

# Guildwood News & Views



Winter Edition - 2004

**March 30 - Annual  
General Meeting**  
**April 24 - Spring  
CleanUp**  
**April 24 to May 9 -  
Membership Drive**  
**May 29 - Guildwood  
Garage Sale Day**  
**June 5 - Guildwood Day**

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Come and connect with your neighbours!

Guildwood Village Residents  
are requested to attend

## The Annual General Meeting of the Guildwood Village Community Association

*Tuesday, March 30, 2004  
7:30 p.m. at  
Church of the Holy Trinity  
85 Livingston Road*

With Special Guest

### **Inspector Wayne Pye of Toronto Police 42 Division**

*will be speaking about the challenges of crime in  
Scarborough  
and will listen to the concerns of our community  
members.*

*7:30 – Police Presentation*

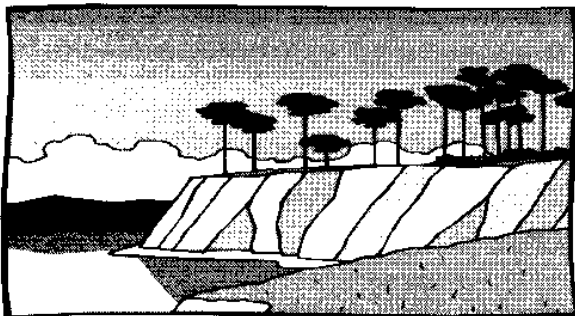
*8:30 – Treasurer and Committee Reports*

*8:45 – Election of Officers*

We need your attendance and your input  
so that we will continue to have a strong voice  
in our community!

### Executive Committee

<b>GVCA Website</b>	www.guildwood.on.ca
<b>GVCA Infoline</b>	(416) 410-2755
<b>President</b>	Donna Milovanovic (416) 410-2755
<b>Past-President</b>	Gerard Baribeau (416) 264-4527
<b>Vice-President</b>	John Stafford (416) 264-8898
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rob Taubmann (416) 266-1599
<b>Secretary</b>	John Mitchell (416) 266-8604
<b>Coordinators and Members at Large</b>	
<b>Webmaster</b>	Ross Armitage (416) 269-4584 webmaster@guildwood.on.ca
<b>Membership</b>	Judy-Anne Tumber (416) 264-6016
<b>Distribution Coordinator</b>	John Stafford (416) 264-8898
<b>Community Safety</b>	Lori Metcalfe (416) 266-7092
<b>News &amp; Views</b>	Deborah Cameron (416) 282-6538
<b>Guildwood Day</b>	John Harris (416) 265-5999
<b>Members at Large</b>	Reg Wolfe Richard Sands Bruce Villeneuve
<b>Community Volunteers for Specific Activities</b>	
<b>Christmas Celebration</b>	Peter Sherman
<b>Signs</b>	Susan Donahue
<b>Membership List</b>	Fred Cowin
<b>Guildwood Day Parade</b>	Joyce DeSouza
<b>Environment Clean Team</b>	Judy MacLeod



The Guildwood News & Views is published four times a year, with occasional special editions. Submissions are welcome and must be received by the following dates:

Winter Edition - January 31  
 Spring Edition - March 15  
 Summer Edition - May 31  
 Fall Edition - September 15

Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with any submissions you wish returned.

Mail to:

Guildwood News & Views  
 Box 11001  
 97 Guildwood Parkway  
 Scarborough, Ontario M1E 5G5

Email to:

newsandviews@guildwood.on.ca

Did you know that the Guildwood Village Citizens Association has its own hotline?

If you have any questions you would not be able to find answers to in our issues you would like to bring to our attention, call this number for you. Call and leave a message and your messages are checked on a regular basis.

**(416) 410-2755**

### Spring Clean-up Day

Please join us for the annual city-wide community clean-up day on Saturday April 24th, 2004.

We will meet at  
 Church of the Holy Trinity,  
 the SE corner of Livingston Rd. and Guildwood Pkwy.,  
 at 9:30 a.m.

Help us make Guildwood sparkle.

*Judy MacLeod*



### President's Message

The winter months have been relatively quiet in terms of GVCA activities. Hibernation seemed the most suitable activity to deal with the bitter cold weather that we have experienced. We did organize the annual Christmas Celebration in December which was well attended and enjoyed by all. Special thanks to Peter Sherman and all the other folks who helped make the Christmas Carol Sing a success.

Now that March is here we can begin planning for a new term of office and our spring events. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tues. March 30th, 2004 at Church of the Holy Trinity. At this time a new slate of executive officers will be elected by the community to run the GVCA for the next year. I am expecting the coming year will be very eventful, in terms of the rehabilitation of the Guild Inn, and we will need a strong community association to ensure our voices are heard. We have also arranged for the new Police Inspector of 42 Division to speak about community safety at the AGM. The executive committee works hard on your behalf to address the numerous issues that are important to our community. Your support and attendance at the AGM is requested.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank John Mitchell, our secretary and unofficial event photographer, for initiating and implementing the GVCA calendar project. The calendars were well received by the community and we were pleased with the number sold.

As always, this issue of the News and Views is chock-full of announcements, school news, community activities, interesting articles and resources. Grab a pen and your calendar to mark all the upcoming GVCA event dates and enjoy an informative read.

*Donna Milovanovic*  
President, GVCA

### Guildwood Village Community Association - Available Positions

#### President

The President shall act as chairman for all General Meetings, shall exercise general supervision over the affairs and activities of the Association, shall ensure that an Agenda is prepared for each General Meeting and for each Executive Meeting and shall serve as ex-officio member of any committee.

#### Vice-President

The Vice-president shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence, or when specifically asked by the President to do so.

#### Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

- a. Maintain appropriate books of accounts and financial records;
- b. Deposit all funds in a financial institution approved by the Executive Committee;
- c. Submit a financial report to each Executive Committee meeting;
- d. Submit appropriate financial statements to the Annual General Meeting for the preceding fiscal year;
- e. Assist the President in the preparation of budgets.

#### Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- a. Make a record of minutes of the Executive Committee meetings and General Meetings;
- b. Be the custodian of the minutes and other official documents of the Association, including the membership roll;
- c. Attend to correspondence as directed by the Executive Committee.

**Nominations for these positions can be made by contacting**  
*Judy MacLeod at (416) 269-4761.*

### Membership Drive 2004

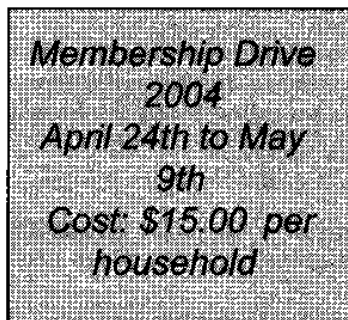
April 24th to May 9th

Cost: \$15.00

Once again, we all have the opportunity to support the GVCA by purchasing a membership card. This year's campaign will run from April 24th to May 9th, during which time a volunteer will knock on your door to sell you a membership. If, for some reason, you are not contacted directly, please use the application form provided and either send it in to the GVCA Box Office or bring it over to our home.

As always, it takes many volunteers to complete this task and volunteers are still needed for this year's campaign. If you are willing to help out as an Area Captain or Canvasser, please call us as soon as possible. We will be pleased to have you as part of our membership team. We look forward to a successful campaign for 2004.

David and Judy-Anne Tumber  
416-264-6016



### Christmas Celebration 2003

On the eve of December 7th the GVCA hosted our annual Christmas Celebration on the front lawn of the Guild Inn. Approximately 175 Guildwood residents, young and old, came out to sing Christmas Carols, drink hot chocolate, warm up by the fire and enjoy a neighbourly evening. Santa Claus made a special visit from the North Pole with a basket of candy canes for the children. Many favourite carols were sung, a few several times. "Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer, had a very shiny nose (like a light bulb)."

Many community volunteers helped to organize and contribute to this event and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts. Nancy Yarwood and her Parks and Recreation staff helped secure the permit and put up the lights on the Bickford Inn, which made the area very festive. Peter Sherman, with the help of his wife Carol, made all the arrangements for the event including the tent and sound system. Gerard Baribeau, Pat Sands and Bruce Brown set up, prepared and served the delicious hot chocolate. Richard Sands took care of the fire, the song sheets and helped out with clean-up. Karen Brinkhof, owner of Brinkhof's Valumart donated the hot chocolate and supplies. JoAnn Vanderyagt played the piano and her husband Peter helped to keep the sheet music organized. John Mitchell, our unofficial photographer, took pictures for the website and sent one into the Bluffs Monitor. Sue Donahue, our sign lady, prepared and set up the large signs around the community while Gerard Baribeau made up the small signs and Richard Sands posted them in our neighbourhood stores. Chris Hammel also helped with the entertainment for the evening.

Thank you to all these wonderful people, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Donna Milovanovic,  
President, GVCA

### GVCA 2004 CALENDAR PROJECT

I am delighted to report that the project to create a calendar full of 8"x10" photographs taken in Guildwood Village was successful. Unfortunately, some external events delayed the launch somewhat but 136 calendars were sold. Thanks to all of the folks who bought calendars and to those for whom the price was just too high but who offered encouragement. I wish to express appreciation for the help in promoting the calendars given by local businesses and also Ross White for being very flexible in printing them. Without all of them we could not have achieved the success we did.

It was interesting to meet virtually every customer and to hear what they intended to do with their purchases. Sending them to family members, friends or ex-neighbours who now live in other cities and towns - even other countries - but who grew up in Guildwood Village, was not uncommon. For anyone who did not see the calendar reproductions of the photographs will remain posted on the Website [www.guildwood.on.ca](http://www.guildwood.on.ca) for a while longer.

Having a unique Guildwood Village calendar was very well received; it was something that had not been done before. Suggestions were made regarding ways in which a 2005 calendar might be produced - at a lower cost and, consequently, sold at a lower price. To achieve significant cost reductions requires significant print runs but the downside of that is that the association cannot afford to end up with unsold stock. Anything not sold by January 1<sup>st</sup> starts to lose its usefulness - as a calendar - quite rapidly. Options are currently being investigated, however, and some reduction in cost seems attainable. Progress reports will appear in future issues of News & Views. In the meantime, don't be surprised if you see me with my camera, looking out for more great pictures.

The following local businesses provided promotional help by having available on their premises sample calendars and facilities for potential buyers to indicate their interest:  
Guildwood Cleaners & Tailors; Guildwood Village Bakery-Deli;  
Guildwood Public Library; Lady Guild Beauty Centre; Parkway Travel & Cruises; Sunny's Bar & Restaurant; The Quilting Patch; and Valu Mart.

The printing was done by My Office / Your Office, 14 - 4218 Lawrence Avenue East.

by John Mitchell

### We want your wedding story about the Guild Inn.

Still bringing myths to life, Cliffhanger Productions has commissioned playwright MARK BROWNELL (Monsieur d'Eon, Iron Road, The Martha Stewart Projects, The Chevalier St. George) to create a new work about the lore and legend of one of Toronto's most famous landmarks -The Guild Inn! And we invite the public to submit their stories!

Co-produced with Mixed Company Theatre, key community partnerships include The Guildwood Village Association, The Guild Renaissance Group and The Heron Park Community Centre. Further support comes from Scarborough Councillor David Soknacki and The Laidlaw Foundation.

