

Club40 NEWS & VIEWS

EDITOR: Martha MacLachlan

DESIGN & LAYOUT: Kevin Kirk, Donna Yakibchuk

CONTACT US: club40news@gmail.com

The Free Boutique WHAT GOES IN... & WHAT DOESN'T

by Lisa Ricciuti, on behalf of the Green Committee

Thank you to "A Concerned Neighbour" for the thoughtful comments about the Free Boutique.

As part of the Green Committee's ongoing efforts to offer options for 40 Homewood residents to be more green, the Committee launched the Free Boutique almost a year ago. We had noticed that residents were leaving donatable items piled around the garbage bin in the Waste Room.

The Free Boutique was proposed as a solution to provide residents with a place to leave unwanted items that were still in good condition, especially for breakable items (e.g., glassware) that might get smashed in the Oasis donation bin.

We are continually impressed with how popular and well used the Free Boutique is. However, we have also noticed that sometimes people leave junk piled around the table, or unacceptable items.

The Free Boutique is maintained and monitored by Green Committee volunteers. We check the table at least once a week to make sure it's in good condition and to remove items that are not accepted.

Volunteers have removed stuffed animals, pillows, rugs, furniture, broken gel cases, and other items in disrepair.

We encourage all of you to use the Free Boutique, but please be mindful of what is and is not accepted.

For items not accepted at the Free Boutique, the Oasis bin is available, located in the back of the building, next to the bulk shed.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the Free Boutique and for contributing

to its success. These initiatives work best when they become part of the community. If you're a fan of the Free Boutique, please help by informing new residents.

ACCEPTED DONATIONS

- Small appliances and electronics, clean and in working order
- Kitchenware: glassware, plates, mugs, silverware, utensils, pots, etc.
- Household decorations: knick knacks, figurines, tchotchkes, trinkets, lamps, etc.
- Records, CDs and DVDs
- Toys and games
- Jewellery

NOT ACCEPTED

- No textiles
- No clothing
- No cushions or pillows
- No stuffed animals
- No plants or dirty pots
- No furniture or large items
- No liquids
- No food
- No medication
- No hazardous waste
- No broken items
- No broken electronics

Just a friendly reminder...things left at the Free Boutique should be in good condition ~ Thank you!

Meet the Board to talk 2020 budget

Mark the date on
your calendars:

November 25th

at **6:30 p.m.**

in the **Recreation room**

...to talk about next
year's budget proposal.



Important
dates in

November

The Latin translation of "novem" is nine, for it was originally the ninth month on the Roman calendar, which began in March.

November's full moon was traditionally called the Beaver Moon, because during the Colonial Era, this was the month to set one's beaver traps before the swamps froze and beavers retired to their lodges, to ensure a supply of warm winter furs.

Friday, November 1st

All Saints' Day

Sunday, November 3rd

Daylight Savings ends

Monday, November 11th

Remembrance Day

Monday, November 25th

2020 Budget Proposal

Meeting - Recreation room



Questions & Answers

• TO AND FROM •

the Board & Management

prepared by Brian Brenie

Q: I need to paint a small table but don't want to do it in my suite. Is there a place at 40 Homewood where this can be done safely?

A: We have a hobby room on the B3 level where you can take the table to be painted. It has a workbench and electricity in it for your electric tools you might wish to use for other repair jobs as well. Just book the room from 10 am to midnight through Building Link and get the key from security. You can leave whatever you are working on in there overnight to dry and retrieve it the next day if necessary. It is a quiet space where you can hammer, saw or paint without disturbing others or damaging the property by painting in the stairwells or in the rear of the property on the asphalt.

Q: How are we advised about parcels and how do we retrieve them?

