

Region throws Physicians Appreciation dinner

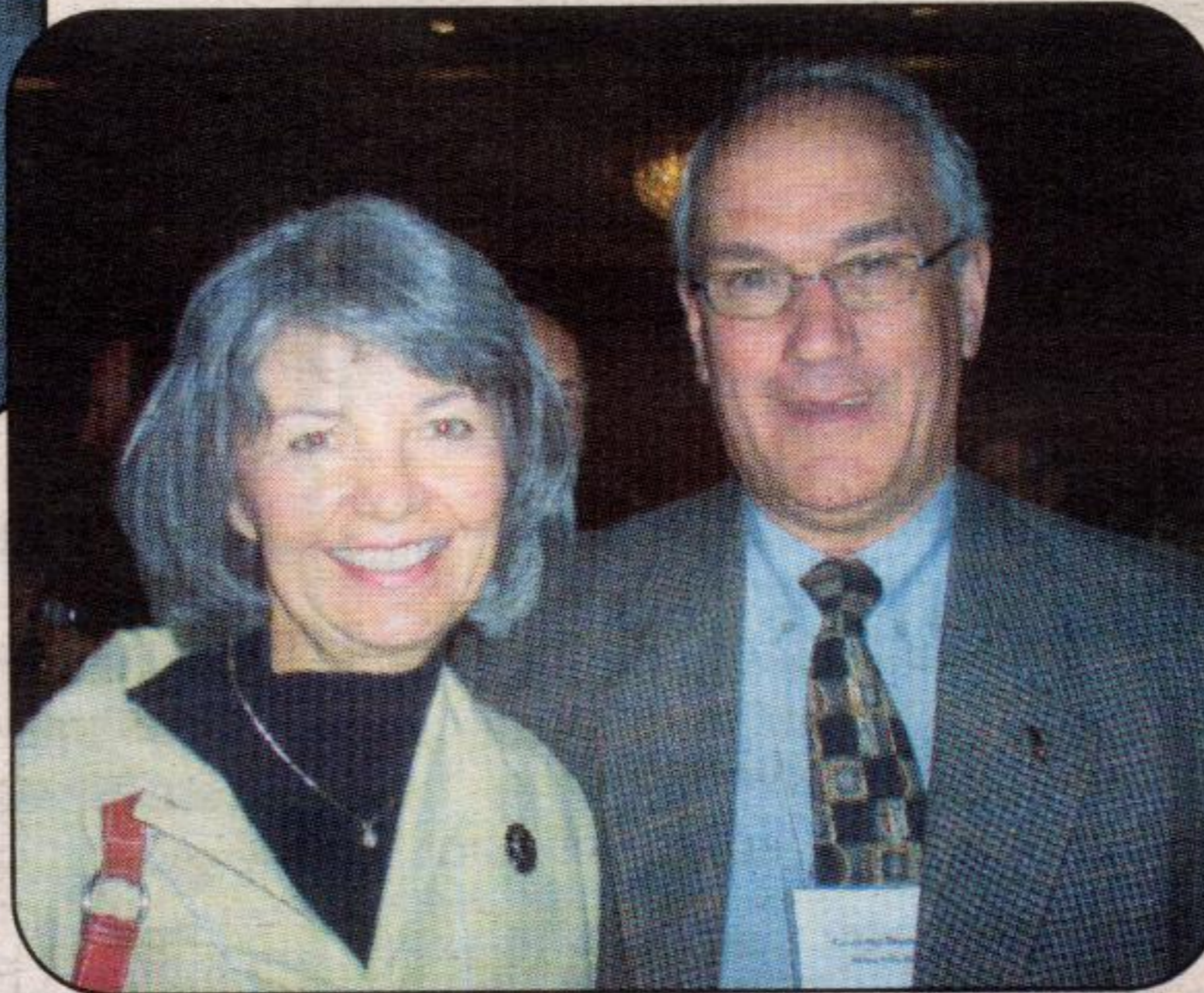


Dr Brian Camaron and wife, Dr Sara Rudge of Gravenhurst with Milton councillor Cindy Lunau.

