
40 Homewood Community Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 9

September 1, 2004



September 6, 2004

ROSH HASHANAH

September 16, 2004

Happy New Year 5765 to all our Residents who celebrate it now.

Barbecue



Once again our Barbeque on August 7th, 2004 was a big success. Approximately 95 people attended. Thanks go out to **Arthur Martin, Russ Baxter, Larry Wert, Gary Carter, John Serena, Steve Barker, Ray Miles, Florence Rice, Elizabeth Johannes, and Martha McGrath** for giving their time and effort to once again create an opportunity for the residents of this building to get together and meet others and enjoy some camaraderie. We need to have some **FUN!!** Is anyone else willing to organize some other events for the building?



It Couldn't Be Done

Submitted by Sylvia Keshen

Somebody said "It' couldn't be done!"
But he, with a chuckle, replied
That maybe it couldn't, but he would be the one
That wouldn't say so 'till he tired.
So he buckled right in with a trace of a grin
On this face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done - and he did it!

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done;
There are thousands to prophesy failure
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But you buckle right in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing
That cannot be done - and you'll do it!



Violet Green (nee **White**) had an 88th birthday celebration in the recreation room on August 14th, 2004

In lieu of gifts, Violet requested that donations be made to

Sick Kids Hospital. in her name..

Violet's guests included people of all ages. Among her guests were **Avis Gilaze** who is the Director of Education in the Peterborough area and **Andrew Aarons**, a concert pianist. Both of these people credit Violet with having a big impact on their success.

Everyone who attended enjoyed themselves immensely. making it quite a memorable event. **Thanks** Violet

Area News

by..Bob Leah

No doubt about it, lots of positive things are happening right around home.

Construction of the **Wellesley Central Place** Long Term Care Facility is well underway at 160 Wellesley Street East. The administrators are the Reikai people, whose Sherbourne Street nursing home is known for compassionate and creative caring.

This is not just another long term facility. Unique features include:

- Communication in 60 languages.
- Nursing staff located at stations throughout the patient area
- Two landscaped courtyards for residents separated from a public park by a glass wall.
- A **green** roof. (A first in the area?)

Also, at 160 construction will start soon on the **Health Care** and supportive housing units for the frail and elderly and HIV/AIDS community. The building will be managed by Fife House and Woodgreen Centre.

As well, at 160 the **public park**, with tables and chairs instead of the usual benches and an unusual but practical gravel-like surface are planned.

The **St. Jamestown Community Centre** located at Sherbourne and Wellesley comprises a public library, a day care centre, gymnasium, meeting rooms, etc. The library will open first, this fall, the rest will follow.

The demolition of the **Old Princess Margaret** is progressing. A huge sign facing Sherbourne invites buyers to design their suites.

Just up the street, **Our Lady of Lourdes School** is rising. Construction completion is planned for October, 2005.

In **Allan Gardens**, the presence of two "ambassadors" employed by Parks and Recreation are making a difference. These "gentle giants" discourage drinking and inappropriate behavior. (No strong arm

measures, these guys are kind but firm). The Queen's Park greenhouses moved to **Allan Gardens** look like new, due to superb refurbishing. A public opening ceremony is planned in October.

Those of us facing west are watching the **Radio City** Condos and Townhouses and the **National Ballet** buildings rise. The first residents are scheduled to occupy their suites in December. (It is gratifying to know that the Contex Developers have donated play equipment to Church Street School.).

The **St. Leonard's Hotel**, infamous for drug dealing and prostitution, has been purchased by the **Salvation Army**. The **Sally Ann** will undertake top flight renovations and a well-run facility similar to **The Bunton Lodge** will replace this "**Hotel from Hell**".

Anthony Bartolo is our new area inspector. Anthony has issued work orders to paint, and clean up weeds and litter at 9, 27 and 51 Homewood—and that's a good thing, eh!

The Homewood Neighbourhood Association continues to work hard for the quality of life in our neighbourhood. The association was formed in our recreation room years ago. 40 Homewood Management and Board deserve praise for support of the association. Members from 40 Homewood, 130 Carlton, 15 Maitland Place, 415 Jarvis, Celebrity Towers, Banting House and others continue to work for safety in this area.

***Note from Editor:** Bob Leah is a member of the Homewood Neighbourhood Association. Bob is appointed by the Board of Directors of 40 Homewood as our neighbourhood co-ordinator.*

Congratulations!

