



YMVA Newsletter

Website: www.hoggshollow.net

President's Update

By: *Christine Acconcia*
caconcia@rogers.com

Happy New Year! Thank you to those directors who have stepped down from the Board, Brian Westlake, Glen Silvestri and Guela Solow and a big welcome to Christopher Hewat, Lara Shohet-Clark and Julian Brandon. As we ramp up for another year, the YMVA will keep an eye on the remaining five projects still underway in our neighbourhood hoping to shorten the disruption to our quiet valley as much as possible. Unfortunately, even with our efforts a few of these projects will be ongoing for quite some time. Updates and key information for this year's Valley Fair can be found in this newsletter. Please take a moment to see what's going on and how you can get involved.

A few board members met with our new councillor, Jaye Robinson early in January to help acquaint her with and elicit her help on some of these projects. Special attention was brought to the Storm Water Management project. (See the update in this newsletter and a list of this year's YMVA Board members.)

Continue to check out our website for updates, important information, copies of old newsletters and NAG Activities. www.hoggshollow.net.

Councillor's Corner

Jaye Robinson:
councillor_robinson@toronto.ca

To the York Mills Valley Association,

I wish to extend my warmest greetings to the residents of the York Mills Valley Association. I

February 2011
Vol. 71, Issue 1

Inside this Issue:

President's Update
Councillor's Corner
**Traffic, Road and Storm-water
Management Upgrade**
YMVA Membership Drive
Environment and Beautification
Valley Clean-up
Crime Watch
NAG Activities

2011 YMVA Contact Information

Editor: Jan Kosick
Tel.(416) 481-9799
Email: jankosick@rogers.com

am pleased to represent one of the most beautiful neighbourhoods in all of Toronto. Hoggs Hollow is just one of the dynamic neighbourhoods that make up wonderful Ward 25 – Don Valley West.

One of my top priorities is to promote safe and vibrant neighbourhoods by creating opportunities for greater input by residents, to voice their concerns and contribute to neighbourhood initiatives. By demonstrating our civic engagement, we can help preserve the heart of our neighbourhoods.

It is very important to me to protect our neighbourhoods and be responsive to your needs as a community. I look forward to working with you!

Please do not hesitate to contact me at:

Email: Councillor_Robinson@toronto.ca

Phone: 416-395-6408

Sincerely,

Councillor Jaye Robinson

Ward 25 – Don Valley West

Council Highlights Email

Like Cliff Jenkins, Councillor Jaye Robinson will be continuing to send out monthly emails entitled “Council Highlights”. These emails provide updates on city council activities.

Unfortunately, Cliff was not permitted to give Jaye his contact list for these emails. So, if you would like to receive them, please contact Jacqueline Czajka jczajka@toronto.ca in Jaye’s office and she will be glad to add you to their growing contact list.

Traffic, Roads and Storm-water Management Upgrade

By: Simon Levy

simplylevy@rogers.com

Discussions with the City continue on the Road Improvement and Storm Water Management project.

As of February 1st, the City has promised that work will begin on the second phase of the project in July 2011. It is anticipated that this work will include Donino Avenue, Donino Court, Plymbridge Road and Maytree Road and that it will be completed this summer.

We have also recently received a commitment from the City to complete the remaining sections of the Valley by 2015. We have been advised that there are several infrastructure projects that will be completed during 2011 that will free up capital expenditure, which we expect to be deployed to the Valley project over the next 4 years. When we receive a more definitive calendar for this work, including the specific streets for each year, we shall advise the community.

Discussions with respect to traffic calming are scheduled to begin upon completion of the first section of the project.

YMVA Membership

This year we will be introducing an online payment method for your YMVA membership. This will make it easier for many.

For this transition year we will also be sending out the mailings for membership to capture those who may not want to join electronically. This will be environmentally friendly and effortless for all. We hope to co-ordinate this with the launch of our Spring Membership drive.

Check our website
www.hoggshollow.net for information
under the Membership tab.

Our membership drive will begin on
April 6th and we hope to be all wrapped
up by May 22nd.

