

# **Keeping up with the Program!**

# What Does Victory Farm Do?

# Victory Farm Riders Show their Skills at the Dallas Horse Show



Each year, 10-12 Victory Riders amaze and astound their families, the community, and themselves as they represent Victory Farm in the Dallas Horse Show at Biggerstaff Arena in Dallas, NC. These riders are an inspiration. They tackle the demanding tasks of riding and handling horses despite the challenges given by their bodies and minds. Victory Farm is a therapeutic and adaptive horseback riding program that works with children and adults with physical and mental disabilities. The Horse Show is a victory for all those associated with Victory Farm as our riders prove once again the power of determination and hard work. We are so proud of our champions!

None of this success happens without our village! So many of our regular and special project volunteers showed up to get horses and tack ready before the show and worked tirelessly during the show! We can't thank you all enough, for taking such good care of our riders and horses and giving them this opportunity! Please visit our Facebook page for more photos!





We are seeking Instructors, Coaches and Assistant Coachesas well as VOLUNTEERS! If you would like to join our program— please contact Dory Pell at 704-241-2270 or Info@VictoryRides.org



Anna practicing on Shadow



Elijah won TWO BRONZE MEDALS in Showmanship and Trail



Savannah practicing with Micah for the Showmanship class



Austin Shields won a **GOLD MEDAL in Special** Olympics representing Victory Farm!

## **UPHA EXCEPTIONAL CHALLENGE CUP**

#### **2019 Contender!**

Meet Julia Walsh
An Honors Student living with the











Julia is sponsored by the Allen Bosworth family with a pledge to support her through the 2019 UPHA Exceptional Challenge Cup National Championship in Kansas City. Julia rides American Saddlebred Big Junior Brown, affectionately known as "JuJu".







**IN LOVING MEMORY OF JERRY LEWIS** 



Victory Farm has a special relationship with the Muscular Dystrophy Association of the Carolinas Region. We support and share in their vision and efforts to extend and improve the quality of life for children with Muscular Dystrophy.

Around Sixty-four children from 4 states come for a week of 'just being a kid' One way we support these children is by providing a horseback trail ride during their annual summer camp.

For more inspiring photos from MDA Camps, please see our Facebook page albums.













Imagine the feeling!

To leave the chair behind, to get off of crutches and braces to walk through the woods on four strong legs!





Each year, a team of devoted volunteers comes together to provide the funding needed to operate our program through our Annual Fundraiser, The Denim & Diamonds Gala.

Loray Mill & Homestead Catering hosted an amazing event to raise money for our program! Everyone enjoyed a fine meal, fellowship, learned about the program and met riders. We danced the night away between live and silent auctions. Attendance was up and we surpassed our fundraising goal! Thank you to everyone who attended, who donated, and especially to our sponsors! This event has been held each Fall, and one of the ways we are able to provide services for our riders.

Look for the Gala in late January of 2019! We are now seeking sponsors for the 2019 Denim & Diamonds Gala!

#### THERAPEUTIC DRIVING 👊 THE ONLY ONE IN OUR REGION

This specialized equine therapy helps drivers increase muscle strength, joint mobility, balance and coordination, improves communication, perceptual skills, gives greater self confidence and trust, stronger connections to the physical world and to other people and lessened feelings of loneliness and dependence, among many other benefits. Through the multiple benefits and practice of driving, for example, a stroke or PTSD or TBI victim may relearn how to drive a car again or a child might achieve the independence and ability to thrive academically and socially through use of a motorized vehicle or scooter.

This program will help drivers of all ages and ability levels improve their physical, mental & emotional well being.



Pictured Above & Right: Strawberry the Mini-Mule proudly carries her friends from Victory Farm at the Dallas Horse Show Opening Flag Ceremony, Memorial Weekend.



This program has been partially funded by a generous grant from the Speedway Children's Charity.





Drivers we can help —

- Children who are challenged with Muscular Dystrophy as pictured here at MDA Camp. Loss of muscle tone and medications cause weight gain despite their young age.
- Adults & children who can no longer ride safely in our program due to progressions of disease.
- Veterans and others with paralysis, certain amputees, people with lack of balance and muscle tone.
- Many people who cannot physically sit astride a horse due to their medical condition.
- ♦ And many many more ...



Above: Our current driving program with Strawberry the Mini-Mule





We successfully completed the PATH Therapeutic Driving School in June



# THERAPEUTIC DRIVING 1 THE ONLY ONE IN OUR REGION Coming in the Fall of 2018! We are Ready for Veterans!



From a rescue situation, this kind & thoughtful Amish-bred Belgian cross mare is ready to serve



"Miss Kate" will also be carrying our larger riders in the Therapeutic & Adaptive Riding Programs





2 Instructors have now completed the PATH Therapeutic Driving Instructor Training





Thanks to a grant from Speedway Children's Charities, we have our new horse & carriage for the therapeutic driving program!

We are ready to begin with new drivers in the Fall of 2018!

This program will support drivers with TBI, amputees, paralysis, strength/coordination/weight issues and other challenges which may make riding astride a horse unsafe, uncomfortable or impossible.

A special 'thank you' to Venture Crew 6 for helping us develop and construct the new driving course!

#### ABOUT THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

#### DORY PELL



From her work with the special needs community to horse rescue and promotion of the American Saddlebred, in February of 2017, she was honored to be awarded the Barbara Blackwelder Humanitarian Award by one of the largest breed associations in the country—the American Saddlebred Association of the Carolinas. (Above)

A third-generation professional horseman, she grew up in the horse show industry enjoying success at the National and World Championship levels under the guidance of such greats as Don Stafford, Bill Becker and Lewis Eckard, among others.

