



Wigwam to Wigwam

YOUR "HOUSE TO HOUSE" NEWS

December 2004

Volume 6, Issue 11

Christmas Bash Delights Audience

Christmas came early to Wigwamen Terrace this year with the annual holiday party being held on Friday, December 3.

There, the residents enjoyed a holiday dinner of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and more, as well as a delicious desert of cake decorated with fresh fruit. The entire dinner was home cooked by superintendent Frances Folz and a small team of dedicated volunteers.

This year's entertainment was headlined by a new group, the duo of Sam Kelso and Patrick

O'Reilly. Their musical performance routine was complemented by jokes and parodies of other singers like Willie Nelson. By the end of the evening, they had the audience in stitches.

Each audience member went home with a special gift, a centerpiece of a candle with garland. All the gifts were hand crafted by volunteer Donna Wheeler.

We hope everyone had a great time and look forward to seeing you all again next year!

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WIGWAMEN INCORPORATED

Residents participate in the holiday entertainment



Special Points of Interest:

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Aboriginal History

Why the North Star Stands Still



Long, long ago, when the world was young, the People of the Sky were restless and traveled so much they left trails in the heavens. Now, if we watch the sky at night, we can see where they go. But one star does not travel. That is the North Star. He cannot travel. He cannot move.

When he was on the earth long ago, he was known as Na-gah, the mountain sheep, son of Shinoh. He was brave, daring and surefooted.

Every day, Na-gah climbed, always hunting for the roughest and highest mountains. Once he found a very high peak. Its sides were steep and smooth, and its sharp peak reached up into the clouds. Na-gah looked up and said, "I will climb to the very highest point."



Around and around the mountain he traveled, looking for a trail. But he could not find one. This was the first mountain Na-gah had seen that he could not climb. Again and again he walked around the mountain, hoping to see a crevice upon which he could find footing. At last he found a big crack in a rock that went down, not up. Down he went, and soon he found a hole that turned upward. Up and up he climbed.

Soon it became so dark that he could not see, and the cave was full of loose rocks that slipped under his feet and rolled down. In the darkness he slipped often and skinned his knees. His courage and determination began to fail. He was also very tired.

"I will go back and look for a better place to climb," he said to himself. "I am not afraid out on the open cliffs, but this dark hole fills me

with fear! I want to get out of here!"

But when Na-gah turned to go down, he saw that the rocks had closed the cave below him. He saw only one thing that he could do. He must go on climbing until he came out somewhere.

After a long climb he saw light, and he knew that he was coming out the top of a very high peak. There was scarcely room for him to turn around, and looking down made him dizzy. He saw great cliffs below him in every direction, and saw only a small area in which he could move. Nowhere on the outside could he get down, and the cave was closed on the inside...

"I must stay here until I die," he said. "But at last, I have climbed my mountain!"

About this time, his father was out walking. He looked everywhere for his son but could not find him. He called out, and his son answered him from the highest cliffs. When Shinoh saw him there, he felt sorrow. "My brave son can never come down. He must always stay on top of the mountain. He can travel and climb no more."

"I will not let my brave son die. I will turn him into a star, and he can stand there and shine where everyone can see him. He shall be a guide for all creatures on the earth and in the sky."

And so Na-gah became the only star that will always be found in the same place. Directions are set by him. Travelers, looking up at him, can always find their way. He does not move around and so he is called the "fixed star." And because he is in the true north all the time, our people call him Qui-am-I Wintook Poot-see. These words mean "the North Star."

Source: www.ilhawaii.net/~stony/lore104.html

20 Sewells Road Building Development Fund Donor Recognition

This month, Wigwamen Incorporated would like to thank its newest donor,

Greg Elcombe

for his contribution of \$292.00 toward the building of our new affordable housing project at 20 Sewells Road.

Thanks for helping us build more affordable housing in the city!



Test Your Christmas Trivia Knowledge!