A: With the start of us using Building Link software you should sign up to receive parcel notifications. When a parcel arrives the guard will scan the recipient and Building Link will automatically send you an e-mail or text advising a parcel has arrived. When you pick up your parcel please remember to bring personal identification since the guards don't know everyone living here. If you're retrieving a parcel for a roommate please ensure your roommate has indicated you have permission to do so in the notes section of their Building Link profile. Pick-ups can be done any time except during 30 minutes before the end and beginning of a shift change for guards, meaning not during the following times: 7:30-8:30 a.m., 3:30-4:30 p.m., and 11:30 p.m. to 12:30

a.m. The secure parcel lock-up cannot receive large furniture items or food so please have those delivered to your home when someone is there. Additionally, if a delivery is left at your door by a delivery person this will be picked up and locked in the secure locker by security as deliveries cannot be left in the hallways as they are a trip hazard in case of emergency.

OFFICE REMINDERS

A key audit is being done by the office during November and December. Please make sure they have a copy of all your keys.

Deliveries will increase in the next 2 months please make sure you pick up your packages before they are returned to sender.

Q: I had a friend visiting and they got a parking ticket in our garage. They did not stay overnight but only until 2:00 a.m.

A: We offer free indoor guest parking during the day from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 a.m. only. After these hours our guest parking space is patrolled by Toronto Parking Authority and parking tickets are issued by the city for cars that do not display a valid paid parking sticker that can be purchased from security. The condo receives none of this ticket revenue. We are looking to introduce a new Building Link feature soon where you can purchase overnight guest parking

passes on-line with payment made by credit or debit card. Stay tuned for news of this as we roll it out over the next few months.

Q: I went to the laundry room recently and noticed that all four washers and four dryers in the back room are Bluetooth enabled. Thank you, this is convenient for me.

A: You are welcome. The board decided to try this Bluetooth option a few months ago with two washers and two dryers in that room and found that residents liked this feature, so recently we added two more



washers and dryers. This allows you to load funds into the PayRange app and pay for your washing or drying using your cell phone's Bluetooth option. All other machines will remain operational using the laundry cards. Funds can be added to laundry cards with cash using the machine in the laundry room or through the office. You can also top up your laundry cards in the office using cash, credit or debit cards. Further, did you know that if you get down to the dryer before your time is over you can add another eight minutes drying time by inserting your laundry card or engaging the app to add these minutes for \$0.25. This is convenient for when your clothes aren't quite dry and only need a few more minutes to finish drying especially if you have heavy clothes like jeans or blankets.

Q: There are many bicycle delivery people coming to the building now but we have no place for their bicycles to be locked up. How can their bikes be secured during their delivery minutes here?

A: The board has authorized the purchase of a small bike stand which we will place in front of the building near the door. It will hold only three bicycles and there will be a 15 minute time limit for bikes to remain there. It is for use by delivery

people only. Residents and guests have a few bike racks in the rear of the building as well as the various bike rooms inside for resident and guest use.

Q: I pulled into the driveway to the garage and a car was stopped there and it almost caused an accident.

NEW OFFICE E-MAIL NEW MANAGER'S E-MAIL

The Management Office, and the Manager, have a new e-mail address:

ycc75manager@gmail.com

eSuite has been having server issues lately, so if you emailed ycc75@esuite.ca and haven't heard back, please resend your request to the new e-mail. Thank you.

Kambiz Fahimi

Property Manager,
40 Homewood Ave.

A: Residents, please do not park your car or wait to pick up someone by sitting in your car in the driveway. This is dangerous. Accidents have occurred there in the past. Delivery vehicles can park in the rear temporarily while they deliver food. They can ring your unit from the intercom at the back

door. Taxis and friends should be requested to pick you up at the back door or on the street but not in the driveway. Thank you for your co-operation.

Q: Is there a budget meeting planned for this month?

A: Yes, we hope to have the rec room renovation finished in time for a budget discussion meeting before the board finalizes the 2020 budget. Watch for notices that will be posted or sent around through Building Link once the board has a clear indication of the availability of the room. We are planning to hold the meeting on Monday, November 25th in the Recreation Room.



