

YOUR MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL PUBLICATION

MARCH 2021

EQUIERY

A man wearing a black cowboy hat, a dark jacket, and blue jeans is riding a light-colored horse with dark lower legs. The horse is walking across a wooden bridge over a body of water. The background is filled with lush green trees and bushes. The word "EQUIERY" is written in large, red, stylized letters across the top of the image. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is visible at the end of the word. The Maryland state flag is integrated into the letter 'Q'.

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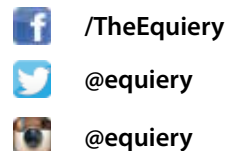
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EQUIERY

YOUR MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL PUBLICATION



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THE MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL

As a grassroots membership-based organization, the mission of the Maryland Horse Council is to unify and serve Maryland's diverse community of equine owners and enthusiasts and horse-related industries and businesses for the following purposes:

- Improve the lives and welfare of horses and horse people in Maryland
- Improve and maintain lands related to horses (including but not limited to farmland, parkland and open space)
- Enhance existing and create new networks within the community
- Enhance internal communication within the community
- Provide a unified voice to state legislators and regulators
- Provide a template for state-level relationships that can be executed at the county-level by MHC members

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee meets monthly or more often to oversee the daily business affairs of the Maryland Horse Council, including its related entities The Equiery, the Maryland Equine Transition Service, the MHC PAC, and the newly established MHC Foundation.

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Corinne Pouliquen, *Acting Vice President*
Ahesahmahk Dahn, *Treasurer*
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Kimberly K. Egan
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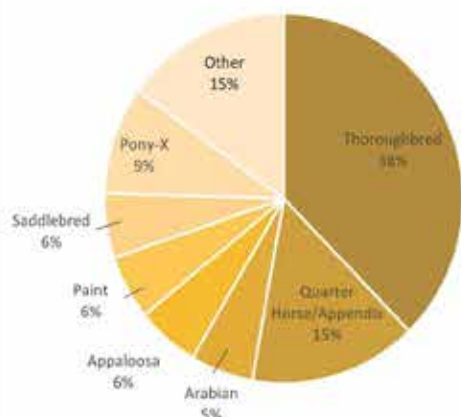
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MARYLAND EQUINE TRANSITION SERVICE

A PROGRAM OF THE MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL FOUNDATION

Breeds Assessed in 2020

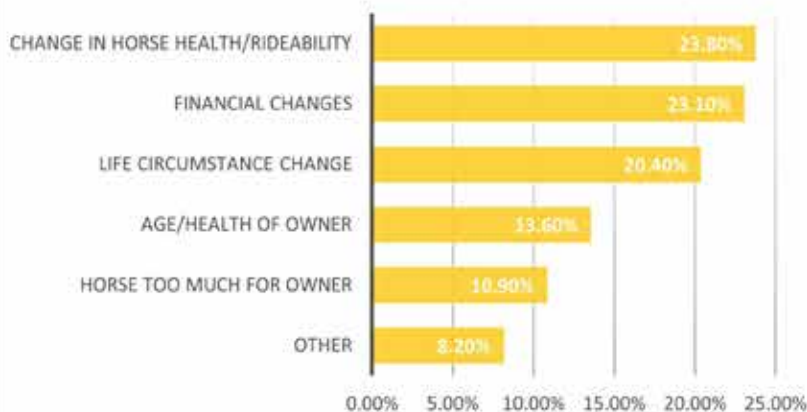


- Completed 10 fully virtual assessments
- Assessed 26 mares and 27 geldings
- Continued transition assistance through a virtual model

METS 2020 Annual Report Highlights

- Completed 45 assessments of 53 horses
- Assisted with 60 transitions total, including seven horses that were virtually assessed
- Developed multiple fundraisers and brought in more funds than all previous years, despite COVID challenges

Reasons For Assistance Requests



Follow this link to view the full report:

<https://qrs.ly/v6cc8p3>



From the President

By Neil Agate, Maryland Horse Council President

Recently the Maryland Equine Transition Service (METS) released its Annual Report for 2020. As its last year of a three-year grant from The Right Horse Initiative and the Arnall Family Foundation, 2020 was supposed to be a breakout year for the program as two large events were planned to jumpstart fundraising and introduce the program to a much larger audience and insure the program's sustainability.

As many of you will recall, METS began as a result of the Maryland Horse Council's vocal support of the SAFE Act, which aimed to ban shipping horses to Mexico and Canada for slaughter. We realized that if the act were passed, there would be a large number of horses that would need to be taken care of in other ways. Over several months in 2017, MHC and our partners looked at many ways we might be able to help those horses in Maryland. These included setting up our own rescues, supporting existing rescues and many others alternatives.

We elected to set up METS as a single resource for anyone in the state of Maryland who, for whatever reason, could no longer keep their horse (or horses). Not only did this structure allow us to quickly scale up to support the whole state, but also complemented our existing network of horse rescues in Maryland.

In early 2018, we were fortunate to receive a grant from The Right Horse Initiative/Arnall Family Foundation to support the creation of METS and cover our operating expenses for the first three years. We are now nearing the end of the grant funding and as a community, we need to determine if METS will just be a three year flash in the pan or if it can be sustained through support of the Maryland horse community.

In the last the three years, METS has helped transition over 200 horses to new homes. While not all of these horses were in immediate danger of ending up in inhumane situations, they all had the potential of having



Neil Agate, MHC President / MHC Board member, meeting with Dr. Chris Smith, DVM of Foxhall Equine to discuss METS and talk about ways that the Maryland horse community can sustainably support METS moving forward.

much worse outcomes than they did through METS support.

In 2020, the management of METS was transitioned to the new MHC Foundation, a 501(c)3 non profit organization that will allow all donations to be tax deductible.

We are quickly approaching a time when we will have to make a decision on whether to continue METS beyond the middle of 2021. I feel it would be a tragic loss to the Maryland horse community if we are not able to sustainably fund the program. It has been a huge success in every way but fund raising. We have had discussions with neighboring regions about expanding the program which would increase our network reach as well as our potential funding opportunities.

We all love our horses and I know we all feel that we will not desert our horses as they get older or as our lives change as we get older. However these issues often require finding our horses new homes and once they leave our ownership we usually have very little control or visibility into their future care. This is the reason to fund METS and keep it going. To have a program like METS as a resource for future owners of our horses that can insure they have the best chances of avoiding bad situations is an invaluable resource for our Maryland horse community.

Please read the one page summary of the METS Annual Report on page 6 of this issue and the full report on the METS website at <https://www.mdequinetransition.org>.

If you are able to support the program financially or have ideas and suggestions on keeping METS functioning please reach out to our METS Development Officer, Jessica Avila-Franco at jessica@mdequinetransition.org or 202-258-2226.

