Merry or Marry or Simply Both

F or most of us, this is the time of the year that we say Merry Christmas. One letter in a word can make such a big difference and still be related to each other. This year the “merry” as in Christmas has a deeper meaning because of the word “marry” for two special people. For the two you are about to meet, the word “marry” means a new life for two people who were separate but who now have joined together to form a life that will last forever. It was about five months ago when Paul and Ruth came to me and asked me if I would marry them. I replied that I would just as long as we would meet and speak a few times prior to the holy moment of marriage. I asked if this marriage would be under the word of God and both replied, “Yes.” I must tell you this was my very first wedding and it was going to be a difficult one because I had to combine (Continued on page 11)

M ark Spradley, the homeless man who helped police capture suspected deputy killer Michael Mazza, said Monday he was surprised to learn the size of the award he will be getting from Crime Stoppers, and hinted he’s thinking about sharing some of it with the pawn shop manager who called 911. Broward Crime Stoppers announced Monday morning that Spradley would be receiving a $25,000 award, while Scott Kelly, the Hollywood pawn shop manager who called 911 when Spradley came into his store, will get $1,000.

“I feel like my role was downplayed,” he said. “People are under the impression all I did was call 911.”

Spradley said, “But to tell you the truth, I think I deserved it.” Crime Stoppers -- a private, non-profit organization that hands out rewards for anonymous information leading to arrests -- had offered a $25,000 reward Nov. 7 during the countywide manhunt for the man suspected of killing Broward Sheriff’s Deputy Paul Rein.

“Based on information given to us by law enforcement agencies, both men were instrumental in this case,” said Ralph Page, president of Broward Crime Stoppers. “Spradley’s actions were commendable; he did exactly what he had to do.”

Kelly said he was disappointed he didn’t end up with more. “I feel like my role was downplayed,” he said. “People are under the impression all I did was call 911.”

Rein was taking Mazza to court Nov. 7 to face bank robbery charges when authorities say Mazza overpowered the deputy and killed him. The fugitive was shot and killed in the action.

A Few Dollars Short

A mom is walking down the street, she is tired because she is nine months pregnant and has her other two toddlers walking closely behind her. She sees a bus stop and decides to take a little rest on the bus stop sitting down with her little precious family.

Dad is working the day labor pool trying to make as much money as he can so the family can stay in a hotel for the night. Dad knows to check one of two places when he gets off work, the bus stop she is sitting at or in front of the local hotel with the backing of a national chain. The room is only $89.00 for the night.

However Daddy only makes about $64.00. Even though he only makes $64.00 for the day we must all remember there are some duds out there only coming home with $44.81 for the day because they may not be classified as skilled tickets. This daddy was what they call a skilled day labor tickets meaning he makes more than most day laborers. But let’s look at what others make in the real world and most people raising a family can’t even survive on if they made $100,000 per day or even $150.00 per day. For this family he was a lucky day laborer because he was paid for what they call a skilled ticket and the labor company can pay him a little more but nothing to raise a family on.

He took his $64.00 to the hotel desk and asked the person working the desk how much a room for the night was. The parking lot was almost empty and even with low occupancy the hotel would not budge. “I am sorry Sir, the room is $89.00 plus tax.” Daddy picked (Continued on page 9)
Mail check to: COSAC Foundation
P.O. Box 292-577
Davie, FL 33329
Please include on memo what name should appear in paper.

