

# Fall / Winter 2023 Horse Times MAGAZINE

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**On the Cover**

Alison Nicley on The Last Diehl competing at the  
Clarke County Fair Horse Show.  
Photo by Bryan Fleming

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# OCTOBER 29TH

GET READY FOR A SPOOKY

## Halloween Fun Show

BENEFITS THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY EQUINE RESCUE NETWORK (SVERN)

1. STRAWBALE HUNTER COURSE A 2' OR 2'6
2. STRAWBALE HUNTER COURSE B 2' OR 2'6
3. STRAWBALE HUNTER UNDER SADDLE
4. SKELETON HORSE & PONY PLEASURE W, T
5. SKELETON HORSE & PONY PLEASURE W, GAYP
6. SKELETON HORSE & PONY PLEASURE W, T, C
7. OPEN WESTERN PLEASURE W, T
8. OPEN WESTERN PLEASURE W, T, C
9. OPEN WESTERN PLEASURE HORSEMANSHIP
10. LEADLINE



11. COSTUME CLASS
12. EGG & SPOON RACE
13. BOB FOR APPLE RACE
14. SPIDER WEB RACE
15. TOILET PAPER CHALLENGE
16. SPOOKY TRAIL CLASS

CLARKE COUNTY HORSE ARENA  
890 W. MAIN ST • BERRYVILLE, VA



**Horse Times**  
MAGAZINE

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EMAIL: Georgia Andrews  
gapeach19@gmail.com





## ***US Equestrian Introduces Microchip Rule for Equine Health and Safety***

September 12, 2023 •  
Posted by Edited Press  
Release

Beginning December 1, 2025, all horses competing in USEF-licensed or -endorsed competitions must be microchipped with a 15-digit ISO compliant 11784/11785 chip. Microchips in horses allow for immediate onsite verification of horses for the purpose of safeguarding the health of each horse. | Alexandra Beckstett/The Horse



*Lexington, Ky.* – The US Equestrian Federation strives to consistently ensure the safety and welfare of both our human and equine athletes. One fundamental aspect of equine safety is microchipping. Microchips in horses allow for immediate onsite verification of horses for the purpose of safeguarding the health of each horse. This is vital, especially during times of disease outbreaks or natural disasters.

To this end, the US Equestrian Board of Directors approved a new microchipping rule during the 2023 Mid-Year Board meeting. Beginning December 1, 2025, under GR 1101.1, all horses competing in USEF-licensed or -endorsed competitions must be microchipped with a 15-digit ISO compliant 11784/11785 chip.

“I am thrilled to see widespread use of microchipping technology put in place,” said Judy Sloan, amateur dressage competitor and USEF Secretary Treasurer. “Knowing that we can quickly and accurately identify, track and protect our horses is a positive step for horse welfare and gives me real peace of mind as a horse owner.”

The implantation process of a microchip takes only a few seconds to complete. The microchip is inserted into the nuchal ligament of the horse’s neck, and the chip will last the duration of the horse’s life.

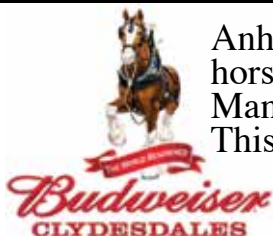
“In the event of an infectious disease outbreak, microchip readers may be utilized by state and federal animal health officials or veterinary staff to scan microchips of horses on the competition grounds for the purpose of identification of exposed horses to be isolated and quarantined,” states Dr. Flynn. “Microchips will allow our competitions to become an even safer and healthier place for equine athletes.”

“I strongly recommend horse owners consider the use of a biothermal microchip,” said Dr. Katie Flynn, USEF’s Equine Health and Biosecurity Veterinarian. “This microchip not only identifies your horse, but when scanned, a temperature is recorded. These biothermal chips can be utilized by horse owners for daily monitoring of their horse’s health at home and on the road. As a rise in temperature is often times the first sign of an infectious disease, this allows a horse owner to take prompt action to isolate and care for this horse before it is shedding a virus or bacteria in the stable and infecting other horses.

Recognizing the potential costs associated with requiring microchips for horses entering licensed competitions, US Equestrian is seeking potential partnerships with microchip companies, software companies and veterinarians to provide our members access to discounted microchipping services. USEF is also exploring options for microchip implantation events to occur at future USEF-licensed competitions as well as collaborating with equine veterinarians on strategies for microchipping USEF horses at designated locations across the country.

“I urge everyone, especially those connected to a registered breed who see no purpose to microchip a horse because their horse’s pedigree was verified by DNA, to educate themselves on the value of an equine microchip,” states USEF Board of Directors Vice President Judy Werner. “From providing the easiest, fastest and most accurate way to improving traceability in disease outbreak scenarios, which allows for the rapid management of investigations to minimize spread of contagious disease, to the ability (with the biothermal chip) to take one horse or twenty horses temperature several times a day quickly and safely with no distress to the horse, the microchip is a tool who’s value is many times its price.”

US Equestrian has developed a microchip information webpage which contains outreach and educational resources. We encourage everyone to review Microchip 101, Microchip Mythbusters, and the Microchip Rule FAQ. Additionally, USEF will be hosting a Microchipping 101 Webinar this September, with more information to come via email shortly.



Anheuser-Busch has decided to stop tail docking on their famous Clydesdale horses. The decision earns them praise from animal rights advocates. Many consider tail docking as unnecessary and distressing for the animals. This step marks a major victory for animal rights.





# CENTRAL VIRGINIA SHOW JUMPING ASSOCIATION

Presented by JGB Creative Services

Deep Run Show Grounds, 1540 Manakin Rd., Manakin Sabot, VA

cvsjashows@gmail.com • 804-324-7837, Day of Show ONLY 804-337-7190

Manager: Kimberly Anderson

**cvsja.com**

REGISTER FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP & SHOW CLASSES @ CVSJA.COM

**START TIME:** 8:30 am

**WARM-UPS:** Ticketed - Before Each Rotation

Pre-Entry Required/Ride Times Assigned For All Trips

**SCHOOLING:** Show Rings-Ticketed Warm-Up Only

**SCHOOLING AREA:** Two Stone Dust Rings W/ Jumps-Open All Day

**CLASS FEES:** \$25 Pre-Entry, \$35 Late Entry, \$10 Office Fee

Ticketed Warm-Ups & Unjudged(After Trip Only) Same As Classes

**FACILITIES:** Bathrooms      **WATER:** Yes      **PHOTOGRAPHY:** Sarah Black

**FOOD:** Various Local Food Trucks & Pony Club Hot Made To Order Breakfast

**Sunday  
October  
8th**

**Sunday  
October  
22nd**

## RING 2

101 Ticketed Warm Up 2'  
**1 Puddle Optimum Time**  
**2 Puddle Jump Off**

102 Ticketed Warm Up Cross Rails  
**3 XR Optimum Time**  
**4 XR Optimum Time**

103 Ticketed Warm Up 2'6"  
**5 Novice Rider Optimum Time**  
**6 Novice Rider Jump Off**  
**7 Novice Horse Optimum Time**  
**8 Novice Horse Jump Off**  
**9 Open 2'6" Optimum Time**  
**10 Open 2'6" Jump Off**

## RING 1

103 Medal Ticketed Warm Up  
**11 CVSJA Eq Medal 2'6"**  
**12 CVSJA Eq Medal 3'**  
*(These two classes may be combined)*

104 Ticketed Warm Up 3'6"  
**13 Schooling Jump Off**  
**14 Schooling Speed**

105 Ticketed Warm Up 3'9"  
**15 Modified Jump Off Stakes Class**  
**16 Modified Speed**

106 Ticketed Warm Up 3'  
**17 Low Jumper Optimum**  
**18 Low Jumper Jump Off**  
**19 TB Jumper Optimum**  
**20 TB Jumper Jump Off**

107 Ticketed Warm Up 3'3"  
**21 Child Adult Jump Off**  
**22 Child Adult Speed**  
**23 Open 3'3" Jump Off**  
**24 Open 3'3" Speed**

**Prize Money At All Shows**  
\$100 Per Division Distributed  
To The Top Three In Each Division.  
Horses Must Compete In Both Classes  
To Be Eligible For The Prize Money.

**Gambler's Choice &  
Jumper Stakes Class**  
**\$1,000**

### SPECIAL CLASSES

**\$1,000**

**Friends of CVSJA  
1.25M Stakes Class**  
Replaces Modified Division on  
**6/4**

**\$1,000**  
**Jeanne Dunford  
Memorial**

**Gambler's Choice**  
**9/10**

### MINI PRIX 10/22

You must have shown it  
At least one previous  
show this season.

**Formal Dress Required**

**Prize Money**  
\$250 to \$500 Per Class  
Entry Fee \$50  
Warm Up \$25

**Special Sash Ribbons  
To Winners**

**Full Prize List Also Available  
Online at cvsja.com**

**Cross Rails**      **DIVISION SPECIFICATIONS**      **12 - 18"**  
Div. consists of 2 optimum Time Classes Table IV, Sect 1. Open to horses and ponies,  
horse-rider combinations may not cross enter any other division. **Professionals  
not compete in this division.** Showing in this division does not break novice status.

**Puddle Jumper**      **.65 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1-Optimum Time Table IV, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to horses and ponies. Horses, ponies and riders in this division may only cross  
enter into classes not exceeding 2'9". Fence height shall not be lower than 18" or greater  
than 2'3" with spreads not greater than the fence height. **Professionals may not compete  
in this division,** showing in this division only does not break novice status.

**Novice Horse**      **.75 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1-Optimum Time Table IV, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to horses and ponies in their 1st or 2nd year of showing in jumper classes at any  
height higher than 2' as of December 1 of the current show year. Horses may not com-  
pete in classes where jump height is higher than 3'. Fence height shall not be lower  
than 2'3" or greater than 2'6" with spreads not greater than the fence height. Season  
points are awarded to horse owner, are accrued to the horses membership number  
regardless of rider.

**Novice Rider**      **.75 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1-Optimum Time Table IV, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to children and adult amateurs in their 1st or 2nd year of showing in jumper  
classes at any height higher than 2' as of December 1 of the current show year. Riders  
may not compete in classes where jump height is higher than 3'. Fence height shall  
not be lower than 2'3" or greater than 2'6" with spreads not greater than the fence  
height. **Professionals may not compete in this division.** Season points are awarded to  
the rider in this division on any horse.

**Open 2'6"**      **.75 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1-Optimum Time Table IV, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to all riders and all horses. Fence height shall not be lower than 2'3" exceed  
2'6" with spreads not greater than the fence height.

**Low and Thoroughbred Jumper**      **.90 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1-Optimum Time Table IV, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to ponies and horses, and all riders. Fence height shall not be below 2'9" or exceed 3'  
with spreads not greater than fence height. Horses competing in Thoroughbred division will  
accrue points for VHSA and CVSJA

**Child/Adult Jumper**      **1.00 Meter**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1- Speed Table II, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to ponies, horses, juniors, and amateurs. Fence height shall not be lower than  
3'0" or exceed 3'3" with spreads not greater than the fence height. **Professional  
not allowed.**

**Open 3'3"**      **1.00 Meter**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1- Speed Table II, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to all riders and all ponies and horses. Fence height shall not be lower than 3'0"  
or exceed 3'3" with spreads not greater than the fence height.

**Schooling Jumper**      **1.10 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1- Speed Table II, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Open to ponies, horses, and all riders. Fence height shall not be lower than 3'3" or  
exceed 3'6" with not greater than the fence height.

**Modified Jumper**      **1.20 Meters**  
Div. consists of 2 Classes 1- Speed Table II, Sect. 1, 1-Jump Off Table II, Sect. 2 (b)  
Jump Off class is a \$200 Stakes class. Open to ponies, horses, and all riders. Fence  
height shall not be lower than 3'6" or exceed 4' with spreads not greater than  
the fence height.





## *Researchers are Hoping to Breed The Spookiness Out of the Horse*

In the wild, horses must be alert for predators that might attack them. This means that even domesticated horses are hard-wired to be aware of danger and can scare easily.

Unfortunately, this so-called “startle response” or “spooking” is reflexive, and horses often cannot distinguish between the danger a Florida panther might present versus a plastic bag floating by a riding arena. Some horses react to these perceived threats by rearing, bolting, or bucking, which can create dangerous situations for owners and riders.

University of Florida researchers are working to identify genes that influence horses’ tendency to react to these “spooky” plastic bags. Identifying these genetic traits would be a first step toward one day selecting or breeding horses for the temperament types we prefer. These research results might be a decade away.

Samantha Brooks, UF/IFAS associate professor of equine genetics, and her team have run an experiment on several groups of young horses that are part of the UF/IFAS breeding program that helps understand startle responses.

The horses wear wireless heart-rate monitors and are loose in a round pen. At set intervals, an umbrella is opened quickly within the animals’ line of sight. The team analyzed the animals’ behavior and change in heart rate throughout and after the initial startle reaction.

“We can’t read their minds,” said Brooks. “Their heart rate tells us what is going on inside that we cannot see from reading their body language alone. It was interesting to see the stories their heart rates told us.”

