



# YMVA Newsletter

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

February, 2009  
Vol 69, Issue 1

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*Editor: Eunice Lumsden  
Tel.(416) 986-9628  
Email: [elumsden@tso.ca](mailto:elumsden@tso.ca)*

## **President's Message**

*By: Leanne Lewis*

*[leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com)*

*416-485-0959*

Happy New Year! It is already shaping up to be another busy year for the YMVA.

As you will see in more detail in this newsletter, the YMVA has an ambitious agenda for 2009. The YMVA recently established the Park Development Committee, chaired by Louise Sugar, in preparation for the expansion of York Mills Park. The YMVA continues to liaise with the City and residents on the roads and stormwater management project which will take a significant step forward early this year with the start of construction. The Association also recently met with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to discuss the TRCA's newly announced flood prevention strategy for our area which will include clean up work along the river. The YMVA has also been proactively setting up meetings with the City and other interested parties in response to Mayor Miller's comments that development of the northwest corner of Yonge and York Mills is a city priority. On the communications front, we finally have our blast email system up and running and we have been regularly updating and tweaking the web site in order to provide timely and useful information for Valley residents ([www.hoggshollow.net](http://www.hoggshollow.net)).

In closing, I would like to sincerely thank NAG for providing so many wonderful activities in 2008. Our neighbourhood wouldn't be the same without the volunteers in the Neighbourhood Activities Group! Kudos and a thank you also go out to Kelly Fisher, Chair of the 2008 Valley Fair. Finally, many thanks to last year's board members for all of their hard work. The Valley was well served by its diligent 2008 Board. I would especially like to acknowledge recently retired YMVA Director Betty Kneiss for her board participation and extend a hearty welcome aboard to new Director Susanne Holland.

### **FoNTRA and Broader City Issues**

The YMVA is a member of FoNTRA (Federation of North Toronto Ratepayer Associations). As the name indicates, FoNTRA is an organization consisting of north Toronto ratepayers groups. Membership is voluntary and costs a nominal fee each year. FoNTRA meets monthly to discuss and strategize on issues that may affect ratepayers in North Toronto. Each member ratepayer group is entitled to send a representative to each meeting. FoNTRA frequently assembles working groups for specific issues and organizes delegations to city council or city committees. FoNTRA also regularly forwards time sensitive information to its member groups via email on issues of common interest to North Toronto residents. The YMVA also gets updates on city happenings that may be of interest to Ward 25 residents from Councillor Cliff Jenkins.

In many cases the YMVA does not take a formal or public position on these matters. Typically we do not take a position on an issue if it does not directly impact the Valley and/or if we do not think that there would be sufficient consensus among Valley residents on that issue. That being said, it is fair to say that

most issues that FoNTRA or Councillor Jenkins' office concerns themselves with would be of some interest to at least some Valley residents. For example FoNTRA is currently fighting a proposal to eliminate one lane on Jarvis Street between Bloor and Gerrard in order to expand pedestrian space in that area. We know that residents in the valley who commute by car to the city centre may be concerned about the potential narrowing of Jarvis Street. We also know that some residents embrace the expansion of pedestrian space in the city. Therefore, the YMVA has not taken a position on the issue. However, we would like to make the information on such issues available to valley residents so that those who are interested can acquire some background and contact information. Since it is usually very time sensitive, the newsletter is typically not a practical way to transmit this information. Therefore, for now, we will forward any information that we receive from FoNTRA or from Councillor Jenkins that we think would be of interest to Valley residents via our members' blast email system. We are also looking into the possibility of posting this information on our web site under a separate "issues" section.

### **"Council Highlights" Email List**

Councillor Cliff Jenkins sends out regular emails (approximately once a month) entitled "Council Highlights". In these emails Councillor Jenkins provides updates on city council activities along with his personal take on the issues before council. If you would like to receive these emails, please forward your name, municipal address and email address to Councillor Jenkins at [councillor\\_jenkins@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_jenkins@toronto.ca).

