

Good Luck Spencer!

It is with heavy hearts that we say farewell to Spencer as he and his family head to New Mexico to start the next chapter of their lives. Spencer has been a special student at PPTRC due to his gentleness with the horses. Spencer's main concern is always that his horse is comfortable and happy. Spencer had a great bond with our therapy horse Ollie and put an incredible effort into understanding Ollie and helping him perform tasks without anxiety or worry. Spencer was always happy to do what was right for Ollie on a given day as opposed to what might be the most fun. As an instructor, I was always impressed with how observant Spencer was of Ollie's actions and emotional state. Spencer and Ollie accomplished some great things together but as we know, sometimes things change. For the last two sessions, Spencer has been riding Hunter. Hunter has a completely different personality than Ollie and brought out a new and different side of Spencer for us to see! In his partnership with Hunter we saw Spencer become brave, self-assured and confident while working intricate patterns at a walk, trot and even canter! I do not even know the words to use in order to explain the joy felt in the arena the first day we witnessed Spencer's big smile while he was trotting Hunter through a very complicated trotting pattern full of twists and turns! The date I decided Spencer had mastered the trot and was ready to move to canter was a big day for Spencer and I both. I brought Spencer over and we discussed what cantering would be like and what our plan would be to get Hunter into the canter. Spencer did exactly as instructed and he and Hunter went cantering down the longside! It was a magical day for all of us. Spencer was happy and wanted to talk about his cantering while I wanted to tell everyone about the magic in the arena that day. I would also like to commend Spencer for his outstanding horsemanship throughout his time at PPTRC. He enjoys grooming, tacking, longeing, untacking and walking his horse to the turnout after the lesson. To say I will miss Spencer is an understatement! I learn and gain from all of my students, but there was something very special about the bond Spencer and I had while sharing our love of horses and all that they offer. I know Spencer will bring so much to his next center, and I know they will do the same for him in return!