

DRAFT

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPED REMARKS FOR
ZONTA INTERNATIONAL 15TH ANNUAL
AMELIA EARHART DINNER
TRIBUTE TO CHARLOTTE SULLIVAN
OCTOBER 29, 1999
TAPED OCTOBER 22, 1999

Good evening. I'm sorry that I can't be with you tonight to personally offer my congratulations and good wishes to a former first lady, one of Oswego's leading lights, Charlotte Sullivan. [I'm sure that sometime in the future, I'll be calling on Charlotte for advice on life after the executive mansion.]

Amelia Earhart.

*personal
→ Time met
Courage inspiration*

Charlotte, what a wonderful tribute it is to you to be honored by so many good friends and fellow Oswegonians [Os-wee-GO-nee-ans] tonight. Every one of them knows how much you've done to foster a sense of civic pride in their hometown. The Harborfest celebration alone, which would never have happened without your dedication, determination and hard work, has had a huge economic impact on the region. In the process, it has brought hundreds of thousands of people to Oswego to see firsthand what makes it such a great place to live and raise a family. I've heard so much about Harborfest, I can't wait to see it for myself.

Andrew Cuomo, one of the most effective members of my husband's cabinet, tells me what an inspiration you've been to him in his efforts to revitalize the New York State Barge Canal System. I know that many of your ideas are being incorporated in the plans to rejuvenate the Oswego canal as part of HUD's Canal Corridor Initiative Plan, which will act as an economic engine for the reinvigoration of upstate New York.

Charlotte, your life has been full of challenges and accomplishments, but I know that you are proudest of your family, your husband John, and your four daughters – Kathleen, Julie, Danielle and Elizabeth. Their success is, by itself, the greatest tribute any wife and mother could have. I know how proud they are tonight to see you honored as the recipient of the Amelia Earhart Woman of Achievement Award. *And I am . . .*

Congratulations and good night.

Text of Letter of
Invitation to
Hillary Clinton
9/7/99

Not Sullivan.

Tom Sullivan.

On behalf of Zonta International of Oswego, NY, we cordially invite you to be our speaker at the "Woman of Achievement" 15th annual Amelia Earhart Dinner October 29, 1999. The "Woman of Achievement" award will be presented to this year's winner, Mrs. Charlotte Sullivan of Oswego.

Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of executives in business and the professions, working to improve the legal, political, economic and professional Status of Women. This event is our primary vehicle for raising funds to provide scholarships for students continuing their education.

Charlotte Sullivan suggested you as our speaker. We would be honored to have you as our guest on October 29, 1999. We hope you will be able to accept this invitation to promote education.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Mary Brady, Committee Chair at 315-342-6136

Lois Luber, Committee Chair at mrjohn@bridgemicro.com

Theresa A. Cooper, Secretary 315-343-4414 (fax)



PROFILE

Charlotte M. Sullivan

Charlotte M. Sullivan is a recognized leader in the field of community festivals and events organization. With over 10 years experience, she has been widely heralded for her innovative approach in generating and implementing partnerships between corporate sponsors and communities.

Ms. Sullivan was one of the founders of *Harborfest*, Central New York's premier festival, located in Oswego, New York. *Harborfest* started 11 years ago and brings in more than 250,000 people in a four day period. Its economic impact to Oswego County is a total of 4.8 million dollars annually. As Deputy Director, and later Executive Director of the festival, Ms. Sullivan was able to raise the level of sponsorship to over \$300,000. In addition to raising sponsorship money, she was involved in marketing and promoting the event, which has been recognized by the American Bus Association as one of the Top 100 events in North America.

She is one of the founders, and was a two term President of the New York Festivals & Events Association (NYFEA). Its mission is to enhance the professionalism and quality of festivals and events throughout New York State through educational programs, networking opportunities, and sharing ideas and resources.

She has been a featured speaker at seminars and conventions throughout New York State. During these workshops, Ms. Sullivan offers valuable insights on sponsorship trends, blended with hands-on exercises for improving sponsorship potential and identifying hot prospects.

Charlotte M. Sullivan has an Associate Degree in Merchandising and Marketing and over ten years experience in the festival business. She recently earned the designation of CFE (Certified Festival Executive), in a program co-sponsored by the International Festivals and Events Association, and Purdue University.

