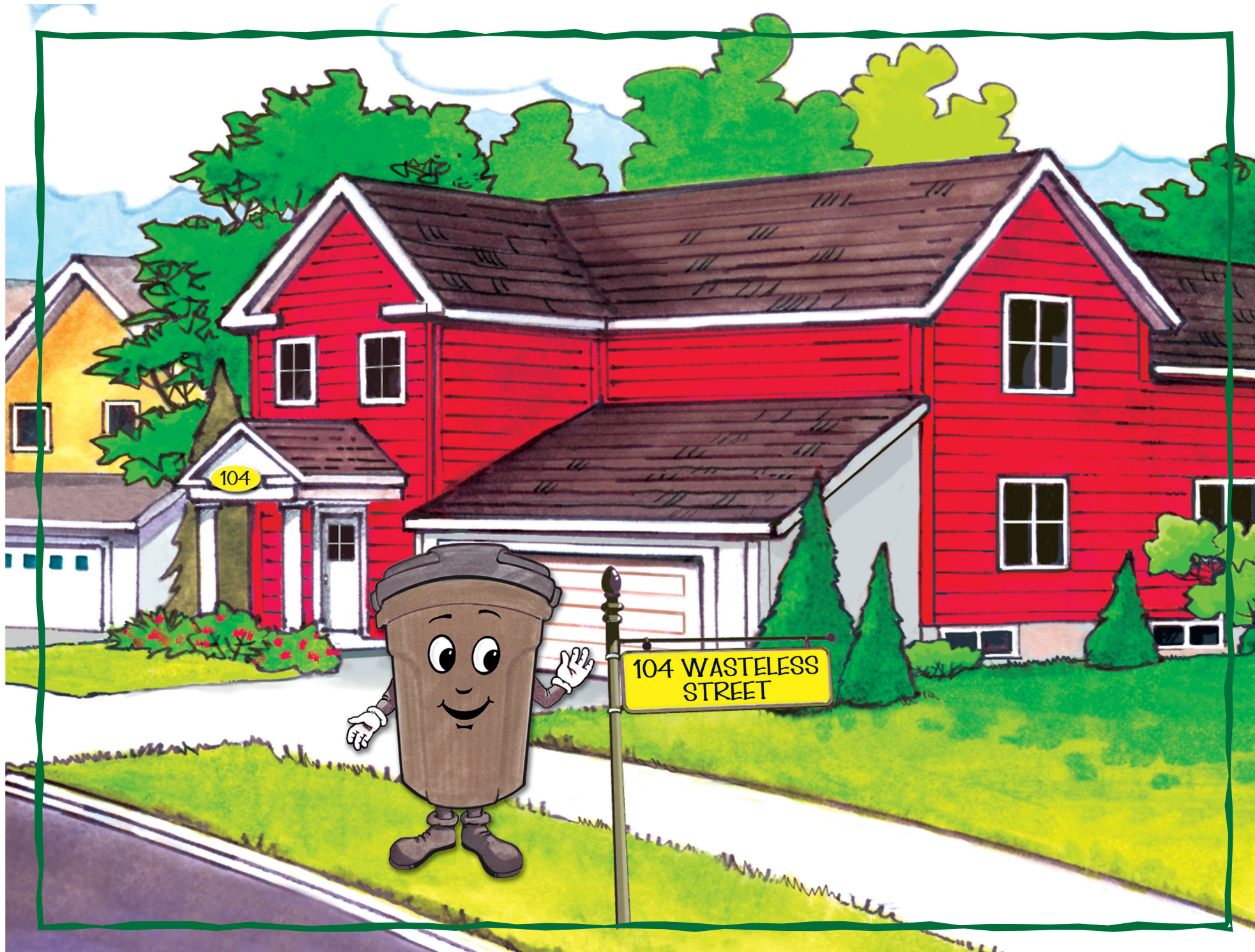


Gary the Garbage Can Learns About Recycling



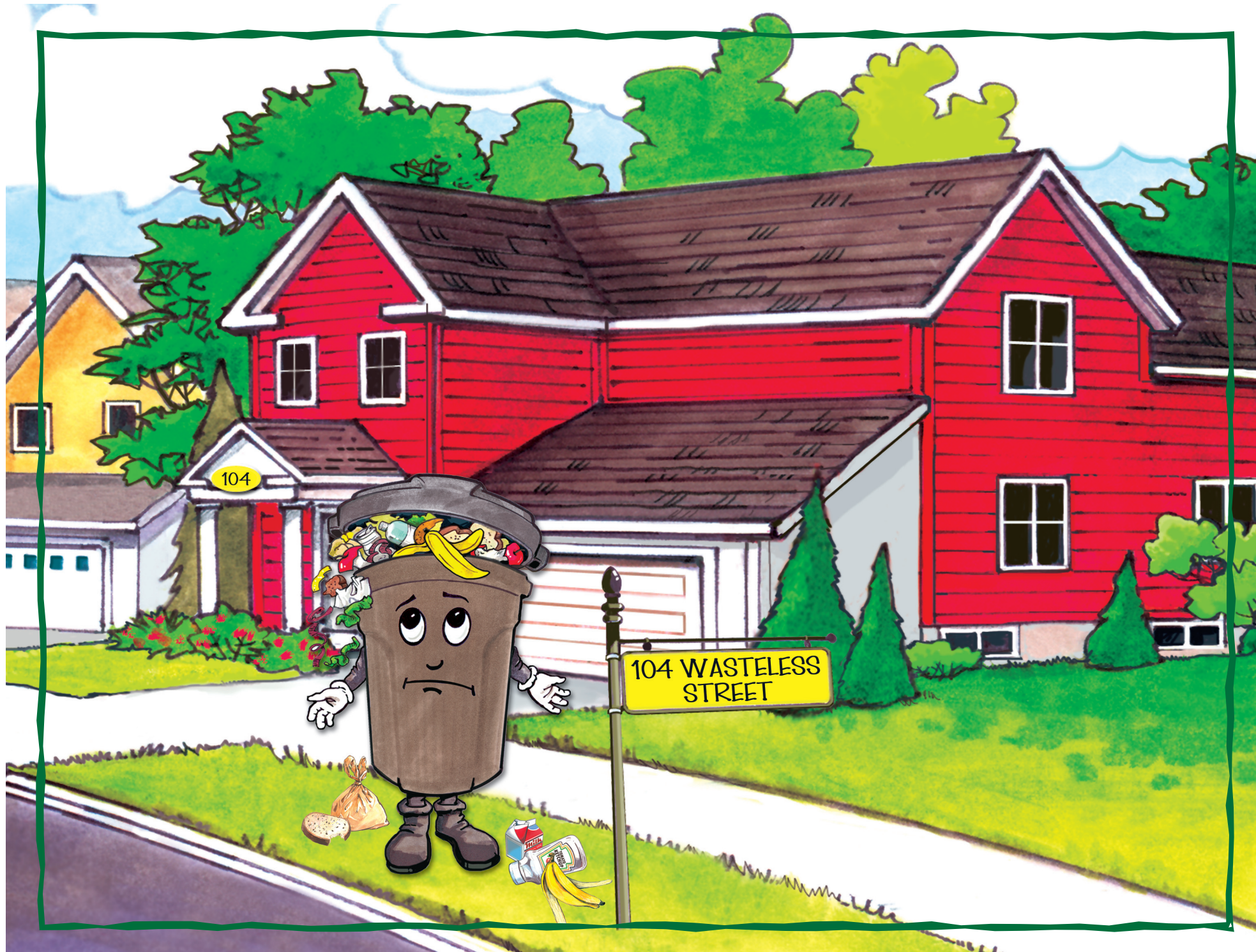
Gary the Garbage Can lived at 104 Wasteless Street. He was very important to the family that lived there. Every week they would put their garbage into him, and he would go out to the curb and wait patiently until the garbage truck came to empty him. Then he would go back to the garage and wait for the family to feed him more and more garbage.





One day, Gary was feeling very sick and very tired from all the garbage that he had to carry. He was so full of garbage he could barely stand it anymore. Plastic bottles and paper filled him up to the top. Banana peels and apple cores stuck to the bottom of his container. Everything was so heavy; he could barely get to the curb by himself. He definitely needed some help.





That night, feeling particularly full from all the garbage, Gary sat alone in the garage, wishing that someone, something would be able to help. While gazing at the brightest star he could see through the window of the garage Gary made a wish, "I can't do this all by myself, please send a team to help me."





