“Horses 2017: The Best of the Best” A Conference For Equine Enthusiasts Of All Levels

In conjunction with title sponsor, Merial Animal Health, the Center is excited to host “Horses 2017”, a weekend long equine extravaganza to be held on March 18 and 19 from 8-5 at the Livingston Student Center in Piscataway.

As the Center comes to a close in celebrating 15 years of excellence in delivering “Better Horse Care through Research and Education, it wanted to end its anniversary with an educational program and vendor show that all equine enthusiasts won't want to miss!

Over the course of two days, attendees will have eight session slots in which they can choose from 26 different workshop options.

The March 18 morning keynote addresse will be delivered by Wendy Williams, world-renowned scientific journalist and author of The Horse: The Epic History of Our Noble Companion, whose work has appeared in the Boston Globe, Wall Street Journal, and New York Times.

On Sunday March 19, Dr. Jeff Thomason from the University of Guelph, Canada, will present his latest research on assessing footing surfaces from the horse’s perspective.

Featured speakers have been selected by the Center to speak on a variety of topics throughout the weekend, including basic veterinary care, equine behavior, equine dentistry, footing, shoeing, equine osteoarthritis, diet fads, and manure & pasture management. For a full list of workshops, visit the conference website at [http://esc.rutgers.edu/horses-2017](http://esc.rutgers.edu/horses-2017), or go to page 5 for the conference brochure.

“The ‘Horses’ format, which includes a vendor trade show has not been held in the Northeast since the Center hosted it last in 2009” says Center
fun presentation by Carey Williams on Equine Diet Fads. Highlights of the evening included a presentation from Somerset County 4-H Horse Project member, Madison Whiting – “What’s for Dinner?” - yes horses do eat meat!; and the presentation of the 2017 Spirit of the Horse award and the Gold Medal Horse Farm award.

Jeanne Vuyosevich from Sunset Meadow horse farm received the Spirit of the Horse award, and the Gold Medal Horse Farm award was received by Hidden Hills Farm – the Neinart family. See the story on page 14.

I also had a busy fall doing professorial things. I lectured to the freshman class at Centenary University and lectured in two SEBS classes – Animal Science 142 and Companion Animal Science. I still seem to be able to relay my passion for horses and the equine industry to students.

I was honored to serve as an external examiner for the University of Kentucky’s Department of Veterinary Science and the Gluck Equine Research Center. It was a busy three days spent visiting with faculty, staff and students. It’s always great to see my dear friend and colleague Dr. David Horohov but I spent very little time with him!

Congratulations to one of the Center’s strongest supporters, Stella Almeida who was recognized on January 29 by the New Jersey Equine Advisory Board as Horseperson of the Year. Stella has been a 4-H Horse Project leader in Monmouth County for decades and also serves on the board of the American Youth Horse Council and as Chair of the New Jersey State 4-H Championship Horse Show. Way to go Stella!

In closing, I hope that you all will support Horses 2017 by attending the conference. Early bird registration ends March 3. Take a look at the website, http://esc.rutgers.edu/horses-2017, to view the conference brochure and to learn how to register. Don’t be left out of this once in a lifetime event! See you on March 18-19!

All the Best,
karyn

Happy New Year!

Wishing you and yours the best for the coming year. May you and your horses be well – healthy and successful! Please take a moment to read the Center’s 2015-16 Annual Report. This is our gift to you as we share the research and outreach efforts of our faculty, students, and staff.

The fall semester was busy as usual. I also had the crazy idea to host Horses: 2017, a weekend long equine extravaganza. Remember the last time we did this? Horses: 2009 was a huge success with over 300 attendees over two days. This year’s event looks to be even more spectacular as we showcase the BEST topics and speakers, as communicated to us over the past 15 years by all of you. See the feature story on Page 1. I look forward to seeing you all there!

