

In the News: Horse Network

OTTB Mare Hometown Halsey Gets a Fresh Start

In April 2023, off-the-track Thoroughbred Hometown Halsey arrived at Days End Farm Horse Rescue (DEFHR) in Woodbine, MD, underweight and in need of care and attention. By early 2024, she was ready to start her training, which DEFHR's trainer Leigha Schrader began with groundwork, long lining, lungeing, and obstacles, before embarking on ridden work. Schrader noted at the time: "Halsey will go far as a sport horse of any discipline." Interest in Halsey flooded in, and Sarah Flohr was the first to try her. Here, Flohr recounts how the partnership came about and how this special mare has enriched her and her family's lives.



Hometown Halsey showed enormous promise under DEFHR's trainer Leigha Schrader (photographed) before being adopted by Sarah Flohr.

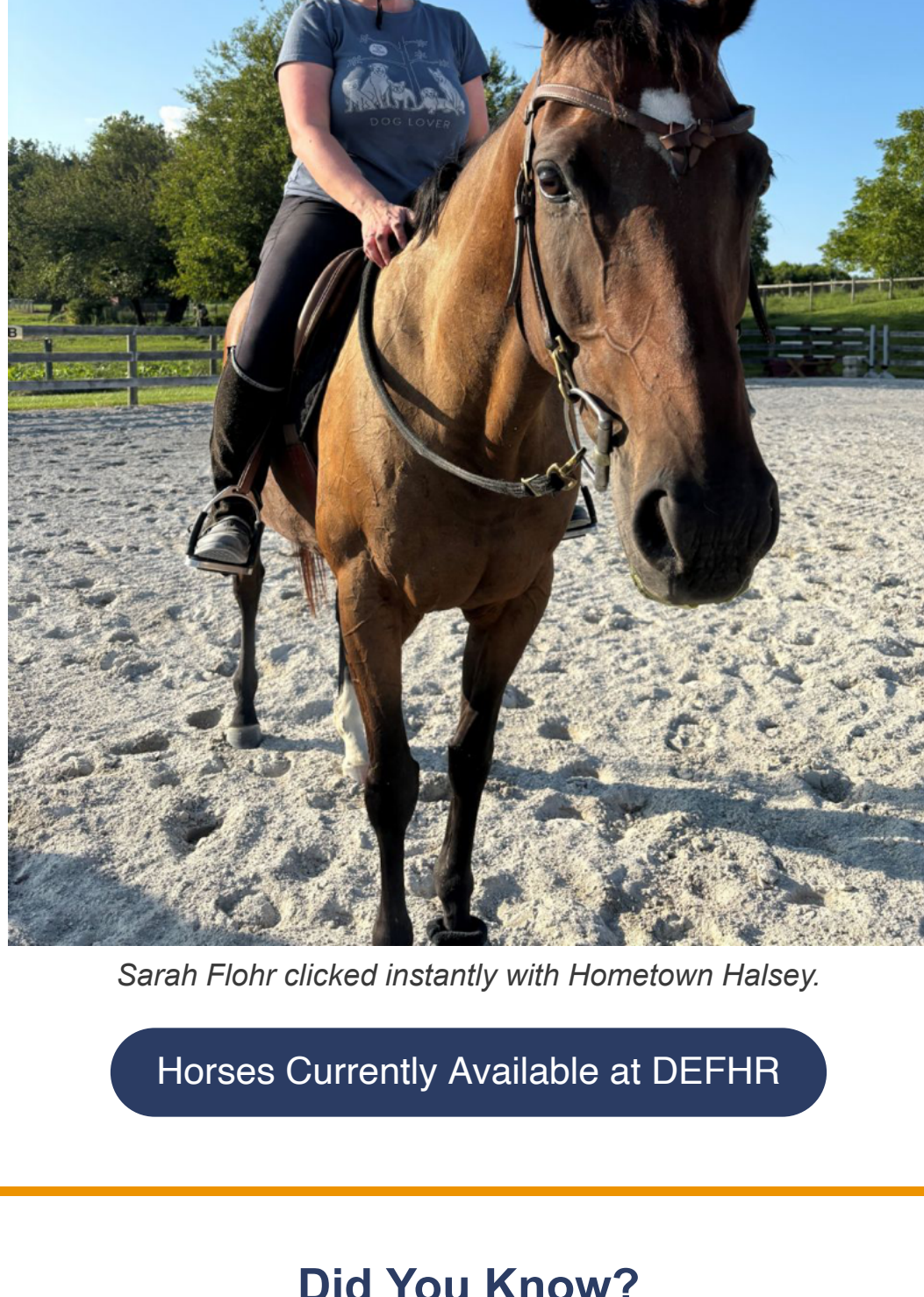
When did you first meet Hometown Halsey, and when did you first hear about her being up for adoption?

