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# 40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 1

January 1, 2006

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



January 1, 2006

May 2006 be a Happy and Prosperous year for each and every one of us.

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Merry Christmas – January 7<sup>th</sup>,  
2006 to all of you who follow  
the Eastern Orthodox Church.

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*THANK-YOU*

Weren't the Christmas decorations on the outside and inside of the building beautiful? The lit up reindeer and trees really make a beautiful sight at night. Thanks go out to **Peter Warner, Antonio Monni, Bill Comer** and **John Komac** for making our surroundings look so festive for us.

Also, **Antonio Monni** and **Bill Comer** put up the trees in the lobby for us and one of our residents, **Bill Covey**, decorated the tree in the library for our enjoyment.

**Thanks for the good work everyone!**

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## Chinese New Year

4704

January 29, 2006

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## Kung Hei Fat Choi

## Gong Xi Fa Cai

"Wishing You Success and Prosperity"

2006 is the year of the Dog



**ELECTION DAY**

January 23, 2006

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## Smoke Alarms



The first of the year is a good time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.

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Getting To Know You



*Heather Wilson & Spot*

Heather's got a habit. She loves going to the theatre and the movies all the time –that is, after her 60-hour workweek.

Born in Toronto and brought up in the North Annex, Heather went to Oakwood Collegiate before earning a degree in Theatre Performance from York University. She was following her parents' artistic footsteps, perhaps: Mom, a painter, and Dad, a CBC producer for Saturday Afternoon at the Opera.

Heather worked in children's theatre, was the lead in a film entitled *The Heart in Two Places* and had other professional gigs, but found she was spending more time waitressing than working in theatre. She wrote a "Fag Hag" column in *Sightlines* magazine in the early '90s before returning to school, attending the Legal Assistant Program at Seneca College where she was voted valedictorian.

She has worked with many of the 200 lawyers at her firm as a law clerk on large corporate transactions conducting due diligence and preparing documents for the past 10 years. When the work's not too stressful, she enjoys it and feels it's important. She still finds time for courses, like the Wine Tasting she just finished at George Brown, and fantasizes about moving to Niagara and working in a vineyard.

Heather enjoys socializing with friends and travels several times a year. She moved to 40 Homewood six years ago, walks to work, and loves the neighbourhood.

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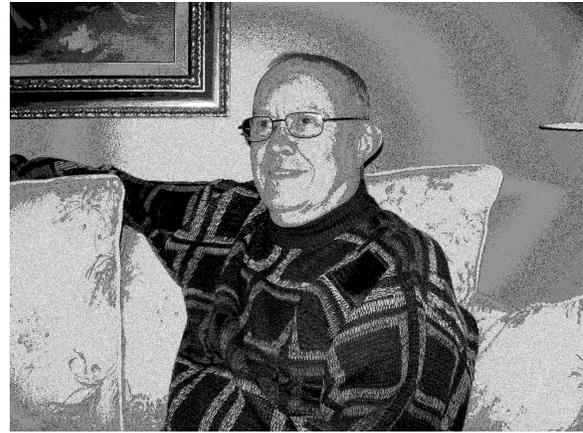
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Getting To Know You



*Neil Gilson*

Born on a farm outside of Canfield, Neil remembers the idyllic days of being pushed in a wheelbarrow, riding on the stone boat, and chasing field mice. He loved the farm, just as he was to love going to school in nearby Hamilton, once the family moved at the outset of the war.

Finishing up at Hamilton Secondary Collegiate Institute with an additional year for commercial studies, Neil had a series of jobs before a friend suggested he move to Toronto and Air Canada.

He began there in 1958 as a reservation agent, was transferred to Vancouver for a year and then returned to Toronto. During his years at the airport, he worked in the First Class Lounge, meeting many celebrities: the Diefenbakers, the entire Chicago Black Hawk team, Phyllis Diller, Carol Burnett, and Mary Tyler Moore. He took early retirement 1985 but was bored, so reinvented himself as assistant manager of a deli, salesman at Quintessence, and co-owner with his partner of a motel and restaurant in Warton. By 1990 they had moved to Dundas. After his partner died in 1996, Neil sold everything, bought a car, and drove through the American west and south-west on a tour that lasted over a year.

Neil has traveled extensively, enjoys crossword puzzles, and volunteers both by running errands for friends and at the Metropolitan United Church. He bought at 40 Homewood in 1998.

