

## Spring Message from the CHCA

Dear Clair Hills Residents,

Spring is an exciting season that brings new life, growth and change for all. As the flowers start to bloom, we are able to get out more to enjoy the fresh air and explore our wonderful neighbourhood. Windy recycling days wreaked havoc on our parks, trails and sidewalks this year and it's time to come together to clean up the neighbourhood at our annual Spring Clean Up. Please join us on May 6 as we make Clair Hills beautiful (page 2).

Again, this spring marks change for the CHCA as two of our board members are stepping down.

After 10 years of service and 5 years as a Director, Scott Dougall will be moving on from the board to pursue other volunteer opportunities. We are so grateful for all of Scott's hard work on behalf of the association. His incredible fundraising efforts, dedication to seeing the ice rink/tennis court built, and tireless devotion to maintaining the ice rink these past 3 winters were just a few of the ways our community benefited from Scott's hard work. We will miss him on the board but look forward to continuing to see Scott around the

neighbourhood and at the rink. Read about Scott's most recent season at the rink on page 5.

Anne Paulson is also stepping down as a Director as she is moving out of the neighbourhood. Anne has been a dedicated volunteer with the CHCA for many years and joined the Board last spring. Anne has been instrumental as part of our event coordination team and successfully ran both the Spring Clean Up and Fall Fun Fest in 2016. We will definitely miss seeing Anne and her family in Clair Hills.

We would like to thank Scott and Anne for their dedicated service and commitment to the community and will miss them both!

As a result of these and other recent changes, the CHCA has several gaps to fill and volunteers are urgently needed. If you enjoy reading our newsletters and attending our events such as the Fall Fun Fest and the Winter Classic, we need your help!! A small group of volunteers work very hard to run the association for the 1,500 homes in Clair Hills and as this group shrinks, this hard work can't be sustained. The CHCA wouldn't exist without the dedication and

passion of its volunteers. Please consider joining us to help us continue as an association that can serve its residents.

On May 9, the CHCA will hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM). If you are interested in a leadership or volunteer position with the CHCA or would just like to learn more about us and what we do, please join us at our AGM. You can RSVP on our website or email us at [president@clair-hills.ca](mailto:president@clair-hills.ca). We have lots of fun volunteer opportunities and positions available (page 2-3).

This 6th edition of the Clair Hills Connection has important information about our 3rd annual Boston Pizza Fun-raiser (page 4), the City of Waterloo's Neighbourhood Strategy Program (page 4), the annual Community Yard Sale (page 5), a Volunteer's story (Page 6), and local school registration (Page 7).

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Clair Hills Connection and a special thank you to our advertisers!

Sincerely,

The CHCA Board of Directors and Volunteers



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

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### We're very Social

Follow us on Twitter and Like us on Facebook!





Scott and Rob help neighbours by handing out supplies for the annual Spring Clean Up

## Spring Clean Up: Saturday May 6

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, Time and Location:

**Saturday, May 6, 2017, 10:00am-12:00pm** at two locations:

- The entrance to St. Moritz Park on Brandenburg Blvd
- 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 RSVP at [www.clair-hills.ca/rsvpmaker/2017-community-spring-clean-up/](http://www.clair-hills.ca/rsvpmaker/2017-community-spring-clean-up/) so we know to expect you!

### 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

Please let us know if there is an area you would like to see cleaned up, and we will send teams to help.

**Please bring a donation for the FoodBank.**

*Non-perishable items only please.*



## Annual General Meeting May 9

The Clair Hills Community Association Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a time to celebrate and reflect on our 2016-2017 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 when we elect our board of directors and establish any formal volunteer positions. If you are interested in a leadership or volunteer position, please email [president@clair-hills.ca](mailto:president@clair-hills.ca).

### Date, Time and Location:

**Tuesday, May 9, 2017, 7:00pm** at the Clair Hills Retirement Community. Please RSVP on our website at <http://www.clair-hills.ca/rsvpmaker/2017agm/>

**CHCA Survey Results from fall 2016**

How do you hear about CHCA events?

Method	Percentage
Word of mouth	~2%
Website	~5%
Mailbox posters	~10%
Twitter	~15%
Facebook	~20%
Print Newsletter	~35%
E-newsletter	~45%

Follow us on social media and sign up for the e-newsletter!

**WHAT CAN CHCA DO TO IMPROVE FUTURE EVENTS?**

8% of respondents indicated that they would like to see more diverse events, (e.g. geared towards adults or teenagers)

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Join us at our monthly meetings. Bring your ideas for more diverse events and anything else that would help enrich our great community!

What do you like most about this neighborhood?

- Community
- Friendly
- Parks
- Safe
- Green space
- Quiet

What do you like most about CHCA events?

