

February/March 2009

Issue 21

Dear Ward 43 Residents,

This year marks the City of Toronto's 175th year since it's incorporation as a city on March 6, 1834. To celebrate all residents are invited to share their experiences, pictures, videos and text messages on what the city means to them. These submissions will be showcased at a 360° station installed in City Hall March 6 through to March 8. Further information may be viewed at www.toronto.ca/175.

There are many projects in the community that need your participation. We have already begun to organize the Guild Alive with Culture Festival, and will be adding a winter festival to be held in January 2010 at Botany Hill Park, a clean up day for the seven oaks community is also being organized for Saturday May 2, your volunteerism would be very welcome. Please see section 11 of this report for further information. You may also visit my website at www.paulainslie.com and look under the community involvement section.

Last Friday the 3rd Annual Family Skate Day took place at Heron Park Community Centre. This annual event organized by the Citizen Police Liaison Committee together with 43 Police Division was a huge success this year with over 500 participants. Skates are given out for all who require them while supplies last. Congratulations to everyone involved: members of the 43 CPLC and all the officers from 43 Division and all the volunteers. All the smiles on those little faces makes all the effort worth it. I will be collecting skates and helmets year round at all my community meetings and events, please let me take them off your hands and pass them onto the CPLC for their 2010 collection.

The winter thaw has begun debris along the cities arterial curbs and collector roads is apparent. City crews has begun road sweeping program between 7am and 3pm Monday to Friday. The full spring cleanup is scheduled to start on April 13th, 2009 which will include litter pickup and sweeping of hard surfaced boulevards, sidewalks and laneways adjacent to arterial and collector roads.

Paul Ainslie
Councillor, City of Toronto Ward 43 Scarborough East

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1. Scarborough East Community Calendar

- Feb. 20th, - NAP "Space" committee
- Feb. 20th, - Constituency Meetings
- Feb. 23rd, - Toronto City Council
- Feb. 24th, - Toronto City Council
- Feb. 24th - Partnership Planning Meeting
- Feb. 24th - Tam Heather Board Meeting
- Feb. 25th - Budget Committee Review
- Feb. 26th - Operating Budget Review
- Feb. 26th - Toronto Zoo Board Meeting
- Feb. 26th - Guild Alive 2009 Meeting
- Feb. 26th - FYI – Pro Action Cops & Kids: 2008-88 Eastside Cooking Corner
- Feb. 26th – Town Hall Meeting – Cedar Ridge Creative Centre 7 p.m.
- Feb. 27th - TRCA Annual Authority meeting
- March 3rd - Operating Budget Final Wrap-up
- March 3rd - Community Bus Meeting with community members
- March 5th - ProAction Cops&Kids: 2008-88 Eastside Cooking Corner
- March 9th – Toronto Zoo Board Meeting
- March 9th – Guild Renaissance Group Meeting
- March 10th - Budget Committee Meeting
- March 10th – Emerald Ash Borer Meeting Sir Wilfrid Laurier
- March 10th – Guildwood Village Community Association Meeting
- March 10th – Scarborough Preservation Board Meeting

March 11th – Neighbourhood Action Partnership -Safety Subcommittee
March 12th – Neighbourhood Action Partnership meeting
March 12th – Community Police Liaison Committee Meeting
March 12th - ProAction Cops & Kids: 2008-88 Eastside Cooking Corner
March 23rd – Toronto Public Library Board Meeting
March 24th – Guildwood Village Annual General Meeting
March 24th – Bell Mobility Community Meeting
March 25th – Tam Heather Curling and Tennis Club Meeting
March 26th – Scarborough Community Council
March 26th – Guild Alive with Culture Meeting
March 26th – Town Hall with Councillor Ainslie 7p.m. Cornell Public School
March 27th – Toronto Region Conservation Authority Meeting
March 27th - Rouge Valley Health System Fundraising Gala
March 31st – Toronto City Council (2009 Operating Budget)

2. Seven Oaks

Spring Clean Up: Every year many communities across the City take up in a clean up day. There are several communities in ward 43 which participate by organizing a community clean up day. The purpose of this activity is two fold: one is to clean a specific area the other is to raise awareness so that the community participants can see first hand the litter in their neighbourhood so they can become the keepers of their community by guarding against littering by talking to their nieghbours and children about the issue.

Please join me on Saturday May 2nd, 10:00 a.m., at the Military Trail Ravine to begin our work. I will be inviting the area schools, ratepayer association as well as the area Beavers and Cubs. To volunteer or for any comments please contact my office at 416-392-4008. I do realize that the Seven Oaks Community is blessed with beautiful ravines, unfortunately dumping does occur at these locations. If you believe that additional clean up events should be organized please contact my office so we can get to work.

Parking Prohibition: A no parking prohibition is being enforced on Mornelle Court just north of Ellesmere Road. Please be aware of this to avoid being ticketed or towed.

Advanced Green Light: The request to have an advanced green at the intersection at Morningside Avenue and Military Trail has been granted. An advanced signal will be installed for north bound motorists turning left onto Military Trail. I have asked staff to install the advanced signal for south bound motorists as well.

3. Curran Hall

Winter Fest: Plans for next years Winter Festival will commence shortly. We are excepting volunteers to join the Curran Hall Community Association and I in organizing the event. If you are interesting in participating please contact my office at 416-392-4008.

