## 4-0 HOMEWOOD Community Newsletter

October, 2016



October 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2016



October 30th, 2016

# HALLOWEEN

October 31st, 2016



October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016



Oct. 11th -12th, 2016





For Manal Siddiqui and Chris Perrin. Baby Zayden was born on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016 and weighed in at 8 lbs. Isn't he

beautiful.



### MEET ZAYDEN





October is National Breast Cancer Month in Canada

Wear a pink ribbon for awaremess

# Bugs On My Balcony - It's Fall Gnat Season.

by John Kantor

Around this time of year, our condo is a favourite spot for millions of tiny flying insects called gnats or midges. They especially attracted to lights and can often be seen covering balcony walls/ceilings or in small clouds which seem to hover in a fixed point in the air. This time of year when the weather is wet and mild, is the perfect environment for them to mate and lay their eggs which is why you see so many of them around.

The little bugs don't bite people, but are a nuisance. Insect prevention methods such as sprays, sticky tape or bug zappers won't help keep the numbers down, so save your money. Avoid overwatering your plants as the wet soil attracts more insects. They only live for a few weeks anyways and will be gone in no time.



### To Jim Lee

Jim Lee, Chairman of the Green Committee, resigned this month. Jim had enthusiastically taken the helm of the committee from its inception (7½) years ago. His first project was to spearhead the start-up of the composting program and he kept the momentum onward making 40 Homewood a "green" building.

Jim's passion for the environment saved the Corporation money, shone attention to global issues and inspired resident's to lead greener lives.

Thank you, Jim, for making 40 Homewood the focus of your volunteerism, idealism and good work.

### A Little Light Humour

What is the difference between a "hippo" and a "zippo"?...One is really heavy, the other is a little lighter.

I HAVE A LIFE OUTSIDE OF FACEBOOK, BUT I DON'T REMEMBER THE PASSWORD FOR IT!

### Reporting A Crime

by Charles Marker

The Toronto Police Service may be reached in a variety of ways, not just by calling 911 which should be reserved for emergencies, including fire, a crime in progress or a medical problem,.

The Cabbagetown Review Blogspot recently outlined other ways of reporting problems.

If you need the police, but it is NOT an emergency, call 416-808-2222.

To report a non-emergency crime, a driving complaint, property or vehicular damage or graffiti, you can also do so online at torontopolice.on.ca/core/

For ongoing issues such as trespassing, nuisances and noise, call 416-808-5100 and ask for the Community Response Office.

And then there is CrimeStoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or www.222tips.com



### Spotty Wisdom

This month Spotty says:

Humans, Transcendental consciousness, What is this?



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

by Cammy Lee-Bostwick

#### Happy Fall Folks!

On probably the last of the warm and humid summery September days of 2016, I found myself on the tucked-away patio of Smith, on Church just north of Wellesley. Granted, it was a place that had been on my radar for some time so I was thrilled that I got to experience it in perfect patio fashion.

While the actual front door is up a few steps on Church, you have to walk around the side of the building to get to the patio. The patio itself isn't huge, but on two levels and looks like it fills up pretty quick, especially on nice balmy nights, like the night I went. One word about accessibility; the washrooms are up the stairs then up the fire escape. And after a few drinks, you can see that this is the kind of place where you need to be a) sober and/or b) in good shape..but more about the ambience later.

I ordered the salmon which sat on a sesame broth with bits of red pepper and sliced shiitake mushrooms, and herbs. The herbaceous aroma mixed with sesame was quite impressive but I didn't expect the broth to be so generous: the fish sat in a hot soup. Fish is such a tricky protein because once overcooked it is chewy and just not so enjoyable. At Smith, it was a tad overcooked, and that's most likely because it continued to cook in the

broth, much like rare beef in Vietnamese Pho. The sesame and mushroom gave the dish an Asian profile, but I think salmon can be bettershowcased. Still, not disappointed, but I have had better.

