

Random Thoughts

by Mike Harris

I am always rethinking my thoughts. Always trying to stay in step with the times as they change. With that in mind I will share some of my thoughts with you. I hope you won't feel that I am unduly imposing.

One does not get old if they are stupid, ergo the largest part of the population of Windsor Gardens are not stupid. A better place to be among not stupid people.

Money is always a concern. Basic rule, "Live within your means" do not spend what you do not have. Watch your credit cards, use their money for thirty days, pay it off every month. Long term debt, car loan, home mortgage, home equity loan, must be manageable, extra payments apply to principle to reduce interest costs. Also bargaining is not shameful. Flashing large numerical bills or large wads of money to make an impression only sets one up as a target. Do not live flashy ... comfortably but not flashy. The Ford or the Chevy will get you there as well as the Masserati, and leave you with a lot more for fun.

NOW FOR THE TRICKY ONES. Personal relationships, all the above are pretty much controlled by you. Careful now ... other people are an entirely new ballgame. Completely random, no way of controlling those you might meet, who are or are not easy with themselves. Give them the benefit of the doubt. Smile, be pleasant, and careful. If the persona you project is reciprocated, go on easy from there, any other projection, politely extricate yourself from the situation. That will do for strangers.

What about family? Pay attention. Spouse is partner, must always be considered first, is almost always aware of you and your moods, which you project sometimes subliminally. Try very hard to do likewise. It will make for very smooth going. Kids ... this always floors me. It is necessary to let them make mistakes, yet you want to protect them from the consequences. You're damned if you do and damned if you don't. Whatever you do you will not know until much, much later what was right. Also what works with one may not work with another.

How about extended family? Busybody grandparents butting in trying to help and only complicating things. *Also* the lives of extended families project their ways ... cousin so and so does such and such, I want to also. This is out of your hands, you can't impose your standards and values on their family patterns.

LOTS OF LUCK. Enough thinking ... I am getting a headache. SO FOR NOW ... HAPPY (RANDOM) THOUGHTS.

PS: One more thought ... "There is only one race ... the Human Race."