



# HOMewood

*Community Newsletter*

October, 2012

*Canadian*  
**Happy Thanksgiving**

October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012



October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012



October 5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2012



October is National  
Breast Cancer  
Month in Canada

Wear a pink ribbon  
for awareness



Don't forget to set  
your clocks **back**  
**one hour** on  
Sunday, November  
4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at  
2:00am.

## Smoke Alarms



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

# security

**Security phone line**

**416-923-2268**

**The backup number is**

**416-771-7529**

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## 4😊 Turns 4😊 Anniversary Dinner

Over 100 40 Homewoodians painted the recreation room red at the **40 Turns 40** anniversary party, held Saturday, September 22. Under the capable direction of **Gilles Bouffard**, all the decorations reflected the Ruby anniversary and even the guests complied with the informal dress code.

The Social Committee members: **Martha MacLachlan, Robert Richard, Helen Knight, Felix Almeida, Don Sangster, Joseph Hagger, Dan Crawford, and Candice Green** committed to making this a splendid event, and they did on every single count.

Live entertainment was provided by **Bram Zeidenberg**, a young cabaret singer with an old soul.

The **Absolutely Famished** caterers once again thrilled everyone with a vast cornucopia of food. They also provided anniversary cakes in the form of red velvet and carrot cake.

**Claude Martel**, a new neighbour from 60 Homewood, took photographs for us. The photos will be posted on the 40 Homewood site in the next week, for your viewing pleasure.

**Mike King** and **Bill Covey** provided the gladiola flower arrangements

A huge banner and a professional program were donated by **Mr. Printer and Mr. Signs**, the company that **Priya Almeida** works for. Priya is the daughter of Felix Almeida, the newest member of the social committee.

**Gillian McConnell** and **Eva Kato** produced the photo video that played on the television.

Fifteen volunteers met up Saturday morning to transform the recreation room, including **Felix Almeida, with his daughters Priya and Vinaya, Martha MacLachlan, Gilles Bouffard, Joseph Hagger, Helen Knight, Danielle McBride, Miguela Lugo, Christine Leask, Gary Carter, Robert Richard, Candice Green, Rachel De Grâce and Brian Brenie.**

The numbers were a bit smaller on Sunday morning for the clean up. This crew consisted of **Martha MacLachlan, Robert Richard, Joseph Hagger, Danielle McBride, Christine Leask, Miguela Lugo and Roxanne Clark**, (who just moved into the building a few months ago).

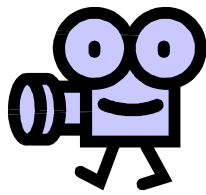
When Brian Brenie, the current President of the Board of Directors, spoke, he echoed the mission statement initiated by David Middleton, the first Board of Directors President: Home for People. For 40 years, YCC#75 has been an interactive community, with committees constantly populated with volunteers. It is because of our community spirit that you are reading about a party that was spearheaded by volunteers, in our volunteer led newsletter that has been a tradition under various mastheads, for 40 years. At the dinner the Social Committee chose to single out the work of the Green Committee. Because of the efforts of people like Jean Walker back in the early nineties, and the work that is being continued on by the new members of the committee, we have so far saved over \$50,000 in waste collection costs in the last three years.

### **The original owners in attendance were:**

K. Baron Mount-Briton, Margaret Osmond, Pamela Brunton, Mary Daly, Jean Drey, Jean Walker, Kathleen Ang, Alwin Bittschwamm, Sadie Bergman, Zofia Sadowski, Frank Pacini, Wilma Westerhof, Edna Treacy, Ruth Kelner, Elizabeth Mohos, Malik Bashir and Jennifer Smith.

