



October 2010
Vol. 70, Issue 3

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YMVA Newsletter

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Annual General Meeting

Our 71st YMVA Annual General Meeting will be held Dec. 4th at 9:30am at the Agricola Church. We have a full agenda to cover in those 2 hours. Aside from a briefing from our Ward 25 Councillor, we will provide updates on all the initiatives listed in the beginning of this newsletter. We have had a busy year and hope that you will find the time to attend. We will mail out pre-meeting reading material including an agenda. Please mark this date in your calendars. Hope you can attend.

President's Update

By: Christine Acconcia
caconcia@rogers.com

Dear Neighbours, Hope you all have had a summer full of sun, fun and wonderful family time and are enjoying the Indian summer we haven't had for many years.

The YMVA was established in the fall of 1940 and is therefore celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Over the years, various boards have all committed to the same dream; to maintain that which makes our valley so unique. In a full road reconstruction with the City, who would have thought that we could have kept our meandering streets and our mature tree canopy. Quite amazing, actually! The Valley Fair is a big part of what makes our neighbourhood great. It was started back in 1976 by neighbours who cared to demonstrate that sense of community with a day long party in Brookfield Park. We've had the fair for 34 years! With such deep seeded commitment, our present board and NAG (Neighbourhood Activities Group) continue to try to pass on many of these traditions, but we need your help. New families move into the

valley every year, having heard of our wonderfully embracing community.

Even though life gets faster and busier, it comes down to a collaborative group of neighbours who each year volunteers its time in varying degrees to keep these projects and activities going. We have and can continue to make a difference, but only with your help.

With our June blast email, we wanted to gauge the level of interest specifically for the continuation of the activities that NAG organizes every year. And luckily the feedback you gave us was overwhelmingly positive. Participation is the key.

The YMVA continues to work with the City on various fronts. We have had a busy summer, so much so that I thought a projects overview would help you understand the projects and their ever moving timelines.

New Zoning By-Law:

COMPLETED (see the Development tab on our website for details)

Toronto Hydro Upgrades:

ONGOING now until February, 2011

Yonge /York Mills Channel Maintenance Program - TRCA (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority):

PHASE 1 - Fall, 2010

Road and Sewer Infrastructure Upgrades:

DEFERRED to April, 2011

New Parkland by Miller Tavern:

DEFERRED to May, 2011

Build Toronto Development on the NW corner of Yonge and Wilson: UNDER CONSULTATION

For a brief summary update on these projects, please see below.

Toronto Hydro Construction

Louise Sugar:

lsugar@sympatico.ca

Hydro-Electric System limited (THESL) is in the process of planning a significant upgrade to the electrical system in our neighbourhood.

This entire upgrade will affect the area southwest of Yonge St. and York Mills Rd. The project will be designed and constructed in three distinct phases.

Background:

Two feeders power Hogg's Hollow' Feeders transport electricity in to our community. Toronto Hydro monitors feeder patterns to see if and when interruptions occur. When a feeder has multiple interruptions, Toronto Hydro evaluates how a community is supplied.

Our neighbourhood is currently supplied by a hybrid-system where the primary (high-voltage) is underground and the secondary is overhead. The primary is directly buried in the ground and the poles hold the transformers, the secondary service to your home and street lights. Toronto Hydro is planning to replace all of the existing high-voltage cables within concrete-encased ducts underground and install new padmounted transformers and flush to grade vaults to meet the supply and reliability needs of our area.

Hogg's Hollow has had more interruptions than normal over the last year. In fact, Toronto Hydro has made it a priority to be addressed immediately.

Design and construction is taking place now and will take place in three phases

Overhead transformers that are currently on poles will be removed and replaced with above ground pad-mounted transformers and flush to grade vaults

For every 10 to 12 homes there will be approximately one pad-mounted transformer and 2 to 3 vaults; equipment location is based on a number of factors including property size, cable pulling and distribution loading requirements. This equipment will be installed on City property lines.

Toronto Hydro plans to have civil and electrical work complete for all three phases by December 2011

Project Highlights:

Toronto Hydro is working closely with the City of Toronto (City) to upgrade this system in advance of the City's planned sewer and road work.

