



# YMVA Newsletter

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

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Christine Acconcia - [cacconcia@rogers.com](mailto:cacconcia@rogers.com)  
Tel: (416)-480-0623

Happy New Year! As I start my role as President of the YMVA, I would like to thank retiring board members, Stanley Spencer, Joel Rochon, Jerry Schulman and Sherry D'Costa for their passion and involvement in the YMVA . I'm also excited to welcome Rick Tse, Glen Silvestri, Simon Levy and Guela Solow Ruda to the board and thank them and the board members staying on in advance for volunteering their time and offering their commitment to our community in this way.

Our past president, Leanne Lewis, has left big shoes to fill and it is my sincere hope that the projects started under her leadership continue to build in momentum in 2010. One of the priorities therefore will be extensive communication around the Storm Water Management and Road Improvement Project as it will impact us more in the coming year. My two other focuses will be on the park development by the Green P parking lot and the City's New Zoning By-laws and their specific impact on our neighbourhood. I will also continue to wear the Environment and Beautification hat this year. If you have a concern or

suggestion to better our community, please email me at [cacconcia@rogers.com](mailto:cacconcia@rogers.com).

Finally, there are many things that make Hogg's Hollow such a unique place to live and the Neighbourhood Activities Group (NAG) is certainly a big part of the valley's charm and warmth. Many hands make light work and it is the continued partnership between the board and NAG that strengthens and maintains that "Country in the City" feel we so cherish.

#### Proposed draft Zoning By-Law – Time sensitive

After city amalgamation, City Planning was charged with the task of harmonizing the zoning by-laws right across the GTA. In principle, the YMVA supports the concept of harmonization with its attendant benefits. However, city planners have gone well beyond their mandate. Concerns have been raised around the new residential bylaw's affect on such things as property setbacks, building heights, group homes and parking issues. Politicians have commenced the approval process without having reviewed the complete bylaw. This in itself is alarming. If it remains in its present form and gets passed on February 11th it will significantly

alter the character of Toronto's neighbourhoods by homogenizing rather than harmonizing the old municipal bylaws. We need time to fully understand the ramifications to our neighbourhoods. (To access information about the proposed bylaw go to: <http://www.toronto.ca/zoning>.)

The City Staff Planners are meeting on Feb. 11, 2010 to present public comments thus far collected on this proposed draft, after which it will most likely be passed into legislation as early as April. The YMVA, along with Federation of North Toronto Residents' Association ("FoNTRA") and our Ward 25 City Councillor, Cliff Jenkins, have serious concerns that this far-reaching legislation is being pushed through too hastily, and that very few parties outside of the City Planning Staff have read, and understood the implications and the unintended consequences of what is being proposed in this one thousand-plus page document.

If you agree with the YMVA Board on this, please fax both the City at 416-392-1879 and Cliff Jenkins' office at 416-395-6439, as soon as possible and definitely before Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> when the Planning and Growth Management Committee meets. A template letter is attached to the back of this newsletter for your convenience. Tear it off. Add your name and address to the top of the letter and fax it to the City and Councillor Jenkins. (Certainly, feel free to write

your own letter and use this template as a guideline.)

You are also welcome to attend the Feb. 11th Planning & Growth Management Committee meeting at City Hall, Committee Rm # 1. The agenda for this meeting has not been made public yet, but once we know the timeslot for this important agenda item, we will post it on our two bulletin boards. Thank you.

P.S. A blast email went out to the neighbourhood on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> with the subject line “YMVA - Time Sensitive Document” regarding this issue. A soft copy of this template letter was attached. This would give neighbours the chance to email this letter to the City instead of faxing it. If you did not get this email and would like it sent to you, so you too have that option, email Christine Acconcia at [cacconcia@rogers.com](mailto:cacconcia@rogers.com). Thank you in advance.

## Traffic

Leanne Lewis - [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com)

Concerns about speeding and inattentive driving are ongoing issues in the Valley. The police set up radar and monitored stop sign obedience in the fall. We will be requesting return visits shortly. The watch-your-speed trailer has

been requested. Although we are on the list to get the trailer, the timing has not been confirmed. Since there are only four trailers for the entire city, the wait list is long. When it becomes available it will be installed on Brookfield.

## Roads and Storm Water Management

Leanne Lewis - [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com)

Road and storm sewer construction was completed on Forest Glen and Doncliffe early last fall. Lessons learned from that project are being applied to the next phase of construction. The next phase includes Donino Avenue and Donino Court, May Tree and Plymbridge Road between the top of the hill east of Hillcrest School and May Tree. We understand that the tender for this phase of the project will be going out shortly and it is anticipated that construction will begin in May. The city will provide formal written notice to affected residents in advance of the start of construction. Also, prior to construction the city will have surveyors mark out the boundaries of construction so that residents can see what, if any, plant materials, sprinkler heads, landscaping materials etc. will be impacted by construction in order that residents can take appropriate action if desired.

Timing of the project for the rest of the valley has not yet been determined. We will be meeting with city engineers shortly to discuss this and will provide updates when they are available.

## Valley History

Leanne Lewis - [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com)

The Valley has been, and continues to be, an important part of the dynamic social, cultural and commercial history of the city. The YMVA has begun formally archiving historical material related to the Valley, the YMVA and NAG. If you have any Valley related items or stories that you would like archived, please contact Leanne at [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com) or call 416-485-0959. Newspaper articles, old files, area photos and your stories are all important parts of the Hogg's Hollow story. Even if you do not want the YMVA to keep your documents or photos, we would appreciate borrowing them to make copies.

Recent history is also of interest. For example, we are asking everyone to provide any historical facts, photos or stories related to your home, lot or personal Valley experiences. Do you know anything about prior residents of your property? Do you know when your home was built, who built your home or who designed it? We would like to record this information even if you live in a newer home.

## Valley Emails

Leanne Lewis - [leannelewis@rogers.com](mailto:leannelewis@rogers.com)

The YMVA and NAG regularly send out emails to update residents on important, time sensitive issues and upcoming events. If you would like to be included on the blast email list, please email [ymva@hoggshollow.net](mailto:ymva@hoggshollow.net). We respect the confidentiality of resident emails. All emails are sent bcc so other recipients cannot access other resident email addresses. Participants are welcome to unsubscribe at any time.

If you have submitted your email for inclusion on the email list, but are not receiving emails, please let us know by emailing [ymva@hoggshollow.net](mailto:ymva@hoggshollow.net). Also, please ensure that your YMVA emails are not being filtered. Filters should be set to allow emails from [ymva@hoggshollow.net](mailto:ymva@hoggshollow.net).

We are considering upgrading to a new email server to facilitate easier set up and delivery of emails. We will be doing some test runs over the next few months using the email server "Constant Contact". Therefore our emails may have a slightly different look and "From" line in the near future.

## Valley Clean Up

Christine Acconcia - [caconcia@rogers.com](mailto:caconcia@rogers.com)

Valley Clean Up Day will fall on April 24<sup>th</sup> this year and we are hoping to have good weather. Come out and help clean up our parks and river. Please diarize to meet at the Millstone Parkette between 9:30am – 11:00am for a cup of coffee, donuts and juice before you head off to your assigned areas of clean up. Do you know of any students needing community hours ? We'll be happy to write them a letter for "time served!" Please bring your own rubber gloves because it could get messy! The City's yellow bags will be handed out as well so they can be recognized by the City's staff when they make a special garbage pick up run around 2:00 pm that Saturday. Please consider chipping in 30 minutes or more of your time.

## Crime Watch

Penny O'Rourke - [Porourke21@rogers.com](mailto:Porourke21@rogers.com)

The police have not reported any incidents since the last valley newsletter and while this is very encouraging news, I would like to remind everyone to be vigilant. Any reports/concerns will always be handled in a confidential manner.

## N.A.G.

### (Neighborhood Activities Group)

Chris Rosenthal 482-6666 -

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

Erin Nella 485-1858 - [erinnella@hotmail.com](mailto:erinnella@hotmail.com)

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

### SKATING PARTY:

Thank you to Simon Levy who is organizing & overseeing our neighbourhood rink this year. We are hoping for another fantastic season of skating!

Keep your fingers crossed for colder weather and join us for our annual skating party at the end of February! We'll have hot chocolate, pizza and fun for everyone!

Date: Tuesday February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Location: Brookfield Park or

York Mills Arena if needed

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

Contacts: Kathleen Cira -

[kjcira@aol.com](mailto:kjcira@aol.com)

or Leslie Corrigan -

[leslie.corrigan@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.corrigan@gmail.com)

### WINE TASTING:

What better way to celebrate the fellowship of your neighbours than with a bottle of good wine? Come join us for an evening dedicated to exploring the world of wine.

Date: Friday April 30th

Location: 12 St. Margaret's Drive

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

Contact: Erin Nella -

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

### EMPTY NESTER'S TEA:

Valley Empty Nesters are invited to a relaxing get-together with neighbours while enjoying traditional afternoon tea. Please RSVP to Leanne by Sunday, May 9.