Two clear groups of horses emerged from the data. The first group was startled by the umbrella opening, had a spike in heart rate, maintained a reactive or hyper-alert state including more time spent looking and moving away from the umbrella. The second group startled much like the first group to the umbrella opening, but with a different outcome. The horses experienced a spike in heart rate but then calmed quickly and carried on with their day. These animals perceived the stimulus and found it startling but did not go through the behavioral patterns of avoidance, fear, etc. like the first group.

“Horses have adapted over thousands of years to live with people,” she said. “Some of those changes include a reduction in startle response and are really helpful to better understand the horses we work with today.”

Now that two clear groups have emerged, the team will take this information and develop a study to differentiate the genetic components that make up how horses react to fear. Blood and hair samples were taken from each horse in the study for future analysis.

Knowing how genetics weigh into behavior can help horses and owners find their right fit. Perhaps the spooky horse is not the best option for a 10-year-old 4-Her. But a spookier, high-strung horse might be a better fit for a high-energy “job” like show jumping.

“Understanding each horse’s genetic makeup will help you understand the type of animal you need,” said Brooks. “If we learn early on what this animal’s natural tendencies are most likely to be, we can make educated decisions on training and future careers to give the horse the best shot to grow into their potential, rather than becoming a problem or danger.”

Materials provided by University of Florida. Original written by Tory Moore.

Barclay B. Powell, Kelsey C. Horvath, Tyeler L. Gilliam, Kimberly T. Sibille, Andreas Keil, Emily K. Miller-Cushon, Carissa L. Wickens, Samantha A. Brooks. Behavioral and Physiological Reactions to a Sudden Novel Object in the Weanling Horse: Quantitative Phenotypes for Future GWAS. *Genes*, 2023; 14 (3): 593 DOI: 10.3390/genes14030593



Integration (Tim Sudduth/Eclipse Sportswire)

NEW KENT, Va. — Saturday, Sept 9th marked the 20th running of the Virginia Derby at Colonial Downs in New Kent. Virginia-bred, three-year-old Gigante won his last big race on the Secretariat Turf Course at Colonial Downs, taking home \$500,000, and was predicted to finish second Saturday, but unfortunately came in 6th place. Sent off as the 6-1 odds second choice on the tote board in a nine-horse field in the Virginia Derby, Bay Colt Integration, from Kentucky, unleashed a furious stretch rally down the center of the course to get up in time to catch favored Program Trading by 1 1/4 lengths in a 1 1/8-mile winning time of 1:46.41 over firm turf taking home the \$500,000 prize.

“It’s a big year for Virginia racing celebrating the 50th anniversary of Secretariat winning the Triple Crown,” explained Darrell Wood, Virginia Equine Alliance spokesman. The race was held over the Secretariat Turf Course. Wood explained the impact the race weekends have on New Kent’s economy. “In the peak of our summer season here, we had 900 horses on the ground,” said Wood. “So Colonial Downs has become a pretty big deal in bringing tourism. I mean, every horse has got an owner, trainer, jockey, exercise rider, groom, hot walker-- there’s so many people associated with each horse. And when you have 900 horses here, the economic impact for New Kent and the surrounding areas is huge.”



# 1st Annual Clarke/Frederick Open Horse Show Series 2023

## SHOW DATES:

October 14 Frederick County  
November 10 Series Banquet  
(Round Hill Fire Department)

**START TIME:** 9am

**WARM-UPS:** Un-judged - all day

**CLASS FEES:**

\$10 Office Fee per horse/rider combo

\$12 class

**FOOD VENDOR:**

**WATER:** Yes

**FACILITIES:** Bathrooms

**SCHOOLING AREA:** Grass

1. Hunter Showmanship - Youth
  2. Hunter Showmanship - Open
- 15 Minute Schooling Break**

### **Hunter W/T Youth Division**

3. Pleasure
4. Go As You Please
5. Equitation (On The Rail)

### **Hunter W/T Open Division**

6. Pleasure
7. Go As You Please
8. Equitation (On The Rail)

### **Hunter W/T/C Youth Division**

9. Pleasure
10. Go As You Please
11. Equitation (On The Rail)

### **Hunter W/T/C Open Division**

12. Pleasure
13. Go As You Please
14. Equitation (On The Rail)

**The following classes will not start before 11 AM  
20 Minute Lunch/Schooling Break**

15. Beginner Showmanship  
(Any Discipline in their first 2 years of showing)
16. Youth Western/Ranch Showmanship ShowDates:
17. Open Western/Ranch Showmanship

### **Lead Line Division**

18. Pleasure (100% horse)
19. Rider (100% rider)
20. Horsemanship (50% horse, 50% rider)

### **Beginning Division**

- (Any Discipline in their first 2 years of showing)
21. W/T Pleasure
  22. Go As You Please
  23. Equitation/Horsemanship (On The Rail)

### **Silver Stirrups Division (Any Discipline, Riders must be 40+)**

24. W/T or J Pleasure
25. Go As You Please
26. Equitation/Horsemanship (On The Rail)

### **Western WJ Youth Division**

25. Pleasure
26. Go As You Please
27. Horsemanship (On The Rail)

### **Western W/J Open Division**

28. Pleasure
29. Go As You Please
30. Horsemanship (On The Rail)

### **Western W/J/L Youth Division**

31. Pleasure
32. Go As You Please
33. Horsemanship (Pattern)

### **Western W/J/L Open Division**

34. Pleasure
35. Go As You Please
36. Horsemanship (Pattern)

### **Ranch W/J/L Youth Division**

37. Pleasure
38. Horsemanship (On The Rail)
39. Ranch Riding (Pattern)

### **Ranch W//L Open Division**

40. Pleasure
41. Horsemanship (On The Rail)
42. Ranch Riding (Pattern)

### **STARTS AT 11 AM OUTSIDE THE MAIN RING**

43. Trail In-Hand
44. Trail Mounted

### **MUST ATTEND 3 out of 4 shows to qualify.**

#### **Year End Division Awards:**

- Walk/Jog Hunter (Youth & Open)
- Walk/Jog Western (Youth & Open)
- Beginner
- Silver Stirrups (40 & Over)
- Western W/J/L (Youth & Open)
- Hunter W/T/C (Youth & Open)
- Ranch (Youth & Open)
- Lead Line (8 Years Old & Under)
- Open Trail

#### **Show Overall High Point Awards:**

- High Point Western Rider
- High Point Hunter Rider
- High Point Ranch Rider
- High Point Overall Horse/Rider Combo

**For more information contact:**

**Clarke County Shows:** Corey 716-213-3715 • Megan 540-931-4560

**Frederick County Shows:** Rose 540-877-4935 • Hannah 540-877-7757 • Faye Strickler 540-533-7029

**Proceeds from the shows to benefit the Clarke and Frederick County 4H Horse Programs.**





July 31, 2023

## ***Caribbean Thoroughbred Aftercare Stops Accepting New Horses As Funding For Existing Herd Will Only Last 45 More Days***

Photo courtesy CTA



Joe Pike, one of the horses returned to the mainland with the help of CTA. The year has proven to be an unparalleled financial struggle for Caribbean Thoroughbred Aftercare (CTA). With surging inflation, declining support, and reduced general donations, the organization is grappling with an unprecedented increase in rehab cases and a higher inventory of horses in need together with escalating operating expenses. CTA finds itself in a dire situation and is urgently seeking community support.

Effective Aug. 1, CTA regretfully announces that it can no longer accept additional horses due to depleted funds for quarantine and transportation. The organization is left with just enough financial resources to provide for the necessities of the current equine residents for the next 45 days. CTA will only be able to accommodate watchlist horses if the individuals who added them to the list can secure funding for their care.

The uncertainty of CTA's future looms large, compelling the organization to call upon the local horse racing industry, which brings hundreds of horses to the island annually. CTA urges the industry to join hands and devise a sustainable plan to support retired racehorses financially, beyond their racing careers, so that euthanasia need not be the sole solution.

If adequate funding is not secured, CTA will appeal to the local industry to assist in rehoming the piroplasmosis positive horses on the island, adhering to CTA's pre-adoption criteria. As for the imported horses, CTA will reach out to other aftercare on the mainland in hopes of finding suitable placements, contingent upon raising the required \$3,295 for their travel expenses.

“Responsible aftercare is an imperative duty of the racing industry – one that cannot be overlooked or ignored. As they profit from breeding and bringing these magnificent horses into Puerto Rico, it is incumbent upon the industry to step up and provide the essential funding for their lifelong well-being and care. Embracing this responsibility with unwavering dedication will ensure a brighter future for these incredible athletes who have given their all on the racetrack.”

– Chrissy Laughlin, Adoption Coordinator, former board member

On-island adoptions have witnessed a decline, posing a new challenge for CTA. It is becoming increasingly difficult to find suitable homes for these deserving horses, leading to extended stays at the facility. This situation places additional strain on CTA's limited resources and emphasizes the urgency of finding viable solutions.

The situation is critical, and the horses desperately need our collective help. Every day, countless equines face the risk of euthanasia or abandonment, and it is only through collaborative efforts that a difference can be made. Caribbean Thoroughbred Aftercare remains steadfast in its commitment to providing the best aftercare for these majestic creatures and aims to promote awareness and generate positive change.

CTA encourages the public to support its mission by sharing this message widely and following its blog, Facebook, or Twitter. Caribbean Thoroughbred Aftercare (CTA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the well-being and aftercare of retired racehorses in the Caribbean. With a focus on providing a safe haven and promoting responsible adoption, CTA aims to create a brighter future for these remarkable animals.

Over the last seven years, CTA has championed the cause of 288 horses, providing them with hope and a second chance at life. Notably, renowned champions like Don Carlos R and Tito Discount have found a haven and a well-deserved retirement at CTA, where they enjoy a safer and healthier life off the racetrack. The organization still houses many other horses eagerly awaiting loving forever homes.



# Hold your next event at Frying Pan Farm Park Equestrian Center

An ideal facility for large and small-scale events and shows.



## Amenities include:

### Indoor Ring 110' x 235'

- Magnesium-treated sand footing
- Optional bleachers
- Outdoor 72' x 142' warm-up ring
- Permanent, heated restroom facilities
- Climate-controlled show office
- State-of-the-art sound system
- Free Wi-Fi

### Lower Ring 110' x 250'

- Stadium lighting
- Sound system
- Bleacher seating
- Bluestone footing
- Covered judges stands



### Upper Ring 130' x 266'

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- Excellent drainage
- Covered judges stand
- Bleacher seating
- Portable sound system
- Quiet, less-public setting
- Easy trailer access

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- Ample trailer parking available



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FCPAEquestrian@fairfaxcounty.gov

**Phone: (703) 437-9101**



703-324-8563  
TTY: Va. Relay 711







## *USDA Announces Proposal to Strengthen Enforcement of the Horse Protection Act*

WASHINGTON, August 17, 2023 – The United States Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is seeking public input on a proposed rule to strengthen Horse Protection Act (HPA) requirements. These proposed changes aim to eliminate horse soring, a cruel and inhumane practice that gives horse owners and trainers an unfair advantage in walking horse competitions.

Walking horses are known for possessing a naturally high gait, but to be more successful in competitions some owners and trainers use improper training methods to exaggerate a horse’s gait. These inhumane methods may cause the horse to suffer from physical pain, distress, inflammation, or lameness while walking and moving.

“Soring has no place in walking horse shows. This unnecessary abuse harms horses and makes it harder for those who properly care for their horses to compete,” said Jenny Lester-Moffitt, Under Secretary for USDA Marking and Regulatory Programs. “By strengthening the HPA regulations, we can all work to eliminate soring, which will improve the welfare of horses competing in these shows and level the competitive playing field for everyone in the industry, which should only help it thrive.”

The proposed changes include:

- relieving horse industry organizations and associations of all of their regulatory responsibilities, which will eliminate potential conflicts of interest and ensure impartiality of inspections;
- establishing qualifying criteria for people applying to be inspectors, as well as processes for denying applications;
- allowing event management to appoint an APHIS representative to conduct inspections;
- prohibiting any device, method, practice, or substance that could mask evidence of soring, as well as all action devices and non-therapeutic pads and wedges, and substances applied above the hoof;
- clarifying the “scar rule” by modifying the description of visible changes that indicate soring, and;
- amending recordkeeping and reporting requirements for management at horse shows, exhibitions, sales, and auctions to increase oversight and prevent those that have been previously disqualified from participating in events.

Together, these changes will allow APHIS to screen, train and authorize qualified persons to conduct inspections at horse shows, horse exhibitions, horse sales, and horse auctions to ensure compliance with the HPA.

In 2017, APHIS withdrew its initial HPA final rule from public inspection in accordance with a memorandum that was issued by the Executive Office of the President. Following a lawsuit based on that action, on June 1, 2023, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued an order that would give the 2017 rule automatic effect if the agency does not take appropriate remedial action within 180 days to either promulgate an updated version of the rule, or otherwise remedy the deficiency in the withdrawal of the 2017 rule by conducting notice and comment rulemaking on the withdrawal. The agency published a proposed rule to withdraw the 2017 rule on July 20, 2023 which is available for public comment through August 21, 2023. Today, the agency is submitting the revised proposed rule that aims to strengthen regulations and modernize APHIS’ approach to this issue.