In April, The Maryland Fund For Horses (MFFH) and METS banded together to assist horse owners throughout the state affected by the COVID-19 economic crisis. The MFFH and METS collaboration was to provide an expanded safety net geared toward keeping as many horses as possible out of danger during this challenging time.

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NEWS & VIEWS

You Can Use

MD-bred Knicks Go Wins Pegasus, Heads to Dubai World Cup

In early January, the Maryland Thoroughbred racehorse Knicks Go was named Top Mid-Atlantic-bred Horse of the Year for the second year in a row by a *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* and *The Racing Biz* poll. Bred in Maryland by



The Stronach Group

Maryland-bred Knicks Go wins the \$3 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational.

Angie Moore, the five-year-old grey just added the \$3 million Pegasus World Cup Invitational (G1) to his list of wins, bringing his career earnings up to \$3,088,995 as of press.

Trained by Brad Cox for owners KRA Stud Farm, Knicks Go broke early around the first turn of the 1 1/8-mile race to take the lead with Last Judgment and Tax close behind. With Joel Rosario in the irons, Knicks Go maintained control of the race throughout the far turn and down the homestretch. Rosario mildly encouraged Knicks Go in the final stretch to win by 2 3/4 lengths. "He's a very special horse. He just goes faster and faster," Rosario stated after the race.

Next up for the Maryland-bred is the 25th running of the \$12 million Dubai World Cup, set to run this month on March 27 at the Meydan Racecourse in the UA.

The son of Paynter, Knicks Go is out of the Outflanker mare Kosmo's Buddy.

Moscato Earns Eclipse Award

Bruton Street-US had a stand-out 2020 season with three horses making it as finalists for the Eclipse Award in Steeplechasing. Earning the Eclipse was Moscato, the British-bred 10-year-old gray gelding. His 2020 season included two wins in just three starts.

Trained by Jack Fisher and ridden by Michael Mitchell, Moscato won the Hurdle Handicap Stakes at the Middleburg Spring Races in June. The following month, he won the Hurdle

Stakes at the Saratoga Races before finishing third in the Hurdle Handicap Stakes, also at Saratoga, in August.

The Eclipse Awards are voted on jointly by the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, the *Daily Racing Form* and the National Turf Writers and Broadcasters.

Brynn Miller Receives AffloVest

Ten-year-old Brynn Miller of Dickerson received a surprise AffloVest donation from the Lea Marie Faraone Foundation as part of the organization's "Fly Me To The Moon" grant program. The program helps young people battling with chronic illnesses. Miller is a Cystic Fibrosis patient who hasn't let the illness slow her down as she foxhunts, shows and even races ponies.

The AffloVest is the first battery-operated High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation therapy that lets patients with CF, bronchiectasis and other neuromuscular diseases receive state-of-the-art airway clearance therapy on the go.



Liz Zander

Potomac Hunt member Brynn Miller wearing the new AffloVest, donated by the Lea Marie Faraone Foundation.

The International Biosphysics Corporation out of Austin, TX, developed the vest.

The vest was presented to Miller on January 23 at her family's Furnace Ford Farm. "Donations like this are what the Lea Marie Faraone Foundation is all about," said Laura O'Donnell-Faraone, Director and Co-Founder of LMFF. "The AffloVest will improve Brynn's quality of life by allowing her to receive treatments on the go and not take away from time she can devote to things she is passionate about, like foxhunting."

Riders Raise Funds for KY 5*

On February 2, the organizers of the Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event announced it would be canceling the April 5* for the second year in a row due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "With so many uncertainties still remaining regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, it is premature for US Equestrian to remove its restrictions on spectators," stated Mike Cooper, President of Equestrian Events, Inc. (EEI), which produces the Kentucky 5*. The cancellation made the Maryland Five Star at Fair Hill, slated for this October, the only 5* on the U.S. FEI calendar for 2021.

Immediately after the announcement, upper level event riders and Kentucky 5* fans created a social media grassroots fundraising effort. By February 9, the effort had raised over \$550,000 for the event, prompting organizers to announce on February 10 that they will hold the event as scheduled. "We are humbled and honored by the response of the eventing community as they've stepped up in a mind-blowing way enabling us to go forward," Cooper stated.

EEI had previously stated it needed \$750,000 to run the event without spectators. In its February 10 press release, the organization stated they feel confident they can find the remaining funds needed to hold the event.

As of press, spectators still are not allowed at the event, however organizers have said that if restrictions are lifted, they will work towards allowing a limited number of spectators to attend in a COVID-19 safe way. Priority will be given to those who purchased tickets in 2020 and elected to roll over their tickets to 2021.

New Protocols for Claimed Horses at MD Tracks

On February 12, the Maryland Racing Commission implemented a new protocol concerning claimed horses at Maryland tracks. Claimed horses will no longer be picked up in the paddock and instead will be brought to a new Claim Only Barn by the horse's original groom. That groom will stay with the horse until it is released.

While in the Claim Only Barn, the horse will be observed during cooling out and will be required to jog for the State Veterinarian. At this point, the horse will either be cleared to leave with the new owner's groom or the claim will be voided.

continued...

IF YOU HAVE NEWS, VIEWS OR UPDATES TO CONTRIBUTE, PLEASE SEND THEM TO THE EDITOR at The Equiry, P.O. Box 610, Lisbon, MD 21765 • FAX: 410-489-7828 • email editor@equiry.com. Be sure to include your full name, phone number and address. All submissions become the property of The Equiry.

MRC already had regulations related to claiming races that stated, “a claim is voidable at the sole direction of the new owner for a period of one hour after a race is made official for any horse that is vanned off the track after the race at the discretion of the State Veterinarian.” The updated language adds, “a claim can be voided for a period of one hour after a race is made official if a horse is sent to the Detention Barn and observed to be lame by the State Veterinarian.”

The new regulations are part of an ongoing effort in Maryland and neighboring states to increase the focus on equine health, safety and welfare.

New Technology at EMC

The Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg, Virginia, recently announced the addition of a Medical Imagine Electronics nuclear scintigraphy equine scanner to its list of diagnostic equipment. In addition, they have also added a GE Vivid iq Vet ultrasound, a state-of-the-art cardiac ultrasound that allows for precise analysis and evaluation of abnormalities in the equine heart.

Construction for the new Steven and Jane Hale Indoor Arena complex has begun with the hopes the facility will be open later this year.

RRP Trainers Announced!

The Retired Racehorse Project (RRP) an-

nounced last month that 480 trainers and teams have been accepted to the class of 2021 for this year's Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium. These trainers will join 332 trainers from the 2020 Makeover, which was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Maryland is well represented with nearly 70 entries. To follow the progress of each trainer on the road to the Makeover, see TBMakeover.org.

Kudos to...

...St. Margaret's Pony Club in the Maryland Region on receiving a 50-Year Club Milestone Award from USPC at its virtual awards ceremony held last month.

