

# Champion Country

Covering Rural Halton & Wellington County



## Best foot forward

Avid cross country skier Margy de Gruchy heads out on one of the trails at Hilton Falls Conservation Area over the weekend.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## New federal party's local race heating up

Three Wellington County residents, including former Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner, are all hoping to be the Conservative Party of Canada candidate for the new Wellington-Halton Hills riding.

Vying for the position along with Mr. Turner are Mike Chong and Marty Burke. Mr. Turner, 54, who lives near Erin, served as the Halton Hills MP from 1988 to 1993 and was the federal Minister of National Revenue. He has held senior positions with many media organizations, including CTV, is the author of several books and is also an entrepreneur.

"I have been out of politics for 10 years and while I have enjoyed each and every one of the many initiatives that my wife Dorothy and I have undertaken in the past decade, the truth is that I miss the contribution I made during my time in public life."

Mr. Turner said with the new Conservative Party of Canada "those of us who believe in smaller government, lower taxes, more opportunity and an end to wasteful spending and misguided policies now have a united voice with which to speak."

Mr. Burke, 43, an Air Canada pilot and military veteran, was a Canadian Alliance (CA) nominee candidate for the Guelph-Wellington riding before the merger between the CA and Progressive Conservatives.

"I spent 23 years serving our country in the military — on land, at sea and in the air," said Mr. Burke. "And now I want to serve the people of Wellington-Halton Hills."

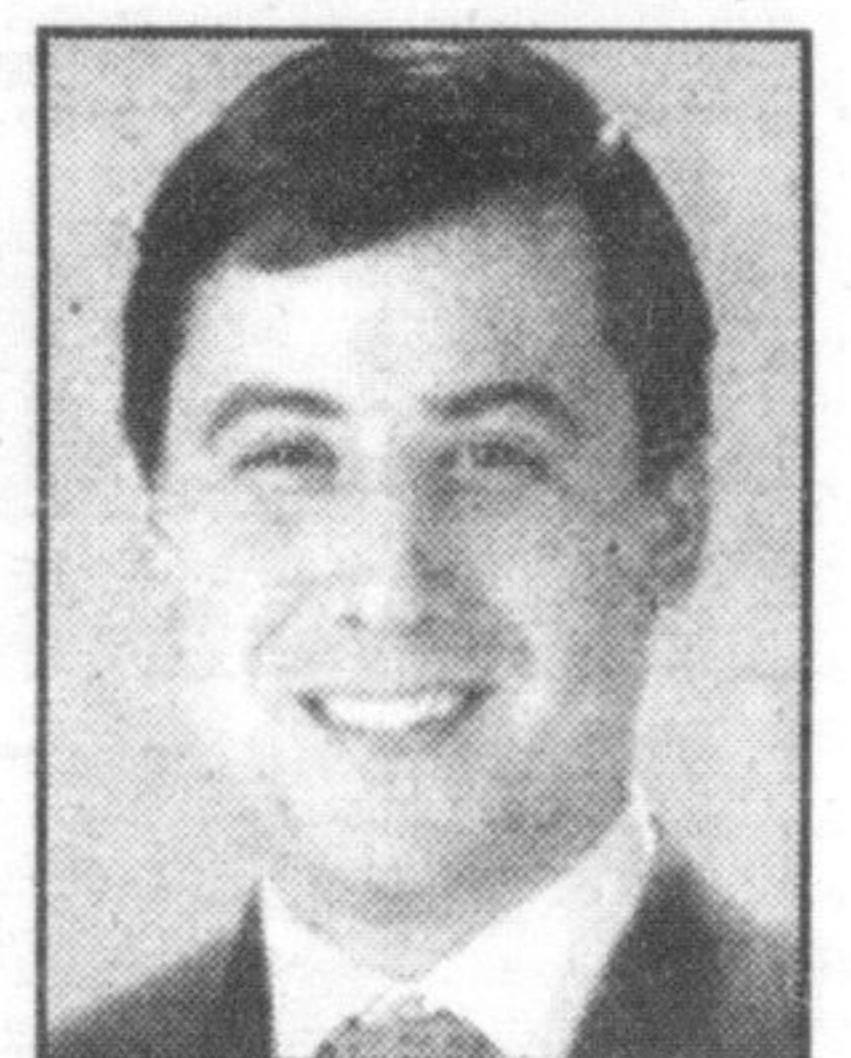
"The free ride for the Liberals is over. Anyone who has spent time in the military will tell you it is not a passive organization; we take action when action is required. That is why I want to be the MP for Wellington-Halton Hills. I feel duty bound to do all I can do to improve our government and Canadian way of life," said Mr. Burke, who's married with three children.

