

Weekender

# Comment

## Fun for a good cause

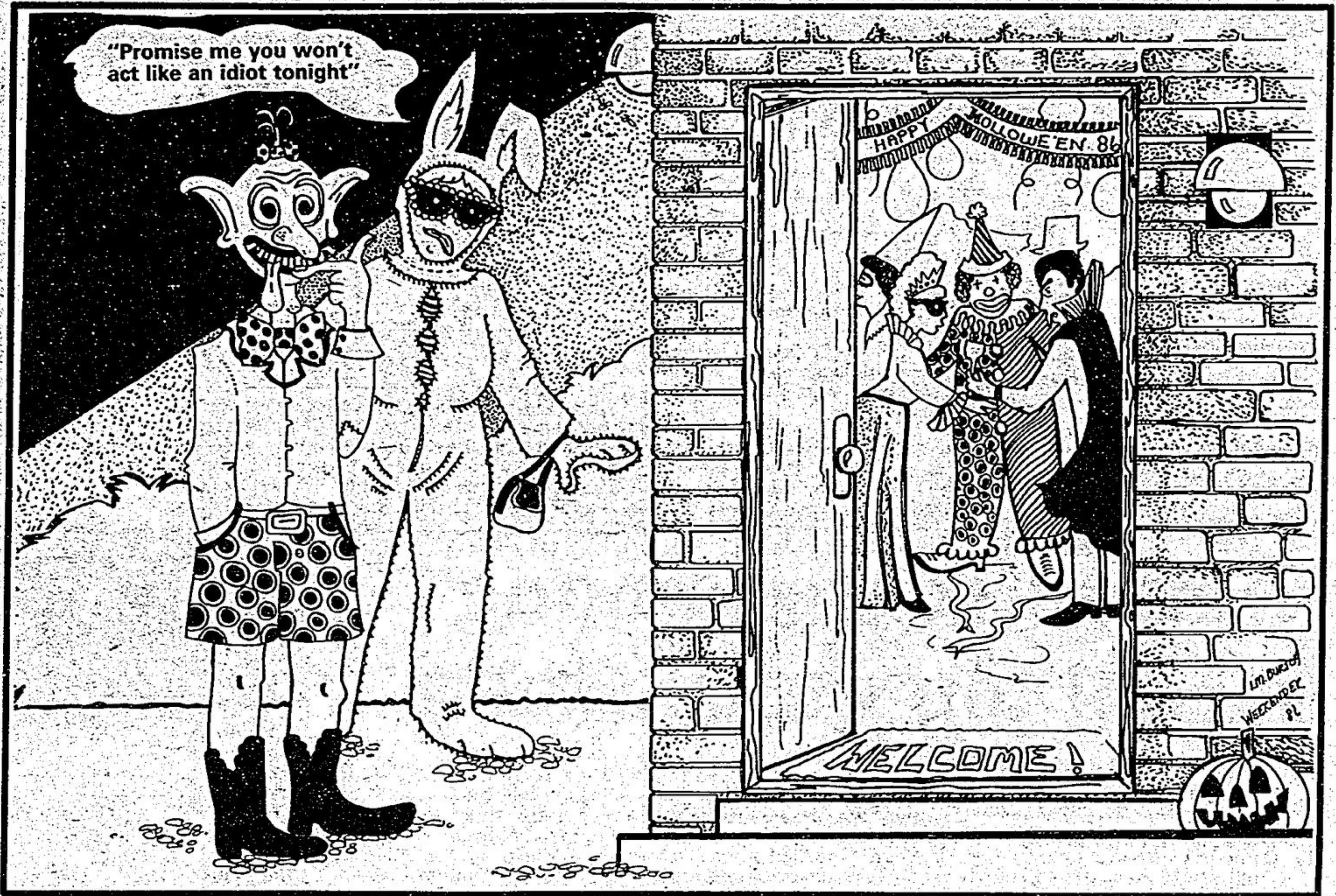
It seems the Markham Theatre is becoming a great place to hold fund-raising events — and three good ones are coming up this month.

On Sunday, Nov. 9, the Economist and Sun and Theatre 48 are sponsoring an entertaining evening of music and fun called 'Raise the Roof' featuring Dinah Christie and Tom Kneebone. Proceeds from that event go to help fix the roof at Participation House.

Then on Saturday, Nov. 15, the Heart and Stroke Foundation is sponsoring a musical evening featuring the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Toronto and local barbershop chorus the Markham Men of Harmony.

On Tuesday, Nov. 25, Old Fire Hall Sports is holding a showing of the film Ski Dance and a winter wear fashion show featuring Bogner skiwear. Proceeds for the evening will go to the Markham Stouffville Hospital.

Tickets for all three events are available at the theatre box office. Call 479-0201. All three are worthy causes: all three promise to be entertaining, fun evenings; and all three deserve our full support.