Dory grew up known as "Gaye Roseberry" around the show grounds. Her mother, Martina Roseberry was the founder and first 4 terms president of ASAC while writing for National Horseman and Saddle & Bridle throughout the 70's and 80's.

In 1988, life took a dramatic turn. While on the way home from the show horse barn, she stopped at the grocery store. Before leaving the car, a family passed in front of the car with a small child in a wheelchair. From 'nowhere' she distinctly heard a voice say "YOU CAN HELP THAT CHILD". Startled and confused, she thought "how can I help that child?" It made no sense to her at the time, without internet or training and exposure to the world of therapeutic horseback riding she tried to ignore the voice. And this was NOT *her* plan!

From there information began 'dropping in her lap'. She began volunteering with a physical therapist who was giving therapeutic riding at her home in Monroe—then became certified as a Special Olympics Equestrian Coach. She ordered books and information, began learning and studying .. then went to train under the Godmother of therapeutic riding in the U.S., Linda McCowan of the Cheff Center.

Now she is one of the most experienced, rounded, trained and accredited instructors in the region. Holding certifications from PATH Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (formerly NARHA), Certified Horsemanship Association Instructor of Riders with Disabilities: Cognitive and Instructor of Riders with Disabilities: Physical, Safety, Standards & Horsemanship, and Special Olympics Equestrian Coach.



Feed Bag Coupon
Program Charity





VICTORY FARM

VictoryRides.org

Have you heard about our "Ride for the Cause"? Any YOUTH rider can now support Victory Farm every time you enter the show ring! Not based on winning—but on your heart!

Just get sponsors to pledge a donation for each show you enter! It's simple and it will make a difference for many special needs riders and rescue horses!

Contact us for more information—and Thank You!



## WE RIDE!

Every week based on weather! It's imperative for our riders to maintain routine and to continue stretching & strengthening to have less pain and more ability in all areas of their life!



See many more photos and videos on our facebook page "Victory Farm Inc."



We still have children needing sponsors









Thank you for your kindness, generosity and support!



- PATH (formerly NARHA) Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International Instructor
- **PATH Therapeutic Carriage Driving Certified**

Memberships & Certifications include:

- CHA Instructor of Riders with Disabilities: Cognitive
- CHA Instructor of Riders with Disabilities: Physical
- Standards/Safety & Horsemanship Instructor
- Certified Special Olympics Equestrian Coach
- Community Foundation of Gaston County
- Gaston County United Way Community Choice Partner
- Red Cross Pediatric & Adult First Aid/CPR/AED
- North Carolina Horse Council
- American Saddlehorse Association
- American Saddlebred Association of the Carolinas
- United States Equestrian Federation
- Dory Pell was honored with the 2017 ASAC Humanitarian Award

## VICTORY FARM

VictoryRides.org

P.O. Box 6341

Gastonia, NC 28056

Facebook: Victory Farm Inc.

Email: Info@VictoryRides.org

Call: 704-241-2270

Victory Farm is an all volunteer program!

A true charity to help children and adults learn to thrive and cope within their ability and always to improve their quality of life!



onfidence

Our expenses are the same as any other equestrian program—often higher because of our rescue horses and adaptive equipment needed for our special riders.

**Olumpics** 



A 501c3 Charity

Your generous contributions are tax deductible

Most horses are rescues and slaughter yard rescues.



At this time, we have no generous benefactor to cover costs. We cannot collect insurance or Medicaid. We have no government support and we have received no sustaining or capital grants. We depend completely upon the compassionate generosity of our community.

Thank you for making this all possible!

## A Permanent Home for Victory Farm?

The barn is 105' x 50'
35.41 Acres. Approx 18 acres planted in pasture.
Miles and miles of well maintained trail access.

Children & adults with physical & cognitive challenges need consistent riding to ease pain, increase mobility, develop form and function. (ie, cerebral palsy)
For riders with autism, ADHD, anxiety disorders and related challenges, consistent riding aids sensory integration, patience, discipline, and social skills supporting a healthier academic and family environment.

The back of the barn looking up from the pasture. This property is in EXCELLENT condition!

# The Opportunity of a Lifetime!



Walking out to Ride! You can see the Interior is large enough to ride inside year-round and during inclement weather

Private Office & Restroom





It is an efficient

work space for our riders, horses and volunteers. With beautiful trails, established pastures, safe fencing, and a great working barn! It's ready for us to use, work and grow immediately! And the timing is perfect, that it's

available now, when we have to move from our little leased barn. It's been offered to us BEFORE it's listed publicly and at a reduce price!

#### One of the Greatest Benefits of this Property

afe, well-maintained 3-rail vinyl fencing

This property will allow us to become more self-sustaining with the ability to

- Host Events such as Birthday Parties, Corporate Meetings, Family Reunions, etc.
  - Clinics

Pasture board and

Public trail riding!

We can help support ourselves and sustain our special needs programs!

If you have interest in helping us purchase this permanent home, please do not hesitate to request any further information on this property. We are happy to provide business plans, etc. Your potential assistance could be:

- Pledge or Donate financial support in our Capital Campaign
- Carry the note that we might pay back at a reasonable rate
- Assist with down payment on a traditional farm loan
- Or purchase the property and lease back to Victory Farm as a tax write off

Your support in this project will touch many lives for years to come!

All Donors over \$5,000 will have a permanent space provided on our "Wall of Gratitude" for a memorial, business promo, honor of a loved one, or just a name...

Naming opportunities are welcomed!

Thank you!