

## CONNECTIONS



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*December 15, 2007*

*Greetings of the season to all!*

*There is a saying, "Life happens when you're making plans," and that couldn't be truer for those of us at Connections.*

*We made plans for a newsletter during the summer, and our production person was side-lined with surgery and recovery.*

*We made plans for a newsletter and two fundraising events for October and November. Then our director Andrea's mother, Mildred, became ill. Everyone was functioning in stand-by mode. On October 31, Andrea left for Arkansas to be with her mother, father and sister.*

*On November 11, Mildred Lauwman passed away. Andrea and her daughter, Jordan, were unable to attend our Italian Feast Fundraiser Dinner; but the Connections Board of Directors, along with numerous volunteers, banded together and held the successful event. We were all pleased with what we had accomplished and couldn't wait to tell Andrea some good, happy news.*

*December arrived and we again began making plans...plans for a holiday newsletter...plans for the annual Christmas photos of our riders and their horses...plans for holiday celebrations...but once again..."life happened." As we were preparing for our first photo session, our dear Miss Jessie...the founding horse of Connections...became ill with colic. The photo session was cancelled; but all of the volunteers stayed around, giving their support while the vet tried to help Jessie.*

*It is with great sadness that we must report that Miss Jessie had to be put down on the evening of December 12. This is a tremendous blow to everyone at Connections. Jessie was 26 years old; and even with her advanced age, she always gave everything she had when performing her duties as a therapy horse. She always knew how important her work was and what it meant to the riders. Jessie will be sorely missed by all.*

*If anyone is planning on making a year-end donation to Connections, or just wants to honor the memory of Andrea's mother, Mildred Lawman, or Andrea's cherished horse, Miss Jessie, we have two newly-established scholarship funds to which you may designate your donation.*

*Damon's Fund (established by Mildred Lawman)*

*Miss Jessie's Memorial Fund*

*Donations to: Connections Equine Therapy Program*

*11585 E. Purple Sage Road*

*Cornville, AZ 86325*

*Sincerely,*

*The Connections Board of Directors*



*In Memory*

*Oct. 10, 1981 – Dec. 12, 2007*