

# The North Halton Compass

Reach then a soaring quill,  
that I may write  
As with a Jacob's staff  
to take a height

CLEVELAND

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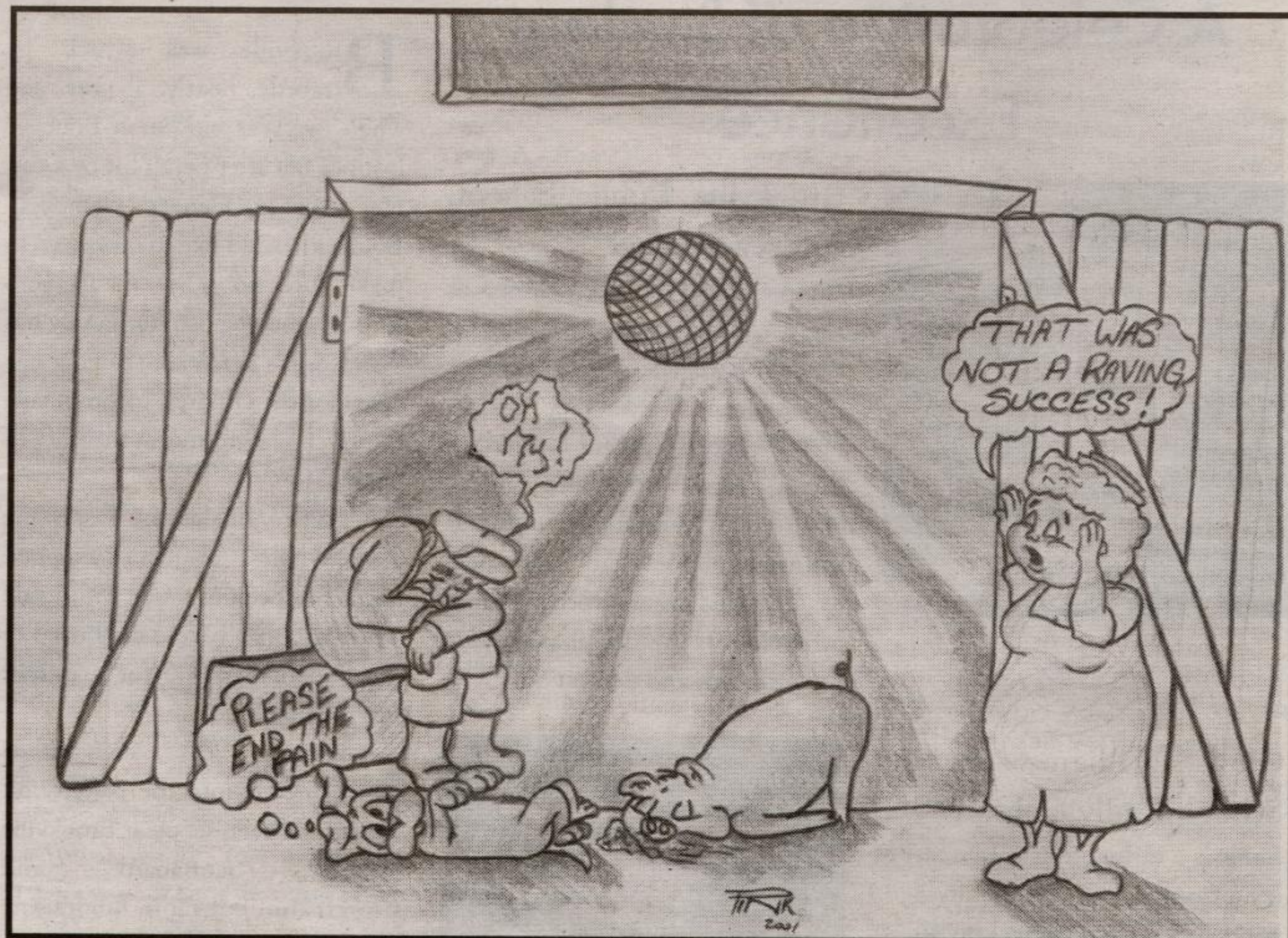
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## The Barnyard Adventures of Nassagaweya Ned & Emmy Esquesing



## BRASS TACKS – Editorial

### Raves - not a typical party

It's the wee hours of Saturday morning and your lying in bed wondering what your teenager is doing. There's a good chance your teen isn't sleeping in his or her bed safe and sound. The reality is your teen is probably out partying and if they're up on the latest trends, they could very well be at a rave.

These all night parties are not a new phenomenon, they've been around for years. What is new is the general public's interest in the parties as well as their spread from the city to rural areas.

As the 2000 Milton Mayor's Youth Advisory Council survey indicated, youths are limited when it comes to leisure activities in the area. Raves supplement this lack of entertainment and can be held just about anywhere - as long as the area is isolated. The empty fields, abandoned homes and barns scattered across the rural areas of Halton and

Esquesing county are a perfect place to party.

On the surface these all night dance parties may seem innocent but many parents are in the dark as to what goes on at these unsupervised parties. This ignorance could be deadly. Raves have gained the reputation of being a haven for alcohol and drug use, they usually violate fire codes and risk the health of party-goers.

