### 40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 6 June 1, 2006

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



June 18th, 2006

How many times did you hear Dad say these words when you were a child?

## Go ask your Mother...



PRIDE WEEK

June 19<sup>th</sup> –25<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Pride Parade Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006 2:00 pm

Starts at Bloor and Church, east to Yonge, south to Gerrard and west to Church Street.



#### Annual General Meeting

Thursday, June 15th, 2006 Primrose Hotel. 7:30 pm

#### **Schedule of Meetings**

**Wednesday,** June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm – Financial Meeting. **Sunday,** June 11<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 pm – Meet The Candidates meeting **Thursday,** June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm – A.G.M. at Primose Hotel

By now you will have received your **Preliminary Notice** and as stated therein, two positions on the Board of Directors expire this year. The two-year terms of **Martha McGrath** and **John Darling** expire at the A.G.M.

If anyone is interested in running for a vacant position on the Board, just fill out the candidacy form that was attached to your **Preliminary Notice**, provide a short résumé and return them to the Management Office before May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006, to have your name put on the ballots.



# **@MMMMMM®**Getting To Know You



#### John Whelan

The boy who hated high school turned out to be a scholar who loved teaching. John retired from the Toronto separate school system after 37 years. in 2004.

Born and bred in Toronto, the youngest of four, John has fond memories of the "village" around Yonge and Lawrence. High school at De La Salle-Oaklands was another story and only the musicals there remind him of good times. One year of Toronto Teachers' College launched him into junior classrooms, and so began a rewarding career. The trajectory was straight ahead: teacher, teacher-librarian (10 years), teacher in the gifted program (10 years)—all mostly in North York—and then vice-principal and principal in Scarborough. In the final job, he found joy in being able to support staff and build a community, making the school vital for parents, many of whom had immigrated to Canada.

John fueled the career by using university as a pit-stop. First, a BA in English from Western Ontario U., then a B.Ed. from York, and finally a Master's in Religious Education from St. Michael's, which he got in the '90s.

Volunteering and contract work keeps him busy. Last year, he opened the library across the street at Our Lady of Lourdes school. He works at fundraisers for Casey House and Pride. Walking, biking in the ravines, traveling to Europe are important pastimes. At 40 Homewood, he finds another "village" where life is good.

# **@MMMMMMM**Getting To Know You



#### Gerry Crowe

What does it take to be Irish Person of the Year? It takes Gerry's intense interest in history, drama and philosophy, the devotion of an educator, and a little blarney.

Born in Limerick, Gerry still returns to Ireland to tend an 18<sup>th</sup> century police barracks three months of the year; there, he reads and rests. As a young man, he joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, which sent him to Pretoria, S.A. to study philosophy. Smitten with Africa, he hitch-hiked 80,000 miles. It was the beginning of a passion for travel that has taken him, now, to 154 countries, including 36 months in China.

Gerry came to Canada and completed his theology in London, and then earned a BA at the U. of Windsor and a MA at U. of Toronto. For 34 years, he taught in the public and separate school boards, taking on OAC students as a history specialist.

Caring for children and the poor are enduring commitments. For 11 years, he has travelled to Calcutta to help build and work in a home for 102 children of prostitutes. Through Canadian Food for Children, he has helped send tons of food and clothes to Africa. Yet he also founded Toronto's Irish Players, took prizes for his own acting, and has been writing the Night Owl column for 25 years for the Irish News.

Gerry is an original owner at 40 Homewood.

Credit for this section goes out to Connie John and Charles Marker.



#### Down Memory Lane By Violet

## Buying an Apartment

At last I had received a position for work in Toronto. The year was 1971.

During the previous eight years I had taught in Port Dover and Oshawa. I was very happy in both places, but Canada is large and I wanted to know more of the big cities. So a friend and myself set off one summer day to look for an apartment. Maybe I could move in before September. We trailed the streets near to the city core. I had been advised to live in the city Rather than the suburbs.

We found a one bedroom apartment on Isabella—unaware that it was somewhat notorious. This was my introduction to high-rise living.

Six months went by and I was considering looking for a better place to live. I walked around and listened to advice from friends. I discovered Allan Gardens, Wellesley Hospital, Cabbagetown, and the streetcar and bus routes.

A large high-rise, still in the throes of the interior yet to be completed, looked ok from the outside. An apartment on the street level was available for inspection and the office was there too.

I liked what I saw which was a furnished bachelor and then looked at an empty apartment. It was bare of tracks for drapes. No refrigerator or stove. A very cheap looking bathroom. The apartments were for sale. After seeing this utility of abode, I crossed this off the list.

Victoria Day weekend came along and I had a young visitor from the country and we spent some time exploring what I had discovered in Toronto up until then. Elaine said she had never been in a large high-rise so I told her that on the way to the bus station for her return journey home, we would stop at one on Homewood Avenue.

Once more I entered 40 Homewood and we took a look around and I still said I wasn't sure about

buying property, particularly where it all seemed to be utility.

So my young friend left on the bus and I began to stroll back to Isabella, taking in Allan Gardens again and actually walked into 40 Homewood for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time. The salesman was there and began to explain things to me.

The building was put up without luxury, as an inducement for young couples or singles to own their own home. There was a maximum on salary and singles couldn't buy a 2-bedroom apartment.

I mentally noted all this, (although some singles managed to break that rule) and answered the question put to me on how much rent I was paying. He did some rapid calculations and announced that buying a 1-bedroom apartment would work out cheaper than renting and that my salary would be acceptable because I would have to pay rent for garage space on account. The salesman firmly advised me to buy, as renting was just giving money away. What he didn't tell me was that the apartments were not selling well—people were not condo minded at that time.

