



Spotlight

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue

Summer 2018

PHOTO CREDIT: KRS IMAGES

PEOPLE HELPING HORSES, HORSES HELPING PEOPLE

In Memory of Our Tinny Timmy

By Diane Hermann

What can I say, when I was a child all I ever wanted was a horse. But I lived in the city and that was definitely not something that was going to happen. Then Life happens... marriage, kids, jobs and dreams fade away but never really go away. Then one day you find yourself face to face with your dream, for me it was Timmy. Although I loved working at the rescue Timmy made me want more; I was immediately drawn to her. I knew of her birth defect to her leg from being born as a twin and that she could not run like other horses. I knew she needed extra attention because her owner passed and she had to adjust to that as well as her new home. I knew things would be more challenging for Timmy but I wanted to be her horse angel more than anything. I wanted her to feel safe and to know she was loved and I am pretty darn sure she knew we loved her. For all that life had handed Timmy she remained strong, loving, kind and she was a beauty and stole many a heart....that was her specialness.

She was always willing to flash that smile of hers especially if she knew you had treats. She and Dutiful stole many hearts here at Freedom Hill as they were that perfect couple. Although on some days she could be a little temperamental her faithful companion Dutiful always seemed to know when to step in. Timmy was fourteen when she ran off to her final pasture we were lucky to have her here with us these last two years. But I was the luckiest of all as she was that horse I waited for my whole life. She gave more to me than I could have given to her...she was my dream come true. I will miss her and her awesome smile. We all will miss her but over that final bridge she has the freedom we all wished for her...and she knows her companion is in good hands until they run together over that bridge.



Freedom Hill Horse Rescue has been recognized as an EQUUS Foundation 2018 Guardian. This award is a Transparency Award given to equine organizations for being transparent and accountable to the public through the disclosure of their equine care and use for practices and to reward equine organizations that are operating at the highest standards for horse care and use. It also means that we are eligible to receive financial support in 2018 from the EQUUS Foundation. Congratulation Freedom Hill Horse Rescue!!

Around the World with Horses -ASPCA Help a Horse Day

by Terry Pennington

On Sunday, April 28, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) hosted a fun and educational 'Around the World with Horses' in order to celebrate The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Help-A-Horse Day. Approximately 135 members of the public toured the farm, met and learned about each horse, posed for photos, tried out the obstacle course, saw demonstrations, found hidden painted rocks donated by Calvert Rocks, had their face painted and/or rode a pony. Each guest received their own passport and quiz to take to different learning stations located around the farm. Some learning stations discussed our foster, angel, and adoption programs while others taught about hooves, tack, and horse care. Guests who answered all the quiz questions correctly won a prize! In addition to the prizes, there were items for sale and beautiful pieces of art were raffled off.

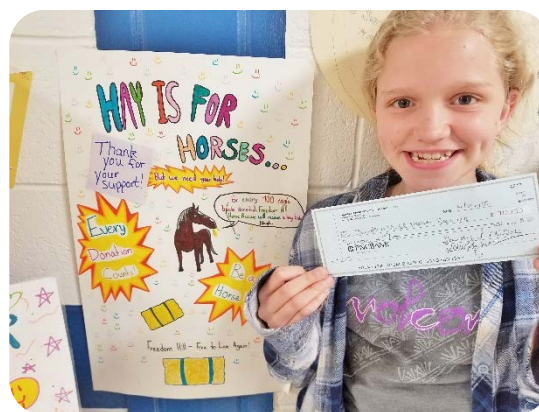
In the lead-up to help a horse day, Cathy and Terry Hurley produced several fun videos introducing the public to our horses Junior, Dutiful, Timmy, and Brocca. Many of those who watched the videos came out to meet the horses in person.



To encourage and celebrate adoptions, FHHR offered a \$100 adoption coupon for the month of May. Hannah Dean, a longtime volunteer at FHHR who spent many hours working with Ellie on the ground and under saddle, used the coupon to finally adopt Ellie. Laura Britton also used the coupon to adopt Delilah! We are so happy for them!

