

## Manager's Message

### SNOW REMOVAL:

The Board of Directors requested bids for this year's snow removal and received bids ranging from \$21,250 to \$57,000. Environmental Care with the bid of \$21,250 was selected. The contractor will be out after a 2" snowfall. The alleyways (between the garages) will be cleared first. The garage aprons will be cleared after vehicles have been moved from the aprons. Please remember that if it snows during a weekend, listen for the plows and move your vehicles from your garage stall so that the snow plow operator can clear your stall. The sidewalks should be cleared at the same time the snow is removed from the garage aprons.

### HOLIDAY DECORATIONS:

The holiday season is fast approaching and many of us would like to display holiday decorations such as wreaths & lights on our homes.

Help protect your property value, please don't use nails, screws, etc. as they leave permanent holes in the siding and aluminum trim. Not only are the holes unsightly they provide a way for water to get at the underlying wood which can cause the wood to rot. We recommend that you use gutter clips for hanging lights. Also, remember that all decorations need to be removed within 30 days after the holiday.

### WINTER REMINDERS:

Remember to remove your hose from the sill-cock and store it in the garage during the winter months. Most of today's sill-cocks are a frost-free design but if you leave the hose attached it can trap water in the sill-cock that could freeze and result in a frozen and consequently broken pipe.

If you plan on traveling this winter, please contact the management office with emergency phone numbers. Remember to keep the heat on in your unit to avoid frozen water pipes.

It's also a good time to change the batteries in your fire detectors and have your furnace serviced.

*Valerie*

## Bus Stop Philosophy

One of the best stories I ever heard was about two guys that commuted to work on the same bus. They would meet at a bus stop and get on together.

One fellow would always buy a newspaper from a nearby newsstand. Each morning he would walk up to the stand and get a paper and greet the proprietor, in response the proprietor would bad-mouth him.

Finally the friend couldn't stand it any more and he ask him why he did it, why do you buy a paper from that stand each day and treat the owner so nicely when he treats you like crap.

His reply, "years ago I made up my mind that I was not going to let someone else determine how I feel".

Whenever I run into someone having a "bad day", I always think of this story and remind myself that just because someone else is having a "bad day", there is no reason I should let their attitude cause me to have a bad day.

Works like a charm.

I even use this on myself. If I start having a bad day, I pause and think that if I continue with this attitude my whole day could be bad. In effect, I decide I am not going to let me cause me to have a "bad day".

During an interview on National Public Radio, composer and Vietnam War veteran James "Kimo" Williams spoke about what influences had effected him while he was writing his symphony "Symphony for the Sons of Nam".

Serving in the military in Vietnam in 1970 a Vietnam experience changed his life.

Local Vietnamese vendors selling every imaginable item lined many of the roads with roadside stands.

He had bought some oranges from a stand to eat on his journey. As they were riding down the road in the back of a military duce-and-a-half they passed other roadside stands. He had his fill of the oranges and decided to have some fun by playing a game. He started throwing oranges at drink bottles that were stacked in display pyramids on the counters of the roadside stands.

He finally hit one stack and the bottles went flying. He was rejoicing at his feat and when he turned and looked back, to his astonishment the vendor looked at him, smiled, waved and started re-stacking his bottles. Kimo had expected a hostile response.

He decided that from that point on he would not let events that were out of his control interfere with the accomplishment of his goals. The Vietnamese people have a way of putting matters like this behind and moving on.

The fact is you have no control over some events so it is futile to try to control them.

One thing you do have control over is how you respond to an event. This is where you have the choice, should I use my energy on an issue that was not on my agenda or should I pursue my goals and use my energy on them.

At my age, I have a limited amount of energy so I have to be careful how I use it. I carefully consider what I use it for.

Kimo returned to visit Vietnam in 2001 he found that the Vietnamese could not understand why the Americans were still talking about the war after 25 years. They had put it behind them and had gone on with their lives. Kimo understood exactly where they were coming from.

*Ima*

## On the Move

### Goodbye & good luck to:

the Baums (1315), the Arandas (1305), the Herffs (1309), Mr Ulhameed (1305), Mr English (1310), the Bocks (1311), the Cooks (1315)

### Welcome new owners & residents:

the Rays (1315), the Amparans (1305), Ms Panek (1309), the Perezs (1311), Gomez & Hernandez (1305), the Bascons (1310), the Kovacics (1315), the Bannisters (1311), Yaneza (1311), the Wieiska's (1308)

### Final Thought:

*Advice from a 7 year old:*

*Never trust a dog to watch your food!*