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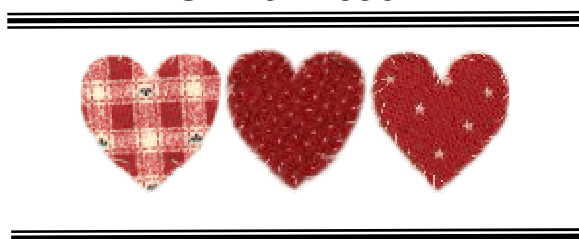
# HOMewood

*Community Newsletter*

*February, 2013*



**February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013**



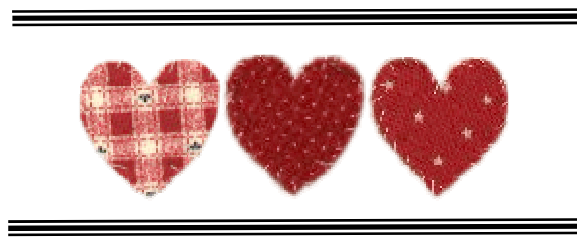
## Chinese New Year



**February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

蛇

**Kung Hei Fat Choi  
Gong Xi Fa Cai**



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## ***Pet of the Month***



## **Crystal**



My name is Crystal. You know the song 'Crystal Blue Persuasion' — well that's where my caregiver/owner Kathleen got my name, listening to that song one day. My life story starts with telling you how lucky I am that Toronto Animal Services rescued me from High Park where I was dumped to fend for myself and my mom couldn't resist adopting me, back in 2010.

I'm a small breed lion-head mix rabbit, which means I have this mane of hair around my head as you can see in my picture. I'm a great alternative pet for condo dwellers, cleanup being similar that for cats, using a litter box. Also, I don't bark and you don't have to take me out for walks, and I love to be cuddled at the end of your long work day. Most importantly, my diet consists of Timothy Hay along with pellets, which you can buy at your local pet store, but I have a sweet tooth, too, so occasionally I love a small piece of dried banana.

The best part of my life outside of my caregiver Kathleen, is my two dog buddies, Emma, a Pug/Parson Russell Terrier and Daisy, an American Cocker Spaniel, who always check in on me while I'm hanging around in my pen. I'm not afraid of them and they appear to be at ease with me too. Life is good now!

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## ***Pet of the Month***



## **Jedi**



“Bark Bark” In my language I am saying hello very timidly because I am still a bit shy as I am still a puppy. My name is Jedi and my owner, Jessica purchased her new condo at 40 Homewood at Christmas and received me at the same time!

It a very big year for both of us. We will not be moving in until May 1<sup>st</sup> and by then I should have her trained to my views! LOL I am  $\frac{3}{4}$  Miniature Pinscher and  $\frac{1}{4}$  Chihuahua and now weigh about 3 pounds. I was born on November 1<sup>st</sup> and look forward to growing up and meeting lots of friends in the building! When you see me or my owner please introduce yourself so we can get to know your names!

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## Don's Movies For February

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

Friday, February 1

**ORCHESTRA WIVES (1942)**

George Montgomery, Ann Rutherford,  
Glenn Miller & His Orchestra

Friday, February 8

**NEVADA SMITH (1966)**

Steve McQueen, Karl Malden, Brian  
Keith

Friday, February 15

**LOVE BEFORE BREAKFAST (1936)**

Carole Lombard, Preston Foster, Cesar  
Romero

Thursday, February 21

**MIN AND BILL (1930)**

Marie Dressler, Wallace Beery

Friday, February 22

**OLIVER! (1968)**

Ron Moody, Oliver Reed, Hugh Griffith

Sunday, February 24

**ACADEMY AWARDS NIGHT**

Have fun! Win prizes! Everyone  
welcome!

Thursday, February 28

**LOVE AT FIRST BITE (1978)**

George Hamilton, Susan St. James

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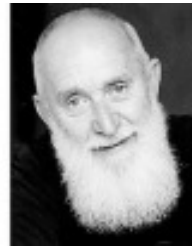
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## IN MEMORIAM

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We lost four more residents in  
January. Condolences to all their  
families.



