
40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 6 Number 10

October 1, 2009

The views expressed in this publication
are those of the writers of the articles
and not the Board of Directors.



Happy Diwali
October 17th, 2009



October, 19th, 2009



October 31st, 2009

Hamonization Tax

By Brian Brenie

The Finance Committee of the board would like to thank all who wrote letters opposing the planned HST that will be implemented by the Ontario government next year. The new tax will be applicable to costs where we currently do not have a provincial tax. Things like electricity, management fees, security and the labour portion of our contracted labour (not our staff but those doing major works like the laundry room project) will all see an 8% increase next year due to HST. Overall this will add at least 5% to our condo fees in 2010. This is in addition to any cost increases for general inflation and rate increases in electricity, gas, water and staff wages.

We don't know if our letters will have any impact and we are closely monitoring the discussions at Queen's Park to see if there is any hope that we may be spared the enormity of the planned tax increase on condo fees.

We are hoping our MPP, the Honourable George Smitherman, will find time in his schedule to meet with us and other interested condo owners in the neighbourhood who will be impacted. If a date is made available we will notify you on channel 13 and the elevator monitors as soon as we know.

It is still not too late to write the minister of Finance at the following address:

The Honourable Dwight Duncan Minister of Finance
7th Floor, Frost Building South
7 Queen's Park Crescent Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

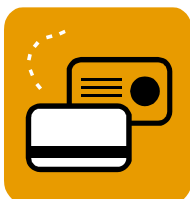
Dduncan.mpp@liberal.ola.org

Bylaw Committee

By Charles Marker

The By-law Committee this year is being co-chaired by John Schonewille and myself. The other members of the committee are Patricia Cook and Candice Green.

We are working first on the Standard Unit By-law and hope to have our recommendations to the board soon. Stay tuned for the next step.



Laundry Card Helpful Hint

by Robert Richard

Place your name and unit number with an indelible marker on the back of your new laundry card. That way, if you lose it, and it is found, the card can easily be returned to you.

Halloween Goodies



We are also looking for volunteers who are willing to sit in the lobby on Halloween night for a couple of hours and distribute candy to the children and wannabee children in the building. **Please let the Office know if you are available.**



As in the past, any donations towards the Halloween celebration would be appreciated. Bring them to the

Management Office.



Movies with Don

This list is subject to change.
Posters will still be posted on the bulletin boards.

Friday, October 2

Pete Kelly's Blues (1955)

Jack Webb, Lee Marvin, Janet Leigh with Ella Fitzgerald & Peggy Lee

Thursday, October 8

The Adventures of Don Juan (1948)

Errol Flynn & Viveca Lindfors

Friday, October 9

Captain from Castile (1947)

Tyrone Power, Cesar Romero, Jean Peters

Thursday, October 15

Bombshell (1933)

(a.k.a. *Blonde Bombshell*)

Jean Harlow, Franchot Tone

Friday, October 16

Libeled Lady (1936)

Jean Harlow, Spencer Tracy, William Powell, Myrna Loy

Friday, October 23

So Long At The Fair (1950)

Jean Simmons, Dirk Bogarde

Friday, October 30

A Halloween Special

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde (1941)

Spencer Tracy, Ingrid Bergman, Lana Turner



October is
National Breast
Cancer Month in
Canada

Wear a pink
ribbon for
awareness



There are special containers in the recycling room for batteries, fluorescent tubes and space for paint cans. Please put them there.

In no way should any hazardous waste be put in either the regular garbage or the recycling bins.

They Live Among Us – Gentlemen Lock Your Lockers

By Garry Carter

On September 1st (at approximately 3:15 pm) I went down to the gym and did my usual 40 minute walk on the tread mill – then went and put my clothes and gym bag in locker #6 and went and had a shower. When I came out, much to my surprise, someone had put a padlock on locker #6—with all my clothes inside. Thanks to a kind gentleman in the gym, he managed to get one of our supers to come down with bolt cutters to cut the lock. Nothing was taken, and it was interesting that all other lockers were empty. It would appear someone is out just to cause trouble. It also appears we all need to use a padlock when we put our clothes in lockers.

And while I'm talking about the gym, which I enjoy, it is interesting that there is often a wait for one of the two tread mills, while some other equipment is seldom, if ever, used. Shortly after the new gym opened, I suggested to the office that one of the old tread mills (which was working), could be brought back—instead the old rowing machine was brought back, which I have never seen used. Please be considerate of your neighbours. It may be acceptable to bring a friend down to the gym, but if you bring three of your girlfriends down, using two of the tread mills and two of the stepping machines, it means residents have to wait.



Sylvia's Korner

Submitted by Sylvia Keshen



It's Autumn

It's Autumn

Leaves begin to blush
The coolness of the morning
Makes everybody rush!

