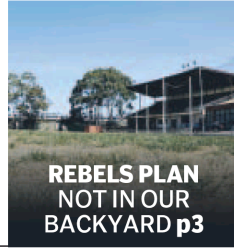


Violent mob Witness appeal after rampage, p5 | **Smart Shopper** Save on your specs, p29

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HIGH HOPES: Hawthorn student Kevin Auger is one of 7000 volunteers The Starlight Children's Foundation hopes to recruit to collect donations and sell merchandise in shopping centres, business districts and train stations. Mr Auger said it was important to raise public awareness of Starlight's role in the lives of seriously ill children. He encouraged others to "get themselves out there and help however they can" during the fundraising drive from May 6 to 9. See page 7 for more.

Picture: JOSIE HAYDEN N40PP312

Begging for barriers

Environment | Bianca Carmona

Package drives hope for relief on noise

THE State Government has confirmed it is considering installing noise-reduction measures to help sleep-deprived Bororoondara residents near the Eastern and Monash freeways. The Government's transport plan includes a \$100 million package to reduce traffic noise along existing freeways but does not identify specific locations for noise barriers. State Government spokesman

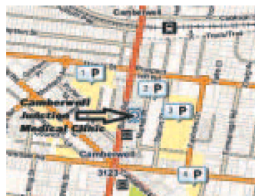
Chris Owner said VicRoads was reviewing a number of sites along the Monash and Eastern freeways for possible funding. "Proposals for noise-reduction measures will be considered and evaluated on a statewide basis," Mr Owner said. His comments came as Bororoondara Council said it had called on the Government to pay

\$1 million over five years to the council's Noise Hot Spot fund to pay for noise-reduction measures, including double glazing windows and targeted barriers. The council is not contributing to the fund but has set aside \$35,000 for noise testing and \$15,000 to pay lobby group CPR to convince the State Government to foot the bill. Mayor Jack Wegman said he con-

sidered the cost of hiring the communications firm as "money well spent". "We've been banging our head against a brick wall for five years," Cr Wegman said. "The Victorian Government has a bucket load of money earmarked for noise reduction in its transport plan. We're asking for 1 per cent of that."

Boroondara North Freeway Noise Group convener Martin Solomons welcomed the move. Mr Solomons said the Eastern Freeway section between Doncaster and Bulleen roads was previously classified "low-priority" but had experienced considerable noise increase since EastLink opened.

Should the Government contribute to the council's fund? Have your say at progressleader.com.au



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