All of a sudden there was a poof of smoke and out of the haze Gary saw three new containers. He couldn't believe his eyes! He nervously asked, "Who are you?" The Green Bin, who appeared to be the leader of the pack stepped forward and said "We're the Waste Diversion Heroes! Gary told the waste diversion heroes about his wish for help with the garbage. The new containers knew that carrying garbage was a tough job! How could one little garbage can possibly do it by himself?





The green container said, "My name is Phil - Phil the Green Bin - and I'm in charge of taking care of organic waste - the leftover fruits and vegetables and scraps that come from the kitchen and the leaves and twigs that come from the yard." He picked some food scraps from Gary's can and ate them up. Right away Gary began to feel a little better.





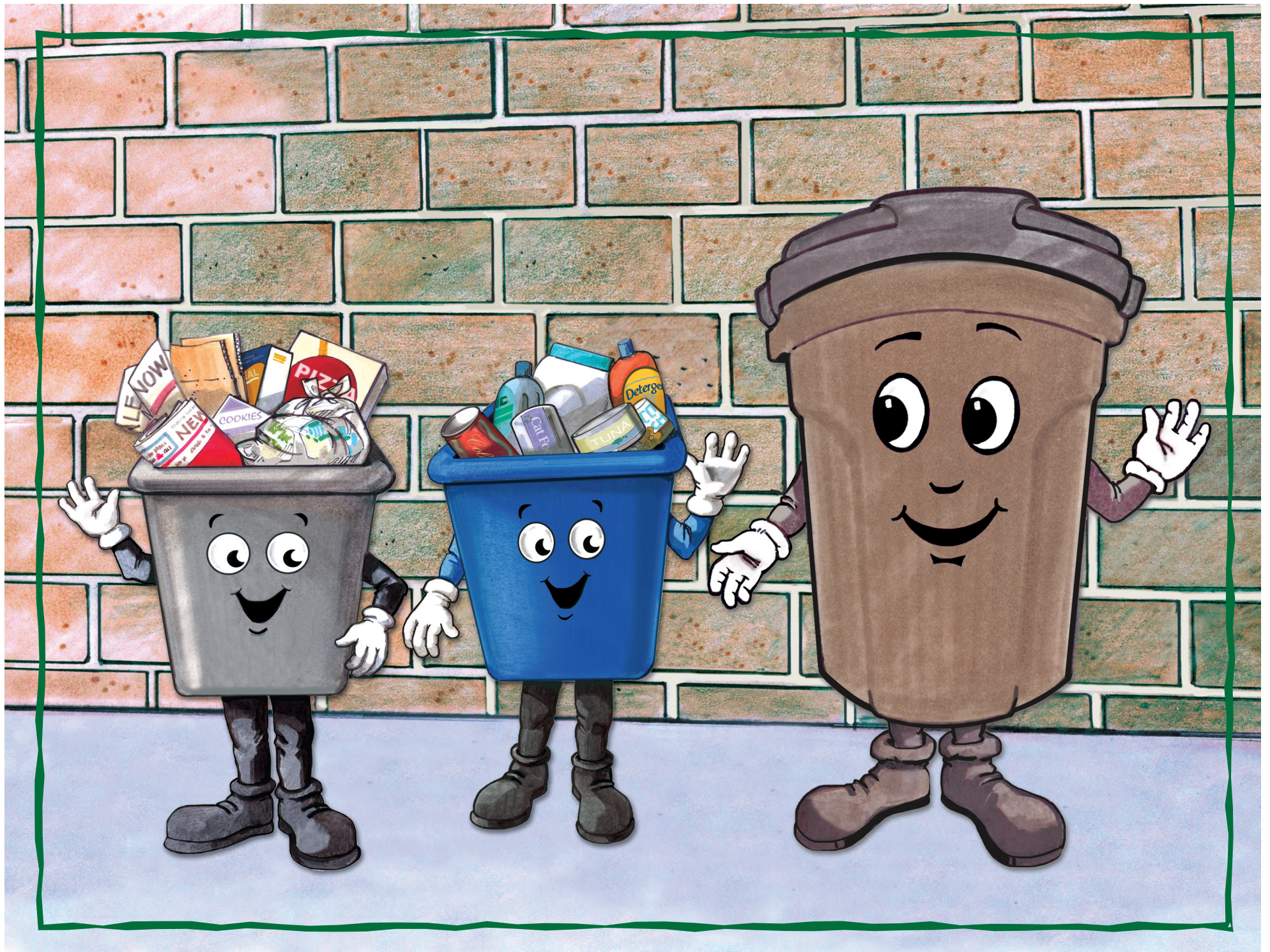
Phil explained that when he is emptied at the curb his organic waste is taken to a special facility where it is turned into something called compost! Compost is full of vitamins and nutrients which make plants and flowers grow big and strong and pretty. Gary was amazed! He couldn't believe that something he had carried to the curb for years could be turned into something so valuable and special as compost.





