

40

# HOMewood

*Community Newsletter*

*October, 2014*



**October 13, 2014**

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**October 3&4, 2014**

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**October 23, 2014**

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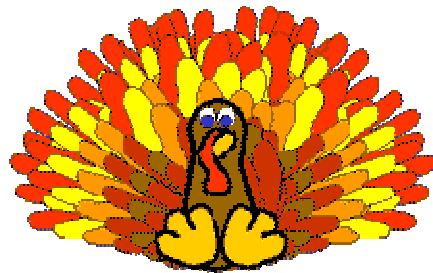


**Happy Halloween**

**October 31, 2014**

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## Thanksgiving Turkey

The turkey shot out of the oven and  
rocketed into the air

It knocked every plate off the table and  
partly demolished a chair

It ricocheted into a corner and burst with  
a deafening boom

Then splattered all over the kitchen,  
completely obscuring the room

It stuck to the walls and windows

It totally coated the floor

There was turkey attached to the ceiling,  
where there'd never been turkey before

It blanketed every appliance

It smeared every saucer and bowl

There wasn't a way I could stop it  
that turkey was out of control!

I scraped and scrubbed with displeasure  
and thought with chagrin as I mopped

That I'd never again stuff a turkey, with  
popcorn that hadn't been popped;

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## Thermostats That Will Work In Your Unit

By Brian Brenie

As the cold weather approaches and renovations take place people often consider buying a new thermostat for their homes. In conversation with our building's electrician recently it was brought to our attention that using improper thermostats in our building will not only fail to work but will damage the system causing hundreds of dollars in repairs. Such repairs caused by installation of improper thermostats will result in loss of heat and unnecessary repairs bills sent to the unit owners. If you are considering changing your thermostat please consult the Manager. The following is an example of a thermostat that is appropriate in our building.



(ok to use at  
40  
Homewood)

The following type of thermostat will not function and may cause damage and expense to you.



(do not use at  
40 Homewood)

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## Don's Movies For October

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

Thursday, October 2

**WESTERN UNION (1941)**

Robert Young, Randolph Scott

Friday, October 3

**UNION PACIFIC (1939)**

Barbara Stanwyck, Robert Preston,

Thursday, October 9

**CROSSFIRE (1947)**

Robert Mitchum, Robert Ryan,

Friday, October 10

**ODDS AGAINST TOMORROW (1959)**

Robert Ryan, Harry Belafonte,

Friday, October 17

**THE HUNGER GAMES (2012)**

Jennifer Lawrence, Woody Harrelson

Thursday, October 23

**RAISING ARIZONA (1987)**

Nicolas Cage, Holly Hunter

Friday, October 24

**OKLAHOMA! (1955)**

Gordon Macrea, Shirley Jones

Thursday, October 30

**THE GHOST AND MRS MUIR (1947)**

Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison

Friday, October 31

**GHOST (1990)**

Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore

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# How Ontario Landlords Can Avoid Bad Tenants



When you hand over the keys to a new tenant, you should have done some serious checking,

says **Mark Weisleder., Real Estate writer,**  
**Special to the Toronto Star**

Most residential tenants are long-term tenants who pay their rent on time and properly look after a landlord's property. The trick is to do the proper research in advance so that you do not end up with the tenant from hell. Here are some tips:

1. When you advertise for tenants, whether on-line or in print ads, also state "we do background and credit checks." You will receive a greater percentage of qualified tenants.

2. Do a proper credit check using Equifax or TransUnion. The cost is approximately \$20. Or join a group such as the Ontario Landlords Association where after becoming a member, you can do a credit check for as low as \$10, and use their supporting materials to assist you.

3. Call all references, especially prior landlords. Remember that the current landlord may be lying just to get rid of them. Start with the previous landlord.

4. Check social media. Google the tenant to make sure the information checks out with their rental application. In addition, if you are concerned about possible pets, check Facebook. If the tenant has a pet, there will likely be a picture of them with the pet on Facebook.