It's Autumn

Children back in school
Hurry to their classrooms
To learn the golden rule

It's Autumn

The grass is getting brown
Nature knows it's time to sleep
And she must change her gown

It's Autumn

Birds are shivering in their nest
They'll soon be flying southward
And they will need their rest.

It's Autumn

Shorter days are starting
The birds know that very soon
They will be departing

It's Autumn

Seasons change - but then,
After winter, spring and summer,
Autumn comes again.

=====

How to eat an ear of corn

- Tie a napkin or cloth around your neck
 - Select the biggest cob on the plate
 - Souse with butter and spray with salt
 - Grab both ends like it was going to get away
 - Locate the four rows of kernels on which to start an attack.
 - Sink your ivories at the extreme left and don't come up for air until you've bitten your right thumb.
 - Bathe ears and chin with butter
 - Stack the nude cobs on your plate – and sigh happily
-
-

Green Committee

The Green Committee is planning on holding a **Green Fair on Saturday, November 10th** in our Recreation Room on IB level. We will be featuring speakers on a range of environmental issues as well as vendors of cleaning products who'll display and sell economical, more eco-friendly household items. More details to come soon.

**Your Green Committee
is looking for more**

Volunteers

By James Lee

Are you interested in the environment and helping to save money at 40 Homewood?
Are you interested in ensuring that 40 Homewood becomes a greener, healthier, more environmentally-conscious condominium community? If so, then please join us. We meet every second Tuesday for an hour and do some research in between. As we are planning environmental events on a regular basis so you can participate in one or all. So, if you can commit 3 to 4 hours per month we'd love to have you as a member of our team. Please contact Jim by phone at 647-232-5465 or by e-mail at jamesclee@hotmail.com.

Boooooooooooooooooooo 



We change the clocks back to Standard time on Sunday, November 1st, 2009 at 2:00 a.m.



Blessing of Animals

There will be Blessing of Animals at:

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
520 Sherbourne Street
Sunday, October 4th, 2009 at 3:00 PM

And at:
St. Peter's Anglican Church
188 Carlton Street
Sunday, October 4th, 2009 at 4:00 PM

New Faces in the Office

Let's welcome our new Property Manager, **Jerry Levine** and our new Office Administrator, **Jane White**, who is replacing Bond Tsang. Bond has taken a lengthy paternity leave.

Welcome Jerry and Jane!



October 5th-13th, 2007

The **Social Committee** is proud to offer instructional classes to residents of 40 Homewood in the recreation room. We have found excellent teachers to provide the training to you in the convenience of our own facilities! Take advantage of it.

Fitness Blast

A series of exercises including cardio, strengthening, and stretching and incorporates a dance routine, in the Recreation Room.

Instructor: Marcos Carajol Certified fitness and personal trainer

Sundays, October 4 to December 6 from 11:00am to 12:00pm 10 classes @ \$100.00

Thursdays, October 1 to December 3 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm 10 classes @ \$100.00
Drop-in \$12.00

Aquafit

Work out in our fantastic pool. No need to swim. Good for all ages.

Get the best results with the least stress on your body.

Instructor: Marcos Carajol, Certified fitness and personal trainer

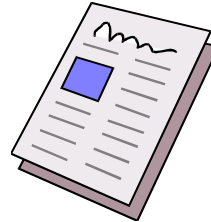
Saturdays, September 26 to December 5 from 10:30 am to 11:20 am \$10 a class

Please pay the instructor at the beginning of the first class.

If you are interested please show up at class time.

In Memoriam

Some of you original owners might remember Pearl Weeks. Pearl passed away on September 21st 2009.



This Newsletter

In order to further cut down on the cost of producing this newsletter, the Management office has

suggested that we send it out electronically to those residents who wish to get it that way.

If you want to receive this newsletter by email, please send me an email and I will make up a group in my address book.

Please put "**Newsletter Electronically**" in the subject line.
marthamcgrath@esuite.ca.

Budget Meetings

Owners Pre-Budget Meeting

Tuesday, October. 20, 2009
at 7 pm. in the Recreation. Room, B1.

