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THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper

THURSDAY,
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Halton named safest region for third time

For the third year in a row, Halton has been ranked the safest place to live in the Greater Toronto Area and the safest regional municipality in Canada.

Maclean's magazine made the announcement, Monday, in their 2010 crime ranking of Canada's most dangerous cities.

Prince George, B.C., Victoria, B.C., and Regina, Sask., were dubbed the most dangerous cities in the article while Halton tied with nearby Wellington County, in terms of being the safest.

Caledon was listed as the safest city in Canada.

While he explained that crime rates can be influenced by socio-economic factors beyond police control, news that Halton was once again found to be among the safest places in Canada was celebrated by Halton Regional Police Service Chief Gary Crowell.

"Although crime rates are going down across Canada, last year in Halton we saw a significant 10.5 per cent drop in our overall crime rate, which was already low by Ontario and national standards," he said.

"This notable achievement is due to the incredible support for policing and public safety show by the people of Halton, who work closely in partnership with our officers, civilian personnel and volunteers to prevent and deter crime. Together, we are all doing our part to help ensure that Halton remains as safe tomorrow as it is today."

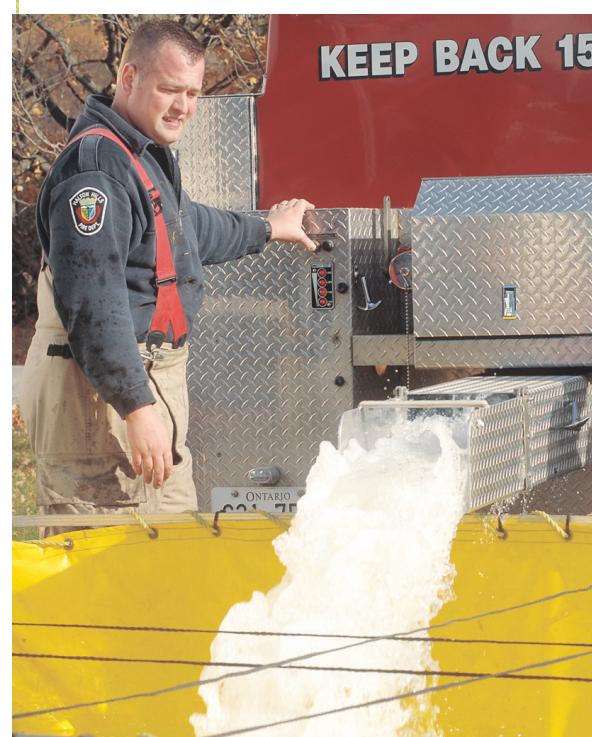
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Let it flow!

Halton Hills firefighter Shawn Barnes (left) tended to a fire tanker truck's dump valve, while Bobby Aguiar (above) a Fire Protection Specialist of SCM Risk Management Services, was busy measuring and confirming water pressure and water flow levels as Halton Hills firefighters took part in a Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation test Wednesday on Sixth Line. The test proves the fire department's ability to meet the standards set by the Insurance Advisory Organization for flowing water uninterrupted for one and one-half hours in a rural area, using portable tanks on-site and tanker trucks drawing water to the site. The Fire Department ran the test to extend the area of coverage for which the accreditation applies. Residents living in an area covered by the accreditation can receive fire insurance rate reductions from companies who recognize the accreditation.

Photos by Ted Brown



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