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## Don's Movies For October

*All movies at 7:30pm in Recreation  
Room*

Friday, October 5

***A FACE IN THE CROWD* (1957)**

Andy Griffith, Walter Matthau,  
Patricia Neal, Lee Remick

Thursday, October 11

*Alfred Hitchcock's*

***SPELLBOUND* (1945)**

Gregory Peck, Ingrid Bergman

Friday, October 12

*Alfred Hitchcock's*

***REAR WINDOW* (1954)**

James Stewart, Grace Kelly

Friday, October 19

***JANE EYRE* (2010)**

Michael Fassbender, Mia Wasikowska

Thursday, October 25

***MY FELLOW AMERICANS* (1996)**

Jack Lemmon, James Garner,  
Dan Aykroyd, Lauren Bacall

Friday, October 26

***THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT* (1995)**

Michael Douglas, Annette Bening  
Richard Dreyfuss, Martin Sheen



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## *Pet of the Month*



## Bobby & Angel



Angel and Bobby comprise a household with  
(sort of) new resident Jeff Amos.

Bobby is the tabby. He was born in April 2004  
and joined Jeff as a kitten. He is very frisky, has  
lots of energy and is friendly. His meow is very  
squeaky and is often mistaken by visitors for a  
door hinge that needs some oil. He loves  
chicken breast – as soon as Jeff pulls out his  
grill, Bobby is right there.

Angel is the tortoiseshell, long-haired cat. She  
came from the Humane Society in 2004 and is  
probably now nine years old. She has a  
particular liking for cottage cheese – Jeff  
doesn't know why. While she, too, is very  
friendly, she is a little more subdued than  
Bobby. She likes to sit in the bedroom window  
of suite 304, so you might want to wave to her  
on your way out in the morning.

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# **BEDBUGS – The Unwanted Houseguests**

By Jeffrey Amos

In the days of my grandparents, it was a familiar thing to say goodnight by adding: “Good night, sleep tight, don’t let the bedbugs bite!” When I was a child, I had no idea what this meant, because as someone born in the 1970s I had never encountered bedbugs. However, prior to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, bedbugs were very common. In fact, they have been around humans throughout all recorded history. They were even mentioned in the writings of Aristotle in Ancient Greece and have been present in almost every human society at every socio-economic class level. The decline of bedbugs starting in the 1940s is attributed to the use of pesticides, such as DDT, which had not previously been available. It is believed that the bedbug population was basically wiped out as “collateral damage” due to the use of these pesticides. However, the bedbug population has resurged in recent years due to such factors as reduced use/bans on pesticides, increased international travel (where bedbugs can hitch a trip back in a suitcase), and increased apartment and condo living.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of fear and misinformation about bedbugs and how to deal with them if you suspect that you have them. Firstly, a little about bedbugs (*Cimex lectularius*). They are small insects that feed on blood (human or animal), and are light brown to reddish brown, growing to approximately 6mm in length – the approximate size of an apple seed. They are active at night, and during the day they hide in places such as mattress seams, cracks in the bed frame and headboard, inside electrical plates and behind baseboards, etc. They are very hardy and can go for weeks, even months, without eating. Finally, they feed when their hosts are asleep and cannot feel the bites.

There are two ways to get bedbugs - migration and “hitch-hiking”. Migration is when bed bugs walk to an adjacent unit through hallways, plumbing, electrical lines, or other means.

Unfortunately, this is always a possibility when living in an apartment or condo. Hitch-hiking is when bed bugs climb into or on bags, clothing, or other belongings and are relocated by a person. What’s important to know is that bedbugs are non-discriminatory. They affect people of every background and every age and economic level. They are present from subsidized housing units to luxury hotels in New York City (where the luxurious Waldorf Astoria Hotel had a much-publicized infestation in 2010).

