Greetings fellow Harbordites:

We have Great News to share with you!

This upcoming April 2012, Harbord Collegiate will be turning 120 years old and you and your family are cordially invited to share in the celebrations.

The festivities will take place over two days.
A gala dinner banquet will be held at the Ambiance Banquet Hall on the evening of Thursday April 26, 2012.

Registration is required, see page 30 for invitation...

5:30 - 6:30pm - Sign-in and Social Hour
7:00 pm Dinner

Be prepared for a fabulous evening of Entertainment, Speeches, Silent Auction, 50/50 draw, Dancing, Photo Ops, Socializing and Birthday Cake!

The following day, Friday, April 27, there will be an Open House at the school. Time to be announced. Registration is not required, but if you are planning to attend, email us at contact@harbordclub.com so that we may plan accordingly.

Check out the Harbord Museum, a dedicated room that specifically houses and displays pictures and significant Harbord Collegiate historical archives.

Browse through the displays in the main floor gym and reminisce. Meet up with those with

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Hello fellow Harbordites!

Hope all is well and that everyone had a chance to enjoy the warm summer & fall weather that 2011 brought along. As we head into winter, we can hardly believe a year has passed since we became co-editors of this newsletter! Without further ado, as proud contributing members of the Harbord Club, we present to you the next edition of the Harbordite.

Much has transpired since our last issue and much more is already in the works for our next issue! We are definitely keeping busy and would love to hear from you. Whether they be articles, anecdotes or commentaries—we want to hear from you so please continue to send those our way! We hope to reconnect you with your wonderful high school & old friends. Email us at harbordcelebration@live.ca

Ben and I have heard some incredible stories from fellow tigers about what our alumni have been up to since grad. Many have come by the school for a visit, some even to donate items to be placed in the Museum. (Yes, there is a repository for old H.C.I materials and we do hope that more of it will continue to come our way!)

It is quite remarkable how many things are currently displayed in the Harbord Archives that conjure up memories of days past.

Don’t forget to visit www.harbordclub.com to see and write on our new and exciting blog!

Please submit all articles and info to harbordcelebration@live.ca It can be published in our next Harbordite!

The Museum itself contains 15 glass front cabinets, four storage cabinets, a wall panel and a special wall alcove dedicated to the 1992 time capsule. Our ever-growing archival collection includes valuable records of facts, occurrences, anecdotes, biographies & books along with treasured photos, trophies and artifacts. The Harbord Museum continues to be a showroom for generations of Harbord students, past, present and future.

FUN FACT: Our Museum was the first of its kind in Canadian high school history!

I am personally ecstatic about the upcoming Harbord Celebration, ‘Harbord C.I.’s 120th Birthday Bash’. Whenever I am in the company of other Harbordites, I find myself talking about the plans that have been in the works for some time now with great excitement. A couple of years ago, I formed the Facebook group ‘Harbord C.I. Grads/Alumni’ and am proud to report that we now have over 600 members! Recently, I was able to get my fellow co-editor, Ben, on our Facebook group and he now has a newfound interest locating his long lost Harbord friends whom he hadn’t been in contact with since
The next big event on record occurred during my student days at Harbord C.I. and I chose to assist as a student volunteer at her 90th anniversary in June of 1981. I knew then and there that I wanted to stay involved with this great school.

In May of 1992, The Harbord Club hosted Harbord’s Centennial, an event that was attended by many and spoken about to this day! After attending this milestone event, I was certain that Harbord C.I. would continue to be an integral part of my life.

In 1997, I proudly became a member of the HCI staff and will continue to educate Harbordites as long as I can!

As one of the organizers of my 25th high school reunion, I was pleased to see almost 100 alumni in attendance.

A few years ago, I jumped on board as one of the adhoc members of the club and just shy of 2 years ago, both Ben and I became official members of the amazing group of dedicated alumni who form the Harbord Club Directorate. We then took on the title of Co-Editors of our beloved Harbordite newsletter, 39 years in circulation and going strong! We have even had the pleasure of seeing our own daughters walk across the auditorium stage to accept their own high school diplomas with honours. Stating that we eat, sleep and breathe Harbord would be a vast understatement at this point!

On behalf of the Harbord Executive, we thank you for your continued support and welcome you to read this issue of the Harbordite with an air of nostalgia as you reminisce through the good ‘ol days at H.C.I.

As previously mentioned above, I am ecstatic about the upcoming Harbord Birthday Bash next April, commemorating Harbord’s 120th Birthday!

Our Executive Board tell me they are very much looking forward to hearing stories and seeing you all at this milestone event. Let’s make it count!

Onward Harbord!

Belinda Medeiros-Felix and Ben Lee
Harbordite Co-Editors
Alumni in the News

Robert Sterling

Robert Sterling, a decorated Second World War veteran and Harbord graduate, who was a navigator in the Royal Canadian Air Force and who completed 74 missions over enemy territory, recently received another award.

The Government of France awarded Bob its highest honour. Bob was named a “chevalier” of the Legion d’Honneur. This award was given in thanks for his efforts during the Second World War. In letters sent to him in September by the Consul General of France in Miami, Gael de Maisonneuve, and the Consul General of France in Toronto, Jerome Cauchard, Bob was heralded as being instrumental in the liberation of France.

“The solidarity you lent our people and country as a flying officer……will never be forgotten, and be assured that we are eternally grateful. On behalf of our government and people, a heartfelt congratulations for your induction into the Legion of Honour” de Maisonneuve wrote.

