

**Dorset Park
Neighborhood
Association**

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DORSET PARK

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Dorset Park Day Celebration 2013

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On July 22nd, 2012 we held our Dorset Park Day Community Celebration event at McGregor Park Community Recreation Centre. This event has become a tradition of sorts for the residents of this community. Even with the rain, the turnout was over 200 people who were able to enjoy a day filled with games, prizes, food, and most of all having a good time connecting with others within their community. A few highlights of the event included performances from Healthy and Happy Friendship Association (HHFA) Chinese Dancers and a spoken word performance from Charles Manzo who was also the winner from our Youthtopia event.

Activities included face painting provided by Toronto Public Library, games provided by the City of Toronto, video montage from the Scarborough Museum, finger printing services was conducted by Toronto Police and they also had a car for showcase. Toronto Fire was very popular with their bounce castle and we cannot forget the Salvation Army who always had some great snack and drinks for everyone to enjoy. This was an event that helped many of the community residents connect with others within their neighbour. It was amazing to see the relationships and networks that are developed. This has been a great event for the Dorset Park Community for years and we look forward to seeing its success for years to come. All agencies and organizations involved went above and beyond what was expected of them to make this a great event. Special Thanks goes out to: Action for Neighbourhood Change, Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation, Agincourt Community Services Association, Toronto Public Library (McGregor Branch), City of Toronto (The Scarborough Museum), Salvation Army, Rosalie Hall, Toronto Public Health, Toronto Fire, and the Toronto Public Library.

Thanks to Aleem Sufi



Community Kitchen Event #2

Cooking Healthy Foods Together

June 4, 2013 marked the second community kitchen event organized this year by Dorset Park Action for Neighbourhood Change in collaboration with Toronto Public Health.

Helen Clyke, Coordinator of the Food Security Initiative at Dorset Park Community helped to promote and recruit participants. Helen Poon, Public Health Nurse and Lindsay Smith, Public Health Dietitian worked with 11 community members to cook a healthy meal. The recipes were simple to prepare, nutritious and well received: a strawberry and spinach salad, broiled salmon steak with herbs, a quinoa salad, and strawberry parfait with yogurt and high fibre cereal.

Participants had a lively discussion about healthy food choices, local and seasonal produce, and shared with each other food budgeting tips. It was a fun afternoon in the kitchen learning new recipes and meeting new people!

Thanks to Helen Poon



Community Flower Garden

This year our community garden took on another project. We took on the project of beautifying a flower garden that is on the same property as the Community Vegetable Garden. In the past this garden had been started by the youth in our community however it has been needing some love and care. After talking with the youth leader it had been agreed that we would take ownership of it and do a face lift. It had been quite overgrown with weeds and was an eyesore in the community, but everyone was excited to take it on and make it a lovely garden once more.

Community members, ANC staff and TCHC staff jumped on the bandwagon to makeover our flower garden. On June 27th we gathered to weed, uproot and rotor till the garden, it was hard work but we persevered. The week before, one of the residents of 6 Glamorgan; John had taken two days to weed the garden so there were less weeds to pull. Everyone participated in planning where the flowers should go and helped plant them. We now have a beautiful flower garden. Special thanks to all who helped make our flower garden successful.

Aliya, Anna, Nadine, Shawn, Tracey, Rain, Mui, John, Krystyne, and Tyler.

ANC- Malsan (worked the rotor tiller), TCHC – Brenda (provided edging), Ramon, thanks to the city for supplying us with wood chips.

Thanks to Helen Clyke



English Circle for Women

This free English Circle for Women which was founded by two brave ladies Abeer and Suganthine in 2008. Since that time more than 60 women have participated in this program. The biggest advantage of this circle is that prospective students don't get assessed for eligibility or language level skills.

On June 11th 2013 the English Circle had their spring holiday party and graduation. The donor, Heather and Peggy attended where they handed out the certificates to the ladies. Also ACSA's executive director handed out volunteer appreciation certificates from MPP.

Our ladies brought several kinds of food from their culture. Our party went well.

