

THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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Volunteers, the lifeblood of our community

Every year at National Volunteer Week, we struggle to find something new to say about volunteers and their value in our community.

Simply put, without volunteers, Halton Hills would not be the place to live in that it is now. Little of what we take for granted and look forward to — sports and recreation, arts and cultural events, civic projects, and especially health and social services — could be offered, except at an enormous cost.

What would happen to our communities if everyone who volunteers decided to stay home? What would Acton and Georgetown be like if no one volunteered?

Nobody to coach and organize sports, girl guides and boys scouts. Nobody to drive cancer patients to hospitals. Nobody to raise funds for school events. Nobody to listen on the other end of the phone to someone in need.

There is no such thing as a typical volunteer — the only characteristics they share are a concern for the life of our community and their willingness to work to improve it. And all do it without need for acclaim or recognition.

Nevertheless, it is essential that the community pause, at least once a year to say, "Thank you — we couldn't do it without you" and to salute the thousands of volunteers who make a difference in Halton Hills.

Recycling cards

Dear editor:

I have hundreds of used birthday, Easter, anniversary, get-well, Valentine's, Christmas cards, etc., etc., and they seem so beautiful that I do not deem it correct to throw them out in the trash.

I know some organization can use them, but I cannot recall where to take them.

If someone reading this can remember where, please contact me either by phone or in person, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., or 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. You are more than welcome to them. As I said before, they are too beautiful to throw out.

Joseph Stamp
28 Churchill Cr.
Georgetown
877-3530

Fling thanks

Dear editor:

On behalf of the parent association, "the Kennedy Connection" we would like to thank everyone involved with Spring Fling on April 11. There was an overwhelming turn-out and the day was a complete success. It has therefore enabled us to purchase the play-

Letters

to the Editor

ground equipment needed.

A very special thank you to Mayor Russ Miller, Joanne Fitzgerald, Linda Donais, Shirley Deaville and Sarah Polley.

We also wish to thank the school administration for their decisions surrounding the event, which we support.

The Spring Fling Committee alias the Kennedy Connection would like to take time to say an extra special thanks to those of you that made the Spring Fling what it was. The entertainment provided by George Kennedy Choir, Elizabeth's Fashions, Georgetown Karate Club and music by Rerun Disc Jockey Services. The characters that entertained the children, Beary Bear from Teddy Bear Magic, Mr. PFD from the Town of Halton Hills Rec. Dept., the Beaver from Georgetown Beaver Lumber, the Pole Clowns, the Chicken from Georgetown's Optimist Club, Zeddy Bear from Georgetown Zellers and Georgie Giraffe from George Kennedy

School. The wonderful shuttle bus service provided by Laidlaw Transit. And the people listed below for their very generous donations and time: Shoppers Drug Mart, Georgetown Terminal Warehouse, Halton Hills Furniture and Appliance, Debora's Confections (Norval), Carlisle Interlocking and Landscaping, Hovels Jewellery (Brampton), George W. Riddall Custom Cabinetry Inc., Sarah Malinosky.

Thank you for making the day the success it was.

