

Tuesday, April 14, 1998
Vol. 110, No. 29

The Tribune is a member of the
Ontario Press Council

THE TRIBUNE

Comment & Opinions

Send your letters
to the editor
to the address below

EDITORIAL

Youth need work

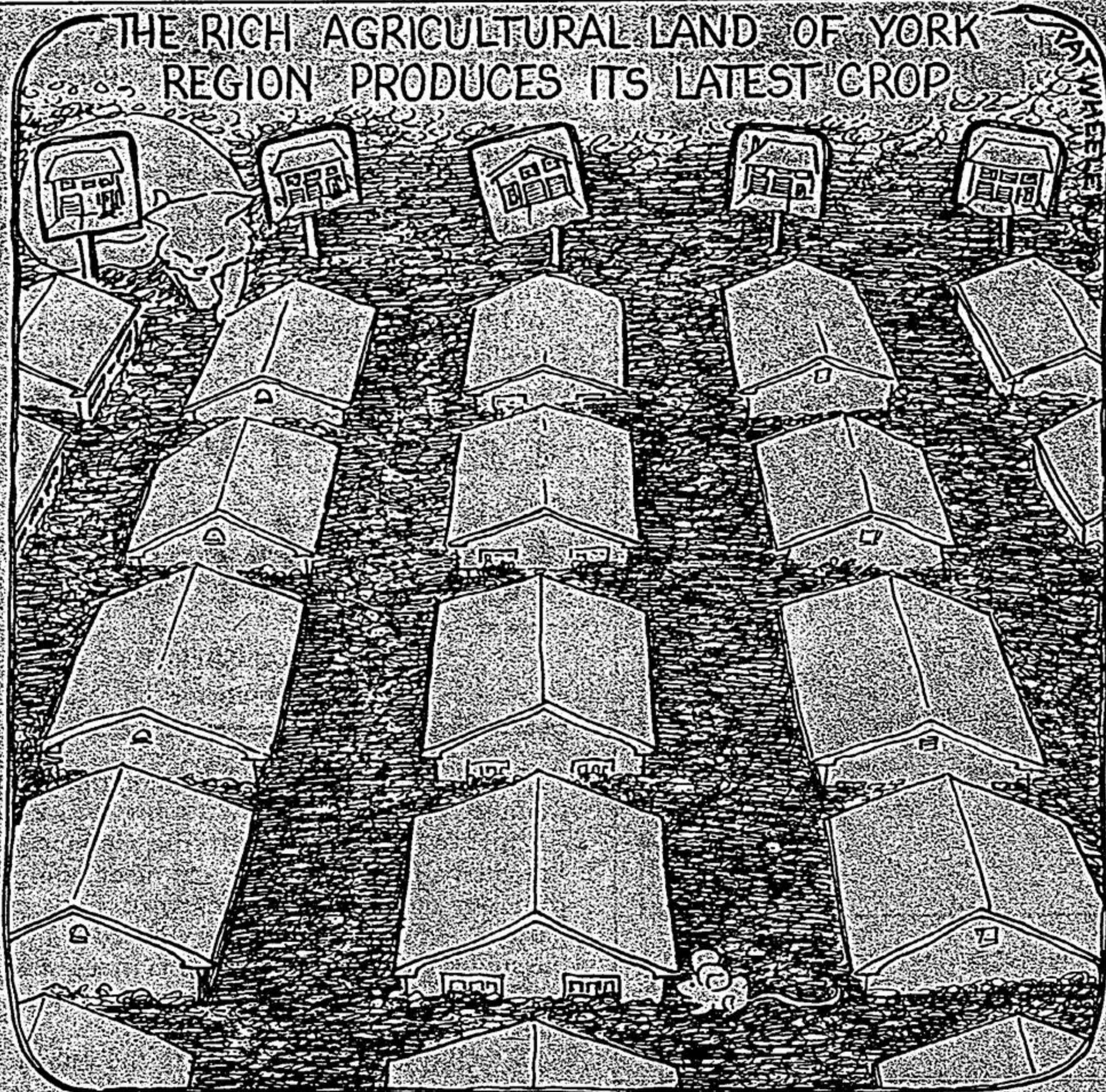
Ontario is the place to be. That, according to the financial wizards, is what we can expect for the provincial economy for the foreseeable future, with job growth outstripping every part of Canada and most of the North American continent.

However, while a boom in the job market benefits all, there was still only dim hope for the largest group of unemployed in the province, our young people. High tech and experienced professional positions will make up the bulk of our growth, but still, entry level and part-time employment opportunities continue to wane.

This state of employment limbo is leading to a different class in our society, and changing the attitudes toward work of many otherwise bright and skilled individuals. Companies would often rely on interns to get the work accomplished. A recent survey found that a large computer company saves more than \$600,000 in entry level wages by using college and university interns. Some interns have been shuffled through five or six placements, desperate to pad the resume with enough to earn even the lowest of positions with a company.

We must reverse this trend. Many companies are not aware of government hiring grants and subsidies. This is the government's fault. They have got to get a better handle on promoting and advertising programs for young people.

It is odd that for a segment of society which holds so much buying power, young people are not being given the opportunity to make the money which in turn they would gladly spend, making Ontario stronger still.



Danger, Will Robinson, the dust cloud cometh

Whenever I think life is going my way for a change or feel I may be getting a little too complacent, I pick up a science magazine to bring me down to earth and renew my sense of smallness in this big old world.

Last week I glanced through Discover magazine, which despite being a Disney publication, deals with some downright un-Mickey Mouse subjects. Take the end of the world. Please. According to Discover, we're not far

off. Well, galactically speaking, that is. A very large dust cloud is headed our way, making its slow journey across the cosmos while we (in the solar system sense of 'we') spin right toward it.

