

Some say cheap—I say thrifty

I like to think of myself as a fairly thrifty, frugal type of person, usually looking to squeeze the most out of a dollar.

Others just call me plain cheap.

Whatever way you look at it, I think it's an admirable quality to get the biggest bang for your buck, from your hard-earned money.

Earlier this week, DJs on a radio station asked listeners to call in examples of blatant cheap-skates. They instantly had my full attention.

(Okay, I didn't take written notes, but I certainly mentally filed away some good ideas.)

Some examples bordered on ridiculous, like the guy who went over to his neighbour's for a beer, and when he asked to use the bathroom to take a pee, he was told he couldn't flush it, cuz they always waited until three or four people peed before flushing. After all, they were on a water meter. (Now that is cheap...)

Another caller told of an elderly couple who owned one pair of dentures and one pair of eyeglasses—so they'd switch. One read the newspaper while the other ate breakfast, then they'd trade. (Insert 'gag' here...)

I recall an old fellow who often told me a story about a business he worked for in Georgetown.

Seems one of his tasks was taking a pail of old bent nails, then spending a couple hours with a hammer and anvil, straightening them out and throwing them in another pail to be used again.

Today it might pass for recycling, but I always thought it was the epitome of cheap.

The recent recycling craze has allowed closet cheapos like myself to live in the real world—it's okay to be cheap so long as you call it recycling.

And I do my share in that area.

A
TED
BIT



Ted Brown

When I load my recyclables for the dump, I always dump the cans and bottles from the Blue Box into a green garbage bag, and then empty that bag into the bin when I arrive at the dump.

Many people do that. But I go another step further, and usually fold up the bag and put it back in the truck for another load, another day.

I usually save my grocery bags for re-use (after all, you have to pay 5 cents each if you shop at discount groceries stores) and I always take my empty milk jugs and beer bottles back for deposit—even if it requires a trip to Quebec.

If gas prices are down, and I have a half tank, I'll fill 'er up. But by the same token, I try to wait for the weekend to buy gas—I get triple points on my Esso card on weekends.

I refuse to pay full price for chicken breasts at M&M Meats—I always wait for them to go on sale.

When I leave a room at home, I turn off the lights. When there's nothing on TV, I turn it off.

Am I cheap? Nope, I think I'm being thrifty.

But only to a point—I do have limits.

I can tell ya, hell would have to freeze over before I'd see myself sharing a set of dentures.

You see, I still have my own teeth.

SIMPLY YOUR LIFE & ADD HOURS TO YOUR DAY TIME MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

WED. SEPT. 17TH
7 - 8:30 P.M.

Join us for an informative seminar on time management and organizational skills.

Glen Williams Town Hall
1 Prince St., Glen Williams
On-site Registration
\$15.00 CASH ONLY

Light Refreshments & Snacks Provided.
Arrive early - seating is limited.

"What's Your Time Worth?"



SMOKING is it worth it?



Someday, you'll be offered a cigarette or be tempted to smoke. Before you start, think about it: every drag you take screws up your body.

Smoking can cause permanent damage to your body. Once a person starts, it becomes extremely tough to quit. And did we mention all that cash you'll be blowing in the process?

So, if you're tempted to start, ask yourself, "Is it worth it?"

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (RRAP)

CMHC Financial Assistance for Landlords in Ontario

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is providing an opportunity for Landlords under the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP).

Limited funds are available in 2003 to repair or rehabilitate a rental or roominghouse property to a minimum level of health and safety or to convert non-residential properties into affordable rental or roominghouse accommodations.

Landlords must submit applications by **4:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, October 24, 2003**. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