**Frank Taylor**  
died on  
January 6<sup>th</sup>,  
2013



**Jerry Peters**  
died on January  
8<sup>th</sup>, 2013



**Assunta Porretta**  
died on January  
16<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Irene McGarvie** died in  
Florida on January 19<sup>th</sup>,  
2013



**Rest In Peace**  
**Frank, Jerry,**  
**Assunta and Irene**

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## Street Proofing

by Félix Almeida

For the most part, our neighbourhood around 40 Homewood is a remarkably safe one. Stories abound for example, about middle-aged women routinely setting out after dark to walk their little dogs, returning home unscathed. Our neighbours assure us that in the many years they have lived here, they have never felt unsafe. This might well be the norm for Homewood Avenue.

Yet, it would serve our community in good stead to review on occasion a few street-proofing suggestions. Here are some of the Street Proofing ideas that come to mind:

- Always walk in well-lit areas... walking with a companion is safer
- Walk with confidence and be aware of your surroundings
- Avoid late night outings as far as possible
- If late nights are unavoidable, arrange to return home by taxi
- Avoid using Carlton late at night
- Instead, use the Wellesley-Jarvis-Maitland-Homewood route home
- Scream "Fire", rather than "Help"
- One woman, who was being verbally harassed on Maitland between Church and Jarvis, walked toward an approaching stranger, quietly informing him of her predicament. The stranger feigning familiarity, started chatting with her, causing the offender to walk away
- Clench your keys in your fist, with one large key protruding through your fingers as a weapon poised for action if necessary
- Talk to someone on your cell-phone

- Carry identification with you at all times
- Report all suspicious activity to the police

It might be worth our while inviting the Police in to do a presentation to our community on the subject of Street-Proofing.

If other residents of the building have ideas or tips for street safety, the Newsletter would be glad to receive them to add in a future issue. Email: [Newsletter40Homewood@gmail.com](mailto:Newsletter40Homewood@gmail.com)



## Retirement Planning

If you had purchased \$1,000.00 of Nortel stock one year ago, it would now be worth \$49.00

With Enron, you would have had \$16.50 left of the original \$1,000.00.

With WorldCom, you would have had less than \$5.00 left.

If you had purchased \$1,000 of Delta Air Lines stock, you would have \$49.00 left.

But, if you had purchased \$1,000.00 worth of wine one year ago, drunk all the wine, then turned in the bottles for the recycling REFUND, you would have had \$214.00.

Based on the above, the best current investment advice is to drink and recycle.





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## Pets And People At 40 Homewood

Residents with dogs and those without are aware of the various rules the condominium has regarding dogs' care: keep your pet on a leash, don't allow "business" on the grounds of the property, etc.

Many residents without their own pets enjoy making friends with the dogs who are very visible in and about the building.

Here we present some tips for trying to assure that the relations between neighbours and dogs living in the building are both friendly and safe.

First of all, if you don't know a dog, it's important to ask the owner first about whether it's okay to pet or approach her. This is both to get permission from the owner and also to invite the owner to warn you that the dog is uncomfortable with strangers or might be having a bad day. This is an important courtesy and safety precaution as a prelude to engaging directly with the dog.

At the same time, the alert owner will warn off friendly people if their dog is aggressive, nervous, easily alarmed, etc. Sometimes a dog may just be having an "off day," and the owner could point that out and move on.

If there is a "green light" from the owner, keep in mind that there are ways to approach a strange dog that are threatening and others that are non-threatening to the animal.

One thing is that your body language should be "hanging back" and not aggressive. You may not mean to be aggressive at all, but if you lean forward and approach the dog standing up, your stance may indicate an aggressive approach to the dog. You can sit or squat which makes you appear less

aggressive. That also gives the dog the opportunity to feel in control by being the one who then chooses to approach you.

Be slow and relaxed, not quick and jumpy.

The position of your reaching-out hand is also important. If your hand is held up high and if the palm is down, that may tend to imply a threat. Turn your hand palm up and put it low to the ground, so that it is below the face of the dog. If your hand is at that level, you may hold it palm-forward to the dog, hanging straight down. Think about it: that doesn't look like anyone is about to be hit. Then the dog has the opportunity to approach you (your hand) with a sense of control rather than threat.

Sometimes, particularly upon first meeting, the dog will only want to sniff and check you out. She may become more comfortable and friendly upon further meetings, and it's good to allow the dog to set the pace of acquaintanceship.

There is no rush. Once you are acquainted over a few meetings with a dog, she will likely approach you, if allowed by her owner, although they're all different: some will want to just come up and sniff your hand and check for treats; others may wish to move quickly into a relationship in which they expect lots of petting.