This program is funded by The United Way, supported by the Agincourt Community Services Association and Dorset Park Community Hub. There is a great support on behalf of Heather, who believes in women's power and generously invests in our English program.

Thanks to Suganthine Siva



Testimonial

My name is Sherook Hussain. I'm happy that I came to learn English to this conversation circle. My sister, who attended the English circle, first, told me that this is a great school with excellent teachers so I registered here too. I'm very thankful to my nice and kind teacher who teaches us many interesting things. We always enjoy her classes. She gets tired because she works hard with us. We have lots of fun in class so we have chance to rest from our daily routine, from home work. I'm very grateful to Seema and Sheema who take good care of our kids while we learn English. They also have lots of interesting activities with our kids. I'd like to say "thank you" to Suganthine and Abeer who organized educational field trips and useful workshops for us. I would love to come back next year and see all of you again.

Thank you very much

Thanks to Sherook Hussain

YMCA

YMCA Newcomer Youth Leadership Development program is a Free program for newcomer youth 13 to 24 years old. NYLD runs year round with approximately 25 free activities in July and August. It is a chance to make friends, get volunteer hours, develop your leadership skills in a safe environment. To join, contact Andrew Kowalchuk, Cell: 416 725 1080 or Andrew.kowalchuk@ymcagta.org. www.ymcagta.org/nyld. This program is funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada. Snacks are always provided and TTC tickets are available for those who would not be able to participate otherwise.

Thanks to Andrew Kowalchuk

Dorset Park Community Hub –Grand Opening

On Tuesday May 7th, the Dorset Park Community Hub welcomed over 300 community members and stakeholders for their Official Grand Opening Event. It was a day of celebration where residents showcased local initiatives and where the community thanked United Way of Toronto and all of their donors for creating the space. The first portion of the event was filled with touching speeches highlighting the importance of the space for this community. The second portion was a larger celebration where the community enjoyed numerous performances and delicious food. A big thanks goes out to all of the planning committee members for their hard work in putting together such a successful event

The Dorset Park Community Hub is a one stop shop where residents can access space, services and supports. Agincourt Community Services Association is the lead agency and is happy to share the space with John Howard Society of Toronto, VHA Home HealthCare, Family Association for Mental Health Everywhere, Extramile Ministries, CNIB, ACCES Employment, Tropicana Community Services, Youth LEAPS and the Dorset Park Neighbourhood Association. Through these partners, the hub is able to offer multiple services relating to employment, settlement, food bank, community events and much more. To learn more please visit us at 1911 Kennedy Road, Unit 105.

Thanks to Laura Harper



Do you need a Record Suspension/Pardon?

The Record Suspensions department at the John Howard Society of Toronto is dedicated to working directly with clients to prepare a record suspension (formerly termed “pardon”) application. The process of preparing a record suspension application can be convoluted and time-consuming, and so we make sure that clients understand the process and that we keep them informed along the way. A record suspension can provide new beginnings for persons with a criminal record. By sealing their record, they increase their employability; have more freedom to travel outside of Canada; encounter less difficulty in acquiring citizenship status; have fewer hassles when renting or leasing an apartment; and have improved prospects for meeting educational requirements. A record suspension can also reduce the risk of negative impacts on a person's ability to gain access to child custody, visitation, and adoption. There are, however, certain criteria that must be fulfilled in order for a person to be eligible to apply. Our staff demystify both the criteria and application process to ease the stress of putting together an application. Furthermore, if a client is in receipt of social assistance, the costs of the entire process may be covered by Toronto Employment and Social Services of Ontario Works. Since we are a non-profit charity organization, we offer this service at one of the lowest rates in Toronto and at three different locations within the city. If you or anyone you know is interested, please contact the John Howard Society of Toronto office at the Dorset Park Community Hub at phone number 647-849-1541.