The Center continued the celebration of its 15 year anniversary by participating in and hosting a variety of events. The Evening of Science and Celebration was held on November 17 featuring a keynote lecture by Dr. Kristine Urschel from the University of Kentucky. The lecture, “Protein Needs for Equine Athletes” was sponsored by Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center.

We received updates about research funded by the Center by Ken McKeever and a fact-filled
New Jersey Farm Bureau's primary purpose is to represent the overall interests and improve the financial well-being of farmers and our $800 million industry. NJFB activities are supported through voluntary membership and annual dues. Members have access to:

- Staff assistance on farming issues and regulatory problems.
- Educational workshops on topical issues such as farm labor, wildlife damage, and zoning.
- Weekly updates on legislation news and regulations affecting all aspects of farming.

It pays to be a NJ Farm Bureau member! For a full list of membership levels and benefits, or to sign up, visit: www.njfb.org.

Merial recognizes that diseases pose a significant threat to the health and well-being of horses, and that’s why Merial is at the forefront of supporting horse owners and veterinarians in their efforts to keep horses healthy.

In addition to providing a wide array of vaccines and pharmaceutical products for horses, Merial engages veterinarians and horse owners in educational programs and online tools to build a greater awareness of diseases and the importance of prevention.

These resources, along with industry-leading products enable us to help veterinarians and horse owners keep horses healthy.

UMH Properties, Inc., is a real estate investment trust that owns and operates manufactured home communities in seven states throughout the north-east.

UMH has been in business since 1968, operating as a public company since 1985. Owning a portfolio of over 90 manufactured home communities, housing approximately 15,700 home sites.

In addition, owning over 810 acres of land for the development of new sites. It is our mission as a company to provide the best quality affordable home for the hard working residents of Pennsylvania.

UMH communities are perfect for residents of all ages, let us help up you find your dream home today.

For more information about UMH Properties, Inc., please visit: www.umh.com

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture (NJDA) is an agency which oversees programs that serve virtually all New Jersey citizens. One of the Department’s major priorities is to promote, protect and serve the Garden State's diverse agriculture and agribusiness industries.

In addition to the programs we offer to support production agriculture, NJDA also manages programs that feed schoolchildren, distribute surplus federal foods to soup kitchens and pantries that serve our needy citizens, conserve precious soil and water resources, protect farmland from development and preserve it for future agricultural use, expand export markets for fresh and processed agricultural products, and promote our commercial fishing industry, and administer the complete program of agriculture, food and natural resource education, which includes the State FFA Association.

For more information about NJDA, please visit: www.nj.gov/agriculture

Horses 2017:
The Best of the Best

Saturday, March 18, 2017
Livingston Student Center
84 Joyce Kilmer Ave.
Piscataway Township, NJ 08854

kylehart@njaes.rutgers.edu

Horses 2017:
The Best of the Best

Sunday, March 19, 2017
Livingston Student Center
84 Joyce Kilmer Ave.
Piscataway Township, NJ 08854

kylehart@njaes.rutgers.edu

Junior Breeders Symposium

Saturday, April 1, 2017
Former NJ Agricultural Museum
Cook College Farm - Rutgers University
College Farm Road,
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

cawilli@sebs.rutgers.edu

Ag-Field Day
Part of Rutgers Day

Saturday, April 29, 2017
Red Barn - Cook Farm
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

ESC@njaes.rutgers.edu

For more events, visit our website @ esc.rutgers.edu
Director, Karyn Malinowski. “It is fitting that the Center conclude celebrating its 15 year anniversary by putting on an extravaganza that is sure to benefit all horse lovers and horse farm owners.”

For the first time, the Center will offer Saturday workshops for students at the 4-H, Pony Club, FFA and college levels, covering topics like “The Importance of Ethics & Good Sportsmanship”, “What Can I Do in the Horse Industry?: A Career Path for Equine Enthusiasts”, and “Real Vet Student Stories: What To Expect”. These workshops will aim to educate students on ethics during competition, provide a panel of industry professionals to speak about their careers within the equine industry, and a panel of veterinary students to speak about applying to vet schools and what students can expect once attending.