Allow the dog to be the one in control of the relationship, and both you and the dog will be on safer ground.



**Way to Go** to Dave Campbell who, after all those years of going to dialysis three times a week at an ungodly hour in the morning, finally received a new kidney.

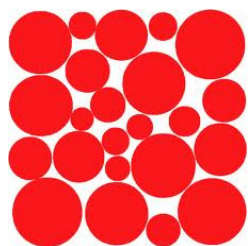
Dave, we hope this makes a much better quality of life for you.

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# Green Committee Page

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## Red Dots for “No Junk Mail”

For the last few years, the Green Committee has made February “Red Dot” month.

This is a campaign conducted by Canada Post to help people avoid getting unnecessary junk mail, therefore causing less garbage.

We have made a small change this year. We are no longer placing the forms in the mail room above the waste containers. Somebody sabotages our efforts. Twenty or so forms are put in the container on one day and they all disappear by the next day. You can now pick them up from the Management Office or cut this one out. →

**If you wish to stop receiving junk mail (mail that is not addressed to you), you may place a request form in your mailbox.**

It's important that your form can be seen by the mail carrier on the other side of the wall, so make sure you put the form (“No junk mail, please”) as far into the box as possible. You may even wish to use a little tape so that it doesn't fall out or blow away.

When the the form is seen, the mail carrier will affix a red dot on the inside of your mailbox, and you'll stop receiving junk mail.

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## Green Tip: Animal Waste

Cat waste and kitty litter belong in the Green/Organic bin. Dog waste (bagged) also belongs in the Green/Organic bin.

Please do not dispose of your dog waste or cat waste in the Blue/Recycling bin. These things are NOT recyclable!

Do not throw them in the garbage bins or the garbage chutes. They belong in the Green/Organic bin in the Recycling Room.

Your neighbours will thank you for helping the environment.

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**I DO NOT WISH  
TO GET ANY  
JUNK MAIL IN  
MY MAIL BOX**

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## The Magical, Mystical Lake Titicaca

*This is Part II of a five-part journal of travels in Peru and Bolivia by resident **Kirby Go**. The next three parts will follow in subsequent Newsletters.*

The respectable looking man in a cheap suit standing in front of our moving bus just pulled out a big poster of a couple having sex! Oh no, he didn't! I had to do a double take: now that he had everyone's attention, he proceeded to give a 20-minute lecture about the sexual potency pills he was selling, complete with visual poster slides of male and female anatomical parts. Talk about having a captive audience.

I was in a bus from Arequipa, Peru, to Copacabana, Bolivia. The local bus offered me a unique window to experience local ingenuity. Different vendors got on and off the bus, mostly selling food and snacks; my favorite was from this old woman who sold me a snack of hot food: alpaca meat, with a nugget of potato and corn kernels the size of thumb fingernails. For only \$1.12, an effortless check-off on my gastronomical list.

But the most interesting vendor was actually a stand-up comic. He got on the bus, greeted everyone with a "buenos tardes" and proceeded to do his 20-30 minute comic routine complete with audience participation. He passed his hat for contributions after his act, and by the time he was done, he had the whole bus in a great mood.

As entertaining as the side shows are, the main attraction is outside the window. The bus was running along the southern lip of Lake Titicaca, an alpine lake with gem-like colours which is perched on top of mountain ranges. At 3800 metres, it is simply breathtaking — figuratively and literally.

The lake and surrounding area are the strongholds of native culture, the Aymara and the Quechua, who are the modern descendants of the ancient Incas. Here, the natives go about their lives with very strong and proud unique

pre- and post-Spanish culture. Although most identify as Roman Catholic, native folklore and gods permeate daily lives. The lake holds a magical, mystical place in their hearts and culture, and with one look at the stunning blue lake with islands, islets and rocky outcrops, I can totally understand why the ancient Incas believed this magical place to be the birthplace of their gods and civilization.

The resort town of Copacabana is the Bolivian gateway to Lake Titicaca. The town itself is bustling with local vacationers, tons of hotels, restaurants, unswimmable and cold beaches, boats and launching pads to the islands on the lake. And we can't forget the tacky plastic swans that local kids like riding in.

The town has a couple of landmark sites of its own. One is a massive Moorish-inspired cathedral with Portuguese tiled domes, definitely unique in this part of the world. Another landmark that I liked is a series of white crosses on top of a hill called Calvario.

