

August

York Mills resident James Durban, who owns property in Schomberg, announced he would be making a second stab at getting elected to council, representing Ward 5.

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The rearranging of the provincial riding boundaries means some politicians had had to move a bit.

York North MPP Julia Munro was one of them, as she was nominated to be the Progressive Conservative standard bearer in the new provincial riding of York — Simcoe.

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The Kingfest Music Celebration promised to be a big event in September, and organizers received a big boost in August, courtesy of the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The Foundation announced that Kingfest would be receiving \$100,000 in grants, spread over three years.

The York Region chapter of Habitat for Humanity, an independent, charitable housing program dedicated to building homes in partnership with families in need, was a major beneficiary of the festival.

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The two Communities in Bloom judges learned just how nice a place King Township is.

David Urquhart from Fredericton and Edgar Toop from the Edmonton area spent part of a week exploring the township, and they told those attending at reception in Pottageville that they were very impressed with what they had seen.

“We’re very pleased with what we’ve seen,” Urquhart told the audience.

The judges were so impressed, they even sent the municipality a thank-you note.

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Human skeletal remains were found on the south side of King, between the 7th Concession and Mill Road.

Investigators working out of the York Regional Police Homicide and Missing Persons Bureau later identified the human remains as belonging to Phillip Ho Sing Sit, 17, of Toronto.

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York Region Health Services reported that a mosquito pool, found in the Schomberg area, had tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV).

The Region reported the mosquitoes were trapped close to the intersection of Highways 9 and 27. The positive mosquitoes were the first this year in York.

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Weekly blue box

collection had been a success in Schomberg, it was decided to spread it to the other villages in King Township, and there were calls to expand it into rural areas as well.

Schomberg area resident Henry Verbruggen lobbied to have the program expanded to the rural areas as soon as possible, arguing it would bring equality to all township residents. Mayor Black agreed, adding she wanted access to the program herself.

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By the end of the first season, Dave Morgan and Don Reeves were tied for the most ringers in the King Quickshoe horseshoe pitching league. They each notched 87.

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About 20 people gathered at King Bible Church to hear from a number of members of the Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church, who had travelled from Africa to take part in the AIDS conference in Toronto.

“It was an excellent exercise,” commented Desta Demessie, a deputy general secretary with the church.

Some critics had suggested the conference was more of a forum for spotting celebrities, such as Bill Gates or Bill Clinton, but Demessie said it was much more than that. “A lot of behind-the-scenes work was going on,” he commented.

He also pointed out Gates did put up \$500 million to the cause.

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The Vestaloynes, with members hailing from the Nobleton and Toronto areas, were the big winners in the Kingstock Battle of the Bands, hosted by the Youth Leadership Association of the King Township Chamber of Commerce. The members were Sean Hingston, Alex Aleksic, Spencer Evoy, Spacker Dave and Ben Reed. Upwards of 500 people took in the show, which featured nine bands from king and beyond.

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Did aliens land at Puck’s Farm? If not, how did a crop circle end up there?

The Canadian Crop Circle Research Network (CCCRN) reported a formation appeared in a field of sorghum. It was approximately 60 feet in diameter, circular, with eight spokes aligned with points on the compass. There were no apparent tracks heading into the area, and no one seemed to know how it got there.

“No idea,” was the explanation offered by Puck’s Farm managing Director Frazier Mohawk.

They thought at first that it might have been a prank by neighbourhood kids, but Mohawk admitted he was having trouble believing they would have been so precise in doing something like that as a joke. He added CCCRN people seem to agree. “They are surprised with the precision of it and the exactness,” he said.

Joanna Emery, Ontario spokesperson for CCCRN, could offer little more in the way of information, apart from confirming it was a crop circle and it was being investigated.

She said it could have been caused by something natural, although the alignment of the spokes was “highly unusual.”

“There seems to be some sort of intelligence behind it,” she added.

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Veteran school Trustee Susan Plamondon announced she would not be seeking another term on the York Region District School Board, but former trustee Les Pengelly of Schomberg said he would try to be her successor.

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York Region United Way announced it had set \$8 million as the target in the 2006 campaign. The announcement was made at the ATI Technologies Inc. Dragon Boat Festival at the King Campus of Seneca College.

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King City’s Lorraine Hanoun wasn’t in the winner’s circle at the Miss Canada International competition in Mississauga, but she was still enthused about the experience afterwards.

“It was definitely an amazing experience,” she declared.

Hanoun, 22, was Miss York Region, and she was among 26 young women seeking the title. She had the distinction of seeing her roommate at the competition, Rachel Jaillet of New Brunswick, take the crown.

Despite its name, it was not really a beauty contest. It was based on academic achievement and community involvement; seen as a vehicle for empowering young women to aspire to their personal and professional goals, while expressing diversity, individuality, personality, intelligence and talents.

There was a tremendous amount of camaraderie among the contestants, or “delegates,” as they were officially referred to.

“We connected,” Hanoun said. “I now have a friend and open welcome in every province.”



King City resident Lorraine Hanoun was competing for the title of Miss Canada International.

September

It was announced early in the month that the new sewers in King City were commissioned and residents in the completed phases were able to arrange connections.

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The new school year also saw the arrival of a new principal in King. Beverly Coles took the helm at Holy Name Catholic School in King City.

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Parking had been banned on the 16th Sideroad, west of Bathurst Street, since January, but the problems had not completely gone away.

That’s why a Township staff recommendation to partially lift the ban was rejected by council. They opted instead to simply receive the staff report, and try to get more enforcement help from York Regional Police.

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The weather looked threatening, but the rain held off long enough for everyone to have a great time at the annual Kettleby Fair.

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The new King Wild opened their first season playing in the new Greater metro Junior A Hockey League a little off form. They were blanked 6-0 by their Richmond Hill Ram hosts. But they regrouped and were on their way after their home opener,

which saw they down the Toronto Canada Moose 5-1.

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The likes of Murray McLaughlan, Sylvia Tyson, Dr. Joel Krivy, Jacksoul, David Francey and Kiximama delighted audiences over two nights at the Kingfest Music Celebration, in support of the York Region chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Organizers are promising big things for the 2007 festival, set for June.

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Vandorf resident Gord Kerr decided to try and apply his experience being a parents’ advocate in education at the board level. he announced he would be seeking the the King and aurora seat on the York Region District School Board.

Meanwhile, Les Pengelly decided to pull out of the trustee race in favour of Kerr. “I think he can handle the job,” he said.

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Ward 2 council candidates Peter Grandilli and Jeff Laidlaw came to an interesting deal, in which they agreed to curtail the number and locations of the campaign signs.

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Bryan Jackson, who died at 71, was remembered as the long-time manager of Schomberg community and Agricultural Arena.

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Kiximama, with Christie McPhee, Marion Campbell, Mary Bennet and Cynthia Stevens, accompanied by Ray Williams on bass, were among the many entertainers at Kingfest Music Celebration.