1. What was Rudolph's father's name?
2. If you were given some frumenty at a Medieval Christmas party, what would you probably do with it?
 - a) eat it;
 - b) burn it;
 - c) put it in your sweetheart's hair;
 - d) use it to polish your boots.
3. Who first recorded the song "Here Comes Santa Claus?"
4. Who narrated the original 1966 TV show "How The Grinch Stole Christmas?"
5. What country started the tradition of exchanging gifts?



Answers on page 8

10 tips for decorating safely this festive season:

1. Check light strings for cracked sockets and loose connections and discard cords that are frayed or damaged.
2. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the installation and maintenance of lights and other electrical decorations.
3. When hanging outdoor lighting, position the bulbs facing the ground to prevent water or moisture from entering the sockets.
4. Unplug electrical decorations before replacing bulbs.
5. Ensure that paper, tinsel and decorations are a safe distance from lights.
6. Don't place a tree near a fireplace, heating vent, radiator, television or other source of heat.
7. Don't use indoor lights to decorate outdoors. Outside lights and extension cords are designed to handle outdoor temperatures and moisture. Indoor lights are not.
8. Take extra caution when using a ladder around overhead electrical wires to hang outdoor festive lights. These wires are not insulated. The external coating is only "weatherproofing" to protect the wires.
9. Plug all outdoor lights into outlets with ground fault circuit interrupter protection.
10. Blow out candles and turn off all festive lights and electrical decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.

Who's Who at Wigwamen

SARAH-JAYNE KENDALL

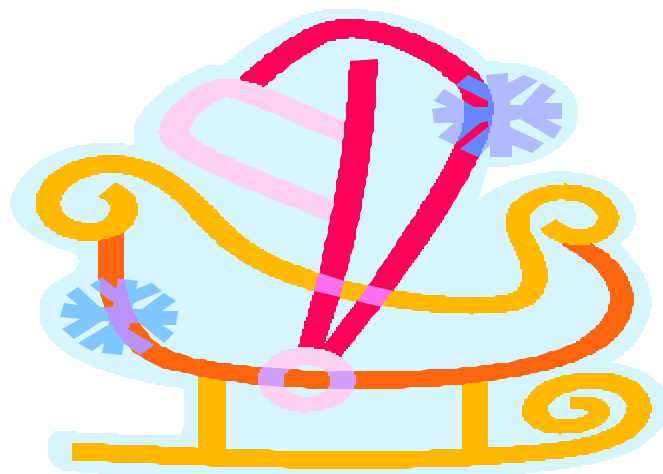
Wigwamen is proud to re-introduce Sarah-Jayne Kendall as its front-desk woman and administrative assistant extraordinaire! We say "re-introduce," because Sarah-Jayne worked for Wigwamen for a short time about 4 years ago.

Her many duties now include answering telephones, processing applications and assisting the tenant relations officer in the selection of tenants for the new building at 20 Sewells Road.

Although her hours are only part-time, the help she brings to the office is exceptional.

Sarah-Jayne was born in Toronto and split her time growing up between Toronto and Thunder Bay.

She enjoys the outdoors and spending time with her family.



Terrace Community Kitchen

CHRISTMAS SHORTBREAD

- 1 cup butter
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 cups flour
- 2 pinches salt

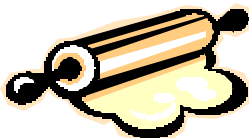
Preheat oven to 350°. Cream butter, sugar and vanilla until light and fluffy. Mix flour and salt, then beat into butter mixture until thoroughly blended to make a soft dough.

On work surface dusted with flour, pat dough into a large rectangle, 1/2" thick, 2" wide, and about 17" long. Use a knife or fluted pastry cutter to cut into 1" bars.

Use a spatula to transfer bars to a non-greased cookie sheet, leaving 1" between

each. Prick each bar with a fork several times. Bake for 20-25 minutes, until lightly colored. Do not overbake—the bars should not brown.

Let them cool on a cookie sheet for one minute, then carefully transfer to wire racks to finish cooling.



CHRISTMAS PUNCH

- 2 boxes cherry Jell-O
- 2 cans frozen orange juice
- 1 can pink lemonade
- 23 oz. unsweetened pineapple juice

Mix all ingredients according to package directions and then mix them all together. Refrigerate for 24 hours before serving.