Most importantly, my favourites are the tented restaurants by the beachfront that serve trucha, a local lake trout that is amazingly good. Every restaurant serves the fish in a variety of ways: lemon trout, butter trout, grilled trout, Roman trout (dipped in egg and panfried), garlic sauced trout, and my favorite, trucha el Diablo (Devil's trout), panfried and topped with a spicy sauce with carrots and onions. Served with salad, rice and fries, it cost a whopping three dollars.

From Copacabana, I took an hour-and-a-half ferry ride to the main island of the lake, Isla Del Sol (island of the sun), and the much smaller Isla de la Luna (island of the moon). Both are studded with Inca ruins.

Isla Del sol is very rustic with no paved roads and no vehicles. It offers the tranquility of a middle-of-nowhere location. The island juts straight up to a peak of 4,024 metres, and that's where the main village called Yumani lies.

A gruelling climb from the port to Yumani village left me panting. The climb over loose rocks with my heavy backpack, battling altitude sickness and thin air doesn't help, but once I got to the top, all was forgiven and forgotten, as I was rewarded with one of the most stupendous views I ever beheld! Yumani lies on the top edge of the peak with incredible vistas of both sides of

the island, nothing but Aegean-like sparkling blue waters there “on top of the world.” This experience was simply priceless.

I found a quaint place to stay with a cottage feel and Bolivian decor. My room had a private balcony looking out to this view. During the day time I hiked the island from one Inca ruin site to the other, and in the late afternoon and early evening, I'd be on my balcony sipping coca tea leaves, contemplating life and being grateful for all the surrounding beauty — if one just takes the time to be still and listen.

Without going through Peru, one can simply fly to Bolivia, take a bus to Copacabana, a ferry ride to Isla del Sol and climb up the mountain to Yumani, where the magical, mystical powers of Lake Titicaca will make one believe in all that's good in life.

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## British Complaints to Council

1. My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand?
2. I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.
3. Will you please send someone to mend the garden path. My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant.
4. I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen.



If you have any unwanted visitors like the ones above, you might be unsure of what to do. Go to the Management Office and report it right away. They will contact the pest control firm to come in to get rid of them. There is no charge to the residents for this.

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## Visitor Parking

When we had many contractors working last year on the lobby and the fire alarm system, there were times when the back driveway was quite congested and that made it difficult for cabs, Wheel Trans, deliveries, garbage trucks, etc. For that reason, management began requesting contractors with small-enough vehicles to use the Visitor Parking. This would exclude drop-off time at the back door for materials and equipment.

Now, it's found that residents who have designated parking spots in Resident Parking are sometimes leaving their vehicles in the Visitor Parking during the day. Our Visitor Parking gets too crowded, then, with contractors and ordinary visitors, so residents with appointed spots are asked to park in their places, not in Visitor Parking.



## Pennies for Pets

As everyone knows, pennies are going out of circulation in Canada. It's not just that they are “worth less,” they are about to become “worthless.”

The Toronto Humane Society has a program, started in December, in which they are collecting those unwanted pennies to help unwanted animals.

Top donators get a tour of the shelter — and cake!

See their website for instructions on labelling. You choose the animal type for the donation — dogs, cats or rabbits.

[http://www.torontohumanesociety.com/news\\_events.htm](http://www.torontohumanesociety.com/news_events.htm)

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A library room update. The 40 Homewood Library officially reopened December 17, 2012.

Initial comments to the Board and to library committee members have been favourable. A primary goal for the space will be to make it comfortable and keep it organized.

A wonderful furniture addition that helps meet the comfort objective is the fireplace. Thanks to John Whelan for donating this for use in our library, and also for a number of decorative pieces on display. These add colour to the room.

There has been a comment about the lighting. We would like to make sure residents are aware of the lighting potential. There are two wall switches in the library room for the lighting and they are situated by the entrance door to the library (across from laundry room). One switch is for the overhead lights and one switch is for the pot lights. Generally one set of lights is left off as an energy saver if no one is in the room. If you would like more light, flip both switches by the entrance door. Turning on overhead lights and potlights makes a difference. There is a third switch by the other door for an exhaust fan which circulates the air.

A bulletin board has been ordered for the library. We are awaiting its delivery and installation. The bulletin board will be used to share information about the library space. Things like procedural notes, book reviews, resident comments, even a calendar will be posted.