- The Connee Family
- The Targett Family
- Patrick Helings
- John B. Water
- In Loving Memory of Uncle Joe & Nana
- Shannon Brooks
- Lisa Cebret
- Pakita Price
- The Watsons
- Sean Conenie
- Sally Lister
- Judith Kelly
- Martha Roman
- The Baptista Family
- John Criasia
- Daniel Harrison
- The Martinez Family
- Amanda Reynolds
- Delores R. Cerra
- Bob Hall
- Tressie W. Osborne
- Clark Rogers
- The Savar Family
- Corinne James
- Chris Sanchez
- Hugo DeCarpintini
- Mario Yui
- Richard Friedman
- Diane Friedman
- Ulysha Quatano
- Arnold Reemer
- In Loving Memory of Peter Sullivan
- Maryann Springer
- Elaine Snath
- Marshall Bugin
- Keith Yude
- Bruce Wikerson
- Isabelle J. Henry
- Raul Cardenas M.D.
- Wendy Bryan
- Jacqueline Mccarty
- Albert J. Taragowski
- Darla King
- Paula King
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- Jennifer Hicki
- Timothy Lukerhad
- Thomas Russ
- Justin Rowan
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- Anna Marye Levier
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- Amber Rowan
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- Ricky Cambell
- Donre Terry
- Brian Dumen
- Marilyn Vokish
- Jenny Curic
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- Lisa Jackson
- Jim Johnson
- Bobby Neal
- Erica Fulton
- Darcey O
- Erica Sanclair
- Steve Dillan
- Dallan Michelle King
- Bobby O
- Casandra Thomas
- Tara Hunter
- Mark Faber
- Nicole Memory
- Kevin Britt
- The Cable Family
- The Mason Family
- Barbara Strong
- Grace Marth
- Regla J Ferrer
- The Baldwin Family
- Russell J. Ferguson
- Marjorie G. Rhines
- Jamie F. Flores
- In Loving Memory Of Thomas Gasbarro
- Cathy and Kids
- The Davis Family
- Graham R. Mitchell
- Essential Oil Healthline
- Amparo L. Keyre
- John’s Plumbing Service
- Tanya Winun Dixie
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- Albert J. Taragowski
- Ruth C Grey
- Mike Cross
- Tamara Southard
- Raul Cardenas MD PA
- Al and Annie
- Hurricane Prevention Inc
- Danny and George
- OTD Messenger, Inc
- M. Smith
- Yorick and Bonita
- Parrica Lee Russ & Delores B Morden
- Robert Jesus Llanes
- Comet Courier
- Proietto Family
- In Memory of Billy Corwin
- Josh Searles
- Patricia Lee Russ
- Delores B Morden
- Mrs. Jena L
- Everglades Moon, Covenant of Goddess, Eliett Hanson
- Judy B. Pascaarella
- John Gaeta
- Michael R. Prokop, Jr.
- Jackie M. McCarty
- In Memory of Charles Horton
- In Memory of William F. Judge
- Todd Palgon
- The Morabito Family
- Todd Palgon
- Holly J. Andrus
- Lois Cross
- In Loving Memory of Florence & Nat Popkin
- Tailored Advertising, Inc
- Claudia K. Tapalow
- Margie Jones
- In Memory of Wesley H. Woodall
- Maria M. Riveiro
- Gottlieb & Blair Family
- Pioneer Middle School Youth Crime Watch
- Rhenals-Mei Family
- The Strikowski family
- Margie Jones & Friends
- Ronald Prescia
- In Memory of Brian Groeleau
- Laura Flash
- Jacqueline M. McCarty
- The Herrmann Family
- The Monserrate Family
- Madeline Butera
- Jennifer S. Nickel
- Marilyn R. Smith
- David Thawley
- On Behalf of Matthew Lambert
- Mustafa Mehmet Gokoglu
- In Memory of Scott Paul Cooper
- Robert and Ruth Baal
- In Memory of Melba DeSanto
- In Memory of My Mother Pearl McCann, Love Teresa
- Barbara Desantere
- Leah and Ray
- Michael & Michale Rhett
- Marie Sutera
- Floyd and Luana Costs
- Doug Boucher Family
- Kevin Jones
- Dorothy Griffith Family
- In Loving Memory of Kris Soltan
- Kevin “Kl” Jones
- Douglas Boucher
- The Swartout’s
- Ivonne Fernandez
- The Verrn & Stewart Families
- In Loving Memory of Frances Klein
- The Herrmann Family
- John C. Burt
- Albert Taragowski
- Renato & Malika Vasconez
- In Memory of C.T.R.
- Adriana Fernandez
- Andrea Brown
- The Kunicki Family
- Thank you so much, Sean & Lois, for all your help.
- Joan Futscher & Kids
- McAvoy Family
- The Geese Family
- Richard & Margaret Martin
- Kenny Angola
- Adriana N. Quila
- Elizabeth P. Sublett
- Barbara N Robinson
- Mark R Johnson
- Adrienne and Mike
- Julio A. Izquierdo
- Ann Carpenter
- Nicole Lee Nelson
- Anthony Rhodes
- Susan P Brady
- Christine M Wilson
- K.J. Williams
- Renato and Malika Vasconez
- Christine McAuliffe
- Memory Of
- Chief George J. Hodges
- Real Breakthrough Solutions
- Harford Property Connection, Inc.
- In Loving Memory of Donald Fraser
- In Loving Memory of Rex Lichtenberger
- In Loving Memory of Jose A. Estruch, Jr.
- Ronald & Cathy Walker
- Ms. Evelyn Salerno
- Nicole Lee Nelson
- Al & Barbara Liebmann
- In Loving Memory of Isabel Griniay
- Dr Mary Michaels Farren
- In Memory of My Good Friend Pat Gibson
- Fred T Verna JR
- Nicole Lee Nelson
- C.R. Gallagher
- Jonathan Burger
- In Memory of Dan Holland
- Sheila Holder
- Meray & Ezra Alexander
- In Memory of Maxima
- Oakland Park
- Elks Lodge # 2407
- J. Coffin
- In Memory of
- Stanley Smolen
- In Memory of Martin Grey
- God Bless Florence Menard
- Sebastian Parks
- Kellie Jones
- Jesus Diaz
- Virginia H. Bailey
- Naomi Ross
- Deborah H Green
- Loving Memory of
- Giancarlo Squicemari
- In Loving Memory of My Daughter Melissa Lurz
- In Loving Memory of Charles J. Youngman
- In Loving Memory of Martin E. Gre
- Sabrina Tipton, Former Ms. Ft. Lauderdale
- Beth Farans,
- Savvy Jewelry Designer
- Margaret D. Neverdouay
- Sandra L. Wilhelm
- The Schneider Family
- YOUR NAME HERE