Curran Hall Ravine: This spring I will be joined by members of the Curran Hall Community Association to do a walk about to the Ravine trails. The purpose is to address and issues with the trail system. If you have any comments to enhance the walking trails please bring them to my attention so that I may review them during the walk about.

Brimorton Road Development: The development of Tiffany Park Homes, is still a work in progress and is unfortunately taking longer than I or the community would have liked. Staff have been working diligently on this file with continuous contact with the developer. If you would like further information on this file please contact Frank Stirpe, Community Planning who has the lead on this file at 416-396-7658 or fstirpe@toronto.ca .

Signalized street lights: Brimorton Drive and Orton Park will be converted from a PXO to traffic control signals as part of a larger City program. These new signals will help to create gaps in the traffic and also reduce the speeding which occurs along Orton Park Road. It should also make it easier for traffic to enter and exit Botany Hill Road. The installation is expected in late 2009 or early 2010.

4. Coronation and West Hill

Kingston Road: For several months now I have been participating in the Kingston Road improvement initiative. The purpose of the committee, formed of City Staff and local Councillors is to restore, beautify, service and improve Kingston Road. One of the results from will be entrance features to our communities, the first to be installed on Kingston Road and Celeste; inviting people into our community of Coronation West Hill. Several more improvements along Kingston Road will be forthcoming.

Telecommunication Tower: A Meeting has been set hosted by Bell Mobility for March 24, 7:00 p.m. at Maplewood High School: 120 Galloway Rd. To discuss their proposal to install a telecommunication tower on the CNR property located on the south side of the Guildwood GO Station, near Galloway Road. The City of Toronto does not have any legislative authority over the placement of these towers, but does mandate that a community meeting take place for community residents. I have invited Health Canada as well as the Toronto Board of Health to attend. Health Canada has sent regrets, but encourage residents to view information on their site at: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/radiation/cons/stations/index-eng.php

Community Mural: Maplewood High School will be working with the City' Clean and Beautiful staff to paint a mural in the community. More information on this project will be forthcoming so that you may view the work.

June 26th will mark the date for this years annual Pow Wow. Last year the event attracted more than 200 participants to Eastview Park; where the celebrations commenced with the sunrise ceremony. Please plan to join your community in the celebrations.

East Scarborough Festival Market: Every Thursday afternoon starting June 4th the East Scarborough Festival Market will take place at St. Margaret's in the Pines Parkette. This year's market features fresh fruits and vegetables at a reasonable prices, many vendors selling crafts, second hand items, jewellery and artwork, musical entertainment, contests, dancers, children's activities and amazing BBQ meals.

The Festival Market is a weekly event that brings residents from the neighbourhood together to socialize, have fun and participate in healthy activities. It is a partnership venture of Residents Rising, West Hill Community Services, East Scarborough Storefront, Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough and local churches. This is the 3rd year of the Festival Market and it has been a very successful event for newcomers, seniors, young parents and children. The atmosphere is fun and just like a festival every week.

If you would like to be a weekly vendor or wish to share your musical/dance talents with the community, please call 416-847-4144.

The East Scarborough Festival Market starts Thursday, June 4th through to September 17th from 2 - 6 p.m. and is located at 4130 Lawrence Avenue East.

5. Cedar Ridge

Community Barbeque: I am looking for volunteers for this year's community barbeque to be held on Tuesday June 16th at Cornell Park. This event promises be a fun filled one for the whole family. To Volunteer please contact my office at 416-392-4008.

Secor Memorial Park: located on Stevenwood Road just east of Markham Road. The park was once had several plots from the Secor Family which have been relocated into the current large memorial existing today. The Secor family once owned much of the land in the near vicinity. This summer a revamping of the small park will see the addition of a flower garden and park sign.

Trees for Holmfirth Terrace: I have directed staff to plant trees along the Boulevard on the north side of Holmfirth Terrace. Currently a brick retaining wall exists along this route, which does not add any enhancement to the community. The new trees will be a welcome improvement to the area.

6. Guildwood Village

Guild Inn Property and Revitalization: The negotiations with Centennial College are going well. City Staff advised the Guild Park Advisory Group at their January meeting that they are hoping to have this item on the April Government Management Agenda which would move things forward to the next step in the revitalization. During this step designs for the revitalization will be brought forward and presented to the community for input by Centennial College. The proponent has been very enthusiastic about this project and is eager to move it forward. The economic climate will not affect the project as funds required to proceed had been reserved by the institution for this venture.

The City is also moving forward with the culture precinct for the Guild property. The precinct which was mapped out several years ago will be revamped with the inclusion of a rebuild of the Studio building lost in December. If you would like further information on the revitalization please email me at councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca, visit my website at www.paulainslie.com or contact me at 416-392-4008.

Toronto Hydro: held a meeting on January 20th, with the Guildwood and surrounding communities residents at Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI. Although residents did have some of their questions answered, I was not content with the format of the meeting. I had extended an invitation to Mayor David Miller, and other government officials to attend the meeting including The Hon. George Smitherman, The Hon. Donna Cansfield, and the Hon. John Gerretsen. I fully understand there are residents, for, against, and those who simply would like to better understand what this project could mean to our community. I will continue to keep firm with my decision to not support the location choice of Toronto Hydro due to a lack of economic case, and also the issue of esthetics. I am continuing to converse with Toronto Hydro and the Province to ensure that your voices are heard and to persuade them to look at different locations and methods to produce clean energy as they are aware that I am not supportive of this proposal. I encourage you to continue to contact Toronto Hydro, the Province as well as Mayor Miller and the Board members of Toronto Hydro:
<http://corporate.torontohydro.com/investorrelations/boardofdirectors/index.html>

Emerald Ash Borer: Mark your calendars for Tuesday March 10, 2009 in Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI @ 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Emerald Ash Borer. Forestry staff will be on hand to present and answer your questions. There will also be a discussion by our parks staff on the issue of invasive plants within our community, and how they are to be addressed. If you believe your tree may be infected please visit the City website at www.toronto.ca/trees/eab.htm or contact them directly at 1-866-463-6017.