If you suspect that you may have bedbugs, please contact the management office immediately with a description of what you are seeing and what you suspect. It could be that you have bites on your body that match the description of bedbug bites, or have seen insects that resemble bedbugs. Please do not be embarrassed to let the management office know – again, this problem is non-discriminatory and could affect anyone. Also, please do not try to treat the problem yourself as you may not know the best effective and timely extermination procedure (for example, store-bought pesticides in cans when sprayed can actually cause bedbugs to scatter and make the problem worse!). The management office will contact pest control to come and inspect the unit within a day. Based upon the results of the inspection, the management office will determine what the problem is (ie. is it bedbugs, or an infestation of another kind) and how to treat it in a timely manner, and will provide instructions as to what you need to do (ie. how to follow the instructions of the exterminators, etc). One of the concerns may be that there is a cost involved – rest assured that in a condominium, the cost of pest control is covered by the condominium corporation. In order to be proactive, if there is a bedbug infestation, as a preventative measure, the units on either side of the affected unit, and the units above and below, are also treated. This treatment can include spraying, or such new treatments as heat treatment.

Even if your unit is safe and clear, it is very important to be vigilant and cognizant of the preventative measures, within your control, to avoid having bedbugs in the first place. Although even the cleanest homes and hotels can have bed bugs, regular inspection and house cleaning, including vacuuming your mattress, can help prevent or discover an infestation in its early stages. Clean up clutter to

help reduce the number of places bed bugs can hide and to make inspection easier. Seal cracks and crevices with caulking, even if you don't have bed bugs. This will help prevent bed bugs and other pests from entering your home or apartment.

Be careful when buying used furniture or clothes. Make sure to inspect the used item, and feel free to ask if the items were checked for bed bugs. Never bring discarded bed frames, mattresses, box springs, upholstered furniture or electronics into your home. These items may be infested with bedbugs. When travelling, inspect the hotel room and furniture and look for blood spots, droppings or live insects – make a point to lift up the mattress and look under the seams. Request a different room if you find evidence of bed bugs. Keep your luggage off the bed or the ground (preferably on the rack that is provided in most hotels). Inspect luggage when you return home, preferably before you bring your luggage into the house, and wash clothing in the hottest water possible followed by 30 minutes in a hot dryer immediately after returning from a trip. Obviously, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure; however, this is not always realistic.

To summarize, it appears that the fifty year period after the end of World War II was just a blip in the relationship between humans and bedbugs. It's apparent that these unwanted houseguests are here to stay. Therefore, using the information above, we can all do our best to prevent and control them. Knowledge is the key, and being vigilant and proactive will help us to control our small, uninvited guests.

For more information, please visit the below websites:

[www.bedbugsinfo.ca](http://www.bedbugsinfo.ca)

[www.toronto.ca/health/bedbugs/](http://www.toronto.ca/health/bedbugs/)



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## 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.



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## Halloween Goodies

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



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.**

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## Going Away?

We all like to “get outta town” sometimes. It’s a good idea if you’re planning a trip to cancel your newspaper delivery so that newspapers don’t pile up outside your door leading to neighbours worrying about your safety.

So, if you can, tell your neighbours you’ll be away. The neighbours might also be willing to remove any flyers that happen to get on your door.

If people live alone and if they don’t go to work everyday, it’s good to have a “buddy,” either a neighbour or a friend or a relative who knows that you’re okay.

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## New Garbage Shed

The new garbage bin shed is now in operation.

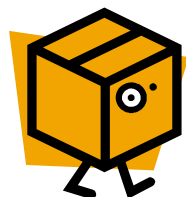
Various bins will be available, as usual, in the Recycling Room, but all the empty and full bins will be stored in the shed, providing a tidier appearance in a protected area.

At the north end of the shed, rolling back the door will reveal the bulk bin. This door will be unlocked each day from 9 am to 7 pm, so residents may deposit their bulk items inside during those hours. If it’s late and the shed is locked, please keep your bulk item till the next day so you can put it INSIDE the shed.

Items should not be left outside as the fire route must be kept clear.

The rule about bringing anything from the garbage or trash back into the building still applies. This rule is made to prevent carrying infestations.

“Bulk” includes furniture and appliances, big things that will not fit into the brown garbage bin. It does NOT include construction or renovation debris: these must be taken off-site by the owner, resident or contractor.



