

# THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

**KEN NUGENT**  
Publisher

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## Seeking justice

Every child learns in school that this nation is built on the principle of democracy, based on law and order. Ingrained in these teachings is a certain amount of faith and trust that the judicial system will serve the common good.

Yet in recent years, this faith has been steadily eroded. It seems to many that the rights of the accused are superseding the rights of the victims, that the accused are receiving minimal fines or sentences or, due to delays in the system, no punishment at all.

Police officers are faced with an increasing proliferation of gun power and a citizenry's willingness to use them.

The average person has become bewildered by this violence in society and the seeming inability of the judicial system to cope with it. One average guy, George Binden, is trying to do something about it — he's saying let's stop paying lip-service to justice, but let's get some.

Mr. Binden, whose story is on page one, isn't just seeking justice for the loss of his dog; he's seeking justice for his family, his friends, his community who are paying high taxes to live in a community without fear — and yet the fear is there.

No, Mr. Binden is concerned as are we, of the larger issue of gun control, increased use of weapons and the perceived lack of vigilance by the judicial system to prosecute the offenders.

A return to the American frontier justice, as Mr. Binden fears, is not the way. Stronger gun control laws, stiffer penalties for convicted offenders and a more vigilant judicial system is. With the recent gun control legislation, and the Attorney General's directive to crown counsel to give weapon cases higher priority, perhaps we're headed in the right direction. But we'll still need more Mr. Bindens out there to shake the sloth from the judicial system.

## Officials not doing enough

The following letter to Mayor Russ Miller was filed with us for publication:

Dear Mayor Miller,  
I am very concerned that our elected officials are not doing all within their power to stop the RSI proposal to turn the Acton Quarry into a garbage dump.

At the pre-election all-candidates meeting in Georgetown, you said, "If the people wish, I will enforce the Indusmin agreement" to replace the Third Line. Also, in several newspaper articles prior to and after the election, you were reported as

saying that one of your priorities for Halton Hills is protection of the environment.

As a citizen of Halton Hills, I am asking you to enforce the Indusmin agreement to replace the Third Line through the quarry. I am also asking that my Ward 1 representatives fully support you in this action.

I would much prefer that our tax dollars go to enforcing the agreement because that will stop the dump proposal in its tracks.

Sincerely,  
Jean Hilborn,  
Acton



## Hockey is all-Canadian great time for everyone

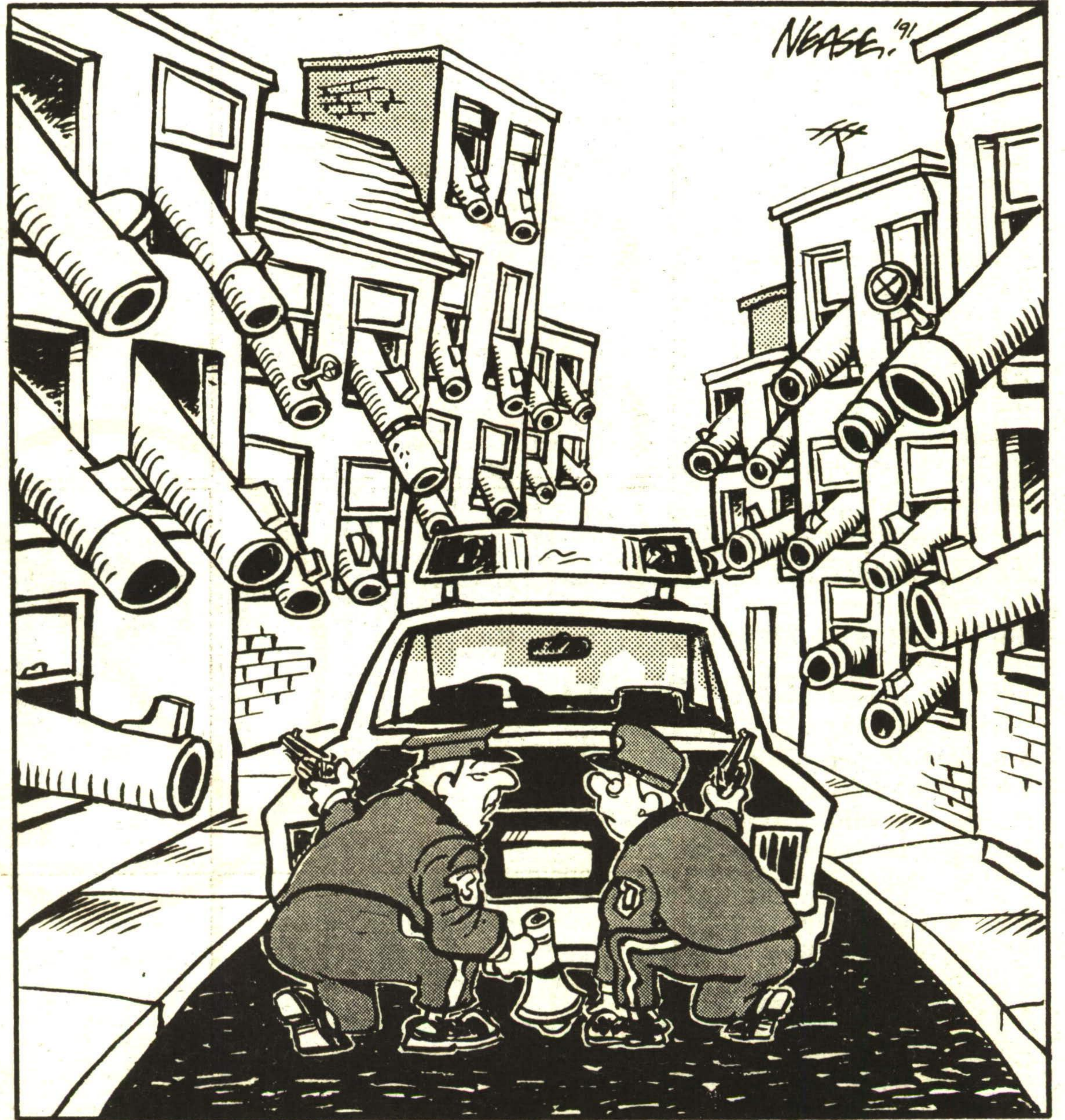
Dear editor,  
Thinking back over the years, this was always a great time, winter. The outdoor hockey and skating rinks were open. Our daughter and late son had their skates sharpened and ready to go the day the two rinks were flooded. French and English friends, altogether the sound of their voices