RECYCLING BINS

In an effort to keep the recycling bins from overflowing on the weekends, it would be appreciated if you could dispose of your recyclables from Monday to Thursday instead. The recycling gets emptied every Friday. If you do bring your recyclables down on the weekend, please remember to use all available bins.



good eats,^{cheap eats,} sweet spots

by Dr. Cammy Lee-Bostwick

Well, fall is truly upon us now; and with the colourful changing of leaves to crisp temperatures that make us reach for those warm woollens, I turn to food that is both colourful and comforting.

This month I take you to Simon's Wok Vegetarian Kitchen on Gerrard Street just west of Carlaw. In operation since the 90's, Simon's was recently featured in the Toronto Star for serving up plant-based dining way before the term was used and so I was very curious to try it. The menu, like a lot of Chinese restaurants, is quite extensive. I ordered: Homemade Stuffed Bean Curd Roll (half order: \$4.50), Vegetarian Roast Duck (\$4.50), Cantonese Chow Mein (\$8.85), Sweet and Sour Mock Pork (\$8.85), King Mushroom with Broccoli (\$13.50), and Fried Rice with Olive Leaves (\$8.50).

The stuffed bean curd is stuffed with sprouts and carrots then deep fried so it is crispy and chewy at the same time. The play of textures with

the subtle seasoning made it a stand out dish for me. The Vegetarian duck is really just seasoned sheets of wrapped bean curd cut in strips that mimic roast duck breast; it was a bit thin and hard. (Buddha's Vegetarian Delight on Dundas does a better version of this.) Cantonese noodles came with broccoli, Chinese mushrooms, carrots, and Shanghai bok choy with "shrimp" formed and coloured to look like it but flavourless. The "beef" had the right texture but was also short on flavour. Sweet and sour pork had bits of pineapple and green pepper in a red savoury sauce. The cubes of "pork" were morsels of deep-fried chewiness much like the real thing. Mushroom and broccoli tasty, not outstanding. Now the rice was light and fluffy, perfectly seasoned and arrived with bright colours of green from the leaves and grated carrot.

All in all, the stuffed bean curd and rice are my favourites and totally worth checking out!



For the full unedited review see
www.goodeatscheapeatsandsweetspots.ca

THE 40 HOMEWOOD

Holiday Dinner



M E N U

Caesar salad with homemade dressing and croutons

Roasted and steamed vegetable medley

Creamy mashed potatoes with fresh herbs

Fresh salmon with a maple cranberry glaze

Pasta tossed with roasted vegetables, in a tomato pesto sauce

Roast turkey breast with cranberry sauce and pan gravy

Vegetarian sweet potato pie with tofu and cranberries in filo

Festive dessert platter

Wine & beer
(not included)

\$4 by donation
or \$15 per bottle of wine

no outside liquor permitted

Tickets
\$25

Available as of
November 11th
at the office



Follow-up Report on the Recent Toronto Fire Service Inspection

by Kambiz Fahimi, Property manager

On October 9, 2019 Toronto Fire Services (TFS) inspected our building looking for ways we can all improve our fire preparedness and prevention. The inspector found a number of areas where improvements could be made in the common areas, garage and suites visited.

As you may be aware, TFS has hired a number of new inspectors to improve the safety of residents in Toronto. We were pleased with this inspection and need your assistance to help prevent potential fires in our building. You may recall the major fire on Parliament last year and the other high-rise fires nearby that have necessitated us to increase our vigilance to improve fire safety in our homes. TFS will return to re-inspect in a few weeks so we ask your attention to these items:

- In the garage you can only store a motor vehicle in your spot. Please remove any other items from your parking space. Tires, motor oil cans or any packaging material must be removed.
- In the locker rooms please ensure you have nothing hanging from the sprinkler pipe and do not store any items above the sprinkler or pipe. There must be an 18 inch clearance under the sprinkler and its supply pipe in all lockers where there is a sprinkler head or sprinkler pipe.
- In the suites inspected they found numerous units did not have a door closer attached. Each unit must have a door closer attached to ensure your entry door closes automatically.

This is the unit owner's responsibility and subject to a TFS fine if one is not present.