## **YMVA Blast Emails**

The YMVA finally got its first blast email to registered members on January 20. Although the font inextricably changed throughout the document and there were some odd and unexpected question marks scattered throughout the email, we were relieved to finally get our first blast email out. We are currently doing a debrief to figure out exactly why the email did not look like the original Word document. However, we expect that in future our blast emails will be timelier and a little “prettier”.

The blast email system will be used to distribute a variety of time sensitive information to YMVA members. Sometimes we will send out a notice if there is a community safety concern or as a reminder of an upcoming Valley event. Other times it will be used to make YMVA members aware of broader city issues that may affect Valley residents.

If you are a member of the valley association or plan to join this year and you would like to register your email address, please send your name and email address to [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com). The privacy of your email will be respected – only three board members have access to the email list. Also, all emails are sent bcc so recipients cannot access other recipient’s email addresses and the “reply all” will not function. If you have registered your email and did not receive your blast email, please set your email to allow mail from [hoggshol@hoggshollow.net](mailto:hoggshol@hoggshollow.net) and contact us at [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com) so we can ensure that your information is recorded correctly.

## **Canada Post Box at Mill and Donino**

Following up on resident input, we anticipate that the Canada Post Mail Box at the southwest

corner of Mill and Donino will be moved to the north side of Mill St. The purpose of this move is to make it easier and safer for residents driving out of the neighbourhood to drop mail into the mailbox. Originally, we were going to request that the box be located at the west end of the Green P parking lot along Mill. However, some residents that use the park path to walk to the subway requested that it be located closer to the path. We are currently discussing with Canada Post the best location for the post box, taking all input into consideration. The bureaucratic wheels may grind a little slowly on this one, but we do hope to have the change by mid-year.

## **Roads, Traffic and Stormwater Management**

*Leanne Lewis*  
416-485-0959

### Road Construction Update:

The tender for Road Reconstruction and Storm Sewer installation on Forest Glen Cres., Doncliffe Drive and Mt. Pleasant Road was advertised on December 3, 2008 with the tender closing on December 18, 2008. The tender was recently awarded to Comer Group Limited.

A Pre-Construction meeting was called by City of Toronto Technical Services Engineer, Samuel Jebakumar, and was held on February 5, 2009. The contractor and approximately 12 other members of city staff were in attendance. The YMVA was also represented at the meeting. At the opening of the meeting Samuel Jebakumar emphasized to the attendees how involved our local residents have been during the planning process and he underscored that it was important to communicate with the YMVA and residents during the

## **Roads, Traffic and Stormwater Management (cont.)**

construction process. He also reiterated the importance that our residents, and the city, placed on taking care of the trees in the area.

The topics discussed at the conference included; project timing, neighbour notification, and traffic management. The city confirmed that a detailed written construction notice will be sent to affected residents in the very near future. We have asked that this notice include information on the timing and phasing of construction and an outline of what residents should expect during construction. Also, we reminded the city that residents need to be given a heads up as to where the lines of construction will be so that landscape and other encroachments onto city property can be handled as well as possible. Although more details will be provided by the city directly to residents, the city surveyor will be painting lines along the street showing the limits of construction so that affected encroachments can be clearly delineated. Residents who have encroachments that they think will be within the limits of construction should now be thinking about how they want to handle those items. It is possible that the contractor may work with the city and residents to move rocks and the like away from the construction zone if an individual resident wants to keep them. However, since each property is different it will be approached on a case by case basis. The bottom line is that residents with encroachments should be prepared since they may need to make their own arrangements if they want to move encroaching items, depending on what is involved.

As you may imagine, the large volume of snow is a problem for the contractor in terms of setting a firm date for getting the project underway. The city may be doing some extra snow clearing along the street edges on Forest

Glen and Doncliffe so that the construction lines can be drawn and underground utilities can be marked. Until the contractor is confident that these markings can be made and will not be covered in snow again, construction cannot begin. At this point it is reasonable to assume that construction will not begin before the first week of March. We emphasize, however, that the city notice will provide the start date and the original intention was to start before the end of February so a February start is not entirely out of the question.

