

SAHRA eBlast – Dec 11 2019

New Circles Clothing Drive

A resident in the Upper Avenue Community Association area (west of Avenue Road), Andrew, is leading a community project for New Circles Community Services to collect **used children and adult winter wear**. Andrew's goal is to collect **20** bags of clothing and **30** pairs of boots. Apologies for the short notice but the Drive is to be completed by **Sat, Dec 14th**.

New Circles Community Services (<http://newcircles.ca/>) is a not-for-profit, grass roots agency that builds strong and caring communities by providing basic necessities to those living in poverty. They provide much needed clothing, employment skills training, and settlement support to individuals living on a low income. Their focus is on residents of Thorncliffe Park, Flemington Park, Victoria Village, Taylor Massey, and Oakridge. They also provide a helping hand to Syrian and other government-assisted refugees across the city. Their core mission is to ensure that local families struggling with poverty can meet their basic need for adequate clothing. They operate the largest clothing bank in Toronto under the name of GLOW (gently loved outfits to wear).

Please place items in a large plastic bag labelled "Clothing Donation". The bag(s) can be dropped off at **480 Deloraine Avenue** (please leave the bags at the side of the house next to the garage) OR please call **647-783-7260** for pick-up.

This project is an excellent way to provide a helping hand to those less fortunate. Thank you to Andrew for leading this initiative.

Beware of Scammers (compliments of Toronto Hydro)

Toronto Hydro continues to see an increase in the number of scams targeting our residential and small business customers. Fraudsters are contacting customers by phone, text messages, emails, fake bills, letters and even door-to-door solicitation. Typically, fraudsters will attempt to solicit funds by issuing threats of immediate disconnection or demanding deposits for non-existent expenses, such as "smart-meter deposit".

Some tips to better protect yourself:

- Toronto Hydro does not accept bitcoin as a valid method of payment.
- Toronto Hydro does not have a 1-800 number.
- They never threaten to disconnect power immediately.
- When receiving any bills or letters from Toronto Hydro, always verify the account number by comparing it to past statements.

Report any suspicious activity to both:

- Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501
- Toronto Hydro's Customer Care line at 416-542-8000 or by submitting the online form at torontohydro.com/reportfraud

Neighbourhood Watch Online

Neighbourhood Watch groups are being formed in the North, South-East and South-West areas within SAHRA boundaries. If you are interested in leading or participating in such a group, please send an email to info@sahramento.com and we can provide information.

Community Events

Better Living

Registration opened as of Dec 3 2019 for the Winter Program (Jan-Mar) at Better Living. <https://mybetterliving.ca/winter-programs-are-here/>

Toronto Green Community Walk

Join the Rivers Rising Ambassadors and Lost Rivers for the **Winter Solstice Walk** to take in the shortest day of the year. Along with hearing stories and the history of the Don Valley, also explore the wetland and meadow trails in the Don Valley Brick Works Park and delve into parts of the beautiful restoration of this former industrial site. **Sat, Dec 21 1-3 pm**; meet at the Watershed Wall at Evergreen Brickworks, 550 Bayview Avenue. <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/winter-solstice-walk-with-lost-rivers-and-rivers-rising-tickets-84771051497>

Go early and stay late to enjoy the festive Winter Village and other fun activities presented by Evergreen Brickworks. Cozy warming fires and hot refreshments are available to ward off that winter chill! Participants should wear comfortable walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. Paved or granular level paths. Route may change due to icy or unsafe trail conditions

Have an emergency kit ready! (compliments of Toronto Hydro)

With the extreme weather events becoming more frequency, emergency preparedness has never been more critical. Every household should have an emergency kit ready that will allow them to get through 72 hours without essential services such as power and running water.

Here are some things to include in your emergency kit:

- Non-perishable food items
- Flashlight(s)
- Extra cash
- Bottled Water (the average person requires at least 4 litres a day)