Thank you,
Susanne Holland - YMVA Membership
Chair

Environment and Beautification

*By: Christine Acconcia
caconcia@rogers.com*

Many advertising signs are being placed
on neighbour's lawns for landscaping,
window cleaning, firewood etc. If you
think of it, could you consider removing
those signs whenever it's convenient.
Thank you.

If you see anything troublesome in the
valley and it falls under non-emergency
city services, please remember to call
311 for their central switchboard. They
are very resourceful and helpful. You
can even make a request on line at
<http://www.toronto.ca/311/>

Valley Clean Up

*By Christine Acconcia
caconcia@rogers.com*

This year Valley Clean Up will be on
Saturday, **April 16th**. Please meet at the
Millstone Parkette between 9:30am and
11:00am for a cup of coffee/juice and
donuts before you head off to your
assigned areas. Bring your own rubber
gloves please, because it can get messy

out there. We will provide you with large plastic
bags which you will be asked to dropped off at
designated drop-off points. The City will pick
them up on one of their garbage runs. Do you
know of any students who need community
hours? We'll be happy to write a letter for "time
served!" Please come and help out for however
long you can. The more the merrier! Thank
you.

Crime Watch

*By: Penny O'Rourke
porourke21@rogers.com*

There have been five reported break-ins and one
armed robbery since our last newsletter:

October 3
3:00 – 3:37 hrs
Donino Ave.

Unknown suspect(s) entered the residence through
the window. They went into the hallway and
activated the motion sensor. The suspect(s) exited
through the point of entry.

January 8 -9
17:00-8:15 hrs
Sandringham Drive

The victim returned home to find the garage door
open and 4 tires and rims missing. The unknown
suspect(s) had entered through a side door gaining
access to the house and then continued to the garage.

January 26 -28
7:00 – 9:00
Mason Blvd.

Unknown suspect(s) gained entry to the home via
rear basement doors. Once inside, the suspects went
to a second floor office and removed cash and
jewellery. The suspect(s) then proceeded to the
master bedroom where more jewellery was removed.

January 8 -9
22:30 – 8:30 hrs
Breen Cres.

The victim went into her garage in the morning to find one of the two vehicles, a 2008 Lexus SUV, was missing. Nothing in the house was disturbed nor was entry to the house gained. It appears that the unknown suspect either knew the lock combination or it was picked.

January 21
11:37 -18:50 hrs
180 block York Mills Rd.

Entry to the home was gained by force to the front door. Once inside, the suspect(s) ransacked the interior and removed a digital camera, gold keys and assorted jewellery. The suspect(s) then exited via the same entry point.

February 1
13:00 hrs
Old Yonge St. And York Mills Rd.

During the above date and time the victim was walking northbound on the west side of Old Yonge Street when he noticed the suspect walking towards him. The suspect continued past the victim then turned around. and approached the victim from the rear. The suspect requested the time. While the victim was checking his phone the suspect pulled out a knife and demanded the victim's cell phone and back pack. The suspect said "Give me everything you have. I will stab you until you die." The victim surrendered his belongings then ran home. The suspect is male, dark skinned, medium build, and was wearing a blue BB cap with sport team logo, and black sweater or jacket

Just a general reminder that you should leave car doors locked, do not leave ladders in places where intruders could take advantage of them to enter homes. One of the most frequent reminders from the police is also to leave your front and

back porch lights on. The more light you have on, the less likely you are to be broken into. Also, keep all main floor windows locked at night.

Please continue to be diligent about observing your neighbours and report to me or police anything that seems not right.

Penny O'Rourke 416 486-5060

NAG Activities

We've had a fantastic start to our social calendar this year and would like to offer a big thanks to all those volunteers that help make these events so successful:

Annie Katsiris for hosting our exciting Halloween Social, and all those committed volunteers who took care of everything from tickets to décor to food etc. We had a great response to hosting the event in the Valley

Clare Levy and her host of volunteers for our cozy Kids Craft Party

Lynn Richardson for hosting our spirited annual Cookie Exchange; always a fun night!

Clare and Simon Levy for hosting our popular NAG luncheon. We had a great turnout this year.

Brett LaGamba for organizing our festive Carolling in the Park

Trudy Young for continuing to lead our Dinner Group program

Cynthia Goodchild for always getting our poster boards out (including our new board on Doncliffe Drive)

Jennifer Fortier and Perry Lupyrypa for your continued dedication to managing the Valley Book Club.

