



# YMVA Newsletter

Website: [www.hoggshollow.net](http://www.hoggshollow.net)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

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As your President for the next two years I'm committed to maintaining and improving the lifestyle we enjoy in our beautiful valley. I want to first thank the three directors who have completed their diligent service on the board, being Tim Bates, Dale Hewat and Karen Trimmer. Your Association would not exist without the generous contribution of time from your neighbours. I welcome to the board three new directors, being Barbara Wilkes, Louise Sugar and Christine Acconcia.

The priorities I have identified to start 2006 include having the City adopt a "statement of values" with respect to acceptable development in the Valley, maintaining fiscal conservatism to protect our Valley war chest for major issues that may have to be dealt with in the future, safety on our roads, the implementation of the storm water management study to deal first with flooding problems identified on parts of some streets and maintaining the beauty and environmental quality of the Valley. There are several other issues the board will be dealing with on an ongoing basis.

Finally, I want to recognize and thank the volunteers who make up the Neighbourhood Activities Group (NAG) who organize and run so many fantastic events, including the Valley Fair at the beginning of June each year. I'm looking forward to these events again this year.

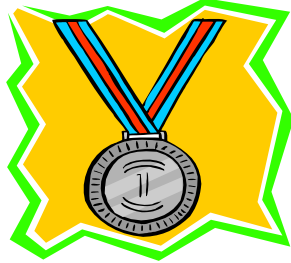
## **VALLEY FAIR**

*By: Fair CoChairs*

*Christine Rosenthal 416-482-6666*

*Joy Verde 416-567-7505*

## **Let the games begin!**



In honour of Team Canada's wonderful performance in Italy, it is time to cheer on our own local talent! On **Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**, join us at Brookfield Park for The Valley Fair Olympics! Joy Verde and Chris Rosenthal have started planning another fun day which, along with old favourites, will have some new surprises for you. In the spirit of the Olympic theme, we have broken the streets up into teams, and in a random draw, have assigned countries to each team. So get your thinking caps on and start gathering ideas, costumes, etc. for your team's country!

**China:** St. Margaret's Drive and Knightswood Road

**Greece:** Campbell Cres., Brookfield Rd., Old Yonge St., Hedgewood Rd., and Plymbridge Rd.

**Italy:** Donwoods Dr. (east of Donino), Winton Rd., and Donwoods Grove

**Mexico:** Donwoods Hill, Ivor Rd., Scotch Elmway, Cole Millway, Donino Ct. and Donino Rd.

**France:** Plymbridge Rd., Green Valley, York Valley and May Tree

**Brazil:** Doncliffe Place, Doncliffe Dr., and Forest Glen Cres.

Each group needs a captain "family" to lead each team. Please contact one of the co-chairs if you would like to be a team captain – remember, planning it is half the fun! Also, as of press time, we are looking for a Parade Coordinator. Please call one of the Chairs if you are interested in organizing the Parade or volunteering in any other way for the Fair.

Watch the message boards and see the Spring Newsletter for more information!

Chris Rosenthal 416-482-6666

Joy Verde 416-567-7505

## **NAG ACTIVITIES**

*By: NAG CoChairs*

*Susanne Holland (416) 485-2218*

*Michele Hopper (416) 932-9198 &*

*Priti Kawale (416) 483-2957*



## **Skating Party**

**Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> OR February 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**(Slush Date)**

**8:00 pm. - Brookfield Park**

**Call: Kelly (416) 486-1200**

A little optimistic, but here's to hoping! For those of you that like skating, playing hockey or just the cool, wet feel of ice under your "tush", you are welcome to come out for the annual Neighbourhood Skating Party at Brookfield Park. After all the fun, we'll stop for pizza and hot chocolate and continue to enjoy the company of friends!

## **Brookfield Rink**

It's been another great season on the Brookfield Park Rink. Although there have been some slushy days, over the winter many have enjoyed playing hockey, skating and for some, taking their dogs for a little slide!

Many, many thanks go out to Laura and Norm Lamarche, Peter Weiss, Glenn Kosick, Joel Rochon, Jeff Conover, and Gary Morrasutti as our team who floods and maintains the rink on all those cold nights. We really appreciate all of your efforts...and we probably need to spring for some extra ear-muffs next year!!