5. In a face-to-face interview, there are signs that may indicate the tenant is not being truthful. This can include one or more of the following: incomplete answers, not looking at you when they speak, changing the subject, fidgeting, dropping names of important people, or volunteering to do odd jobs for you.

Excerpted from an article by Mark Weisleder that appeared in the Toronto Star on June 21, 2014



September 20 – October 5, 2014

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## IN MEMORIAM

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### Sylvia Keshen



Sylvia was a long time resident of 40 Homewood. She went to live at the Rekai Centre on Sherbourne Street a couple of years ago.

Sylvia was always joking and described herself as a "recycled teenager". She diligently contributed to the old newsletter with jokes and poems and finally had her own column called "Sylvia's Korner".

**R.I.P.**  
**Sylvia**

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### Spotty Wisdom

This month Spotty says:

Next to the mountain of worries also lies the valley of inner peace.

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## 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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October is  
National Breast  
Cancer Month in  
Canada

Wear a pink  
ribbon for  
awareness

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**ELECTION DAY**

Municipal Election  
October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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## Elevator Update

We know how frustrating the current elevator situation is. Most of you know by now that the basic problem involves the fact that the service elevator is the "alpha" elevator in the system. The Hall Call signals (when you press the button on your floor) are directed through the service elevator and then piggy-backed through the other three elevators. The problem is compounded by people pressing both the up and down buttons on their floor and when the service elevator develops problems and has to be shut down. The Board of Directors and Management met with Direct Elevator and our consultant to find a work-around temporary solution until the retrofit of all the elevators is completed.

Starting September 29, Direct Elevator will be installing the new Call buttons in all of the resident floors, which should take 3 – 5 days to complete. However, only the DOWN button will be operational. Near the completion of the project, the UP buttons will be linked to the system.

The service elevator, #1, will be removed from the new operating system and isolated as a stand-alone elevator continuing to operate with the old system. This will greatly reduce the strain that has been placed on this elevator. It will be put into what is called a "Lobby Up" service mode. This means that the elevator will load passengers in the lobby, take them up to whatever floor buttons have been pressed, and then immediately return to the lobby. During peak demand times, this will greatly improve the congestion in the lobby.

Elevators #3 and #4 will operate on the new system and will no longer be troubled by the confusing signals coming from #1.

Depending on the demands being made on the system, residents wishing to travel from their floor to a floor above MAY find that they will go to the lobby first. At non-peak times, even though the DOWN button is the only one working, pressing a higher

floor will likely override the down call and take the passenger up.

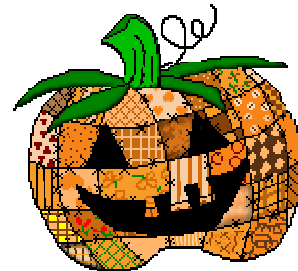
The operating system running these new elevators is highly sophisticated and tracks usage patterns and adapts as data is accumulated to move the elevators to where the demand is highest at various times during the day.

We greatly appreciate your continued patience during this very trying and frustrating time. When the project is completed, we know you will be very happy with the end result.

In the meantime, a few things to keep in mind:

1. Take a deep breath and stay calm. The project is scheduled for completion before the Christmas holidays.
2. Be considerate. Do not press the DOOR CLOSE button repeatedly as soon as the elevator door opens.
3. Look outside to see if someone is waiting for the elevator. We have a number of elderly and handicapped residents who need a little extra time to board the elevator.
4. If you are in the hall and the elevator door opens, do not be afraid to call out "Please hold the door".
5. If you are able, please use the stairs if you are only going one or two floors up or down.

Thank you.





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



## **Maggie**



Hi everyone. My name is Maggie. I am an 8 year old Wheaten Terrier and I was a guest in your building for two weeks in September.

My permanent home is in Cabbagetown but my folks went to England, so I stayed with my Uncle Tim. He really is sort of my uncle as my great aunt, Riannon, shared her life with him for over 16 years until she passed away in October of 2010, just a few weeks before he moved into the building.

He misses her a lot, but he gets quality time with both me and my sister Molly,

who many of you have probably already met on a previous visit. I really enjoyed meeting all the great people and dogs in the building and neighbourhood while we were out on our walks.