*THANK YOU TO BARBARA MILLER'S
CALVERT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!*

*Students donated earned Eagle Bucks
to the FHHR to buy hay for our Horses.*



Congratulations to Jaylee Crum who fostered Dawson; Hannah Dean who adopted Ellie And Laura Britton who adopted our Beautiful Delilah! Happy Trails for all our horses and fosters/adopters!

As part of the ASPCA Help-a-Horse Day's focus on adoptions and finding these special horses wonderful homes.

Dawson's Foster

Terry Pennington



Jaylee Crum, a member of Freedom Hill Horse Rescue's horsemanship team, has long been crazy about Dawson, a 24 year old 16h school horse who was retired from a rigorous lesson and jumping program. Jaylee works lovingly with Dawson on the ground and under saddle. It's become evident that the feeling is mutual. Dawson will not take his eyes off of Jaylee as he follows her around the round pen or his pasture. Jaylee's parents observed this relationship and applied for Jaylee to foster Dawson in the summer of 2018! This is a dream come true for Jaylee. Congratulations Jaylee and Dawson!



Junior Volunteer column

Beloved Tales

By Emma Cummings

I find that Junior is amazing at groundwork, loves to be ridden and is just about the most huggable pony that you'll ever meet. I love that I can ride Junior bareback because his gate is so smooth and we don't have to worry about the saddle issue!

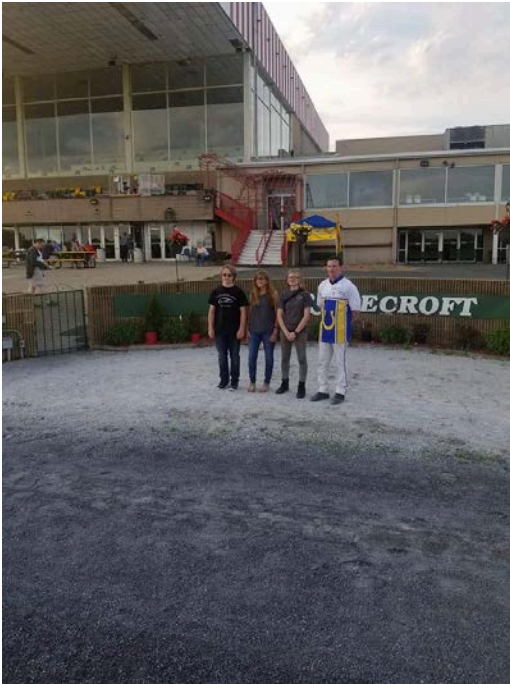
He is the cutest model; half my camera roll is pictures of him and Ellie. He stands there when I plait his mane and tail and enjoys the relaxation when I groom him. He doesn't even mind the beeps that comes from my helmet cam!

And Dawson, well there is not much you can say other than he is the sweetest OTTB you will ever meet. I remember when Dawson first arrived at FHHR, we were wrapping up horsemanship team early that night. Ellie and Dawson were in the trailer, alert and spooked; we gave him a lot of love and hugs in his new stall.

When he arrived, he was skin and bones but with a diet and balanced work from Jaylee during horsemanship, he gained weight and developed more muscle mass. He continues to progress and I can't wait to see where he ends up!

July 26 and August 23, Join us at Sweet Frog in Prince Frederick. A portion of the profits will be donated.

November 17, 10am-3pm, **Portraits with Horses**, the public is invited to have their picture taken with our horses, decked out in their holiday finery against a beautiful backdrop. They will receive 2 professional portraits in digital format to use for their holiday cards. We will have local craft artisans, vendors and food



TROTTING FOR CHARITIES

By Terry Pennington

On May 16, driver Russell Foster chose Freedom Hill Horse Rescue as his charity in the Trotting 4 Charity event held by Trotcast at Rosecroft Raceway in Clinton MD. Russell had the Freedom Hill Horse Rescue Logo imprinted on his colorful Jersey and while wearing those colors, he drove his Standardbred horse to an exciting second place finish. Our volunteers joined him for a photo in the winner's circle. After the race, his jersey was auctioned off to the highest bidder and all funds were donated directly to the rescue! Carol Brady, a freedom hill horse rescue volunteer, was the lucky winner and plans to frame the jersey.

