

Opinion

Send your letters to the editor to:
9 Heritage Rd., Markham, L3P 1M3
or fax them to 294-1538

Let's ensure the hunger stops long term

The Thanksgiving Food Drive is an easy way to make a difference to those less fortunate. And recently, bins set up in major supermarkets save us the trip to the fire hall or food depot with the heavy bag or two. Even easier is the recent access to plastic cards with which we can donate without even selecting or delivering the food itself.

With cuts to welfare imminent, it is more crucial than ever to support these drives generously.

In order to deal with the ever increasing numbers, the banks have had to become centralized and less personal. Their struggle to



Viewpoint

Jo Ann Stevenson

cope with massive demands on their stocks is exemplary, but I hope short lived.

Preferrable to food banks are local service agencies who are in touch with families in need and who would have budgets to cover short-term emergencies. When local agencies are in direct contact with the hungry who live in their communities, they are able to offer broader services which will

help them get on their feet.

For example, food banks which distribute tins of stew, chunky soup and peanut butter may hold a family over for a meal or two. That's great. But if that family or single person could be taught how to cook and shop on a budget, they could spend the equivalent money on enough wholesome and nutritious food for a week. Some food networks are doing this kind of training, but they are largely underfunded and understaffed.

A tin of chunky soup serves two people modest portions with questionable nutrition value. A bag of

potatoes with a few onions and a small amount of milk makes a hearty potful.

This contact with local service agencies would strike more at the cause of their hunger, be it unemployment, poor budgeting and financial skills or mental or physical handicaps.

Chunky soup will fill a void today, but those in need require much more dovetailing with our communities.

Compassion pours out to those in need through this very worthy program. But let's keep the momentum going and ensure the hunger stops long term.

The Tribune

Weekender Edition

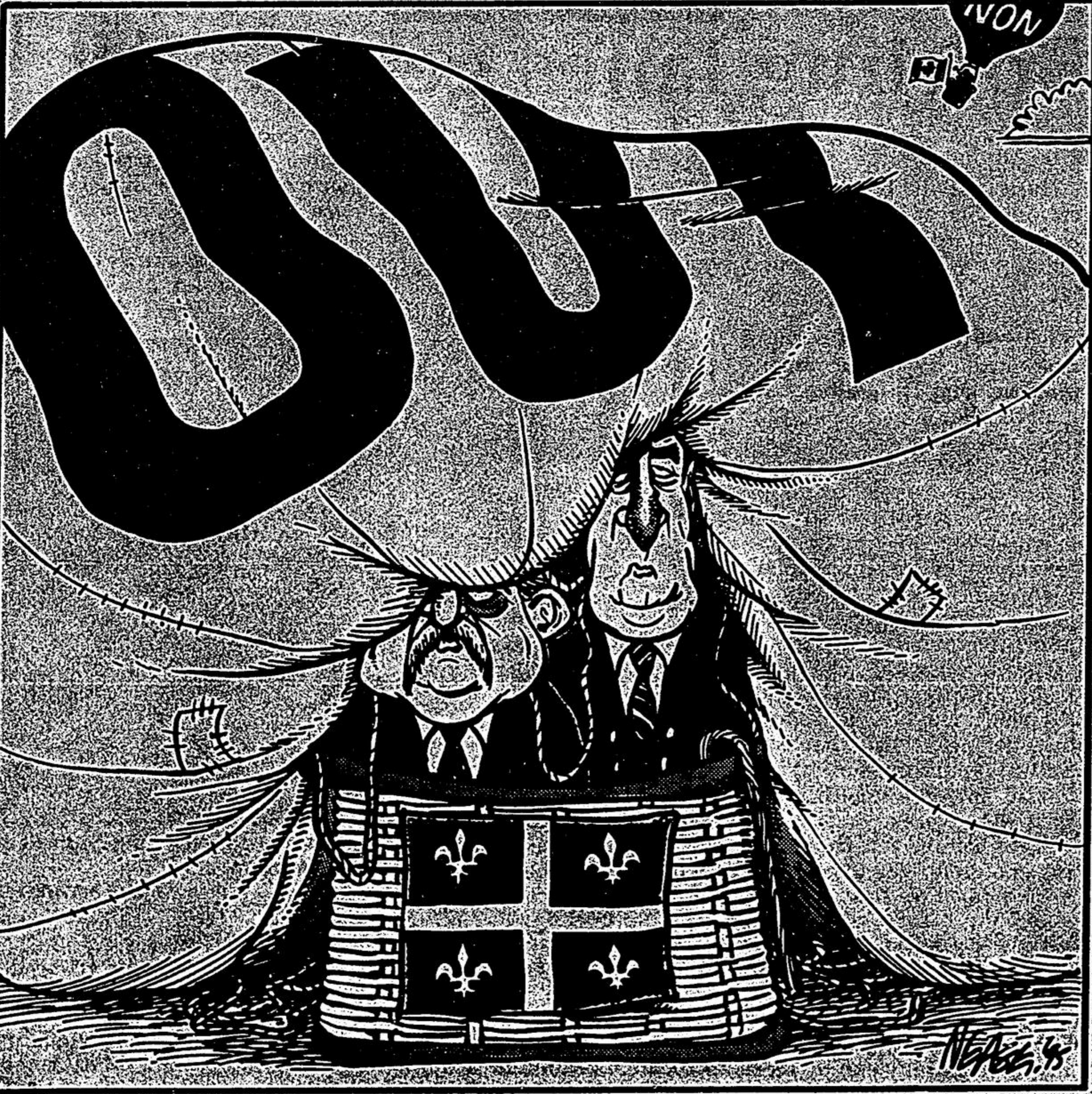
A Metropolitan Community Newspaper
PATRICIA PAPPAS, Publisher

JO ANN STEVENSON, Editor-in-Chief
ANDREW MAIR, General Manager/Editor
DEBRA WELLES, Director of Advertising
BARRY GOODYEAR, Director of Distribution
VIVIAN O'NEIL, Business Manager
PAMELA NICHOLS, Operations Manager

STONEYVILLE
All enquiries
(905) 640-8100
fax
(905) 640-5477
6344 Main St.
Stouffville, Ont.