Date: Sunday, May 16th

Location: 113 Donwoods Drive

Time: 1:00 to 3:30 pm

Contact: Leanne Lewis @ 485-0959 or

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

### VALLEY BOOK CLUB:

The Valley Book Club meets 9:30 to 11:30 am, the third Wednesday of the month – members volunteer to moderate and host. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Perry at 433-3871 or [perryanne@sympatico.ca](mailto:perryanne@sympatico.ca). If you haven't read the book, you are welcome to come for the social part, and enjoy the discussion...often the topics are so wide ranging, opinions are valued even if you haven't read the book.

The books for the Winter/Spring session are:

Wed Feb 16<sup>th</sup> (9:30 am)

Still Alice by Lisa Genova. The heartbreaking and terrifying story of 50 year old Alice Howland, a brilliant Harvard professor, wife, and mother of three who is diagnosed with early onset Alzheimer's. Story is told from the point of view of the sufferer.

No Meeting for March – as many are away for March Break

April 20<sup>th</sup> (9:30 am)

Post Birthday World by Lionel Shriver Using a playful parallel-universe structure, following one woman's future as it unfolds under the influence of two drastically different men.

### 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 day planned, so come on down! Look for details on the notice board.

Date: Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup>

Location: the park with the playground

Time: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Contact: Albina Huang at 488-7248

### POSTER PARTY:

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

Date: Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

Location: 8 Winton Rd

Time: 1:00 pm

Contact: Alanna La Gamba at 486-2102

### VALLEY FAIR:

Date: Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>

After last year's success with Hogg's Hollow Idol, we decided to continue with the theme of Talent Competition. This year's theme is *Hogg's Hollow's Got Talent!*

The Valley Fair is a very special day for our neighbourhood and heavily reliant upon donations from all of us. To make the Fair a continued success, we need your help in securing donated auction items and sponsorships.

Please contact Karina von Stedingk @ [vonstedingk@hotmail.com](mailto:vonstedingk@hotmail.com) if you can help, and watch the notice boards and emails for further details and upcoming meeting dates.

### VALLEY TEEN EVENT:

The Fall Valley Teen Bungee Run was a big success, and we are considering a Spring Teen event. If you would like to help – please contact Perry or Jennifer. We welcome all volunteers and feedback. Watch the notice board and emails for further details.

Contact: Perry Lupyrypa -

[perryanne@sympatico.ca](mailto:perryanne@sympatico.ca) or

Jennifer Fortier - [Jennifer.fortier@rogers.com](mailto:Jennifer.fortier@rogers.com)

### WELCOMING COMMITTEE:

This committee is headed by Susanne Holland (485-2218) and Trudy Young (481-6905) and exists to help new neighbours 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 487-1039

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

**HAND DELIVERED**  
**NEWSLETTERS:**

Thank you so much to Jennifer Fortier for coordinating the distribution of the newsletters. In addition, we'd also like to thank a number of individuals who have delivered the YMVA Newsletters to your doorstep this past Fall.

They include: Kelly Alkier, Erin Nella, Sandy Gordon, Maly Friedel, Leslie Gage, Leanne Lewis, Roz Nella, Janna Tatham, and Jennifer Fortier.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are still looking for individuals to join our delivery team. Specifically, we need volunteers to deliver in the Doncliffe/Forest Glen area and the Old Yonge/Campbell Cres/Brookfield area. Please contact Jennifer Fortier at [Jennifer.fortier@rogers.com](mailto:Jennifer.fortier@rogers.com) if you are able to help! THANK-YOU!

**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 the Book Club

Jennifer Fortier and Perry Lupyrypa for organizing another awesome Teen event.

Erin Nella, thank you for organizing another wonderful Fall Social at the Miller Tavern.

Lynn Richardson, thank you again for hosting the annual Cookie Exchange. Another great night!

To Jill Haythornthwaite and Chris Rosenthal, thank you for hosting a fantastic NAG Holiday Luncheon.

Brett LaGamba, thank you again for arranging our Carolling in the Park evening.

Thanks go out to Clare Levy, Kelly Alkier, Jill Haythornthwaite, Annie Katsiris, and Sylvia Wielecki, for a wonderful Kids Holiday Craft Day.

Janna Tatham, a big thank-you for all your work with the Kids Get Involved initiative with the North York Food Bank. 1,022 lbs of food and \$475 cash were donated. Great job Hogg's Hollow!

Simon Levy, thank you for organizing and overseeing the skating rink this year. We are always looking for volunteers to help with the rink. Contact Simon @ 546-3091 to help out!

Trudy Young, thank you for continuing to spearhead the Dinner Group.

Leanne Lewis, Susanne Holland, Trudy Young for organizing a wonderful Welcome Party for the newcomers in the Valley.

And to Albina, Bianca, Cameron and William Huang for doing such an amazing job with all the posters.