Generally speaking, the underground storm sewer work is to be done first, during the winter months, followed by road work with a targeted completion in July, 2009. During the phased process, the road will be taken up in sections. At this point the plan is to start on the road directly in front of Rosedale Golf Course.

It may be of interest that, in addition to getting a special introduction at the pre-construction meeting, the YMVA asked for, and was given, an opportunity to submit a statement of community values that was included in the calls for tender. It gave us a chance to inform the tendering construction companies of the principles that have been the guide posts during the consultation process, i.e. respect for our community's rural character, the value given to local trees and vegetation and our expectation for ongoing open communication as the project unfolds. In addition, the city emphasized these points elsewhere in the tender documents so the construction company has been well advised that this is not a cookie cutter project.

On a final note with regard to road construction... We anticipate that the tender documents for Donino Avenue and Donino Court will be going out shortly for an

## **Roads, Traffic and Stormwater Management (cont.)**

anticipated start date in the spring. We are also continuing our discussion with the city regarding tightening up the timetable for the entire project since we are concerned about the potential length of time that there will be disruptive construction in the neighbourhood under the currently planned schedule.

### *Sanitary Sewer Lining:*

As you know, D. M. Robichaud continues to work on the sanitary sewer lines. Although the volume of snow has slowed the work somewhat, they remain confident that they will have completed the sanitary sewer lining by mid to late spring and will have completed property repairs by the end of June as per their revised schedule from late last fall.

We met with Councillor Jenkins and Toronto Water in November to discuss our concerns about the delays from the originally planned completion dates and poor communication between Toronto Water and the neighbourhood regarding the delays. We believe that many of the communication problems have now been resolved and the city engineer from Toronto Water assured us that the city has worked with D. M. Robichaud and this technology before with very good results. They cited difficult ground conditions (i.e. mud and ground water) and challenging weather (much rain in spring '08 and snow in '07/'08) as the primary reasons for the delays. If you have any questions or concerns about the sanitary sewer portion of the project, please call Anthony Paolini (Engineer, City Water) at 416-395-6371.

### *Some final thoughts...*

Although the stormwater project has encountered numerous delays and has not always gone as planned, it is important to give

credit where it is due. While there are many inefficiencies in the city system, on a personal level the engineers and designers we work with at the city have shown a great deal of flexibility during the process. They have done numerous consultations (often on-street on weekends in some pretty bad weather) and have made many adjustments to their usual process protocols and road design requirements. They are not treating this as just another road project.

While it may be reasonable to argue that with the taxes that we pay we should get this kind of service, it is safe to say that what we are getting is outside the box for the city and for that we are appreciative. That being said we will continue to drive them hard when needed. It is our hope that in spite of all of the delays and headaches, at the end of the day the result will be worth it.

## **Narrowing of Jarvis Street**

The city is proposing that Jarvis Street be narrowed by one lane in order to expand pedestrian walkways. The YMVA has not taken a position on this issue and we realize that, geographically, this matter is far outside of our realm and therefore would not normally be included in our newsletter. However, we also recognize that this subject may be of interest to residents who drive into the downtown core and, thus, we wanted to ensure that residents were aware of the issue. If you have an opinion, either for or against the proposal, we suggest you send it in writing as soon as possible to:

His Honour Mayor David Miller  
Toronto City Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
100 Queen St. West  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2  
[mayor\\_miller@toronto.ca](mailto:mayor_miller@toronto.ca)

Glenn DeBaeremaeker, Chair, Public Works and Infrastructure  
Toronto City Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
100 Queen Street West, Suite B31  
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2  
[councillor\\_debaeremaeker@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_debaeremaeker@toronto.ca)



*Yonge York Mills Flood Channel*

Councillor Cliff Jenkins

Ward 25 - City of Toronto  
100 Queen Street West, Ste A12  
Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2  
ph: 416-395-6408 Fax: 416-395-6439  
[councillor\\_jenkins@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_jenkins@toronto.ca)