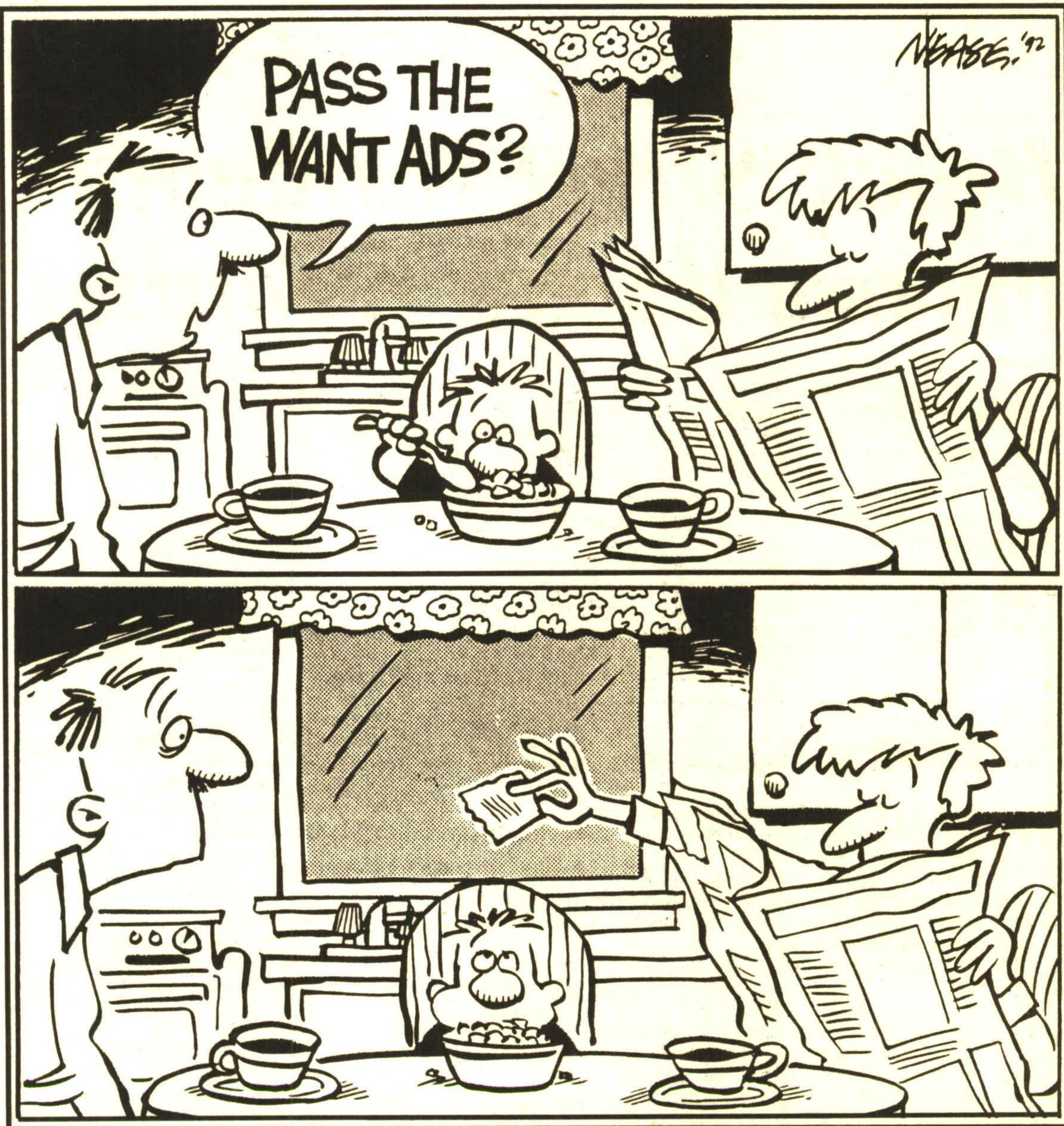
Shelley Riddall
Kennedy Connection president

Volunteers thanked

Dear editor:

The executive of the Georgetown Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society wishes to thank all the special volunteers — the drivers, area chairpersons, area captains, canvassers, and sponsors of special events who give of their time and talent, and the residents of Georgetown, who through their generosity gave us another successful campaign. Your support is very much appreciated and necessary against the fight against cancer.

Marlene Kelman,
Communications chairperson



Those flashing porch lights will do it every time

First things first; I must give Acton Citizen of the Year Jon Hurst some credit for this column.

At the dinner in his honor Friday night at Acton Legion, Jon entertained everyone with a few stories about his younger days in Acton. In particular, he outlined the chain of events leading up to marrying his wife, Maxine.

It seems, during their dating days, when Jon took Maxine home after a date, there was a small problem with the outside porch light.

It flashed off, then back on, if they sat in the car too long saying their good nights. And if they chose to ignore it, the light flashed on, then off again, after about five minutes.

I guess if they were really feeling daring, or hadn't noticed the second flashing (these things do happen, you know) then the old porch light went into veritable convulsions, flashing on and off, until Maxine was inside the door.

Subtle wasn't it?

Jon claims that was one of the prime reasons he decided to become an electrician; he could "fix the damn porch light."

I sat there mesmerized by the story.