In Loving Memory of Shirley Coulson

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F or just $15.00 a month you can keep a homeless family of off the streets for a day.

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Attention Homeless Voice Readers:

The main message we are trying to convey in this months issue is LOVE. It is so easy to get caught up in all the holiday fuss that “doesn’t matter.” For us Christians this season is all about the birth of Christ, and for all religions this season is about hope and LOVE! Love thy neighbor, figuratively and literally. We wish everyone the best holiday this year, may you all know you are loved and feel it—Happy Holidays and may peace be with you!!

God Bless, Mark Targett
Seeking Natural Remedies? Try the Grocery Store

With the amount of money we pay in doctor’s visits, whether or not we are fortunate enough to have insurance co-payments, poor health can still be costly. A popular trend is to find “natural” remedies from the health food store. Rearranging our diets and selecting other items to shop for may provide the best natural remedies around.

Acute problems have to be addressed with a doctor, as you make your way toward using natural means. Changes in diet and eating habits may provide you with fewer trips to the doctor and a “natural cure”.

For example, the individual who has occasional experiences with gout (a type of arthritis from too much uric acid in the system), will often hear their doctor griping about them changing how they eat. Since favoring high protein items will increase the uric acid, a look can be taken at the dinner plate itself. Is over half of it filled with fried chicken and the other half with macaroni? Instead of hollering “Where’s the BEEF?” it should be asked “Where’s the vegetables?”

