Waving on the Corner

Unless the weather was very inclement, James Snellings, age 72, stood at the corner of Maple Avenue and Bremo Road in Richmond, Virginia, waving good morning to motorists.

This self-appointed ambassador of goodwill assumed his station about 7:15 a.m. and remained until 9 a.m. Not as spry as he once was, he frequently rested his right arm on a mailbox while steadying himself with a cane.

Women, he said, return his greetings more generously than do men. One day, he reported 180 women waved to him, and only 75 men.

"I do this for the fun of it," he said. "I try to be nice to everybody. Most wave. Some don't. The don'ts don't worry me a bit."

James Snellings proves a point about human nature. We smile at those who smile at us. We wave to those who wave at us. We are kind to those who are kind to us. We give back what we receive.

How about practicing some of James Snellings' philosophy today as you go about your work? Your world will be better for it.

--Beecher Hunter