

YOUR MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL PUBLICATION

JUNE 2021

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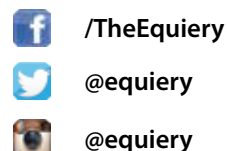
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YOUR MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL PUBLICATION



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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

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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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What an Incredible Journey!

By Neil Agate, MHC President



As this will be my last MHC Publisher's letter as President of the Maryland Horse Council, I hope you will indulge me with a short trip down memory lane to see the incredible progress MHC has made over the last few years.

The Maryland Horse Council has always been a flourishing and influential organization within the state and has had many successes legislatively and in helping to solidify and build the horse community. When I first got involved with

the organization almost 10 years ago, we were very much a volunteer run organization with a part-time management company keeping the back office moving along. About five years ago, three separate topics started to be discussed within MHC. All of them were significant and I remember thinking that if any one of them came to fruition it would be good for MHC and the horse community in general.

Those discussions were 1) create a state wide aftercare program to stem the shipping of unwanted horses to slaughter, 2) whether the MHC should get into the publishing business with either a new newsletter or acquiring *The Equiery*, and 3) the hiring of a full-time Executive Director.

Ironically the third of these was the one we focused most of our attention on and yet it was the first two of these discussions that have been the most successful. Despite the fact that we have not been able to fully execute on the third, hiring an Executive Director is still on our radar. MHC has seen significant growth in size and influence during this time, and a professional Executive Director will no doubt be needed in the not so distant future to keep all the moving parts working efficiently and effectively.

The purchase and integration of *The Equiery* has been a great success and promises to deliver dividends to the MHC community for years to come. We continue to integrate MHC's missions and messages into *The Equiery* while maintaining the high quality of content that has made *The Equiery* a mainstay in all parts of Maryland's equestrian community. The staff, Katherine Rizzo (Editor-in-Chief), Tracy McKenna (Associate Publisher), Emily Nessel (Marketing Coordinator) and Carolyn Del

Grosso (Bookkeeping) have done an incredible job not only maintaining the high quality of the magazine but also making sure that we keep pushing forward on all aspects of the publication.

The whole team dug in when in 2018, our long-time printer announced with very short notice that they were going out of business and we were faced with finding a new printer within 30 days. Not only did we find a new printer, but in the process we selected one (Evergreen Printing) that uses new technology allowing us to upgrade the print and paper quality to deliver a higher quality publication than the newsprint we had previously been printed on.

Behind the scenes, we have recently moved to an all-in-one online publishing system (Magazine Manager) that allows us to keep all of our information within the same system for advertisers, ads and editorial content. While this gives us a great advantage in increased efficiency, like all new systems, it required a lot of effort, especially for Katherine who now does all of the layout on the new system and Tracy, whose whole ad sales workflow process has changed.

While our main focus for the foreseeable future will be on the print publication, like everyone in the publishing business, we have been spending a lot of time on integrating our online presence. Recently we've published new online classifieds and an all new online events calendar on equiery.com. Over the coming months we'll be working on a number of online directories, further integration of our print content to our online sites, and a new initiative that will allow us to boost our print advertisers reach through an exciting new online advertising program.

I'd like to publicly acknowledge the great work that Emily Nessel has done in not only holding many parts of *The Equiery* together, but also stepping up and taking over the role of MHC Membership Coordinator, where she has helped streamline the whole membership process and initiated several newsletters that allow us to keep our membership and the community informed on everything that is going on in our vibrant community.

Finally we all know that operations like MHC/*Equiery* can't run successfully without a good financial base and for that we can thank Carolyn Del Grosso who makes sure that all the right bills are sent out and our finances are in good shape. In addition, I want to thank Carolyn for keeping the doors open for the last 12+ months by physically going into the office every day during this pandemic to make sure nothing fell through the cracks.

The formation and growth of the Maryland Equine Transition Service (METS) over the last four years has been nothing short of amazing. What started as an unfunded idea to slow the transportation of unwanted horses to slaughter in Mexico and Canada has become an extremely

continued...

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Letter from the Publisher, continued...

effective part of Maryland's aftercare and rescue communities and has helped transition over 200 horses in a little over three years. We were fortunate to have received funding through the Right Horse Initiative/ Arnall Family Foundation for the first three years of METS' existence and as a testament to the success of the program, we are honored to have received new support from Maryland's own Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue that will sustain us into the future.

There's still a lot of work to do and in addition to the great work the staff have done, I want to personally thank the members of our METS Steering Committee who have worked tirelessly over the last year to make METS as effective as possible and to push our funding program forward. The Steering Committee is Elizabeth Tate Winters, Dr. Amy Burk, Dr. Pete Radue, Erin Ochoa, Jordyn Egan, Brittney Carrow, Jane Seigler, Corinne Pouliquen and Erica Lancaster. I also want to thank Erica Lancaster who has recently become the President of the newly established Maryland Horse Council Foundation, under which METS

will be managed, for stepping forward and navigating the transition of the program to the Foundation.

As my term as President of MHC comes to an end, I am very excited to see where these programs go and to cheer on my two successors in the President role. Both Corinne Pouliquen and Kim Egan are extremely energetic and passionate horse women who I believe will guide MHC to great heights by moving these programs ahead and introducing new and exciting ways that we can energize and unite our Maryland horse community.

Finally I would like to acknowledge a person without whose support over the last few years I would not have been able to work through many of the intricacies involved with the MHC. My predecessor as MHC President, Jane Seigler, has been an absolute rock and her advice and counsel has been critical to me in my position as MHC President. I hope I am able to provide half as much support to Kim and Corinne in the coming years.

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NEWS & VIEWS

You Can Use

METS Receives Grant from Gentle Giants *(edited press release)*

The Maryland Horse Council Foundation, Inc., is pleased to announce that it has received a generous grant from Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue (Gentle Giants) to fund the Maryland Equine Transition Service (METS) program. Gentle Giants will be the primary financial supporter of METS while the grant is in effect.