The HPA is a federal law that prohibits sored horses from participating in shows, exhibitions, sales or auctions. The HPA also prohibits the transportation of sored horses to or from any of these events.

This proposed rule may be viewed in today’s Federal Register. Beginning Monday, interested stakeholders may submit comments on the proposed rule at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). APHIS will consider all comments received on or before October 20, 2023.





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## Congress Introduces Horse Transportation Safety Act

June 21, 2023

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-01), Congressman Steve Cohen (TN-09), and Congresswoman Dina Titus (NV-01) introduced the Horse Transportation Safety Act, bipartisan legislation that would ban the transportation of horses across state lines in “double decker” trucks or trailers containing two or more levels on top of one another.

“The closure of the loophole that allows horses to be inhumanely transported across state lines is long overdue,” said Congressman Fitzpatrick. “As co-chair of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, I am proud to partner with Representative Cohen (D-TN) and Representative Titus (D-NV) in introducing this bipartisan legislation to ensure the safe and decent treatment of horses on our nation’s highways.”

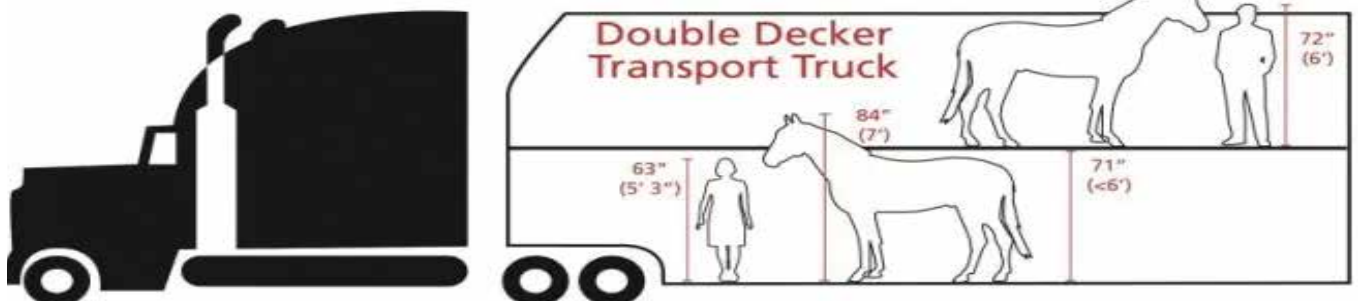
“Horses deserve to be transported in as humane a manner as possible. Double-deck trailers do not provide adequate headroom for adult horses, and accidents involving double-deck trailers are a horrendous reminder that the practice is also dangerous to the driving public,” said Congressman Cohen. “I look forward to seeing this measure move forward as it did last year and be signed into law. As a side note, I am saddened by the single-decker horse trailer fire that occurred Monday near Bardstown, Kentucky, that killed four thoroughbreds. This horrific accident is a striking reminder that transporting horses can be precarious even under normal circumstances, and we should not compound the risks with unsafe double-deck trailers.”

“The harmful transportation of horses in double-deck trailers cannot provide proper headroom and only makes accidents worse,” said Congresswoman Titus. “Whether they’re roaming free or traveling across our country’s highways, horses must be treated humanely, and I’m proud to help introduce this commonsense legislation to make certain of that.”

The Horse Transportation Safety Act is endorsed by The Humane Society of the United States, The Humane Society Legislative Fund, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), Animal Welfare Institute (AWI), Horses for Life Foundation, Return to Freedom, and Wild Horse Conservation.

“The Horse Transportation Safety Act is essential both for public safety and equine welfare. Cramping horses in double-deck livestock trailers that are designed for much shorter animals harms the horses who cannot stand comfortably inside, and poses a danger to individuals on the road as these trailers are at a greater risk of tipping over,” said Joanna Grossman, Equine Program Director and Senior Advisor, Animal Welfare Institute. “We commend Congressman Cohen, Congressman Fitzpatrick, and Congresswoman Titus for championing this reform to prohibit this inhumane and reckless practice; it’s long past time for Congress to take action on this commonsense legislation that enjoys broad support.”

“We are proud to support the bipartisan Horse Transportation Safety Act, reintroduced by Reps. Steve Cohen (D-TN), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Dina Titus (D-NV),” said Neda DeMayo, founder and president of Return to Freedom Wild Horse Conservation. “The bill would prohibit interstate transportation of horses in a motor vehicle containing two or more levels stacked on top of one another, a practice already prohibited for hauling horses to slaughter. While we continue to pursue federal legislation to end the sale and transportation of America’s horses for slaughter, we must do all that we can to ensure they are protected from all cruel and unnecessary practices.”



# Picturesque Farm Sales

## Picturesque Timeless

9yr, 12.2 h welsh mare that is perfect for the short stirrup through the division.  
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## Smallwood Celebrity

Beautiful, 14.2h, big bodied, uphill built, 12 yr, Welsh/Warmblood (by Mapleside Wish List) reg VPBA mare. Lovely mover, huge step, auto change, well broke, brave and fantastic jumper. No spook, very mannered, true division pony with a solid record and tons of mileage.



## Bryce

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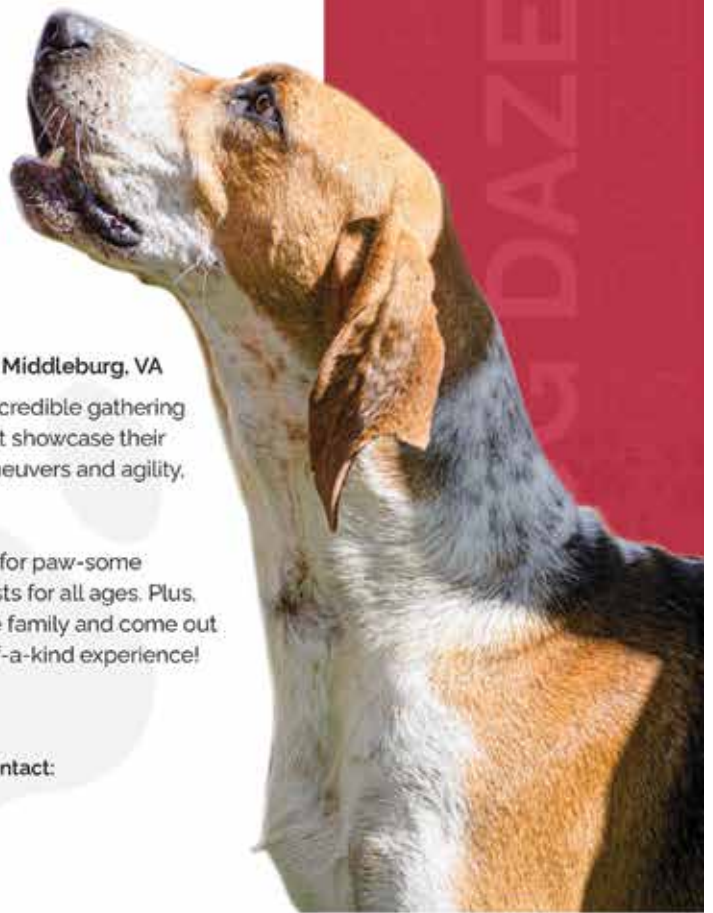
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- Kg Demonstrations
- Beagles & Basset Hounds
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- Search & Rescue
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- Guide & Companion Canines
- Foxhound Parade
- Flyfishing
- Lure Coursing
- Sled Dogs
- Earth Dogs
- Weight Pulling
- Scootering
- Cart Pulling
- Bikejoring



### Activities:

- Turkey Call Contest
- Stick Horse Races
- Pet Costume Contest
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## LAST SHOWS OF THE YEAR!!



October 22nd: HALLOWEEN (costumes encouraged)  
Schooling Jumper Show and Starter Horse Trial (TIP)

November 12th: Schooling Jumper Show and Starter Horse Trial (TIP)

December 3rd: UGLY SWEATER  
Christmas Schooling Jumper Show



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## ***With Horses Just Like People...Trust Takes Time***

***Long-term relationship with owner reduces horses' stress reactions in new situations***

*by Georgia Andrews*

A new study shows that horses can be more reluctant in new situations if they have multiple riders, have had several owners or the horse has been with its current owner only for a short period of time. The results of the international research group that studied the interaction between horses and humans also indicate that it takes time to build a good interactive relationship with a horse.

Horses have been living with humans for thousands of years. Following this long co-evolution, horses today demonstrate impressive social skills during their interactions with humans: they are receptive to human emotions and are very good at understanding human demands.

“Domestic horses may spend several hours daily in close contact with humans, which can affect horse welfare, physiology, and behavior. Therefore, it is important to understand which factors can influence the horses’ emotions during interactions with humans and what shapes their relationship -- particularly in novel situations that can be very stressful to the animals,” says the lead author of the study, Doctoral Researcher Océane Liehrmann from the Department of Biology at the University of Turku, Finland.

An international research team from the University of Turku and the University of Helsinki in Finland, and the INRAE of Nouzilly in France, studied interaction between horses and humans as well as how horses react in new situations. The researchers recruited 76 privately owned leisure horses from the Turku area (Finland) to perform two behavioral tests.

In these tests, the researchers observed and analysed the horses’ reactions to novel objects. In addition, the researchers studied whether the horse reacted differently when it faces the new object with a familiar owner or with a stranger, i.e. the researcher.

In the research situation, the horses were led to walk on two surfaces that were new to them, a white tarp, and a fluffy blanket. They were led to one of the surfaces by their owner and to the other one by an unfamiliar researcher. Second, the horses were presented with a fluffy stuffed toy either by their owner or by an unfamiliar researcher. The horse had one minute to freely come and interact with the toy and then the person approached the horse and tried to touch its neck with the toy.

“Interestingly, horses with an exclusive relationship with their owner were the calmest when approaching the novel surfaces and easily agreed to be touched with the toy. Horses that are regularly ridden or trained by different persons showed more stress behaviors in the test situations,” describes Océane Liehrmann.

Horses that had spent their whole life with their owner agreed more often to be touched with the new toy than horses that had had several owners during their life. These horses presented more stress behaviors and refused more often to be touched with the toy.

“Horses often have to change ownership, which restricts their ability to make a long-term bond with specific humans. We were particularly interested in studying how the length of the relationship between the horse and the owner affects the horse’s behaviour in new, potentially stressful situations,” says Océane Liehrmann.

The results showed that horses with shorter relationships with their owner were more reluctant in novel situations and presented more stress behaviours when asked to interact with novel objects and surfaces. On the contrary, horses that had at least 6 to 8 years of relationship with their owner, were mostly very calm when introduced to the surfaces or the stuffed toy.

*cont. on page 17*



Shannon Ott, Director of SVERN working with a very feral Willow.



# Sandstone Farm 3805 Millwood Road, Millwood, VA

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Manager: Luci Strange

**SandstoneFarm.com**

## HUNTER DATE:

October 15th Dede Bache-Shumate

## JUMPER DATE:

October 8th Jane Nordstrom



### START TIME:

Main 8am; Small 8:30am; Jumper 9am

**WARM-UPS:** Un-Judged All Day

**HUNTER SCHOOLING:**

Main til 7:45am; Small til 8:15am

### CLASS FEES:

HUNTER: \$50/Division, \$20/Class

Warm-Up, \$30/Medals, \$20/Grounds Fee

(-\$10 w/online entry), \$25 Office Fee-\$25 Non-Show

JUMPER: \$60/Division, \$25/Class, \$20/Warm-Up

\$25/Grounds Fee (-\$15 w/online entry)

## HUNTERS

### Main Ring Start 8 am

A. Unjudged Warm-Up - Course B

1. Benefit Hunter OF - 2' or 2'6"
2. Benefit Hunter OF - 2' or 2'6"
3. Benefit Hunter Under Saddle
4. \*Jr/Ad Hunter Pleasure - W/T
5. \*Jr/Ad Hunter Pleasure - W/T/GAYP
6. \*Jr/Ad Hunter Pleasure - W/T/C
7. \*Junior/Adult Equitation on the Flat
8. Hunter Hack OF - W/T
9. Hunter Hack OF - W/T/GAYP
10. Hunter Hack Under Saddle - W/T/C  
2 - 2' fences - Judges Choice

*Schooling Break -  
Midday Session Only*

11. \*Short Stirrup Hunter OF - 18" - A
12. \*Short Stirrup Hunter OF - 18" - B
13. \*Short Stirrup Hunter Under Saddle

Open to Juniors and Adult Amateurs only

14. Limit Rider Hunter OF - 2' or 2'3" - A
15. Limit Rider Hunter OF - 2' or 2'3" - B
16. Limit Rider Hunter US

17. \*Pony Pleasure - W/T
18. \*Pony Pleasure - W/T/GAYP
19. \*Pony Pleasure - W/T/C

20. \*Green Pony Hunter OF A  
S 2'; M 2'3"; L 2'6"

