



# News Release

Naples Equestrian Challenge  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **New president elected to Naples Equestrian Challenge Board of Directors**

Naples, Fla. (December 17, 2008) -- The Board of Directors of Naples Equestrian Challenge (NEC), the non-profit therapeutic riding center for children and adults with disabilities, is pleased to announce the election of its new president, Brigid Soldavini, CPA. A committed board member and supporter of NEC, Soldavini was elected to head the organization and complete the change of leadership which began a year ago, when long-time NEC president, Caroline Martino, announced she would be stepping down from the position she has held for the last 10 years.

“I am privileged and humbled to represent the inspirational riders and their families, the dedicated volunteers and staff of NEC. Caroline Martino has tirelessly directed NEC through ten years of incredible growth and improvements. Her vision and achievements amount to a monumental legacy we will proudly continue and honor,” said Soldavini, who has served as chief financial officer of Naples Equestrian Challenge for seven years.

Co-founder and board member Karen Conley, who has volunteered for many years with both Martino and Soldavini, said, "NEC has been so lucky to have had Caroline, and now Brigid, as its leaders. Caroline truly was a driving force in making NEC what it is today. And in Brigid, we have a long-term board member, who has served as CFO for the last several years, perfectly poised to step into the president's role to provide a seamless transition of leadership for this growing organization.”

In addition to the election of a new president, Randy Rosal, of Humphrey-Rosal Architects, has been elected vice-president and Steven Richards, a CPA from Larson Allen, will serve as chief financial officer. NEC also is pleased to announce the addition of four new members to the board of directors: Kyle Christianson of M&I Bank, Bonny Eads Dery of Drs. Dery, Eads, Barton and Witten; Kim Minarich; and, John M. Rosenberg of the William Rosenberg Family Foundation.

#### **About Naples Equestrian Challenge:**

Naples Equestrian Challenge is a local non-profit 501(c)(3) organization providing a program of therapeutic horseback riding to area children and adults with special needs. There are more than 30,000 people with disabilities participating in NARHA certified therapeutic riding programs throughout North America. For more information on Naples Equestrian Challenge – riding, volunteer or contribution opportunities -- please contact us at (239) 596-2988.

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