Thanks to Chris Iantorno

CAP Celebration! Fostering channels of civic participation for newcomers to Canada

The Civic Awareness Project (CAP), funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, held its Celebration Event on June 25, 2013 at the Scarborough Civic Centre. With about one hundred attendees including not only CAP participants and their families and friends but also community partners such as MP Roxanne James on behalf of Hon. Jason Kenney, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, Rosemary Bell (City of Toronto), Jacqui Strachan (People 4 Education), Malsan Gananedran (ANC Dorset Park), this event was a great reflection of the civic inclusion and integration that CAP has worked to foster for newcomers living in Scarborough. And it was an opportunity to recognize the achievements of newcomers in their communities and to acknowledge their civic journey through the CAP workshops.

The event was the culmination of three years of work to develop, design, coordinate and implement civic literacy workshops for newcomers in Scarborough. With the development of three integrated series of workshops, more than 300 newcomers have enrolled in CAP to acquire basic knowledge, leadership skills and opportunities for civic participation.



Highlights of the Celebration Event included greetings from the Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism by MP Roxanne James and thoughtful speeches given by CAP participants Ping Gu, Fawzia Nazari, Anna Jun Li and Ghada Alkalaa. A video documenting the story of the journey of CAP through the eyes of Lee Soda, Lamyaa Hassan and Anna Kim was shown. And the event closed with the recognition of 25 recipients of the CAP Civic Hero Awards to celebrate the civic growth and contributions of newcomers.

For more information about the event, please visit the CAP website: <http://capacsa.weebly.com/>.

Thanks to Anna Kim

Summer Day Camps Salvation Army Scarborough Citadel 2021 Lawrence Ave East (at Warden)

Performing Arts Camp (5-12)

Singing, drama, art, dance,
percussion

\$30 per person

August 19-23, mornings 9:00 – 12:00

Sports Camp #2 (6-13)

floor hockey, basketball, soccer, swimming

\$25 per person

July 29 – August 2, 9:00 – 4:00

Lunch not provide (brown bag your own)

Sports Camp #3 (6-13)

floor hockey, basketball, soccer, swimming

\$20 per person

August 6-9, 9:00 –4:00

Lunch not provided (brown bag your own)

Snacks and daytrips included

If you are interested in registering your child(ren) for any of these camps, please leave your name and contact info with the Scarborough Citadel office at 416-759-1721 ext 2. (Please note: Snacks are NOT non-allergenic)

Thanks to Don Halsey

Changes to Adult ESL classes in Scarborough

After many years, the Highbrook Learning Centre Adult ESL program at 39 Highbrook Drive is closing its doors. For over ten years, Highbrook has served as the assessment centre for all the Toronto District School Board's ESL classes in Scarborough as well as offering classes at all levels.

The program is moving to Winston Churchill CI at 2239 Lawrence Ave E. (Kennedy and Lawrence). Starting in September, classes will run 5 days a week – morning and afternoon. You can take full day or half-day classes to fit your schedule. We are adding evening classes on Monday and Wednesday.

Morning classes	Monday to Friday	9:15 to 11:45 am
Afternoon classes	Monday to Friday	12:15 to 2:45 pm
Evening classes	Monday and Wednesday	7:00 to 9:00 pm

Classes are free to Canadian Citizens, Permanent Residents, Refugee Claimants who are

over 18 years old
not born in Canada
not native speakers of English or French

Visitors and other residents can also attend classes for 7.00/hour (incl. HST)

Registration for new learners for September starts on August 27th (you must have an appointment). You can phone 416 396-6909 for an assessment appointment for Winston Churchill and other TDSB ESL classes in Scarborough. More detailed information can be found at www.esltoronto.ca.

We look forward to seeing you at our new school!

Thanks to Grainne O'Donnell

Essential Skills Upgrading at the Toronto District School Board

Are you interested in upgrading your reading, writing, math and digital technology skills?

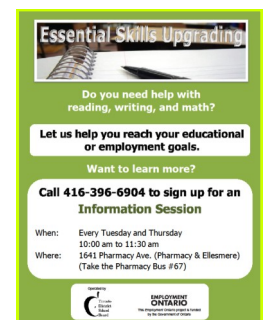
TDSB offers free upgrading for adults who want to improve their essential skills. We can help you prepare for: Adult high school or a GED preparation course, upgrading at college, job skills training or employment. We offer both full and part time classes at various locations across Toronto.

