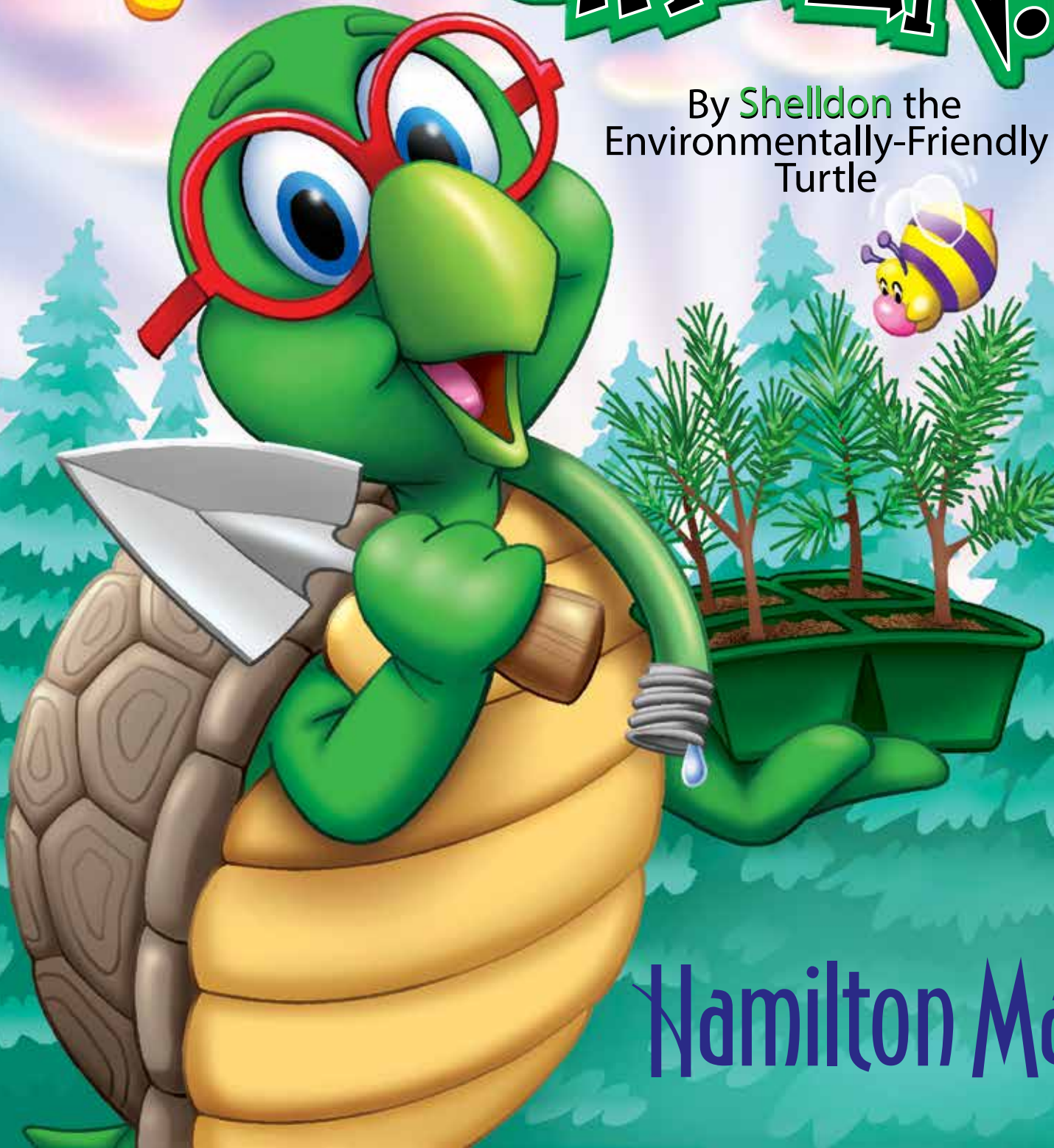


It's Easy

BEING GREEN!

By Sheldon the Environmentally-Friendly Turtle



Hamilton Mall



One sunny spring afternoon Sheldon, the Environmentally Friendly Turtle, was relaxing in his backyard hammock after raking grass clippings into a compost pile.



Along came his wife, Shelly. “Sheldon,” she cried, “Why are you wearing ear muffs on a warm day?” Sheldon explained he wanted to drown out the noises coming from the garage next door where Rocky the Recycling Raccoon was sawing, welding and pounding.



Shortly thereafter Rocky stood before Sheldon with a bicycle built for two made with old bike parts. "Let's go for a ride," Rocky suggested.



They rode to the edge of town where they both checked their plots in the Community Garden.



“Too bad we’re going to lose this place,” Rocky sighed. “Bossy Beaver who owns this land wants to build another city dump here. He says the other dump is getting too full.”



All the way home Sheldon kept thinking, "How can I save the Community Garden?" Then he remembered he had a friend who owned SKIPPY SKUNK'S SALVAGE SERVICE.



Sheldon called Skippy who explained his collections got delivered to recycling plants, not city dumps.



