

"Mailbox"

Ron Pierre Airing the 1-19-12

**KINS COMMUNITY COMMENT (442-5744)**

**This is Ron Pierre for Community Comment.**

**I returned home New Years Day from a Christmas holiday in Colorado with my wife's family. When I drove into my driveway, I noticed that my mail box had been torn down. Now this mail box was not just an ordinary metal box on a pole or wooden post. The mail box stand is six 16"X 16" X 8" concrete building blocks filled with concrete. The top was an 18" by 18" inch stone slab mortared to the concrete structure with an anodized metal mail box bolted to the structure with four three inch metal bolts anchoring the box to the pillar. The New Year's Eve vandals had connected to the top of the stand and pull the box and stone slab from the pillar. Needless to say, I was upset. Not only did I have to repair the damage, but I also had to make alternative arrangements to receive my mail.**

**I filed a police report on the vandalism, but I also recognized that the report would just become another incident where the perpetrators paid no consequence. As a private citizen you must be prepared to resolve issues like this and fix your problem using your own resources. Government is of no help! Finding a guilty party was never going to happen with the damaged mail box. Fortunately, I was able to repair the damage and replace the mailbox, but the incident made me mad.**

**In the same neighborhood last summer, one of my neighbors had three tires on his pickup truck slashed. The tire slashing happened because my neighbor had moved his truck from in front of his house to a side street, and some interloper hooligans didn't like it. My neighbor assumed his truck would be safe 100 yards from his front door. It wasn't! Down the street just a couple of weeks ago, one neighbor's car was broken into. The vandals broke out a window and helped themselves to the contents of the car. These three incidents highlight a community problem where private property is just one more thing up for grabs by individuals who represent a true criminal element in Humboldt County.**

**Our community is pretty typical regarding these types of incidents. Home invasion robberies, car break ins, general vandalism are things that one reads about nearly every day in the newspaper. When I first moved into the neighborhood live in, I remember hearing that other areas of Eureka were pretty bad**

for acts of vandalism. I was told that I did not need to worry about the neighborhood because vandals just didn't go there. I guess times have changed!

Last week, I responded to a pre-election survey about potential political issues related to the upcoming County Supervisor's elections. Needless to say, my number one priority is public safety. The other community issues are a distant second. I have long ago abandoned the idea that most people have a moral compass fixed on right and wrong. In an area where the underground drug economy drives the political futures, the time has come to abandon the political correctness and kumbayah rhetoric, and recognize that this ain't your Dad's Humboldt County.

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