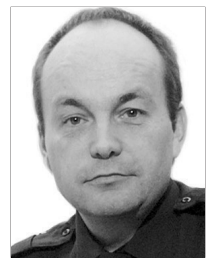


Halton holiday RIDE stats show sharp increase in drinking drivers

Although fewer impaired driving charges were laid during the 2006 Holiday Ride program compared to the previous year, Halton officers found that more people had been drinking before getting behind the wheel.



PETER PAYNE

'Some might be lulled into thinking they can consume more than they should before getting behind the wheel.'

During the 2006 RIDE program Halton Police stopped 27,359 vehicles— 7,643 fewer than 2005— but found 20 more drivers had been drinking.

"Those 20 drivers had consumed enough alcohol that when they performed a roadside screening device test, they were found to have sufficient alcohol in their systems (50 mg or more) that they could not legally drive and their drivers licences were suspended for 12 hours," said Sgt. Peter Payne.

In total, two impaired driving charges were laid during the RIDE program last year compared to seven the previous year.

Despite the lower number of impaired charges laid police are concerned that more drivers were found to have been drinking.

"The alcohol drink that you consume can

2005-06 Holiday RIDE stats comparison

	2006	2005
Vehicle stops	27,359	35,002
Roadside tests	199	177
12-hr. licence suspension	54	34
Licence suspension	1	7
Liquor seizure	3	2
Impaired charges	2	7
Traffic Act charges	211	228
Warnings	491	765
Other charges	9	26

take from a few minutes to an hour to affect your sobriety," said Payne.

"Some might be lulled into thinking they can consume more than they should before getting behind the wheel. The last drink you consume may not begin to affect your judgment until after you begin your drive. It's too late at that point and that is when the problems begin."

Police urge everyone to think before taking a drink and take a taxi, get a ride from a sober friend or use designated drivers if they have been drinking.

The number of people charged with impaired driving last year was actually the lowest of all the Holiday RIDE programs in Halton over the past five years; however, it was also the same year that far fewer vehicles were stopped.

A Great Fire for your Great Room

For the Rec Room?

- 86% High Efficiency
- Provides Heat During Power Failures
- Lifetime Warranty



\$300. INSTANT FACTORY REBATE ON ANY FIREPLACE PURCHASE.

Offer expires Feb. 19, 2007

HURRY IN - SALE ENDS SOON!



For the Basement?

- High Efficiency Heating
- Can Be Installed in Corners
- Many Beautiful Trim Options
- 51,000 BTU of Comforting Warmth

Don't Pay Until May '07*

REGENCY[®]
WOOD AND GAS FIREPLACES

with UCI financial

*See store for details



APPLEBY SYSTEMS 877-8990

Fireplace, Heating & Air Conditioning Sales & Service
118 Guelph St. Georgetown (at Maple)

Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5; Saturday 11-4; Appointments available after hours upon request

GEORGETOWN GLOBE PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS

You'll Get Used to It! THE WAR SHOW

by Peter Colley

DIRECTED BY
DANNY HARVEY

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY
CHRISTINA MULLIGAN

PRODUCED BY
BEATRICE SHARKEY
AND
MAUREEN WALKER



FEBRUARY 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 2007 - 8:00 PM

AT ST. PAUL'S PARISH HALL IN NORVAL
(JUST SOUTH OF HWY. 7 ON WINSTON CHURCHILL)

BOX OFFICE : (905) 877-3700

BY PERMISSION OF THE PLAYWRIGHTS GUILD OF CANADA



ACTON SOCCER CLUB Outdoor Season 2007 REGISTRATION

SPECIAL EARLY-BIRD PRICES:

\$100 for **U10** to **U20** (born in 1998 & Earlier)

\$90 for **U5** to **U8** (born 2002 to 1999)

\$130 for Adult Ladies

Includes SHIRT, SHORTS and SOCKS

Prices increase as of Feb. 1st, 2007 by \$20 per player

ACTON ARENA

Sat. Jan. 20th

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cash or Personal Cheques Only
(Chq's may be post-dated to end-Jan. 2007)

DOLLAR STRETCHER DAZE

8 Main St. North, Acton
(519) 853-9615

(Same plaza as Giant Tiger store)
Cash or Personal Cheques Only

NEW this year . . .



ON-LINE
via our WEBSITE
YOUTH REGISTRATION ONLY
www.actonsoccer.org
VISA or MASTERCARD payment



COACHES required for all ages - Training provided!
Reimbursement of Police Check Fees of \$15
REFEREES wanted - Youths & Adults - Training provided!

www.independentfreepress.com