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'Tis the Season of Giving

Cycle Recyclery. Each November, Tom and Bobbie Preston of Moraga collect gently used bicycles and tricycles, which are repaired and refurbished and then donated to groups which gift them to underprivileged kids in our area. This year the beneficiaries are Trips for Kids/The Recyclery (in Marin) and the Marsh Creek Detention Facility. At Christmas time TFK gives neighborhood kids bikes for Christmas, often their main or only Christmas gift. Last year 60 bikes were given out at the annual Christmas Party, with many more given during the year. The inmates at the detention facility for minor offenders repair and refurbish bikes, not only learning a skill but providing like-new bikes for the sheriff's department to distribute as Christmas presents to underprivileged kids. This is the 14th year of the Cycle Recyclery, which has provided 2,500 bikes to area kids. Gently used repairable bikes and tricycles or usable bike parts will be accepted until Dec. 1; drop them off in the side driveway of the Preston's home, 1307 Larch, Moraga. No scooters, skateboards, or plastic bikes, please. No need to call the Prestons, but if you need more information, call (925) 376-8474.

Stuffed Animal Collection. The Moraga Police Officers Association along with S.A.F.E. (Stuffed Animals For Emergencies) is collecting new or gently used stuffed animals to help children through traumatic experiences. The stuffed animals are given to local police and fire departments to distribute to children they encounter who have been affected by traumatic events. S.A.F.E also facilitates the distribution of donated stuffed animals for a variety of charitable purposes to help children. This year's annual holiday collection drive begins Nov. 26 and ends Dec. 28. New or gently used stuffed animals can be dropped off at the collection area located in the lobby of the Moraga Police Department, 329 Rheem Blvd. Thank you for your support!

Stockings for Youth Homes. This year Sewnow is joining Youth Homes to provide beautiful monogrammed stockings for the young adults in the Youth Homes TAY aftercare program. Participants at this free sewing workshop, for ages 8 to 100 who have basic sewing machine skills, will sew, embellish and monogram the stockings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 27 and from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 28. Stockings will be displayed in the studio and on Sewnow's Facebook page for the community to vote on the one they like best; the winner will receive a \$75 gift certificate to use for a workshop or towards a class. Sewnow will provide all the supplies and set-up, an applique and crystal bling lesson, as well as refreshments and a take home gift for all participants.

Blanket & Bedding Drive for Shelter Inc. The following bedding items are needed for Shelter Inc.'s winter program: new or gently used blankets (twin, full, queen); new twin-size bedding (mattress pads, bedspreads, pillows, pillow cases). Donations can be dropped off at the bin in the lobby of Coldwell Banker, 5 Moraga Way until Dec. 5. For info, contact Rick Booth (925) 212-8869 or email Rick@BoothHomes.com.

Need Donations?

Season of Giving announcements will continue through Dec.19. Submissions can be sent to calendar@lamorindaweekly.com.

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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