## **Dorset Park** Neighborhood **Association**

416-292-6912 dorsetparkna@gmail.com

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# DORSET PARK

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Windy Way Garden

The Windy Way Garden (formerly known as the Dorset Park Community Garden) started a new Guest Chef series in partnership with Agincourt Community Services Association (ACSA) in September. Guest Chef features different resident gardeners in the kitchen each week. They take the stage by leading a community kitchen-style event for others in the garden group. There have been four of six sessions hosted at the Dorset Park Community Hub so far. Recipes have included Nadine's red pea soup, Mohamed's smoothies, Krystyne's lasagna rolls with salad and Tracey's Callaloo and stew chicken. All recipes are done on a budget, and nutritional information on ingredients used during the session is provided to participants. Special thank you goes to Helen Clyke, Dorset Park's Food Security Animator for planning the sessions; Hanbo Jia, ACSA's Food Security Engagement Worker and her two students Bora and Igra for their help organizing the sessions and providing nutrition information; Malsan Gananendran with ANC for his support and photography; Alison Mackenzie, Dorset Park network coordinator for coaching and supporting the guest chef's; and all the Guest Chefs for their leadership and sharing their recipes with the community! If you are interested in joining the Windy Way Garden please contact Helen Clyke at 416-292-6912 ext 316

Thanks to Alison Mackenzie

## HALLOWEEN HAUNT



- Scaru Treats
- Trick or Treat
- Face Painting
- Games
- Prizes
- · Access to Community Services

\*\*FIRST 100 KIDS WILL RECEIVE A LOOTBAG!!!!\*\*

Join us if you dare!!! We have a fun filled afternoon at the Dorset Park Community Hub. We will have lots of games and prizes for the whole family!!



acsa NEWCOMERS' CENTRE



Call The Dorset Park Community Hub (416) 292-6912 ext. 300





#### **English Circle For Women**

The Dorset Park English Circle for women provides free English classes for women. Our fall term started on Monday September 14th, 2015 at Dorset Park Community Hub, every Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.30am -12.00pm. We also started classes in the south part of Dorset Park on Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup> 2015 at Macgregor community center 2231 Lawrence Ave E, Meeting Room 2, every Wednesdays and Fridays 9.30am - 12.00pm. Also we offer free child minding at both location.

Our goal for this program is to teach good English knowledge among them and provide free workshops and trainings to continue their career or assiat them in finding a job. Participants will improve their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in English. They will learn about different topics like poverty reduction, safety, election, civic rights, freedom and much more. Through this participation it helps them to break their isolation and engage with the community.

We also support big kids program at Glamorgan Junior Public School. The main goal is to prepare the Kindergarten kids so they are able to follow the teachers' instruction and activities at school. For example craft time, circle time, play time, snack time, coloring time.

On September 24th, 2015 we celebrated Eid with our group and also did a voters popup training. This training helps our women to choose the right leader for this Country.



Suganthine Sivakumar

## **Essential Skills Upgrading at the Toronto District School Board**

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

Toronto District School Board 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 one of our information sessions. We will answer any questions you might have and help you determine if our program is right for you.

Please check the Dorset Park Community Hub calendar for our next scheduled visit.

For information, please call 416-396-6904, www.upgrademyskills.ca

Thanks to Hellen Pantis-Tassis

#### **Dorset Park Community Hub**

The hub had a very busy summer. Over 60 children participated in our summer program where children 6-12 years of age were able to participate in variety of fun activities. They learned different skills and were able to go on fun trips to places like the science centre. The hub also hosted a variety of senior wellness programs where seniors took part in knitting, cooking and exercise. The hub also hosted a Healthy Living Fair on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The objective of this event is to provide community with healthy living tips and information that can be incorporated within daily life. People had a lot of fun and participated in activities such as tai-chi, yoga, dancing and healthy cooking. We want to thank all of our volunteers who were part of making the day such a success. A special thank you to our resident cooks who put together a variety of delicious snacks in the kitchen.

Thanks to Laura Harper

#### **Young Parent Hub**

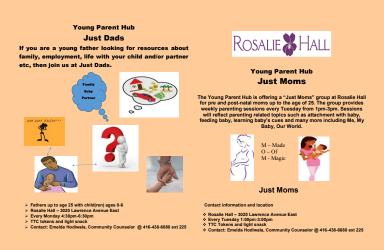
The Young Parent Hub is a service provided by Rosalie Hall for youth up to 25 years of age that are pregnant and/or parenting. This service is provided every Monday and Thursday from 4:30pm-6:30pm and Tuesday from 1pm-3pm.

Monday's program includes a fathers group (Just Dads) for young men with children ages 0-6, looking for resources about fatherhood, family, employment, life with child and/or partner etc. The Growing Healthy Together Prenatal Nutrition Program and Living and Learning with Baby hosted by Toronto Public Health are also Monday nights at Rosalie Hall.