Dale Hewat for organizing the teen skate.

Simon Levy and his volunteers for maintaining the Brookfield skating rink so beautifully.

Our Spring/Summer events are already underway. Remember to check notice boards to confirm times and locations!

Skating Parties

This year we've featured two skating parties to ensure skaters of all ages have adequate time and space to enjoy this fun tradition in wintertime. Our Teen Skate on Feb 10 featured hot chocolate and pizza for our Valley teens. Our upcoming Family Skate will feature hot chocolate and pizza, and we encourage all those budding skaters to come and wobble around! (More seasoned skaters are also welcome of course!).

Family Skate

Date: Sunday February 27, 3-5:30pm
(weather permitting)

Location: Brookfield Park

Hosts: Glen and Sylvia Silvestri

Contact: Leslie Gage lvgage@rogers.com

Family Day/Teen Event and Charity Drive

This year we will combine the Family Day and Teen Event on Saturday May 14. Toddlers to teens will have a blast as we feature fun-filled activities with an outdoor theme. We are also holding our very successful charity drive during this time, so bring down all those gently used

items to the park, and we will be rounding these up and delivering to charity. Last year we had such a huge response we will need some additional volunteers to help with sorting and loading, so please consider helping out by contacting Erin at erinnella@hotmail.com

Date: Saturday May 14, time TBA

Location: the park with the playground

Contacts:

Jennifer Fortier Jennifer.fortier@rogers.com

Perry Lupyrypa perryanne@sympatico.ca

Erin Nella erinnella@hotmail.com

Empty Nesters Tea

This has been a popular event held in May, featuring traditional tea and sandwiches. It is a great way to catch up with neighbours and welcome our warmer weather. This year we are looking for a new host and ask all our residents to consider hosting, for it would be a shame to see this event disappear. We have a budget and a wealth of knowledge from past hosts so please don't hesitate to come forward, your efforts are truly appreciated! Again look to our poster boards and emails for updated details.

Date and Location : TBD

Contact: Leslie Gage lvgage@rogers.com

Wine Tasting

A chance to reconnect with neighbours, nosh and enjoy some wonderful wines. From Sauvignon Blanc to Syrah, come learn and taste some wines that may surprise and delight. Christine and Joel Rosenthal will graciously host this event at their beautiful home on Tuesday June 21, so come out to kick off summer and who knows, you may find a new favourite to savour. Please keep an eye on our poster boards and your email as we firm up the details.

Date: Tuesday June 21 time TBA

Contact: Leslie Gage lvgage@rogers.com

Valley Book Club

Come join your neighbours once a month for a fun social gathering and a lively discussion of an interesting book. Members take turns moderating and/or hosting the sessions.

Our book for April:

The River Thieves by Michael Crummey

Summary: In elegant, sensual prose, Michael Crummey crafts a haunting tale set in Newfoundland at the turn of the nineteenth century. A richly imagined story about love, loss and heartbreaking compromises.

Next Meeting: Wed. April 20 - 9:30 am

Location: TBA

Contact: Jennifer 416-480-1100

jennifer.fortier@rogers.com to RSVP or for information.

Valley Fair

Mark your calendars for Saturday June 4 for our 2011 Valley Fair. This is certainly an event our neighbours cherish, judging from the response we received to our feedback request of last year, and no wonder, it has been an ongoing tradition for 34 years! It is certainly part of the charm that makes Hogs Hollow our "Country in the City". Thank you to all that replied. A general theme emerged that our residents want a simpler, more economical event that could accommodate the family for the duration of the event. We are moving in this direction and have begun preliminary planning (permits etc), however there are many more details to be determined. This is where you come in! An email blast has been sent

requesting two Co-Chairs to help lead the direction and planning. Even if you are not interested in the Co-Chair role, consider volunteering, a few hours of your time or with a donation for our popular auction, to help bring this event to life. A special thanks to Karina von Stedingk for chairing the event over the past two years. This year is an opportunity for new Chairs to provide input into shaping this event, so please don't hesitate to contact your NAG Chair, Leslie Gage at lygage@rogers.com, your interest is truly appreciated!