

THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT
 Publisher

The Halton Hills Weekend, published every Wednesday, at 211 Armstrong Ave. Georgetown Ont., L7G 4X5 is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Georgetown Independent and The Action Free Press, Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, The Aurora Banner, The Barrie Advance, The Brampton Guardian, The Burlington Post, The Collingwood Connection, The Etobicoke Guardian/Lakeshore Advertiser, Halton Hills Week End, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, The Milton Champion, The Mississauga News, The Newmarket Era, The Oakville Beaver, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, The Scarborough Mirror, Today's Seniors, The Uxbridge/Stouffville Tribune. Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the acceptable rate.

In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time.

Editorial and advertising content of The Georgetown Independent is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited. Price: Store copies 50¢ each; Subscriptions \$26.00 per year by carrier; \$46.25 per year by mail in Canada; Rural Routes \$30.00; \$65.00 per year in all other countries. Plus G.S.T.

Second Class Mail Registration Number 6869. The Georgetown Independent is a member of The Canadian Community Newspaper Association and The Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

EDITORIAL -- 873-0301

Editor-in-Chief: Lorne Drury

Editor: Robin Incoe

Managing Editor: Cynthia Gamble

Staff Writers: Stuart Johnston, Janet Baine, Lisa Tallyn

Photography: Ted Brown

BUSINESS OFFICE - 873-0301

Manager: Carol O'Grady

Accounting: Pat Kentner

Composing Manager: Steve Foreman

Composing: Perry Steel, Sharon Pinkney, Mary Lou Foreman, Dolores Black, Shelli Harrison, Debbie McDougall, Kevin Powell, Annie Olsen.

Mailing Address: 211 ARMSTRONG AVE. GEORGETOWN, ONT. 873-0301 L7G 4X5

ADVERTISING -- 873-0301

Director of Advertising: Shaun Sauve

Advertising Manager: Sandra Dorsey

Classified Manager: Carol Hall

Display Sales: Carol Ann Roberts, Arlene Bowman, Janie Smith

Jeanette Cox, Charmaine Letts, Michelle Nolan, Lana Walsma, Jane Coutts

National Representative: Dal Browne (493-1300)

DISTRIBUTION

CIRCULATION/SUBSCRIPTIONS - 873-0301

Director of Distribution: Dave Coleman

Circulation Manager: Nancy Geissler

Environment is part of prosperity

(The following was filed with this newspaper for publication.)

Mr. W. Johnston, Director Prosperity Secretariat
 Dear Mr. Johnston:

On December 3, I participated in a Community Talks session to discuss the 54 action plan recommendations for Canada's prosperity as developed by a steering group.

Recommendation 20 is "Establish a Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development." The recommendation itself and the fact that this is the only recommendation which links environment and economy epitomizes reductionist thinking - the type of thinking which will delay meaningful action toward the creation of a new economy - an economy which measures Canadian prosperity on the health and happiness of people and communities rather than on the utterly meaningless concept of "gross

Letters

to the Editor

domestic product." (Consider for a moment the Persian Gulf war was good for our economy using our present definition.)

In 1987 the World Commission on Environment and Development headed by Gro Harlem Brundtland told us... "the time has come for a marriage of economy and ecology, so that governments and their people can take responsibility not just for environmental damage, but for the policies that cause the damage. Some of these policies threaten the survival of the human race. They can be changed. But we must act now."

Are Canadians prepared to prosper at any cost? This action plan suggests that the answer is, "yes!"

Sincerely,
 Diane van de Valk

Successful tour

Dear editor:

The Kinsmen Club would like to thank a host of people for the success of the Seniors Tour of Lights. Bryn Davies, principal GDHS and Louise Melton, kitchen manager, volunteers and the tremendous support, enthusiasm and cooperation of the students of GDHS, including the three bands and the Wind Ensemble Band, their band leaders, Eleanor Wallace and Joe Quinlan.

Our guest speaker Mrs. Pochmursky thoroughly enjoyed the evening and we thank her for her involvement.

