

Nancy Bodi named King Township's Citizen of the Year

By Bill Rea

Nancy Bodi has devoted a lot of effort over the last couple of years making the Kingfest Music Festival into an institution, and King Township has recognized that work.

Bodi was named King Township's Citizen of the Year last Tuesday night at the annual volunteer appreciation evening.

"It was very easy to choose this year's Citizen of

the Year award," Mayor Margaret Black commented as she made the announcement. "This person is a long time King resident and over the years has been active in church and other volunteer community work."

Black went on to comment on how Bodi has held executive positions in advertising and marketing with several corporations and recently completed her MBA at York University's

Schulich School of Business.

But it was her work as the "driving force behind building Kingfest from a gospel evening three years ago to a full blown three day outdoor music extravaganza," that drew the most attention, especially her recent successful efforts to attract government funding for Kingfest from a variety of sources including the Trillium Foundation,

Ontario Tourism and the Ontario Arts Council.

It was clear that Bodi was one of the most surprised people in the room.

"This is really a surprise," she declared as she accepted the award.

"I had no idea," she later said.

"It's quite an honour," she added, "because I was standing among other people who are really deserving."

Bodi also made a point of

sharing the credit with the other people involved in organizing Kingfest, stressing she's part of a team. "It's been a journey and I really do feel we've been blessed," she commented.

There were numerous other groups and individuals recognized during the evening for their volunteer efforts.

"Volunteers are the very fabric of our community," Black remarked.

York North MPP Julia Munro said it's easy to come up with a list of what makes a community, and volunteerism is near the top.

"Volunteers really are the key to the quality of life we do enjoy," she commented.

The volunteer organizations operating in King are almost too numerous to mention, but Township Clerk Chris Somerville gave it a shot, citing the Lions clubs in Nobleton, King City and Schomberg; the soccer clubs in Nobleton, King City and Schomberg; skating clubs in the three villages; NobleKing Minor Hockey Association, Schomberg Minor Hockey Association; the King Township Food Bank; King Township Historical Society and Archives; Lloydtown Rebellion Association; Concerned Citizens of King Township; King Environmental Groups; Nobleton Alert; King City Preserve the Village; Kettleby Village Association; Save The Oak Ridges Moraine; Vision King; Nobleton Women's Institute; Nobleton Block Parents; Hospice King — Aurora; Knights of Columbus; King Township Chamber of Commerce; Nobleton Schomberg

District Chamber of Commerce; Schomberg Agricultural Society; Nobleton and King City Horticultural Society; Schomberg Horticultural Society; Gardens for King; Communities in Bloom; Rotary; Holland Marsh Drainage Commission; Dufferin Marsh Management Committee; Friends of Cold Creek; Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation; Oak Ridges Moraine Trail Association; Guides and Scouts; King City 39ers, Art Society King; Kingfest; and the Nobleton Victoria Day Committee.

"You are the heart of our municipality," Councillor Linda Pabst told the volunteers.

"It's a very silent work that you go about that makes our community what it is," Councillor Bill Cober added.

"I know there are hundreds more in this township who deserve to be here," Councillor Jane Underhill commented.

The following people were recognized for their volunteer contributions during the evening.

Special Recognition Awards

Fred Beaton — Presented in appreciation of outstanding volunteer commitment to collecting various used articles from The Kingbridge Conference centre and delivering them to the needy.

Jean Boynton — Presented in appreciation of the outstanding volunteer commitment in serving the community as a long-term member of the Nobleton Community Hall committee and the Nobleton Women's Institute.

See 'Many' on page 3



These are some of the top volunteers King Township honoured last Tuesday night in Pottageville.

Changes to plan provide 'comfort' for concerned neighbours

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she's still concerned about the impact this development

will have on the village. "You never get everything you were striving for."

Area resident Greg Locke was a little more blunt, and critical of the work of council.

"There is obviously room for better planning here," he remarked. "It's a shame that we have to do their work."

Planning consultant Murray Evans testified the proposal has gone through an extensive review process, pointing to several positive features. That included conveying the Dufferin

Marsh portion of the property to the Township, along with a 15-metre buffer area surrounding it.

He also told Lawyer Stephen Waque, representing Laurier, that what was on the table represented good planning. "There's always a balancing of objectives and needs," he remarked.

He also told Township lawyer Jose Matera the 7.5-metre rear setbacks for the lots in question would have constituted good planning too. While he said extending them to 9.5 metres "works fine," he didn't see this as a precedent for extending the Township's standards.

Waque added the extra setbacks "provided comfort to the participants."

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King TTC worker remembered

All the wheels in the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) system came to a halt for one minute Monday in honour of Antonio "Tony" Almeida.

The 38-year-old Pottageville area resident died early last Monday in a mishap in the tunnel of the Yonge Street subway line. The father of two, who had been on the job for five years, was part of an 11-member asbestos removal crew that was heading out of the tunnel at the end of their shift when a large piece of equipment on the lead car dislodged and struck him as he was driving at the front of the second car, killing

him. Two other employees were injured.

The Stop and Stay observances in the TTC system was timed for just after Mr. Almeida's funeral mass in Toronto Monday, which was attended by a TTC honour guard.

"During Tony Almeida's five years at the TTC, he was clearly an exemplary employee by the many testimonials of his peers and co-workers," read a statement issued Monday by TTC. "Tony will be sadly missed by everyone who was associated with him at the TTC."

The Ministry of labour is investigating the incident.

Happy 55th Mom & Dad

Jan, Con & Ken & Families