40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 2 February 1, 2006

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



February 14, 2006



February 28, 2006

With New Orleans having been so devastated by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, let's hope this will not hamper the people there from celebrating their holiday with the usual revelry.





XXth Winter Olympic Games

February 10th to 26th, 2006



Let's wish our Canadian Olympic team much success in all their endeavours









on Being voted man of the year By the irish community in toronto way to go, gerry



Fred Hahn & Kerry Peer

Though Fred and Kerry have moved from the 4th floor to the 22nd floor, they have been at 40 Homewood for eight years now and love it. Kerry was born in Toronto and raised in Burlington, while Fred hails from London and Tillsonburg, where tobacco farming dictated the dates of summer vacations from school.

Perhaps it was those summers, working in the fields, or the time he spent working while earning a B.A. at the University of Toronto (philosophy and women's studies), but Fred is committed to the union and is currently president of CUPE 2191 for the tenth year. This is an outgrowth of his work at Community Living Toronto, the largest social agency for disabled children in the city, which pays his salary as the liaison between its large (over 1000) staff and the union. He is also a provincial CUPE vice-president and travels to both provincial and national meetings.

While Fred walks to work, Kerry drives out to Mississauga every day with a colleague to the TD-Canada Trust property tax department. Although his first jobs were in retail, selling shoes and clothes, 18 years was enough of that and he got his first bank job as a teller. Seventeen years later, he looks back on a great variety of banking positions he has held.

Fred cooks. Kerry cleans. They both love biking, watching movies, reading books and appreciate the friendly atmosphere at 40 Homewood.

Thanks Connie and Charles.



Gord Mason

Born in Hannon, a rural part of Hamilton, Gord was fourth of six siblings, five of them boys. He completed high school there, and then studied in the Certified Management Accountants program while working at Westinghouse.

Gord held various jobs during his 23 years there. Although accounting soon became boring, working with real estate services had potential. Ultimately, he became manager of that department, responsible for Westinghouse's properties across Canada—buying, selling, maintaining and investing in property. Though principally based in Hamilton and living in Grimsby, Gord spent five years at the Nuclear Fuel Plant in Cobourg.

The changes he made at 42—all within nine months—opened up a new world: he came out, moved to Toronto and got a golden-handshake from Westinghouse. Within a year, he was working as a Realtor. He is now with Bosley Real Estate and still loving it. He is close to his wife, daughter and his son (who also lives at 40 Homewood).

As a Realtor, he likes the friendly personality of the building, which he attributes to the laundry room, where residents get together out of necessity. It is also one of the most economical buildings downtown, both for its condo fees and selling prices.

Gord loves to paint, as his walls show, and he is crazy about cars, two of which figure in a large painting in his living room. Ah! The 1972 Cutlass...

weird bistorical facts

Continued from previous month:

Houses had thatched roofs — thick straw — piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the dogs, cats and other small animals lived on the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

The floor of the house was dirt, with only the wealthy having something better. Hence the saying "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway to keep the thresh in. Hence saying a "threshold."

BRAIN TEASERS

What do you think the following mean?

I. little LARGE little LARGE little little little LARGE	2. Fairy, Wolf and Duckling
3. cHIMp	4. HARM good



To everyone who has a birthday this month.



Nostalgia

By David Thornton

I started writing an article for the "Blue Newsletter" in November titled "What should we be doing in case of a disaster" either natural or personally.

BUT

Now some interesting items I have received are surprising and awesome Christmas presents. I have to diverge for a moment to establish the context. After my mother died a few years ago, my sister and my father have been spending Saturday afternoon each week working through the thousands of photographs that we as a family have collected over the past 60 years or more. They have identified the people or places and dates of where, when and who was involved in each photo. This process takes time and is very painstaking. What I received as a wonderful Christmas present were two photographs reproduced from the originals. One photograph shows my mother and father with me in the middle holding their hands. The photograph was taken at Clacton-On-Sea, Essex and is dated The other photograph was taken at Christchurch Park Co-op Fete, a green space in Ipswich, Suffolk, where we lived at that time, and shows my brother and myself laying in the grass and is dated 1955. My sister was only 2 years old.

