

## Happy New Year!

Bringing together our multi-cultural communities to celebrate the "Year of the Dog"

Story below, more pictures page 8



### New Rotary Interact Club Chartered

Markham-Unionville Rotary Club is pleased to announce the Markham Interact Club of Father Michael McGivney Catholic Academy being chartered. Above is the first official Interact Club photo with Rotarians.

See story on page 7.

Photo by Wally Buczkowski

The Rodeo is coming to town!

Page 7



A Brush With ART

Page 6



## Chinese New Year Celebration

The Chinese New Year 2006 Celebration was a wonderful occasion and organizers thank members of the community for their continued support in making this another wonderfully successful year.

The Chinese New Year 2006 Celebration was hosted by the Town of Markham, C.A.B.I.N. (Canadian Asian Business Information Network), and F.C.C.M (Federation of Chinese Canadians in Markham) in co-operation with S.E.A.S Centre. It took place at the Markham Civic Centre on Sunday, January 29, 2006.

For many years the residents of the Town of Markham have come together to make this annual event possible. This Chinese New Year Celebration was our eighth consecutive year of bringing our community together.

Organizers wish to express their sincere thanks to their Title Sponsor: Sunrise Soya Foods for their generous support.

This year's outstanding program included the always energetic New Years Lion Dance, expert Chinese Fortune Telling advising what to expect in the 'Year of the Dog', the God of Fortune handed out Lai-See Envelopes with \$20.00 Travel Vouchers, and the Thornhill Community Band which delighted participants with famous melodies. There was also the spring music of the lively children's dance, enchanting traditional Japanese dances, a fine display of belly dancing, as well as displays of fine Chinese paintings, exquisite dough flowers, and Chinese art-works. In addition, Markham Mitsubishi had an auto

display of their vehicles and Canada Post unveiled the 2006 Chinese Zodiac Stamp. Everyone was invited to spin the wheel of good fortune to bring good luck and fortune to themselves in this the "Year of the Dog"

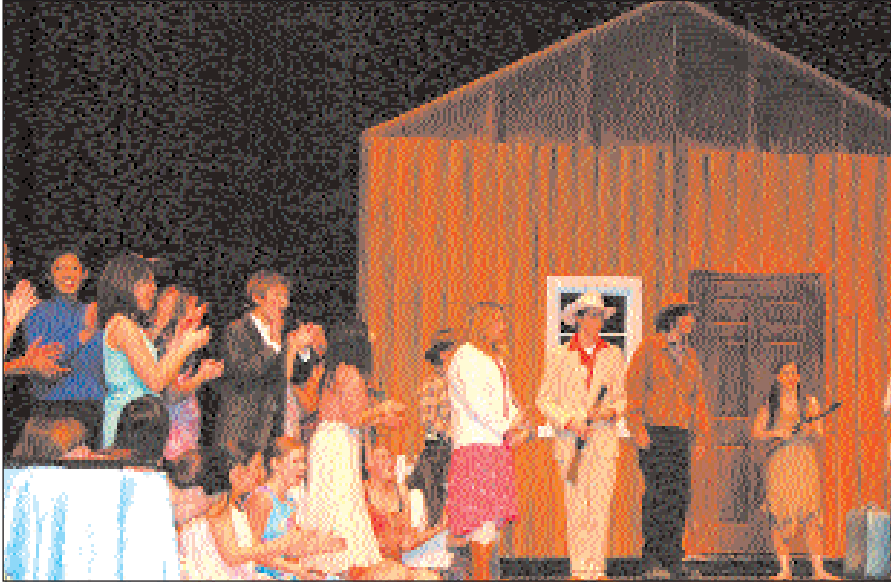
The objective of the day was to bring together our multi-

cultural communities to celebrate the New Year together with residents of the Town of Markham and to promote business and cultural exchanges within our great ethnic communities.

See page 8 for more photos of the New Year's activities and fun!



