



# Festival of Lights



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## Petting zoo and pony rides continue to be festival favorites

By RENA GALANIS  
Advertising Features

Farm and exotic animals continue to be star attractions at festi-

vals and fairs and this year's Festival of Lights will be host to one of the most popular group of furry friends - Alex LaSalle's Petting Zoo.

"The fun aspect of our petting zoo is the fact that children and adults can walk right into the corale and get right up close to the animals," LaSalle says. "Kids have that opportunity less and less because many of them live in big cities and don't go to visit farms unless a friend or relative of their parents own one."

The menagerie will include miniature goats, chinese chickens, barnyard ducks, rabbits, a pony, zebu, Cecilian donkeys, young camel, lambs, Jacob sheep and some young South American llamas.



Pony rides will also be available near the petting zoo on festival night, weather permitting.

Lasalle has been raising animals for the last 26 years and originally launched the idea for the petting zoo at a senior's home. He's been "busy ever since" he adds, and continues to take part in exhibitions, fairs, small festivals and the like each year.

With over 200 animals on his farm, LaSalle includes the ones which can easily adapt to winter weather in shows such as the Festival of Lights.

Growing up on a farm helped him nurture his love for animals and LaSalle maintains that kind of experience is almost a necessity to raise them in a full-time capacity.

Petting zoo favorites are the baby camel and donkey, he says, but children "just enjoy being around and up close to the animals. They have a lot of fun."

Look for Alex LaSalle's Petting Zoo during the Festival of Lights on Friday, Nov. 29 in the parking lot on Robinson Street just off of Main Street, Markham.

The zoo will be open from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.



*"Best Wishes  
for the  
Holiday Season"*

**RALPH ASELIN  
COUNCILLOR WARD 5  
Town of Markham**

### CONGRATULATIONS

MARKHAM VILLAGE  
FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS  
CELEBRATES ITS  
12<sup>TH</sup> YEAR



*Join The Celebration  
Bring Your Family  
And Enjoy The Evening*

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Markham, Ontario L3R 4Y9  
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## Village businesses set stage for holiday delight

After 11 years launching the holiday season with the Markham Village Festival of Lights, the event has become part of the tradition of the

season itself, at least in this town.

The merchants of Markham Village have diligently organized the street party over the years and without their efforts, there would be no festival.

The Markham Village Business Improvement Association (BIA) helps decorate the street and plan the entertainment for the evening and merchants extend their store hours for the evening allowing visitors to drop in for a treat, get to know their area merchants, as well as get a head start in putting a dent in their Christmas gift list.

The old-fashioned village atmosphere still permeates the Main Street and friendly, attentive merchants help maintain the old-time charm.

Service-oriented business will also open their doors for the evening and both children and adults can get into the Christmas spirit by contributing a non-perishable food item with the Tooth Fairy at Dr. Hunter's office at 34A Main St., Markham.

Take part in this year's Markham Village Festival. Admission is free, there's plenty of free parking and sights, smells and sounds to take the bite out of winter and ignite warm wishes and good will toward neighbors and friends.

The event takes place Friday, Nov. 29 on Main Street, Markham, north of Hwy. 7. The street will be closed to traffic the entire evening.

For additional information please call 905-472-2462.

## Showroom Warehouse Clearance Sale

**35 East Beaver Creek Road  
Unit 2, Front Entrance**

**Discontinued & Samples  
End of Line Designer Items**

**Nov. 24 - Dec. 8**

**Weekdays 10 - 4  
Weekends 12 - 4**

Artificial Floral Arrangements, Trees,  
Cactus, Wire Brackets, Glass-Vases, Lamps & Pedestals

Cash or Visa  
\*All Sales Final

35 East Beaver Creek




 **THE GLASS STORE**

**Your Christmas Store**

where you will find the best selection of tree ornaments, Christmas candles and decor, and the friendliest and most helpful staff.

So treat yourself to a visit soon!


134 Robinson Street 294-6085

 **The Old Markham Coffee Shoppe**

138 Robinson Street  
Markham Village

Warm up over a delicious cup of gourmet coffee and browse

We're brimming over with gift ideas & romantic Victorian trimmings for your home.

 Happy Holidays to You and Yours

**PEPPERTREE KLASSICS**  
WOMEN'S FASHIONS

**25% Off\***  
\*reg. ticket price

all Fall & Winter Fashions  
(excluding New Holiday arrivals)

Drop by for a visit on Friday, Nov. 29th & receive a FREE GIFT

Open Thurs. & Fri. until 8 p.m.  
Open Sundays

137 MAIN STREET N. MARKHAM VILLAGE **294-3882** Lots of free parking at rear