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Brennan Equine Welfare Fund offering 5th annual matching gift to help horses

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A retirement at age 14 may seem like the proverbial "early retirement" for some, but in the Thoroughbred racing world, it is a very late retirement.

In a sport where the Thoroughbred horse races an average of 12 races and spends only a few years on the track, "Cumberland Gap" shines as a Racing Warrior with 161 starts (races) and a dozen years of racing.

Like so many of these hard knocking warriors, "Cumberland Gap" (aka "Gappy") had a plethora of owners and trainers, all hoping to earn just a piece of the pie. Most want the horse to have a good retirement, but since each of them only had the horse for a fraction of his racing career, there is no overwhelming sense of responsibility to provide that retirement. Thankfully, The Exceller Fund has stepped in to do just that. While placing a horse in a new career is always a goal, many of these warriors have wear and tear, just like all competitive athletes, and sometimes a second career is not an option.

Brennan Equine Welfare Fund was happy to award a grant this year to The Exceller Fund to help support "Gappy" in his permanent retirement. Both organizations recognize the need to provide amazing athletes like "Gappy" with permanent retirement, which means through their teens, into their twenties, and even into their thirties. Through grant funding from Brennan Equine Welfare Fund, The Exceller Fund is making sure that the "Golden Years" for horses like "Cumberland Gap" are indeed golden.

While his refined features, big eyes, and average size give off an image of cuteness, "cute" isn't exactly what "Gappy" is all about. It's apparent that he is one tough little horse. While pleasant to work with, his demeanor of "I'm in charge" is always present. It is this attitude that made so many starts and \$324,275 in earnings possible. Even at age 21, that enduring temperament shines through.

Brennan Equine Welfare Fund is a fund-raising, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that was established in 2000 at the Greater Cincinnati Foundation by Linda Pavay in honor and memory of her horse, "Brennan," also an off-the-track Thoroughbred. Grants from Brennan Equine Welfare Fund are used to serve equine rescue shelters across the country that provide dignity to final years of aged, injured, abused, starved and slaughter-bound horses, as well as those used in medical experimentation. Brennan Equine Welfare Fund supports registered, 501(c)(3) organizations that specialize in retirement and rehabilitation services and offer a peaceful and permanent sanctuary for these beautiful animals. Shelters that offer carefully scrutinized adoption or re-placement services are also supported.

If you would like to honor a special person or equine that has touched your life, or are interested in year-end giving ideas, a charitable donation to Brennan Equine Welfare Fund would be honored. You can be assured that any gift you make will help provide grant funding for special equines in need just like Lit for years to come. Any contribution to Brennan Equine Welfare Fund is tax deductible.

Linda will be personally offering a \$5,000 (five-thousand dollar) matching gift through Dec. 31. Your donation will have double the power to offer a second chance to equines in need as all personal donations will be matched dollar-to-dollar until \$5,000. is realized. All Checks may be made out to The Greater Cincinnati Foundation (make sure to write "Brennan Equine Welfare Fund" on the memo line) and mailed to The Greater Cincinnati Foundation, 200 W. Fourth St., Cincinnati, OH 45202. For more information or to donate online, visit www.brennanequinewelfarefund.com



Cumberland Gap (aka: "Gappy")

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