

# Clippity Clips



## Sermon on the mount

By DONNA DANIELLI

The Paddock at Mohawk Raceway recently played host to over 100 people who came out to see Lew Sterrett's "Sermon on the Mount" in August. Also known as a Horse Whisperer, Sterrett's program emphasizes helping people understand how healthy relationships form through harmony. Sterrett illustrates this concept by showing how a trainer's character wins a horse's trust, setting the stage for future training.

Over the course of an hour and a half, Sterrett worked a four-year-old horse that had never been in a small, round pen, saddled or ridden. "I'm not here to conquer him by force. I'm going to conquer him by love," asserted Sterrett. "I want him to hear with his heart, and not just with his ears." Interaction with Sterrett brought the horse from stiff and resistant to supple and willing in under two hours. He drew applause from the crowd when he saddled and rode the willing horse at the end of his program.

Throughout his sermon, Sterrett drew parallels between the horse's training and human relationships. He cited examples of marital stress, health scares and job conflicts, saying that "when things frighten us, we want to reserve the right to be angry. Like the horse, we need to make wise choices when we are afraid."

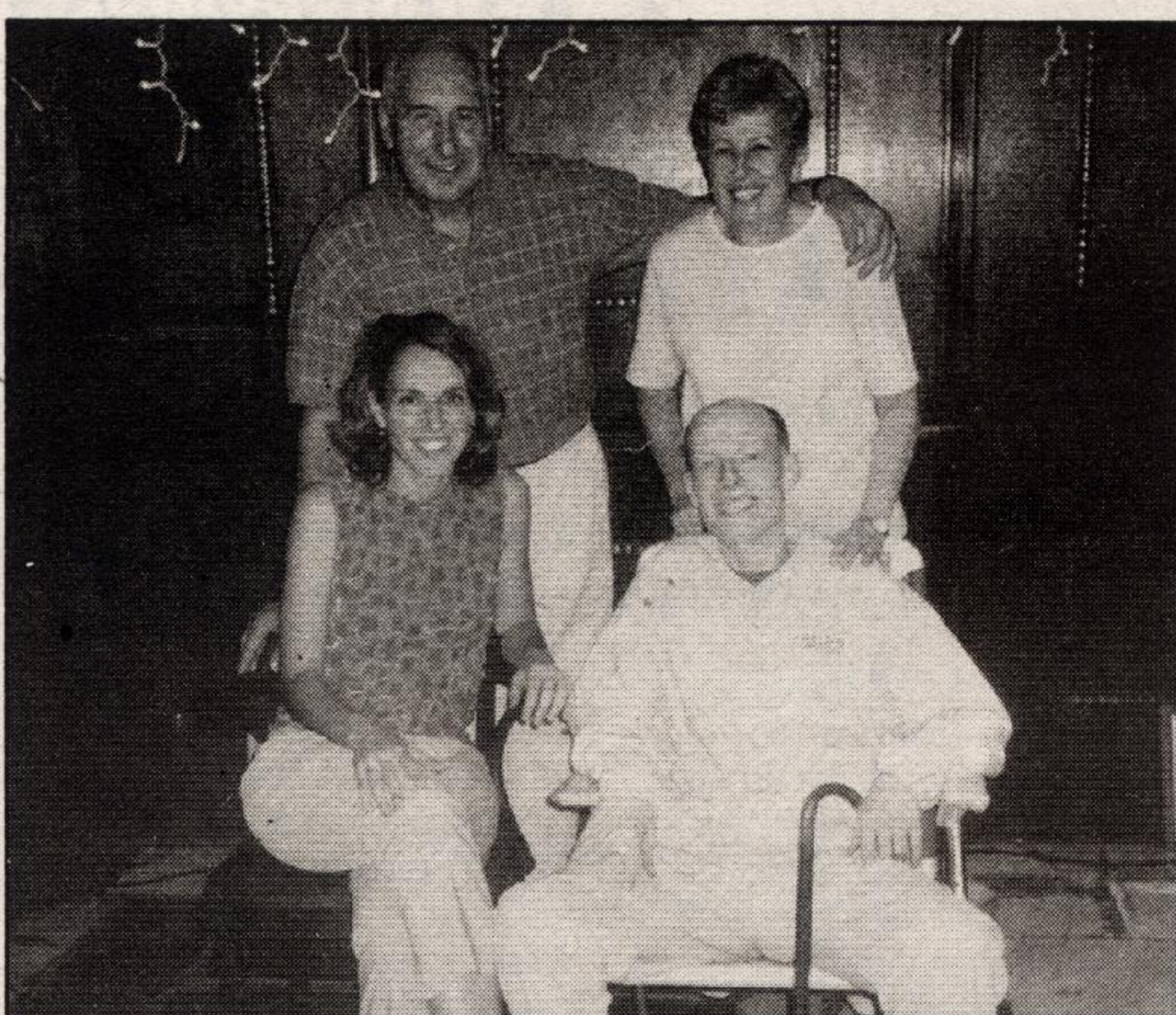
Just as Sterrett was able to

tame and ride the horse in a short time, he believes that people can be trained away from distrust and into trust. He used biblical principles in a clear and powerful manner to encourage and strengthen his audience. The licensed pastor and certified youth, marriage and family counselor is also the Executive Director of Miracle Mountain Ranch Missions in Spring Creek, Pennsylvania.

The evening was sponsored by Campbellville's St. David's Presbyterian Church, which also hosted a corn roast afterward.



**Horse Whisperer  
Len Sterrett**



### Happy Birthday!

Joined by his family and many friends, Vasil Sprostranov celebrated his 30th Birthday on August 30 at the Halton Country Inn. Pictured with Vasil (front right) are his parents Bob and Virginia (back row) and sister Lisa (front left).

# Barbara Sullivan brings a liberal vision for the future

By DONNA DANIELLI