On Friday, September 24, Toronto Hydro met with Councillor Cliff Jenkins, the City Roads team and the YMVA to address resident concerns regarding the urgent nature of this plan and plan rollout. The meeting also addressed concerns made by residents on Donino Avenue and Donino Court that they had not been satisfactorily communicated to regarding the scope and timing of this project.

The YMVA requested a communication plan for all residents, ensuring that the planned Toronto Hydro work is communicated to and approved by all residents, and in particular those who will have transformers installed on their

properties, prior to completing plans for the stages or work to occur beyond the Donino/Donino Court phase.

The YMVA has also requested that Toronto Hydro conduct a Town Hall meeting for the purpose of communicating the full details of the plan to Valley residents.

Toronto Hydro has authorized its contractor, Power Line Plus, to begin designing this project.

Project Phases:

Phase 1 – Ongoing

Streets included: Donino Ave., Donino Crt. and Donwoods Dr. at the intersection with Donino Ave.

Civil construction: September 2010 – January 2011

Electrical: February

Phase 2 and 3: TBC, pending Townhall meeting and street-by street consultation.

Important Notice Regarding Electrical Poles:

While the transformers will be removed from poles and placed on the ground, existing electrical poles, which feed electricity from the underground cables to your home, will not be removed unless you, and those neighbours who share these overhead connections with you, agree to bury the services to your houses. Please read below information from Toronto Hydro...

Putting your secondary services underground...

Some of you have asked for your service wire – the one from the pole to your home – to be put underground during this project. Toronto Hydro

is making provisions for this to be done easily by extending our duct to your property line. In order to put your service underground, you will require an electrician to extend a duct from your meter base to the front of your home, where it would connect with ours.

Please note, one pole feeds about 4-6 homes, if you and your neighbours choose to go underground, this may eliminate the need for this pole.

Steps:

1. Call your Toronto Hydro Customer Connection and Maintenance (CCM) representative, Kris Velss, and initiate this request. (416) 542-7882.
2. Speak with your neighbours about their interest in participating
3. Source individual or group rates from a qualified electrician

YMVA Contacts:

Louise Sugar - YMVA Board
(416) 788-5922

Simon Levy - YMVA Board
(416) 546-3091

Toronto Hydro Contact:

Christopher Chahine – 416-542-3366
www.poweruptoronto.ca

Yonge York Mills Channel Maintenance Program

Louise Sugar:
lsugar@sympatico.ca

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) have retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to commence the first stage of a channel maintenance plan for the West Don River. Stantec completed a hydraulic assessment and channel maintenance study of the West Don River from Yonge Street to a point approximately 1.7 km downstream at Knightswood Road. The intent of the study was to develop an understanding of the existing flood conveyance capacity of the channel through the study area, assess the structural capacity and “geotechnical integrity” of the various hydraulic structures and channel lining materials, such as the concrete slabs and gabion netting lining the river banks.

The field assessments have been completed and a 5 phase maintenance plan has been developed for the Study Area. The maintenance plan will generally include the removal of accumulated sediment, woody vegetation and debris from within the channel throughout the Study Area. In addition, the maintenance plan will also include spot repairs to the existing concrete channel lining between Yonge Street and Donino Avenue, repair to the concrete drop structure at Donino Avenue, and replacement of several concrete panels just downstream of Yonge Street.

The study results and proposed plan were presented to the Valley residents in April 2010.

The tentative maintenance plan is as follows. TRCA has funding in place to commence Phase 1, which is coupled with the sewer work the City is proposing.

There are three river “reaches” in this project:
Reach #1 (Yonge Street to Mill Street),

Reach #2 (Mill Street to Donino Avenue)

Reach #3 (Donino to Rosedale Golf Club).

Phase 1 (Fall 2010)

- Replacement of Concrete Slabs (Reach #1)
- Concrete Drop Structure Repairs at Donino Avenue (Reach 2)

Phase 2 (Fall/Winter 2010–2011)

- Vegetation/Debris removal (Reach #1, #2, #3)
- Concrete spot repairs above water (Reach #1, #2)

Phase 3 (Late Summer/Fall 2011)

- Sediment removal (upstream portion of Reach#3)

Phase 4 (Late Summer/Fall 2012)

- Sediment removal (downstream portion of Reach #3)

Phase 5 (Late Summer/Fall 2013)

- Sediment Removal (Reach #1, #2)
- Concrete Spot Repairs below water (Reach #1, #2)

All work is to occur between August 1 and March 14th of any given year to be in accordance with the allowable warm water and fisheries construction window and bird nesting periods.

