

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Challenge Grant Met thanks to GAR Foundation, Akron Community Foundation and You! See Page 4!
- Thanks to Robert Gurney's hard work and talents the stall Pecho kicked down has been repaired!

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## Here's Hope Goes Gold

The Summer Olympics encouraged Here's Hope to go "gold" this year. As we dawned our show in our gold T-shirts, our students made their grand entrance on our new riding ring. Yes, we now have a beautiful ring where we can perform more advanced riding skills, have a lot more space and a lot more fun! Most importantly it is well off the road and therefore safer. The ring was an expensive endeavor but well worth the cost; once again, The Charles W. Jelm Foundation helped fund the project. Our sincere thanks to your generous support.

We could not have continued without your support. Attending our show were students, volunteers and specta-



### Theresa Coffman's award

tors totaling over 130 people! Twenty One students did a wonderful job trotting out there skills and received

beautiful ribbons donated by The Ensign Family. Christy Church, who came all the way from Florida to volunteer for the show, caught the event in pictures and made a video! She made many copies for all. God Bless You Christy! We all enjoyed chillie dogs thanks to Ken and Teddy Filing's hard work and generous donation. We served twenty six students this year, a record number! A waiting list for next summer is already in place. God has blessed our little farm with what we now consider our Here's Hope Family.

## Christmas Party— Happy Birthday Jesus!

This year our Christmas Party is Friday, December 12th, at Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Mark your calendars! Invitations to follow. Thank you to Noreen Faix for all of her hard work in planning the party and to Father Thomas McCann for donating the McIntire Room to us in the

past! The room literally overflowed with people last year. Therefore, we are moving the party this year to the All Purpose Room in the school basement, a much larger area. So, please come for a lot of fun and food. We will also be showing the Here's Hope Video from our

Summer Show. This year we are going to do some Christmas Caroling lead by Judy Carcione (Anthony and Michael's mom!). Also, we'd like to remember that it is a birthday party for Jesus. So, please bring a card for Jesus and we'll set it around the cake and sing happy birthday!



**Alissa O'Neill—Our first volunteer! 2009 will be year six!**

*“I can’t tell you how many times I have thanked God that I am lucky enough to be a part of Here’s Hope.”*

*Jonny Toth and Claudia*

## Thanksgiving Reflections by Alissa O’Neill

Every year at thanksgiving, the question is always the same. “What are you thankful for?” And every year the answer is the same. “I’m thankful for my friends and family.” But you know what, today I want to answer the question differently.

I am thankful for the opportunity to be here with all of you. I can’t tell you how many times I have thanked God that I am lucky enough to be a part of Here’s Hope. It is my second family, my second home, and I am so blessed to have it in my life. This is where I come when the world gets too tough, when I need reminding of what’s really important. This is where I come to belong, to relax, and be myself. This is where my heart is.

I am thankful for Linda. Thanks to her, I am able to share this night with all of you. Thanks to her, I have a place to call my second home. Thanks to her, I have this incredible sense of worth and belonging. Thanks to her, I have the chance to experience truly incredible and meaningful events. I am thankful for all of

the students at Here’s Hope. They are my greatest inspiration in life and I have learned more from them than from any teacher or class in school. I have a picture my sister sent me from the show here in August. In the picture, Donny is sitting on his horse and he just got a yellow ribbon. He has THE BIGGEST smile on his face and so does Joey who is standing next to the horse looking up at Donny. That right there is what this is all about. Every time I think I am having a bad day, I look at that picture and it makes me smile and it reminds me to put my life into perspective. But most of all, I am thankful for each and every one of you (volunteers). Because without you guys, all of this would not be possible. From Ali’s laughter to Noreen’s smart comments, you guys make coming to the farm so much more enjoyable. You brighten my life in so many ways, you really have no idea. You have all changed me for the better, and I can’t tell you how much that means to me. You all mean the world to me. So I just wanted to take the time to sincerely thank you. Thank you for everything you do for me and for this program.