Late one night, I couldn't sleep. We had lost our sweet Arabian mare two years earlier, and life just didn't feel right without a horse. From time to time, I would look around the local rescues to see if there was anything that might be a good fit. I hadn't checked DEFHR for a few months, and when I did, there was Hometown Halsey. I sent a message at 3 a.m. saying I was interested in her. Leigha got back to me the next day. My son and I went to see her two weeks later, and I fell in love with her.

What attracted you to her?

In the pictures, I loved the frame that Leigha was riding her in, and in the videos, she went so willingly. I was looking for something that would be a bit of a project for me and would be up and going nicely for my daughter Mackenzie by the time she got a little older.

[Read the Full Article](#)



Sarah Flohr clicked instantly with Hometown Halsey.

[Horses Currently Available at DEFHR](#)

Did You Know?

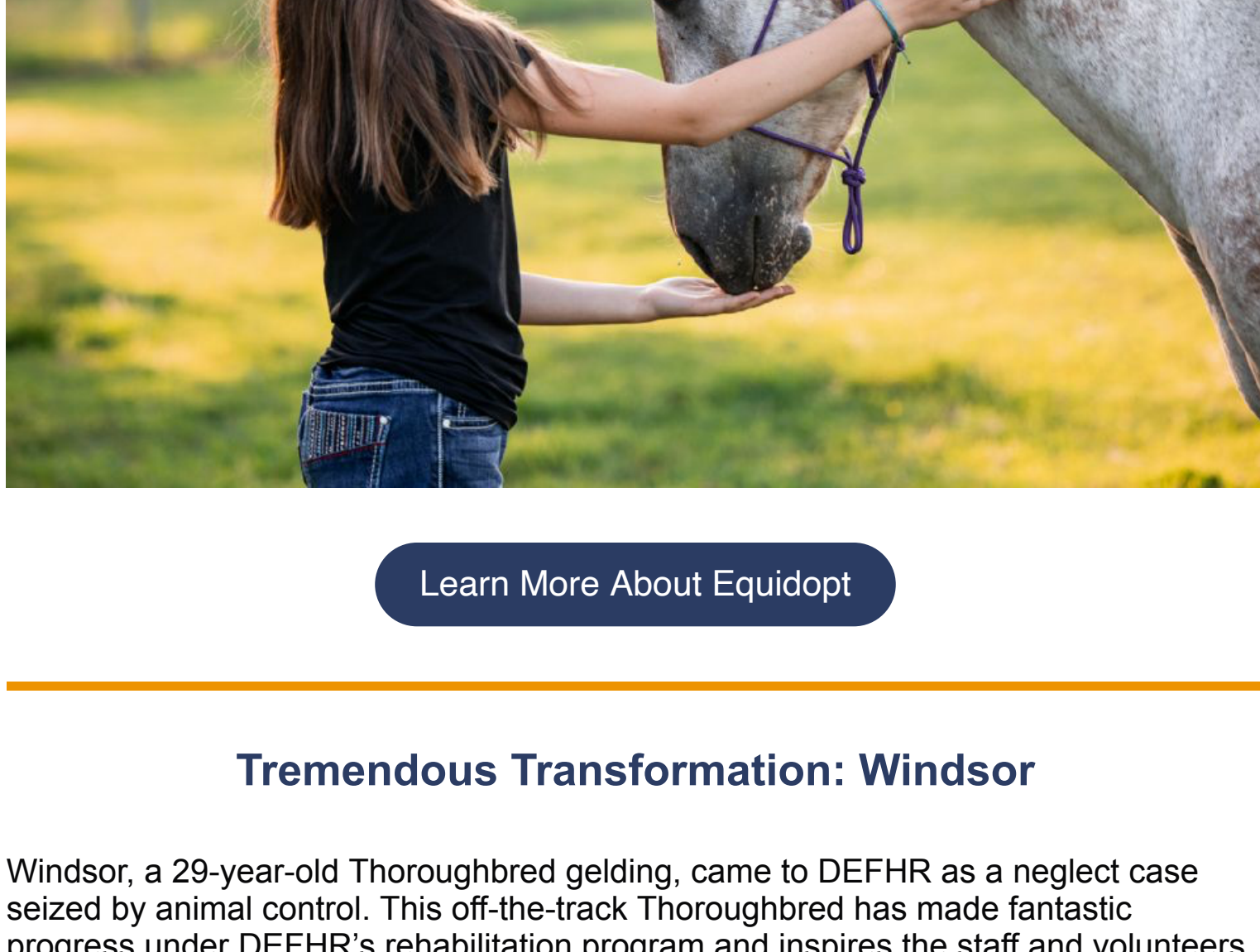


Twice a month, Tinkerbell's Tack & Treasures is open at DEFHR's farm in Woodbine, MD, selling gently used tack and treasures. If you're looking for bits, bridles, buckets, chaps, grazing muzzles, halters, hay nets, lead ropes, sheets/coolers/blankets, saddles, and more, you'll likely find them here — at bargain prices! The store is open on the third Saturday and preceding Friday of every month, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All proceeds from Tinkerbell's Tack & Treasures go directly to support the horses and programs at DEFHR. You can even take a tour of the facility at the same time!

Join the Equidopt Program

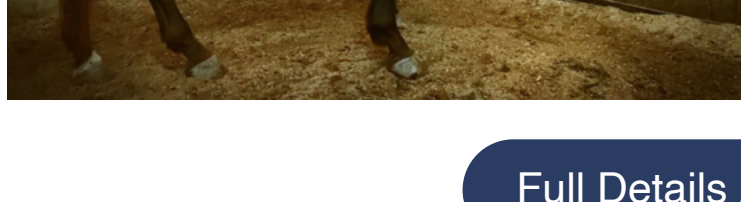
Spend summer in the great outdoors thanks to the DEFHR Equidopt Program. Equidopting includes weekly grooming sessions with an assigned horse of your very own, a DEFHR-branded grooming kit, seasonal gifts, and opportunities to participate in quarterly groundwork clinics. It is the ultimate way to build a meaningful connection while providing support to a rescue horse through a monthly donation of \$100. It's like owning a horse, but without the same level of commitment.



[Learn More About Equidopt](#)

Tremendous Transformation: Windsor

Windsor, a 29-year-old Thoroughbred gelding, came to DEFHR as a neglect case seized by animal control. This off-the-track Thoroughbred has made fantastic progress under DEFHR's rehabilitation program and inspires the staff and volunteers every day. He is now available for adoption via our Guardian Program.



[Full Details About Windsor](#)

[Support More Horses Like Windsor](#)

Careers at DEFHR

