



Bits & Paces

Winter 2015/2016



Inner-city kids gain confidence

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Veterans find hope and strength

Working with horses helps veterans heal from the emotional and physical scars of military service. They find confidence, peace, tolerance, hope and solidarity while bonding with these gentle creatures.

Fieldstone Farm serves as a safe place where veterans share their experiences and find comfort and strength from our horses. While grooming, walking with the horses, role playing with the herd in the ring, riding or getting behind a horse-drawn carriage, veterans learn ways to overcome the struggles of everyday civilian life that are difficult to discover in a traditional therapy setting.

Our partnerships with Case Western Reserve University, the Veterans Administration, Volunteers of America, Wounded Warrior Project and Ohio Military Kids help us to develop relevant and meaningful programs for veterans and their families.

To learn more about our veterans programs, please call or email at veterans@fieldstonefarmtrc.com.



Photo by Creed Woodka



A father and his daughter work together as part of a special family program with Ohio Military Kids.

"With horses I don't feel threatened. I feel comfortable. I feel calm. Working with horses keeps me grounded. I feel an incredible connection with these horses. They teach me to be softer, kinder and more patient."

– Jen, U.S. Navy veteran



Tack sale comes home

Mark your calendar for April 29 and 30 when Fieldstone Farm will host our ever-popular Tack Sale to benefit our students. **New this year, the sale will be right at Fieldstone Farm** so that visitors can see the facility and students that they are supporting. We collect items throughout the year, so if you are interested in donating any gently used tack, drop it off at our farm between 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays. Shopping the sale is a great way to stock up on gently used items at great prices, while helping to support our programs.

Inner-city students gain confidence

Photos by Tammie Packer



Open Doors Academy brings students to Fieldstone Farm every summer to learn and grow from our horses. They work to build confidence, trust and respect while grooming and riding our horses.

Learning to control a 1,000-pound animal can be extremely empowering for these kids. And while grooming, students connect with the horses finding comfort and strength. For some students, working with horses immediately impacts their attitude toward learning and participating in a group.

Many of these kids have never had the opportunity to leave the city and enjoy a farm. They walk out of our barn doors with a greater belief in themselves and an experience that they will remember for a lifetime.



Welcome the newest members of our herd

Photos by Tammie Packer



▲ Anna, a 14-hand Norwegian Fjord, was donated last fall by **Jacki Vitullo**. She is quite the social gal and is very popular at the farm. Her registered name is Pine's Edge Annalise.



▲ Vinnie, a handsome 16.1 hand, black Quarter/Thoroughbred/Morgan Cross, was donated by **Sandra Crabtree** earlier this year. A well-mannered, experienced horse, Vinnie is a great mount for our independent riders.



▲ A 17-hand, Swedish Warmblood, bay gelding, Romeo was donated by **Wendy & Gaby Harris** earlier this year. Romeo is named after his show name Neverending Romance, which fits this good-looking crowd pleaser. His registered name is Nassau.



▲ Our first Gypsy Vanner, Lady G, was donated by **Dr. Diane Smith** earlier this year. She stands at 15.1 hands tall and is a sturdy built gal who is fitting nicely into our riding and driving programs.



Shrek, a 16-hand, chestnut, Belgian Quarter Horse Cross, was donated by **Gordon Cameron & Joan Musumeci**. He is a sweet guy and loves all of the attention he gets at Fieldstone Farm.

Congratulations Grand Champions

This June, we were delighted to induct (photo left to right) **James B. Naylor, IV**, **Robert I. Gale, III** and **Elizabeth B. Juliano** into our Grand Champions Circle for their extraordinary service and support of our program.



▲ **Ricky Vincent** donated Steadfast Cash last spring and he is already a mainstay in the barn. He is a registered palomino Quarter Horse and he's extremely friendly and laid back.



▲ **Black Mercedes Dash**, known in the barn as Dash, is an Appendix Quarter Horse. He was donated last spring by **Nancy Mills** and is an incredibly affectionate fellow.



Photo by Lynne Netschke

The distinction of Grand Champion is a means by which our Board of Trustees recognizes and extends its deepest gratitude to those exceptional supporters who have provided outstanding service to Fieldstone Farm over an extended period of time. These remarkable individuals, by virtue of their contributions of time, talent and treasure, have been indispensable keys to the success of our program. The Board of Trustees accords its deepest thanks and enduring appreciation to our Grand Champions.

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Billie Howland Steffee
Jean H. Taber
Andrea & Jim Thome

**Deceased*

Thank you Victory Society

We are grateful to all who have named Fieldstone Farm in their wills, bequests, insurance policies, IRAs or other forms of planned giving.