was heavenly, with the sound of skates on ice.

We would go down for a short while; too cold to be standing long. The hot cocoa was waiting in most houses when they got back. The old rag mop was inside the door ready for the wipe up after the skates were taken off.

Hockey is still going on in French and English in all the provinces. How come so few Canadians are letting their thoughts be known? French-speaking or English-speaking, we all have one thing in common: our country, Canada.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Kathleen (Molly) Crowhurst,



"Ever get the feeling we're losing ground in this 'Gun Control' thing?"

# New Year's is a time for resolutions

Next week we will be ushering in 1992.

And as usual, many people will be making all sorts of New Year's Resolutions.

You know the sort of thing; lose a little weight, stop smoking, or maybe try to remember their spouse's birthday, before it actually gets here.

In short, create some totally ridiculous and unattainable goal then be disappointed with themselves when they fail.

Now, I suppose I could always stand to shed a few pounds, but I don't smoke and almost never forget my wife's birthday. (I always book my vacation time when it falls, so I have an entire week to remember it.)

But as it's that time of year again, recently I asked myself, "What can I resolve to do in 1992?"

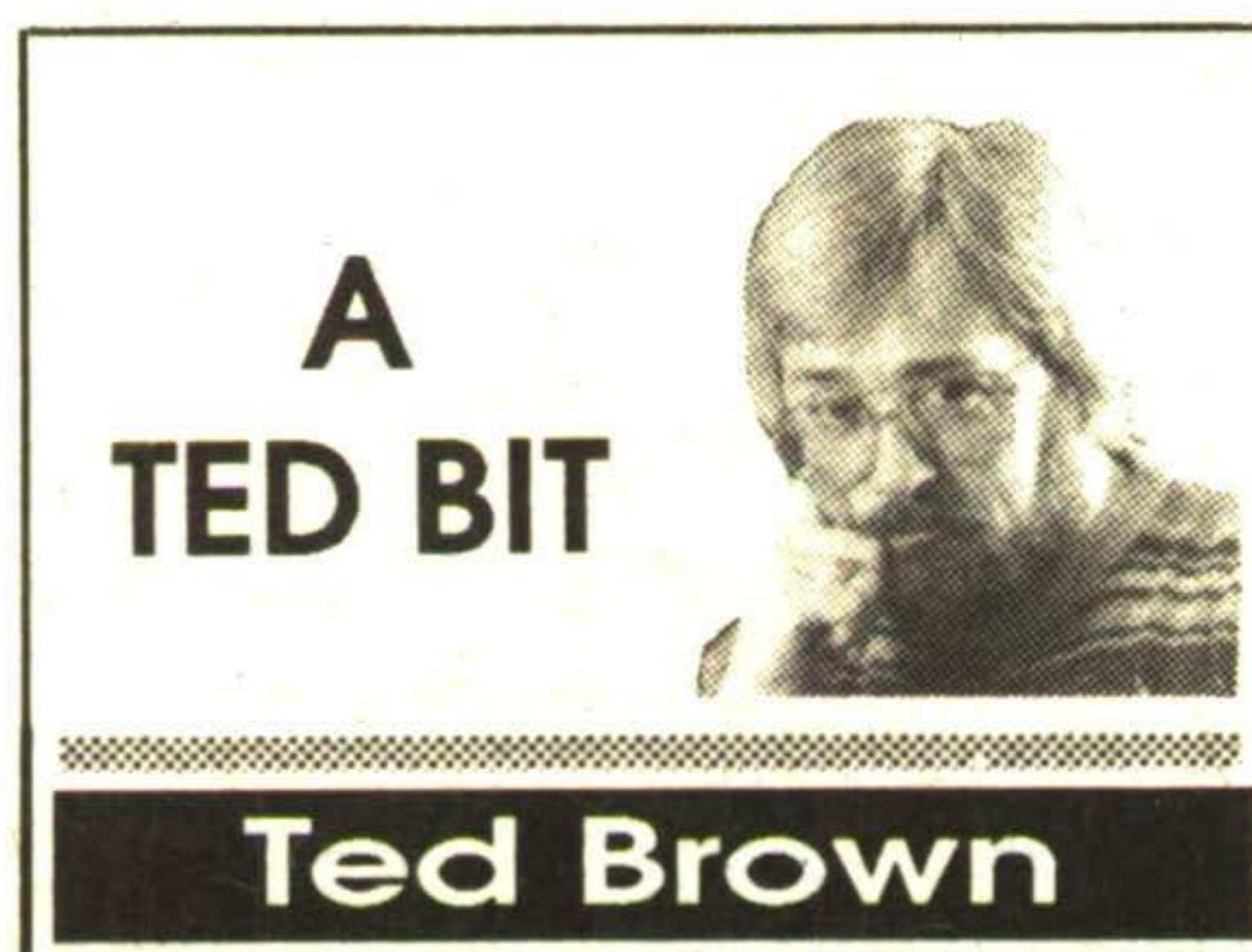
With the constant prodding to get certain little tasks done at home, I

thought about making a few resolutions around the house.

I considered trying to get the upstairs hall wallpapered, as I'm reminded on a regular basis that it's unfinished. Or maybe nail those last couple of pieces of siding on the back of the house. Or clean out the garage. Maybe put up the bird feeder.

After some thought, I decided the siding was a warm weather job, so it would be an easy resolution, provided I'm given 12 months to get it done. Mind you, I recall making the same sort of resolution at the end of 1990, so I guess that one's already taken. I see no reason why New Year's Resolutions need time limits.

