

# COMING UP

The week ahead

EDITOR'S PICK



Rudy Mayes leads a talented band in *Unforgettable... New Year's Eve 2007*, an evening of nostalgic music at the Markham Theatre for Performing Arts starting with cocktails at 9 p.m. Monday.

## your PLANNER

**SUNDAY DEC. 30** **LATE NIGHT SHOPPING**  
Main Street Unionville celebrates Boxing Week with horse-drawn carriage rides from 1 to 5 p.m. today and tomorrow. Check [www.unionvilleinfo.com](http://www.unionvilleinfo.com)

**MONDAY DEC. 31** **STOUFFVILLE NEW YEAR'S**  
The Mayor's New Year's Eve celebration will be held at Memorial Park in Stouffville, starting at 6:30 p.m. with fireworks at 8:45 p.m. There will be games, activities and hot chocolate at Latcham Hall.

**MONDAY DEC. 31** **MARKHAM VETS**  
Markham Veterans Association holds its New Year's Eve celebration, featuring Danny Scott and Friends, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the hall, 7 Washington St. Tickets are \$60 per couple. For information, e-mail [markhamveterans@rogers.com](mailto:markhamveterans@rogers.com)

**MONDAY DEC. 31** **ANGUS GLEN**  
Angus Glen Golf Course in Unionville hosts a four-course gourmet dinner with complimentary cocktails and entertainment New Year's Eve. Tickets are \$150 or \$80 for the dance only. Call 905-887-0090, ext. 241.

**THURSDAY JAN. 3** **ARCTIC TALE**  
Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library presents the family movie *Arctic Tale* starting at 1:30 p.m. Call 905-642-7323.

**FRIDAY JAN. 4** **FAMILY FREE FOR ALL**  
Lebovic Leisure Centre in Stouffville presents free swimming and the movie *Daddy Day Camp*. The event runs from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Call 905-642-7529 or 905-642-7323.

For more community events, visit [yorkregion.com](http://yorkregion.com) and click on POP, personal online planner.

To add an event to this listing, e-mail Simone Joseph at [sjoseph@yrmg.com](mailto:sjoseph@yrmg.com)

# NOSTALGIC NEW YEAR

Take a look back as you welcome 2008

BY SIMONE JOSEPH  
Staff Reporter

**H**ow about starting the New Year with some nostalgia? "People always seem to want to look back into youth, nostalgia. It is easier, more comforting to spend time with music you know," says John Dimon, producer and director of *Unforgettable... New Year's Eve 2007* and owner of Diamond Entertainment.

*Unforgettable... New Year's Eve 2007* showcases the hits of Nat King Cole and other superstars including Louis Armstrong, Stevie Wonder, Lionel Richie, Johnny Mathis, Barry White, Diana

Ross and the Supremes, Donna Summer and Tina Turner.

The performance stars recording artist-entertainer Rudy Mayes.

"I was knocked out by this guy," Mr. Dimon said. "We decided to build the show around him. I have never seen anyone who could sing (like this). He exudes charisma. I could not believe it. Where has he been all my life?"

Mr. Mayes is a versatile vocalist, Mr. Dimon said. "He sounds like Nat King Cole or Barry White or Stevie Wonder. He is able to do that without trying."

Other performers include: Demo Cates on tenor sax and vocals; Joe Palawan and his *Unforgettable All-Stars*, Tim Gittens on drums and vocals, Brooke Bentley on lead guitar and vocals, bass man Dane Wedderburn, plus the harmony

**'He exudes charisma. I could not believe it. Where has he been all my life?'**

John Dimon  
producer,

*Unforgettable... New Year's Eve 2007*

and dance of Laura Azahar and Heather Cadogan, as well as singer Selena Gittens.

Ms Gittens does an amazing version of *Say A Little Prayer*, Mr. Dimon said.

"All of a sudden, this woman comes out and is stunning," he said, referring to her voice and on-stage persona. "She has a sense of calm and confidence," he said.

Ms Gittens performs the songs of entertainers such as Natalie

Cole, Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross, Tina Turner and Donna Summer.

A news release says the singer-entertainer "can put you in a mellow mood with romantic ballads or make your feet jump to high-energy tunes."

The New Year's Eve bash tomorrow is in the Markham Theatre for Performing Arts at 171 Town Centre Blvd. just west of Hwy. 7 and Warden Avenue.

The night starts with a champagne and wine reception at 9 p.m. and continues with the stage show with party favours from 10 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

Tickets are \$69 and groups of 10 or more are \$64. To order tickets, call Markham Theatre at 905-305-7469.

Visit [www.diamondentertainment.ca](http://www.diamondentertainment.ca) or call 416-861-0288.

## IN THEATRES



Denzel Washington stars in *The Great Debaters*, the true story of a controversial teacher who grooms the debate team from a small African American college into a force that beats Ivy League schools.

It scored 96.  
Everyone at dinner RAVED.  
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