- Smoke detector and CO detectors must be working properly. Smoke detectors have a 10 year life and must be replaced each 10 years. Batteries must be changed regularly and the smoke detectors must be located high on the wall close to the bedroom. CO detectors are used on the basement and first floor units only and are usually plugged into a wall plug.

- Balconies must not be used for storage. Seasonal furniture is permitted but boxes and other flammable material must not be stored there.

A few weeks ago our fire safety contractor and staff visited every unit to ensure functioning smoke detectors were in use in each suite. When we found an old (over 10 years old) or non-functioning detector we either replaced the detector or battery then billed the owner \$10 for a battery or \$50 for detectors. This week, the fire inspector again found defective detectors and we could not leave without replacing the detector or battery.

If your suite was inspected and a defective detector was found you will be billed for the replacement done. TFS fines may be issued for failure to address these items as well.

Please regularly monitor your smoke detector to ensure it is functioning properly and not out of date. Thank you for your attention to these items.

Talent at 40 Homewood

by Felix Almeida

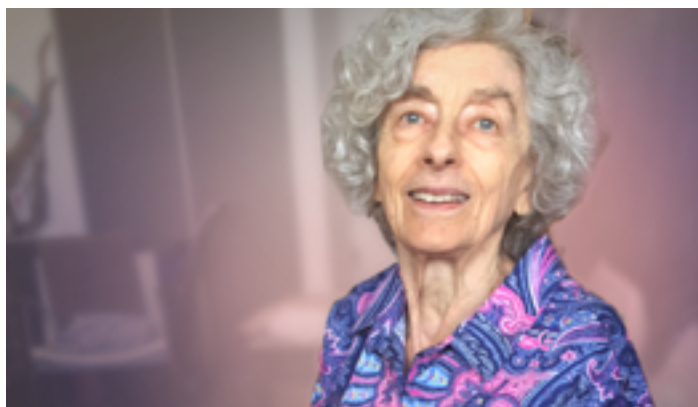
The changing seasons for us here at 40 Homewood bring with them a sense of eager anticipation and a warm feeling of gratitude! While I gaze in wonder each season at the freshly renewed beauty of the container arrangements at the entrance to the lobby, I'm deeply appreciative of the creative talent that discreetly puts these arrangements together for us.

It is a source of great pride to recognize that this talent is absolutely "Home-wood grown"! Our very own resident, Larry, a seasoned aesthete in his own right, takes obvious pleasure in putting these container arrangements together for us, making our return home that much more enjoyable for us all.



Here we see Larry with one of his freshly created Fall container arrangements at our entrance.

Grateful thanks to you, Larry!



Esther Podliak

Talk about career choices! Esther defines herself as a “once in a while” poet. She also painted and, now, composes music. She was born into a musical family in Toronto. After receiving a B.A. from University of Toronto and a primary specialist certificate, she began teaching kindergarten.

Her career moves form a chain as one experience leads to the next. With a certificate to teach English as a second language, she moved to Welcome House where she taught adults, and then went on to the Ministry of Citizenship, which ran that program. There, she gained experience in curriculum writing, teacher training, and editing, having a “wonderful time.” She co-authored “Welcome to Canadian English” and edited “TESL

Talk”. This all culminated in 2003 with an award of Lifetime Membership in TESL Canada.

Dismayed by the difficulties that adults have in living harmoniously, Esther took mediation training at St. Stephen’s Community House and volunteered there and in Scarborough. She has taught pronunciation to adults in the Catholic school system and had “the time of her life.”

Still, she found time to regularly build box sculptures with the small children of friends and family and is currently collecting paper and material for collages. Her poems have been published in the 40 Homewood newsletter, and one will soon appear in TESL Ontario’s newsletter. Esther speaks with joy of her family, her many friends, and her neighbours.

“Her career moves form a chain as one experience leads to the next.”



Arnold Archie Braunstein

Fort William began its career as a fur-trading post and storage facility. Archie was born there long before it was amalgamated with Port Arthur to become Thunder Bay. His father was a furrier, making coats that he would ship to Montreal, Toronto, and elsewhere.

