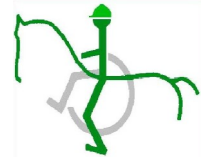




FREDERICK COUNTY 4H THERAPEUTIC RIDING PROGRAM Horse Discovery Center



“All we need is a helping hand...”

Summer

FAMILY & DONOR NEWLETTER

2026

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



HELLO EVERYONE

Our Fall 2026 Therapeutic Riding Session will begin Tuesday, September 8. The local equine community has made many donations, and area grantees have responded generously. (See more information under Donations). Our Tack Room is filled with helmets, saddles, bridles, girths, and so much more. We also have a new motorized lift system.

As they've gotten older, a few of our wonderful equines have retired. We're currently working to secure enough new equine therapists for all our riders.

We want to thank everyone involved in the rebuild. Joe Devilbiss of Devilbiss Construction prepared the blueprints and secured the permits. On Joe's recommendation, we hired John Lee of Lee Construction, an Amish family from Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, to build the barns. Lee Construction has been awesome, answering our questions, making requested changes, and ensuring the barn and tack rooms were workable for us. John Lee and his team began in the last week of March and completed what we feel is “The Most Beautiful Barn in Frederick County.” Brandenburg Electric, our electrical contractor, is finishing up the electrical work.

Volunteers have generously helped us along the way by laying rubber mats in aisles and stalls, installing tack room flooring, cleaning and organizing tack, building and finding educational games and objects for our riders, and many other “odd” jobs.

The Tack Rooms are now complete with heating, air conditioning, flooring, saddle and bridle racks, and tons of storage. There is still much work to be done on the barns, parking lots, grading, and landscaping, but we are on it.

Come visit!

Debbie

FALL 2026 DATES

CLASSES:

TUESDAY SEPT. 8, 15, 22, 29; OCT. 6, 13, 20.
5 P.M., 6 P.M., 7 P.M.

THURSDAY SEPT. 10, 17, 24; OCT. 1, 8, 15, 22.
5 P.M., 6 P.M., 7 P.M.

SATURDAY SEPT. 12, 19, 26; OCT. 3, 10, 17, 31.
9 A.M., 10 A.M., 11 A.M.,
12 P.M., 1 P.M., AND 2 P.M.

MAKE-UP DAYS: OCT. 27, 29, AND NOV. 7

SPAGHETTI DINNER SATURDAY, OCT. 24.
5:00 P.M.

A 'RIDE IN TIME' By: Valarie

We know time never stands still, but for TRP, these past months were just a recess.

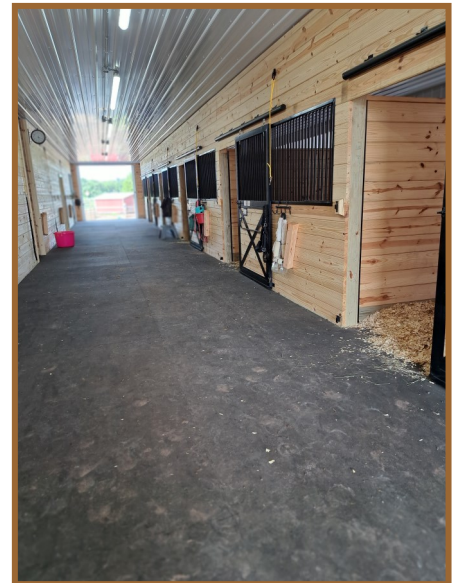
Sometimes events change our plans, but if we stay strong, the program will not only survive but come back stronger.

Memories of all the good times will not be forgotten, and they now have us looking for many more.