The evening wouldn't have been possible without the donations of food and gifts from our many sponsors and transportation from Tyler Transport and the Town of Halton Hills for the ActiVan and the support of the Halton Police Department. And finally thank you seniors for making this evening enjoyable.

Georgetown Kinsmen's Club

A New Year's resolution Be fire safe

Have you decided on your New Year's resolution yet? What about something to benefit you and your family - something easy to do and inexpensive.

The Halton Hills Fire Department suggests learning fire prevention - plan ahead: install and maintain smoke alarms on every level of your home, develop

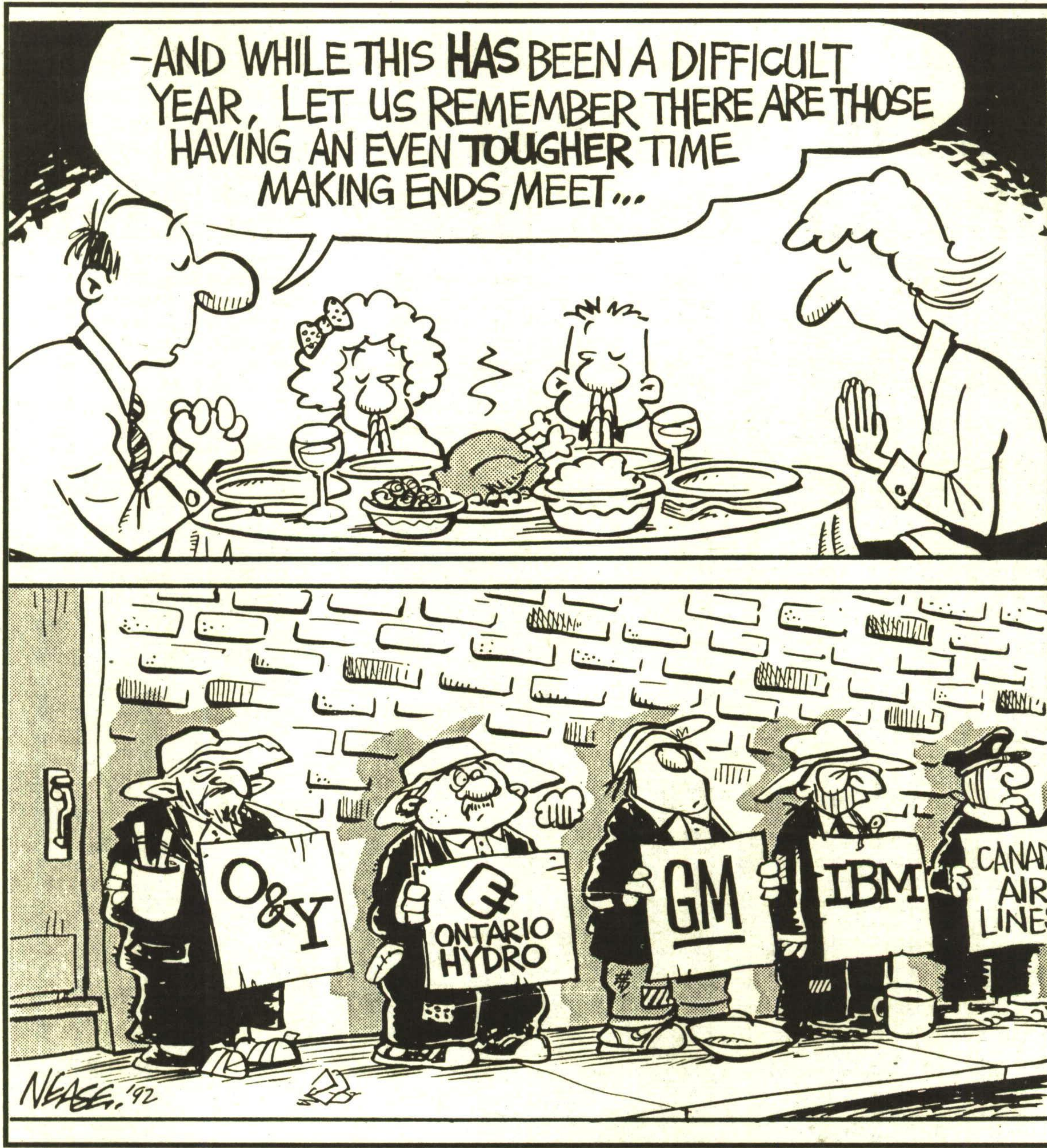
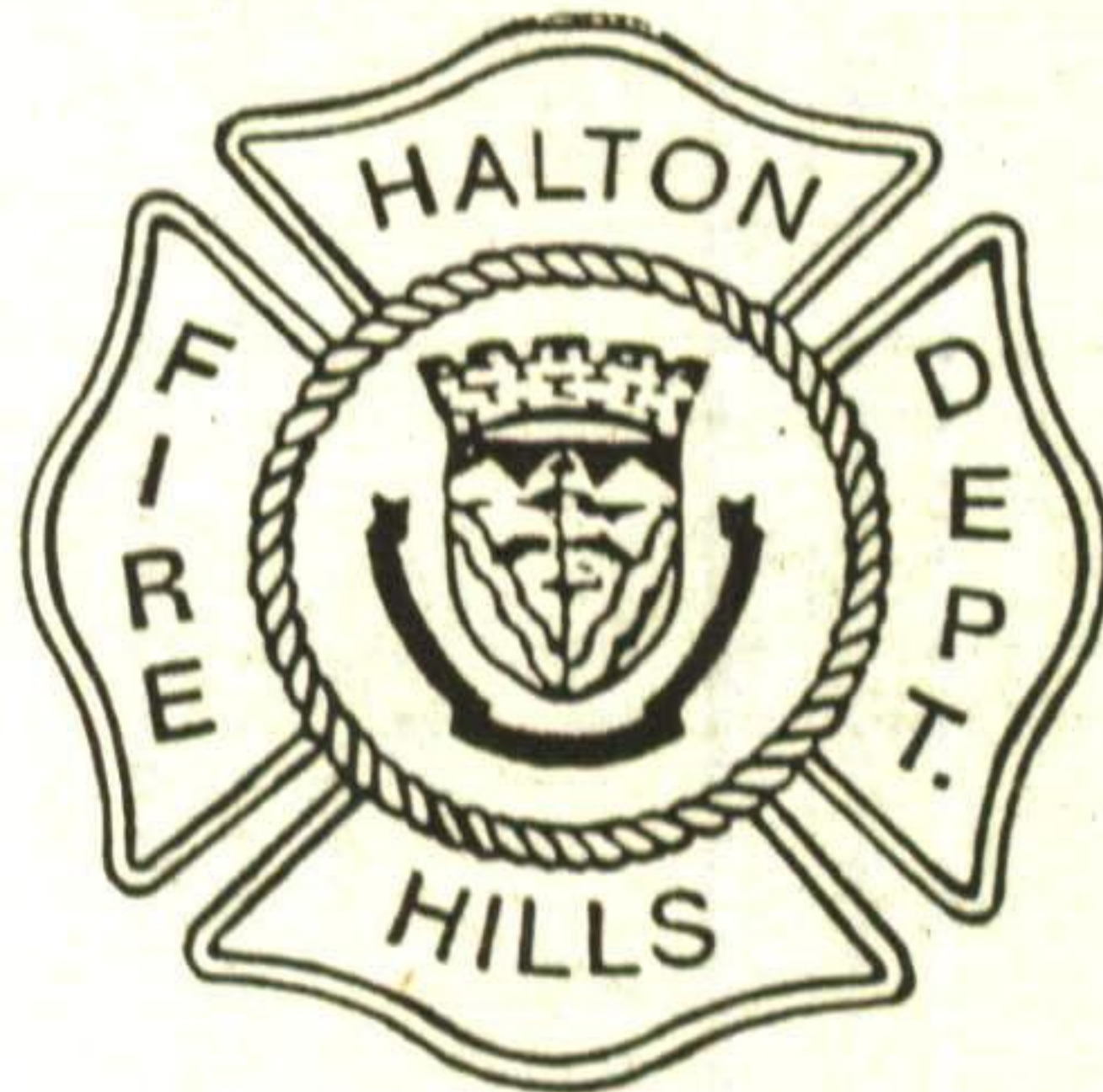
and practise an escape plan with your entire family, have regular fire drills and know how to use your portable fire extinguisher. Since fires can escalate rapidly, they don't give much time to escape. If you have not pre-planned your escape, you may not be able to

get out safely. It is important to prepare a home escape plan and have the entire family practise it.

