



## Mr. Mike's Neighborhood

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# MARCH NEWSLETTER

HI NEIGHBORS,

**"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole Community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do whatever I can."— George Bernard Shaw**

### WHO BETTER TO LEARN FROM

Mister Rogers didn't call us "acquaintances" or "friends"; he didn't call us "boys and girls" or "ladies and gentlemen." He called us Neighbors. The very title of the series, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, invokes feelings of warmth and closeness from the very beginning. Mister Rogers greets everyone whom he meets as a Neighbor, as a friend, and as someone upon whom he clearly bestows kindness and compassion. Every episode begins with Mister Rogers telling us how long he has wanted to have a Neighbor just like us, putting us in the position of someone who is cared for, and someone capable of sharing kindness among our own Neighborhood. Needless to say, nobody will forget his theme song, *"I have always wanted to have a neighbor just like you. I've always wanted to live in a Neighborhood with you. So let's make the most of this beautiful day. Since we're together, we might as well say. Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won't you be my Neighbor?"*

So, Mr. Mike's Neighborhood was aptly named since it incorporates many of the same sentiments as Fred Rogers taught us for many years. So I'll finish off this segment with, *"Would you be mine? Could you be mine? Won't you be my Neighbor?"*

### MOBILE HOME STORAGE IS AT A PREMIUM

Mobile Home living is great. If I couldn't afford a home, I would rather live in a Mobile Home than an apartment any day. But Mobile Homes have a storage issue, especially if you don't have a shed. To be able to buy the items necessary to sustain everyday living, lawn mowers, tools, etc, you many times have to either do without, or hire for even the most menial jobs. Mr. Mike's Neighborhood can help you.

When I started doing lawn cutting, which I hope you'll allow me to do this year, I put our Community on the "Honor System." Though the lawn needed to be cut, some Neighbors didn't have the funds at the moment. So I allowed them to pay when they could, and offered them several ways to pay. The program was very successful since I only had two Neighbors who didn't pay. I'm very proud of the clientele I have.

So, other than my lawn equipment, which I did have stolen once, I will provide you items you may need free of charge. Here are some of the items I have that you can use: garden tools, shovels, spades etc. - power tools, drills, sander etc, - table saw - mitre saw, jumper cables, seed spreaders and more. If there is something you need don't hesitate to ask. If you like to cut your own lawn, I will rent you my

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lawn mower, trimmer, blower and batteries for only \$10. This is not so you can start your own lawn cutting business. Lawn cutting will be the same price as last year, \$20 no matter how large your property. This money along with donations help pay for the Newsletter, Website Hosting etc.

### **APRIL IS THE MONTH TO START GARDENING**

If ever there was a month to spend more time planting in the garden, it's April. For our region, April is the month during which the threat of frost has passed, and soil temperatures are consistently warm enough to plant a wide array of plants, from fruit and vegetable seeds to bare-root perennials, summer-blooming annuals, flowering shrubs, and flowering vines.

Whether your garden goals for the year include a vegetable garden, a perennial herb garden, or general landscaping ideas around your porch and home, April is the time to start planting. Treat yourself to a new pair of garden gloves and garden shoes and get outside! For those of you who have seen my garden and property, you know I can help you with ideas and tools if you need them. Don't hesitate to ask.

### **WHAT MR. MIKE'S NEIGHBORHOOD CAN DO FOR YOU IN 2024**

Whether you're leasing your home or a homeowner, there are items in your lease that Management will not help you with - changing furnace filters, ceiling light bulbs, smoke detector batteries, picking up packages delivered on your porches when you're not home, especially for my Seniors and Handicapped Neighbors. I'm just a text away. If there's something you need, it never hurts to ask.

### **I KNOW I MENTIONED THIS BEFORE, BUT IT'S WORTH MENTIONING AGAIN**

I'm getting more complaints that Neighbors are having their packages stolen off their porches. I don't know why Management isn't addressing this crime, but Mr. Mike's Neighborhood is. Normally, Neighbors will be informed by the delivery company that a package has been delivered. All you need to do is send me a text and I'll pick the package up and bring it to my home. You can pick it up from here. This is a free service that I hope will eliminate the theft that's occurring in our Community.

We are also having cars broken into. The only way to handle this is to have an alarm installed on your vehicle with signs on your windows, and keep your eyes open for individuals that look like they're scouting the area. If you are a victim, immediately call the police and then the office. The office should know what's happening in our Community.

### **WHY DO PEOPLE LOWER THEIR HEADS WHEN THEY PASS YOU ON THE STREET?**

When you see Linda and I taking our daily walk, we love saying "Hi Neighbor" to everyone we pass. We don't have to know your name or have a lengthy conversation. But in our Community, we are all Neighbors. It's difficult to do this to strangers outside our Community, but anytime you pass by your Neighbor on our streets, don't be afraid to say a simple "Hi Neighbor." It really does make a difference for developing a Neighborhood Culture. We practice this every day with our Smile and Wave Program.

### **FINAL THOUGHT:**

I love living here. I love my Neighbors who some have become my friends. I consider you a Neighbor even if you live on the other side of the park. We are a Community of Neighbors. Whether you own your home or lease, your Neighbors are part of the fabric of your life. They are real people who eat, sleep, play with their children and mow the lawns on your block. Together, you share Neighborhood assets such as parks, churches and grocery stores. And you also share concerns such as Neighborhood safety or poorly maintained lots. Because you live here, you are a part of the Community. Whether you connect with the people around you is a choice that you make. Make the good choice.

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