## **Flood Protection**

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) constructed the Yonge and York Mills Flood Control Channel in the 1960's to provide flood protection to the Hoggs Hollow Area. Recent TRCA surveys have shown that sediments have been deposited and vegetation has grown in and along side the channel. To address these issues from a flood management perspective, TRCA has recently retained the services of Stantec Consulting Ltd. to complete the "Yonge York Mills Flood Control Channel Hydraulic Assessment and Maintenance Study". The intent of the study is to assess channel conditions from a flood, structural, and ecological perspective. As part of the study, preliminary maintenance plans will be developed which will be used to implement an over all maintenance program that creates a balance between ecosystem and flood needs. TRCA will be hosting a community information session in the spring, the date and time of the event will be announced shortly.

## **Ravine Bylaw – Head's up to the new rules!**

*By Barbara Wilkes*  
[bwilkes@miicapital.com](mailto:bwilkes@miicapital.com)

For those facing development issues or challenges – the YMVA website now includes all our general information on development issues and provides links on key issues to the city web pages.

The only development issue seems to be the upcoming development of the northwest corner of Yonge Street and Wilson Avenue. The city-owned land was specifically identified by Mayor Miller as a development target for the city. The land (currently used as the TTC parking lot) is not in the floodplain and is currently zoned commercial. We will keep you informed as we learn more. Your executive has discussed this issue as our concern is the loss of parking in this location and the need to ensure it does not lead to parking on our streets.

Although we do not have any more specifics to add at this time, the YMVA has had preliminary discussions with Councillor Jenkins' office on the matter. We are checking the zoning and other pertinent data to see what is currently allowed on the corner and Councillor Jenkins will be putting together a meeting with a representative from the TTC and the City so

## **Ravine Bylaw (cont.)**

that they know that we are on top of the issue and so we can get a sense of what their plans and timing are. We are also in the process of connecting with neighbouring ratepayers groups and condo boards with an eye to putting a working group together. Although we recognize that development on that corner is inevitable, we want to ensure that it is intelligent and attractive, that it respects the surrounding neighbourhoods and reflects the fact that this is an important intersection for Toronto – arguably Toronto’s northern gateway.

There are a number of upcoming city issues that could affect our residents. If the valley association has your email address, you received the information on the proposed redevelopment of Jarvis that recommends reducing Jarvis from five lanes to four, with the widening of the sidewalks, and elimination of the 875 on street parking spots. For those with more interest in this issue, please check the website – all the information circulated has been posted for residents and we will post updates as needed.

## **Jolly Miller Parking Lot - Park Development Committee Report**

Louise Sugar (416) 483-6614  
Christine Acconcia  
Pinky Franklin  
Susanne Holland  
Leanne Lewis  
David Payne

Valley residents have a unique opportunity to participate in the City’s efforts to restore a portion of the Jolly Miller overflow parking lot into green space. A movement led by resident and former YMV director David Payne, will

see to it that half of the current Green P parking overflow to the Jolly Miller (1.7 acres) of land are returned to parkland.

### **Background:**

The City of Toronto purchased the “Jolly Miller” lands in 1997. Over time the Jolly Miller building, along with some land for parking, was leased out, refurbished and re-opened as The Miller Tavern. The remainder of the land was developed into a Green P parking lot. At the time of purchase, The City verbally committed to returning the Green P portion of the lands back to parkland once the parking fees had paid for the cost of purchase of the land

Fortunately over the years several current and former YMVA board members kept in mind the spirit of this commitment. In recent years former YMVA director, David Payne, became the community point person on the issue. David regularly communicated with the city on the matter and realized that they had no clear and distinct accounting records in place to determine when the lot would be paid for. With community support he lobbied the city to put an accounting formula in place. With that formula in place, the income rapidly accrued and it was projected that some time in 2009 or early 2010 the land purchase would be paid for. Therefore, the Toronto Parking Authority (TPA), in consultation with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, the City of Toronto and David (for the YMVA) made a proposal to retain 129 parking spaces but return more than half of the parking area (approximately 1.7 acres) to parkland. In addition, the Toronto Parking Authority offered to provide \$425,000 to the redevelopment project and committed to making the parking lot the greenest lot in the city. The Toronto Parking Authority requested YMVA support for the proposal and at a special meeting of the YMVA

board the proposal was endorsed by the board and a letter of support was sent to the Toronto Parking Authority.

### **YMVA Park Development Sub-Committee Formed:**

When David Payne was negotiating with the TPA, the city requested that the YMVA set up a park sub committee that would coordinate the research into, and development of, a park concept, fund raise (if needed) and liaise with the city. An initial committee has been formed including Louise Sugar, Christine Acconcia, Susanne Holland, Pinky Franklin, Leanne Lewis and David Payne. This group will liaise with the city and the neighbourhood, in order to ensure that the very best plan for this land is developed. The group will also consider sub committees for such activities as fund raising. Since the Park Development Committee has only recently formed, no specific plans for the site have been developed at this time. The only shared ideal is that this new green space becomes a unique environmental space in the city. The committee will work closely with the Valley residents to ensure that the new park lands also reflect the interests of the community. Finally, the committee will also work closely with Toronto Parks, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Cliff Jenkins office, Toronto Horticultural Society and the Toronto Parking Authority.

### **Timelines:**

Project Timelines have yet to be finalized, but it is anticipated that, once consultations have been completed, initial plans for the parkland will be presented to the neighbourhood by late 2009. Prior to that, the committee will be undertaking wide ranging consultations as it educates itself and looks for partners for the project. In addition to neighbourhood consultations we will:

- Consult with Toronto Parks
- Consult with the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Consult with Toronto Horticultural Society
- Visit city parks including those with rivers
- Consult with conservancy groups
- Seek out other, heretofore unknown groups, for information
- Liaise with the Toronto Parking Authority who has committed to greening up their parking lot since this “greening” should be harmonized with the master plan for the park.

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, The Toronto Conservation Authority has recently advised of a flood prevention initiative that they will be undertaking along the river in our area. This includes plans to clean up some of the scrub around the river since it catches and holds garbage, silt etc. We have already met with them to make them aware of the park expansion in the hope that we can work together to coordinate timelines where possible and look for shared efficiencies where both projects intersect.

### **Valley Crime Watch**

*By: Penny O'Rourke  
Porourke21@rogers.com  
416 486-5060*



*Friday, Oct 17 2008*

Car broken into **York Valley** Crescent. A knapsack was taken and found on St. Margarets Drive.

*Sunday, Oct 19 2008*

Police chased suspects through several backyards on **York Valley** Cres. They were



apprehended and break-ins were not successful.

*Tuesday, December 2, 2008*

Attempted break-in through two windows and door in a house on **Brookfield**. The house alarm might have scared the burglars away. Resident believes that the house was being watched.

*Thursday, Jan 8 2009*

Major house fire on **Green Valley** Road in vacant house designated for demolition and new construction. Police and EMS said house numbers are not lit well enough and process of finding the location took longer.

They suggest all residents look at their **house numbers at night** to see if lighting is adequate. Also- if you notice a street light out, simply call 416-542-3195 and report the pole #, house # and nearest major intersection.

## **Valley Cleanup**

*By Christine Acconcia*  
[cacconcia@rogers.com](mailto:cacconcia@rogers.com)

Valley Clean Up Day will fall on April 25th this year and we are hoping to have good weather so a lot of you will come out and help clean up our parks and river. Please meet at the Millstone Parkette between 9:30am and 11:00am for a cup of coffee, donuts and juice before you head off to your assigned areas. Bring your own rubber gloves because it can get messy! The City's yellow bags will be handed out as well so they can be filled and then picked up around 2:00pm by a special garbage pick up run. Do you know of any students needing community hours? We'll be happy to write a letter for "times served"! Please consider chipping in and at the same time making our Valley a cleaner one to enjoy as the weather warms up.

