



Mr. Mike's Neighborhood

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APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

HI NEIGHBORS!

**"The greatest good is what we do for one another."
— Mother Teresa**

WHEN I THINK I'M NOT MAKING AN IMPACT...

Many times of the year as you pass by Mr. Mike's Neighborhood you'll see a whiteboard on the sidewalk asking for donations of certain items like food, clothes, toys, books, etc. As it so happened, I had a sign that read, "Please, we need more food." As I'm enjoying a glass of wine while watching an NCAA Tournament basketball game, the doorbell rings.

There at my door was a handsome young man, I assume about 16 years old with his mom sitting in the car. He said, "My mom and I are going shopping and we want to know what you'd like us to buy you." With a big smile I replied, "I don't want you to spend your money buying us food. We get much of our food donations from Neighbors who visit the food banks." He and his mother thought that the sign was asking for food for me, and not the Community. This makes me assume that they are a new Neighbor or a guest.

The Selfless Act of Giving

First of all, what a wonderful gift this mother gave her son by letting him knock on a strangers door, offering to help this family with some food that they would spend their own money to purchase. I'm sure it will be a lesson that will stay with him for many years to come. But the question remains, did the existence of Mr. Mike's Neighborhood make an impact on this family to act with such a generous gesture? Maybe not. But can we honestly say it didn't?

We Don't Take Bows

Most of you won't see the work that Mr. Mike's Neighborhood does for our Community. Other than when you see Miss Linda and I take our daily walks, this may be all you know of us. You won't see the Neighbor that rings my doorbell to borrow a plunger, or a drill to hang a TV, or the food we walk over to help feed a family, or changing a Senior's ceiling lightbulbs or changing their furnace filters. You also won't see us holding a Neighbor while she cries because she won't be able to make her next rent payment, or ease their frustrations having to deal with Corporate or Management, or buying diapers for her baby. Chances are you won't see any of this because we don't take bows. Though we would love to have had Corporate and Management support to put on some grandiose events within the park, our Mission remains simple - to help any Neighbor within our Community that needs help. And we will continue to fight on your behalf so that your experience here is what you deserve.

PLEASE STOP THROWING YOUR TOYS IN THE TRASH

For those Neighbors who are still throwing their toys in the trash so they can sit in a landfill, they are either not reading my newsletters or they don't pass my house where I have card tables of items to repurpose for our Community. And we give away everything we get, so we do have Neighbors who need your kindness. Before throwing them away, just text me and we'll come and pick them up. Same thing for other items our Neighbors may need like clothing and furnishings. Let's make sure our Neighbors don't need them before sending them to the landfill.

MOBILEHOMERESIDENT.COM

The Neighborhood Culture that Mr. Mike's Neighborhood promotes was always meant for bigger things. After living here for over 14 years and experiencing the way mobile home residents are treated, it was important for me to become a self-promoted activist for mobile home residents everywhere. Since our website revolves around issues within Lafayette Place, mobilehomerresident.com provides a wealth of information to help any resident, whether they're just beginning they're research, or you're already a resident, you can tons of information in one website. Make sure you visit the website and read to your heart's content.

PORCH PIRATE PICKUP PROGRAM

Whether you know it or not, or whether you believe it or not, the **Porch Pirate Pickup Program** is the **ONLY** program in our Community to help keep us, and our packages from being stolen. Sun Communities and Park Management do not have **ANY** programs to keep us safe, yet they refuse to Acknowledge or Endorse our program. For over two years of providing this service, we have saved many packages with a simple text message. So why is it important for them to downplay and not Acknowledge this safety feature that keeps us safe and criminals out of our Community? I've never been able to get an answer, so maybe call the office and ask them. Let me know what they say.

WHAT DOES EASTER MEAN TO A NON-CHRISTIAN

Easter is a holiday that holds significant meaning for Christians around the world, but what does it mean to those who do not follow the Christian faith? For non-Christians, Easter can still hold a sense of importance and symbolism, even if they do not celebrate it in the same way as Christians do.

One way that non-Christians may view Easter is as a time of renewal and rebirth. The holiday is often associated with the arrival of spring, a time when plants begin to bloom and the earth comes back to life after the cold winter months. This sense of renewal can be seen as a universal theme that transcends religious boundaries, as people from all walks of life can appreciate the beauty of nature and the changing of the seasons.

Additionally, Easter can also be seen as a time of reflection and introspection for non-Christians. The holiday is often a time when people come together with family and friends to celebrate, but it can also be a time to think about the past year and set goals for the future. This sense of self-reflection can be a valuable practice for individuals of any faith or background, as it allows for personal growth and development.

FINAL THOUGHT:
