



YMVA Newsletter

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Roads and Traffic Committee:

*By: Leanne Lewis
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In the April newsletter we reported that construction for the road and stormwater management project was expected to commence in late summer in Priority Area A. Clearly that did not happen. Soon after publication it became apparent that there were several outstanding jurisdictional and engineering issues that The City needed to deal with before construction could begin.

Among other things, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) expressed concern about the increased quantity of storm water that will be discharged directly into the Don River once the drainage improvements are in place. As a result, the TRCA approval process has required more information from The City and is taking longer than expected.

Additionally, there are several locations in Priority Area A where the size of the pre-existing drainage pipes that our upgraded system was to connect into, are too small. For example, on Donino Avenue, the outlet pipes are built right into the structure of the Donino Avenue Bridge. Since these pipes cannot be expanded, new pipes will have to be run in a different location. They will likely go underground through the corner of

the adjacent park. This change requires additional engineering as it will involve cutting into and repairing the concrete wall built along the river. There are other various piping challenges in other parts of Priority Area A that City engineers have to resolve. Although these challenges can be overcome, they involve more paperwork and more engineering and, therefore, more time.

The bottom line is that, as of this writing, it is doubtful that any work will start until next spring at the earliest.

Needless to say we were concerned by this news and we immediately requested a meeting to bring together Councillor Jenkins and City Staff. At that meeting we emphasized that while we are committed to ensuring that this project is done well, City Staff has a responsibility to Valley residents with water problems to keep the project moving forward on a timely basis.

It should be made clear that this was not just a meeting organized so we could express platitudes. It was an action oriented meeting where we reviewed in some detail outstanding issues and their potential solutions, we spent time troubleshooting possible bureaucratic slow downs in order to minimize them, and we developed an agreed upon action list for City Staff. We are currently following up to determine the status of the items on that action list.

We recognize that for many of you the need for road and/or stormwater management improvements is not urgent and, for others, not even desirable. However, the YMVA is concerned about the almost 25% of Valley residents that have some form of water problems on

their property. These problems are particularly acute for some Priority Area A residents who, under current conditions, regularly experience flooded basements and flooded properties when there is even a modestly significant rainfall. These problems can only be resolved by implementing a neighbourhood-wide stormwater management strategy and the YMVA supports the timely implementation of those improvements.

Among other things, in order to do what we can to keep this project on track for a spring start and to keep the neighbourhood informed, the YMVA has made the following requests to which The City has agreed:

- If needed, The City will subdivide Priority A into sub geographic areas so that as outstanding items are resolved, each sub area can go to tender and construction can begin without having to wait for all issues in Priority A to be resolved. Sub Areas are: Donino Avenue/Donino Court, Campbell, Plymbridge/May Tree, and Doncliffe/Mt. Pleasant/Forest Glen.
- City Staff will itemize significant outstanding issues and will put together a new project schedule. This information will be communicated to the neighbourhood as soon as possible. Look for a letter from Councillor Jenkins' office in the coming weeks that will include these particulars.

- We have asked The City to continue on a timely basis with its commitment to host street by street on-site meetings with residents to present the proposed road and curb designs as each street's designs are ready for review. This will help keep the project moving forward since once residents have had an opportunity to comment on the road designs, the designs can be finalized. This means that tenders can be put out immediately once the technical problems relating to stormwater management have been dealt with.

In the meantime the YMVA continues to keep on top of the issue, continues to work with The City to help resolve problems where possible, and generally pro-active with The City to ensure that this project is kept top of mind.

The printing of this newsletter was sponsored in part by The colour field.

Ice Rink at Brookfield Park:

*By: Christine Acconcia
cacconcia@rogers.com*

As mentioned in the Spring newsletter, every year the City puts up boards for our ice rink. They provide the hose, the water, the night light but not the manpower. Every year just a few pitch in to flood it whenever the evenings are cold enough. The old faithful crews are moving onto other things and we desperately need new helpers to fill in. Please, please e-mail Christine Acconcia if you would like to be a part of a 2 person weekly shift to flood our rink (cacconcia@rogers.com). We need your help otherwise we will not have a rink this year. Talk to your neighbours! Buddy up! I will put together a schedule. At the beginning, I will come out with the various crews and show them how easy it is. We really need your help! Thank you."



THE colour field

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Valley Initiative for Solar Energy:

By: Mindy Granz
mindyganz@gmail.com

Do you care about the environment?

Do you want to reduce your carbon footprint and save money on your energy bill?

Using solar energy is an environmentally friendly, cost effective, way to generate electricity.

The Valley Initiative for Solar Energy (VISE) is a group dedicated to sourcing out quality solar energy vendors for our community. Ordering the units en masse will enable us to get a group discount on the units.

If you are interested in learning more about this initiative, please join us for a SOLAR INFORMATION MEETING:

Time: Monday November 5, 7:00 pm
Place: Agricola Church, 25 Old York Mills Rd. downstairs Fellowship Hall

For more information, or to put your name on our contact list please e-mail mindyganz@gmail.com

Meanwhile go to www.ourpower.ca to see the success of similar groups in Toronto, RISE and WISE, how have succeeded in having over 70 solar systems installed in their communities, and www.gosolarontario.ca to learn about technologies, prices, and government incentives.

LET'S BE PART OF THE SOLUTION!

Valley Crime Watch:

Summarised By: Eunice Lumsden
elumsden@tso.ca



There were five break and enters reported since the last newsletter. These occurred in houses on Cole Millway, Donwoods Drive (2), York Valley Crescent, and Campbell Crescent.