Each day will conclude with speakers coming back to participate on a question and answer “Ask the Experts” panel. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask the experts specific questions via note cards distributed at the end of each session, as well as through social media options.

In addition to these workshops, the weekend will feature a trade show in which attendees will be able to visit with sponsors and vendors to learn about new and upcoming products and advancements.

Registration is currently open, and “Early Bird Registration” ends on March 3. Visit the conference website for a list of current sponsors and information regarding sponsorship and vendor opportunities.
HORSES 2017
THE BEST OF THE BEST
SATURDAY MARCH 18 - SUNDAY MARCH 19, 2017
Rutgers University - Livingston Campus Center - Piscataway NJ
Welcome

We are celebrating our 15 Year Anniversary, and while we thought about throwing a birthday party… we think that we have come up with something a little better…

We cordially invite you to join us for “Horses 2017: The Best of the Best”! After over 7 years we have decided to bring back this truly one of-a-kind event. Take a look through the following pages to see the phenomenal speakers that we have lined up to bring you the most current information about the equine world.

Throughout the conference you will be able to visit with sponsors and vendors to learn about new products and technologies for horses and horse farms.

Finally, each day will end with an “Ask The Experts” panel. Here we will bring together some of the speakers that you will see throughout the day, as well as professors from our staff, to answer questions about everything equine. More information about how to submit your question will be posted on our Facebook Page in the coming days.

We hope that you are as excited as we are, and it only with your help that we will truly make this an event to remember and a celebration worthy of our 15 years at Rutgers University.

We can’t wait to see you there!
Registration

Registration fee includes continental breakfast, lunch, coffee breaks throughout the day, as well as all conference materials. Event registration is through an on-line portal, as well as through the last page of this brochure.

To register on-line for the event please go to: https://goo.gl/W9l9aA

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*Please note that the cutoff for Early-Bird Registration is Friday March 3, 2017

Websites

Equine Science Center: esc.rutgers.edu
Horses 2017: esc.rutgers.edu/Horses-2017

Local Hotels

Best Western
101 New World Way
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
(908) 561-4488
www.bestwestern.com

The Heldrich Hotel
10 Livingston Ave.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 729-4670
www.theheldrich.com

Holiday Inn
4 Tower Center Blvd.
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
(732) 247-6800
www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress

Hyatt Regency
10 Livingston Ave.
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 873-1234
www.newbrunswick.regency.hyatt.com

Hilton East Brunswick
3 Tower Center Blvd.
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
(732) 828-2000
www3.hilton.com

Red Carpet Inn
2070 US-130
Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852
(732) 305-7880
www.redcarpetnj.com
### Conference Sessions

Horses 2017 will offer multiple sessions throughout the conference. This allows us to bring more speakers from a wide array of backgrounds and specialties, and will permit attendees to choose the session that fits them best. If you are registering electronically at [https://goo.gl/W9l9aA](https://goo.gl/W9l9aA) please make sure click on the "Session Preference Form" to fill out which sessions you would like to attend. If you will be mailing in hard copies, please make sure that you check off the session (one from each Workshop Session) that you would like to attend. Please make sure that you print or photocopy the following pages for each person that you are registering, and attach it to the corresponding registration form found on the back of the next page.