Cauchard congratulated Bob in a separate letter his “heart is filled with gratitude and respect for what Mr. Sterling and all veterans have done”.

In 1945 Bob received two medals: the French Croix de guerre and Britain’s Distinguished Flying Cross.

(Thank you to the Canadian Jewish News-November 10, 2011)
At the Remembrance Assembly at Harbord C.I. on November 11, 2011, a special tribute was paid to Laurence Barclay Ramsay, Class of 1916 graduate and a true WWI hero! The following is a thank you letter from his niece Mary Papewhich gave us some insight into the life and love of this special Harbordite.

“It is indeed an honour that you have chosen to pay a special tribute to our uncle, Laurence Barclay Ramsay, an uncle we never knew except from the stories our mother told of him, from old photographs and from his WWI Diary.

Laurence graduated from Harbord C.I. 95 years ago. He was 19 years old. Upon graduating, he enlisted in the C.F. 75th battalion and was sent overseas. He left behind a mother and father and two younger sisters, the youngest being my mother – a family he was never to see again. He also left behind a girlfriend. My father, who also attended Harbord, and enlisted in the C.A.D.C., was one of his best friends. My father never did get over the loss of his friend. Laurence had also been very interested in astronomy. Who knows but this might have been the career he pursued had he lived.

Today Laurence’s photo-

graph hangs in your Hall of Memory and his name is inscribed on the WWI memorial at the front of your school

I have been asked today to read to you the last letter he wrote home to his mother. It was written shortly before he was killed in action on August 22, 1918, near Amiens France. He was 21 years old.

Before I read the letter it is important that you understand that family life 90 years ago was very different from what it is today. Laurence came from a very devoted family. His father often read to the family from a large bible. The church, back then, was often the centre of not only their spiritual life but also their social life. In fact, Laurence carried a small bible in the right breast pocket on his uniform – a bible that he often read from during those 3 years he served overseas. It was a bible that saved his life on one occasion, but that is a story for another time.

Personally, I find it hard to comprehend how anyone could write a letter on a battlefield – let alone collecting one’s thoughts in order to write, period – while all around there is intermittent shelling and bodies of wounded and dead and all the other mayhem of war. However, that is what our uncle did: wrote this letter to his mother and he wrote it with a steady hand:

(Copy of the original letter is on page 8; typed text is on page 22.)

After he wrote this letter, he folded it and put it in his helmet. Shortly after, he was killed. A friend, Jimmie Oakley, who was a machine gunner on the same battlefield, found Laurence’s body and discovered the letter he had put in his helmet. Jimmie turned the letter over to the major who sent it home to Laurence’s mother. Incidentally, Jimmie Oakley was also killed a month later, in September 1918. This letter that I read is the same letter that was read at a memorial service for

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the boys killed in action at his family’s church, 93 years ago.

This letter, along with Laurence’s other artifacts have been loaned to the Toronto Scottish Regiment; a regiment which is a continuation of the 75th battalion under which Laurence served. His other memorabilia besides this letter, his medals, his photo and Jimmie Oakley’s photo, a photo of his grave in France, postcards he wrote home, his small bible and his original war diary are now housed in the war museum at this regiment’s new headquarters in Etobicoke. I suppose in a way he and Jimmie were two of the lucky ones. Their bodies were given a decent burial in one of the 100 or so military cemeteries in France, unlike the hundreds and thousands of soldiers who were never found and whose names only became inscriptions on the massive monument at Vimy Ridge. A few years ago, my sister, my husband and myself had the opportunity to travel to Holland and France.

During this trip, we visited Laurence’s grave and the monument at Vimy. We took with us a small Canadian flag, some soil from Canada and a carved plaque and placed it on his grave. We were totally impressed with how these military cemeteries you see scattered all over France are kept in immaculate condition and will be forever.

In closing I want to say that sometimes out of death and destruction can once in a while come something positive. In May 1917, Laurence was on furlough. At that time he was still recovering from a wound. He took the steamer from England, across the Irish sea to Belfast where he visited the huge shipyards, where years before the Titanic was built. He then travelled by train to Dungannon and spent two days visiting an uncle and some cousins. He wrote about this in his diary. This past September my sister, my husband and myself were in Ireland and while there had the rewarding experience of visiting living relatives, in fact over 30 of them. Family we never knew existed before, and whose roots we had been able to trace to the present from this little excerpt in Laurence’s WW1 diary, a diary written over 90 years ago.

Thank you”
Museum Musings of this issue will be dedicated to remembering all those who served and especially those who gave their lives for their country and fellow men during the various wars over the past 120 years.

Harbord’s Remembrance Day service this year marked the 90th anniversary of the original dedication of our First World War monument, “Our Soldier” on November 11, 1921. As mentioned in a previous Harbordite, photographs of that ceremony were found in the City of Toronto archives by Mr. Daniel Leblanc and now hang in our Museum. We were never aware of their existence until Mr. Leblanc located them. For the story of how Harbord came to have a First World War monument click on the link of the Happy Ghosts of Harbord on this website.

This service was also the 7th anniversary of the rededication of “Our Soldier”.

This year we had in attendance Mary Pape, and her sister Ruth Benns, nieces of Private Laurence Barclay Ramsay, a Harbord graduate who at 19 years of age in 1917, enlisted in the Canadian Army to serve and fight in the First World War. They never met him as he was killed in action on August 22nd, 1918, at Amiens, France, a number of years before they were born. Mary and her husband Hessel had visited Harbord many months earlier and gave the Museum copies of many of Private Ramsay’s documents. His diary was reviewed by India Anamanthadoo, Rachel Fabbri, Emily Gibson, and Claire Shenton Harris, this year’s Harbord Club Museum volunteers, who put together a series of highlights from Private Ramsay’s diary which they read at the service.