Susser Symposium Report *by Pam Link*



I am a Marylander who likes to spend spring, summer and fall in Maryland, but I love Florida in the winter. After spending the last 20 winters in Wellington, my husband and I decided to go to Ocala this winter instead and who should we find living just down the road, Dr. Jenny Susser and Mette Larsen.

To my absolute delight, they were hosting a symposium on Energy for Confidence and Connection in Horsewomen this winter. If you aren't familiar with these ladies let me fill you in.

Dr. Jenny Susser has a doctoral degree in Clinical Health Psychology, specializing in sport and Performance Psychology. She is a Certified Mental Performance Consultant with the Association for Applied Sports Psychology and a member of the USOC Olympic Registry. Dr. Susser was the USET Sport Psychologist for the United States Dressage team for the 2012 Olympics. She has worked with athletes, elite, professional, amateur and corporations as a Performance Trainer.

Mette Larsen came up through the United States Pony Club and was accepted into Morven Park International Equestrian Institute as a young adult. As a teenager, she rode with Katherine Worthy and Lt. Col. Mark Darnley, among others. Larson has won numerous regional and national Dressage competitions. Larson believes that no two horses and no two riders are the same, so her training methods are specific to each horse and rider.

In addition, event rider Sinead Halpin Maynard was a guest speaker. Maynard has ridden to the Advanced and five-star levels all over the world as an international competitor and trainer. She has worked with eventing legends such as David O'Connor, Captain Mark Phillips and William Fox-Pitt and continues to make education a priority.

I am having a difficult time putting into words what this two day symposium has meant to me and to the 49 other women who attended. It was not like any clinic or symposium I have attended to date. Yes there were beautiful horses and riders but the riders consisted of a four-star event rider, a para rider, a woman new to riding, and a nervous unconfi-

dent rider. What they had in common was a lack of confidence.

This lack of confidence could have been from a fall, serious health issue, from a vivid imagination that something will happen, or having control over your life at home or at work and now have to have to trust an animal. All had a varying degree of loss of confidence in themselves and some with a loss of trust with their horse. As you know horses are our mirrors. I could write pages about the experience over this weekend but I will try to be short.

So how can you gain confidence? Confidence is an emotion and a by product of a successful event. To have a successful event you must be prepared, really prepared. Do not think of past failures (I know this takes a lot of work). Dr. Jenny gave us a good visual. Do you drive your car with your hands on the rear view mirror? No, your hands are on the steering wheel looking forward. So, when you are on your horse and these thoughts from the past jump into your head connect with your horse. Shift your thoughts from the negative and allow yourself and your horse not to be perfect.

This may be as simple as walking the horse in a small circle. Maybe moving him out with your inside leg. When you can breathe again you can trot in a small circle. Give yourself permission to go to the walk whenever you want. If things are going well, you can even give yourself permission to do whatever you want. Stop and get off or continue at a trot. This will then help you with connection but not control. Sometimes you will be the maestro and sometimes you will be the orchestra. Meaning you may be passive or active in your conduction of energy to create connection.

To help with confidence riders need to be prepared. Have a plan for your ride. A good plan can boost your confidence. Assess your horse before you get on and during the warm-up. Keep in mind your plan may not be in symphony with what your equine partner is able to do. Connection has to be worked on all the time. You will have it, then lose it, then get it again. That's ok, it happens to everyone!

Be present with your horse. Try not to worry. Worrying is like a rocking chair. Lots of expended energy that goes no where.

Each of us as riders have emotional baggage. We have to work so it won't own us. Maybe it is being able to compartmentalize. The important thing is to be in the moment with your horse. Go slow, give yourself permission to end your ride for that day or go on with it. Each ride that is positive for you and your horse will bring you closer to connecting to each other.

I was blown away by how many of us have confidence issues. Sad to think how many riders and horses may have been treated badly in the past and therefore never reached their potential.

If you are interested in learning more, the video of this symposium is on Horse and Country's website. Check it out, it just may change your world!

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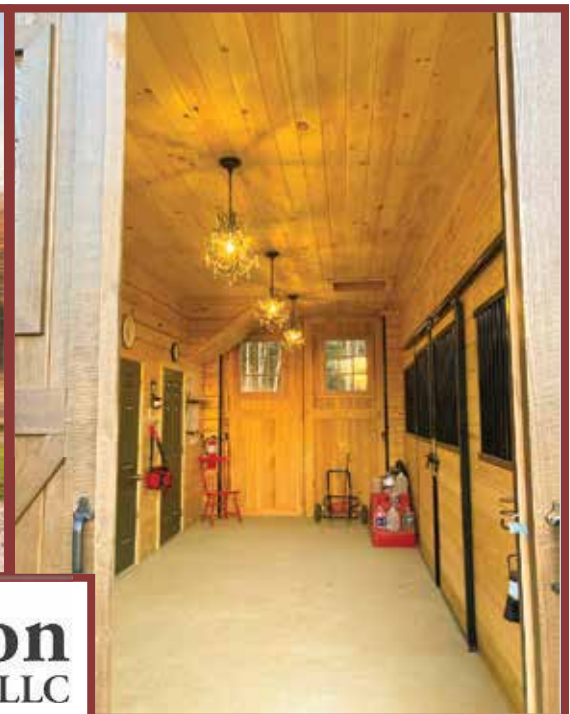
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Maryland Competitions

Need to Know News for the 2021 Competition Season

Maryland 5 Star Set to Run!



As of press, the inaugural Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill is a go! “We don’t know for sure what the spectator options will be at this point, but we are moving ahead with the event for 2021,” said Maryland 5 Star Media and Communications Director Chris

Daley. The addition of the Maryland 5 Star to the FEI calendar creates a spring and fall five-star opportunity here in the U.S.

In December 2020, the FEI officially granted the five-star status to the Fair Hill event after evaluating the facility during its test event in August 2020. The test event, and now the five-star, is held at the facility’s new Fair Hill Special Event Zone. “The five-star designation is the top level of our sport and in turn, there is an extensive evaluation process that takes place in order to host such an event,” said Catrin Norinder, Director FEI Olympic Games and Eventing. “Despite the challenges 2020 has presented, the organizers have made tremendous strides and met the necessary requirements to date, and the FEI Eventing Committee supported its inclusion in the FEI calendar.”

The process to become a five-star is long indeed, and for Fair Hill started back in 2017. That is when the USEF selected Fair Hill as a potential host site for the world’s newest CCI5*-L competition. Construction for Phase One of the project was completed last year with the new cross-country course designed by Ian Stark of Great Britain. The event was supposed to run last fall but due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, organizers decided to defer for one year.

The Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill is scheduled for October 14-17 and will benefit the Maryland Food Bank. The Maryland Food Bank is a nonprofit, hunger-relief organization dedicated to feeding people, strengthening communities and ending hunger for Marylanders.

In preparation for the big event, the Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill has added a few team members with event industry veteran Dan Laufer and equestrian industry veteran Connie Sawyer. Laufer will serve as the event’s Director of Operations with Sawyer as its Broadcast Production Director.