This now prompts me to go through all of my photographs and identify people and places and date each one. This is going to occupy my time considerably. I still have pictures stored somewhere, that I took with a Kodak Brownie 127 of my childhood in England and also photographs I took here in Canada during my youth (?) and further photographs I have taken when I was equipped with a better camera, i.e. after I had finished school and was working.

My divergence illustrates that before we leave this mortal world, we should date and identify the photographs we have taken for ourselves or photographs given to us from other people This leaves a tangible record of who we were and what we did and where we went. It's nice to have a record of our lives to pass on to our children and other relatives. We all have our own individual history.



Down Memory Lane By Violet Green

Theatre

I was introduced to the theatre when I was just about ten years old.

One of our neighbours went regularly to the local Hippodrome on Saturday evenings. She was known as Grandma Ogden. She was a grandmother, but children belonging to friends and neighbours were taught to be respectful to older people and so she became Grandma Ogden to most of the local children.

She and I seemed to get along very well and I often ran errands for her so, permission was readily granted when she suggested taking me with her when she went to the Saturday show. The outings became the highlight of the week. My world was shattered if a performance was cancelled.

However, on most Saturday evenings, we set off in all kinds of weather to walk about one and a half miles to the Ardwich Hippodrome, which was well known for miles around the city of Manchester.

On the way, Grandma Ogden would tell me something about the show.

We were always the first to start the line, and often had to wait about half an hour for the box office to open. But Grandma Ogden had to be first.

We always sat in the gallery because money was scarce and she was paying the six pennies for my ticket.

As soon as the box office opened, the door to the gallery stairway opened. Years later, I realized whey my elderly companion was so generous towards me. It was my job to race up those stairs and down the gallery steps to the front row. The seats were long planks and I had to get to the center and sit there with my hands spread out on each side to save space for Grandma Ogden. With pounding heart and taking a big breath, I always managed to do this. Within a few minutes Grandma Ogden would arrive, face flushed with exertion, but beaming because my mission was

accomplished. No one seemed to object to this, no doubt other young people were doing the same thing.

For the next two hours I was in another world. There was no need to speak, as I breathlessly awaited each act or turn.

Vic Oliver began his career at that Hippodrome. He married Churchill's daughter Sarah, which ended in divorce.

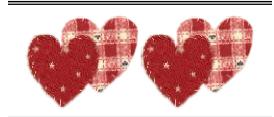
Another famous comedian was Nellie Wallace. She always appeared in the same outfit. Buttoned up boots over the ankles a long skirt and short jacket and feathered boa (scarf) and a frilly hat with a tall upright feather near the front. I never understood the jokes, but the audience laughed a lot and applauded with calls for more.

After the last turn and the curtain down, we would patiently await for most people to go and then make a leisurely exit and head for home.

I fell in love with the theatre and have been fortunate to see many famous stars, both in England and Canada. It was my good luck that Grandma Ogden required a young companion to race up the stairs to the gallery and save a "space" for her, in the center of the front row. With a sigh of relief, she would sit down and calmly wait for the performance to begin, as all was well in her world.



Management and staff have asked me to convey their thanks for all the Christmas cheer that they received from residents over the holiday season. It is very much appreciated.



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.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

RUSSIAN CHICKEN BREASTS

(nice change from leftover turkey)

vegetable oil or cooking spray

boneless chicken breasts - 6 small or equivalent of about 1 1/2 pounds of breasts and/or thighs

1/2 cup Kraft Russian dressing 1/2 cup Apricot jam 1/2 pkg Onion soup mix (about 3 tbsp) water or chicken broth

Brown meat, remove from pan. Place in 9 x 13 casserole. Mix dressing, soup mix and jam and pour over chicken. Add water or broth to make a little more sauce if you like. Cover and bake at about 350 for 45 minutes uncover and add a bit more water if it seems too sticky. Cook about 5 more minutes to brown it a little. Serve with rice.

