

Bits & Paces

Showing Off!

Our students show their stuff at our annual horse show (story on page 3).



Congratulations Dr. Genovese

Our congratulations go out to **Dr. Ronald L. Genovese**, VMD, for winning the PATH International, Region 4 Volunteer Veterinarian of the Year Award. Dr. Genovese specializes in lameness issues in horses and is recognized internationally as an authority on tendon and ligament scanning. His practice, **Cleveland Equine Clinic**, is located in Ravenna.

"Dr. G" as we call him, has donated countless hours over many years, giving our therapy horses the expert treatment they need. He is truly an exceptional individual and we are so lucky to have his support. Dr. G is more than a vet; he is a legend in his field. Thanks Dr. G for all your help – we are thrilled that you have been recognized for your dedication and generosity.



Injured Marine Shurvon Phillip Gains Strength

It didn't take long for Marine Sergeant Shurvon Phillip to discover that carriage driving was for him. After his first time in a carriage his Mom asked what he thought, and Shurvon who is not able to speak, typed on his iPad, "I lovvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvvv."

Since that September day, he has been coming to Fieldstone Farm every Monday night to meet up with his horse, May, his instructor, Don, and the many helpful volunteers. His Mom says he can't wait for his lesson every week.

Shurvon suffered a traumatic brain injury after his Humvee hit an IED in Iraq in 2005. It has been a long road to recovery. He has had several operations, months of hospitalizations and countless hours of therapy. All of those things, along with the unconditional love of his mother and sister have helped him pull through. Today he gets around in a wheelchair and is able to take a few steps at a time. He communicates with his iPad or by closing his eyes for "no" and raising his eyebrows for "yes."

Since his first lesson, he has greatly increased the strength in his neck and can now drive the carriage without his neck rest. The gait of the walk and the trot helps him build strength in both his neck and abdomen. His Mom said that when she was dressing him the other day, he tried to poke his head through his shirt. It nearly brought her to tears. "It's about baby steps," she said. She attributes much of his neck strength to carriage driving. She also believes driving at the barn lifts his spirits, which is a tremendous benefit to someone who has been involved in a traumatic and life-changing accident.

On Veterans Day, Fieldstone Farm invited **Channel 3** to meet Shurvon. They produced a story about Shurvon's journey for the news that night. It just so happened that another Marine veteran also injured by an IED in Iraq saw the story and remembered his friend Shurvon. **Jim Alunni** quickly called Fieldstone Farm and told us that he served with Shurvon. "Can I come out and see him?" he asked. They were reunited a week later.

Thank you to the **TurtleCon Foundation** and the **Ohio Professional Horsemen's Association** for their ongoing support of this important program to help those who have so generously served our country. If you are interested in our Veterans Program, please call 440-708-0013.



Shurvon and his mother enjoy Veterans Week in New York.



Shurvon meets fellow military veteran Jim Alunni.



VICTORY SOCIETY

We are extremely grateful to our Victory Society members who have named Fieldstone Farm in their wills, bequests, insurance policies, IRAs or another form of planned giving. For more information please contact Maureen Foster at (440) 708-0013, ext. 123.

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Chefs Unbridled Raises Record Dollars

Chefs Unbridled was Fieldstone Farm's biggest fundraising event ever with a sell-out crowd of 600 guests who gathered at the **Hunt Club Polo Field** in Gates Mills to help raise a record net of \$160,000 for therapeutic riding programs.

"The event was a huge success. The food was amazing, the **Cleveland Jazz Orchestra** was incredible and the venue was perfect! Our guests had a great time and we were able to raise more money for our programs than we have at any other event!" said Development Director and event organizer **Maureen Foster**.

Guests raved about the culinary creations of chefs who were stars of the evening including: **Chris Hodgson of HODGES, Jeff Jarrett of AMP 150, Melissa Khoury of The Welshfield Inn, Scott Kuhn of Driftwood Catering, Matt Mytro of Flour and Jonathon Sawyer of The Greenhouse Tavern and Noodlecat.**

The carriage rides through the village of Gates Mills were a highlight of the evening

as guests boarded a carriage pulled by two beautiful white draft horses. We extend our appreciation to our many generous sponsors of the Chefs Unbridled event.

A special thanks to:

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Again, our sincere thanks to all of our sponsors! You made the event a terrific success and we are very grateful!



Banjo and Quin having fun in the pond.