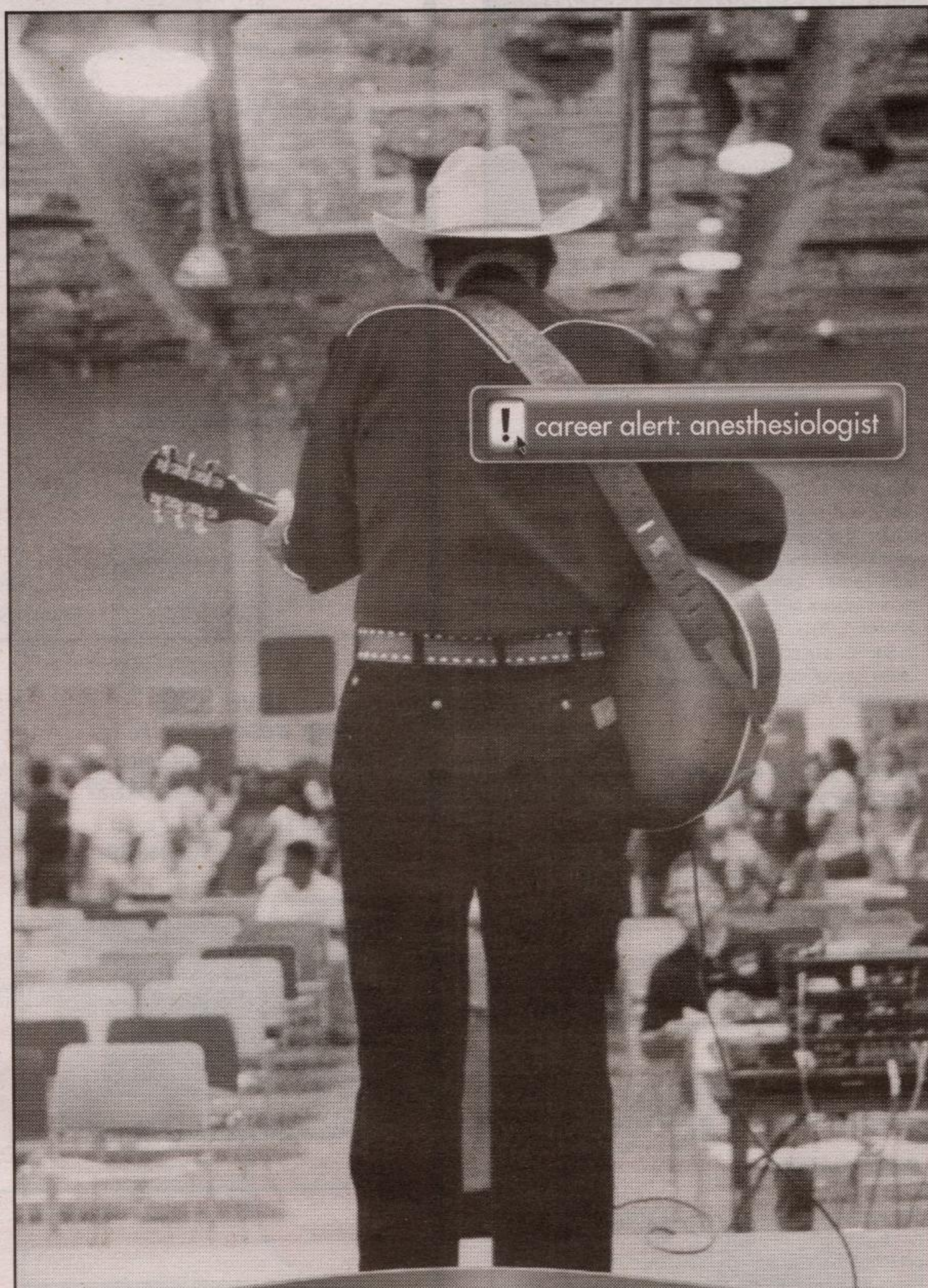
To obtain an application package:
**Call: 1-800-704-6488 or e-mail:
rrap_ontario@cmhc-schl.gc.ca**

Please note: Application submission does not guarantee financial assistance.



Canada

! career alert: anesthesiologist



Dare to Dream

workopolis.com

CANADA'S BIGGEST JOB SITE

People have been affected by West Nile virus. Protect yourself.

The threat of West Nile virus is real. You should take steps to protect yourself and your children from mosquito bites. The safest thing is to avoid where the mosquitoes are. But if you are outdoors, use bug repellent containing DEET. Wear light-coloured clothing and avoid being outdoors between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active. For more information, call: **1-877-234-4343 (TTY 1-800-387-5559)** or visit **HealthyOntario.com**.

Fight the Bite!

Making healthcare work for you. Ontario