Cliffhanger Productions is an award winning company that presents an outdoor summer season based at the beautiful and historic Guild Inn Gardens. The Guild is home to Canada's most important collection of architectural fragments. Cliffhanger blends these fragments into the settings of original plays and adaptations. "It's a truly spectacular outdoor stage... a glorious setting." (Robert Crew, Toronto Star)

The derelict condition of the Guild Inn and the community's passionate commitment to what it once was has led to the newest Cliffhanger project. The Guild is its own legend and the Guild Play by Mark Brownell will travel throughout the park, incorporating historic columns, limestone and granite pieces as well as characters, real and invented, from the great estate's past. Brownell exclaims "There is a wealth of fascinating dramatic history to be mined with this show!"

And that's where Toronto comes in!

Cliffhanger Productions is asking for the Guild Inn wedding stories out there, and we know there are plenty. The Guild is Toronto's most photographed wedding site, and the weddings date way back. Please send us your story: funny, disastrous or poignant, we want the family legends and a history of weddings at the Guild.

EMAIL: [guildstories@hotmail.com](mailto:guildstories@hotmail.com)

Or mail

Cliffhanger Productions

2369 Kingston Rd. Box 28004

Toronto, Ontario M1N 4E7

Contact :416-264-5869

Artistic Director: Alice Walter

### **Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church 140 Guildwood Parkway**

Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church now has two services on a Sunday. One at 9:30am and one at 11am. If you thought that Presbyterians were stuffy and dull then think again. The 9:30am service has contemporary music (guitar, keyboard and base). Coffee and tea are available throughout the service and the atmosphere is casual and relaxed. There is a sermon, Sunday School and nursery - something for everyone.

Some, of course still prefer the traditional 11 am service with the choir and organ music. This is followed by an opportunity to meet with friends and new acquaintances.

You are cordially invited to join us at either service. Our church is friendly and welcomes all visitors.

*Ann Daly - Session Member*

### **Sir Wilfrid Laurier C.I - A Message From The Principal**

With the first semester now completed and the prospect of warmer days soon to come, one might expect that life has been somewhat quiet at Laurier. Nothing could be further from the truth. In my first few months as Principal of Sir Wilfrid Laurier C.I. I have come to realize what a hub of activity this school really is!

For the first time in five years, the school fielded a Varsity Boys' Football Team. Coaches Tony Vallejo, Heath Weir, Brent Weir, and Mike Gervais chose to enter the squad in the most competitive "A Division" as opposed to the "B Division". Many felt this would be a daunting challenge considering that most of our players were experiencing full contact football for the first time in their lives. The coaches and players proved that they were up to the challenge posting a terrific 3 and 2 record for 3rd place in the final league standings. Congratulations gentlemen!

In girls' field hockey action, Coach Lesley Gage led her team to an excellent 4 and 2 record. Amber Stockert and Amber Pritchard showed great leadership in guiding this young team throughout the season and into the playoffs. In the end, they were edged out of the playoffs losing a hard fought quarterfinal match 2 to 1 to Cedarbrae C.I. Coach Gage has now turned her attention to the Junior Girls' Volleyball Team who are in the midst of a very successful season. Teachers Vicky Quinn, Andrea McPhee and Catherine Brock have shared coaching duties in leading the Bantam Girls' Volleyball Team a fun rebuilding season.

In the pool, Coach Wendy Heard and her swim team are enjoying an outstanding season. Several of the swimmers should qualify for the Provincial Championships including our highly rated Boys Relay Team.

On the basketball court, Coach Mike Jovanov and his players are having an exceptional season. To date, they have been among the most competitive teams in the TDSB South East. They have performed admirably through the regular season and recently won the consolation final of the annual Centennial College Colts Tournament. Congratulations to all of our coaches and players, you have done an outstanding job representing your school!

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the tremendous success of our music program. Under the guidance of Mr. Duane Atkins and Ms. Anna Zywiell, our young musicians have made steady improvement. On December 11, friends, family and parents were treated to the Holiday Sounds Concert. The show attracted a large turnout and brought the audience to their feet repeatedly throughout the performance.

Coming events include the United Cultures Club Luncheon where staff and students will sample the foods, music and cultural heritage of the many groups represented at Laurier C.I. Under the leadership of Ms. Liz Burnip our drama students will enter the Sears Drama Festival to be held Friday March 5th in the Laurier Auditorium. Good luck to Ms. Burnip and her crew of talented students!

Read on for more news and information about the many activities happening at Laurier!

*Paul Ambrose*

### **ESP (Empowered Student Partnership)**

ESP focuses on promoting student awareness in an effort to foster a positive attitude and atmosphere throughout Laurier. It is a partnership between the Metro Toronto Police, Pro-Action and various other organizations within Toronto and has been initiated in over 50 schools across the TDSB and the Toronto Catholic School Board. Being in the E.S.P. enables members to gain leadership skills and to earn their community service hours. It also enables students to empower themselves to make the necessary changes in school so that it may be a better place to learn and have fun. The E.S.P. participates in various activities throughout the year. Already, we have put on a T.A.P. assembly, held in conjunction with the SAC, and held a White Ribbon Campaign in which we raised \$220 to go toward the White Ribbon Campaign. Our agenda for the second half of the school year is packed with a Drinking and Driving campaign, a feeder-school assembly (to be presented with drama students), a leadership conference for Laurier students and possibly getting an inspirational speaker to talk with Laurier students. As much as E.S.P. members coordinate events for Laurier students, we feel it is also important to recognize our accomplishments and improve our leadership skills. Last year, E.S.P. members attended a year end celebration with E.S.P. committees from across Toronto, and it was there that we received the award for the most inspirational program, which included \$1000. E.S.P. members also attended the Boys to Men program (and girls too), where we met successful athletes and learned about how leadership can change your life. By continuously improving ourselves, E.S.P. members have taken a stand to create a positive program that is run by students, for the benefit of students.

