

Note from Kim Ratz to TRAPS –

- Even in this crazy time of the COVID-19 virus, I still think it's important to observe "**National Parks Week.**" So I want to share my sincere **Kudos and Thanks** with you and your Parks & Recreation colleagues for the important work you do and the difference you make for people this week, and EVERY week of the year! I know you don't administer any "National" parks, yet your purpose is to provide public places and programs for people to gather, recreate and enjoy, and I understand both professionally and personally how important and valuable that is to society. Especially now when we need safe open spaces to get fresh air and burn our calories and stress! I believe every person who works in your profession deserves to hear the words: "**Thank you, You make a difference, & Keep up the great work.**" So in addition to hoping this message will be helpful to you as a leader in your profession -- if you have the opportunity to share these thoughts with colleagues through an email you're sending -- please feel free to do so!
- I also want to suggest that we are also now in the time of what I'm calling "The Great Pause," an unwelcomed yet unique opportunity to step back, take a deep breath, and reflect on what's really important. And to learn how to be smarter the next time an unexpected "black swan" like this occurs. I encourage you to reframe this situation so you also see possibilities in addition to the pain, and to also keep yourself resilient and ready to resume your important work when this challenge too shall pass ...

**Thanks!** again to all the **Parks & Recreation Professionals** who provide your important services in your communities ... I wish you all continued success because you DO make a vital difference. Keep making it a positive one, stay safe and well, and please let me know if I can help, as I remain --

Gratefully and Positively yours,

**Kim Ratz**

*Speaker, Trainer, Troubadour, Author* | *Successfully sharing skills, stories & songs since 1994.*