

The Client Connection

News and Updates from The Gensler Group

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The Markets

Whether it's good news or bad news, it is often surprising how investors and markets react. Last week, Russia annexed Crimea and the Standard & Poor's 500 Index gained about 1.4 percent.



This week, U.S. investors had the chance to bask in the glow of some good news: jobs growth was healthy, consumer spending improved modestly, consumer confidence numbers were better than expected, and fourth quarter's U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) growth number was revised upward. How did U.S. markets respond? Only the Dow Jones Industrial Average finished the week in positive territory.

What offset the good domestic news?

First, there was some not-so-good domestic news. Several banks, including a leading global bank, failed the Federal Reserve's stress test causing share prices in the banking sector to fall.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

Why You Need a Purpose in Life

And Why It's Good for Your Health, in Graphic-Novel Style

Review

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**Referring friends
and family is the
best compliment
that you can
pay us!**

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**"Courage is not
simply one of the
virtues, but the form
of every
virtue at the
testing point."**

C. S. Lewis



Ask Victor Strecher, age 58, to identify his purpose in life, and he offers two answers: to encourage "over one billion people to find their purpose" and "to teach all my students as if they were my own daughter."

Four years ago, Dr. Strecher, a professor and director for innovation and social entrepreneurship at the University of Michigan's School of Public Health, lost his daughter, Julia, to heart disease. She was 19. In an effort to move forward, Dr. Strecher began researching the links between having a meaningful purpose in life and one's health.

The result: "On Purpose," a book in graphic-novel format that illustrates the science behind "transcendent" goals. We asked Dr. Strecher to discuss his work-and why older adults, in particular, need a purpose in their lives.

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

April Fools Day Is No Joke

The average American adult laughs just 18 times a day. That's down from the eight laughs an hour they enjoyed when they were five years old. This, according to emerging research in the behavioral sciences, is a big problem.

While schools are instituting anti-bullying programs, research finds that many forms of teasing are actually highly beneficial. These days, comedy is everywhere - on television, in movies, and all over the Internet. Yet our lives lack levity. We are over-scheduled, over-tired, and over-worked. Who has time to crack jokes with friends anymore? Plus, being funny seems to be riskier than ever



Modern science, however, suggests humor might be far more important and powerful than most of us realize - and that we could all stand to benefit from doubling down on comedy. [Click here for some great pranks.](#)

[Click here to read the entire article.](#)

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