Every year, people die tragically in fires throughout Ontario. Many of these deaths occur in the home - a place where people feel safe. Many happen during the festive season.

Many home fires and fatalities are avoidable if people practise good fire safety techniques. Make sure you know what to do if fire strikes!

Have a happy and safe New Year!



The mailbag: a dart here, a laurel there

Ah, the start of a new year. It's the time I like to clean up my desk, and start 1993 with a spotless work station, a clean slate, so to speak.

But tidying up the old desk can yield some surprises.

You find things. Things that were lost or misplaced. And others that were simply taking up space.

Or, things that should have been returned to their rightful owners, and (best of all) letters making comments.

As I picked through the pile and relegated some to the circular file and others to a filing cabinet, I read through some correspondence I've received over the past year, and thought it was time to share it.

The first one was from a friend of mine; I'll call her Margaret.

This letter concerned a column I wrote about being "threatened" after I supported the restoration of the old stone school in Acton which has since been demolished.

The letter took exception to my spelling of a word. It read;

"I read your column...with interest, but where on earth did you find the word 'bonified'??!"

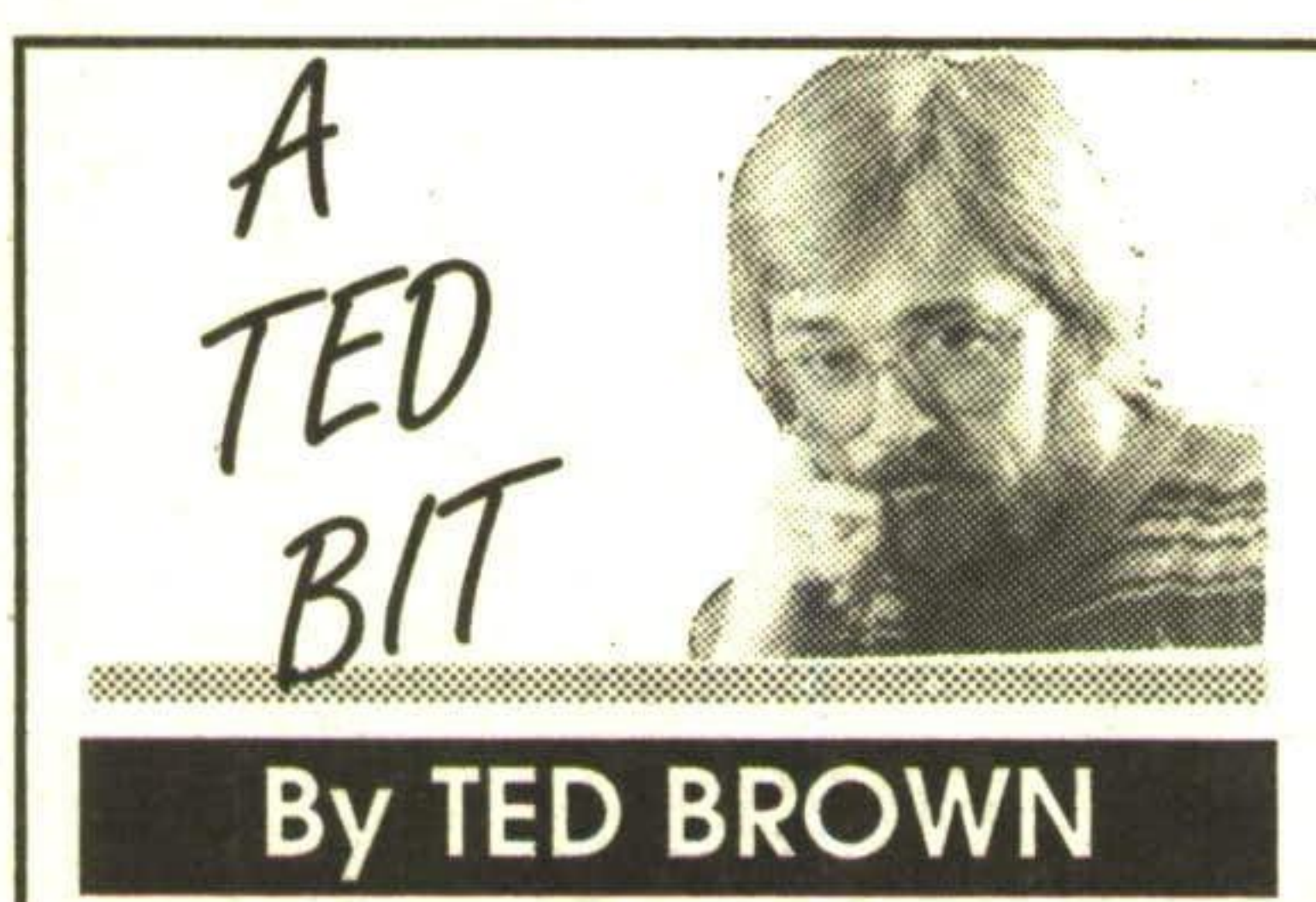
Reading the article, I came to the conclusion that you meant "bona fide" - which the dictionary defines as 'genuine, sincere.'