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<th><strong>SESSION</strong></th>
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<td><strong>REGISTRATION</strong></td>
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<td><strong>WELCOME</strong></td>
<td>Welcome Address by Dr. Karyn Malinowski, Director of the Equine Science Center - Rutgers University</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KEYNOTE</strong></td>
<td>“Can Horses Read?” by Wendy Williams, Author of “The Horse: The History of our Noble Companion”</td>
<td>8:40 AM</td>
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<td><strong>BREAK</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 1</strong></td>
<td>“Keeping Your Horse Healthy: Basic Veterinary Care” by Dr. Michael Fugaro, Mountain Pointe Equine &amp; Dr. Elias Perris, Perris Equine Veterinary Associates</td>
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<td>“It’s How Much?: Can I Afford To Own A Horse” by Dr. William Day, SUNY Morrisville</td>
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<td>“Cheaters Never Win: The Importance Of Ethics &amp; Good Sportsmanship” by Dr. Karen Waite, Michigan State University</td>
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<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 2</strong></td>
<td>“Why Does My Horse Do That?: Basic Equine Behavior” by Dr. Carissa Wickers, University of Florida</td>
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<td>“What’s For Dinner?: Basic Nutrition For The Healthy Horse” by Dr. Carey Williams, Rutgers University</td>
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<td>“What Can I Do In The Horse Industry?: A Career Path For Equine Enthusiasts” by Panel of Industry Professionals</td>
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<td><strong>LUNCH</strong></td>
<td>Lunch At The Livingston Dining Hall</td>
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<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 3</strong></td>
<td>“How To Become A Horse Whisperer: Training Theory 101” by Angelo Telatin, Delaware Valley University</td>
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<td>“To Deworm Or Not To Deworm: Thoughts On Parasite Control” by Dr. Hoyt Cheramie, Merial - Equine Specialist</td>
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<td>“Real Vet Student Stories: What To Expect” by Panel of Current Veterinary Students</td>
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<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION 4</strong></td>
<td>“When To Call My Vet: Equine Emergencies &amp; First Aid” by Dr. Michael Fugaro, Mountain Pointe Equine &amp; Dr. Elias Perris, Perris Equine Veterinary Associates</td>
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<td>“Could Your Horse Have Heartburn?: Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome” by Dr. Hoyt Cheramie, Merial - Equine Specialist</td>
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<td><strong>KEYNOTE</strong></td>
<td>“Ask The Experts” Panel Moderated by Dr. Carey Williams with panelists from sessions throughout the day</td>
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<td><strong>CLOSING</strong></td>
<td>Closing Address by Dr. Karyn Malinowski, Director of the Equine Science Center - Rutgers University</td>
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<td>Keynote</td>
<td>“Step On It: Accessing Footing Surface Properties From The Horse’s Perspective” by Dr. Jeff Thomanson, University of Guelph</td>
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<td>“WIDTH: The Objective Way To Decide If Your Horse Needs Shoes” by Steve Kraus, College of Veterinary Medicine - Cornell University</td>
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<td>“The No Carb Diet: The Impact Of Human Diet Fads On Equine Nutrition” by Dr. Carey Williams, Rutgers University</td>
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<td>“Is The Grass Green?: Pasture Management Basics” by Laura Kenny, Pennsylvania State University - Cooperative Extension</td>
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<td>Session 2</td>
<td>“When Good Joints Go Bad: Equine Synovitis/Osteoarthritis” by Dr. Hoyt Cheramie, Merial - Equine Specialist</td>
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<td>“Straight from the Horse’s Mouth: Updates in Equine Dentistry” by Dr. Amelie McAndrews, Garden State Equine Veterinary Dentistry</td>
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<td>“No Hoof No Horse: How Conformation Affects Performance &amp; Soundness” by Steve Kraus, College of Veterinary Medicine - Cornell University</td>
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<td>“Rotating Your Thoughts On Grazing: Creating A Pasture Management Plan” by Laura Kenny, Pennsylvania State University - Cooperative Extension</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 3</td>
<td>“Born To Run: Veterinary Management Of Limb Conformation In The Developing Horse” by Janik Gasiorowski, Mid-Atlantic Equine Medical Center</td>
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<td>“Ouch!: How To Properly Fit A Saddle” by Beth Rera, Journeyman Farm</td>
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<td>“Equine Pain, Some Things to Think About” by Dr. Hoyt Cheramie, Merial - Equine Specialist</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
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<td>“The Scoop On Poop: Manure Management Basics” by Dr. Michael Westendorf, Rutgers University</td>
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<td>Session 4</td>
<td>“Overcoming Equine Injuries: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Rehabilitation” by Dr. Sarah Gold, B.W. Furlong &amp; Associates</td>
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<td>“Saddle Fit: The Mechanics” by Beth Rera, Journeyman Farm</td>
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<td>“Black Gold: Creating A Manure Management Plan” by Dr. Michael Westendorf, Rutgers University</td>
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A Special Thanks to Merial The Title Sponsor for Horses 2017!