HOW TO COOK A GREAT HOLIDAY TURKEY

1. Thoroughly wash the inside of the bird with cold water and put your stuffing at the neck end before folding the neck skin over.
2. Make the turkey as plump and even in shape as possible, then truss it with the wings folded under the body and the legs tied together.
3. Weigh the turkey and calculate the cooking time, allowing 20 minutes per 450g plus an additional 20 minutes.
4. Place the turkey in a roasting tin, brush with melted butter and sprinkle with salt and pepper (rock salt and crushed peppercorns add great flavour to the juices and skin).
5. Place streaky bacon rashers over the breast to prevent it from becoming dry. You can use smoked bacon to add a rounded flavour and aroma.
6. Roast in the oven at 180°C (350°F), basting from time to time. Put a piece of foil over the bird to form a tent if it shows signs of becoming too brown.

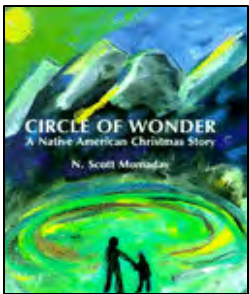
Source: www.itscooking.com

Christmas Books for Kids



THE GIVE AWAY

The Native American tradition of the “give-away” takes a new form in this engaging dialogue among the Whooping Crane, the Snow Goose, Old Beaver, Grandmother Turtle, the Wind, the Ancient One, the Creator and others. Readers learn that giving is more than just gifting; it is denying oneself so that another may have more.



CIRCLE OF WONDER

By Pulitzer Prize winner N. Scott Momaday, this story draws from the author’s own memories and experiences of growing up on the Jemez Reservation in New Mexico. The story centres around a young man named Tolo and his loneliness since the death of his grandfather. The coming Christmas season, however, sees a dramatic change in Tolo’s life.



BASEBALL BATS FOR CHRISTMAS

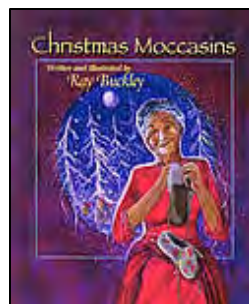
Never having seen trees, the children in Repulse Bay decide that the funny things sent them one year must actually be baseball bats. An autobiographical tale from the author’s childhood tells a story of life in the Arctic,

and demonstrates how easily different cultures can interpret things differently.



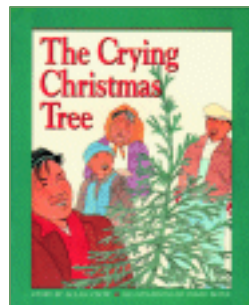
THE HURON CAROL

Written in 1653 by the Jesuit missionary Saint Jean de Brebeuf, this carol places the Nativity story in a traditional Huron setting. Originally written in the Huron language, it has been translated into English and is accompanied by colourful illustrations.



CHRISTMAS MOCCASINS

A grandmother whose moccasins are stolen by a group of older boys responds by working long hours to make them moccasins of their own. The story teaches children about forgiveness and the Christian ethic of responding to evil with goodness.



THE CRYING CHRISTMAS TREE

When Grandmother brings home a scrawny Christmas tree, all the children laugh. They throw it out planning to get a better one. Grandmother is heartbroken and wonders if she should buy them any gifts at all. But the following day she gets a wonderful surprise.

Descriptions taken from www.chapters.indigo.com.

20 Sewells Road Building Development Fund Donors

Platinum Donors:

Adams, Masin &
Tilley, LLP

Bank of Montreal

CAW Social Justice Fund

Hilditch Architect

M. Dimauro
Construction Ltd.

Milborne Real Estate Inc.

PRO-CON Construction

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TD Bank Financial Group

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Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

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Indian Friendship Centres

Angus Palmer

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Trinity St. Paul's
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Thanks also to:

643223 Ontario Limited

Access Computer Solutions Inc.