- Community
- Volunteers
- Meeting neighbors
- Free
- Fun
- Family friendly

Clair Hills COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



## 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:

Anne Paulson  
Breanna Swanson  
Diana Clipsham  
Rob Wallace  
Scott Dougall  
Teresa Martin

### VOLUNTEERS:

**Administrative Coordinator:**  
Vacant

**Advertising Coordinator:**  
Breanna Swanson

**Communications Coordinator:**  
Krysten Palser

**Ice Rink Convener:** Vacant

**Neighbourhood Rep Program Coordinator:** Vacant

**Parent Group Coordinator:**  
Giannina Camacho

**Social Media Coordinator:** Vacant

**Web Administrator:** Vacant

**Neighbourhood Reps:** Angela Clancy, Anne Paulson, Breanna Swanson, Diana Clipsham, Dori Mueller, Geoffrey Moon, Jamie Harland, Jenny & JP Bhavnani, Kara Botelho, Lisa Stuart, Lyndsey Heng, Margaret Wilton, Paula Rick, Pooneh Ghaffari-Aultman, Tanya Romantsov, Wes Worlsofold

**Volunteers:** Adam Dougall, Adam Shortt, Alexis Wallace, Ashley Wallace, Andrew Lawrence, Caitlin Smith, Kara Botelho, Kirsten Dougall, Luke Stuart, Vicki Dougall

### 2016-2017 Ice Rink Volunteers:

Adam Shortt, Caitlin Smith, Craig Smith, Iain Thompson, Jerry Walker, Kevin McCarthy, Luke Stuart, Mike Davy, Mike Dixon, Mike Dwyer, Trish Adams, Rob Wallace, Scott Dougall, Tyler Tennant

A **BIG** thank you to all our volunteers!



Our dedicated volunteers help plan, fundraise and support our events. From left to right: Anne Paulson, Season Tompkins, Krysten Palser, Abdulhakim Saeed, Kara Botelho, Scott Dougall, Diana Clipsham, Jamie Harland, Breanna Swanson.

## 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. Volunteering also provides opportunities to build your resume, gain practical experience, and network. As our board shrinks again this spring, we are in urgent need of new volunteers to help us continue to be able to provide events such as the Fall Fun Fest and Winter Classic, which our community has come to love. The CHCA wouldn't exist without the dedication and passion of its volunteers. Please consider joining us; we would love to welcome you to the team!

### How much time does it take?

Volunteering takes as much time as you are able to give. The CHCA volunteers meet once a month and hold an Annual General Meeting every spring. Events are run throughout the year and help is urgently needed to plan these events in the time leading up to them.

### What can you help with?

We encourage volunteers to help in areas that interest them, and to build their own roles within the CHCA. We also have specific opportunities, including Administrative Coordinator, Social Media Coordinator, Web Administrator and Ice Rink Convener. Plus, there are seasonal volunteer opportunities including the Ice Rink volunteer role or event-specific opportunities such as helping at the Fall Fun Fest. For more information, email [volunteer@clair-hills.ca](mailto: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.

# The City of Waterloo Wants to Chat With You!

## Learn how you can contribute to the Clair Hills Neighbourhood Strategy

Clair Hills is such a great neighbourhood! We love to hear about the events going on in the area as well as the little ways neighbours are helping each other out. As a resident, you play an important role in this neighbourhood! The City of Waterloo wants to chat with you to find out more about what you love in Clair Hills. We also want to hear about your vision for Waterloo neighbourhoods and the part you could play in making them even better.

This information will help us write the neighbourhood strategy (the strategy will identify how the City of Waterloo can best support community members in their efforts to create stronger and more connected neighbourhoods). We will be going to various events throughout Waterloo this summer, including the Clair Hills Spring Clean Up in May! When you see us, please stop by and chat with us about your neighbourhood!

We've been working on this project for the past several months. Check our website to learn more about what we've been doing, what's coming up, and how we are collecting and sharing #neighbourloo stories: [waterloo.ca/neighbourhoodstrategy](http://waterloo.ca/neighbourhoodstrategy)

Beth and Janet from the City of Waterloo  
 P: 519-884-5363 x17225 E: [neighbourhoods@waterloo.ca](mailto:neighbourhoods@waterloo.ca)



# Celebrate the Start of Summer at Boston Pizza

## Join the CHCA for its 3rd annual Boston Pizza FUN-RAISER

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

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

10% of our sales from this event (dine in, take out and delivery) will be donated to the Clair Hills Community Association to help raise funds for future neighbourhood events!

It is strongly recommended that you make a reservation by contacting Boston Pizza at [519-747-8000](tel:519-747-8000) or [bperbsville562@gmail.com](mailto:bperbsville562@gmail.com).

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

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# CHCA Rink Rats Battle Mother Nature Yet Again

Another winter season has come and gone. Best described as the “winter that wasn’t”, the 2016-2017 season was a humbling reminder that despite our hopes, best efforts and perseverance, Mother Nature always decides how we will enjoy our outdoor activities.

Perseverance is defined as “*to persist in anything undertaken; maintain a purpose in spite of difficulty, obstacles, or discouragement; to continue steadfastly*”.