If cholesterol numbers for Feeding Our Homeless! are too high, a look at how you cook can make a difference. You could toss those raw vegetables in a splatter pan when you’re cooking your macaroni and cheese. Or, you could add some salad dressing to the chicken. You might even try a cooking method other than baking.

Making spaghetti dinner? You may want to consider making it yourself. If you’re willing to make a bit of an effort, you can have more options than on the street. Instead of worrying whether or not the dollar you spend on our publication goes to a fast food restaurant, think of the individual. When they come back to our center, they have more options than on the street. We will accept donations of canned goods and other supplies to help our kitchen out. If you have an overstocked pantry and want to bring in some items, you can check with our staff if you question how appropriate it is. We work very hard to balance out every meal to keep our vendors and their families as healthy as possible, before they move on to a new life and take your good wishes and their good health with them.

Shopping Smart with Donna

Ways we can help you

I have been a single Mom for a long time and have to make the dollar stretch far beyond it’s ability. Being responsible for feeding my three boys and myself is a task that I still endure and used to be such a burden that I decided to take control over it and not let it control me. I have learned to be creative, fun and let the children know that just because it is tough it can still taste good, be healthy and fun. Always try to eat your meals together without the TV and I hope these recipes bless you and watch for more tips and recipes and remember when going shopping it is their job to tempt you into buying more than you intended, so take a deep breath, say a little prayer, use a list and be of good courage!

Donna Jean

Holiday Shopping Tips

1. If you don’t get a flyer for a particular store call the 800 Toll free # and ask to be put on their mailing list.
2. Use store vending machines for coupons. Hold for a week or so when prices change and usually go down after promotions.
3. When cutting coupons, cut out those that also may help others and place on shelf near item. If you notice them, baby products are the most popular and appreciated.
4. Pray before entering the store to keep you wise because you are walking into a place geared to tempts you into buying and let your children here you.

Thank you Miami subs for feeding our homeless!

I have been living on the streets. Instead of worrying whether or not the dollar you spend on our publication goes to a fast food restaurant, think of the individual. When they come back to our center, they have more options than on the street. We will accept donations of canned goods and other supplies to help our kitchen out. If you have an overstocked pantry and want to bring in some items, you can check with our staff if you question how appropriate it is. We work very hard to balance out every meal to keep our vendors and their families as healthy as possible, before they move on to a new life and take your good wishes and their good health with them.

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4. Pray before entering the store to keep you wise because you are walking into a place geared to tempts you into buying and let your children here you.
TV’s portrayal of homeless may be harmful and what to do about it

Everyone tends to enjoy a sitcom on TV. However, do some shows cause a harmful depiction of homeless? Well, popular shows like South Park are notorious for poking fun at the expense of others. Although these shows are not fully responsible for the recent violence against homeless all over the country. Not everyone has seen these shows, so it begs the question, why has there been an increase in violence against homeless? Well some may conclude that it could stem from the lack of respect for the homeless typically popularized in comedy sketches. There are ways to combat the long history of degrading homeless as a drunk male bum. For instance, changing how we educated the youth concerning how people become homeless, mandate public places to treat homeless with respect, and create more incentive for the youth to volunteer to assist shelters.

The holiday season is the perfect time to consider the plight of other less fortunate. Therefore, talking to youth can fit easily into the festive activities. The sooner youth understand how people become homeless, and who typically is leading the homeless population will possibly bring more empathy. After all, there are more families becoming homeless, and they may need special consideration at local schools during the holidays. A clear picture of the humane nature of becoming homeless may help avoid further violence against homeless. The youth may feel more compassion towards a stranger’s homeless situation, and realize that they are people that deserve respect. Hopefully, this will eradicate the possibility of youth deciding to act on something seen on TV.

