

Bits & Paces



Therapy Horse Romeo

Photo by Tammie Packer

What is it about horses that helps us so much? Their intuition that tells them what we need without our saying a word? Their ability to meet us right where we are without judgement? Their power to challenge us to be stronger, more compassionate, and courageous people? Tell us what it is about our horses that has changed your life. Email your stories to ekrouse@fieldstonefarmtrc.com. We are working to publish a collection of stories on our website.

Teen volunteer comes to give, but gains more than she imagined

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Photo By Carey Smith-Wilson

Teen volunteer Maria Savani smiles in the tack room with her students from left to right, Katherine, Margaret and Olivia.

Maria Savani came to Fieldstone Farm to earn service hours required for high school but what she learned was something she will hold with her for the rest of her life: that no matter how different we may seem from each other, finding common interests can bring us closer and build a greater understanding.

This revelation came when one of the girls with Down syndrome in her class asked if Maria liked Justin Bieber. From there they realized they liked the same music, the same artists and had a love for pop culture. Maria discovered she had a lot in common with the students she was helping and they all became friends.

The experience was so eye-opening that she wrote about it for the Maltz Museum's Stop the Hate essay contest and received Honorable Mention and a \$500 award. And she also created a video as part of an assignment called Project Hope for one of her classes. To see her video [click here](#).

Summertime on the farm

The farm is abuzz each summer as hundreds of campers and students of all ages and with a variety of challenges come to Fieldstone to reach new goals, meet new friends, and discover their potential. We are grateful to our volunteers, horses and donors who make all of these experiences possible. Please [click here](#) for a list of our donors.

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Photo by Tammie Packer

Chefs Unbridled Slated for September 16th!



Chefs Scott Kuhn and Chris Hodgson of the Driftwood Restaurant Group will once again lead an all-star culinary cast in our annual tasting dinner to benefit our Fieldstone Farm students on Saturday, September 16. Staged at the Chagrin Valley Hunt Club Polo Field with tasting stations, live music, carriage rides, and a wine pull, it is an event you will not want to miss. This evening sells out quickly! For tickets, [click here](#) and select "Chefs Unbridled tickets" as your gift designation.

Riders Shine at Horse Show

More than 50 riders with special needs showcased their courage, determination and horse skills at our annual horse show at the Chagrin Valley Hunter Jumper Classic. Each year this show gives our students the opportunity to celebrate all that they have accomplished on the same footing as the national Grand Prix riders. This experience is quite meaningful for many of our students who don't often get the opportunity to compete on this kind of stage. Congratulations everyone!



Show photos by
Creed Woodka

The Gellein family gives generously

We would not be able to serve our 1,300 students without the generous support of our donors. The Gelleins are one example of wonderful supporters who are committed to Fieldstone Farm.

It all started when the father, Ray, was a board member at the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center. He worked with the Park's staff and Fieldstone Farm to coordinate an opportunity for the Community Center children to experience the therapeutic power of horses. This started a long and growing relationship with Fieldstone Farm. Today it is not only Ray who supports the farm, but also his son, Rip, and others in the family as well. We are incredibly grateful for their dedication to the program and to all of our other donors who help our students afford the opportunity to work with horses. Thank you all!



"It's been our family's great pleasure to support such a wonderful organization. We are thrilled with the evolution of Fieldstone and the incredible benefits it brings to so many and in all age groups!" -- Ray Gellein

Thank you students and volunteers

Our student and volunteer fundraising campaign raised more than \$38,000 to support our horses. We are overwhelmed by the generosity of you all! Funds will be used to pay for special equipment, hay, feed and veterinarian and farrier care when needed for our amazing herd of therapy horses.

Six graduate from Gaitway

Gaitway High School, our alternative high school on site, now has six more graduates to add to its ranks. In the past eight years, 61 students have received diplomas from Gaitway High School. These are all students who likely would not have come this far had it not been for the Gaitway School. Congratulations to all. We are extremely proud of you!



Photos by Lynne Netschke

Gaitway students paint their names on the traditional rock after graduation this year.

Mission

We are extremely grateful to all our donors. For a list of all our supporters through June 2017, [click here](#).

Mission

Fieldstone Farm engages the therapeutic power of our horses to discover

and nurture the special abilities of individuals, families and communities.

PATH Int'l Accreditation

Fieldstone Farm has continually received the highest accreditation from PATH, the international governing association for the therapeutic riding industry. Only one in three therapeutic riding programs achieve and maintain this status.

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