

VIEWPOINT 50

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2009



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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT...



We have some achievements to celebrate...

- ✓ The corridors on both parking levels have been painted.
- ✓ The carpets have been cleaned
- ✓ The garage has been "power-washed"
- ✓ Windows have been cleaned
- ✓ The "alternating" front and rear door monitoring (on Ch 59 and 998 digital) has gone to a "split screen"
- ✓ The railings have been installed on the SE driveway sidewalk
- ✓ Christmas decorations have gone up and down.

There has been much more, of course – mostly the sort of thing you only notice if it is not done and Isan, Radu and Carlos make sure that rarely happens. It is all part of living in a well run condominium. These guys ...work their butts off... for us and they deserve our thanks. Make sure you give them a smile when you see them!

A very noticeable change has been the move from keyed access to electronic access to the building. Isan managed the whole thing superbly.

A word about that split screen. You may be wondering why we went to a four-way version, showing the front parking areas as well as the front and back doors instead of just two. Well, we found that a two way split changed the aspect ratio of the screen making us all either very tall and thin or very short and fat! Splitting four ways kept everything looking as it should.

The AGM went well. It is a pity that the combined attendance and proxies fell just short of the minimum we needed to assure a definitive vote on the By-Laws, but the postponement of that item allows us to give you all more explanation on exactly why the new By-Laws are needed and how they will give added protection for you, the owners. We will probably hold an Information Meeting early in the year and a General Meeting of Owners to confirm the By-Laws in April, in conjunction with the Budget Meeting. By the time this issue reaches you it will be 2009.

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President's Report cont'd

I hope you all had a happy and SAFE holiday season and wish you the very best in the coming year, weather permitting - as always.

Bill Henderson, President

PROPERTY MANAGER'S REPORT



Let's Get Serious About Recycling

The City of Toronto was forced to take aggressive measures to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill.

They plan to increase diversion from 13% to 70% by 2010. To achieve 70% diversion, the city's plan requires full participation from single family homes and multi-residential buildings to keep the volume of waste below 25 litres per household per week. The plan proposes to give taxpayers a financial incentive to reduce the amount of waste they send to the landfill.

The City of Toronto has added new items, which are now recyclable. You can now recycle plastic grocery and retail bags without drawstrings, metal detailing or hard plastic handles.

Place all plastic bags in one grocery bag or retail bag and tie handles together. You can also recycle foam polystyrene. This includes foam protective packaging from meat trays, foam takeout containers, foam plates, foam egg cartons and foam coffee cups.

All food residues must be removed and items pre-washed.

Energy-saving fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) contain small amounts of mercury, a poisonous heavy metal,

which is used to produce light. Please contact the office for safe disposal.

The challenge for condominiums will be to minimize the amount of solid waste set out for collection. City staff will visit building- by-building to provide information brochures and kitchen containers, for all residents, free of charge. It is to be assumed that when the organic waste diversion program starts it will be easier to reach their targets.

Isan Murat CPM, RCM, Property Manager

DID YOU KNOW?

That apartments and condominiums recycle only 13% of their waste. That means a whopping 87% of the garbage we generate goes to landfill—costing our building extra money in garbage fees, and costing each of us and our children a clean, safe and sustainable world.

City of Toronto Website



TWO IMPORTANT REMINDERS



You will now need your fob to open the door to the Recycle Room. Please do not leave any items outside of the door or outside of the building.

Please remember to bring your discarded clothing to the Diabetes Box (large red box) in the recycle room.



