



Cooper's Briefing

News from Cooper's Crossroad

Summer 2024

Giddy Up Dear Friends: Here is Another Briefing...

... and a more than warm welcome to the New England summer!
So, pull up your beach chair and check out the latest Cooper's briefing!

As your skilled correspondent, I'm delighted to share fundraising highlights: our **first annual Kentucky Derby** raised \$3,500 (!), we presented at **100+ Women** and received funding through the foundation. We are now participating in the annual **NH Gives** event, and we just raised additional funds by holding an **Orchard Hill Breadworks' Pizza Night!** A big shout out to all our volunteers, participants, organizations, and individuals who support our events! With the help of Yoga instructor, Josephine Russell, we held a very successful **Solstice Yoga Retreat** at Elm Farm, and **two new horses** and **two therapy dogs in training** have joined our team!

Now it's time to put a hoof print on your calendars: I am happy to announce our **first ever "Movie Night at the Barn"** in August – featuring "Secretariat," and our **Annual Farm Fest** in September. I look forward to seeing everyone at Elm Farm!



Come out to Elm Farm on September 7 and enjoy Cooper's Crossroad's annual "Open House" from 4–5 pm; meet our volunteers, equine friends, and tour the farm.

Following our "Open House," we will be hosting a BBQ dinner, complete with activities, silent auction and a bonfire (weather permitting) to celebrate **Cooper's Crossroad's 7th Year Anniversary!** We are excited to mark this milestone with you, our community supporters. This event is rain or shine with plenty of barn space to spare!

Get your tickets at
cooperscrossroad.com/farmfest.



Meet Allison!

18-year old Allison is incredibly bright, and has lots of initiative and an amazing work ethic. She discovered Cooper's Crossroad through Facebook and decided to become a volunteer, starting in January. At Elm Farm, volunteers are the backbone of our community, working tirelessly behind the scenes to muck, feed, clean, water, and care for our beautiful farm and animals. Allison's story is particularly inspiring.



From an early age, Allison always had a passion for animals. In Vermont she participated in equine facilitated sessions from age 10 to 12, where her Thursday sessions became a wonderful constant in her life that she looked forward to.

Fast forward: Allison has now become an integral part of the volunteer team at Elm Farm and brings with her enthusiasm and a deep sense of appreciation for our mission and programs.

This year she also volunteered in the Farming for Resilience Building Life Skills after school program at Elm Farm. She states "I really enjoyed working with the kids and seeing the gratitude they had to have this opportunity."

Allison is a great asset to our farm, programs, and the community of volunteers at Elm Farm!

Have you read The Blog?

Cooper is eager to nudge you in the direction of Christina's monthly blog posts where the Cooper's Crossroad Founder shares her take on life's twists and turns.

Whether it's tales of laughter, tears, or moments of profound revelation, her writing has a way of resonating deeply with readers.

Get ready to be inspired, entertained, and moved at www.cooperscrossroad.com/blog.



A Mutually Beneficial Experience

We're delighted to spotlight Jeff, who became a volunteer thanks to his wife Teresa's enthusiasm for the Farming for Resilience After School Program. They both share a passion for the program and enjoy participating together. Jeff, a retired Ultrasound/Vascular Lab Supervisor, works with participants ranging from elementary to high school students. He loves witnessing the transformation in the participants from their first session to when they complete the program.



Jeff observes how the participants "mature and embrace responsibility, which is evident in their horse handling skills and care." He adds, "I get something out of this too. For example, when I lead a rider for their first time and see the pure sparkle and joy in their eyes, it makes me feel good." This experience has been mutually beneficial!

Jeff finds it fulfilling to watch participants connect with the horses, two golden retriever puppies-in-training to become therapy dogs, goats, sheep and chickens. Reflecting on the After School Program, Jeff sums it up as a comprehensive experience of outdoor activities, learning, and engagement. He greatly enjoys witnessing the participants' growth as they explore and develop new skills.

Spotlight on Yogi & Maverick

Cooper is skipping in the field over the arrival of two more furry friends at Elm Farm!

Born last December, these two golden retriever brothers are deeply connected, hilarious and joyful, and are in training to become therapy dogs.



Maverick is known for being energetic and fun-loving, and Yogi is super laid back, obedient and caring. Cooper says they bring smiles galore to the faces of our participants and volunteers at Elm Farm and love being cuddled!

Gratitude Corner

100+ Women Who Care -
Cheshire County
603 Floristry
Sharon Arnone & MRSD
Jan Barry
Blue House Creative
Chroma Technology Corp.
Iria Doescher
Fenton Family Dealership
Jen Gardner
Krista Gilbert
Jarrod Houston
Dorothy Hunt
Keene Rotary Club
Dave & Yesenia Major
Beth Martin
Phaedra McDonough
Carol & Joe Minichiello
Eliza Murphy
Network for Good
Anonymous Donors
Orchard Hill Breadworks
Josephine Russell
Subaru of Keene
Fred Schaaff
Todd Silberstein
Takeda Pharmaceuticals
Sharon Tyndall
Gary Zamore
All of our Volunteers
The Cooper's Crossroad
Board and Officers



MOVIE NIGHT AT THE HORSE BARN on August 17



More info at
www.cooperscrossroad.com/movie



How Can **YOU** Get Involved?

- Sign up to receive our newsletters and announcements at www.cooperscrossroad.com/signup
- **Consider volunteering** on the farm during our program hours or for care of our animals (even a couple hours per week) or as a board member - email us at cooperscrossroad@gmail.com
- Help out financially by considering a **donation or sponsorship**, or take a look at our wishlist at www.cooperscrossroad.com/wishlist. We hope to hear from you!

Cooper's Crossroad - Creating Pathways to Wellness
A 501 (C) (3) non-profit organization
www.cooperscrossroad.com, cooperscrossroad@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/cooperscrossroad

Newsletter design by Blue House Creative - www.bluehousecreative.net