Bye Bye Tracy

We regret to have to say goodbye to Tracy Liddell who has worked in our management office for over a year. We wish you well in your new endeavours. Tracy.



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Recycling Corner



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The pilot project of placing recycling bins in the garbage rooms on the 32nd, 31st, 24th, 7th, and 6th floors is not going to be implemented.

It has proved to be very time consuming for our cleaners to empty them and take the recycling products down to the bins outside

What is now being proposed is to place a large recycling bin in the back lobby, thereby avoiding the necessity of residents going outside to dispose of their recycling.

Upcoming Activities



Join Don and your neighbours in watching

Academy Awards
March 5th, 2006
7:30 PM
In the Recreation Room
Refreshments will be
welcomed

Pick the winners
Win a prize

GROUNDHOG DAY February 2nd, 2006



It is said that if the groundhog sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of bad weather, and if he

doesn't, that spring will be here soon.

Let's hope he doesn't

Area News

By Bob Leah

51 DIVISION - Metro Toronto Police Department

- Staff Sgt. Tom Kelly continues to be in charge of the Community Response Unit. If you have any safety concerns in our neighbourhood, please do not hesitate to call him at tel. (416) 808-5152 or email ssgt51cru@hotmail.com.
- 35 new recruits have been assigned to 51 division, focusing on the community response unit and the bike/foot patrol.

ALLAN GARDENS: DESIGNING FOR THE **FUTURE**

- The January 19th, 2006 Public Meeting re: landscape design concepts for Allan Gardens was organized and chaired by Councillor Kyle Rae.
- A capital budget of \$900,000 has been allocated for this revitalization project for 2006.
- Allan Gardens occupies 14½ acres of open space. The existing Palm House is the 6th oldest conservatory in North America. The centenary of the Palm House takes place in 2009.
- Mr. Rod MacDonald from The Landplan Collaborative Ltd. Presented a proposed landscape design for a "face-lift" of the Allan Gardens.

Major Revitalization Plan Features:

- •Improve and expand access to the Allan Gardens from north to south and east to west boundaries.
- •Create a Children's Garden adjacent to the existing Children's Conservatory.
- •Relocate the Children Playground to the west side near the Children's Garden.
- Create a contemporary "South Garden" at Gerrard and Jarvis (Horticultural Lane).
- •Relocate the (DOA) (Dogs-Off-Leash) area to the north boundary off Carlton St. This is the first priority of the revitalization.
- •Councillor Rae will be organizing another Open Forum at a later date to discuss details of the DOA relocation. In the meantime, please email your feedback to Brad Eyre, Policy Officer, Parks. Forestry and Recreation Division:

beyre@toronto.ca.

If you are interested in attending future public meetings on the Allan Gardens Revitalization project, please contact Councillor Rae's office at (416) 392-7903 or email Michael Robertson, Kyle's assistant, at mrobert@toronto.ca. Michael will put you on their mailing list.

51 HOMEWOOD AVE.

• 51 Homewood's building application is for a 3½ storey, 4 unit apartment building. Construction is proceeding.

HOMEWOOD AND CENTRAL TORONTO NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCATION

 New members from the west side of Jarvis and Mutual Streets have joined HACTNA (from Radio City Condo complex and Mutual Street).

WELLESLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING COMMITTEE

Future Dates:

Tuesday, February 7th, 2006

Tuesday, Pebruary 7, 2006 Tuesday, April 4th, 2006 Tuesday, June 6th, 2006 Tuesday, August 8th, 2006 Tuesday, October 10th, 2006 Tuesday, December 5th, 2006

Meetings are at Wellesley CC

7:00PM - 9:00 pm

Open to all neighbourhood residents.

Great input from concerned and articulate residents of St. Jamestown Complex and other area residents. The Community Centre is a smashing success. The future looks bright.

CRIME

The break-ins of cars in the Maitland-Homewood area are continuing. To the north, Our Lady of Lourdes parked cars and the donation boxes in the church have been vandalized.

This month's answers to the Brain Teasers

1. a little on the large side 2. the good, the bad and the ugly 3. making a monkey out of him 4. more harm than good

