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**30** Tour the wards of  
 Whitchurch-  
 Stouffville in our 2000  
 pre-election tour.

**ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR**

**EVENT:** BIA Trick or Treating  
**WHEN:** 1-4 p.m., Saturday  
**WHERE:** Downtown Stouffville



Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library

**17** What do your  
 neighbours want  
 from their municipal  
 election candidates?

SERVING WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE SINCE 1888

# Stouffville Tribune

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THURSDAY, OCT. 26, 2000

TO REACH US: (905) 294-2200

TEEN TELLS POLICE HE WAS ABDUCTED, SHOT AT

## Pair charged in kidnapping

BY JOAN RANSBERRY  
 Staff Writer

Two Whitchurch-Stouffville men face multi-criminal charges, including attempted murder after a Newmarket man told police he'd been kidnapped and beaten and then dodged flying bullets during his escape.

Charges, including attempted murder, assault with a weapon,

aggravated assault, forcible confinement and threatening death were laid against both Robert Gray, 24, of 5629 Lakeshore Rd., Musselman's Lake and Matthew Randall White, 24, of 191 Church St., Stouffville. The pair are in custody pending a bail hearing scheduled for tomorrow.

York Regional Police have issued an appeal for the public's help in

investigating this case.

A 19-year-old man told police that at 9:30 p.m. Monday, he was apprehended at gun point in Newmarket, thrown into a van and threatened. The victim was to come up with money or he would be harmed.

"The victim made several attempts through family and friends to raise the money, however,

an exchange did not take place," said Sergeant Graeme Turl.

Instead, the victim was driven to an undisclosed location in north Durham Region where he was beaten but managed to make good his escape," Sgt. Turl said.

During the escape, several shots were fired at the victim, but none struck him, police added. "He's a

See VICTIM, page 8.

## Region tops in Canada in new-home construction

'No surprise' for York Region officials

BY PATRICK CASEY  
 Staff Writer

York Region's white-hot economy continues to boom, with the region registering more than \$1 billion in residential construction in the first six months of the year — the highest value anywhere in Canada.

The region also topped the country in building permits with 6,724 new residential units issued, including 3,106 in Vaughan alone. The total represents 36.2 per cent of all building permits issued in Greater Toronto.

Positive performances were recorded across the residential, industrial, commercial and institutional sectors, activity that is continuing throughout the second half of the year.

"It's no surprise, really," said Don Eastwood, the region's director of economic development. "There should be no surprise that we are continuing to bubble along because growth arrives through the high level of confidence in the market."

"York Region made decisions a number of years ago on infrastructure and residential and industrial employment lands. It's very attractive right now to build houses. Location is rather compelling anywhere in the GTA but York Region has advantages with

See PEOPLE, page 14.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

### THEY LET THE DOGS OUT

The crew from the Happy Tails Inn on St. John's Sideroad north of Ballantrae exercise their 11 canine charges on Sunday morning. From left are: Liz Wallace, and owners Kris Roberts and Ilse von Glatz.

**JAKES**  
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