This was followed by a short history of the family read by Mary which is included separately in this Harbordite. (See page 5)

Following this presentation Eleni Humphrey, Grade 12, student, read her poem entitled, “Living with a Soldier”, which she composed, addressing her feelings regarding her brother’s present Royal Canadian Army service:

Living with a Soldier
Will he go?
Every day, every night
Every hour, every minute
Confronted with a hard truth of present circumstances
That is my life
Living with a Soldier

Anger, Fear, and Pride
Anger for those who frowned upon him
Anger for those who call him "baby-killer" or a "monster"
Anger for that he cannot say anything
Anger for those who say "our army is garbage"

Fear of death
Fear of a commanding officer telling us my brother was K.I.A.
Fear of burying my best friend
Fear that the uttering of eight words could change my life

"Eleni, I got accepted to go to Afghanistan"

Proud of him serving his country
Proud of what he’s fighting for
Proud of the reason he wakes up in the morning
Proud that he is my brother
Proud that I
Live with a Soldier

And so we saw and heard how families feel and understand the sacrifices made to protect our country and our freedom. A story and a poem almost 100 years apart in time but both with the same feelings.

As always the Museum is open during the school year on Wednesdays, from 1pm to 5pm.
One of Laurence’s farewell letters to his mother, found in his helmet by Jimmie Oakley where Laurence fell in battle in France on August 22, 1918.
Barney Danson

The Honourable Barnet Danson, Barney as he was liked to be known, passed away October 17, at the age of 90.

Barney Danson was not able to complete high school (Parkdale) due to the outbreak of the Second World War in which he served having joined the Queen’s Own Rifles in 1939. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. We made him an honorary member of the Harbord Club on May 8, 2007 when he participated in the dedication of Harbord’s Second World War monument. He had previously taken part in the ceremony on November 11, 2004 when we rededicated our First World War monument “Our Soldier”.

Barney lost an eye on June 6, 1944 when Canadian troops landed in Normandy. He lost many friends and comrades that day. He continued to serve with distinction throughout the war. After the war he returned to Toronto and was first involved in the family insurance business and later he established Danson Corporation, a plastics manufacturing business. Not content with this, Barney entered politics. He was elected as the member for the Federal riding of York North, located largely in today’s Markham, and held the seat from 1968 to 1979.

While in Parliament he served in the Cabinet of Prime Minister Elliot Trudeau as Minister of State for Urban Affairs and lastly as Minister of National Defence.

Barney never lost his interest in public service and giving back to the community.

While he served on many boards of both profit and non-profit organizations his most memorable achievement was his energy and dedication seeing to the creation of the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

We were honoured to have Barney speak at Harbord’s re-dedication of “Our Soldier”.

When visiting our Museum, take a look at the group photograph taken at the rededication ceremony and you will see Barney in the 4th row behind and to the right of the monument wearing the light coloured trench coat and the beret at a jaunty angle.

The Honourable Barnet Danson, Barney as he was liked to be known as, was a true friend of Harbord and he will be missed.

For a more extensive review of Barney’s life and achievements go to www.benjamins.ca and follow the links to SEARCH ARCHIVES and type in Danson.

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Nate Leipciger

Nate arrived in Canada as a sole refugee after the Second World War...
War and entered Harbord without any knowledge of English. He succeeded in graduating and going onto a successful career in business. It was his vision and encouragement together with alum Murray Rubin that saw the raising of the money for the refurbishment of “Our Soldier” and the subsequent construction and dedication of Harbord’s Second World War monument.

Nate has been awarded the humanitarian “Remembrance” award by, Ve’Ahavta’s Tikun Olam, to be received at a ceremony on December 4th at Koerner Hall. This award is presented to deserving humanitarians for their leadership and bravery. Congratulations, Nate, and best wishes for many more years of good health and happiness!

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Elodie Li Yuk Lo

Hi from one Harbordite to another. I wanted to send a message via the group but didn't know how. I also noticed a post about providing news through the Harbord Club newsletter but also didn't know how to submit. So I opted for sending you a personal message.

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The Day the Canadians Arrived!
(Liberation of Holland)

On May the fifth, 1945, at seven forty three in the morning, there was a racket at the front door. The large brass bell which hung from the coiled spring in the living room near the ceiling above the hall door, rung insistently without interruption. In spite of the closed sliding doors to the front room, and tightly shut door to the hallway, they could plainly hear the commotion out on the street while the three sat at the meager breakfast carefully laid out on the dining room table. There was a measure of dignity to the meal even though there wasn’t much. A single slice of bread, carefully cut from the precious loaf that had been marked by small cuts on top of the crust - it was to last for the week - and perhaps just a little milk which had been mercifully received from the farmer at the edge of town in exchange for a bag of potato peelings.

The small boy knew no different. He was always hungry and the cupboard had needed to be locked. More than once had he snuck into the forbidden sanctuary and snatched a bit of bread.

He looked anxiously at his mother and wondered how she would respond to the urgent call. In less than three weeks he would six. Just the same, he knew her fear. They had finally come to get them, he thought. The Moffen, as they were called, the soldiers with their guns. They had come to take them too.

