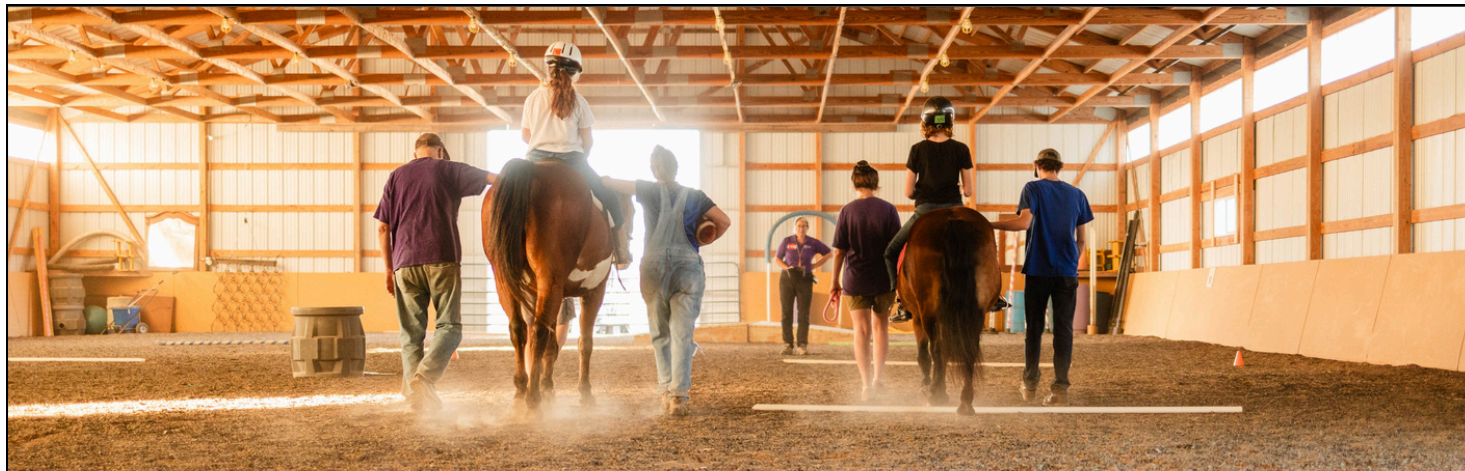




Annual Newsletter



Our Yearly Update from the Board President

We could not have done it without you. The Board of Directors and myself extend our heartfelt thanks to you for supporting Purple Pony in this endeavor of providing equine assisted services to the special needs community. Because of you Purple Pony has been able to provide life changing experiences in a safe environment for several hundred special needs riders from 4 years of age to 70 these last 20 years.

Purple Pony is still 100 percent volunteer! From our certified instructors to the horse leaders and sidewalkers everyone donates their time. This means that every donation goes straight to the program.

In this newsletter you will get a glimpse of what your gift has accomplished this year and for the past twenty years. Also, a look at where we hope to go.

Thank you for making this possible! I pray that God will bless you and your endeavors in the coming year.

See you at the barn!!



Daniel J. Filker

In this newsletter you can expect:

Community Updates

Our Horses

Programs

Treasure Sale

Special Thanks

Sponsor a Horse!

Our Programs



Independent Rider Program

Our independent riding program has met with great success. Our first group of riders moved up from our Equine assisted learning classes. They completed a full year this fall not only attaining the necessary skills but also and most of all the confidence to ride "unclipped". To see parents and grandparents taking pictures as they witness the growth and excitement that comes with that freedom and responsibility is priceless. Not to mention the biggest smiles on the riders faces as trepidation turns to triumph. Purple Pony looks forward to many more!



Sensory Trail

Our Sensory Trail has settled in to be a favorite place to ride and learn. This outdoor venue is so different than in the arena. All the riders senses are challenged in this outdoor setting.

The property owners were visionary and gracious in the making of this venue. It was completed for use two years ago after four years in the making. Purple Pony has had so many wonderful volunteers make this possible! The United Way Day of Caring has selected our site the past four years. LeRoy and Batavia Rotaries are perennials at the trail volunteering. Boy Scout Eagle Scout Projects built several interactive stations. Grants from the Blood Foundation have been the fuel for the materials to make it possible. Thompson Builds, ESL, L3 Harris, United States Gypsum Co. and of course our own Purple Pony volunteers have had a hand each year.

Thank You!



Groundwork Program

Our Ground work program completed its third year. It offers an opportunity for riders to improve confidence and physical well being to name just a couple of the benefits. From the hands on tacking and grooming to learning the routine and most of all bonding with their horse partner. The nine week program culminates in a judged routine of showmanship that highlights the rider's new learned skills as they and their faithful steed work as one. One of our longtime riders transitioned to this program and has truly found her niche and excelled.



Our Horses

You can't have a Newsletter without mentioning our horses. Purple Pony horses are not hay burners or pasture ornaments. They are life changers. Our riders receive confidence and joy each week, not to mention the physical benefits from horseback riding or leading. The benefits start the moment our riders call their horse by name to when they dismount and give a hug and goodnight, see you next week wish. The bond is something really to see.

This past fall we received a donation of a 14 year old Standardbred from the track at Batavia Downs. Bailey (Aka Fat Boy) is learning new skills and adapting to life after racing. We take pride in the fact that our horses are being reinvented in a new career. One that will affect many lives throughout their time at Purple Pony. For most it is almost like retirement. Especially from the rigors of showing or jumping or being a lesson horse. We like to say that if a horse comes to Purple Pony it won the lottery. But in reality everyone who comes in contact with them wins the lottery. Thank you to all who have made this possible.



BUTTER BAILEY LITA
 BUBBA CJ COOKIE KISMET PAINT



2024 Treasure Sale

Treasure Sale 2024, our biggest biennial fundraiser, was a huge success. This takes hundreds of Purple Pony volunteer hours to make it happen.

This year, Batavia Downs sponsored the event and provided give aways. We want to thank the community for once again providing thousands of donated "treasures" for the sale. This is a much anticipated event by the community each time we hold it. Thank you for your support!

Special Foundation Thank You Corner

We would like to extend a very special thank you to our amazing donors:

- Vic Blood Foundation
- Michael Napoleone Foundation
- Gatorade Giving Foundation
- The Shanley Family Foundation
- David Klos Family Memorial Fund
- Liz Green Memorial Fund
- Rotary Club of Batavia
- Batavia Downs Gaming





Community Involvement

Partnering with Genesee and Monroe County communities is a priority for Purple Pony. We continue to host community organizations that promote leadership and we provide hands on opportunities to local students of all ages. We also present at various community organizations to help promote the unique service that we provide to the community.

This year we supported the annual Wonderland of Trees fundraiser at the Holland Land Office Museum. Purple Pony displayed a tree with this year's theme of Gingerbread men. Our tree showcased pictures of our riders and horses. It was well received. Thank you, Ryan and staff, for this wonderful event. We look forward to participating again this year.



Scan Here to Donate!

Sponsor a Horse!

Our horses are the heart of our program allowing us to provide the incredible life changing experiences for everyone involved. If you are interested in helping our mission to provide equine assisted lessons to those with a disability, please consider giving a gift to sponsor one of our horses. Each year, the cost of caring for our horses and keeping them in good health is our priority. Your support of \$500 to sponsor a horse will help us to continue to provide this quality care. Thank for your ongoing support. To give your gift, go to our donation page on our website or scan the QR code above or mail a check to our PO address below.

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Thank you for reading!

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