

LAKE METROPARKS

FARM PARK

Autumn



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FARMPARK IS A LAKE METROPARKS FACILITY. Farmpark's mission is to help our urban society understand how farmers raise food, fiber and other products that sustain and enhance human life. *Farmpark Almanac* is published three times a year by Lake Metroparks. This publication is sent free to Farmpark members.

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A Bit About Draft Horses

by Johnathan Squibbs, *Agricultural Tradesman*

Farmpark visitors can view Belgians, Clydesdales, and Percherons, each of which weigh approximately 2,000 lbs. On average, a draft horse can pull two to three times its own weight.

Draft horses have played a significant role in the development of the United States. Throughout history, horses have been used on farms and in cities to move freight. The draft horse's popularity started to decline following World War I in the U.S. and World War II in Europe. Draft horses are famous for their strength, endurance, and easygoing nature. Most of these horse breeds originated from challenging climates and were kept for manual labor including plowing and hauling loads. Despite being muscular and powerful, most draft horses have a docile temperament. They are still used in farming and logging, but most are used for recreational purposes such as riding or showing.

In North America, the five draft horse breeds on the classic list are Belgian, Clydesdale, Percheron, Shire, and Suffolk. Farmpark visitors can view Belgians, Clydesdales, and Percherons, each of which weigh approximately 2,000 lbs. On average, a draft horse can pull two to three times its own weight.



GREG MURRAY

The most recognizable breed of draft horse at Farmpark is the **Clydesdale**. The breed originated in the Lanarkshire area of Scotland and is widely recognized around the world. On average, the breed stands 16.2 hands or 5'4" at the withers, although some can be taller. One hand is equal

to about four inches. They have long silky hair on their legs known as feathers. Their colors can be bay, brown, or black. Farmpark welcomed a new Clydesdale named Laurel this year. She is 14 years old and is the lightest and shortest of the draft horses at the park.

Belgians are the most popular draft horse breed in the United States. The breed originated in the area we now call Belgium. On average, the breed stands 16 to 17 hands, but can be taller (the tallest Belgian in the world is 20.3 hands). They are typically sorrel in color with blond manes and tails. Farmpark has two Belgians, eight-year-old Brutus and nine-year-old Jaxx (the biggest draft horse at the park).



LORI SPELLMAN

Percherons are the second most popular breed in the country. The breed originated in the Perche province of France. They range in height from 15 to 19 hands but average around 17 hands. The breed can be assorted colors, but most are black or grey. Farmpark has two Percherons, eleven-year-old Karl and thirteen-year-old Willie.



Having three major breeds of draft horses at the Farmpark enables us to educate visitors about the varied sizes, colors, and general appearance of each breed. It also allows us to demonstrate how they help us on the farm. Come out to Farmpark to see each breed up close!



AL SUSINSKAS

Equine Happenings

by Lee Homyock, *Farmpark Administrator*

This year has been busy for Farmpark's Equine Department. We have expanded our education and exhibition programming thanks to a new Outdoor Arena with a 150' x 190' riding area partially funded through a grant from Remarkable Lake County's Capital Improvement Grant. Farmpark will utilize the new arena for our own programming and to host events by other area equine organizations.

Farmpark's draft team has participated in a variety of events around Northeast Ohio this year. In March, we partnered with Robison Farm Percherons to participate in Cleveland's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade with a six-horse wagon hitch and won first place in the Novelty Units category. The team was also in parades at the Geauga County Maple Festival, Kirtland Strawberry Festival, Mentor Headlands Fourth of July, and Lake County Fair. This fall, Farmpark's parade wagon will be

sent to the original manufacturer for renovation in preparation for the future. Be sure to come out to see the draft team work the fields during Horsepower Weekend on September 30 and October 1.

Renovations to the Equine Arena entrance lobby are now complete. Special thanks to Lake Metroparks volunteers Don Jones and Kim Cook, who used their carpentry skills to construct display cases to exhibit Farmpark's Breyer horse collection.

Please stop in and visit the Equine Arena to see the improvements and visit with new horses Laurel and Dolly (pictured right) and all of Farmpark's hardworking horses.



EARL LINABURG



Farmpark CALENDAR



Farmpark is open year-round Tuesday through Sunday, 9 am to 5 pm.
Closed Mondays (except Presidents' Day), Thanksgiving,
Christmas Eve, Christmas & New Year's Day.

Regular Farmpark admission is waived for Lake County residents on
"FREE DAY" (Proof of Lake County residency required).

Admission during Vintage Ohio and Village Peddler Festival is not included as a
membership benefit as special hours and rates apply.

For more information about Farmpark programs and events:
440-256-2122 • 800-366-3276 • lakemetroparks.com

9 SEPTEMBER

THREE-ACRE CORN MAZE

Presented by Ken Ganley Subaru Wickliffe

September 1–October 15

Follow winding paths that steer you to intersections where you must
decide which way to go. Maze is included in Farmpark admission.

3 Lake County FREE DAY

LAKE METROPARKS SENIOR DAY

Presented by Ken Ganley Subaru Wickliffe

September 14, 9 am to 1 pm

Seniors 55 and older receive free admission (with valid ID). The
event features a guest speaker and vendor showcase with products
and services important to today's seniors. Enjoy Farmpark activities,
demonstrations and catch and release fishing. Senior activities run
9 am to 1 pm but all are welcome to enjoy Farmpark activities until 5
pm. Limited free health screenings available from 9 am to noon with
pre-registration. Free lunch in the pond pavilion with pre-registration. To
pre-register for health screenings or lunch, call 440-358-7275.

VILLAGE PEDDLER FESTIVAL

September 16 & 17

Back by popular demand: The 39th annual Village Peddler Festival!
Founded in 1982, Village Peddler Festival features a quaint American
marketplace with vendors from all over Northeastern Ohio and beyond!
You will find some of your favorite artists and some new ones, too!
Village Peddler is under new management and we strive to bring you the
same quality festival as in years past. We can't wait to see you!

19 Lake County FREE DAY

APPLE HARVEST PAIRING DINNER

September 22, 5:30 to 9 pm

Presented by Sylvan Learning of Mentor

\$80* per person, pre-registration required at lakemetroparks.com
or call 440-358-7275

Savor the harvests of the fall season in the unique setting of the
machinery building, offering picturesque views overlooking Farmpark's
fields. Learn how cider is made from tree to press and then take a tour
of the apple orchard and gardens with Farmpark's horticulture education
specialist. Sit down for a themed meal of pork osso bucco with pan
sauce, couscous with apples & herbs and herbed carrots from Food for
Thought Catering while enjoying selected wine from a local winery.

*A refund will be given if the Registration Department is notified by the participant at least
five days prior to the dinner. Failure to attend the dinner will be considered a forfeiture of all
materials supplied and money paid.

APPLE HARVEST WEEKEND

Presented by Playground World

September 23 & 24

Witness many traditional harvest activities and discover how apple
butter and cider are made. Take a tour of the "Johnny Appleseed Trail."
The whole family can explore our three-acre corn maze. Enjoy harvest
activities including an apple-themed craft both days.

HORSEPOWER WEEKEND

Presented by Ken Ganley Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Fiat Painesville & Playground World
Car & Truck Show sponsored by D&S Automotive

September 30 & October 1

Witness history unfold from animal-powered agriculture to thunderous
muscle cars of yesteryear. Saturday will focus on agricultural field
work. Watch the progression of agricultural technology all in one field.
Draft animal power to modern cabled tractors will demonstrate a wide
variety of implements. On Sunday from noon to 4 pm, enjoy Farmpark's
annual Car & Truck Show (weather permitting). On both days, visitors
can enjoy antique tractor displays, equipment demonstrations and
Farmpark's regular weekend presentations.