Alternatively you may also contact Kristjan Vitols Supervisor, Tree Nursery & Natural Resource Management Forest & Natural Environment Management Urban Forestry Branch City of Toronto 416-392-0432 or kvitols@toronto.ca .

Information will be distributed at the March 10th meeting on community workshops to instruct interested residents on how to recognize, weed out and dispose of any invasive species of plants.

Traffic Control: new stop signs will be installed at Fintona Avenue at Grey Abbey Trail, Cushendun Road at Fintona Avenue, Cushendun Road at Fordover Drive, Denny Court at Grey Abbey Trail, Moss Street at Fintona Avenue, and Moss Street at Fordover Drive. While conducting a study transportation services received for safety issues at Fintona Avenue and Grey Abbey Trail, they found that other stop signs were also required.

It is recommended that minor street stop signs be installed at the subject uncontrolled three-way intersections to clearly define the right-of-way and to regulate traffic flow.

Guild Summer Concerts: The City of Toronto's Guild Summer Concert Series will return to the Guild Inn Greek Theatre for performances on June 11th, 18th, and 25th. Further information on the performers will be posted closer to the date.

Guildwood Village Farmers' Market: launches this June at the historic grounds of The Guild Inn. The market season is June to October, Thursdays 2pm-6pm.

Enjoy fresh, in-season produce, picked daily from Ontario farms. There will be an abundance of organics, prepared fresh food, certified organic bread, meats, granola, soups, honey, baked goods and more. Stop over for a barbeque, or take home meals to go. Every week is an event with music, face painting and community education. Visit with your community as you peruse homegrown artisan creations including native jewellery, art, all natural soaps, soya candles and accessories.

A full list of the market vendors coming to your Guildwood community will be available in March. Meanwhile check out other Market By The Bluffs Projects to get taste of what's to come. www.marketsbythebluffs.com.

7. The Residents Rising Community Association

East Scarborough Festival Market

Every Thursday afternoon starting June 4th the East Scarborough Festival Market will take place at St. Margaret's in the Pines Parkette. This year's market features fresh fruits and vegetables at a reasonable prices, many vendors selling crafts, second hand items, jewellery and artwork, musical entertainment, contests, dancers, children's activities and amazing BBQ meals.

The Festival Market is a weekly event that brings residents from the neighbourhood together to socialize, have fun and participate in healthy activities. It is a partnership venture of Residents Rising, West Hill Community Services, East Scarborough Storefront, Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough and local churches. This is the 3rd year of the Festival Market and it has been a very successful event for newcomers, seniors, young parents and children. The atmosphere is fun and just like a festival every week.

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The East Scarborough Festival Market starts Thursday, June 4th through to September 17th from 2 - 6 p.m. and is located at 4130 Lawrence Avenue East.

Residents Rising Community Association

If you would like to get involved and help create a new vision for the Kingston/Galloway/Lawrence & Morningside Community, the Residents Rising Community Association is looking for new team members. Meeting monthly, the RR team helps to plan events, brainstorm ideas and works with local partners to improve the neighbourhood.

Members represent many cultures, ages, economic levels and abilities. They are looking for local residents who care about the community and are willing to volunteer and participate. The office is located at 4117 Lawrence Avenue East, unit 100A or call 416-419-2766.

8. 2009 Proposed Operating Budget

The 2009 Proposed Operating Budget was released on Tuesday February 19. Details of the report can be viewed at www.toronto.ca/budget2009.

The public is invited to make submissions on the City's proposed operating budget by making a presentation to the Budget Committee on February 18, 2009, submitting a written presentation to the Budget Committee or sending a letter or e-mail to their local City Councillor. Information on how to make a submission may be viewed at <http://www.toronto.ca/committees/budget-committee.htm>. Toronto City Council will consider the final 2009 Operating Budget at its meeting on March 31 and April 1, 2009.

The City has both an operating and capital budget.

The day-to-day operation of City services is paid for from the City's operating budget - the money dedicated to salaries and operating expenses such as rent, fuel, electricity, equipment, etc. The delivery of City services such as police, fire, emergency medical services, TTC, waste collection and recycling, libraries, parks and recreation, child care and many others are paid for through the City's operating budget.

The City is also rolling out its 10-year \$25.9 billion capital plan that was approved last December. The City's capital budget pays for construction and maintenance of roads, the purchase of transit vehicles, the building of major facilities, and the purchase of major equipment. The capital budget funds the maintenance and construction of City assets and infrastructure, which are needed to support services to residents and businesses.

Local government provides the services that have the greatest impact on the quality of life in the city and therefore the budget that pays for those services must be supported with the investments required to continue their operation.

