

40

HOMEWOOD

Community Newsletter

🍀 *March, 2019*



Mardi Gras

March 5th, 2019 🍀



**Sunday, March 10th,
2019 at 🍀 2:00 am**



Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 17th, 2019

AGM
Annual General Meeting

Mark your calendars

We have set the date for the Annual General Meeting. It will be held on Wednesday **June 12th, 2019** at 7:00 at the Ramada hotel on Jarvis below Carlton. 🍀



Peanut

(May 17, 2005 - January 18, 2019)

It is with heavy hearts that Joseph and Gilles announce the passing of their beloved dog Peanut. For 14 years she was a loyal and trusting furry companion who came to 40 Homewood when she was only 9 weeks old. She will be sorely missed and especially her barking at everyone in the elevator. Many thanks to her special friend Raymonde for all her loving care. RIP Peanut, in that doggy heaven in the sky.

What to do with old, outdated MEDICINE?

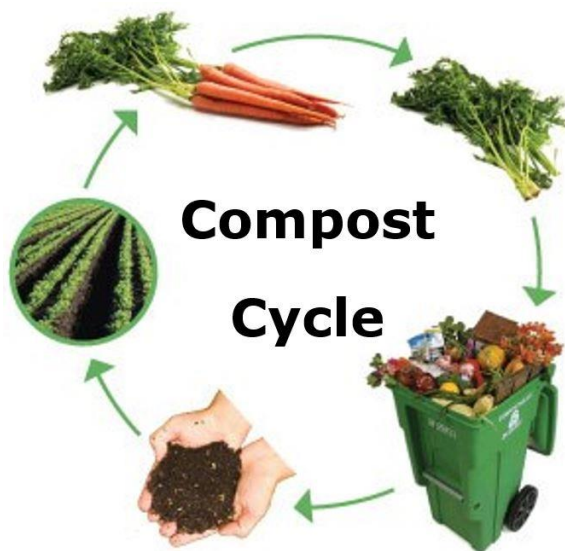
You can bring them back to **Greendale Drugs** at the corner of the street 🍀 (Homewood and Carlton) in a little plastic bag. PLEASE DO NOT put them in the garbage, green bin or organics."



The Green Committee is looking for bubble wrap. It will be used to wrap breakable items that were placed on the Free Boutique table and not taken. 🍀

Breakable items will be wrapped before they are put in the Oasis bin so they don't shatter.

Instead of throwing away any bubble wrap that you might get, please place it in the box under the Boutique table and the Green Committee will take care of it.





Pool Update

As of this writing the pool repairs have been completed. We refilled the pool and this was completed on February 25th. Over the past few days the heater has been turned on and chemicals added. By the publishing of this newsletter on March 1st, the pool should be back or nearly back to normal availability.

We know that the closure has been much longer than we planned and we regret the delay and inconvenience to our residents. This delay happened because we tried a quick fix to a leaking pipe connector in the pump room on B2 before the year-end holiday period but that was unsuccessful. The salt in our pool had corroded one of our copper pipes and it caused leaking into the pool pump room on the B2 level in the room adjacent to the resident lockers. It was important to fix this to prevent flooding. Once this fix failed we had to get quotes from reputable repair companies to do the big jobs (pipe repair and repainting) that was needed. In total, for repairs and painting we've spent over \$10,000 so far plus the cost of filling the pool and chemicals.

We expect that's all we need to do for the pool for the next few years. Enjoy swimming. 🧜‍♂️



Good Eats, Cheap Eats, Sweet Spots"

by Cammy Lee-Bostwick

I hope everyone had a love-filled month whether it was with friends, family, flames old and new or a combo of all the above. And on that note, as promised in the last entry, this month I share with you where Brent and I went for our Valentine's Day dinner. Just west of here on the College Streetcar is Little Italy's "Cafe Diplomatico" — celebrating its 50th year! Establishments that have lasted this long — one would be right to assume — know a thing or two about food. 🧜‍♂️

A landmark joint and neighbourhood hangout, Cafe "Dip" located at 594 College Street was featuring a special until the end of February for two for \$49. And here's what we chose: mussels in white wine as shared appetizer, for mains Brent had the Chicken Parmigiana and salad, for \$1 extra I had the Beet and Goat Cheese Pacchetti in the Caci et Pepe sauce (parmigiano and ground black pepper) with salad. The mussels were a nice size for sharing and arrived promptly. The portion size of our mains — while perfect for me — might be a tad small for others (see pic). Pacchetti is like a wonton, and the sauces available were a tomato-based or rose but the olive oil with the Caci et Pepe allowed the subtle flavours of the beet and goat cheese filling to take centre stage. Shaved parmigiano gave an extra kick of saltiness making this a well-balanced dish overall. The salad, generous with kalamata olives, red

onions, and cucumbers was a light accompaniment to the heaviness of pasta. Brent's Chicken Parmigiana, however, was a good size breast fillet and came with a layer of melted cheese on top. All this was washed down with a 1/2 litre of red wine. Desserts came on a long plate and were an assortment of pastries (see pic): 2 small cannolis, a mini chocolate tart, and a mini vanilla tart. Not too sweet and great with coffee. It was the perfect amount for sharing. Not bad for \$50.