## **Membership**

*By Sherry D'Costa*  
[sdcosta@rogers.com](mailto:sdcosta@rogers.com)

In order to get the Valley Directory out before the end of school, we will be moving our membership drive dates forward by approximately one month. The specific membership drive dates will be included in the membership drive mailing which will go out by late March this year. This change will give our membership volunteers the time flexibility we need to ensure that the directory can be updated for distribution in mid to late June. In order to save money on postage and printing, and to be a little more environmentally friendly, we will be sending a first notice out via email to our blast email list a few weeks before the regular postage version goes out. This will allow us to avoid the expense of a regular mailing to those that respond to the email membership invitation before we put the regular mail packages together. We encourage everyone who plans to join the Valley Association this year to make sure that they are on the Valley's email list. To join the email list please send your name, municipal address and email address to [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com). The list is kept in the strictest confidence.

## **N.A.G.**

### **(Neighborhood Activities Group)**

*By Chris Rosenthal 482-6666*

[chrisrosenthal@rogers.com](mailto:chrisrosenthal@rogers.com)

*By Erin Nella 485-1858*

[erinnella@hotmail.com](mailto:erinnella@hotmail.com)

***\*\*Please remember to check the notice boards to confirm times and locations!***

### **POSTERS:**

Wanted: creative minds who like to work with blank canvasses! NAG looks after the

## **N.A.G. - POSTERS (cont.)**

supplies; you look after the finished product. We need someone to take over the notice boards that provide information for our upcoming events. This is a perfect job for that mom at home with young child(ren) or for that teenager who loves to create. If you are interested in details, call Chris at the number above.

### **SKATING PARTY:**

Has everyone noticed the great rink we have this year? Thanks go out to Christine and Laura who organize the crews that do all the work. Let's show them our appreciation by having a great turn out for the annual skating party! Join us at the rink for skating, hot chocolate, pizza and fun.

**Date:** Wednesday, February 25

**Location:** Brookfield Park or  
York Mills Arena if needed

**Time:** 7:00pm to 9:00pm (or whenever)

**Contact:** Kathleen @ 487-5822

### **CPR HEART SAVER COURSE:**

Last spring this same course was held with a good turn out. The sad fact is that we all have aging relatives and/or spouses. Don't you think it would be a good planning if you knew how to deal with life and death situations before they arise? Once again, NAG has arranged for a CPR, former Link To Life instructor to come in to teach a class on how to handle heart attacks, strokes, seizures and choking. You will walk away with piece of mind and certified in CPR.

We need between 8 and 20 people at a cost of \$35 per person. This could save a life! Please call!

**Date:** April 21<sup>st</sup>

**Location:** 14 Knightswood Road

**Time:** 7:00 to 9:00 pm

**Contact:** Susanne @ 485-2218

### **WINE TASTING:**

What better way to celebrate the fellowship of your neighbors than with a bottle of good wine? Come join us for an evening dedicated to exploring the world of wine. Please watch the notice board for further details!

### **USED BOOK DRIVE:**

In keeping with the theme of Valley kids helping kids less fortunate than themselves, we are collecting gently used children's books for kids from 2 to 12 years of age, for the Regent Park Children's Book Bank. How many books are on your kids' bookshelves that they have not touched for more than 6 months? Why are you keeping them? Why not give them to someone who can use and enjoy them? Encourage kids to discover the joy of reading and the many places books can take you! (Picture books & dictionaries welcome. Please no DVDs or videos)

**Date:** Saturday April 25th

**Location:** Millstone Parkette

**Time:** Between 9:30am – 11am

**Contact:** Louise Sugar @ 483-6614

### **NAG LUNCHEON:**

Once again a school year has come and gone (or at least it's going...). Let's get together one last time before everyone scatters for the summer. Bring a favourite dish for all to share and spend an afternoon in a fabulous backyard in our Valley with your friends.

**Everyone** is welcome!

**Date:** Thursday, June 11

**Location:** 14 Knightswood Road

**Time:** 12:30 to 2:30pm

**Contact:** Karen Stemmler @ 484-8403

### **EMPTY NESTER'S TEA:**

The Valley is a wonderful place to raise a family and many, many children have grown up here. Now that they have grown up and (maybe) moved away, why not reconnect with neighbors you maybe haven't seen for a while. Please come out and share your memories while celebrating our beautiful Valley setting with an afternoon of tea!

