CLAIR HILLS CONNECTION



Creating a welcoming, clean, safe, and connected community.

Spring 2016 | Volume 5 | Issue 1

Spring Message from the CHCA

Opportunities, events and celebrations

Dear Neighbours,

Spring is a great time of change for us all – organizing our home, planning our garden, and getting out doors to enjoy the fresh air. It's also when we get together to clean up the neighbourhood at our annual Spring Clean Up. Join us on May 7 as we make Clair Hills beautiful. Read more on Page 2.

This Spring also marks some change for the CHCA. Two of our longest-serving board members are retiring. After six years of service in various roles, Caitlin and Craig Smith will be resigning from their posts as President and Social Media Director respectively effective May 10. We would like to thank Caitlin and Craig for their dedicated service and commitment to the community. While they will be missed, we look

forward to seeing them in the neighbourhood where they remain as our neighbours.

The CHCA board held its annual Strategy Session on April 7 which will help the association plan for leadership changes and the 2016-2017 CHCA season. On May 10, we'll hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) where the board positions will be decided. If you are interested in a leadership position with the CHCA or would just like to learn more about our association, please join us at our AGM. You can RSVP on our website or email president@clair-hills.ca. To learn more about our volunteer positions, please turn to page 3.

The 5th edition of the Clair Hills Connection has some important information about fundraising initiatives for the play structure at the new school in Vista Hills (page 4), our second annual Boston Pizza Fun-raiser (page 4) and a tribute to our volunteers to celebrate National Volunteer Week (page 5). The CHCA wouldn't exist without the dedication and passion of its volunteers.

Your Neighbourhood Credit Union has also shared some important tips to help parents teach their children the importance of managing money, so be sure to read that article on page 6. It's also time to put out your Slow Down Kids at Play signs out – learn how you can order one on page 7.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Clair Hills Connection. A special thank you to our advertisers too!

See you at the Spring Clean Up on May 7.

Sincerely,

The CHCA Board of Directors and Volunteers

National Volunteer Week is April 10 to 16. #NVW2016



Make Clair Hills Beautiful. Read more about our upcoming Spring Clean Up on page 2.

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 Facebook and now on Instagram!









Spring Clean Up: Saturday May 7

Help keep Clair Hills beautiful by volunteering to tidy up the neighbourhood

The Clair Hills Community Association annual Spring Clean Up is an opportunity for residents to help tidy up the neighbourhood after the snow has melted. Organized and hosted by the volunteers of the association, the Spring Clean Up provides residents with supplies including garbage bags and disposable gloves. The CHCA also provides free refreshments, snacks and prizes thanks to the generosity of local businesses and community supporters who offer cash donations, prizes, volunteer support and in-kind services.

Date, Location and Time:

Saturday May 7, 2016, 10am at the entrance to St. Moritz Park on Brandenburg Blvd, and the corner of Columbia Street West and Lucerne Ave. Please come to whichever location is most convenient for you. There will not be an afternoon session.

Please bring a donation for the FoodBank.

What participants can expect this year:

- •Free garbage bags and disposable gloves to use to help collect litter
- •Free hot chocolate, coffee and snacks, while quantities last
- •Guidance from the CHCA volunteers on which areas to clean up
- A prize draw

Benefit to community:

The Spring Clean Up benefits the community by bringing neighbours together to help clean and tidy up the Clair Hills neighbourhood, creating a clean and welcoming area. The event is also an opportunity for neighbours to connect with the CHCA and learn more about its services and volunteers.

Annual General Meeting May 10

The Clair Hills Community Association Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a time to celebrate and reflect on our 2015-2016 season. It's also an opportunity for the community to provide feedback, learn more about volunteering with us and address any concerns you may have.

Our AGM is also the time where we elect and/or acclaim our board of directors and establish any formal volunteer positions. If you are looking for a leadership position, please email president@clair-hills.ca.

Date, Location and Time:

Tuesday May 10, 2016, 7:00pm at the Clair Hills Retirement Community. Please RSVP to president@clair-hills.ca or on our website.



Want a flexible volunteer commitment that's easy and fun to do? Join our Neighbourhood Rep team! Email us today:

volunteer@clair-hills.ca

MEET THE CHCA

The Clair Hills Community Association is comprised of a Board of Directors and local volunteers. This group of dedicated residents meet regularly to coordinate events and share important information with the community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Caitlin Smith

Social Media: Craig Smith

Business Affairs: Scott Dougall

Government Affairs: Jerry Walker

Treasurer: Claire Sage

Directors: Teresa Martin, Diana

Clipsham, Rob Wallace

VOLUNTEERS:

Advertising Coordinator:

Teresa Martin

Parents Group Coordinator:

Diana Clipsham

Administrative Coordinator:

Lisa Stuart

Web Administrator:

Joe Radman

Communications Coordinator:

Krysten Palser

Neighbourhood Reps:

Angela Clancy, Anne Paulson, Blake Bailey, Breanna Swanson, Caitlin & Craig Smith, Diana Clipsham, Dori Mueller, Erin Michalski, Jaime Harland, Jenny & JP Bhavnani, Jerry Walker, Lyndsey Heng, Margaret Wilton, Scott & Vicki Dougall, Tanya Romantsov, and Teresa Martin

Volunteers:

Kara Purdy, Adam Shortt, Michelle Shortt, Mike Dwyer, Jen Dwyer, Kevin McCarthy, Vicki Dougall and Luke Stuart

2016 Ice Rink Volunteers:

Adam Shortt, Craig Smith, Jerry Walker, Kevin McCarthy, Luke Stuart, Mike Davy, Mike Dwyer, Mike Sage, Trish Adams, Rob Wallace, Scott Dougall, and Tyler Tennant

The association would like to extend a very BIG thank you to all its volunteers for their time and commitment.











Our dedicated volunteers help plan, fundraise and support our events. They attend monthly meetings and make sure our neighbours know about our association. Look how much fun we had at this year's Fall Fun Fest.

Join Our Volunteer Community

Clair Hills Community Association is a very dedicated and fun group of residents who care about each other and the neighbourhood they live in.

Why should I volunteer with the CHCA?

Volunteering is one of the easiest ways to give back to your community and it's a great way to meet your neighbours. Our volunteers have all become friends and you'll find them meeting each other for coffee, hosting UFC parties in their living rooms, and organizing play dates. Volunteering is also a great way to build your resume, gain practical experience, and network. Our volunteers receive a special nametag, a volunteer t-shirt and special recognition throughout the year including a volunteer appreciation dinner.

How much time does it take?

One to five hours a month. Sometimes it's less and sometimes it's a little more. We meet every month (with a break in the summer) and hold an Annual General Meeting every May.

What can you help with?

We have lots of opportunities listed on this page as well as page 2. Plus, we have seasonal volunteer opportunities including the Ice Rink volunteer role. For more information, email volunteer@clair-hills.ca



The Clair Hills Community
Association works in partnership
with the City of Waterloo as agreed
in the terms of their Affiliation
Service Agreement.

Fundraising news for the Vista Hills P.S. play structure

Learn how you can contribute to the fundraising efforts

Vista Hills Public School (pictured below) is scheduled to open Fall 2016, and many of our Clair Hills families will be attending the new school.

A fundraising effort has been started to raise money for the installation of play equipment, with a goal of raising \$10,000 by May 1st.

Volunteers will be canvassing the neighbourhood over the coming weeks.

If you would like to help with the fundraising or to make a contribution, please contact Jill Pletsch at wistahillsca@gmail.com.

Thanks for your support!

For more information about the school, visit: http://www.wrdsb.ca/ planning/project-updates/new-schools/vista-hills-ps/



Celebrate the Start of Summer at Boston Pizza

Join the CHCA for its second annual Boston Pizza FUN-RAISER

Celebrate the start of Summer this year at Boston Pizza Erbsville on Wednesday June 29 from 5pm - 8pm.

Get to know your neighbours! Family friendly activities such as Face Painting, a Magician and Boston Pizza's very own Lionel! And of course, enjoy some great food and friends!

10% of our sales from this event will be donated to the Clair Hills Community Association to help raise funds for the Fall Fun Fest!

A very special thank you to Tyson and his Boston Pizza team for their continued support of the CHCA.