However, as this column is also about sweet spots, this is where Smith scores high. The combined intimacy of sitting in someone's backyard patio partnered with a feeling of being in one of the best-kept secrets reserved only for those in the know, is the ambience of Smith. That vibe was the real winner that night. And my companion, a regular at Smith, said that their weekend brunch is truly outstanding. So that is enough to get me back there. But I might wait till patio season...or opt for a late fall sunny weekend...and who knows? By the way our fall is unfolding, it is a real possibility...





October is National Vegetarian Awareness Month

# Balconies Smoking — And Smoking On Balconies

by Charles Marker

The Board, management, newsletter and others have many times reminded residents not to throw cigarette butts off their balconies. Primarily, this is a safety concern, and there have been incidents in which other residents' balcony furnishings have been burned by the careless amateur arsonists. Secondarily, cigarette butts are litter whether they land on another's balcony or in our grass. That may be why ashtrays were invented.

Another concern, expressed periodically by residents, is the cigarette smoke drifting from balcony smokers to other balconies and apartments. Not everyone enjoys the smell nor the possible dangers from second-hand smoke.

Recently, Gerry Hyman, who writes the Condo Law column in the Toronto Star, answered a question about prohibiting smoking on balconies since they are common element areas.

The questioner was told "this was different," presumably because the balcony is an exclusive use common element.

Hyman believes this can be overcome.

He says "Section 117 of the Act says that no person shall permit a condition to exist or carry on an activity in a unit, or on the common elements, that is likely to damage the property or cause injury to an individual ....I believe the corporation is obligated to take steps to prevent the individual from smoking in such a way....that permits the smoke to invade your balcony or unit."

Hyman goes on, "Although Section 117 of the Act constitutes a sufficient requirement for the corporation to act, the corporation might pass a rule consistent with that section and spelling out the smoking limitation."

(At 40 Homewood, our Rules (#8.6) state that "Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the interior common elements or within ten (10) metres of any entrance," and (#2.4) "Nothing shall be thrown out of the windows or doors or from balconies.")



### Halloween Goodies

We have two volunteers who are to willing to sit in the lobby on Halloween night for a couple of hours and distribute candy to the children and wannabee children in the building

As in the past, any donations towards the Halloween celebration would be appreciated. Please bring them to the Management Office



## Something To Think About!

Your Board of Directors is considering the idea of hosting a "meet and greet" every two or three months. While these meetings will be open to all residents, we plan on sending invitations to new owners and tenants to invite them to meet the members of the Board of Directors and for us to welcome them to the building and answer any questions they might have as "newbies" to 40 Homewood.

Our thought is to meet in the Meeting Room next to the lobby, and to keep a very informal tone to the gathering.

Please give us your feedback on what you think of this idea. If you are a new owner or tenant, we would especially like to hear from you!

Email board40h@gmail.com



Don't forget to set your clocks **back one hour** on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 2:00am.



### E-Waste

Electronic waste bins for City pickup are available in the Green Room.



## September Clothing Drive

Once again, our Clothing Drive was a big success. I am sure we filled half the truck.

We will have another one in January so we all will have a chance of downsizing some more.

### Green Committee News.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the various recycling programs that the Green Committee undertook.

As of October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, we will no longer participate in the following programs:

No more VHS tapes No more Brita filters No more Nespresso capsules No more printer cartridges or toners

The containers for the purpose of specially recycling those items will be removed from the Recycling Room.



### October Events. 2016

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

All October Beatles 50 T.O.

Until Oct 1 Toronto Coin Expo - Canada's Coin Show & Auction Fall 2016

Sept 30-Oct 1 Toronto Oktoberfest
Sept 22-Oct 1 JFL42 Comedy Festival

Oct 1 Mill Street Brewery Oktoberfest Party (\$30 - \$39)

Oct 1 Oktoberfest at Bandit Brewery

Until Oct 9 Oktoberfest at Amsterdam Brewhouse

Oct 1 7th Annual Smoke's Poutinerie World Poutine Eating Championship

Oct 1 Nuit Blanche

Oct 1-2 The Study and Go Abroad Fair

Oct 1-2 The Baby Show

Oct 2 High Park Harvest Festival 2016

Until Oct 2 ARTIFACTS: Akin X Project Group Art Show

Oct 6 Travel Docs FilmFest 2016

Oct 6 Toronto Independent Film Awards Screening

Oct 7-8 From: Nothing (@Design Exchange)

