



Annual celebration of song starts this week. See P. 3.

# Stouffville Tribune

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## Deer Park suspects appear in court for second hearing

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Three local young offenders charged last week with arson in the \$1 million blaze that nearly gutted the Deer Park Inn appeared in court Monday for the second time.

### Teens charged in Deer Park theft

Two teens are charged with stealing beer from a Stouffville restaurant April 14, two days before it was burned to the ground in a deliberately set fire.

The two teens were charged with break and enter April 18.

About \$600 worth of beer was stolen from the restaurant after the culprits forced their way into the Deer Park Inn.

Damage to the hall is listed at \$200.

Three youths and a Stouffville man were charged in connection with the \$1 million fire that gutted the restaurant at Hwy 47 and Bloomington Rd.

York Regional Police Sergeant William Hill said the youths will likely have several hearings before a judge in Newmarket's Youth Court before a judgment is handed down.

Meanwhile, 20-year-old Kevin David Cumming, also charged with arson, is to appear in court tomorrow, his second appearance.

Cumming, who turned himself in April 17, one day after the 5 a.m. blaze is charged with break, enter and theft, arson and mischief over \$1,000.

Investigations from the Fire Marshal's office are now complete, said Whitchurch-Stouffville Volunteer Fire Chief Bill Brown.

Brown said the investigating officials from the Attorney General's Office have sent various samples of findings at the scene to the forensic science lab and results will not be available for about four weeks.



## Betz girl recovering after Florida accident

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

A local 14-year-old girl is recovering in a Florida hospital this week after being struck by a car.

Stacey Betz, daughter of Keith and Lynda Betz of Stouffville, is "a very lucky girl," her aunt Sandy Betz, told *The Tribune* Monday.

"She has a long recovery ahead of her, but luckily

she was conscious throughout everything," Sandy said.

The local youth is suffering from several setbacks including bruises, cuts, a broken knee cap and a broken leg, according to Sandy.

Meanwhile Lynda has flown to Bay Front Medical Centre in St. Petersburg to be with her daughter, while Marcy and her father have come home.

The family hopes to fly Stacey to Markham

Stouffville Hospital this week by air ambulance so they can be closer to her.

Stacey and her sister Marcy were enjoying a vacation in St. Petersburg, Fla. last week with Lynda's sister and brother-in-law, Cathy and Peter Turner and their two children.

According to Sandy, the group were "off to get something to eat" April 18 about noon when Stacey was struck by a car.

overheard

"I remember coming home and sitting down at the dining room table one day. There was a birthday cake on the table and I asked my wife Shirley whose birthday it was.

"Yours," she replied.  
Jim Rehill, 34-year veteran teacher at SDSS, joking about busy schedules at his retirement dinner last Thursday evening.

## Stouffville woman suffers brutal attack from own dog

A five-year-old black lab retriever was destroyed this week after a brutal and "very aggressive" attack on its owner last Sunday afternoon. *The Tribune* has learned.

Dora Kennedy, of Fairview Avenue, is in Markham Stouffville Hospital suffering from large wounds to her face, legs, arms and neck following an attack by a dog she has owned since it was a few weeks old.

During an interview, Kennedy said she doesn't understand the sudden attack in her backyard, because "Snoopy" had always been "so protective of

me."

She said she re-lives the incident every time she tries to sleep and adds she couldn't even begin to think of how many stitches she may have received.

"I'm sewn up all over," Kennedy added.

"I just remember (during the attack) praying I would get away from him," Kennedy said.

Kennedy said if it weren't for neighbor Margaret Vatcher, who apparently

Please see page 3.

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