

The North Halton Compass

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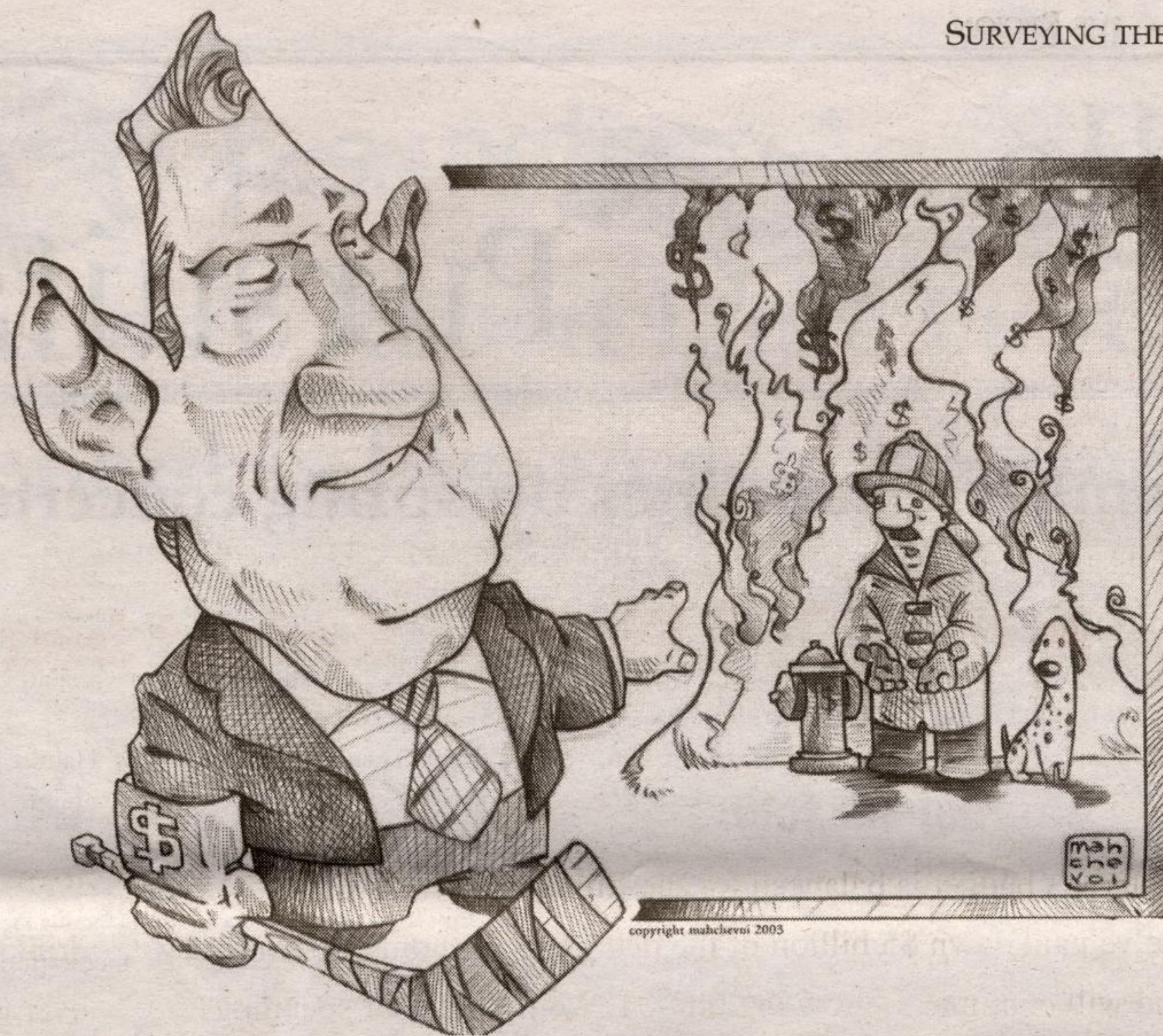
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BRASS TACKS – Editorial

Recently I had the good fortune of attending Building Media Relationships, a seminar hosted by Arts Milton. The purpose of the seminar was to teach how to get the media (me) to put information about the arts community (them) in the paper. The organization of the seminar was commendable, the speakers were interesting, the food was good and the people – as always – were great.