After factoring in growth in the City's tax assessment, the City will raise an additional 2.5% from property taxes for a total of \$83 million. Residential taxpayers will contribute \$57 million of this increase and non-residential taxpayers will contribute \$26 million. A 4% property tax increase on residential properties will mean an annual increase of \$89 on a home with an assessed value of \$387,000.

The proposed operating budget for 2009 totals \$8.7 billion. 32% of the City's budget pays the costs of provincially required and cost-shared programs. 17% of the budget goes to providing residents and businesses with police, fire and emergency medical services and 16% of the total budget is dedicated to paying the part of transit not covered by TTC fare box revenue. 14% of the proposed budget is directed to the costs of other municipal services such as parks, forestry and recreation, libraries, road maintenance, snow removal, economic development, planning, and municipal licensing and standards.

As part of the operating budget review process, more than \$100 million was identified in the base budget as savings from internal efficiencies and continuous improvement efforts by the City. The \$100 million reduction has been put toward offsetting the 2009 budget increases.

The City's revenues are made up of property taxes (39%), provincial government payments to the City that pay part of the costs for provincially supported programs (24%), user fees (15%), federal subsidies and grants (2%) and other revenues. The Land Transfer and Personal Vehicle Tax will make up 2% of the City's total revenues in 2009.

9. Community Meetings and Events

- Feb. 26th** 7:00 pm Town Hall meeting with Councillor Ainslie @ Cedar Ridge C C
- Mar. 8th** Spring/Summer Recreation Program Registration
- Mar. 10th** 7:00 p.m. Emerald Ash Borer Community Meeting Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI
- Mar. 26th** 7:00 pm Town Hall meeting with Councillor Ainslie @ Cornell Public School
- May 2nd** Seven Oaks Clean Up Day – Military Trail Ravine
- May 9th** 11: a.m.2:00 p.m. 43 Division Picnic & Open House
- May 23rd & 24th** Doors Open Toronto, Various Sites including Cedar Ridge Creative Centre
- May 30th** Councillor Ainslie's Compost Day @ Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI back parking lot & Tam Heather Tennis and Curling Club.
- June 11th** Summer Concert Series for Guild Inn Greek Theatre
- June 14th** 12 noon – 5:00 p.m. Celebration of the Arts, Cedar Ridge CC,
- June 16th** Councillor Ainslie's Annual Cornell Park Barbeque
- June 18th** Summer Concert Series for Guild Inn Greek Theatre
- June 18th** Councillor Ainslie's Annual Seven Oaks Park Barbeque
- June 25th** Summer Concert Series for Guild Inn Greek Theatre
- June 26th** East View Park Splash Pad Official Opening
- June 26th** Pow Wow at East View Park

Aug 15th & 16th Guild Alive with Culture an Arts Festival

Sept 13th Fall/Winter Recreation Program Registration

Oct 3rd Councillor Ainslie Environment Day at Morningside Yard 10 a.m.

Scarborough Civic Centre Events

Start Time: 2:00 – 4:00pm

ADMISSION IS FREE!!!

MARCH 2009

- 1 DCAT CHORUS
- 8 CASABLANCAORCHESTRA
- 15 EDDIE GRAF ORCHESTRA
- 22 MIKE DANTON BAND
- 29 MICHELE LAWRENCE QUARTET

APRIL 2009

- 5 NORTH TORONTOCOMMUNITY BAND
- 12 NO CONCERT- EASTER
- 19 UPTOWN SWING BAND
- 26 SCARBOROUGHMUSIC LOVERS ORCHESTRA

10. Guild Alive with Culture an Arts Festival

Organized with community groups, citizen members, and city staff this festival is a gem. Last year over 2000 people attended and the reviews were great. We have decided to extend the festival over two days August 15th & 16th. The call for artists and for community groups to participate in this years event has been sent out. Please visit my website and click onto the Guild Alive with Culture link to view the Artist and Community section call for entry forms.

All artists are to be artisans who reside or work in Ontario, all work must be original and hand made in Canada by the exhibiting artist. A variety of art is acceptable: 2 dimensional works including paintings, mixed media, hand pulled prints, photographs (individually signed), digital art, (individually signed) individually signed/numbered reproductions (edition size under 500), fine art card reproductions, 3 dimensional works including sculpture, fine craft in all media, glass, metal, wood, originally designed jewelry, fibre art, hand-made quilts, originally designed clothing.

Community groups will have an opportunity to showcase their groups to the community. The public will be able to meet the groups which enrich our community as well as an opportunity to promote, demonstrate, fundraise, network with other groups and share community spirit on the beautiful Guild Inn Gardens grounds.

11. Volunteering in your community

There are many volunteer opportunities in the ward. Students may also perform the needed 40 – 150 volunteer hours required at the secondary school level. If you are interested in participating in one of the listed opportunities please contact my office at 416-392-4008. My website is also updated with new positions.

Morningside Park Citizen Advisory Group: Membership is being formed for this committee which will look at the parks potential to bring activities and programs to the site. Currently Sculptor Dorsey James has worked with youth from the Malvern community to create a hiking trail identified by totem poles which they have carved by hand from old hydro poles. Last summer a state of the art splash pad and playground was installed in the park. In the winter months many residents cross country ski in the park. Many deer and birds species can be seen in the park.

