

Editor's Mail

Unfair

Ever since the Recreation Complex was opened there's been talk of an indoor swimming pool. Now we're told it will likely be put off in favor of a new Town Hall. I consider this grossly unfair. To choose one over the other is like comparing apples to oranges. They serve two widely different purposes. Undoubtedly, the Municipal Office is overcrowded. The pool is a top recreation priority. Let's proceed with both. The Town (Council) can look after accommodation requirements for its employees. One of the service clubs could make the pool a project, involving the entire community. I believe it would be strongly supported.

(Mrs.) Josephine McGrath.

No use

Principal Peter Bright mentioned the fact Stouffville High School employs pay-duty police officers to attend Friday night dances. I don't know their rate of pay but I assume they don't come cheap. What do they do? For drunkenness to occur 'before their eyes' is inexcusable in my opinion. Even the fact a non-student 'slipped in' by another entrance makes me wonder. When an individual's hired to do a job, he/she should do it. Reacting after the fact is of no use whatsoever.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Sheila Dawson,
Bramble Crescent,
Stouffville



The Tribune

ESTABLISHED 1888
JAMES THOMAS Editor
BRUCE ANNAN Publisher
PATRICIA PAPPAS Advertising Manager
JENNIFER HUTT Distribution Manager

RETAIL ADVERTISING: Susan Berry (Manager Charles Canning)
REAL ESTATE/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: Joan Marshman (Real Estate Manager Dorothy Young; Classified Manager Debra Weller)
DISTRIBUTION: Lea Kiffer, Doreen Deacon
BUSINESS OFFICE: Manager Chris Bertram
NATIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE: Metroland Corporate Sales 493-1300

The Stouffville Tribune, published every Wednesday and Saturday at 54 Main St., Stouffville, Ont., is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Acton Free Press, Ajax Pickering News Advertiser, Aurora Banner, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Etobicoke Advertiser Guardian, Georgetown Independent, Markham Economist & Sun, Milton Champion, Mississauga News, Newmarket Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa Whitby This Week, Richmond Hill Thornhill Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Topic News magazine, Willowdale Mirror, Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd. Single copies 50¢, subscriptions \$21.00 per year in Canada, \$25.00 elsewhere. Member of Canadian Community Newspaper Association, Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association, Ontario Press Council and Suburban Newspapers of America. Second class mail registration number 0896

640-2100

649-2292

ROAMING AROUND

Created for each other



BY JIM THOMAS

I seldom attend any function where I can honestly sit, relax and enjoy myself. Most times I stand, chew my nails and worry.

Another assignment! With the left shoulder weighted down by a twenty-pound camera, the right hand gripping an elusive notepad and pencil and the left foot propped up on chair or platform, the 'affairs' aren't that much fun.

Sure, I try to smile. I even mouth the National Anthem; bow for the blessing and laugh at the jokes. But down deep, (on most occasions), there are many other places I'd rather be; like feeding peanuts to our backyard squirrels or sinking a hole-in-one on John Evelyn's 9th.

But these occasions seldom occur. The squirrels would surely die of malnutrition and I haven't swung a club this spring.

Regardless, there are times when I thoroughly enjoy myself; when I leave my pad, pencil and camera at home, sit back, relax and have fun.

Such was the occasion Saturday. Jean and I attended a 25th anniversary party for Eric and Doris Pilkey, two of our closest friends. It was held in the banquet room of the Markham Missionary Church, an appropriate location. For the site is their 'second home'. They spend an equal amount of time there. Dorie's the organist and choirleader. Eric's the groundskeeper, (manicurist they call him); an usher, a welcomer and everything else that requires a helping hand. They're what one might call pillars of the congregation.

The union of Eric and Dorie (Steckley), June 6, 1963, was more than 'just a marriage'. It was the bringing together of

two communities, total strangers becoming inseparable friends.

Those links were further strengthened Saturday as more than 130 folks from both sides of the Macon-Dixon Line, (Dickson's Hill), gathered to offer congratulations.

Strange as it may seem, although only a few miles from Eric's parents' farm at Cedar Grove, I actually knew the bride-to-be before I knew the groom.

Most guys did, the majority from a distance. Few had nerve enough to ask.

Almost every Saturday night, I and a contingent of other country bumpkins would sit in the balcony of Second Markham Baptist Church, (now Springvale), and stare down at this beautiful doll-like creature seated in the front row of the YFC choir.

The wheat chaff under our collars itched worse than ever when this walk-out from Eaton's catalogue stood up and tapped out a tune on her vibraphone. A dozen male hearts kept time, mine included.