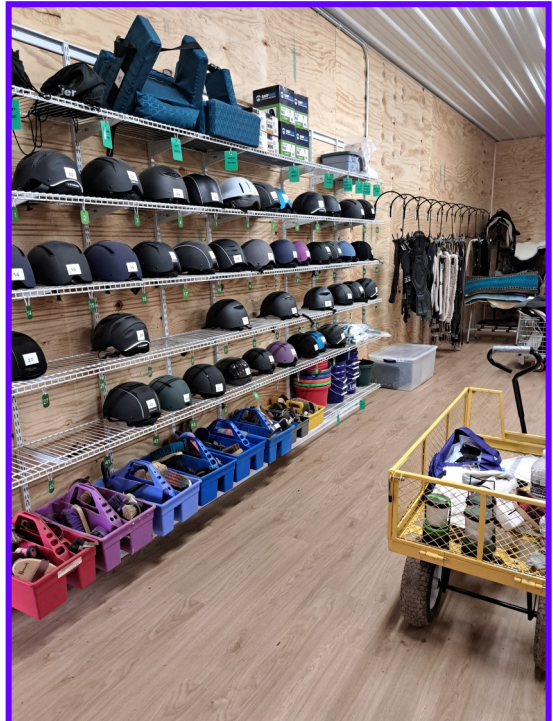
Many memories were made in the old bank barn, but now the new barns are finished, beautiful, and just waiting for laughter and good times to return.

I am looking forward to many more stories to tell about our riders, horses, and volunteers – so the RIDE continues!

The New Barn



THE TACK ROOMS



REACHING OUT WITH THE PONIES

Silverado Stables and the Frederick County 4-H Therapeutic Riding Program are part of the Maryland Horse Industry Board's Horse Discovery Center Program.



There are 35 Horse Discovery Centers throughout Maryland. The centers are part of a volunteer, certified program within existing licensed stables that welcome the public of all ages and experience levels to learn about horses in a knowledgeable, friendly environment. In past years, we hosted visitors from nursing homes, camps, and a Christmas Open House. We received inquiries about whether we would ever consider bringing therapy horses to nursing homes and other gatherings. We were intrigued, so we packed the ponies onto a trailer and hit the road.

Word has gotten around that we make these outreach visits. The stars of the show are Bambi, Cupcake, and Hilde. They are calm and patient and especially enjoy the carrot chips that eager hands, young and old, like to share with them. A group of traveling volunteers helps by holding the ponies, talking with participants, and making sure everyone is safe.

During our visits, we bring a picture board and some of the adaptive equipment we use in our program. We share a brief presentation about what we do and how horses can assist in therapy. If our group is a camp or school group, we share horse care and horse safety tips. Our nursing home friends love hearing about our therapy program.

For the past 2 years, we have been fortunate to receive a grant from MHIB to purchase therapy horse vests and "bun bags" so we leave nothing behind. We also bought small boots so we can enter buildings to greet people who can't go outside or are bedridden. We're still working on this part of the program.

Since we began our outreach visits, we have visited nursing homes, school groups in Frederick and Washington Counties, Memory Care Centers, the FCPS Environmental School, churches, and even a huge community church Christmas program last winter. It is heartwarming to see how people of all ages light up and engage when they can visit with and pet our well-behaved and patient ponies. This outreach program is made possible by our troupe of volunteers, who generously come out to join us on these visits.

If you are interested in joining us on these adventures, please contact Kim.



MEMORIAL DONATIONS 2026

Susan Rice Memorial Donations

John and Cynthia Humphrey
Marty O'Dea
Judi Anne Jaffee
Kelly & Pete Gray
Ms. Sam Pestridge
Gregory Anderson
Heather Trotta
Courtney Brogle and college friends
Len and Tamra Russo
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Menapace

Barbara Denn
Chris Parker
Marie Holderness
Mary Ann and Peter Kuzmak
James Michael Riley
Gene Humphrey, Jr.
Patti, Joe and Kreke & Family
Chyrl and Don Ayotte
Janice and Robert Felter
Susan Bowen and Doyle Family

Andy Wilson & Lighthouse Team
Pam and Jerry Ambrose
Michael Thompson
Kiefer Family Gift Fund
Annette Bohrer
St. Peter's Catholic Church
Sheila Rice
Knights of Columbus Council 1290
Koch Family Trust
Curtis and Tracey Schmitt