21. \*Green Pony Hunter OF B  
S 2'; M 2'3"; L 2'6"

22. \*Green Pony Hunter Under Saddle

23. \*Pony Eq - S 2'; M 2'3"; L 2'6"

24. \*Pony Hunter OF A S 2'; M 2'3"; L 2'6"

25. \*Pony Hunter OF B S 2'; M 2'3"; L 2'6"

26. \*Pony Hunter Under Saddle

*Schooling Break -*

27. \*Thoroughbred Hunter OF - 2'6" - A
28. \*Thoroughbred Hunter OF - 2'6" - B
29. \*Thoroughbred Hunter US
30. \*Green Hunter OF - 2'6" - A
31. \*Green Hunter OF - 2'6" - B
32. \*Green Hunter Under Saddle
33. \*Jr/Ad Equitation - 2'6" or 3"
34. \*Jr/Ad Hunter OF - 2'6" or 3" - A
35. \*Jr/Ad Hunter OF - 2'6" or 3" - B
36. \*Jr/Ad Hunter Under Saddle
37. \*Working Hunter OF - 3' - A
38. \*Working Hunter OF - 3' - B
39. \*Working Hunter Under Saddle
40. \*Children's Medal
41. \*Adult Medal

### Small Ring Start 8:30 am

All flat classes run before over fences

B. Unjudged warm-Up - Course B

42. Lead Line - 100% Rider Eq
43. Lead Line - 100% Mount Suitability
44. Lead Line - 50% Equitation/50% Suitability
45. Pre-Short Stirrup Equitation - W
46. Pre-Short Stirrup Equitation - W/T
47. Pre-Short Stirrup Equitation - W/T/  
Sit-T/Jump Pos
48. Short Stirrup Eq OF - 18" - A
49. Short Stirrup Eq OF - 18" - B
50. Short Stirrup Eq Under Saddle
51. Student Eq OF - 2' - A
52. Student Eq OF - 2' - B
53. Student Eq Under Saddle
100. Warm Up

125. Costume Class (10/10 only)

\* = VHSA Associate Classes

## JUMPERS

*Hacking and limited Jumping  
Schooling 7:30 - 8:45 am  
Schooling in small ring all day*

### Puddle Jumpers 2'

- 1-Hopeful Jumper Table II, Sec. 1
- 2-Hopeful Jumper Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 3-Hopeful Jumper Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Novice Ch/Ad Jumpers 2'3" - 2'6"

#### VHSA/BHSA

- 4-Novice Ch/Ad Table II, Sec. 1
- 5-Novice Ch/Ad Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 6-Novice Ch/Ad Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Novice Jumpers 2'3" - 2'6" VHSA/BHSA

- 7-Novice Jumpers Table II, Sec. 1
- 8-Novice Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 9-Novice Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Thoroughbred Jumper 2'9" VHSA/BHSA

- 10-Thoroughbred Jumper Table II, Sec. 1
- 11-Thoroughbred Jumper Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 12-Thoroughbred Jumper Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Low Jumpers 2'9" VHSA/BHSA

- 13-Low Jumpers Table II, Sec. 1
- 14-Low Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 15-Low Jumpers  
\$10 Add-Back Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Ch/Ad Jumpers 3'0" VHSA/BHSA

- 16-Ch/Ad Jumpers Table II, Sec. 1
- 17-Ch/Ad Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 18-Ch/Ad Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Schooling Jumpers 3'3" - 3'6" VHSA/BHSA

- 19-Schooling Jumpers Table II, Sec. 1
- 20-Schooling Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 21-Schooling Jumpers Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

### Modified Jumpers 3'6" - 4' VHSA/BHSA

- 22-Modified Jumper Table II, Sec. 1
- 23-Modified Jumper Table II, Sec. 2 (c)
- 24-Modified Jumper Table II, Sec. 2 (b)

25-Unjudged Warm-up

*45 Second rule will be in effect all day*



cont. on page 15

Horses older than 17 years old refused more often to step on the tarp or the blanket when they were led by a stranger, while they almost all agreed to do it when they were led by their owner.

“Geriatric horses often suffer from poorer eyesight, and it has been shown that they may feel more anxiety towards new situations than younger horses. Therefore, older horses may perceive someone familiar as a secure base, feeling safer to walk over an unknown material when led by a familiar person.”

The study shows that having a shorter relationship with the owner, multiple handlers and numerous owner-changes can increase the horse’s reluctance to novel objects and surfaces and therefore may negatively impact the horse-human interactions in new situations.

“Our findings suggest that a positive horse-human relationship may take time to develop as it is shaped by multiple factors, such as the horse’s previous interactions with humans. Overall, the results show that animals’ relationships with their human caretakers should be better considered in animal welfare and its research,” Liehrmann concludes.

Materials provided by University of Turku Journal Reference: Océane Liehrmann, Alisa Viitanen, Veera Riihonen, Emmi Alander, Sonja E. Koski, Virpi Lummaa, Léa Lansade. Multiple handlers, several owner changes and short relationship lengths affect horses’ responses to novel object tests.




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Show Hunters & Jumpers with a 60 Day Minimum.  
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## ***Our Top 25 Everyday Items to Keep on Hand in the Barn!***

*Every equestrian knows that horses come with all sorts of essentials. Brushes, hoof picks, shovels and pitch forks come to mind. But aside from the horsey stuff there are some everyday items that come in quite useful in the barn.*

*by Georgia Andrews*

1. Duct Tape has many uses around the barn. Duct tape be used to patch blankets, repair fences and cover holes in a water hose in a pinch, we recently used it to make a nifty pool noodle halter for a horse who just had an eye removed. If you can find white duct tape even better! Use a strip with a note in permanent marker to label brushes, feed bins and barn tools.

2. A headlamp is one of the most unexpectedly useful tack trunk essentials. You can wear it while you lead a horse out to the field for night turnout (just make sure that you give your horse the chance to get used to it) or you can use it to load or unload your trailer in the early morning or after dark. You can also wear a headlamp while clipping your horse to improve visibility, or use it to see better if you're scrubbing a horse's white socks in a dimly lit wash stall. It will also come in handy for braiding in dark stalls on early show mornings. While you're at it, buy two headlamps so you can store one in your trailer. They're great to have on-hand in the event of a flat tire.

3. A bungee cord can be used to hang up a fan, hold a gate, you name it the uses are endless....

4. Permanent markers have a million obvious uses around equestrian facilities, but some of the most important include clearly labeling feed containers and supplements. Use tape to label (see number 1) so that the label can be easily changed.

5. There are plenty of uses for a measuring tape inside a barn. Not to mention a ruler. If you need to measure a hoof or a bit is much easier to accomplish with a ruler.

6. You can use Listerine for lots of barn chores. Many equestrians use it to treat surface bacteria or fungi like rain rot. You can use it to clean water buckets and prevent the growth of germs and bacteria—just make sure to rinse it extra thoroughly before refilling the bucket with fresh water. Oddly, it also shines up patent leather on a bridle or a pair of tall boots. You can also mix it with a little bit of baby oil to apply at the base of an itchy tail.

7. There are a lot of things to scrub around a barn, which means that a scrub brush has plenty of uses. We keep one with a long handle for buckets and others for bits and smaller items. Toothbrushes are super handy for cleaning tack.

8. To get a horse's socks extra white, you can use a dish-soap dispenser brush or wand filled with shampoo or bluing

9. Plastic containers with secure lids can store treats, medications and sponges away from pests like rodents and bugs. They're also convenient for storing small pieces of hardware, spare keepers or braiding bands.

10. Double-ended snaps or carabiners can be used on the ends of cross-ties, to hang buckets, fix gate latches, extend stall guards and more.

*cont. on page 21*





# Turner Farm Events

VHSA ASSOCIATE HUNTER SCHOOLING SHOWS

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls, VA 22066

[www.TurnerFarmEvents.org](http://www.TurnerFarmEvents.org)



**Oct 14** Judge: DeDe Bache-Shumate

**Start Time** 8:00am

**Schooling** 6:30am-7:30am

**Warm-up rounds** Open all day

**Office Fee** \$25 / **Class Fee** \$20

**Photographer** Hannah Jones Photography

**Manager:** Lara McPherson / [lulu2mc@aol.com](mailto:lulu2mc@aol.com)

**Secretary:** [karen.washburn@longandfoster.com](mailto:karen.washburn@longandfoster.com)

## Ring 1 8:00 a.m.

50. Open Card Warm-up

1. Schooling Hunter OF (2'6")

2. Schooling Hunter OF (2'6")

3. Schooling Hunter US

4. VHSA Working Hunter OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

5. VHSA Working Hunter OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

6. VHSA Working Hunter US

7. VHSA Children's/ AA Eq (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

8. VHSA Children's/ AA OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

9. VHSA Children's/ AA OF (2'6", 2'9" to 3')

10. VHSA Children's/ AA US

11. VHSA Jr/Adult Eq on the flat

## Schooling break -not before 10:30am

12. Low Hunter OF (2')

13. Low Hunter OF (2')

14. Low Hunter US

15. VHSA Horse Pleasure WT

16. VHSA Horse Pleasure GAYP

17. VHSA Horse Pleasure WTC

18. VHSA Pony Pleasure WT

19. VHSA Pony Pleasure GAYP

20. VHSA Pony Pleasure, WTC

21. VHSA Pony Eq (S 2', M 2'3", L 2'6")

22. VHSA Pony Hunter OF (S 2', M 2'3", L 2'6")

23. VHSA Pony Hunter OF (S 2', M 2'3", L 2'6")

24. VHSA Pony Hunter US

25. Lead Line rider

26. Lead Line pony

27. Lead Line rider/pony

28. Pre-Short Stirrup W

29. Pre-Short Stirrup WT

30. Pre-Short Stirrup WT/Test

## Schooling break -not before 2:00pm

31. Long Stirrup Eq. WT

32. Long Stirrup Eq. WTC

33. Long Stirrup Eq. OF (18")

34. Short Stirrup Eq. WT

35. Short Stirrup Eq. WTC

36. Short Stirrup Eq. OF (18")

37. VHSA Short Stirrup Hunter OF (18")

38. VHSA Short Stirrup Hunter OF (18")

39. VHSA Short Stirrup Hunter US



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## 25 Everyday Items to Keep on Hand in the Barn!

11. It's likely that you'll find VetWrap and wound-care products for horses around the barn, but it's less likely that a First-Aid Kit for humans will be readily available and fully stocked. That's why it's always a good idea to keep one on hand.
12. There's usually a pair of scissors lying somewhere around the barn, but they always seem to either disappear quickly or be so dull that they aren't functional. Keep a pair of large scissors on a long piece of hay twine with several knots!
13. Rubber gloves are helpful to have available in case the need arises for emergency wound treatment, but they are also great to put on when applying poultice or cleaning a horse's sheath.
14. Baby wipes are a staple. Use them to clean around your horse's eyes, ears, nose and under his tail. You can also use them to quickly wipe the dust off of boots or remove sweat from a bridle.
15. Vaseline or a similar petroleum jelly can be used to prevent chafing around the horse's mouth near the bit, as a salve for minor scrapes or to make it easier to insert a rectal thermometer.
16. WD-40 is great to have on hand to loosen up sticky hinges, gates and trailer hitches.
17. Use baby powder to brighten your horse's stockings and socks.
18. Keep Ziploc bags in a variety of sizes handy to pre-package supplements, medications or feed for an overnight trip.
19. A roll of ClingWrap is useful when creating a sweat-wrap for your horse to remove heat from a swollen leg.
20. Keep a mini tool kit on hand to address small but important chores. .
21. Baking soda can be used to scrub bits, buckets and more without the need for harsh chemicals or soaps.
22. Use diapers to hold poultices in hooves, then wrap and duct tape over them.
23. Desitin can help with Scratches or be applied to light-colored noses as a sunblock.
24. An electric hot water kettle is an easy way to heat water in a barn. You can use it to make a bran mash, clean wounds or tack or pour over frozen water buckets instead of chipping ice.
25. Keep epsom salt on hand to be prepared to soak hoof abscesses. You can also use it in your own bath water at home to soothe tired, aching muscles.







## Blue Ridge Hunt

PO Box 96, Boyce, VA 22620  
[www.blueridgehunt.org](http://www.blueridgehunt.org)

### MFHs:

*Anne W. McIntosh*  
(703) 509-4499

*Jeffrey L. LeHew*  
540-974-0500

### Huntsman:

*Graham Buston*

### Honorary Secretary:

*Teri Lyn Houliston*  
(540) 539-2338

**Cap fees:** Call one of the Masters for information. Non-members must contact one of the Masters or the Honorary Secretary for permission to hunt. Checks payable to The Blue Ridge Hunt should be given to the Field Secretary along with a Liability Release (available at location) early at the meet. Coggins required. Guests may cap 4 times during the current season.

### Season:

September 1st - end of March, primarily on Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays with occasional Bye Days.

### Territory:

The country lies in Clarke County, in Warren County north of Front Royal, in Shenandoah County north of Route 675, in Frederick County south of Route 50 and west of Route 11 in Virginia and in Jefferson County, W.Va. It is mainly rolling farmland with open pasture land and orchards. Jumps are chicken coops, some tiger traps, post and rails with a few stone walls.