## Our Angels

2008 brought a record number of volunteers! We had thirty volunteers this year! We, at Here’s Hope

consider these women and men guardian angels to our students. **Psalm 91:11 says,** “For he orders his angels to protect you wherever you go.

**They will steady you with their hands to keep you from stumbling against the rocks on the trail.”**

They, run, they sweat, they protect!



# What is NARHA—some interesting facts



Here's Hope Horse Farm is a North America Riding for the Handicapped Center Member (NARHA). What does that mean? It means that Here's Hope Horse Farm must follow

**“Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become great.” Mark Twain**

national standards for safe and effective equine assisted therapy activities. It means we must have a NARHA accredited riding instructor at our Center. It means we must have twenty hours of continued education

every year as well as adequate insurance coverage. There are 670 NARHA programs in the nation. 80% of therapists, instructors and administrators of all NARHA Centers are volunteers. More than 30,000 students are served. Over 5,500 horses work in these programs. The average number of riders served in a program is 30 riders or less annually. Lastly, over 50% run their program from the founders “back yard”.

**“Together we can do so much!”**

**Helen Keller**

*Rachel Cradlebaugh on Columbo*

*Chris Burton on Sadie*



## Donars

Thank you and may God bless each of your lives with peace and happiness for your generosity.

**The Charles R. Jelm Foundation**

Akron Community Foundation

GAR Foundation

Linda Heindel

Rosemarie Filing

Christy Church

Nick and Iva Filing

Cris Snooks

Desre and Stacy Dory

Courtney and Matthew Filing

Nick and Sherri Filing

Bill and Mary Carol Snooks

Mike and Heather Filing

Lehner Foundation

R.C. Musson

W.D. Gorski

Rachel Cradlebaugh

Millenium Fund/Akron Com. Foun

Ruth Weaver

Ronald McDonald House charities

Dave and Mary Booth

Kathy Filing

Claudia Perge

Knights of Columbus

Dave Brown

Carlye Cebul

Caryn McDonald

A.D. Denny

Suzi Turpin

## Riding Horses

by Karly Bertram, therapeutic riding student

I'm learning how to ride a horse, I never thought I would.

That's because you see my legs don't work so good.

I can now ride with my hands upon my waste, and sometimes on my head.

“Pecho” is so comfortable I confused him with my bed!

I really never thought I could learn to ride a horse

“Rosie” says that one day I'll ride by myself, of course!

I'm learning how to do new

things I like each and every day.

I remember to thank God for this every time I pray.

And I can't wait till Tuesday, - that's my riding Day!



**Caryn McDonald Riding Columbo**



## Here's Hope Horse Farm

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**Through horses we foster physical, spiritual  
and mental health and individual achievement**



# OUR HORSES CAN RUN!

## Yes! I'd like to help!

Due to economic difficulties in the nation, this year has been extremely difficult in the fund raising portion of our program. Here's Hope is being reviewed by the IRS since our funds come predominately from grants rather than donations and we are in jeopardy of loosing our public charities status. Our operational fees are now "in the red". Can you please help?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you from students, volunteers and parents.

Please mail your tax deductible check to: Here's Hope Horse Farm 2545 Northampton Road , Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Last year at this time we were desperately trying to get a few new pastures in for our wonderful four legged heroes, Columbo, Pecho and Sadie. We did it! Thanks to the GAR Foundation, The Akron Community Foundation and YOU! GAR provided us with an opportunity for a "Challenge Grant". We had to come up with a



**Columbo and Pecho running!**

portion of the funds through fund raising. Thanks to our supporter's generosity our horses are loving their space. Special recognition and thanks to:

Akron Community Foundation

GAR Foundation

American Dream Home Builders:

Dave Booth

Rosemarie Filing

Carlye Cebul

Caryn McDonald

A.D. Denny

Suzi Turpin

I cannot tell you what it means to see our horses running and grazing after a hard days work. Thank you from Columbo, Pecho and Sadie girl.