

SANCTUARY TIMES

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF EQUINE ADVOCATES • NOVEMBER 2026

Mission Statement

To rescue, protect and prevent the abuse of equines through education, investigation, rescue operations, the dissemination of information to the public, and the operation of a horse sanctuary for slaughter-bound, abused and neglected equines.

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Humane Education Program Teaches Empathy and Ethical Responsibility

Children are the future guardians of humanity, animals, and our environment

Here at Equine Advocates Rescue & Sanctuary, we believe it's never too early to provide kids with an understanding of the need to advocate for necessary changes in our world by getting involved, raising their voices, and making a difference. We opened our Humane Education Center in 2006, where we offer classes and tours for local schools, youth groups, homeschool groups, Scout troops, and other organizations.

Educating the public, especially younger generations, about important equine issues is integral to Equine Advocates' mission to protect horses, ponies, donkeys and mules from abuse, neglect, and slaughter.

Our goal is for students to gain an understanding of the work we do to identify animal abuse and the importance of advocating for the creation and changing of laws to protect equines. We want to provide tools to help them develop opinions and solutions to the plight of horses in our world. Our program gives them a sense of responsibility toward improving the lives of those who cannot speak up for themselves.

Our lesson plan aligns with New York State Learning Standards, covering Social Studies, Language Arts, Vocabulary, Civics, and Science. Students learn the history and evolution of equines and their contributions to society, past and present. Additionally, they learn what both wild and domestic equines need to survive and society's responsibility to protect and rescue animals of all kinds.

The curriculum is thoughtfully designed to include fun, interactive, and age-appropriate lessons for pre-K through high school and special education programs. Students are able to meet some of our equine residents, hear stories about how and why they were rescued, and learn about the need to advocate for the protection of all animals. The program encourages critical thinking and problem

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Please give today!

November is Military Family Appreciation Month

Equine Advocates Provides a Home for Retired Military Working Horses

On August 30, 2026, we welcomed the seventh Former Military Horse to be retired here at Equine Advocates Rescue & Sanctuary.

Meet Poncho! This gorgeous dark bay Percheron Cross Gelding served in the U.S. Army's Military Mounted Battalion (formerly the Caisson Detachment) and was retired earlier this year. Prior to his military service, he was part of the Wells Fargo hitch team in Phoenix, Arizona.

Also known as "The Old Guard," the Caisson unit consists of horses who escort the caskets of fallen service members to their final resting places at Arlington National Cemetery. The horses are paired into three teams: the Lead Team is in front, the Swing Team follows, and the Wheel Team pulls the caisson (wagon) that carries the caskets. There are also Section Horses who are ridden and positioned to the side of the procession, and in certain cases, a Riderless Horse who follows behind the procession.



Poncho

We currently have four other former Caisson Horses living out their retirement years here at the sanctuary, shown below. We also want to honor the memory of former residents Luke and Sergeant York, who passed away on January 22, 2025, and January 1, 2026, respectively.

Upon joining the Army, Poncho quickly distinguished himself through his exceptional poise and calm demeanor. His first mission was the solemn honor of escorting the remains of the 39th President of the United States, President Jimmy Carter, during his State Funeral in January 2025.

According to Colonel Jason R. Crawford, Commander of the Military Mounted Battalion, "Throughout his service, Poncho demonstrated remarkable versatility and skill in both the Lead and Swing positions. He faithfully escorted 45 fallen Service Members to their final resting place in Arlington National Cemetery, always embodying the dignity and professionalism of this solemn duty."

All of us here at Equine Advocates are proud and extremely honored to be able to offer these valiant equine veterans a safe and loving retirement home, which they so richly deserve. It is our own special way of thanking them for their loyal service to the country.



Tyler – Quarter Horse

Born: 2002

Served: 9 Years

Duties: Lead Horse, Swing Horse, Section Horse

Retired: January 18, 2021



Randy – Percheron Cross

Born: 2001

Served: 12 Years

Duties: Lead Horse, Swing Horse

Retired: April 24, 2023



King – Percheron Draft

Born: 2002

Served: 16 Years

Duties: Wheel Horse, helped train the next generation of Caisson Horses

Retired: July 16, 2023



Amos – Percheron Draft

Born: 2004

Served: 14 Years

Duties: Wheel Horse, Section Horse

Retired: November 9, 2023

Equine Advocates' Humane Education Program

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solving as a means to question, make informed judgments and, when necessary, take action on behalf of others. This is what advocates do!