Following graduation from Stouffville High, I lost track of Dorie. She entered the professional world of teaching and the rest of us went out separate ways.

That's when Eric came on the scene. Eric's forte was softball. He was, in my opinion, one of the finest first basemen in the Claremont Community League. He led Peach's through to a group championship, the first, last and only title the team ever won.

But more than a fine athlete, Eric was a great guy, a fun person to have around. We all appreciated his talents and his friendship.

We often talk about marriages born in heaven. Eric and Dorie's union truly fits this description. They met July 14, 1962, (at my brother Don's wedding in Goodwood Baptist Church), and tied the knot eleven months later at Second Markham.

Neither has let his/her talents go to waste; expanded on them if anything.

Eric remains intensely interested in sports and can still snag a line drive at forty paces. He also has some passive hobbies like growing the greenest grass on the street and generating out-of-season geraniums.

Dorie's heart overflows with music, both vocal and instrumental. Her playing and singing skills have proved blessings to thousands.

While these God-given gifts are truly enjoyed, more appreciated still are the friendships — the hearty laughs, the warm smiles, the extended handshakes; twenty-five years of 'togetherness'. An example to us all.

June 6, 1963 was a day I'll always remember.

June 4, 1988 was a night I'll never forget.

Yes, I sat back, relaxed and thoroughly enjoyed myself. No notepad; no pencil; no camera.

The celebration of a marriage born in heaven was heaven on earth for me.

Editor's Mail

Stunned by column

Dear Editor:

I've just read your Roaming Around column in The Tribune issue of June 1 under the heading 'Somebody's mother'. I'm absolutely stunned. What must people think of our family?

Elsie has been living with us since Christmas. She comes and goes as she likes. She has her cleaning, her meals; her baths and is waited on hand and foot. She's taken over my daughter's room and she has a bed on which to sleep if that is her choice. My daughter sleeps on the floor.

We are moving north and she was told she'd have to move into Eldercare, (Stouffville), or the Senior Citizen's Apartment.

She said "no thanks". What does one do with an older person who is so stubborn?

It sure isn't the family or the people of the community who are at fault!

Elsie has her truck and does what she likes all by herself.

Maybe we all should get together and put her in a nursing home for her own good. Then she wouldn't have to sleep in her truck in the Goodwood Park as she says.

Sincerely,
Carol Boland,
'Somebody's daughter'.

Editorials

Election assessment

Only 22 weeks and five days remain until elections.

As usual, the rumor mill is turning, but there's nothing 'official'.

"Don't call us, we'll call you," is what the politicians are saying.

This isn't good enough. The people have a right to know and so have would-be candidates.

We're not predicting what could happen. We're recommending what should happen.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury deserves another term. She's earned it. While her interests often tend towards petty problems her public relations is excellent. She can also hold her own with 'the big boys' at the Region. We give her an 'A'.

Margot Marshall, (Ward 1), should also stand pat. Although one to pose questions rather than provide answers, Councillor Marshall's matured with years. She receives a 'B-plus'.

Ron Robb has a tight grip on Ward 2. He'll be difficult to beat. We give him a 'B'.

Jim Rae should call it quits, not because of a poor performance but due to the fact he no longer lives in Ward 3. To his credit, he's already seeking a successor. He rates a 'B'.

Wayne Emmerson, the new boy on the block, deserves another go-around. We give him a 'C'.

Wilf Morley is the heir-apparent to the mayoralty, but not yet. He hasn't the time. Besides, the 'wounds' of Westfield Estates are far from healed. Once his own 'house' is in order, he can advance — in 1991. We give him a 'B-minus'.

Jim Sanders is a puzzle. Every Council has one. He obviously means well but in seeking perfection he'd bury the municipality in paperwork. He gets a 'C-plus'. That's how we see it.

A tribute

The memorial service, Sunday, for Tpr. Joseph Raymond Bell, killed in action in Korea 35 years ago, surpassed anything we had imagined.

We anticipated a brief 'ceremony'; the laying of a wreath; a scriptural message and a parade to and from; little more.

The veterans, that included members of Stouffville Legion Branch 459, did themselves proud. They also did the family proud.