Along the river banks substantial vegetation may be removed, including some trees that have grown in the river and on its banks in the past 15 years since the channel was last maintained.

The intent of the maintenance plan is to maximize the channel's capability to move water in a safe manner, to maintain structure stability and to extend the life of the channel.

Information requests or questions may be directed to:

Mr. Nick Lorrain
Water Resources Analyst
Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
5 Shoreham Drive
Downsview, Ontario
M3N 1S4
Phone: (416) 661-6600 ext. 5336
Fax: (416) 661-6898
nlorrain@trca.on.ca

Roads and Sewer Infrastructure Upgrade

By: *Simon Levy*
simplylevy@rogers.com

Discussions with the City continue on the upcoming work on the road improvement and Stormwater Management project.

As of October 1st, work is scheduled to begin on the second phase of the project in April 2011.

This will allow for the conclusion of the Toronto Hydro work discussed above.

We have urged the city to coordinate the completion of the work on as large a section of the valley roads as is feasible during this phase, so that we do not experience prolonged disruption

We are still working with the city on finalising the design for Plymbridge Road, including the necessary road widening and tree consultation.

Discussions with respect to traffic calming are scheduled to begin upon completion of the first section of the project.

Partial Parking Lot Conversion to Park

By: Louise Sugar
lsugar@sympatico.ca

Background:

In 1997, the former City of North York Council approved the acquisition of the Jolly Miller property located at 3885 Yonge Street and the development of the northern portion of this property as a municipal parking lot in order to generate revenue to aid in the recovering the acquisition costs. Having now recouped those costs, Council adopted a staff recommendation, this year, to convert the easterly portion of the Toronto Parking Authority Lot back into green space. This will reduce the number of parking spots by half.

The park design is based on a budget of \$425K, which includes demolition of the current parking lot and complete park development. The Toronto Parking Authority (TPA), who will also be responsible for construction, will provide funds.

Our past YMVA Board member David Payne is to be thanked for his diligence in working with the City to ensure that the land is to be returned to parkland.

The Park Plan:

On Wednesday, April 21, 2010 an open house was held at the Agricola Finnish Church, in order to allow the Valley residents to view the park proposal.

The site to be changed to parkland is .57 hectares in size and is located west of the West Don River. Plans have been prepared by City staff to develop the current parking lot into “passive” parkland. The new park will consist of

pathways, lighting, sitting area, wildflower meadows and tree plantings.

The sitting area will be constructed to appear as a Miller’s cabin “ruin”, reminiscent of one of the historical gristmills, which populated the valley from the early 1800’s.

“With three mill sites in York Mills the sound of running water over the water-wheels, the buzz of the saws cutting logs, and the noise of the stones grinding the grain echoed throughout the valley each day from 1804 until 1926. In this business district the landscape was dotted with houses, out-houses, cooper’s shops, and blacksmith shops behind the tavern east of Yonge and through the valley west of Yonge...”

(Pioneering in the North. Patricia W. Hart)

An extensive flower, tree and shrub-planting plan will ensure 4 season shows of shrubs, trees and spring and summer meadow flowers. Mixed, deciduous trees will buffer the meadow. Plants will also support the wildlife in the area. A community planting has been recommended for the valley residents. Notification will be made once the construction plan is complete.

Interpretive signage will provide historical information regarding the Mill site as a significant area of industry and community. Signage will also include information regarding the wildlife in the valley and how the river system is used as a significant migration and feeding system for birds and other wildlife.

Park Design and Approvals:

The design phase of this project is near completion. Final construction details for the park are underway and include the lighting, overall planting design and choice of hard landscape materials.

Two environmental assessments have been completed to ensure that the soil underneath the parking lot is suitable for the park development.

The drawings have been submitted to the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority for approval, with anticipated approval in fall 2010.

Toronto Parking Authority Board Approval is anticipated for February 2011.

Construction tendering for park and parking lot will occur in January 2011. Construction of the park has changed from the fall of 2010 until the spring of 2011. It has been pushed from the fall of 2010 to the spring due to the approval process required to award the contract to the Environmental consultant and TTC drilling approvals.

