

SENATE OF VIRGINIA



JOHN C. WATKINS
10TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
POST OFFICE BOX 159
MIDLOTHIAN, VIRGINIA 23113

October 5, 2010

M. Clinton Arrington
Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center
6137 Old Buckingham Road
Powhatan, VA 23139

Dear Clint:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to be a part of the tour and reception at the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center two weeks ago. It was an extremely meaningful experience for me and my wife, Kathy, as well, and we have often commented to others since that event what a great opportunity that it had been and what a tremendous service you bring to a very special community of people in this state.

I felt very honored to be presenting the resolution that we passed last year in the General Assembly, but I was particularly taken by the portrait that you gave me of the Vietnam Memorial Wall. As I said at that time, I will be taking that portrait downtown to hang on the walls of the General Assembly near my office so that others can appreciate what it stands for. There simply is not enough that can be said to adequately honor those veterans who have given life and limb for this country, but you and the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center demonstrate that special appreciation through your actions and your assistance. Thank you again for allowing us to be a part of this event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John C. Watkins".

John C. Watkins

JCW/swa

10104210D

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 121

Offered January 19, 2010

Commending the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center.

Patron-- Watkins

WHEREAS, in January 2010, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center celebrated two years of service to the Commonwealth and to veterans with disabilities and their families; and

WHEREAS, therapeutic riding has been identified to be successful in treating children and adults with physical and mental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was established to provide recreational therapeutic riding for veterans with disabilities as part of an effective and efficient community-based rehabilitation system; and

WHEREAS, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center has developed model programs and services for veterans with disabilities, enabling them to integrate successfully back into their community after injury; and

WHEREAS, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center has served over 250 disabled veterans to date and now has the ability to serve an average of 200 veterans with disabilities per year; and

WHEREAS, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center has helped other communities across the Commonwealth set up their own programs to serve veterans with disabilities and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center provides community awareness semiannually through fundraiser trail rides, horseshoe tournaments, and slideshow presentations to community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center and its hardworking board of directors, staff, volunteers, and generous supporters make possible the services needed to help veterans with disabilities meet their daily challenges and lead a life of their choice; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center on the occasion of its second anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Lonesome Dove Equestrian Center as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the organization for its commitment to veterans with disabilities and their families.

Legislative Information System