## **Kids Get Involved!**

**Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> & March 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**North York Food Bank**  
**Call: Kelly (416) 486-1200 or**  
**Michele (416) 932 9198**

Our first event for Kids Get Involved will start the last week in February to be completed by March 8<sup>th</sup>. We plan to get the kids out on a food drive in their own area within the neighbourhood. A team captain will be contacting you in order to put together a food "collecting" team. Each team will be receiving an information sheet and bags for food collection. Food will be collected door to door or bags will left behind with a note designating a drop off area for the week prior to March 8<sup>th</sup>. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, 18 or so of our kids will go to the food bank to sort food and help out. This is the first

time we have done this as a neighbourhood and we hope that you are excited by the concept of your kids doing some "hands on" work to help those less fortunate. If you are interested in being a team captain or want to help out please give us a call. Let's encourage our children and thank you in advance for your support!



## **Valley Garage Sale**

**Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00am. – 12:00 pm.**  
**Call: Lynn (416) 322-7918**

Its been two years since our last community garage sale so it is that time again! Out with your old and in with someone else's old if you so choose. The perfect purge opportunity takes place in the Valley on Saturday, April 29. This much anticipated event always attracts a large crowd. If you are participating we ask you to register with Lynn. There will be a small fee to help defray costs. If you are interested in renting tables at cost, please contact Lynn at the above number.



## **Wine Tasting Evening**

**Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 pm**

**100 Donwoods Drive**

**Call: Louise (416) 483-6614**

Once again we are invited to a fabulous evening of fine wine, good food and great people. Back by popular demand, Deborah & Alain Sutton have graciously offered to host this event at their home, so we will be staying at home in the Valley this year. The format will be a Stand up & Mingle ....“cocktail style “ event.... with 3 wine tasting tables and catered tapas style finger food.

Once again we plan to have a unique selection of wines from around the world and an opportunity for everyone to learn about wines & mingle with Valley neighbours.

More details will follow in the Spring Newsletter but, to guarantee your spot, phone Louise Sugar to R.S.V.P. today as attendance will be limited!



## **Kid's Spring Fling & Picnic in the Park**

**Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**11:00 – 1:00 pm. – in the park with the swings!**

**Call: Betty Kneis (416) 544-9418**

A great way for you and your kids to enjoy the good weather!

Come out and enjoy some fun outdoor games and activities with your children. We'll also be doing the posters for the Valley Fair! Bring a blanket and a picnic lunch and stay on to enjoy the company of neighbours in our beautiful park.



## **NAG Pot-Luck Luncheon**

**Tuesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**

**12:00 pm. @ Chris Rosenthal's house**

**15 Knightswood Road**

**Call: Chanda (416) 489-4633**

Let's enjoy a leisurely lunch before we scatter for the summer. This get-together is a lovely opportunity to share some delicious food and thank all volunteers who have helped with NAG activities throughout the year. So come and bring something good to share!

## **A Special Thanks**

What a wonderful group of activities that we were fortunate to have this fall! A special thanks to everyone who helped out by donating their time and opened their homes to host these extraordinary events!

To Jill and Luigi, we thank you for lending and allowing us to “re-decorate” your home for the fabulous Halloween Fall Social and again for the Cookie Exchange. What a great time we all had at both parties!

To Carolyn Clark, again thank you for hosting a wonderful NAG Holiday pot-luck luncheon.

And to Brett LaGamba, thank you for carrying on your tradition of arranging everything for the Caroling in the Park evening and to Chris Rosenthal and her “group of elves”, a thank you to you all for a wonderful Holiday Kid’s Crafts Day!

**JOBS! JOBS! JOBS!**  
**Baby-sitting, Dog Walking, Snow Shovelling, Lawn Mowing, etc.**

Calling all teenagers! Do you want to earn extra money? Are you already doing odd jobs or baby-sitting and you need more clients? Are you a homeowner who needs to have some jobs done? If so, then this is the forum for you. Again, we are updating the Valley baby-sitting and odd jobs lists.

