

Fire prevention week starts

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Ryan Roberts is in fashion

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Junior Rebels tame Tigers

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# The Independent

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### NEWS AT A GLANCE

#### Buckle up

Halton Regional Police officers will be checking to see that everyone is wearing their seat belt during the fall seat belt campaign which runs until October 18. The campaign, which is to include public education and enforcement, got underway yesterday (Saturday).

#### In court

Acton resident Steven Brunelle was in Milton court last week for a preliminary hearing. Brunelle is facing charges of impaired driving causing death, three counts of impaired driving causing injury and having more than the legal limit of alcohol in his blood in relation to a March 8 collision on Hwy. 25 in which a Rockwood man was killed. Wednesday Judge J.E.C. Robinson issued a publication ban on the proceedings. Thursday afternoon Sgt. Dan Gheller of the Halton Regional Police Court bureau said it was determined by the judge there was sufficient evidence to go to trial and the issue will be spoken to in court Monday at 10 a.m. A trial date could be set at that time.

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As the newly-acquired rehab unit was recently delivered to Halton Hills Fire Department, (from left) Deputy Chief Bob Hyde and Fire Prevention Officer John Martin accepted the keys from Toronto Firefighters Association president Mark Fitzsimmons and executive officer Frank Ramagnano at the Area 2 fire hall. The unit will be used to supply firefighters with fluids and light snacks to maintain their strength and fluid levels during a major fire call.

Photo by Ted Brown

Thanks to rehab unit donation from Toronto

## Firefighters get some welcome support

By **TEB BROWN**  
Staff Writer

When Halton Hills firefighters respond to their next major incident, they could very well have an additional support vehicle on the scene.

Through the generosity of the Toronto Firefighters Association, the local department has just acquired a rehab unit, which will be used to serve the needs of exhausted firefighters on the scene.

"We will be stocking the unit primarily with liquids,"

says Halton Hills Fire Prevention Officer John Martin.

"The most common problem firefighters at a fire scene experience is metabolic hypothermia, brought on by the loss of fluids. By stocking the van with items like water, soups, coffee, tea and juices, we can help our firefighters maintain their fluid levels, and remain more effective," he said.

"Having a rehab unit in a department the size of Halton Hills 'is somewhat unique," says Toronto Firefighters Association president Mark Fitzsimmons, "They are usually found in the larger metro

departments, like Scarborough, Kitchener or Toronto, and are generally manned by volunteers."

The unit Halton Hills received was originally used in Toronto, and was recently replaced with a brand new one. Since the old unit was of no use to them, the association decided to advertise through the provincial associations, to see who might have a need for it.

When the offer was made, Halton Hills was quick to request it.

Equipped with a propane stove and an electric

refrigerator, the 1977 Chevrolet cube van will be available to respond to any major incident, in either Georgetown or Acton.

"It will be a great asset if we ever have a major haz-mat (hazardous materials) call," says Martin, "Some of those calls can last from six to 24 hours, so the firefighters would certainly benefit from this (rehab) unit."

Since the van has only 14,600 original kilometres on it, the cost of putting it on the road was almost nil. The firefighters cleaned and waxed it, and it only required a new battery and a new roof vent.



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