Owners' Budget Information Meeting

Wednesday, November. 25, 2009
at 7 pm in the Recreation Room, B1



Green Committee

UPDATE

By Jim Lee

Your 40 Homewood Green Committee is planning a busy agenda for the next few months. Members of the committee are working with the Board of Directors, researching ways of saving money and helping to ensure that 40 Homewood evolves into the most environmentally-friendly and energy-efficient condo possible. We're exploring long-term strategies that will significantly reduce our hydro, gas and water reliance and you will see some exciting announcements soon. While we develop *new* ways of dramatically saving money, there are many ways residents can save money today. Aside from the methods you've already heard of, (Brian Fernandes included a list in last month's newsletter), here are some other ways to save large amounts of electricity and water;

- When your cell phone is finished charging, please pull the cord from the electrical outlet. If left in, electricity continues to flow.
- If you work shifts or are flexible, consider doing your laundry downstairs during off-peak hours. "Off-peak" hours change, however 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. is always considerably cheaper than daytime hours (up to half the cost). Your Green Committee is checking into whether the Laundry Room could be available 24 hours per day.
- When you leave your unit for the day, please unplug your TV, VCR and any other appliance that remains in "standby mode". If left plugged in, your appliances continue to use "phantom" or "vampire" electricity. Your appliances DO NOT need to remain in standby mode. This wastes electricity. It could also ensure that your appliances expire earlier than if they very always turned completely off. When you return home, simply ensure that you plug them in 5 minutes before turning them on in order to avoid a "power surge".
- Have you heard the phrase, "If it's yellow, let it mellow, if it's brown flush it

down"? This may seem crude to some, but does it really make sense to waste 6 – 13 litres of water to get rid of 2 ounces of urine? Even if you practiced this a few times per week, we could save a large amount of water - considering there are 492 units in the building.

Here are some important figures;

If we were to reduce water and electricity consumption by 15%, and, reduce the times the gas comes on to heat water by 10-12%, this would result in a savings of almost \$120,000 over the next year.

An update on the green bins. As you're aware, the green bin roll-out was an enormous success. We had hoped to reduce our garbage bin pickup from 8 bins to 6. We are now averaging 4 ½ to 5 bins per week. Keep up the great work! While this is tremendous news, it brings with it a different set of concerns. The Green bins save us money but they smell! Your Green Committee and Board of Directors are doing everything we can to reduce this smell but still it remains. We will attempt to move the Green bin to the north-west alcove of the Green Room and we are hopeful this will reduce the odours. In the meantime, please bear with us. Try to think of it this way – the smell is one of success – we are diverting huge amounts of waste from the Michigan landfill and are helping this waste to be diverted into organic material to be used in gardens. Each Green Bin saves us a lot of money because we only pay for the brown bins!

We are planning a **Documentary Film Series** through the winter months. We'll have more information soon. Some of the films we are planning on showing include:

- Addicted to Plastic
- Flow - For Love of Water
- Our Daily Bread (about food production) and
- Blue Gold-World Water Wars.

If you're interested in environmental documentaries you may wish to check out the 2009 10th Annual Planet In Focus International **Environmental Film** & Video

Festival, (<http://www.planetinfoocus.org/>), which runs from 21 – 25 October.

Your 40 Homewood Green Committee is hard at work planning our 1st Annual Green Fair. This will be held on Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 to 4:00. We are inviting vendors who will exhibit and sell their environmentally-friendly products and also expect 3 or 4 speakers through the day. Mark your calendars.

Lastly, please let us know the answer to the following poll question;

Q: Would you support your 40 Homewood Green Committee *contacting Zipcars or Auto Share to ask if they would consider locating a car at 40 Homewood? Would you consider joining Zipcar or AutoShare if there were a car here? If you are supportive, how often do you think you would rent a car?*

Please e-mail your reply to jamesclee@hotmail.com with the Subject Line – Poll Question.

Thanks, Jim Lee

President's Message

By Brian Fernandes

Next time you go to the Management Office you will meet our new site administrator, Jane White. Jane is the Vice President of her condo for the last 5 years and brings a wealth of experience to 40 Homewood. Also Brookfield has assigned a new regional manager to 40 Homewood, Bruno Wojnowski. Bruno has been working with Brookfield since 2003. He has extensive knowledge in all aspects of property management and has been involved with numerous cost reduction initiatives at Brookfield. Bruno will be working with the Board along with Jerry, our interim property manager.

As I shared with you last month, our financial situation is not improving in 2009. We entered the year carrying a deficit from 2008 and are still finding the electricity cost is the main cause for concern this year. In 2009 our expenses continue to exceed revenues by over \$125,000. **One way that everyone can help the situation is to reduce the amount of electricity you use in your unit. And consider the time of day when you use electricity. The peak time for electricity use is in the hours of 5 - 8pm. If**

you defer some electrical usage until after the peak hours we could benefit by lowered peak usage amount which in turn reduces the billing rate applied to all other hours of the day. If you can delay using dishwashers, laundry machines and other electrical appliances during these peak hours, this will benefit all in the building. The Board is working to learn of other ways to keep our expenses to a minimum.

The Green Committee is coming out with new initiatives to help up save on electricity and water. Announcements will be made over the next few months.