METS is a central component of the equine aftercare network in Maryland. It is a re-homing program that works on behalf of horses in need and matches the right owner to the right horse. METS advises owners on transition options, assesses horses for re-homing suitability, and distributes information about the horses in need through its expansive equestrian network. It has been in operation for three years and, in that time, has re-homed over 200 horses in need.

"We are all so proud of what the METS team have been able to accomplish in three short years but even more excited to see where we as a community can take the program in the future with support of great organizations like

Gentle Giants," said Erica Lancaster, President of the Maryland Horse Council Foundation.

Similarly, Gentle Giants is a key member of the Maryland equine rescue community – and understands how important the work METS does is to Maryland horses and horse owners. Gentle Giants rescues draft horses from auction to save them from slaughter, rehabilitates them physically and emotionally, and re-homes them to suitable adoptive homes.

"Gentle Giants is honored to help support the vital services that METS offers to the Maryland equine community. Maryland has become a national leader in equine welfare, and we are proud to be a part of that movement," says Christine Hajek, President and Founder of Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue.

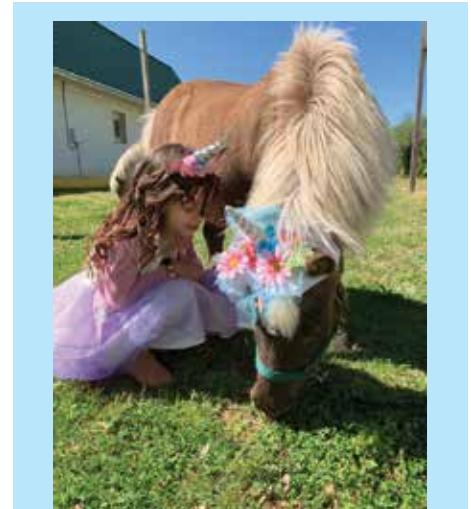
The Maryland Horse Council Foundation, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) public foundation. Its mission is "to perform charitable and educational activities associated with the horse industry in Maryland, and to help create and nurture deep ties between Maryland residents and the Maryland equine community." The Maryland Horse Council Foundation was conceived by the Maryland Horse Council, which is the 501(c)(6) trade association that represents the Maryland horse community at the state and local level. See www.md-horsecouncil.org.

Learn more about METS at www.mdequinetransition.org and for Gentle Giants at www.gentlegiantsdrafthorsescue.org.

USEF Changes Masks Rule

As of May 17, the USEF has updated its protocols regarding facemasks at all USEF-licensed competitions due to updated CDC recommendations. The change states that those who are fully vaccinated no longer need to wear facemasks at USEF-licensed competitions when outdoors and at least six feet away from other individuals (except those within the same immediate household). USEF also states that if individuals enter an area that is fully or partially indoors, masks must be worn and social distance is required. In addition, USEF reminds all participants that local COVID-19 rules still apply, thus if a state or county still requires facemasks, then the competition must do so as well.

Here in Maryland, as of May 15, the



It was a beautiful spring day in May when the Greenwell Foundation in St. Mary's County welcomed over 100 young and young-at-heart members of the community to its May Open Barn celebrating Unicorns.

Costumes abounded, many photos were taken, and everyone enjoyed themselves safely, maintaining state and local guidelines as we emerge from the pandemic. Executive Director Jolanda Campbell was particularly pleased with the behavior of the farm's two newest members-goats Billy and Taco. "They had a great time meeting everyone, and all our visitors loved them!" Campbell said.

executive order for facemasks when outdoors has been lifted. However, some counties may choose to keep the facemask rule in effect. *The Equiery* reminds its readers to check with county COVID-19 sites as well as facility rules before choosing to take off a facemask.

NAL National Finals Return Cap Challenge

The North American League's National Finals will be held at the Capital Challenge Horse Show this October. "Last year, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we moved the National Finals to the Capital Challenge for the first time and the move was very well received by our participants," stated Annette Longenecker of Ryegate Show Services, which

continued...



Pics of You

Congratulations to Yvette Harris of Woodbine who won the USEF Intermediate Pair Pony Horse Combined Driving National Championship at the Katydid CDE in North Carolina last month. Harris was the lone competitor in the division with her ponies Morwell Amber (Welsh) and Suki (Welsh cross). They finished the competition with a double clean cones round and a final score of 155.81 penalty points. This was the second consecutive year Harris has won this title.

Another Marylander also earned National Championship honors at the Katydid CDE. To read about Riley Wiltison's win, see page 15 of this issue.

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

produces NAL. The 2021 Capital Challenge will be held at the Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro.

Chicoteague Pony Swim Canceled

The Chicoteague Island Volunteer Fire Department decided to cancel this year's pony swim and live auction due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. State restrictions on gatherings were behind the organizers' decision to cancel the July event.

Barn Fire in Montgomery County

The cause of a barn fire that occurred on May 12 in Montgomery County is still under investigation. The fire caused more than \$2 million in damages at a Peach Tree Road farm. The fire was mainly located in a large barn containing round hay bales but had also spread to two attached structures and nearby fuel tanks. No animals or people were hurt in the fire.

WIHS Stays at Tryon and Morven Park for 2021

The Washington International Horse Show will be held at the Tryon International Equestrian Center (NC) again this year. The WIHS Regional Horse Show and USHJA Zone 3 Championship return to Morven Park International Equestrian Center (VA).

WIHS stated that it has moved to Tryon for the second year in a row due to COVID-19 restrictions still in place for the Capital One Arena in Washington, DC. As of press, there was no official comment on why the WIHS Regional show has moved away from the Prince George's Equestrian Center for the second year in a row. Last year, it was moved to Morven Park due to COVID-19 restrictions at PGEC.



Congratulations to David Ziegler and Saladine STC, who are currently ranked number one on the USEF 2021 Breeding Championships list for 5-Year-Old list!

Rosecroft Reopens to the Public

On April 30, Rosecroft Raceway was given approval by Prince George's County to reopen to the public. Beginning on May 1, the track was allowed to host up to 300 spectators daily, in addition to Maryland Racing Commission licensees affiliated with live racing, for both simulcasting and live racing. Live racing will take place at Rosecroft on Wednesdays and Sundays with simulcasting available Wednesday through Sunday each week.