Photo by Joanne Maisano

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# Loudoun Hunt



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VA 20178

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

## MFH:

**Lawrence T. Dale**

[dale2@rcn.com](mailto:dale2@rcn.com)  
(703)-973-0505

**Mary T. Sell**

[marysell@takarofarm.com](mailto:marysell@takarofarm.com)  
(202)-302-2789

**Carroll D. Galvin**

[carroll.galvin@gmail.com](mailto:carroll.galvin@gmail.com)  
(443)690-4041

**Paul Ritsema**

[paulwritsema@gmail.com](mailto:paulwritsema@gmail.com)

## Honorary Secretary:

Contact the Masters

## Huntsman:

**Ronald Johnse**  
703-297-2782

## Hunt Monitor:

703-777-8480

Fixture locations, directions, time & notice of cancellations due to weather or ground conditions will be made no later than three hours before a meet.

## Cap Fees:

**Adults \$75 weekdays,  
\$100 weekends  
Juniors - free**

## Season:

September through March  
Meets on Wednesdays,  
Saturdays, holidays, and  
some bye-days

## Territory:

Kennels are located in Leesburg, Loudoun County Va. The country is approximately 25 x 18 miles. Agricultural with some development, fenced with coops, barways, post and rails, stone walls and board fences.



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## Warrenton Hunt



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Warrenton  
VA 20188

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

### MFHs:

*John Wyatt*  
(540) 272-2577  
[mobilehuey@me.com](mailto:mobilehuey@me.com)

*Linda Roberson*  
(540) 219-3557  
[icdafoxwh@aol.com](mailto:icdafoxwh@aol.com)

*E. Sue Bopp*  
(540) 272-4101  
[poplartreesue@gmail.com](mailto:poplartreesue@gmail.com)

### Honorary Secretary:

*Emma Atkinson*  
[eatkinson82@gmail.com](mailto:eatkinson82@gmail.com)

### Field Secretary:

*Randi Blanchard*

### Hunt Monitor:

(540) 347-6083

Fixture locations, time, and notice of cancellations due to weather or ground conditions. Changes or cancellations will be made no later than 3 hrs prior.

### Cap Fees:

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**(18 and under) must be**

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Guests may cap 3 times during the current season.

### Season:

Sept. - March. Primarily Monday, Wednesday and Saturday with occasional Bye Days.

### Territory:

Fauquier and Culpeper Counties. Generally wooded and open cattle and crop farms. Jumps are post and rail, coops and stone walls typical in size.

1887



WARRENTON HUNT

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# “Hay”, You! Be Proactive & Plan Now For Hay & Forage Replacement Needs

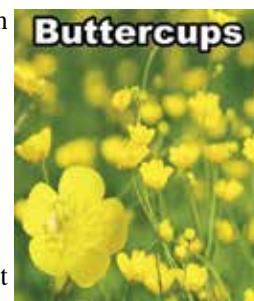
Arlene Atkins and Lisa Phillips, Farmers Cooperative Association, Inc.

Historically, late summer is prime time for drought conditions in many parts of North America which unfortunately has proven true this year in the Shenandoah Valley and surrounding areas. When pastures turn brown and crispy, it's time to inspect your fields for toxic weeds such as hoary alyssum and buttercup which can flourish in drought-stricken fields and overgrazed pastures. Then, when the cool nights begin and leaves start to fall, take note of dropped leaves such as red maple and oak, which are also toxic. Most horses will avoid toxic weeds and dropped leaves under normal conditions, but when there is little else to eat, they might sample them with ill effect. If your pasture is infested, remove your horses from it and consider using an herbicide on the fields to eradicate the problem weeds, rake up fallen leaves, and then start using another fiber source to supplement the poor grazing. Feeding hay, beet pulp, roughage cubes, hay pellets, or another digestible fiber alternative can help horses maintain their weight during the dry season and through the fall and winter.

Be prepared that hay, the number one choice for pasture supplementation, may be more difficult to find this fall and winter due to the lower than average rainfalls seen this past spring and summer. Start gathering as soon as you can and choose the highest quality hay you can afford. Quality hay is more digestible and will save you money in the long run.

Here are some tips to maximize your hay supply and your horse's health when it comes to hay consumption:

- Clean and check hay feeders and replace them if necessary
- Ground or low trough feeders work well to keep dust out of horses' respiratory systems, but consider installing rubber mats around your hay feeders so they can be swept and hosed off regularly allowing horses to eat fallen hay without ingesting dirt or sand
- Use round bale feeders or hay nets (slow feeders are great) to minimize waste and allow for around the clock availability to mimic natural grazing tendencies
- If you have just one hay feeder, throw a few flakes around the field to allow horses lower in the pecking order to get their fair share and avoid fights to eat
- Remember, horses should eat 1.5%-2.5% of their body weight in forage daily so if your hay supply is inadequate, supplement with chopped bagged hay, hay cubes, hay pellets, beet pulp or other highly digestible fiber sources – no peanut or rice hulls!
- In the example of a 1,000 lb healthy horse, approximately 183 small square bales (at approximately 50 lb each) and 10 round bales (at approximately 900 lb each) will be needed each year per horse
- Hay needs will be impacted by body weight, activity level, health status, and total diet
- Make sure you allow for at least 10% extra in your hay supply to account for waste, trucking delays, a rare bad bale, etc.
- Even the highest quality alfalfa or lush green pastures cannot supply horses with all of their vitamin and mineral needs so be sure you provide all horses, especially easy keepers, with equine mineral blocks, not just red “trace mineral” blocks which are more than 90% salt with just a “trace” of minerals designed for all species, not specifically for horses



Buttercups



Hoary Alyssum



Alfalfa



cont. on page 29





# LCEA | Loudoun County Equine Alliance

LCEA presents a unified voice to **advocate, educate & communicate** for equestrians.

**Actively advocating, educating and communicating the goals, initiatives and benefits of the horse industry in Loudoun County**



Valerie Durbon Photography

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## Our Mission



Our mission is to protect the interests of horse owners and horse industries in Loudoun.

## Serving the Loudoun County Equine Community



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[Information@LoudounEquine.org](mailto:Information@LoudounEquine.org)



cont. from page 27



## “Hay”, You! Be Proactive & Plan Now For Hay & Forage Replacement Needs (cont.)



### Important safety reminders:

- While you may have less than pretty pastures now, as days grow shorter and temperatures fluctuate, fructans can remerge so if you have an insulin-resistant horse or one prone to laminitis, don't put away those grazing muzzles yet!
- Changes from pasture to hay may affect some horses digestively so be sure to keep your eyes open for signs of discomfort that may indicate compaction colic.
- Periodically inspect your hay for signs of mold or heat, particularly if you suspect it might have been rained on or given inadequate time to cure. Bales that feel or smell warm should never be stored anywhere near a barn, and regular checks with a thermometer (slipped down between bales in your stack) are an excellent safety precaution. Any hay that registers 140°F or more should be removed from the barn slowly, as even throwing or moving the hay quickly could be enough to cause it to burst into flames.



In welcoming the cool, crisp fall weather, horse owners will adjust their routines and feeding protocols accordingly to adapt to climate and activity levels. With hay shortages on the horizon, take advantage of free advice on feeding programs available to you through your local independent feed stores and account managers from feed manufacturers. Most of these folks are “horse people” too who truly want what’s best for your horses and are readily available by phone, email, or farm visits.



“Hay”, we hope you’ve gained some good tips from this article and wish you and your horses a healthy and happy fall season!

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# Virginia's Economy Wins With Horses



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in economic impact generated by horsemen expenditures

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to raise, train & care for a horse annually

## RACING TO THE TRACK

**2,950**  
horses compete annually

**7,517**  
horse-related personnel

**207,100**  
total spectators



in economic impact

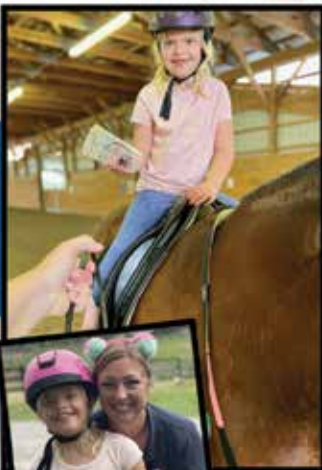


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## ***Sizing Up Your Horse Barn and Farm Entrances for Safety and Security***

by Nikki Alvin-Smith

The expense and labor involved to figure out the right dimensions for the myriad of gates and entrances needed at a horse farm and their careful installation is well worth the effort. Take a walk with me through the farm and let's look at the metrics.

### **The Main Gate(s)**

Entrances to the property that are too narrow will result in persistent issues with damage from users. Especially the heavy equipment that will commonly access the driveway to a horse property such as tractor-trailers full of hay or shavings, large horse trailers or trucks, tractors and various farm equipment.

The use of gates at the main entrance is a good idea as these can be securely closed when necessary to afford better protection and safety for both horses and humans residing on the farm. Houdini horses, neighborhood dogs on the loose, folks with nefarious intent to steal, wandering passers-by who choose not to pass by at all but come up the driveway to investigate, photo and even feed horses pastured alongside the driveway, can all be foiled by the use of closed gates.

Electrical management of the open/close necessity of these gates is commonly employed to avoid the need for frequent hopping in and out of vehicles to manage the task manually. Consider the topography of the ground (it needs to be level), and the fact that heavier gates will require back up support on each side with possibly a second post.

Also consider that regardless of due care and attention sometimes accidents will happen. Perhaps the snow plough pushes ice into the base of a post, an extra wide set wing mirror hits the open gate or the off-track of a large rig driven by a less experienced driver scrapes the post.

If the gates are placed well back from the edge of the driveway, perhaps protected by shrubbery planted to each side to serve as a soft barrier or large rocks placed just to the inside line, then the risk of damage can be minimized. Be careful that any plantings close to the driveway will not grow to such a size as to become impediments to access with low overhanging or prickly branches that can damage paintwork on vehicles.

Bear in mind that fancy, stone encased pillars look beautiful but if they take a hit these can be expensive to repair. The use of concrete bollards and a wide sweep entry to the driveway off the road can help defray the risk of such damage.

Standard driveway widths for private, residential property are between 9 to 12 feet in the U.S.A., but for a horse or farm property it is wise to go much larger.

*cont. on page 36*



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A 24-foot width will serve well if you have the room. And remember, the more right-angled and thus more acute the turn off the road and the narrower or busier the road from which the vehicles must enter, the wider the gate width will ideally be built.

Don't forget to consider the distance of the gate installation from the road edge and also any impediments to making the turn from either direction off the road including existing obstacles such as curbs, ditches or established trees or overhanging branches, mailboxes etc. If you set the gate posts further to the inside of the property there will be less chance for damage as the turn into the entrance can be constructed as a softer curve than a gate posts installed on the property line.

Wherever a gate is placed on a curve, extra distance from the edge of the driveway to the gate post/gate should be added. An additional 2 feet on each side of the driveway is a good average to work from but also consider the length of the vehicles and their likely turning radius.

Distance from the ground surface for gates should be between 3 to 6 inches, with much larger distances allowed if the property is situated in a snow region.

When considering the size of gates consider both the width and the height. Adding a ranch style entrance way may look rustic but the downside of this traditional cowboy appeal is any gate with an overhead design will serve as a nuisance to large equipment or high trailer loads of hay and equipment.

Design of the gates may include panels or bars, or mesh to deter dogs and smaller mammals. Attention should be paid to the distance between panels or bars in regard to safety for horse and human. Some building codes require certain parameters (less than 5" apart for bars to avoid young children trapping their heads between them when playing).

Cattle grids at entranceways to horse properties are a recipe for disaster for obvious reasons and should be avoided.

### **One Gate or Two**

Obviously the wider the gate the heavier it will be to open and close. Wood gates are exceptionally heavy and can be unwieldy to manage, while light aluminum gates with large panels can be difficult to work with during high winds.

Farm style tube and panel gates should be effectively hinged for safety and to avoid simply being lifted off their hinges by trespassers. Iron, PVC or custom designed gates will all have different hinge requirements. When open, the gates should have a stand on which to rest the weight, especially if they are to be left open for any length of time to prevent them from 'dropping' or swinging back and forth during windy weather. A couple of 'sistered' posts (with one slightly higher, even to waist height) than the other can keep the gate from swinging open too wide and sustaining damage in high wind as well as offering a user friendly height to attach a chain to secure it back.

Sidebar: For tube/horse panel gate installation in paddocks/pastures and entranceways to the property, consider placing the top hinge facing down and the bottom hinge facing upward. This will also stop horses inadvertently (or advertently) lifting the gate off its hinges trying to graze beneath it. Though if a horse's leg becomes trapped beneath it due to rolling too close to the gate it also means the gate will not pop off when the horse kicks or struggles to free himself.

It is prudent from the weight management perspective to use a two-gate option. Placement of some form of footer in the center of the gates to hold them together against the wind may be necessary, though its placement in this spot may hamper the snowplow efforts. To help carry the weight of the gates wire support can be attached to the top of each gate from the top of the post.