The Bylaw Committee is mid way through a review of the Standard Unit Bylaws which will be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting. These bylaws will subsequently be discussed with 40 Homewood residents.

The Board is currently reviewing the Truman Study report which assessed five year refurbishing projects. I will be providing you with more details over the next month and the next newsletter.

The Finance Committee is currently working on our 2010 budget. We will have an Owners Pre-Budget Meeting, Tuesday, October. 20, 2009 at 7 pm. in the Rec. Room, B1. The 2010 budget will be addressed by the Board on November 5, 2009, with a follow-up owners' budget information meeting on Wednesday, November. 25, 2009, at 7 pm. The Board, Finance Committee and Brookfield are striving to present a budget for 2010 that is fair in light of the current financial situation at 40 Homewood.

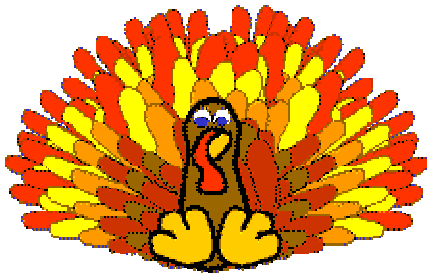
Happy Thanksgiving everyone. I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe holiday with friends and family.

Smoke Alarms



The "time change" is a good opportunity to put new batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.





Thanksgiving Turkey

Submitted by Sylvia Keshen

The turkey shot out of the oven and
rocketed into the air
It knocked every plate off the table and
partly demolished a chair
It ricocheted into a corner and burst with
a deafening boom
Then splattered all over the kitchen,
completely obscuring the room
It stuck to the walls and windows
It totally coated the floor
There was turkey attached to the ceiling,
where there'd never been turkey before
It blanketed every appliance
It smeared every saucer and bowl
There wasn't a way I could stop it
that turkey was out of control!
I scraped and scrubbed with displeasure
and thought with chagrin as I mopped
That I'd never again stuff a turkey, with
popcorn that hadn't been popped;

Ongoing Activities



Bridge in the recreation room,
Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.



Movies with Don in the
recreation room, Thursdays or Fridays at
7:30. Notices posted every week.



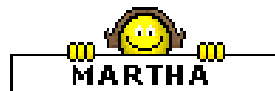
*To everyone who has a
birthday this month*

Top 10 Signs You Are Too Old to Be Trick or Treating

- You get winded from knocking on doors .
- You have to have another kid chew the candy for you.
- You ask for high fibre candy only.
- When someone drops a candy in your bag, you lose your balance and fall over.
- People say "Great Keith Richards mask!" and you're not wearing a mask.
- When the door opens, you yell "Trick or...." and can't remember the rest.
- By the end of the night, you have a bag full of restraining orders.
- You have to carefully choose a costume that won't dislodge your hairpiece.
- You're the only Power Ranger in the neighbourhood with a walker.
- You avoid going to houses where your ex-wives live.

Note from the Editor

Martha McGrath, Unit 615
marthamcgrath@esuite.ca



IMPORTANT

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE ATTACHED
FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE.**

40 HOMEWOOD AVENUE

OWNER / RESIDENT INFORMATION FORM

In order to set up our office files, we are requesting that you complete this form with the following data. We would appreciate if you could print carefully. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

SUITE NO. _____

DATE: _____

REGISTERED OWNER(S)

Name(s): 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Res: () _____ Bus: () _____ (Mr.)
Bus: () _____ (Mrs.)
Bus: () _____ (Others)

E-mail Address: _____

SUITE OCCUPANT (TENANTS OR FAMILY)

Name(s): 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Res: () _____ Bus: () _____ (Mr.)
Bus: () _____ (Mrs.)
Bus: () _____ (Others)

If Unit has been leased, complete the Summary of Lease or Renewal Form

	<u>Parking Space No.</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Make/Year of Vehicle</u>	<u>Colour</u>	<u>License No.</u>
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Rented from: _____
(if applicable)

Rented to: _____
(if applicable)

Locker(s) No:

Access Fob Code(s): _____

Quantity Common/Garage Area Fobs(s): _____

SEASONAL OR OCCASIONAL RESIDENTS:

Please let us know your schedule of occupancy, forwarding address, phone number and special instructions, i.e. mail, etc.

WHO SHOULD WE CONTACT IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Name: _____ Phone No. _____

Would you require assistance in an emergency? Yes ☐ No ☐

Type of Disability: _____

Do you have pets? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, type and description: _____

Tag No: *(if applicable)* _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE MANAGEMENT OFFICE WHEN COMPLETED AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

* * * If, at any time the above information changes, please notify in writing, the Property Management Office immediately. Please keep us informed so that we can keep you informed.