Winter Festival: Botany Hill Park: Membership is being formed to organize Winter Festival to take place in January 2010. We are excepting volunteers to join the Curran Hall Community Association and I in organizing the event. If you are interesting in participating please contact my office at 416-392-4008

Community Bus: Many of our neighbours are dependent on public transportation and unfortunately are subject to long waits and many transfers to reach their destinations. I have been speaking to the Chair of the Toronto Transit Commission on your behalf, as well as many community members. Route suggestions have been brought to my attention, which have been relayed to the TTC. Next month I will be holding a meeting with members of the community and TTC staff to address on how public transit can be improved in this community. I am aware that there is a lack of service on Scarborough Golf Club Road and Orton Park Road which makes it difficult for many people, especially seniors to reach their destinations. If you would like share your comments for improvements please email me at Councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca, so that they may be brought to the table for discussion. Your contribution will be well noted.

Community events: I have several events year round which include Compost day, Environment day, Community BBQ's and others. Volunteers are always welcome to participate and gain their community hours.

12. City of Toronto Council Highlights January 27 and 28, 2009

New downtown transit line a high priority

Council decided to encourage Metrolinx, the regional transportation planning agency, to make the construction of a downtown relief transit line a higher priority. Council sees merit in building a new downtown relief line before the more expensive construction of a Yonge Street subway extension north from Finch Station to Richmond Hill. The proposed relief transit line would address rider capacity challenges that will be intensified by an extended Yonge Street subway bringing many more transit riders into the system. Council also confirmed major

features of the planned, provincially-funded 6.8-kilometre extension of the Yonge subway line north from Finch Station.

Smoking prohibited at City playgrounds

Council approved a plan to make changes to the Municipal Code to prohibit smoking at playgrounds and other child-centred areas in City of Toronto parks. The intention is to help protect children from harmful second-hand tobacco smoke. The proposed changes to the code will prohibit smoking within a nine-metre radius of City playgrounds and wading pools. The City will apply to the Ontario Government to set fines for the offences created by the bylaw, and will place emphasis on raising public awareness of the issue.

Federal gas tax agreement

Council ratified an extension of the original agreement that transfers a portion of federal gasoline tax revenues to the City of Toronto. The extension covers the period 2010 to 2014. During that period, Toronto is expected to receive about \$619 million in federal funding to support its capital planning for public transit. This funding arrangement originated with the federal New Deal for Cities and Communities that was secured by Canadian municipalities in 2005.

Designer chosen for June Callwood Park

Council approved the awarding of a contract to the landscape architecture team that won the recent design competition to create a park named in honour of the late June Callwood. The park site, located at the foot of the historic Fort York area of Toronto, is scheduled to be completed as a new waterfront-area park by 2011 - in time for bicentennial celebrations marking the War of 1812.

Scheduling of non-emergency construction work

Council decided to ask Transportation Services to prepare guidelines directing staff to determine the dates of significant religious events at religious institutions adjacent to municipal construction projects, and to take steps to minimize the impact of construction activities at those times.

Ambulances donated to Central American city

Council approved the donation of two decommissioned Toronto ambulances to the City of Soyapango in El Salvador for humanitarian purposes. The arrangement was made through a technical partnership that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities initiated between Toronto and Soyapango. Toronto Emergency Medical Services (EMS) replaces about 30 ambulances a year, selling them through auction.

13. Toronto Waterfront Wind Watch

A group of citizens in Guildwood have raised major concerns about using the Bluffs area a historic and environmentally-sensitive area – as a site for a major industrial windpower development. Their concerns, which include economic, environmental and aesthetic issues, have remained unanswered by Toronto Hydro and other officials. For more information about this grassroots group, visit www.savethetorontobluffs.com

14. Graffiti

As the weather warms we may experience some graffiti in the ward. Once the taggers realize that their handywork is being removed as quickly as they can put it up they will get tired of this and hopefully move on. Graffiti is considered by the police to be mischief or vandalism and offenders will be prosecuted when caught or identified.

Please report graffiti to the police before attempting to remove it. The police will attend any reported scene, photograph and document it. Use the Toronto Police communication number 416-808-2222 to report this kind of activity. For further information only call Detective Constable Matthew Wighton of 43 Division Street Crime at 416-808-4376 or Bill Campbell / Crime Prevention / 43 Division.

Graffiti on City structures can be reported to my office.

15. Community Response Phone in Line

Toronto Police Service, 43 Division Community Response Phone in Line

43 Division has a separate and dedicated telephone number that enables members and residents of South East Scarborough, (43 Division) to call in and leave messages pertaining to minor complaints or problems that are occurring on an ongoing basis in the neighbourhood that you reside in.

This number allows a member of the public to leave a voice mail message requesting assistance with minor ongoing complaints such as drinking in the parks, information of a non emergency nature, trespassing or loitering, community safety issues, information of suspected criminal activity or any other issues that do not require immediate police assistance.

Once a voice message is received it will be sent to the appropriate unit in 43 division to be investigated, this may take a few days. If possible please leave your name and phone number so we may contact should we require further information and so that we may advise you of the results of the complaint. THE DEDICATED RESPONSE NUMBER IS – 416-808-4308

As a reminder, for emergencies please call 911 and for general calls for service of a non emergency nature please call Toronto Police Communications at 416-808-2222.

Should you wish to report a crime and remain anonymous, you have the option to call Crime Stoppers at (416)-222-7477 or 1(800)-222-8477 ANONYMITY IS GUARANTEED

16. RESIDENTIAL BREAK AND ENTERS AND THEFT FROM AUTOS

Recently there have been a few daytime break and enters into residential homes in the Eglinton Ave and Markham Road area. For the most part, the suspect usually kicks in the front door or breaks the glass partition beside the door. Once inside the suspect then ransacks the master bedroom.

