

THE HALTON HILLS **WEEKEND**

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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Photography: Ted Brown

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DISTRIBUTION

CIRCULATION/SUBSCRIPTIONS - 873-0301

Director of Distribution: Dave Coleman

Circulation Manager: Nancy Geissler

Mailing Address: 211 ARMSTRONG AVE. GEORGETOWN, ONT. L7G 4X5
Telephone: 905-873-0301 Fax: 905-873-0398



A small price to pay

Things have not run particularly smooth during the first two weeks of garbage collection through the Region — but they're going to get better.

The Region took over the waste collection in Halton Hills on January 1 but the turnaround has led to some confusion over pickup days and times.

As a result, the company contracted to do the job for the Region ended up sending its trucks out last Saturday and they were still collecting late into the evening.

According to a Region spokesperson, some of the problems evolved around the tremendous amount of materials put out for collection following the holiday season. Adding to the confusion was January 1 being on the Monday.

While collection days will remain the same as they were in the past, your pickup time might be altered by Philips Environmental, the contracted firm. They may change the routes making for an earlier, or later collection time, than you are accustomed to.

All residents are being asked to have their trash at the curb by 7 a.m. on collection day to avoid the possibility of being missed.

That is a small price to pay for the estimated \$146,000 the town will save over the long haul. Remember, that's a 31 percent savings over what Halton Hills paid out last year.

And all we have to do is have our garbage at the curb by 7 a.m.

Ring in the new year, and start to shiver

It must be the time of year.

Or maybe just because we've left Christmas and New Year's celebrations long behind, having spent numerous nights in front of a blazing fireplace, hot chocolate in hand, keeping warm and cozy.

Regardless, we're now well into January.

And I'm chilly.

It seems to happen every year — we ring in the new year, and I start to shiver.

And I'm not sure why.

Could be because I have a short drive to work, so the car never gets very warm.

Or maybe the fact I'm in and out of the office several times a day and never quite get warmed through before I head back out the door to my next stop.

Perhaps my blood has just thinned due to some sort of excess over the holidays, making it more difficult to keep warm.

But regardless of the cause, at this time of the year, it seems I could pull on layers of long woolies and still feel like I'm in a deep freeze.

The only saving grace is I'm not alone in my complaint. I think half the world feels the cold more than usual at this time of the year. (And the other half of the world is comprised of skiers.)

Take the girls in the front office, (I call them girls to make 'em feel good, you know how it is...)

Anyway, the girls out front are always cold. They gather in a small circle to huddle around a poor little overworked electric heater like old Bob

Cratchit hovering over his candle.

And most of my co-workers shiver and shudder as they come in the door, thinking twice about shedding their coats.

I must admit I find the way people deal with those annoying chills rather interesting.

Take my one teenage daughter.

That young lady spends half the winter freezing.

And the other half the winter she wears her winter coat.

No one can tell her

Having spent the last week with goose bumps and chattering teeth, I've made a few observations about people and the cold.

Ever notice the difference in the way men and women show they're chilly? It's all in the body language.

My research has shown men will always shove their hands deep in their pockets and hunch their shoulders when faced with a blast of icy, northern fury.

Women, on the other hand, tend to always cross their arms in front of them to ward off the cold of winter.

Don't know why, but it's the peculiarity of the beast.

Teenagers seem to walk faster when cold, perhaps due to the fact their coats (if they happen to be wearing one) are usually gaping wide open, flapping in the wind.

And even our pets show certain tendencies when it's cold.