Oct 8 Glow Sword Battle Toronto 2016 (@ Nathan Philips)

Oct 8-10 Waterfront Artisan Market
Oct 8-10 Pumpkinfest Toronto

Oct 10 Thanksgiving with the Ultimutts (@Purina PawsWay)

Oct 14 OktoberFEAST

Oct 14 The Power Plant Gallery Fall 2016 Opening Party

Oct 15-Nov 6 Chocolicious - Toronto Chocolate Festival

Oct 16 Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon, Half-Marathon & 5k

Oct 18-23 17th Annual Planet in Focus Environmental Film Festival

Oct 19 Light The Night Walk Toronto 2016
Oct 20-23 Buffer Festival (digital video festival)
Oct 21-23 Cask Days 2016 (@Evergreen Brickworks)
Oct 22 2016 CN Tower Climb for United Way

Oct 22 Vegan Oktoberfest 2016
Oct 23 Volunteer Toronto Youth Expo
Oct 22-23 Canadian Franchise Show Toronto

Oct 25 Toronto Zombie Walk and Halloween Parade

Oct 27 TEDxToronto 2016

Oct 29 Cats and Dogs Annual Halloween Party (@Purina PawsWay)

Oct 29 Halloween on Queen (Beaches)

Oct 31 Halloween on Church
Nov 1 Mimico Pumpkin Parade

#### THE 40 HOMEWOOD SOCIAL COMMITTEE PRESENTS

### ...next in our **Travelogue Series**...



Come, get an idea of what it feels like to be living in Tehran, the capital of Iran. I spent six weeks there last year, studying Farsi at the University. This was my fourth trip to Iran, and every time it's a different experience. I have tried to capture everyday life in photos. You'll tell me if I've succeeded.

Questions, comments more than welcome. See you Sunday, October 16th.

Connie Dilley

### Sunday, October 16th from 3 to 5pm

In the Meeting Room, next to the Lobby

~ Light snacks provided, and wine by donation ~

# WASTE REDUCTION Monthly Challenge: Waste-free Lunch

The Green Committee has decided to participate in this City of Toronto iniative.

#### Your Goal:

Select 1-2 days/week to pack a wastefree lunch for yourself or your loved ones.

Try it out for a month.

What is a waste-free lunch?

A waste-free lunch means that no packaging is thrown out and ideally, no food is leftover. Achieve this goal by packing portions that will be completely eaten in reusable containers.

Why is this important?

According to the Recycling Council of Ontario, "...the average student's lunch generate a total of 30 kilograms of waste per school year, or an average of 8500 kilograms (18,700 lbs.) of waste per school year." That's a lot of garbage! Our landfill is filling up fast, but we can slow this down by reducing our garbage production and diverting waste to for green bin composting or recycling. (https://www.rco.on.ca/resources)

**REDUCE** costs by investing in reusable lunch containers instead of spending money on plastic wrap, aluminum foil, or only be used once.

**REUSE** glass, plastic, or metal containers that can easily be reused for years before wearing out.

**RECYCLE** lunch leftovers, or compostable garbage like apple cores and banana peels, by using the green bin for composting.

Here are some ideas from the Zero Waste Chef on How to Pack a Zero Waste Lunch

https://zerowastechef.com/2014/08/17/how-to-pack-a-zero-waste-lunch/

Tips for Parents from Waste Free Lunches <a href="http://www.wastefreelunches.org/pare">http://www.wastefreelunches.org/pare</a> <a href="https://www.wastefreelunches.org/pare">http://www.wastefreelunches.org/pare</a> <a href="https://www.wastefreelunches.org/pare">https://www.wastefreelunches.org/pare</a> <a href="https://www.wastefr

5 Simple Ways to Pack a Waste-Free Lunch from the Global Stewards http://www.globalstewards.org/lunch.ht m

### Zero Tolerance

A reminder to all residents from the Board of Directors.

