

Firefighters receive "Jaws of Life"

by Louise Middleton

This past week, The Royal Canadian Legion, Brock Branch 141, made a generous donation of the Hurst "Jaws of Life" to the Sunderland firefighters, Brock Hall -1.

"This tool is unique to Brock township in that you can cut and separate with one tool," said Ed Davies of Arrow Fire Equipment in Woodville which sold the tool to the Legion.

The approximate value of this tool is \$9,000 dollars. Although Cannington has a similar device, they cannot cut and separate all with one tool. Beaverton doesn't have any such tool.

The tool was donated on behalf of the Legion members and through the participation of the Bingo and lottery accounts with the efforts of those members of the community who were involved in these events.

"The funds are made available through these accounts, and are ment for use in the community," said secretary Bill Harlow.

The Legion is also very involved in other community projects and area affairs. They sponsor hockey clubs, Cadets, and Beavers and Cubs. They have also made donations to the Peterborough, Lindsay, and Uxbridge hospitals, the Durham Regional Lung Association,

the Cancer Society, March of Dimes, and the Scugog Rape Crisis Centre.

This tool has enough power to lift a car. It has been around for several years now; although, two-in-one tools are only a recent discovery having come into play only three years ago. This tool can also be added to in the future. The most important aspect is in finding skilled men who are able to use it properly.

"We should be able to get anyone out of a car. We never had anything like this before. With the 'Jaws of Life,' we should be able to get into a car in five minutes; but, every accident is different," said Ted Johnson, district fire chief.

On June 1, the day before the official presentation, the Sunderland firefighters had a chance to watch and participate in a demonstration on the use of the "Jaws" by Arnie Charlton from Code Four Rescue in Brampton. Mr. Charlton explained the use to the volunteers and later took them out to the town works yard where they were able to put some of that theory to practical use.

"The greatest misunderstanding with this tool is in not letting it do the work for you. If used properly, it can provide a tremendous advantage in an automobile accident," stated Mr. Charlton.