We ate leisurely; the dim lighting and not overly-crowded dining room (we went early to beat the rush + get street parking) were conducive to having semi-private conversations. In the summer, cafe Dip has a large patio, which they are famous for being the first in Little Italy. Famous also are their pizzas which I saw and must say, warrant another visit for review. What struck me was that after all this time (and I used to come quite often — “back in the day”) it has basically stayed the same place, with the same food. Prices are reasonable, by any standard, and even more surprising given its prime location right in the heart of Little Italy. Staff were pleasant, attentive, and on-the-ball.

For a quick streetcar ride away— almost door to door — you have to admit, Cafe Dip is a pretty sweet deal!



Parcel Delivery and Pick-Up🍀

Many of our residents are ordering purchases on-line necessitating a change to how we deliver parcel service to our residents. Additionally, with the management office closed daily between 11:30-2:30 to perform administrative duties without interruption, we built a storage room in the meeting room on the lobby level to store parcels for you. Now that we've completed this space and since we have 24 hour security we have updated our parcel service. All parcels will be received by security personnel and stored on the lobby level. Pick up can be done at any time from the security personnel. As some security personnel are new we ask that if you are picking up a parcel please bring photo identification. When we implement our building communication software later this spring we will institute a signature mechanism for picking up your parcels for additional security.





What do you Think of a 700% Cost Increase Over 10 Years?

The title may surprise you but we are now paying the city over seven times for our annual garbage removal compared to what we paid in 2007. 🌱

In 2007 we paid \$5,130 to haul away our garbage. In 2017 we paid \$33,222 and we expect the 2018 cost to reach \$36,000 with no end in sight on how high this can go. We know we're not throwing away seven times more garbage. We throw away on average, five garbage bins every week and we've been doing that since recycling and composting ramped up in our building many years ago.

We have blue bins in our recycling room which can take our recyclable materials for us (paper, plastic, cardboard, bottles etc.).

We also have a green bin in our recycling room for our food compostable items which can now include dirty disposable diapers, greasy pizza boxes, paper based ice cream containers and much more.

Last year when we had our garbage audited by TEA (Toronto Environmental

Alliance). The experts advised that about 48% of what we throw away in the garbage (brown bin and garbage chute) could be composted and 20% could be recycled, thereby saving us money. This is a great opportunity for all of us to reduce our garbage costs by diverting this compostable material we're throwing in the garbage or recycling bins to the green bin. TEA determined if 40 Homewood sorted all our waste correctly we could reduce our annual garbage fee down to about \$18,000 per a year (based on 2018 garbage rates); that's a potential savings of \$18,000 annually!

Our building is fortunate to have a Green Committee on site. We are a group of volunteers who meet to find ways to develop more and more waste diversion initiatives. The Free Boutique in the laundry room is one recent example – introduced in January 2019. Encouraging other waste diversion initiatives such as Household Hazardous Waste, Electronic Waste, and Batteries are also available in our recycling room.

If you have any questions about recycling or composting at 40 Homewood don't hesitate to contact them directly at 40hgreencommittee@gmail.com.

If you need a compost bin or blue bag for your unit they can be contacted to provide one. 🌱

If you are wondering if something goes in garbage, compost bin or blue bin you can consult the website below.
<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/recycling-organics-garbage/waste-wizard/>

If we all do a little more we can reduce our garbage costs here in our home.



Laundry Room Update

If you've been down to the laundry room recently you may have noticed a new "big load" washer. We were asked by a few residents to explore getting this a few months ago and we've delivered. An electricity hook up for this machine is still needed and once that is done Harco will be back to set it up for use. This is a 25 pound load washer. It is ideal for large items like comforters. The cost will be around \$4.50 per load but saves dry cleaning bills for those items that are machine washable

We have also updated the card loading machine to accept the new Canadian \$10 bill.