To **Tom Wright-Sweet** and **Todd Sweet** on the occasion of their marriage which took place at O'Grady's Restaurant on Church Street on August 7th. 2004.



Getting To Know You



Cody & Tracie Kemp

Tracie, always a Toronto resident, has lived downtown as an adult. Since Cody was three months old, they've lived at 40 Homewood and now, at 11, Cody is growing so fast he's had to raise his bike seat three times in a year. They bicycle all around town, from the Bluffs to Downsview Park. When their nine-year-old border collie Osbourne goes with them, they switch to roller-blades.

Tracie got into computer work twenty years ago, when the field was brand new and developing quickly. She's currently working in IT support for Travelex, a foreign currency exchange company

At Church Street School, Cody likes physical education, science and technology the most. His mom adds that his best subject is reading, but Cody thinks reading is just like the air you breathe, not really a subject. A soccer player since grade four, he will enter grade six in September and hopes to continue playing. He also likes hockey and basketball.

This summer, Cody had a role in the Cabbagetown Community Arts Centre production of *The Secret Room*. It was his second gig on stage. While he thinks that acting is unnatural and muses about the feelings that accompany it, he enjoys the experience.

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Credits for this section: The interviews were done by **Connie John & Charles Marker**, Photographs by **Charles Marker**



Getting To Know You



Frances Timmons

You know those street kids who hang out on the corner? Well, Sister Frances Timmons knows them well: what they think, and fear, and hope for. Frances has done pastoral work at Covenant House, an 88-bed youth shelter on Gerrard St., for 12 years and loves her job. The satisfaction of offering unconditional love to children whose lives are sad and difficult comes from listening to them: "no preaching, no teaching," as she puts it.

The "no teaching" part must have been difficult, after 34 years of doing just that. Frances knew she wanted to teach children after her happy year in Grade Five, being taught by an American nun who made learning joyful. "I wanted to make children happy too."

The eldest girl of a strong Irish family of nine, Frances was born in Sherbrooke, Quebec. After two years, working in the Royal Bank in Quebec City, she joined the Sisters of Charity of Halifax at 19, and trained to become a teacher. She worked in Needham, near Boston, for seven years, and has taught in Kelowna, BC, and, in an English school in Quebec City.

She eventually moved to Toronto to study theology at Regis College. Frances, who enjoys playing the piano and is just back from her first trip abroad, has been at 40 Homewood for eight years.





Television System

By John Kell

Early this month, I had the opportunity to accompany Doug Smith up to the roof to see the TV system. Doug is the engineer who built the system we have had on our roof for the past 30 years. He is responsible for us remaining independent from the regular cable companies here in Toronto.

It is extraordinary when one is able to get access to the roof of 40 Homewood, the vista is quite spectacular to say the least! When the air is clear, looking south, one can see right over Lake Ontario to Rochester, N.Y. To the west, Hamilton is quite visible on a clear night and after living in the build for a quarter of a century, I have always thought that the original builders of our condo missed a fabulous chance to take advantage of the wonderful view available to people on the higher floors only! What an unfortunate dilemma they created when they didn't consider putting an enclosed observation area on our roof.

Alas, I digress, that is not what this article is really about. Instead, it concerns the antiquated system that still works where our television reception is concerned. But, in the not too distant future, it would appear that major changes have to occur when we have the ability to switch from our old analog system to a more high tech system know as digital. It will cost us more but the payback seems to be worth it. The condo owners in our building will have to decide on upgrading the current system and bringing things up to date and still maintain our independence from the major cable companies that has been the case for the last 3 decades.

Our system works well at the present time but breaks down on occasion and has to have bandaids put on our receivers that last

for the short term. This cannot continue much longer. People who are familiar with computers can identify with this situation. A computer that was purchased five years ago is worth next to nothing in 2004 if one tries to get any reimbursement for the original. It appears everything today is designed with planned obsolescence in mind.

We have had a good run for the past 3 decades but as "Shrek" said to Donkey in the recent movie – "Change is good". We now find ourselves in the improvement mode. Owners will have to make a choice to spend a little more if they want to keep up with the times and still keep our independence from the cable suppliers.

Helpful Hints

Do you have any helpful hints that others might like to know. **Violet Green** has passed on one that was given to her.



After you have cored a pineapple, cut the core up in five or six pieces and freeze them. They can then be used for fruit drinks or milkshakes and it is really good for your fibre intake.

Ongoing Activities



Bridge in the recreation room, Mondays and Wednesdays at 7:30 pm.

