

# Rhymes, reasons and homespun weather predictions

Weather is a crucial element for any outdoors enthusiast while either paddling along interior lakes or trekking off the beaten path. An accurate forecast can make the difference between a successful trip and a grim memory.

Without the aid of a daily newspaper or nightly news report transmitting scientific 'guesses' you have to depend on Mother Nature herself to broadcast the weather before heading out into the wilds.

By paying special heed to nature's signs, ancient weather lore handed down by old seafarers and crafty woodsmen, you should be able to canoe across open water or hike through unknown wilderness without worrying about the powers above raining on your parade.

The following are a few such rhymes, reasons and homespun

predictions for the weather:

*Red sky at night,  
Sailor's delight.*

*Red Skies in the morning,  
Sailors take warning.*

The red hew of the sun is caused by dust particles, and raindrops form around them. Chances are that if you see a glorious red sunset in the west it will likely be clear by morning since weather fronts move roughly from west to east. If in the morning, however, you see red skies in the east rain is sure to follow.

*The farther the sight,  
The nearer the rain.*

Just as sound travels farther in moist air, making your hearing suddenly very sharp and causing you to take heed from the weather, the same goes when excessive refraction of light waves is caused by moist air. So if you can see much better than usual, with distant objects unusually

## Nature's Way

By KEVIN CALLAN

sharp, prepare for sudden rain.

Other signs of weather:

- A heavy dew in the morning is an indication of fine weather for the day, just as does a morning fog.

- When the early morning sun is hot and burning through the clouds ready yourself for the afternoon thunderstorms.

- When there is less air pressure on your body, the gases in your joints expand and cause pain; therefore your joints are more likely to ache before a rainstorm because it occurs in an area of low barometric pressure.

- A low-pressure rain system moving in will stir up a south wind that flips leaves over, showing their undersides.

- By counting the number of chirps of a cricket in 14 seconds and add 40 the accumulative will give you the temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. The hotter it gets, the more the cold-blooded crickets chirp.

- Bees come home the moment they sense a drop in barometric pressure, not wanting to get caught out in the rain.

- Frogs have to keep their skin comfortably wet and therefore, croak before a storm, knowing that uncomfortable humid

weather will follow.

-Birds and bats ears are very sensitive to air-pressure changes, and a lower pressure of a storm front would cause them pain, forcing them to fly lower before a storm.


- Soft, wispy clouds generally indicate fair weather, and great bunches of clouds, towering upward, hint more towards an encroaching storm. And scaly clouds tell of good weather when they're high, but as they lower, they bring rain.

## Recreation Report

TENNIS ANYONE?

Now that the snow is gone, it is time to start thinking about tennis. The Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department is offering lessons for the beginner and the intermediate level player. Classes are held at a court near you. Various days and times are available. See our Spring and Summer Brochure for more information or call us at 873-2600 ext.267.

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**211 ARMSTRONG AVENUE.**

The Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press is on the move. All we've done is relocate our New Facilities at 211 Armstrong Avenue at Sinclair (next door to the Georgetown Racquet Club).

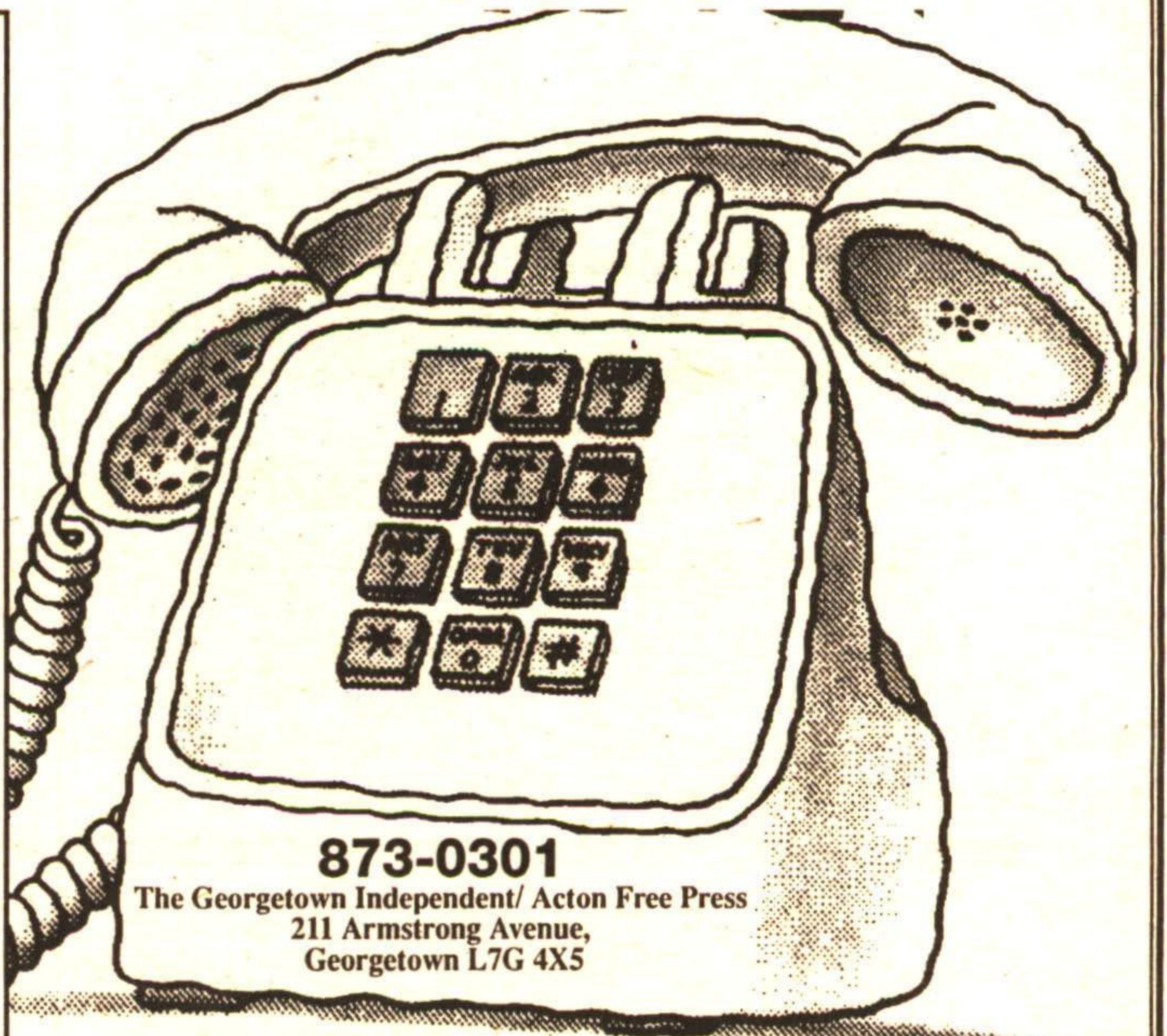
Although you'll find us in a different place, we haven't changed. Our New Phone Number is 873-0301.

All departments will complete the move from Main Street by April 30/90.

So remember April 30/90 the last day to file your income tax and the first full day that the Independent/Free Press will be at our New Location.

All phone calls for all departments can be called to 873-0301.

Thank you  
Ken Bellamy  
Publisher



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