## NEWS & MEWS continued...

and well-being of the membership in mind," said IHSA Executive Director Peter Cashman.

In addition, the board announced that the IHSA will offer two online horse shows through DigitalHorseShow.com during the spring semester. IHSA hosted a digital horse show during the fall semester of 2020 that was very successful.

## THA Statement on Passage of Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act

On December 22, 2020, Alan Foreman, Chairman of the Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, issued the following statement on the recent passage of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act on behalf of THA:

"The passage of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act is the culmination of a collec-

## **COVID Relief Shout-Out**



Little Liberty (pictured) and the other Frederick County 4H Therapeutic Riding horses would like to thank Delaplaine Foundation Inc. for their awesome grant to provide feed, farrier care and veterinarian services during our program's temporary shutdown from COVID. tive effort of likedminded industry organizations who fostered compromises in an effort to achieve uniform and necessary mandated medication, testing and safety standards to protect the health, safety and welfare of our horses and maintain the integrity of our sport above reproach. We have quietly, but forcefully, participated in this effort, and appreciate that we had the ability to participate at the congressional level through Majority Leader McConnell and Congressmen Barr, Tonko and Pallone. Although the bill is not perfect and has caused some concerns that we understand, it is clear that this new paradigm for the industry is necessary if we are serious about the future of our sport. We are particularly pleased that the original bill was expanded to mandate safety and welfare standards for our horses as we have been doing in the Mid-Atlantic region, and a better-defined role for USADA that speaks to their strengths and our needs.

As we've said previously, we intend to roll up our sleeves and collaborate with our industry partners and the new Authority to achieve a seamless transition. While change is never easy and valid concerns must be addressed and resolved, we are at a critical time for our industry. The enactment of the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Act provides us with a unique opportunity to change the image of our sport and engender confidence in the future."

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