In addition, Kaityln Mc Nerney has been promoted to Event Director-Partnerships & Experiential, Kaleigh Collett has been promoted to Event Manager-Marketing, Promotion & Competition Management, and Marissa Melzer has been promoted to Event Manager-Operations, Tickets & Hospitality.

Keep checking equiery.com and future *Equi-*

ery issues for updates and announcements as we get closer to the big event!

Carroll Co Western Circuit Changes Venue

The Carroll County Western Circuit will run all its 2021 competitions out of the Carroll County Agriculture Center and Shipley Arena in Westminster. CCWC offers shows for all levels and ages of riders, from April through September. The club also offers clinics and seminars year-round.

PVDA Creates Schooling Show Championship Competition

The Potomac Valley Dressage Association is piloting a Schooling Show Championship for Second Level and below this year. The championship show will be held in conjunction with the Chapter Challenge in November.

In order to qualify, riders must be PVDA members with scores from the Intro B/C and Tests 2/3 (for Training through Second levels) to count. Scores must be earned at PVDA schooling shows or PVDA Chapter shows.

At championships, riders will compete riding the Intro B test or Test 2 for the other levels. There will also be a Freestyle Championship class. More information can be found at pvda.org.

Area II Honors Packy McGaughan



With the 2020 eventing season coming to a crashing halt last March, the United States Eventing Association’s Area II Chair, Melissa Stubenberg, consulted with the Area II awards committee to come up with a new plan for the 2020 awards program. “We thought we’d have to cancel the whole program for the year,” said Area II Awards Coordinator Holly Covey. Instead, they came up with a new plan.

“Essentially, we took the riders’ ending scores and averaged them,” Covey explained. “We felt this would help those who could not travel to compete or were unable to ride due to barn shutdowns early in the season.” Covey said the new point system wasn’t perfect but the committee felt it was the fairest way to handle the shortened season and encourage people to get

back out and compete. “It also eliminated the point chasing – encouraging riders to ride better, rather more often,” she added.

This idea of riding better, not just more often, was a concept at the core of the late Packy McGaughan’s training program. “What we were basically asking was for individual rider excellence in performance – something Packy McGaughan was all about,” Covey said. She then reached out to his mother Judy and asked if they could name the new awards program in his honor to remember his legacy to eventing. “A trophy was not enough in our view – Packy was more than that to us,” Covey added.

Thus, the Area II Patrick McGaughan Memorial Excellence Awards was launched. This past February, the Area II Council voted to continue with the new “best score” system. “No more point chasing, thanks to Packy and his commitment to excellence,” Covey stated.

The USEA has followed suit and starting with the 2021 competition season, will also be implementing a new year-end awards point system that emphasizes quality over quantity. See equiery.com later this month for a full breakdown of the new USEA point system.

Coexist Launches Colonial Classic Qualifying Series

Coexist Stables in Mt. Airy is hosting a series this year specifically pointed towards the Colonial Classic. The owners of Coexist stated that they created the series because there were no venues offering qualifying classes that were within a reasonable drive to their area. “We wanted to accommodate the people who would like to qualify, and help the people at the lower levels gain the show experience they need in order to be competitive at this level,” Elizabeth Tonti of Coexist said.

To qualify to attend the Colonial Classic, riders must attend three of the series shows to earn points. The shows at Coexist will offer 16 divisions, including jumper classes.

New Kathy Easter-Knott Scholarship

The Southern Maryland Quarter Horse Association has created a new scholarship in memory of member Kathy Easter-Knott, who died in December 2020. According to SMQHA, “the scholarship will be for a deserving youth member who has an undeniable passion for the horse world and serves their community.” The scholarship is to be used to aid in the cost of college or the expense of horse related activities.

SMQHA will select one youth member based on the following criteria:

1. Must be a current youth member of SMQHA;
2. Obtain one letter of recommendation from

Need to Know News for the 2021 Competition Season

someone other than immediate a family member;

3. Have at least completed five hours of community volunteer service in the 2020-2021 calendar year.

4. Submit a 200-500 word essay on the applicant's experience with horses, success with horses, school, and other areas, and what their future plans and career goals are.

Applications are due by July 1 with the winner announced at the club's July horse show. For more information, go to smqha.org.

MD-TB Eventing Series Makes Adjustments

For 2021, the Maryland Thoroughbred Eventing Series has adjusted its division categories in order to create a more equitable competition. Series coordinators recognized that having riders at Preliminary competing against riders at Beginner Novice did not offer a level playing field. By dividing the competition into levels, competitors have more opportunities to win, further promoting the post-racing careers of Thoroughbreds.

Unrecognized events were added to the series in 2020 with the intent to welcome the lower levels of eventing into the series. For 2021, the rules for the unrecognized events have been streamlined to align them with how competitors were using these unrecognized events.

For more information on these rule changes, please see mdteventing.com.

USHJA Creates Diversity and Inclusion Advocacy Plan



On December 4, 2020, during the US Hunter Jumper Association virtual annual meeting, the newly formed USHJA Diversity and Inclusion Advocacy Committee held a free webinar to discuss fostering an inclusive and open culture in equestrian sport. In addition, the webinar attendees helped identify opportunities for betterment and created an action plan. Below is the committee's action plan.

1. Provide unconscious bias and diversity awareness training for USHJA Staff, Board and Committee members.

2. Develop and include unconscious bias and diversity awareness content for inclusion as part of the USHJA Licensed Officials Education and Instructor Credential.

3. Identify solutions to reduce obstacles to equine sport faced by marginalized populations, and to increase the popularity of equine sport in marginalized communities.

4. Work with competition managers to implement multilingual signage at shows.

5. Create a directory of BIPOC and LG-

BTQ-owned or operated equine facilities and businesses as a reference for all members to use to connect with, encourage and support equestrians from underrepresented backgrounds.

6. Work with USHJA resources to establish marketing and messaging strategies that riding facilities, show managers and others can use to attract and encourage the participation of historically marginalized individuals in equestrian sports.

7. Establish a leadership and mentorship program which identifies and connects equestrians from traditionally underrepresented groups with opportunities to:

- Audit clinics
- Visit and tour barns and equestrian facilities
- Intern or be a working student at a riding establishment
- Shadow or intern with a show manager and/or show staff
- Shadow licensed officials

YEH Champs Return to Fair Hill

The Young Event Horse East Coast Championships are set to run this fall to Fair Hill as part of the inaugural Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill. The West Coast Championships will be held at Twin Rivers Ranch in California. The East Coast YEH championships have been held at Fair Hill for the past several years and

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this year will take place on Thursday, October 14 and Friday, October 15. According to a U.S. Eventing Association press release, all phases of the 4-Year-Old division will be held on Thursday, with the 5-Year-Olds competing in dressage and conformation on Thursday and the jumping/gallop phase on Friday.

