

Expanding Horizons

AMITY CONSTRUCTION TAKES A RIDE TO REMEMBER!

By Ed MURPHY
Special to The Day

Webster's Dictionary's definition of a barn and Amity Construction & Design's interpretation of the same building are about as different as a plow horse and Secretariat.

The dictionary's characterization of a dreary building designed for storing hay, grain and livestock has been taken to an entirely new level in this latest Amity showpiece located in this quiet, central Connecticut town.

Amity, which has built its reputation as a custom builder of homes, additions and commercial space, was invited to expand its horizons on this distinctive project, which could best be described as a "posh palace for privileged ponies."

Built in conjunction with Theron Simons of HTS Construction, the facility includes the barn, shed, riding ring and more. This project incorporates somewhere between 18,000 to 20,000 square feet of space and is the largest personal use building ever undertaken by Amity. Along with the size and scope are details, amenities and technology that make the completed facility truly a phenomenon.

"This was a unique project that allowed both Theron and I to think outside of the box," says Amity President Russ Smith. "It provided us with opportunities to create solutions to meet both the functional and aesthetic demands of this facility. As it evolved, we were able to incorporate many innovative design products suggested by Theron to satisfy each new challenge."

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This is the new definition of "Barn" ...an unbelievable space designed with the newest technology and details that any horse would be proud to call home!

Illustrating the brilliance of Amity's Design/Build process, the project was a true collaborative effort between owner, architect and builder. The project began with a concept sketch provided by the homeowner. Amity further developed the drawings, which were reviewed by an outside architect, and then worked with Simons, a contractor renowned for his equestrian expertise.

"NOT YOUR TYPICAL BARN, THE STRUCTURE FEATURES SPECIALIZED INTERIOR PRODUCTS TRUCKED IN FROM KENTUCKY, THE "HORSE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD"

Not your typical barn, the structure features specialized interior products for equine facilities trucked in from Kentucky, the "Horse Capital of the World," and includes upscale amenities like crown moldings,

paddle fans and even finished floors in the hayloft. Some other distinctive features are:

- *Copper accent roofs and copper gutters*
- *Cedar shingle siding*
- *Completely finished interior*
- *Intelligent lighting system with high efficiency LED lighting that includes a control panel allowing the operator to activate or de-activate any switch on the property.*
- *Audio and security systems*
- *Clear span riding arena using "glu lam" arch trusses and providing a clear span of 76 ft*
- *Riding arena has a large viewing area from the loft of the barn*
- *Tongue and groove wooden wall coverings throughout*
- *Stalls have windows above for viewing from the second floor as well as their own dormers to shed natural light into the stall area*
- *Stalls also feature automatic watering systems and rotating feeders*



This truly remarkable riding arena uses state-of-the-art construction that combines technology with beautiful design.



Natural light sheds down on the custom horse stalls from dormers above for added light.



"This type of project educates you to new technologies and possibilities, giving you an additional set of solutions that can be applied to subsequent projects," Smith says. Let Amity Construction & Design help you transform your design dreams into reality.

To schedule an appointment, call 860.434.5500, visit them on the web at www.AmityCD.com or visit their Showroom and Design Center in the Old Lyme Marketplace on Halls Road.

To See More: Visit www.AmityCD.com to view additional photos of this spectacular structure. It will change your definition of the word "barn."

Next month: Everything you need to know about countertops.