



SPOTLIGHT

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue

Spring 2019



Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) will be competing for grants valued at up to \$20,000 in the 2019 national ASPCA Help a Horse Challenge that runs from April 26 to June 30. FHHR began participating in the ASPCA challenges in 2013. Since then, FHHR has hosted a Help A Horse Dy event each year at the farm. Grants awarded by ASPCA have enabled us to continue our important lifesaving work on behalf of at-risk, elderly, and disabled horses.

This year, to encourage the community to come out and meet our adoptable horses, we are offering FREE monthly open houses from April to July. We hope you will come by to visit and learn about horses! Maybe you will even find that special horse to adopt?

DELILAH'S EASTER HOP

By Karen McMahon

On April 13th from 1-3:30pm, children from all over

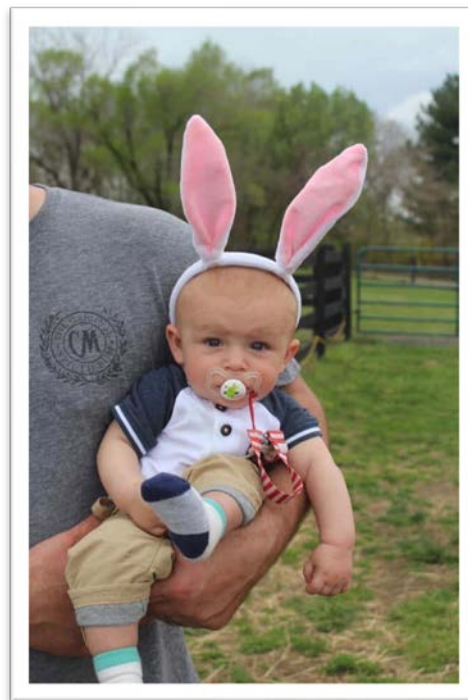


visited Freedom Hill for a delightful afternoon with Delilah and her friends for Delilah's Easter Hop! Children enjoyed making Easter themed crafts, grooming, leading and hopping down the bunny trail with their horses, (uh...I mean "bunnies"?),

finding Easter eggs full of treats for their baskets, and transforming everyone into bunnies as they went along the path. Also, along the way, kids learned some fun facts about horses that coincided with decorating their horse. They learned about horses' ears, tails, eyes, and hoofs, what they are for and how horses use each of them in a special way.

After some fun on the trail kids enjoyed making a picture of their horse to take home while having a snack with the grand finale of a ride on our special Easter Bunny, Delilah! I think it's safe to say everyone had a great and memorable afternoon with their exclusive Easter "bunny" at Freedom Hill.

If you would like to help with programs and special events please contact freedom.hill.rescue.org@gmail.com



OPEN FARM OPEN HOUSE

By Lori Harrington and Terry Pennington

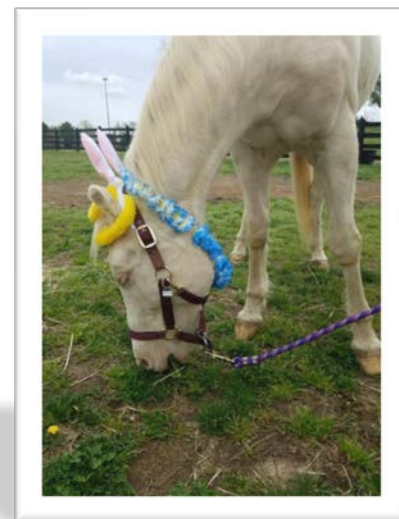
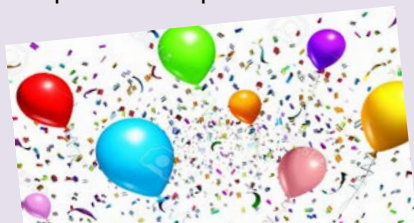
| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <p>March 16 April 13 May 11 June 15 July 13</p> | <p>Open House 3-4pm</p> |
| <p>Entrance is free!</p> | |

This year, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) is offering a series of monthly open houses to give the public a chance to meet the horses, tour the farm, and learn about the history of each horse and the mission of FHHR. Children are also invited to ride a pony. This fun event is free. Pony rides are \$5/each. Approximately 30 guests enjoyed the March and April Open Houses. Didn't get to attend? Don't worry, there are two remaining open houses on June 15, and July 13. We hope to see you!