The Halton Region Health Department along with the Halton Region Police Service, Halton Catholic School Board and Halton District School Board have taken an interest in raves and responded by providing parents with rave related information to safe guard children. Parents are urged to talk with their children about raves and make suggestions in order to ensure a fun yet safe time.

Being open and frank with

your child will not only give them the knowledge they need to make good decisions, it will hopefully open up the lines of communication for other issues. Though you may not always agree with your children's choices, it's better to know what they are doing than to not know.

As a parent it is your responsibility to look out for your children. The responsibility should not be left up to police, teachers or other figures in the community. The best lessons are learned in the home.

As has been said so often, children are our most precious resource and we need to both protect them and allow them to spread their wings even if that means dancing to the wee hours of the morning.

Information on raves can be obtained at the Region's web site [www.regionhalton.on.ca/health](http://www.regionhalton.on.ca/health).

## BLUE SPRINGS SOAPBOX

### Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The results of the 2000 MMYAC (Milton Mayor's Youth Advisory Council) survey regarding, among other things, how Milton youth spend their leisure time, indicated a lack of desirable activities for youth in Milton.

MMYAC appreciates the positive response to this need from the Town of Milton and local businesses who sponsored the Teen Zone for Milton youth at the Canada Day festivities.

Special thanks to the three local businesses who provided funding for the Teen Zone - Human Resource Centre of Canada for Students, SKD Milton Division and Mattamy Homes. Through their generosity three inflatables - Action Man, Boxing and Jousting - provided fun, free activities for youth all afternoon.

In addition, the members of MMYAC would like to extend a huge thank you to Councillor Cindy Lunau, Town staff member

Janet Davidson and Sandra Murphy from Halton Region Health Department for their presence at Canada Day and their continued support.

Lastly, thank you to the student volunteers who, along with the support and participation of the other parties mentioned above, helped make Canada Day 2001 a special day for youth.

Sincerely,  
Kaitlin Strome  
MMYAC Chair

2001 Feature

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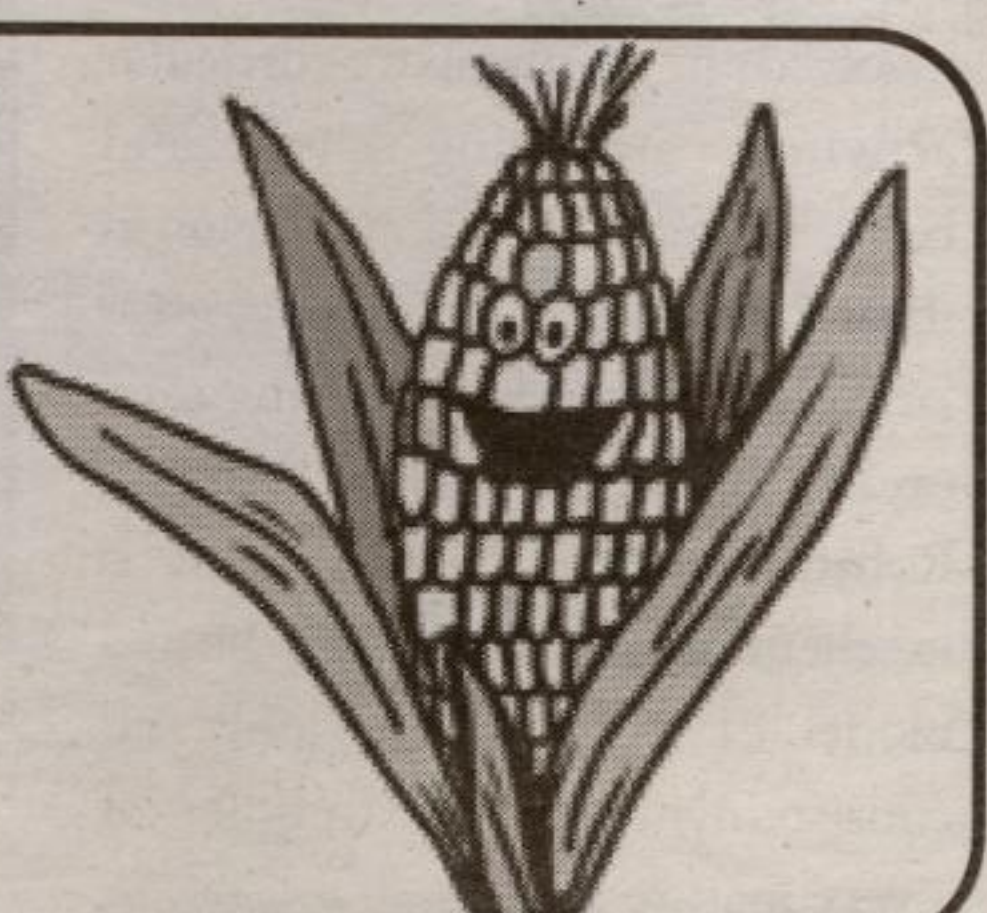
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