



YMVA Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Frank Bowman

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Year one of my two years as President of the YMVA was a pleasant and memorable one. Last fall, the YMVA won a Heritage Toronto Award recognizing our history of promoting, protecting and preserving the cultural and natural heritage of our community. During the presentation, Heritage Toronto noted the various historical markers and plaques placed by the YMVA throughout The Valley. Also, they applauded the longevity of our organization, our schedule of meetings and community events, and our web-site and newsletters.

I am pleased to report that support for the YMVA within The Valley remains strong, with 65% of residents maintaining their membership in the YMVA. Our financial position is robust and strengthening as the board continues to be more selective in approval of expenditures from our resources.

There has been a lot of activity on a number of important fronts through the efforts of hard working directors and committee members, including in the areas of roads and traffic (particularly with respect to the storm water

management project), development, environment and other issues.

Once again the Neighbourhood Activity Group (NAG) is to be congratulated on the fantastic work done in 2006. As ever there was a full calendar of terrific events and activities that were well organized. It was particularly gratifying to see the turn out at The Valley Fair in June, despite the inclement weather. Our thanks to Cliff Jenkins for joining Valley residents on that occasion and for all of his hard work on issues of importance to us since he was elected as our Councillor.

Finally, I want to thank those directors who have retired from the board after working so diligently on behalf of the residents of The Valley: Carolyn Clark, Norm Hardie and David Maclachlan. Without the hard work of your fellow valley residents, there would be no YMVA.

VALLEY FAIR

EVENT: VALLEY FAIR

DATE: Saturday, June 2nd

PLACE: Brookfield Park

PLANNER: NONE!!

We are looking for someone to take on the running and organizing of this year's Valley Fair.

We have a lot of **FANTASTIC** Worker bees but no Queen (or King) Bee!

You know you love it every year,
soooooo
STEP UP and volunteer to keep it going!

Remember, it's not what The Valley can do for you, it's what YOU can do for The Valley!



Please call one of the NAG Chairs, Susanne, Michele or Priti for all the details.

NAG ACTIVITIES

By: NAG Co Chairs

Susanne Holland (416) 485-2218

Michele Hopper (416) 932-9198 &

Priti Kawale (416) 483-2957

Skating Party



Date: Wednesday, February 21st

Time: 7:00 pm. – Brookfield Park

Call: Lisa (416)487-9888 or Leslie (416) 481-4107

Let's all get together again for a great skating party! We'll all meet at Brookfield Park for a fun-filled evening of skating or hockey or just sliding on the ice. Kids, bring your parents and have a great time at this fun neighbourhood event. Afterwards, we'll stop for some pizza and hot chocolate. Because weather is uncertain, keep an eye on the notice boards for any changes (fingers crossed). Hope to see you there!

Kids Get Involved!



Date: TBA

**Call: Lynn (416) 322-7918 or
Michelle M. (416) 322-0031**

Well we're off and running again with KIDS GET INVOLVED! We are currently looking for opportunities through groups in the Toronto area that focus on **feeding** the homeless. Last year our kids worked with the North York Food Bank collecting food door-to-door and then delivering and sorting it at the Food Bank. This time we are hoping our

kids will be working a little more "hands on" in their mission.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to experience helping those less fortunate than themselves. It's always great to give money to charity, but this allows our kids to see first hand those that need the help and to be able to physically "pitch in".

If you want your kids to participate or have any ideas, please call Lynn or Michelle.

The printing of this newsletter is sponsored in part by Dougal Dogs



NEITHER A KENNEL NOR A CAMP BUT TRUE LUXURY HOME BOARDING on a 50 acre farm in the Northumberland Hills, less than 100 km east of Toronto (shuttle service to North Toronto runs 3X per week). The farmhouse is a beautifully restored century home with a 4000 sq. ft. addition devoted entirely to the dogs! It includes a large gym and two custom designed dog rooms – with sofas, TV and more! We keep things very personal by limiting our numbers to twelve dogs. Our guests are carefully screened to ensure they are well-socialized, non-aggressive dogs who likely frequent a local dog park or day care. All dogs must be spayed/neutered and up-to-date on all shots (including bordetella) and also must be on a flea program. Our typical guest is a true member of the family and very likely sleeps beside your bed.... something that they are more than welcome to do here! We also provide e-mail updates & photos of your dog to you on your vacation – we want our owners to feel as comfortable as possible leaving their furry family member(s) with us!

So call Rachel @ 1-877-797-DOGS or visit www.dougaldogs.ca for more info.

Kids Spring Fling



Date: Sunday, May 6th (rain date – Saturday, May 26th)

Time: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: In the park with the swings

Call: Chris (416) 482-6666

This is a fun way to spend some time with your kids together in the park. We'll do a few crafts, enjoy some outdoor games and maybe even have a scavenger hunt! Bike on over, bring your blanket and maybe a picnic lunch to enjoy while you have fun with your neighbours in our beautiful park.

Get rid of those winter blues and welcome the warm weather.

Poster Party

Date: Sunday, May 13th

Time: 1:00 pm.

At: Jill & Luigi's house – 56 Plymbridge Road

Call: Jill (416) 544-9907

This is our main, great advertising event for our upcoming Valley Fair. So kids, come on out to make the posters to help entice everyone to come to this year's fun-filled Fair!



Wine Tasting Evening



Date: Thursday, June 14th (*tentative – see next newsletter to confirm*)

Time: 7:00 pm.

Place: Michelle & Bruce's – 86 Donwoods Drive

Cost: TBA – approx. \$80

Call: Louise Sugar (416) 483 -6614

Back by popular demand, you are once again invited to a fabulous evening of fine wine, great food and incredible people. This will be hosted at the beautiful home of Michelle Mondville & Bruce Shaw. Come taste a selection of wines and learn a little more about them. It will be a “stand and mingle” format. This is a great way to start the summer with neighbourhood friends. More details will follow in the Spring Newsletter.

As this event is very popular and sells out quickly, please call Louise to reserve your tickets.

NAG Pot-Luck Luncheon

Date: Thursday, May 24th

Time: 12:30 pm.

Place: Stephanie's house – 14 Ivor Road

Call: Michele (416) 932-9198

Let's get together one last time before the summer takes us in all those different directions. Bring a favorite dish for all to share and come spend an afternoon lunch with friends. **Everyone** welcome!

Welcome Party

Are you new to The Valley? Have you moved in within the past 2 years? If so, let us know. We want to be able to invite you to our Welcome Party to be held this fall.

Please contact **Debbie Neil** (416) 488-7690 if you are a new resident so that we can send you an invitation.



Thank You!

A big thank you to all the volunteers who did such a terrific job with our Fall activities!

Roz and Sam Nella, thank you for opening up your home to host the Fall Social. Everyone had a fabulous time at this year's "Surfer Party". Albina Huang did a great job organizing and our decorating crew really helped pull it all together.

Jill and Luigi get our special thanks for again having us over for the annual Cookie Exchange. Always a festive fun filled evening!

To Laura Lamarche, thank you for hosting a wonderful NAG Holiday Luncheon. The tree decorating was Fab!

Melodie Schaeffer, thank you for arranging our Caroling in the Park evening and to Eunice Lumsden and the craft group, a thank you to you all for a wonderful Holiday Kid's Crafts Day!

Here's to a great 2007!

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.



VALLEY WALKING TOUR

Heritage Toronto has asked the YMVA to host a walking tour of The Valley this year. This is a great way to share our special neighbourhood with others. However, our Walking Tour information is out of date (to see the Walking tour contents, please visit www.hoggshollow.net and click on "About The Valley" to access the walking tour document). If you have any information to update the Walking tour or the history of The Valley, please call Leanne at 416-485-0959 or email at leannelewis@rogers.com.

VALLEY CRIME REPORT

By: Penny O'Rourke

A home on Donino Avenue was broken into in mid January. The home owners were out when unknown suspects cut the outside phone line disabling communications to their security company. The robbers then pried and forced open the front wooden door. Once inside, the suspects ransacked the home. The rear sliding doors also appeared to have been damaged with a prying instrument in an attempt to gain entry into the home. Jewellery, electronics and other valuables were taken.

TRAFFIC, ROADS AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

*By: Leanne Lewis
Tel.: (416)485-0959*

City staff have started the final design process for stormwater management and road improvements to Priority Area A in The Valley. Priority Area A includes Donino Ave., Donino Ct., Forest Glen and Doncliffe, Campbell Cres., May Tree and Plymbridge Rd. east of Hillcrest School. The design should be complete by late spring following which the City will host a community information meeting. The project will then go to tender. Work is expected to commence upon completion of the tendering process.

In preparation for this project, work is currently under way to upgrade City sanitary sewers and water mains throughout The Valley. The City is recommending that sanitary lines on private property be rehabilitated in conjunction with the City's lines. They will offer this as a **free service** to

homeowners who would like to participate. More information from the City will be sent out in the coming months.

As part of the YMVA's commitment to make every effort to facilitate a successful project, the YMVA recently organized a consultation with Priority Area A residents. A backgrounder and questionnaire was sent to each household in Area A. As a companion to the questionnaire, four on-street meetings were held. The information generated from this consultation is being forwarded to Councillor Cliff Jenkins and City staff.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in this consultation, the information you provided has been very helpful. Also, thank you to Councillor Jenkins for attending all four street meetings which were held outdoors on a very cold Saturday.

VALLEY CLEAN UP 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.

The City has not yet confirmed the date so please watch our Community Sign Boards for the exact date and time. A likely date is Saturday, April 21. We'll meet at the Millstone Parkette to distribute supplies and divide up the needy areas.

If you know of an area that needs special attention, please contact Christine Acconcia ahead of time.