

NEWS & VIEWS

You Can Use

EHV-1 Cases in Maryland

On March 9, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) Animal Health Program issued a statement confirming two unrelated cases of Equine Herpesvirus Myeloencephalopathy (EHM) in Maryland. According to MDA, both horses developed clinical symptoms over the immediately preceding weekend and were confirmed positive for EHM on Monday, March 8. The horses were stabled in two different counties (Anne Arundel and Cecil) with no known connection.

The horse in Anne Arundel County was stabled at Laurel Park and displayed clinical symptoms on Saturday, March 6. The horse was sent to the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg, VA, where the wild-type strain of Equine Herpesvirus (EHV-1) was confirmed. EHV-1 is the virus that causes EHM. Currently, the horse is still at the medical center and is responding well to treatment.

MDA placed four barns at Laurel Park on a hold order, prohibiting movement on or off the premises until any exposed horses are cleared for release.

On March 19, MDA announced that a second horse in the same barn as the above horse at Laurel Park tested positive for EHV-1. This second horse was confirmed positive on March 15 and was euthanized after not responding to treatment.

Following this second positive case, MDA officials tested the remaining 20 horses housed in the same barn as the two positive horses on

March 17. Those tests returned six positive results from asymptomatic horses. All positive horses have been removed from the barn and placed in isolated quarantine offsite.

The original hold order on the four impacted barns has been reset, and horses in the index barn will be retested prior to releasing the order. MDA continues to work closely with Laurel Park and the Maryland Jockey Club to ensure that daily operations are able to continue as safely as possible with minimal disruption.

The horse in Cecil County was stabled at a private facility and began displaying clinical signs of EHM on March 5. According to MDA, this horse did not respond to treatment and was euthanized on March 6. Samples from the deceased horse were confirmed positive for EHM on March 8. This barn was also placed on a hold order with veterinary professionals monitoring the remaining horses. The hold order remains in place until all exposed horses have been cleared for release.

MDA asks owners to monitor horses at their premises carefully, and contact their private veterinarians to arrange for Equine Herpesvirus testing if a horse exhibits significant temperature elevations or neurologic signs. Veterinarians are required to report equine neurologic syndrome to the Department by calling the Animal Health Program at (410) 841-5810.

The Equiery will continue to monitor the situation and update our readers as additional information is released from MDA and/or MJC. Check equiery.com for updates and subscribe

for free notifications from our news site.

Reward for Info on September Shooting

The Harford County Police Department is still looking for more information related to two horses being shot in their pastures on September 25, 2020. Initial investigation has indicated that horses Tilly and Hey Kid were shot sometime between 11:20pm and 12:00am the night before. The investigation is still active and anyone with information is asked to call Harford Crime Solvers at 1-888-540-8477 or report a tip online at <http://www.harfordsheriff.org/wanted>. There is a cash reward of \$5,000 for information that leads to an arrest in the case.

CTR Forms New Advisory Council

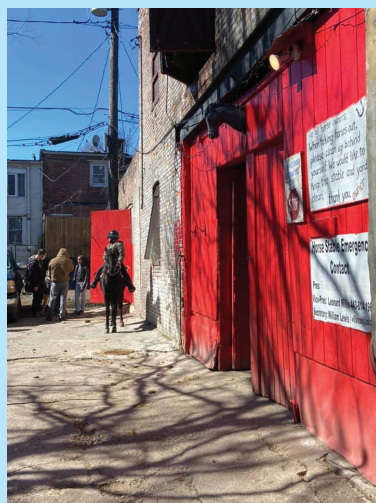
Chesapeake Therapeutic Riding in Harford has created a new CTR Advisory Council to advocate for the organization within the community. The council will also advise the Board of Directors and Executive Director Cathy Schmidt.

"Forming an Advisory Council has been a priority since we purchased our 'forever farm' in later 2019," said Phil Wohlfort, President of CTR's Board of Directors. "We greatly appreciate the willingness of these highly respected individuals in our community to serve. Their advocacy and guidance will be invaluable."

For more information and a complete list of Advisory Council members, see CTRChangingLives.org.

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Carlton Street Stables Open House *photos provided by MHIB*



On March 7, Baltimore City's historic Carlton Street Stables, owned by Levar Mullen, held a community open house to celebrate the stable's becoming the first Arabber stable to be named a Maryland Licensed Stable by the Maryland Horse Industry Board. This is the first step towards the Arabbers' long-term goal of establishing the City's first certified Maryland Horse Discovery Center.

The stable is currently developing a robust horsemanship-based educational program that reflects Baltimore's rich equine history. It also offers private riding lessons by appointment with CHA licensed instructor Charish Arthur.

Carlton Street Stables also earned the prestigious Maryland State Arts Council Heritage Award, which recognizes long-term achievement in folklife or community-based living cultural traditions.

To read more about the history of Arabbing in Maryland, visit equiery.com and search for "Arabber."