Diamond Sponsors

Silver Sponsors

Bronze Sponsors

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or vendor for "Horses 2017: The Best of the Best" there is still time! Please contact Kyle Hartmann at 848-932-9419 or kylehart@njaes.rutgers.edu. Special rates for non-profits!
HORSES 2017 REGISTRATION FORM

Checks are the only form of payment that we are accepting by mail.

Contact Information:

Name: _______________________________  Phone Number: _______________________________
Address: _______________________________  E-Mail: _______________________________

City: __________  State: ___  Zip Code: _________

Please select the day(s) for which you wish to register. A separate form must be filled out for each person being registered (please photocopy or print extras as needed) and signature must be from each attendee. If attendee is under 18 the signature must be from the attendee’s guardian. If you wish to register multiple people at the same time, please go to: https://goo.gl/W9I9aA to register electronically.

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*Please note for Early-Bird Registration the Registration Form and payment must be received by Friday March 3, 2017.

By registering for the event and signing below, you give Rutgers permission to record your image and/or voice and grant Rutgers all the rights to use these recordings or photographs in any medium for educational, promotional, advertising, or other purposes that support the mission of the Equine Science Center. If attendee is under 18 the signature must be from the attendee’s guardian.

________________________  __________________________  __________________________
Printed Name  Date  Printed Name of Attendee
or check box if same as “Printed Name” □

____________________________________
Signature

Please make your check payable to: The Rutgers University Equine Science Center and send your completed order form, session preferences form, and check to:

Rutgers Equine Science Center
Administrative Services Building II
57 US Highway 1, South
New Brunswick, NJ 08901

For any questions regarding registration, please contact:

Kyle Hartmann
Public Relations Specialist
848-932-9419
kylehart@njaes.rutgers.edu
Not all horses need low carbohydrate or low starch diets. Horses that have metabolic problems might need these special diets, but highly exercising horses need to have starch in their diet to provide them with enough energy.

Health conscious humans also want to feed their horses ‘whole grain’ diets or ‘unprocessed feeds’ this is okay to do, but there are points of clarification and concern that might require the advice of a nutritionist to help formulate that diet.
There are no magic pills or supplements that will cure or correct all problems. Supplements are not necessary if a horse has a well-balanced diet.

Horses require a dietary source of both linoleic acid (omega-6) and alpha-linolenic acid (omega-3) due to their lack of the appropriate enzymes necessary for the synthesis of these required fatty acids. Any oil, if used properly for the appropriate reasons, will be oxidized for energy and incorporated into cell membranes as required.

If a horse is on a poor quality forage diet and needs more energy to maintain its weight, it might not be a bad idea to invest in some high quality fat supplement like flaxseed or fish oil with high omega-3’s. However, if the horse is already on good quality pasture or eating a cool-season grass hay harvested at early to mid-maturity, it already is consuming a low ratio of omega-6’s to omega-3’s and spending money on an expensive supplement might not be worth it.

There are a few concerns when feeding herbal products in general, horses or humans. 1) Some herbal products are actually parts of plants that are toxic to horses. Horsetail is a toxic plant that can cause weight loss, diarrhea, and various nervous conditions including lack of coordination if fed in large amounts. 2) Some herbal products have been found to negatively interact with other dietary products and medications; consult with your veterinarian in this case. 3) Many herbal products are on the banned substance list for some show organizations or racing circuits. If your horse is showing, make sure to check the ‘banned substance’ list. 4) Research on most herbal products has not been conducted in horses. There are very few herbal products that have actually been tested in horses (echinacea, garlic, and various poly-herbal products) and many of these have not been found to be beneficial or have the same proven benefits as in other species.