Born and raised in Halton, provincial Liberal candidate Barbara Sullivan not only brings two terms of parliamentary experience to the table, but also a variety of community interests. Not only is this home-grown politician and business woman an accomplished gourmet cook, she has devoted volunteer time as Trustee of Hamilton Health Services, Director of the Oaklands Centre for developmentally disabled adults, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Director of Bird Studies Canada, and Vice Chair and Commissioner of Ontario's Commission on Election Finances. "And she builds doll houses in her spare time, whenever that is," laughs Campaign Manager Carol Price. "The interesting thing about Barbara is that she can go from the opera to a rock and roll concert and onto a farmer's field. She is comfortable in any situation."

Her roots as a Halton farm kid are never far from Barbara Sullivan's mind, and she remains deeply committed to the community that has always meant home to her. "You must pay attention to local issues to be able to make informed decisions," she asserts. "I am not afraid to take a stand to move forward with an agenda for Halton with clarity and precision."

Mrs. Sullivan counts herself fortunate to be the representative of a political party that encourages individual Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) to put the views of their constituents first. The Liberal Democratic Charter allows MPP's the right to criticize and even vote against government legislation if they think that is in the best interest of their riding.

If elected on October 2, a Liberal government promises to immediately re-invest funding in a number of areas, key of which is education. The private school tax credit and senior citizens' property tax credit on the education portion of their property taxes will be rescinded, for a total of about \$940 million to be re-invested in public school education. "That senior property tax credit is a deliberate attempt to buy their votes and our seniors know that," she explains. "Seniors understand that they depend on the product of the education system." Sullivan argues that educated students become skilled workers whose taxes provide the base of Ontario's social programs.

Sullivan points out that a Liberal government would further strengthen Ontario's economy through education by freezing college and university tuitions for at least two years. As well, double the amount of apprenticeships will be

available for students not seeking post-secondary education, and the minimum wage would be raised to eight dollars per hour.

