Summer Highlights!

- The 2019 Raffle Filly, UVM Benevolence was won by a Charlotte, Vermont, resident and will be moving “just up the road.”

- In the weeks leading up to the drawing, updates of previous raffle winners were posted on Facebook to the delight of many. Perhaps that’s why raffle tickets sold out the last day for the 2nd year in a row, (9,500 tickets sold).

- Cavalry Day 2019 received great press with coverage by VT Digger.

Two new offerings for UVM students include a November on-farm laboratory for ASCI 001 students (20 first-year students) to learn basic horse handling techniques, and a trial week-long January short course for all ASCI students (50 students) entitled, “Equine Reproduction Boot Camp.”

Summer 2019 included two successful short-term internships for two students: one from the Royal Veterinary College of London, UK. This will be repeated in summer 2020 with an almost full roster of summer interns from Michigan State University, Cornell, University of New Hampshire, and of course UVM.

Students Get Hands-On Experience

For the second fall in a row, the UVM Morgans and MHF Apprentices are teaching UVM Animal Science (ASCI) students through multiple hands-on experience laboratories in the Equine Training Techniques & Clinical Topics courses. This format was piloted last year with success, and has been expanded on to include excursions of the UVM Morgans brought to the UVM Hardacre facility on Spear Street in Burlington. Additionally, the first academic-year intern (an ASCI sophomore) works at the farm in Weybridge 8-10 hours/week gaining skills he hopes to utilize in a career directed toward equine therapy.

Check out the farm's Facebook page to meet the 2019 foal crop: UVM Burke, UVM Beckwith, UVM Believer, UVM Bellatrix, UVM Beloved and UVM Bernoulli. “Bernie” is pictured here with UVM Benevolence, the 2019 raffle filly.

Gift Revitalizes Historic Barn

The UVM Morgan Horse Farm this summer was a beehive of activity. A record tourism season hummed alongside several construction projects that stretched well into October. The Manton Foundation provided grant support for architectural projects on the Main Barn, including repairs of the iconic cupola & slate mansard roof.
Thanks to the support and impressive collaboration of several Vermont programs, the historic Remount Barn, (used to house mares and foals), received a breathtaking makeover. The University of Vermont funded new siding and badly-needed window & door repairs. The Vermont Agency of Agriculture coordinated with Department of Labor to employ individuals from the Youthworks Program, who developed job training experience of painting the barn with white stain donated by The Pizzagalli Foundation.

In 2019, the number of people visiting the farm increased 11% from the previous year, despite the delay of Opening Day due to construction, (May 23rd). Tourism revenue for the farm, overall was up 14%. The recently renovated physical space and positive press received through Yankee Magazine, Vermont Magazine, and The Morgan Horse Magazine all attributed to this year’s successes.

Visit from UVM President

During a September tour of the Weybridge campus, new UVM President Suresh Garimella was given the opportunity to name a 2019 filly, (UVM Abington x UVM Nightingale). A “B” name year, President Garimella was inspired by his background in mechanical engineering and selected the name, “Bernoulli”, in recognition of the Bernoulli equation that describes conservation of energy, aerodynamics, and speed. UVM Bernoulli is affectionately called “Bernie.”

UVM Willoughby returned to Weybridge after two years of showing with Broadmoor. This young star is home in time for the upcoming breeding season. He will be used on farm and standing to the public, with one foal due in 2020 out of UVM Halcyon, (Hillock Showson x UVM Paradox).

3 New Apprentices

The renowned UVM Morgan Horse Farm Apprentice Program also saw growth this year with three young woman currently enrolled, and others on a wait list. The current Apprentices are set to graduate in summer/ fall 2020, with three incoming Apprentices taking over during the transition.

Remount Barn before and after photos.

Full moon rising behind main barn; vivid pink sunset reflected on windows and new copper flashing.

Current Apprentices Carolyn Frank and Annie Peterson, with 2019 summer intern Sarah Gosling.

UVM Willoughby at the 2019 New York Horse Show with Dwayne Knowles.