

The Happenings

by Kenita Gibbins

I'm accustomed to having my plans go right. When I hire people to do a job they show up and get the work done as promised.

In October three companies were weeded down from nine. All of the businesses I chose said they had experience working in Windsor Gardens. That information was a tie breaker. We were told it would take four to eight weeks to get the products we needed. I was okay with going into December. They didn't want to begin until early January. I proceeded to book the second set of workers. I told first company that the second company was coming January 14. I expected #1 in and out before the 14th. Both contractors were told they would need to apply for a permit with Chris Stoval. These men knew to make a list of products they planned to use. I called #1 contractor again to remind him we needed a date, and he needed to apply for the work permit. I explained water would need to be turned off: please get the permit. Because of the unaccustomed happenings, we ended up with two companies at once. #2 contractor was sure the flooring we chose was in compliance because he had used it in four other WG condos. Rules had changed!

Back to job one. We did get the water turned off at 2:00 p.m. on a Friday. This meant the plumber couldn't finish the job until Monday. The torn out tub landed on the grass behind our condo. The installer said a dumpster would pick up all remains of our bathroom on Tuesday. Monday and Tuesday I had maintenance and Community Response at our door. I explained I had called about the dumpster twice. By Wednesday unaccustomed inquiries were still coming, which sounded like growls. Even our Building Representative was contacted. Some of our neighbors had reported the mess. Thursday two people from maintenance arrived again. I requested they wait while I called the contractor. He called the dumpster person on another line. I was told the dumpster man would be there by 1:00. I felt unaccustomed anger. I said he'd better be here because I'm about to be served a fine. He said he would pay a fine. I said just be here. The maintenance person said he would wait until 1:00 p.m. Our new shower looks very nice and the stress ended. Oh, the maintenance people did look at the sub unaccustomed flooring #2 company planned to use. I got the go ahead.

The carpet removal came up quickly. We escaped for a while then learned another unaccustomed event came to light. Our storage room, my big closet and two small closets had 9X9 asphalt tiles screaming "Get me!"

Worker number four received a call about our asbestos. #4 person from a Mitigation Company came and took samples. Next day we heard – asbestos in three places. The following day in a clean area more asbestos was found. The master bedroom has the dangerous stuff. Years ago we were told asbestos would make our homes more fire proof. This means waiting for a city permit and rebook #2 and #3. The enormous expenses are not our fault. We must just suck it up.