The Dutta Corporation returns as the YEH Championships title sponsor for both championships.

To qualify for the East Coast championships, horses must earn a score of 75% or higher at any YEH qualifier during the 2021 season. Currently, there are 13 YEH qualifiers on the Area II schedule, six of which are held in Maryland. The East Coast championships will accept up to 40 qualified horses in the 4-Year-Old division and up to 55 horses in the 5-Year-Old division. If entries fill, a waitlist will be made with horses ranked in order of qualifying scores with the highest scoring horses being taken off the waitlist first if spaces open up.

In addition to national championship honors, 5-Year-Old competitors will be riding for the Holekamp/Turner YEH Lion d'Angers Grant. This grant includes a round-trip flight donated by The Dutta Corp. to France to compete in the FEI World Young Horse Championship as a seven year old. The grant winner will also receive \$17,500 if the horse is an American-bred

and \$8,000 if imported.

New Interscholastic Eventing League



In August 2020, the US Eventing Association Board of Governors approved the creation of the USEA Interscholastic Eventing League (IEL).

The mission of IEL is "to bring together junior riders with a common interest and provide a supportive community through which students can continue to pursue their riding interest."

The program has already gained in popularity with 13 teams in Area II (which includes Maryland) signing up within the first month! Teams may be associated with a school, barn, trainer or even a group of friends wanting to form their own team. Each team must have a minimum of three riders to register but teams may scramble with other teams as needed at individual events.

Any USEA-recognized event can offer an IEL Team Challenge. Currently there are nine events in Maryland alone hosting these competitions, and the list keeps growing! The IEL competitions are held in conjunction with USEA events and teams register ahead of time for additional team awards.

The USEA hopes this program will increase membership as well as educate and engage rid-

ers in 7th through 12th grades. It also becomes a pathway into the USEA's Intercollegiate Eventing program, which has been running since 2014 for college teams.

For more information on how to join a team and rules for the league, see useventing.com.

New Young Jumper Championships

The US Hunter Jumper Association has announced that the new USHJA Young Jumper Championships is set to begin with the 2021 season. The finale will be held at the Traverse City Fall Horse Show on September 8-12 in Michigan and will hold separate championships for 4- through 8-year-old horses. Prize money will be given through 15th place for each age group with bonus prize money offered for U.S. breeders and American-bred horses.

Four-year-old horses do not have to qualify ahead of time, however they must meet the eligibility requirements listed at ushja.org. Five-, six- and seven-year-old horses qualify through USHJA Young Jumper Championships Qualifying classes at USEF-licensed competitions. Eight-year-old horses qualify with one clear round in classes at 1.30 meter or higher held at USEF-licensed competitions. The qualifying period ends August 15.

For more details and a qualifying competition schedule, see ushja.org.

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USDF Adds Regional Schooling Show Awards



The US Dressage Federation has launched a new awards program specifically for regional organizations that offer schooling shows. The program is meant to highlight success in dressage at the schooling show level within USDF group members.

Riders must have a USDF Group Membership that is recorded by the Group Member Organization at the time each score is earned. Scores can be earned in any USDF region from December 1 through November 30. Owners must have at least a USDF non-member number and the horse must have at least a USDF horse identification number at the time scores are earned.

Riders can change division status during the program year as the rider's status will be determined at the end of the program year. It is up to the rider to submit scores to USDF online no later than 21 calendar days after the last day of each competition.

There is a yearly nomination fee of \$35 per horse/rider combination.

USDF has broken the awards program into four divisions and seven levels. Divisions include Open, Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur and Non-Professional. The levels of competition are Introductory, (which is only open to Junior/Young Rider, Adult Amateur and Non-Professional divisions), Training, First, Second, Third, Fourth and FEI. The FEI level combines Prix St. Georges, Intermediate I, Intermediate II and Grand Prix scores.

Here in Maryland, the Potomac Valley Dressage Association has signed on to the program by nominating many of its schooling shows for 2021.

For more information and to register, please

visit usdf.org and search for "USDF 2021 Regional Schooling Show Awards Program Rules."

USHJA Approves Various Rule Changes

The US Hunter Jumper Association published a list of key rule changes that were discussed and approved at its annual meeting, held December 11, 2020. The rule changes that were approved and are in effect for the 2021 season:

1. Mules are now allowed to compete in Jumper divisions.

2. Earbuds are now prohibited in any area designated for schooling and exercise.

3. Jumper classes will be limited per section per day in the interest of horse welfare.

4. A new Jumper and Equitation English and corresponding metric fence height chart for Hunter class cross entry and eligibility was created.

5. Amateur Owners have been removed from the Jumper sections leaving only Amateurs. A separate year-end award will still be available for recorded owners.

For more information and a complete 2021 rulebook, please visit ushja.org.

New Modified Classic Division

The "Classic Three-Day Event" is a series of events that follow the original "long" format of eventing with dressage, followed by roads and tracks and cross-country, and finishing with show jumping. Previously, the US Eventing Association held a Classic Series for the Novice, Training and Preliminary levels. For 2021, it has added Modified.

The Modified level was first introduced in 2017 to bridge the gap between the Training and Preliminary levels. In 2020, the new CCI* was added to give an FEI equivalent to the national Modified level.

As of press, the only events in the country to

officially add this level are the Spokane Sport Horse Farm Fall Horse Trials in Washington and the Waredaca Classic Three-Day Event and Horse Trials here in Maryland. The Waredaca event will be held October 22-24 in Laytonsville.

Details on how to qualify for this event and the specifications for each phase of the Classic can be found on useventing.com.

USHJA Outreach Program Updates

The US Hunter Jumper Association announced last December several changes to its USHJA Outreach program for the 2021 calendar year. The USHJA Outreach program was created to provide members an opportunity to earn national recognition and awards for competing at the local and unrecognized events.

For this season, Outreach classes have been broken into three categories: Outreach classes held within an unrecognized show, Outreach classes held as a standalone competition, and Outreach classes held in conjunction with a USEF-rated competition.

There is now an added point tracking for horses and trainers in addition to an adjusted flat point scale. Competitors can also trade points in towards year-end awards including ribbons, stall signs and other USHJA merchandise. In addition, members can earn Certificates of Merit throughout the year. The highest placed Gold Level Certificate of Merit rider from each Zone will earn a Golden Backstage Pass for 2021, which gives them the opportunity to attend the USHJA National Championships and compete in the Affiliate Championships.

The program has also added a High Point Trainer award for 2021. The Jumper section has been expanded to include 0.60m to 1.20m fence heights. A Hunter Walk/Trot Poles class has been added to the Hunter class offerings.

