

Pegasus Farm

**7490 Edison St. N.E.
Hartville, OH 44632**

The mission of Pegasus Farm is to maximize the potential of persons with disabilities to become independent, well-rounded, self-confident individuals by providing equine activities along with recreational, social and vocational support.

Pegasus Farm serves over 500 individuals with disabilities annually.

On a weekly basis, more than 200 students participate in our therapeutic programming and at times, there is a waiting list of individuals waiting for an opening in a class appropriate to their needs.

Our program participants range in age from 3 years to 75 years, with the majority being between the ages of 4 and 20. These individuals may have emotional, behavioral, cognitive, mental or physical disabilities or a combination of these disorders. Pegasus Farm, being the premier accredited therapeutic equestrian center in Northeast Ohio, serves individuals from eight counties in this region.

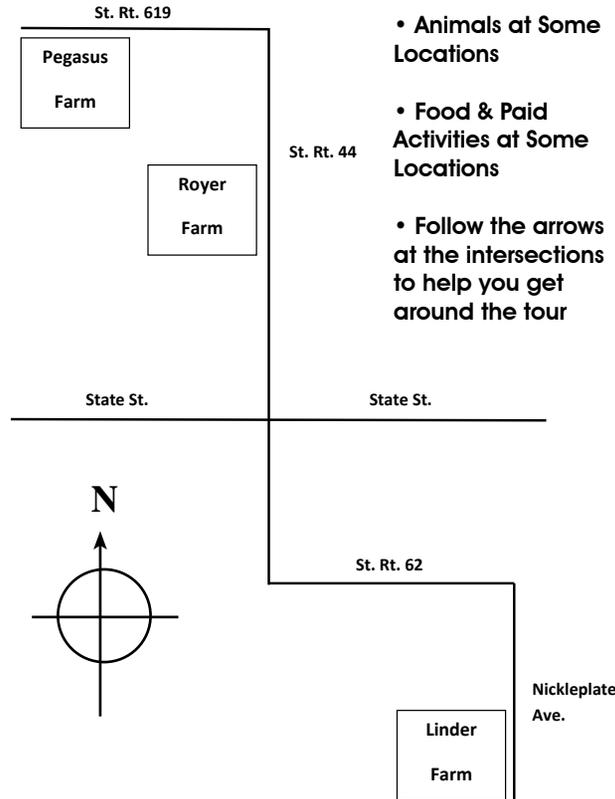
Pegasus Farm was founded in 1985 by three Canton City School teachers for students with disabilities who envisioned more for their students. Their goal was to establish an equestrian center that could offer children with disabilities the opportunity for physical activity and recreation.

Pegasus Farm opened in the spring 1986, with "five riders, two horses and one backyard." By its second year of operation, Pegasus Farm had 70 riders. A nine stall barn was built with donations and volunteer labor from members of the community. All the horses were donated, along with tack, feed, riding helmets and other goods and services. Because of this strong early effort, Pegasus Farm became one of the first facilities to be accredited by PATH International (formerly NARHA) in its first year of operation.



FARM TOUR MAP

*Start anywhere on the tour
and have fun!*



• Educational Displays at Each Location

• Animals at Some Locations

• Food & Paid Activities at Some Locations

• Follow the arrows at the intersections to help you get around the tour



**For more information on tours
or programs go to:
www.StarkCountyFarmTour.org
or call 330.456.4889**

*24th Annual
Stark County
Farm Bureau*

Drive-It-Yourself

FARM TOUR

October 6, 2013

12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

***Free to the public
Rain or Shine***

www.StarkCountyFarmTour.org

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Linder Farm

7001 N. Nickleplate St.
Louisville, Ohio 44641

Stark County cattleman Cliff Linder and his wife, Julie, started out with crossbred cattle 26 years ago, but decided they wanted something more. Their children were growing up and they knew they wanted them to show cattle. They eventually traveled to the Ohio Beef Expo and purchased a few purebred Simmental heifers.

For Cliff, the choice of which breed to produce was the easy part. He knew it could only be Simmental for him, because he grew up raising them and knew the breed's strengths. He said the fact that Simmentals are known for being good mothers, producing milk and being very docile contributed to the decision.

In addition, he wanted something different. He knew a lot of people were breeding Angus and, while he feels there are good things in the Angus breed, he wanted something different on his farm.