On the other hand, the hall wallpaper is a two-person job, so I was hesitant to take on a resolution to do something that relied on another person's help. The other person just might not be available when I am, and



my resolution batting average would suffer as a result.

Cleaning out the garage is a tough one. After all, most of the stuff stored in there belongs to my kids, like bicycles and old toys. And far be it for me to throw out something they have taken such great pains to preserve. Goodness, that broken toy could become a piece of history some day.

And unless it turned very mild, there's no way I could drive the post

into the frozen ground for the bird feeder, so that one's out of the question.

I wondered about making a few resolutions at work instead.

Now, I could have resolved to make it to work on time, but I'm rarely late, so that one was pointless.

And I thought about setting a goal to keep my desk cleaner and answer all my telephone messages the same week they came in. But I decided against that one. There are limits to what a person can actually do, especially when I can't find all my messages in the same week for the mess on my desk.

Besides, if I were to do all these things, everyone would think I had gone through a personality change upsetting that finely-tuned balance in the working climate of the office.

I considered resolving to have all my negative and photo files in the office up to date every week.

But if I did that, the rest of the staff wouldn't be able to find them in that tall stack on the corner of my desk. Or in the darkroom. Or in the box under the table.

Well, you get the idea.

I looked at my own personal values, and to see if there was room for improvement in those areas. Little things like cutting out the profanity when I stub my toe in the dark or when I learn the Visa payment was due "yesterday."

But I decided that's a reflex action, and I don't think I could ever hope to change it. That would be something like trying to stop breathing.

So, after a great deal of consideration, I finally came up with something I can do as a New Year's Resolution.

I can resolve to stop procrastinating.

And this year, I intend to succeed, so I'll get right to it. Tomorrow.