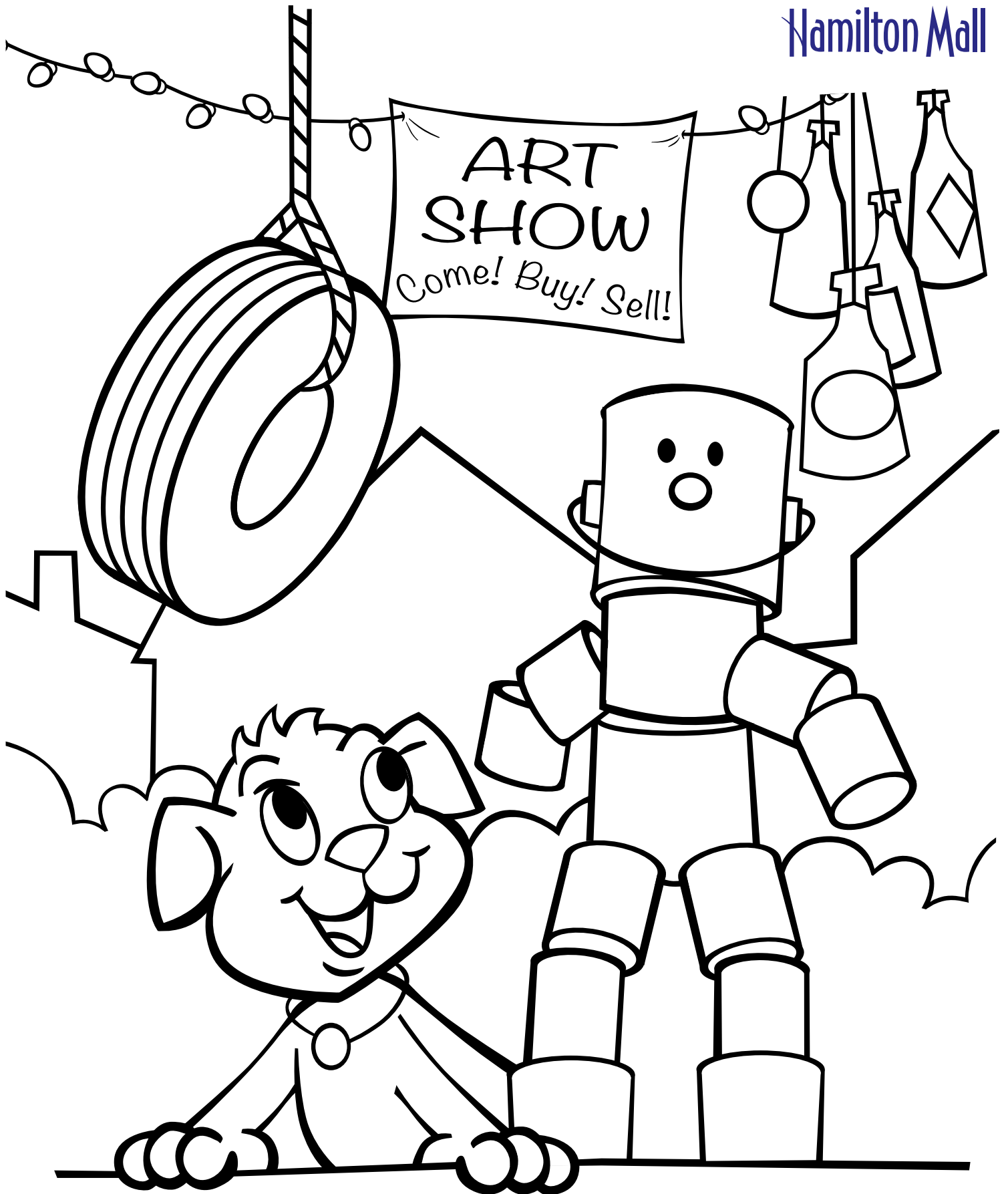
The next day Skippy set recycling bins on every corner in town. But soon a problem popped up, or rather “overflowed.” Skippy couldn’t get to the bins quick enough. Sheldon realized that Rocky, the Recycling Raccoon, was on the right track.



Individuals needed to recycle too, and Shelldon knew just how to motivate everyone to do that; he would sponsor an EARTH DAY ART SHOW.



Shelldon contacted Carla Cat, the queen of crafts, with left-over materials. She helped others enter the show. Rocky did the advertising. He had a lot of bells on his bicycle.



The art show was amazing. Exhibits were displayed in front yards. There were things like statues and robots made from aluminum cans, tread worn tires turned into swings and wind chimes made from non-returnable bottles.



There also were fancy pictures made with tiny scraps of materials, and old plastic jugs cut in half and painted to read; "RAIN CATCHER."



Ollie Owl showed Sheldon some plans he had drawn up for a second show about saving energy. Everyone in town was feeling the SAVE OUR ENVIRONMENT spirit. Everyone except Bossy Beaver.



At the end of Earth Day the whole town met at the Community Garden. "I see we don't need a second city dump," said Bossy Beaver. The crowd cheered until he added, "So I'm going to build a new electric plant here, instead!"



“Don’t waste your money,” Sheldon declared. “Wise Ollie Owl, the Energy Saving Expert, has designed windmills we can build near our homes to have clean electricity.”



The crowd went wild with applause, stomping, “Shell-don! Shell-don!” Rocky blew a horn on his bike so the crowd would quiet down. “Shucks,” smiled Shell-don, “It’s easy being green! It also helps to have smart friends.”