Jewellery was stolen in 3 cases; laptop and Playstation were stolen in 3 out of these 5 cases. There were two incidences of forced entry and one case when the unknown suspects walked the perimeter of the house and cut all the outside wires, then the inside wiring to the home alarm system.

On a September evening at around 11pm, a teenage victim was attacked by five unknown suspects with a baseball bat while walking and talking on his cell phone in York Mills Valley Park. Once the suspects emptied the victim's pocket and took his cell phone, wallet with his ID, they walked away.

If you have any information for the Crime Report, please contact Penny O'Rourke at 416-486-5060 or porourke21@rogers.com.

Update from the Director of Environment and Beautification:

By: Christine Acconcia
cacconcia@rogers.com

It's taken over a year, but the City has installed an extra light at the south end of the park leading to the York Mills subway station. This will add to the comfort level of pedestrians walking through the park when it's dark. The flower beds are being tended to by a new City staff gardener, Mary-Ann, and if you see her toiling away say hi, she's doing a great job. We are also working with Christine Rosenthal to replace the

notice sign at Brookfield/ Mill/
Donwoods Dr. It's showing its age!

Gypsy Moth:

Gypsy moths plagued a lot of us this summer. The City has provided us with information on what we can do next year. This can be found on our website www.hoggshollow.net. Thank you to Steve Neil for maintaining this website.

Over the past several summers Gypsy Moth infestations in the Valley have been particularly troublesome. Homeowners can help reduce Gypsy Moth populations by seeking out and destroying their egg masses. Late fall and winter are particularly good times to look for egg masses as plants have died back and leaves are off of trees making for better visibility.

Egg masses are easy to identify. They are a buff-coloured teardrop shape about 1-1/2" long. They can be found in the grooves in bark, underneath branches, behind signs, in downspouts, underneath patio furniture, in firewood, on swing sets – you name it.

There are several ways to kill an egg mass. One of the easiest is to use a knife or other implement to scrape the mass off. Then place it in a container and fill with soapy water and soak for 2 days. Once the nest has been thoroughly soaked it can be discarded. Each egg mass that is destroyed can eliminate up to 1,000 Gypsy Moths!



NAG Notes (Neighbourhood Activity Group)

*By: Susanne Holland (416) 485-2218
Michelle Hopper (416) 932-9198 &
Priti Kawale (416) 483-2957*

New Neighbour Welcome Party

**Monday, October 1st @ 7:00pm.
@ Michelle Mondville & Bruce
Shaw's home
86 Donwoods Drive**

**Call: Chanda Carr (416) 489-4633 or
Trudy Young (416) 481-6905**

This is a lovely get-together and welcome for those of you who are new to our beautiful neighbourhood. Come join us for some hors d'oeuvres and drinks and meet some of your neighbours. It is a great way to make some new friendships and to see how you can get involved. There will be neighbourhood veterans there to answer any questions you may have. Welcome!

Hogg's Hollow Fall Social

Date: Thursday, October 25

Location: The Miller Tavern

Time: 8:00 – Closing

Ticket Price: \$30.00 per person (Ticket price includes a fabulous tasting menu and two beverages)

Payment: Cash or cheque, payable to Hogg's Hollow NAG. Please drop cheques off at 27 Plymbridge Crescent

Dress Code: Casual

Enjoy an evening of fun with friends from the Hogg's Hollow. If you are new to the neighborhood, the fall social is a great way to get to know many of your neighbours. If you are not new to the neighborhood, the fall social is a great way to catch up with friends.




This year's **annual Hogg's Hollow fall social** will be held at the Miller Tavern. The Miller Tavern has kindly offered the Oyster Lounge as the venue for this great annual get together! The Miller Tavern will prepare a fabulous tasting menu for the evening. The fall social committee has worked with proprietor Rick and events coordinator Heidi, to ensure an evening to remember!

We welcome you to come for an evening in the neighbourhood.

Your fall social committee,

Lisa Barney
Stephanie Coffey
Susanne Holland
Michelle Hopper
Chris Rosenthal
Louise Sugar

We welcome you to come for an evening in the neighbourhood.


MILLER
Tavern
~1857 - 2007~
***The Miller Tavern is
Celebrating 150 Years!***

Please join us on
TUESDAY OCTOBER 16th
From 5 - 7pm
Reminisce about the good old days of
The Jolly Miller & celebrate its checkered past

Enjoy generous food & drink reminiscent of former
decades while appreciating historical displays,
memorabilia, costumes & music from the past.
Whether you skated out back or toasted your friends with a pint -
everyone has a story and fond memories of the Jolly Miller.

~~~~~  
\$20 Donation at the door will be donated to the:  
North York Historical Foundation

The Miller Tavern  
3885 Yonge Street in the heart of Hoggs Hollow  
416-322-5544 ~ [www.themiller.ca](http://www.themiller.ca)

## **Children's Used Book Drive**

*Louise Sugar*

*lsugar@sympatico.ca*

The soon-to-open Regent Park Children's Book Bank needs your help! We are looking for gently-used children's books to give to children of less fortunate families, in Regent Park. The new Children's Book Bank will be located at the corner of Gerrard and Berkely and will be open to children from ages 1 to 8 years of age. We will pick the books up at your house! To donate gently-used books please call LOUISE SUGAR (416)788-5922. Thank you for your support

## **Newsletter Notes**

As the new editor for this year's newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Leanne Lewis for being so dedicated to this major task last year. She has also been meticulous and thorough in handing me the baton. I only hope that I can fill her big shoes. I would also like to thank all who assisted in contributing to this issue: Leanne Lewis, Christine Acconcia, Mindy Granz, Penny O'Rourke, Louis Sugar, Susanne Holland, Michelle Hopper and Priti Kawale.

Have a great fall everyone!

