

Tay, Port, Harbour animal control venture underway

Canada's 110th birthday wasn't the only official celebration on the minds of Port McNicoll, Victoria Harbour and Tay Township councillors last Friday.

For them, July 1 was the day the appointment of a full-time animal control officer for the three municipalities became official.

Councils from the three municipalities recently signed a three year agreement with George and Marg Winteler of Fesserton, making Port, the Harbour and Tay only the second major area to move to joint animal

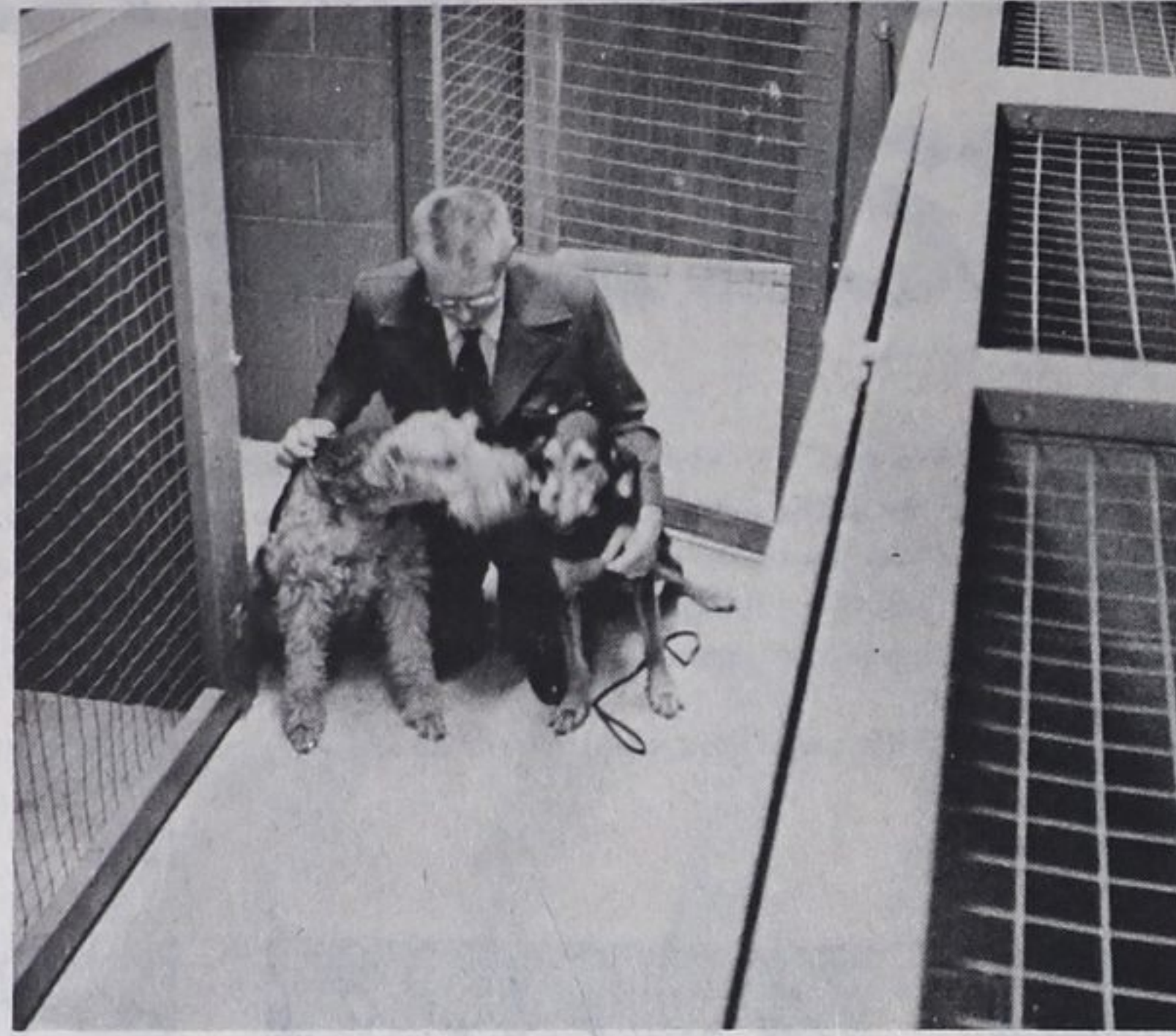
control. Tiny Township and Midland last year decided to pool animal control resources to hire one full-time officer for both municipalities.