Additionally, we are installing some Bluetooth technology for those who want to use their cell phones to pay for laundry. We're going to test this on two washers and two dryers in the rear room of the laundry facility. Once this is installed and tested we'll advise how you can pay for laundry through a Bluetooth connection from your phone taking funds from your bank account directly. You will be required to download an app to your phone which will tie into your bank. The cost for this update is being funded by your common elements as we will not place a premium price on these machines to encourage the transition.



TV Channel Update:

Vintage TV that we used to carry on channel 51 is no longer available so we chose Yes! TV as its replacement. You can check out some old programs on this station along with some current shows like Jeopardy at the same time as carried on channel 6 – CBS over the air. If some of our over the air channel signals cut out you might catch some of your favourite current shows on channel 51. Yes was the only station offered in the Shaw package that we did not already have on our channel line-up.

Also, the new toll free number to contact Stubbs is 877-296-4432. They can also be contacted at MDU@Stubbscom.com.



Irish Wedding Party

At an Irish wedding party recently someone yelled. "All the married men, please stand next to the one person who has made your life worth living."

The bartender was crushed to death.

Attention all cyclists: On-Site Bike Tune-ups



On **April 6** from **2pm – 7:30pm**, Matteo's Mobile Bicycle Repair will be available onsite to give your beloved wheels a tune-up and any other repairs you might need. Exact location TBD, but likely in the rear of the building, weather permitting.

A Personal Bike Condition Assessment Survey is available on the following page.

Matteo is a pedal-powered operation. He'll arrive on a pedal-assist electric bicycle full of tools and parts to service your bike. An average tune-up costs around \$55, but if multiple people sign-up for the service the overall rate will be reduced. Additional materials and parts may cost extra, depending on what your bike needs. He can do pretty much anything a regular bike shop can do.

Etransfers and Cash accepted.

In addition to repairing your bike, Matteo also gives every customer a 5-10 minute instructional session on "How 2 Safety Check Your Bike" and an optional "Simple Self-Maintenance Intro."


If you're interested, please email Matteo directly: matteo101@hotmail.com
Include the following in your email so he can give you a quote and bring the right parts to fix your bike:

- Name
- Phone/email
- Approx. time you can drop off your bike
- Bike Colour
- Bike brand or description
- General photos of your bike
- Photos of any cracking rubber on your tires
- Photos of anything visibly rusted (chain or other parts)
- Any new parts you're interested in getting (e.g., handlebars, tires, chain, etc.)

If you have a pump, inflate your tires before he comes to make sure they keep air.

For more information, check out Matteo's website or his facebook page: www.matteosbikerepair.com & www.facebook.com/matteosbikerepair/



They're baaaaack.... these pesky leprechauns that always infiltrate the March newsletter. Can't get rid of them. They are after the pot of gold.





Tuesday March 5th Owls are a Hoot!

Tuesday March 5th at 7:30-9:30 pm.

Reserve your spot at

reserve@brushesandcocktails.ca no later
than March. 3rd.

Animals on the loose, or at least at the end
of the brush. A close-up painting of a snowy
baby owl is going to be on our easels next
week. Why don't you do
something good for yourself and join us. A
friendly open group of friends and
neighbours who really look forward to
creating together. Try it out while the
weather keeps you indoors. You don't have
to go far, just down to the rec room,

no boots required and no parking issues.



Our 3 colour challenge was much more of a
meditative mood all about relaxation. We
had quite a few newcomers who enjoyed
themselves immensely. We hope to see
them join our little group again in March.



The winner as best painting of the evening
was our very own Charles, who hasn't
missed a paint night since he first walked
through the doors of the Sept. event. It is
wonderful to have such a great group of
regulars and newbies each month.

info@brushesandcocktails.ca

Our paint nights do not emphasize talent so
don't be intimidated, our concentration is
always on Fun! Every level including the
"never painted before" are more than
welcome to join in, you will be walked
through every step and one on one
attention eases the nerves. The wine helps
too! Available through donation, \$4.00 a
glass. You can't beat that, a night in with
neighbours! Invite your friends.
Your name doesn't have to be Picasso!
Come paint.

Brushes & Cocktails also does private parties
and will decorate for the occasion for an
extra fee, all you and your guests have to
do is show up, we also do corporate team
building and
customer appreciation events or for any
occasion. It's sure to be a hit with your
guests.

Contact us to get all the nitty gritty details to
make a party - a happening. Check us out:
www.brushesandcocktails.ca or follow us on
Instagram @brushes_and_cocktails

Don't Throw it Out – Get it Repaired

Do you know of a free volunteer organization called Repair Café. Toronto and many large cities across North America have groups of volunteers who stage monthly repair cafes around the city throughout the year. In Toronto, they normally host them at various locations – some are located near our home. Sometimes they have reduced service events Mini – Cafes such as just mending or just electronics but when they host a full repair café they have at least 50 volunteers able to repair clothing, electronics, small appliances, jewelry, computers, bicycles, and many more items.