Public places, like office buildings are known to call the police on a daily basis because employees refuse to ask the homeless to leave politely. There is some fear, or misunderstanding of the condition of being homeless in large metropolitan areas. All in all, more education about homeless may help those that encounter situations similar consistently. For example, Miami Beach does not have a shelter, so homeless tend to make sleeping quarters in doorways of businesses. It must be frustrating to see all the prosperity surrounding them. Lastly, creating volunteer incentives for youth to volunteer at shelters may give more empathy to the situations facing homeless. It will put a name to a face of a real person for youth to become acquainted with. Most high schools, and some colleges insist on volunteer hours, so possibly more incentives can be given to those students that volunteer at shelters.

In conclusion, more education is fundamental in creating a better environment for the homeless. Moreover, it will create a better society for everyone. TV will always have controversial shows, so more understanding will be key in combating the lack of respect toward the homeless.

by: Jamie M. Kniser
Thank You to all the volunteers who came out and helped serve food! Our Thanksgiving was a great success thanks to your time and efforts. Thank you!!

- Safe, comfortable detox including Suboxone and Methadone
- Effective anxiety and depression treatment
- Adult Inpatient, PHP, Outpatient and Adolescent programs available
- G/L/B/T programs through our in-house Pride Institute
- Most insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid HMO’s accepted
- Call anytime for a free, confidential assessment and free referral service
caught later that day at the Uptown Pawn & Jewelry on Hollywood Boulevard.

Spradley, a Las Vegas resident living out of his car, had picked up Mazza in Hollywood and drove him to a soup kitchen, where the two had lunch. Spradley has said he took pity on Mazza because his shirt was bloodied and he was walking with a limp.

"Wherever you want to go, I'm going," Mazza told him.

The two drove to the pawn shop, where Spradley hoped to buy new car speakers. It was there that he recognized Mazza after seeing his mug shot on a store television set.

"When I seen that picture, I said, 'That's the guy in the car,'" Spradley said. "They did not believe me at first. I said call 911."

Kelly, the shop's manager, said Monday it was his idea to call 911 and that he had Spradley go out to distract the suspect while police were called.

Either way, Spradley said he was "just considering" sharing some reward money with Kelly. "If I had never come into that store, we would never have known [Mazza] was the killer," Spradley said.

Both men found out about the Crime Stoppers reward after the arrest. Technically, neither men got a "reward," said Page. "Rewards" are given to anonymous tipsters who call the Crime Stoppers hotline. "Awards" are given through a separate fund, and law enforcement agencies have to recommend them. It's only happened once before, in the 2006 case of two Wal-mart employees who called 911 to report a suspect in a triple homicide case.

For Spradley, $20,000 comes from Crime Stoppers and an additional $5,000 comes from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. For Kelly, the $1,000 comes from Crime Stoppers, said Page.

Spradley has already received a $2,500 cash reward from the New Jersey-based National Police Defense Foundation.

The 35-member board of Crime Stoppers was originally scheduled to decide who would receive the reward money, if anyone, on Nov. 26 during the group's monthly meeting. But public interest in the case led to an earlier decision, said Page.

Joel Marasco
Sun-Sentinel
business directory

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"Excellence in Radio"
A Few Dollars Short (Continued from page 1)

up his kids and showed the ex-
cepting mom to the desk worker
and asked the worker if he
would give them a discount.
Daddy said, “If I can’t get this
room for my family it is the
streets for the night.” Daddy
tried over and over to get the
room cheaper than the $89.00
and kept on pointing out that his
wife was tired and just about to
bring another baby in to the
world.

All he got was, “I am sorry
either pay or leave.” Keep in
mind the parking lot was near
empty so daddy even offered
to mop the floor or clean the
parking lot, but Mr. No kept on
saying no. Finally the hotel
desk worker said “Leave, this is
not a bargain basement hotel.”

Forget the lack of compassion,
how about the smart business
sense. Having an empty hotel
room brings in no money but
filling it with a cheaper rate
makes good business sense.

