

## **A Thanksgiving Message**

On October 3, 1861, President Abraham Lincoln ordered government departments closed for a local day of thanksgiving on November 28, 1861. This proclamation set the precedent for America's National Day of Thanksgiving. In honor of the great President Lincoln, who gave us hope and freedoms that we still work for, I would like to issue my proclamation of thanksgiving: The 2023 year that is drawing to an end, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful gifts and healthful skies filled with sunrises and sunsets that inspire us. We easily forget from where they come, and which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften our hearts in StillWaters. In the midst of our changes in 2023 and the magnitude of work which sometimes seems unending, results have become part of our community's language. Our community is being maintained, the Covenants and By-Laws are being respected and in turn, we protect our homeowners and community. We are staying within our budget, savings have been found, lawsuits have been settled, the property and grounds are being maintained, maintenance and repairs have been taken care of in a timely matter, and there have been changes to our office staff that offer positive customer service to our homeowners and excitement for 2024. With strength and energy from our board, office staff, volunteers, maintenance, landscape & ground crew, security, and communications have brought us all closer as a community. Our population has steadily increased with kind and goodhearted neighbors. We are thankful for the gracious gifts and good work of each one of us at StillWaters. Even those who have dealt with us in anger have nevertheless remembered we are all part of the StillWaters family. It seems to me that it is fit and proper that we should all be grateful and acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole StillWaters Community. I do therefore invite the StillWaters Homeowners, our City, State, and Federal Governments, and also those in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November, as a day of Thanksgiving and praise for all the good fortunes that have come from hard work. I recommend to us all that while offering thanks for such blessings, that we care, remember, and pray for all those who are suffering and are feeling the loss of hope and love. To all who wish they were home with their loved ones, to all that go day by day working on a better day, we ask and pray for the intercession of the Almighty Hand to heal their wounds, to restore hope to them as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and Union. Don't give up, you are not alone.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as your Community Association Manager and for the StillWaters Board of Directors deciding to add the hiring of an Associate Association Manager, Mike Dean, who has made a huge difference in taking on this role at StillWaters. In closing I would be amiss in not saying a huge Thank You and Blessings to the StillWaters Board of Directors for giving me this opportunity and to my staff for all their hard work on a daily basis; Mike Dean, Associate Association Manager; Office - Robin Ulrich, Shana Ellis, Anita Gardner, Janie Clements; Maintenance – Alan Price, Mike Mattiace, Crayton Vickers, Huey Mettes, Joey Price; Housekeeping - Evelyn Mann; Landscape & Grounds – Jeremy Vickers, Justin Lyle, William Spraggins, Patrick Mooney; Gate – Clyde Ware, Brandy Price, Crayton Vickers, Tommy Thornburg, Levis Gamble; Service Patroller – “Finch” Fincher.

**“The light in me comes from the polish and good work from all those around me.”**

**Blessings and Thanksgiving to All.**