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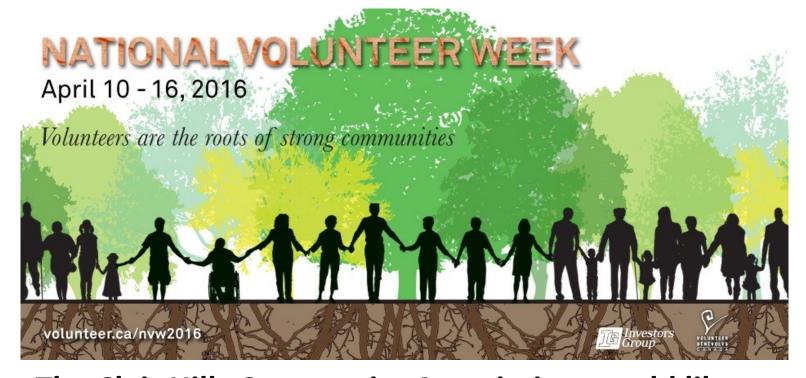
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The Clair Hills Community Association would like to say THANK YOU to all our amazing volunteers who have donated their time and skills to build a stronger Clair Hills. Happy National Volunteer Week!

Show your support for our volunteers on social media using #NVW2016







Set your child on the road to financial smarts

Teach your kids the importance of managing money with these tips from your local Neighbourhood Credit Union

Submitted by:

Tony Monterosso, Branch Manager, Your Neighbourhood Credit Union

Think back to when you sold lemonade, or mowed lawns, or baby-sat the neighbour's kids, and how thrilled you were to have cash in your hands to show for your efforts. Perhaps you also remember getting your first bank account, and watching your savings grow.

Through these little satisfactions, you were learning key financial lessons: the relationship of work to money, the magic of compound interest, and the importance of setting goals.

When it comes to teaching your kids how to manage money, you no doubt have some experience to draw from. Kids are quick studies, so it's never too early to start teaching them about the value of money. And though we all sometimes feel that we ourselves could benefit from financial lessons, try to lead by example and show your kids how to be responsible with money. Here are a few ideas to get you going.

Get them a piggybank - a proxy for a savings account, and one of the best ways to help kids learn how to save. Try to limit what you put in to coins or smaller bills. It will provide a lesson in counting, and show your children the importance of saving even small amounts. If friends or grandparents give your child a \$20 bill, for example, show them how it breaks down into loonies and toonies.

Give them a weekly allowance.

Another great way to teach kids how to manage money. Let them know it's their money to spend how they please — toys, treats, whatever strikes their fancy. And by all means let them learn from their mistakes. If their allowance runs out, it will teach them to be responsible and plan ahead.

Pay their allowance in coins and smaller bills. Then, encourage your kids to put some of the money — say 10% of their allowance — in their piggybanks (or savings account when they are older). Explain that these savings can then be used

at a later date to achieve one of their goals, such as buying the tablet they've been talking about.

A good way to encourage this is by offering to top up their savings every month. Count the savings together, and then match it by 25% to 50%. This will introduce them to the concept of compound growth and help them learn to align their savings to their own goals, such as buying a game or new bike.

Eventually, you can bring some of these lessons together by helping your children open a savings account.

If your child is ready for an account, stop by the branch and we'll set everything up! We're in the neighbourhood at the corner of Ira Needles and Erb, between Boston Pizza and the Beer Store. Or check us out online at www.yncu.com.



"Slow Down, Kids at Play" signs for sale!



It's now officially Spring which means children will be outside playing near the streets. Safety in our neighbourhood is a top priority and we are running our "Slow Down, Kids at Play" sign campaign again this year.

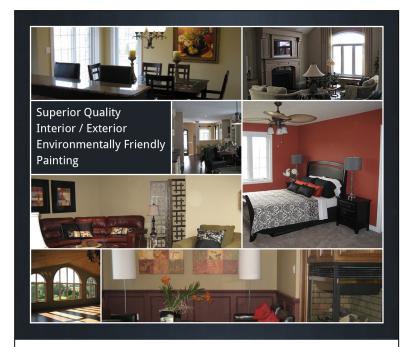
You may have noticed these signs around the neighbourhood in 2015? If you already own one, it's time to get them back up in a visible spot on your lawn so they can make drivers more aware of their speeds!

Would you like to purchase a sign?

If so, please email your full name, complete street address and number of signs you wish to purchase to parents@clair-hills.ca. Quantities are limited and future orders are not guaranteed. A small fee will apply (\$6.00-\$9.00 per sign, depending on interest). Please be sure to email all the information we've asked for to avoid delay in processing.

Hopefully each sign will help to make a difference and keep our community and children a little safer!





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