Please report any suspicious activity or persons immediately to the police.

In the area of Markham Road and Lawrence Ave. East, there have been several thefts from autos on residential streets and from autos parked in unlocked garages.

These thefts usually occur after dark or at night. The suspect will enter the vehicles either by a unlocked door or by breaking the windows of the automobile.

Although the theft of a few small items from your automobile may seem not worthwhile reporting. Each offence reported, gives the police that much more information which may result in the eventual arrest of the person committing these crimes.

Please lock your vehicles and garage doors. Be aware of suspicious activity and persons in your neighbourhood.

17. Biking in the Winter – Good for your health and environment

Some have chosen to bike during the season an increasing number of people are commuting to work even during the coldest days of the year.

Biking in winter can be enjoyable as long as you dress for the occasion and are aware and knowledgeable of your travel route. If you do choose to bike at this time of the year dress in layers so you are have more movement and can react quicker. Give yourself extra time to get to your destination, cycle more slowly in snowy conditions, use fenders to stay dry and use lights on your bike to stay visible.

It's also helpful to take curves at a slower pace and avoid leaning on you bicycle. It's important to keep the bike perpendicular for maximum traction.

Biking in the winter also provides benefits to both you and your community. It helps reduce traffic congestion and doesn't contribute to climate change. In addition to being good for the environment, it's great for your health, too.

To make things easier for cyclists this year, the City is improving its service levels for cyclists. In addition to providing more attention to clearing snow from bike lanes, the City is also clearing sections of the Martin Goodman Trail – from Northern Dancer Boulevard to the lower part of Sherbourne Street and from Windermere Avenue to Stadium Road.

18. SOCIAL ASSISTANCE, PENSION, and TAX CREDIT RATES January – March 2009

The Rates for the Ontario Income Security and Federal Income Security & Tax Benefit Programs is available for viewing at: <http://www.mcass.gov.on.ca>

Titles such as: Ontario Guaranteed Annual Income System, Ontario Child Benefit and many others may be viewed on the site.

19. Income Tax Volunteer

The East Scarborough Storefront is looking for volunteers to prepare basic tax return for low income individuals and families of Kingston-Galloway-Orton Park Community. We are looking for volunteers with income tax return experience who have a genuine interest in the well being and happiness of community members living in marginal community

Responsibilities:

- ◆ Meeting with and gathering information from individuals who want to file taxes
- ◆ Review forms (e.g. T- 4 T4A, T4OAS,T4CPP,T5007,T4RSP,T4RRIF,T5,T3, T2202,T2202A)
- ◆ Maintain confidentiality
- ◆ Keen eye for detail
- ◆ Ability to work independently within a team environment
- ◆ Maintain clear communication with the Coordinator of Volunteers

Relevant Skills:

- ◆ Experience in income tax preparation
- ◆ Responsible, non-judgmental
- ◆ Revenue Canada training provided and required
- ◆ Strong interest in learning about preparing income taxes
- ◆ Friendly smile
- ◆ Enjoy helping others
- ◆ Computer skills

Work Location:

- ◆ East Scarborough Storefront
4040 Lawrence Ave East, Scarborough, ON M1E 2R2

Commitment:

- ◆ Short-term commitment during tax season
- ◆ Twice a week, 3 hours a day
- ◆ Reports to The Storefront Coordinator of Volunteer Department

Contact Information: Dip Habib Coordinator – Volunteer Program

Phone # 416 – 208 – 7897 Fax # 416 – 208 – 9239 email: diph@thestorefront.org

20. Scarborough Bluffs Music

Scarborough Bluffs Music a community based, not for profit, volunteer run organization is
Music Lessons at very reasonable rates for: Piano, Guitar and Rhythm, Gr. 1 -
class, 4 - 6 pm.

Located at 3739 Kingston Road it is easy to reach as it is on the TTC bus route. Please call
416 266 8352 for further information.

21. Toronto Zoo news and special events www.torontozoo.com

Special Events

- **March 13th to 22nd** - March Break Goes Wild!
- **April 10th to 13th** - Annual Easter "Egg" Stravaganza
Now on Display - Newborn Baby Mandrill Engages Zoo Visitors

Newly renovated Australasia Pavilion! Get immersed in the exotic world of the colourful living gardens of plant and animals life blooming under the seas of this incredibly beautiful area featuring sharks, angel and damsel fish, living corals, moon jellyfish and lots of fun, interactive exhibits. FREE with general Zoo admission

The "Green" Macaque Project :The lion-tailed macaque exhibit is a geothermal heated zoo exhibit. The exhibit, previously heated in the fall and winter by overhead large-scale electric radiant heaters, will now be warmed and cooled from below by a far more efficient and renewable source. The minimal electricity requirements for the exhibit are being supplied by Bullfrog Power. The new heating and cooling represent an impressive demonstration of the Toronto Zoo's Green Plan objective of renewable energy development. Lion-tailed macaques are a species of endangered primates from India.

Current Zoo hours - 9:30 am-4:30 pm. Last admissions one hour before closing.

General Admission 13-64 incl. is \$20

Children 3 and under are free, Children 4-12 are \$12 and Seniors 65+ are \$14.

