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**Small Business Council**

Letter from the Council

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There's a story that floats around about John Lennon and something he said as a schoolboy. I have no idea if the quote is real or if something like this actually happened, but it is something of which I was recently reminded and wanted to pass on to you readers on this second to last column of mine (my term as president is just about up). It goes something like this (paraphrasing from memory):

"At school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I answered 'happy' to the teacher. They told me that I didn't understand the assignment. So I told them that they didn't understand life." - John Lennon

As we journey through life, we all get so caught up in the day-to-day assignments and keep our mindset in a place where we too often forget the bigger picture and what's really important in life. What's truly important to an individual varies from person to person. But my guess is that you'll be hard-pressed to find someone that claims happiness and contentment is something they want to avoid.

There's no way around the daily grind of doing things that must be done and I believe delayed gratification is a concept that's too often forgotten in today's high speed world. But, ultimately, we want to be happy and the larger arc of one's life should move toward that goal. Happiness takes work - it may never be a checkbox on the "what do you want to be" form, but I agree with Lennon that maybe it should be! Don't forget to work towards that as you work towards your goals each year.