



Neighbours

Fall 2009

METCAP LIVING RESIDENTS' NEWSLETTER



Have You Ever Wondered... ?

With the coming of snow and cold temperatures, do you sometimes wonder about curious things, like what happens to spiders in winter, for example? Why are all snowflakes different and how does anyone know for sure that they are? Will the Leafs ever win another Stanley Cup?

A little research helps solve at least some of these mysteries.

Thanks to something like antifreeze in their blood, spiders are often able to hibernate through the cold winter months. They make a burrow or find a hole and, if they're lucky, they hide there, snug as a bug, until spring. Even if a spider dies from the cold, its eggs may well survive to hatch in the warming weather.

The short answer on snowflakes is that they likely are all different. The number of possible ways to make a snowflake makes that almost certain. Snowflakes start out as tiny ice particles within a cloud. As they grow, they develop branches on six sides that change as the flake moves about in the cloud. The randomness of movement and temperature changes creates snowflakes in an endless variety of patterns.

As for the Leafs, only time will tell!



“Best Summer-Fun Photo” Contest Winner

Kids love fire engines, with their multiplicity of hoses and horns, knobs and nozzles. Visiting a fire hall to check out the trucks is

certainly a fun way for kids to spend some summer hours – and to learn a few safety rules at the same time.

For catching that fun in a snapshot, Martin Wettlaufer and Leeann Sisson, residents at 1340 Danforth Road, have won our

summer-fun photo contest, and will receive a digital camera and camera printer (both to be chosen by MetCap), a camera case and a 2 GB SD card.

New Building Managers Create Positive Environment

Noreen Blount of 125 Indian Road in Kitchener recently wrote to MetCap to share her enthusiasm for her building's new Building Managers. Noreen's letter follows.

Good afternoon:

I would like you to know that the arrival of new superintendents Jing & Liang, located at 125 Indian Road in Kitchener, has been a very pleasant addition to the building. They not only treat everyone the same and with respect, your concerns are dealt with immediately. They have done wonderful things to the building, which has increased the overall morale of most of the tenants.

I am hoping that you will be able to keep these exceptional people for awhile, as we seem to have gone through a few superintendents in a very short period of time. The list of items that have been completed since their arrival is amazing and I look forward to dealing with them in the future.

With thanks,

Noreen M. Blount

Thanks to Noreen for the good news and to Jing Guo and Liang Liu for their excellent work and service to residents.

Bring on the Popcorn!!

John Gogo, Building Manager at 90 Cordova Avenue, got out his movie projector every Saturday evening leading up to Halloween to entertain the kids in his building with some of his spooky favourites. The kids clearly loved having a big-screen experience in their own building.

As Christmas nears, John just might pull out the projector again, this time to show a series of holiday-inspired movies. “Frosty the Snowman,” anyone?

AUTUMN CONTEST: WINTER OLYMPIC TRIVIA

See how much you know about the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. Submit your answers to the following questions and if they're correct, you'll be eligible to win one of two packages of Olympic gear put together by MetCap.



1. How many Olympic torches were made for the Cross-Canada Olympic flame journey?
2. How many medals did Canada win in the 2006 Winter Olympics?
3. How many sports are included in the 2010 Winter Olympics?
4. On what day do the 2010 Winter Games begin?
5. When and where were the first Winter Olympic Games held?
6. Who are the mascots of the 2010 Winter Games?

MetCap Gives Back!

This year, MetCap Living was pleased to sponsor the Toronto Hawks Soccer Club, which plays in the Parkway Forest neighbourhood. The club held its annual soccer festival, pictured here, on August 22 and 23.



Vesna and Joe – Time for an In-suite Inspection

“Joe,” said Vesna, “Cancel all of your plans! This notice says that our annual inspection will take place in two weeks. We have to CLEAN!”

Having experienced several inspections, Joe knew that his wife was over-reacting...again. “Vesna, no one is going to wear white gloves and check for dust. They won’t look under beds or check that the sheets are laundered. They don’t care if the bathtub has a ring. They just want to know that we’re safe and comfortable. I will not give up anything to get ready for the inspection.”

Vesna was stunned. Joe hadn’t responded to her with such a long answer in ages. His usual reply was a nod or a head shake. Occasionally, he’d push himself to a four- or five-word stretch. This answer was extraordinary and she wanted more! She asked, “What will they be here for then?” trying to keep the shock from affecting her voice.

Joe continued: “They’ll check for broken windows, electrical problems, leaking taps. They’ll want to know if our smoke detectors work, if we have pigeons on the balcony, or if our medicine cabinet is falling from the wall. They’ll make sure the fridge works and the toilet flushes. I reiterate: they don’t care about dust!”

“We will need to clear the junk off the balcony, though,” he said. “It shouldn’t be there; it’s a potential danger, especially when your sister and the kids visit. They could climb on the boxes and fall off the balcony. That would definitely be a problem in the inspection.” As Joe finished, Vesna found herself nodding, and was surprised at the reversal in their communication styles.

Although she knew that she’d clean anyway to be ready for the inspection, Vesna was so pleased with Joe’s many-worded reply that she kissed her husband and said no more about it.

MetCap Memo

Good Neighbours

Shopping Carts: If you must use a shopping cart to transport your groceries, please be careful not to damage the building’s walls and doors with it, and return the cart to the grocery store immediately after unloading your groceries. To avoid having to make a return trip every time you buy groceries, you could purchase a portable shopping bag and use it each time you shop.

In-suite Washing Machines and Dishwashers: Remember, washing appliances are not allowed in suites, because MetCap buildings are not designed to accommodate them. Use of these machines can cause water backups that ultimately cause flooding. Be a good neighbour: use the common laundry facilities provided in your building.

Tips for Heating Your Suite this Winter: To help you feel cozy at home this winter, make sure the heat can circulate properly in your rooms. Keep some space between the radiators and your furniture, and keep drapes off the radiators, so the heat can do its work. Keep windows closed and consider applying weather stripping for extra insulation from the cold. Never use your stove to warm the air in your apartment; this could overload the breakers or cause a fire. If you have any heating issues, contact your Building Manager for help.

Dealing with Bedbugs: Bedbug infestation is a problem in Toronto, according to a recent story in The Toronto Star. Tiny and resilient, bedbugs hide during the day in all kinds of places, like electrical outlets and book spines, can travel between apartment suites, live up to 18 months without eating and, particularly in egg form, are difficult to get rid of even using a vacuum cleaner. Experts cited in the Star suggest a cheap and effective way to deal with bedbugs: put each foot of your beds into a set of two bowls, a small one inside a larger one that is lined with talcum powder. Talcum powder punctures the bugs’ shells and dehydrates them. Because bedbugs can move easily from one suite to others, all residents should keep an eye out for the bugs, and implement this simple system if you suspect the bugs have moved in with you.

Corporate Office Closures: MetCap offices will be closed on:
Christmas Day – December 25, 2009
Boxing Day – December 28, 2009
New Year’s Day – January 1, 2010

Important Numbers:

Fire and Medical Emergencies	911
Resident Helpline	1.877.638.2271
Security	416.847.1177 (GTA only)
After-Hours Emergencies	416.340.0536 (GTA only)
	or 1.866.511.0536

www.metcap.com
Resident Helpline:
1-877-METCAP-1 (1-877-638-2271)



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AUTUMN CONTEST: WINTER OLYMPIC TRIVIA

Entry Form

Name	Age
Building Address	Suite #
Telephone Number	

Submit your answers to your Building Manager by 5:00 pm on January 31. Be sure to include your suite and phone numbers on your entry. Submissions with all-correct answers will be entered in a draw for the two prizes mentioned overleaf.