Parking is FREE until March 1st. **Events and admission prices subject to change without notice.** For general information call (416) 392-5929 or visit

22. Youth in Policing Initiative

The Toronto Police Service is now accepting applications for the 2009 Youth in Policing Initiative and we need your help in spreading the word to all eligible candidates!

Every summer 100 youth are hired from Priority Neighbourhoods to work throughout the Toronto Police Service. They are placed in 45 locations, including all Divisions, and support units like the Marine Unit, the Mounted Unit, and the Forensics Identification Unit.

In addition to daily duties, they also have the opportunity to work at cultural events such as Caribana and Taste of the Danforth. All students are taken on a comprehensive tour in order to expose them to different areas of the Service including Police Dog Services, Communications (911 Call Centre), the Emergency Task Force, and the Police Museum.

All in all, students conclude their summer with a solid work experience, a better understanding of the Toronto Police Service, and friendships with other students and members of the Service that they'll take with them in their futures.

The Youth in Policing Initiative is a unique opportunity that is not to be missed. If you know or work with youth aged 14-17, who reside in one of the priority neighbourhoods, who don't have a criminal record, and who may be interested in working with the Toronto Police for the summer, please encourage them to apply.

For more information on this program, please visit our website at <http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/yipi/> or http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/careers/postings/20090128-jcexternal_yipi.pdf
Please note that the deadline for applications is Wednesday, February 25, 2009.

For further information contact: Danielle Francis Program Coordinator, Youth in Policing Initiative Toronto Police Service (T): 416.808.7618

23. Time-of-Use rates Toronto Hydro

Learn more about Time-of-Use rates Register at www.torontohydro.com/tou to view your TIME -OF-USE electricity consumption.

As part of the provincial plan to create a culture of conservation in Ontario, we replaced the old electricity meter at your home or business with a new smart meter. The smart meter will read the amount of electricity you use and the time of day/day of the week you use it. In the future, the cost of electricity will be calculated using new "Time-of-Use" (TOU) rates.

You will be provided with advance notice prior to being moved to the TOU pricing structure.

Learn more about how you use electricity

To help you prepare for the Time-of-Use pricing structure, you can now obtain up-to-date feedback about your electricity use – including how much you consumed within each Time-of-Use period. Register today at www.torontohydro.com/tou and go online anytime.

Time-of-Use rates Effective November 1, 2008, the Time-of-Use (winter) prices are:†
What you can do to take advantage of Time-of-Use rates

Time-of-Use rates are based on which times of day – or days of the week – experience the highest and lowest electricity demands across the province of Ontario. When demand for electricity and production costs are at their highest, the rates will be “on-peak” rates; when costs go down, so will rates.

For example, by running your dishwasher during a low-demand time – say, after 10 p.m. on weeknights – or by doing your laundry on the weekend, you can reduce your electricity costs because you’ll pay the lower “offpeak” rate.

You’ll see the different time periods and some examples of Time-of-Use rates in the enclosed guide.

For more information, please visit www.torontohydro.com/tou or call us at 416.542.8000 today – and find out how Time-of-Use rates can help you manage your electricity costs.

24. Call For Youth Participants Female Empowerment and Life Skills Through the Arts

POR AMOR Auset Circle Female Empowerment and Life Skills Through the Arts

Main Requirements for Applicants

- . Must be 15-19 years old female
- . Able to attend program every Monday and Friday for two hours.
- . Available to participate in program from Feb 2009 - May 2009

Participants in the program will:

- . Participate in creative arts workshops on hip hop, spoken word, and visual arts.
- . Create a professional CD featuring the talent of the youth artists
- . Organize and perform in various community events/youth forums
- . Receive community hours for specific program activities.

Auset Circle is a FREE weekly (every Monday & Friday from 5:00pm - 7:00pm) community arts program at 3941 Lawrence East Building B4, (Orton Park) that provides an opportunity for young women to be actively engaged in community change through creative and expressive art forms such as hip hop, spoken word, singing and visual arts. Young women will also learn new skills such as event planning, fundraising and goal setting. POR AMOR will be hosting an Open House Night on Friday February 6th from 4:30 -6:00 at 3941 Lawrence East Building B4, Orton Park to explain the program in more detail and to register interested youth. Families of the youth are welcome to come and meet the program facilitators as well.

Program start the following week MONDAY FEBRUARY 9th at 5:00pm

25. Toronto Council endorses plan to prohibit smoking at playgrounds in City parks

Toronto City Council approved a plan to make changes to the Municipal Code, Chapter 608, Parks, to prohibit smoking at playgrounds and other child-centred areas in City of Toronto parks.

The proposed changes to the Municipal Code will prohibit smoking and the holding of lighted tobacco in Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation zoos, farms and within a nine-metre radius of playground safety surfaces or any playground equipment in City of Toronto parks, including wading pools and splash pads.

Second-hand smoke is a Class A carcinogen linked to cancer, increased risk of heart disease and respiratory illness. Outdoor concentrations of second-hand smoke have been found to rival those of indoor second-hand smoke during periods of active smoking (depending on the direction of the wind and the distance from the smoker).

The City Solicitor will apply to the Province for the set fines to be imposed for the new offences created by the bylaw. It is expected that the bylaw will come into effect sometime this spring, after the set fines have been approved. Enforcement will be managed through Parks, Forestry and Recreation, with an initial focus on public awareness and education.