The first person I met there was Laura Jeffrey, whose acquaintance I had made some 25 years ago when my Great Dane raced through our property fence onto the road to meet her dog, Chloe. While reconnecting, I learned about her involvement with Arts Milton and about Women of Note. Laura explained that Women of Note is a group of seven who are not only interesting and noteworthy, but who also like to sing. Twice a year, spring and Christmas, they put on performances. But that's not enough for them because they also do extra performances throughout the year. Recently they did an afternoon social for Martindale Gardens. Last year they

sang for Knox Church and raised close to \$1,000. Yearly they go to Burlington to do a benefit concert called Tunes 'n' Tales where they sing and a professional storyteller, Marina Lloyd, tells stories. They raised around \$1500 last year. This "gem of a group", as Laura describes it, does this just because they like to sing and have a good time. Also, I bet, they do it because they know that people like to listen to them.

While I met a lot of fine people, the most memorable was Bill Shuttleworth of Glen Williams. He approached me, armed with an old copy of The North Halton Compass, opened it to the page with my photo on it and announced, in his lovely Lancashire accent, "I would never have recognized you from this." (Thank you, Bill. I hate that picture.) During our conversation, he told me about his involvement with the arts: He is part of the Georgetown Bach Chorale. In the fall of 1999, a 29-year-old guy and a lady in her fifties who wanted to sing Saint Matthew's Passion started this group. It now boasts 16

members from not only Georgetown and Campbellville, but also from as far away as Campbellford. They practice weekly and do six to seven performances a year under the care of their musical director Ronald Greidanus – a concert pianist who is currently performing in Vienna. No shoddy group is this: In 2000, they performed in Prague in the Advent Festival and were recorded on the Czech public radio.

Laura and Bill are but two members of Halton's vibrant arts community, an integral part of north Halton. Arts Milton itself boasts more than 1200 members in a town of 40,000, and I understand that the Milton Choristers now sing the national anthem at the Milton Merchants hockey games. And the fans love them. We've got art shows, theatrical productions, musical performances... you name it—all performed and supported by enthusiastic and energetic volunteers making our region a better place. The North Halton Compass salutes these groups and their contribution to our community.

Barbara Sullivan

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Sciences and a Director of Bird Studies Canada. She has been Director of the Oaklands Regional Centre for Developmentally Disabled Adults, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Ontario Director of Park Canada's centennial celebrations and a member of the Lowville Area Residents' Association.

"I have extremely strong connections with education, agricultural and business groups in Halton," points out Mrs. Sullivan. "I bring experience in legislative, business,

volunteer and other non-governmental organizations with me."

Raised in Halton, one of Mrs. Sullivan's favourite moments of her candidacy so far was the nomination process itself last November. "George Pelleterio, who lives on Tremaine Road, sold me my first calf for 4-H when I was 12 years old," Mrs. Sullivan explains. "He was the one who nominated me in November. In fact, he's had a part in all three of my nominations."

Although, at press time, a provincial election had not yet been scheduled, Mrs. Sullivan is already

hard at work on her candidacy. She has met with, and will continue to meet with, various community organizations, and she is opening a campaign office at 232 Main Street, Milton (the old Quality Greens site). "I'm really pleased with the location," says Mrs. Sullivan. "It's centrally located, and people can reach us by phone (905-876-2110) without calling long distance from anywhere in the riding."

"People are ready for a change", states provincial Liberal candidate Barbara Sullivan. "There's a real sense that it's time for a new leaf in Halton."



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