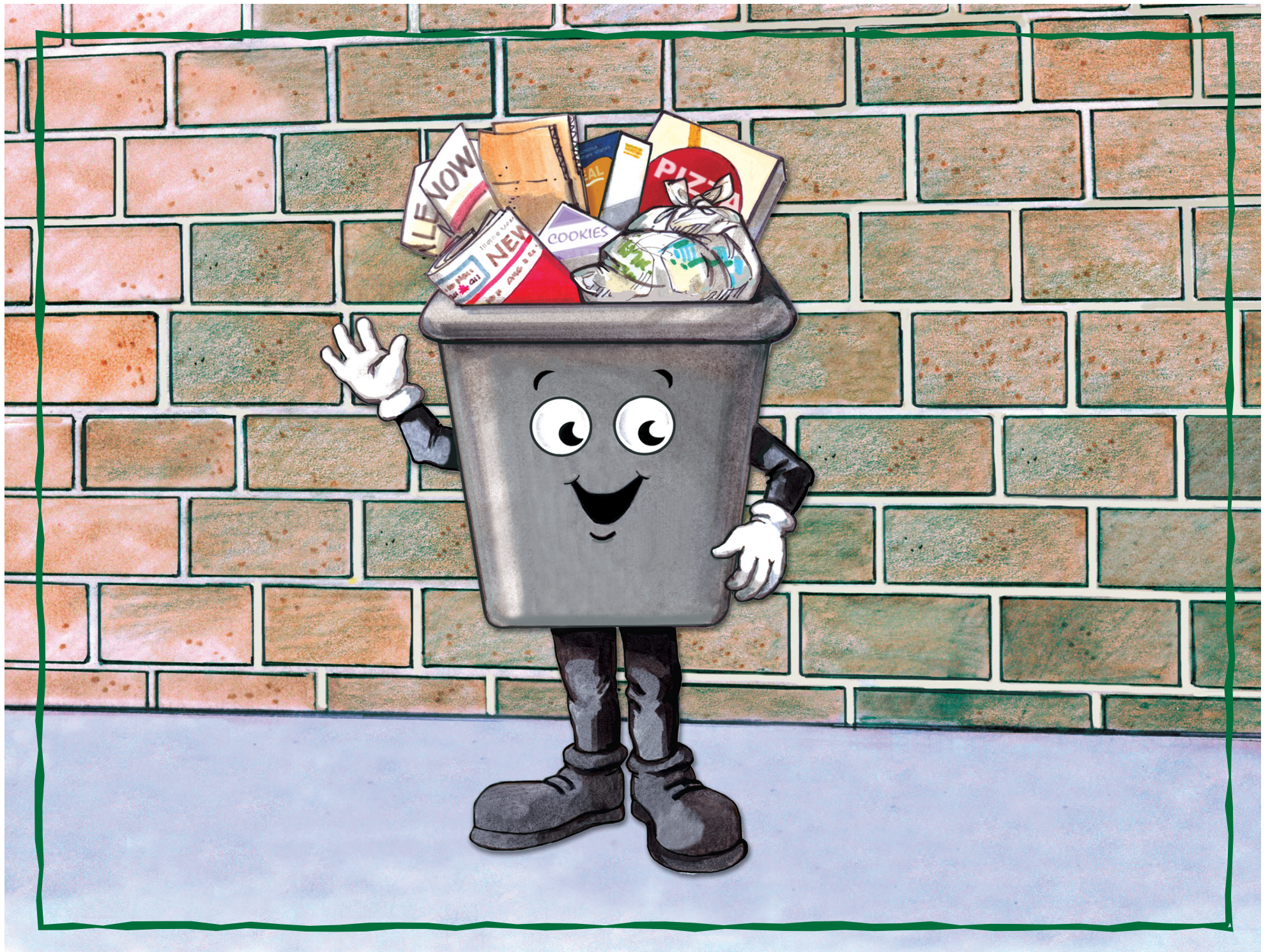
Phil, the Green Bin then introduced his friends.
“This is Greycie the Grey Box and Benji the Blue Box. They work as a team to sort paper, plastic, cans and glass.” Greycie and Benji started to pick the recyclable materials from Gary’s can – the materials that didn’t belong there as garbage - and Phil continued to explain.