To the individual/individuals who assisted with hanging a calendar before the bulletin board is ready, please be patient. Your decision to hammer a nail into the new bookshelves is something that we regret. The nail scars the wood surface. With help from the office, we are investigating ways to display items that are best

suited to the surfaces of walls and shelves in the library.

Committee members recently met to discuss art for the walls. Each member brought several pieces from personal collections. A maximum of four items was selected to fit the wall space available. These pieces will be on loan to the library for a set period of time. We are awaiting assistance from the condo staff for hanging the art. A rotation of art items will be established considering there were more pieces than wall space.

Signage highlighting the collections will be revised as needed. Generally paperback and hardcover fiction signs appear at the end of fiction shelf units. Books in these collections are rough sorted by an authors' last name.

Nonfiction books have been loosely organized following the Dewey Decimal Classification system. You may be familiar with this system. Think back to your school days or, if you are a local public library member, you will see Dewey in action in the library branches.

Non fiction shelf labels are currently posted for these subject areas:

- Dewey 100s psychology/self help
- Dewey 200s religion
- Dewey 300s true crime
- Dewey 500s and 600s science, business, cookbooks
- Dewey 700s art, recreation
- Dewey 800s literature
- Dewey 900s, travel, biography and history

The Dewey 400s are represented by a few dictionaries currently housed on one of the small shelving units. These are just below the 40 Homewood Board Meeting Minute binders.

Thanks to residents for the steady stream of donations. Books have been regularly placed in the donation bins. A good mix of fiction and nonfiction has been received to date.

There are a couple of reminders when offering books for donation. Shelf space is at a premium so there is little or no room for encyclopedias. Out of date medical books are not needed. Course texts generally are not needed.

Committee members would like to provide discussion points about books in our condo library collection. This information will be shared on the library bulletin board, in future newsletter columns, maybe even a program if there appears to be interest. For example, we have noticed that Canadian authors are well represented, including local authors. Books by Cabbagetown author Barbara Gowdy include the titles *Helpless* and *The White Bone*. These are filed under G on the fiction shelves [unless someone has borrowed them]. Both these books have been shortlisted for several book awards.

If you find a book in our library and want more information about it, the public library has some great literature resources that you can access online through the public library website. All you need is a Toronto Public Library card. You can find out more about authors like Gowdy, more about book awards, you can find read-alikes, and discover lots of book reviews. Even additional information about the Dewey Decimal system is available if you are interested. The committee may highlight some of these resources and how to use them as they relate to our condo library collection. Check the bulletin board in the library space and watch for notes in upcoming issues of the monthly newsletter.

The unofficial library motto:

**Borrow, Enjoy, Return.**

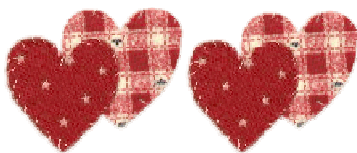
It is an honour system.

No due dates, No fines. Read and return.

Suggestions welcome.

Thanks.

The library committee members :  
Martha MacLachlan, Mary Oakley, Christine Leask, John Whelan, Brian Beagle



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## Don't Slam Your Door



Please do not let your door slam in the wee hours of the morning. It is disturbing to your neighbours, most of whom are sleeping then.



Join Don "The Movie Man" Sangster and your neighbours in watching them,

## Academy Awards

February 24<sup>th</sup> 2013  
7:00 PM

In the Recreation Room  
Refreshments will be welcomed  
Pick the winners  
Win a prize  
*Watch it on our big-screen TV*

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## Free Talk On Arctic Change: Note From The Green Committee

It's unusual for a free talk to be offered by such a senior officer as Peter J. Ewins, senior officer in species of the World Wildlife Federation-Canada, but he is offering a lecture on "Rapid Change in the Arctic: Who Wins? Who Loses?"

This will take place on Sunday, February 3, 2013 at 3.00 pm at the McLeod Auditorium, Medical Sciences Building, University of Toronto, 1 Kings Circle.

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# Les Miserables

By Jeffrey Amos

Les Miserables was one of the most anticipated films to be released in 2012, based upon the musical of the same name, which is itself based upon the classic novel by French novelist Victor Hugo. More people have seen Les Miserables than almost any other musical in history. It is no wonder that expectations are high for the film version. I am in a unique position to compare the two, as I saw Les Miserables on stage in London in October.

