

Rumours surround Shepard resigning

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

The sudden resignation of Tom Shepard as the Town's director of Recreation and Parks has sparked wild rumours and allegations and Town Administrator Ray King's refusal to comment has done nothing to clarify the situation.

In a brief interview Tuesday morning, King refused to comment when asked by *The Tanner* if Shepard had resigned. King did say Shepard had not been at the Civic Centre all week.

In a subsequent interview, Acton Councillor Norm Elliott confirmed that a written resignation from Shepard was given to councillors during an in-camera session on Monday night.

"I can't say any more than Tom Shepard has offered his resignation," Elliott said. "In these days, when somebody

leaves and there are certain circumstances attached to it, and I don't mean anything in particular, but it is not prudent to say anything more," he explained.

Elliott said the circumstances surrounding Shepard's resignation will remain not obvious or not public for a number of reasons, but would not elaborate.

"I think the sad part is that rumours abound and all sorts of half-truths and complete fabrications spring up," Elliott said.

During councillors' closed door session, they passed a motion saying the recommendation, as outlined by the Town administrator regarding a confidential personnel matter, be adopted, and the town administrator and personnel officer be authorized to undertake any further necessary action.

Shepard had been the Town's director of Recreation and Parks since December 1979.



PYJAMA DAY: As part of Teacher Appreciation Week, Mrs. McCluskey's Grade 1 French Immersion class at Robert-Little held Pyjama Day on Friday. The students made her a bouquet of flowers and were allowed to wear their most comfortable clothes to school. (Doug Harrison photo)

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Tougher kennel bylaw wanted

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
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Town staff have six months to put some teeth into the Animal Control by-law which is under attack by a large number of rural residents, and several politicians, who claim it is weak.

Their main beef is with the zoning aspect of the by-law, which allows kennels and outside runs

within 100 feet of neighbouring properties.

In 1982, in response to complaints from residents, the Town increased the kennel setback distance to 100 feet from 50 feet, but the residents suggest that a 1,000-foot setback, as Milton and Erin have, would be more appropriate.

At last week's Council meeting, Ward 2 Councillor Cathy

Gastle, armed with a 181-name petition, asked staff for an updated draft by-law, with a 500-foot setback, in six weeks.

Gastle was not impressed when staff said the by-law was on the six month work program.

"Three years ago we asked staff to address the setback requirements and now we are faced with it again," Gastle argued.

"Is the six-week time frame too much to ask when our rural residents have been waiting 16 years to have this changed?"

When staff reported they are building an inventory and background on the issue, Gastle agreed to change the report time frame to three months, not six weeks.

Staff will review current requirements of the Animal Control by-law and produce a draft zoning amendment to the by-law, including a 500-foot minimum setback.

Dan C. Dolliver

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Acton seniors should be wary

I have received information from an Acton senior who told me that there is a possible home repair scam operating in the area. She received a phone call from a man who wanted to know who was responsible for home maintenance at her residence. When she told him she was responsible for her home repair he then asked her age. She then hung up; she was wise enough to know that a reputable repair company would not be interested in her age.

I remind all citizens to never give personal information to phone callers. Do not give your bank card or credit card numbers.

Another scam is still ongoing in the area where you receive a call advising you that you have won a valuable prize, and the caller requests that you send money to pay taxes, freight and shipping (usually they will suggest an amount between \$1,000 and \$2,000 dollars). You will lose money if you do this. Remember - "Don't be a VICTIM!"



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Actonites showed their goodwill

To the Editor,
The Salvation Army, with the Lakeside Chapter of the I.O.D.E., Acton Rotary Club and St. Vincent de Paul, would like to thank the citizens of our community for their generous support of our 1995 Christmas Hamper Program.

Once again, you have demonstrated your concern and goodwill to those less fortunate during the past holiday season.

The many financial contributions received, along with the donations of food, toys and clothing, helped us to brighten the hearts and homes of many local families. Thank you for allowing us to serve others in this way.

May God bless you all!
Captain Larry Jennings
Salvation Army, Acton Corps

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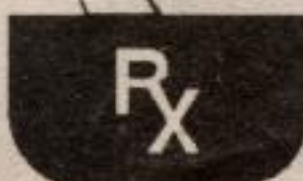
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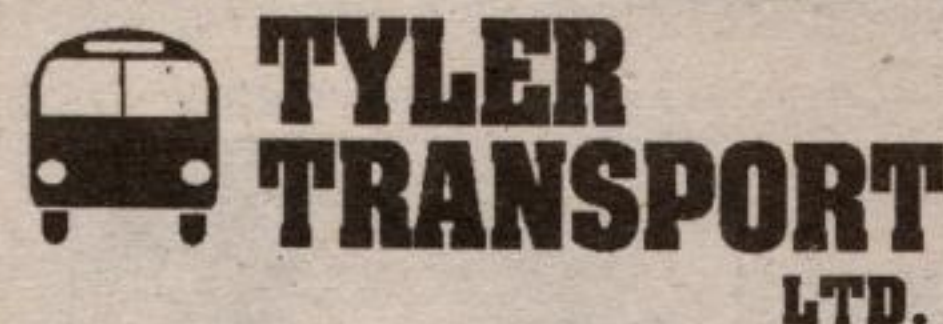
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