This action best describes the effort and commitment that our rink volunteers (aka the Rink Rats) demonstrated throughout the entire season. The CHCA sends a big thank you to the Team.

I am proud of the rink volunteers that persevered to re-build the rink on four occasions so that children and families would have the opportunity to enjoy quality time together.

In December, we managed to open the rink during the Christmas break, much to the delight of our Clair Hills community. Though we attempted to build a thick sheet of ice to withstand a January thaw, we did not anticipate the extent of the warm weather that we received, which resulted in weekly interruptions and forced repeated closures.

We postponed our Winter Classic by a week to make sure there would be quality ice for hockey and skating. The week before the event, the Rink Rats took advantage of the returned cold weather, working tirelessly day and night to ensure that the Clair Hills Community Association would be able to host a successful event on February 4th.

The day of our 2nd annual Winter Classic was as wintry as we could have hoped for, and the ice did not disappoint. However, despite hopes

that the rink would remain open into March, and during the warmest February on record, it was decided that we could no longer rescue the rink, and the season ended.

The St. Moritz Park ice rink has once again transformed into a tennis court awaiting warm spring days and neighbours frantically searching their basements and garages for tennis racquets.

The ice rink is supported by the City of Waterloo and maintained by volunteers in our neighbourhood.

If you are interested in assisting with the rink next winter, we would be pleased to save you a position on our Team.

Please email [rink@clair-hills.ca](mailto:rink@clair-hills.ca) to join our Ice Rink Maintenance Team.

*Submitted by Scott Dougall,  
CHCA Volunteer and Director*



Left: Scott Dougall (third from left) and fellow CHCA volunteers keep warm by the fire at the 2017 Winter Classic. Right: The winner of the Turkey Toss claims his prize.

## Save the Date for the Clair Hills Yard Sale!

Our annual Clair Hills Community Yard Sale is **Saturday, June 3rd, 8:00am to 12:00pm.**

Sign up at <http://www.clair-hills.ca/rsvpmaker/yard-sale-2017/> to be listed as a seller in this year's sale.

We will create an online map of sellers so treasure hunters will know which homes in Clair Hills are participating.



# Why I Volunteer

Kara Botelho discusses what volunteering with the CHCA means to her

Volunteering has always been an important part of my life. It feels meaningful and is hugely rewarding. That's why when I moved back to Waterloo in 2014, after having been away for many years, it was an easy decision to attend the Clair Hills Community Association Annual General Meeting. I went to the meeting knowing that I wanted to meet people in my neighbourhood and help shape the community in which my kids – I have a three year old and a one year old – will grow up.

I was encouraged by what I saw and heard at that first meeting. There was great camaraderie between the volunteers and it sounded as though the association was putting on great free events throughout the year. I was excited to jump on board and lend a hand.

I've since had the opportunity to help organize and volunteer at the Fall Fun Fest and most recently at the second annual Winter Classic. I had such a great time on both occasions; I felt a real sense of accomplishment and pride watching all the neighbourhood kids and families mingling and enjoying the events! Also, it lifts my spirits knowing that I am teaching my kids from an early age the importance of giving back to our community.

Volunteering with the CHCA has definitely been a rewarding experience so far. It doesn't require a lot of my time, I've made some really great friends and I'm helping to build a great community for my family.

If you are at all interested in volunteering with the association or just want to learn more, I would love to invite you to join us for our upcoming Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00pm at the Clair Hills Retirement Centre (530 Columbia St. W, Waterloo). Please RSVP on our website at [www.clair-hills.ca/upcoming-events](http://www.clair-hills.ca/upcoming-events) so we know to expect you!

Hope to see you there!

Kara Botelho, CHCA Volunteer



Kara at the 2016 Fall Fun Fest.

## You're invited to the Official Opening of Vista Hills Public School!

Join us on May 4, 2017 at 6:30pm at Vista Hills Public School to celebrate its official opening! Everyone is welcome! Open house to follow.



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# Local public school information for Clair Hills area

Vista Hills Public School and Edna Staebler Public School are now accepting registrations for the 2017-2018 school year.

Vista Hills Public School is a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school and offers French Immersion for Grades 1 through 7. Edna Staebler Public School will continue to serve the Clair Hills community with students from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 8.

To register at either school you will need the following:

- Birth Certificate or Permanent Residence Card
- A bill/lease agreement or purchase agreement with your name and address on it

Please contact Vista Hills PS or Edna Staebler PS with any further questions or to book an appointment.

### Vista Hills PS Contact info:

<http://vis.wrdsb.ca/>  
 Twitter: @viswrdsb  
 314 Sweet Gale Street  
 Waterloo, ON N2V 0B3  
 Phone: 519-884-4411

### Edna Staebler PS Contact info:

<https://est.wrdsb.ca/>  
 Twitter: @ednastaeblerps  
 450 Bernay Drive  
 Waterloo, ON N2T 3A3  
 Phone: 519-880-2646



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**We Need Your Help!**  
 Find out about the many volunteer opportunities available with the CHCA.  
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