10 OCTOBER

1 Lake County FREE DAY

HALLOWEEN DRIVE-THRU

Presented by Ken Ganley Subaru Wickliffe & Ken Ganley Chrysler Dodge Jeep
Ram Fiat Painesville

October 6, 7, 8; October 13, 14, 15

October 20, 21, 22; October 27, 28, 29

Time slots: 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 8:30 pm; Fee: \$27.50 per carload
(maximum of three tickets per family or Farmpark membership)

Travel Farmpark's trails and roadways after dark in the comfort of your
own vehicle and experience many playfully frightful sites throughout
the park—some that you have come to love and some new surprises.
Because of the lack of darkness 6:30 and 7 pm time slots are
best suited for younger children. All ages, PG-5 (parental guidance
suggested).

Sale dates: (online only)

- Lake County residents & Farmpark members: Sat., September 9 at 8 am
- Open sales: Sun., September 10 at 8 am

*Farmpark membership must be current as of noon on Tuesday, Sept. 5 and remain current
on day of purchase.

Lake County free days are
sponsored by



Ken Ganley
SUBARU WICKLIFFE

CORN & PUMPKIN WEEKEND

Presented by Playground World

Sponsored by Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated of Willoughby

October 7 & 8

Celebrate the harvest season! Younger visitors can challenge each other
in a game of pumpkin bowling and make handmade corn husk dolls and
paint pumpkins (\$3) to take home. Enjoy harvest-themed crafts and other
harvest activities throughout the weekend.

17 Lake County FREE DAY

11 NOVEMBER

5 Lake County FREE DAY

21 Lake County FREE DAY

COUNTRY LIGHTS DRIVE-THRU

Presented by Ken Ganley Subaru Wickliffe & Ken Ganley Chrysler Dodge Jeep
Ram Fiat Painesville

November 30, December 1–3, 7–10, 14–22

Time slots: 6, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 8:30 pm; Fee: \$27.50 per carload
(maximum of three tickets per family or Farmpark membership)
Optional \$5 per toy kit

Wooden toy kits will be available for pre-purchase online during purchase of
carload ticket. Kits will be picked up at the event and taken home to assemble.

This year will feature some familiar lighting displays throughout Farmpark
as visitors enjoy the experience from the warmth of their own vehicles.
Wooden toy kits will be available for pre-purchase online during purchase
of carload ticket. Kits will be picked up at the event and taken home to
assemble.

Sale dates: (online only)

- Lake County residents & Farmpark members: Sat., October 28 at 8 am
- Open sales: Sun., October 29 at 8 am

*Farmpark membership must be current as of noon on Monday, Oct. 23 and remain current on
day of purchase

12 DECEMBER

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Presented by Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated of Willoughby

December 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 22 (Friday) & 23

Time slots: Breakfast 9 am or 10:30 am

Fee: \$5 younger than 2, \$25 ages 2 and older

Take home toy kits are included for all participants 12 and younger.

Enjoy breakfast and a visit with Santa in the café, then continue your
visit with Santa on his sleigh and select a wood toy to take home and
build from Santa's favorite designs. From there, enjoy a winter wagon
ride around Farmpark, stopping off at the arena to witness a holiday-
themed equine presentation. Stay all day and enjoy Farmpark's regular
daily activities!

Please note this is a family activity: children must be accompanied by
an adult. Due to space limitations, ALL participants, including children
younger than 2, MUST be registered.

Additional toy kits are available for purchase on the day of your
breakfast for \$5 each (cash, debit, or credit.) Pony rides are available in
the Arena for \$6 (cash, debit, or credit).

Breakfast menu: pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, breakfast
potatoes, coffee, juice, milk

Sale dates: (online only)

- Lake County residents & Farmpark members: Mon., November 6 at 8 am
- Open sales: Tue., November 7 at 8 am

*Farmpark membership must be current as of noon on Monday, Oct. 23 and remain current on
day of purchase.