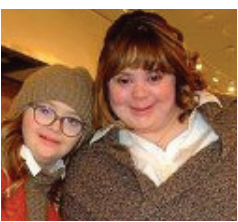
Telling our Story

We have just produced a new video showing how Fieldstone Farm is changing the lives of our students. The video features the stories of four of our Fieldstone Farm students, **David Clough, Sydney Corcoran, Josh Stephany, and Charlie Velotta**. Please go to our website to check it out, www.fieldstonefarmtrc.com. And a big thanks to **second story productions** for their great work on this important project.

Annual Horse Show Inspires All

Our annual horse show is always an inspiration to all. Below are the reflections of **Lynn Netschke**, one of our volunteer leaders, who had the opportunity this year to view the show from behind the lens of her camera. She tells how it gave her a new perspective on Fieldstone Farm. Several of her pictures from the show are included in this issue of the newsletter.

"The show was a very moving experience for me. When you photograph an event, and view it through your lens, it gives a lot of clarity, as well as, an overview of what is happening. Instead of focusing on one aspect of the process, I am able to step back and view the process, as a whole. Being a volunteer, and usually with school groups, the horse show brought into clear focus the enormous benefits of Fieldstone's mission. Watching all aspects of the process, from the staff, volunteers, students, family and friends it really made me realize again what a wonderfully strong and supportive community we are all lucky enough to be a part of. In particular, witnessing the joy of accomplishment on the faces of students, and their family and friends is a very intimate moment when viewed through the lens of a camera. I felt very blessed to realize that I am a part of something so much bigger than myself."



An avid advocate for people with Down syndrome and other disabilities, **Sara Wolff** inspired an audience of parents, educators, volunteers and students at Fieldstone Farm as she told her personal story about living with Down syndrome. Full of insight beyond her 30 years, Sara demonstrated how one can embrace their disability and go on to live a productive life full of possibilities.

Congratulations Students

Congratulations to all of the equestrians whose skills dazzled their friends and families during the Fall Student Horse Show including:



Katy looks neatly turned out while riding Rudy with instructor Carey Smith-Wilson.

- Elizabeth Beemiller, Kayla Bennett, Justin Berg, Aaron Broadstreet, Lindsay Campbell, Sydney Corcoran, Oliver Dalby, Lauren Damian, Olivia Depiore, Katherine Devonshire, Megan Donohue, Chaz Fitzgerald, Samantha Francetic, Peyton Giesey, Kayla Goodman, Imani Hammond, Leah Hopson, Chelsea Jerina, Quinn Klosky, Kathy Krutyholowa, Dylan Lemaster, Conor L'Esperance, Laura Little, Matt Luciano, Cody Lyons, James McNeil, Avery Mitchell, Amanda Morgan, Jeeval Nadar, James Nelson, Peter Pogacar, Tim Raia, Wayne Randall, Joe Regan, April Rose, John Ross, Alexis Schween, Wil Searby, Dawud Sharrieff, Elise Sullivan, Stephen Sydenstricker, Hope Welsh, Katie White, Bryce Wilson, Francine Wooley and Alexa Ziegler.**



Bryce demonstrates his two-point on Benny with volunteer Betsy Sawyer on lead.



Aaron Finds Peace Riding Augie

"Riding horses helps ground Aaron," says Taff, mother of 23-year-old Aaron, who has Asperger's syndrome. "Aaron needs to put himself in a peaceful place. On Augie, he feels free and at peace."

Sensory overload is a common experience for people with Asperger's. Aaron is troubled with reoccurring thoughts of unjust things like angry faces or bullying, which create anxiety and stress for him. He says it makes his heart and head hurt. Aaron always has a "buzz" in his head; he must continually navigate through faces and noises, and he is always thinking, mulling and observing. He doesn't like to be alone with his thoughts. Activities that occupy his mind and command his full attention, such as riding Augie, or his other hobbies – working with his butterfly collection, playing chess with his chess club or adding to his model train collection – are essential to his happiness.

Riding engages Aaron's mind, body and spirit. "Mom," he says, "I just love horseback riding."

Aaron connects to the world through immersion in activities that he loves and things that give him confidence. Riding Augie is like meditation for him. "Because I ride at Fieldstone Farm, my heart feels free," relates Aaron.



United Way & Community Shares

As you plan your United Way or Community Shares giving, think of Fieldstone Farm. Even though we are not officially on the United Way or Community Shares lists, you may write in Fieldstone Farm and your donation will go toward supporting our programs. We really appreciate your consideration.