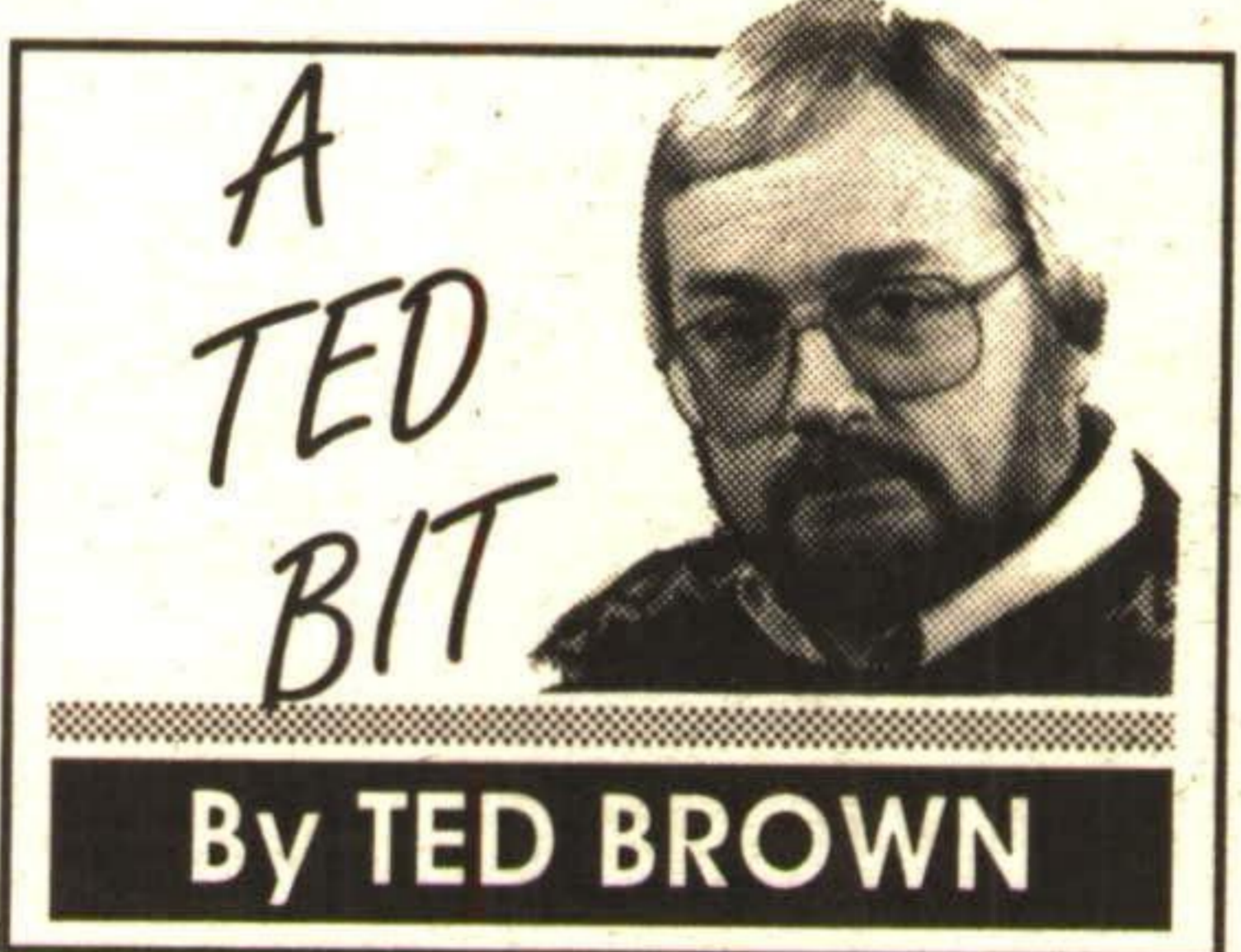
Dogs seem to exhibit a pained expression, particularly if they have cold paws or are frozen to a hydrant, while house cats will only use the litter box, refusing to even consider venturing outdoors to answer the call of nature.

Squirrels robbing the bird feeder always jump further in the cold, and little chickadees flit about faster and faster, attempting to keep warm.

Yup, we're smack dab in the icy grip of Ol' Man Winter, and it's chilly.

But I've decided to turn my chilly spells to an advantage, and focus on one thing.

The upcoming warmth of spring.



RR2



I hear that snow is a thermal blanket for the earth. That explains the global warming of the last three months.

Did you know?

Ever wondered what happened to the Beaver? Jerry Mathers (aka The Beav) today is a successful businessman who markets a computer system that reproduces enlarged photographs on canvas and other materials. He also owns Cleaver's Catering which caters movie and television shows. He regularly makes personal autograph signing appearances, including at the Jan. 20-21 Home Show in Toronto. He is joined by "Eddie Haskell" (Ken Osmond) who became a L.A. motorcycle policeman and narrowly escaped death when he was shot three times by a fleeing suspect. A bullet proof vest and a belt buckle saved his life. Now retired, he acts with his two sons on the New Leave It to Beaver.