



TED BROWN /Halton Hills Weekend

## A sure sign of spring

Town employees were into the spirit of spring this week as they cleaned up some old trees along Guelph St. in Georgetown. The fine weather has had numerous people getting itching to get out and clean up the mess Old Man Winter has left in their yards.

## Pictures & Presents

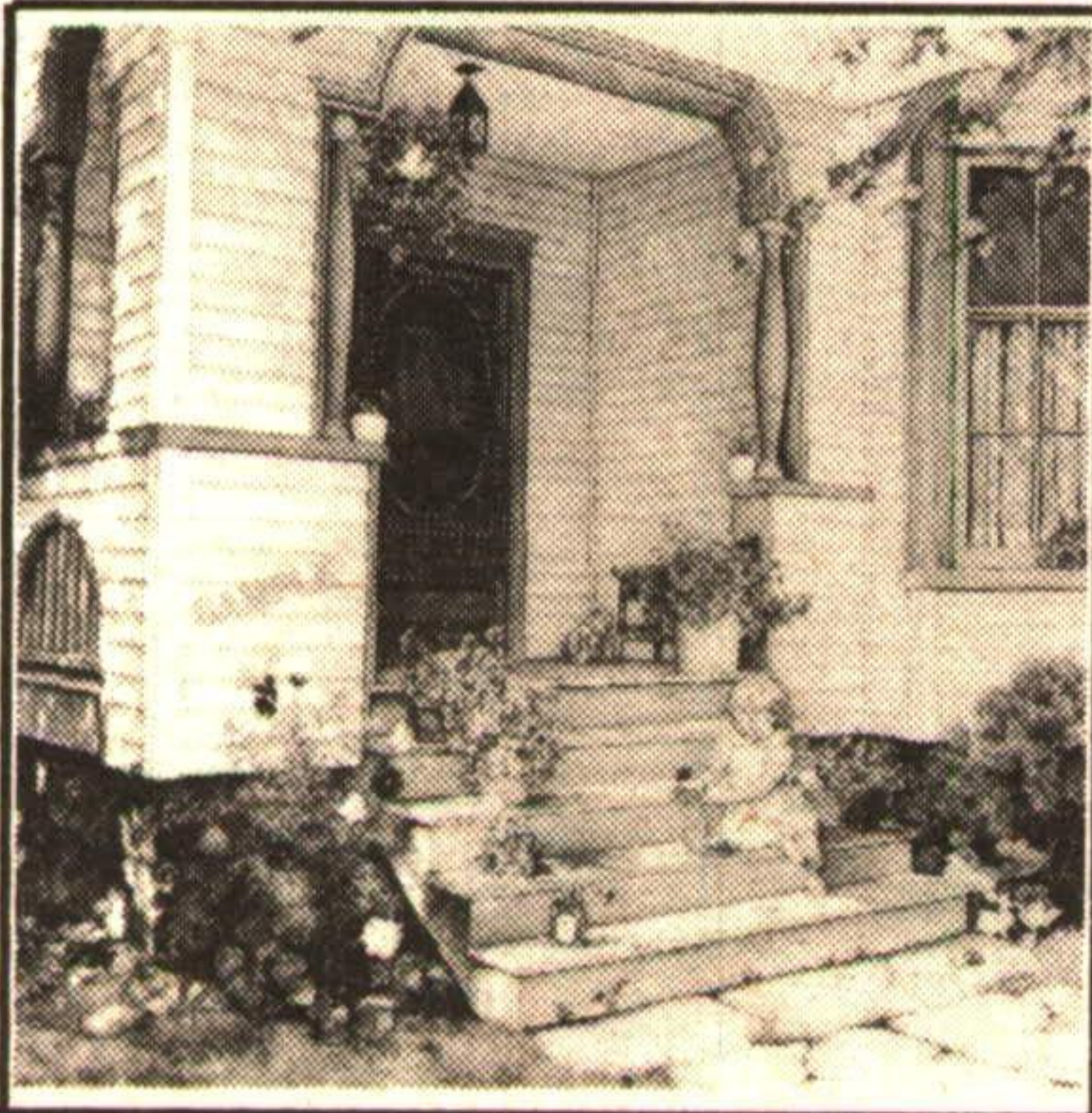
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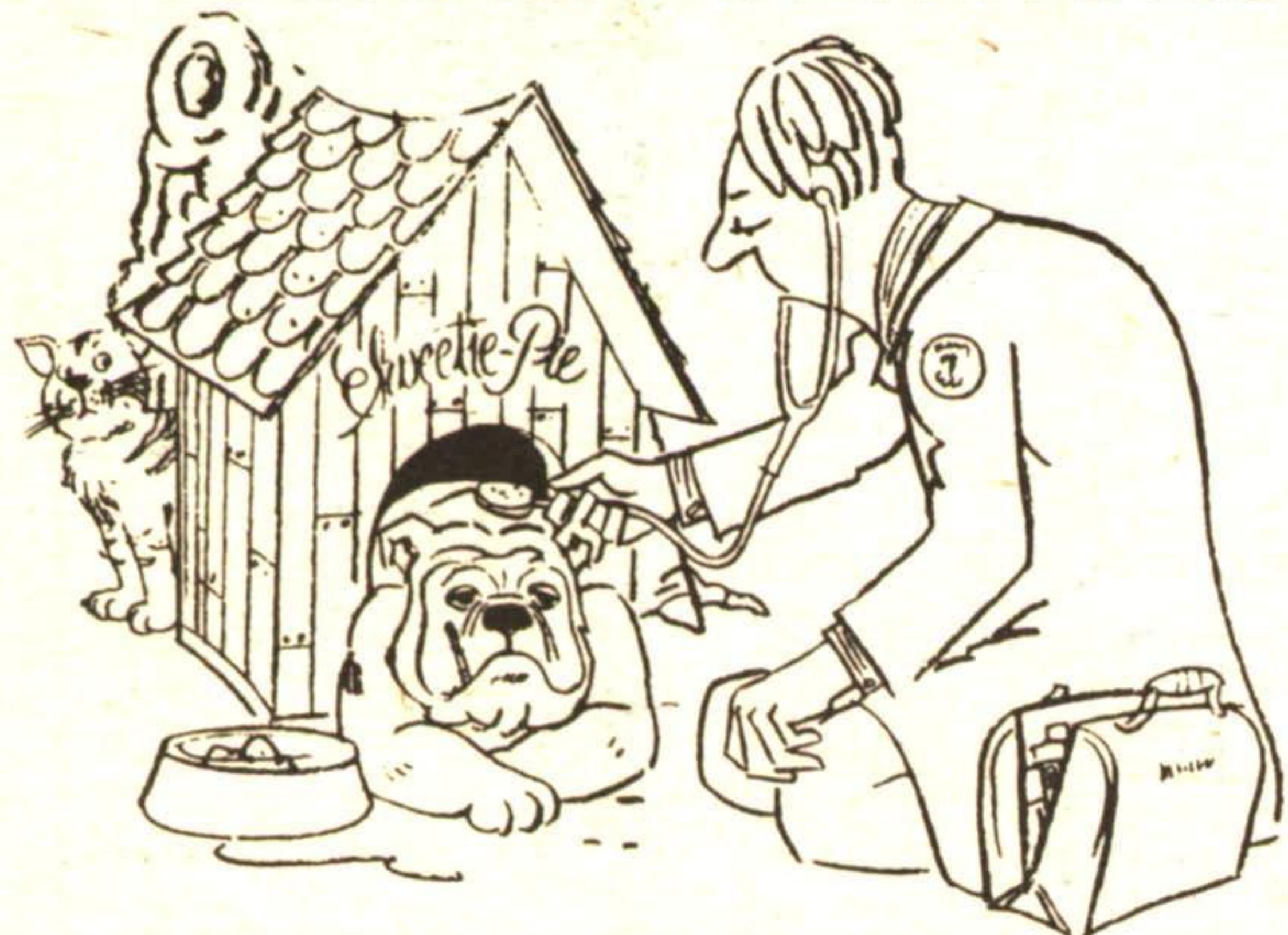
A Tender Thought - Laura Berry