Parking Lot construction development will commence in May 2011.

Contact:

Carol Martin B.L.A.
Area Landscape and Planning Initiatives
Park Development and Infrastructure
Management
Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division
416-395-6043
cmartind@toronto.ca

**Development of the NW
Corner of Yonge & York
Mills (4050 Yonge St.)**

By: *Leanne Lewis*
leannelewis@rogers.com

On June 3, 2010 Councillors Jenkins and Stintz hosted a well-attended public meeting to discuss the proposed 4050 Yonge Street development. Following up on that meeting, the YMVA and other area ratepayer groups have met twice

more with Build Toronto and their representatives to discuss the proposal as it has developed. The YMVA will be meeting with Build Toronto at least once more before a statutory public meeting is held sometime after the municipal election. We expect that the public meeting will take place before the end of this year. The city will send notification of the public meeting to all Valley residents by mail.

Over the course of the consultations many issues, both large and small, have been discussed. The following is a summary of the YMVA's views on some of the major items up for discussion at present:

We are encouraged that the architect chosen to design the proposed project is KPMB, an internationally respected architectural firm headquartered in Toronto.

We are concerned that the proposed building's height exceeds the property's zoned height restriction. The area of the proposed building that most exceeds the height zoning is a clear glass chimney designed to make the building more energy efficient. Given that the chimney is clear and relatively modest in size in comparison to the overall building, this may not be so much of an issue. However, we have not seen a model of the structure to fully evaluate its impact. More concerning, perhaps, is a large area in the middle of the roof that exceeds the height zoning by several meters. Although this area is stepped back from the edge of the building, and even though it will be a green roof, from an aesthetic point of view, we believe that the additional height in this part of the building will make the building appear too high from a number of vantage points and it does need to be reduced. Additionally, we are concerned that if the city itself does not follow its own, site-specific height zoning that was imposed on this property by special by-law, enacted by council approximately 11 years ago, a troubling

precedent could be set. All area ratepayer groups agree on these points.

It looks as if the TTC is the likely tenant for the proposed development. Under this scenario, the building would become the TTC's new headquarters. As long as the TTC and the City are able to make a financial case to taxpayers that this move makes sense, we are inclined to see a TTC tenancy as a net positive. This is primarily because a higher than average percentage of TTC staff use public transit to get to work and therefore at least half of the proposed parking garage would remain public parking for commuters. If private tenants were to occupy the building it is more likely that little, if any, public parking would remain on the site. That being said ratepayer groups have commented that chronic financial challenges at the TTC have meant that the TTC has done a very poor job of maintaining its various physical structures in recent years. Concern has been expressed that should the finances at the TTC continue to be a problem, this site could become similarly poorly maintained.

We have concerns about the amount of public parking that will be available in the new building. Under the current proposal the total number of parking spaces will be reduced from current levels by about 30. Even more significantly, the number of public spaces will be less than half of what is available now since the tenant will require a significant number of the available spaces to accommodate the parking needs of its visitors and the anticipated 1300 employees that will work in the building. Every ratepayer group that has provided input has expressed concern on this matter. To

counter these concerns, Build Toronto stated that research has shown that 70 per cent of current parking lot users are not commuters but are actually staff that work at York Mills Centre (located on the NE corner) who are taking advantage of the lower parking fees in the Green P lot which run about ½ the cost of parking in the York Mills Centre. Build Toronto believes that once the parking fees are more comparable, York Mills Centre staff will park in their own building. We have not yet independently verified this statistic. In any event we have requested that a cost benefit analysis of adding a third underground parking level be done as we do see this as an important commuter parking lot where the available parking needs to keep pace with the expected growth in TTC ridership over the coming years.

Another concern is related to traffic flow in and around the intersection. The parking garage needs to be designed to absorb incoming cars quickly so as not to cause further slow downs in an already congested intersection. We have emphasized that the parking lot design cannot be an afterthought.

We have some concerns about a potential increase in bike traffic once the new structure is in place. In concurrence with new city standards, the proposed building includes parking for 177 bicycles. If there were to be a significant increase in bike traffic, we are troubled about the potential for problems for the cyclists, vehicular traffic and pedestrians along hilly Yonge Street and York Mills. Of particular issue is that many high-speeding cyclists tend to use the sidewalk to traverse this area. We have asked that the traffic study be expanded to include bicycle traffic.