## Former activist looks back fondly

Maybe it was just a reaction to a night spent listening to Bob Seger playing that old time rock and roll at Maple Leaf Gardens. Or perhaps it's merely a part of the mellowing process that comes with the passing of time.

Whatever it was, my little chat with Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury the other day caused me to reminisce about those days not so long ago when I was actively involved in the local political scene.

Yes, I was what you might call a political activist. And like anything else I get involved in, it was anything but a quiet stroll through the park.

Standing there talking to Fran about the makeup of the present council and the foremost issues of the day, all I could think about was how it had all seemed so deadly serious back then. Us against them, truth versus fallacy, the political left versus the right, or whatever ideological opposites emerge in small town politics.



I guess we all get bitten by the political bug at some point in our lives. And one thing is certain. We sure did cause a few ripples. The local establishment knew we had passed through after all was said and done.

We had sensed that the mayor of the day was on the way out in the fall of 1980, that he wouldn't be able to withstand the challenge of our man, Ged Stonehouse, a young buck with more creative imagination than the entire ad agency used by McDonald's.

So we dropped everything and went for it.

As it turned out, we were a

little premature in our prediction of Eldred King's demise. Not only did Eldred stave off our challenge, although it was close, he went on to become Regional Chairman of York.

And who knows just how far he will go, although he once told me he had no further political aspirations beyond the Mayor's chair. "I'm not a politician," he insisted. Dumb like a fox, that Eldred.

I guess one of the best ways to develop respect for someone is to go head to head against him and come out second best. Never have I met a man to whom credibility was of such para-

mount importance. Eldred King is one politician you'll never see being dragged before a review board for suspected impropriety.

The man is hard working, clever, and totally up front. We may have had our spats, but you just can't help but admire Eldred both as a person, and as a public figure.

Anyway, after our defeat, we licked our wounds and wrote the whole thing off to experience. What the heck, we figured, the universe was more likely than not unfolding as it should.

But the real disappointment was still to follow a few years later, as we went against Jim Sanders, Stouffville's councillor for life, only to fall short by two votes. I'm sure Lovanna, Jim's wife, still wakes up in the middle of the night in a cold sweat thinking about that one!

Enough was enough, we figured. Sure, Nixon and Diefenbaker had lost a whole bunch of

elections before they finally put some points on the board.

But Ged decided he could stir up enough dust from behind the scenes. Since then, he has confined his political pursuits to the various professional associations he is involved in. He was recently made president of the Independent Travel Professionals, a consortium of about 150 travel agencies Canada wide. Not too shabby at all.

As for the local political scene, it's still there, with its little controversies and personal conflicts.

But it just doesn't seem to call out to us the way it used to. Somehow the town, and the region, have survived, yes flourished even, without us.

And with Eldred King at the controls as Regional Chairman, the thing isn't likely to falter. For one thing is certain. The man doesn't deal in wooden nickels.

Economist & Sun

The Tribune

9 Heritage Rd.,  
Markham,  
L3P 1M3

DON BERNARD  
JIM THOMAS  
Editors

CHRISTINE BERTRAM  
Office Manager

## Weekender

BRUCE ANNAN  
Publisher

294-2200  
495-9440  
640-2100  
649-2292

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT — News Editor-Jo Ann Stevenson. Reporters: Greg Coates, Paula Crowell, Steve Houston, Chris Shanahan, Kelly Connelly. Sports Editor-Frank King. Photography-Sjoerd Witteveen, Bill Lanning.

BUSINESS OFFICE — Shirley Lee, Irene Ramsperger, Andrea Manuel, Charlene Tuckey.

PATRICIA PAPPAS  
Advertising Manager

JENNIFER HUTT  
Distribution Manager

Published every Saturday by Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing at 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, Ontario L3P 1M3. Tel. 294-2200. Second class mail registration number 1247.

The Markham Economist and Sun, published every Wednesday and Saturday at 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Acton Free Press, Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Aurora Banner, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Etobicoke Advertiser/Guardian, Georgetown Independent, Milton Champion, Mississauga News, Newmarket Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa/Whitby This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville Tribune, Topic Newsmagazine, Willowdale Mirror. Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd. NATIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE — Metroland Corporate Sales, 493-1300.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT — Retail Advertising Manager-Charles Canning. Retail- Terri Bernhardt, Lorne Hillier, Jo-Ann Van Maurik, Lynn Moore. Real Estate Manager-Dorothy Young. Classified Manager-Debra Waller. Classified- Phyllis Ritchie, Joan Marshman, R. Stephen Mathieu, Karen Heise.

DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT — Assistant Distribution Manager- Sandra Marrier, Jean Middleton, Barry Goodyear, Doreen Deacon, Sandra Kitely, Lea Kitter, Sue Hutton, Donna Saxon.

Distribution Dept. 294-8244  
640-2100