

Monday – Friday

7:30 – 5:00

Saturday

7:30 – 2:00

Closed Sunday

We will be closed
Friday, July 4th, for the
Fourth of July Holiday

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Good Fences Make Good “Neeigh” bors...

If you find yourself driving on West Road in Rye, and notice beautiful crisp white fences against lush spring greenery on either side of you, you’ve probably found Brown Lane Farm, owned by Marjorie Miller. It won’t be just spring fever or the idyllic country setting of horse paddocks complete with horses, that will have caught your fancy...and your eyes. This is because these fences, built by Marjorie’s partner Bud Jordan, are specifically designed to be aesthetically pleasing and perfect to the viewer. This effect is achieved by using surveying equipment and Bud’s engineering experience to get the top rails of the fences level to the eye and the lines of them perfectly straight, as can be seen in the aerial photograph below.

The fences at Brown Lane Farm are not only pleasing to the eye, but pleasing to the horses, and practical to riders. According to Marjorie, horses can get “spooked” if they become trapped in a corner by a handler, trainer or another horse, so all of the paddocks on the farm have rounded corners, which can also be seen in the aerial photo below and in the photo of the S-Line fence, far right, which is situated near the smaller barn on Marjorie’s homestead (across the street from Brown Lane Farm). Near that same S-Line fence is a gate designed and built by Bud Jordan called a “Horseman’s Favorite.” This gate can be opened only by a human, either on foot or on horseback, and will

stay open just long enough for a horse and rider to get through before it automatically closes again. According to Jordan, it’s the only one of its kind anywhere around here, and was built using rubber belting, metal piping, rope and window weights, all supplied by Rand Lumber.

A “Jordan Fence” is not only custom designed especially for horses and beautiful to look at, it is built to be strong and durable, too. Bud designed a post hole digger which consists of a metal shaft driven down by a backhoe. He then sharpens the bottom of each fence post (made of treated yellow pine from Rand) with a chain saw and submerges the post at least 3 to 3 1/2 feet underground. In the instances where ledge is closer to the surface than that, he drills a foot into the ledge with a drilling machine called a Hilti, places a 1” diameter metal rod into it and drills a matching hole 12 to 18 inches into the bottom of the fence post and sets it onto the rod.

of hemlock, break the fence and break free. Usually they would do this for attention or as a demand for an immediate meal. Not wanting to be continually mending fences whenever his Belgians got into a mischievous mood or felt like throwing their weight around, Bud set out to modify their paddocks. He added 18” fence extensions, made of treated hemlock from Rand,



Even though Bud’s fences are made to be strong, they can’t withstand the weight of his Belgian horses, Clyde and Major, who would from time to time “act like Circus Horses” by putting their two front hooves up on the upper top rail, made

which were attached perpendicularly to the upper top rails. He then attached the electric wire to that and raised the voltage, as well. The horses were no longer able to get close enough to break the fence, and haven’t been able to get out since. The first paddock fence at Brown Lane Farm went up around 1994 when one of Marjorie Miller’s granddaughters wanted a pony. Then there was another pony for another granddaughter, then Nick, the sweet tempered stallion was added, and around 1996 the large white 32 stall barn across the street was constructed. Today, there are two trainers in residence, and boarding, training, instruction, breeding and sales are offered. All boarding openings were filled at this writing, but children’s lessons are offered and other inquiries are welcomed as well by calling or simply stopping by at the big white barn at 100 West Road (off Washington Road) in Rye.





Seven-Sided Pentagon Makes Spectacular Sunroom



When the Jordans wanted to add a sunroom/screen porch to their home, they wanted something that would blend into the "L" of their circa 1745 (approximate) home that would get lots of sun and provide views in all directions. They accomplished this with their unusual and breathtaking "pentagon" year-round design. Bud Jordan got all the materials for the addition, which is supported by itself, but attached to the rest of the house, from Rand Lumber. The support post in the corner of the home's "L" is a sawed pine timber. From that radiates six support beams, also of sawed pine timber, four of which are 6"x12" with the two on the ends being 3"x12". The flooring, made of hemlock, also radiates out

from the corner to the five sets of white french doors on the outside walls, one of which opens out onto the yard. All five doors are fitted with screens in the summertime, and wicker furniture, a skylight, and lots of houseplant greenery complete this very inviting and special space.

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