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4-H Adds Air Rifle Program to Shooting Sports



A recent \$1532.00 grant from the NRA has allowed the Tioga County 4-H Shooting Sports Program to add the Air Rifle project to its program. The grant provided the funds to purchase eight air rifles, a storage cabinet, and air rifle pellets for a year's worth of training classes and team use.

The 4-H Air Rifle project is open to youth 9 to 19 years old. All 4-H firearms projects are taught by NYS 4-H certified shooting sports instructors. Youth members receive 12 hours of training, and learn safe and

responsible use of firearms, life skills, and team work. When the training is successfully completed and other requirements are met, members then can be eligible for participation on the 4-H Air Rifle postal match team.

To find out more about the Tioga County 4-H Environmental Educations and Shooting Sports Program contact the 4-H Office, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Tioga County at 687-4020 or visit their website at www.cce.cornell.edu/tioga.

Tioga Downs & Vernon Downs Contribute More Than \$76,000 to Charity in 2010



American Racing and Entertainment is proud to announce that their donation totals between Tioga Downs and Vernon Downs in 2010 amounted to more than \$76,000 and reached more than 50 charities.

In the month of August, fans at Tioga Downs donated more than \$3,300 to each the Chloe Mulchahy benefit and Aliesya Abrams benefit, which Tioga Downs matched dollar for dollar to both charities, as well as Chairman Jeff Gural, who personally matched the contribution, and the Children's Starlight Foundation of New York City.

Some of the other charities that American Racing and Entertainment donated to in 2010 include the Ohio Harness Horsemen to help in the Lebanon fire relief, Sullivan Chapter of the Red Cross to help with aid in the Haiti disaster, and The Food Bank of the Southern Tier. The Tioga Downs employees showed their generosity with the Tioga County United Way Campaign in November and donated over \$8,000 which was matched by Tioga Downs, and Jeff Gural personally donated \$5,000 to

bring the grand total to more than \$21,000.

One of the marquee events of the year for Tioga Downs is the Drivers' Championship which also helps raise money for charity. Jason Bartlett, Brian Sears, Dave Palone, Yannick Gingras, John Campbell, Bruce Ranger, and Tim Tetrick each gladly donated their 5% earnings in the competition to the Standardbred Retirement Foundation, which Tioga Downs matched, while Ron Pierce and George Brennan donated theirs to a charity of their choosing which Tioga also matched.

"We are very thankful to the communities that support us, and this is a way that Tioga and Vernon are able to give back and help these wonderful local charities out in a time of need. We would also like to thank our customers who donated their money and canned food items to many of the local charities this year, without your help much of this would not be possible" said Jason M. Settlemoir, VP of Racing and Simulcast.

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