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BOOKCLUB TITLES TO JUNE 2009

February 16th, 2009
Saving Fish From Drowning
Amy Tan



March 16th, 2009
Dreams From My Father
Barack Obama



April 20th, 2009
Tipping Point
Malcolm Gladwell



May 25th, 2009 *
*3rd Monday Victoria Day
Fat Lady Next Door Is
Pregnant – Michel Tremblay



June 15th, 2009
The Jane Austen Book
Club

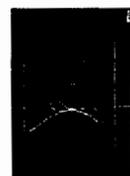


The following are a couple
of titles for future reading:

The Outliers,
Malcolm Gladwell



Last Lecture
Randy Pausch



HAPPY READING!
Lena Belanger



We are proud to announce that our Property Manager, Isan Murat, formally received his Registered Condominium Manager designation. The R.C.M. is the professional designation for the industry and provides assurance to both boards and management firms that individuals with this certification have professional expertise in managing condominiums. It is the only professional designation in Ontario, that identifies an individual who has specialized knowledge and skills in this field. With a four college-level education requirements, prior to writing the extensive R.C.M. exam, including condominium law, physical building systems, finance administration and human relations, it is not an easy accreditation to achieve. In addition the R.C.M. candidate must pass a written exam and have a minimum of two years practical hands-on experience. Isan, we congratulate you. You are our “strong-right arm” and we are fortunate to be the recipients of your calm and skilful care.

WAY TO GO ISAN!



The Editors of Viewpoint 50 gratefully acknowledge the efforts of Judy Graham Coney in the production of these newsletters.

CHRISTMAS TEA AT 50 QUEBEC AVENUE



The first, and we hope not the last Christmas Tea was held in the meeting room in December. Hosted by Gord Hamilton, the party was a great success. Coffee, tea and an amazing array of sandwiches, cookies and cakes added to its success, not to mention the Carol Sing-Along lead by Gord himself and music provided by Ann Tudor. Thank you to Gord, Ethel Thompson and Anita Li.



**ST. PATRICK'S
DAY POTLUCK
LUNCHEON**

On March 17th, 2009, there will be a Potluck Luncheon held in the Meeting Room at 12:00 p.m.

This ain't no blarney!



Watch for information.

**NEW IN THE
VILLAGE
SYSTEM RELOAD**



Healthy shakes, smoothies and wraps are now right around the corner.

A new health bar called System Reload has opened it's doors in the retirement home on the north side of Bloor directly opposite Ellis Park Ave. Drop in your way to the Village for one of their over 15 healthy shakes or design your own. Or, on the way home have a nutritious drink to help you recover from a busy visit in the Village. Say hi to Anna or Jay when you drop in.

生け花



Ikebana is the Japanese art of flower arrangement, and is also known as kado (the "way of flowers"). It has been practised for around 600 years.

As a disciplined art form, it transcends simply putting flowers in a container. Ikebana often emphasizes other areas of the plant, such as its stems and leaves. Shape, line and form are key considerations. Though Ikebana is a creative expression, it has certain rules that govern its form.

The main rule is that all the elements used in construction must be organic – branches, leaves, grasses or flowers.

Ikebana is distinguished by its use of minimalism. That is, an arrangement may consist of only a minimal number of blooms interspersed among the stalks and leaves. The container is also a key element of the composition, and various styles of pottery may be used in their construction. Ikebana uses asymmetrical form and empty space as an essential feature of the arrangement.

The **Moribana** (upright style) is considered the most basic structure in Ikebana.

Ikebana continued



Moribana literally means “piled-up flowers” which are arranged in a shallow container. Moribana is secured on kenzan or needle point holders, also know as metal frogs. The creations in the low vase that you have seen recently are a novice’s attempts at Moribana to bring harmony to our lobby lounge.

Happy New Year!
Loretta Ycas, Chairperson
Lobby Decorating Committee

**DISPOSAL OF
USED**

APPLIANCES

When purchasing appliances, especially televisions, computers, microwave ovens etc. make sue the vendor arranges removal of your old appliance.



This will avoid the discarding of unwanted and broken items in our recycling room on the P1 level.

The ultimate removal of these objects is an added cost to our Corporation 323.

**PREPARE FOR
EMERGENCY
SITUATIONS**



When the power goes off:

1. flashlights, cell phone, battery powered radio. Extra batteries on hand for the radio and flashlight. Flashlights should be located where you spend most

of your time. Avoid groping around in the dark. Portable radio tuned to “all news” station (680) on the dial.