Delilah's Adoption

Terry Pennington



On May 27, Laura Britton of King George, VA applied to adopt Delilah, a well-trained and beautiful Cremello, 21-year old quarter horse mare with tiny frostbitten ears. Laura, a physician's assistant in pain management, had always wanted a horse and decided to look for an older horse that she could love and ride gently. When Laura met Delilah she noticed Delilah was responsive, gentle, sweet and wonderful to ride. Lara says, "I fell in love with her as soon as I sat on her".



Spotlight on Liz Clark

By Lori Harrington

Liz Clark heard about Freedom Hill from a friend and started volunteering with us in September of 2017. She began on Monday morning feed shifts but quickly added Thursday mornings to her shifts. And when that wasn't enough, she started doing maintenance chores around the barn! No task is too great or too small, she is the queen of the muck pile removal.

Liz enjoys her own animals at her farm which include chickens and goats and has added our two old gals Maggie and Roxy to her menagerie. Liz fosters our little ponies and gives them daily love and attention. They settled in quite nicely and never looked better for their age. We received Maggie and Roxy from Davidsonville Wildlife Sanctuary when they closed down in 2016 the owner passed away.

We appreciate all Liz does for Freedom Hill and is now a Feed Shift leader for Friday a.m. Her paid job is the manager of Third Eye Comics in Annapolis Maryland. Thank you Liz you are one of those super power figures right out of the comics that you sell!



Congratulations Kelsey Block

For fostering Romeo. Romeo is a 14 year old, Welsh/Thoroughbred Cross.



Join our Horse Angel network! When you join, you will receive a certificate and photo of your chosen horse. Sponsors may visit their horse just by scheduling a time with us. To become a Horse Angel, visit us at www.freedomhillhorserescue.com-angels.

Bluebird Trail Tales

by Terry Pennington

As part of our Help-A-Horse Day celebration, FHHR joined the Calvert Nature Society's Blue Bird Trail Project. Large, open horse pasture fields bordered by woodlands are conducive to the presence of Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) who are year-round residents. The Calvert Bluebird Council oversees the monitoring of 18 official trails with 314 boxes throughout Calvert County, MD. At season's end, the results are compiled and published at http://www.calvertparks.org/bluebird_project.html. Calvert Stewards installed 10 bird boxes that were hand built by the stewards with reclaimed FHHR fence board, scrap wood



from a run-in shed build, and other donated wood. The Calvert Nature Society Stewards were on hand during our April event with bird boxes, baffles, and other materials to educate the public about helping wild birds. Two weeks after the boxes were installed; we observed two pairs of nesting bluebirds and a nesting chickadee. #helpahorse #bluebirds.



Gold Story

By Beth Meader

Gold Story came to Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) from an owner assist that did not work out. She is a beautiful 10 year old bay, thoroughbred but has ulcerative lymphangitis in her right rear leg or inflammation of the lymphatic system. This is thought to occur after the horse gets a cut or scratch on their leg and is due to poor management practices such as urine in unclean stalls. A simple abrasion can let in bacteria such as *Staph aureus* to enter the wound and infect the leg. The bacteria reproduces quickly, setting up shop in the tissues, causing the inflammatory reactions of heat and swelling as the body tries to attack the invaders. The lymphatic system drains fluid from the legs, filtering it through lymph nodes that try to remove foreign pathogens. The lymph nodes are overwhelmed, and possibly become infected themselves. Lymph ducts and blood vessels become damaged, swollen, and lose their elasticity, blood and lymph pooling on top of the one-way valves. The heart continues to pump in fluid, but the exits are blocked.¹

Goldie was treated by our veterinarian with a course of sulfa antibiotics and a salve of Silver Sulfadiazine 1%. Treatment also included exercise and wrapping her leg to keep compression on the site. But this did not entirely clear up the inflammation. Our veterinarians at Wolf Creek Equine took a culture of the fluid to try intravenous regional therapy (IVRT). She was admitted to the hospital, a tourniquet was applied to the leg and she was given an infusion of antibiotics into the leg at a rate that is greater than could be given orally. She was sedated for the procedure.