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Maryland Judge

Barbara Kirchner Magrogan Celebrates 50 Years as a Horse Show Judge

By Katherine O. Rizzo

If you had asked Barbara Kirchner Magrogan as a child if she wanted a career in the horse industry, she would have said yes, even before ever sitting on a horse. Even as a toddler, she would beg her parents to head over to Golden Horse Shoe, the local hack stable on Layhill Road in Montgomery County, with her older sisters to go for a ride. “They just wouldn’t let me because they said I was too young,” Magrogan explained. But then, when she was around seven, her parents gave her a package of five riding lessons with Dorothy Viera of Weathervane Stables in Spencerville as a Christmas present. That one present has led to a 50-year career with horses.

Becoming a Rider

Magrogan and her eight siblings grew up in the Kensington area. She would often head to Wheaton Park Stables to trail ride with her sisters and friends using money she earned from babysitting gigs. When Viera sold Weathervane, Magrogan followed her to her the new Marshwood Stables and continued to take lessons, as well as starting to show horses for the farm.

Making lifelong friends along the way, Magrogan dabbled into horse ownership when she started working with a friend’s horse named Flower Power in the 1960s. “She was owned by a friend but I rode her a lot and we kept her off of Norbeck Road,” Magrogan remarked. “But it wasn’t until later that I got my first horse of my own.”

It was February 1969 when she bought a horse in Virginia and needed a trailer ride back to Maryland. That is when she met Richard Mills, who recently passed away. Mills picked up her new horse and Magrogan began boarding at his Millhaven Farm. “That’s where I met so many lifelong friends like LuAnne Levens!” Magrogan said smiling. Soon after arriving at Millhaven, she fell in love with an off-the-track Thoroughbred Mills had brought in on consignment. “So I sold my first horse and bought this mare instead. She was a pistol for sure!” Magrogan stated.

After a few months of not-always-successful rides with the mare as she became increasingly unwilling to work, Magrogan sought the advice one of the area’s newest veterinarians, Roger Scullin. Dr. Scullin examined the mare and declared she was in perfect health and would be foaling within a week. “I couldn’t believe she was pregnant and I knew nothing about foaling,” Magrogan explained.

With the help of her newfound Millhaven family, a little brown colt was born on March 17, 1971. Magrogan named him Winning Spree and called him Benedict for short. After

he was weaned, she sold “Momma” to a young man in Virginia and moved her colt to Bazy Tankersley’s famed Al-Marah Arabians’ Poolsville location, where Magrogan was working as her private secretary.

Magrogan broke Benedict herself and showed him in hand and on the flat. “I hated to jump so I got Marlene [Allen] to show him for me,” she explained. “He’s the horse that really made a name for me,” she said about Benedict, adding, “and he was the only Thoroughbred at the all-Arabian breeding farm!”

Becoming a Judge

While she started bringing Benedict along, Magrogan was still showing horses at Marshwood Farm. “That’s where I became so impressed with judging,” she said. “I don’t really know why I was drawn to it.”

Magrogan was 21 years old at the time and timidly walked up to show judge Edna Lytle one day asking if she could sit with her to learn how to be a judge. “Edna was so happy to help and took me under her wing,” Magrogan said. “She told me the secret to judging was to keep really good records.” Magrogan and Lytle continue to be friends to this day. “She really became a mentor to me and is still a best friend,” Magrogan added.

Magrogan also shadowed Bruce Fales and Chris Brighoff while watching videos by George Morris, Rodney Jenkins and more.

A few years later, Magrogan was ready to start judging on her own. “My first big show on my own was at the Fredrick County Fairgrounds,” she said. Her judging career started out at the local level and steadily grew from an average of 10 to 12 shows a year in Maryland, Virginia and Pennsylvania to an average of 35 to 40 shows a year all over the United States and Canada. “I really had a hard time saying no to people,” she said with a laugh.

“My sister was big into endurance riding and I got to judge 100 mile rides in Florida and Vermont,” Magrogan said, pointing out that she never restricted herself to just one discipline in terms of judging. “I’ve judged pretty much everything you can think of... except dressage, because I never really had the time to learn enough about it.”

As a side note, for 22 years, Magrogan was also a volunteer fire fighter and often was both the judge and EMT at local shows. “Only at shows with one ring going,” she explained. She created Medical Standby Services specifically to supply EMT services to horse shows as well as festivals, music events and more. “It was a great side gig for all of us volunteers and I’d hire EMTs and such when they had weekends off,” she said. Magrogan retired and sold the com-



Barbara Kirchner Magrogan with the 2019 Double Supreme Champion Welsh Pony Rosehaven Lady Slipper, owned by Sally Steinmetz and shown by Susan Weigand at the Maryland State Fair.



Barbara Kirchner Magrogan aboard her friend’s horse Flower Power in 1969 at a barn along Norbeck Road.



Marlene Allen competing Barbara Kirchner Magrogan’s homebred Thoroughbred Winning Spree (Benedict) in Ocala in 1975 (above) and as a foal born at Millhaven (right) in 1971. Magrogan considers Benedict the horse that launched her career in the horse world.



Barbara Kirchner Magrogan with the famous Olympian Touch of Class outside the Capital Center at the 1984 Washington International Horse Show where Magrogan was filling in for Joe Fargis' regular groom Laurie Pitts.



Barbara Kirchner Magrogan with fellow judges Rodney Jenkins and Timmy Keys at the Pimlico 2017 Totally Thoroughbred Show.



Barbara Kirchner Magrogan's newest passion, photographing wildlife.

pany in 1999 due to personal injuries that prevented her from continuing as an EMT.

Memory Lane

In 2019 Magrogan judged the Canadian National Pinto Show saying, "It was up near Calgary and man, where those really long days. But it was a super cool experience." It is experiences like these that Magrogan remembers fondly. "I've gotten to do so much through being a judge and it's been so much fun," she added.

Breed shows are probably top on the list in terms of what Magrogan enjoys judging most. "I've judged almost all the breeds you can think of!" she said, explaining that she even has a Welsh judging certification that allows her to judge Welsh shows anywhere in the world. "I judged the Welsh big national show in California a bunch of times."

While in California, or wherever judging takes her, Magrogan makes new friends, connects with people she doesn't get to see that often and even takes in a local concert or two. That's life on the road for a horse show judge!

"I have to say, I hate judging leadline and love judging leadline at the same time," she said laughing. "It's just so hard to pick a winner but I love giving the kids a tip or two." The educational part of judging is also why Magrogran enjoys working 4-H shows. "It's basically like giving the kids a mini clinic. I love to teach them something." She added, "those kids are really eager to learn, and their parents are also eager to learn. You know they walk away having learned something."

"But it's the Thoroughbreds I love judging most!" she exclaimed. Magrogran has had a strong connection to Thoroughbreds all her life and says one of the highlights of her judg-

ing career was being a judge at the All-Thoroughbred shows held at Pimlico a few years back. "I get goose bumps just thinking about all those good looking Thoroughbreds!"