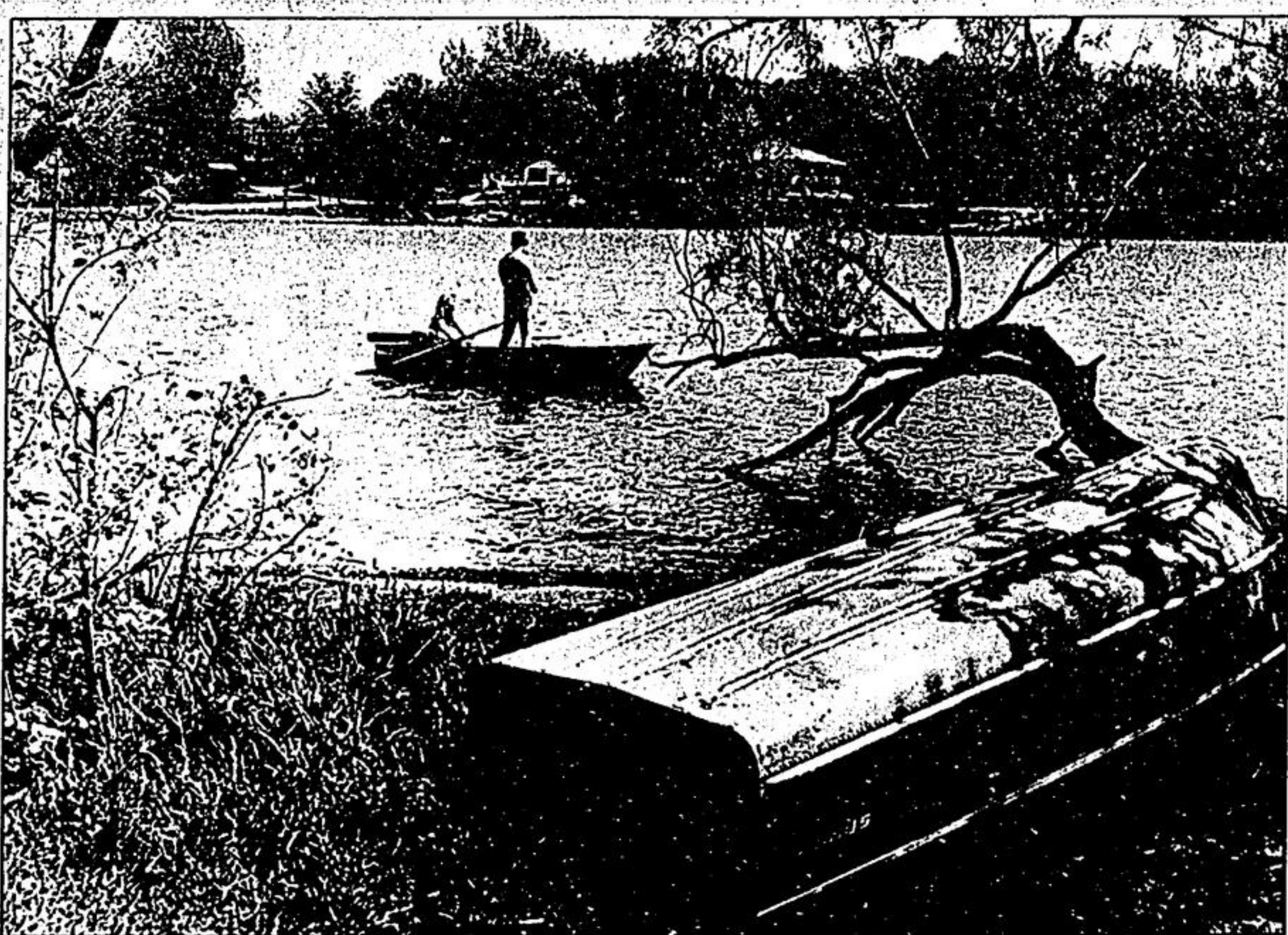
Time may indeed heal. This time, through a single, solemn act, the memory of Joe Bell was flashed from the past to the present. His death, while sad, is now easier to understand and easier to bear. For the family need no longer bear it alone.

We remember Joe Bell. He was a handsome young man whose shy smile gained him many friends. His boyhood years were spent on the 9th Conc. of Markham. He attended S.S. 19 School.

"It was a war no one understood," said Paul Saulnier, Unit 11 Ontario Veterans' Memorial Chairman.

Those, privileged to attend Sunday's service, better understand it now. When death hits close to home, we endeavor to understand.

To those Legion members who participated in the organizing and carrying out of the memorial tribute, we extend congratulations. Nothing quite like it may ever be witnessed here again. Let's hope and pray it's never necessary.



Man's (woman's) favorite sport

Musselman's Lake was once popular with motorboat buffs. Not so today, much to the relief of people who appreciate more passive forms of recreation like fishing. Recently, a Tribune photographer did a little 'spying' on a couple enjoying man's (?) favorite sport. While they didn't catch anything, (at the time), they had fun trying. — Jim Thomas