

June

There were more honours for Nobleton brew master Phil DiFonzo. His King Dark Lager won a Trillium Award as best in its category.

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To the anger and frustration of a number of people, councillors narrowly approved, with many conditions, a rezoning for the property slated to accommodate the relocated Holland Marsh District Christian School.

“You people make irresponsible decisions!” one man angrily shouted as he walked from the room after the motion passed by a four-three vote.

There were a number of objections to the fact that the rezoning was being approved before the site plan. The rezoning was in danger of being refused when Councillor Pabst added a stipulation that the actual building envelope for the school structure and the septic system will have to be determined before the project proceeds much farther.

Even that didn't satisfy some of the opponents in the room.

“Why don't you come and move there,” shouted one woman from the public gallery.

“We're just being treated like trash,” one man said. “No one is paying any attention to us.”

But the proposal also had some supporters in the audience.

“We're just moving down the street and around the corner,” one parent remarked.

“And into my backyard,” a man fired back from the gallery.

The following week, the Township's adjustment committee approved a severance that would facilitate the relocation, but that move was greeted with hostility by some of the potential neighbours of the new facility.

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Council held another meeting to deal with assessing costs to residents for the installation of the sewers in King City, and they reached the same conclusion as before.

Council approved the necessary bylaw to set a base rate of \$12,541 per dwelling and voted to charge benefitting property owners on a residential equivalent basis.

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There's an enormous amount of history and heritage in King Township, and Heritage King put out a

new map and photo gallery to help people find many of the sites of interest.

Eleven locations in King are designated heritage sites, and they were all marked on the map, complete with photographs in the gallery section. In all, there are more than 50 photographs, including vintage scenes of villages and buildings scattered throughout King.

As well, there is brief information on the history of the township, as well as the role of Heritage King, which is the successor organization to the King Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC).

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Planners for the proposed Baldesarra development in Nobleton made some changes to their concepts, and possibly a few friends in the process.

Their consultants held an open house sessions in June, and showed that the number of proposed units had been scaled back from 342 to 245. It also called for a parcel of about 10.6 acres in the middle of the property that was slated to accommodate a school and park. There were also provisions for commercial land, open space and preserving a woodlot in the northwest corner of the property.

There was a lot of positive reaction to the woodlot. The previous plan called for a connection with Wilkie Avenue to the north through that area, but that part of the proposal has been scrapped.

The proposed densities in the subdivision had been reduced from almost four units per acres to three.

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The community was behind it, and a peer review said go for it, so King Township elected to ask the Ministry of the Environment to order an individual environmental assessment for the transformer station proposed by Hydro One in the Holland Marsh.

Hydro One had selected a property on the north side of Millers Sideroad, east of Dufferin Street, as the preferred site for the Transformer station. The plan was to have the facility in operation by the fall of 2007.

The peer review came up with four points of concern with Hydro One's environmental study report. They cited a “limited level of detail . . . which leaves a number of questions unanswered.”

Other concerns dealt with

evaluation of alternatives, the fact the proposed site plan was land intensive, with no clear word that there is a designated buffer from the adjacent Ansnorveldt wetland complex, and that the report was weak when it came to details about mitigation measures that would be used to address negative environmental and socio-economic impacts.

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King City Secondary School announced that Michael Swift was the top scholar in the graduating class, with an average of 91.5 per cent. His sister Anne had headed the KCSS Class of 200.

Nobleton's Dietmar Trillus spent the Canada Day weekend competing successfully at the Ontario Spring Classic in Scarborough.

He was in a FITA (International Archery Federation) round, shooting 144 arrows at various distances, scoring 1,397 out of a possible 1,440, giving him the high score among the competitors for the day, although he lamented a bit that he hadn't crossed the 1,400 barrier.

“Another day at work,” he remarked.

He also took part in a series of one-on-one matches, shooting 12 arrows over 70 metres. He swept through all his competition, prevailing in the finals 112-109, capping what he called an “excellent weekend.”