Please be aware that there is a zero tolerance policy in place regarding violations of workplace health and safety.

All members of staff (office staff, cleaners, security guards), and anyone performing duties on behalf of the corporation, including the Board of Directors and committee members, have the **right** to a safe environment.

There have been several incidents in the past few months where members of the staff have been subjected to verbal abuse and threats, including one incident of physical assault on a security guard.

While we appreciate that situations as they arise may be a source of consternation and frustration, we respectfully ask that you maintain a civil and reasonable tone at all times whendealing with staff members,

whether you are speaking with them in person, or on the telephone.

Be advised that any future incidents will be immediately directed to the attention of the condominium solicitor and to the local police.

If you have a complaint, the office will do their best to try to solve it for you. They are always willing to work with you, even when it may seem otherwise to you. If voices are raised and the situation escalates, please DO THE RIGHT THING and walk away until cooler heads can prevail.

Writing a letter to the Board of Directors will enlist our assistance, and you may do so at board40h@gmail.com.

If you are a witness to a situation where one of the staff is being bullied or worse, please contact security, or, if they are not available, the local police department at 416-808-5100. For your own safety, our advice is to avoid provoking the situation further by stepping into it.

Thank you.



### Smoke Alarms

The "time change" is a good opportunity to

put new batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.





# Questions and Answers to and from the Board and Management

prepared by Timothy Oakes

**Question:** Is there any update on the window replacement project?

Answer: We are happy to say there is. Four sealed bids were received from contractors by the office on Friday, September 16 and were opened in a meeting with the property manager and the board of directors. Two of the bids were rejected, and the other two have been sent back to the engineering firm for the project to review and advise us on the best choice for contractor.

Once the final choice has been made, the windows will be ordered. Both successful bids presented a timeline of approximately 30 weeks to complete the two phases of the project.

Given the lateness of the season, we will likely not start the installation of the windows until late March or early April of 2017, with a projected completion sometime in late October or early November.

These bids did not include the costing for the expected third phase of the project to install sliding glass doors for those wishing to purchase them. If you are interested, please let the office know. We will be getting quotes on estimated prices soon and need to know how many are going to proceed

prior to the start of Phase I of the window installations on the east side of the building.

**Question:** What is the status of the MESH system for cellular access?

Answer: All of the forms sent out to unit owners have been returned with the required information. What remains to be done is the data entry of all of these forms into the system. Several members of the board, and management, will be volunteering their time over the next couple of weeks to get this done. Once the database has been updated, the system will be ready to go and we will notify residents at that time.

**Question:** Will we ever solve the problem of the lack of available bike storage spots?

Answer: This is something the board continues to work on. The office will be reviewing the list of bike storage spaces and updating the list for accuracy. Rusted and unused bikes will be removed and the spots re-assigned as we are able.

We are exploring the option of expanding the storage facility on the first garage level to allow the installation of 150 more spots.

The board is considering charging an annual fee for all bike storage spots.

**Question:** Can I decorate my balcony in any way I choose or are there restrictions?

**Answer:** Balconies are a big part of the "common elements", sections of the building that are owned by the

corporation but made available for use by residents. The balcony attached to each unit is more defined as an "exclusive use" common element, meaning that the owners/tenants/guests of that unit are entitled to use it exclusively. However, there are restrictions on what can be done with the balcony and these are listed in the welcome book and rules book, both available on the website, which we encourage you to review. Balconies can be painted with the corporation-approved paint and colours ONLY. Flooring is permitted so long as it is not affixed and can be easily taken up for maintenance and repairs of the balcony floor. Shades are permitted, again, as approved by the corporation. Lately, a number of residents have been using their balconies for storage and erecting large umbrellas and such, which are a hazard for wind and fire. In the coming weeks, the management will be sending out notices to a number of residents who are not in compliance with the rules.



Newsletter Editorial Committee John Kantor Martha McGrath Timothy Oakes Laura Toth

newsletter40homewood@gmail.com