

# The Tribune

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Jim Rehill, Manitoba Street, is Whitchurch-Stouffville's "Citizen of the Year". The 45 year old sportsman, musician and sponsor of programs for the elderly, will be honored at the

Town's Canada Day celebrations, Tuesday, July 1 at 7 p.m., in the park.

—Jim Thomas.

## Jim Rehill

## S.D.S.S. staff

# "Citizen of the Year"

By Jim Thomas  
STOUFFVILLE — Jim Rehill is Whitchurch-Stouffville's "Citizen of the Year".

The selection, made public this week, will be recognized officially at the Town's Canada Day celebrations, July 1. Presentations of awards will take place at 7 p.m., in the Stouffville Park.

The event, one of many activities planned here beginning June 27, is being sponsored by The Tribune in co-operation with Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce, local service clubs and organizations.

While many names were

placed before the committee, the final choice was unanimous. Mr. Rehill is a teacher on the staff of Stouffville District Secondary School and resides at 141 Manitoba Street.

Jim Rehill's contributions within the Town have touched every area of community life. Heading the list is his work with senior citizens, establishing programs that are a first in Ontario. He's a keynote speaker at countless seminars on aging and recognized by Queen's Park as a leader in this field. Out of this has emerged the Stouffville organization called "Hand in Hand" in which students help and, in

turn are helped by residents of senior years. His assistant is Jan McBride, also a staff teacher at S.D.S.S., plus senior students like Dave Dart in '79 and Richard Bartley this year.

"The initial idea was mine," he says, "but without the co-operation of many people, it wouldn't work".

In the field of sports, Jim Rehill's energy and enthusiasm knows no bounds. Through his guidance, many honors have been won by student teams.

His choirs are renowned throughout the community, having sung in many local churches. The choral concert each June, held in co-operation with Ron Robbins'

choir from Orchard Park School, is a much-appreciated event.

A fine musician himself, Jim's a regular in Music Mania, both as a chorus member and soloist. He's served as organist and choirmaster in Christ Church Anglican, Stouffville as well as pianist for the Sunday School.

Born in Collingwood, he came to Stouffville in 1957, following graduation from McMaster University, Hamilton. With the exception of one year on sabbatical leave to Oregon, he's continued to live here.

Jim and Shirley Rehill have three sons, David, 20; Michael, 17 and Scott, 11.

# School reunion great success

CLAREMONT — Everyone attending the Claremont Public and Continuation School had the privilege of growing up in a small community. The Hon. Keith Norton, Minister of Community and Social Services told a reunion audience of former teachers and students, Saturday.

The guest speaker, introduced by Bruce Lehman, a member of the Reunion Committee, mentioned the deep family roots established in the area. "This village is still very much a part of us," he said.

He praised those people who, through the years, had volunteered their help. He expressed the hope that this kind of co-operation might continue. "If we allow government to provide everything, we lose something as citizens," he said.

"Commitment to others is a lesson in life," he stated. The speaker commended the committee for setting the wheels in motion and organizing the event. "Many of us suggested it but they did it," he said. The provincial minister paid tribute to Dr. Nels

Tomlinson, identified by chairman Jack Wallace as "Mr. Claremont." "The good doctor played an important role in bringing me into the world in 1941," he said, "and probably most of you too."

The speaker referred to the weekend as an event filled with fond memories and nostalgia. Then he recalled the afternoon back in Grade 1 when, on the school skating rink, he and an unidentified girl "pledged our love for a lifetime." "Fifteen years later, she married someone else, but I've remained faithful," he said, much to the

enjoyment of all.

The guest of honor was presented with a framed class picture. Mrs. Della Moore, his former teacher and principal, made the presentation.

Dr. Tomlinson was accorded a rousing ovation. His memory, sharp as ever, allowed him to recall those who assisted him on staff and the names of several students. He remembered his two years as principal (1909-1911) as being particularly happy times and praised the committee for making it possible that those days and years since, could be re-lived.

# Cruiser grounded

STOUFFVILLE — It was like a police chase on television but the end result could have been tragic.

It started on Main Street when a York Regional Police constable spotted an eastbound motorcyclist travelling at an excessive rate of speed. He took off in hot pursuit but unfortunately didn't realize the road turns sharply right and left

at the Uxbridge townline.

The biker turned but the cop car didn't. After skidding close to 300 feet on dry pavement, the cruiser snapped off a sign, vaulted a ditch, uprooted a post, smashed through a fence, bounced over a rock and came to rest in a nearby field.

Despite all the obstacles in its path, the car suffered only a punctured gas tank.

# Police Chief reports- Vandalism on increase

STOUFFVILLE — In spite of a report by York Regional Police Chief Bruce Crawford that vandalism in Town has increased during the first four months of this year, Mayor Eldred King says he "wouldn't like to think it's worse here than anywhere else."

The mayor made his comment following presentation of a report by Chief Crawford at a meeting of council, June 10. It had been prompted by a query from members in April as to how the municipality stood in this regard.

The police survey covered the period from Jan. 1 to April 21, of the years 1979 and 1980. It showed, what was described as a "substantial increase."

Fifteen occurrences were reported this year, compared to

only five in '79. The acts as detailed included broken windows, advertising signs, car radio antennae and store awnings. The majority of incidents occurred after dark, the Chief said. He admitted there was absolutely no explanation for the upsurge, either locally or across the province.

Crawford said that "ideally," he would like to be able to detail a police officer to walk the beat in Stouffville, but due to staff limitations, this can't be done. He agreed to do it whenever possible.