# Annie Get Your Gun!



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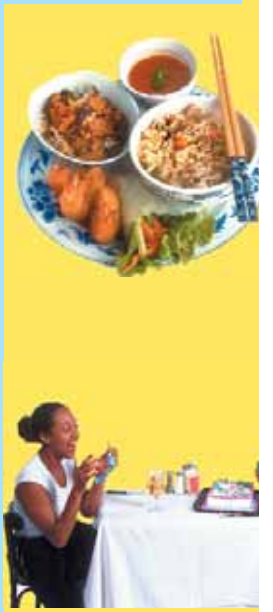
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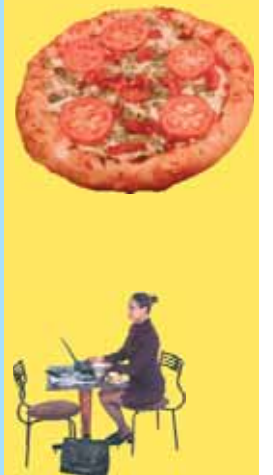
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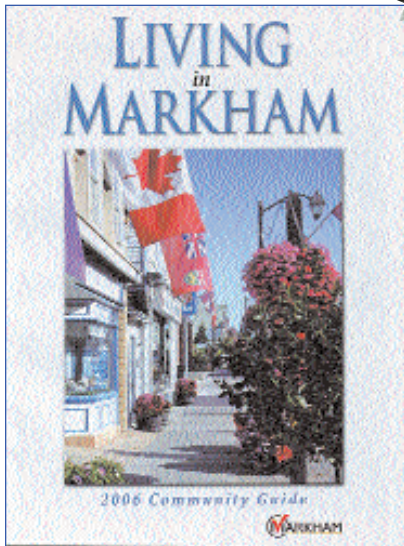
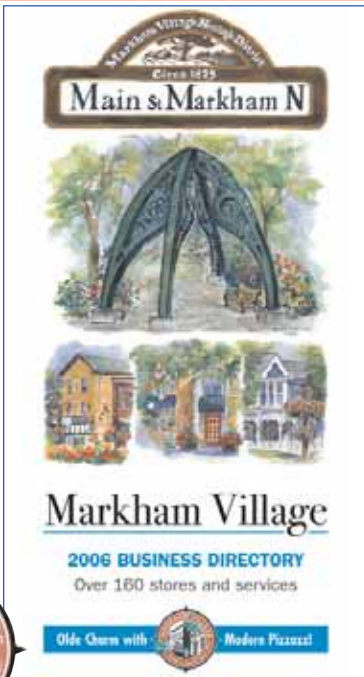
**905-471-5050**



# What's New: In Markham Village

## Markham's Main Street At Your Service!

Look for these two publications that will guide you to the services, businesses and hospitalities of Your Main Street!



The newly released Markham Village Business Directory. Features specially commissioned art from a local artist, Bruni Nielsen.

and

This year's Living in Markham Community Guide published by the Markham Economist & Sun features a familiar Village sight on the front cover. The back cover is a two page, full colour fold-out business directory of Markham Village sponsored by your Markham Village BIA.

## WELCOME: Dyson Bruce Studio

Dyson Bruce Studio opened in the Markham Village Lanes in October 2005.

Enter the boutique hotel lobby style and never get the feeling of being rushed.

Dyson Bruce Studio has a talented team of professionals with Vidal Sassoon training and 20 years experience in cut and color.



They aspire to create the right style for the individual without looking "cliché" and embrace the clients desire for their exclusive look.

Inspirational & Aspirational!

144 Main St. N. Unit #7 905-472-9939

## Michelle's Corner...

by: Michelle Sukul-Chan



## Share Your JOY!

The Markham Village Voice is now in its eighth year of publication. Since I began publishing the paper in August 2004 I have enjoyed receiving the various articles and photos from this great

community. I encourage the Markham community to continue their contributions... high schools, elementary schools, community organizations, personal stories. Tell us about your events, milestones, fundraisers, awards, celebrations etc. The Village Voice is a community publication and the voice of the community is what we want to hear!

in the Arts and a Corner of our History. These columns will be staples in the upcoming issues for 2006. As always, we will continue to publish stories and happenings in the community and focus on Historic Markham Village, its events and wonderful shops and services that make up Main Street Markham. Let us know how we're doing by contacting us at the information below.

