



## Mayors Summer Newsletter

By Mark Korin

**Have you ever had an experience**, an event so profound, so overwhelming or just plain unbelievable that to even survive makes no logical sense? Throughout your life, have you ever experienced a situation that defies logic more than one time? Do you ever wonder if maybe God has other plans for you that allowed your life to continue or where you thought there could be no way out or no possible benefit from a horrible experience but now looking back makes sense? If I look back in time there were events throughout my life, matter of fact, multiple and unrelated events that simply defies reasoning. I have to seriously consider the only sane conclusion would be a divine intervention. I remember clearly one event in particular; on a beautiful Saturday morning with no wind and a clear blue sky in 1985 I experienced an engine failure at 2000 feet which ended up resulting in a plane crash stalling the aircraft at 100 feet landing in the back yard of someone's home. It was truly a miracle just to survive let alone walk away with minor cuts and scratches. Is there a larger purpose to our lives? Do our seemingly meaningless daily interactions with others, our family, friends, our children, our neighbors or a chance meeting with a stranger that changes the course of some future event? Why do we have passions for helping people or doing something like creating and investing in a product or a dangerous job, hobbies or tasks that hopefully result in something good while we're here on this blue sky planet? Is this why I think about the products I design, build and now sell that clearly helps pilots fly safer and stop them from doing the potentially deadly thing that most certainly should have ended my life? I think it's more than just a coincidence or fate. Could it be divine intervention, a pre-ordained path, a destiny that may not have meaning today but it unwittingly will be the foundation for those in the future to build on? I think about all the work, the years of loud vocal opposition, the legal writings, the pleading, testifying and the loss of sleep fighting against the Met Council as your Mayor, being told "you're wasting your time", "it will never change", "remember Lake Elmo", and thinking, am I beating my head against a brick wall for a minute chance of getting my residents their land rights back. And then, out of the blue, "the stars lined up" miraculously, we got our city back, I survived. I wonder what our country would be like today if the colonists of the 13 original colonies would have buckled, given into the British tyranny? If they were able to look back at their lives were they aware of their struggles, sacrifices, pain and suffering was for future generations and the foundation of a great country 242 years later? Was that a divine intervention on our behalf? I find myself being so grateful knowing that when they signed the Declaration of Independence from King George, a death sentence for every one of them, that this new American country survived, that we can look back now and appreciate what it took to create the foundations of freedom that we celebrate every fourth of July. So I'll leave you with this; "Coincidence is God's way of remaining anonymous" Albert Einstein. **TO BE CONTINUED.....**

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