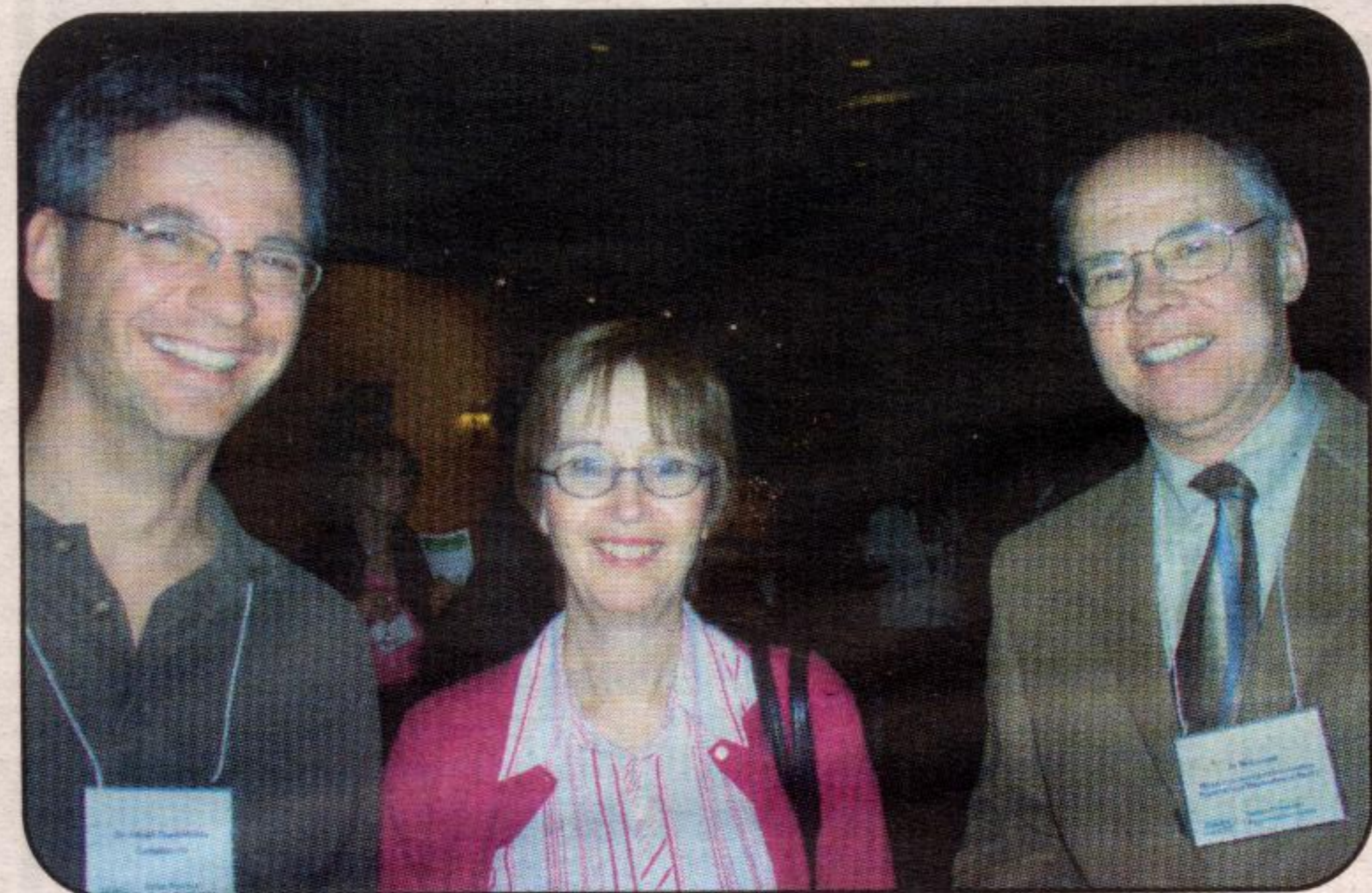
May was Physicians Appreciation month and Halton threw a gala dinner for the regional health professionals at the Convention Centre in Burlington. After dinner speaker and guest of honour was Rex Murray, well known broadcaster and former Rhodes scholar.



Dr Neil Raol, infectious disease specialist, from Oakville and Regional Officer of Health Dr Bob Nosal.



