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50 Avid golfers can find an indoor winter oasis located in Markham.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
EVENT: Photo health card clinic
WHEN: Jan. 20 by appointment only
WHERE: Markham Stouffville Hospital, collect. 434-3724



55 Sharon Stone tries to outrun the mob and rescue a little boy in *Gloria*, playing this week.

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TUESDAY, JAN. 19, 1999

TO REACH US: (905) 640-2100

UNION TALKS: Caretakers took vote Sunday

Public school caretakers vote strike

BY JENNIFER BROWN
 STAFF WRITER

Caretakers at York Region's public school board have voted to strike, but it is unlikely any action will be taken anytime soon, as talks continue this week.

On Sunday, 378 of the 600 members of Local 1196 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees voted in favour of strike action.

Local union president John Cromwell was not available for comment yesterday because he was in negotiations, but board chairperson Bill Crothers said he still hopes a deal can be reached without a strike.

"This is something essentially being orchestrated by the provincial CUPE office, designed to get negotiations going with the province. I still don't think our negotiators believe there is any concern of a strike," Crothers said. "I don't think anybody's rattling any sabres."

In Toronto, 93 per cent of unionized support staff also voted to strike. At the Toronto District School Board, 8,000 jobs are on the chopping block.

CONTRACTS IN JEOPARDY

The union has been taking strike votes at school boards across the province because it believes jobs and contracts are in jeopardy as a result of the new provincial funding formula for education.

Local union employees have been without a contract since August and without a pay hike since 1991.

York Region public secretaries and occasional teachers are also meeting in the coming weeks to negotiate their contracts.

KINGS OF THE HILL



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Summitview Public School students jump from a snowbank last Friday during morning recess.

Horse lovers asked to help fund

Charity account set up at TD banks

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 STAFF WRITER

Horse lovers across Canada are being asked to contribute to a reward fund designed to help police catch the culprit who shot four horses in Stouffville.

Of the horses brutally gunned down in their stalls, only one has survived. The shootings sent shock waves across York Region. With 1,400 horse farms, it is the horse capital of Canada.

Spearheaded by the Canadian Equestrian Federation, the Horse Reward Fund has been registered at the Toronto Dominion Bank.

Donations can be made at any TD branch in Canada. The account number is 1340 2 0624 355. Or cheques, made payable to the Horse Reward Fund, can be sent to The Canadian Equestrian Federation, 2460 Lancaster Rd., Suite 200, Ottawa, K1B 4S5.

It's hoped that this incentive will raise the current reward of \$15,000 to \$50,000. The reward can be claimed if information given to the police leads to an arrest and a conviction of those responsible for killing three horses and wounding a fourth.

If the reward is not collected, the fund will be donated to the Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association in support of riding for people with disabilities.

Money will not be paid to any law enforcement agency or personnel.

The reward is sanctioned by the York Regional Police. "A reward is viewed as extra incentive to make people sitting on information come forward," Sgt. John Sheldon said.

In mid-December, following the death of the first two horses, a \$10,000 reward was set up by the Ontario Society for the Prevention and Cruelty to Animals Association.

See FEW, page 5.

Ross Dixon
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