Check out their website for a listing of planned future events to get your household items, jewelry, bicycles or clothing mended.

<http://repaircafetoronto.ca/>

They will show you how to fix what you bring so you can try to fix similar items in future.

Here's a notice from their most recent event. If you use Facebook you can find them and follow them there as well.



Get broken household items fixed for free and learn while doing it!
We'll have fixers for computers and other electronics, small appliances and furniture, clothes, jewellery, book and paper repair, and more.
For whatever you need fixin', bring it on!

Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019
12:00 to 4:00 p.m.
(Registration closes 3:00 pm)
CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
349 Ontario Street
(Wheelchair Accessible)
COST: FREE!



FIXED!

We're always Looking for Fixers!
Volunteers who enjoy fixing household items - hobbyists & professionals, all are welcome!

Thank You!





Earth Hour🌱

On **Saturday, March 30th, 2019** for the hour of 8:30 - 9:30 pm, cities around the world will turn off their lights for one hour to raise global awareness

for climate change. 🌱

Let's join them



Edmond Chan's Paradark Photo Arts Gala Exhibition March 24, 2019

40 Homewood resident artist will be exhibiting his remarkable photography works at:

Cedar Ridge Gallery from March 23 to April 4th

225 Confederation Drive (directions below)

Some of you will already be familiar with long-time resident Edmond's work which was exhibited at our Art Show back in 2017 and from the screening of his award-winning film Garage. You might also remember the story of his recovery from a post-surgery stroke in 2006 which ended his film making aspirations.

Edmond's creativity is now expressed through photography, inspired by the long walks he started to take, riding the bus, the streetcar and the subway, rediscovering the city he has lived in for over 35 years. Adversity has not dulled this artistic spirit living amongst us.

The official opening of the show will be on Sunday, March 24. Please contact Cedar Ridge Gallery closer to the date

for exact time of gala and/or opening hours at: 416-396-4026.

It would be wonderful if a contingent of residents could come out and show their support for Edmond's work. Hope to see you there on March 24th.

Directions to the gallery:

Driving: From 401, exit Markham Road south, proceed on Markham Road to Lawrence Ave. east, continuing east on Lawrence Ave. to Scarborough Golf Club Road, drive south on Confederation Drive, turning east on Confederation Drive to Tingle Crescent and turn right which takes you into the free parking lot for Cedar Ridge Gallery. Transit: From Kennedy Station, take the Scarborough RT to the Lawrence East station. Take the 54 Lawrence East bus to Scarborough Gold Club Road, walk along Scarborough Gold Club Road to the second street south of Lawrence Ave. which is Confederation Drive. Walk east on Confederation Drive until you reach Tingle Crescent. At Tingle turn right and enter gallery through the driveway.



**GREEN
LIVING
SHOW**

**MAR22-24
2019**
Metro Toronto
Convention Centre

The Green Living Show is Canada's largest green consumer show dedicated to educating the public about easy and workable solutions for leading a sustainable lifestyle. Visitors can shop the wide variety of exhibitor booths while gathering information

and inspiration from a diverse selection of demonstrations, presentations, and activities

Who Wants Daytime Fitness Classes In Recreation Room?



We are currently meeting with a fitness trainer who gives classes to seniors in a neighbourhood co-operative building. One of our residents has been taking the classes and speaks highly of this trainer. We are thinking there could be many people here at 40 Homewood who would welcome classes in our building during the daytime.

The classes would be structured to accommodate various abilities. The trainer would be able to suggest options in the way of modifications for those with injuries and/or disabilities. The time and frequency of the classes still has to be worked out but a schedule would be created to accommodate the majority of people who are interested.

In the trainer's words, "Through breath and posture we will build on fundamentals around stretch and strengthen, taking into consideration

injury management and prevention. Take your health to another level, one step at a time one heart beat to the next".

To make it economical for participants it would be great to have at least ten people interested in taking the classes.

If you are interested please send an email to Martha MacLachlan with your contact information or give your name and contact information to the office. Martha's email is:

martha.maclachlan@gmail.com

In addition, if the younger working demographic of the building is interested in classes in the building evenings and/or weekends we could negotiate for a session of more vigorous classes. Let Martha MacLachlan know if that is something you would be interested in.



Newsletter Editorial Committee

Martha McGrath

Timothy Oakes

newsletter40homewood@gmail.com