### **Barn Doors**

The main entry doors to the barn or other storage structures, need to be large enough to accommodate more than just a wheelbarrow. The modern-day use of ATVs, UTVs, and compact tractors for daily mucking and feeding chores require appropriate access widths.

Center aisles or side aisles should be designed to be wide enough to make driving through the building easy to accomplish without hitting tack boxes, saddle racks or other barn accoutrements that may be placed on or against the front stall walls. If the barn design allows horses to have access over stall doors or front walls of the stalls to the aisle, the width of the 'driving' lane should be wide enough to ensure they cannot reach the equipment.

Widths in center aisle barns range between 10 and 14 feet, but wider aisles should be incorporated in the design of high traffic barns with doors at the gable ends to match.

Sliding, swinging or electric overhead doors are all options for entry doors. The latter being useful in snow regions, although be aware metal doors can freeze to the ground during periods of cold weather. However, a manual override is a necessity in case of power outages for electrical doors.

Doors should generally be placed at the gable ends of the building to avoid snow building up in front of them



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**For The Horse, The Rider & The Barn**

cont. from page 36

making the building interior inaccessible, and to avoid puddling from rain shed off the roof. The installation of gutters is a great idea to remove excess water from above entryways.

A smaller ‘person’ door or ‘horse’ door (4 foot or wider) can be included to one side of the gable end in larger barn builds, to avoid the necessity of opening big doors in adverse weather.

All doors should be properly locked back or secured in both open and closed positions to prevent them from moving/rattling or lifting off their tracks during high winds. Door stops top and bottom should be installed to ensure they do not run off their tracks if they are the sliding variety of door.

**Stall Doors**

A stall door is generally constructed with a standard width of 4 feet. However, for larger breeds of horses such as draft horses or warmbloods, an additional 6-12 inches can be beneficial to help prevent horses hitting their vulnerable hips or hooking surcingles/ripping blankets on the door jambs.

When handling horses the safety-first approaches of avoiding swing stable doors and constructing the stall doorways wide enough for both horse and handler to navigate the gap easily without crowding each other should be employed.

The myriad of stall door designs available are extensive but regardless of which you choose always consider safety first and ensure the door hardware is easy to operate for humans and hard to navigate for horses.

Where stall doors are not solid and grills are incorporated, a 4” gap is standard in horse stable door grills, though even this distance can be hazardous to a rearing foal.

**Paddocks and Pastures**

For paddocks and pastures the gate width is also of great import. There is nothing more annoying than installing a horse friendly turnout gate of 8 to 10 feet and then figuring out you can’t fit your bushhog and tractor for a summer ‘deworm control’ mow or a tidy up in Fall.

Large pastures may even at some point be up for haymaking, where equipment that today’s farmers utilize can be 14 feet wide or more.

As paddock gates are always a point where horses will stand and hang out together waiting for feeding time to arrive or to come in from the heat of the day, it’s important to ensure gates are securely installed with sturdy posts and good quality hinges.

Very large entry gates to turn out areas will be difficult to manage when leading a horse.

Sidebar: Whenever turning a horse out in a pasture, it is always wise to turn the horse to face you before releasing it.

cont. on page 39

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cont. from page 38

The entryway surrounding any paddock gate should be free of obstacles to avoid injury to the horse and handler.

As large gates are difficult to open and close (especially if doubled up to provide extra width), it is a good idea to have an 8–10-foot gate for regular use when handling horses and a separate entrance for large equipment elsewhere with the larger gate options.

The latter should obviously also be safely latched and built, to avoid providing the temptation for an excited or frightened horse to run through them. The addition of a wire support above such gates is not advised due to the risk of injury from the wires should a horse choose to jump the gate.

The height of fencing and gates to grazing areas is equally as important as the width. The typical 5-foot set height of a panel/tube gate or traditional 5 bar gate with an allowance of 9-12 inches distance to the ground level is a typical configuration. The idea being that this distance will minimize the risk of a horse trapping a leg under the gate.

For additional information about the company or their product line, please visit their website at [www.horizonstructures.com](http://www.horizonstructures.com)

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# The Real Rider Cup

## The Real Rider Cup Wraps Up Milestone Year in Fair Hill

Following another successful showing in Lexington, Kentucky in July, the Real Rider Cup returned to its home in Fair Hill to complete the 2023 series of events, welcoming 21 horse and rider combinations along with hundreds of spectators to Fair Hill Thoroughbred Horse Show for an evening of lively competition and entertainment. Created by Anita Motion, the charity show jumping competition brings together personalities from across the breeding and racing industry to increase awareness and raise funds for Thoroughbred aftercare, with each rider pledging to raise at least \$1,000.

“We are thrilled to see how well received the Real Rider Cup has been by both the racing and equestrian industries,” said Anna Ford, Thoroughbred Program Director at New Vocations. “The event is a true testament to how athletic these Thoroughbreds are and that they love having a job beyond the track. The funding raised is much needed and will help a lot of horses as they transition into new careers.”

Riders, mounted on off-track Thoroughbreds and wearing the silks of their employers, colleagues, and clients contended a winding course of fences with the fastest clear rounds taking home top honors. Connections and institutions represented included Eclipse Thoroughbred Partners, Country Life Farm, Tommy Town Thoroughbreds, Winstar Farm, Sienna Farm, Klaravich Stables, Maryland Jockey Club, Graham Motion, Tom Morley, Chad Brown, an entire team from equine veterinary clinic Sports Medicine Associates of Chester County (SMACC), and more. The field of horses included black-type runners Flash McCaul, Ninety One Assault, Call Provision, Nakamura, and GI winner Sermon of Love, who was trained by the recently departed Johnathan Sheppard. Olympic Show Jumping Silver Medalist (Atlanta 1996) and Kentucky Derby-winning trainer (Barbaro, 2006) Michael Matz led a course walk for competitors and WBAL’s Radio Baltimore’s Scott Wykoff served as emcee, providing color commentary.

Returning after serving on last year’s winning Fair Hill team, junior Jaidyn Shore, riding multiple stakes placed Grandiflora and wearing the silks of the gelding’s trainer Ann Merryman, put in a quick and tidy round to clinch the individual win. Awards were given for individual results, team results, and a Highest Earner award for the individual whose fundraiser garnered the highest total as of the conclusion of the event.

Individual results: Win: Jaidyn Shore and Grandiflora; Place: Gabrielle Nguyen and Oniyome’s Honor; Show: Tom Mansmann catch-riding his wife Clare’s horse, Buff Dude.

Team Results: Win: Team SMACC Down (Ashley Taylor, Sandi Norris, Kamryn Stockar, Gabrielle Nguyen, and Allison Haspel); Place: Team Racing Kids (comprised entirely of returning juniors Paige and James Wyatt, Will Slater, and Jaidyn Shore); Show: Team Maryland Five-Star (RRC veterans Kim Crowell and Maggie Morley joined by first-timer juniors Summer Chestnut and Natalie Holdren, each on their Thoroughbred Makeover graduates).

The Highest Earner award went to Team SMACC Down’s Sandi Norris who personally raised \$6,000.

Earlier in the summer the event passed a milestone of having raised half a million dollars since its inaugural run in 2017. As of this writing, a total of 47 entered riders have raised over \$125,000 this year. When combined with corporate sponsorships and general contributions, the 2023 event has raised over \$140,000, which brings the historical total to \$550,000 raised for Thoroughbred aftercare.

“We’re incredibly proud of the meaningful impact we’ve made for our beneficiaries since 2017,” said Motion. “Beyond that, we’re also proud to highlight our industry’s commitment to aftercare and we look forward to growing the reach of the event in the future.”

**View full results and learn more at [www.therealridercup.com](http://www.therealridercup.com)**

***Proceeds of the Real Rider Cup benefit the Retired Racehorse Project, New Vocations Thoroughbred Adoption and the Fair Hill Thoroughbred Show.***





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## *Once Upon a Horse Series The Flying Horse and The Jockey and her Horse*

by Sarah Maslin Nir (Author), Laylie Frazier (Illustrator)

From Pulitzer Prize nominee Sarah Maslin Nir, the author of the memoir *Horse Crazy*, *The Flying Horse* is the first in a series of middle-grade novels inspired by real horses and the people who love them—illustrated with black-and-white art by Laylie Frazier.

Trendsetter is a horse destined to fly—in more ways than one. Sarah is a horse-loving seventh grader who has a secret and a fear of losing the thing she loves most in the world.

Separated by an ocean, a horse and a girl's parallel struggles to be their best include lots of luck and grit, some stubbornness, and a few failures. It is only when they find each other that the two kindred spirits find themselves. Together they learn that what's important in life isn't greatness—it's being great at being you.

Inspired by a real horse and a real girl, *The Flying Horse*, first in the *Once Upon a Horse* series, will make horse-lovers' hearts soar. *The Jockey and her Horse* by Sarah Maslin Nir (Author), Raymond White (Author), Laylie Frazier (Illustrator)

Following in the hoofprints of *The Flying Horse*, Pulitzer Prize nominee Sarah Maslin Nir and Raymond White Jr.'s *The Jockey & Her Horse* is the second title in the *Once Upon a Horse* series. Illustrated with black-and-white art by Laylie Frazier, it is inspired by the true story of the first Black female jockey, Cheryl White, who raced to the finish line on her horse, Jetolara.

Cheryl loves horses. She's been studying thoroughbreds at her family's horse-racing stables since she was old enough to ride on the shoulders of her father, a famous horse trainer. Cheryl wants to be a jockey. One problem—she is a girl, and there has never been a Black female jockey in history!

Jetolara is a young thoroughbred finding his place in the herd. When Cheryl literally falls onto his back and Jeto sprints off across the pasture, Cheryl discovers that she doesn't just want to be a jockey, she is a jockey—and she and Jeto were born to race.

Together, girl and horse make history and show everyone that once you learn to love yourself, the world is yours.



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## Schmersal Slides Into NRHA's History Books as an NRHA \$5 Million Rider



When NRHA Professional Craig Schmersal pulled into Las Vegas for The Run For A Million (TRFAM), he was sitting at around \$5,000 away from crossing his next NRHA milestone. When the dust settled, Schmersal had slid his way to more than three times that amount—earning the title of NRHA Five Million Dollar Rider.

In 1988, Schmersal won his first check and added \$61.38 to his lifetime earnings. Since then, the NRHA Professional has built a successful reining business in Scottsdale, AZ, with his wife, Ginger, and children Chris, Nick, Brendyn, and A disyn. Having won many of the sport's major events, his riding experience has helped pave the way to this new milestone and maintain his status as the association's third all-time leading rider.

No stranger to pressure, Schmersal piloted two horses to checks during TRFAM's Open Shoot Out and surpassed the \$5 million mark before the show's final event even began. It was icing on the cake when he earned another \$5,000 during the Million Dollar Competition aboard No Smoking Required (Gunner x Icing Required)—a mount the NRHA Professional has ridden to great success on his journey to this milestone.

No Smoking Required is a 2013 stallion owned by Schmersal/Thorsport Inc. and bred by Carluccio Orsi. Together, 'Ice' and Schmersal have earned more than \$458,000 since becoming an NRHA Four Million Dollar Rider in 2018. Most notably, the pair scored an impressive 229.5 to win the inaugural 2019 TRFAM Invitational, although the \$307,500 in earnings did not count toward Schmersal's road to \$5 million, making this milestone an even larger achievement.

A seasoned trainer, coach, and horse owner, Schmersal's passion for reining and NRHA is apparent to all he meets as he continues to impact non pros, youth, and the industry as a whole.

Schmersal's top earning performances on his way to \$5 million include:

**2021 TRFAM Million Dollar Competition 4th Place**

aboard No Smoking Required, owned by Schmersal/Thorsport Inc. and bred by Carluccio Orsi, earning \$65,000

**2019 NRHA L4 Open Derby 4th Place**

aboard No Smoking Required, owned by Schmersal/Thorsport Inc. and bred by Carluccio Orsi, earning \$40,545

**2019 NRHA L4 Open Futurity 8th Place**

aboard Starjac Vintage, owned by Teton Ridge and bred by Petra Zeitler, earning \$29,791

**2019 NRHA L4 Open Futurity 11th Place**

aboard Pale Whiz, owned by Thorsport Inc. and bred by Hickory Creek Ranch LLC, earning \$20,316

Founded in 1966, the National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of the reining horse in a fun-filled, family atmosphere. NRHA's mission is to promote the reining horse worldwide while celebrating and advancing the finest traditions of Western horsemanship. To learn more about NRHA, how to join, or to become a fan, visit [nrha.com](http://nrha.com).

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## NEW EQUESTRIAN VENUE ALERT

The Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors approved an application in Strasburg for a special events center by Tumbling Run Ranch & Rodeo Co. Expected to have a full slate of bulls, barrel racing and broncos at the rodeo events. Beside the local fair circuit, there is not many rodeos in that area. So this will be a great expansion to the I-81 corridor for equestrian events.