You will notice two new columns for 2006, Youth

## From Your Corner..

We invite your letters or personal comments concerning your opinions about issues or things you see happening in Markham. All letters are welcome and can be submitted by e-mail in a word processing file. You may also write us and post it in the old fashion way!

Letters must be signed and name, phone and addresses supplied. Only your name will appear in the paper.

We will publish all letters as space provides. Naturally letters not respecting the laws concerning libel, slander or plagiarism will not be con-

sidered. As well, we will not publish letters we deem to be in bad taste.

Be a part of the village that contributes to the Village Voice. Afterall, it is your voice!

P.S. Our addresses are below!



## A Corner of Our History...

### 1930s era mansion restored

by George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner, Town of Markham

Century 21 Leading Edge Realty has recently completed the restoration and expansion of a Main Street landmark. The Harry Mason house, a 1930s era mansion, is a unique building in the Markham Village Heritage Conservation District. Over the years the stone and stucco house has seen its fortunes rise and fall, however following the extensive work undertaken by its owners, the building is now an outstanding example of restoration and adaptive re-use.

This Tudor Revival style house was built in 1933 as the residence of Henry "Harry" Mason, a druggist who ran the Markham Drug Co. store at 114 Main Street North. Harry was the youngest son of local druggist Reuben Arthur Mason and his wife, Evelyn Jane Vanzant. He grew up in the family home that still stands at the southwest corner of Main Street and Bullock Drive.

R. A. Mason managed a drug store next to the offices of the Markham Economist newspaper. In 1886, the business became known as the Markham Drug Store. When Arthur Mason

retired in 1931, he turned the store over to his son Harry, a 1924 graduate of the Ontario College of Pharmacy. The business was renamed the Markham Drug Co. and operated until 1953, when Harry Mason rented the store to a Mr. Wilson.

When Harry Mason's house was constructed during the Great Depression, it made quite an impression on the citizens of Markham Village, as very few new buildings were constructed during that difficult period. In August of 1933, the Markham Economist and Sun reported "This house is unique in Markham, the architecture; it is under-

stood, being fashioned somewhat after the old English style. The attractiveness of Markham's Main Street will be much enhanced by this beautiful structure."

Harry Mason later moved into his parents' home at 180 Main Street, and his former house served for many years as a children's home, administered by the Jewels for Jesus Mission. In 2004-2005, the former Mason residence was restored and expanded to serve as the offices of Century 21 Leading Edge Realty Inc.



## Markham Village Voice

This publication is produced seven times a year by the Markham Village BIA, as a service to the community on behalf of the merchants of Markham Village. The views and opinions expressed in the Village Voice are not necessarily those of the publisher, editor, the Markham Village BIA or its members. All portions of The Markham Village Voice are protected by copyright. Ownership of photos is retained by the photographers, however, the Markham Village B.I.A. does retain the right to freely use such photos in other Markham Village B.I.A. promotional activities. Photo credits will be published with such pictures.

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For more information, contact Michelle Sukul-Chan, Markham Village BIA, 132 Robinson Street Markham L3P 5H5 905-472-2462 markhamvillage@on.aibn.com

# Markham Village Voice Community Calendar February, 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 Markham Museum: Sundays in Space - 1:30pm - 3:30pm Visit <a href="http://www.markham.ca">www.markham.ca</a> under "Attractions"	13 <b>February is BLACK HERITAGE MONTH</b>	14 Valentine's Day	15 National Flag Day	16	17 <b>Winter Frolic Charity Gala</b> to support Evergreen Hospice 6:30pm Tenor Mark Dubois, Dinner, Dancing, silent/live Auctions \$150 person RSVP 905.472.5014	18
19	20 National Heritage Day	21 National Heritage Week  Spring Recreation Program Registration begins 6:30 a.m.	22 National Heritage Week	23 National Heritage Week	24 National Heritage Week  Markham Museum: Stardaze Space Weekend - Feb 24 - 26 Visit <a href="http://www.markham.ca">www.markham.ca</a>	25 Markham Museum: Stardaze Space Weekend - Feb 24 - 26 Visit <a href="http://www.markham.ca">www.markham.ca</a> under "Attractions"
26 Markham Museum: Stardaze Space Weekend - Feb 24 - 26 Visit <a href="http://www.markham.ca">www.markham.ca</a> under "Attractions"	27	28 Aquatic Registration begins 6:30 a.m.				