Mayor King contended that Whitchurch-Stouffville should perhaps count itself lucky since a report on crime showed Toronto near the bottom of the list as far as major cities were concerned. The same, he said,

would likely apply to adjacent areas. "I wouldn't like to think it's worse here than anywhere else."

Councillor Bill Kamps suggested improved lighting would tend to reduce vandalism. Better illumination, he said, was planned for the Stouffville park.

Councillor Jim Sanders claimed "no single solution" to the problem. "There has to be a co-operative effort. I think we have that here. Crime only occurs when the culprits can remain anonymous. That's difficult in Stouffville."

Chief Crawford in his report said he wasn't at all sure there is any solution other than harsher penalties for offenders.

"I think there is, if we work together," concluded Councillor Sanders.

# Theft victims ridicule court

YORK REGION — An angry group of home-owners, whose residences had been ransacked and their possessions stolen, assembled outside the court building in Newmarket and vehemently denounced the conduct of Crown Attorney Kenneth Murray after the case involving four men and two women had been heard.

The witnesses were livid as they heard Judge George Carter hand out fines of \$400 and one day in jail to Albert Solomon, 41, of Toronto; \$300 or one month in jail to Brian Precious, 33, of Richmond Hill and \$500 or two months in jail to Wayne Taylor, 28, of Aurora.

Linda Caldwell, 25, of Thornhill and Susan Jean Thornhill, 29, of Richmond Hill, each received a suspended sentence and a one year term of probation. Charges against two other women were withdrawn.

The trial was scheduled to proceed at 10 a.m., but didn't begin until 11:30. At that time, Crown Attorney Murray announced to Judge Carter that the accused would plead guilty. With the exception of Solomon, he asked for probation or fines.

Leading the verbal assault was Margaret Britnell, Mayor of King Township. She charted that lenient sentences and plea bargaining by the Crown only gives offenders "a licence to go out and steal again."

"They come to court in their big cars and expensive clothes, tell the judge they're on welfare and get away with fines after people have been robbed of their personal possessions," she claimed. Action of this kind only prompts innocent folk to take

the law into their own hands. Mrs. Britnell said her house had been entered and ransacked. She said momentos, precious to her and her children, had been stolen.

"They (the accused), paid less in fines than they received for selling our goods," she charged. She said she had learned first-hand why citizens of York Region have been complaining so bitterly about court delays and lenient sentences.

Ann Willson, vice-president of the Parkway Hotel, Hwy. 7 and Leslie Street, Markham, claimed the accused left the courtroom laughing. She said she'd never again offer herself as a witness.

Mrs. Britnell said she wasn't finding fault with the police, but with the Crown. "We might just as well leave our doors open and let people come in and help themselves," she said.

Mr. Murray attempted to reason with angry victims outside the court, without success. He said that by shortening the court's time, the Crown had saved costly trial expenses. He claimed that even if the cases had gone to trial, it would have been difficult to obtain convictions.

Said Fred Warn of King, "if this is justice then there's something sadly wrong with our legal system."

# Let anglers 'off the hook'

WHITCHURCH — Three Scarborough men, charged with theft of nine trout from a pond east of Hwy. 48 near Ringwood, were given absolute discharges by Judge S.M. Harris in Newmarket Provincial Court last week.

Kenneth Vasilevski, 21; Glenn Chislett, 20 and David Sackett, 19, had entered pleas of not guilty to stealing fish from a commercial site owned and operated by Don Burd of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Although it was 4 a.m., when the three entered the property, they said they fully intended to

pay for their catch. They said they hadn't realized that fishing from a trout pond was subject to the same rules as government-imposed regulations elsewhere.

Mr. Burd said the men were fishing in the pond's spawning area where brood stock are maintained. He said "No Fishing" signs were in evidence, also notices limiting the business hours to a period between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The accused said they had gone to Lake Simcoe on a "fishing adventure" and had come up empty-handed. On their return, they decided to call in at the Whitchurch pond to try their luck. They said they had no intention of leaving without paying the regular fee.

Judge Harris said he found it hard to believe the trio intended to enter the property and fish at four o'clock in the morning, then rouse the owner and pay for what they caught. However, he claimed he wasn't satisfied with the dollar estimate Mr. Burd had placed on his loss. That, he said, must be proven in another court.

# Memorial

STOUFFVILLE — On Monday evening, members of Stouffville's Richardson Masonic Lodge met at Cashel to commemorate the 120th anniversary of the organization's founding.

History records the first meeting as being held June 15, 1860 above the livery stable of the hotel at what is now Kennedy Road and 18th Avenue, RR 1, Unionville.

The Worshipful Master at the time was James Bowman. Samuel Mighton, the hamlet's innkeeper was the first initiated candidate.

The original structure still stands and was recently recognized as an historic site. Built about 1835, it was once called Landon Hotel. Now, it's an antique shop, operated by the owner, Anita Bates.

Kenneth Petty, Worshipful Master of Richardson Lodge, presented Mrs. Bates with a plaque as a permanent memorial to the beginning of Masonry in the Stouffville area.



Lions support Town's tree-planting project

The tree-planting project on Stouffville's Main Street, has been sponsored by the Town in co-operation with the local Lions Club. Here president Jim Richards (left) and Don Caudle

(centre), present Mayor Eldred King with a cheque for \$2,600, the money to assist in the purchase of the trees.

—Jim Thomas.