*Verissa Samad - President*

### **Laurier's "World View"**

Laurier's Geography Department has been busy first semester with numerous activities involving the school and greater community. In addition, to our field studies of the land surrounding the Guild Inn and the Bluffs, the grade 9 classes have also been performing neighbourhood studies with a focus on land use and environmental issues. In November, the grade 9 classes made the traditional trip to the Rouge Park to native trees and shrubs in partnership with the Friends of the Rouge Watershed which aims to restore the Rouge Valley to its original beauty and diversity. Over 90 students took part this semester in reforestation at two sites. Mr. Ambrose accompanied the class to the Glen Eagles site, where students used native shrub species to regenerate the wetland area. Students also helped to reforest former agricultural land in the Rouge River Uplands. Laurier has participated in this program for over 6 years and this year we were able to view the tangible results of the work of students now off to university.

December proved to be a treat for the Geography Department. The

Travel and Tourism Class went to see the new Coral Reef Adventure IMAX film at the Ontario Science Centre and spent the rest of the day learning about Fragile Biomes. During the first week of December, the Geography Department teamed up with History and Drama to have special guest, Mike Ford (musician and songwriter of Moxy Fruvus) serenade us with songs about Canadian History and Geography.

Under the guidance of Ms. Taylor, the grade 9 classes will also be participating in the Great Canadian Geography Challenge, sponsored by Canadian Geographic. This annual event is a quiz game which asks students across Canada a variety of geographical questions relating to Canada and the world. The top-scoring student of each school writes a test which is then marked by the event co-ordinators. If we are lucky, we will be sending our top student to compete provincially! Ms. Taylor is also head of a lunch-time group of enthusiastic students who spend two lunch-hours every week testing their knowledge and preparing for the Challenge. Good luck to all those who participate!

Laurier's Environmental Club has also been busy this fall and has been part of a new school improvement plan set up by our new Principal, Mr. Ambrose. In November, members of the Environmental Club spent 2 days planting hardy trees and plants in front of the school. The Environment Club will be planning a "Clean the Woods" day once the weather starts to warm and are currently gearing up for Earth Day in April.

*K. Macleod - ACL, Social Sciences Department  
Sir Wilfrid Laurier C1*

### **Highschool Food Drive: A Success!**

This holiday season, the students and teachers of Sir Wilfrid Laurier C.I. were proud participants of our very own "Holiday Food Drive".

The food drive ran from November 19th to December 19th, and was organized and run by four Laurier students: Nanad Maharaj, Felicia Narain, Madina Amanat and Sameena Walrond, along with the support of principal, Paul Ambrose, and several others.

Being the holiday season, it seemed like an excellent way to give something special to those that are less fortunate. With that in mind, several contests and events were held in order to raise food for this event.

On December 19th, the truck from the Daily Bread Food Bank was packed with an amazing total of 1900 pounds of food; all donated by Laurier teachers and students. In addition to this wonderful contribution, a \$300.00 monetary donation was also given to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Once again, this money was raised by Laurier's students and staff.

Congratulations go out to the staff at Laurier and especially the students for such an excellent contribution!

*Felicia Narain*

**Lady Of Guildwood Forest  
They Gave Mrs. "Smile" A New Heaven  
From the Toronto Daily Star  
Friday, November 6, 1964**

Guildwood Village revealed a warm-heartedness it hardly knew existed when the cottage of Mrs. Mary Macher, an 88-year-old widow who lives alone, burned down recently. The whole community pitched in to provide her with a new home and fill it with the little things that make an elderly woman's life comfortable.

By DAVID PROULX - Star staff writer

When 88-year-old widow Mrs. Mary Macher was burned out a couple of weeks ago, her neighbors of Guildwood village gathered—unmasked—to patch up another cottage for her, furnish it and rustle up the little things that make an old woman's life comfortable. Mary Macher, despite her age, is no ordinary woman. This spry, gray haired little bird of a woman is the lady of the forest. When Mary Macher walks through the woods raccoons come standing around her feet. Squirrels natter in the trees. They know lunch is coming. As many as 40 children at a time gather in her front yard to listen to the kindly little lady dispense sage advice how to grow up to be a worthwhile being, how to treat animals with kindness. "If you stop and pick up an injured robin off the ground and put it back in its nest," she would tell them, "then your day has really been worth living." Mary ("middle name is smile") Macher loves Guildwood, its animals and its woods. She is equally beloved by the neighborhood children and their parents.

**It's Heaven**

"Guildwood," she says "is not just a haven, it's heaven." On a recent Friday, Mrs. Macher was fixing lunch in her tiny frame cottage set among the trees on Westvale St. "My stove was on the porch and the floor slanted, I could never keep the ash pit door closed. I'd just turned my back when, whoosh, there were flames everywhere. I guess some hot embers fell on the wood floor." Mrs. Macher just had time to grab a coat and two dresses and throw one of her cats out the door before fleeing herself. When neighbors reached the scene, the cottage was a mass of flames. Little could be saved. To Mrs. Macher the question wasn't where she would sleep that night, she was more worried whether any of her beloved 'coons had been trapped under the house. She stood in her front yard—all five

feet of her erect—without a whimper. By supper time, neighbors had organized a drive to re-establish the little lady of the forest in another home. The owner of the burned-out shell, Spencer Clark, offered her any cottage she chose. She liked the one directly across the road, a dilapidated unheated cottage, without windows, lights, toilet, or a sound roof. It looked like as if it was on its last legs. But maybe just maybe, with the passage of time the 'coons would sense the change and come scratching on her new door in search of food. The neighbors went to work. Before bedtime heavy plastic had been tacked over the window frames. The ladies brought in a bed, bedding and a rug for the bedroom.

**Flashlight**

It wasn't a very appealing sight, but Mrs. Macher would't sleep anywhere else. She bought a flashlight and curled up in bed to read from a treasured now singed—book of poems. Saturday is usually hectic at Guildwood Plaza but bright and early one of the volunteers was down at the hardware store asking if one of the clerks could be sent down to Mrs. Macher's to estimate the cost of putting in windows. Four hours later the volunteer returned to ask for the estimate. The windows had already been installed—free. Boy Scouts gathered with scythes and anything they could lay their hands on to cut down the three-foot weeds cluttering the front yard. The men installed an oil tank. They salvaged the space heater from the burned-out cottage, dismantled it and fixed it. By nightfall, the cottage had heat. The men, none of them electricians, also rewired the cottage to provide light. Two young girls appeared with something to decorate the drab fibre-board walls—maple leaves with flowers pinned on top. Later, Girl Guides cleaned the windows, then went back to the plaza to ask if there was any odd lots of wallpaper they could buy at a discount price. They had the choice of any style in the store, No charge. By night, the two rooms that were weather tight had been papered and painted.

**Furniture Poll**

In the meantime, the neighbors had chosen street captains to poll the village for furniture. Mrs. Macher soon had an electric stove, a small refrigerator, just the right size for the needs of one little old lady, rugs, a better bed, blankets, drapes, a couch, lamps, tables and chairs—just about everything. A phone was installed—"a "friend" is picking up the bill. When Mrs. Macher made her daily trip to the

plaza to pick up the Star, it too was on the house—courtesy of the store keeper. The front half of the roof still leaks, but the men will be getting around to that. They've already got the roofing paper. As soon as that's complete, the living room and bathroom will be papered and painted and a chemical toilet installed. And every day, Mrs. Macher has unexpected company. Young girls shyly offering handfuls of wild flowers to brighten up the cottage, young mothers dropping to chat and have a cup of tea from the eternal pot brewing on Mrs. Macher's stove. The little lady of the forest had a television set before the fire, but it was damaged beyond use. She's never mentioned it since, but the neighbors know one would help to pass the long winter nights. The pin-neat woman in the polka dot dress has been living alone since her husband Gilbert, died in 1953.

**Her 3 Cats**

All she has for company are her three cats: Jerry (the lazy one), Riley (an independant cuss), and Chi Chi (the wanderer). "I'm not too sure Jerry still likes me. Ever since I had to throw him out the door the day of the fire he's been staring at me with a baleful look in his eyes," she says. On her daily walks along Scarborough Bluffs, Mrs. Macher is still trying to think of an appropriate way of saying thanks to her neighbors. "You know young man," she told me as we sat around the kitchen table, "thanks is an awfully glib word." It's like love and hate. You can say 'I love you' or 'I hate you' and hardly know it has a meaning. "The people down here, the ones that thought of all the little comforts, they must be capable of great things in this world. I've said thanks a thousand times, but it's hardly adequate." So Mrs. Macher has returned to her simple daily routine: feeding the cats, walking through her forest, talking to the children, hoping the 'coons find out where she's moved to and come looking for food. She has always remembered something her husband told her years ago: "To be needed is the most wonderful thing in the world." Now she knows. She's needed.

*Thanks to Mavis Kindrid for transcribing and submitting this piece of our history.*

## Marijuana Grow Houses

Toronto Police report that marijuana grow houses exist in every type of neighbourhood, often in established or affluent areas. One grow house was recently exposed in the Guildwood community and the suspect was arrested.

Grow houses pose a serious risk to the safety of the surrounding community. They often have links to criminal elements, organized crime and weapons. There is a risk of increased violence and residual crime in neighbourhoods associated with this illegal activity. Marijuana grow houses pose a serious fire risk because electrical meters, fuses and circuit breakers are usually bypassed in the process of stealing large volumes of electricity.

### *How to Identify a Grow House*

1. Residents rarely appear to be at home and attend the house at odd hours.
2. Snow melts on their roof before the other homes on the street.
3. Windows are covered up and may have a layer of condensation on them.
4. Visitors come and go for brief visits, often parking down the street and walking to the house.
5. Little outside maintenance is done.
6. Entry to the home is rarely made through the front door.
7. Rarely is any garbage placed out at the curb for pick-up.
8. Noise from generators may be heard.

### *What do you do if you suspect a Grow House is operating in your area?*

Contact the police at 416-808-2222 or make an anonymous call to 416-222-TIPS. We need you to keep an eye on our community, for everyone's sake!

Lori Metcalfe  
Crime Concern

## ROTARY CLUB OF SCARBOROUGH to participate in GUILDWOOD GARAGE SALE !

For years, the Rotary Club of Scarborough members have attended and purchased items at the Guildwood Garage Sale - this year, we will be taking part as sellers, too! Since we have several members who live in the Guild, we will be setting up Rotary Garage Sale tables at their homes, in hopes of raising funds for the many causes we support. Some of our funds have recently been spent on buying defibrillators for the Scarborough Fire Department, helping Centenary Hospital buy equipment for the Cardiac Care Unit, helping West Hill Community Services and Bendale Acres with their purchases of specially equipped vehicles, and providing a large grant to the Scarborough Libraries for their Leading to Reading Programme.

Through the Garage Sale, we hope to raise more funds that we can make available for local community projects. So when you're "saleing" around on May 29, and see a Rotary Sign in a driveway, please remember that everything you buy will help Rotary put money back in our own community! (And the groups who are selling for Rotary will be competing with each other to see who can sell the most - so you know there'll be some great bargains!) See you at the Guildwood Garage Sale!!

*Chris Musselman*

Dear Friends and Neighbours

My, my, such things happening in our very own grocery store in our very own plaza. Persons of certain ages - not teenagers - opening a second box of fruit to cram more into the box already selected. Candies sampled from the bins, or handfuls of said sweets surreptitiously deposited in pockets - preliminary to buying or just snacking? I wonder how much this costs the owner and how much is added to the actual purchase price of groceries to accommodate this hidden grazing and lifting. I guess the rest of us just swallow the added cost. Sounds a bit like condoning and accepting something that's not quite right - and expensive - doesn't it? Any suggestions?