"Because this is a joint venture, we can make it a full-time job for someone," says David Walker, Chairman of the TVP Joint Committee for Animal Control. In the past Tay was served with a part-time animal control officer, Port McNicoll and Victoria Harbour by the Ontario Humane Society.

The last four weeks have been very busy ones for the Wintelers as they

worked to finish the 24 ft. by 20 ft. new Bay Animal Control shelter, the first ever for the three municipalities it serves. Inside there's 10 fairly large cages for dogs, three cages for errant cats, a feed and storage room and a tiny office from which the Wintelers will be selling animal licenses and (hopefully) tracing owners of the stray animals George Wintler will pick up in his daily rounds of Tay, Port and Victoria Harbour.

It's a large area and a large animal population the Wintelers will be responsible for. Present



First 'clients'

The first pets to try out the new animal control shelter in Fesserton were the Wintelers own dogs, Major, an Airedale and 'Coon', an energetic young hound. Staff photo

records show there were 473 dog tag sales in Tay Township last year, 110 in Victoria Harbour and 151 in Port McNicoll. It's estimated that one in four dogs is not tagged in the area - and that, according to TVP chairman Walker is a fairly good record.

New license rates Owners of pets not now licensed will be able to purchase tags from the

Wintelers at the new rates which went into effect on July 1 and are outlined in the accompanying bylaw. All other licenses will be valid until December 31, 1977 and it won't be until after that date that the Wintelers will have one dog-tag system with which to work. The fact that they're going to have to cope with amalgamating three different systems now used doesn't phase Marg or George one bit though. "We'll just work out the problems as they come up," says the petite, jovial Mrs. Winteler.

Working with animals is not a new venture for either of the two, it's just another challenge. They've operated the Silver Birch Aquarium in Fesserton for the past five years, owned a pet Airedale (Major) and an affable hound, have a pet Malaysian bear, keep

several Canada Geese for the passing tourists to get a first-hand glimpse of this famous Canadian waterfowl and raise thousands of minnows for local marina operators and tourist fishermen who come to try their rod in Georgian Bay country.

George Winteler has also had experience as a veterinarian's assistant. George Winteler has also been busy brushing up on the regulations for animal control officers set out in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture's Animals for Research Act (this act also governs methods of shelter construction).

24 hours emergency service Winteler will be

working a regular work week (though not necessarily Monday to Friday) patrolling Tay, Port McNicoll and Victoria Harbour in his Bay Animal Control van. His wife will be based at the Fesserton aquarium and will oversee shelter operations and together they'll provide 24 hour, seven day a week emergency service. To keep in touch while George is out on the road, the couple have purchased a Citizens' Band radio unit.

George and Marg will also be responsible for supplying CKMP radio (1230 on the dial) with up-to-the-minute information

on lost and found dogs. Locating the pets' owners will be a major part of the animal control operations. "every possible attempt will be made to find the owner" - emphasizes Marg. If the dog is not reclaimed after three working days, the Wintelers can either put the animal up for adoption or put it to sleep. The latter will only be resorted to when absolutely necessary, says Marg Winkeler, adding that Bay Animal Control will take orders from potential residents looking for a pet.

Losing your pet won't come cheap - you'll be billed \$3 for a daily boarding fee and \$10

pound maintenance fee. But with a permanent animal control officer, all residents served by Bay Animal Control can rest assured that their stray pets will likely be located - and will be in the best hands possible.

Right now George Winteler is just trying to familiarize himself with the area, its residents and the hundreds of pets that will be in his charges. He hopes to establish a good working relationship with pet owners and help out rather than pick-up whenever possible. "Cooperation not confrontation" is the motto Bay Animal Control Services will be working by.

BAY ANIMAL CONTROL

Service Tay Township, Victoria Harbour, Port McNicoll

538-2792

Pound 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Hours 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

24 hr. emergency service

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday July 10

2 - 6 p.m.

All residents welcome - Hwy. 12, Fesserton

New regulations

A new animal control bylaw now in effect in Tay Township, Port McNicoll and Victoria Harbour will, with certain exceptions, make it unlawful to have more than two licensed dogs as pets per home.

Residents operating a kennel can apply for a special \$25 kennel licence providing all animals are registered. Those homeowners not operating a kennel but still wanting to keep more than two dogs per home can petition council for a special permit and each case will be judged individually, says Tay councillor David Walker.