Ms. Sullivan is a past member of the Board of Directors of WCNY-TV, and was recently honored by the Syracuse Newspapers as a recipient of the Post-Standard's 1998 Women of Achievement Award.

A **LIFE-LONG** resident of Oswego, Charlotte Sullivan realized that most Oswego residents rarely left. The town was ripe for an event — a festival to celebrate the Great Little City on a Great Big Lake. Her **VISION?** Oswego Harbor Fest.

Charlotte's visions are never simple. She had something along the lines of the Statue of Liberty Centennial in **MIND**. That's where she saw the phenomenal work of the fireworks family, the Grucci Brothers.

They weren't cheap, but Charlotte asked for help and people said yes. Even if they said no she took it for a maybe. That tenacity allowed her to book the Gruccis in 1988, and **HARBOR** Fest has been known for its pyrotechnic display ever since.

What started 10 years ago with a stage, regatta, cruises, and fireworks show on a \$5,000 budget and about 40,000 in **ATTENDANCE**, has exploded into an extravaganza with an international talent showcase, a \$1.1 million dollar budget and over 350,000 attending.

Through Charlotte's **PERSISTENCE**, The Today Show's Willard Scott broadcast from Harbor Fest in 1993 and soon people were traveling from New England to attend the event. The festival's economic impact on the community is estimated at \$44.5 million.

While Charlotte's **HUSBAND**, John, was mayor, the city's first lady initiated an annual Christmas tree lighting with ornaments made by Oswego's school children. The tree-lighting draws 10,000 people annually.

CHARLOTTE also gave Oswego citizens a Hall of Mayors in City Hall, picturing most every mayor that served the city. And she opened the historic city hall to tours for school **CHILDREN**.

Charlotte sits on the board of WCNY-TV, the Heritage Foundation, and several festival and events associations. She stepped down as director of Harbor Fest to tackle yet another **CHALLENGE**.

Diagnosed with liver cancer, Charlotte is receiving treatment at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York. She **EMBRACES** each day and relishes each moment spent with John and their children. She sets aside time and space in her house to meditate, paint, and keep **FOCUSED**.

Charlotte and John have four **DAUGHTERS**.

Congratulations, Charlotte.



MICHAEL J. BRAGMAN
Assemblyman 118th District
MAJORITY LEADER

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Albany, New York 12224
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January 11, 1999

Charlotte Sullivan
59 West Fifth Street
Oswego, New York 13126

Dear Charlotte:

I would like to offer my congratulations to you on being selected as a 1998 Post Standard Achievement Award recipient. Indeed, this recognition is a reflection of your many contributions as an extraordinary fund-raiser, director and community leader.

We are truly fortunate to have the benefit of your ingenuity and untiring efforts. Your talent, passion and expertise have made a significantly positive impact on the Central New York area and your kindness, strength, faith and tenacity are, surely, an inspiration to us all.

In recognition of your many accomplishments, I will be introducing a New York State Legislative Resolution in your honor in the days ahead.

Charlotte, I thank you for your many years of friendship and support and, as always, hope you will not hesitate to call on me if I can be of help to you or your family in any way.

With kindest personal regards to you, John and your entire family.

Very truly yours,

Michael J. Bragman
Majority Leader

MJB/dlp

LOCAL DIGEST

WEDNESDAY
JULY 15 1998

People pack hearing on proposed bars

The Oswego city planning board rejects one applicant's proposal for parking for a new bar across from Oswego Hospital and approves an application for a bar at West Bridge and West First streets. Another applicant wants to have his application heard/B-1.

Task force to discuss Younis case

Law enforcement officials who helped put Raymond Younis in prison for sexually abusing boys will be featured guests Nov. 12 to 14 at the Northeast Regional Child Maltreatment Conference in Rhode Island/B-1.

Also on B-1

Trial planned: A man says he shot a dog when it threatened geese.

The Oswego County edition of The Post-Standard is first printed and distributed daily in Oswego County, New York.

Good morning, Oswego County!