SPOTLIGHT ON ADOPTIONS AND FOSTERS

Congratulations to Beth Foster for fostering Gabe!

As part of the ASPCA Challenge to find these special horses wonderful homes in 2019, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue will be offering a **\$100 discount** for all adoptions completed in the month of May!



- **Free Open Houses at the farm from 3 to 4 pm** -- Meet and greet the horses, learn about programs, horses, and volunteering, have a pony ride, enjoy a game or activity, and take a tour of the farm. Entrance is free. Pony rides are \$5.
 - June 15 July 13
- **Horsemanship Badge Sessions from 12 to 2 pm** -- Horsemanship Badge Days are designed with your Scout in mind, but all groups and individuals age 5-18 are welcome! This program covers a tour of the farm, safety, basic horse care, grooming, horse leading, and a riding demonstration or experience. This program aims to meet the requirements of certain Girl Scout and Boy Scout badges. \$15
 - June 15 July 13
- **New Volunteer Orientations** from 1 to 3 pm
 - June 1 July 6
- **Volunteer Horsemanship Classes** from 2pm to 3:30pm every Sunday starting May 5th
- **American Heritage Girls Group visit** - TBD
- **Girl Scout Troop visit** June 3rd
- October 5 - Save the Date - *2nd Annual Spirits & Steeds*
- November 23 - Save the Date - *Holiday Photos with Horses*



There are many opportunities to assist in the rescue's mission! We need help with:

- Newsletter (from home)
- Advertising (from home)
- Apparel (mostly from home)
- Events
- Marketing (from home, phone calls, emails)
- Videos (help our horses find homes!)
- Administrative tasks (from home)
- Feed shifts
- Shift Leads
- Barn Maintenance

Contact: Freedom.hill.org@gmail.com

*Will You
be
my
Valentine?*



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Thank you for the Valentines for the Horses:

Carol Brady, Janey Paterson, Michelle Vu, Marcellyn Stone, Bobbie Nelson, Sharon Fowler, Lori Harrington, Marisa Goldberg, Ann Hearn, Katy Lynch, Jennifer Weaver, Calligan and Cullen, Anne Davenport, Tanya Gott, Diane Herman, Allison Rowe, Alexis and Shannon Wright, Susan Fogelman, Becky Turner, Stephanie Nevin, Laura Catlett, Caramia Lavanway,

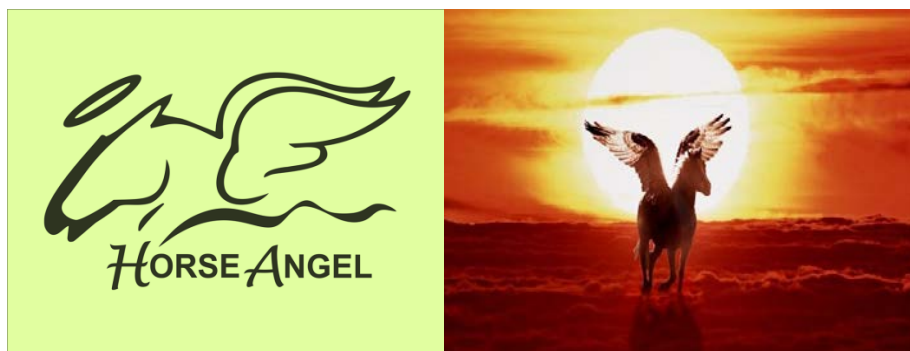


HORSE DISCOVERY CENTER

By Karen McMahon

As many of our supporters may recall, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue has passed the standards and qualifications to become a Maryland Horse Industry Board, Horse Discovery Center (HDC). This is an accolade given by the Maryland Department of Agriculture Horse Industry Board to only the best barns in the state and it is based on high standards of teaching, horse care, special interest for the beginner horseman or woman, management and customer service. Being a HDC brings much prestige, support and marketing from the Board. This past March, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue was again renewed as a HDC and was in attendance for the yearly meeting to discuss standards and any new changes for The Horse Discovery Centers in Maryland. As a HDC, groups in the community and individuals can request a visit, tour of the farm, or arrange for a special class if we are able to do so. If you are interested in more information or would like to come for a visit, please contact us at

freedom.hill.org@gmail.com .