The film version was long in the making, but finally got off the ground about two years ago when Cameron Mackintosh, the producer of the stage show in London, started to pull together a team to make the film, which includes director Tom Hooper (the King's Speech), and actors Hugh Jackman (as Jean Valjean), Russell Crowe (as Javert), and Anne Hathaway (as Fantine). The results are mostly successful.

The movie follows the stage show almost scene by scene through almost 50 songs – Les Miserables is not really a musical but is basically an opera, since every word is sung. People who love the musical will love the movie, and people who did not like it will not likely be converted. Personally, I enjoyed the film and found it an entertaining and emotional experience. However, the film has a number of flaws which makes it less than the masterpiece it could have been.

First, the positive. Hugh Jackman, who stars as Jean Valjean, the convict who has served two decades in prison for stealing a loaf of bread to feed his starving sister's family, carries the film very successfully on his shoulders and for this reason he is a top contender to win the Best Actor Oscar. Jackman is the ideal film star for this role, since his background before film was in musical theatre. He has the range, and the acting ability, to convey the emotional intensity required for the role.

Anne Hathaway has received rave reviews for her performance as the doomed

Fantine, who is thrown out into the street and has to support herself and her daughter Cosette through any means possible, which leads her into a downward spiral where she eventually becomes a prostitute. Hathaway's performance of I Dreamed a Dream is one of the highlights of the film, and she is the favourite to win the Best Supporting Actress Oscar.

Les Miserables is the first musical where the actors have sung the songs live and had the music added later, instead of the usual lip-synching to a pre-recording. This allows the actors to convey a greater range of emotion during the songs, and is shown to be very successful in the performance of this song.

But the greatest standout performance in the film – a performance that is getting surprisingly little recognition – is that of Samantha Barks as Eponine, who is secretly in love with the student revolutionary Marius, who loves Cosette instead and is completely oblivious to Eponine's secret love. Barks performed the role on stage in London, and her excellent performance of the song On My Own, in which she sings of her secret longing for Marius' love in the pouring rain, was one of my favourite parts of the film.

Les Miserables could have been a slam dunk if not for a number of significant flaws. The first and most obvious flaw is the performance of Russell Crowe as Javert, the prison guard turned policeman who is obsessive in his pursuit of Jean Valjean. Crowe's singing is, quite honestly, substandard at best and atrocious at worst. Although Crowe does sing rock music professionally outside of his acting career, his style of performance, and his voice, do not suit a musical. It was a distraction throughout the entire film.

Secondly, the director Tom Hooper persists in using unusual, off-kilter camera angles and unusual staging of musical numbers, causing many of them to fall flat. For example, the staging of one of the best known songs in the musical, Master of the House (about how the comic-relief innkeeper Thenardier and his wife rob and cheat their customers blind at their inn) is a disappointment, with tight camera angles and constant cutting back and forth. This distracts us from the song itself and its meaning, which is to act as a comic-relief interlude in a story which is deadly serious (much as

Shakespeare would stage similar comic-relief scenes in his tragedies for the same reason).

Finally, every musical number is driven home as if it is the showstopper through the film's 50 songs – this eventually becomes overwhelming and is the reason the reason why I liked the performance of On My Own, as it was a sweet and tender break from all the other overpowering songs.

In summary, if you are looking for an entertaining musical, you can tolerate the above flaws (especially Russell Crowe), and you don't mind being subjected to considerable emotional manipulation (Les Miserables is designed to wring the tears from you like water from a wet sponge), then this may be the film for you. If, however, you saw the show on stage and were not a fan, you are unlikely to be won over. I give Les Miserables 3 stars out of 4. ★★ ★★

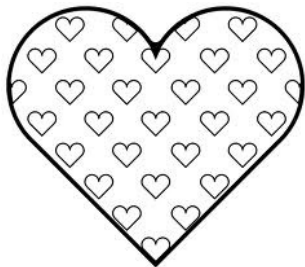
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CLASSIFIED

## WANTED TO RENT STORAGE LOCKER

A resident is looking to rent, for a nominal monthly charge, an additional storage locker space at 40 Homewood, for an indefinite period of time, as soon as possible. If you happen to have a storage locker for which you have no current use and wish to make a little extra cash, he may be contacted directly at [lancing@hotmail.com](mailto:lancing@hotmail.com)



The residents of 40 Homewood outdid themselves with a large donation of clothing and small household items on Saturday, January 26.

