

FOUR D PETS: Dwayne Hitchcock and children Dean, left, Dwayne, Centre, and Dana pose with some of the pets available at their newly opened Rockwood store. Dana holds a young guinea pig named Suzie, while Dylan gets pecks from a cockateel and big brother Dean holds a quaker parrot named Mr. Oates. Dwayne holds their cockatoo, Topsy, and poses with Mr. McCaw. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo

Four D Pets opens

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

Four D Pets is a family business, born of Dwayne Hitchcock's need to be closer to home for his kids and his former occupation as a wholesaler of small animals and birds for pet stores. It's located in the old candy factory on Main St. S., Rockwood.

A farm boy who grew up with animals, Hitchcock has been a Rockwood resident for 15 years. He sold pets and supplies to pet stores for seven years, but after his wife's death in a car accident more than a year ago, he decided to open his own store and be at home with his family. He breeds his own stock and will be open six days a week with help from Emma Finlay.

In addition to the customary foods and supplies, Hitchcock carries a wide range of birds, from finches, lovebirds and canaries, to budgies, cockateels, parrots and doves, fish, small reptiles like iguanas and chameleons, small animals including ferrets, guinea pigs, rats, mice and hamsters, and kittens.

He even has crickets and feeder fish for pet owners in need of live food for their own pets.

He does not have dogs because they require seven-day care and he wants Sundays to be with his children.

"I'm down here on a Sunday just to check that everyone is okay," he says, "but I'd have to be down here at least three times a day to walk them if I had dogs. I don't want that."

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Check out our amazing new website and the upcoming events this fall at *Clinic in the Woods*

<http://welcome.to/clinicinthewoods>

Cagers Down Aldershot

The Acton High School girls' junior basketball team downed Aldershot 49-34 in an away game last Tuesday.

Acton led convincingly until the fourth quarter when Aldershot attempted a comeback.

Melissa Bigg led the Acton scoring with 32 points. Kaitlyn Andrews had eight and Vicky Cosulich had four. Top defensive players included Bigg and Amy Boileau. Andrews and Amy De La Franier were the top rebounders.



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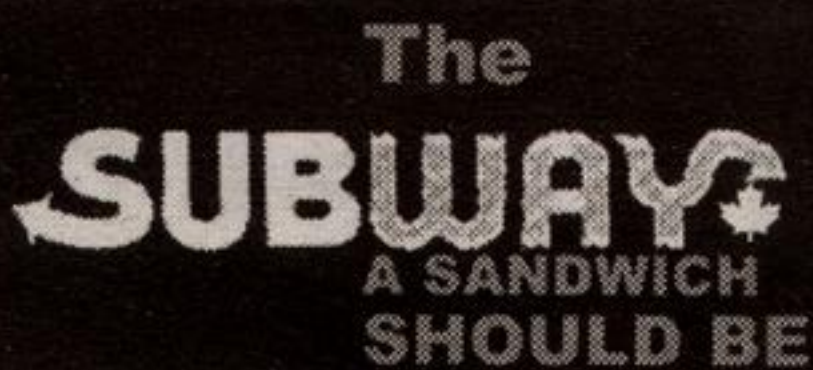
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Who decides that I am incapable of making decisions about health treatment?

Health practitioners cannot treat you without consent. If they decide that you are incapable of making decisions about your treatment, then they must get the consent of your substitute decision-maker. This means that your Power of Attorney cannot make treatment decisions for you unless a health practitioner concludes that you are incapable of making decisions for yourself. There are many different types of health professionals, for example: doctors, nurses, dentists, physiotherapists, psychologists and psychiatrists, to only name a few.

Who decides that I am incapable of making decisions about personal care assistance services in a long-term care facility? Or about entering such a facility?

In both cases this is up to an "evaluator". An evaluator must be a nurse or a doctor, psychologist, social worker, physiotherapist, speech language, therapist or audiologist. Your attorney cannot make these decisions unless an evaluator finds that you are incapable of making them yourself.

How will my attorney make decisions for me? If, while you are capable, you give instructions or express wishes about your personal care, your attorney must follow these instructions or wishes.

If your attorney does not know of any instructions or wishes, or you did not give him any, he or she will make decisions based on what seems to be in your best interest.

To do so, he or she must consider your values and beliefs and even the wishes you expressed after you become incapable.

However your attorney can override these later wishes if he or she believes that this is in your best interest.

If you left no instructions or wishes about something that becomes an issue, your attorney must weigh the probable benefits and risks of any decisions. He or she must decide whether an available treatment, type of care or course of action will improve the quality of your life, prevent your quality of life from deteriorating or limit the rate of deterioration. Your attorney must decide if the likely benefit to you outweighs the risk.

Next week...
"What if I am mentally capable of making some personal care decisions?"

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