50 Years

This March, Magrogan celebrates her 71st birthday as she heads into her 50th year of judging. "I was going to retire last year but with COVID, there just weren't a lot of shows to judge at so I really wanted to give it another year," she explained. But at the same time, Magrogran said she is ready to move on from the show world.

Photography is a huge passion for Magrogran, and she's looking forward to having more time to concentrate on wildlife photography, especially birds. Magrogran, who has been living in Leonardtown with her husband, Mike since 2007, pointed out that not judging in 2020 gave them more time to explore their own community. "We did a lot of walking along the water and in the parks," she said. "I can't wait for the ospreys to start nesting again! I really love capturing them in pictures."

She added, "Mike and I are planning a cross-country road trip once all this COVID stuff is more under control. And that also means lots of taking photos!"

Magrogran does not plan to leave the horse world completely as she still loves meeting up with riding friends, taking photos of morning workouts at the tracks here in Maryland and in Aiken, South Carolina, and helping friends at shows. "I'm just ready to enjoy life in a different way and do things at my own pace," she said. "It's been a good life and I can't complain. I've done a lot of stuff!"

Turn the page for Barbara's Secretariat story!



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Loch Moy

Maryland Judge: Barbara Kirchner Magrogan Celebrates 50 Years as a Horse Show Judge

The Secretariat Connection

by Barbara Kirchner Magrogan

Barbara Kirchner Magrogan has always had a soft spot for Thoroughbreds. From owning and showing a few to photographing morning workouts at the track, she feels the Thoroughbred will always be the love of her life in the horse world. She shared with us a story about her connection to Secretariat and his people.

In 1973 I attended the Preakness with a bunch of friends from Marshwood Stables. We bought general admission tickets that day and went inside the grandstands to try and find a spot. By the time we stopped and by the grace of God, guess who was standing next to me? Jim Nabors who happened to be singing the National Anthem that day.

He and I struck up a conversation and he was happy to have someone local talking with him because he knew no one and was on his own. We chatted for a while and then they called him down into the paddock to head out on the track, so he says to me, "Come along with me." So I did, and all my friends thought I was nuts, but I headed down into the paddock. I went right behind Jim because they all thought I was with him and he pretended like I was!

I went to stall #3 with him and it was then I got to actually pet Secretariat and met Penny Chenery, Ronnie Turcot & Lucian Laurin. Then as suddenly as it started, it was over and Jim went outside and I headed back up to my friends. Of course they all were so jealous!

I followed Secretariat the rest of his racing days but it wasn't until 2010 that I reconnected with the group on the occasion of Secretariat's 40th

birthday celebration at The Meadow in Virginia. I got a private meet and greet with Penny, Kate Tweedy (Penny's daughter, who now runs the Secretariat Foundation), Ronnie and Charlie Davis (Secretariat's exercise rider who went everywhere with him) that night and our friendships took off from there. They took me into the fold because of my wonderful story and the rest is history as the saying goes.

From that moment on and even today, I am part of the Secretariat.com group and have traveled with them all over the country. Charlie and I became very close friends and I ended up being his caretaker, I guess you call it, and would travel with him to the events to make sure he got there safely. Sadly as everyone knows, Penny, Charlie & Bill Nack (the reporter who wrote the book *Secretariat: The Making of a Champion*, which was turned into a feature film by Disney) all passed away within months of each other a couple of years ago.

COVID put a stop to all of our Secretariat events last year and looks like this year so far will also have canceled events. We all are a close knit bunch and look forwarding to seeing each other one day again.

Charlie was born in South Carolina and got his start with racehorses when he was about 16 years old. I brought him over to Aiken, SC, in 2013 to meet Cot Campbell of Dogwood Stables. Campbell's last great racehorse was Palace

Malice, who won the Belmont in 2015. These two icons had never met each other and I was privileged to facilitate that meeting. They became fast friends and Charlie visited Aiken several more times over the years.

So that's my Secretariat story in a nutshell. Not too exciting, except to me!



Barbara Kirchner Magrogan with long-time friend Charlie Davis and horses Mac and George at Otasaga South in Aiken, South Carolina in 2013.

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on Social Media: a snowy February in Maryland



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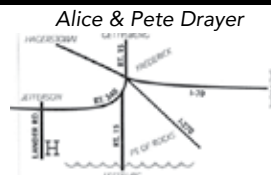
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by Kimberly K. Egan, MHC Government Relations Committee



The 2021 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly is underway, and the Maryland Horse Council's Government Relations Committee has been hard at work reviewing the proposed legislation and identifying those bills that could affect the horse industry.

To date, the Horse Council has taken written positions on two bills – one that would include therapy horses in the Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program, and one that would expand Sunday deer hunting in Queen Anne's County.

Therapy Horses (SB 284/HB 660)

Senator Bryan Simonaire (R – Anne Arundel County) introduced legislation that would add a definition of “therapy horse” to the list of service animals eligible for reimbursement by the State's Veterans Service Animal Program. Sen. Simonaire reached out to the Horse Council for help with the definition of “therapy horse.” We in turn reached out to the therapy horse community for input.

The bill had originally required stables to be Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) Premier Accredited Centers (PAC) or to have Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAG-ALA) certified professionals on staff.

MHC asked Sen. Simonaire to remove the PATH and EAGALA requirements, which can be unnecessarily restrictive, and replace it with language that would define a “therapy horse” as “a horse determined appropriate for interactions with veterans by a Horse Discovery Center certified by the state that: (I) is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability, or (II) serves as an emotional support or therapy animal that a medical professional, within the medical professional's scope of practice, has determined provides benefit to an individual with a sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.”

Corinne Pouliquen testified on behalf of the MHC at the February 2 Senate committee hearing. As of press, we await further developments.

Queen Anne's County Sunday Hunting (HB 225/SB 605)

Delegate Steven Arentz (R – Eastern Shore) introduced legislation that would allow hunting on private land on each Sunday of each game bird or game mammal season. This “all Sundays, all seasons, all species” approach would expand the number of Sundays available for just deer hunting from each Sunday during deer firearms season, and three Sun-

days in October and one in November during deer bow season, to almost all Sundays year-round for all species.

The Horse Council reached out to its membership in Queen Anne's County and filed written testimony opposing the bill. MHC has consistently opposed expansion of Sunday hunting because the majority of our members oppose it, and because MHC has tried for over 20 years to preserve Sundays as the one day of the week when children and adults, hikers, birdwatchers, dog walkers, trail riders and other outdoor enthusiasts could enjoy the outdoors without concern for adverse interactions with hunters. This is especially so now that use of public natural resources has increased dramatically as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

MHC testified at the House committee hearing on February 3. As with the therapy horse bill, we await further developments.

Upcoming Bills

MHC intends to testify on two other bills – a Sunday hunting bill in Talbot County (HB 325) and a “cost of care” bill for animal shelters (HB 1080/SB 760).