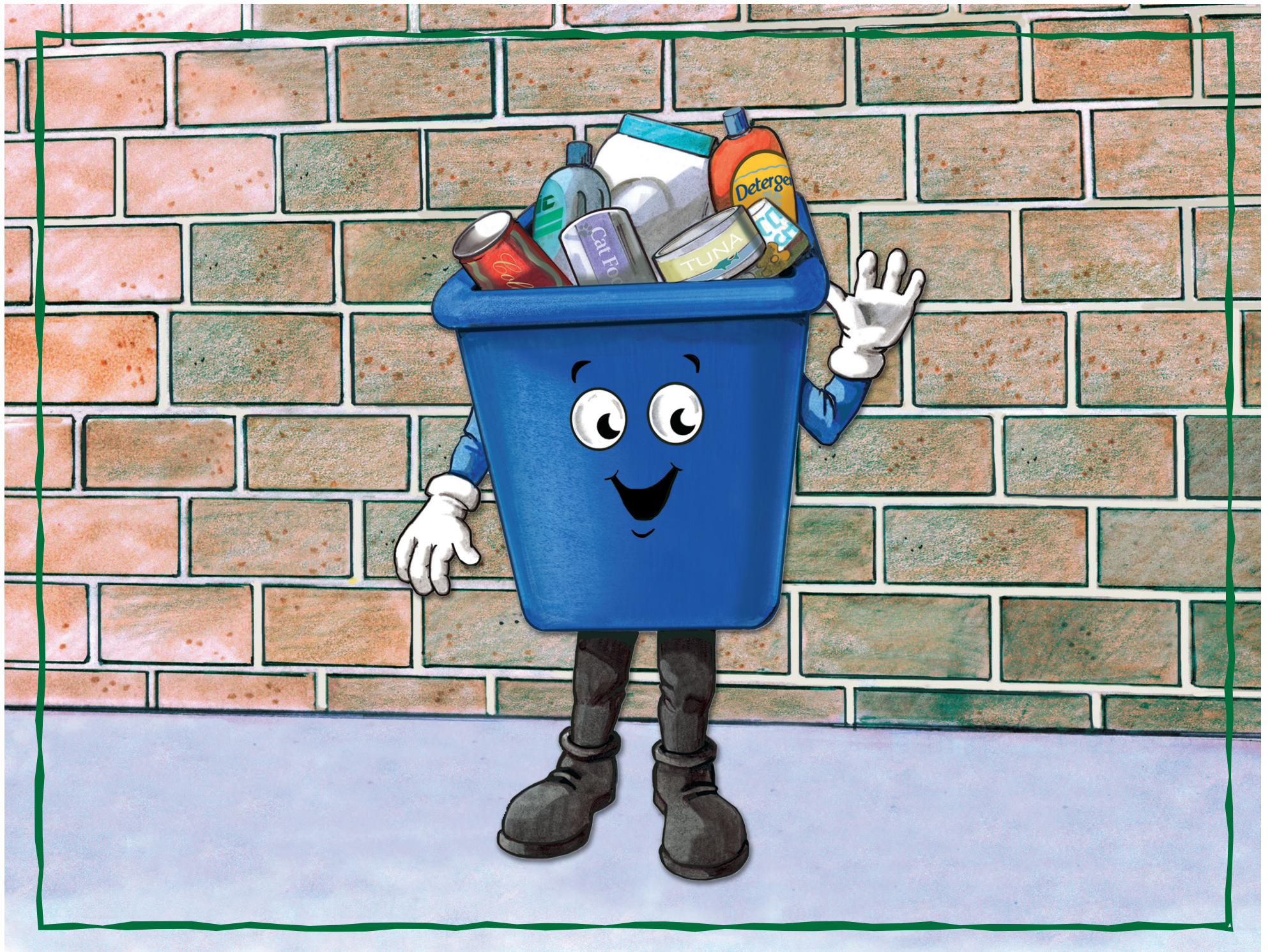
“Greycie is in charge of carrying paper and cardboard and plastic bags to the curb. When they are recycled, they can be made into new products!” said Phil. Gary was amazed, he couldn’t believe how much lighter he was beginning to feel as Greycie and Benji went about doing their job and picked the recyclables from him.