*Anne Petite*

### Crime Report

<b>October</b>	Robbery of a youth - Guildwood Pkwy. & Livingston Rd. Break and enter - Guild Inn
<b>November</b>	Break and enter - Fintona Ave.
<b>December</b>	Break and enters - Livingston Rd. Somerdale Sq. Lyncroft Dr. Attempted break-ins - Fintona Ave. Navarre Cres. Robbery of a youth - Guildwood Pkwy. & Livingston Rd. Robbery at a store - Dearham Wood

*Note: 2 suspects were arrested for the break-in on Somerdale Sq.  
4 suspects were arrested for the robbery of a youth in December*

**Safety Tip: When someone rings your doorbell, speak up. You do not have to open your door but speak through the door so they know you are home.**



**A Message from David Soknacki**

Dear Guildwood Villagers

We are all hoping that 2004 brings some long awaited and worked for changes to the Guild Inn site. At present we are cautiously optimistic.

During our last update with the proponent for the Guild Inn project, he advised us that in the last week of January he was planning to bring together those parties who would be appropriate participants, and to pull together a new vision for the Guild Inn. Once a framework was established, the number crunching would begin for a traffic study and the finances necessary to fund the proposal. Assuming those calculations are positive, then the proponent and City staff would invite the community to consider the ideas.

While we had originally thought that the Community meeting date would be as early as the end of February, my guess is that it will now be in March. Nevertheless I believe that we are pleased that real progress is being made along the lines we approved.

Of concern during the intervening months has been the chronic vandalism to the abandoned building. Thanks to information from both your Community Association and Neighbourhood Watch, we were alerted to the situation. City staff has responded with a live security presence at the Guild Inn. We expect to have an online security system installed in the near future.

While much of the focus of Villagers has been on the Bickford Inn and Studio buildings, the Guild Renaissance Group has been busy working on its plans to restore the Greek theatre. Funds for the feasibility study are in the City's budget, and the Guild Renaissance Group has already begun fundraising.

With our winter comes snow, and with snow come calls to our office. So here is some information on how the City clears snow. The City's Transportation Department's objective is to provide safe and passable road conditions at all times. When rush-hour snowfall or icing is predicted, the city sends response crews to standby positions across the city. Up to 201 de-icers and 673 road snowploughs are assigned to manage a snowfall in Toronto.

Of course there will be times when residents feel that the equipment is looking after every other street in the City except their own. Please recall that arterial roads are priorities: in the Guildwood area main roads such as Morningside, Guildwood Parkway and Kingston are first. Next on the list are streets such as Livingston and Poplar Road. Internal roads such as Toynbee, South Marine Drive and Greyabbey are cleared after the higher volume streets.

If you feel that your street and sidewalk has not been plowed or that the service is not satisfactory, there are a number of options available. The first one is to call 416 388 SNOW (7669). This number offers specific, detailed and current information, available 24 hours per day. You can find out about local snow clearing operations or leave a message. Snow clearing staff monitor the

messages regularly and respond directly. Another option is to call my Constituency Assistant Joan Bannister during regular business hours. If there are problems with snow clearing in Guildwood Joan be able to contact operations staff on your behalf.

I welcome your comments on any municipal matter and the opportunity to be of service. My regularly updated website at [www.soknacki.com](http://www.soknacki.com), contains information on local organizations, news and events at City Hall. You can also communicate by email at [councillor\\_soknacki@city.toronto.on.ca](mailto:councillor_soknacki@city.toronto.on.ca), phone me at 416 396 7222, or send a fax to 416 392 4006. Alternatively you can visit Joan Bannister, my full-time Constituency Assistant on the second floor of the Scarborough Civic Centre.

*David Soknacki, Councillor  
Scarborough East*

**Guildwood Junior Public School**

3rd Annual Spring Fair

Saturday May 29th 9a.m. - 3p.m. (rain date Sunday)

225 Livingston Road (just south of the GO Station)

Table Vendors including crafters,  
small business and junk collectors

Toy and Book Sale



Lick's Homeburgers B.B.Q.

Tim Horton's Coffee and Donuts in the morning



Raffles

Giant Slide and Games for the kids

Perennial Plant Sale (with experts on site for advice)



**Report from your  
Member of Provincial Parliament  
The Hon. Mary Anne Chambers  
Scarborough East**

Many of you have expressed concern over high auto insurance rates and the state of our electricity supply. Our government is making progress in these two areas and your appeals have been noted and acted upon at Queens Park.

On the matter of rising auto insurance rates, our government has announced a package of reforms that will reduce auto insurance costs and allow savings to be passed on to Ontario motorists.

We acted first by implementing a 90 day freeze on auto-insurance rates at levels approved on or before October 23<sup>rd</sup>. We then announced a number of cost saving measures that insurance companies can pass on to consumers. They are expected to deliver an average 10 percent in rate reduction upon renewal of auto insurance policies. Insurance companies were also required to re-file their private passenger vehicle rates by January 23<sup>rd</sup> for review by the Superintendent of the Financial Services Commission of Ontario. (FSCO)

Our government's initiatives include the following:

- The establishment of maximum fees that Designated Assessment Centres (DACs) can charge to insurance companies. DACs access accident victims when there is a dispute between insurers and accident victims.
- New regulations that provide reasonable measures to help contain costs.
- Strengthening Pre-approved Framework Guidelines to ensure timely and effective treatment of whiplash injuries. These guidelines detail the extent and length of care needed for the treatment of certain soft tissue injuries.

We will also be increasing the maximum hourly rate for health care providers who treat the most seriously injured.

On the matter of our electricity supply, our government is taking an approach that is practical and in the best interest of the

people of this province. We are facing the aftermath of a rate cap implemented by the previous government that cost this province dearly, almost \$1 billion.