### Jack Heath

Regional Councillor

Town of Markham & Region of York  
101 Town Centre Blvd.  
Markham, Ontario, Canada L3R 9W3

(905) 415-7506

Cell: (416) 464-5517 Fax: (905) 479-7763  
jheath@markham.ca



Markham  
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### Markham - Unionville Rotary Club's

### Third annual Golf Tournament

Monday, June 5th, 2006

Meadowbrook Golf and Country Club

Please join us for a fun day of golf, prizes, food and drink.

Proceeds for: Union Villa - Long Term Care Facility,  
Markham Stouffville Hospital & Markham Museum.

Please contact: Arlene Sedore, Markham Museum  
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# Markham Village Voice Community Calendar - March, 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> Free Drop-in Gym for Youth - Basketball Attention all youth in grades 6 - 9. Bring your basketball shoes. 7 pm to 8:30 pm Greensborough Public School (80 Alfred Patterson Dr) Free	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 March Break.	14 <b>Sikh New Year's Day; Purim; Holi</b> March Break	15 March Break	16 March Break	17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> March Break	18
<b>Varley Gallery &amp; Markham Museum - March Break Camp &amp; Activities</b> For details check Town of Markham Website at <a href="http://www.markham.ca">www.markham.ca</a>						
19	20 First Day of Spring	21 <b>Naw Ruz - Persian New Year</b> International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	22	23 Pakistani National Day	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	31

# Markham Village EVENTS 2006



by Michelle Sukul-Chan

Main Street Markham is the host to several community events each year. Some of these events are organized by the Markham Village B.I.A., others are organized by other community groups/volunteers and sponsored by the Markham Village B.I.A.. Each event enhances our historical village and brings enjoyment and a sense of Civic Pride to the Markham Community.

### Markham Farmers' Market Each Saturday, May 13-October 7

Markham Village is proud to be the official venue for the **Markham Farmer's Market**. In its 7th year in May, this traditional country Market boasts a proud assortment of produce, homemade baked goods, fresh eggs, honey, preserves and more.

The **Markham Farmer's Market** continues to offer it's fine selection of goods, entertain the growing crowd with weekly feature musicians and hold Iggy's Annual Chili contest.

### Markham Village Parade & The Great Markham Rodeo Saturday, May 6 and Saturday, May 27

On Saturday, May 6 join us on the Main Street of Markham Village for the parade. The events begin early with a western style **Cowboy Breakfast**, followed by the **Parade** featuring horses and riders with cowboys, cowgirls, horse-drawn wagons, musical entertainers, marching bands and so much more...

And on Saturday, May 27 come out for the **Great Markham Rodeo**. Staged at Markham Fairgrounds, This all day event on Saturday May 27th has something for the entire family. Kicking off with hot coffee and cowboy breakfasts, events in all parts of the fairground follow the Wild West theme. See Page 7 of this issue of Markham Village Voice for an in depth story.

### Markham Village Music Festival Friday - Saturday, June 16 & 17

It all started with the Kinsmen Club in 1978 and is now organized year after year by a group of community volunteers. The **Markham Village Music Festival** is entering its 28th year and promises fun and entertainment for all ages. Taste of Markham is in its second year and celebrates the many cultures of Markham. **Taste of Markham** will be held from 6-10 pm on the Friday evening. Morgan Park will hold fun for kids of all ages.

