

# Happiest when busiest

By Mark Niblett  
ATHA: "I keep myself busy with odd jobs."

Luther Kirby, who celebrated his 89th birthday June 26, was at work in his machine

shop. He has worked there for 50 years now, and apparently has no intention of quitting. "This used to be an old stable," he said reflectively, "I did some blacksmith work, although I never did much shoeing; I could see that tractors were coming in."

Mr. Kirby recalls that he used to work on steel-shop tires, and when rubber tires became popular, he converted many of the older vehicles.

"I never liked working on cars," he said.

This attitude obviously doesn't come from any lack of ability. One corner of Mr. Kirby's shop is occupied by a 50-year-old gas engine, which runs as though it were new. Long canvas

belts run across the shop, over beams and pulleys, to power various tools. There's a drill press that Mr. Kirby built himself, all except the chuck. Every tool in the shop has been well-used, and lovingly cared for.

"I don't like the idea of the Airport," said Mr. Kirby, who stands to be expropriated if the project goes ahead. "Twenty-five years from now, things might be entirely different; they'll never get their money out of it."

Of recent years, Mr. Kirby has cut back on the amount of work he does. One of his specialties is building miniature steam engines. The machine he is presently working on is five feet long and two feet high, and he expects it will run quite satisfactorily.

Luther Kirby, however, does not restrict his interests to things mechanical. At one time, he made a few violins.

"They weren't very good," he said. Mr. Kirby was born in 1883, and the passing years have failed to diminish his interest in life.

So, happy birthday, Luther Kirby - and many more



Luther Kirby, long-time Atha resident, celebrated his 89th birthday, June 26. —Jim Thomas.

## Other communities benefitted from Latcham generosity

STOUFFVILLE - While it is here that Arthur Latcham Day is being celebrated, Stouffville is by no means the only community where Mr. Latcham has made a contribution.

Three old schools, in Atha, Altona, and Mt. Zion, were purchased by him and made into community centres. Another school, at Lemonville, was also a gift to the residents.

Perhaps his single largest donation to date was the 50 acres of land for the York-Markham Hospital, 9th line, Markham. Mr. Latcham recalls that he purchased the land some years ago for \$100,000, but its value is probably much higher now.

As this is written, Mr. Latcham is preparing yet another venture: building a community hall in Goodwood Park. His

long-term plans? "If I don't run out of money, I'd like to keep on doing what I'm doing now - building community centres," Mr. Latcham told The Tribune. He is considering several possibilities, including a project on the Port Perry waterfront.

Art Latcham has no intention of resting on his laurels, but is planning even more ambitious projects than he has undertaken so far.

"I'm 77 now, in ten years I'll be 87, and I won't be moving

around as much," he observed.

Even when he's 87, it's a safe bet that Art Latcham won't have slowed down. Few men have done so much for so many.

### Recognition

In recognition of 'Art Latcham Day', the Whitechurch - Stouffville Public Library will be closed, July 1. The Library and the Museum are sharing a booth at the Park, Saturday. Visitors are invited to stop by.

picnic shelter, and - his Hall. He also donated ball diamond. Latcham - it's the least latest gift - Latcham the floodlights for the A 'day' for Arthur we can do.

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THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
8 p.m. July 6, 1972 - Vandorf Hall  
A PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD BY THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE, AS NOTED ABOVE, TO CONSIDER PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WHITCHURCH WHEREBY IT IS THE INTENT OF COUNCIL TO:  
Consider proposed Amendment No. 3 to the Official Plan of the Township of Whitchurch which designates from "Rural" to "Industrial" land on the south-east corner of Don Mills Road and Regional Road 15. The subject site, approximately 8.4 acres in area, is located on part of Lot 20, Concession 4 in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.  
YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE MEETING AND TO STATE YOUR SUPPORT OF OR-OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT. SHOULD YOU BE UNABLE TO ATTEND, WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS WILL BE RECEIVED UP TO THE TIME OF THE MEETING. THE AMENDING DOCUMENT MAY BE EXAMINED AT THE CLERK'S OFFICE, TOWN OFFICES, STOUFFVILLE, DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.  
DATED: JUNE 23RD, 1972.  
T. J. LONERGAN R. E. CORNER  
Chairman, Planning Committee Clerk

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