He said his 1,397 performance was the highest score in the country for such a major event.

“This is an addiction, more than anything else,” he said. “I just enjoy shooting a bow.”

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York Region lifted its water ban for King City early in July.

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Cleve Mortelliti, a former engineering technician with the Township, expressed the desire to view life from the political side. He announced he would be running for the Ward 1 council seat in King.

Elizabeth Crowe also announced she would be seeking her fifth term as local trustee on the York Catholic District School Board.

Later in the month, Councillor Underhill declared she would seek another term in the Ward 5 seat.

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Arts Festival King



These clean-cut King City Secondary School students are Colton Whittaker, Scott Leon, Heather MacDonald and Garth Miller, and they had their heads buzzed in June to raise money for the Cancer Society.

July

featured a full week of artistic attractions, as well as entertainment, lectures, tours and other points of interest

It was a project of Arts Society King (ASK).

The festivities included the annual King Swings at Daniel's of Nobleton, and that was highlighted by appearances by Jeff Healey, as well as the Good Brothers.

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Nobleton's Cosimo Figliomeni celebrated his 52nd birthday in his usual fashion; by taking a long walk to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Toronto and Central Ontario.

This year's stroll was to Niagara-on-the-Lake, and as things turned out, the ride home was more complicated than the walk down. The motor home bringing him and his three companions home broke down.

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The death of two Newmarket women in an accident at the intersection of the 17th Sideroad and Keele Street sparked calls for action at the Township council table.

Councillors asked York Region to look into design and safety aspects of the intersection.

“I've been concerned about this intersection for a long time,” Councillor Underhill remarked, suggesting a stop sign be erected for southbound traffic.

Mayor Black said she was convinced the amount of traffic is a lot more than what had been envisioned when the intersection was designed.

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There were a number of details to be ironed out, but a lot of apparent interest was

being shown in July in turning Kettleby into heritage conservation district.

About 15 members of the community were on hand at a public meeting to discuss the issue, along with several Township councillors, staff members and consultants.

The idea behind this designation would be to recognize that heritage in Ontario goes beyond individual buildings to actually include the space in between, along with surrounding landscape.

Township Planning Director Stephen Kitchen said the Kettleby Village Association (KVA) and Heritage King expressed interest in exploring this, so the project was incorporated into the department's work plan for the year.

In a report that went to council earlier in the year, planners stated applying this designation would enable “council to manage and guide future change in the district through the adoption of a district plan with policies and guidelines for conservation, protection and enhancement of the area's special value and character.”

“The designation allows a community to protect and enhance groups of properties within its community that collectively demonstrate distinctive heritage value and character,” the report added.

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An application for a judicial review, launched by opponents to the sewer plan in King City, was dismissed.

In a statement, the Divisional Court of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice dismissed the application, although representatives of the the citizens' groups that launched the action stated

they supported the dismissal.

The application had been filed a year before, alleging widespread failures by York Region to comply with Oak Ridges Moraine protection legislation regarding the authorization and construction of the York-Durham Sewage System (YDSS) in the village. Proponents of the legal action had been previously told by an environmental lawyer that the Region had stated the sewer proposal complied with one clause of the moraine legislation. But the Act has many clauses, and he said the plan might not have complied with all of them.

But new information had come to light that caused all parties to agree it was best to have the application pulled.

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There was lots of activity in July as King residents were getting ready for the impending visit from judges from the national Communities in Bloom competition.

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The possibility that a developer in King City might throw in a free municipal hall seemed to be fading, but there was talk of a recreation facility going there.

Councillor Pellegrini put forth a motion calling on Township staff to approach the developer who proposed the municipal hall and discuss the possibility of the recreation building, in line with what was proposed a couple of years ago by the local Lions clubs.

In the end, councillors unanimously agreed to include the lands next to the King Township Museum in a study of possible sites for the recreation facility.