

## If I Won the Lottery

By Marilyn Reeves

If I bought a winning lottery ticket and won \$10,000, I would jump up and down for joy because, basically, I've never won anything in my life. I'd take all my family members out for a fancy dinner at some swanky restaurant and they could all order whatever they liked. Then I'd get some nice vanity cabinets to replace the old ugly ones in my bathrooms, hire someone to put a fresh coat of paint on my walls, and redo my floors ... again. The new carpet that I had installed a couple of years ago was a mistake. I'd like to have better quality carpeting and upgrade the kitchen tiles while I'm at it. If there was anything left over, I'd stick it in the bank to help build up a cushion for my old age.

But if I won a *million* dollars – imagine – a MILLION DOLLARS! Holy cow! I could do all of the above plus pay off all my family members' credit card debts and maybe take a cruise around the Mediterranean.

And what if it was *two* million? Maybe I could not only take that cruise but throw in an African safari as well. Then, when I got back I might see about buying one of those lovely Victorian houses up in Georgetown, have it refurbished into the home of my dreams, and live out my days in the quiet beauty of the mountains.

Or not. That was yesterday's dream, when I was a bit younger and had more ambition. Somehow our dreams change over time. And now that I've made a sort of life for myself here at Windsor Gardens, I think I'd just as soon stay here. What I *should* do, however, and before it's too late, is say goodbye to my beloved unit with its lovely view and move to a 4-story building with an elevator, as I may not be able to keep climbing those stairs in my 2-story much longer. But heck, I could probably do that with just the \$10,000 ... so I guess I should stop and re-think my priorities here.

But since I'm daydreaming about what I'd do with my winnings, what if I won one of those huge jackpots of \$100 million or more? Gosh, I could help stamp out world hunger, make a significant contribution to the war against cancer, or even build a recreation center for inner-city kids. The possibilities would be endless!

I suppose it would help if I bought a ticket.