He knew that next door, Simon had hid under the floor with the mice and the rats. He wasn’t supposed to know, but little pots had big ears, as he was often told. He knew that Simon was much older, seventeen or eighteen, perhaps. He did not know about such numbers, just that Simon was nearly grown up and hid from the soldiers so that he would not be taken like so many others. Father had not been there for a long time. To him he was a black spot on the map that Mother kept. She would point out the spot on the map.

“That’s Brucks,” she would say. “That’s where Papa is.”

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Dear Mr. Bob Wilson:

My name is Alexandra (Ally) Lee and I graduated from Harbord this past June 2011. This year at commencement I was given the honor of receiving the Harbord Club Hilkka Filpulla, in honor of your late wife. I just wanted to thank you and let you know how honored I am to be receiving an award that not only recognizes excellence in academics but in athletics as well.

During my four years at Harbord I tried to do as much as I possibly could, I joined KEY Club, Girls Athletic Association, Student’s Leading Initiatives for Change, Strings Orchestra, Chinese Club and Student Activity Council. I also held numerous executive positions on these clubs but mostly on the GAA. I even ran for school president, however even though I didn’t win it was a great learning opportunity. Amongst these extra curricular activities I also found the time to join many sports teams, including the swim team, softball team, ice hockey team and field hockey team. I was even given the honor of co-captain of the varsity field hockey team during my senior year. Even though I was involved with these numerous Harbord clubs and teams I always made sure my studies came first and maintained a consistent 88% average during my years at Harbord. Receiving this award means a lot to me as I always tried to maintain a healthy balance between academics and athletics and the fact that this was recognized by my peers makes it all the more worthwhile. I honestly just enjoyed doing what I love, which was being involved with as much as I possibly could.

The time I spent at Harbord I can honestly say was life changing and eye opening. The people that I met and the friends that I made have already had a huge impact on the person I am today. For me Harbord was not only my high school but a place that I went for the past four years that not only taught me academics but important life lessons that I will be taking with me as I move on to the next chapter in my life.

I am currently studying at the University of Waterloo, in the Undergraduate Health Studies Co-op program. Essentially it is a program geared towards those interested in futures in health professions such as health policy or health promotion. As of now I am not sure what my future plans will entail, I have always liked the idea of going to medical school and becoming a doctor so that I could work for a company like Doctors without Borders, or working with the World Health Organization in developing health policies to help people around the world. Whatever I end up doing I know that it would have to be a job where I would be helping others because I know a job like that would be fulfilling.

I want to thank you again for the honor of this award. And wish you a safe and happy year!

Sincerely,

Alexandra Lee
Dear Sir or Madame,

My name is Laura Gallagher-Doucette and I am absolutely thrilled to be receiving the J. Hamilton Adams Award. I am a 2011 graduate of Harbord Collegiate Institute and I am currently studying integrated humanities the University of King's College in their unique Foundation Year Program along with Acting at Dalhousie University. In this past busy month, King's has gone from being an exciting mystery to me, to my new home. It is a welcoming community with a small but mighty student body. Each and every voice is heard and opinion valued, and intellectual growth is placed above all else. King's is home to one of the oldest theatrical societies of Canada, a student-run organization that has already become tremendously important to me. I am ecstatic to have already had the opportunity to perform in a show, and to embark upon my first directing endeavor! This kind of student involvement and importance on finding my own niche are things that I first experienced at Harbord.

Harbord is where my love of theatre was sparked. It was on the creaky floorboards of Harbord's auditorium that I uttered my first lines, and I will always think of the school plays that Harbord teachers poured their hearts and souls into very fondly. Along with stimulating extracurricular activities, my love for academics was nurtured at Harbord. During my four years there I enjoyed the dedication and enthusiasm of many wonderful teachers, some of whom I hope to keep in touch with long after today. Among these, my English teachers stand out. I have always been enthralled by literature, and each of my English teachers at Harbord offered me new ways to appreciate it. Last year, I was lucky enough to benefit from three extraordinary English courses and teachers, contributing to the satisfaction of my Grade Twelve year. I even had the pleasure of being one of the editors of the Writer's Craft creative writing journal.

During some of my time at Harbord, my younger brother became one of the faces that passed by me in the halls, making the school even more dear to me. I also gave many tours and helped out with the orientations of the younger grades along with tutoring English once a week. Because of this, my appreciation of Harbord grew even more. I not only loved it for everything that it had taught me, but because I began to feel a certain responsibility for keeping it the wonderful place that I had enjoyed. I think back on Harbord as one of the places where I grew into who I am today, and I hold its staff and students in the highest regard. Receiving this award is an honour to me because of the recognition it bestows on me, but even more so because it is from an institution that I deeply respect and admire. I greatly appreciate the generosity of the Harbord Club for making this award possible.

Sincerely,
Laura Gallagher-Doucette
Dear respected members of the Harbord Club,

I am writing to you in appreciation for awarding me with the honour of receiving the Willie Zimmerman Founders Award upon my graduation from Harbord Collegiate Institute. The four years I spent at Harbord are undoubtedly engraved in my memory especially due to the rare selfless and motivated community I became part of. The valuable environment at Harbord C I taught me the importance of helping others and settling for no less than the best. These ideologies were the basis of my academic and extracurricular successes in high school and, hopefully, beyond. Due to the positive environment at the school, I successfully gained a position as a BBA candidate at The School of Management at The University of Toronto’s Scarborough Campus. Clearly, I am indebted to Harbord C I for honing my skills and extending my abilities on many fronts. More specifically, I am indebted to you since much of the school’s continued encouragement to be benevolent members of society is nurtured by the Harbord Club’s hard and endless work. Your efforts ensure that those who excel academically and in an extracurricular manner are rewarded for their sacrifices and achievements. Thus, students always strive and compete to become better members of their communities. On a greater scale, students such as myself are encouraged to continue in the role of contributing members of society in all of our future endeavours.

