

December 1, 2025

## Merry Christmas from Stoner Ridge Farm

Foundation First Mountain Horse Training™

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### Thanksgiving Blessings

We hope you had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. There is nothing better than being able to pause and remember how blessed we are. We are grateful for our health, for the ability to work, for horses, and the opportunity to share with others. We are thankful that we can enjoy good food and have the ability to prepare it. It's great to be able to learn and grow in knowledge. How wonderful it is to have a warm home and to rest at the end of a busy day!



*For unto us a child is  
born, unto us a son is  
given . . . and his name shall  
be called Wonderful,  
Counselor, The Mighty God,  
The Everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace"*



*Merry Christmas*

Stoner Ridge Farm

### News Updates

Ads for the next RMHA  
**Magazine** (40th Anniversary)  
are due on January 20, 2026.  
Premier Page Auction 12/5 - 12/7  
Prices include design.

Auction for the 2026 RMHA **Calendar**  
Pages will be 12/12 -12/14  
Calendar bids begin at \$200

*You are cordially invited to the  
**RMHA Awards Banquet**  
the evening of February 21, 2026  
at the DoubleTree Inn  
Lexington, KY*

*There will be a Youth Benefit Auction*

### Christmas Simmer Pot

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 orange, sliced
- 1 lemon, sliced
- 3-4 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tbsp whole cloves
- 2-3 star anise
- 1 cup fresh cranberries
- 2-3 fresh rosemary sprigs or small pine branches
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- Water (enough to fill your pot about ¾ full)



#### DIRECTIONS:

1. Combine ingredients in a small pot or slow cooker.
2. Add water to cover everything by about an inch.
3. Simmer on low heat (do not boil) and let the fragrance fill your home.
4. Add more water as it evaporates — you can keep it going for hours.

#### Tips & Variations:

##### Rustic gift idea:

- Dry the ingredients or pack them fresh in a small jar or bag with a tag that says "Holiday Simmer Pot - Just Add Water!"
- Spiced Apple version: add apple slices and a sprinkle of nutmeg.
- Peppermint twist: replace rosemary with mint leaves and a few drops of peppermint extract.

## Life Lately Around the Farm



While scrolling through Facebook, what should I see but SNOW in the forecast for Monday night! Yes, it is that time of the year, but we ever really “ready”? Probably not but looks like here it comes.

November just flew by! As always there is a lot going on. The State KHSAA Cross Country Meet was held at the KY Horse Park.

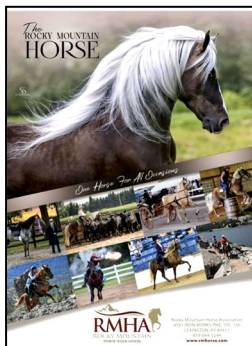


The Bourbon County Lady Colonels were runner up! What a thrill it was for Ruby. This team has grown consistently over the years. Hats off to these ladies!

While the weather was warm, we took some time to get work done on the tractor. Bob had a new clutch put in along with some other repairs. The tractor wasn't the only thing that was running poorly. Charlie decided that his Flex needed to be replaced. If you see him out and about, he'll be driving a two-tone Ford 4-wheel



drive. It is pretty sharp. Charlie has been a busy man. He secured a great home for Julie's mare, Angel, as well as his colt Pistols at Sundown. It is hard to see the good ones leave the farm though. I was busy away from home staying with my dad after surgery (he is doing well), and I went to Har-dinsburg for a few days to stay with the grand kids. We even had enough snow to cancel school while I was there! It was fun to make snow cream once again. While I was gone, the Publications Committee finished up a promotion with Horse Illustrated's "Ultimate Best of the Breeds 2026" magazine. I have a copy on the way. The magazine designer put together a beautiful ad stressing the versatility of the RMH.



Steve and Susan's horse RRF Gold Nugget was included shown pulling a cart. In addition there is an article that describes the Rocky Mountain Horse. Several photos were submitted to Horse Illustrated so they could select the photos that best matched their content. Congratulations to Black Market Diamond and Charlie for being chosen! They look awesome!

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## Heartfelt Sympathies



Our condolences go out to Bobby, Julie, and Mary Kelley Tucker on the loss of their talented horse, Firestorm a.k.a.

Charlie. It is so hard when they have to leave us. Mary Kelley described him in a Facebook post recently:

"I could write a book on this horse alone and the lessons he taught me. I could go on and on forever about the doors he opened for me and things I was able to accomplish because of him. It was pure luck and fate that caused our paths to cross 22 years ago. We had stopped at Stoner Ridge Farm to ask Bob if he was giving riding lessons, and while we were there we looked at this red chocolate yearling colt. Dad decided he wanted him, and he would call him Charlie, after Charlie DeAtley. To us he was Charlie, but to many he was better known as Firestorm. This horse truly was **the** versatile Mountain Horse. He not only competed in the ring, but he was also my dad's personal trail horse for years and on occasion he was used on 4H Drill Teams. His favorite thing was to be in the ring though - the louder the crowd, the better the ride. You could feel him change the moment you pointed him toward the entry gate. One of his greatest qualities was his stamina and his ability to only get better as the night went on. It wasn't unusual for us to show him in 4 - 5 classes a show. Firestorm carried me through every stage of my show career. He was there for the majority of my youth shows, winning multiple titles and high points for me along the way. He was the first horse I ever showed at the RMHA International in 2008. That same International I won my first RMHA International blue ribbon in 12-17 AOT Show Pleasure. A few years later, for my brief time as an Amateur/AOT rider, he won the 2011 AOT Show Pleasure Grand Championship giving me my first International Grand Championship title as an adult. Then I showed him for the final time at the beginning of having my professional card. I wouldn't be the rider or competitor I am today without him. Firestorm won multiple titles and high point awards with UMH, KMSHA, and RMHA in Amateur, AOT, Novice, and Youth. A once in a lifetime type horse that we were blessed to have stumbled on to many years ago. Until we meet again, I'll cherish the memories."

