



IN THE NEWS

October 2016



TOP: Saying "Thanks for Giving" to just a few of our 25+ year donors. Left to right: Pat Harris, Ted and Joan Cleather, Ed Harris, Ruth and Hiram Carver. David and Sue with Vivian Rafuse of GN Thermoforming Equipment. BOTTOM: Laurie Anne is all smiles on her second ride. Bonnie enjoyed being around the horses.

Freedom to Ride

During September many participants were able to experience horseback riding at Hatfield Farms, made possible by a grant from the Halifax Youth foundation.

Participants found this activity to be very refreshing and delighted in having contact with these beautiful animals. If you haven't already seen our video of one of these rides you might like to check them out either on facebook or youtube.

Laurie Anne thoroughly enjoyed her first ride so much that she definitely wanted to ride again. "Now I feel more confident about riding one of my brother's horses," shared Laurie Anne.

Karen is new to horseback riding. She tried it with the encouragement of her friends. She was smiling the whole time.

Bonnie seemed at home in the saddle and around the large animals. She took time to thank her horse after her ride. "I like to ride but I like to pat them too," Bonnie said.

October "Thanks For Giving" Month

The Participants, Staff and Board of Bonny Lea Farm have identified October as "Thanks For Giving" month to celebrate the individuals, organizations and businesses that have supported them over the years.

"We've been around for over forty years and are fortunate to have some people who have been with us every step of the way. This month we are saying "Thanks For Giving" to all of our supporters but particularly the 101 who have faithfully contributed to our work for 25 years or more. They have truly been making a difference in the lives of others," exclaims Mary Ellen Clancey, Chair of the Board of Directors for Bonny Lea Farm.

To mark "Thanks For Giving" Bonny Lea Farm has called all 101 of those who have been supporting the organization for more than 25 years and thanked them for their commitment to the people who live and work at Bonny Lea Farm. Some have accepted an invitation to join participants and staff for lunch.

"I've said before that I don't where I'd be without Bonny Lea Farm. Being able to share a meal, show them what we do and say thank you in person will be really nice," says Rose Deveau, a participant at Bonny Lea Farm since 1982.

At a meeting of the Chester Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, October 19, Bonny Lea Farm will recognize six businesses in the Chester area who have had an impact on many lives over the last 25 years: Calvin's TV Sales & Service, Chester Building Supplies, Chester Golf Club, Chester Home Hardware, Chester Pharmasave and GN Thermoforming Equipment.

"Publicly acknowledging their impact on our community in this way is important. We couldn't do what we do without their support and others like them," said David Outhouse, Managing Director.

Taking Stock, Setting Goals & Achieving Fulfilment

At birthdays, changing seasons and New Years many of us take stock of our goals and our progress towards meeting them. Few of us document these things and actually measure how we are doing!

Here at Bonny Lea Farm every year each participant has a similar process referred to as an IPP = Individual Program Plan. They take the time to discuss with staff and family members how things have gone over the past year, whether or not they achieved their goals, if there are things they would like to do differently and finally set goals for the upcoming year.

Goals vary and are unique to each participant. Some goals may be to maintain the status quo while others include dream trips and experiences.

Staff use the plans to support participants throughout the year to achieve their personal goals.

Some goals are achieved with the outcome the participant hoped for. Other goals are achieved and participants learn that maybe it wasn't for them. Either way they are making choices that enable them to continuously learn and grow!



Nancy with her sister Janet.
David with his parents Ira and Brenda.
Andrew with sister-in-law Cindy and mom Doris.

Good Times Gallery



Only a sampling of the many activities the participants have been enjoying!



“When I work in the kindling barn I usually bundle the sticks. I like it.”

- Sue Collins

Okay so it's not cold yet - But, we've got kindling!

Inside the Barn you would not know that the temperature outside has been so warm. The work crew listens to music while they move, split, bundle and tie kindling and firewood.

New last year, this product and its crew are popular with participants who enjoy being in a physically active and some times noisy setting.

“Top notch. And, I'm talking about the work crew and the product!” comments vocational instructor Wade Davis.

Thanks to a donation of a second wood splitter from Life Member Joe Stackhouse, we are able to speed up production of our kindling and mixed firewood bundles.

To purchase your kindling you can drop by:

Bonny Lea Farm, Hwy 14, Chester (Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:30pm)

Castle Building Supplies, Chester

Gow's Home Hardware, Bridgewater

For more information or to place an order for some bundles call Wade at 902-277-0023.