We have seen a few small drawings of the proposed structure but they do not give a clear enough idea of what the building would look like, what colour it is or what materials it would be made from or how the structure would sit on

the site and therefore it is difficult to give a meaningful assessment of the design at this point.

The design does appear to have some strong points. For example the area of the building that sits at the corner of Yonge and Wilson appears to have a well defined entry that appears to be reasonably well detailed with an open and airy feel. However, the run of building along Wilson appears to be too imposing, an issue that may be compounded by a fairly shallow setback from the road. We recognize that the architect has some challenges here as this is the only side of the building that can accommodate the parking and delivery entry and exits and the natural topography means that the start of the “Wilson hill” is a bit of a problem as are Conservation Authority restrictions. However, we believe that more can be done to improve the design along this side of the structure. In general we are somewhat concerned that if exterior colours and materials are not chosen with the context of the surrounding natural space in mind, the building will not harmonize with the natural surroundings. We do not believe the building should be designed to stand out by itself. It needs to complement the area around it.

As part of its environmentally friendly design, the proposed building is expected to have computer regulated window louvers that would control passive heat and light from the sun depending on various conditions. No image of the building with louvers in place has been made available which will be necessary to properly assess the building’s appearance.

It may also be of interest that the city is also seeking input on the building’s design from other sources. Where it is anticipated that a building will be an important one in the city, the city may direct that a Design Review Panel (DRP) be convened to review the plan of a building during the design process. A DRP is an impartial group composed of a number of experienced and well regarded architects who volunteer to take the time to understand the site and critique the proposed building’s design. Because the city acknowledges that the Northwest corner is a location with unique features, is a high profile intersection and because this would be Build Toronto’s first development, the city did request that a DRP review the architect’s plans. The DRP meeting to discuss the Northwest corner was held on September 28. Overall the design was well received by the panel. The panel did make recommendations with regard to the south facing façade and encouraged the architect to continue to work to add some additional interest to that portion of the building. They also encouraged the architect to work to ensure that the ground floor was a little more transparent so some of the natural features and a proposed dining patio on the north side of the structure could be seen and appreciated from the south side. A passing caution was given that the building does need to harmonize with the rural aspects of the intersection. They also noted that the architect needed to provide images of the structure with the louvers in place.

Following the DRP meeting and in response to input from the community we expect that some changes to the design will be made before the next public meeting. We have advised Build Toronto that larger, more detailed drawings of the updated proposed structure will need to be made available for public viewing in order to more adequately assess the impact of the structure. Also, samples of the proposed building materials and a model of the structure, including pre-existing features of the

surrounding area, need to be brought to the public meeting.

Look for an invitation to the public meeting from the city sometime after the municipal election. The YMVA will also keep you posted, as needed, in upcoming newsletters and emails.

Environment and Beautification

By: Christine Acconcia
caconcia@rogers.com

Throughout the summer we continued to focus on refreshing the Millstone Parkette. Weeding was followed by Susan Lipchak's hours of planting perennials which she kindly donated from her beautiful garden. She is a member of the Toronto Master Gardeners and I was thrilled to have her involvement. Thank you, Susan. The City also gave us a few perennials which were promptly planted, but the parkette will need another growing season to showcase what was planted this year. If you would like to help weed or plant, please contact me via email. Thank you.

Get a Free Tree in Front of Your Home!

Just a reminder: Urban Forestry Services plants trees on City owned street allowances fronting residential properties for free. For more information go to:

http://www.toronto.ca/trees/pdfs/FreeTree_Final.pdf

to download the City's residential street tree planting brochure or call (416) 338-TREE (8733). For an additional fee residents can order a larger tree. The City will provide advice on tree choice. Even if you have a mature tree on your front lawn, the City suggest that residents order a young tree that can get

growing so it will make a nice, full replacement tree if something happens to the older tree.

Check out the Environment and Beautification tab on our website for more:

<http://hoggshollow.net/beautification.html>

A special request to all dog walkers:

PLEASE DO NOT put your doggy bags in your neighbours' leaf bags. The leaf bags either don't get picked up at all, or the garbage collector throws the bags on the lawn and then homeowners who do not have dogs have the task of picking them up from their lawn and disposing of them.

