

**WINTER 2008. INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** Recipes, Stories, CommUnity UPDATES!

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Winter is upon us! Although I enjoy summer more than I do winter I have to say I usually don't have to work as hard in the winter. I am going to make an effort to ice fish and snow board more this year. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving Day and trust you will have a very Merry Christmas and super New Year celebration.

I also can never express how much our family appreciates all of YOU for being part of our family of commUnities!— **THANK YOU!**

At Quest we recognize how important you are to our success. Not only because you are good citizen, which reflect well on our business, but also because you have referred many new families that add to your commUnity.

### **Jerry**

### ***"Adding to your communities!"***

This year we have played a lot of catch up on work that has been looming for a while and it feels great to say we are just finishing most of those projects. We plan to spend more time in 2009 on beautification and filling vacant homes and sites. Every time someone moves it costs money and time for us as a company and the person moving. I am investing more of my time investigating reasons people move and what we as a company can do to retain good residents. I encourage suggestions from all of you to help us better understand your desires and/or frustrations so please give us feedback. Some of you may not know who to talk to or feel that you would like to be anonymous. The best place to start is your manager. With that said I know you may have many reasons you'd rather not talk to your manager. You can call the office (715) 675-5370 and express yourself. You can send a letter without a return address too if you would like. In communities that have a rent drop box you can simply put a note in that box. Please let us know if there are things we can do to help improve your quality of life!

### **Peggy Honeck**

#### *Customer Relations*

Hi everyone, Just an update to all who have not heard. WE HAVE MOVED! Our new location is 1250 W Campus Drive.

We are located in the old Happy Mac store in the mall by Fleet Farm and Marathon Town and Country Store. Please send all correspondence to Quest Development P.O. Box 1453 Wausau, Wi. 54402-1453.

We are up and running, still have some boxes to unpack and to rearrange things, but phones, answer machine and fax are in working order. Please stop by and see us if you get a chance and grab a cup of coffee! Our hours are still 9am to 3pm Monday thru Friday. 1- 715-675-5370.

Here's hoping all have a happy and safe holiday season.

### **Larry Honeck**

#### *Maintenance/Field Manager*

Well we have accomplished a lot this year and I want to thank all of you who may have had to wait for us to get to you.

Part of the reason I get behind is my desire to help people when they have a problem. When it is a Quest home I have to make that my top priority. Having 10 communities to watch over can really stretch my time. The work load seems endless at times as we have water breaks, plowing, mowing, fixing equipment, fixing homes, travel time and on and on. It can be difficult to have time for my stuff. I do the best I can to work on small things people want me to help them with but my time is very limited. I know at times people get frustrated with me because I wont help them out but imagine asking anyone else to help for free! So please bare with me and don't hold it against me if I can't help you with a personal project.

(continued on page 2)

(Larry - continued from page 1)

Because I would like to be able to help as many of you as I can and save you the cost of an expensive contractor I am willing to give you an estimate for time and materials. It would be in order that people call me and of course you can get other estimates if you feel I am too high. If I am too busy with my normal work I will let you know how long it will be to fit your project in. It will also be limited to smaller jobs. As an example many of your homes still have copper water line running from the ground to the home. If your heat tape goes out or if you forget to plug it in, copper will split and now it has to be fixed in the cold weather. At Quest we use PEX water line, which is a plastic that expands when it freezes and goes back to its original size when it thaws out. The great thing is that it never breaks!!! All of the newer homes now have PEX throughout. No more broken water pipes ☺. For information about PEX water line go online to <http://www.pexinfo.com/>

We are always looking for affordable contractors that do good work and we are happy to pass those along to you when we find them. If you want to contact me directly call my cell at (715) 302-3788 or (715) 693-2605. Have a great Holiday!

### ***Lisa Hoganson***

Sales and Marketing Manager

WOW what a busy year it has been. We moved homes into some locations and filled a lot of homes that have sat vacant for a while. Keeping homes full and paying is what allows Quest to give back where ever possible. One addition we did get was a nice concrete picnic table and garbage container in West Gate Estates last month. We want to do a lot more but it comes down to dollars and cents. So please send me people you know who are looking for a great place to live so I can help them and pay you for the referral! Some recent referrals from residents are:

Ed Socha referred Susan Piekosz (Harrison) Jolynn Provo referred Sheri Myers (North Country) (continued on page 4)

## **DRINKING WATER**

We get calls from time to time about the water we supply from people living in a community that has a well. I hope to give you enough information to answer your questions or know where to get the answer.