**Date:** TBA

**Location:** 113 Donwoods Drive

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Contact:** Leanne Lewis @ 485-0959

### **VALLEY BOOK CLUB:**

Are you stuck in a rut reading the same old authors? Why not join your neighbors for monthly fun gatherings and lively discussions of interesting books? 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.

**Meetings:** Usually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month

**Time:** 9:30 am – 11:30 am

**Contact:** Perry Lupyrypa @ 433-3871 or [perryanne@sympatico.ca](mailto:perryanne@sympatico.ca)

Next 2 meetings/books:

**Wed Feb 18<sup>th</sup>:** *Infidelle*, by Ayaan Hirsi Ali – the author tells her story of her traditional Muslim childhood in Somali, Saudi Arabia and Kenya to her intellectual awakening and activism in the Netherlands and her current life under armed guard.

No meeting in March because of March Break

**Wed April 15<sup>th</sup>:** *Sylvanus Now*; by Donna Morrissey – During the 1950s, in the Atlantic Coast on the great Newfoundland Fishing Banks, Sylvanus Now, a charming, young fisherman wants to lure the beautiful Adelaide. Adelaide has other dreams – to escape the sea and her sullifying community. But Adelaide's need of refuge from her own troubling family, leads her to Sylvanus. The love story of Addie and Sylvanus is woven around the sea, the Great Mother that is on the cusp of cataclysmic change. An engaging book by an award winning Canadian Author.

### **FAMILY FUN DAY:**

It's hard to believe, but summer will soon be here – honest! Come on out to celebrate the return of green with your friends who have been hibernating all winter. We have a fun-filled, action-packed family oriented sports day planned, so come on down! Look for details on the notice board.

**Date:** Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a rain date of Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>

**Location:** the park with the playground

**Time:** 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Contact:** TBA

### **POSTER PARTY:**

Bring your budding Picasso and Da Vinci and create the beautiful advertising for our annual Fair. The more artwork plastered around the Valley the better – so come on out everyone!

**Date:** Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Location:** 29 Plymbridge Cres.

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Contact:** Ingrid @ 488-6268

### **VALLEY FAIR:**

**Date:** Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

And that's all the information you're getting now as we don't want to ruin the surprise. Save the date though, as it's going to be a GREAT day! Details will be in the May newsletter, but in the meantime watch the notice board for meeting dates so you can be part of the planning of this unique event.

### **VALLEY TEEN EVENT:**

Thanks so much to Geoff and Sean Hewat and Caleigh Weiss for organizing the first ever Valley Teen Organizing Committee and the Senior Teen Event in the Fall. Over 20 teens participated in an organization meeting. The committee decided to hold events for 2 age groups: one for 12-14 yr olds, and the other for 14-16 yr olds. Event ideas were generated entirely by the teens. The first event, glow-in-the-dark bowling, was a huge success for the senior teens. The next event will be for the 12-14 yr olds in either April or May. Stay tuned for details!

**Contact:** Dale Hewat @ 487-1039 or  
Perry Lupyrypa @ 433-3871

### **WELCOMING COMMITTEE:**

This committee is headed by Susanne Holland (485-2218) and Trudy Young (481-6905) and exists to help new neighbors make a smooth transition into Valley life and all it entails.

Please feel free to call either of them at the above listed numbers, or call your street representative directly if you have any questions or concerns about Valley goings on:

Brookfield Rd: Christine Acconcia  
480-0623

Campbell Cres: Morag Fitzgerald  
485-3320

Donino Ave: Dale Hewat 487-1039

Donino Ct: Dale Hewat

Donwoods Dr (flat section): Trudy Young  
481-6905

Donwoods Grove: Pam Spence 322-0037

Green Valley Rd: Albina Huang 488-7248

Ivor Road: Kelly Alkier 486-1200

Knightswood Rd: Susanne Holland  
485-2218

May Tree Rd: Helen Wong 489-8258

Plymbridge Cres: Louise Sugar 483-6614

Plymbridge Rd: Louise Sugar

St. Margaret's Dr: Lynn Richardson  
322-7918

Winton Rd: Brett LaGamba 486-2102

York Valley Cres: Helen Wong 489-8258

Hedgewood Rd: Laura Pryde 488-0218

### **THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:**

A special thank you to all the people who volunteered to make our Fall neighbourhood activities so successful.

