



VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

The Executive of The Village Community Association is pleased to announce that our new website is now up and running. There is still some tweaking to be done and we hope you will take a look and offer us your comments and suggestions. Many thanks to Doug Widdicombe who has worked with the website designer and advertisers to get the site off the ground. The costs for the set up plus a year of back up by the website designer have been offset by advertising revenue. In future these funds may be used to cover the costs of storage or other needs. Take a look at www.thevillagenotl.ca and let us know what you think. At present, access to the newsletters requires a password which is b6YomOOL (the double O's are letters not numbers).

The Village Parks at Christmas

Another festive Winter Wonderland was enjoyed by Villagers, our neighbours and visitors to the NOTL community this Christmas. Thank you to Dana Branscombe for his tremendous organizational skills and to Dale DesIslets and Jane Chapell for their able assistance. 31 residents pulled on boots, toques and warm mitts and decorated the light posts or trees assigned to them and then took them down again in January. Thank you to everyone who participated. The deer families will be around a little longer until temperatures warm up enough to allow the rebar to be pulled from the ground.

Again our thanks to Brookfield, TDN, Penners, Walls Furniture, Refuge Antiques and Giftery, and Mori Gardens for their support.

Parking

Vehicles parked on the street during and after snowfalls are being ticketed and may be towed away. Please be aware of other Town regulations regarding parking:

Do not park a vehicle:

- *within 10m (33ft) of an intersection*
- *within 3m (10ft) of a fire hydrant*
- *on an inner boulevard*
- *in front of or within 1.3m (5ft) of a laneway or driveway or a curb-cut*
- *on either side of a roadway so as to obstruct a vehicle in the use of any laneway or driveway*
- *for the purpose of displaying such vehicle for sale or lease*
- *for the purpose of servicing or repairing a vehicle except for emergency*
- *between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on all regional roads*
- ***for a period of time exceeding 12 hours.***

These regulations are for our safety. Please respect them.

Be a Good Neighbour

Remember to shovel your walk after a snow fall and if you are going to be away please make arrangements for someone to do it for you. Especially important when you are away is to make sure that your front porch and steps are also cleared of snow and your papers are taken in. Don't advertise you are away. Let's keep our neighbourhood safe. If you need to hire someone to shovel your snow, Jeff Sykes has a crew already working in The Village. Jeff can be reached at 905-658-7625 or jeffsykes@live.ca

Please weigh down your recycling. If your boxes are too full, put the excess in another box or a clear bag. Stack your recycling boxes to ensure that items are not being blown away.

Please **slow down** when taking short cuts through laneways rather than using the main roads of The Village. There have been numerous complaints from residents living on Brock Street about drivers coming off Norton Street and Blackbird Street and whizzing past while residents are trying to reverse out of or going into their garages. Please exercise caution when driving in the laneways. These are private laneways and should not be used as through roads.

Post Boxes

In response to an enquiry from a VCA member regarding the accumulation of ice that occurs in the laneway and along the sidewalk in front of the post boxes as well as the wind-tunnel effect that often is present, John Hawley has given the following comment: "We're looking at relocating the mailboxes into the new central park to be constructed this spring/summer." More particulars will be available soon and we will keep you posted.

Nominating Committee

We are seeking nominations for three positions this year: President, Vice-President and Corresponding Officer. Descriptions for these jobs may be found in the constitution available on our website. Members of the Nominating Committee for 2015 are Kirby Davis (kirb.davis@icloud.com), Carole Felton (cfelton1@cogeco.ca) and Chris Henry (chrishenry8@gmail.com). If you are interested in serving in one of these positions or would like to nominate someone, please contact a member of the committee.

OUR MEMBERS ARE BUSY

We are pleased to promote events that our members are involved in. Here are two you won't want to miss:

Shaw Guild Garden Tour (Alan Walker) The 10th annual tour being held on June 6th will reveal eight outstanding secret gardens in the lovely Old Town area of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Master gardeners will be on site at each garden to answer your questions.

Order your tickets at 1-800-511-7429 or online at shawfest.com/gardentour

Bravo Niagara (Chris Mori & Alexis Spieldenner) is excited to announce their Spring 2015 Season:

April 4th - Sean O'Sullivan Theatre in St. Catharines
Valentina Lisitsa, International Piano Sensation

April 24-25 - Stratus Vineyards
2nd Annual "Spring into Music @ Stratus" Festival
Julia Bullock, Soprano with Renate Rohlfing, Pianist
Mari Kodama & Karin Kei Nagano, Mother-Daughter Concert Pianists
Jumaane Smith, Michael Buble's Lead Jazz Trumpeter

For more information visit bravoniagara.org or call 289-868-9177

What's Happening in Town

Two for one Tea at the Prince of Wales
March 1- 31
Coupons in your local papers

NOTL Home Show
Saturday, March 7 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Crossroads Public School

Greater Niagara Home & Garden Show
March 27-29
Scotiabank Convention Centre, Niagara Falls

April 4th - *Bravo Niagara* (see above)

April 24-25 - *Bravo Niagara* (see above)

June 6, 10am-4 pm - *Shaw Guild Garden Tour* (see above)

Dates to Remember

VCA Annual General Meeting - May 27th

Your VCA Executive:

Bill Smelzer, President
Dave Antaya, Vice President
Moyra McEachern, Treasurer
Judy McHattie, Recording Officer
Carole Felton, Corresponding Officer

Contact the VCA Executive at notlvillagenews@gmail.com
Check out our website at www.thevillagenotl.ca