



ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION: Speed and alcohol played no role last Thursday when an eight-year-old Acton girl ran into the path of a pickup truck on Kingham Road. She has been released from hospital as police and the Town study traffic safety near the playgrounds where she was hit. – Submitted photo

‘Jingles for Jade’ campaign helps Acton girl hit by car

When Jade, the eight-year-old Acton girl struck by a pickup truck on Kingham Road last Thursday, was released earlier this week from McMaster Children’s Hospital she was welcomed home with a big basket of goodies, lovingly donated by friends, neighbours and some Acton businesses.

Halton police did not release the girl’s name, but neighbours identify her as Jade, who recently moved to the neighbourhood with her family. Witnesses said the Robert Little School

student ran out onto Kingham Road between two parked cars and the driver of a pickup truck, the owner of an Acton business who was dropping off an employee, had no chance of avoiding her.

Neighbour Heather Grooms said the Kingham community wants to support the family and welcome it to the area with the “Jingles for Jade” campaign to raise donations – \$167 and counting – for the girl and her family. To date, several local businesses have

also donated gift cards and cash. To donate to “Jingles for Jade” call Grooms at 905-699-1390.

On Tuesday, Halton police Sergeant Paul Davies said the girl’s family are “counting their blessings” that her injuries were not worse. While the investigation is not complete, Davies said they have ruled out speed and alcohol. He said the Town is looking at ways to improve safety in the area of the accident near two playgrounds on opposite sides of the road.

Tanners Pub gets noise exemption - Town mutes neighbours concerns

One column sub-head - Neighbours get apology for being ignored as Town studied

Noise levels from live entertainment on the outdoor patio at Tanners Pub & Grill can exceed the 50-decibels allowed in the Town’s bylaw, but only on Fridays and Saturdays, from 7 to 11 p.m., from May to September for the next three years.

Following a public hearing on Monday, Town Council approved the owners’ noise bylaw exemption request, over the objections of neighbour Penny McCabe. She complained the Town had not consulted any neighbours before recommending that last year’s noise bylaw exemption be continued.

“I don’t really get a sense that we’re really being respected as residents of the area – as the ones who have to put up with the noise, in our own homes,” McCabe said, adding she was speaking

for two other Acton residents whose properties abut Tanners. She asked for a one-year exemption to “build trust,” spontaneous noise tests and a “proper review.” McCabe acknowledged there were only two noise issues during last year’s patio season.

In past years with previous owners, neighbours complained about loud music and drunken rowdy patrons relieving themselves on their properties, but working with the Town, current owners Rick Matchett and his daughter, Andrea Clark have reduced noise levels and complaints. “We employ 13 people part-time and we only promote local talent, and we’ve got it down to an one-man to two-man band, no heavy metal,” Matchett said. Clark said she “respects” her neighbours and they are “learning as they go” after last season when there were just two noise complaints on Labour Day weekend. Clark said she only hires one-person acts, directs sound equipment

into the garage/stage and ends live entertainment at 11 p.m.

Committee chair, Regional/Ward Two Councillor Jane Fogal said she was a “little disappointed” no one from the Town spoke to the next door neighbours – the “right thing” to do she said, offering McCabe her personal apology.

Council can rescind the exemption at any time over the three-year period if there are noise complaints which are not resolved. All councillors approved the noise bylaw exemption except absent Acton Councillor Clark Somerville, a former owner of the Eastern Avenue eatery.

Spring seatbelt blitz

The annual Spring Seatbelt Campaign wraps up on Sunday, marking the 36th anniversary of Ontario’s seatbelt law that was enacted in 1976.

The Halton Regional Police Service is using a multi-faceted approach during the campaign, assigning all three District Response Units, uniform patrol officers and volunteers.

Transport Canada survey results show that 95 per cent of all Ontarians buckle up. Since Ontario’s seatbelt law first came into effect, the number of people killed and injured in motor vehicle collisions has steadily dropped and seatbelt use has contributed in the saving of countless lives. Halton

Deputy Chief Bob Percy said, “Despite traditionally high compliance rates, our Service will continue to educate motorists and enforce seatbelt legislation to serve as a reminder the importance of proper use of restraints, child car seats and booster seats.”

Sadly, motor vehicle collisions are still the leading cause of injury-related deaths among children and youth and it is mandatory for anyone who transports children to ensure they are properly secured in an infant seat, child car seat, or booster seat.

When installed correctly, child car seats can dramatically reduce the risk of death for infants under age one, and children aged one to four.



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