

Van ablaze in seconds

• from TRAPPED on page A1

collar and began to pull him through the window.

Yelling for help, Coogan was assisted by another motorist, Steve Hudson, from the Orillia area. They managed to get Bajwa out of harm's way.

Within seconds, the entire van was ablaze.

"If I had literally been another 30 seconds to a minute later, he'd be dead," Coogan said.

The two men were taken to hospital — Coogan for cuts and bruises to his arm, Bajwa for a fractured pelvis.

Thanks to Coogan, Bajwa's now recuperating at home.

"If it wasn't for Darren Coogan, they wouldn't have even found bones on me," said the 12-year Milton resident, explaining it would have been too late by the time rescue crews arrived about 20 minutes after the crash.

Looking back, both Bajwa and Coogan said they're surprised more people didn't stop to help once the flames broke out. There was at least one tow truck driver nearby who stayed in his truck and didn't offer assistance, they said.

"People slowed down, rubber-necked, and drove on," Coogan said with disgust. "People have no compassion whatsoever."

Personnel from the Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service, who responded to the scene, want to make sure Coogan's extraordinary actions don't go unrecognized.

Deputy Fire Chief Larry Bentley said the fire department is preparing to give him a civil citation and is looking into federal and provincial recognition.

He agreed that Bajwa likely would've died without Coogan.

"It was truly an act of heroism as far as we're concerned," he told The Champion.

As for the deer that started it all, it was likely looking for a mate, said John Almond, area supervisor for the Aurora district of the Ministry of Natural Resources, since it's deer breeding season.

There's a heightened danger of deer wandering onto roads at this time of year, he said.

When the newfound friends met again in the hospital days after the incident, what struck Coogan most was Bajwa's young wife who "just sobbed", he said.

With his young family, newborn baby and a new house, "That poor bugger had a lot to live for," Coogan said without mincing words.

He added that since Bajwa's a diesel mechanic and his Jetta TDI runs on diesel, he's expecting an oil change or two — plus maybe a quesadilla from Montana's. And, come to think of it, that was his favourite work shirt that was ruined in action, he said, laughing.

Bajwa has no problem with any of Coogan's good-natured, half-joking requests.

"I say he's an angel sent by God."

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Rotary TV/Web auction held this week

Once again, the Halton Rotary TV/Web Auction will give residents a chance to have fun, bid for unique items and help local youth programs... all at the same time.

Participants can make their bids on-line in real time, or phone in.

The auction will be broadcast on TV Cogeco Cable 14 Friday and Saturday from 5:30 p.m. to midnight.

"We have a great selection of

items for sale and there's bound to be some great deals," said organizer Carolyn Keyworth.

"Best of all, the proceeds go to support our various 2007 youth programs in Halton."

Bid items have been generously donated by local businesses.

Proceeds will support youth programs including literacy initiatives, school breakfasts for financially-challenged kids, child autism services, youth

drop-in centres and bursaries.

To register, bid on-line or view the items, visit www.haltonrotaryauction.ca.

Check back frequently, as new items will be constantly added.

A list of the items is also published in today's Champion on pages B5 to B8.

To place your bid by phone the nights of the auction, call (905) 693-8291.

CAA
BE A DESIGNATED DRIVER

Join the many people who agree not to drink alcoholic beverages... and to drive everyone in their group home safely.

Ontario Property Owners

Cancellation of the 2006 and 2007 reassessments means that MPAC will only mail Property Assessment Notices to owners whose property has experienced a change since last year.

You will receive a Notice if:

- There has been a change in the ownership of your property;
- Your school support designation has changed;
- There has been a change in value resulting from a Request for Reconsideration or an Assessment Review Board decision;
- There has been a change in the property that will either increase or decrease its value (eg. addition or removal of a garage); or
- A structure was newly built.

If you have any questions or concerns about your Property Assessment Notice, please contact us.

MPAC Office – Halton / Peel Region
6745 Century Avenue – Suite 1
Mississauga

Office Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*
*Open until 6:00 p.m. December 4 - 8, 2006

1 866 296-MPAC (6722)
1 877 TTY-MPAC (889-6722)
www.mpac.ca



We are proud to introduce....

Megan Bradshaw

Registered Massage Therapist

- Trigger Point Therapy
- Lymphatic Drainage
- Relaxation Massage
- Pregnancy Massage
- Myofascial Release
- Swedish Massage
- Deep Tissue Massage
- Breast Massage

SAME DAY APPOINTMENT / ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

- Chiropractic Care
- Acupuncture
- Injury Rehabilitation
- Massage Therapy
- Ultrasound Therapy
- IFC & TENS Therapy
- Homeopathic Care
- Custom Orthotics
- Exercise Programs

IMPACT LIVING WELL
Chiropractic and Rehabilitation Centre

917 Nipissing Road, Milton
(Corner of Thompson & Nipissing)
Megan Bradshaw, RMT **905-693-0003**

Remember to Recycle!



With a little extra effort, recycling saves a lot!

One ton of recycled paper saves up to 17 trees. Recycling paper, plastic and metal saves tons of garbage from being put into local landfills. These are just a few of the many reasons to recycle and use recycled products. By cutting down on waste and using more eco-friendly products, we can keep Milton and our planet a healthy, beautiful place to live.

2006 Hyundai Elantra



- 4 cylinder
- Air conditioning
- Power Locks
- AM/FM/CD
- Certified & E-Tested
- Automatic
- Power Windows
- Cruise & Tilt
- 4 doors
- Only 15,000km!

Only **\$13,595**

- Brake Service
- Steering & Suspension
- MOT Safety Inspection
- Computer Diagnostics
- Tires
- Air Conditioning Service
- Auto Electric and Charging Systems
- General Repairs



Choose Experience, Choose Reliability, Choose...

K&B AUTO SERVICE

715 Main Street E. Milton 876-3148



FABRICLAND

DON'T MISS OUR EXCLUSIVE 4 DAY MEMBERS' MEGA SALE WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22-25 MEMBERS SAVE

50% Off

OR BETTER ON ALMOST EVERYTHING IN THE STORE! FULL DETAILS IN-STORE.

547 Main St. E. MILTON 878-0931