The Talbot County bill would increase the available Sundays for deer hunting from only the first Sunday during firearms season and three Sundays in October and one in November during bow season, to all Sundays from October to January. It would also add one Sunday in turkey season. We anticipate making the same arguments as we did for the Queen Anne's County bill. The House committee hearing is February 17.

The animal shelter cost of care bill would, generally speaking, require the owners under investigation for animal cruelty to pay the costs of caring for the animal after the animal has been seized, or forfeit all rights to the animal. MHC has opposed such bills in the past because of due process concerns.

MHC is considering a number of alternatives to propose to the sponsors, and we intend to testify at the hearings, which are not yet scheduled.

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Play It As It May, ridden here by Caitlin Owings at the Baltimore County Agriculture Center Show Ring, is owned by Out Foxed Farm. He is a Thoroughbred by Fantastic and out of Light Song and was bred by Eric Long.

Alexis Owings

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301-305-6440; info@middleridgefarm.com;
www.MiddleRidgeAnimalRescue.com



MidAtlantic Horse Rescue

Modero: Chestnut, gelding, 15.3h, 2016. 2021 RRP Makeover Eligible. Adoption Fee: \$1800. Other nice Thoroughbreds available.

302-376-7297; Bev@MidAtlanticHorseRescue.org;
www.MidAtlanticHorseRescue.org



Safe Haven Equine Warriors

Dauphne: 13 hands of sweetness. Dauphne is a 6 yr old pony mare. Still very green, but super willing. Unlimited potential! Adoption fee \$900.

410-718-1806; safehavenequinewarriors@gmail.com;
www.safehavenequinewarriors.com



Maryland Horse Rescue

Ginger: 1998, 15.2h Paint mare. Gorgeous girl! Very gentle & laid back, gets along in mixed herd. Avail as a companion with no adoption fee through our unique foster program. Ask us about the benefits of fostering!

301-992-0284; mdhorserescue@gmail.com;
www.mdhorserescue.net



Standardbred Retirement Foundation

Kendra Oaks: 15.1h, 14yo STB Mare. Enjoys short trail trips & long rides. Rides out alone, w/group, lead, follow, mid-pack, loves water, obstacles w/ease. Solid W/T; learning to collect canter. Stands well, trailers.

609-738-3255; SRFAdoption@gmail.com;
www.AdoptaHorse.org



Little Longears Miniature Donkey Rescue

Donkeys, donkeys everywhere! Miniatures, Standards & even Mammoths! Donkeys are sweet, social & super smart! Come see for yourself. We have lots of donkeys ready for adoption.

301-908-7351; info@littlelongears.org;
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EQUIERY LIFE

MARYLAND WILL MISS...

Richard Allen Mills

Submitted by Diana Delmar

Richard Allen Mills, 84, of Derwood, owner and operator of Millhaven Horse Farm, unexpectedly died February 3, 2021 at Brooke Grove Nursing and Rehab Center, in Sandy Spring, where he had been admitted for physical therapy after a fall.

Born and raised in Rockville, Mills was a life-long horseman but held a variety of positions as a young man before starting his equestrian business. He was an artilleryman in the Maryland National Guard, managed a hardware store and, beginning in the mid-1960s, he was a reserve deputy sheriff for Montgomery County, a position he held for a decade.

His interest in horses was fostered by an uncle who had him riding from the time he was a child. Richard opened his first boarding barn in 1968. In 1985, he bought a tract of land in



Derwood and developed Millhaven Horse Farm, where he offered boarding, horse training and riding lessons. Many readers will remember his often-present daughters Brenda and Natali Mills as well as his former wife, the late Stephanie Edwards (Mills), an accomplished hunter/jumper trainer and rider.

The farm hosted hunter shows that attracted riders far and wide.

Many of the youngsters who learned to ride at Millhaven went on to become top-rated equestrians. Mills was also an avid foxhunter and rode with the Potomac Hunt Club and the Goshen Hounds.

In his Derwood neighborhood, Mills was known for his willingness to help, whether it meant plowing snow or installing a new well pump. One neighbor described him as "the patriarch of the street who will be remembered for his love and care of Millhaven and for his generous kindness."

Millhaven remains a popular boarding facility in the area and will continue under the direction of Diana Delmar, Mills' "significant other" of 21 years.

Mills will be dearly missed by the staff and boarders at Millhaven Horse Farm along with the many friends who have known him over the course of his life.

COMINGS & GOINGS

Welcome to new *Equiery* distributor **A Splash of Tack** at Flat Iron Farm in Great Mills.

Jay Griswold has been named the new Chair of the Fair Hill Foundation, with **William Phipps II** being named the new Board President. Founding President **Samuel Slater** will remain involved as Chairman Emeritus.

The **Fair Hill Races** will not run in 2021.



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{Horse In Need of Transition}



Chance

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Bit of Bey ("Habibi")

2006, 16.1h Arab/Breton gelding



Allistar FC

2000, 14.2h Arabian mare

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MAR 2021 OUT & ABOUT

Maryland



Phantom, a 20.1 hand Shire gelding, running through the snow at Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue.



A group of riders out hacking at the World Equestrian Center in Florida.



Cathy McElroy riding her own Priceless in Union Mills on a cold but snow free day in February.



Cafe Fiolka's pony Thunder in the snow on February 7



Natalie Paley, with trainer Adrian Ford, waiting her turn in the ring aboard Vendetta at the Belfield Series Opener at McDonogh.



Riley Lanham with her newly purchased first pony Chuck at Full Moon Farm on February 1.



A bit of snow day fun for Brielle Francia and Misty at Safe Haven Farm.



Brynn Bixler of Big Easy Farm at her first horse show earned the Reserve Championship in the Short Stirrup division at Country Hill's January show.



Former Marylander, Courtenay Brown Tuxhorn (now living in Canada but wintering in Florida), competing at the Barnstable South Horse Trials in Morriston, Florida in January.



Full Moon Farm barn manager Ashley Pearman with her mini Oliver

Reader Contributions - Please send your photos to editor@equiery.com by the 10th of the month. Photos must be at least 300 dpi. Please include the following information with each photo: names of people and horses, location and date where photo was taken, photographer name and contact information. The Equiery is not responsible for any copyright fees associated with the use of professional photographs.

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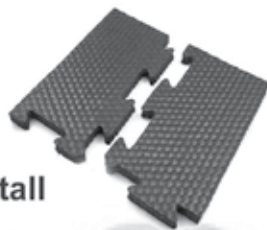
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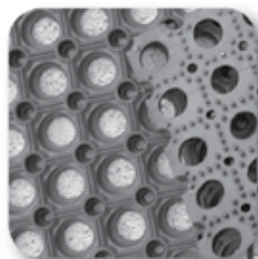
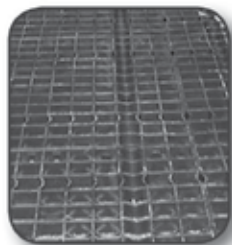
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