We are implementing a system that better reflects the true cost of electricity, and we are taking the politics out of electricity pricing by allowing the Ontario Energy Board to develop a mechanism for a new pricing system.

With the passage of Bill 4 we have put in place legislation that will ensure that Ontario's electricity consumers have fair, predictable and stable rates that better reflect the true costs of this important commodity.

We have also moved quickly on establish-

*Mary Anne Chambers  
MPP Scarborough East*

**East Scarborough Storefront – A  
great place to be!**

One of the most unique resources we have in our community is a place called the East Scarborough Storefront – or to the hundreds of residents who visit every week, just call it “the Storefront”. The name can't begin to explain what the place is all about!

Situated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Morningside Mall, the Storefront occupies a large space that has been opened up to a number of services for the residents of our community. Groups representing Tamil seniors, African parents, health counsellors, youth employment or computer assistance, legal advisers and many, many other services share the space on different days of the week. That's what makes this place so unique – it is the first partnership of this type in Toronto.

For new residents of Scarborough it is often difficult to get the help they need or the information they require and they often have no idea where to go. They feel disconnected from the community. The Storefront is a very welcoming, busy place. Funded through grants, private donations and financial support from local faith communities, the Storefront is a wonderful dream that came true 3 years ago. It has become an important element in the lives of many of our residents.

Do you have some skills you could offer to the Storefront? We are looking for caring

people with a strong social conscience, creative thinkers who are willing to make a one-year commitment as a member of the Storefront Steering Committee. We need you to assist us in planning the future direction of the Storefront and the clients we serve in east Scarborough. If you have 3-5 hours a month that you could give to this wonderful, welcoming place, to attend committee meetings and assist in decision making, please contact Lori Metcalfe at [lorimetcalfe@rogers.com](mailto:lorimetcalfe@rogers.com) or call Lori at 416-225-1102.

**Yesterday's Hero**

Walter (“Call me Wally... Please!”) was born in Bermondsey in South-East London, England in August of 1923. After obtaining a scholarship to a Grammar School (quite an achievement for an East-End London boy), Wally got caught up in the Second World War, as did many of our compatriots...

His family was bombed out of their East End home during the Blitz and they moved to Sidcup in Kent (South-East of London) and as Wally wisely points out “Directly under the path of the Luftwaffe, as they came in to bomb London” they all survived, as did Wally – thank goodness! Wally joined the Royal Air Force in 1941 as an AC/1 (the lowest rank you can get in the RAF) and carried out his basic training at ITW in Scarborough (the original one, in Yorkshire, England).

After basic training, Wally was shipped overseas to a country he only knew about from Geography lessons – Canada. Wally sailed on the Queen Mary, along with Winston Churchill (on his way to the Quebec conference with U.S. President Roosevelt) and arrived in Halifax, NS. The destroyer escorts for the Queen Mary had to leave her before she even got into Canadian waters, as the weather was so rough that they couldn't man their ships. Wally tells of waves crashing over the bows of the Queen Mary that were at least thirty feet above the sea.

From Halifax, ensued a ‘mere’ five-day train journey to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan where his training as a pilot began. If you ever get to meet Wally (and I hope that you do) – ask him about the time that his landing gear fell off...

On DeHavilland Tiger Moths, Wally

perfected his flying skills that would stand him in good stead in the years to come. Because of his skill, Wally was selected to move on to larger planes and trained on the twin-engined Cessna Crane.

Wally got his 'wings' in May 1944 and was then attached to RAF Transport Command in Comox, BC (on Vancouver Island, BC) where he trained as a pilot on Douglas DC-3 Dakotas - at the time, the most advanced transport aircraft in the world - proof that it was, is that there are still over 100 aircraft from that era flying today, including one that flies General Motors spare parts from Detroit to Oshawa on an almost-daily basis - listen for the drone of those twin Pratt & Whitney engines as she passes over Guildwood Village.

Wally served in Bengal, India (now Bangladesh) with Special Duties 357 Squadron - quite a few books have been written about their endeavours. Wally was flying spics and supplies behind enemy lines into Burma and came under fire more than once. As Wally succinctly puts it "We got back to base with just a few holes in the fuselage, along with a missing door or two, but nobody was hurt - so we felt pretty damn' lucky".

For his exploits, Wally was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). Demobbed in 1946, Wally moved to Canada in 1948 with \$95 in his pocket.

He worked for construction companies as a draughtsman. Wally's match was made when he met Mavis in 1950 and they married in April of 1951. Wally and Mavis were never blessed with children but they are still renowned for decorating their house at Hallowe'en and Christmas - just for the children. They would have made wonderful parents.

In 1964, Wally and Mavis moved to a new house in a prestigious area of Scarborough called Guildwood Village - on Sylvan Avenue, as a matter of fact.

As a Supervisor of Industrial Design for FENCO, Wally was involved in creating designs (and managing) such projects as the Royal Canadian Mint, Ottawa's St. Laurent Shopping Centre, Mount Allison's (NB) University Athletic Centre and several fibreglass manufacturing plants.

Wally retired in 1968. Since then, he's kept busy by gardening, golfing, painting, photography and music.

#### *Today's Hero*

Wally and Mavis housed and cared for Mavis's parents from 1952 until their deaths in 1962 and 1963. Mavis suffered a debilitating stroke in November of 1995 that left her right side paralysed. Wally has been there for Mavis, ever since. Wally does many tasks in the house that Mavis can no longer do.

Wally is eighty years of age now and he helps people - he walks my dog. He helps many other people in our community - even if only with advice. He reminds me of my Dad. He is a good man and I'd go as far as saying 'great'.

Wally is a person that our younger ones can aspire to.

We often celebrate someone's life once they are dead.

Let's celebrate Wally's life while he's still here to appreciate our celebration.