## ***Equine Abuse and Neglect Resources Available for Veterinarians and Law Enforcement***

The Welfare & Public Policy Advisory Council of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) encourages the veterinary community and law enforcement agencies to access free veterinarian-developed resources to support the investigation of abuse and neglect cases involving horses and other equids.

Created by the Council and available to veterinarians and the public, the online resources address the veterinarian's role in assessing and reporting equine abuse and neglect, a practical guide for law enforcement, the prosecution of equine abuse cases, and much more.

All AAEP equine abuse, neglect and abandonment resources can be accessed online at this link.

***<https://aaep.org/owner-guidelines/equine-welfare>***

“Our goal is to empower law enforcement and prepare veterinarians for the investigation process,” said Dr. Alina Vale, chair of the AAEP Welfare & Public Policy Advisory Council. “We appreciate individuals who report concerns about potential equine neglect and abuse violations. Given the link between animal abuse and interpersonal violence, investigating animal welfare concerns can uncover human victims as well.”

The Council also shares key points from the association's policy statement, AAEP Principles of Equine Welfare:

- Equids must be provided with water, food, proper handling, health care and an environment appropriate to their use, with thoughtful consideration for their species-typical biology and behavior.
- Equids should be cared for in ways that minimize fear, pain, stress, and suffering.
- Events and activities involving equids should continually strive to put the horse first above all other interests.
- Equine industry organizations should identify areas where equids are being subjected to adverse procedures or training methods and work to eliminate any inhumane acts.

The full statement is available at the link below.

***<https://aaep.org/aaep-principles-equine-welfare-2016>***

The AAEP encourages its members to proactively establish a relationship with local law enforcement to prevent equine neglect and abuse and to form a strong team when faced with a case involving equine welfare.

***For more information about available resources or the work of the AAEP Welfare & Public Policy Advisory Council, contact Sally Baker at [sbaker@aaep.org](mailto:sbaker@aaep.org) or (859) 233-0147.***



**American Association  
of Equine Practitioners**

## ***Equestrian Journalist L.A. Sokolowski Honored with Lifetime Achievement Award***



Albany, NY — September 12, 2023 —

Elite Equestrian fashion editor and award-winning journalist L.A. Sokolowski is among seven Life-Time Achievement Honorees being recognized Saturday night, October 7, at the 10 Year Anniversary Gala of the Chapters Rap/Chapters Network Community Support Services at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside, New York.

The guest host and Triple Crown season co-host on the Long Island-based talk show with Chapters Rap Network founder, Steve Vaccaro, says, “Working with Steve has introduced me to a new diverse audience outside the (horse) box. The Chapters Community mission to educate, empower and advocate has never felt more like the right place at the right time to talk about what horses can bring into our lives.”

L.A. joins former Joan Jett & Blackhearts guitarist Ricky Byrd; two-time world heavyweight boxing contender Gerry Cooney; Latin bandleader Tito Puente, Jr.; cardiologist Dr. Pilar Stevens Cohen; Ms. Senior New York Pageant state administrator Marleen Schuss, and senior vice president of UC TFC at Cayuga Centers, Jessica Oliveira Haddad as this year's Chapters Community Life-Time Achievement Honorees.

She has also recently accepted an invitation from the International Society for Equitation Science to join its ISES 2024 A Good Life For Horses scientific abstracts review team.





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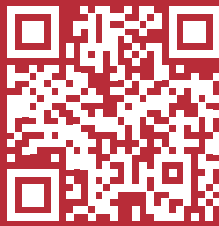
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## Welsh Ponies

Georgia Andrews

Recently we had the pleasure of rescuing a Welsh Pony that had been abandoned on a cattle farm. That got me thinking about all things Welsh!

Welsh ponies are a popular breed of pony known for their intelligence, versatility, and friendly disposition. They originate from Wales, which is part of the United Kingdom, and they have a rich history dating back many centuries. Welsh ponies come in several different sections or types, each with its own unique characteristics:

- Welsh Mountain Pony (Section A): These are the smallest of the Welsh pony sections, standing around 11 to 12.2 hands high (44-50 inches). They are known for their hardiness and adaptability and are often used as children's ponies or for driving.
- Welsh Pony (Section B): Slightly larger than the Welsh Mountain Pony, Section B ponies typically stand between 12.2 and 13.2 hands high (50-54 inches). They are often used for riding and have elegant, athletic builds.
- Welsh Pony of Cob Type (Section C): Section C Welsh ponies are stronger and stockier than the previous sections, standing between 13.2 and 14.2 hands high (54-58 inches). They are versatile and can be used for both riding and driving.
- Welsh Cob (Section D): The Welsh Cob is the largest of the Welsh pony sections, standing above 14.2 hands high (58 inches or more). They are sturdy and powerful and are often used for riding, driving, and even light draft work.

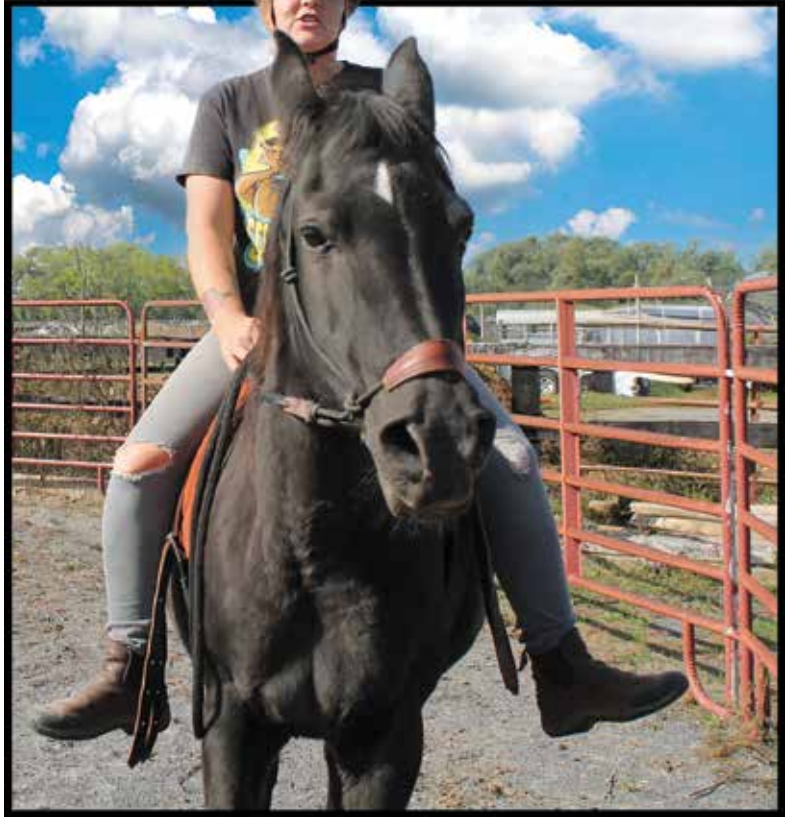
Welsh ponies are known for their kind and friendly nature, which makes them excellent choices for children

and novice riders. They are often used in various equestrian disciplines, including show jumping, dressage, eventing, and driving. Their adaptability, intelligence, and willingness to work make them well-suited for a wide range of activities. They also cross well with other horse and pony breeds.

In addition to their work capabilities, Welsh ponies also come in a variety of coat colors and patterns, including bay, chestnut, gray, and black. They are known for their distinctive, attractive appearance.

Whether you're looking for a pony for riding, driving, or simply as a companion animal, Welsh ponies are a popular choice due to their charming personalities and versatility.

*Abandoned on a farm in Frederick County, VA, Chili Pepper has come for a stay with SVERN, until we can find her a forever home.*



*Shannon testing our newest arrival. Chili Pepper.*







# Copenhagen: The Duke of Wellington's Mount

Georgia Andrews

*The Duke of Wellington upon Copenhagen at the Battle of Waterloo, courtesy of North Wind Picture Archives/Alamy, via The Guardian*

“There may have been many faster horses, no doubt many handsomer, but for bottom and endurance I never saw his fellow.”

– *Arthur Wellesley,  
Duke of Wellington*

Of mixed Thoroughbred and Arabian parentage, Copenhagen was the famous horse ridden by the Duke of Wellington during his campaigns against the forces of Napoleon Bonaparte. Foaled in 1808, Copenhagen was named after the British victory at the Second Battle of Copenhagen.

Standing at 15 hands high and with remarkable endurance, Copenhagen's career began as a racing horse, winning two races and finishing at least third in his total of 12 starts. In 1812, Copenhagen retired from racing and was taken to Lisbon. At the time, the British were fighting the French during the Peninsular War. Copenhagen was sold to a colonel (sources vary on the name) who gifted the famous horse to the Duke of Wellington.

Wellington rode Copenhagen in a number of battles, including the Battle of Waterloo, where Copenhagen held his owner in the saddle for 17 hours straight. After the battle, the Duke dismounted and gave his horse a pat on the flank. Copenhagen was not impressed and kicked at the Duke's head, narrowly avoiding contact.

Copenhagen continued to serve the Duke during the occupation of France. While many war horses had similar careers and exploits, Copenhagen was a constant feature when depicting the Duke, a hero that saved Europe from Napoleon. In doing so, Copenhagen became an inarguably famous horse.

Locks of his hair were made into keepsakes, and Copenhagen enjoyed the parades and spectacles in which he took part. After his death in 1836 at the age of 28, Copenhagen was buried with full military honors. Nevertheless, the Duke fell into a rage at the funeral when he noticed one of the horse's hoofs had been removed as a souvenir. The hoof in question was eventually bought by a farmer who promptly returned it to the Duke.



*Head-on view of Copenhagen in the Wellington Statue designed by Matthew Cotes Wyatt and unveiled in 1846. The second Duke thought that the horse's face was a good likeness of Copenhagen. courtesy of WyrdLight.com, creativecommons.org via Wikimedia Commons*



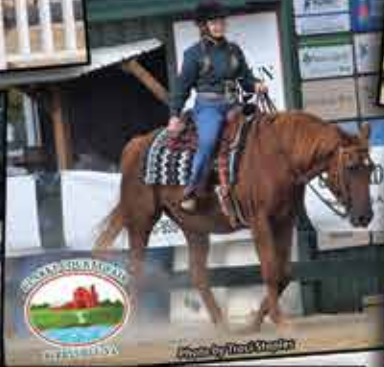
*Copenhagen as painted in his retirement by Samuel Spode.*



**It was a Great Year for Shows & Events!!  
Congratulations to All Riders of All Ages that Competed.  
Thanks to All the Farms that Continue to Host Each Year.  
Here are a few highlights from around the area...**

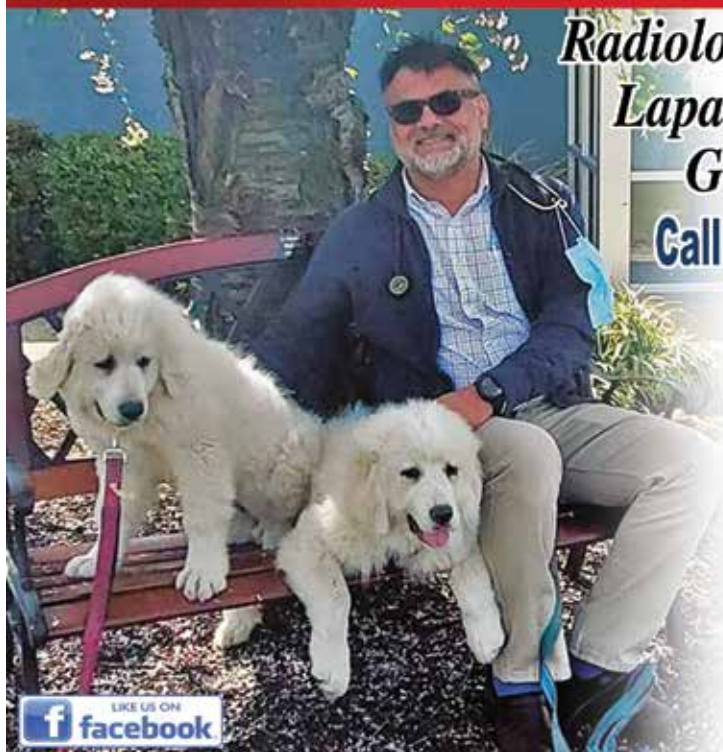








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## Jodi

(11 years old, Approximately 16hh)

Jodi is OTTB. Jodi is a delight to ride always willing to do what is asked of her. Jodi can go any direction and has no health concerns.

Jodi will be up for adoption early November her adoption fee is TBD.

## Large Marge

(15 years old, Approximately 16.3hh)

Large Marge (OTTB) is a big girl, but she has one of the sweetest personalities. Marge has been restarted at SVERN and will need to go to at least an intermediate riding home, or someone working with a trainer. She is very willing, but needs a patient hand to guide her along.

Marge is currently up for adoption and her adoption fee is 1,000



## Trudy

(10 years old, 15hh)

Trudy is a short little thing! She is a Thoroughbred and not tattooed. We believe her to be unbroke after doing some groundwork. Meaning someone will have a wonderful blank canvas to work with because Trudy is so sweet with a great brain! She is always willing to do whatever is asked of her and has become a volunteer favorite.