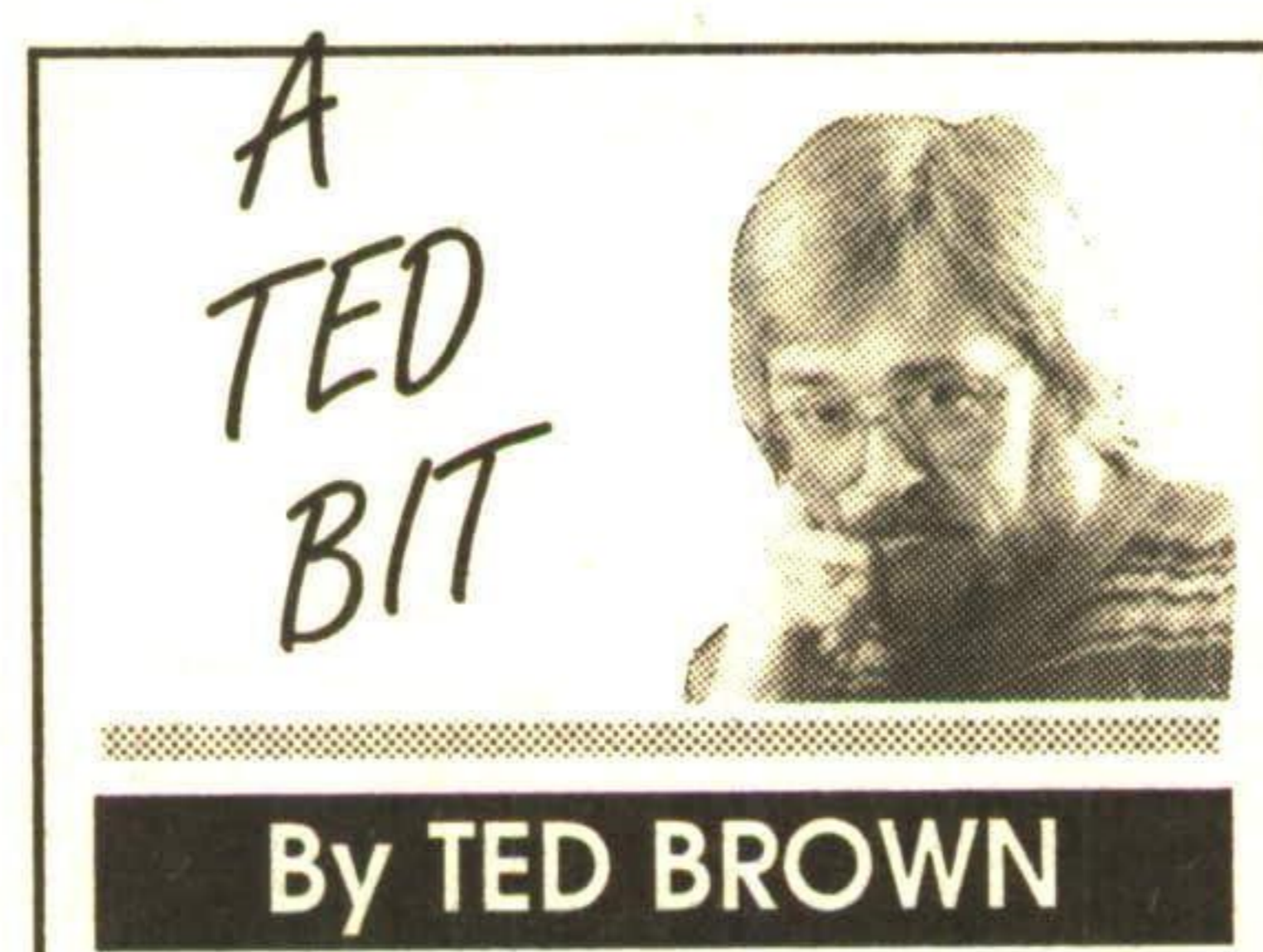
Call it coincidence. Or call it chance. But I had the same trouble with a number of porch light fixtures all over Halton Hills.

I never knew someone else shared my problem. I just thought I had, by some immeasurable probability, run into an incredibly high number of defective porch light fixtures, all prone to flashing off, and back on.

I can also attest to the fact that stupid light flashing off and on was not very conducive to fostering any romantic notions anyone could ever dream off.

In other words, it was simply, "Good night Ted, thanks for taking me to the movie," as soon as the porch light started to act up.

Now I didn't want to upset Jon,



but in later years, I learned something about those porch lights. There was actually someone inside the house, flipping the switch off and on. There wasn't anything wrong with the light fixture after all.

Now the next question was, "Who was the person behind the switch?"

After surveying a few younger siblings of the young ladies who were with me, the great majority indicated their mothers were the worst offenders, followed by little brothers.

Of course in the "break it up by

shining a flashlight category" the little brothers were by far the most terrible little culprits.

I can't understand why. When I was a little brother, I found binoculars were far more interesting than flashing any stupid light off and on....

But anyway, Jon's story of last Friday night got me to thinking. I started to survey the situation around the Brown household. After all, with the number of daughters I have, I guess I should really be prepared for the inevitable.

What type of lighting works best? Where should the light fixtures be placed? And, more importantly, where should the switches to activate those lights be mounted.

My wife and I talked about getting a set of lights like Limehouse Ballpark, able to flood the yard with light, but after some consideration, decided they wouldn't be that great. They take about 15 minutes to illuminate, and a lot can happen in 15 minutes.

I suggested we install an extra "dusk to dawn" style pole light in the yard, which switches on when the sun goes down and shuts off when day breaks.

But my wife didn't like that idea; we can't turn the lights off and on.

I even suggested we should approach Jon Hurst himself, and ask what type of lights he would suggest. After all, he's an electrician, and, like myself, has been a victim of the "flashing light syndrome," so he could pull out all the stops and give us a lighting package that would really pack a punch.

But after more thought, I come to the final solution.

I'm going to look into installing a set of aircraft landing lights, just like at Pearson Airport, all the way out our driveway, to the road.

With them, I can change the entire area of "Limehouse South" from night to day, at will.

Just as long as I don't have a faulty switch.