Our hope is that they will take these lessons with them and utilize the same principles of compassion throughout their lives, making the world a better place as they do.

For those who want to learn about equines but are unable to easily visit the sanctuary in person, we invite you to check out our Virtual Education Video Series, which can be found on our website and our YouTube channel. Topics are listed below.

You'll also find an entire "Kids Corner" with puzzles, games, quizzes and free printable coloring pages, as well as an Equine Readers Club with videos of our Humane Educators visiting our equine residents and reading equine-related children's books aloud. All of this and more can be found in the Humane Education section at equineadvocates.org.







For more information about our Humane Education Program, please visit our website and feel free to email us at **info@equineadvocates.org** if you have additional questions.

Virtual Education Video Series

A Guide to Horse Colors
Horse Grooming and Body Language
A Guide to Basic Hoof Care
A Guide to Horse Breeds
A Guide to Horse Markings
A Guide to Horse Colors
A Guide to Horse Body Parts
Horse Haltering and Walking 101
Horse Grooming 101

Watch On YouTube

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CONTRIBUTION REPLY

☑ I want to make sure Equine Advocates is able to continue its mission to rescue and protect horses, ponies, donkeys and mules.
Enclosed is my gift of $ _____.

Please make your check payable to Equine Advocates.

I would like to donate using my credit card:

❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard ❑ Amex ❑ Discover

Card #_____

Exp. Date:_____

Signature:_____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State____Zip_____

Email_____

Phone_____

❑ **Repeat gift each month.**

❑ Please contact me about leaving a legacy through Planned Giving.

Check the "Repeat gift each month" box above and become a Monthly Donor Today!

Your Support Means Everything

There are many ways for YOU to be an equine advocate!

1 SEND A ONE-TIME GIFT TODAY



We are grateful for your generosity, and no amount is too small. When you send a donation to Equine Advocates, it goes toward our Equine Rescue, Sanctuary and Humane Education Programs as well as our advocacy work. You can be confident that your support truly makes a difference! Every dollar matters and we appreciate ALL gifts, no matter the size. Together, there is no limit to what we can do in pursuit of our mission to rescue and protect horses, ponies, donkeys and mules.

2 BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR



When you choose to sign up to become an Equine Advocates Monthly Donor, your recurring monthly gift of any amount helps to cover the costs of equine care, rescue operations, and our ongoing humane education and advocacy programs. Predictable monthly contributions provide Equine Advocates with a reliable source of funding which is crucial in times of uncertainty. If circumstances change, you can easily adjust or cancel your monthly gift at any time just by calling our office at **(518) 392-0175** or by emailing us at **info@equineadvocates.org.**

3 EQUINE SPONSORSHIP



As an Equine Sponsor, your monthly gift of $50 or more will help cover the cost of basic care for the equine you choose. This includes feed, hay, bedding, veterinary, farriery and dental care, as well as supplements and medications as needed. Equines available for sponsorship are at equineadvocates.org/sponsor-an-equine. You'll receive a "Sponsor Pack" including photos, a key chain, magnet and other goodies. Sponsors are welcome to visit their sponsored equine(s) between 10am-2pm Monday through Saturday. Many have visited from as far away as California!

Platinum Transparency 2026 Candid.

Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries (GFAS) Accredited

American Sanctuary Association Accredited Animal Sanctuary

2024 & 2025 Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance Accredited Organization

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CONTRIBUTION REPLY

Become a Monthly Donor at any amount!

❑ I want to be a Monthly Donor at $ _____ per month.

Equine Sponsorship starts at $50 per month.

❑ I want to sponsor an equine* for $ _____ per month.

Please provide your credit card and contact information on the reverse side.

**Please include your phone number on the credit card form so that we can contact you to discuss your choice of equine.*

Celebrating 30 1996-2026 EQUINE ADVOCATES

Years of Rescuing and Protecting Equines