Receiving this award means a lot to me because it reflects to me that trying hard does not only lead to success but also to respect and distinction. I thank you deeply for instilling this encouragement in me as it will help me greatly in achieving my goals. I also pray that God bless you for all the effort you put into providing awards of this nature to deserving students.

With Many Thanks,

Ismail Mohammed
Dear Goldhar Family,

This year I was the recipient of the Maxwell Goldhar Award. I am very honoured to have been chosen for this award which is given to a graduating student who shows leadership qualities and is frequently involved in the community, athletics, and volunteering. Your generosity will be providing me with additional financial support for my post-secondary education. Thank you.

I consider myself to be a rounded student, participating as much as I can on sports teams, clubs and events around the school. I have been playing at least one sport per season (sometimes two) every year, with boys volleyball, swimming, badminton, co-ed volleyball, and baseball. I enjoy playing sports very much, that I even participated and competed outside of school in the Toronto Baseball Association.

Harbord Collegiate was like a second home for me. I would be at school by 7:00 am nearly every day (for a practice, an event, or even to help out clubs) and leave the school property after 5:00 pm. I was the Vice-President of the B.A.A. and clothing sales Rep, providing many ideas, styles and school gear to the student population. I am also an active member of the Student Activity Council and various smaller clubs.

My proudest accomplishment at Harbord was being selected as a Sr. leader for the Albion Hills Leadership Program, where I worked with nine other student leaders to plan out a weekend for grade nine students to feel welcomed and a chance for them to open up and learn to become future leaders at Harbord.

With my time at this school, I have assisted with many club events such as the annual barbecues; the TTC coin drive for hungry students in Toronto; assisting coaching school teams, etc. It pleases me to help people regardless of the outcome for me. To me, I feel that there is nothing more satisfying than to help others and my dedication sees the task accomplished successfully.

Harbord is a great school for me, and throughout my educational career, I believe the community is welcoming, the staff is great, and the clubs and teams are awesome. Receiving this award means a lot to me because, it shows that I have worked hard to prove myself as a well-rounded student. I believe I have worked hard in balancing work with play, maintaining a high eighty average every term, while participating in many events relating with the school. I loved Harbord so much, and I miss it now that I am in university.

I am currently working towards an undergraduate degree in Environmental Engineering at the University of Waterloo. Receiving this generous award will help support my financial needs. I am currently trying to balance participating in few clubs, events, and intramural sports with my studies. I have worked hard and enjoyed being a Harbordite, not expecting to receive an award, so I am really joyful and appreciative upon receiving it.

Thank You again for honouring me with this award. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Wilson Wang
Dear Mr. Miller,

My name is Wyatt Fine-Gagne and I’m very happy to be this year’s recipient of the award named after you.

I spent four wonderful years at Harbord, participating in all sorts of clubs, events, and teams. When I got to Harbord, I was relatively shy and not all that interested in getting involved. In my final year, I was the Boys Athletic Association President, founder and conductor of a jazz combo, captain of a team, and an executive member in other clubs. So what changed for me? I’m not too sure, somewhere along the line I realized that being apathetic about joining thing wasn’t the right way to go. I think it was my early involvement in the BAA that helped that. In grade ten, I was named captain of the junior boys Volleyball team and was a part of the City-champion Tennis team. That year, I was named the athlete of the year for my year for the second year in a row. In grade eleven I was a member of five sports teams and was named MVP for the varsity Baseball team. That year, I also started performing at various school functions (I play guitar, banjo, and sing), and I founded the Harbord Jazz Combo, which still exists even though I’ve left. In my final year at Harbord, I organized an event, which is now an annual affair, called “Growmember”, to raise money for prostate cancer research. I also helped to organize a charity concert/dance for War Child Canada, with money going towards building a school in the Democratic Republic of Congo. I also received the honour of being the Graduating Athlete of the Year, which was the cherry on top of four amazing years.

I do miss Harbord, however, I love McGill University, where I’m currently studying towards a bachelor of arts, majoring in economics. I made the varsity Baseball team here at McGill and am playing intramural hockey with friends who I went to Harbord with. I’m not sure of what my plans for the future are; nothing too serious just yet considering I’m not the type to give up dreams easily. I want more than anything to be a musician and I think that’s a dream worth pursuing for a little while anyways.

Harbord will always have a special place in my heart, as I’m sure it does in your too. I’m honoured to win this award. Though it took me a little while to get going, by the end of my time at Harbord I prided myself in being a good scholar, good athlete, and good leader.

Thank you so much for your contributions to Harbord, both as a student and graduate.

All the best,

Wyatt Fine-Gagne (2011)
Dear Harbord Club:

This year I was the recipient of the Harbord Club M. Knight Award. Your funding of this award is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much! My name is Winnie Lieu. I am currently a first year undergraduate university student at the University of Toronto studying life sciences. Being a recipient of this award not only allows me to reflect on the valuable experiences I had at Harbord, but also reminds me of the tremendous amount of support given by the Harbord Club to students like myself in recognizing their academic achievement.