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***Thanks Connie John and Charles Marker for this Segment of this newsletter.***

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## Food Bank

This year's initiative went very well! Twenty-one boxes of food and a total cash donation of \$400.00

went to the **Daily Bread Food Bank** from the residents at 40 Homewood. Thank you to everyone who made a donation to ensure that people not as fortunate as we are were able to have a good meal this season. Appreciation goes out to **Raymonde Guichard** for volunteering her time to sit in the lobby and collect and pack up all the boxes

Once again our supers **Bill Comer** and **John Komac** came through for us by doing the heavy lifting and set up in the lobby. Our boxes were picked up by The Daily Bread Food Bank.

**Way To Go Everyone!!**

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## The 21st Century How true is this???

Our communication - Wireless  
Our dress - Topless  
Our telephone - Cordless  
Our cooking - Fireless  
Our youth - Jobless  
Our religion - Creedless  
Our food - Fatless  
Our faith - GODless  
Our labour - Effortless  
Our conduct - Worthless  
Our relationship - Loveless  
Our attitude - Careless  
Our feelings - Heartless  
Our politics - Clueless  
Our education - Valueless  
Our follies - Countless  
Our arguments - Baseless  
Our boss - Brainless  
Our job - Thankless  
Our salary - Very less

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**Violet Green** has asked me to convey her thanks to everyone who has put good wishes on her door. They are appreciated.

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## Ongoing Activities



**Bridge** in the recreation room, Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.



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

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To everyone who has a birthday  
this month.

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## CHRISTMAS DINNER

That was held December 10<sup>th</sup> was very enjoyable. Once again **Arthur Martin** organized a great event for us.

Thank you Arthur and the volunteers who helped with the setup, **John Serena, Neil Gilson, Florence Rice and Candice Green**.

Thank you also to **Gus Kieley, Denise Redwood, Pamela Brunton, Russ Baxter and Brian Brenie** who also played a part.

It goes without saying that we are always appreciative of the ladies in the management office who sell the tickets for us. Thanks **Donna, Liz and Tracy**.

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# THANK-YOU

To **Alwin Bittschwamm** for donating the new TV set in the laundry room. It sure is an improvement from that old set that was there. Kudos to you Alwin.

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## THE POTATO STORY

A Girl Potato and a Boy Potato had eyes for each other, and finally they got married, and had a little sweet potato, which they called Yam.'

Of course, they wanted the best for Yam. When it was time, they told her about the facts of life.

They warned her about going out and getting half-baked, so she wouldn't get accidentally mashed, and get a bad name for herself like "Hot Potato", and end up with a bunch of Tater Tots. Yam said not to worry, no Spud would get her into the sack and make a rotten potato out of her!

But on the other hand she wouldn't stay home and become a Couch Potato either. She would get plenty of exercise so as not to be skinny like her Shoestring cousins.

When she went off to Europe, Mr. and Mrs. Potato told Yam to watch out for the hard-boiled guys from Ireland; and the greasy guys from France called the French Fries. And, when she went out West, to watch out for the Indians so she wouldn't get scalloped.

Yam said she would stay on the straight and narrow and wouldn't associate with those high class Yukon Golds, or the ones from the other side of the tracks who advertise their trade on all the trucks that say, "Frito Lay". Mr. and Mrs. Potato sent Yam to Idaho P.U. (that's Potato University) so that when she graduated she'd really be in the Chips.

But in spite of all they did for her, one-day Yam came home and announced she was going to marry Tom Brokaw.—Tom Brokaw!

Mr. and Mrs. Potato were very upset. They told Yam she couldn't possibly marry Tom Brokaw because he's just—Are you ready for this?—Are you sure?

## A COMMON TATER.



## NEW PARKING RATES

As at January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, the monthly parking rate for residents will be increased to \$80.00 per month.

The visitors' parking rate will also increase to \$5.00 per night.

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## RECIPE EXCHANGE

### Chicken Casserole

2 cups chicken, cooked and cubed  
1 cup chopped celery  
1 cup toasted slivered almonds  
2 cups cooked rice  
1 cup mayonnaise  
2 tbsp. chopped onions  
1 can cream of chicken soup  
1 can cream of mushroom soup  
3/4 tsp. salt and pepper  
2 tbsp. lemon juice  
1 chicken bouillon cube dissolved in 1/2 cup of water

Combine all ingredients and put in casserole. Cover with crushed potato chips. Bake at 400 deg. for 45 minutes. Serves 8

Option: Add 1 tsp flour to chicken sauce.

