

# Centaur Stride Fundraiser Is Saturday At Lakewood Legion

LAKESWOOD — The Kiwanis Club of Lakewood will host its inaugural Night at the Races from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday at the Lakewood American Legion, 174 Chautauqua Ave., Lakewood, to benefit the Centaur Stride — a local therapeutic horseback riding facility that benefits children in the local community.

Admission to the event is \$10 which includes a racing program, six betting tickets for the thoroughbred races as well as a chance to be entered for a Grand Prize drawing of a bottle of Louis XIII Fine Cognac.

The bottle of Cognac has a suggested value of \$1,500. Ticket holders need not be present to win the Grand Prize. Food and beverages will be available.

A "Night At The Races" is six pre-recorded actual horse races that have been video taped and will be shown on a large projected screen at the American Legion.

Before each race, patrons will be given a 'past performance' brochure describing the history of the horses running in the race and how the horses have placed in previous races.

Participants are asked to place their betting tickets before each race on the horse of their choice. All participants who bet on the

winning horse will be placed in a hat for prize drawings.

"The evening will be packed with fun, thrills, and excitement, all for a great cause," said Jason Hansen, Night At The Races event co-chair. "Centaur Stride improves the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families. It is such a joy to make someone smile or to hear belly giggles or laughter. Centaur Stride Therapeutic Horseback Riding Facility is truly "healing with horses." This fun-filled event serves as both a great evening out while at the same time, making a difference in your community."

The Centaur Stride Therapeutic Horseback Riding Facility has been providing services in our community since 1993. Located just outside of Sherman, riders of all ages, with and without disabilities, travel from all over Chautauqua County to participate in the programs.

"Horses are great teachers and trainers," says Claudia Monroe, Centaur Stride executive director and volunteer physical therapist. "As a facility, we focus on a particular need, such as physical development, and the horse's movements elicit many reactions in the rider. Muscles are activated for balance, stretched for improved mobility, and strengthened for



**Pictured is Chryssie Rose Panteli, a Centaur Stride student from Jamestown; Savannah Alday, Centaur Stride instructor; and horse, Whiskey. The inaugural Night At The Races on Saturday at the Lakewood American Legion, 174 Chautauqua Ave., will benefit Centaur Stride, a local horseback riding therapeutic facility that benefits area children.**

function. If a rider can learn to steer, then they can learn cause and effect, control and build self-esteem. Horses teach body language as the rider tries to understand the horse and make the horse understand them."

Co-chairs for "Night At The

Races" are Jason Henson and Lou Drago. Fund-raising committee members include Jack Scalise, G.A. Denn, Kim Nalbone, Jodi Mistretta, Merle Elkin and Rick McMahon.

For more information, call Hansen at 450-2094.