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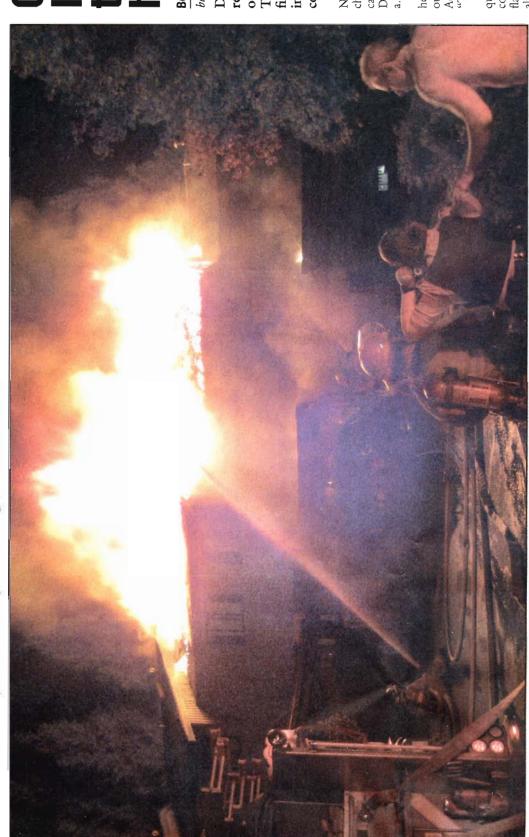


photo John Lawless FLAMES soar into the night from two townhouse units in Deep Cove as firefighters work to control the fire and save adjoining units while police and residents look on.

two dozen homeless **Cove fire** leaves

Benjamin Alldritt

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DOZENS of Deep Cove out of their homes early fire destroyed two units Tuesday morning as a residents were forced in their townhouse complex.

called to the 2000-block of Deep Cove Crescent at 12:30 a.m. Tuesday. Mike Adams, District of North Vancouver assistant fire chief, said firefighters were

"First arriving crews found heavy smoke and flame coming out of the building," said Adams, who was at the scene. District crews worked quickly to evacuate the and contain the flames within the two homes and 15 firefighters responded complex

School closures won't control H1N1

Classroom vaccinations possible

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UNLESS an outbreak of the H1N1 flu virus

— if enough nurses can be found

"The fire was in the roof."

See Speedy page 3

week, adding that the classroom "offers a good environment to offer the pandemic vaccine."

John Jewis North Vancouver School District superintendent



NEWS photo Paul McGrath

Ferry-tale ending

TUGS position one of the PacifiCat Fast Ferries between bow (left) and stern of the cargo ship Swift in the calm waters of Indian Arm in preparation for transport to Abu Dhabi. The Swift acts like a floating drydock taking on water to lower it's hull and then pumping water out to lift it's cargo out of the ocean.

Speedy evacuation action taken

From page 1

to the fire, which was under control in about an hour, Adams said. The damage was limited to four homes: the two townhouses firefighters discovered burning and the adjacent units on either side, which both sustained smoke and water damage.

A crew was left at the complex overnight to watch for further flare-ups and RCMP officers also remained to keep the building secure.

North Shore Emergency Management Office staff offered emergency shelter to approximately two-dozen displaced residents.

Remarkably, nobody was injured in the fire.

"That was very fortunate," Adams said. "A lot of credit goes to the neighbours for acting quickly and the first crew for taking such quick action on the evacuation."

fire investigation by the RCMP, but Adams said at this point there is no indication of suspicious activity. He expects the majority of the townhouse residents will be allowed back into their homes later this



POLICE tape prohibits access to fire-gutted townhome units in the 2000-block of Deep Cove Crescent Tuesday.

Good hand hygiene key for staff, students

From page 1

health officer.

Dr. James Lu, Vancouver Coastal Health's medical health officer for Richmond, is currently covering for Dr. Brian O'Connor, the medical health officer responsible for the North Shore, an area with more than 50 schools and

close to 23,500 students. Lu said he expects the number of cases to ramp up in the fall, but believes the HIN1 flu season "will not be too different

regular flu. Carson Graham was not shut, but extra cleaning crews were brought in to wipe down common areas. At that time, O'Connor told CBC News that flu outbreaks are "more magnified in a school setting.

With the start of school just two weeks away, and children soon to be sharing crayons and teenagers swapping gum, "no official pandemic plan" has been worked out between local medical health officers

and school superintendents yet, said Lu. "The planning process will begin ool c

days. Similar to the regular flu, individuals infected with the H1N1 virus are likely contagious as early as one day prior to showing symptoms.

But closing schools on the basis of this fear is impractical, said Lu. "Even if you close schools, the virus is circulating in

the community." For Lu, and other health officials, managing, not eradicating the H1N1 virus is the goal. "It's about looking at how we can keep schools working during

the H1N1 pandemic."

Council di patio smo

Sarah Ripplinger

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SMOKING in spaces could so be prohibited u a District of No Vancouver-wide

propose The mandates that gathering places restaurant patios, municipal parks and facilities -- be smoke-free zones.

District counci the issue Monday, councillors opposit on smoking on dist

"I am concerned in these hard tin doing anything the said Coun. Doug Dunn.

Coun. Alan labelled the prop an "excessive intr public affairs," st restricting smoking would only lead people smoking in and more litter from butts and packaging

On the North District of West Var already banned sn patios and the City Vancouver is c similar legislation.

"We would i the district to tak and leave us alon respect," Dave Cro of Seymour's Pub, address to council.

Kelly Nielson, of Mosquito Cree Grill in the City Vancouver, said the bylaw couldn't c worse time for his b

"If there's no s patios, for nine the year (when the unfavourable), the anyone on patios, part of our business

"We're in rea times here, and I you, please, don't away from us."

The proposed