Donor Spotlights

We would like to acknowledge some of our donors in the past few months. We are grateful to them for their part in making more of our students' "Victories" possible.

ESCO Technologies Foundation generously donated to our Ridership Program to support students who are part of our school programming. These students come to Fieldstone with their school classrooms to further advance their educational goals through our programs, which are aligned with the Ohio Academic Standards. Many schools could not participate in our programs without the help of foundations like ESCO Technologies Foundation.

We are very grateful to have the ongoing support of **Jill Harrington McLaughlin and The Harrington Family Foundation**. The Harrington family not only supports our areas of greatest need with their unrestricted donations, but they also were generous sponsors at Chefs Unbridled. Thank you so much to the entire Harrington family!

Thank you to **Betsy Juliano** who recently donated toward our Instructor Advancement and

Education Fund, helping our staff to maintain the highest level of education and training. Betsy and her company, **Litigation Management**, also sponsored Chefs Unbridled at the Reserve level. Thank you, Betsy!

Jeff Weiss and his wife, Lisa, were able to attend our student horse show this September and watch our riders first-hand. They presented ribbons to the students and were deeply touched by the experience. We were so glad that they could attend our students' big day at the farm. Jeff's father, William, was a strong supporter of our program until he passed away in July. Jeff has continued his father's interest through donations from his fund – **The William M. Weiss Foundation**. Thank you, Jeff and Lisa.

The Wolf Family Foundation once again donated to support Chefs Unbridled, maintenance projects around the farm, and the Arena RX (polymer applied to the arena footing to control dust for our students, horses and volunteers). Thank you Wolf Family for your tremendous ongoing help toward so many important projects over the years!

Bob Crump and Danielle Rose Will be Missed

Our hearts go out to the families of **Bob Crump and Danielle Rose** who passed away in September.

Bob was a TRC Foundation Trustee who helped our program founder, **Kevin Ellison**, with all of the legal aspects of setting up our organization 34 years ago. He assisted in so many capacities over the years that he was recognized in 2001 as one of our Fieldstone Farm "Grand Champions."

Danielle was a regular weekly lesson volunteer for more than five years. Danielle's dedication was inspiring to everyone around her.

They will both be dearly missed.



Daisy is a 19-year-old Clydesdale donated by Richard Hancock.



Dillon, a 5-year old Spotted Draft, is a very handsome fellow.

- Barn & Horses Wish List**
 - Corn brooms
 - Large push brooms
 - Molasses for horse treats
 - Muck buckets
 - Plastic replacement pick heads
 - Polo wraps
 - Pull on Bell Boots – Medium or Large
 - Salt blocks – small 4lbs. block size
-
- Maintenance Wish List**
 - Batteries (9-volt or AA)
 - Garden Tools (rakes, hand trimmers, gloves)
 - 600-800# Ratchet tie down straps
 - Dryer sheets
 - Duct tape
 - Garden hoses and wheeled hose caddy
 - Garden rakes, gloves and trimmers
 - Liquid laundry detergent
 - Plastic Laundry baskets
 - Plastic or vinyl tarps - any size
 - Pressurized grease gun
 - Small hand trimmers/nippers
 - Towels or shop towels
 - Trouble light
 - Wood materials to build run-in shed



Meet Nick, one of our new horses. He is a 5-year-old Haflinger donated by Mary Sollan.



with Gratitude

Fieldstone Farm extends its gratitude to these supporters for their generous donations. The following list includes contributions made from **July 1st, 2012 through September 30th, 2012**. If your name is incorrect or inadvertently omitted, please contact our office.

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Frankie enjoying the sunshine through his window.

Giving Trees

Be sure to check out our giving trees during the holiday season to help purchase much needed wish list items and gift cards for our horses and farm. Thank you to our sponsor locations:

- **Sears Hardware** in Bainbridge
- **Big D's Tack** in Streetsboro
- **Schneider's Saddlery** in Bainbridge
- **Western Reserve Feed** in 3 locations:
 - Middlefield
 - Ravenna
 - Chardon

Thank you to the stores and customers for helping to support the farm!



Welcome to the newest member of our herd, Empire, who was donated in October by Ali Mandovi. He is an 11-year-old, 16.1 hand, handsome chestnut Oldenburg gelding.



FIELDSTONE FARM

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