## Parcels

Parcels taken by the office for residents are listed on channel 13. If you are expecting a parcel, keep your eye on that channel. The list there is updated daily.

It’s appreciated if you don’t leave them there too long, as the space is limited.

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## Laundry Room Bulletin Board

Beginning in October, most notices on the laundry room bulletin board will be limited to three weeks. The purpose is to make room for notices from other people.

If you have something that is still relevant after your notice is removed, please feel free to post the notice a second time.

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# Green Committee Page

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October is  
National  
Vegetarian  
Awareness  
Month

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## NEW Items Added To The Blue Bin Program!

The City has recently added mixed rigid plastics to the Blue Bin Program. This means that items such as clear fruit and vegetable containers, clamshell containers, clear takeout containers and molded bakery-item trays are now recyclable.

Detailed list of items includes:

- Most food-related clear containers and packaging
  - Clamshell containers (hinged, clear plastic containers used for food items such as berries and takeout)
  - Clear fruit and vegetable containers
  - Clear takeout food containers
  - Molded bakery item trays
  - Plastic plates and glasses
  - Egg cartons
  - Cold beverage cups/lids
  - Compact disk cases (empty)
- 

In line with National Vegetarian Awareness Month, we suggest the following recipe.

## Broccoli Soup

Submitted by Barbara Bodnar and Martin Banfather

- 1 cup chopped onions
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- ½ cup chopped celery
- 2½ cups vegetable broth
- 3 cups broccoli florets
- 1 cup peeled, cubed potatoes
- ½ teaspoon each ground thyme, black pepper, Worcestershire sauce
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 4-5 dashes hot pepper sauce (or to taste)

Spray a large saucepan with no-stick spray. Or use a tablespoon of oil of your choice. Add onions, garlic and celery. Cook and stir over medium heat until celery begins to soften, about 5 minutes. Add broth, broccoli and the potatoes. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low. Cover and simmer for 10-12 minutes, until broccoli and potatoes are tender.

Transfer soup to a blender or food processor, working in batches if necessary. Pulse on and off until soup is coarsely puréed (still kind of chunky). Return puréed soup to pot over low heat. Add thyme, pepper, Worcestershire sauce, salt and hot pepper sauce. Stir until smooth. Serve immediately.

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## Green Committee Page

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### Green Organic Pails

New green organic pails, handy for keeping your green stuff in till you take it to the Recycling Room, have come from the city. They will replenish our supply each year. If you don't have a green organic pail, which is really tan and white, there are some available at the office.



### The September Clothing Drive

The second clothing drive of the year, arranged by the Green Committee, was a success. The committee members wondered if there would be many donations, given the volume donated in January, but the turnout and the quantities donated were great. In fact, both truck drivers (for the Canadian Diabetes Association, "Clothesline" program) said that the amounts donated were the most they'd seen at a single building!

We had a little help in September, as there were a few people who came — by invitation — from our neighbouring

buildings, 140 Carlton and 15 Maitland Place.

The Green Committee twinned the clothing drive with a display and information about green organic recycling. Residents are continually encouraged to put everything appropriate in the green bin and to minimize the garbage that goes down the chute.

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### Printer ink

Residents know that we are encouraging everyone to recycle ink jet cartridges which we send to TerraCycle. Keep up the good work!

Meanwhile, here is a link to an article in the Star that gives us all some tips about how to save on ink.

<http://www.moneyville.ca/blog/post/1251165--five-ways-to-save-money-on-printer-ink>

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### Great Job, 40 Homewood!

The Green Committee has packed up 1,000 Tassimo t-discs which we are shipping to Terracycle. We receive 2 cents per t-disc and the money earned goes to the Daily Bread Food Bank. This cause helps a local charity, diverts items from the garbage, saves us \$\$ and helps the environment. Imagine how long it would take for these hard plastic discs to break down in a landfill. Imagine if every building in Toronto was as dedicated to being Green as 40 Homewood! Imagine!