Baltimore Mounted Unit Saved

Last spring, funding for the Baltimore Police Department's mounted unit was cut by the City Council amid protests and calls for reduced police spending. However, behind the scenes, then-Mayor Jack Young moved the unit from the Police Department to the Recreation and Parks Department, thus saving the unit.

Unfortunately, according to *Baltimore Brew*, protesters are still angry with the money spent on BPD with current Mayor Brandon Scott stating it will take more than one fiscal year to cut the BPD funding as he promised during his campaign. Scott has recently proposed a 5% increase in the BPD budget. Scott is however, moving the mounted unit budget from BPD to Recreation and Parks and is dedicating the unit "exclusively" to community relations.

"The program is now entirely focused on community engagement exclusively," stated Deputy Director of Communications Stefanie Mavronis. According to Lindsey Eldrige, a spokeswoman for BPD, four officers, a sergeant and the three remaining horses will be assigned to the Community and Youth Division.

The unit is currently housed at the B&O Railroad Museum where the unit will work with the museum on a variety of youth-focused programs.

Laurel Park to Close Temporarily

Due to renovations of the track surface at Laurel Park, horsemen have been asked to leave Laurel immediately after the Preakness Stakes on May 15. Officials from the Mary-



Each year, the St. Mary's Riding Club donates equestrian books and DVDs to the county library in Leonardtown. The club donated 14 new books and six new DVDs this spring. Participating in this year's donation are librarians Amy Dickinson and Elizabeth Davis, club member Kathy Glockner aboard Mr. Fitz, and Emily Reppening, club president, with her daughters, Lulu and Jodie.

land Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association held a Zoom meeting on April 30 at which Aidan Butler of 1/ST Racing stated the track may remain closed through July 1. Butler is the Chief Operating Officer for 1/ST Racing and is overseeing the track resurfacing project at Laurel Park.

MTHA Executive Secretary David Richardson stated during the meeting that as many as 140 temporary stalls will be set up at Pimlico immediately after the Preakness. MTHA is also in discussions with the Maryland State Fair officials about possibly using stalls at Timonium, which currently has 580 stalls.

Butler added that during the closure, other projects at Laurel Park will also be addressed, such as eradicating a rat infestation on the backside.

MD TB Career Program Restarts

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maryland Horse Industry Foundation's Maryland Thoroughbred Career Program is back for 2021 with five participants from across the United States: Charles Churchill (Louisville, KY), Ashlee Marcy (Hanover, MD), Sophie O'Connor (Shorewood, WI), Cayla Reeder (Kearneysville, WV) and Zaharia A. Selman (Conyers, GA). During the five day program, participants tour several Thoroughbred-related sites in Maryland learning about all aspects of the industry. Graduates of the program are eligible to apply for Career Development Funds, one-time funding that can be used to further career pursuits within two years after the program ends.

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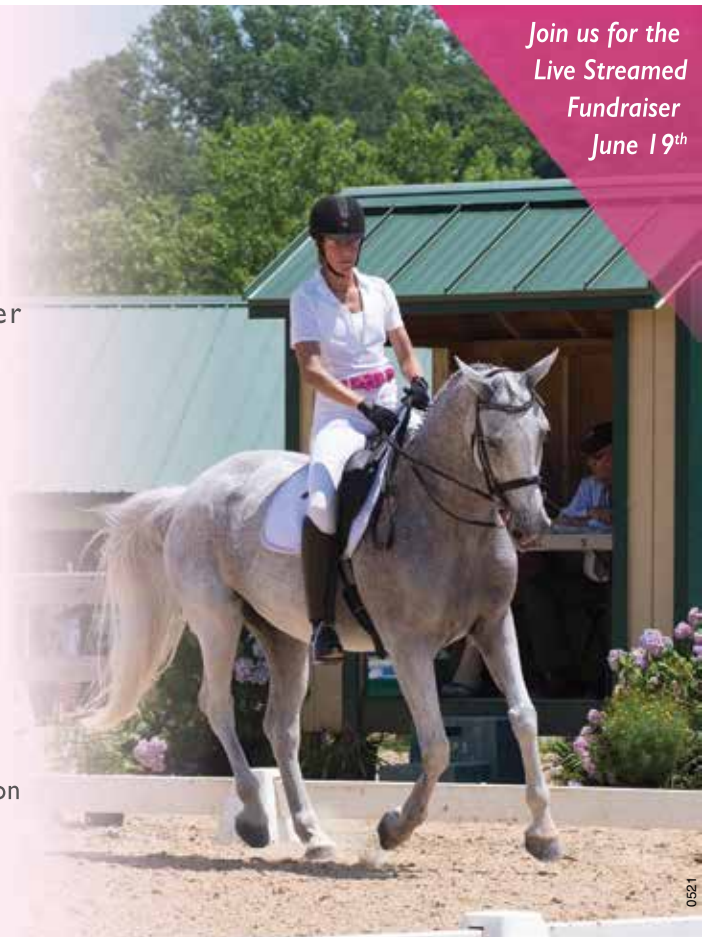
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Pics Of You

Riley Wiltison Continues to Shine

On April 26, 16-year-old Riley Wiltison of Oakland, MD, added yet another USEF Combined Driving title to his name. Wiltison, who was featured on the cover of our February 2021 issue, won the USEF Intermediate Single Pony Combined Driving National Championship at the Katydid CDE in Mill Spring, NC, driving Willow's Aslan.

The pair earned a 56.28 in dressage with Wiltison stating, "I was very happy with him. He performed well and listened to me." They then moved into the lead after winning the marathon phase with an 81.63. After a rest day, Wiltison and Willow's Aslan went double clear in cones to finish on a score of 137.91 penalty points and earn the National Championship title.



Katherine O. Rizzo

Horseback Riding in West Baltimore

In partnership with City Ranch and the University of Maryland BioPark, the University of Maryland, Baltimore Community Engagement Center (UMB CEC) offered free introductory horseback riding lessons and horsemanship program for children ages 10-15 in the greater southwest Baltimore City neighborhoods.