My time at Harbord has been amazing. It is mind-blowing to me that I have already completed four years of high school and am now in university for at least four more years of education. Compared to university life, I definitely miss my high school years at Harbord, including the wonderful school environment it provided me and the friendly staff and students that made high school at Harbord feel like a second home. My time at Harbord provided me with transferable and important academic and social skills that I continue to use presently and in the future. In the past years at Harbord, I have learned the importance of contributing to my school and community through many different clubs, such as the Student Activity Council and the Law Society. I have learned to cope with stress and formulate difficult decisions for post-secondary education and possible career paths in the future. Harbord has allowed me to interact and form connections with teachers and students that I will retain for years to come.

As a life sciences student at the University of Toronto, I hope to obtain my Bachelor’s degree and continue on to graduate school. I am striving for a career in the medical field as I am extremely interested in human biology and the health sciences. However, the life sciences courses I am currently enrolled in are extremely stressful and demanding, which may make me reconsider the long and difficult path to medical school.

This award means so much to me because it is recognition for the hard work I have accomplished at high school. It is symbolic of the achievements I have completed at Harbord and the skills, connections and knowledge I have gained during the past four years that will provide me with confidence to approach future tasks. I strive every year to do my best and it is highly encouraging and motivational that students are awarded and recognized for their hard work and academic success. I highly appreciate the Harbord Club in selecting me as an award recipient. It is an honour to receive this extraordinary award, especially as I graduate from Harbord. Thank you for the Harbord Club M. Knight Award and your tremendous care and dedication to acknowledge student success and helping students succeed.

Sincerely,

Winnie Lieu
Left - Platform party at the 2011 Harbord C. I. Commencement.

Right - Commencement - a view from the auditorium balcony.

Below - Grad, Victor Mota, receiving 7 awards!
Left - Special guest addressing the Grads.

Right - Murray Rubin, class of ‘50, speaks to the Grads.

Below - Singing the school song one more time!
Some of the Class of 2011 Grads take a moment to pose for the camera.
Left - Representing the Harbord Club - Sidingham. Representing the Harbord Charitable Foundation - Murray Rubin. HCI’s Vice-Principal Donnie Straker

HCI’s Principal - Rodrigo Fuentes.

Right - Murray Rubin, ‘50 alum, speaks to the grade 9 students about the Harbord Club & the Harbord Charitable Foundation and its importance in a great school like Harbord!

Left - India Annamanthadoo receives 2 Harbord Club Awards; the Elsie J. Affleck Award and the Frances A. Robinson Award.
*Left* - Eleni Vlahakis receiving a Grade 10 ICE Award.

*Right* - Robert Georgi receives a Grade 9 ICE Award.

*Right* - Jonathan Motha-Pollock receiving the Grade 11 Lena Winesanker Award.

*Left* - Eleni Vlahakis receiving a Grade 10 ICE Award.
My Dear Mother,

Should I fall in action, I wish to leave you this last farewell. I have faced danger many and many a time and the Lord has upheld me, but he may call me to meet him face to face in glory.

I have tried by His help to withstand the terrible temptations both in England and France and I believe not in vain. I think I am as good a boy when I write this as that far off day when I left my beloved home.

Now, Mother, I can say from my heart that I never was afraid to go up “there” to do my “bit” helping to hold the British lines, or to go out and meet the German in battle.

Now, Mother, do not grieve too much for me though I know it his hard to lose a boy in that far off battle-field in France but God knows best.

And papa, do not lose heart for there are the girlies and I know from what I have seen they need your best of care. May they always remember their “big” brother who made what the world knows as the supreme sacrifice.

I leave you all my sincerest love and God be with you til we meet again.

Your loving son,

Laurence
In Memoriam...

Ralph Zeldin (1913 - 2011), passed away at the grand age of 98. He will be remembered by staff and students as the alum who gave a terrific speech about his good ol days at HCI at the 2008 Athletic banquet held at Old Fort York. (His daughter Vicky has told us she will be submitting an article for our next issue.)

Honorable Barnett Danson (1929 - 2011), passed at the grand age of 90. (See page 9 for article.)

Harbord CI Students and Staff Celebrate Franco-Ontarien Day

On Friday, September 23, students, staff and community members from Harbord CI honoured Franco-Ontarian Day, le Jour des Franc-Ontariens et des Franc-Ontariennes, in celebration of the province’s Francophone communities.

Hundreds of students and staff were spotted wearing their best green and white outfits (the official colours of the Franco-Ontarian emblem and flag).


With over 600,000 individuals of French-speaking heritage across the province, Harbord is thrilled to support these vibrant communities in Toronto and throughout Ontario. Offering Extended French, French Immersion and Core French classes across all grade levels, in addition to six International and Classical languages, Harbord CI’s second language program offerings are among the largest in the TDSB.
The Day the Canadians Arrived!
Continued...

That was what this father was, spot marked on a map, and a few letters that had come, with many dark black lines on them where someone had stroked out the writing, writing he could not read anyway.

This was the life he knew. The map, letters, a very cold winter, the little tin can on the stove in which small sticks of wood were burned when mother had them, the emergency kitchen down the street where they got that horrible soup he could not eat no matter how hungry he was, the tulip bulbs they had tried to eat on day, the funny taste they had, the fence between their patio and the neighbours, that lost a board or two each time mother needed some wood to cook the soft potatoes with black spots in them, the sound of aeroplanes going over head when he was put into his cold bed at dusk and the sound of them early in the morning when he woke up. It seemed to him that the neighbours who live beside them or upstairs. The fear, the secrecy, the soldiers on the street that could shoot you dead if they wanted to.

Anxiously his mother rose from the table instructing him and his little sister to stay put. Hesitantly she opened the door into the hall, leaving it slightly ajar, and went to the front door.

