

# A Healthy Horse Starts From The Ground Up

**MICHELLE KUNJAPPU**  
Lancaster Farming Staff

**ROCKSPRING** (Centre Co.) — There is a lot riding on a horse's hooves.

Tom Siegenthaler, Centre Hall, a farrier, knows what a healthy, well-shod hoof should look like.

At Ag Progress Days in August, Siegenthaler demonstrated the process he goes through to shoe a horse.

To begin, he stands the horse on blacktop to see the balance of the horse's hoof, which has the responsibility of supporting equally the leg column and keeping the animal in balance.

In addition, Siegenthaler eyes the animal's hooves from behind, making sure the hooves are of equal height.

"My job as a horseshoer is to come in every four to six weeks and readjust a horse's balance," he said. He checks the shoes' wear to ascertain exactly how the horse should be shod.

Siegenthaler places a rasp down the middle of the horse's foot to check symmetry, his goal for the hoof.

With the rasp he removes the "flares," or extra hoof along the edges, then checks for a straight profile of the outer hoof wall by laying the rasp alongside the outside of the hoof.

"Ninety percent of horses are lame in the front end — keep horses on a regular shoeing basis," he said.

(Turn to Page E14)



Siegenthaler uses a hot shoeing technique, where he puts a heated shoe on the bottom of the hoof. The technique does not hurt the horse but seals the fibers of the foot and allows the farrier to see how the shoe fits.

**3 Rail Vinyl Horse Fence**  
3.85 per ft. 500 ft. to 1,000 ft. - 3.75 over 1,000 ft.  
2 & 4 Rail also Available  
Limited Offer - Delivery Available  
For More Information Contact:  
**New Holland Fence**  
905 W. Main St., New Holland, PA 17557  
**717-656-9596**

**B • B Equine Dentistry**  
"Where the Horse comes First"  
**Beth Brown, Eq. D.T.**  
(717) 529-0859  
beth@horse-teeth.com or  
visit our website: Horse-teeth.com  
P.O. Box 156 • Cochranville, PA 19330  
Will travel for 10 or more horses

"A balanced horse,  
has balanced teeth"

Graduate of the American School of Equine Dentistry  
Member of the International Asso. of Equine Dentistry



Tom Siegenthaler, Centre Hall, shared his horseshoeing expertise at last summer's Ag Progress Days.  
Photos by Michelle Kunjappu

Book your mare  
@ Mel's Stables  
Mar 29

**"My Gemini"**  
16.2H Bay  
Saddledbred Stallion

Sire and Dam both go back to Wing Commander and Private Contract For Trainable, Game, Foals With Color, Breed Your Mares To "My Gemini" a Big Bay Stallion That Is Upheaded Big Boned and Has Good Motion Standing For A Limited Time At  
Christ King, 99 E. White Oak Rd., Paradise, PA 17562  
Contact Christ (610) 593-7938 or  
Sam Jay Miller at (570) 547-6555

Equestrian Homestead, Kutztown - Contemporary home 5 Ac. **UNDER CONTRACT** 20 stalls 2 miles Interstate 78 \$349,900.

Century 21 Park Road,  
Mary Lee Davis,  
610-372-5633 x3149,  
direct 484-333-3691.  
[www.FarmsForSaleInBerks.com](http://www.FarmsForSaleInBerks.com)

Other properties - Oley, Berks Co.,  
30+ ac. parcel, \$376,000. 36 ac. parcel \$415,000.  
Additional acreage avail. Clean & Green.

# FISHING CREEK

## Tack Shop

2861 State Rt. 42  
PO Box 494, Millville, PA  
Tel: 570-458-5131

- ☆ Purina & Blue Seal Feeds
- ☆ Vet Supplies
- ☆ 1849 Western Show Wear
- ☆ Wrangler Jeans
- ☆ Double H Boots • Dansko
- ☆ Montana Silver
- ☆ Outback Trading Company
- ☆ Bailey Hats
- ☆ Breyer Models

**SPECIALS ON SADDLES BY:**  
Tex Tan • Billy Cook • Action

**GENESIS**  
ALL ALUMINUM HORSE TRAILERS

3 - 4 - 5 & 6 Horse Models  
Various Dressing Room  
sizes available

**KICK BUILT**

**ALSO MONARCH TRAILERS**  
- All Steel Horse & Stock

# CUE-MMUNICATION

## EQUINE TRAINING

**Teaching Programs for the Horse and Rider**

**ADVANCED APPRENTICES IN CONDITION RESPONSE METHODS**

Get Educated / Gain Control  
Develop a relationship:  
Control without pain = Trust & Respect  
Understand a horse's language

**DEVELOP**

- Responsiveness to the bridle
- Emergency brakes
- Better backs & lateral movement
- Go forward cue
- Calm down cue
- Ground manners/trail or loading
- Overcome barn & buddy sweetness

**814-749-8497**

Wyatt or Tracy Melius  
START YOUR YOUNG HORSES UNDER SADDLE WITH SAVVY