Please be considerate to your neighbours and keep the valley clean and beautiful for all to enjoy!

Crime Watch

By: Penny O'Rourke
porourke21@rogers.com

There have been five reported break-ins since our last newsletter:

20 May-23 May

18:30-21:30 hrs

Old Yonge Street

Unknown suspects smashed the glass in the basement door to enter the premises. Once inside, they ransacked the whole house. Two paintings were stolen, but not the frames.

12 Aug-13 Aug

14:30 hrs

Old Yonge Street

Unknown suspect(s) entered the premise through the upper floor master bathroom. A safe was located in a walk-in closet and was forced open and its contents were removed.

14 Aug-15 Aug

4:00 hrs

Ivor Avenue

Unknown suspect(s) entered the premises by breaking into the garage and going through the two unlocked vehicles.

15 Aug-16 Aug

21:25 hrs

Old Yonge Street

Unknown suspect(s) entered the premises through a rear sliding glass door. The suspect(s) ransacked the bathroom and closet of the master bedroom.

Date and Time - unknown

Green Valley Dr.

The suspect(s) entered the house through a small bathroom window that had been left open for ventilation. There were muddy footprints on the toilet that the suspect(s) had to step down upon in order to get through the window. It appeared as though the suspect went through a couple of dressers in two of the end hall rooms then went to the dining room. The suspect took a black leather briefcase that was resting against the wall in the dining room and then exited through the same bathroom window.

If there is interest from our neighbourhood in asking a Constable from the Community Response Unit to come and speak to us about general crime prevention, please contact me and we will try to coordinate an info meeting.

Just a reminder that you should leave car doors locked, do not leave ladders in places where intruders could take advantage of them to enter homes. One of the most frequent reminders from the police is also to leave your front and back porch lights on. Apparently, the more light that is on, the less likely you are to be broken into. Also, keep all main floor windows locked at night.

Please continue to be diligent about observing your neighbours and report to me or police anything that seems not right.

Penny O'Rourke 416 486-5060

NAG Update

Thanks to all those residents who took the time to send us feedback in response to the June email blast entitled "Have a nice summer...but before you go" which asked whether there was interest in keeping our annual neighbourhood activities and Valley Fair. Based on the positive feedback you gave us, we are looking to keep and refresh our neighborhood activities for the forthcoming year.

After 3 years of either not breaking even or making minimal profit, the NAG reserves have slowly dwindled down to a point where we have only enough money to fund the activities for the upcoming fiscal year. Whilst we do not wish to lose all our wonderful NAG activities, you can see why we are seriously concerned with the ongoing cost of and attendance at Hoggs Hollow activities and events.

To help out, we are asking that you, your neighbours and valley friends speak to each other and after referring to the following activities, get in touch with our new NAG Chair, Leslie Gage, letting her know for which activity you would like to volunteer. "Many hands make light work" and makes it a lot more fun, so even if you can only volunteer 30 minutes of your time this year, it would be tremendously appreciated. Leslie's email address is lvgage@rogers.com. Together we make this community what it is. Thank you in advance.

Erin Nella and Chris Rosenthal
Past NAG Co-Chairs

HALLOWEEN SOCIAL

This year the Fall Social is on October 30th and will be themed for Halloween, graciously hosted by Annie Katsiris. Get your costumes out or come as you are for a night of fun and prizes! We will also be sending a special invite to those new valley residents to come along so don't

miss this opportunity to meet our new neighbours and reconnect with friends.

Date: Saturday October 30th

Location: 79 Plymbridge Road

Tickets: \$25 per person includes appetizers and drinks. Please drop off cash or cheque (payable to NAG) and RSVP to Erin Nella at 25 Knightswood Rd. (erinnella@hotmail.com)

Contact (other than tickets): Leslie Gage
lvgage@rogers.com

HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE

Are you looking for some new holiday cookie recipes, as well as a chance to spend some holiday cheer with your neighbors? Then this event is for you! You bake 6-9 dozen of the same cookie and plate them up. Come out to the exchange to enjoy good conversation while browsing through all the delicious baked goods. After selecting your favorites, you go home with 6-9 dozen cookies to enjoy with your family.