Goldie is back at our barn and will be able to overcome her condition. She is exercising, being ridden, and wearing a silver threaded sock from "Sox for Horses" that provides an antibacterial barrier and compression. No matter what we will continue to give her fresh water and hay, good food, exercise and a clean stall.

Spotlight on Brocca

By Lori Harrington

Brocca is considered the Godfather of Freedom Hill. He is somewhere between age 35 and 38 years old. He came to FHHR in 2007 from an auction rescue with another older horse named Noble who has since passed. He was fostered out for four years by a local family and they gave him back to Freedom Hill in 2011 and he has been with us ever since. He developed Cushing's disease which is a pituitary dysfunction mostly in older horses. Signs of Cushing's include long-haired fur coat not shedding, fat deposits, laminitis, increased drinking and abnormal sweating and recurrent infections. We soak his hay to remove the sugars and starches and he gets Special Care grain that is low in sugar and starch to manage his Cushing's as well as the medicine called pergolide and a natural supplement called Evitex which is natural chasteberry that helps regulate his endocrine function. In 2015 Brocca was looking like he did not feel well at all, he was very weak and diagnosed with EPM, Equine Protozoal Myeloencephalitis, a neurological disease that occurs in some horses when they are exposed to certain protozoal parasites, most commonly from opossum feces. We treated him for 10 days with a medicine called Orogin to wipe out the EPM virus. During his treatment, he looked pretty bad and we thought we were losing him but he made it through and bounced back to his normal demanding self. That's why I call him the Energizer Bunny.

He sure likes his meals and will stomp on his stall gate to let everyone know he is waiting impatiently for his grain. Brocca will occasionally develop abscess or laminitis which is part of Cushing's Disease and he has arthritis. He looks pretty phenomenal for his age though and seems to always bounce back from all his illnesses. He rules his little kingdom there in Paddock E! He has been called a grumpy old man but does enjoy scratches on his chest and brushing. His lower lip will droop when he is relaxed and enjoying the attention. He can be a bit pushy at times since he is set in his ways and occasionally will strike out with his front hooves so we all have to be aware of being in front of him for that reason. We hope you are around to enjoy many more grooming sessions and scratches, Old Man, as we love you dearly in all your grumpiness!

Ellie's Adoption

By Terry Pennington



On May 1, Hannah Dean adopted Ellie, a 15 hand, 11 year old registered Paint mare. This was a dream 4 years in the making for both Hannah and Ellie. Hannah was a young 14 year old volunteer on the Freedom Hill Horse Rescue Horsemanship Team when she first met and worked with Ellie, approximately 4 years ago. Hannah continued to work with Ellie and several other horses. Eventually, Ellie was fostered by a family, adopted by another family, and returned to Freedom Hill Horse Rescue. By that time, Hannah had turned 18, had a job, and was able to apply to adopt Ellie. Ellie now lives on a beautiful farm in Riva where Hannah takes care of the horses! Congratulations Hannah and Ellie!

We hope you will visit us on the web at freedomhillhorserescue.com, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!



HORSEMANSHIP

By Terry Pennington

On May 21, Susan Chaney from Promise Natural Horsemanship visited our horsemanship team to help us further our skills in natural horsemanship. Natural Horsemanship is a philosophy of working with and training the horses based on the natural instincts and body language communication of the horse. Natural horsemanship is patient and kind and does not use fear or pain. Many of our horses are older or have medical conditions preventing them from being ridden. Our horsemanship team uses natural horsemanship training techniques to engage, stimulate, play and have fun with our horses in their own language. The horsemanship team learned more about timing tools, techniques, horse personality types, and how to think like a horse. It was a wonderfully fun evening of learning and laughter.