Sometimes when we are short of
money at times and we have a
lot of families we call local
shelters. When we are short of
money at times and we have a
lot of families we call local
shelters. We don’t pay any tax
for any hotel being donated. I get
different discounts telling them
that I am a Sam’s Warehouse Mem-
ber. There are a lot of things
that the private sector could do
to help out just for the night or
even for a short term stay. The
above family asked one more
time to the front desk manager,
could the family stay in the
lobby or the well lit parking lot
for the night and the clerk once
again said, “LEAVE.”

What has society come to
when we are so self centered
that we would want to see small
innocent children sleep in the
dangerous streets? Why would
any grown up be so mean to not
even offer any sort of help to
this family? Will I am here to
tell you that even churches turn
homeless families away.

What should a church do
when it comes to a homeless
family if there are no family
units at the local shelters? Will
most of them call around still
trying to get the family into a
shelter. Some even put them up
in a hotel for a few days and
then do offer the church for a
longer period of two to three
weeks.

I will also tell you that many,
and I repeat many, will say I am
sorry but we are not a shelter
and then the family leaves and
business as usual goes on at the
church except the one thing in
business they forgot was the
Book of Mathew. They forgot
about how Mother Mary and
Daddy Joseph were going around
from inn to inn trying to
seek shelter at a local motel or
what they called an “inn” back
then.

They forget that a church
should be a place where a mom
and dad can sleep for a short
period when they are homeless.
Also you know who else forgot
about this? Our city politicians
who find out that a homeless
family or homeless person is
staying at a church. Many cities
over the years have threatened
to close churches for offering
shelter to the homeless.

I guess I have one question
to ask these politicians, where
does a family sleep that is homeless
when there are no beds for them
at shelters and when the
city officials don’t allow
churches to provide emergency
housing to families?

I know that the city officials
are trying to have some sort of
order in their cities but we must
allow assistance to
these families when
it can be controlled
in an ordinary fash-
ion.

For us Christians
this Holiday season we
should always remember
that little
Baby Jesus was a
homeless baby
and mom and dad were
homeless as well
when that beautiful
little birth took place. It was
cold out and they had no place
to go but some inkeepers let
them stay in what we call the
overflow room or for the hotel
maybe the parking lot.

We must take time each
and every day out of our busy
schedule and pray for others
who are sick, who are homeless,
who have lost a loved one or
what about praying for cures
to diseases that take away
our family members each and
every day.

It is time we all start to pray
for cures for cancers and other
illness such as HIV and any other
disease that is terminal. On that
day, that special day most of us
celebrate in December known as
Christmas, the birth of Christ
we all got a great gift that day.
That gift was to have everlast-
ing life because of Jesus. What
gifts can we give back in honor
of Jesus, himself?

We can be kind to those
who have not one person in their
life, we can pray every day for
God to give our researchers the
wisdom they need to find new
cures, we can pray that anyone
who dies that we pray for them
and their souls so they too may
enter God’s great Kingdom. This
Christmas let’s all give gifts all
year long and we all can make
the world a better place.

-Sean Cononie

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Church of Service and Charity
Learn of Jesus and learn how to
put Gods’ words into action.

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21,800 people to send in a check for $20.00,
Or
8,720 people to send in a check for $50.00,
Or
4,360 people to send in a check for $100.00,
Or
436 people to send in a check for $1,000.00,
Or
Just one wonderful person or business to
send a check for the entire $43,600.00;
We will name the shelter after you or
whomever you choose
Remember the donation is tax deductible!!
Please send your check to:
The COSAC Building Fund
P.O. Box 292-577
Davie, Florida 33329
We do thank you

Did you know?
• You can set up payroll deduction through your employer to
support the COSAC Foundation’s Homeless Voice
• Your company might even match your donation
• See your human resource or departmnet manager

$890,000
$600,000
$400,000
$200,000
$454,000
Total Money Collected

Vote for the Homeless Voice on www.HomelessVoice.tv/EllenShow see page 1
Are we there yet?

