



NEIGHBOURS

MetCap Living Residents' Newsletter | Fall 2002

Welcome to your new, quarterly, MetCap Living Resident newsletter – 'Neighbours'. This is our latest effort to share information with you and other valued residents across the MetCap Living portfolio. Your comments and suggestions are most welcome, in writing, to the Editorial Committee at 20 Queen Street W., Suite 2100, Box 36, Toronto, M5H 3R3.

32 Years and Counting!

1970 – Instantly you have images of an era filled with muscle cars, eight track tapes, Fleetwood Mac, the Bee Gees, Charlie's Angels and All in the Family. That's the year Francis and Cecile

McGrath moved into their home at Parkway Forest Community. In those days Francis was 48 and a supervisor at a company in Whitby and Cecile was 34 and worked for a printing company nearby on Don Mills Road. "We were living on



Parkway's Francis and Cecile

O'Connor Drive at the time. Parkway Forest was just opening. We went into the model suite and liked what we saw" says Francis and adds "in those days, Fairview Mall wasn't even open yet".

Francis describes the beginning years at Parkway with fond affection. "It was beautiful in those days – you could eat off the floors." notes Francis. "We had lawyers and hockey players living here." Then Francis describes a period where crime was on the rise and safety was a growing concern in the community. "Now we're back to where we were 25 years ago – very respectful."

Francis and Cecile have certainly had opportunities to compare their community to plenty of other places around the country. From the age of 55 to 70 Francis entered Canadian Golf Championships which brought them to every province except Newfoundland. These days, at age 79, Francis's latest golfing escapade involved the City of Toronto Golf Championship held at the Don Valley Golf Course near Yonge and the 401 during September.

Sitting in the McGrath's living room, Francis gently raises both arms and says, "It's peaceful and quiet here. This is as noisy as it gets" (the only sound to be heard is the gentle hum of an air conditioner). Francis and Cecile have considered moving in the past and recently thought about Peterborough. But, in the end, it was the convenience of a central location that convinced them to stay put. "Within walking distance we have a grocery store in the community and over 250 stores across the street at Fairview. We've got the Don Valley Parkway, the 401 and the 404 minutes away (and a new Sheppard Subway line opening this fall). It's all here." describes Francis.

"The name of the game in life is to be happy, if you're not happy you've got nothing." says Francis. We agree. Congratulations and a tip of the ol' MetCap to Francis and Cecile McGrath for 32 years at Parkway Forest Community.

(Parkway Forest Community, in Toronto, has nine complexes with 1854 suites and is located at Sheppard Avenue and Don Mills Road).

Pigeon-Holed

Imagine being held captive by an army of pigeons who have taken up residence on your balcony! It happens all too often but with a little bit of effort these infamous 'air rats' can be deterred from moving into your space.



Start by limiting the items on your balcony. Less clutter means less opportunity for pigeons to find nooks behind boxes, bikes, folded lawn chairs, etc. to build a

nest. Remember, even casual pigeon visitors are a threat since they're usually scouting for potential housing options. Cover or remove anything that resembles pigeon food like seeds. Even speckled flooring and tabletops can be a problem. Get a model of an owl – pigeons are terrified of owls – and park it on your railing. Change the position regularly to mimic live owl behaviour. Or consider sticky, two-sided tape along the railing top which annoys any airborne interlopers. Superfine-ground salt or pepper is also a great deterrent. Most importantly, remove any pigeon droppings since an accumulation is akin to putting out the 'Welcome' mat.

Shell Out, Shell Out...

Hard to believe that it's almost time for little ghosts and goblins again. All MetCap Living buildings will be decorating lobbies for Halloween. If you have decorations or goodies that you would like to shell out, please contact your Building Manager.



Safely Back To School

Now that school is back in full swing, we encourage parents to 'buddy-up' their kids with other schoolmates, help them determine the most direct route from home to various points of transportation and, generally, work together to ensure safe and happy travels to and from school.

MetCap Helpline

For the past several months, MetCap Living has been piloting a new Resident Helpline at Parkway Forest Community located at Don Mills Rd. and Sheppard. Residents at Parkway Forest who have questions or need help on a variety of issues are encouraged to call the MetCap Resident Helpline during business hours. After hour voice messages can be left and are followed up the next business day. At this point the Helpline has proven to be very resident friendly on a number of fronts and there are plans to continue rolling the program out to other Toronto MetCap Living properties. You will be notified, by letter, when this back-up to Superintendent and Building Manager enquiries arrives in your MetCap Living neighbourhood. Stay tuned...

Home Remedies

We've all heard various wives' tales on how to deal with different messes on the homefront. Here's a collection of proven methods for removing stains and other gooey stuff:

Gum in your kids hair? Massage the affected hair strands and gum with butter then slide the gum down the hair fibers away from the scalp.

Crayon marks on your wall? Use toothpaste on a damp cloth and rub away the marks.

Best of all, it doesn't ruin the paint!

Dirty eyeglasses? A bit of dish liquid and warm water always does the trick but, believe it or not, a couple of drops of vodka does an equally good job.

Unhealthy plants? The water used for boiling eggs is an excellent source of plant nutrition.

Speaking of flowers... preserve fresh cut flowers by coating them lightly with hair spray.

Validate Your Visitor

If you're expecting company who will be staying overnight, it's important to register your guest's car with your Superintendent or Building Manager. In fact, to be fair to everyone, it's important to always leave the Visitor's Parking Area for guests only. There have been occasions when cars have been towed or ticketed for not respecting this restricted area. Your help on this prickly matter is always appreciated!

We Recycle

Every MetCap Living building has a waste management program. For everyone's benefit please take the time to clean, sort and bundle recyclable material.

We've Got You Covered

Thinking of moving to another part of the city? With 6,000 suites across Toronto, we invite you to stay in the MetCap Living family. Our locations cover every region of the city. If you're on the move, talk to leasing about friendly transfer options to other MetCap Living neighbourhoods or contact us at info@metcap.com.



Downright Neighbourly!

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