

GREEN PASTURES

The Monthly Internal Newsletter of Massey Knakal Realty Services



Happy 2009!

Congratulations Bob and Cynthia!

Sophia Rose Knakal
Born 12/1/2008
6lbs 9oz.



2009 brings excitement for Massey Knakal...

*Becoming a dad! - Evan Daniel

*My two brothers are getting married in Sep & Oct. I have 9 friends' weddings. Entering into 'The Arnold' – amateur body building competition (I'll be the tiniest guy there). - Stephen Palmese

*Starting a new chapter in my life...with the love of my life. - Christy Moyle

*My vacation to Southeast Asia (Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, and/or Vietnam) this summer. - Brendan Gotch

*I'm looking forward to the summertime and the beach. Also, I'm looking forward to Tom Brady's return to the Patriots next season because it hasn't been the same without him. - Kevin Gleason

*Jason Mraz and Dave Matthews Band @ MGM in Vegas! - Shannon Krause

*I am looking forward to changing many many diapers in 2009! - Bob Knakal

*I am looking forward to a new administration, and a whole new set of political scandals! - Mike DeCheser

*My wife, Jenifer, and I are going to St. Thomas for her 30th birthday. (I am hoping for some good surf). - Brian Hanson

*Phish reunion March 2009 and spring tour. - Mitch Levine

*More Listings; hoping my large deal on 47th Street closes; hoping my large deal on 68th Street goes to contract and closes; Leigh Smadbeck beginning her senior year in college; Bryan Smadbeck beginning his freshman year in college; More Listings; hoping my large deal on 47th Street closes; hoping my large deal on 68th Street goes to contract and closes; more listings. - Paul Smadbeck

ANNIVERSARIES

Mike Wlody 1/3 (4 yrs)
John Barrett 1/9 (3 yrs)
Nalini Chugh 1/9 (3 yrs)
Rita Elona 1/9 (3 yrs)

Stephen Preuss 1/16 (2 yrs)
Jonathan Berman 1/17 (4 yrs)
Nancy Guo 1/24 (3 yrs)
Swain Weiner 1/27 (6 yrs)

BIRTHDAYS

Mike Tortorici 1/17
Landon McGaw 1/18
Jeffrey Jakob 1/25

MONTHLY INTERVIEW - MIKE WLODY

Chief Financial Officer, Manhattan Office



1. Not many people know you are a huge music lover, what is the best show you have ever seen?

I'll date myself right off the bat with the first question. Talking Heads – Forest Hills Tennis Stadium – in August 1983. I remember thinking at the time that there was no way my brain could process any more sound than the nine musicians on stage were generating. Watch the Stop Making Sense movie to see what I'm talking about and you'll even get to see David Byrne dance with a house lamp.

2. I know this is a tough question, but who is your all time favorite musician?

Easier than the first question. Jerry Garcia, hands down. I think he had the most unique and recognizable guitar playing style on the planet, and it just never gets old for me. I also get quite a bit of pleasure listening to my daughter Janet play piano, which she's been doing for 13 years.

3. I hear your nickname is Mike Wlotus, what's that all about?

I had used the Lotus spreadsheet from the time it was introduced in the early 80's (pre-Excel) and was really good at it, so someone at my last job came up with that name. I've had only one real nickname in my life – Buford. I got that name during a college road trip and it still endures with some of my friends to this day. It's a long story, and the space is limited here, so ask me about it over a beer one night.

4. Your brother was on Jeopardy? Did you help him prepare for the show? How far did he get?

He was in the lead at the commercial break then got nailed by the judges for adding an "s" to spoon. He didn't ask me for any help preparing. I tell him that's why he ended up in second place. Actually, given the questions, I don't think I would have been much help.

5. Tell us about your dogs.

We have 2 Clumber Spaniels. Hank is 6 and Gus is 2 and they are total people magnets when I take them for walks. They are from the same kennel that bred the Westminster Best-In-Show dog in 1996, so they have fancy blood but are just great family dogs with very loving personalities. You'll have to Google them to see what they look like.

6. Your son Sam is a "genius chef." Where did he pick up this skill? What's his signature dish?

Wow, that's high praise. Since the extent of my cooking skill is to grill meat over uncontrollably high flames, Sam clearly gets his talent from my wife Ellen. For a 12-year old he is pretty adventurous and tries some pretty complicated recipes. His specialty is apple pie with a flaky crust made from scratch. I brought one into the office and it lasted about a minute.

7. You met your wife in college and you just celebrated a milestone anniversary, what's your secret to a successful relationship?

Yup, 25 years in October. My wife exhibits great patience with me. One key is when the other person says what's bugging them, listen and sincerely try your best to take it to heart. A successful relationship requires a lot of work, and there are always challenges, but I like to think we are the same kids who fell in love back in school.

8. You and Paul were roommates in college, any funny stories you'd like to share?

It's all kinda hazy right now, though I do seem to recall something about a bed ending up in a lake...

Which employee would you like to see interviewed in the next issue of Green Pastures? Email Shannon Krause.