DEFHR is seeking a dedicated, hardworking full-time Barn Assistant to join our team in Woodbine, MD. The role is an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of more than 70 rescued horses.



- Competitive hourly wage (\$16/hr+)
- 40+ hours/week (includes one weekend day and four weekdays)
- Full benefits (health, dental, 401K)
- Dynamic, mission-driven environment
- Hands-on horse care, facility upkeep, public interaction, and more

If you're passionate about equine care and ready to work in a collaborative and compassionate setting, we want to hear from you.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Golfing For a Good Cause

The team at DEFHR wants to sincerely thank everyone who supported DEFHR through the recent Equine Welfare Charity Golf Tournament. It was an unforgettable day on the greens; from perfect putts to meaningful connections, we couldn't have done it without our loyal friends and supporters whose enthusiasm and generosity are greatly appreciated.



Volunteer at DEFHR



Always dreamed of a life around horses? You are needed here. You've worked with horses your entire life and are very experienced? You are needed here. No horse experience whatsoever? You are needed here. Not really into horses, but would love to help in the office, or mowing the fields, or with fundraising? You are needed here.

If you've been looking for a place to volunteer in Maryland, we invite you to consider joining us at DEFHR.

Looking for a place where your kids can volunteer with you and experience the joy of serving others? We welcome children ages 5 to 11 to volunteer alongside a parent!

If you want to learn more or you are ready to get started as a volunteer, sign up for a volunteering orientation by clicking the button.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Featured Horse of the Month: Julius



Two-year-old 15.1hh Standardbred

Julius is a young gelding with all the right ingredients for a bright future. With his solid foundation and excellent brain, this handsome young horse is ready to grow with the right person. He exhibits a calm, willing demeanor in daily handling and stands like a gentleman for bathing, grooming, and the farrier. He has begun groundwork training including learning to lunge and navigate basic obstacles. Julius is an exciting blank slate ready to continue his education.

[More About Julius](#)

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Share DEFHR's story! For media inquiries, editorial content, or interviews, please contact alice@jumpmediallc.com.

Photos courtesy of DEFHR and Shawn McMillen Photography.

Days End Farm Horse Rescue - www.DEFHR.org
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