Beyond it, out on the sidewalk he could now hear the excited voice of the lady from upstairs, all the while still pulling the bell and banging on the door.

“Come out, come out!” he could hear her now as his mother opened the door to the street. “We’re free! We’re free! The war is over. The Moffen have laid down their arms!”

Before he knew it, they were all out on the street. Grownups were supposed to behave like adults, respectable and respected, dignified and composed. Instead what saw and heard that morning he would never forget. It was a spectacle not to be believed.

They were all out on the street, dancing, hugging, laughing, crying, waving red, white and blue flags that had miraculously appeared from nowhere. They had long orange banners atop of them that streamed out in the wind. Screaming and yelling, everyone seemed to have gone crazy. They were even up on the roof tops, dancing, singing “Oranje boven”, waving more flags, and not caring about falling off the edge. They were all there, the vegetable man from next door, the cole man, Smittenaar the baker, all the neighbours, all front doors wide open, a street full of people, bringt colours, happy noise, and wild abandon. The lid had come off. A joyous explosion.

The world was still crazy, a happy crazy. Everyone laughed.

From here on in, everything seemed a blur to him. Three days later the tanks came rolling by, right past the front of his house. Tanks, jeeps, the amphibian cars, trucks with soldiers that looked different. They smiled. Some threw candy bars. On the tanks there were flowers, older children that had jumped on, and ladies, soldiers hugging them.

The next afternoon his
Continued page 25
Continued from page 24

mother took them to the ‘Schutters Veld’, a field in town across from the big windmill that stood where the big animal market was. There, the new soldiers they called Canadezen, had assembled all their jeeps and tanks on display. Everyone talked to the soldiers, shook hands with them, hugged them, and got little presents. He liked the amphibian cars the beast and even got to touch one. They were like boats on wheels and had propeller on the back.

Later there were street parties, and large fireworks in the field across the houses where his aunt lived over the railroad tracks. And there was food, food you could eat and food you had to be careful with, like the sardines that were too rich, his mother said. Just a teaspoon, no more, otherwise you got sick. There was food that came from the soldiers, the parcels that had been dropped from planes in the air. They had seen it happen because the airfield was only a kilometre or two out there in the country beyond the railway tracks. The neighbour boy upstairs had one of those big square biscuit tins that was empty now. He had his mother tie some string to it and he used it as a drum, marching up and down the street. He himself did not get one. He used an ordinary cardboard box and together they paraded a long way up the street. Everyone paraded. He wished he could have a tin drum too. It sound so much better.

It was time he would never forget. And emotional time, a time when everyone did not seem quite normal to him. Slowly, though, adults became adults again. He had his sixth birthday during all this happy confusion and in September he went to the big school.

That little boy grew up to be me, by the way.

Hessel Pape.
Peter Miller, Treasurer of the Harbord Charitable Foundation, is pleased to announce that this year the Foundation paid out $8,086.00 in 75 scholastic awards at the Commencement exercises and the Awards Assembly. These are funds earned from money donated over the years by former students, teachers and friends of Harbord Collegiate establishing scholarships and awards.

The Harbord Charitable Foundation announces that its Annual General Meeting for presenting its Annual Report and election of Officers took place on Friday December 2, 2011 at 10.00 am in the Museum at Harbord Collegiate.

In this section, we highlight school events that are upcoming

~ Dec 23 - Holiday Assembly

~ Dec 26 to Jan 6 - Holiday Break

~ Jan 27 - Lunar Banquet

~ Jan 31 - School Council Meeting - 6:30 pm

~ Feb 2 - African Heritage Month Assembly

~ Feb 20 - Family Day

~ Mar 1 - Harbord hosts the Sears Drama Festival

~ Mar 12 to 16 - March Break (March Break Trip to Spain, Morocco & Gibraltar)

~ April 4 - Massey Hall Concert

~ April 26 - Harbord’s 120th Birthday Bash @ Ambiance Banquet Hall - 5:30 pm

~ April 27 - H.C.I. Open House, Times TBA

~ May 3 - Creative Arts Spring Fair
To get to the point I wanted to get the word out about my current journey of trying to make the 2012 Olympics and I wanted to get the word out to as many people as possible. It has been my dream since I was young and Harbord played a big role in where I am today in terms of volleyball. If it was not for the support of the great teachers/coaches and team mates that I had, I would not be where I am today. It is always nice to receive an encouraging word on our facebook page and my beach partner and I are always looking for people to spread the word in hopes of possibly getting a sponsor.

To find out more about my journey you can go to our team website at www.mauritiusbeachvolleyball.com and we would love to get as many people to "like" our facebook fan page at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mauritius-Beach-Volleyball-RigobertLi-Yuk-Lo/165701430158313?ref=ts.

It says Mauritius Beach Volleyball because I was born there and representing that country.

Thank you for your time. I just realised this year is my classes' 10 year anniversary. Unfortunately I am not in town.

Cheers,
Elodie Li Yuk Lo

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* Mauritious Beach Volleyball - Rigobert/Li Yuk Lo showing your Tiger support!*

Funny enough, in her 2001 yearbook, the grads voted her as the female grad most likely to represent Canada at the Olympics. Pretty good prediction!

I introduced Elodie to a few people today including Minh and his Jr. girls volleyball team, HCI’s principal, Mr. Fuentes and retired teacher, Mrs. Giniotis. When Elodie wins her gold medal, we will be able to say, “Hey, we know that Harbordite!”