Most of our private water systems are considered “community water systems” and are regulated by the DNR who is directed by the EPA to make sure we follow strict testing guidelines. Not only are we required to test the water but also we must post a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) each year in a place all residents can see. We post our CCR reports on the pump house in each community that has a well that falls under the DNR. You can see the testing results for each community on the DNR website by going to these links For **Edgewood Country Estates:**

[http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2\\$ws\\_web\\_req.querylist](http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2$ws_web_req.querylist)

**Sunshine Estates:**

[http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2\\$ws\\_web\\_req.querylist](http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2$ws_web_req.querylist)

**West Gate Estates:**

[http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2\\$ws\\_web\\_req.querylist](http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2$ws_web_req.querylist)

**Prairie Meadow Estates 1:**

[http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2\\$ws\\_web\\_req.querylist](http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2$ws_web_req.querylist)

**Prairie Meadow Estates 2:**

[http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2\\$ws\\_web\\_req.querylist](http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pws2$ws_web_req.querylist)

Testing must be done by a certified sampler and must be sent to an approved lab. We have to take the exact same tests that the city water systems take and it is very expensive indeed. Every year it seems the EPA adds more things to test for and one of the most recent is radioactivity. We regularly get questioned about our charges for water. When you add the costs of testing, electric for the pump plus heating the pump house in the winter,

(continued on page 3)

New online for Quest Homes and Quest MH CommUnities! Watch this VIDEO! Share it with others!  
[www.YouTube.com/watch?v=jkqfizjv0Q4](http://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=jkqfizjv0Q4)  
PLEASE GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK!

***(Drinking water continued)***

replacing the pump and equipment, repairing water lines and maintaining the septic system that the water goes into. To help keep costs low we have a certified testing agent at Quest. We also are required by the state to pump the septic tanks every 3 years. To help reduce the chance of premature system failure we pump out tanks once or twice a year. As you can see it takes dollars to deliver safe drinking water and maintain a working septic system to handle the wastewater. I hope this is helpful to you. I also want to pass along a few websites on water conservation;

<http://www.wateruseitwisely.com/>

<http://www.waterconserve.info/>

<http://www.h2ouse.org/>

Also see water conservation tips on page 4!

**Septic Systems**

Not something you want to talk about around the dinner table but very important to happy living. You've heard the saying "*what goes up must come down*" well what goes down has to go somewhere! And in the case of water waste it has to be dealt with which can be very costly. Some of your communities are on city sewer but others are on several different types of private septic systems. They must be maintained, not only by us as a company, but by you the user as well. I think most people are aware that it is detrimental to put towels, feminine products, kitty litter or other items that can plug up sewer lines but we still have people in our communities that do it. Not long ago we had to flush FISH BONES out of a line that was plugged. This costs everyone money as it adds to the cost of maintenance. We do

***Septic continued...***

our best to find the person causing the problem and charge them individually which saves everyone else who are contentious. The private systems we have are pretty high tech and very expensive to replace so we keep them clean by pumping the tanks regularly. Most have 2 or more large pumps that move the sewage to the end of the line. Too much water going into the system can also shorten the life of a system so please make sure you don't have dripping faucets or running toilets. If you need help you can call Larry. Hey we can all be the **KING** and **QUEEN** of a happy throne!!

***Inspirational Saying:***

People with many interests live, not only longest, but happiest.

***George Matthew Allen***

\*\*\*\*\*RECIPE\*\*\*\*\*

***Peppermint Bark***

*Makes enough to fill five treat bags*

**Ingredients:**

Nonstick cooking spray

12 ounces bittersweet chocolate, chopped

1 1/2 pounds white chocolate, chopped (do not use chips)

1 package (7.5 ounces) hard peppermint candies, unwrapped

**Directions:**

Spray a 10 by 15 inch rimmed baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray; line with a piece of waxed paper. Crush candies.

Place bittersweet chocolate in heatproof bowl set over (not in) a saucepan of simmering water. Heat, stirring occasionally, until smooth, 4 to 6 minutes. Remove from heat. Transfer to prepared pan and spread almost to edge with spatula. Refrigerate 5 minutes until firm.

Melt white chocolate exactly as above. Spread on top of chilled bittersweet chocolate.

Sprinkle white chocolate with crushed candy. Chill until firm, 20 to 30 minutes (no longer, as candy will begin to soften).

Peel waxed paper off. Break bark into 12 -inch pieces. Package treats in personalized Snowflake Treat Bags for family and friends. Store at room temperature in an airtight container, up to 1 week.

# \$\$ Saving Tips From Quest!

## Conservation starts with you and I

### #2

When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.

### #3

Some refrigerators, air conditioners and ice-makers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.

### #4

Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.

### #5

Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

### #6

Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.

### #7

Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.

### #8

Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.

### #9

Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.

(sales continued from page 2)

Shuong & Matthew referred by #13 Webb, James and Christina Sterk.

**Everyone wins** when new people buy a Quest Home or move into a Quest MH Community! *Call me at 574-8004.*

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!**

### **Magnificent Managers!**

At Quest we want to be the first to express our gratitude to our managers for all they do the whole year through. Please feel free to share some appreciation as well. Your managers truly have everyone's best interest in mind. They also want the best for your commUnity. Spread goodwill and give your manager a jingle and maybe Santa will add you to his NICE list!

## Welcome Corner

At Quest Development, Inc. we are always excited to welcome new residents in to our communities. We hope everyone takes the time to say "hello" and offer a helping hand when necessary as moving can be difficult in winter.

*Working together, we can make Quest Homes and your CommUnities better and better!*

## Welcome to Winter!



**Send Peggy an email at [www.peggy@mobilewealth.com](mailto:www.peggy@mobilewealth.com) if you would like the newsletter emailed to get live links and full color!!!**