As soon as a few decades from now, the tip of this cloud may begin to extend into the farthest reaches of our little planetary grouping. It will be centuries before the bad stuff really starts to happen, but with the pace of medical science these days (another



Minute with Mair

Andrew Mair

article entirely) I fully expect to be around then. Anyway, this big dust bunny in space (it's several light years across) is going to come calling, and

when it arrives, the solar wind which keeps most of the asteroids, ringing the solar system at arm's length will weaken, raining some really big rocks down on our heads. It may also screw up the climate worse than we're doing on our own, and could deplete the oxygen-rich outer atmosphere of the planet which would not be good for us fair-skinned types. Apparently, we pass through a bad part of the celestial town every few million years, the last time happened to have been detrimental to the wellness of the dinosaurs.

What took me by surprise was the immediacy of the impending doom. It's like we're still in the shower and company's coming up the driveway. How are we supposed to prepare for something like this? At least when it was just one big meteor coming our way, we could always send the president up in a fighter plane to blow it to smithereens, and then we'll have three huzzahs for the human race and get on with life.

But this whole space cloud thing is another matter. It's so big. It's so near. It's so... dirty. They never dealt with stuff like this on Star Trek.

So, what to do? My prediction is that we'll study it, and if we're lucky, there will be an attempt to legislate it out of existence. Or, we could fight it.

We'll raise our own dust cloud, send it into space to do battle with the one headed our way. Our's will just have to be bigger. To this end, I propose that this Saturday, everyone comes over to my house with their brooms and sweep out my garage.

You'll be doing your part to save the human race.

And while you're all doing that, I'll sit out on my lawn chair and read some more magazines.

On family matters, parties and eggs

On the day Mr. Wallethead was due back from his sojourn in cool Britannia, his niece phoned me.

"I have some bad news," she said in a sombre voice, hastily adding, lest her aged aunt-by-marriage expire from an attack of the vapours, "your old man is on his way home. Caroline, who had the dubious honour of being my bridesmaid back in nineteen oatcake, is one of my favourite people, even though she has a few annoying attributes.

These are as follows: 1) She is a lot younger than me. 2) She is extremely attractive and 3) If anyone read the letters she has written to me - the bits that are printable in a family newspaper - this little Kate's Corner in some foreign field would be forever Caroline's.

On the plus side, it was she who introduced me to Planet Hollywood in London, where I had my picture taken in front of one of the eggs which started in the movie 'Alien'. It was Caroline, too, who sent me a massive supply of those vapid, glossy, chick magazines with no redeeming social value to which I am hopelessly addicted.

The fact that Mr. Wallethead got



Kate's Corner

Kate Gilderdale

stuck with me in the first place is, in no small measure, his family's fault. Whenever we visit the vicinity where most of his relations live, his aunt, siblings, cousins and assorted offspring throw a non-stop round of parties in our honour.

Two years ago, we arrived at his sister's for a week on the very day her new neighbours moved in. After the third party in as many days, we felt constrained to console the rather bleary-eyed woman next door. My sister-in-law, we explained sympathetically, was a considerate and delightful person, who was not generally given to hosting nightly gatherings that went on until 2 or 3 in the morning.

If she was looking for closure, we added - and who among us is not? - it would come in a few short days, when the inmates of Chateau Gilderdale would be moving on to

make life miserable for the residents of the leafy London suburb of Buckhurst Hill, home to Granny Pat, Jim and Snowy the cat.

It was at one of the aforementioned parties that I wistfully observed how much I missed the family connection. "It must be lovely to be able to get together and party any time you want to," I said to one of Mr. Wallethead's myriad friends and relations. "Actually," he said, regretfully, "we only ever do stuff like this when you come over."

Strangely, it hadn't occurred to me that this hedonistic lifestyle could not possibly be practised on a regular basis. On reflection, I realized that the liver damage alone would be enough to dispatch the majority of the revellers to that great pub in the sky and that anyone left over would have been obliged to declare bankruptcy long since.

People sometimes ask if I could ever live in England again. Much as I love my native land, it is a lot more fun to be there when you're just passing through, in a place where the party is never over and you don't have to be in the office at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Patricia Pappas
Publisher

Andrew Mair
Editor-In-Chief
Tracy Kibble
Editor

Debra Weller
Director of Advertising
Mike Rogerson
Retail Advertising Manager
Stacey Allen
Classified Manager

Barry Goodyear
Director of Distribution

Vivian O'Neil
Business Manager

Pamela Nichols
Operations Manager

about us

News
(905) 640-2100
Retail sales
(905) 640-2100
Classifieds
(905) 640-2874
Distribution
(905) 640-2100
Fax
(905) 640-5477
E-Mail
thetrib@istar.ca
6244 Main St.,
Stouffville, Ont.
L4A 1E2

The Stouffville Tribune, published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing and Distribution group of community newspapers which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald, Aurora News, Barrie Advance, Brant's Bay This Week, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Shopping News, Burlington Post, City Park, Collingwood/Wango Beach Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Courier, Etobicoke News, Georgetown News, Ingersoll/Acton Press, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Georgetown Mirror, Milton Canadian Champion, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga News, Newmarket/Orangeville News, Newmarket/Georgetown News, New York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Oshawa Today, Oshawa Weekly, Oshawa Post/Port Perry This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, and Uxbridge Tribune. The Stouffville Tribune is a member of the Ontario Press Council. Copyright © 1998. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher. Permit #1247. The publisher reserves the right to refuse or classify an advertisement. Credit for advertisement limited to space the error except.



Letters Policy

The Tribune welcomes your letters to the editor. Please keep letters to no more than 300 words. Note that letters may be edited for space, libel, spelling, grammar. While we endeavor to print as many letters as possible, we regret that not all letters may be printed.