LUXBRIDGE
All enquiries
(905) 883-9741
fax
(905) 883-4355
86 Brock St. W.
Uxbridge, Ont.

The Tribune, published every Wednesday and Saturday, is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: Markham Economist and Sun, Ajax Picking News Advertiser, Aurora/Newmarket Era, Banner, Barrie Advance, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, CityParent, Collingwood Connection, Etobicoke Guardian, Georgetown Independent/Action Free Press, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Milton Canadian Champion, Mississauga News, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Orliss Today, Oshawa/Whitby-Clarington This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Today's Seniors. Contents not to be reproduced without written permission from the publisher. Permit #1247.



Honeywagon gets credit

"The way to get things done is not to mind who gets the credit for doing them." Benjamin Jowett

Poor old Ben. As a classical theologian he was undoubtedly first-rate. He was easily one of the best loved Masters in the entire history of Balliol College in Oxford.

But if he'd ever tried to peddle that who-cares-who-gets-credit philosophy in the movies, they'd have strung him up from a lamppost at the corner of Hollywood and Vine.

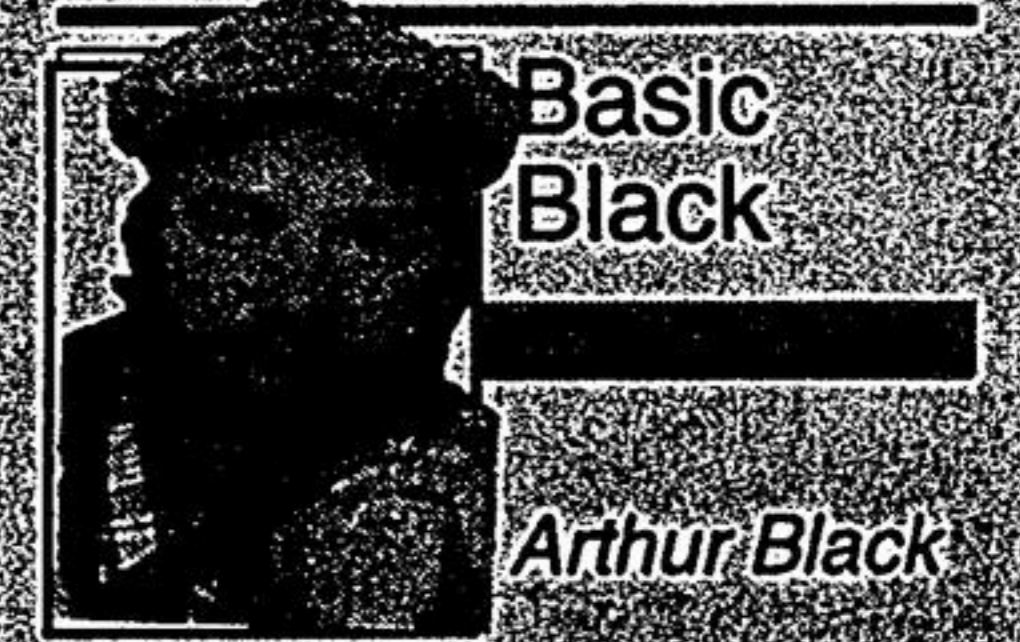
Who gets credit for what is everything in Hollywood. If you don't believe me, go shell out six or eight bucks and sit through "Waterworld", the Kevin Costner epic currently inundating movie screens around the world.

The credits for "Waterworld" are a mini-documentary unto themselves. They roll for an incredible seven minutes — and they just name stars and co-stars. The "Waterworld" credits sing the praises of the chief dockmaster, the "vault manager", "trimaran co-ordinators" and some poor creatures known as digital roto supervisors.

There are more than eight hundred individual credits immortalizing the folks who helped make "Waterworld" — and that's for a flop. The mind shudders to think how many extra legions Costner would have needed to make a successful movie.

Back when I was a kid all you had to do was blink and you'd miss the movie credits. In the early days, the credits rolled before the feature film and they kept them simple. They told you the name of the director, the producer, the leading man, the leading lady and then they told you you only had five more minutes to get your popcorn.

I can remember years ago being mystified by such credit



Basic Black

Arthur Black

designations as "gaffer", "grip" and "best boy". A cousin who'd played an extra in a few Hollywood movies straightened me out. "Gaffer" she explained, was a lighting technician. "Grips" were the guys who lugged the heavy movie cameras around. And "best boy" was a kind of rarefied gofer who fetched coffee and anything else the grips and gaffers needed.

But then the movie credit business got complicated. In the credits to the movie "Batman Forever" you will see acknowledgments for the "Batsuit wrangler" and even a "Robin-suit wrangler".

What the hell is that?

Movie credits have gotten more complicated because films are a lot more technical than they used to be. Half the movies on the screen these days would be laughed out of the theatre if it wasn't for the special effects. Naturally, the people responsible for those special effects think they deserve a pat on the back too.

Still, the credit business is getting pretty silly. There's a movie called "Carrington" coming soon to a theatre near you. After it's over, when the credits roll you will see a credit for "honeywagon driver".

A honeywagon driver is the guy who brings in and removes those Johnny-On-The-Spot portable toilets they use on location.

For some of the movies I've seen lately, the honeywagon driver should get top billing.

Adam

by Brian Basset