THE POST-STANDARD

1998 The Herald Company

35 CENTS
SYRACUSE, N.Y.

Oswego Woman Finds Strength in First Lady

Charlotte Sullivan has met Hillary Clinton "four or five times." They spoke for a long while at a party in New York City. They shook hands in receiving lines at two White House gatherings. They saw each other on the tarmac at John F. Kennedy Airport, when state Democrats welcomed the Clintons to



New York.

Charlotte admires Hillary. "I've always watched how gracefully she carries herself," Charlotte said. She admires the way Hillary handles "life in a fish bowl." More than anything, Charlotte admires

Hillary's views on raising children, the importance of setting a strong example for your daughter.

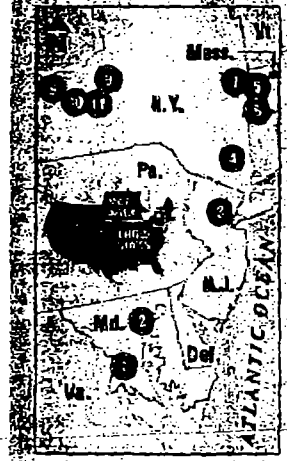
Yet Charlotte Sullivan, the godmother of the Harborfest in Oswego, a one-time political lightning rod in her lakefront city, will not be there today when Hillary stops to honor pioneer feminists in Auburn and Seneca Falls. "It's the crowds," Charlotte said. That didn't use to be a problem.



Sullivan

History tour: Today it's Auburn

Hillary Rodham Clinton's "Save America's Treasures" tour.



Source: The First Lady's press office

- Monday**
- 1 Washington, D.C.: Museum of American History
 - 2 Baltimore, Md.: Francis Scott Key Monument event
- Tuesday**
- 3 West Orange, N.J.: Thomas Edison National Historic site
 - 4 Newburg: George Washington Sub
 - 5 Pittsfield, Mass.: The Colonial Theater
 - 6 Lenox, Mass.: Edith Wharton's former estate
- Today**
- 7 Troy: Kate Mulhany House event
 - 8 Auburn: Harriet Tubman event
 - 9 Victor: Ganondagas State Historic Site
 - 10 Watertown: McClintock House event
- Thursday**
- 11 Seneca Falls: Women's Rights Convention



Security: Local authorities say they can plan on a change in plans/back page.

Harriet Tubman Home: Workers and officials are getting ready for a historic visit/B-5.

NOW: Women's rights organization is upset at a snub of Betsy McCaughey Ross/B-5.

NewsLine: For updates, call NewsLine at 472-2111 and enter 1. Every day, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. See Uplink, Page A-2.

FROM PAGE ONE

One Woman's Journey Gets Boost

(R, from Page A-1)

Charlotte is well-tanned, as presidential candidates ever in a conversation. That is, however is part of "living 100 percent today," her self-prescribed treatment for cancer of the liver. She was diagnosed in October, a few months after she was officially appointed director of Harborfest, the festival she hurtled into community life as a small community party.

She is on medical leave from the job. In a spunk in her illness, her husband, John T. Sullivan Jr., stepped in as update chairman of the Democratic Party.

While the Sullivans speak frankly of "cancer on the horizon," they concern nothing to cancer today. Charlotte describes herself as being "in a hurry." She has taken up painting and sleep studying how colors lift your state of mind. She spends her days at their Fifth Street home, preparing journals and videos for the four Sullivan daughters.

She does not surrender anything to a vague future. "A dream is a wish your heart makes," Charlotte sings, a lyric from Cinderella as she speaks of as her philosophy.

A year ago, Charlotte would have been to see Hillary. She feels a kinship from the time when John Sullivan was the city's Democratic mayor. I Charlotte became a mayor's wife with an unusual privilege. She pushed for a "Hall of Mayors" in City Hall, and she began the annual lighting of a Christmas tree outside the building, and she infuriated Republicans with a pricey and original ball.

"What I realized," Charlotte said, "is that many children grow up and never leave Oswego. I wanted them to have a sense of ownership."

Now, with Harborfest established as a phenomenon that attracts hundreds of thousands, with her husband almost seven years behind her, Charlotte can reflect on a life of work and what didn't. The festival she created is a quest to convince Willard Scott and



Hillary Rodham Clinton, with Charlotte Sullivan of Oswego in 1995.