Both Cliff and Julie grew up on dairy farms, so farming was going to be a part of their lives and their children's lives. They have three children — Michelle, 26, Dusty, 23, and Rachel, 20, who is still showing.

As the children showed in 4-H and gained experience, the family began showing in the American Simmental Association shows, including the state and national shows. Cliff said the experiences gained showing cattle can't be measured in monetary terms. "We've been very blessed to be farmers," said Linder. "Farming is more about learning and responsibility than anything."

Today, the beef operation has 30 mature cows, two bulls, several replacement heifers and 16 calves.

Cliff also emphasized how important it is for farmers to tell their story to those not involved in the farming industry and to work together as farmers.



Royer Farms

11617 Ravenna Avenue
Louisville, OH 44641

In 1952 Melvin Royer was working for his dad milking 28 cows when he decided to buy a can milk route and pick up cans of milk for local farms and deliver it to the dairy. In 1954 he rented the farm across the road from his dad's and started milking cows for himself, as well as hauling can milk. At that time he was milking 189 cows in an eight stall station barn and had to wheel the manure out of the barn and put it on a stack outside the barn. In 1961 he gave up the milk route and was milking 26 cows. In late summer of 1962, he bought a 159 acre farm in Marlboro Township. He gutted the inside of the barn and put in 36 tie stalls with a pipe line and gutter cleaner. By March of 1963 he was milking 40 cows. In the year of 1969-70, he built his first free stall barn that had 40 stalls in it. We would milk 36 cows, let them out and get 36 more from the free stall barn and would keep doing that until all 82 cows were milked. At that time, we would scrap the free stall manure into a small pit that we had made. We would haul that pit manure once a week and the gutter cleaner manure once a day. In the early spring of 1976, we were up to 96 cows and decided to build a double 6 herringbone parlor plus a 110 cow free stall barn. We were milking in the new parlor by October and had the barn filled with cows by the first of the year. IN 1980 we added another 50 stalls on to our free stall barn for a total of 200 stalls. Once that barn was filled our biggest hassle was hauling manure 2 to 3 times a week. In 1988 we constructed a 980 thousand gallon above ground tank (slurry store) with a flush gutter going across the center of the free stall barn. This was to hold manure for 200 cows for 6 months.

By this time the two younger boys (Dan and Joel) were out of school and decided to stay on the farm with Melvin and Tim. In 1990 Royer Farms was incorporated and in 1994 we built another 100 cow free stall barns and in 1996 another 100 cow barn. At this point we needed a bigger

parlor. We started milking three times a day in 1994 and milking 375 cows took 22 hours a day. That winter I had our County Extension Agent help us do a whole farm financial structure on our farm. At that time, we figured that we needed at least \$11 milk and be as close to 400 cows milking. Melvin, his son, and two of his brothers had a meeting and decided to expand one more time. In August of 1997 we broke ground for a new double twelve parallel parlor with cow ID computer and cut gates. We also decided to build a 285 cow free stall barn to give us a total of 485 stalls. Our old 200 cow free stall barn was made into a dry cow barn and maternity ward. In January 1998 we started milking in our new parlor and by the end of the year we had all of the barns full. But our next project is what to do with the liquid manure. Our manure averages 88% to 90% water, and we know we need 180 days of storage. But building another storage structure seems to be putting a bandage on the manure problem.

As for the crops on the farm, we raise all of our feed, which is 1,000 acres of corn, 500 acres of soybean, 300 acres of wheat and 400 acres of hay.

The work force on our family farm starts with Mrs. Royer (Carol) who takes care of all the bills and does payroll. Melvin helps with the crops and runs for parts. They both spend the winter months in Florida. Dan is the herdsman of all of the cows. Joel manages and does all of the feeding and the ordering of the feed. Tim manages the planting and harvesting of all of the crops and all of the repairs on the farm.

From 1998 until 2013 the Royer Farm has increased the milking herd to about 700 cows and have added 300 more acres of crops. Mom and Dad have retired from the farming operation. Three younger family members, Dustin, Cody, and Tyler have been brought on board to teach them the family business. Our work force is now at 18 full time employees. Many thanks to Mom and Dad...we wouldn't be where we are today, 61 years later.

- Royer Farms Inc.. Tim Royer - President