If you would like to help a horse but can not consider adoption, we offer a special way to help a horse without taking on the full responsibilities of ownership. Our horse sponsorship program allows individuals to select a horse to provide with monthly financial support. In return, the horse angel sponsor receives a certificate and photo of their horse. Visits with each horse and sponsor may also be arranged. For more information on horse sponsorship, visit <https://www.freedomhillhorserescue.com/horse-angels.html>

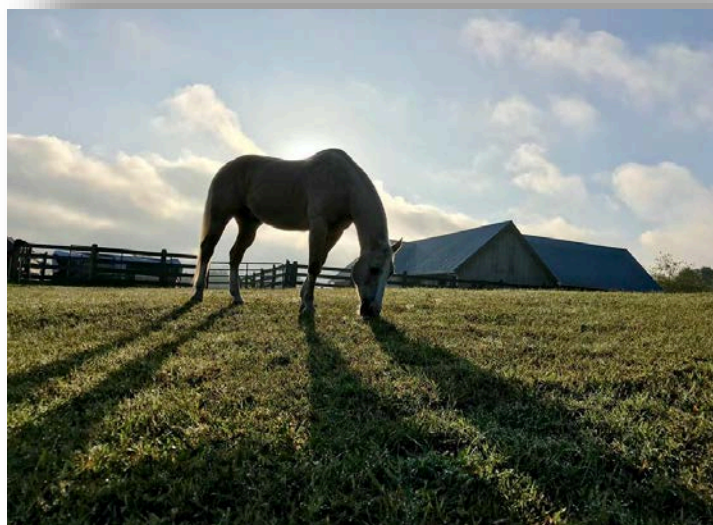
Horse Angels for 2019

River: Diane Hermann

Duitiful Sun: Jane Lehman and Diane Hermann

Goldie: Sharon Fowler

Delilah: Marcellyn Stone



CATCHING UP WITH GABRIEL

By Beth Foster



Many of you know the story of Gabriel, he was after all the greeter at the Christmas Holiday Event. Many, many pictures of Kids, Gabe and Santa were taken that day! But this is the story of how the horse we didn't know we needed became the miracle we have now.

My daughter Becky and I have a sweet (mostly) mare named Kirby. Due to problems where she was boarded, we decided to move her to a lovely small private farm near where we live. Due to the whims of fate, my friend decided at the last minute not to come, but we moved Kirby anyway. She was in a much better situation, but she was the only horse there and became lonely. Becky and I decided to look into the possibility of a second horse, which would give Kirby a companion and allow us to ride together. I spent hours looking on the internet, and one night at about 3 A.M. Gabriel's face and story popped up. Because Kirby had been rescued from a similar situation, I was intrigued. We contacted Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) and made plans to meet this beautiful boy. Everyone was so welcoming and so helpful, we felt we had made the right choice in FHHR. Becky and Gabe fell in love, and the more we saw of this big, goofy sweetheart, the more we knew he needed to be part of our family. But would Kirby feel the same?

When the horse trailer pulled into the farm and Gabe got out, it was Magic. They almost immediately bonded, and with Shaun's guidance, we let them get together after a while. They are true siblings, with occasional squabbles, but they hate to be apart, and in fact when Gabriel was getting his medical exam and x-rays, she had to be within his eyesight, so they would both be calm. We do have to feed them in different spots, but it is at least in the same field. When out together they are never far apart, and occasionally do the "wild Mustang" thing where they take off running.

When we met Gabe, we were informed of his medical issues and given his past farrier and vet notes. It is safe to say that the work FHHR's farrier, Jay Horton, put in to help Gabe was remarkable. Thanks to his ingenuity, Gabe is sound today. We found an equine vet/farrier team to take over his care here. Although both Becky and I were nervous wrecks, it seems to have been the best choice. He loves being barefoot, and his follow up last week shows he is doing great.

Thank you to FHHR for all that you do to give these wonderful creatures a new life. We feel so very blessed to have found this wonderful,



handsome, goofy, horse with the huge heart. He has made our lives so much richer. And we can't imagine our life without him. We will be finalizing his adoption in the very near future.

Spotlight on Valerie Caswell

By Terry Pennington



Freedom Hill Horse Rescue (FHHR) wishes a very fond farewell to Valerie Caswell and wishes her well in her move to Ashburn, VA.

Valerie began volunteering in the fall of 2013. She enjoyed all the volunteers she met as a feed shift leader. Valerie said, "I forged some great friendships with some wonderful women and teenagers. In the end, it was those friendships that made me volunteer as long as I did..."