For pictures and references, check out our web site pages at [www.guildwood.on.ca/wally.htm](http://www.guildwood.on.ca/wally.htm)

*Ross Armitage*

## **Guildwood Library Submission**

Guildwood Library 416-396-8872  
 Monday and Thursday 12:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.  
 Wednesday CLOSED  
 Tuesday and Friday 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
 Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

### **Drop in Family Storytime**

(ages 2 - 5 and their families)

Tuesdays, Apr.20 - May 25, 10:30 - 11 a.m.

Children and their caregivers enjoy stories, songs, crafts and fingerplays. No registration is required.

Attendance is limited to 15.

Guildwood Library's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be held Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup> from 2 - 4 p.m. Light refreshment will be served. Please join us.

Guildwood Library will be at Sir Wilfrid Laurier C.I. to help the community celebrate Guildwood Day. Staff will be delighted to tell you about what is new at the library. Children can come and get a preview of the TD Summer Reading Club.

Summer Reading Club - Fire up your imagination - Dragons, Books, and Quest- starts Friday July 2. Children are invited to drop into the library anytime during library hours to read great books, get a beautiful poster, stickers and more. The club is open to all ages, you children can be read to and teens are welcome. Children receive a log book to record their reading during the summer. It is a wonderful way to enjoy Summer reading. Please see notices in the library for details. Last summer Guildwood children read over 1650 books.

Party for Guildwood Summer Reading Club Members will be held Friday August 20 at 2:30 p.m. Children are invited to attend the party to celebrate the end of the Summer Reading Club. Certificates will be presented to children who have read the required number of books during the summer. Refreshments, games and fun for all!!!

For Recommended Reading visit library website at : [www.tpl.toronto.on.ca](http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca). You are going find titles like: 100 Years In the Air Coetzee, J.M. : In the Heart of the Country Glover, Douglas: Elle Huscr, Glen: Stitches (Children's).

Guildwood Branch has an ongoing art display. Joan Selgo, Allan Good and Kay Long have displayed their work in the library. Please come and enjoy our mini gallery with us.

**DIARY OF MRS. CLAUS**  
**DEC. 24<sup>TH</sup> ENTRY**

Ah finally! I've been waiting 364 days for this night. My husband has gone out for the night to deliver toys to all the boys and girls, and I am left to my own devices. I'm going to absorb some of the holiday spirit and spend my night touring Christmas light displays with Ed. My husband requires 9 reindeer/horsepower to tow him and his sleigh full of toys, but I only need one. So, with reindeer treat in hand, I go to the back stable and entice the services of Ed, Rudolph's lesser known brother who has been left behind tonight. Ed's nose doesn't permanently glow like his famous brother's because cold weather snuffs it out. And Ed doesn't get along well with the other reindeer because he doesn't have a cool two-syllable name like Blitzen or Dasher. So, I strap a headlight on Ed's chest, and off into the night we rode.

Guildwood was a delightful treed hideaway. Some highlights of the area included:

- 28 Bourneville's unique show of red rope lights
- 24 Cadbury's pretty display of white swags, stars and red bows
- 18 Catalina's eye-catching electric blue lights
- 100 Catalina's musically-inspired treble clef and accompanying staff of lights
- 162 Catalina's largest lit tree in Guildwood
- 166 Catalina's cute presents on bench, wrapped front door and spotlight reindeer
- 20 Earswick's one-of-a-kind harvest wreath
- 1 Fordover's massive yet still coordinating display of lights and figures
- 5 Heathfield's bathing in red
- 56 Poplar's new-age LED sign wishing Christmas joy alongside a large candy cane and the lot topped with a TV tower star
- 18 Sari's thorough lighting of all trees in the front yard right up to the star on top of its tallest tree
- 193 Sylvan's adorable angels composed of grape prunings
- 32 Schubert's creative NOEL rooftop
- 68 Tivoli's welcoming stairway, star-lined roof and reindeer family
- 112 Toyntee's string of lights that alternated colors
- 147 Toyntee's picturesque scene in white with star-topped chimney
- 205 Toyntee's stuffed toy window display and waving Santa

Although Ed and I tried to do a complete tour of Guildwood, it was at times easy to get lost due to the unnatural placement of street signs. Among what was seen, 1 Fordover was deemed to be best a labour-intensive display that although chockfull of lights still presented itself well with large "wow" factor.

Guildwoodites must be commended on their show of Christmas spirit. It was such a beautiful area, and while touring there it was easy to forget I was still in Toronto! They should appreciate the beauty of Guildwood and maintain it into the future. I wonder what creative and pretty displays they'll conjure up next year?

*Mrs. Claus*

**Great Neighbours**

In September, during a wind storm one of our poplar trees fell over, taking out a portion of our fence and blocking the sidewalk. When my husband got home that evening we went out to clean up the mess. The little electric chain saw we had borrowed from our friend Ken, didn't seem up to the job and it looked like a huge, overwhelming task. We had just started into it when two of our neighbors, Avis and Lou showed up and offered to help. Lou went back and got his large, gas powered chain saw, ladder and snippers and we all got to work clearing the tree. Then, a short while later, another neighbor, Shawn showed up to help and Raphael, getting off at the bus stop went home, got changed and came back to help. We had the whole mess out on the street side cleaned up by 9:00 p.m. Then Lou and Avis came back the next day and cut up the tree on the inside of the fence. It was totally unbelievable. What would have taken Paul and myself a few weeks to do, was cleaned up in a few hours. Thanks Avis, Lou, Shawn and Raphael.

*Yvonne Garson*

**Handy Person Needed**

To restore the Guildwood sign at the corner of Guildwood Parkway and Prince Philip. The sign needs to be scraped, sanded and painted. We will provide the supplies. If you are interested in helping out, please call the hotline.

416-410-2755

**Guildwood Day prize donor**

**omission,**

Heritage Ford, 2660 Kingston Rd.