I am happy to be back home in Cabbagetown, though. Elevators are not my favourite thing.

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**Turn your clocks back**  
**November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, 2:00 am.**

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**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!**

**HOLIDAY DINNER**  
**Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014**



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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.

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## Who works here at 40 Homewood?

There are a number of staff and contracted employees working for you here. This month we share their names and roles so you can know them better.

### Our office staff (Brookfield Property



### Management)

Property Manager, Donald Balla has been with us since June 2011 and Site Administrator, Erica Lebovic has been here since September 2013. They can be found in the office during office hours daily from 9:00-12:30 and 1:30 to 5:00. On Wednesday the office stay open until 7pm

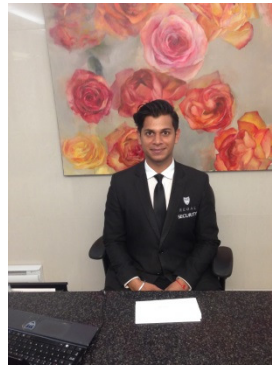
### Our cleaning staff



Eugene Alvarado and Perfecto (Peter) Alea are our cleaners. Eugene

began working here in August 2006 on his birthday. Peter started in March 2014. They are here daytime 8am until 5pm and also on weekends for 4 hour shifts on Saturday and Sunday to keep our building clean.

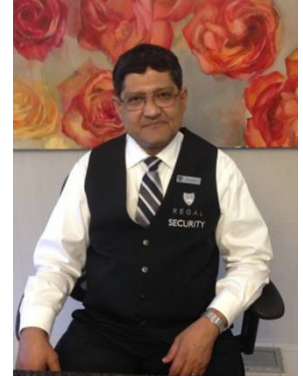
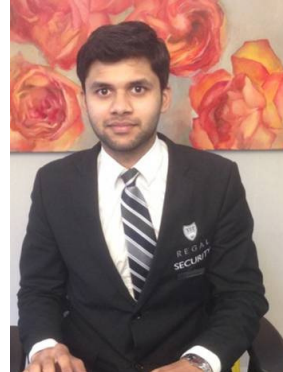
### Our Regal Security Guards



Monday to Friday you can find Rahul on duty from 4:00 until midnight. Rahul began with us in January of 2013.



Overnight during the week Muhammad who began his work here in December 2013 is on duty.



On the weekends (Friday midnight until Sunday midnight) we have two Security personnel doing 12 hour shifts per day.

Muhammad started in September 2014 and works midnight to noon on Friday and Saturday nights.

Saturday and Sunday noon until midnight you will find Debu on duty. Debu started here in February 2014

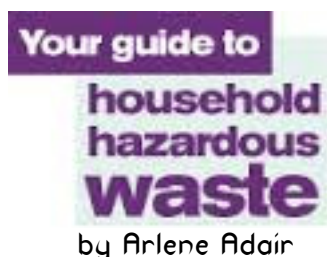
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## Green Committee Page



Most of us are familiar with sorting recyclable materials into the blue bag and organic materials into the beige pail. 40 Homewood residents do an amazing job with the 3Rs.

Yet another area requiring our awareness is Hazardous Household Waste. (HHW). With headings such as Explosive, Poisonous, Flammable and Corrosive it's easy to recognize the importance of diverting HHW from our garbage. The risks of Household Hazard Waste need to be respected. They will the harm the environment, humans and animals.

### What is Hazardous Household waste?

**Corrosives**—substances that eat away at material and injure skin or eyes

**Flammables**—these items, such as lighter fluid and gasoline can ignite

**Explosives**—such as aerosol cans that explode if incinerated

**Poisons**—**for example cleaning products or bleach that can harm people and pets**

**What should I do with my HHW items?**

In the back of the Recycling Room there is an alcove for placement of Household Hazardous Waste. The Green Committee and Management are currently working together on improving the signage in the alcove to help residents recognize HHW and indicate where to place them.

The HHW is the substance, not the container it's in. So if the spray can or bottle is empty just put it where you would normally. IF there is any substance still in the container place it in the HHW section of the alcove.