Date: Wednesday Dec 8

Location: 12 St. Margaret's Drive

Time: 8pm

Contact: Lynn Richardson 416 322-7918 lrichardson@rogers.com

KIDS HOLIDAY CRAFT PARTY

A great way to entertain your kids and have them meet others in the neighborhood. Bring your kids to an afternoon of quick holiday themed crafts and they will come home with a handful of cute things to decorate your home over the season!

Date: Saturday, Dec 4

Location: Finnish Agricola Church on Campbell, basement

Time: 2 - 4pm (not a drop off event)

Contact: Clare Levy 416 546-3091

clarelevy@aol.com

HOLIDAY NAG LUNCHEON

Before the holiday rush completely sweeps us all away into the party void, let's all get together at Clare Levy's house for a quick lunch. Bring a favorite dish for all to share and come spend an afternoon with friends. Everyone is welcome!

Date: Tuesday Dec 14

Location: 37 Brookfield Road

Time: 12:30 to 2:30pm

Contact: Clare Levy 416 546-3091

clarelevy@aol.com

CAROLING AT THE MILLSTONE

What better way to get in the Christmas spirit than to go caroling? We supply the Salvation Army band to accompany us, sheets with the words to the songs and some hot chocolate and treats. You supply the voices, good cheer and smiles. And who knows, if we sing loud and clear enough we might even summon a special guest from afar...

Date: Tuesday Dec 14

Location: Millstone Parkette

Time: 7 pm

Contact: Brett LaGamba 416 486-2102

brettlagamba@gmail.com

VALLEY BOOK CLUB

Please join your neighbours about once a month for a fun social gathering and a lively discussion of an interesting book. Group members will select the books and take turns moderating and/or hosting the session – so try to have a book or two in mind to suggest to the group. The next meeting will be hosted by Carol-Anne Warrington.

Date: Wed. Oct 27

Location: 29 Donwoods Drive

Time: 12:30pm

First book: “Why Gender Matters” by Leonard Sax

Contact: Perry Lupyrypa 416 433-3871

perryanne@sympatico.ca

or Jennifer Fortier 416 480-1100

jennifer.fortier@rogers.com

DINNER CLUB

Want to meet some more of your neighbors? Do you like to try new recipes with good conversation? The Dinner Club is a great way to socialize and share some of your favorite recipes. Please fill out the sign-up sheet on the last page of this newsletter and return it to Trudy Young. Contact Trudy for more information on this popular Hoggs Hollow tradition.

Contact: Trudy Young 416 481-6905:

jtyoung@rogers.com

MOM AND TOTS GROUP

Looking to connect with other moms, share some fun conversation without having to worry about finding a baby sitter? Then this group is for you. Playgroups are hosted by the moms on a rotating basis. Nannies are welcome.

Contact: Leslie Gage

lvgage@rogers.com

SKATING RINK

Do you count down the days before you can put your skates on? We are very fortunate to have a skating rink so accessible and we'd like to keep this unique Hoggs Hollow tradition going strong, so please consider volunteering your time to assist in maintaining the rink. It's a great way to find neighbours with mutual interest in keeping Hoggs

Hollow the special place that it is. Please contact Simon if you or someone you know can help.

Contact: Simon Levy 416 546-3091

simplylevy@rogers.com

HAND DELIVERED NEWSLETTERS

We now have many sources to view the neighbourhood news ...website, notice boards, blast emails and of course our hand delivered newsletter that comes out three times a year. However, the hand-delivered newsletter takes some team work to get it to everyone's home. Fortunately we have a handful of dedicated walkers that are committed to delivering two or three streets ...fall, winter and spring. That being said, not all streets have a regular delivery person and the delivery team is not always available to deliver when the newsletters are ready to go out. We are asking everyone who enjoys a neighbourly walk and the hand delivered newsletter to please contact Jennifer jennifer.fortier@rogers.com to join the delivery team. The winter newsletter is when we need the most extra help, so don't hesitate and be in touch.

A big Thank You to all those Valley residents that have volunteered their time to getting our social calendar off to a great start. As mentioned before, if you can spare some time to help out with the various events please contact those listed or myself. Our “Country in the City” feel is as much about our wonderful location as our neighbors.