"What I realized, is that many children grow up and never leave Oswego. I wanted to give them a sense of ownership."

CHARLOTTE SULLIVAN

the "Trolley" show to come to Harborfest. It happened. Against the odds, she persuaded the exclusive Gruel family for a spectacular fireworks show. It happened.

What she learned, she said, is that change can be painful in a small city, and that sometimes you bruise feelings you didn't need to bruise. "We wanted everything done yesterday, and that wasn't always fair," Charlotte said.

For the most part, as she looks back, she is simply proud. Proud of her daughters, all doing well with college or careers. Proud of her husband, who goes to practice law and then comes home to her side. And proud of her city, whose self-image, she maintains, continues to climb higher.

As for Hillary, life with cancer has made Charlotte feel a closer bond. When Charlotte was released from difficult treatment at a Boston hospital, she received a sympathetic note from the First Lady. It leaves Charlotte cringing at the



Hillary Rodham Clinton takes a tour of inventor Thomas Edison's lab in West Orange, N.J., Tuesday.

television news, the way some reporters insist that Hillary's talk about human rights and dignity must cover raw anger toward a wayward husband.

IN HER OWN way, Charlotte understands. Most of her friends, she said, remain sensitive in dealing with her illness. But too often she gets approached in a supermarket, where some acquaintance will ask how she's doing with her cancer. Charlotte responds, "Fine. I'm feeling great."

Then the person offers a meaningful look and says, "No, really," as if Charlotte hides some dark corner of fear, as if the tumor worked its way into her heart.

At that moment — when strangers try to reach a place that she keeps for herself — Charlotte again clasps hands with Hillary.

Still, she will not see the First Lady today.

Charlotte will stay in Oswego. She will paint and she will speak with her daughters on the phone, and she will sit on her porch and watch the wind blow through the trees. This is a beautiful summer on Fifth Street, with the scent of new blossoms and the cool air from the lake. The crowds are gone, but Charlotte can't imagine life could be much better.

Sean Kirst is a columnist for The Post-Standard.

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(212) 239-2000
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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

TO:

Evan

FROM:

Marc

DATE:

10/21

NOTES:

Please give to video folks

Thanks!

Please deliver the following 3 pages (including cover sheet) to the above named recipient. If you do not receive all of the pages, please contact the listed operator at (212) 239-2000. Thank you.

Paid for by Hillary Rodham Clinton for U.S. Senate Exploratory Committee, Inc.
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Rensed *10-21-99*

Suggested text...Hillary Clinton tribute to Charlotte Sullivan

Good evening...I wish I could be with all of you in Oswego tonite to offer my congratulations to Charlotte Sullivan personally on the occasion of her being honored by Zonta as the Amelia Earhart Woman of Achievement Award recipient.

It is a great tribute to you, Charlotte, that so many of your friends, and fellow Oswegonians (Os-wee -go-nee-ans) have gathered tonite in your honor. But what is even more significant to me is that your four daughters are able to be there tonite to celebrate your achievements with you. In many ways, they are representative of your success.

To have given so much to your community, and still have had the time and tenacity to raise four very successful daughters who are achieving in their own right is a testament to your courage commitment and good judgment. I know it can be particularly difficult to be in the glare of the public spotlight and still achieve a sense of normalcy in your family life,, and obviously, you were able to do that, and still advance the cause of the community as a whole. That is a very significant accomplishment.

I'm am delighted to have met and shared some time with you along the paths of our respective journeys, and I have heard much from many others about what an outstanding job you did as First Lady of Oswego, and as the driving force behind the Oswego Harborfest celebration which has brought pride to the community and had a positive economic impact in bringing people to Oswego to see first hand the outstanding features of your waterfront city which make it such a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

Andrew Cuomo has told me what an inspiration you were to him in his efforts to revitalize the New York State Barge Canal System, and I know that many of your ideas are being incorporated in the plans to rejuvenate the canal as an economic engine for the reinvigoration of Upstate New York.

So it is with great pleasure that Bill and I join in extending to you and your husband John, and daughters Kathleen, Julie, Danielle, and Elizabeth our very best wishes on this important occasion. We are proud of you Charlotte. Congratulations again. You deserve it!