



# Police/Fire Report

## Impaired driver hits house

An Acton man was charged with impaired driving and having over 80-mg of alcohol in 100-ml. of blood after he drove his red van into a Hill Street house early Monday morning.

"I heard a dull thud about 1 a.m.," said house owner Kristin Spielvogel, adding her three tenants were trapped in the basement apartment for a couple of hours until a damaged cement stairwell was stabilized.

## House fire

Although residents of

a house on Highway 25, south of 10 Side Road, said a \$170,000 fire on Sunday morning started when they turned on the house's heating system, the cause is still under investigation. The blaze, which began just after 9 a.m., did considerable damage to the basement.

## CO activation

A dead battery caused a carbon monoxide alarm activation at a Cobblehill Road residence at 5:17 last Thursday night. EMS staff checked out the homeowner, to be safe.

## Busy day

Acton firefighters were

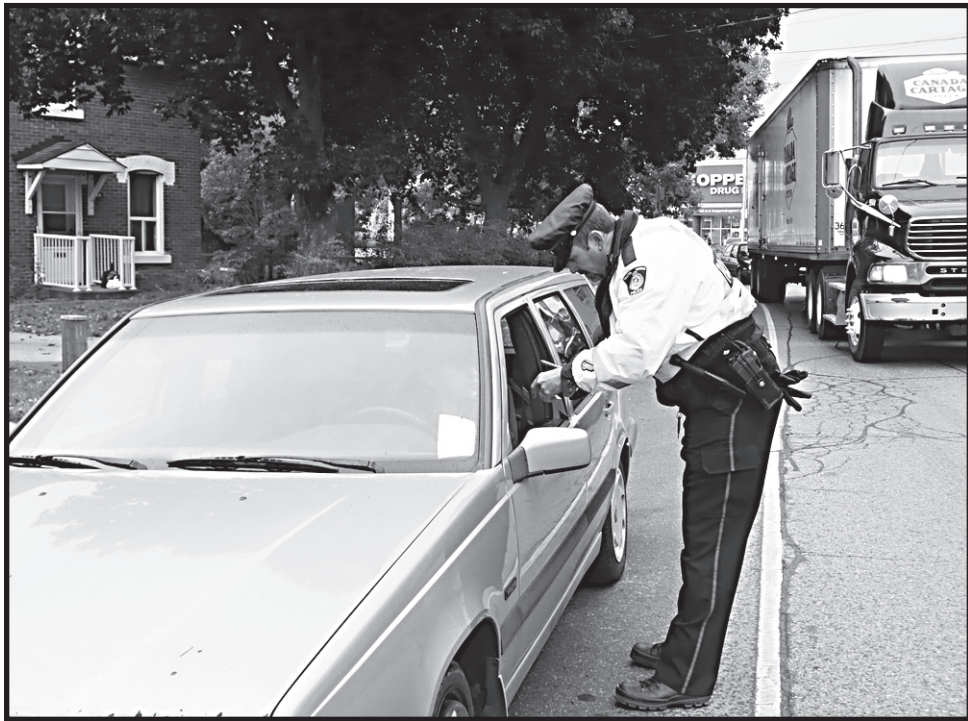
busy last Tuesday, beginning with an 11:04 a.m. alarm activation that they determined was triggered by a passing thunderstorm.

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At 6:54 p.m., firefighters were called to a Sandewood Drive residence in the Ballinavad area where a burnt dinner set off the smoke alarm.

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At 9:45 p.m., Acton firefighters responded to a CO alarm activation on Dawkins Crescent, where they found that a faulty detector was to blame for an alarm activation.



**SEATBELT BLITZ:** The Ottawa driver of this Volvo was fined \$240 and lost two demerit points when she was ticketed by Halton Police Constable Steve Long during a Halton Police seatbelt blitz in Acton on Tuesday. — Frances Niblock photo

# Do you have a fire escape plan

Having a fire escape plan and practicing it at home can make the difference between getting out alive or a family tragedy, said the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC). The issue is so important, the CAFC is repeating its successful Great Canadian Fire Drill public education campaign during Fire Prevention Week, October 3-9,

and throughout the entire month of October.

"When a smoke alarm goes off, everyone in the family must know where to go and what to do," said Fire Chief Tim Beckett, Ontario's representative for the CAFC. "There is no time for uncertainty. Creating and practicing a home fire drill can save lives and Ontario citizens need to be



better prepared."

The CAFC's urgent message is underscored by a recent national survey that shows nearly three in four Canadians admit to not practicing a home fire drill in the last year. Findings of the TNS Canadian Facts poll, commissioned by the CAFC and Duracell, also suggest that educating adults as well as children is an important way to teach good fire safety habits that last a lifetime.

Through the Great Canadian Fire Drill campaign, an estimated 75,000 Kindergarten to Grade three teachers nationwide will receive special lesson plans and classroom materials

to help them teach young students the important task of creating a fire escape plan. Students are then encouraged to put their new knowledge to work with their siblings and parents to create and practice a fire escape plan at home.

"We know that from the moment a smoke alarm sounds, to the point where catastrophic fire flashover makes escape impossible, takes three minutes or less," said Carol Heller, a home safety specialist with Kidde Canada. "Since most fires occur at night when we are sleeping, a family's quick and calm reaction to hearing their smoke alarm is even more critical. That confi-

dence - and increased odds of survival - can only come from having an escape plan that the entire family has discussed and rehearsed."

In addition to information being sent to classrooms and visits by local fire departments, Canadians can visit the campaign web site [www.safeathome.ca/drill](http://www.safeathome.ca/drill) to download a free fire escape plan grid and complete a home safety checklist. Once families register, create their escape plan and practice it, they can print out their own personalized "We Did the Drill!" certificate. Games and other essential fire safety tips can also be found at [www.duracellfiresafety.com](http://www.duracellfiresafety.com).


Teachers can win Scholastic gift certificates ranging in value from \$500 to \$100, Sparky the Fire Dog glow-in-the-dark smoke alarms and plush toys for every student, simply by registering their classroom's participa-

tion. Families who "count themselves in" can also win prizes from campaign sponsors Duracell and Kidde.

"Fire safety needs to involve every member of the household," said Victoria Maybee, P&G External Relations. "Together, all families should ensure that they have enough smoke alarms for their home, that the batteries are changed at least once a year, and that all alarms are replaced every 10 years."

The Great Canadian Fire Drill is part of Fire Prevention Week, whose international theme for 2010 is "Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With." With the financial and resource support of CAFC fire safety education partners Scholastic, Kidde Canada and Duracell, the Great Canadian Fire Drill is expected to reach in excess of one million Canadians of all ages.

Linda & Jack Neary are thrilled to announce the engagement of their son **Ken to Wendy Michelle Giberson** daughter of Linda & Brian Giberson of Ajax.



All our Love & Best Wishes for the future!

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