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## *The History of Television at 40 Homewood*

by Martha MacLachlan

By late September, almost all units will be enjoying over 300 television channels, covered by their maintenance fees and sweetened with 1.5 GBPS (gigabytes per second) of free, high-speed internet, through the five-year contract the corporation has signed with Bell Fibe. Since 1974, residents have enjoyed access to television channels as part of their maintenance fee and it is now enhanced with internet service as well. This is unheard of in other condominiums.

Back in **1972**, we had a master antenna system on the roof. At that time there were eight channels available on cable. We started with six channels, with good reception on the three channels from Buffalo, but the three local stations had so much interference from the nearby CBC tower that they were impossible to watch.

In **1974**, Doug Smith, President of the Board of Directors and an engineer by trade, built a Satellite Master Antenna TV system on the roof, keeping 40H independent of cable companies. Access to television stations remained covered by maintenance fees.

In **2004**, technology was changing and more stations came on air. At a special meeting held for owners, they voted to invest \$75,000 in new equipment to reconfigure the existing television system to provide better reception to analog stations and access to digital stations. The provision of television stations was contracted to Davia, a small, private cable operator. At that time digital was becoming available and some owners, not content with just analog, signed on to pay extra to receive more variety and specialty channels.

In **2009**, the satellite system was upgraded to allow for high-definition reception and PVR boxes were available to residents for a cost.

In **2019**, with Davia no longer on the market, a contract was signed with Stubbs, another private cable operator, who sub contracted stations available from Shaw. With this change residents lost the ability to pre-record television shows but received even more stations, and still covered by maintenance fees.

Enter **2022** and the contract with Stubbs terminates at the end of December. At no cost to the corporation, residents will be able to enjoy this enhanced Bell Fibe service immediately, once they have arranged installation. The contract with Bell Fibe officially starts on January 1, 2023. The bill for this sweet deal will still be covered by maintenance fees – Long live tradition!



• *In Memoriam* •

## John Goddard



John Goddard, an 8th floor resident for many years, passed away peacefully in hospital on June 28th, at the age of 78. John was a courteous neighbour – a man who cared about others. Following retirement as an eminent court reporter with the Superior Court of Ontario, John enjoyed travelling, the arts, and entertaining his good friends at his home. John will be missed.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for a later date.

you and your friends are invited to...

## THE 40 HOMEWOOD BBQ ANNUAL SUMMER

SATURDAY  
August 20<sup>th</sup>

5pm to 9pm  
in the Recreation  
Room and on  
the Patio

TICKETS  
\$20

Available in the  
office starting  
August 8<sup>th</sup>

### • MENU •



Mixed greens with cucumber,  
watermelon, and feta cheese  
Creamy coleslaw  
Potato salad  
Grilled zucchini and eggplant platter  
Boneless Tequila lime chicken  
Grilled Debrizini sausage  
Hamburgers  
Vegan sausage  
Veggie burgers  
Ice cream sandwiches

Pop  
included  
Wine available  
by donation  
\$4

Catered by **absolutely famished!**

• NO OUTSIDE LIQUOR PERMITTED AT THIS EVENT •

## B&C Brushes & Cocktails

*Will  
return  
this  
Fall*



**Sunday,  
September 18<sup>th</sup>**

in the Party Room from 2 to 4:30 pm

**Wishing you a great summer!**

We'll be back with more exciting  
projects to keep our creative  
juices going!

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

- Gardening volunteers are urgently needed to clean up and beautify the deck area boxes.
- A big 'thank you!' to the anonymous rock collectors at the entrance to the driveway.
- The Social Committee is also looking to gauge interest for the following activities that would begin in September:

**YOGA CLASSES** • Cammy Lee-Bostwick, our regular restaurant reviewer for the newsletter, is also a certified yoga teacher. Cammy has offered to start up a yoga program to be held in the Party Room. Depending on interest – and to accommodate everyone – there could be classes for traditional and chair yoga. If interested, please leave your contact information with the office or e-mail the Committee at [club40.social@gmail.com](mailto:club40.social@gmail.com)

**MOVIE NIGHT** • Once again, we are looking for a volunteer to host a weekly or monthly movie night in the Party Room. Again, use the contact information above if you're interested in starting up a Movie Night.