## Many Thanks, Melisse

I simply can't thank Melisse Sharkey enough for this hand painted portrait of my mare, One Chance Fancy, that we lost not long ago. It was such a thoughtful gift. She put so much time into it. Melisse has such talent. It was so thoughtful of her to create this in Fancy's memory.



One Chance Fancy  
1997 - 2025



We congratulate Ruby on signing her letter of intent to attend Lindsey Wilson University in the fall where she will run track and cross country. Her degree will be in Exercise Science with a career goal in physical therapy. Charlie, Erin, and Ruby make a great team! We also want to congratulate Charlie and Erin on 19 years of marriage. Time sure gets away from us. It is hard to believe we have lived here on this farm for 25 years! So we have begun a project of fence repair starting with the fence along Clinton-



ville Rd. It looks great and we're so thankful it is up! Mid-month, Charlie took a little time to go



hunting. He and Erin eat a lot of venison through the winter months. He got a doe and a fantastic buck! It's been a great month. We are thankful for the horses in our care. They are all doing great. Charlie, Olivia, Shelby and Ruby have been cleaning stalls. Ruby has been recuperating. It won't be long until she is back in the saddle. Thanks to all for your support.

### ***You're Invited***

*Please join us  
on Friday,  
December 12  
at 6:00 p.m.  
for a fun evening of  
friendship and food  
at  
Stoner Ridge Farm*

## **Another SRF Fan**



When Leah went to visit her grandma in NJ in October, she took her grandma an SRF T-shirt. Here they are together on the beach. She is a big SRF fan and can't wait to get the newsletter each month. Thank you Leah for sharing SRF's exciting times with your grandma. That's great

## **RMHA Forms Submitted**

The required RMHA forms for competition programs were submitted by the deadlines in November. KHBIF stallions/mares nominations were also submitted as well as Trail Obstacle scores. There is much to celebrate including the Youth Award of Excellence, Versatile Horse of the Year, and the Trail Program (show program nominees don't have to submit data). Trail Miles are submitted by clients. Congrats to all!!!!



## **Prayers Please**

**Faith tells me that no matter what lies ahead of us, God is already there.**

We hear of many tragedies - car accidents, sickness, heart ache, financial hardship, etc. There are many blessings too. May God bless and keep us all during Christmas and always.

Whisper a little prayer for Ann Day if you will. She had a fall while unpacking after her move from Michigan to Florida. The doctors didn't see any broken ribs but they have been painful all the same. She is recovering and doing better.

Please be in prayer for a complete recovery for Johnny Rose who had surgery recently. We know God is in the healing business and can do great and mighty works.

Tommy Cockerham is recovering from a broken foot (among some other health issues). Tommy is Carrie's dad (She has taken lessons with us and she has also been part of the 4H drill team coached by Julie Tucker). He is non-weight bearing for a few more weeks. It is sure hard for him to get around. He is having to miss work during recovery. We pray he will soon be well.

Shaeleigh Perkins is doing well after tumor removal. We continue to pray for her healing.

Ruby had surgery on her nose Wednesday before Thanksgiving. She is doing well but will be recovering for a bit. We are thankful it will correct some breathing issues she was having. Ruby goes back to the doctor on Tuesday. We continue to pray that she will be fully recovered soon.

Our Neighbor, Mike Freeney passed away a couple of weeks ago. He will be greatly missed.



## **25 Days of Christmas ACTS OF KINDNESS**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 DONATE TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK	2 TAKE BAKED GOODS TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT	3 PAY FOR SOMEONE'S DRIVE THRU ORDER	4 COMPLIMENT A STRANGER	5 MAKE CARDS FOR A NURSING HOME	6 HAND OUT SCARVES/ MITTENS ON A COLD DAY
7 DONATE TOYS TO A TOY DRIVE	8 DONATE PET FOOD TO THE ANIMAL SHELTER	9 SUPPORT A LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS	10 LEAVE A GENEROUS TIP	11 CALL AND CHECK IN ON A FAMILY MEMBER	12 TAKE SOMEONE DINNER	13 DONATE BLOOD
14 LEAVE A NOTE ON SOMEONE'S CAR	15 PROMOTE A FRIEND'S BUSINESS	16 GIVE YOUR MAILMAN A GIFT	17 VOLUNTEER AT A FOOD PANTRY/ LOCAL SHELTER	18 DONATE YOUR CLOTHES, TOYS, ETC.	19 LET SOMEONE GO AHEAD OF YOU IN LINE	20 SEND CARDS TO THE MILITARY
21 BABYSIT FOR FREE	22 SHOVEL A NEIGHBORS DRIVEWAY	23 DONATE TO A CHARITY	24 DELIVER COOKIES TO A NEIGHBOR	25		

@MEGANLBROWN22