



PHOTOS BY NANCY FALCONER

Beverly Harvey-Clark gives a special treat to her horse, nicknamed Matt, as her Jack Russells Elmo and T-Bone look on avidly. Matt, whose full name is Matter of Courage, has been a strong source of comfort and courage for his owner.

*Horses have an almost magical ability to connect with people. Horses can help people deal with everything from drug and alcohol addiction to post traumatic stress disorder, even corporate leadership.*

A chestnut pony sticks her muzzle through the rails. "This is Sophie," Harvey-Clark says. "She's a real girl. When she gets mad at you she stomps her front feet as she's going around the ring. And if you hit her with a crop she stops dead and refuses to move."

But Harvey-Clark admits that her "special" horse is the 14-year-old dark bay thoroughbred gelding whose soft muzzle is buried in the bucket. Harvey-Clark strokes his long neck and tells me that his name is Matter of Courage (Matt for short) and he started his career at the track. When he was a racehorse, she says, Matt was ridden by a jockey who had just recovered from a serious injury. "They won their first race," Harvey-Clark recounts, "and the jockey commented that he felt it had taken quite a bit of courage on his part to get on and ride again. He always wondered about the significance of Matt's name."

She says the story still gives her goosebumps. Then she adds, almost as an afterthought: "The follow-up to that of course is that Matt came to me a couple of years before my daughter was killed in an accident. Then my husband died of cancer. I badly needed a soul like him to share those really hard days."

Goosebumps indeed.

**Get the job done Right!**

**CRAFTSMAN**

**Sears**

2 Mountain Road, Unit 5  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 4S8  
705.445.6020

1367 Mosley Street  
Wasaga Beach, ON L9Z 2C5  
705.422.0923

*At Your Service!*

PREMIUM TIRES & QUALITY AUTO CARE

ANYWHERE RUST LURKS, RUST CHECK WORKS.

SCALPEL! SUTURES! RUST CHECK!

At this very minute, rust is eating parts of your car that you've never seen. But in just 60 minutes, Rust Check's unique annual treatment penetrates every seam and crevice to dislodge rust. And it bonds to metal to prevent rust from starting -- no matter where it lurks. Guaranteed forever.\*

\*On new and qualified used vehicles treated accordingly.

COMPLETE TREATMENT STARTING AT \$109.95

**RUST-CHECK**

CALL FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

**OK TIRE**

Honestly driven.

Hwy 26 Thornbury 519-599-7819  
www.oktirethornbury.ca

verition **ALTO & LOGIC**

**Alpine Equestrian**

**Private Boarding Facility**

**Coaching**  
Hunter / Jumper  
Dressage  
Cross-country

795601 Osler Bluff Road  
Collingwood, ON

[www.AlpineEquestrian.com](http://www.AlpineEquestrian.com)