Let's keep these hazards in mind when we throw waste into the garbage and treat them with the respect and caution they deserve.



## September Clothing Drive

Once again our clothing drive was very successful.

The Diabetes Society received at least 100 boxes and bags from this building.

The Green Committee would like to thank everyone who participated.

We will have another one in January.

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## Loose in the Blue Bin

Do you know the City of Toronto recycling program routinely discards any bagged or enclosed items from the blue bin into the garbage?

Why?

The success of the City of Toronto's recycling program partly depends on the sorting process at the recycling facility. Similar items from the blue bin must be brought together and separated from dissimilar items.

To help this process, the program requires easy access to the items you deposit into the blue bin, that is, the items should not be enclosed in plastic bags or any other enclosing container. The BLUE BIN LIKES IT LOOSE.

Just by emptying the plastic bag or other which you have used to transport your recyclables into the blue bin helps to facilitate the sorting process.

The main exception to this rule is that shredded paper should be put in the blue bin in a transparent (clear plastic bag).

THANK YOU



## "Good Eats, Cheap Eats, Sweet Spots"

by Cammy Lee-Bostwick

Alright fellow 40 Homewooders, this month I stay in the 'hood but take you a bit further downtown to a place we re-discovered that has been in countless films, been the

backdrop for many a TIFF movie star interview, and quite remarkably, been around since 1926.

I know I emphasize the 'cheap eats' in this feature, but if you want a special night out, 'old school' that is, it calls for something a bit different and maybe a tad more expensive: Epic lounge at the Royal York (I know, right??) You will be surprised at the value and quality. First, the Epic has two sides, the dining room to the right, and the lounge to the left. Price points are quite different so be warned (I tried both, and I say: turn left!) In the lounge the lighting is as dim as you might expect, and the bar is oddly reminiscent of the one in the Shining (remember that scene with the freaky bartender?)...In fact, have a walk around on the second floor mezzanine and look at the black and white photos of people smiling celebrating festivities that are now frozen in time, kind of nice yet creepy too, as in Kubrick's classic film.

Anyway, the food: I ordered the trout on quinoa and fava bean salad for \$24, and Brent had the ground chuck burger and fries for \$21. Ok, it certainly isn't A&W prices, but it also isn't A&W flavour (not that there's anything wrong with that). The burger was like chopped steak, with a thick slice of bacon on a brioche bun, and a side of fresh cut fries. Brent said it was the best burger he'd had. My fish was done to perfection with a pat of caper butter on seared trout skin. Though I don't usually eat fish skin, the blend of its buttery crispiness with the sweet moist fish created a texture that was truly divine. For me, the portion was exactly right: it left me feeling full without being bloated. So while not exorbitant, prices are in line with a romantic night out, and the venue, well isn't that really what going to the Royal York is all about anyway? This is the kind of place you want to take your time in, walk around, go for a drink in the Library bar, or simply wax nostalgic, and see pictures or read about all the dignitaries, royalty and celebrity who have stayed there: be a tourist in your hometown.

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## Food for Thought

"The solace of understanding is but the ability to see things as they occur in a way that is tangibly practical and sensitive to the human of the day. Unfortunately, it is not often understood that people in power should have this knowledge to offset the various occurrences that invariably manifest in our daily life, some of which are extremely dangerous to some people who are at the mercy of disease and anger. It is not to say that most people do not try to do their best but sometimes our best is completely inadequate in the face of uncertainty and possible danger. The reality is to become aware of our surrounding and develop sensitivity to others in the face of possible disaster to some members of our community."

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## From the Mouths of Babes



A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them.

Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Momma, look what I found!" the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: "I think it's Adam's suit"

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Aura Condominium at Gerrard and Yonge. The building was surrounded by low level clouds and the sun was shining through the cloud. It is beautiful.

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Q: Why can't you take a turkey to church?

A: They use FOWL language.

Q: What happened when the turkey got into a fight?

A: He got the stuffing knocked out of him!

Q: What do you get when you cross a turkey with a banjo?

A: A turkey that can pluck itself!

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