### Olden Days & Antique Cars Festival Sunday September 10

Presented by the **Markham Village BIA, Craig Riley's Markville Ford Lincoln SVT, Concepts on Wheels, YRNG and Capstone Communications**, this annual event celebrates the nostalgia of life in the past. This Sunday affair finds Markham Main Street lined with antique and classic cars, as well as crafters, good food, antiques, plenty of entertainment and many of the fine things from life in the past. A delightful day to take a stroll, see beautiful cars and visit the shops and restaurants of Main Street Markham.

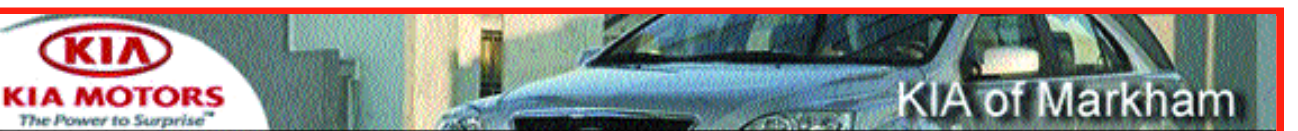
### Festival of Lights Friday November 24

Presented by the Markham Village BIA, this Markham holiday tradition is filled with fun for the whole family. The street is alive with carollers, bands, choirs, magicians, clowns and street entertainers. Santa helps light the magnificent and colourful tree and then heads off to his hut to listen to the wishes of all kids big and small. The stores of the Markham Village BIA stay open to celebrate the holiday season with in-store specials and good cheer to their community. While strolling down the street, listening to carolers, taking in the smells of roasting chestnuts and hot chocolate, don't forget to visit the magically decorated merchant windows of the annual window decorating contest.

### Santa Claus Parade Saturday November 25

The day after Festival of Lights, the Markham traditions continue with the annual Santa Claus Parade organized by the Markham Sunrise Rotary Club. Starting at 10 am more than 100 floats and bands head south on Main Street Markham and go west on Highway 7 to McCowan Road.

For more information on the Markham Village BIA or any of our events please visit our website [www.markhamvillage.com](http://www.markhamvillage.com) or call 905-472-2462.



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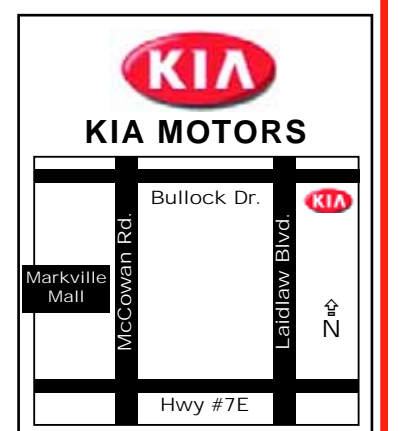
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## Voices of the Arts...

# Youth in the Arts: A Profile of Eric Probst

by Julie Christian

This is the first, in a series of profiles of 'Youth in the Arts'. We will try to bring to our readers a sample of some of the many gifted and hard working young people who participate in the arts and live and/or attend school in Markham.

Eric Probst

Eric Probst is in his last year at Markham District High School

(MDHS) and has spent all of his years there being involved with the acclaimed MDHS music program. Eric plays low brass instruments; tuba, bass trombone, trombone and sings. Eric has won many MDHS band and leadership awards, and is on the honour roll. In addition to the many bands, ensembles, combos and choirs that Eric is in at school, he is also a member of various community and professional ensembles. Eric is a member of the Hannaford Street Youth

Band, has been in the Ontario Provincial Honour Band for three years in a row, and plays bass trombone in Markham's own, jazz/swing band, Not Affiliated Big Band.

Eric has recently auditioned for the elite National Concert Band of Canada and is waiting to hear the results. Last summer Eric worked at National Music Camp as a counselor and has attended many music camps over the years. One of the incredible things about Eric's musical success is that for the most part he is self-taught on his instruments. He has achieved so much without the usual 'years of lessons'.



Eric has applied to several universities in Ontario to study music in the fall. His first choice is to study Tuba performance at the University of Toronto.

Is there a young artist that you know who could be a "Youth in the Arts" profile? Phone us at 905 472 2462.

## Markham Group of Artists



Hi-Sook Barker, demonstrating her watercolour techniques to the group.

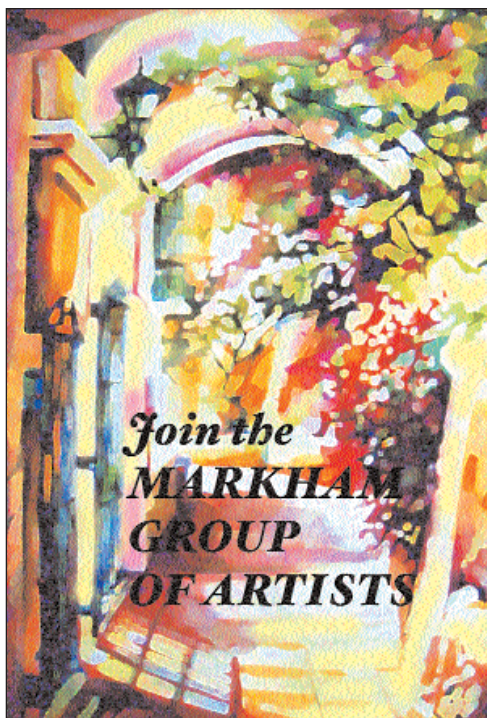
by Barbara Ridehalgh

Twenty-five years ago, artist Pat Wheeler decided that it was time for Markham to have its own art group. Placing an ad in a local paper, Pat attracted over a dozen members to her home for the first meeting of the Markham Group of Artists. Over the years, the group has grown to almost one hundred and twenty enthusiastic artists, from beginners to professionals.

The first formal gathering was held in the "new" Markham Community Library in September, 1981. The group pooled their funds to hire models and

instructors during the winter, and to paint together around Markham during the summer. They painted along the Rouge River and at the old Berczy homestead on Kennedy Road.

Currently, due to the renovations at the Markham Library, MGA meets every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Milliken Mills Library (Kennedy and 14th Avenue) from September until May. The group hopes to



Oasis de Capistrano

return to its home base at the Markham Community Library later in 2007.

Over the past few years, the Markham Group's workshops have been

instructed by many well-known Ontario artists and include classes in still life, portraiture, life drawing, landscape painting, and abstract painting in a wide variety of media. This spring, the group welcomes artists Keith Cornell, John Leonard and Mary Wood, amongst other instructors.

Members also enjoy exhibiting in shows with the group as well as participating in events such as this spring's trip to the Albright-Knox Gallery in the U.S. Many more special events are being planned for 2006, the group's Silver Anniversary year.

For a workshop schedule, visit MGA online at [www.guidingstar.ca/MGA](http://www.guidingstar.ca/MGA). If you are interested in joining a dynamic group of artists, contact Registrar Pat Wheeler at 905-294-4438.

### The Markham Arts Council

## 2006 Photo Contest "Give Us Your Best Shot"

The Markham Arts Council is pleased to announce the Second Annual Photo Contest. The 2006 contest will have new features that include:

#### Who can enter:

Amateur Photographers  
Student Photographers - high school, college/university

Professional Photographers

#### Categories:

Floral Landscape  
People  
Wildlife

#### Prizes:

Combination of cash prizes and products  
Winning photos will be professionally mounted for displays

Winning photos will be reproduced in Arts in Motion, the Markham Arts Council newsletter

Gala presentation evening to present the winners

Photos will be displayed at various locations throughout Markham for at least six months

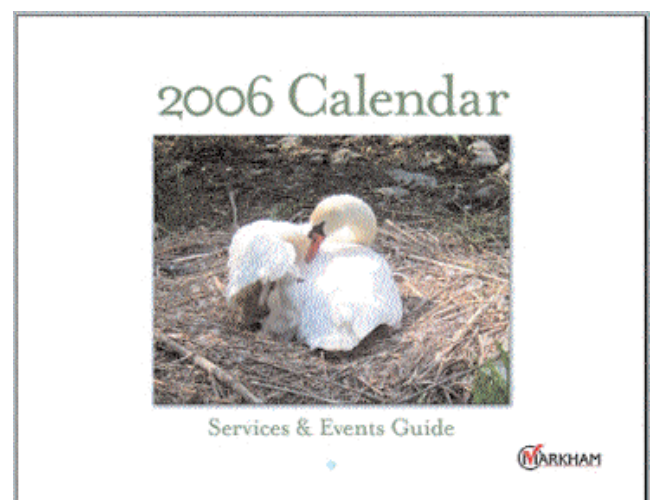
#### Rules:

Outdoor shots only - April 1 to May 31 - in Markham

Photographers may submit one photograph only

Prints must be 5"x7" (colour or black & white)

Photographer must be the sole author and owner of the copyright in the photo submitted. Images must not have been digitally altered in any way.



#### Judges:

Judging will be done by professional photographers, teachers from local schools and residents.

Held in conjunction with Communities in Bloom,

the winners of the 2005 Photo Contest are currently on the 2006 Town of Markham Calendar.




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# The Rodeo is coming to town!

by Alan Clegg

May is Great Markham Rodeo month, highlighting historic Markham Village as a great place to shop, work and live. During the month of May the village streets will become a scene from the Wild West! On Saturday May 6th, bright and early, the Great Markham Rodeo Parade will roll down Main Street in the center of Markham Village. Events begin early with a western style cowboy breakfast, followed by the Parade featuring horses and riders with cowboys, cowgirls, horse-drawn wagons, musical entertainers, marching bands and so much more...

The Parade, large and exciting, is just the appetizer for The Great Markham Rodeo. Staged at Markham Fairgrounds, this all day event on Saturday May 27th has something for the entire family. Kicking off with hot coffee and cowboy breakfasts, events in all parts of the fairground follow the Wild West theme.

Some of the event attractions will be a FTT Fork Lift Rodeo, a rodeo within a rodeo using fork lift trucks. The Markham Village Square; the merchants of Markham Village transplanted for the day and serenaded by live music. And for more mature tastes, the King Brewery Saloon with it's all day Texas Hold-em competition and licensed bar. Kids can visit



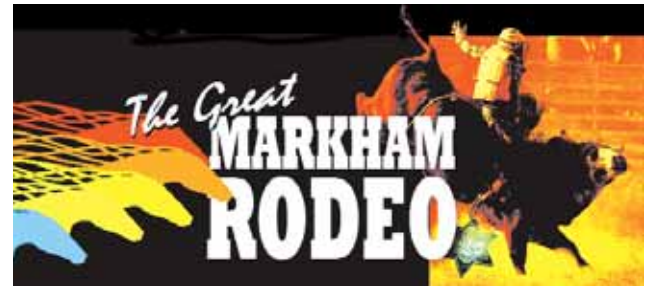
the Kiddy Corral with entertainment and petting zoo. Outside, is the Ok Auto Corral, a good place to browse the local car dealerships and maybe even trade in that old mule for a shiny new car. It's also the location of one of the main stages for all day live bands.

Of course no Rodeo is complete without cowboys and wild horses. You will find plenty of these in the YRNG Open Range Arena. With two, three hour professional rodeo shows of bronco and bull riding, plus the exciting Craig Riley's Markville Ford Ride & Drive challenge cup. You will be plum tuckered out, but the fun doesn't end there! Back to the Forklift Rodeo, the hay bales are pushed aside for country music and square dancing. Bring a pard'ner and some pointy toed boots!

We know there are one or two people who won't want to join in the square dancing, so it's off to the Great Markham Music Hall for more concerts; Lunch At Allen's, featuring an extraordinary musical revue by internationally renowned artists, Murray McLauchlan, Cindy Church, Marc Jordan, and Ian Thomas who perform together as a

Group. There's live music for all tastes all over the fairgrounds.

