

Seen and Herd Newsletter

March 2016



Whispering Manes
Therapeutic Riding Center

Building Abilities. Empowering Lives.

Other News

In the Spotlight -

Meet Augie Fernandez -

In April 2016 Augie will celebrate a milestone, four years of riding at Whispering Manes. Augie has achieved a lot in the four years since he started in our program. He has ridden most of the horses, and now rides Nutmeg, one of our more advanced horses. Augie rides independently at the walk, and is working on independence at the trot. Congratulations Augie! You've come a long way!



FIU Fieldwork

In March, two Occupational Therapy students from FIU completed two weeks of fieldwork at Whispering Manes. It's always a great learning experience when the FIU students spend time with us. Thank you, Nancy and Jennifer, for the new games you created for our classes.



Community Service

Since the start of 2016 we've had a number of individuals and organizations come out to the property and help us with projects. On MLK Day, the South Dade YMCA Family Center honored Martin Luther King Jr. with a day of service at Whispering Manes. The group added two new items to our sensory trail and completed two big painting projects. Thank you!



Jake Scaduto and Steve Katz, from *United Assurance*, come out to the barn once a month to help with any projects we need done. They have completed much needed painting projects and helped with barn chores. Bringing a friend makes any work more fun!

We are also very grateful to all the volunteers who came out during spring break and completed our Spring Spruce Up. Besides helping with classes, projects included a makeover for the dressage letters in the arena, gardening clean up in the field, and extra love and pampering for all of the horses.

Take a Whisper Tour!

Interested in learning more about our program, or do you know someone who would love Whispering Manes? Whispering Manes is now offering private and small group tours to those who would like more information about our programs. For more information, please call or send us an email.



Special Olympics at Whispering Manes!

On Saturday, January 23 Whispering Manes was proud to host our third **Special Olympics Equestrian Area Games**.

This was the first event at our new barn, and what a pleasure it was for the riders, volunteers, and families to be able to enjoy the day on our covered patio and in the covered arena! Over 20 riders participated in both equitation and trail classes. The riders showed off riding skills achieved from at least 10 weeks of training leading up to the event. Special Olympics will choose two riders who will advance to the Special Olympics State Games on April 30 in Lake Lady, FL.

Our Special Olympics coach and therapeutic riding instructor, Robin Bramson, will join these riders as they advance to the next level of competition. Check back in our next newsletter to see which riders went and how they did!



Thank you to **Sunset Feed & Supply** for sponsoring the food and drinks for our riders, families, and friends!

Happiness Is...



For Whispering Manes' staff and horses, happiness is knowing that we have a permanent home in a state-of-the-art barn with a covered arena to offer year round equine assisted activities. We have been providing high quality therapeutic horseback riding and horsemanship lessons for four years, but now we can settle in, expand and create new programs, and become a valuable resource for people with special needs in Miami-Dade County.

Come visit us at our new home and feel free to bring a friend!

Incredible Gifts

Have you heard of **Ultimate Software**? This South Florida-based company offered to make Whispering Manes the beneficiary of their holiday charitable giving campaign. In less than one month, the employees of Ultimate Software, a human resource and payroll company, raised over \$38,000 for Whispering Manes! The company is based on a people first commitment to their employees, their clients, and their community.



If you know of other socially responsible, community-minded companies that would like to become a sponsor of Whispering Manes or provide a day of service, please share Whispering Manes' information with them!

Upcoming Events!

4th Annual Ride For The Roses Student Horse Show



Saturday, May 7, 2016
10 AM-1 PM

For more information or to become a sponsor, send us an email at info@whisperingmanes.org

2016 Sponsors



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We're Having a Raffle!

Buy a raffle ticket for your chance to win 10 therapeutic riding lessons.

Tickets - one for \$10, three for \$20

The drawing takes place at noon during the Ride for the Roses Student Horse Show, on Saturday, May 7, 2016 (you do not need to be present to win)



Calling all volunteers!
Are you, or do you know anyone who is interested volunteering in classes or around the barn? Be a friend, share our contact information!

Tel: 305-596-4204



Web: www.whisperingmanes.org
Email: info@whisperingmanes.org