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# THE TRIBUNE

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Signy Lawson  
**MONEY  
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Kate's got the good in  
**GRAPEVINE**  
 Page 14

## Decision '97 pages 9-12

# Students join teachers in stand to nix reforms

JOAN RANSBERRY  
 Staff Reporter

It was Protest Friday followed by Protest Monday in Stouffville.

In the past 48 hours, children, parents and grandparents joined teachers on a picket line at a downtown Stouffville school. About 100 teenagers turned up at the local high school, while about 400 York teachers staged a protest at local MPP Julia Munro's office in Ballantrae.

Stouffville's teachers, bent on making a point, returned to Munro's office Monday morning.

Marcus and Jara Niekaszewicz, students at Orchard Park Public School, joined mom Valerie Ashton on the picket line.

"This is all about Bill 160," said Marcus, a Grade 4 student. "I want Mrs. Weatherall and Mrs. Chewins

(his teachers) to win."

Grade 8 student Jon Sandham, 13, walked along side his teacher father. Some passing motorists are mean, said Jon. "People don't have to resort to name calling. That's no way to solve problems," he said.

Simon Kennedy, 8, brought mom Sandra Schell-Kennedy to his school. "We want smaller classrooms. I appreciate what the teachers are doing," said Simon. His mother, meanwhile, admitted to having mixed feelings about the illegal strike.

After some soul searching, Schell-Kennedy decided to back the teachers. "After all, our teachers have a huge impact on our children," she said.

Kenneth Johnston has three grandchildren attending Orchard Park. Johnston, a former school trustee, said, "This government's action is comparable to the action of (German Nazi leader Adolf) Hitler in the '30s." He added, "Hitler gradually took away all power from

■Please see page 3■



ALL WRAPPED UP: Alexis Todd, 8, wraps herself in a quilt to check out its warmth at the Quilt Auction held at the Stouffville United Church bazaar last Saturday.

Photo by STEVE SOMERVILLE

## @random

At a meeting Oct. 28, council approved the establishment of a \$50,000 reserve fund which represents its commitment to the Economic Development Action Committee's Business Development Office project for 1998. The town put up \$100,000 in 1997, matching the amount donated by 22 local businesses, to enhance the economic environment and encourage new companies to locate in the area and existing firms to expand. The result has been new stores opening and high interest shown by industries and real estate companies.

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## Project gets nod

The \$150-million adult community project for Ballantrae took yet another step forward Tuesday.

Developer Schickendanz Bros. Ltd. got yet another nod from Whitchurch-Stouffville Council for the 900-home development, complete with an 18-hole, semi-private golf course and a country club.

The community is to be geared for people 50 years and older.

Construction at the Hwy. 48 and Aurora Road site will get underway in 1998, said Bob Forhan, former York CAO and spokesman for the developer.

The project is now on its way to York Region. Forhan expects regional council to give the application its blessings by the end of the month.

## Region smoke ban smoldering, for now

The call for a smoke-free York Region has been put on the back burner.

Last Wednesday, York councillors, including Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson, shied away from making a decision on the

bylaw that's designed to make all nine municipalities in the region smoke-free by the year 2000.

Kathy Fullerton, owner of Stouffville's Fullertons, appealed to York Regional Council and stressed a tough smoking law would hurt the

bar and restaurant business community. Emmerson pointed out 70 per cent of space in bars and restaurants across Whitchurch-Stouffville is smoke-free now.

A regional survey shows 87 per cent of the public supports a move to

realize a smoke-free community, the health department pointed out.

York council needs the support of a majority of its municipalities in order to bring in the new smoking law. It's expected that the issue will be re-visited in the new year.

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