Not only will you be having fun at the Rodeo events, but a portion of the net proceeds will be donated to



Canadian Cancer Society - Markham Branch, Markham/Stouffville Hospital, Community Association for Riding for the Disabled "CARD", York Region Newspaper Group "Celebration of the Arts", School Alliance of Student Songwriters "SASS". Plus, we are helping several other local charities like the Markham Food Bank, St. Andrews United Church and the Salvation Army with food drives at both the Parade and Rodeo. Enjoy these events and help others by bringing a non perishable food item.

There is so much going on at the Rodeo; music, food, hotdog and pie eating competitions, the list is endless, there is something for everyone down at the Rodeo. With all this excitement you need a trusty guide to track down your favourite events: visit [www.markham-rodeo.com](http://www.markham-rodeo.com) and plan your Wild West weekend.

So mark your calendars and pony on down to the Great Markham Parade, May 6th on Main Street in Markham Village. Then hit the Trail for the Great Markham Rodeo, May 27th at the Markham Fairgrounds. We encourage everyone to join in on the fun and ...dress "western".

See you at the Great Markham Rodeo - It's closer than Calgary!

*Markham-Unionville Rotary Club announces:*

## Markham Interact Club of Father Michael McGivney Academy

by Wally Buczkowski  
Director of Vocational Services  
Markham-Unionville Rotary Club

Markham-Unionville Rotary Club is pleased to announce the Markham Interact Club of Father Michael McGivney Catholic Academy being chartered. Interact is considered a junior level of Rotary, at the High School level. There is a College or University level as well, called Rotaract. A number of both Interact and Rotaract Clubs have

been formed in the GTA and in countries all over the World. The McGivney students are proud to be members and are making an effort to help the community and even fellow students. You may have seen them recently marching with the Rotary banner in the Markham Santa Claus Parade. Saneliso Moyo is this years Interact Club President and is affectionately known as "Sunny". Sunny, her board of directors and membership have quickly grown to 25. They are under the lead-

ership of Educator & Rotarian Ms. Mina Bozzi. Their meetings are held after school in Ms. Bozzi's classroom and they are currently organizing a fundraiser to start a Breakfast Club. The idea is to offer a nutritious breakfast once a week in the school cafeteria before school begins. Students would receive this breakfast at no charge. A nutritious breakfast is essential and this effort will encourage students to feed their growing bodies and minds.



(from left to right) Wally Buczkowski, Rotary Vocational Director; Peter Vanek, Rotary District Representative; Saneliso Moyo (Sunny), Interact Club President; Ms. Mina Bozzi, FMMCA Educator & Rotarian; Mr. Joseph Servidio, V.P. FMMCA & Rotarian.

Photo by Wally Buczkowski

The students will be asking the business community for donations to help make this Breakfast Club

a success. Donations can also be made by contacting the Interact Club at

Markham\_InteractClub@hotmail.com or [www.m-ur Rotary.com](http://www.m-ur Rotary.com)

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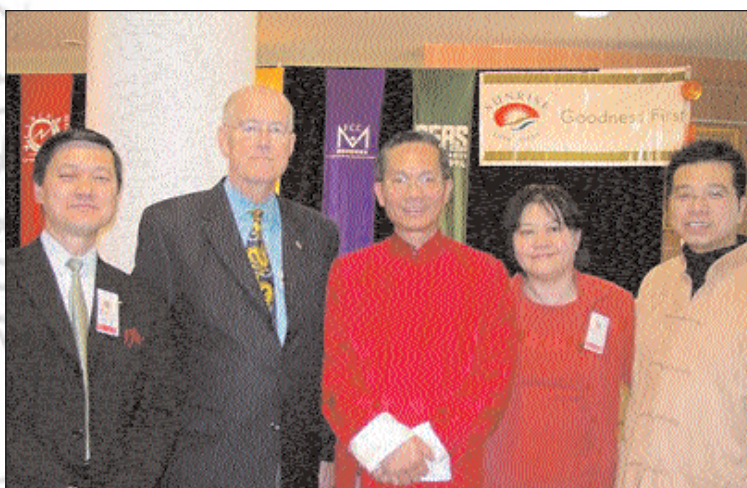
# Welcome to the Year of the Dog

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Chinese New Year 2006 Celebration



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