Mr. Chong, a senior technology consultant at a large-scale GTA construction project, who's married, believes the country needs a new national vision that will see Canada position itself as a player in the world and bring government with integrity to Ottawa.

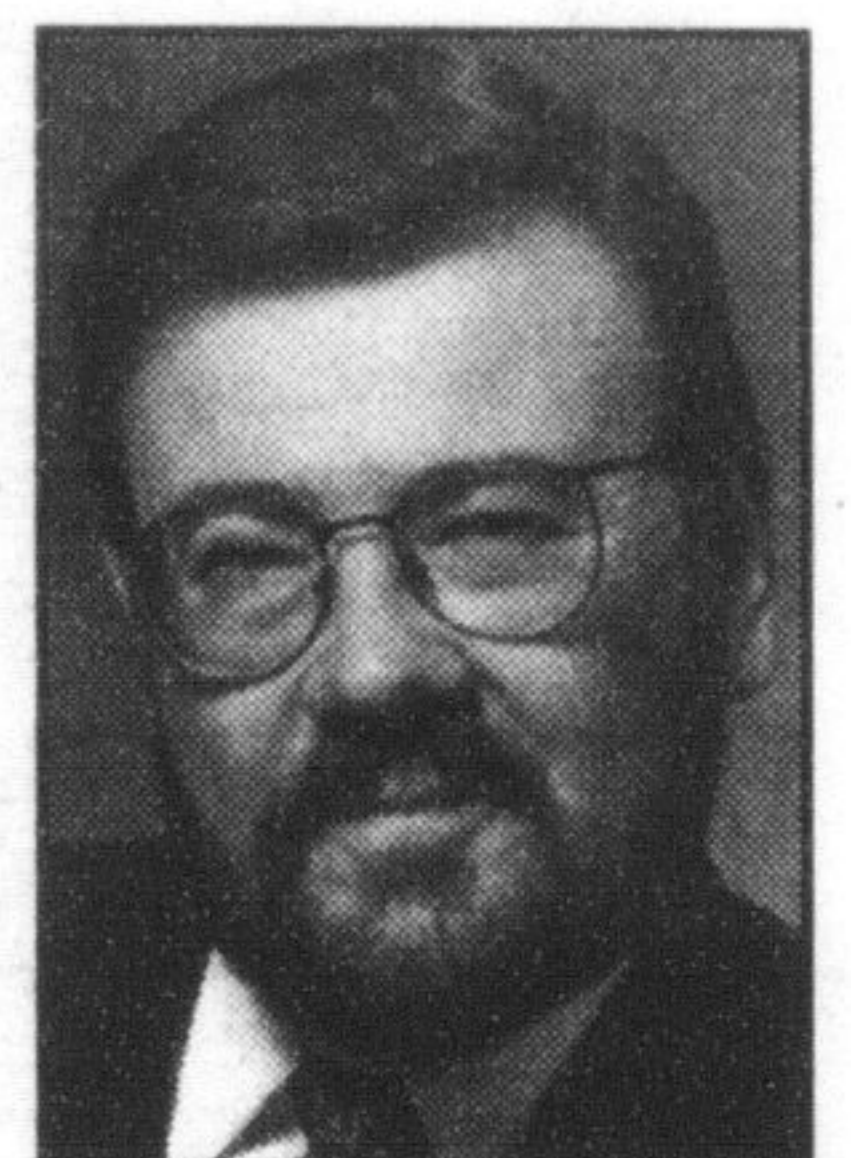
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Marty Burke



Mike Chong



Garth Turner

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