26. GO Train Service – Guildwood Station

Go has installed new LCD monitors at GO Stations along the Lakeshore East line. Effective January 31, 2009, these signs will provide current Lakeshore East GO Train status information, including delays of 10 minutes or more. Similar signs are already along Lakeshore West line and will be installed on all corridors in the near future.

27. City of Toronto Development Application Status website

The City of Toronto has launched the new Development Application Status website as part of City Planning's commitment to continually improve the planning process. This website allows the public to access detailed and current information on active development projects and planning applications back to January 1, 2006. Information can be accessed through a user-friendly search tool that returns the following results: project data, approval process status, public meeting dates and the assigned planner's name and phone number.

Planning & Growth Management Chair, Norm Kelly (Councillor, Ward 40 Scarborough-Agincourt) says that "giving citizens the power to go to the City's website and search planning applications in their neighbourhood by address, ward, district or application allows for greater interaction between the City and its citizens, stakeholders and the development industry. This is another example of further involving the residents of Toronto in the rebuilding of the city for the 21st century."

The Development Application Status website launched on Feb. 3 and is the first of two phases in the development of City Planning's web-based Application Information Centre. The second phase will include the ability to use a dynamic map to aid the search for applications.

Chief Planner Gary Wright says "the Development Application Status website is a service initiative that makes the planning process more accountable to the public through greater accessibility and transparency. This will be a useful tool for residents and the development industry."

The new Development Application Status website is located at:
www.toronto.ca/planning/developmentapplications.

28. Free events at Lit City - Toronto Stories, Toronto Settings - March to May 2009

A three-month citywide celebration of literary Toronto called "Lit City - Toronto Stories, Toronto Settings - March to May 2009" commemorates writers who find inspiration in Toronto and use the city as a setting in their work. Author readings, literary walking tours, book launches, panel discussions, exhibits and more connect Toronto authors with architecture, books with buildings and pages with places. Lit City kicks off on the official 175th anniversary of the City of Toronto, March 6 to 8 (www.toronto.ca/175), and culminates with the 10th anniversary of Doors Open Toronto, May 23 and 24.

The celebration begins at the City Hall library on Friday, March 6 with A City of Writers for 175 Years, noon to 2 p.m. Dub diva Lillian Allen and others deliver a gift to Toronto - a poem commissioned by Diaspora Dialogues. Readings by Toronto Book Awards 2008 winner Glen Downie, Toronto's Poet Laureate Pier Giorgio di Cicco and many others. At 7 p.m., author Don Cullen takes us back to the iconic 1960s coffee house and poetry den with the Bohemian Embassy Revival. The lineup includes Rosemary Sullivan reading Gwendolyn MacEwen, Greg Gatenby reading Raymond Souster, and musical performances.

The exhibit Lit City: Toronto through the Eyes of Authors and Artists opens March 7 (reception 1 to 3 p.m.) at the Market Gallery. The words of Toronto authors Margaret Atwood, Antanas Sileika and others meet the works of Toronto artists Aba Bayefsky, Doris McCarthy and more.

Join author Michael Ondaatje and Toronto Mayor David Miller for the unveiling of the inaugural Project Bookmark Canada plaque on Thursday, April 23, 11 a.m. at the Bloor Viaduct (west end). Details at www.projectbookmarkcanada.ca.

April is Keep Toronto Reading 2009 month at the Toronto Public Library. Lit City highlights include Cynthia Dale and Shyam Selvadurai reading from their favourite Toronto books. On the 10th anniversary of Doors Open Toronto, May 23 and 24, books will meet buildings at venues hosting site-specific author events, exhibits and literary walking tours celebrating books set in Toronto.

Find out about more Lit City events at www.toronto.ca/litcity. Lit City is produced by the City of Toronto in partnership with the Toronto Public Library.

29. Quote du Mois

One kind word can warm three winter months. ~Japanese Proverb

30. Websites for Community Use

Here's a few websites to explore if you're thinking of ideas for winter activities....enjoy!:

www.toronto.ca/city-update

www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/pro_march_break.jsp

www.sportacularevent.com/leaside-GHL_2009.php

www.torontobotanicalgarden.ca/children/marchbreak.htm

<http://wx.toronto.ca/inter/it/newsrel.nsf/82f55f14f8d6b46285256ef500408475/B4A0B9EC73E0C6EF85257299006F8D91?opendocument>

http://www.toronto4kids.com/component/option,com_eventing/task,viewcatall/id,57/

<http://www.ourkids.net/march-break-camps.php>

<http://www.ago.net/gallery-school>

http://www.toronto.ca/parks/recreation_facilities/skiing/centennialski.htm

31. ENews Policy and Contact Information

eNews is a monthly news communication from Paul Ainslie. If you are interested in subscribing, please email me at paulainslie@paulainslie.com . Each issue of the newsletter is sent only to those who have provided us with their email address for the purpose of corresponding on municipal matters. Email addresses will be kept confidential. If you wish to discontinue receiving our newsletter, please reply with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject line. I welcome you comments on any municipal matter and the opportunity to be of service. My regularly updated website is located at www.paulainslie.com and contains information on local organizations, news and events at City Hall. You can also communicate by email at councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca , phone me at 416 396 7222, or send a fax to 416 392 4006. Alternately you can visit Joan Bannister, my Constituency Assistant on the second floor of the Scarborough Civic Centre located at 150 Borough Drive(Ellesmere & McCowan)