

## Hospice Thornhill



Since 1987, Hospice Thornhill has met the needs of the Thornhill community dealing with life-threatening illness and grief. Recently moved to the historic John Charleton House, it is better able to meet the needs of clients. Trained volunteers and professionals offer palliative community-based care, ensuring all residents and their

families have access to timely, compassionate and caring end-of-life support.

Hospice Thornhill is currently seeking interested individuals to serve on its Board of Directors. For more information, visit [www.hospicethornhill.org](http://www.hospicethornhill.org), email [info@hospicethornhill.org](mailto:info@hospicethornhill.org) or call 905-764-0656.

## Adopt-A-Park and Litter Clean Ups

Please visit [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca) under "Celebrate Our Environment"

### Grandview Park Clean-up & Park Planting

- **Clean-up:** Join the Grandview Area Residents Association Saturday, April 25, 10 am to noon. For more information, contact Jane McCulloch: 905-881-5273, [je\\_mcculloch@hotmail.com](mailto:je_mcculloch@hotmail.com).
- **Planting:** Thursday, May 7, 10 am to noon

### Pomona Mills Park Clean-up & Planting

- **Clean-up:** Join the Pomona Mills Park Conservationists Sunday, April 19, 10 am to noon. For more information, please contact Barbi Lazarus: 905 881-1036, [palapi@rogers.com](mailto:palapi@rogers.com).
- **10th Annual Planting:** Saturday, April 25, 10 am to noon

### Galleria Supermarket's Local Clean-up

- See store for details. Contact Bob Bak: 905-738-5675 or Peter Shin: 416-993-8525

### Markham Twenty Minute Makeover

- Friday, April 24. If everyone would take just twenty minutes to help pick up litter, think of how beautiful our community would look.

## "Markham – We Love our Pets" Calendar



The Town's volunteer Animal Care Committee is producing a 2010 calendar featuring local pets. Enter your special pets and support this worthy cause. The Committee aims to raise awareness about the importance of responsible pet care, spaying/neutering and adoption of homeless pets. Details and a downloadable entry form will be available after April 30, at [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca) or [animalcare@markham.ca](mailto:animalcare@markham.ca).

## Upcoming Events

### Heintzman House Invitational Art Show & Sale

Saturday April 25 and Sunday April 26: 10 am to 5 pm

For more information, please visit <http://www.heintzmanhouse.ca/events.htm> or call 905-889-7980.

### Thornhill Seniors Centre

Enjoy luncheons, speaker series and a myriad of regular activities such as art, bingo, bridge, photography, travel groups, exercise classes and more. The Centre will now be open on Sundays from 1 to 4 pm. New members are always welcome. For more information, please call 905-944-3781.

### Thornhill Garden and Horticultural Society

Meet new people and enjoy interesting speakers every third Wednesday of each month in the Thornhill Community Centre, at 7:45 pm. Plant Sales scheduled on Saturdays May 9 and September 12, CIBC at Yonge and Centre Streets, 9 am to 1 pm. For membership information, please contact Peter Steiner at 905-709-2194.

### Ward One South Thornhill Residents AGM

Thursday May 21: 7:30 pm

St. Vlad's, 15 Church Lane. For more information, please contact George Jenkyn 905-889-1084 or visit [www.thornhillwardone.com](http://www.thornhillwardone.com).

### Bayview Glen Residents Association Meeting

Thursday, April 23 at 7:30 pm, Bayview Glen Public School, 42 Limcombe Dr. For more information, please contact Toinette Bezant at 905-771-1336 or [bayviewglen@yahoo.ca](mailto:bayviewglen@yahoo.ca).

### Thornhill Lions

Victoria Day Weekend Fireworks Sales, Thornhill Community Centre.

### St. Volodymyr Perogie Dinners

Delicious perogie dinners served every second and fourth Thursday during April and the first and third Thursday beginning in May from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm at St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church, 15 Church Lane. \$8.00 per adult. For more information, please contact Father Matthew at 416-557-6277.

### Organizers and Volunteers Needed!

**Terry Fox Run** – Contact Kim Smith at 888-836-9786

**Thornhill Village Festival** – Contact Vic Stecyk at 905-763-6017 or [www.thornhillhistoric.org/festival/](http://www.thornhillhistoric.org/festival/)



"Keeping in Touch"  
Spring 2009



## Dear Resident

Spring is here – and much deserved after a long, snowy winter!

In February, Markham Council approved the 2009 Capital and Operating Budget which incorporates no municipal tax increase for residents and businesses without reduction in service levels. This was achieved through the Town's E3 initiative – Excellence through Efficiency and Effectiveness that was started more than 12 months ago. With the help of our staff, this process transformed a number of business processes resulting in substantial cost savings and efficiencies. The outcome was \$4.5 million savings in the operating budget. Markham was one of the few municipalities in Ontario to achieve this.

An Auditor General has been hired to ensure that Markham has an independent review of its operations and expenditures.

For more information, please feel free to contact me at 905-479-7747 or [vburke@markham.ca](mailto:vburke@markham.ca).

Yours truly,

Valerie  
Burke

Councillor, Ward 1  
Town of Markham

**Markham is a  
Character Community**

"The shortest distance  
between two people is  
a smile." Mark Twain

## Yonge Subway Extension



In September 2008, Metrolinx released its 25 year visionary transportation plan to reduce gridlock across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. The 6.5 kilometre Yonge Subway extension from Finch to Langstaff is one of the priority projects. Public meetings from June to December 2008 attracted several hundred residents, tenants and business owners as did the online

opportunities. Subway stops have been recommended for Cummer/Drewry, Steeles, Clark, Royal Orchard, Longbridge/Langstaff and Richmond Hill Centre.