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## Room Changes

### Multi-purpose room

Next to the lobby, this room is available to be booked by the board or committees or other internal groups for meetings or gatherings. Book through the office or — soon — also through security. When not booked, the room is open to all residents for chatting, reading, cards, gazing out the window, etc.

The room remains open 24/7 by means of a fob.

### Library

The new library, on the B1 level, is nearing completion. By Newsletter publication date, the shelves may be installed and a beginning may have been made on re-shelving the books from the old library. This room is open to all residents 24/7 on a fob. Individuals and groups cannot book it for private use. Once in operation, an assessment will be made about other furniture that may be needed. Pot lights have been installed and more lights, in the style of the lights in the multi-purpose room, are on order.

### Recreation Room

The recreation room will also be open via fob.

New fob readers will be installed for both the library and the recreation room. Residents' fobs will be programmed en masse through the office. Residents will not need to go individually to request fob re-programming.

### Laundry TV room

New chairs have been ordered for this room, and additional lights, similar to those in the multi-purpose room, have also been ordered.

### Gym and pool

There are no changes in operation. The reason for closing at night is that, otherwise, equipment noises can be disturbing to residents of the low floors.

### Art

Some art work will be ordered for the lobby, the multi-purpose room and the Laundry TV room.



## Questions to the Board or Management

**Question:** Why was the mail not delivered for a couple of days last month?

**Answer:** The mail room was closed a couple of days in September. Canada Post had requested that we replace the door at the back from outside for safety and security. While that was being done, we also did some minor repairs to the walls within the mail room (that is, the room where the carrier works with the mail).

**Question:** Does Irene still use paper egg cartons?

**Answer:** No. Resident Irene McGarvie used paper egg cartons in the past in making some of her interesting sculptures. She has thanked everyone who donated their egg cartons for her work, but she no longer needs them.

Please put your empty egg cartons in the Blue Bin for recycling.





## Movie Night With Don Celebrates 16 Years

By Robert Richard

The first week of September marked the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Movie Night with Don**. He selected two Judy Garland films to celebrate the occasion. We watched **In The Good Old Summertime** and **Summer Stock**. In a theatre you get some trailers and a film. At 40 Homewood we get the film plus some jokes and anecdotes about the film. Thanks Don for sharing your wealth of films and knowledge of film history with us over the years. Your contribution to our community is greatly appreciated!

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## Residents' Panel To Review The Condominium Act

Many of you will know that the provincial government is undertaking a review of the Condominium Act of 1998, our current governing law.

Here is some information from the Canadian Condominium Institute:

"A lottery to recruit members for a condominium residents' panel is now underway. Ten-thousand Ontario condominium residents across the province will receive letters inviting them to participate. The final panel will be balanced for age, gender, geography, the number of years they have lived in a condominium, and the type of condo in which they live (for example, town home or high-rise).

The panel will discuss issues related to the Condominium Act and provide advice on how to improve it. Panellists will work alongside a roundtable of other condominium stakeholders to agree on a set of priority proposals for changing the Act. Watch in the mail to see if you have received one of these letters!

"For more information on the Resident's Panel or to find out how your views can be heard, visit the Ministry site at:

[http://www.sse.gov.on.ca/mcs/en/Pages/ondo\\_about.aspx](http://www.sse.gov.on.ca/mcs/en/Pages/ondo_about.aspx) "

The invitations that will be sent out will require a response by October 5. We have no way of knowing in advance whether anyone at 40 Homewood will receive one of the 10,000 invitations. If anyone here does receive an invitation and does not wish to participate, please pass the invitation to the board so one of the directors or a delegate can participate.

Meanwhile, here is an interesting website with lots of information about living in a condo and about the problems that people find they may have.

[www.condoinformation.ca](http://www.condoinformation.ca)

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## Budget Season

The manager, treasurer and Finance Committee will soon begin working on the 2013 budget. It will be brought to the Board by November, along with the new Reserve Fund Study.

Interested owners may mark their calendars for Monday, December 17, for an information meeting and discussion on the budget. Prior to that a draft budget will be mailed to owners.

Stay tuned for more details and possible alterations to the schedule.

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## A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN

# BRIDGE

Have you ever wanted to learn  
bridge but just never seemed to get  
around to it?

Or refresh your knowledge from the  
past.

With winter on the way, now is the  
time!

Bridge Lessons right here at 40  
Homewood Ave. in the recreation  
room, cost nothing, open to all who  
live here.

Come on down and Gus Kieley will  
teach you what he knows about  
Bridge.

In 12 friendly, patient and organized  
lessons.

Commencing Wednesday October  
3rd - 8:00 and 9:00 PM  
each Wednesday for 2½ months  
(until December 19th)  
Plenty time to practice after each  
lesson.

Questions?  
Contact Gus at 416-972-0610  
OR Email  
newfiegus@hotmail.com

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## IN MEMORIAM

We lost another resident in early  
August. Virginia Smith passed away.  
Some of you will know Virginia from her  
frequent visits to the pool and sun  
bathing on the patio.

Condolences to her husband, Chris.

Rest In Peace, Virginia

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## Remembering Ralph



Ralph was the pride and joy of Margaret  
Osmond.

Margaret writes:

On 14th of August 2012 very sadly I had  
to say goodbye to Ralph who had an  
aggressive form of Oral Squamous Cell  
Carcinoma (cancer). Ralph appeared in  
the June, 2012 news letter as "Pet of  
the month".

I miss him terribly. Margaret

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## President's Report

by Brian Brenie

This month I want to again thank our Social Committee for a wonderful 40th anniversary party on September 22nd. We truly had a wonderful community event that night with great food, great music and wonderful friendships all around.

Congratulations to all who won prizes that were donated by Brookfield and some other residents and thanks to the donors. Thanks go to Martha MacLachlan and her whole team of volunteers for pulling this together so elegantly. As I write this I am thinking they are probably already planning the holiday party in December.

To lead by example, management has recently updated all the leaking taps and shower heads in the common areas of the building. Hopefully this will inspire residents who have leaking taps, showers and toilets to do the same to help conserve water. Our water bill is approaching \$200,000 annually so with your help we can reduce this expense.

Speaking of expenses the Board will soon look at the budget for next year and one of the major items in our budget is the allocation to the Reserve Plan, accounting for \$560,000 of our annual \$2.5million budget. We must prepare a new Reserve Plan study this year and we don't know how this will impact our overall budget so we are looking at every cost saving initiative to contain any fee increases for next year. Please help us by doing your part within your own unit. You can reduce water waste by fixing leaking taps, toilets and shower heads. You could install a new low flush toilet. Closing windows to conserve heat would help greatly. Recycling and composting as much as possible helps as well.

As I reported at the 40th anniversary, we have saved about \$50,000 over the past three years by recycling and composting as much as we do. YCC75 was one of the first high rise condos in Toronto to begin composting and we have diverted lots of organic waste (kitchen scraps, tissues, paper towels) away from our garbage through this initiative. We know we can do more so we encourage you to recycle and compost as much of your household waste as possible to reduce garbage costs for us.

We will be calling a meeting with all owners in December to get your input on next year's budget. We want to prepare the budget based on 10 months of actual 2011 expense data rather than basing it on 9 months as has been done in the past. Our 10 months actual expenses are not available until mid November so that is why we will meet with you in December.

The Board agenda over the next few months includes, among other items, the cable tv contract and the Property Management contract along with the regular board items we deal with monthly. Our finances are in good shape so far this year and we hope to end the year with a small surplus to pay off any outstanding debt from prior years. This all depends on your cooperation and all of us pitching in to save costs.

If you have any questions or comments please know that you can always send an email to [Board40H@gmail.com](mailto:Board40H@gmail.com). This email forwards your message to every Board member instantaneously.

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