Spirits and Steeds on June 30, 2018

By Beth Meader



This year we decided to try out a new type of fundraiser for FHHR – a Beer and Wine Festival. The Festival would be called “Spirits & Steeds” and would entail getting several beer and wine vendors, as well as craft and food vendors to participate.

A committee of dedicated volunteers was formed. Susan Fogleman our website/social media developer created a vendor site and a ticket site on Event Brite. Angie Carr took on the task of finding our beer and wine vendors. Karen McMahon worked on getting the message out to local vendors and screening for duplicates. Cathy Hurley took on the task of obtaining items for raffle and organizing the raffle

event. Carol Brady was in charge of t-shirt sales. And Steve Gandia took on the tremendous task of providing live music for our event.

After much planning the original date for the event had to be postponed due to rain. Unfortunately, the rain date turned out to be one of the hottest days of the year! But our wonderful volunteers, vendors, and bands turned out in the heat to welcome attendees. At the end of the event we raised just about \$3,000 after expenses.

Thank you to the members of the committee who worked so hard to put this event together. Thank you to Diane Hermann, Shirley Whited, Cathy Kahl, Terry Hurley, Shannon Christ, Katja Harper, Anna Darden, Alexis Allen, Disa Elliott, Dot Stein, Emma Cochran, Gary Carr, Shaun Gandia and Lili Sheeline for helping out that day. And a big thank you to Brothers Johnson, Van Wie Associates, Lori Harrington and Terry Pennington, and the following vendors who helped make this event possible.

Greenspring Brewery
Gypsy Brewery
The Breakfast Choo
Kona Ice
Calvert Coasters
Chesapeake Soap
Color Street
Crandell Works
Delta Horse
Doterra Essential Oils
Earthy Treasures
H₂O at Home
Hidden Gem Jewelry
Hillegas Books
Heartland Foods
Lula Roe
Luv Crab
Magnabilities
Maverick Woodworking

Mully's Brewery
Whistle Stop Winery
Smoker's Delight

MGT Artwork
Pampered Chef
Pure Romance
Riverscape Group
Scenegene
Scentsy
Simply Country Rustic
Solid Rock Lapidary
Terr's Bears
The Butterfly and Bow
Thirty-One
Touchstone Jewelry
Trades of Hope
Tupperware
ViBella Jewelry

HHAPPY at Freedom, Hill!

By Karen McMahon



Taking off this summer was our four-week program HHAPPY! Who could resist the experience of some happy memories on our beautiful farm, with our Equine friends, during the lazy evenings of summer? Not me! And not the kids who enjoyed our program in June and July! But what exactly is HHAPPY? This program is an Equine Assisted Activities and Learning (EAAL) program for youth focusing on horsemanship, life skills, and personal growth! While kids spent a lot of time learning about horses they also spent time learning that taking care of horses can help them become the best versions of themselves through becoming increasingly responsible, caring, confident, disciplined, and learning about relationships! Each week kids participated in some activities with the horses as well as reflected on what horses might be teaching them. Some activities included observing herd behavior and horse communications, grooming, leading, reviewing horse health care, leading through obstacles and a surprise lead line ride! If you or your child is interested in joining a group like this, please let us know! freedom.hill.org@gmail.com





Horsemanship Clinics

Volunteers eagerly meet on Sunday evenings to hone their horse knowledge and handling skills. Volunteer instructor Shaun Gandia teaches participants leading, navigating obstacles, backing up, grooming, tacking up, and catching horses in the field. Shaun also helps participants understand normal horse communication and behavior. Volunteers who have attended the clinics say they feel more confident and knowledgeable. Shaun has offered 15 sessions so far and more sessions are scheduled throughout the summer.



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especially to our volunteers
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Summer 2018

Spotlight Freedom Hill Horse Rescue

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