The program runs for 10 weeks with 24 children attending. City Ranch founder Aheshmahk Dahn explained, "We had them come every day for two weeks so they could really get to know the horses. After that, they do one day for eight weeks." The idea for the program, which brought nine horses, instruc-

continued...



Georgia Jean Wisooker aboard Willie Be Reddy competed in Ranch Riding Leadline Trail classes at MWA's April show.



GRC Photo

Brielle Francia and China Doll at Loch Moy's MDHT April Starter Horse Trials



Eva Taylor Hartland thoroughly enjoying the April issue of *The Equiry*.



Shawn Paley

Natalie Paley of The Big Easy earned a Reserve Championship riding Vendette at the BEST May II Show at the PG Equestrian Center.



Lilliana Sonpar and Pickpocket of Safe Haven Farm participating in Double C Farm's Youth Play Day.



Jaylee Crum and Maya Devan take Freedom Hill Horse Rescue's Dawson and River on a field trip trail ride this past May.

OUT & ABOUT

JUN
2021

with Maryland's Young Riders



Rachel Nace

"Seeing my granddaughter Caroline Bosmans loving horses as much as I do is one of life's greatest joys!" – Joan Bosmans



Shawn Paley

Neha Kamineny won the Crossrails Championship at the Coexist Farm Snowflake Schooling Show.



First-time eventer Jocelyn Ellis and Safe Haven Farm's Tortuga at Loch Moy's MDHT April Starter Horse Trials.



Adelynn Young and Livin Large FLT competing at Thornridge Manor on May 1



Amelia Austin and Jonas

tors and volunteers into Baltimore City, stemmed from a meeting Dahn had with Ashley Valis, now Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives and Community Engagement at UMB but at the time was representing the Governor's Office. "They wanted to be able to bring some sort of horseback riding program into the city and we did a one-day event back in 2019," Dahn explained.

After several ongoing conversations with Valis, the whole idea came together this April. "The biggest value of this program is the children really got a chance to learn quickly and become more outgoing and confident as a result," Dahn said. The program filled with a waitlist on the first day of registration! "We hope to do something like this again in the fall."

For their continuous efforts to bring horsemanship into Baltimore's city communities, City Ranch was named a Maryland Outdoor Ambassador by Governor Hogan on May 5. Naming Maryland Outdoor Recreation Ambassadors was a recommendation of the Maryland Outdoor Recreation Economic (MORE) Commission, which was established by Hogan in 2017. As part of the program, ambassadors continue working to enhance the state's status as a leading destination for outdoor recreation.

2021 WIHS Youth Board

Evie Stettin of Washington, DC, was recently named this year's Washington International Horse Show Youth Ambassador. Stettin previously served on WIHS's Junior Committee for two years and was a social media content creator for WIHS in the past.



Phinney Photography

For the 2021 show, WIHS has added two new youth positions: Social Media Ambassador and Regional Show Ambassador. Charlotte Bassow of Washington, DC, has been named Social Media Ambassador while Abbie Olmstead of Potomac will act as Regional Show Ambassador.

In addition to the above ambassadors, the 2021 WIHS Junior Committee consists of 39 local teens from Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC.

Goucher's Connell Tops IHSA Spring Showcase II

Jacob Connell of Goucher College earned the highest score out of 50 riders at the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's Spring Showcase II, sponsored by the World Equestrian Center. Connell won his section of the Limit Equitation on the Flat class and ended with a tie for Reserve High Score in the



Dave Musil

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OUT & ABOUT

JUN
2021

with Maryland's Young Riders



The Safe Haven Team at Double C Farm's Youth Play Day. From left: Brielle Francia, Lilliana Sonpar; Vivian Rubino, Coach Tina Snyder and Katerina Birkmann.



Angie Leithy

Devin Handy placed second at Beginner Novice riding Connect The Dots at Waredaca's May horse trials.



"My pony Sugar has taught me that it's okay to fall as long as you get back up and keep trying." - Natalie Gallagher

Izzy Lenk and George 43 finished third in the Junior Open Novice division at the Loudoun Hunt Pony Club Spring Horse Trials.



Angie Leithy

Hunter Seat divisions at this virtual show. He also earned first in the Limit Equitation Over Fences class.

Connell is from Ellicott City and is wrapping up his first year at Goucher. He is majoring in psychology-pre-med.



Olivia Wood's Dive into Graphic Design

My name is Olivia Wood and I'm a senior at Glenelg High School. This year, I had the opportunity to be a part of my school's mentorship program, through which students conduct original research and produce a final research paper. Each of us is paired with a professional in our field of interest, who then becomes our mentor as we explore our respective fields.

Going into this course, I knew that I was interested in journalism and graphic design, and I chose to research the impact that design choices have on readers' perceptions of a given publication. For the internship portion of my mentorship experience, I hoped to work in the realm of magazine publication, specifically, because I enjoy the strong visual nature of magazines and how, alongside the journalism itself, design plays an instrumental role in the creation of an attractive magazine.

Happily, I was able to be placed with a mentor who works on a magazine, *The Equiry's* own Katherine Rizzo. As an intern at *The Equiry*, I've gotten a taste of the extensive work that goes into publishing a new issue of a magazine every month. While I still have so much more to learn about journalism and graphic design, my knowledge of these respective areas has grown significantly. I've gone from doing practice magazine covers, barely able to navigate Photoshop, to writing articles for publication in *The Equiry* and designing flyers for the Maryland Horse Council. And although I'm admittedly not an equine aficionado, I've enjoyed learning about Maryland's rich equine culture alongside graphic design and journalism skills.

As someone who aims to pursue a career in journalism, I'm so incredibly thankful to have had this internship experience in high school. It's given me a taste of both journalism and graphic design, strengthening my interest in these areas and compelling me to go on to study both of them in college this fall.

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with Maryland's Young Riders



Emerson Kasley and Big Bad Tattoo jumped clean on cross-country to earn second place at Waredaca's May horse trials in Junior Beginner Novice.



