

From the Desk of

Michael R. Finley

Seasonal Greetings,

I know we skipped last year's annual newsletter and a big thank you to Edmund Rivers and Selena Fox for reminding me "inquiring minds want to know" and ask if we are still alive... well some of us are.

Let me clarify...

Okay to be precise, I think the terminology might not be technically correct. I wanted to make that clear in case any of you bump into Anika at the Jiffy Mart. She is not dead to everyone, just dead to me.

Anika spent the last number of months after Covid trying to "find herself". Well she did, after finding herself a new personal trainer - Kenny, and ... let me just leave it there and wish them both - the best of the season, at whatever tropical island they now call home.

Also as Anika was the one responsible for composing these tomes, I apologize for spelling, mistakes and my inability to put pictures in the proper places.

Well as you might realize from the photos , I had to use some stock images that I liberated from the world wide web, I have never been that good with a computer, or a camera, or laundry.

And. of course, neither of the kids offered to help. Too busy on their Tok Tick.

Speaking about Tawny and Saffron, they are great. How fast they growing up! Tawny turned 17 this year and Saffron 14.



Some of the highlights from the past year.

We all went on a trip to the Netherlands last winter and really enjoyed it. I wasn't quite sure why Anika insisted on bringing Kenny along at that time, but she said it was important for her physical well-being.



Unfortunately I came down with pneumonia so the trip wasn't great fun for me, but the rest of the clan seemed to enjoy the ice caves and the northern lights.



The kids wanted a dog and I felt that after I became a single parent I had to do my utmost to make them happy. I wanted a little fella who would be easy to care for and sit in my lap, but of course they wanted a big dog that could guard the house. So I gave in.

Meet Rover, our bull mastiff.



Health-wise, there was a little scare when I got rushed to the hospital in May. My appendix burst. But I recovered.



As for work, well same old, same old. I was hoping to get that promotion we hinted at a few years ago. But it didn't happen

I still enjoy the creative juices that challenge me with every new passage. The chance to embrace each client and make them feel right at home.



Well that's about it from here. Ah yes, the regular part of annual catch-up - our New Year's Resolutions. First to reflect on our last set and I am sure you want to know the outcomes. Yes, no it didn't fit and I sill have that boil.

As for the for the coming year I want to be myself because everything else is already taken *

I want to realize I don't fail, I just succeed at finding what doesn't work.

And finally for each of us



Have a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous New Year

*Oscar Wilde