Archie left home young to work as a seaman on the Great Lakes. He was aboard the Canada Steamship Lines’ Sir James Dunn and the pay was good. Coffee was 10 cents.

Eventually, Archie headed for Toronto. In his soul, he was an artist and wanted to try his luck painting portraits. He applied to the Ontario College of Art but was turned down. And so he began work as a freelancer.

Archie set up on the street, when hippie Yorkville was popular. Later he moved to Yonge Street. Life was tough for artists. Archie painted portraits and clients would return with their children and grandchildren to be painted. He earned his living there for 40 years and was careful with his money. He invested and got lucky.

Archie moved into 40 Homewood on December 11, 1971, before the top floor was completed. It was quiet, with few residents and no one bothered you, he says.

He admits, however, to being a born kibitzer. The secret to his long life? Archie never drank or smoked, and eats good ‘Canadian’ food.

“The secret to his long life? Archie never drank or smoked, and eats good ‘Canadian’ food.”

Fall is full of colour and so is this new colourful jazzy abstract. It's a great way to relax your way towards winter. Along with the theme of course the music should match, so if anyone has some favorite jazz tunes you can send them to me to add to the night's playlist.

Last month we had a cozy paint night in the library. We will be in that lovely intimate room again for the last month before we can move back into the rec room. The pussy innuendos were flying all evening with much laughter and giggles. And I must say, there were many brilliant

Wednesday, Nov. 13th
'Crescendo Abstract'
 7:30 to 9:30pm



felines on the canvases around the room. For the first time ever our dear friend Al won the best painting of the evening. Congratulations Al. We also welcomed a newcomer to Brushes, 40 Homewood and zto Canada! Antal chose a great way to find friends and neighbours by joining us for the evening.

Every level of skill is welcome to join us,

so don't be shy. Don't put it off any longer – sign up soon, as spaces are limited. Free your inner artist with a great group!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT:
reserve@brushesandcocktails.ca
 and please put '40 Homewood' in the message of the e-transfer, or let me know you are coming and pay \$25 at the door at 7pm

For the next 2 months, you may bring your own beverages. Your name doesn't have to be Picasso...Come Paint!



City of Toronto Survey to Reduce Single-Use and Takeaway Items

The City is seeking feedback on approaches and timelines to reduce specific single-use and takeaway items in Toronto. A single-use or takeaway item is any product designed for a single use after which it is disposed of in the garbage, Blue Bin (recycling) or Green Bin (organics). Typically, these products are not designed for durability or reuse. Examples include coffee cups and takeout containers. The deadline for completing the survey is November 10th.

This survey will help provide input on what people are willing to do or pay for single-use plastic and takeaway containers.

[Click here to take the survey](#)



"SIMPLICITY is the key note of all TRUE ELEGANCE"
 COCO CHANEL

Clothing Repairathon at the Moss Park Market on November 2

The Toronto Clothing Repairathon will be mending and fixing your clothing for FREE from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Moss Park Market (260 Queen St E, Toronto).

Bring up to two pieces of clothing in need of repair (sweaters with holes, shirts missing a button, etc.) and we'll repair them for you on-the-spot, dependent on the availability & skill levels of the volunteers that day.

More information here: [Repairathon at the Moss Park Market](#)



the Originals

...an occasional column, profiling some of our long-term residents, in the time leading up to the building's 50th anniversary this month, written by Martha MacLachlan

Alwin has lived in the building since its inception in 1972, having moved from Etobicoke after his aunt Mitzi passed away. Alwin is no recluse. He is always seen around 40 Homewood sharing biscuits with his favourite neighbouring dogs, or dancing at the Christmas dinners held in the building.

Alwin was born in Altenstadt, Austria in 1924. His father, an Austrian, his mother Anna, a Russian, whom his father had met in Moscow, and married and brought back to Austria. They had four children, Anna, Alwin, Sonia and Vladimir (his siblings now all deceased). Alwin's mother died in 1931 (after procuring an abortion, as told to Alwin later in life by his Aunt Antonia). His father remarried twice; to Lena, who died young, and then to Wilma. She was the mother of Alwin's half-sister Gertie.