**“Benji is in charge of holding containers.” Phil said.
“He holds bottles, cans and plastic packaging.
When they are recycled, they can be made into a
lot of new products like carpet, jackets and brand
new containers.”**





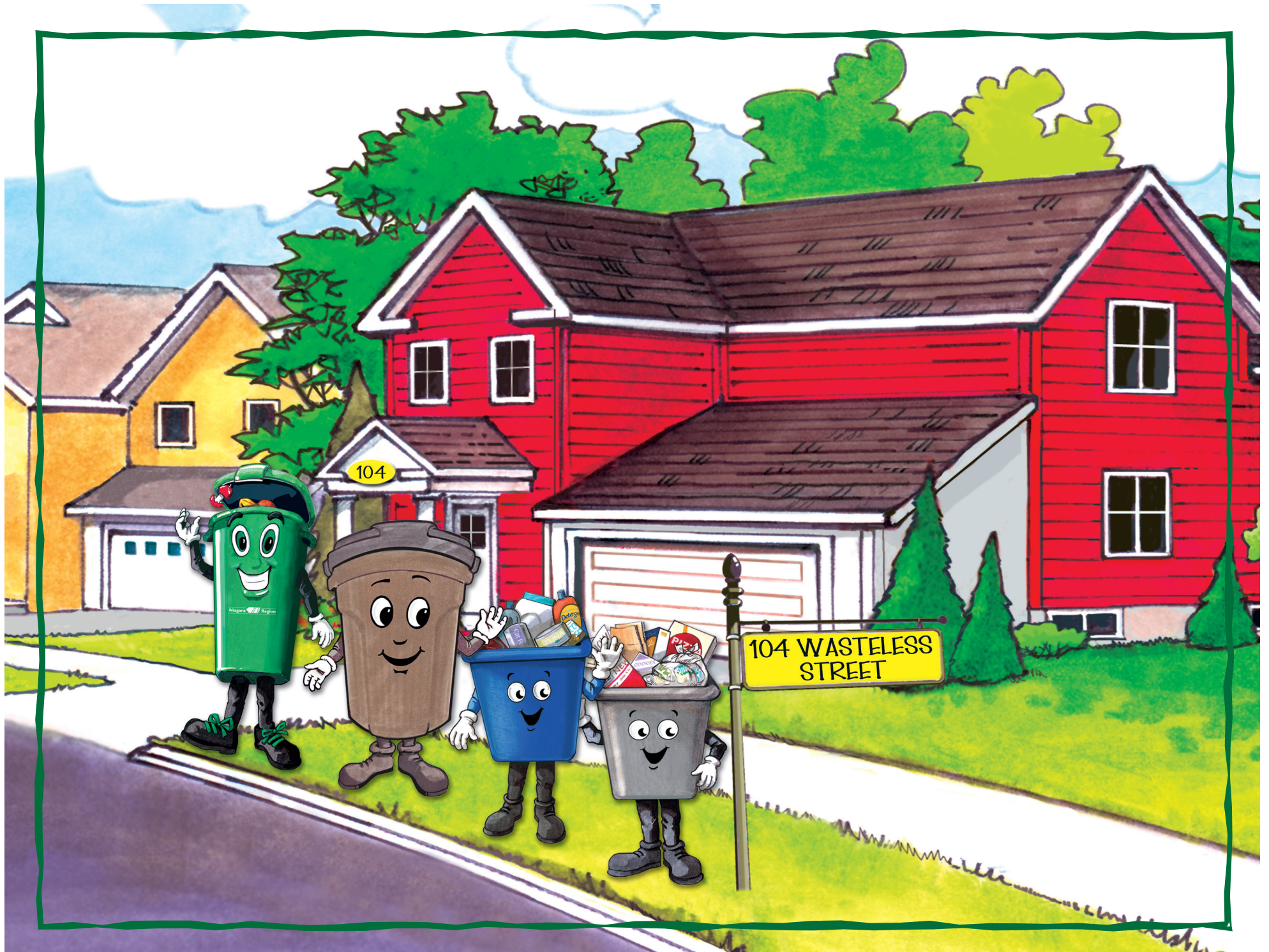
By this point Gary was feeling great! He was so light he could move around again and didn't feel so sick! Phil explained, "We will work together to make sure all of the garbage gets to its proper place. Everyone needs to become a waste diversion hero by recycling to make sure that we protect our earth!" Gary nodded. He had learned so much about recycling. He knew that the waste diversion team could work together to help save the planet.