Mrs. Sullivan's cognizance of her family's farming history leads her to vow to protect and enhance the agricultural industry. This industry, of which Halton is a vital component, provides jobs for more than 650,000 people provincially and contributes \$30 billion every year to the provincial economy. "There must be an emphasis on maintaining the viability of Halton's agricultural industry and in encouraging young people to enter the industry," insists Mrs. Sullivan. The Liberal platform promises stronger consultation with farmers on clear, comprehensive nutrient management rules and an empowered Ministry of Food and Agriculture that will result in a strong voice for agriculture and long-term vision. An annual Premier's conference on the future of Ontario's agri-food industry that brings together representatives of farm organizations and agribusiness is also planned. "We are committed to a phase-in program that requires that ethanol make up five per cent of gasoline by 2007 and 10 per cent by 2010," vows Sullivan. "Much of that ethanol will be developed from corn, which will provide a new market for local farmers." The Liberals predict that this switch to ethanol, as well as a mandatory bio-diesel content in diesel fuel, will almost double the market for Ontario's corn, and greatly increase demand for Ontario's soybeans. These alternatives will also have the advantage of being renewable resources that burn much cleaner than regular gasoline and diesel.

Sullivan also calls for increased protection of Halton's farmlands and green spaces from such encroachments as the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) and the proposed Mid-Peninsula Highway. "If you are committed to sustainable development, you have to take in account the impact a new highway would have. An Environmental Assessment should be a full Environmental Assessment, not a scoped one that eliminates needs assessment, examination of alternatives and assessment of impact on local natural features... Halton's requirements will be taken into consideration. There will be proper consultation at the front door and not a slinking around to the back door." Sullivan and the Liberals also promise to give clear planning rules to the OMB to ensure that it follows provincial policies. In the past five years, municipalities in the GTA have spent more than \$20 million fighting OMB decisions.

"That money comes directly from the municipal tax base and takes away accountability from our local municipalities," argues Sullivan. "You must have the right to appeal, but the OMB must, in its decision making, follow existing planning decisions and the law. The OMB must be accountable."

According to Mrs. Sullivan, Halton's water supply would be further protected by a comprehensive program to aid rural residents with well upgrades. She favours an emphasis on studying the long term impacts of water taking permits on the community as a whole, rather than on an individual application basis. "There has to be a larger analysis on the impact of the total aquifer and what future needs are," she explains. The Liberals would also further protect ground water and the environment through the diversion of 60 per cent of waste from landfills within five years.

The Liberal party will have a huge job ahead if elected to power on October 2, admits Barbara Sullivan. "It's doable though. We'll have an education system that works. Our hospitals will know what funding they will have and they will receive that funding on time." Mrs. Sullivan points out that, at press time, Ontario's hospitals have not yet received their funding for this fiscal year.

A panel of financial experts and a forensic accountant have scrutinized the Liberal's proposed budget and pronounced it workable. Not only would revenues be increased by rescinding the private school and senior's tax credits, but the Liberals would also cancel the Tory's \$662 million spent on private consultants, and collect the more than \$400 million dollars in unpaid corporate taxes and more, adding up to billions of dollars in revenue. "Our plan is realistic and implementable and we can do it," says Sullivan, who promises that much of that revenue will be re-invested in education, health care, and economic growth. "This kind of pre-planning is vital. You can't make promises if you don't know how you're going to pay for them."

Along with the financial commitment, Barbara Sullivan promises to incorporate a comprehensive communication program with her constituents, something she was known for during her term as MPP for Halton Centre from 1987 to 1995. She calls the communication from Queen's Park to the people of Halton "lacklustre" for the past few years. "Political propaganda is not good communication. I believe in working with groups, organizations, and individuals; in taking messages from them to Queen's Park; and in bringing detailed information back

### Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church

3097 15th Sideroad (just east of Guelph Line)

Associate Pastor: Sean Howard

905-854-1055

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