Gunner Crawford competing in the Boys Roping class at the Central PA Youth Rodeo.



Kyra Tuite is all smiles after a successful competition with Heart 2 Heart at Loch Moy's MDHT April Starter Horse Trials.



Piper Sims on Annabelle Blue at the BEST April 17-18 show

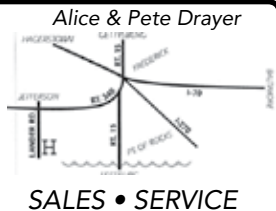


Amina Harouna riding Just Be at PVDA's Schooley Mill Show on May 1

Nine-year-old Ruthie Goodman jumping Mr. Jeeves at the April Loch Moy MDHTs Starter.

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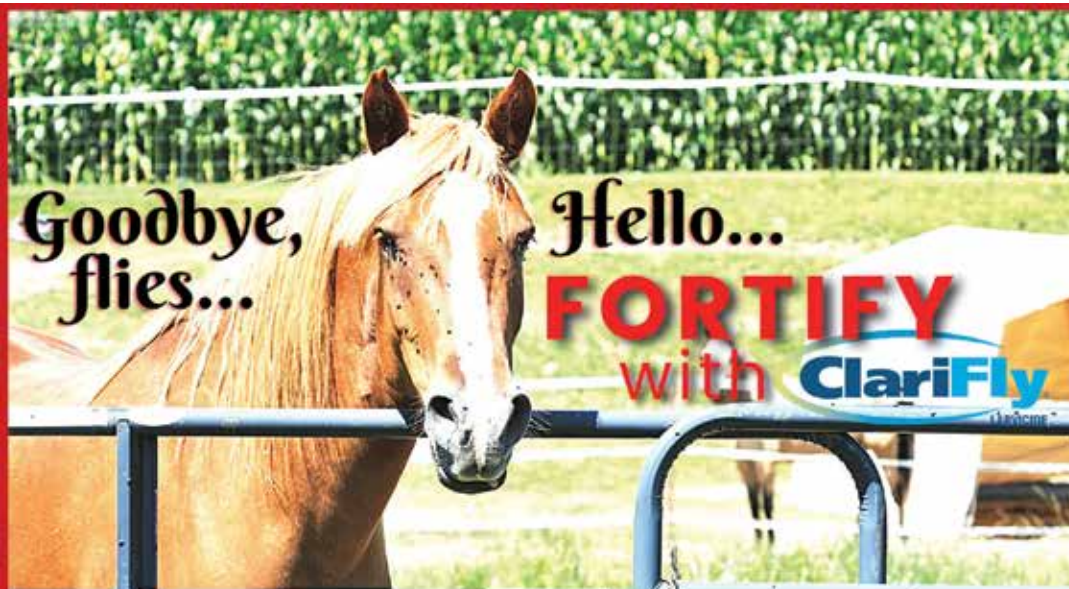
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Stablemates

Maryland Youth

Emma Klugman Earns Top Young Rider Award at Kentucky 5*

by Katherine O. Rizzo

Just a few short years ago, Marylander Emma Klugman and her mother were in Lexington, KY, watching what was then called the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. “It was cross-country day and I looked at my mum and said, ‘I don’t want to compete at this level,’” Klugman remarked. Four years later, the Clarksburg event rider completed her first five-star event... the Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event.

Pony Club From Kenya to Seneca

Klugman was born in the U.S. to Australian parents, but learned to ride as a child in Nairobi, Kenya, where her mother, Jeni, was working with the World Bank. It was in Kenya that the entire Klugman family took part in riding at a local stable as well as becoming involved with pony club.

Klugman stated even though riding was a family affair while she was young, now only she and her mom still ride consistently. “My mum grew up riding in Australia and still does fitness riding for me,” Klugman stated. “She’s a huge help!”

Klugman has called the D.C. area home for all but the two years that she spent with her family in Nairobi. She became a U.S. citizen six months ago but is still close to her Australian roots, competing internationally as an Australian. “I’ve had a lot of support from the Australian Federation and plan to stay in the U.S. but compete as an Australian, at least for now,” she explained, adding, “America is a great country for eventing. There [are] like five events within 30 minutes of my house.”

Here in the U.S., Klugman joined Seneca Valley Pony Club, moving up the ranks to the highest level, the A-rating, and continues to be an active member. “Pony club played a huge role in getting me to this five-star,” Klugman said. “All the foundations learned in pony club... like wrapping and conditioning... I used it all [at Kentucky].”

She said that Pony Club “makes you really learn how to do things properly” and that she “learned to explain why you do things, not just how to do them.” She added that “knowing the why” is a must for anyone aspiring to be a trainer.

A 5* Partner

Klugman has had many equine partners over the years but her first dive into the international levels of the sport has come with her current five-star horse Bendigo. Her family purchased Bendigo, a Trakehner/Thoroughbred cross, eight years ago as an 11-year-old. Bendigo had done some show jumping but no eventing. That same year, she entered him in his first event,

the Maryland Horse Trials at Loch Moy Farm where they finished sixth in Junior Novice.

Klugman affectionately remarked that “Ben” is not a natural eventer in terms of his abilities. “He’s not a good mover. Does not have an impressive gallop or jump. But he’s extremely intelligent,” she said, adding that Ben is a quick study and he retains information well, both qualities that make a great event horse. “He has a lot of heart and is brave and really tries,” she said. “We know each other really well so we trust each other.”

And trust is what got this pair around one of the hardest cross-country courses in the world.

A Kentucky Spring

Klugman had never intended to run Ben in a five-star but this spring things fell into place. “There was some push from the Australian team to compete at that level if I wanted to stay on their radar,” Klugman said. “And [Ben has] just improved every year we’ve had him.” In fact, the horse did his first CCI event in only his second year of eventing.

When they arrived in Kentucky this April, the 23-year-old Klugman and the 19-year-old horse settled into the Kentucky Horse Park on a sunny and warm Tuesday only to wake up on Wednesday morning to several inches of snow. “It was all kind of funny really,” Klugman said with a chuckle.

The comedy seemed to continue on dressage day as Klugman reported, “We were tacking up Ben and my saddle pad fell off and landed in some muddy water... then my spur strap broke.” Klugman’s team quickly got a new pad and some new spur straps but the whole thing did “add a bit of stress to the day.”

“We have a great team of people around us,” Klugman said. “It’s a huge amount of work to get through a weekend like that. Lots of behind the scenes work.” After dressage, Klugman was sitting in 61st place with a score of 41.5%.

Cross-country day was rainy and boggy causing 15 riders, including some seasoned Olympians, to be eliminated on course. Klugman and Ben handled the weather as if the footing were perfect, jumping clean and adding only eight time faults to their dressage score. “He is incredibly honest and incredibly quick away from the jumps, which makes him fast on cross-country,” Klugman explained. The pair moved up to 31st place going into the final phase of competition.

After a brief hold in the final jog Sunday morning, the pair entered the main arena at the Kentucky Horse Park for show jumping that afternoon. “Ben normally excels in cross-country and show jumping but I screwed up [in Kentucky],” she said. “I just let the atmosphere

continued...



Twenty-three-year-old Emma Klugman was named Top Young Rider at this year’s Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event in the five-star division.



Emma got her riding start in Kenya through pony club and is currently an “A” member of Seneca Valley Pony Club.



Emma and Bendigo at a UPSC show jump rally in 2013 (above) and jumping clean on cross-country in Kentucky this April (below).



Maryland Youth: Ema Klugman

get to me and am a bit bummed. I learned that I need to go over my plan more than I did.”

In the end, the pair finished in 33rd place and Klugman earned a special award for being the highest placed young rider. They were also the only current Maryland pair to complete the event. “Just to get through it was an accomplishment,” she added. “It also showed me that I am capable to ride a cross-country course that is that hard. It reassures you that your training is actually working.”

A Maryland Autumn

While Ben gets the next few months off, Klugman is focusing on the other horses in her barn, especially two promising young horses that she thinks will be her next five-star horses. “Bronte Beach is eight years old and just did her first Advanced,” Klugman stated. “She is really talented and classy.” The pair won the CCI3*-L at Virginia Horse Trials International last year and Klugman hopes to step up to the four-star level this year with her. “The goal is that she’ll be my first Badminton or Burghley horse,” she added.

Klugman’s other young horse is RF Redfern, a seven-year-old that was bred for jumpers. “She’s a machine!” Klugman said. “She’s small in stature but has won eight out of 10 events so far.” Klugman joked that with the pair of mares, “we have some bit of girl power going on!”

With Ben, Klugman said she will wait and see how he feels after his summer vacation. “He’s done a huge amount for us so he can retire if needed but I know him so well. So if he feels good, I’ll start working him towards the Maryland 5-Star.”

Klugman will be attending George Washington Law School this August as she continues with her eventing career and training out of her family’s Snowy River Farm.

The Importance of Trainers

When asked what is the biggest advice she has for other young riders looking to compete at the top levels of eventing, she said, “You need to have really good training from someone who knows what they are doing.”

“I’ve never considered myself a natural rider,” she added. “You have to have really good training to succeed at this level.” For Klugman, that trainer was Packy McGaughan. “He got me to focus not on results, but on how to continue to improve.” Klugman went on to say how he taught her the importance of how to ride precisely and correctly. “All the little things [Packy] would get after me about ... it all helped me get to the five-star level. If anyone has access to someone like Packy, they can get there too.”

Klugman also pointed out that young riders should seek out trainers who have good records with training young riders. “I mean, just look at the entries at Kentucky this year... Daniel [Clasing], Matt [Flynn], Lillian [Heard] and Marilyn [Little] all rode with him.”

Since McGaughan’s death in March 2020, Klugman has been training with Marilyn Little and Hilary Moore Hebert. “Marilyn was a huge help to me all week [at Kentucky] helping me in general navigate the event,” Klugman said.

In addition to proper training, Klugman says to be prepared “to work hard, be dedicated and try to make it work.” She added, “This sport is incredibly difficult. Even when you are winning and going clean, you still need to work at it.”



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at MSA Spring Steeplechase Races (photos by Tammie J. Monaco)



MARYLAND HUNT CUP (from left): Winning horse Vintage Vinnie, owned by Armata Stables, with jockey Dan Nevin on board. Winning trainer Joe Davies. Winning jockey Dan Nevin.



LPT JUNIOR CHAMPION'S DAY (from left): Shetland Pony Race riders, grooms and trainers. Work to Ride, Inc., riders Josie Goldstein and Mark Anthony Harley racing to the finish of the Polo Pony Flat race. William Slater and Chewy in the Jr Field Masters Chase Small Ponies division.

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Overall Leading Rider: Eddie Keating
Overall Leading Trainer: Mark Beecher
Leading Lady Rider: Skylar McKenna
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1. Stables licensed through the Maryland Horse Industry Board (Maryland Department of Agriculture) are inspected annually to ensure that the horse care and riding equipment meet certain minimum standards. MHIB licensing does not ensure the quality of instruction.
2. Maryland does not require instructors to be certified or licensed, however there are many national and international programs that offer teaching certifications. In addition, many colleges offer equine studies degrees which include certification programs or their equivalent. Please note, there are many outstanding instructors who hold no certification whatsoever.
3. One of the best ways to learn more about an instructor before signing up for a lesson program is to watch them teach a few lessons and use your own judgment.
4. Ask yourself the following questions to help narrow down your lesson stable search:
 - a. Are you looking for a stable that caters strictly to adults? Strictly children? Or a mix of both?
 - b. Do you know if you want to ride English or Western?
 - c. Do you want, generally, to ride for pleasure or do you have the goal of competing?
5. After calling a few lesson stables in your area to see if they may be the right fit, visit them in person and meet their staff, instructors, horses, etc. Be sure to call ahead to find out if there are specific times to visit. Some stables offer open houses and introductory lessons.

Below is a list of Maryland's licensed lesson stables with Horse Discovery Centers highlighted in red. For more information about stables list in bold, please see their ads in this issue of *The Equiery*. For Therapeutic Riding Centers and Horse Rescues, please visit equiery.com.

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by Kimberly K. Egan, MHC Government Relations Committee



Session Wrap Up

The 2021 Session of the General Assembly is in the books – “one and done,” as they say. Our column last month laid out the legislation on which the Maryland Horse Council was active and successful. This month, we summarize other bills that passed this year and that affect the horse community.

Animal Welfare

Testing Cosmetics on Animals: Sen. Clarence Lam and Del. Terri Hill sponsored legislation this year to prohibit testing cosmetics on

animals (SB 282/HB 611). Contrary to popular belief, there is no federal ban on testing cosmetics in animals – defined as any “live, nonhuman, vertebrate” – so the matter is left to the states. The new law makes it a misdemeanor for a cosmetics manufacturer to sell, in Maryland, any cosmetic that has been tested on animals, or any cosmetic that contains any ingredient that has been tested on animals, except when such testing is required by law. The only other states in the country that currently ban the sale of cosmetics tested on animals are California, Nevada, Illinois, and Virginia.

Land Use

Ag land preservation: Sen. Ronald Young sponsored legislation to set a goal of preserving 1,030,000 acres of productive agricultural land by 2030 through the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation, the Maryland GreenPrint Program, the Rural Legacy Program, and local land preservation programs (SB 692). The new law also allows acre preserved through the Maryland Environmental Trust and the Next Generation Farmland Acquisition Program to be counted toward the 1,030,000-acre goal.

Fair Hill Funding: Sen. Jason Gallion introduced legislation to appropriate \$1,300,000 from the annual budget for fiscal years 2023 through 2027 for the Fair Hill Improvement Fund (SB 919). The new law appropriates the money for operation and maintenance of the physical facilities within the Special Event Zone of the Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area. The Special Event Zone is the newly designed and upgraded area that will be the venue for the Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill three day event, as well as steeplechase events and other horse shows.

Thoroughbred Racing

Maryland-Bred Race Fund: Sen. Guy Guzzone introduced legislation to enlarge the Maryland-Bred Race Fund Advisory Committee to include a member recommended by the Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (SB 533). The Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association is the trade association for Maryland Thoroughbred owners and trainers. The new law also clarifies that horses still qualify as Maryland-Breds if they are foaled in Maryland by a dam who later “dies, is permanently retired, or is certified by a veterinarian as unable to be bred,” provide the dam “resided in the state for at least 6 months after the

horse was foaled.” Horses that race as Maryland-breds are eligible for additional purse money from the Maryland-bred Race Fund.

Sports Wagering: The General Assembly passed long-sought legislation to legalize betting on professional and college sports, including Thoroughbred racing, and to give sports wagering licenses to almost 100 mobile and brick-and-mortar applicants (HB 940). The Maryland Jockey Club and the Maryland State Fairgrounds are guaranteed licenses for Laurel, Pimlico, and Timonium. Legalized sports wagering is expected to generate \$18 million in revenue annually, the majority of which will be used for K-12 public education.

Other

Net Metering: Del. Luke Clippinger sponsored legislation this year to double the total state-wide amount of customer-generated electricity from renewable sources that can be sold back to the energy grid, a practice known as net metering (HB 569). Previous law limited the amount of customer-generated energy that could be fed back into the Maryland power grid to 1,500 megawatts (MW), with each individual customer limited to 2 MW. The new law doubles the state-wide capacity limit to 3,000 MW, which will allow many more individual customers – such as horse farms and lesson programs – to sell power to the grid. Energy sources that are eligible for net metering include solar, wind, biomass, micro combined heat and power, fuel cell, and certain types of hydroelectric.

Balloon Releases: Del. Wayne Hartman introduced legislation to make it a misdemeanor to intentionally release a balloon into the atmosphere, or to organize a “mass balloon release” (HB 391). The new law covers any “nonporous bag of tough and light material, generally latex or mylar, whether filled or unfilled.” Downed balloons can be deadly to pets, livestock, and wildlife that ingest bits of the balloon material or the attached strings. Violations are subject to mandatory six months of community service or a \$100 dollar fine per release, or both.

Graham Equestrian Center: Del. Michelle Guyton secured \$100,000 in bond funding for the Graham Equestrian Center (GEC) in Gunpowder Falls State Park to build an indoor arena. GEC is a Horse Discovery Center and a lesson program, and it hosts numerous educational and other outreach events. Its charitable mission is “to educate the mind, improve the body and lift the spirits of local children and adults, regardless of income or (dis)ability, through the joy of horses.” One reason for the new indoor arena is to increase the number of therapeutic equine activities.

Days End Farm Horse Rescue: The Howard County delegation secured \$500,000 in bond funding for Days End Farm Horse Rescue to acquire and repurpose the adjacent Lisbon firehouse. Days End's charitable mission is to rescue and rehabilitate suffering horses and to prevent abuse and neglect through education and community outreach. The renovations will include building an educational welcome center with interactive displays and converting an outbuilding into an equine rehabilitation medical suite.

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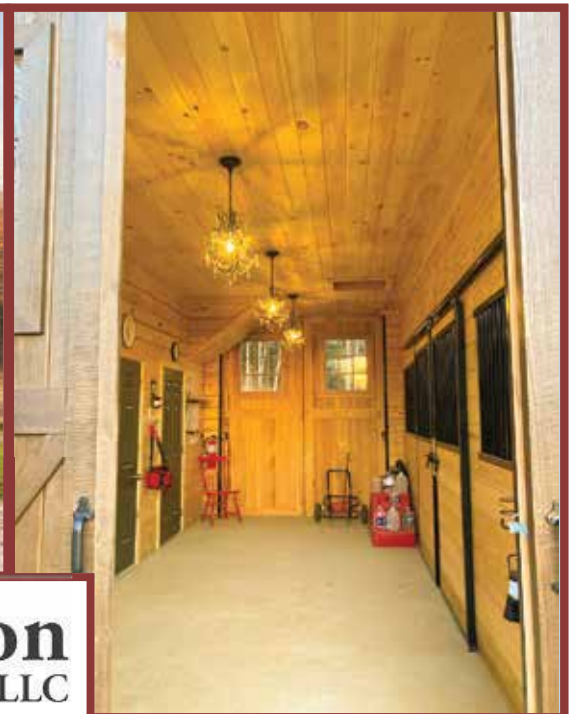
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OUT & ABOUT

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Maryland



Dana Grafft's four-year-old AQHA gelding Vinnie competing at a Reining show this past May.



Hanna Wharton of Hidden Lane Farm LLC in Woodbine spent her birthday (April 23) competing Baraka's Dream at the HITS Culpeper show. The pair won the 2'6" Thoroughbred Hunter Division and were named Overall Grand Champion.



Jonell Calistan riding Vegas at Morgan Run



Angie Leithy

Elizabeth Burns won the Beginner Novice Rider A division at the Waredaca May Horse Trials with Nazrullah.



Victoria Donahue riding Luna at Morgan Run



Angie Leithy

Cami Pease and Vibrant won the Beginner Novice Rider A division at Plantation Field Horse Trials on April 18.



Brandi Skarda and Charlize Stair out hacking on a warm May day.



Payton Myers and Tekkenistic in the Training Rider B division at the Waredaca May Horse Trials.

Angie Leithy



Louie Sharpe and friends trail riding through the EW Becks part of Patapsco State Park.

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.

OUT & ABOUT

JUN
2021

Maryland



Courtney Sendak finished second at Waredaca's May horse trials in Intermediate riding DGE Themanintheglass.



Susan Montgomery's Tennessee Dream Weaver (The Tennessee Stud WF x Darrah's Cappuccino Girl), a Tennessee Walking Horse, was born on April 14!



Chelsea Spear and Winducci Affair topped the Beginner Novice Rider B division at Plantation Field Horse Trials on April 18.

Did you know there are two ways to get your photos in *The Equiry*?

Share your photos via Facebook or email them to editor@equiry.com!



Melissa Fox and Tito Tonight placed third in Novice Rider A at the Loudoun Hunt Pony Club Spring Horse Trials on April 25.



Christy Clagett, MFH (Marlborough Hunt) bought the mule Mulius Ceaser to protect her cows from coyotes. He's now a barn favorite!

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0621

OUT & ABOUT

JUN
2020

at the Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event (photos by Chelsea Spear)



Oliver Townend topped this year's five-star event riding Ballaghmore Class to a final score of 27.8%.



Boyd Martin and On Cue moved up from seventh place after dressage to second after cross-country and finished in fourth place overall after show jumping. He was the top US rider and earned the USEF National Five-Star Spring Championship.



The team from Turn About Farm watching Colleen Rutledge (Frederick) and Covert Rights in dressage.



Jeni Klugman gives Bendigo some loving after he and Clarksburg-based rider Ema Klugman practiced the day before dressage. Ema ended up being the top placing Young Rider finishing her first five-star in 33rd place! Read more about her journey to the five-star level on page 23 of this issue.



Seneca Valley Pony Club grad Matt Flynn finished 22nd overall with Wizzerd with a double clean show jump round.



Valerie Vizcarrondo Pride of Harwood earned *The Equiry's* pick for Best Dressed at this year's first horse inspection! She and Favian were in 42nd place after dressage but had a fall on cross-country. Both horse and rider returned to Maryland unharmed.



Marilyn Little, who recently moved from Frederick to Florida, was sitting in first place with RF Scandalous on a 21.7% after dressage. They jumped clean on cross-country but slow due to the rain and jumped clean with 0.8 time faults in show jumping to finish 25th overall.



Daniel Clasing, another former Maryland pony club grad finished 40th overall riding MW Gangster's Game.

More Land Rover Kentucky photos on Facebook!



Colleen Rutledge (Frederick) withdrew Covert Rights from the competition after dressage.

OA social

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SPOTLIGHT ON MARYLAND-BREDS



Devons Capriole, Capri, is an Oldenburg by Devon Heir and out of GNF Crescendo*/*/*, bred and owned by Gabrielle Cottone.



Therese Schuler of Lead Off Farm bred the Oldenburg NA Kalled Strike LOF (Cedrus MM x Zamboni Babe).



Commanding The Gods, aka Poseidon, was born October 20, 2020 at Dana Graff's Frederick farm. He is an AQHA colt by Commandalena and out of Sedosos Freckled Bar.



Magnific Ivan is a Cleveland Bay/Thoroughbred cross by the Thoroughbred sire Magnific Monarch and out of the Cleveland Bay mare Magnific Hot Lips. He is owned by Kay Anderson and was bred by Magnific Sport Horses.



The Clydesdale Proteges Disciple is by Gregglea Azars Protégé and out of Belleau W.S. Adriana. He is owned by Page Etzler and bred by Jack & Michelle Parnell.



Ali Calkins of Forward Strides, LLC, owns and bred the Westfalen L'égant Star, whom she calls Stella. The mare is by Legacyz and out of Annabelle.

Don't forget to send your Maryland-bred photos to editor@equiery.com.



Game On HTF is a Hanoverian bred and owned by Hilltop Fram, Inc. He is by Glamourdale and out of Qindle HTF.



MS Wimpolution, an AQHA by Einstein Revolution, is owned and bred by Bar M Performance Horses.



Wynnfield Sunset is sired by the Maryland Standardbred stallion Doggone Yankee and out of Wynnfield Molly. After being born, raised and raced in Maryland by owner Pam Polk, Wynnfield Sunset is now a broodmare at Polk's Berlin farm.

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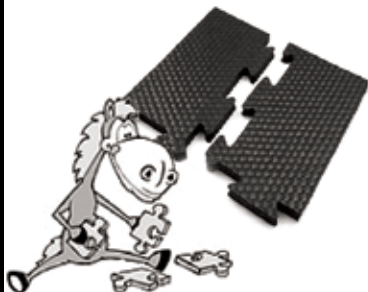
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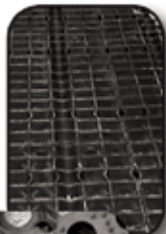
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