The driver from Clothesline, an arm of the Canadian Diabetes Association, reported that he'd not before seen such large quantities donated at one location.

This is the third time we have had the Clothing Drive and drivers have told us that each time.

**Thanks to all who donated.**

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## Documentary Film

Join the members of the Green Committee in viewing "**The Human Footprint**" by National Geographic. It was made in 2008 and is 90 minutes long.

Did you know that during the course of your lifetime you will eat about 12,000 oranges? These oranges will travel a total of about 23 million miles to reach your fruit bowl or glass of OJ. Shipping fruit takes energy. Energy comes from fuel. Everything that you eat (bread), use (newspapers), and do (take showers) has an impact on the world. This impact is called your human footprint.

**Date:** Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. 2013

**Place:** Recreation Room 1B

**Time:** 7:00 PM

Hope to see you there.

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## Looking for a way to chase those February Blah's away?

Come to the Relish Bar & Grill on Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> to watch a free performance of Toronto's favourite bassoon quartet: *Das Fagott Mannschaft*!\*

40 Homewood resident Catherine Magowan takes the stage with three of her best bassoon buds and a drummer for two sets that have something for everyone, including the Beatles, Queen, Dolly Parton, Bob Marley, Black Sabbath, Amy Winehouse, Cyndi Lauper and Lady Gaga! Female impersonator extraordinaire Eve Angelica will also take the stage to sing a few numbers with the quartet.

Relish is at 2152 Danforth Ave, near Woodbine, and *Das Fagott Mannschaft* storms the stage at 7pm. Hope to see you there!

For a preview of *Das Fagott Mannschaft's* crazy antics, visit their YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/dasfagottmannschaft>, or their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/DFMbassoonguartet>.

\* translation: "the bassoon team".



Newsletter Editorial Committee

Jeffery Amos

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## Bathroom Vents

*(This article repeats advice given in autumn 2011. There is an on-going problem of people blocking their vents with paper or other things because the vent is blowing air into the bathroom, and the air might be carrying cooking or other smells. Please read this carefully and ask for help if you need it.)*

For the good functioning of the building's ventilation system, management is asking that all residents check their bathroom vents.

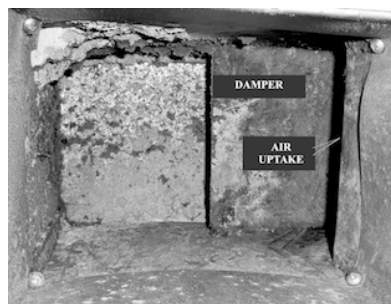
If your vent's damper is closed, it could cause condensation on your ceiling and you might mistakenly think there is a leak from the unit above yours because you'll have bubbles on the ceiling plaster and paint.

1. Do the tissue test. Place a piece of tissue on the vent. If the air being sucked in (or up) keeps the tissue on the vent, your vent is fine. Nothing more is required.

2. If your tissue falls off, the vent is not taking up air. If you feel competent, take the cover off the vent and check to see if your damper is closed. If so, open it.

In the picture, the damper is open and the air is being pulled up through the opening indicated. If you pull down the damper, the air uptake is blocked.

3. If your tissue falls off but you don't feel competent to remove the cover and check the damper, please let the office know. One of the staff will then do this.





# HOW **NOT** TO GREET A DOG

*Most people do this stuff and it stresses dogs out so they BITE!  
I don't care how cute you (or your kid) think Boogie is. Please show him some respect.*



**DON'T**  
Lean over the dog & stick  
your hand in his face



**DON'T**  
Lean over the dog & stick  
your hand on top of his head



**DON'T**  
Grab or Hug him



**DON'T**  
Stare him in the eye  
(This is an adversarial gesture)



**DON'T**  
Squeal or shout in his face



**DON'T**  
Grab his head and kiss it  
(This is an invasion of space)

*Doing this to a dog who doesn't know you is like a perfect stranger giving you a great big hug and kiss in an elevator. Wouldn't that creep you out? And wouldn't you have the right to defend yourself?*

## THE CORRECT WAY:



- \* No Eye contact
- \* Let the dog approach you in his own time
- \* Keep either your **SIDE** or **BACK** towards the dog (non-threatening posture)



- \* Pet or stroke him on the **SIDE** of his face or body. Or on his back.