expert in such matters and will share her experiences over the years as to some of the more disastrous moving attempts to the most fluid.

As has been said, there is an art in changing places. Whether the change is for relocating, downsizing, or more square footage with more storage, there needs to be a plan. Haphazard moves create stress and anxiety in all the members involved so remember the old motto “Prior planning prevents potentially poor performance.”

How to begin? There are two schools of thought. You can opt to do-it-yourself. Be sure that you do have the personality to get all the elements coordinated and to coordinate people. Multiple decisions need to be made, will you pack, will the mover and their team pack? What will go, what will be given away? Who will donate items go to? Who will help disperse the items that need to be sold? Who will unpack you at the other end? The other school of thought is to hire a full-service moving coordinator. For those who have lived in their homes for 20+ years, the coordinator could be a blessing. It is so hard to let go of memories and all our belongings have “memories” so they are not easily left behind. A third party who has no attachment can help sort through the memorabilia. They can arrange for everything from a garage sale to donations to charity to giving items to friends and family. They can determine what goes where from the old home to the new by creating a placement chart with you. Having a coordinated kitchen at the end of a move, especially if there are little ones scurrying around, is worth its weight in gold. For someone who has not moved in 30+years, the sheer immensity of the project can be to overwhelming so having someone



Margaret Walsh, left, appears with Bobbi Decker to discuss The Art of Moving

who does this day in and day out can be a wonderful respite. From hiring of the movers, to sorting and inventorying your “treasures,” to packing and coding they again can prove to be invaluable.

A professional moving coordinator can help not only with the move, but can increase the sales value of your home by suggesting “refreshes” such as staging or decorating ideas, managing repairs that may be overdue, keeping everyone on time and on budget, and staying focused on the task at hand. How many times have I received calls from clients who got caught up in “memory lane” as they began packing. Moving has enormous emotional tugs so just be prepared. Do you want to go it yourself and create an adventure or do you want your refrigerator stocked, have the flowers on the table and all the electronics in place before you move in? Be sure to tune into Real Estate with Bobbi Decker and guest, Margaret Fearey Walsh, President of

Changing-Places Inc., the week of January 8th on Peninsula Cable TV Channel 26 ([www.pentv.tv](http://www.pentv.tv)) for an in depth discussion of the Art of Moving.

**Bobbi Decker is an Associate Broker with Keller Williams, GRI, Graduate Realtor Institute, CRS, Council of Real Estate Specialist, & SRES, Seniors Real Estate Specialist, and an active Broker and Realtor in the Bay Area for over 25 years. Real Estate with Bobbi Decker is graciously underwritten by The Michael Haigh Team, CitiMortgage.**

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