Bridge is open to beginners as well as seasoned players. Try your "**hand**" at it.

Has anyone been down to the recreation room at these times to play other games? Euchre? Scrabble?



Movies with Don in the recreation room, Thursdays or Fridays at 7:30, Notices posted every week.

Tai Chi Open-House

Ever wonder what Tai Chi is really about? Come find out on September 21 when the 40 Homewood Tai Chi Chuan class will demonstrate the art, explain its history and challenges, and answer questions.

The ancient martial art of Tai Chi Chuan is much more than a stretching, relaxing exercise for older folk. Originally, it was used by palace guards to take down their enemies with their bare hands. In the words of Rodney John, who has taught the class here for seven years, Tai Chi Chuan is about "overcoming the frustrations of the mind."

At the open house, you will see demonstrations of the 108-step form, as practiced by the class. There will also be short demonstrations of the exercises "The Animal Frolics" by Bill Forrest, and of the sword and sabre forms. Finally, Bill and Rodney will do some "push-hands" and show in what way the warriors used the form in its martial applications.

There will be a question and answer session, during which you can ask about the history and development of Tai Chi Chuan. Members of the class will be present, in case you'd like to ask them about the class and their experiences. Working together over the years, the class greatly enjoys a sense of camaraderie.

Starting **September 28, 2004** up to **ten** new members will be admitted to the class. If you are interested, please come to the open house to find out about the art and how you can register.

Tai Chi Chuan Open House
Tuesday evening
September 21, 2004
6:30 pm
Recreation room

Get to know your neighbors! Make suggestions for profiles by using the box in the office or calling Charles at 968-3458.



Schedule for Board Meetings

Dates for Board Meetings for the remainder of the 2004/2005 season are as follows:

Owners' Budget Meeting

Wednesday, November 24, 2004, 7:30 pm.

Board Meetings:

Tuesday, September 28, 2004, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, October 26, 2004, Closed

Tuesday, January 25, 2005, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, February 22, 2005, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, March 29, 2005, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, April 26, 2005, 7:30 pm

Tuesday, May 31, 2005, 7:30 pm

All dates are subject to change without notice.

Just a reminder that unless noted otherwise, the board meetings are open to all owners. If you are interested in what happens at Board meetings, this is the best way to find out.

At the meeting on July 27th, 2004, the following officers were named:

Ivan Cody – President
Ron Browne – Vice-President
Denise Redwood – Treasurer
Martha McGrath – Secretary
John Darling – Director.

Kids say the Darndest Things



"If you had two dollars in one pocket and three dollars in the other pocket," the teacher asked a little boy in her class, "what would you have?"

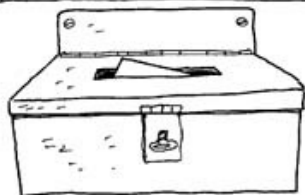
"I'd have someone else's pants," the boy answered.



Getting to Know the Staff

In case you don't know the people who work very hard every day to make this a well kept property, here is some info:

Property Manager - Pat Savoy
Office Administrators - Liz Madden and Natalia
Maintenance - Peter Warner.
Resident Cleaners - Victor Chadrine and Bill Corner.
Non Resident Cleaner - Antonio Monni
Part-time Non-Resident Cleaner. – Delores Hall.



Are there any suggestions as to what people would like to see in this newsletter? If we are to have more news about residents, like vacations and significant birthdays and other celebrations or accomplishments, I need roving reporters. I am not around that much and can't possibly know everything that is going on. Do you like the recipes, or jokes or classifieds? Should I do away with some of those segments? Come on people—I need feedback.



Halloween

Once again, this year, we will be looking for volunteers who are 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.



Recycling Corner



Flatten 'em Squish 'em

Please **FLATTEN** pop cans and pop bottles. It will make more room in the recycling bins. **Stomp** on 'em. **Take out your hostilities** on 'em.



In Memoriam

A third person on the 8th floor passed away in July, **Lionel Chee-A-Tow**, Unit #809

George Makinisian, Unit #106, passed away July 19th, 2004.

They will be missed by their friends and neighbours in the building.

Bicycles



If you don't yet have a spot for your bicycle, the new bike rack is now open and you can obtain a space for yourself by going to the Management office.

Note from the Editor

Martha McGrath, Unit 615

marthamcgrath@sympatico.ca

I apologize for the In Memoriam section last month, the word "Memoriam" dropped off and went into cyberspace somewhere.

Martha