

40

# HOMEWOOD

*Community Newsletter*

*February, 2016*



**February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

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**February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

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## Chinese New Year



**February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Year of the Red**  
**Monkey**

**猴**

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

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## The Scoop on SmartCards

by Timothy Oakes

By now, most of you will have noticed that the machine in the laundry room for loading cash on to your laundry card is not working.

The problem is fairly technical, but I will try to keep the explanation as simple as possible.

All of our cards are EMV-compliant. The obvious question is; What is EMV? EMV is a technical standard for smart payment cards. EMV cards are smart cards (also called chip cards). The cards store their data on integrated circuits rather than magnetic stripes. They can be contact cards that must be physically inserted into a reader, or contact-less cards that can be read over a short distance using RFID (Radio Frequency IDentification). Payment cards that comply with the EMV standard are often called chip-and-PIN cards. EMV stands for Europay, MasterCard and Visa, the three companies that originally created the standard.

In Canada, EMV compliance is a requirement for all credit card transactions. The same is not true in the United States, where EMV compliance is a recommended, but voluntary level of security.

Our problems began when Heartland, the company that provides the software that allows our machine to communicate with and process the

transactions with our banks, was sold to an American buyer.

It is worth noting that Heartland has taken the position that it does not believe that laundry cards are a high fraud target and therefore they are not supporting required EMV compliance at this time.

Once Heartland became an American company, our machine was shut down as being non-compliant, since EMV compliance is voluntary in the United States and required in Canada.

Have I completely confused you yet??

All of that being said, Heartland has come on board with EMV compliance and has joined forces with a much larger international credit card processor that has EMV compliance. They expect that their ATM software products will have a solution for machines in Canada in about six months' time.

The Property Manager and the Board of Directors investigated several interim solutions and have recently installed a Monex credit/debit machine in the office. You can load money on to existing laundry cards in the office by using cash, credit card, or debit card.

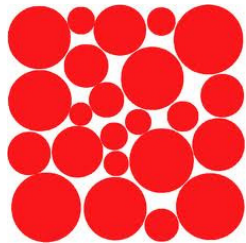
The alternative was to replace the entire existing system, which we felt was prohibitively expensive.

However, we have been looking closely at a variety of integrated laundry systems, as we will be replacing all of the existing washers and dryers within the next two years.

This situation caught us completely by surprise and we have done our best to

resolve it. Our sincere hope is that Heartland lives up to the challenge of providing service to their Canadian customers within the 6 month timeframe. We will keep you posted as we learn more.

Thanks to everyone for their patience and understanding.



## 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.

**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

The form can be cut out of this newsletter or obtained from the Management Office.



The Metro and 24 Hrs. newspapers are brought into the building by a couple of residents who go out early in the morning to pick them up.

Thank you to those residents who do this for us. They do this so house bound residents, including seniors, will have a chance to read them, These papers are available from a table in the Meeting room.

Lately, on Thursdays and Fridays someone is taking the whole pile of them, leaving none for the people who want to read them.

## Contribute to the Newsletter

Residents are encouraged to make submissions to the Newsletter: **ideas, articles, reports, reviews, recipes, artwork, movie reviews, drawings, brain teasers, trips to places people might be interested in reading about, you name it!**

Thank you to Cammy Lee Bostwick who gives us a food review every month.

Send your contribution or contact the Newsletter— drop a note at the office or to [newsletter40homewood@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter40homewood@gmail.com)



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# 40 Homewood Community

by Martha MacLachlan

When I moved into 40 Homewood in 1997, at the instigation of former residents, Gilles Bouffard and Joseph Haggart, I remember Gilles telling me that the square block of buildings bounded by Homewood Avenue, Maitland Place and Maitland Avenue, there were more people living there than in the town he was raised in.

I quickly realized that I was living in a neighbourhood, complete with interesting people from all walks of life, people that were friendly, helpful and committed to contributing to their community. It has been a perfect fit for me and my family.

These are part of the words I shared with residents at our great 40 (Homewood) turns 40 anniversary dinner. What caused me to look back to them was an obituary in the Lives Lived page of the Globe and Mail. The life of Holley Rubinsky, a writer and community volunteer who lived in the small town of Kaslo, British Columbia, was recounted by one of her many friends.