Tuesday's program, Just Moms, is a parenting group for pre-natal and post-natal mothers. This program consist of various parenting topics such as attachment, baby's development, health, feeding baby and many more including evidenced based group program Me, My Baby, Our World.

Thursday's program, Parents V.I.B.E (Vision Inspired by Each other) is a program for pregnant and/or parenting individuals. This group is not just for women, fathers or expectant fathers can attend as well. Parents V.I.B.E offer groups on various healthy living discussion on topics such as relationships and communication as well as fun activities along with a light snack and tokens.

Thanks to Emelda Hodiwala



#### **Dorset Park Safety Ambassadors**

Going to Dorset Park Hub is a big part of my daily routine. I go there for so many reasons like meetings, workshops, services or simply to meet friends. We enter the Hub, we see the smiling faces at the front desk, the greeting, the respect we get from the staff, all that make us want to come back again and again. Just being there makes me happy.

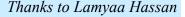
We had a very busy summer. We went on trips to the mounted police and the marine unit, meeting the police at their working place gives us an idea on how things work. We had an event at Glamorgan Park to celebrate with community members the improvement that happened at the park.

This summer, I had the opportunity to work with Sree Nallamothu from TNC, Toronto Neighbourhood Centres. We worked on a documentary about the Safety Ambassadors.

We focused on safety in Dorset Park and how it can be related to the federal elections. We learned how to take pictures, videos and how important it is to add B- roll pictures to any video to make it rich and more interesting to watch. Editing was a whole new learning experience. I have to admit that editing was not an easy thing to learn in few sessions. I want to thank Sree Nallamothu for her hard work to make this video, her patience and most of all for believing in us as a group. Screening the video in different locations and to different people made our group (the Safety Ambassadors) well known, now we get invitation to meet other groups, share our experience to inspire others to do similar work in their communities.

In August, I was hired as safety animator. Being a staff and a group member made the group more official, confident and gave us the motivation to move forward. The recognition from the Hub and the video was like the fuel to a car, no matter how big or far our goal is, we know we can reach it.

Please come and join our Safety Ambassador's family. Let us dream of a safe world where we can go to sleep leaving our doors wide open. Together we can do it, starting from Dorset Park.







#### **Pedestrian/Street Safety**

#### STREET LIGHTS

I was able to report on-line to Toronto Hydro about the street lights that are out in the neighbourhood. One is located 3 poles north of Antrim on the west side of Kennedy Road. The others are in the lane way beside 1977 Kennedy Road, which is the lane behind the Metro store and beside the gas station. A very dangerous lane as cars are breaking the law there daily by travelling East in a one way only west portion of the lane.

#### SIDE WALK ISSUES

The city addressed a number of sidewalk issues I identified on both Kennedy Road near Sheppard and on Antrim which I thank them for. I would also like to thank the management of the Dollar store in Kennedy Commons. I reported a side walk safety issue to them in the summer and they addressed it within a week.

I re-reported another side walk problem to 311 in front of 1975 Kennedy Road and was given REF # 362 0581. I identified to the 311 rep that it was a safety hazard for the elderly on walkers and there are 2 very large cracks in the side walk.

I would like to re-address the signs at the corner of Kennedy and Antrim. I feel that pedestrian safety is constantly compromised there. Drivers do not yield to pedestrians

Thanks to Sandra Low

## **John Howard Society of Toronto**

John Howard Society of Toronto will be offering the following programs at the Hub effective October 5th:

**Record Suspension program** - Teika Thompson will be at the Hub on Mondays and Tuesdays to assist men and women apply for a Record Suspension (pardon). Please see Teika to refer a client, or ask client to call Teika at 647-849-1541 to book an appointment.

**Housing program -** Ashley Petsinis-Drake will be offering housing services at the Hub on Thursdays for men who have been released from jail within the last 6 months. Please see Ashley to refer a client, or ask the client to call Ashley at our Housing Office at 416-925-4387 to book an appointment.

**PAR program -** Vishal Barot will continue to see clients for PAR intake appointments at the Hub on Wednesdays. All inquiries regarding the PAR (Domestic Violence) program should be directed to our main office at 416-925-4386, ext. 279.

We will not have any JHS staff at the Hub on Fridays. Should anyone drop by with inquiries about JHS services on Fridays, please ask them to call our main office at 416-925-4386.

Thanks to Chris Iantorno

## 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. Safety
- 2. Program/Services

- 3. Food Security/Community Garden
- 4. Employment
- 5. Communications

If you would like to get involved please call 416-292-6912 ext 315

# 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/gardening, programs, employment and or other topics of interest to the Dorset Park community. Please email your submission to

gmalsan@agincourtcommunityservices.com

416-292-6912 ext 316



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