Eric Carlson

Church of the Master

Dan Mac Plumbing

Deer Park United Church

Delma Cooper

Edge Park Investments Limited

First Evangelical
Lutheran Church

Glen Ayr United Church

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Mikemac Services Limited

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New Water Plumbing Inc.

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Marion Rethoret

Marie Rogers

Chris Rutherford

St. Barnabas Catholic Church

Serpent River First Nation

Brian Taheny

Lynne Vallis

Victoria Peterborough
Management Inc.

Wayne Vincent

Wiggins Paralegal Ltd.

Tenant Counsellor's Corner

Many tenants choose to pay their rent by pre-authorized chequing. This way, their rent is automatically debited from their account at the first of each month. Every once in a while, exceptional circumstances arise and tenants are not able to make the full payment at the beginning of the month. I would like to stress that this is only acceptable under special circumstances, and it is at our discretion to accept late payments.

When such cases do arise, **it is essential that you notify me, in writing, at least one week in advance of the beginning of the month.**

Other times, people will ask if their payment can be debited toward the middle of the month, instead. However, rent is due on the first of the month, and we can only take automatic payments at that time.

On the rare occasion when you receive permission to pay your rent late, there are a number of options for making the payment. The first is to bring or mail a cheque or money order to the office. Another method is through Interac direct payment. Unfortunately, **we cannot accept cash.**

- Jodi Hetherington

Christmas Trivia Answers

1. Rudolph's father's name is Donner.
2. Frumenty was a spiced porridge, enjoyed by both rich and poor. It was a forerunner of modern Christmas puddings. It is linked to the Celtic god Dagda, who stirred a porridge made of all the good things of the earth.
3. Gene Autry
4. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" was narrated by Boris Karloff
5. Italy



Household Hints

Love that yummy Christmas smell? Here are a few tips for spreading the sweet smell of the season:

- Boil a few cinnamon sticks in water. The smell will spread throughout your entire home.
- Place a sheet of aluminium foil in the oven and sprinkle with cinnamon. You can bake the cinnamon for up to an hour at 250° or 300° and the smell will drift all through your home.

www.tipking.com

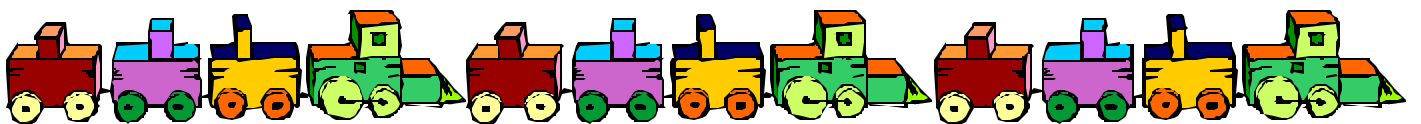
Kids' Stuff!

Colour-Me-In



Christmas Jokes:

- Q: What did one Angel say to the other?
A: "Halo there!"
- Q: How do cats greet each other at Christmas?
A: "A furry merry Christmas and happy mew year!"
- Q: What do angry mice send to each other at Christmas?
A: Cross-mouse cards.
- Q: How do sheep greet each other at Christmas?
A: "A merry Christmas to ewe!"
- Q: What do the reindeer sing to Father Christmas on his birthday?
A: "Freeze a jolly good fellow!"



Wigwamen
Incorporated

25 Imperial St., Ste. 310
Toronto, Ontario
M5P 1B9

Phone: 416-481-4451
Fax: 416-481-5002
Email: info@wigwamen.com

A Housing Project
for Native People

www.wigwamen.com

Holiday Hours

Friday, December 24: 9—noon
Monday, December 27: CLOSED
Tuesday, December 28: CLOSED
Wednesday, December 29: 9—5
Thursday, December 30: 9—5
Friday, December 31: 9—noon
Monday, January 3: CLOSED



Wishing you a joyous holiday season and hoping the new year brings prosperity and health to you and your family!



“Each moment of the year has its own beauty...a picture which was never seen before and which shall never be seen again.”

—Ralph Waldo Emerson