3 Lake County FREE DAY

19 Lake County FREE DAY

Thank you to these sponsors



Ken Ganley
SUBARU WICKLIFFE



Ken Ganley
CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP
RAM FIAT PAINESVILLE

Willoughby, Ohio Distribution Center



American as APPLES & CIDER

by Valerie F. Reinhardt, Horticulture Manager

Different varieties of apples and cider are an important part of early American history. Learn more at the Plant Science Center this fall at Farmpark!

The apples we know from the grocery store shelves are far different from those early American settlers grew. The modern eating apple (*Malus domestica*) is a hybridized apple whose ancestry contains genetics from several different wild species of apple native to central Asia dating back 4,000 to 10,000 years ago. Due to their hybrid nature, seedlings grown from the seeds of apples are like a spin of the roulette wheel, you don't know what the outcome will be—you might end up with a tasty sweet fruit or a small astringent crabapple (though edible, not necessarily the choice for eating fresh). Apples not palatable for eating were still used for fermenting into hard cider (an alcoholic beverage) that stored well and was safer to drink than unknown water sources that could contain disease-causing bacteria.

Humans learned that you could graft a piece of an apple tree containing a bud (called a scion) of a desired apple to the rootstock of any seedling apple and have it produce the desired fruit. Grafting fruit goes back 4,000 years to Asia and was later taken up by Europeans. The Lady apple or Christmas apple is one of the oldest known apple varieties dating back to the early Roman empire and is still grown today.

Europeans propagated apples for eating, but most apples were used to make hard cider, a staple beverage for consumption both for adults and children due to the questionable quality of water at the time. We tend to think of cider as the sweet cider we buy in the fall, but in the time before refrigeration and pasteurization sweet cider quickly fermented and when bottled became a storable beverage. If processed further, it became cider vinegar used in preserving various other foods.

As with many other familiar crops such as wheat, American colonists brought the domestic apple to the new world. Apples at this time were grown more for cidermaking than eating. Early colonist Reverend William Blaxton planted the first apples in what is now Boston. The Roxbury russet, named for a Boston

neighborhood, is the earliest known American apple variety, and is traced to 1635. Heirloom apples—Rhode Island greening and yellow sweeting—also likely came from his first orchards. Of course, today when we think of settlers and apples, we think of John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed), an American pioneer nurseryman who introduced apple trees to parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois in the early half of the nineteenth century. Like Blaxton, Chapman wasn't interested in grafting any eating apples but planting apples for cidermaking from seeds collected from a cider mill in Pennsylvania. He quickly established orchards along pioneer routes producing young trees to sell to new settlers. The Ohio Company granted 100 acres of land in the Northwest Territories to settlers, but they had to prove homesteads were permanent by planting at least 50 apple trees and 20 peach trees. Knowing it took ten years for seeded apple trees to produce fruit, Chapman went ahead of the incoming settlers to provide trees. (It is believed that one tree remains of those Chapman planted on a farm in Nova, Ohio).

Cider was an important part of early American history and our expansion westward. Alcoholic cider provided necessary calories, quenched thirst and was often safer to drink than water. Apple varieties were chosen more for their ability to make good cider than for eating—tart and astringent apples were desirable. Apples grown from seed are more like a box of chocolates, (you never know what you will get), but most did well for cidermaking. Occasionally, exceptional apples sprouted up and were propagated through grafting. Hard cidermaking came to an end with prohibition and many cider mills closed and orchards were cut down. This made way for sweeter culinary varieties. The slogan "An apple an apple a day keeps the doctor away" was developed to promote culinary apples. Most orchards today focus on fresh eating apples but a resurgence of cidermaking is taking off again with cider makers seeking out old trees. Visit the Plant Science Center and learn about newer apple varieties and visit a few old ones grown at Lake Metroparks Farmpark.