The bylaw, he explains, has been introduced to impose some control on homeowners who have a number of pet dogs which regularly produce unwanted litters.

New licences bought now will cost dog owners \$5 for the first neutered or spayed dog, \$10 for an intact male or female and \$15 for the second pet, whether it is able to reproduce or not.

This by-law is common to the Township of Tay, Victoria Harbour and Port McNicoll

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TAY BY-LAW NO. 1592

A By-Law for the licensing and requiring the registration of dogs and for the control of dogs within the Municipality of the Township of Tay.

Whereas the Dog Licensing and Livestock and Poultry Protection Act, R.S.O. 1970 Chapter 133, authorizes the Councils of local Municipalities to pass By-Laws for licensing and for requiring the registration of dogs;

And whereas the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1970, Chapter 284, Section 354 as amended authorizes the Councils of local Municipalities to pass By-Laws for prohibiting or regulating the number of animals that may be kept by any person within the Municipality.

Now therefore the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Township of Tay enacts and be it enacted as follows:

- (a) "Dog" means a male or female dog, over the age of 12 weeks.
- (b) "Owner" of a dog includes any person and all persons who make up a household group who possess or harbour a dog, and "owns" or "owned" has a corresponding meaning;
- (c) "Animal Control Officer" includes the person or Association who has entered into a contract with the Corporation of the Township of Tay to control dogs and to maintain a dog pound and any servant or agents of such person.
- (d) "Household Group" means any group of persons living in the same living unit whether related or not.
- Every owner of a dog shall, on or before the 1st day of February in each and every year, or upon becoming the owner of a dog after the 1st day of February, register such dog with the Township Clerk and procure a licence and dog tag for each dog up to a total of 2 dogs owned by him.
- Every dog tag shall bear the serial number and the year in which it was issued and a record shall be kept by the Municipal Clerk showing the name and address of the owner of the serial number of the tag.
- The owner shall keep the dog tag securely fixed on the dog at all times.
- The fee charged for the replacement of lost dog tags shall be 50 cents.
- Every person who fails to comply with Section 2 or 4 of this By-Law or who uses a tag upon a dog other than that for which it was issued, shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$10.00 exclusive of costs.
- (a) Every licence issued pursuant to this by-law shall expire on the 31st day of December of the year in respect of which it was issued.
- (b) The annual licence fee for a single neutered male dog or a single spayed female dog shall be the sum of \$5.00 and for a single male dog or a single female dog the sum of \$10.00. In order for a dog to be classified as a spayed female or a neutered male the owner shall produce a certificate of such from a doctor of Veterinarian Medicine.
- (c) For the second dog licensed to an owner the fee for the dog regardless of sex or classification shall be \$15.00.
- Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 7 above, the owner of a kennel or pure-bred dogs registered in the register of the Canadian Kennel Club Incorporated, shall pay an annual licence fee of \$25.00 to the Township Clerk and such owner is not liable to pay any further licence fee in respect of such purebred dogs. Provided that the fee for renewal of licence under the provisions of this paragraph shall be \$25.00 upon renewal prior to the 1st day of February.
- (1) No owner of a dog shall allow the dog to run at large within the limits of the Municipality of the Township of Tay.
- (ii) For the purposes of this section a dog shall be deemed to be running at large when found elsewhere than on the property of the owner and not under the control of a competent and responsible person.

(iii) No owner of a dog shall allow the dog to howl or bark so as to annoy any other person or to allow or permit the dog from becoming a nuisance to any other person. Any person so annoyed may appear before the Animal Control Officer, who in turn shall issue a warning to the owner, if the owner shall fail forthwith to restrain the dog from so annoying the person, or to continue to restrain the dog from so annoying the person, the Animal Control Officer or the person may swear out an Information charging the owner with a breach of this Section of the By-Law.

10. A Peace Officer or an Animal Control Officer may seize and impound any dog running at large, provided however if the dog is injured and should be destroyed without delay for humanitarian reasons or for reasons of safety to people or animals, the Peace Officer or Animal Control Officer may kill the dog in a humane manner as soon after seizure as he thinks fit and no damages or compensation shall be recovered on account thereof.

11. The Peace Officer or Animal Control Officer shall restore possession of an uninjured dog that does not have to be destroyed to the owner thereof where:

(a) The owner attends at the pound and claims possession of the dog within three days, excluding the day on which the dog was impounded and statutory holidays and Sundays, and

(b) The Owner pays to the Peace Officer or Animal Control Officer a pound fee of \$10.00 for a dog seized and impounded plus a maintenance sum of \$3.00 for each day subsequent to the day of seizure that the dog remains impounded.