If you are interested in providing a service, please drop off a note (with your name, address, phone and job(s) you are interested in doing) to Jan Kosick at 27 Donwoods Drive or call her at (416) 481-9799. She will put together a secure phone list for people to phone when they are looking for some extra help. The lists will not be published and Jan will keep them private, giving out names to valley residents only.

**COMMUNICATIONS**  
**ENHANCEMENTS**

For several years the YMVA has had the benefit of a website. However, did you know that webmaster Steve Neil regularly updates our site at *hoggshollow.net*. If you haven’t checked the site out in a while, drop by! It is a good resource for Valley information and, should you misplace

your newsletter or YMVA or NAG Contact List, it is all there for you.

Also on the electronic communications front, this spring your communications team will begin utilizing Valley email addresses to forward useful YMVA information. Never fear, these electronic tools will not replace our regular hand-delivered newsletters and use of emails will be judicious. However, it does offer a quick means to keep in touch with YMVA members when needed. Rest assured that access to the Valley email list will be tightly restricted to one or perhaps two authorized executive members. Moreover, each individual’s email address will be hidden from other recipients. Finally, every email we send out will include an unsubscribe option. The emails will be sent out from [hoggshollownews@rogers.com](mailto:hoggshollownews@rogers.com) so you may wish to set your email inbox to be able to accept “bulk” emails from this address. If you wish to have your email added to the Valley email, please forward your name and email address to [hoggshollownews@rogers.com](mailto:hoggshollownews@rogers.com)



**VALLEY CLEANUP DAY**

*Christine Acconcia*  
Tel.: (416) 480-0623

Once again the Valley’s annual Cleanup Day will be held in April. This initiative is typically held on a Saturday close to Earth Day in conjunction with the City of Toronto’s Cleanup initiative. It focuses on

litter removal from City land, parks, ravines, rivers and road allowances. It's a chance for you to go out and clean that stretch of property that has always bugged you. What a difference it makes!!!

As of press time, the City has not confirmed the date so please watch our Community Sign Boards for the exact date and time. Please set aside a couple of hours on the designated day. We'll meet at the Millstone Parkette to distribute supplies and divide up the needy areas.

If you have an area that you would like to "reserve" or you know of an area that needs special attention, please contact Christine Acconcia ahead of time.

### **Wildlife in Distress**

*By: Pinky Franklin*

"I've found a baby squirrel – How can I help?" This is the kind of question the Environment Committee gets several times a year. If you come across a wild animal in distress, visit [www.torontowildlifecentre.com](http://www.torontowildlifecentre.com) or call 416-631-0662 for information.

### **Our Urban Forest**

*by Mary McGillivray*

80% of Canadians live and work in an urban forest. These urban trees are an economic asset. Measured in monetary terms they are valued at approximately \$1000 per mature tree. The tree has become a very hardworking multi-tasker working for aesthetics, psychology, the environment and the economy in our cities. Here are some of the ways that trees matter to urban space. Trees act as:

**Air-purifiers** – 100 trees remove 5 tons of carbon dioxide per year, 1000 lb. of pollutants, 300 lb. of solid matter such as soot.

**Energy-savers** – Treed properties incur

30 % lower cooling costs and 10-25% lower heating costs.

**Humectants** – Water transpiration through leaves cools the air.

**Water filters** – 100 mature trees catch and filter approximately 100,000 gallons of rainwater, thus water is diverted from storm sewers.

**Sound barriers** – Trees buffer noise from the 401.

**Sanctuary to animals** – Trees provide habitat to birds, mammals and insects.

**Anchors** – Roots protect soil erosion.

**Resale of home** – A mature tree can add as much as 1% to a property's resale value.

**Dollar-magnets** - Tourists are attracted to cities with mature trees. Studies have shown that shoppers spend 12% more in a tree-lined area.

**Kyoto-helpers** – Urban trees preserve 5-10 times more heating and cooling carbon than that of a rural tree, through its sheltering actions.

From Corporate Knights, volume 4, issue 4, February 2006, p 10

As you can see, trees are important. We are privileged to live in one of only two ravine systems in Toronto that have housing. We will be conducting a tree survey. If you are interested in helping with the tree survey of the Valley, please contact Mary McGillivray, 416-485-7886.