Pushing the sale a bit more, the salesman suggested that moving in and paying all the expenses would not be too big and if I didn't like what I had purchased, I could pack up and leave and write it off as a poor deal. The building was not registered and we would rent for a short period.

So feeling somewhat brave, I looked at what was available and chose the 16<sup>th</sup> floor because it is in the center. I have an eastern view, not near the garbage room and I would be even nearer to the city center.

We have upgraded so much, that I can hardly remember why I ever thought it was a utility building 34/5 years ago.

### THANK-YOU



To **Wayne Beaton** for donating the new piano in the recreation room. This will certainly add to the enjoyment of many

functions that take place there. Thanks Wayne.



Our annual Yard sale is planned to take place on **Saturday**, **July 8<sup>th</sup> 2006.** Time to get rid of your "junque". Don't forget, someone's

junk is someone else's treasure. A great way to meet your neighbours, make a little money and find some bargains.

Tables are \$2.00 each (maximum 2). The event takes place in the south driveway and a staff member brings out the tables to the driveway for you. Set up time is at 8:00 am and the sale opens at 9:00 am and winds down at 1:00 pm



Submitted by Sylvia Keshen

- The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910
- "I am" is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
- Honey is the only food that doesn't spoil.
- In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes, the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase "Goodnight, sleep tight."

#### Ongoing Activities

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

Novies with Don in the

recreation room, Thursdays or Fridays at 7:30, Notices posted every week.

## City Pulse 24

The Board of Directors has approved that **Channel CP24** be added to our basic analog channels. When it is ready and the number of the channel it is to be shown on will be announced.

#### **BRAIN TEASERS**

What do you think the following mean?

1.	cotaxme	2. ENTURY
3.	sick bird	4. Symphon



#### Kids say the Darndest Things

When Johnny had a new sister, he became envious of the attention she was getting. One day

while his mother was nursing the baby, Johnny was getting unyielding about being on mom's lap. Mom wasn't able to deal with both children at the time and told Johnny to go wait for her. He then asked his mom "Mommy, can you please put Clara back in your tummy now?"

This month's answers to the Brain Teasers

income tax
 long time no see
 illegal
 unfinished symphony

## Michael asked me to repeat this once again this month.



## is hosting the 8th Annual Friends For Life Bike Rally!

On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006, 300 courageous individuals will embark on an incredible journey to raise much-needed funds for the Toronto People With AIDS Foundation. For six days, riders will cycle over 600km from Toronto to Montreal, while a crew of dedicated volunteers transport gear, serve nutritious food and provide medical and emotional support.

One of our residents, **Michael Doucet**, is participating in the ride and is looking for pledges. If you wish to sponsor Michael, you can give cash or cheque and he will submit it for you through the Toronto People With AIDS Foundation office. You can also pledge directly by credit card on-line. His link is:

https://secure.e2rm.com/registrant/Start Up.aspx?SID=804460

You will receive a charitable tax receipt for all donations over \$15.00

You can contact Michael at 416-877-3473"



To everyone who has a birthday this month.

## weird bistorical facts

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

- a. Spades King David
- b. ♥ Hearts Charlemagne
- c. & Clubs -Alexander the Great
- d. Diamonds Julius Caesar

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only... Ladies Forbidden"... and thus the word GOLF entered Into the English language.

In the 1400's a law was set forth that a man was not allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the rule of thumb"

#### Area News

Bob Leah has contributed so much to this publication with his monthly **Area News** section and I thank him for it..

It is no longer convenient for Bob to do this and as I don't get around very much myself, it would be appreciated if someone else can supply me with substantiated happenings in the area. **No rumours please** 

#### **CLASSIFIED**

FOR SALE

FRIDGE, medium size, almost new.
Just call 416-925-6325







#### Recycling Corner

#### <u>PLEASE - NO PLASTICS</u> IN THE RECYCLING BINS

### EXCEPT

- Clean plastic bottles and jugs with a 23 or 23 symbol on the bottom. Lids go into the garbage.
- Clean plastic margarine, yogurt, sour cream, ice cream or cottage cheese tubs. Lids can be included separately.
- Clean plastic peanut butter or mayonnaise jars. Lids can be included separately.

ALL OTHER PLASTICS go into the garbage, even if they have a symbol on them. These garbage plastics include all plastic bags, plastic baked goods containers (for cookies, buns, muffins, pies, etc.) (often 6), plastic berry containers (often 1), plastic egg cartons (1) plastic ketchup bottles (1), plastic kitty litter pails, plastic cups, plastic dishes, plastic trays, polystyrene foam packaging 6.

Thank You for recycling.

# A FABULOUS DINNER

JUNE 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Recreation Room, B1 Level 6:00 pm '\$20.00

> Dinner, wine, music Come and enjoy

Tickets available from the office. Please purchase tickets before June 15<sup>th</sup> in order that we can know how many people are attending.

Hope to see you there!!!

#### Note from the Editor

Martha McGrath, Unit 615 marthamcgrath@sympatico.ca

I owe two apologies to our property manager, Donna Breit. One for posting the tentative dates of the meetings last month without firm confirmation from her. I regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

Secondly, I did not check with Donna or Liz before I put the section about the yard sale in the newsletter. The onus is **not** on them to organize any part of the yard sale. They willingly assist us with the ticket selling and poster creation but the setting of the date, and all the rest is left up to the convener.