2. Avoid excessive opening and closing of the refrigerator. Food in the frozen section can remain frozen for hours.
3. Toilets will operate for at least one flush.
4. Have large containers of water available for use and bottled water.
5. Only 1 elevator will be in use.
6. Hallways and stairwells will be lit.
7. Cordless telephones will not work.
8. Telephone landlines should be working.
9. Unless absolutely necessary avoid calling superintendent/office, as our staff will already be busy.
10. When required to leave your unit, take:
 - a. Identification, passport, health card, driver’s license, cash/credit cards, eyewear, medications and pets, keys etc.
 - b. Close, lock doors and windows.

Orange Tabby Cat, Suite 602

PET REGISTRY

During an emergency, especially fire, it is important the office knows about your pets.



Isan maintains a list of pets and their suite number for the fire fighters. Depending, on the situation and their immediate priorities, it just may be possible to rescue our pets too.



There are a couple of YouTube videos that you may be interested in viewing. Go to YouTube.com and in the search box enter Quebec Ave., Toronto, for a panoramic view of our corner at Glenlake. Also, if you enter Toronto Junction Walking Tour you will be led to a complete, historical walking tour of Toronto Junction.



VILLAGE SIDEWALKS

As many are aware, the sidewalks in Bloor West Village have been in serious deterioration over many years. Heaved or missing bricks, broken cement, endlessly patched “walkways” are unsightly and dangerous. Some have called the sidewalks in Bloor West the worst in the city. Last year, our Councillor, Bill Saundercook was quoted as saying, “ he was working on behalf of the pedestrians to make sure our sidewalks are treated as importantly as our roads”. A local newspaper reported that, “He is currently working to revitalize the areas sidewalks”. That was way back in the fall. Recently several messages left for Mr. Sandercook have not been returned. A telephone conversation with his administrative assistant was not helpful. It came as a real surprise, then, when recently it was learned that Mr. Saundercook is co-chair of Toronto’s Pedestrian Committee and has been for some time. Squeaky wheels get grease so add your voice to those who are concerned. Telephone: 416-338-5165, e-mail: councillor_saundercook@cityhall.ca mail: 17 St. John’s Road, Toronto, Ontario M6S 3H1. Collectively we maybe able to get some answers or perhaps even some action.



THE OLD MILL

In 1843, Thomas Fisher from Leeds, England built a mill on the banks of the Humber River, and shortly after sold it to William Gamble. In 1837 Gamble hired William Tyrrell to construct a larger mill. A fire in 1849 destroyed the mill, which was replaced by a new larger mill. The stone for the mill came from the Humber Valley as did the lumber and beams which were hewn on the site. Limestone was brought in from Kingston to the mouth of the Humber and then to the site on barges. One cold night

night in 1881 a small fire was lit in the upper mill to prevent stored apples from freezing. The mill burned down leaving only the heavy stonewalls which still stand in the Old Mill Tea Garden, a quaint monument to the Humber pioneers of the past. In the early 19th century there was a busy little community clustered around the Old Mill on the Humber, which the settlers called, “The Garden of Eden”. The Old Mill still retains its old world charm. Today many enjoy the restaurant, bar, patio, spa and the chapel where many weddings are held. It still serves one of the best English High Teas in Toronto. For more information or samples of their menus just go to their website.

**CHRISTMAS TREES
WHEN DO THEY GO
UP? WHEN SHOULD
THE COME DOWN?**



Here in Toronto we celebrate the holiday season as a festival that now encompasses Christian, secular and cultural traditions. In answer to your questions we have been following some Christian calendar dates as an informal guide. We put up the tree after Gaudett Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, and leave it up until Orthodox Christians have celebrated Christmas on January 7th. Remember, all of this is done in the spirit of bringing harmony, pleasure and joy to our home at 50 Quebec Avenue.

Lobby Decorating Committee