

Editorial

Beating the heat

If you're the owner of an air-conditioning company, an ice cream vendor or sell fans for a living, chances are the past few weeks have been very, very good for you.

However, with temperatures consistently topping the 30C mark and the humidex pushing past 40C, the risk to many people's health becomes a concern. Seniors, infants and those taking medication are the ones most at risk.

With little relief in sight, it's important residents keep in mind that the stifling heat is not something to fool around with—it can be deadly.

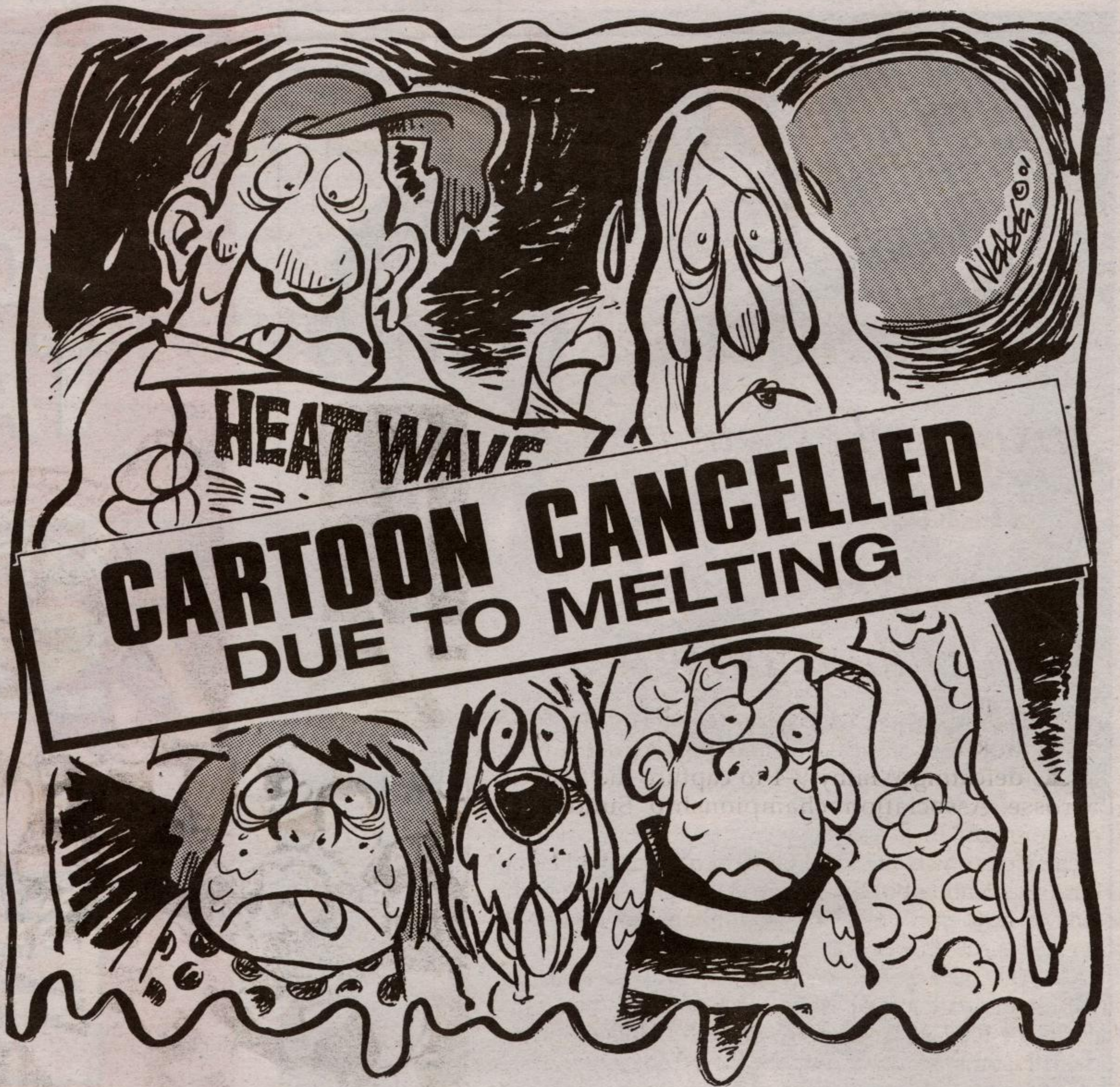
Obviously people should try and limit—or abstain from—physical activity in this heat. It is also best to keep out of the sun and drink plenty of water and natural fruit juices.

Going to air-conditioned places such as shopping centre, libraries or community centres to get a break from the heat is also a wise idea if your home doesn't have air-conditioning.

Leaving children or pets in a car—no matter how far you roll the windows down—is something that should be avoided at all costs. The temperature inside a vehicle can reach deadly levels in a matter of minutes.

Signs of heat-related illness include rapid breathing, headache, weakness or fainting, confusion and an increased feeling of being tired or fatigued.

While most of us welcome the lazy days of summer there is no reason to have it ruined by forgetting to use common sense.



Letters to the editor...

Charge those who dump illegally

(The following letter was sent to Halton Hills Ward 2 Councillor Bryan Lewis and a copy was made available to The Independent & Free Press for publication.)

Dear sir,

Re: (the story) in *The Independent & Free Press*, July 13, Recycling area isn't a dump.

This is under your control. We live in the rural area and my husband and I are avid recyclers. You can put all the signs up you like, but I believe we have a lot of illiterate people in Georgetown who do not understand the meaning of 'No Dumping'.

We have been there on several occasions to take our recyclables to this dedicated area and seen on numerous occasions where directly under the sign that reads, 'No Dumping', old paint cans, tires and other non-recyclables.

When I say this is under your control, (it's) because of the following steps you can take without additional manpower. This building is the property of the township so put up a camera that is activated by movement, that way you will

deter this type of dumping.

As the article mentioned, one person who was found to be dumping regular garbage was an urban resident who gets garbage picked up. We, living in the country, do not have the privilege of having garbage picked up by the township so we take our regular garbage to the dumping station on Armstrong Avenue and pay \$1.50 per bag.

Was the person charged for illegal dumping and if so what was the outcome? Again if you do not charge people, then there is no deterrent.

Summing up: I agree something has to be done, and that is not removing the recycling bins because of misuse by people who should not be using them in the first place, because they get free pickup.

P. Harman,
Georgetown

Volunteer would be better to spend energy on people and not dogs

Dear editor,

Belinda Migue has her priorities misplaced in promoting the work of Toronto's Adopt-A-Dog/Save-A-Life organization where she is a local volunteer (*Independent & Free Press* July 18).

It seeks funds to try and find homes for abandoned dogs that face death in municipal pounds.

We need far fewer dogs, not more in our communities. I'm fed up with being chased by large and vicious dogs while walking or cycling and having to contend with irresponsible owners.

As well, too many people own several dogs and keep them in unsuitable homes, like small apartments. I also shudder at the increasing number of dog attacks on small children that often leave scars for life.

Belinda would do more for society if she used her energies to save people, especially children, rather than dogs.

An organization like World Vision is a good place to start.

Brian Dexter,
Terra Cotta

Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters should not exceed 200 words and may be edited.

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