The obituary included a quote of Ms. Rubinsky's taken from a forward she was asked to write for a colleagues' book on village life in Kaslo. This quote, which I am taking the liberty of sharing with you, succinctly summed up what I have always felt about living at 40 Homewood:

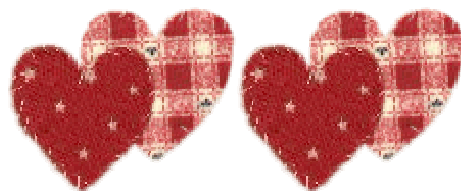
“Holley believed in the power of small communities as models of how life should be lived. In the foreword to Gordon Brown's 1993 work, *Butcher, Baker: The Faces of Kaslo*, she wrote that “tolerance is a village's middle name; and the ability to

absorb, care for, and accept anomalies, quirks, the wounded and incapable as well as the bright and surprising and eccentric is ancient in villages and unites them through time ... No architect could design such decency into an urban community.”

Our 40 Homewood community is a vertical small town, complete with residents of various ages, backgrounds, talents, all living together for the most part in harmony and respect for each other. We interact on the elevators, in the parking garage, in the laundry room, in the gym and in the library. When the weather is good some are found sitting out front, making time to chat a bit before continuing on with their day and evening activities.

We have a lot to be thankful for We live in a building situated downtown on a well treed street, with our own little oasis of grass and plants and trees. We have all amenities available to us. And within 40 Homewood, we enjoy a culture of community spirit that was cultivated by the first residents of 40 Homewood, a culture that has continued as new residents moved in.

As the new year begins let's reflect on what Holley deemed to be a recipe for success in living together. To me it's all about acceptance of others and the power of participation. Being and feeling part of a community is a positive for our sense of well being and can be powerful when we work together. It has certainly enriched my life.





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

by Cammy Lee-Bostwick

Happy Frosty February Folks!!

And that's exactly what the weather was like when I went to this month's featured restaurant: Foxley's. It's on Ossington just south of Dundas.

If you've ever wondered where the beautiful people go, well, some of them go here for sure. Foxley's is a small narrow restaurant that is best for couples or small groups. I don't believe they take reservations but we were only two, so it was no problem....at 7pm. By 9, there was a line-up. This place is busy.

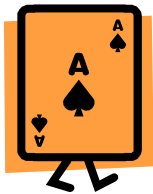
Foxley's is like a tapas style resto which makes it the perfect date place. It is located on that now trendy strip of Ossington that stretches between Queen and Dundas. Other really good restaurants in case the waits for any one of them are too long include: Pizzeria Libretto, Rock Lobster, Bohmer, Boralia, and the like. There is a sharing menu but they also have daily specials to share. Everything comes a la carte, so you get to sample a variety of dishes

that you ordinarily wouldn't if you ordered a typical entree anywhere else.

So, we had the trout; it was described as having seared crispy skin (which I love!) but it didn't come with any skin at all. However, the fillet had an Asian-inspired smearing of a ginger/scallion/cilantro paste which hit all the rights notes. It came in a small dish with a bit of oil and soy (see pic). Really good but really small. Next we had curried vegetables (see pic) and ordered rice on the side (2 actually), and this too was delicious, with a typical coconut curry flavour that wasn't overly hot. The medley of vegetables included: cauliflower, snow peas, peppers, zucchini and mushrooms. This was a good size to share. My friend ordered pork side ribs that fell off the bone. The sauce was the perfect storm of sweet and savoury, again this too was Asian-inspired. One quick look around and you can tell this is probably one of their signature dishes. Something about the smell of pork and pork belly just spells comfort! He also ordered lamb and prosciutto dumplings that came with an interesting orange/soy dipping sauce. I had the big portobello that came with fontina and gorgonzola. I should've known: the gorgonzola was a bit over the top and not needed making the mushroom cap a bit too salty, but nonetheless, it came piping hot in a mini cast iron pan and was super rich. Everything in moderation, right?

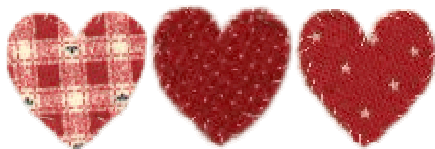
All in all, with a glass of wine and beer, the bill came to just over \$100, which is not outrageous, but does make it date-night-like. And with the muted lighting and beautiful people around, it was a nice change of pace and scenery.