12. If the Animal Control Officer is unable to seize any dog found to be running at large contrary to this By-Law and the owner of such dog is known to the Animal Control Officer he shall require the owner to pay a pound fee of \$10.00. Provided that if the owner does not pay the pound fee on demand to the Animal Control Officer, the owner then shall have committed an offence under this By-Law.

13. Where a dog is impounded, the owner if known and whether the dog is claimed from the pound or not, shall be liable for the pound and maintenance fees prescribed, and shall pay all fees on demand by the Animal Control Officer or Municipal Clerk.

14. Where at the end of the said three days, possession of the dog has not been restored to the owner under Section 12 the Animal Control Officer may sell the dog for such price as he deems reasonable.

15. Where the owner of a dog has not claimed the dog within the redemption period set out in Section 11, Subsection (a) above and the dog has not been sold, the Animal Control Officer may kill the dog in a humane manner, or otherwise dispose of the dog as he sees fit and no damages or compensation shall be recovered on account of its killing or other disposition.

16. Provided that no owner shall have more than 2 dogs at any time in his care, or custody or control. Each individual adult person being part of a household group may be jointly or severally charged with a breach of this section of this By-Law.

17. The Animal Control Officer as defined in Section 1, subsection (c) of this By-Law is hereby appointed as Special Officer to enforce the provisions of this By-Law.

18. (a) Every person who contravenes Section 9 of this By-Law is guilty of an offence and on summary conviction is liable to a fine of not less than \$20.00 exclusive of costs and every such fine is recoverable under The Summary Convictions Act.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-section (a) of Section numbered 18, or the provisions of Section numbered 6 of this by-law, any person may, upon presentation of the violation tag issued pursuant to this by-law alleging commission of an offence under this by-law pay out of Court within five (5) days from the date of issue of this said tag (exclusive of Saturday, Sunday and holidays), the sum of \$10.00 and upon such payment, no further proceedings are to be taken under this by-law in respect of the said offence alleged in the violation tag.



New animal shelter

Marg and George Winteler exchange pleasantries with members of the TVP Joint Committee for Animal Control outside of the new Bay Animal Control shelter in Fesserton. Members of the committee (from left to right) are Alex Hancock, clerk for the Village of Port McNicoll; R.J. (Bob) Armstrong, Deputy-Reeve of Port McNicoll; Donna Thatcher, clerk for the Village

of Victoria Harbour; Reeve Theo Bernard of Victoria Harbour; David Walker, TVP Chairman and Tay Township Councillor; Walter Lumsden, Tay Township clerk. Missing were Ralph Gray, Deputy-Reeve, Victoria Harbour, and Bruce Tinney, Deputy-Reeve of Tay Township.

Staff photo

T.V.P. JOINT COMMITTEE FOR DOG CONTROL

TO: The people of Tay Township, Victoria Harbour, Port McNicoll

In early February, 1977, our three Municipal Councils joined in a co-operative effort to improve the level of Animal Control by establishing the T.V.P. Joint Committee. This Committee was instructed to find ways and means to provide satisfactory Animal Control. After study and consultation, recommendations were made to our respective Councils resulting in a new approach to Animal Control for our municipalities as of July 1st, 1977.

This new program has three main components, a Principle, a By-law, and a new Animal Control Service.

The principle of this program is CO-OPERATION. Our three Municipal Councils have co-operated enabling this program to be put together. And we ask for all citizens to co-operate with the Animal Control Officer and with each other. Pet lovers and owners to take full and proper care of their pet; non-owners to be fair and tolerant.

The new Bylaw is common to all three Municipalities. It provides the regulations for all of us to be governed by.

Bay Animal Control operated by George and Margaret Winteler have been contracted by all three Municipalities to provide Animal Control Services; Their new Animal Shelter is located on Highway 12 in Fesserton. We hope as many people as possible will drop in and have a first hand look at this fine facility. George will regularly be patrolling throughout our Municipalities in his truck. Margaret will be answering the phone and looking after the Shelter.

The T.V.P. Joint Committee respectfully requests the co-operation of everyone to help this program succeed and make our communities a better place to live

Yours Sincerely,
David Walker,
Bruce Tinney,
Ralph Gray,
R.J. 'Bob' Armstrong