Valerie also enjoyed bonding with the horses at feed shift and during horsemanship classes. She enjoyed grooming the horses in the field while they ate. Valerie remembers, "The horsemanship classes were a lot of fun and you got to bond with a particular

rescue horse for the duration of an hour as if that horse was your own..."

Valerie had a few favorite horses and definitely knew how to pick them because nearly all of her favorites were adopted. Valerie said, "In no particular order, I loved Princess, Dawn, Fairy Tale, Occhie, Stuffie, and most recently Delilah."

Over the course of the six years Valerie spent volunteering, FHHR relocated from multiple small properties to the larger Hampton Plantation. Valerie remembers one of the more challenging and funny episodes at our Chaneyville Farm that involved the two mini horses, Fiona and Cody, and a large paint named Ellie, "The minis were contained to the small paddock while Ellie had free range of the grass field. I made the mistake of thinking Ellie was trustworthy and didn't secure the gate to the mini's paddock; I only shut it without clasp the lock. And there I was, taking care of my chores in the mini's paddock, when Ellie decided to open the gate with her nose. Needless to say, I had a mini jailbreak. I was able to catch Fiona pretty quickly but Cody was impossible. I think I spent a solid hour trying to get him! He'd let me get within 5 feet before sprinting to the other side of the field. And naturally Ellie just stood there and watched the whole time." We are quite sure Ellie was very proud of her mini jailbreak.

Best wishes to you Valerie and thank you for all the years you volunteered with FHHR. We will all miss you, as will the horses!

Workday

By Terry Pennington and Cathy Hurley

Freedom Hill volunteers helped prepare the barn and fields for Spring on March 30, 2019. Volunteers washed, dried and organized blankets, cleaned out and organized the medicine and tool cabinets and tack room, placed new fence posts, filled in holes in paddocks, cleaned run-in sheds and hay huts, painted cabinets, vacuumed dust out of fans, and cleaned under stall mats. Volunteers enjoyed a homemade lunch together of chili, cornbread, chips, cupcakes, cookies and ice cream cake!



Junior Columnist

By Zac Riley

My experience with Freedom Hill Horse Rescue has been a good one! I've had a lot of fun learning about new things.

Romeo has been one of my favorites to work with so far. I had never had the opportunity to do ground work with a horse; until I came to Freedom Hill.

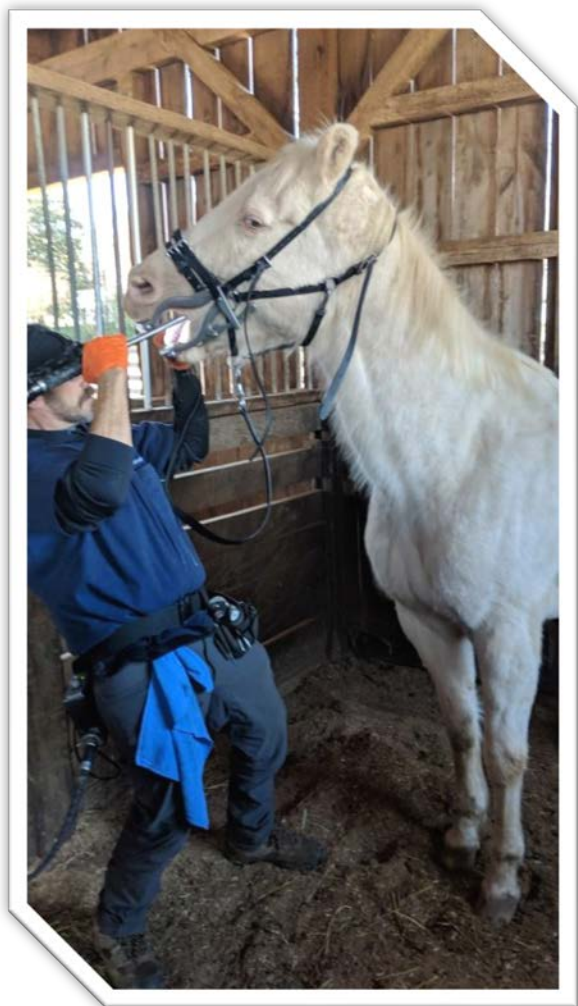
I have learned that the experience with horses from the ground can be so different! A task by itself sometimes, but it can be incredibly exciting to see efforts making progress with the horse, on and off of them.