Alwin's father supported the family by making and selling a crème from his home, called Arnika-Kräuter Herbal Crème, and sold all over Austria and Switzerland. Alwin still has a tube of this crème, similar to Vicks, and this crème's pungent odour, still clears the sinuses. While his siblings all left home and married, Alwin remained at home working for his father, taking and packing orders, until he was unceremoniously sent packing after his father heard people were talking about Alwin. Alwin didn't bother to ask what they were saying, he just left and moved to Vienna. Upon Alwin's father's death, his step-mother inherited the business, leaving Alwin and his siblings, sans inheritance.

In Vienna, now living with his aunt Grisela, Alwin did the housekeeping while she worked, until he became a hairdresser. (Alwin still draws a pension from the private salon he worked at in Austria for 14 years.) He followed his aunt on her moves to Salzburg and then to Zurich, finally making a break from family when he moved to Basel and continued working as a hairdresser. While working in Basel he received the news that his aunt Grisela had been found dead, her cause of death still not certain.

In 1954 Alwin moved to Canada to

join other members of the family that had emigrated. His Aunt Mitzi, whom he took residence with, took him to Eaton's College Street to apply for a job in the prestigious salon frequented by the then blue bloods of Toronto. He was hired immediately and began a long and



Alwin Bittschwamm

interesting career, tending to the hair of the likes of the Eaton's family women, the wife of the owner of Heintzman's Piano and several other society women. When Alwin retired in 1989, the daughter-in-law of a Mrs. Geraldine Coates would pick up Alwin at 40 Homewood in a silver blue Cadillac and take him to the house in Forest Hill to do Geraldine's hair. As she always provided lunch, Alwin offered to bring his tuna fish sandwiches, which were raved about, and became a regular part of the appointment. (Alwin was invited by the family of Geraldine to the Celebration of Life after her passing at age 97). Mrs. Heintzman, not to be outdone by the other society ladies who loved Alwin, would invite Alwin to the family farm in Thornhill.

These were good years for Alwin, living in his own apartment at Homewood, and enjoying his hair styling career, even post retirement, with private customers.

Alwin has created a beautiful home for himself. Walking into his apartment brings one into a probable recreation of Alwin's family home in Austria, complete with the old-world paintings, a crystal chandelier and patterned carpeting. Although there might be some Viennese waltz playing on his ultra-modern Bang & Olufsen stereo system, the music is soon switched to Alwin's more contemporary taste in music. Once Alwin has served you his favourite Lillet Apéritif in a delicate glass, one is treated to Michael Bolton and then to Alwin's ultra favourite, Tina Turner. He turns positively rapturous as he exclaims about her whole look and oh the heels, the fabulous heels she sings and dances in; admiration for this formidable entertainer shining through his eyes.

Alwin is an independent man, still doing his own shopping and cooking. When the windows were replaced in his apartment, he ventured to Aline's at College Park and selected new window coverings to adorn the new windows. Alwin lives in the present and is still planning to book yet another group tour with Senior Discovery Tours. He has a cousin in Florida, nearing the age of Alwin, who is not up to having Alwin stay during the winter at her home, much to Alwin's chagrin. Alwin reminisces about his adventures, his travels, his father's disdain of him, and of his dear mother and her early passing when he was still young. His conversations about these subjects are a way of culminating his experiences and appreciating, with gratitude, how far he has come.

Long term relationships have eluded Alwin, as the mores of the times he grew up in prevented him from expressing openly, his desire for a same sex relationship. Thirty years ago, Alwin did meet a man, and this handsome Brazilian shook Alwin out of his single life complacency. This relationship has given Alwin a much-desired romantic life. Although infrequent, and somewhat clandestine, maybe this is the true secret to how, at the age of 95, Alwin walks with a spring in his step.