The next morning Gary, Phil, Benji and Greycie waited patiently together at the curb for the garbage and recycling trucks to come. With the help of his new friends, Gary wasn't nearly as full as he had been before he knew about recycling and organics.

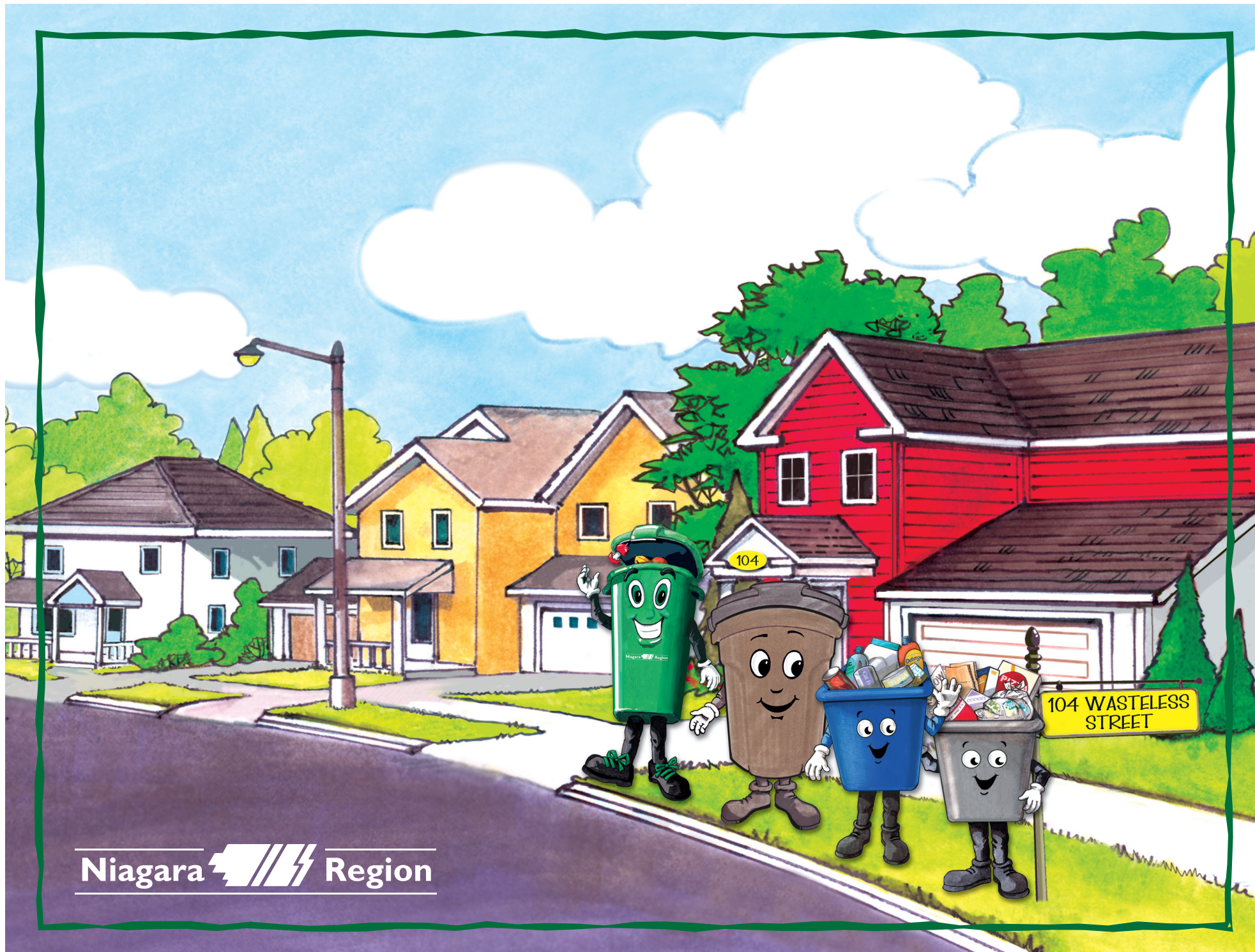




You can become a waste diversion hero just like Gary and his friends by putting your garbage and recyclable materials into the correct containers.







Niagara  Region