



Fired up: pupils from the Mossgiel Park Primary School in Endeavour Hills are taught the importance of fire safety, thanks to Doveton Fire Brigade. **Picture: Terri-ann Varga**

Fire lessons a real lifesaver

DOVETON Fire Brigade's fire education program has been hailed as a lifesaver.

The Brigades in Schools program was developed seven years ago and has been expanded to cater for all age groups.

In recent weeks, students who have taken part in the program have used their fire prevention education in

real-life situations. Co-ordinator Mr Miles Franklin said a Cranbourne schoolboy saved his mother from a burning housefire.

"The boy evacuated him and his mother and his quick reaction was attributed to what he had learned from the program," he said.

Mr Franklin said what started out as a basic 'stop, drop and roll'

program has advanced to a comprehensive program including 000 phone procedures.

"A young boy was commended in Dandenong a few weeks ago following a phone call to the paramedics when he found his mother unconscious. Thanks to the program, the boy knew exactly what to do and stayed calm," Mr Franklin said.

News Briefs

English teaching

VOLUNTEERS are urgently needed to teach English at the Springvale Neighbourhood Literacy Centre. No experience is necessary and the first training session begins on August 28. For details phone Ms Anna Loizou on: 9239 5263.

Women's seminar

OAKGROVE Community Centre in Narre Warren is holding a seminar for women returning to study or training. Stepping Stones aims to promote self-confidence and advises on career options. The course runs for eight weeks. Details: 9704 2781.

Computer course

NOBLE Park Community Centre will hold an MYOB computer course on Friday, August 25. The course is tailored for small businesses and organisations effected by the introduction of the GST.

For bookings, phone 9547 5801.

Website tops

CASEY council's Website has been named one of the best Government sites in Australia. The site www.casey.vic.gov.au is number four in the top 100 local government sites. One of the most popular sites is the employment section, where people can find out about local job vacancies and position descriptions.



JOHN LENDERS
Your Local Labor Member for Dandenong North Electorate

Electorate Office:
16 Birch Ave
Dandenong North 3175

Phone: 9790 0022
John.Lenders@parliament.vic.gov.au

Heinz 'adds to homeless'

By Phil McLeod

THE closure of Heinz in November will increase the number of homeless people in the Greater Dandenong region.

That's the grim warning from the head of a local emergency accommodation agency who says the homeless situation in some areas is so bad, people are sleeping in tents and in the open.

Mr Kim Stowe, the chief executive officer of WAYSS Ltd, (formerly known as the Western Port Accommodation and Youth Support Services), said the number of homeless people would increase following the closure of Heinz.

"We know that six months after Heinz closes, we will see an increase in the number of people coming to see us, especially when their redundancy payouts are gone. It also happened when Nissan and Holden closed," he said.

A Government report released last week found Greater Dandenong's total number of homeless was 446, with nine living in tents and other temporary dwellings.

Mr Stowe said the number of people

sleeping in tents or in the open in Dandenong, was not as bad as it was in Casey or Cardinia, where it was a "regular occurrence".

Mr Stowe said his organisation saw about 1000 people a year of all ages and nationalities needing urgent accommodation in its 180 transitional properties in the region.

Mr Stowe said the region lacked affordable rental housing and that last week's Government announcement that Greater Dandenong was to receive a \$2.3 million crisis accommodation service was "most welcome".

Plans for the proposed crisis accommodation service in Dandenong will be discussed at a meeting at the Club Grande on Tuesday, August 22.

Greater Dandenong's mayor Councillor Angela Long last week announced that \$10,000 raised from the this year's mayoral charity gold day would go to the Foundation for Homeless Youth to assist in the provision of medium to long-term accommodation.

WOW! It's here at SELITEL COMMUNICATIONS AUSTRALIA
ORANGE - a home phone & mobile in 1

- As low as 16.5c local calls
- You need never be out of touch
- Take your home phone with you

\$0*

\$16.50 access fee*

Now available at **SELITEL COMMUNICATIONS AUSTRALIA**
Shop 13A - Hub Arcade Dandenong Ph: 9706 9610



orange

- An ideal second line into the home
- Vibrating Battery, Voice dial, Active Flip.

Come to us or we'll come to you!

*Terms & Conditions apply:

Connected to Orange One Standard, 24 mth plan \$16.50 access fee (GST inc) once off \$49.50 connection fee (GST inc) Total min cost \$445.50 (GST inc)

PARKMORE

SHOPPING CENTRE

... because we love a great bargain!

3 Hour SALE

Friday 11th August 11am - 2pm



1.25 Litre Coke

50c

EACH LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER



Tim Tam

Available in Centre Court from 12.30pm until sold out



BIGW PRICELINE coles

Kmart Franklins Fresh

TERRY WHITE CHEMISTS

120 Speciality Stores • 2650 Free Car Spaces
317 Cheltenham Road Keysborough Ph: 9798 5222

"it's convenient secure & friendly at Parkmore"