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# Students hope to CLEAN up

By **STUART JOHNSTON**  
Staff writer

Three Acton high school students are fighting to get people to CLEAN up their act.

Grade 10 students Jennifer Flesch, Laura Henry and Adrienne Duff are taking environmental matters into their own hands these days, concerned that their future may be in jeopardy if more people don't start taking a serious look at the world around them.

Recognizing that such dreams begin with a small step, Flesch got together two weeks ago with her schoolmates and formed CLEAN - Citizens Looking Ecologically Ahead Now.

"We are an environmental action group," an enthusiastic Flesch explained in an interview last week. "We want to try and operate throughout all of Halton, and hopefully get more people involved...I think it would be adventurous and good for the town, and the region, to have. I've wanted to do something like this for a long time, but before Laura and Adrienne came along, I didn't have the support."

Henry added that the "world has wasted so much time already - garbage is going over our heads, so

we've got to try and save ourselves.

"I'd rather clean up the environment than clean my room," she admitted with a smile.

In keeping with their slogan, "Think green, keep clean," Flesch and her group will be initially focusing their attention and energies on fighting the Acton dump proposal. However, they also hope to expand their horizons and deal with the environment on a much broader basis, Flesch stressed.

They intend to contact POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources) to get a handle on the dump issue, and for pointers on how to go about organizing their opposition.

"We'll send representatives to any public meeting on the dump, because we think it's important to speak out against it...Ontario needs a place to put its garbage, but right in the middle of a small town is not a good idea."

Waste reduction, recycling and reusing materials are also an important part of CLEAN's philosophy. Citing Georgetown's Wastewise facility as a good example of what steps can be taken to improve the world, Flesch believes everyone should jump on this bandwagon and do their part as well.

"If people want this place more environmental, then they should be more open to environmentally-friendly products," she added. "There is really a gap between people saying that they want to do something, and then actually doing it. What we want to do is not on a global scale, but it's something to start with...If we have just one small group, then we can all pitch in and help make a difference in the local area. Acton and the rest of Halton really needs something like that."

Although at the moment they only boast a strength of three, CLEAN hopes to soon recruit volunteers of all ages. Flesch noted that they considered limiting their group to local youths, but she soon realized that the environment concerns all, so it made sense not to impose restrictions.

"We will certainly welcome all volunteers," Flesch said. "We are, of course, non-profit, but so far any expenses that we have will be coming out of our own pockets."

Flesch encouraged anyone who is interested in helping CLEAN, or who may have any ideas, to call her at (519) 853-4214, or write: CLEAN, c/o Jennifer Flesch, RR2 Acton, Ont., L7J 2L8.

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