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## Ongoing Activities



**Bridge** in the recreation room, Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:00 pm.



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



## Down Memory Lane

By Violet

## The Wireless

By Violet

During the years between 1921–3, I lived in London with my grandmother.

About four or five houses along the street, a few shops were in place – one was the local butcher. I was a mere five years old at the beginning of my life in Hamston. The butcher certainly did not interest me, but he became a local celebrity, because he had what was known at that time as a Wireless. (Today it is known as a Radio).

I never knew, of course, what was inside the famous machine, except for two parts, a crystal and a cat's whisker – not a real cat's whisker but simply a piece of wire fastened to something that enabled me to move it across the crystal.

If my grandmother wanted me to get out from under her feet, she would send me to the butcher's shop and tell me to wait outside with other children until the man came out to tell us what he had heard. I think he must have had some kind of hearing aid, as I'm sure telephones were in use by then.

So I would saunter down – a mere 50 yards or so, as if I knew all about the famous wireless. I always forecast what he would tell us, as it was mostly about weather. Then I would race back and tell my patient grandmother that it might rain tomorrow, or be sunny. I always felt very important about this errand.

As the years went by, the wireless developed and progressed to valves, which often had to be replaced very often. and wet batteries were introduced. They had to be recharged, perhaps weekly. I think similar batteries were used in cars.

Then came the dry batteries and many handymen began to make cabinets in which they put the wireless.

It must have been another five or six years before the wireless operated by electricity and the name changed to Radio because radio stations began to spring up and people began to say "Let's switch on the radio."

There are still a few "oldies" who use the old familiar name and will remember how wireless has developed from "scratching the crystal with the cat's whiskers". to the modern devices of today.

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## BRAIN TEASERS

What do you think the following mean? The rhyming two-word answers to the clues below all have to do with brains or "smarts". For example a headache is a "brain pain." Can you figure out the others?

- Simple Mind
- Fast learner on the job
- Time stuck in your head
- A healthy breakfast
- What a teacher of critical thinking does
- Person tired from trying to take in too much information
- Smart folks in Madrid
- What a neurology professor does
- Chief genius
- A crutch used to remember something

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## CLASSIFIED

If you are looking for something or selling something, why not advertise here? I have posted a couple of requests that have produced results as have others.

I believe that more people will see it here rather than on the bulletin boards. Why not cover all bases?

It is worth a try. Just let me know what you have to sell or are looking for.

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## weird historical facts

*I was given a list of these weird historical facts but it would take too much room to put them all in this one issue. I will spread this section over a few months.*

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide body odour, starting today's custom of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women, and finally the children, last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying "Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater."

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## Area News

By Bob Leah

### **THE UPPER JARVIS RESIDENTS**

**ASSOCIATION** is now meeting at **Wellesley Central Place**. Members of **The Homewood Neighbourhood Association** are welcomed. An incredible amount of construction is taking place north of us. U.J.N.A. is a dedicated group of savvy residents giving community input to developers in their neighbourhood. Also, a strong **Neighbourhood Watch Group** works with police for safety and security. The first meeting of **The Homewood Neighbourhood Association** will be held January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 130 Carlton. (Both **Wellesley Central Place** and the **130 Carlton Condo** generously supply meeting space without charge).

### **Whose Job Is It?**

- > Snow Removal 416-392-7737
- > Litter and Debris 416-397-9200
- > Abandoned Appliances “
- > Property in Disrepair “
- > Street Lights Out 416-395-4448
- > Graffiti 416-392-5326

## **YEAR-END THOUGHTS**

Seeing jolly men in Santa hats rushing out to do good deeds reminds me that I live at **40 Homewood....The Condo With A Heart♥**.

It's time for me to say "Thank You" for the following:

> The Board of Directors and Property Management's support of me as a member of **The Homewood Neighbourhood Association**

> All you volunteers quietly serving, making this City a better place.

> The staff of 40 Homewood, endlessly helpful and cheerful. I appreciate you.

> Generous and thoughtful acts by the young and older residents within these walls.

> All of you who produce this newsletter. Good work!

## **I AM GRATEFUL**

P.S. I CAN FEEL IT! THE BEST IS YET TO COME. Cheers, BOB

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This month's answers to the Brain Teasers

niad nialq .f  
eeniet yniad .s  
niater niad .8  
jate jama .4  
eniad eniad .0  
niab niad .0  
eniad eniaqe .7  
eniad eniaxe .8  
niad niem .0  
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## Note from the Editor

Martha McGrath, Unit 615  
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Happy 2006 to everyone  
May it be a real good year  
for all of us.