Well worth the walk in the cold.



## Do you play Bridge?

We have lost several of our bridge players over the past year and need more. If you are interested, please come down to the meeting room on Thursdays at 7:00pm and join in an evening of bridge.



# CLASSIFIED

## FOR SALE

**Fridge, Stove, Furniture and  
more**

Call  **416-925-6325**



The residents of 40 Homewood outdid themselves once again with lots of donations of clothing and small household items on Saturday, January 17. 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.

**Thanks to all who donated.**

## Groundhog Day



**I'm a Groundhog,  
not a Weatherman!**

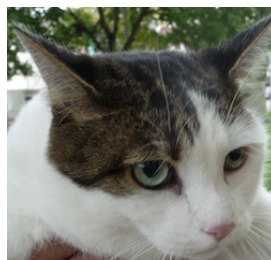
## February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016



## February Events 2016

With so many events happening each month, here's a few things to do in February:

Until Feb 20	DJ Skate Nights at Harbourfront Centre
Until Feb 11	Winterlicious 2016
Until March	"Escape from the Tower" at Casa Loma
Feb 6	Naughty and Nice Fair
Feb 7	Superbowl 50
Feb 5-7	Kuumba 2016 at Harbourfront
Feb 8	Chinese New Year
Feb 10-14	4th Annual Toronto Black Film Festival
Feb 12	Velvet Underground Re-opening Party
Feb 12-14	Wavelength Music Festival 16
Feb 12-21	Canadian International Auto Show
Feb 13	Toronto Urban Book Expo
Feb 13	Mill St. Beer Hall Brew Lovers Ball
Feb 13	Valentine's Day Chocolate Workshop
Feb 13	NBA D-League All-Star Game
Feb 13-14	First Comes Love @ Toronto Zoo
Feb 13-15	Kids Fest Toronto
Feb 13-15	Family Fun Fest
Feb 14	65th NBA All-Star Game
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 15	Family Day!
Feb 15	Family Snow Day, eh!
Feb 19-20	Winter Brewfest
Feb 19-20	The Toronto Outdoor Adventure Show
Feb 19-21	The Motorcycle Show
Feb 20-21	Bloor-Yorkville Icefest 2016
Feb 20-21	LunarFest at Harbourfront



## Spotty Wisdom

This month he says:

From nothing I came to be a flower and  
to nothing I went to come back again

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**Family Day**  
**February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
*Office Closed*

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## From the Mouths of Babes



In describing some of the hardships of his youth to his young son, the middle-aged father lamented. "Why, we had to milk cows every morning, ride a horse to school or walk a mile through the snow."

The youngster looked up at his dad and sighed, "Gee, Dad, you had all the fun."

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Knock, knock  
Who's there?  
Olive  
Olive who?  
Olive you.



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**Congratulations!**

At the Post Office you can find out how many Red Dots there are at a particular building. Our building has 50% Red Dots, which is higher than any other building in the area!

Thanks to the diligent efforts of the Green Committee



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# FEBRUARY

February is named for the Latin word "februum" which means purification. On the old Roman calendar, February 15<sup>th</sup> was a day of spiritual cleansing and rebirth.

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## Facts about Valentine's Day

Although no one knows for sure the exact origin of Valentine's Day it is believed that it started in the Roman Empire around 270AD under the ruling of Claudius II

During time of war Claudius did not want men to get married because he believed it made them weak.

It is said that Bishop Valentine would perform secret wedding ceremonies so men could marry their sweethearts.

Bishop Valentine got in big trouble for performing marriage ceremonies and was sent to jail.

While in jail Bishop Valentine wrote a love letter to the jailer's daughter and signed from your Valentine.

Bishop Valentine was put to death for his crime on February 14th.



During the Middle Ages men and women would pick names out of a bowl and the person's name they drew would be considered their Valentine. They would wear that person's name on their sleeve for a week. This is where the saying wear your heart on your sleeve comes from.



Who is Cupid and what does he have to do with Valentine's Day? Cupid is

the Roman god of desire, erotic love and affection. In Latin (ancient language) Cupid means Amor. Amor in English means love.



Lace is a fabric that is associated with Valentine's Day. Lace comes from the Latin word laques meaning to snare or net as in to catch a person's heart.

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

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