For the Love of Horses

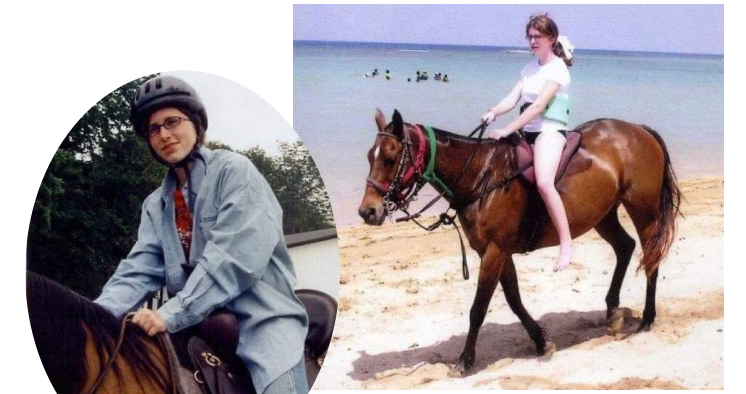
by Susan Townsend, Equine Manager

The connection between girls and horses has long been a mystery. The love affair usually begins the first time their eyes behold the beautiful majestic creatures with long flowing manes and tails. Hearts throb as they envision riding these magnificent animals, galloping across a meadow with an unexplainable feeling of freedom. Bedroom walls fill with horse posters and shelves with every breed of model horse imaginable.

It was no different for **Jennifer Eyring**. Her love for horses began at an early age. Jennifer became a volunteer at Lake Metroparks Farmpark in 2004, caring for animals in the dairy and Well Bred Shed. Her goal, however, was to work in the equine center so she could be near the one animal that filled her heart with joy. Her parents (well aware of her longing to be involved with horses) tried to satisfy her with horse-related gifts including Breyer model horses and a deluxe Breyer wood barn.

As much as Jennifer enjoyed her collection of model horses, nothing could compare to the real thing. Jennifer reached her goal of becoming an equine volunteer with the Lake Metroparks Farmpark Light Horse Brigade. She was a dedicated member filled with enthusiasm and a desire to learn all she could about horses. Her mother says that Farmpark was her heaven on earth. For her 16th birthday, Jennifer's parents gave her a choice: a car or a horse. The decision was easy—she chose a beautiful chestnut gelding, Jitterbug. At the time, no one knew how important the timing of that gift would be. Only a few months later, Jennifer passed away. We miss her dearly but are happy that she lived her dream of having a horse of her very own.

Jennifer's parents, Steve and Janet Eyring, wanted to share Jennifer's love for horses with others and donated her beloved Breyer horse collection to the Farmpark in her memory. The collection is now displayed in the equine center at the entrance of the arena for all to enjoy. Jennifer's parents also donated a memorial fund that spearheaded a program called **Jennifer's HOPE: Horses Offering Personal Enrichment** that continues today. With this program, her parents feel that Jennifer is still opening a door of opportunity to the many teens sharing her love for horses.



It's not difficult to understand why Breyer horses are so popular. In 1950, the first model horse, #57 Western Horse, was created by Breyer Molding Company. Breyer horses are known for their realism and authenticity. In fact, millions are sold each year, along with miniature stables, trucks and trailers, bridles and saddles, blankets, fly sheets, and other accessories. You can even compete in both live and photo shows. Breyer continues to innovate and improve their models and has produced limited edition models and special collections. While some retail prices remain modest, there are special versions that can sell for up to five figures. Today, with more than 8,000 models, Breyer horses are sold all over the world and are beloved by people of all ages as toys and collectibles.





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FARMPARK Gift Shop

unique country gifts

Take home a little bit of the country.

440-256-2122 x3161

No admission charge to visit gift shop, excludes most special events.
 VISA, MasterCard and Discover accepted • Discount for Farmpark members

Take home charming country gifts, unique items for the home and garden, greeting cards, Naked Bee lotion, Dionis goat milk products, Farmpark's own maple syrup as well as assorted snacks and drinks.



Volunteer with Lake Metroparks during Halloween Drive-thru!
 Have fun and help make memories for hundreds of families!

Students can receive credit for service hours.

Call 440-585-3041 x6418
 or email
volunteer@lakemetroparks.com
 for more information.