Want to learn more? Come to our information session. We will answer any questions you might have and help you determine if our program is right for you.

When: August 28, 2013, 10:00 am

Where: 1641 Pharmacy Ave

To reserve a space, call 416-396-6904.



Essential Skills Upgrading

Do you need help with reading, writing, and math?

Let us help you reach your educational or employment goals.

Want to learn more?

Call 416-396-6904 to sign up for an Information Session

When: Every Tuesday and Thursday
10:00 am to 11:30 am

Where: 1641 Pharmacy Ave. (Pharmacy & Ellesmere)
(Take the Pharmacy Bus #67)

ONTARIO
The Government of Ontario
Ministry of Education

Thanks to Susan Lefebvre

Safety

Completed

- 1) SENIORS SIGNS PLACED ON ANTRIM & THE NORTH PART OF DUNDALK
- 2) POTHOLE IN FRONT OF 7 GLAMORGAN DRIVEWAY FILLED IN
- 3) SENIOR SIGN HAS BEEN PLACED JUST SOUTH OF 7 GLAMORGAN ON THE EAST SIDE

Not Completed

- 1) YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS/CYCLISTS signs at KENNEDY/ANTRIM
- 2) NO PARKING IN EMERGENCY ROUTE SIGNS REQUIRED AT 1 AND 6 GLAMORGAN
- 3) POTHoles AT 100 DUNDALK AND 34 DUNDALK STILL HAVE ORANGE CONES SURROUNDING THEM

Thanks to Sandra Low

Having Fun In The Sun

It is this time of the year again where nothing feels better than spending our time outdoors enjoying the warm sun on our skin or doing outdoor activities with our families and friends. However, are you aware that there are both negative and positive effects to the sun exposure? Here are helpful tips to protect your children from the harmful UV radiation:

Limit time in the sun between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or whenever the UV Index is 3 or more. Keep babies under one year of age out of direct sunlight.

Look for shaded areas to do outdoor activities

Wear a hat with a wide brim or with a visor and back flap

Wear clothing to protect as much skin as possible

Wear UVA and UVB protective sunglasses

Use a sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher that gives protection from both UVA & UVB rays

Thanks to Randa Bronte-Tinkew

"Message from Councillor Thompson"

TIFF Comes to Dorset Park

We have been working with the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) to bring a TIFF screening to Scarborough. I am pleased to report that we have succeeded. On Tuesday, August 13, at 8pm, TIFF will screen a family-oriented film outdoors at Dorset Park (5 Glaiave Drive). We can't tell you what film you will see, but we can assure you that it is great for the whole family. If it rains on Tuesday, the movie will be screened on Thursday, August 15.

We are also holding our annual Councillor Thompson Outdoor Movie Festival event the previous week at McGregor Park Community Centre (2231 Lawrence Avenue E) on Wednesday, August 7 at 8pm (Rain date Thursday, August 8). This event will also present a great family film.

Admission to both events is free. We have also arranged free drinks and snacks for the whole family. Bring a blanket or chairs, jackets, bug spray and a small bag for your garbage and come out to enjoy the fun.

Should you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to contact me back at 416-397-9276.

Thanks to Jedrek So

Dorset Park Neighbourhood Association

Vision:

We dream of a safe Dorset Park where people know their neighbours, take pride over their community and are able to access programming.

Priority Areas:

1. Communications

2. Increasing accessibility to affordable programming and services for all age groups and backgrounds.

3. Safety

4. Food Security/Beautification

If you would like to get involved, please call 416-292-6912 or email us at dorsetparkna@gmail.com.

www.DorsetPark.com

Everything about the Community



Call for Submissions

The Dorset Park Community Newsletter is calling for submissions focusing on safety, programming, food security, beautification and or other topics of interest to the Dorset Park community. Please email your submission to

gmsan@agincourtcommunityservices.com

416-292-6912 ext 316

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