Knowing you to be just that, let's not have any more of these 'boners,' Ted. I'm something of a fanatic when it comes to spelling and grammar, especially in publications. Please help me - at my age it's not good for me to get too excited or upset!"

I hate it when that happens. Mistakes in both spelling and grammar always make me grimace, and managing editor Cynthia Gamble doesn't even have a sense of humor in that area, so I avoid them like the plague; but that one sneaked past both of us. (And the spell checker as well!)

My deepest apologies, Margaret.

Next letter was from Jennifer; "I read your last article, 'Me and MacGyver's Knife.' It was wonderful, except for one thing; you



misspelled "MacGyver" repeatedly. Maybe if you'd watch the show or read the TV Guide once in a while, you'd have seen that!

A little peeved, (signed) Jennifer."

The letter was accompanied by a corrected clipping of my column and a page from the TV listings, with "MacGyver" circled in ink.

I immediately knew I had annoyed a "dye in the wool, true blue, love 'em at all costs," MacGyver fanatic.

I showed it to editor Cynthia. "Well, I never noticed it either," says Cynthia. "I guess I'm more interested in watching Richard Dean Anderson on TV than I am

about the spelling of his name."

I don't share Cynthia's opinion on that subject, but all the same, it should have been right.

Jennifer, all I can say is "To err is human, to forgive, divine...."

On to other letters. A note from Janet referred to a column on computer games, and was short and sweet.

"Ted, I was up until 2:30 a.m. the other night getting to Level 7 of Pipe Dreams! Don't show it to Cynthia!"

The last one brought a smile and, in this case, I must reveal its author.

Recently, I covered a presentation to the Town of Halton Hills, from Arts Alive, a special interest group in Georgetown. In the front row of the photo, Tom Shepard accepted a cheque from Lois Fraser of Arts Alive.

Just one small problem; when we published the photo, I called her Lois Elliott, her maiden name.

The note arrived promptly the following day, on "Mrs. Lois M. Fraser" stationary. It read;

"Dear Ted, You're overworked! I haven't been Lois Elliott for 11 years now!"

She went on to point out my changing her name could start nasty rumors and signed it; "Your vain and former friend, Lois Fraser."

I should explain. I attended high school with Lois, (even though I was in Grade 13 when she was in Grade 9) and have known her as Lois Elliott for years.

I phoned her immediately. The laughter on the other end of the line told me she enjoyed my reaction and wasn't really annoyed.

Especially after I told she just looked so young, I thought she was still that silly little school girl.

Whew! It worked. Anyway, that's a sampling from the mail bag, from the past 12 months.

Receiving feedback is great, both good and bad, because it tells me one thing;

Someone's reading this stuff.