Assuming the \$2.4 billion project is approved and funding granted, residents could be riding the new subway line by 2016.

For more information, visit [www.vivayork.com](http://www.vivayork.com) or contact the Rapid Transit office at 905-886-6767.

## Langstaff Gateway



The year-long master planning and design process for the Langstaff Gateway Transit-Oriented Centre Master Plan is anticipated to be finished in May 2009. It is expected to

become one of the most important transit-oriented mixed-use developments in the Greater Toronto Area with access to VIVA buses, GO trains and the future Yonge subway. Under the direction of internationally renowned Peter Calthorpe, this area is envisioned to become a "second Union Station". Many leading-edge technologies are proposed to ensure sustainability with respect to storm water and sewage treatment.

The Langstaff Gateway is located in the Town of Markham between Yonge Street and Bayview Avenue south of Hwy 407, north of the Holy Cross Cemetery and is now part of the Richmond Hill/Langstaff Gateway Urban Growth Centre in the Region of York's Centres and Corridors policies. A final public open house will be scheduled in May. Please check the Markham page of your local paper or [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca).

## Building Markham's Future Together

*Building Markham's Future Together* is Markham's strategic direction and will be the foundation for future planning and actions during this term of Council. Through *Click with Markham*, six strategic priorities were identified and a series of weekly meetings were held from February 2 to March 9 where residents were invited to comment on how each strategic priority should be fashioned to best serve the community. This plan will guide long term efforts to achieve a truly sustainable community – a community that preserves and enhances our natural environment, offers economic prosperity and opportunity, and cultivates a rich and vibrant social community. Please visit [www.markham.ca/bmft](http://www.markham.ca/bmft) for more information.

## 7171 Yonge Street – Liberty Site



Liberty Development Corporation, owner of the mall at 7171 Yonge Street, filed an appeal of its Official Plan and Zoning by-law applications to the Ontario Municipal Board. Its proposal to construct a hotel/office, four residential towers and a retail mall has been considered through the Yonge-Steeles Corridor study. Despite Liberty's appeal to the OMB, discussions have been on-going with Town staff and Council and settlement has been reached with respect to the heights and densities. A Community Information meeting was held on March 24. For more information, please contact Ron Blake, 905-477-7000 x 2600 or [rblake@markham.ca](mailto:rblake@markham.ca) or visit [http://www.markham.ca/Markham/Departments/Planning/Studies/Studies\\_Yonge-Steeles.htm](http://www.markham.ca/Markham/Departments/Planning/Studies/Studies_Yonge-Steeles.htm).

## 378 Steeles Avenue East



The Fung Loy Kok Institute has submitted an application to the Town for Zoning By-law Amendment and Site Plan Approval to permit a place of worship at 378 Steeles Avenue East. The proposed place of worship is to accommodate The Fung Loy Kok Institute and Taoist Tai Chi Society of Canada, which is a registered religious charitable organization. There are concerns about compatibility of use, insufficient parking and storm water management. A community information meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15 at 7 pm, Henderson Public School, 66 Henderson Avenue.

## Flood Protection



The West Thornhill Stormwater Flood Remediation Study has been completed and options to increase the community's protection against basement and roadway flooding will be presented at a public information meeting Monday, April 27, 7 pm, St. Rene Goupil/St. Luke Elementary School, 135 Green Lane.

Recommendations will identify the construction work required to improve the Thornhill storm water system, and associated costs and funding sources. An initial \$2 million dollars has been designated for flood remediation in West Thornhill as part of the 2009 approved budget.

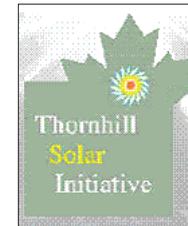
You can help reduce flooding by planting more trees and shrubs, participating in local tree planting initiatives, disconnecting your downspout, installing permeable pavers, avoiding increased pavement and installing a rain barrel.

## Waterworks Improvements in Thornhill Area this summer

**Watermain Replacement:** As part of Waterworks Department's on-going watermain improvement program, the Henderson Avenue watermain will be replaced from Steeles Avenue East to Doncaster Avenue. During construction, this section of Henderson will be closed for through traffic from June 29 to Aug 31, 2009.

**Sanitary Sewer System Improvement:** New sewers will be constructed this summer to improve the capacity in the Bay Thorn area. Streets include Colonsay Road, Royal Orchard Blvd and Weeping Willow Lane. For more information, please contact Prathapan Kumar, Senior Project Engineer, 905-477-7000 x 2989 or [pkumar@markham.ca](mailto:pkumar@markham.ca)

## Thornhill is Going Solar!



Residents will soon find it easier to save money and reduce their environmental footprint by taking advantage of the benefits of solar power. The Thornhill Solar Initiative\* is a grassroots project spearheaded by a group of motivated community volunteers. This group aims to educate residents about the many benefits of solar electricity or solar-heated water for their homes and assists them in retrofitting their homes.

The Solar Initiative has already been implemented with great success throughout the Greater Toronto Area, and is now expanding into York Region. It is partnered with the Windfall Ecology Centre and Ourpower. For more information, please visit [thornhillsolar.ourpower.ca](http://thornhillsolar.ourpower.ca)

\* This initiative has received funding assistance through the Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund.