

THE HORSE'S VOICE

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Inspirational Quotes

"Wherever man has left his footprints in the long ascent from barbarism to civilization, we find the hoof print of a horse beside it."

John Trotwood Moore

"He knows when you're happy. He knows when you're comfortable. He knows when you're confident. And he always knows when you have carrots."

Author Unknown

"To many, the words love, hope and dreams are synonymous with horses."

Author Unknown

"The history of mankind is carried on the back of a horse."

Author Unknown

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

Since 2003, the support of friends like you has been changing lives: horse by horse and soul by soul. The past year was no exception. Four horses found new, forever homes through our program. More have come to our farm for rehabilitation and a second chance. And your support helps countless others through our education and outreach programs.

One of the horses whose new life you made possible this year is the second CMVHR graduate to go on to be a Special Olympics horse. Wilder and Huey before him now care for those with disabilities, doing activities that make them shine and thrive, together. Wilder and his adoptive mom Mary were featured in the January/February 2016 Mane Stream newspaper.

On the topic of bringing joy to those with developmental challenges, our program with Mountain Lake Services provides confidence-building opportunities with horses. Moreover, we learned this



Rebel being x-rayed by our veterinarians to assess progress in the healing of a coffin bone fracture.

year that our program is a vehicle for achieving goals and realizing dreams. This is what one counselor told us: "You are providing the men with more than a place to go. You are helping them fulfill their goals and dreams. Jeff's goal is to volunteer where he can put his skills to work to benefit others. Pierre's dream is to be a farmer. Here at the house they work with counselors to set goals. You are providing them with the path, and the place to reach them. You are giving them the opportunity to live their dreams. Thank you. And thank you for your support, kindness and patience."

Education and outreach programs are as critical to our mission as saving horses. Since our last newsletter we

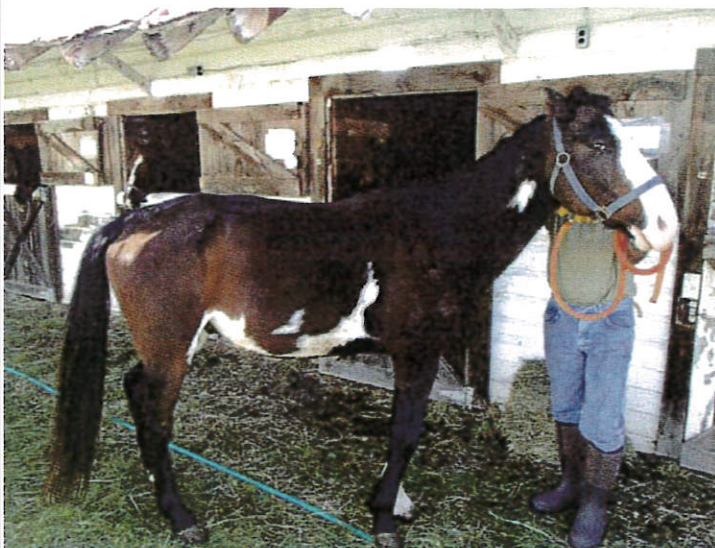
were featured speakers at the Westport Central School K-12 Community Leaders Assembly (page 6), have been working with a nine year old girl and her dad on weekends through our parent-child volunteer program, and continue our partnership with Youth Advocate Program to help troubled teens discover their potential.

For more than a dozen years, the generous support of friends like you has been making positive life transformations possible for horses and people. Together, we are changing the world—one life at a time. Thank you for teaming up with us to make a difference.

Edward Mrozik

ANOTHER CHANCE

This is written by Suzette Kocher, whose family adopted #11, one of 41 horses seized from a hoarding situation.



In October of 2013, while visiting our family in Essex County, Mimi and Uncle Scott said to Emily, then 13, and Olivia, then 10, "You need to go to the Fairgrounds and see the horses and ponies that were part of a 41 horse rescue." Ed and Nancy showed us every animal they had at the fairgrounds and then took us to the farm down the road where the girls saw #11 and instantly fell in love with the paint pony. We said we would discuss it and get back in touch. It was really a short discussion – we all wanted #11 (*left photo: one month post seizure after gaining considerable weight*)

On the drive back home the girls started thinking of names and decided that his name would be Kody. We completed the adoption paperwork and in November Kody became a member of the Kocher family.

From that November day in 2013 to September 2014 Kody stayed at our house and was loved, fed, brushed and basically spoiled rotten. Olivia started working him under saddle during the summer and found that he was really a good pony and seemed to like to work. So, while she was at a horse show with her riding instructor, we made surprise arrangements for Kody to be at the stables when she got back, that way she could work with him during the winter months and he could have additional training. The plan was to hopefully have Kody doing horse shows in 2015 and after much thought, his show name became "Another Chance". Fitting don't you think?

In August 2015, Olivia and Kody competed in a couple of jumper classes. How exciting it was to watch the two of them together. During their first official hunter show—part of the Lakeside Series, sponsored by Heritage Stables—they showed in the pony hunter classes jumping two feet, six inches. Olivia and Kody received three blue ribbons (first place) and one red (second place) and ended up Champion in the Pony Hunter Division. What a wonderful accomplishment for the young girl and the rescue pony that is truly her best friend.

It is only fitting that we thank the many people who made Olivia's and Kody's dreams come true: the Essex County Sheriff Department for taking action, Ed and Nancy from Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. for the loving, feeding and housing, Dr. Diane Dodd for the medical care, Mimi and Uncle Scott for telling us about the horses, Uncle Steve for all of his support, Gordon for making the four hour trip to bring Kody to us, Dianne and Mikayla for trailering Kody to Heritage Stables for the surprise (by the way – Olivia cried when she saw Kody at the Stables, she thought I sold him – it took a while for her to understand he was there for her). And last, but certainly not least, Mike and Debby McGowan for the opportunity to board Kody at their stables and for the excellent care they take of their horses and Ragen McGowan for helping train Kody, realizing his potential and for seeing the bond between the girl and her pony.

They say it takes a village to raise a child, but it also took a village to save #11 and turn him into something wonderful – all he needed was "Another Chance".



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 sionate.

Robert Frost

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HAPPY NEW BEGINNINGS



Above (photo credit: Noelle Elizabeth). Popeye was rescued from slaughter in 2004. Emaciated and once horribly abused, Popeye was so afraid of people he would cower in the corner of his stall with his eyes closed in anticipation of being hit. Today, he and Katie have an unbreakable bond built on trust and pure love.

Below: Phoenix was rendered homeless following a murder-suicide. A former Standardbred race horse, Phoenix enjoys his new life with an amazing family who shared this: "We are proud of him! He is such a sweet and loving boy. He adores the kids, too! We love him!"



The horse, with beauty unsurpassed, strength immeasurable and grace unlike any other, still remains humble enough to carry a man upon his back.

Amber Senti

WORDS OF GRATITUDE FROM ADOPTIVE PARENTS

Ten years ago I got the best gift in the world! He has taught me so much throughout the years and helped me become who I am today. I love my pony with all my heart.

[left photo] Katie (Popeye)

Four years today! I can't tell if I am more grateful to you for trusting him with me, or thankful for him sharing his life with me. Either way — my life is forever changed because of him.

Renee (Silverado)

Eddie and Nancy are great people with big hearts! They did so well with the seized horses, Minnie (one of the young fillies that my family adopted) had only been handled for about two months. She is the bravest, loving, and sassy little girl! Thank you CMVHR for giving these beautiful animals a second chance.

Angel (Minnie)

Eddie and Nancy are wonderful people looking out for the best interest of horses that need caring people like them to assist in finding them forever homes.

Betty (Hobo)

Eddie and Nancy are two of the greatest people I know. They put their heart and soul into all of the horses they take in. Thank God for people like this.

Danny (Sigmund)

CRANE MOUNTAIN VALLEY HORSE RESCUE, INC.

7556 NYS Route 9N
Westport, New York 12993

Phone: 518-962-8512
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Gail Guenther

"Crane Mountain Valley Horse Rescue, Inc. is dedicated to equine rescue and rehabilitation and to restoring horsemanship, the heritage and humane treatment of the horse."

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90 cents of every tax-deductible dollar donated goes directly to the care of the animals

A copy of the latest Financial Report and Registration filed by this organization may be obtained by contacting us at the above address and phone or by contacting the Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

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SENSE OF PLACE

In December, we were invited to be guest speakers at Westport Central School's Community Meeting of Kindergarten through Grade 12. The theme was a "Sense of Place". Kathy Bedore, Elementary Teacher, wrote this about the program; "A Sense of Place helps to give students a sense of where they are and where they belong in the world. Each month K-12 students gather to share various aspects of the school community from field trips to college acceptances. Guest speakers share with the students and teachers their 'sense of place', how they ended up where they are today, and roles they play within our communities."

The questions we were given ahead of time to help shape our talk included: who are you; what brought you to Westport; what is your background, schooling, career path, and role in the community. Our hope was not for the students to walk away remembering our names and our jobs, but to walk away from our presentation remembering these things: They are important. They matter. To believe in themselves and in their dreams. To be true to their word. To know they can do anything they put their minds to. That they can change the world. That they can make a difference. And that they already do.

This presentation also gave us the opportunity to thank the students and staff for holding their annual Caps for Crane fundraiser. Though hats and caps are not permitted in school, for one day – Caps for Crane day – students can wear a hat or cap by making a donation to our work. It was wonderful to share with the students and staff what their support makes possible, to show them they can, and do, make a difference, and to say thank you – up close and in person. What an honor.

When we shared a photo of our farm, many students exclaimed, "I've been there!"

And they have. Over the past 12 years, almost every student between the age of 6 and 17 has been to our farm on a field trip with the school or as part of a job shadowing program. Quality education and outreach programs are as critical to our mission as saving horses. The generous support of friends like you make it all possible. Your gift has a positive, lasting impact on the lives of horses and people.

Thank you so much for the presentation you did on December 1. The students and the staff here at Westport Central School really appreciated the special time you spent with us. Thank you again! PS—We are looking forward to Caps for Crane.

Kathy Bedore, WCS Elementary Teacher

Horses change lives. They give our young people confidence and self-esteem. They provide peace and tranquility to troubled souls. They give us hope.

Tony Robinson



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