Trudy's adoption fee is currently 800.



## Buttons

(15 years old, 16hh)

Buttons (OTTB) is our little one eyed wonder here at SVERN. We do not have history on why her eye is missing, but it doesn't slow her down at all. Buttons is a fun ride with so much hidden potential. She just needs to right horse to finish bringing her along. Buttons will do best with someone that has training experience or that is working along with a trainer.

She requires patience and trust building, but she is so worth the effort!

Buttons adoption fee is 1,000.



## Stella

(10 years old, 16hh)

Stella is a thoroughbred that is not tattooed and has not had a lot of handling. She is very willing once she understands the task. Stella is going to need a very experienced home where she can blossom. Stella's great with being haltered, groomed, and is very sweet and very trainable.

Stella's adoption fee is 500.



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Nashville Recording Artist

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THOMPSON**



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<https://www.templetonthompson.com>

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*A Few More Picts From the Clarke County Fair Horse Show...*





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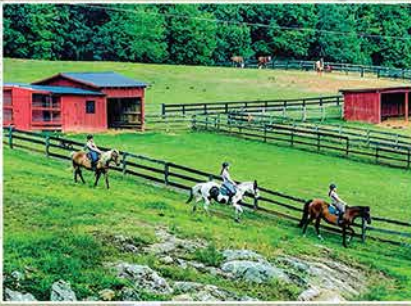
2437 Funny Farm Road, Reva VA 22735  
703-282-0540 | [sharon@revaridgefarm.com](mailto:sharon@revaridgefarm.com)

## 2024 Camp Dates

(\$2,200.00 per week)

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[RevaRidgeFarm.com](http://RevaRidgeFarm.com)  
For Updates

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# Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

## Payton and Maddie Roberston



Payton&Maddie with Chili Pepper of SVERN's rescued horses.

Payton and Maddie Roberston are sisters from Clarke County. Payton is in 3rd grade and Maddie is in 2nd grade. They both attend DG Cooley Elementary school. The girls enjoy being apart of the community and learning about the animals around them. They both belong to the 4H Light Horse and Pony club as well as the Dairy Club. If they are not with their friends or around animals they are creating content and going on adventures to share with their followers on Instagram as El & Ruthie @elruthie.

When volunteering at SVERN I feel happy. I love feeding the horse and brushing them. ~ Maddie

The SVERN Barn gives love, care & health to the horses. They are treated with respect and kindness while getting better on their journey to find a new home. ~ Payton

*If you have a volunteer on your farm that you would love to tell the world about and give a very big thank you to. Send us their bio and a picture.*





### Equestrian Competitions

N	S	G	N	I	T	N	U	H	X	O	F	E	S
A	A	C	I	G	S	D	G	G	E	S	A	B	H
I	D	G	J	P	I	A	N	N	V	H	B	E	O
R	G	N	A	O	D	D	I	E	O	A	S	W	
T	I	I	U	I	E	P	D	C	N	W	R	A	J
S	E	G	L	N	S	E	I	A	T	H	R	H	U
E	N	G	L	T	A	G	R	R	I	U	E	C	M
U	D	E	A	T	D	A	L	S	N	N	L	E	P
Q	U	P	B	O	D	S	I	S	G	T	R	L	I
E	R	T	E	P	L	S	A	E	A	E	A	P	N
A	A	N	S	O	E	E	R	N	I	R	C	E	G
R	N	E	R	I	S	R	T	R	E	R	I	E	S
A	C	T	O	N	L	D	I	A	N	V	N	T	A
P	E	N	H	T	E	X	E	H	P	D	G	S	T

- HORSEBALL
- TENTPEGGING
- FOXHUNTING
- BARRELRACING
- STEEPLECHASE
- TRAILRIDING
- ENDURANCE
- SHOWHUNTER
- POINTTOPOINT
- SIDESADDLE
- PARAEQUESTRIAN
- SHOWJUMPING
- DRESSAGE
- HARNESSRACING
- EVENTING

**This Is A Hard One!  
Lil Joe & MarshMellow Have To Get  
To The Trailer, For Their Ride To The Fair.**

**OH NO! LUCY WANTS TO PLAY**

**Please Donate:**



LIL JOE HAS A NEW FRIEND  
IN THE Paddock.  
HER NAME IS


# HONEY



**GRAB YOUR  
CRAYONS...  
IT'S COLORING TIME!!**



**WHAT DID THE MOTHER HORSE  
SAY TO HER FOAL?  
IT'S PASTURE BED TIME!**



**WHAT DO YOU CALL  
A HORSE THAT LIKES TO  
STAY UP LATE?**



**DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT COLOR A  
WELSH COB IS?**

**WHY DO COWBOYS LIKE TO RIDE HORSES?  
BECAUSE THEY'RE TOO HEAVY TO CARRY.**

**A NIGHTMARE**



**WAIT... YOU GUYS  
HAVE YOUR OWN PAGE?  
LUCY WANTS IN ON THIS!  
I HAVE SOME FUN STUFF  
FOR NEXT YEAR!!**



**Virginia Horse Shows Association, Inc.**  
*ASSOCIATE: LOCAL SCHOOLING*

October 7	Topline Horse Center	H/E/J/ M	Yorktown, VA
October 7	Autumn Olive Farm	H/E	Goochland, VA
October 7	Whitestone Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
October 7	Whippoorwill Farm	H/E/J	Shackelfords, VA
October 7	Fox Pointe Farm	H/E	Quinton, VA
October 7	Atlantic Saddle Club	H/E	TBD
October 7	Farmington Hunt Club		
	Fall Show @ The Barracks	H/E	Charlottesville, VA
October 7	Level Green	H/E/ M	Powhatan, VA
October 7-8	TWA Hunter & Jumper Summer Series	H/E/J	Warrenton, VA
October 8	EKG Stables	H/E/ M	Spotsylvania, VA
October 8	Sandstone Farm	J	Millwood, VA
October 8	CVSJA	J	Manakin-Sabot, VA
October 14	Four Oaks Farm	H/E	Palmyra, VA
October 14	Turner Farm Events	H/E	Great Falls, VA
October 14	MP Horse Show	H/E	Manakin-Sabot, VA
October 14	Willow Pond Farm	H/E	Toano, VA
October 14	West Neck Creek Equestrian Center	H/E	Virginia Beach, VA
October 14-15	House Mountain	H/E/J/ M	Lexington, VA
October 15	Southern Heritage Farm	H/E	Midland, VA
October 15	Lake of the Woods	H/E	Locust Grove, VA
October 15	Areion Equestrian	H/E/J/ M	Newport News, VA
October 15	Sandstone Farm	H/E/ M	Millwood, VA
October 21	Silver Lining Farm	H/E	Manakin-Sabot, VA
October 21	Atlantic Saddle Club	H/E	TBD
October 21	Hanover Heritage Equestrian Center	H/E/ M	Hanover, VA
October 21-22	Bridlewood Farm	H/E	Chesapeake, VA
October 22	Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
October 22	Hunter Lane Stables	H/E	Chesterfield, VA
October 22	CVSJA	J	Manakin-Sabot, VA
October 28	Randolph-Macon Equestrian Center	H/E	Ashland, VA
October 28	Woodpecker Farm	H/E	Woodford, VA
October 29	BHSA Fall Finale Hunter Show @ Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Spotsylvania, VA
<b>November 8-12</b>	<b>Jump 4 the Children Benefit 1 "AA"</b>	<b>H/J</b>	<b>Raleigh, NC</b>
November 9-12	VHSA Associate Championship Horse Show	H/E	Lexington, VA
November 14	West Neck Creek Equestrian Center	H/E	Virginia Beach, VA
November 14-15	House Mountain	H/E/J/ M	Lexington, VA
November 15	Southern Heritage Farm	H/E	Midland, VA
November 15	Lake of the Woods	H/E	Locust Grove, VA
November 15	Areion Equestrian	H/E/J/ M	Newport News, VA
November 15	Sandstone Farm	H/E/ M	Millwood, VA
<b>November 15-19</b>	<b>Jump 4 the Children Benefit 2 "AA"</b>	<b>H/J</b>	<b>Raleigh, NC</b>
November 21	Silver Lining Farm	H/E	Manakin-Sabot, VA
November 21	Atlantic Saddle Club	H/E	TBD
November 21	Hanover Heritage Equestrian Center	H/E/ M	Hanover, VA
November 21-22	Bridlewood Farm	H/E	Chesapeake, VA
November 22	Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Fredericksburg, VA
November 22	Hunter Lane Stables	H/E	Chesterfield, VA
November 22	CVSJA	J K	Manakin-Sabot, VA
November 28	Randolph-Macon Equestrian Center	H/E	Ashland, VA
November 28	Woodpecker Farm	H/E	Woodford, VA
November 29	BHSA Fall Finale Hunter Show @ Hazelwild Farm	H/E	Spotsylvania, VA

For Contact Info: [vhsa.com/Horse-Show-Calendar](http://vhsa.com/Horse-Show-Calendar)



**Battlefield Equestrian Society**  
**Battlefield Horse Show Association**



**2023 BHS Fall Finale Horse Show**

October 29, 2023 • Hazelwild Farm

\*VHSA Assoc. & BHS Sanctioned \*TIP Classes offered.  
 \*BHS Bonus show - to count in addition to Top 10 Shows  
 Judges: Dede Shumate (Indoor) • Christopher Webb (Outdoor)  
 Pre-Entry Deadline: October 25th at Midnight

**PHSA Rated Performance Horse Shows**

October 11	CJL Inc. Horse Shows	Elverson
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**PHSA Rated Regional Horse Shows**

October 14	Brass Ring @ WyndSOR	Elverson
December 16	Brass Ring @ WyndSOR	Elverson

**PHSA Rated Breeding Horse Shows**

November 2-5	23 Mid Atlantic Autumn Classic	Littlestown
November 9	Swan Lake Harvest Classic	Littlestown
November 11	CJL Inc. Horse Shows	Elverson



October 13-15	NEST	Brave Horse, Johnstown, OH
October 21-22	Chagrin Unrated	Chagrin Valley Farms, OH

**AQHA** | **AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**

**AQHA Racing**

- October 21 – Bank of America Racing Challenge Championships and AQHA Racing Conference  
 Lonestar Park at Grand Prairie in Grand Prairie, Texas

**AQHA Championship Shows**

- October 26 - November 18 – Farnam AQHA World Championship Show;  
 Adequan® AQHA Select World Championship Show, Level 2 Championships  
 OKC Fairgrounds in Oklahoma City

**American Quarter Horse Youth Association**

- October 19-22 – AQHYA National Racing Experience at the Bank of America Challenge Championships  
 Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, Texas
- November 2-4 – Heritage Place Fall Sale in Oklahoma, City
- November 4-5 – Clovis Horse Sale in Levelland, Texas



**MHSA Rated Show** *MARYLAND HORSE SHOW ASSOCIATION*

October 19-22 WIHS Regional Horse Show R - C; MHSA - CA; L; T; J  
 & USHJA Zone 3 Championship  
 The Salem Farm Show Grounds - Upperville, VA  
 Lara McPherson - 202-525-3679 lara@wihs.org

**MHSA Regional Show**

October 7 AGS Snowflake Series MHSA - APGLC; LL, LS, SS; T  
 Berlin, MD  
 Kristie Naughton - 410-430-9072 • autumngrovestables@yahoo.com

November 3-5 MD Regional Championship Show MHSA - LL, LS, SS; T; J  
 Upper Marlboro, MD  
 Jamie Suchoski - 410-340-5793 besthorseshow@gmail.com

For Contact and Other Info. Visit Maryland Horse Shows Association website: [mdhsa.org/calendars/](http://mdhsa.org/calendars/)



**Maryland Dressage Association** [marylanddressage.org](http://marylanddressage.org)

October 22 MDA Finals Baltimore County AG Center



**Western Dressage Association** [westerndressageassociation.org](http://westerndressageassociation.org)

October 15-16 WDAVA Fall Show Airfield 4-H Wakefield, VA  
 October 28 Classical & Western Schooling Show Airfield 4-H Wakefield, VA



**Virginia Dressage Association** [virginiadressage.org](http://virginiadressage.org)

October 5-8 Great American IG/Region 1 Championships/VADA Fall Competition  
 Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, Virginia



**Maryland Horse Trials** Adamstown, MD

October 6-8 USEA MDHT #3 REC HT+AREA 2 CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 October 14-15 MDHT Starter HT  
 October 16-22 XC Schooling On Competition Course  
 October 16-17 Succeed® XC Master Class With Lucinda Green  
 October 28 PYT Dressage & Show Jump Rounds  
 November 4-5 MDHT Starter HT & Championships



For Contact & Show Info: [themarylandhorsetrials.com/calendar-lochmoy](http://themarylandhorsetrials.com/calendar-lochmoy)

**Maryland Open Horse Show Series** - Schooley Mill Park

**October 8**  
**October 29**

For Contact Info: [mohssinfo.com/show-registration](http://mohssinfo.com/show-registration)





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