Scott Lasher (Owner of Orangetheory Fitness) Memorial Donations

Dale and Gale Miller
Emely Garcia
Briana Kenerson
Maria Wise

Amanda Fleming
Carolina Navas
Andy Wright
Rajaa El Meskini
June Gupta

Kelly Yates
Tatiana Atkinson
Kelly Boline
Lois Covati

Marilynn Miller Memorial Donations

Ann Sanger

Jeanne Langsdorf

Annette Delaplaine

Rodman Myers Memorial Donation

Connie and Lyman Myers

Honor Donations

Truby LaGarde in honor of Bobbie Denn
Amy Wojciechowski in honor of Chyrl Ayotte
Zac Davis in honor of Jill Rice
David and Judy Hechinger in honor of Colleen Allen
Dawn and Daniel Duggan in honor of Rose Bartz
Mt. Airy Mattress in honor of Scott Haines

Recurring Quarterly Donation

Karen Toth

Recurring Monthly Donations

Mike King
Devon Lawrence in Honor of Jack

PLATINUM AWARD –UP TO \$20,000

Gary D. Haines

William E. Cross Foundation

Jane Wood in honor of Debbie Endlich

GOLD AWARD UP TO \$5000

SILVER AWARD UP TO \$2500

AF & AM Acacia Lodge No. 155
Frederick Woman's Civic Club
FADS Leslie Raulin
Milton Sayrs
Chestnut Hill Lamb –GFF
Renaissance Charitable (Michael Lee)
Lemonade, Inc.
John F. Anderschat

COPPER AWARD UP TO \$1000

Mrs. Estefany Moreno
Andrea Mannix
Susan Snyder
Frederick Woman's Civic Club
Jodye Roebuck
Elizabeth Thompson
Anonymous
Ryleigh Butz—Mercy H.S. Bake Sale

Amanda Fleming
Carolina Navas
Andy Wright
Rajaa El Meskini
June Gupta
New Hope United Methodist Church
Frederick Woman's Civic Club -
Anniversary Tea

Carol and Norman Birzer
Ijamsville UM Church
The Dirty Dawg LLC
Deborah Jones
Knights of Columbus Council 1290
United Way Frederick County —
(1st & 2nd Quarter distribution)

2025–2026 GRANT OVERVIEW

Funds from the Pritchett Family Foundation held at the Community Foundation of Frederick County bought ASTM Helmets.

Funds from the Richard W. Kanode held at the Community Foundation of Frederick County will be used to provide horse care.

Funds from the Delaplaine Foundation held at the Community Foundation of Frederick County will provide FC4HTRP with veterinary and farrier care for the horses and ponies.

Funds from The Dola Berkentine Nonprofit Marketing Fund held at the Community Foundation of Frederick County provided assistance for marketing and fundraising purposes.

Funds from Erin Christine Moberly Memorial Fund held at the Community Foundation of Frederick County provided assistance toward the purchase the Sure Hands Lift System.



Funds from the Monocacy Foundation provided funds to purchase saddle pads, western safety stirrups, colored reins, foam blocks for rider support, talk buttons, saddle bags, and stirrups.

Funds from the G. Frank Thomas Foundation provided funds to purchase saddle pads, English stirrups, reins, girths, stirrup leathers, and helmets.

Funds from Maryland Horse Industry Board provided funds to purchase therapy vests, manure bags, pony shoes, and pony care.

HONOREES' OF MEMORIAL DONATIONS IN 2026

Susan Rice Memorial Donations

Susan had been a dedicated member of our therapeutic riding program for many, many years. She was a rider and schooled our horses, and later, she became a horse owner. Susan was a dedicated side walker and horse leader.

(See page 8 for more information about Susan.)

Rodman Myers Memorial Donation

Rodman Myers, a well-known and respected member of the community, was a wonderful supporter of our program.

He was a very gracious donor who donated hay.

Scott Lasher Memorial Donations

Scott, owner of Orangetheory Fitness, always thought about our program when working on fundraisers for county nonprofits.

Marilynn Miller Memorial Donations

Marilynn, the wife of a veterinarian, was a true lover of horses.

In the early years of FC4HTRP, she assisted the 4Hers in learning more about Competitive Trail Riding.

OTHER NOTABLE SPONSORS

GARY HAINES sold farm tractors for our program and presented us with \$19,000.