Anonymous
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Peter J. Pogacar
Diane & Robert Stahler
Billie Howland Steffee
Jean H. Taber
Anne Marie Kollander &
Mark W. Teague
**Deceased*

Rita rides at 91



Photo by Frank Gwirtz

After having back surgery years ago, Rita thought she would never ride again. But when she learned about Fieldstone Farm's programs for seniors, she was thrilled at the possibility of getting back in the saddle at the age of 91.

"It just feels so good to ride again," Rita says thinking of the days when she used to own horses, fox hunt and watch her kids compete on horseback.

"Rita is an inspiration," says Lauren Simak, her instructor, who loves working with Rita and is continually amazed at her stamina. "We are working on her balance, core strength and posture while she is in the saddle, all of which help her continue to stay active."

Cleveland hosts PATH International Conference

The 2015 PATH International Conference in Cleveland was a huge success with more than 500 visitors from all around the globe. Fieldstone Farm was delighted to host the demonstration day at our state-of-the-art facility where our experienced instructors and staff members, as well as our highly trained horses, took center stage.



Photo by Peter Cardello courtesy of PATH International

Carey Smith-Wilson, one of our instructors, demonstrates how to fit a saddle to scores of attendees, while May charms the crowd.

Congratulations riders!



Photo by Arlene Taylor

Jeeval Nadar smiles with instructor Lauren Simak after a great ride at our annual fall horse show.

Giving in December

The end-of-year giving season is a great time to make a donation to Fieldstone Farm and receive a tax deduction for this year. For those who itemize their deductions, gifts of money to Fieldstone Farm can generally be deducted up to 50 percent of an individual's adjusted gross income. Donations of other assets such as securities can generally be deducted up to 30 percent. Any amounts that cannot be deducted in this year can be carried forward up to five years. Donations to Fieldstone Farm make it possible for us to continue to serve those with special needs and challenges.

(Thank you goes to Casey Holzapfel, an attorney with Tucker Ellis, for contributing this explanation for Fieldstone Farm.)

Chefs Unbridled sets record

Chefs Unbridled continues to top fundraising records each year and this year was no exception as it raised an unprecedented net of \$240,000 for our students. A huge thank you goes out to all of our sponsors, attendees, chefs and volunteers who helped make it such a great success. We are extremely grateful for all of your support.



Photo by Lynne Netschke

▲ Our chefs, led by **Chris Hodgson** and **Scott Kuhn**, smile after cooking up their incredibly delicious dishes for our 600 attendees.



Photo by Lynne Netschke

◀ *"Fieldstone Farm is such an incredible organization. The love and support they show their students is so inspiring. We are proud to be involved with people who are so selfless and determined to make a difference."*

Marti and Chris Nagel (Chris is formerly of Fairmount Santrol – sponsor of the Chefs Unbridled event)

Thank you donors

We are grateful for the generous support from our donors that make it possible for us to serve those with special needs and challenges. For a full list of our donors from January through September of 2015, please go to our website, www.fieldstonefarmtrc.com.

Giving trees

While shopping this holiday season, make sure to check out the giving trees at **Sear's Hardware** of Bainbridge, **Schneider Saddlery**, **Big D's Tack** and **Western Reserve Feed** of Chardon to purchase much needed items for the farm. Thank you to our generous store sponsors.

Barn wish list

- Big Fella elastic leg straps
- Corn brooms
- Cowboy Magic mane and tail detangler
- Elastic leg straps
- Electric coffee grinder
- Fortiflex corner feeders – no lip – black or green
- Fortiflex flat back 5-gallon buckets – black, burgundy, green or blue
- Hoof picks without the brush
- Large velcro bell boots – any color
- Medium velcro bell boots – any color
- 100-gallon Rubbermaid stock tanks
- Rubbermaid stock tank drain plug
- Universal drain plug de-icer

Thank you photographers

A huge thank you to **Frank Gwirtz**, **Lynne Netschke**, **Tammie Packer** and **Creed Woodka** for helping capture the incredible moments that take place at Fieldstone Farm every day through the lenses of their cameras. You can see their shots on our website, in our publications and also on the walls of Fieldstone Farm.

Thank you for sharing your talents with all of us. We are extremely grateful!



FIELDSTONE FARM

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Mission:

Fieldstone Farm engages the therapeutic power of our horses to discover and nurture the special abilities of individuals, families and communities.

If you know of someone who would enjoy receiving the *Bits & Paces* newsletter, please call (440) 708-0013 or email info@fieldstonefarmtrc.com.

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