Luke Christ with Willie the cat at Feed Shift

Spring Health Visits

By Beth Meader



Spring is here and with the change of season, health visits are a priority for the horses at FHHR. The first step is to schedule visits with our equine veterinarian, our equine dentist, and of course our farrier.

Shaun Gandia and Lori Harrington started the season by deworming the horses.

We then had a visit from Sean McCarthy of McCarthy Equine Dentistry. Most of our horses have their regular dental exam and float in October. This year Maggie, Roxie and Dutiful needed a mid-year check-up because of chewing issues and Delilah needed a float. (Floating involves a dentist wearing

down the surface of the teeth, usually to remove sharp points or to balance out the mouth.) Dutiful was made comfortable but his regular hay days are over. He will now be given chopped hay because he cannot fully grind regular hay. Maggie and Roxie are also on chopped hay because they have so few teeth. All three are in their thirties. Delilah was an angel during her float.

Dr. Bryant from Wolf Creek Equine Veterinary Hospital came out to give our horses their general check-ups and spring immunizations. These immunizations include the Equine Rhinopneumonitis-Influenza vaccine, Rabies-Potomac Horse Fever vaccine, Eastern Western Encephalomyelitis/Tetanus/West Nile vaccine, and a Coggins test for those horses who may be leaving our facility when adopted or for a trail ride. She also took respiration rates, heart rates, weight measurements, and did general health checks.

Next, time for our farrier, Jay Horton to make a visit. 3 – 4 of our horses need shoes for the warmer months since they will be used for programs and on our Horsemanship Team. And with the coming warm weather and extra wear and tear on their hooves, our farrier visits will now move from every 6 weeks to every 5 weeks.

Finally, we end the season with Shaun and Lori. They will clean the sheaths for our geldings and give every horse a spring bath.

Just another spring at Freedom Hill Horse Rescue.



Donations

Laura Catlett

Gayle Kennedy

Arlene Rosborough

Wendy Weaver

David LaRosa

P Deal

Kip and Lili Sheeline

Kenneth and Dawn New

Carol Brady

Tracy Heritage

Stephanie McCoy

Vicki Pender

William and Dawn Webb

Alana Clark

SPRING SALE

\$100 OFF
ADOPTION FEES
FROM APRIL 26 TO
JUNE 30 2019

THANK YOU

To our supporters,
contributors, foster families,
adopters, and especially to
our volunteers who care for
the horses every day!

Photo credit and thank you to KRS Images/Kathy Sherbert, Ciara Andrews Photography, Dawn Riley and others.

Cost of Horse

When considering horse adoption or foster, Freedom Hill Horse Rescue is often asked about cost. In the chart below, we break out the monthly and yearly average cost of maintaining a typical rescue horse.

| | Monthly average cost for 1 horse | Yearly average cost for 1 horse |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Hay | \$30 | \$360 |
| Feed | \$45 | \$530 |
| Farrier | \$40 | \$360 |
| Medical | \$145 | \$1740 |
| Total | \$260 | \$2990 |

“Freedom Hill Horse Rescue has been accepted into the Maryland State Employees Campaign, an annual workplace giving campaign that allows Maryland State Employees and Retirees the opportunity to easily support over 900 participating charitable organizations. We thank Maryland State Employees for their generosity.”

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION!

Please make your check payable to (add Gift to memo):

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue

You can also give a gift via PayPal at our website:

www.Freedomhillhorserescue.com

To receive important FHHR Updates send us your email!

We will never share your contact information with others.

Donations are tax-deductible section 501 C (3) of the IRS code.



*The Gift
of
Giving*

CONTACT US

Physical Address:
Freedom Hill Horse Rescue
7940 N. Flint Hill Road
Owings, MD 20736

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 606, Dunkirk, MD 20754

www.freedomhillhorserescue.com

freedom.hill.org@gmail.com



amazonsmile






We need you!

Freedom Hill Horse Rescue would like to enlist the help of any experienced volunteers for feed shifts, grooming, horse care, horse handling and events. If interested in helping out please contact Lori Harrington at freedom.hill.org@gmail.com




check us out at: freedomhillhorserescue.com

Spotlight
Freedom
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PO Box 606
Dunkirk, MD 20754

[Addressee]
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