

The VFTS Newsletter for News, Reminders, Tidbits and Updates

Kathy Neary, President

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Personnel Changes

We are eliminating the full time position of housekeeper from the maintenance staff. Trash and recycling removal will be assumed by the remaining members of the maintenance staff. Rodrigo Antonine's Cleaning Service, with whom we already contract cleaning of the foyer and lobby will assume the second half of the normal housekeeper's duties. We are hopeful that this will save about \$25,000 a year. The electric company will gladly gobble up those savings for keeping us warm during this terrible winter, but every bit helps!

Resident Questions

Members of Council or staff are happy to answer your questions. The Q and A this month are worth sharing.

Do garage owners have to insure the garage structure or just the contents?

The garage structure is considered Common Area and is insured by VFTS. Your car is covered under your auto insurance, so only contents need to be insured if you are storing anything of value.

My neighbor has a Ring Doorbell and the camera takes in my front door. Is this a violation of my privacy?

No, the halls are considered Common Area and there is no expectation of visual privacy in common areas. **But** recording someone without their permission is a violation of federal law. If you have a Ring Doorbell, dismantle any sound recording ability. If the camera focus is adjustable, as a courtesy, aim the camera as narrowly as possible at whomever may be at your door.

Are you really considering cameras in the trash rooms?

Yes. A better question might be, "What the heck is wrong with people?" We do not have maid service! There have been multiple notices to flatten boxes, (pizza boxes go in the trash bag with other rubbish) put the washed out cans and bottles in the containers and not to leave stuff in

the middle of the floor. Nobody wants a bug or vermin infestation, plus if a resident trips and falls trying to get through an obstacle course to the chute, we will face a lawsuit.

Fire alarm

Anyone else jump out of their skin earlier this month when the fire alarm went off? Just a reminder – the system is very sensitive. This time a construction tool overheated and the system sensed the smoke and went off.

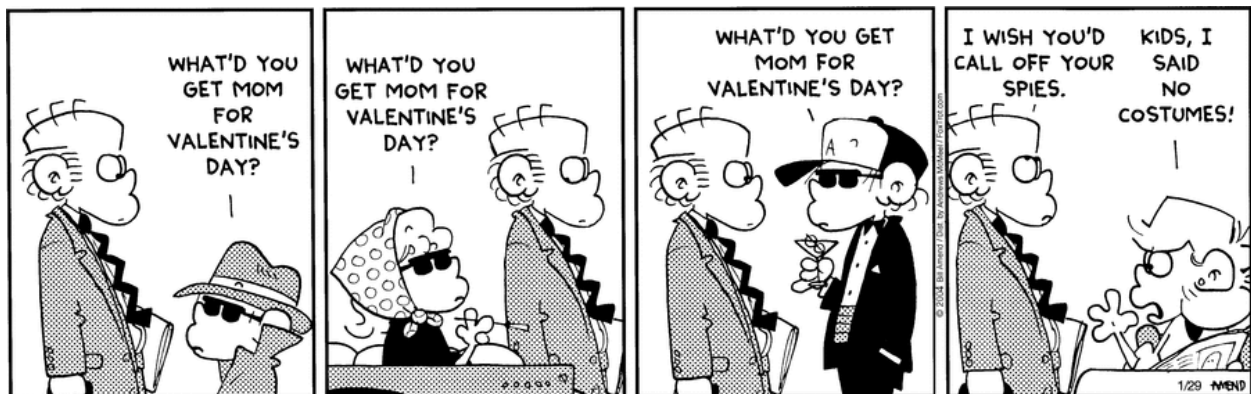
The system will pick up smoke seeping from your unit. Multiple times a week, the guard gets a notice that there is smoke in a unit. The guard contacts the unit owner to see if there is a fire or just cooking or cigarette smoke. So far, 100% of the time it has been kitchen smoke. The guard has a limited amount of time to turn off the trigger to the building wide alarm. If your inner Julia Child gets out of hand, please open the balcony doors to air out the unit, not the door! Call the front desk or answer your phone when they call you. If the building wide alarm goes off, only the fire department personnel can reset it.

False alarms make people complacent. Pay attention and if you smell smoke or there is no announcement within a few minutes...get out.

Reminders

□ Bulk pick up is Thursday, February 20. Call the office to reserve the space you need and schedule help if you need it. You can take things to the basement on Tuesday and Wednesday, not sooner.

□ The next Council meeting is Wednesday, February 26 at 5:30, at the Clubhouse. This meeting is open to the residents. Not to be too wimpy, but if there is a snowstorm that makes getting to the Clubhouse dangerous, an electronic notice will go out.



Go Eagles!