Eating non-processed food is quite popular among health-conscious humans. Feeding home-made muesli mixes (mixing ingredients such as barley, wheat bran, nuts, flax seed, garlic, peppermint leaves and other things) as a substitute for processed pellets is all the rage. While there may be some benefits to doing this (easier to remove ingredients for an allergic horse or more economical if feeding in bulk), there are many complex considerations that go into creating a nutritionally balanced ration. Additionally, most ingredients are processed to increase digestibility and for very specific reasons, some of which are mentioned below.

First, most horses that are not exercising, pregnant or growing could probably maintain their weight on pasture and/or hay alone without any grain products necessary. This is possible if the forage is of high quality and fed at the rate of 2 to 2.5 % of body weight. If the horse is exercising or a hard keeper, grain may be necessary to provide extra calories. In this case the best bet for a truly unprocessed grain that is appropriate for horses, is oats. Oats are the most common cereal grain fed to horses. They are higher in fiber than most grains (corn and barley particularly) and are not too high in sugars and starches (unlike corn).

If the forage being fed is low in protein (exercising horses need about 10-12%), a good ingredient is alfalfa. This will provide protein along with extra calcium. Another good protein source is soybean meal. Balancing rations is very complicated and requires the guidance of an equine nutritionist to be done correctly. This is why most people pay for the well-researched formulations in commercial horse feeds.

To learn more about these diet fads come see Dr. Carey Williams’ presentation at Horses 2017!
The 2016 Evening of Science & Celebration

The Evening of Science & Celebration, which was held this year on November 17, 2016, is an opportunity to unite equine professionals, horse owners, farm owners and barn managers, educators and students, 4-H members, and all equine enthusiasts for the purpose of learning about current projects and ongoing research initiatives being conducted at the Equine Science Center.

Kristine Urschel, Ph.D. delivered the keynote presentation titled, “Protein Needs for Equine Athletes”. Dr. Urschel is an Associate Professor of Equine Science in the Animal & Food Science Department at the University of Kentucky. Her research focuses on studying protein and amino acid requirements and metabolism in horses of all ages and physiological states, especially during and after exercise.

The Equine Science Center presented the 2017 “Spirit of the Horse” award to Jeanne Vuyosevich to recognize her tireless effort over several decades to never give up on ANY horse. Jeanne Vuyosevich’s Sunset Meadow horse farm in Farmingdale, NJ is a sanctuary for horses in need of care, treatment or a good home. Jeanne was nominated by Dr. Cathy Ball, who was supported by over a dozen letters from friends and clients who echoed Dr. Ball’s sentiments. “Jeanne is a consummate professional horsewoman,” says Dr. Ball, “She has an innate feeling for a horse and what it needs to be happy.”

The 2017 winner of the Gold Medal Horse Farm award is Hidden Hills Farm, owned and operated by the Nienart Family. Hidden Hills Farm, located in Hillsborough Township, New Jersey, is situated on 40 acres of grassy land. The facility boasts a large outdoor (and attached indoor) arena, as well as an ample turnout. The Nienarts have made a commitment to conservation and worked with the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) for planning, technical assistance, and grants to make their idea a reality and developed a comprehensive nutrition management plan, developed a soil erosion / water reclamation plan, and use “rotational grazing” to make sure that their farm is not only aesthetically pleasing, but an example of environmental sustainability and management.
To view more pictures from the event, please visit our Facebook Page.
Karyn Malinowski
*Director*
Equine Science Center
Phone: 848-932-9419
E-Mail: karynmal@njaes.rutgers.edu

Kyle Hartmann
*Public Relations Specialist*
Equine Science Center
Phone: 848-932-9419
E-Mail: kylehart@njaes.rutgers.edu

Melissa McKillip
*Vice-Dean for Advancement*
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences
Phone: 848-932-4214
E-Mail: melissa.mckillip@rutgers.edu