When Elodie had messaged me earlier this year to tell me of her endeavours, I told her that if she were to come to Toronto she should bring me something autographed to be placed in the Museum; she held her promise. Today, Elodie handed to me two autographed articles of teamwear. Thanks Elodie. Harbordites everywhere will be rooting for you! -Belinda
For those of you who don't live in the city, province or even the country, we are giving you plenty of time to organize your schedule and make yourselves available for this extravagant event which can't be missed.

Many of you attended the June 1981 event celebrating Harbord's 90th and many of you attended the May 1992 event celebrating Harbord's Centennial and now, twenty years later, we want you to be a part of History; Come celebrate Harbord's 120th! Invitations have been sent to you via email if we have your updated email address. (P.S. If you are in receipt of this Harbordite via email, we have your updated info. Thanks!)

If you know of any Harbordite who hasn't yet submitted to us their name, email address and grad year, tell them to let us know at harbordcelebration@live.ca This way, they will be added to the database and not miss out on hearing of future events.
Please donate to the Harbord Club.

Charitable receipts are only issued for donations of $50.00 and over. All cheques of $50.00 and over for which a charitable receipt is required should be made payable to "Harbord Charitable Foundation" and on the face of the cheque in the Memo line insert the words "For the Harbord Club".

For any amount less than $50.00 or if a receipt is not required please make cheque payable to "Harbord Club". Thank You.
The Harbord Club, 120th Birthday Bash Dinner Registration Form (1892 - 2012)

Your information:
Title:
Mr /Mrs/ Ms/Dr or____

First Name:____________________, Initial:_____, Last Name:________________

Address :_____________________________________________________________

Postal Code:____________, Telephone: (H)_____________, (Cell)________________

Email:______________________________________________________________

If your name is now different from the name you were known by when you were previously at Harbord, please provide the name you used at that time :______________________________

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April 26th, 2012 Dinner Registration Fee Guide

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<th>Registration Options</th>
<th>Early Bird Registration</th>
<th>Regular Registration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Important Dates</td>
<td>This form and payment received by Jan 20, 2012</td>
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<td>Time specific fee guide</td>
<td>$60.00 per person</td>
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Note #1: Early bird discount gift package includes:

(1) A copy of the “Happy Ghosts of Harbord,” the Centennial commemorative book capturing Harbord’s first 100 years of history: a $25.00 value if purchased separately

(2) A limited edition 14x17 inch lithograph of David Crichton’s water color drawing of our school centred around the First World War monument: A $20.00 value if purchased separately

(3) A surprise gift

All are included with your dinner banquet registration for early bird registrants only and will be available to be picked up at the dinner sign in/registration table. Registration form and cheques must be either postmarked and or received by January 20th, 2012 to qualify for the early bird registration discount gift package.
Dinner Banquet Venue Information

Ambiance Banquet Hall  501 Alliance Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6N 2J1  
Reception/Social Hour 5:30-6:30 pm.  Sit Down Dinner, French Service : 7:00 pm.

Menu

Appetizers
Water Cress Soup
Fillet of Sole, Rice & Mixed Green Salad
Grilled Chicken Breast, Roasted Farmer Potatoes, Vegetables (of season)
Strawberry Delight or Chocolate Tartufo
Coffee or Tea

Options:

Vegetarian: Lasagna
Kosher: Packaged & Sealed

Sweet Table (to be served at 9:30 pm)
Fresh Seasonal Fruit & Assorted Pastries/Cakes
(Cheesecake, Tiramisu, Black Forest Cake, Carrot Cake, Mocha Cake, Flan)
Pop, Water, Juice

Cash Bar

Dancing to follow dinner until close and Silent Auction throughout the evening
Please do not contact the banquet hall directly. Direct all inquiries and questions to the Harbord Club through email: contact@harbordclub.com or harbordcelebration@live.ca.

Organizing Options:
You may also choose to purchase a table of 10 or a partial table (minimum of 4 spots - table will be a shared table of 10). If you are the organizer of a group, please complete the following information and submit payment in full for all the spots for which you are making a reservation. Seating will be assigned on a first come first serve basis.

I am purchasing the tickets for the following Harbordites, guests and myself:

Symbols: A = Alum/Current Student: Place “check mark” or “X” in column that applies
S = Staff
G = Guest
M = Meat/regular meal: Place “check mark” or “X” in column that applies
V = Vegetarian option: Lasagna
K = Kosher option: packaged & sealed

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Register by Jan 20th 2012, the number of attendees_______ x $60.00 = $_______(A)

Register after Jan 20th 2012, the number of attendees______ x $65.00 =  $______(B)

Donations to the Harbord Club will be graciously received. Your donations help fund our continued work in alumni related activities, the Harbord museum and student scholarships. Donate in any of the following ways, and you will be honoured in the commemorative souvenir program. A tax receipt will be issued for donations of $50.00 or more.

$200.00 & over: Benefactor $_________(C)
$100.00 Patron $_________(D)
$50.00 Sponsor $_________(E)
$25.00 Friend $_________(F)
Total Payment (A + B + C/ D/ E/F) $_________________________(G)

Make your cheque payable to the Harbord Club along with pages 1, 4 & 5 of the registration form and kindly mail to the following address:

Harbord Collegiate Institute - Attn: Harbord Club
286 Harbord Street,
Toronto, Ontario,
M6G 1G5

Note: Your payment must accompany your registration document. Cheques only. Please do not mail cash or post date your cheque.

An email confirmation will be sent to the organizer (tables of 10 or partial tables) and to individual registrants (one or two people) upon receipt of registration and full payment.

Onward Harbord!