Leslie Gage

NAG Chair

Valley Fair 2010 Wrap-up

We couldn't have asked for a better day for this year's Valley Fair! The rain held out until the very end, we got our fireworks in and closed the day with a bang! The day was spent playing games and watching our amazing youth perform at the talent show. The day progressed into our traditional sporting events, dinner provided by Centro's and the bread and butter of our fair, the auction. The spectacular live entertainment of Tamarack, kept us rocking right to the fireworks finale! It really was a memorable day! For those of you who missed it, we hope you make it out to 2011!

We had a brainstorm meeting post fair and there were lots of great ideas for next year's fair. We received comments from many people regarding the dinner and maybe wanting to explore less expensive options for next year. Lots of good ideas were expressed at the meeting, including a traditional burgers and dogs BBQ, or a pig roast. Please stay tuned for the first 2011 fair meeting so that you can be a part of it and give your thoughts.

This special day that we all enjoy so much, would not be possible without a few key things: Our volunteers, our sponsors and our auction donors. It is important that we strive to keep these generous donations alive each year, so we can enjoy the Valley Fair for years to come! Volunteers seem to be repeats every year, so we would love to see some new people out next year.

It has been a large disappointment to see sponsorship for the fair almost completely disappear.

A big thank you to our SOLE sponsors for 2010; Paula and Vicko von Stedingk, for the fabulous Tamarack Band and Band Tent

As mentioned, our fair would not be possible without the spectacular auction donations, so a big thank you to our very generous auction donators:

**Cindy and Shawn Leslie
Alkier Family
Victoria Star Motors, Kitchener
Dan and John Kahnert, Kahnert Furs Limited
Edie and Roman Brenner
Sam, Roz and Tyler Nella
Simon and Jan Zucker
Glen Silvestri
Salim and Meenaz Manji
Dale and Chris Hewat
Karen Stemmler
Gary and Michele Zentil
Joel Rosenthal
Laura and Norm Lamarche
Christine Acconcia
Norman Hardie
John Young**

And last, but certainly not least, our amazing volunteers! We hope you enjoyed the day and we thank you for all your hard work in the sun:

**Christine and Dom Acconcia
Alon and Oren Jourdan
Kelly and Tatum Alkier
Peter Carter
Kathleen Cira
Stephanie and Savannah Coffey
Leslie Corrigan
Hugh Fisher
Lauren and Stuart Fisher**

Jennifer Fortier
Alan Frew and Marcy Mihalcheon
Jill Haythornthwaite
Dale Hewat
Susanne Holland
Perry-Ann Lupyrpa
Michele Hopper
Glenn and Jan Kosick
Laura and Norm Lamarche
Jack and Jordan Leslie
Clare and Simon Levy family
Susan London
Leanne Lewis
Katie, Kelly and Robby Mclean
Ingrid Mida
Pugs Morrison
Erin Nella
Julie Rao
Joel and Alison Rochon
Joel and Chris Rosenthal
Lauren Runnalls
Guela Solow
Karen Stemmler
Janna and Janine Tatham
Michael and Mitchell Verde
Vicko and Paula von Stedingk
Caileigh Weiss
Trudy Young

This fair cannot occur without sponsors, donations and volunteers, so if you love your fair, I urge you to contribute in whatever way you can, whether it is with a donation or time! So please, start thinking about how you want to help make next year's fair out-of-the-park sensational!

We will be looking for a new Chair for the Valley Fair next year, so if you feel up to taking on this job, please contact Leslie Gage. We will also be looking for people to help coordinate specific aspects of the event. Coordinator positions do not require a lot of time, but are essential! We need more people out

to make the fair run as smoothly as possible. Our first brainstorming meeting will be in early January so look for email blasts and posters for details. We hope to see lots of new faces out to participate!

Looking forward to another great fair in 2011!!!!

Note: "On July 17th, 2010, the Valley lost a kind, generous soul & dear friend. John Young was always very willing to give of his time, artistic expression and passion for art to the Valley & to the Valley Fair. So many were touched by John's gifted vision & guidance and he will forever be remembered in the artwork that he inspired and for his overall passion for life."

Your 2010 Valley Fair Chair
Karina von Stedingk