(Continued from page 5)

ly published. The Homeless Voice could be banned or restricted in what we write. I couldn’t be get-
ing ready to go to Mass in a couple of hours. In other words…we would not have the freedoms that we have. I’m certainly not a flag waver, but I do love my country and every time I go through the Atlanta airport on my way to Diane’s I cry for these guy and gals in uniform who are shipping out. If I have the chance without making a scene, I will say “thank you and God bless you all” to; Diane, on the other hand will go out of her way, tap one on the shoulder and thank and bless them. Thanksgiving is basi-
cally a one day deal. Christmas on the other hand, is 3 months in the mak-
ing. This year everything is on sale early because they want to boost sales. (Too bad love and considera-
tion isn’t on sale! Really! Bad choice of words…because it’s FREE. Doesn’t cost a cent!). We’re off and running to buy gifts that will be thrown away or given away because it isn’t what we want. Some “too many” years ago when I worked at G C Murphy’s I saw this mother bring back a bottle of nail polish….a 19 cent bottle that her 6 or 7 year old bought for her. It was-

He pointed to the picture of the lemon and said he liked that. No problem whatsoever. Grandmother, how-

Goddess us all, Happy Holidays and have a Blessed New Year!!!

God bless us all, Happy Holidays and have a Blessed New Year! Lois

P.S. Remember, there but for the Grace of God go I!!!

Things We Need…….

We are in desperate need of toilet paper. Sometimes people do not like to do-

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Merry or Marry or Simply Both

The words said at many traditional wedding include topics such as, “for richer or for poorer” and “in sickness and in health.” To many newlyweds couples these words do not fit into place but for Paul and Ruth they were truly lived. Paul has been very sick and is truly disabled due to a very bad back, it is crippling at times. Ruth has provided for him over the years when Paul could not work. His application for disability kept on being denied. At times she would have to do everything for him. Then of course the fact that both were living in our shelter system meant they were living the life as the poor but yet their relationship was probably much richer than most. Why, because they had some severe issues of the future with Paul being so sick and then the fact that they live in a shelter, would it get better, does it have to get better when love is in sight? What some couples face is how many years do they want to finance their new house but for Paul and Ruth they would have to worry about if they could afford the medicine. Paul had to take. To me it was the best wedding I have ever done, for this one being the first it had to be the best or maybe it was the best based on the merit of their love for each other. I will most likely do many more weddings and I think a lot more couples will have a lot to impress me as much as Paul and Ruth’s marriage did.

Paul wanted his honeymoon to be special; somewhere he and Ruth could have some home cooked meals. We found him a hotel chain that offered a classy place like a four star hotel but that would also give them a chance to be like home. From being poor to living one week at one of Marriott’s properties gave them the kind of honeymoon they wanted. We kept on calling hotels to get the best rate for this new couple. After the wedding ceremony, our driver took them in my SUV to their new honeymoon suite.

To this new couple this was their holiday. It was a wedding of two different faiths just as this holiday season brings many different faiths together. It does not matter if you say Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas or Happy Kwanza, it is all Merry, it is a season, a time of year, a holiday or holyday because of LOVE.

In case you didn’t realize it, there have been two challenges met and met with caring, love and success but one still remains. The challenge is for you for this Christmas season. Just as I struggled with my dilemma and Paul and Ruth struggle with theirs, there is still a world full of people who don’t have the means or the family to share with. This is the time we all should step in and give. There are so many ways to help from Christmas trees in the malls with name tags to buy for a few people even many agencies that collect toys and food. These aren’t so hard to do; it just takes a little thought and a couple of dollars. A visit to a nursing home or rehab with a few kids to sing carols. An extra pie baked for the neighbor who is a little less fortunate. Giving a smile or a warm hug to someone down on their luck goes a long way. Today I give you the challenge to making someone in need smile.

Try to make their holiday special or to at least pray for them to have a better year.

Congratulations to Paul and Ruth Weimorts!

—Sean Cononie