Halton Hills Councillors Moya Johnson and Bryan Lewis.



Dr Fabian Charbonneau of Campbellville and Dr Marion King of Milton with real estate agent Al McDonald.



Dr Gregory Flynn, head of the Ontario Medical Association with broadcaster Rex Murray and Halton Regional Chair Joyce Savoline.



Halton's deputy police chief Gary Crowell with Halton CAO Brent Marshall.

Birthday bash for Campbellville

On Saturday June 11th, 2005 the village of Campbellville will be 91 years old. The residents and merchants of the village will start the festivities with a pancake breakfast, followed by a Battle of the Bands at The Mohawk Inn. Local school bands will compete for a prize of studio time donated by the Recording Studio. The winner of the Battle will perform as part of the closing celebrations.

While the Battle rages visitors can shop at the village's many antique and curio stores, stop at the sidewalk and garage sales dotted throughout, and let the kids enjoy the entertainment being put on for them, such as the Fish Pond.

The evening entertainment will consist of a fashion show, magic show, dancers and a performance by Campbellville's own Alysha Brooke, currently reigning at number 18 on the North American Country Charts with her hit "Nuthin' but a Chevy". The festivities will continue on the following day, Sunday 12th, with entertainment from Clogger's and a Mexican Dance troupe. The official birthday cake will be cut by Campbellville's "Mayor" Charlie Parchem followed by a performance by the winning band.

Deidre and Friends Scholarship

By ANN KORNUA

Scholarships usually go to the best students. The Deidre and Friends Foundation scholarship program has a different criterion. It will reward students in high schools who show the most heart through their volunteering and charity work. This year, one student from Bishop Redding High School will receive a \$500 scholarship to the college or university of their choice. Clem and Liz Scholtz see the new scholarship program as a part of a new stage in their charitable foundation.

Clem says, "This is one way to promote the foundation to young kids. It makes kids think about charities and also get rewarded for their kindness and generosity." Clem and his wife Liz have always dreamed of starting a scholarship program. "We talked about it years ago, but we were not ready then," Liz said. This year, Clem and Liz chose just one school in the Halton Region but next year in partnership with the Halton Compass they will offer this program to all the schools in the Milton area.

Halton Hills Papers Parliament Hill Report

MICHAEL CHONG, M.P. FOR WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS



Canadian politics needs more civility and restraint. Over the last few months decorum in the House of Commons has declined from already abysmally low levels, as has the level of public comment made by elected officials outside of the House. All political parties are culpable in this regard, mine included. And this all contributes to public cynicism about politicians and does nothing to further debate.

I am not suggesting that we ban the occasional witty barb thrown across the aisle or that we prohibit the occasional standing ovation. These are part of our parliamentary conventions and traditions, and they can be devastatingly effective. What I am talking about is the yelling and screaming, the incessant clapping, the ubiquitous standing ovations for each question and answer, and the personal insults.

To be fair, the House typically sits for about nine hours a day, and for most of these nine hours day this bawdy behaviour is not the norm. However, for the 45 minutes a day that is Question Period, the place turns into a Roman stadium, as gladiators compete with each other as to who can bray the loudest and who can hurl the biggest insults. This is all done in the hope of getting a 3 second clip on the nightly news. There is no doubt in my mind that Question Period is broken.

Here is what we can do to fix this problem. More time should be given to ask questions, and more time given to answer questions (currently 35 seconds each). A certain number of substantive questions should be submitted 24 or 48 hours before, so that Ministers have time to prepare real answers; rhetorical questions get rhetorical answers. The Speaker should rigorously enforce decorum; he should name members that step out of line, so that they are expelled from the House. Those expelled can explain to the media and their constituents why they were removed and suffer the consequences. Finally, the media can get their 3 second clips for the nightly news from the scrums outside the House after Question Period.

I am also not suggesting that we as opposition shouldn't be vigilant or hard-hitting. There is a difference being tough and pointed, as Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition is supposed to be, and descending into the kind of personal insult and bawdiness we have seen recently from both sides of the House. While I and many of my colleagues do not engage in this kind of behaviour, many do. They've got to clean up their act.

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