Perry Lupyrypa, thank you for your dedication to and enthusiasm for the Book Club. What a great addition to our Valley activities!

Susanne Holland and Michele Hopper, thank you for organizing another wonderful Fall Social at the Miller Tavern.

Lynn Richardson, thank you again for hosting the annual Cookie Exchange. The treats were amazing! What a great night!

Julie Rao and Jill Haythornthwaite, thank you for hosting a fantastic NAG Holiday Luncheon.

Brett LaGamba, thank you for arranging our Caroling In The Park evening.

Kelly Alkier and Stephanie Coffey (and all their Elves – Tatum Alkier, Savannah Coffee, Janine Tatham, Annie Katsiris, and Simon, Clare, Imogen and Sebastian Levy) thank you for such a wonderful Kids Holiday Craft Day. We had the best turn out in years!

Janna Tatham and Vicky Bacardi, a big thank you for all your work with the Kids Get Involved initiative with the North York Food Bank. 1,355 lbs of food was donated. Great job Hoggs Hollow!

Dale Hewat and Perry Lupyrypa, thank you for taking the initiative in organizing the first ever Valley Teen Event.

Christine Acconcia, Laura Lamarche, Norm Lamarche, Simon Levy and Ian Morrison thank you for getting our community rink up and running. We are so fortunate to have this in our neighbourhood!

Trudy Young, thank you for spearheading the Dinner Group once again.

And Leslie Corrigan, thank you for taking care of all the neighbourhood activity posters.

*Have a great Spring (soon!) everyone.*



# 2009 YMVA Contact Information

## 2009 YMVA Executive

<b>Leanne Lewis</b>	President/ Chair, Traffic, Roads and Storm Water Management	416-485-0959 leannelewis@rogers.com
<b>Louise Sugar</b>	Vice President/Chair, Park Redevelopment	416-483-6614 lsugar@sympatico.ca
<b>Stanley Spencer</b>	Treasurer	416-487-7001 stan_spencer@mintzca.com
<b>Linne Dobbin</b>	Secretary	416-487-8553 tdobbin@sympatico.ca
<b>Sherry D'Costa</b>	Membership	415-485-2492 sdcosta@rogers.com
<b>Frank Bowman</b>	Past President	416-489-2456 frank.bowman@fmc-law.com
<b>Christine Acconcia</b>	Chair, Environment & Beautification	416-480-0623 cacconcia@rogers.com
<b>Susanne Holland</b>	Member at Large	416-485-2218 susanneholland@rogers.com
<b>Joel Rochon</b>	Member at Large	416-932-1277 <a href="mailto:jrochon@rochongenova.com">jrochon@rochongenova.com</a>
<b>Chris Rosenthal</b>	NAG Liaison	416-482-6666 chrisrosenthal@rogers.com
<b>Jerry Schulman</b>	Member at Large	416-482-1774 jerry_schulman@hotmail.com
<b>Brian Westlake</b>	Member at Large	416-481-3867 brian.westlake@blakes.com
<b>Barbara Wilkes</b>	Chair, Development Committee	416-486-6698 bawilkes@miicapital.com

## 2009 NAG

<b>Chris Rosenthal</b>	Co-Chair	416-482-6666
<b>Erin Nella</b>	Co-Chair	416-485-1858
<b>Trudy Young</b>	Co-Chair Welcome Committee	416-481-6905
<b>Susanne Holland</b>	Co-Chair Welcome Committee	416-485-2218
<b>Michelle Hopper</b>	Treasurer	416-932-9198

## Web Maintenance

<b>Leanne Lewis</b>	leannelewis@rogers.com
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