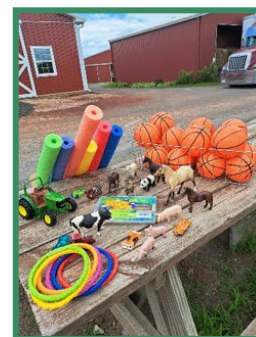
Rose Bartz, volunteer and Board member, visited the DIRTY DAWG in Thurmont for their Santa Claus Event for Pets.

Volunteer Patti Hawkins attended the Women's Giving Circle Tea in April and received donations for our program.

Debbie and Cor attended the AF & AM Acacia Lodge No. 155 Freemasons meeting in Thurmont and received a donation, along with a strong interest in working with our program.

FAD'S - Frederick Area Dressage Association, run by Lesslie Raulin, a long-time supporter of our program, holds a dressage show once a year to benefit our program.

The Lewistown Mt. View 4H Club donated lots of toys and items for our therapists to use during riding time.



Toys from
The Lewistown Mt. View
4H Club



As construction winds down here at the stables, we are gearing up for fall classes. What does that mean? Well, we need you. We need volunteers to step forward to make our fall session the best ever.

We need volunteers to: lead horses/ponies; sidewalk riders; groom and tack horses/ponies, getting them ready for classes.

If you would like to volunteer, please call. We need you to make this session a success.

Consider whether you can help and review your circle of friends who might also be interested in helping us make these opportunities available to our riders.

No experience? No problem.

Give us a call.

SAYING GOODBYE ...

In the past year, TRP lost two good friends. Susan Rice passed away in December 2025 after a brief illness. In July 2026, Judy Mellor lost her battle with cancer. Both Susan and Judy contributed greatly to the TRP program over many years.

Susan came to Silverado Farm over 25 years ago to ride and volunteer in the program. She bought an Arab mare named Chessie and boarded her with Debbie and Cor.

The long-awaited birth of her daughter, Jill, was a great joy for Susan and her husband, Tim. However, that event kept Susan from volunteering at TRP for several years.

When Jill was old enough to volunteer, she and Susan became a reliable pair of volunteers. They would walk down the driveway with big smiles, and Lee Sayrs, our volunteer coordinator, would breathe a sigh of relief. Susan led horses in classes while Jill side-walked with TRP riders.

They both brought smiles to their riders' faces.



Susan Rice

Judy Mellor came to TRP in 2014 to intern as part of her coursework at Frederick Community College.

Her larger aspiration, however, was to learn about horses, their care, and the operation of therapeutic riding programs. She hoped to one day own a farm and operate an equine facility.

After her internship, Judy became one of TRP's most capable and willing volunteers. Whenever asked, she always responded with "yes."



Judy Mellor

The most notable quality of both volunteers was their devotion to their daughters.

We join their daughters, Jill and Meg, and their families in grieving for and celebrating the lives of Susan and Judy.

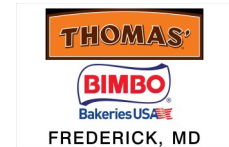
CIRCLE OF SPONSORS

If you own a business in Frederick County, please consider becoming a member of our *Circle of Sponsors*. Your contribution will help support the Frederick County 4H Therapeutic Riding Program and will be an opportunity to reach a large number of potential customers that participate in the Program as clients, family members, program volunteers, and horse boarders.

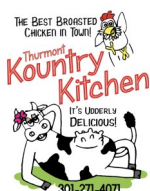
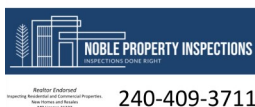
For a donation of \$300, a circle membership includes the following:

- ◆ A 2 feet tall X 3 feet wide, full-color banner placed in the riding ring for two years.
- ◆ The cost of the banner with your logo and information that you want to include.
- ◆ Visibility of your message to several hundred visitors each week.

Thank you
for your patronage.



Mike Tebeau



**Through your generosity,
we are able
to enhance the lives of so many children and adults
in our community.**

**From corporations to teachers to volunteers,
it takes each and every one of you to make
Frederick County 4H Therapeutic Riding Program
a success.**

Our success is your success.

Thank you for your support.

