Bellevue, WA 5/24/2016 - Personal Ponies, Ltd has entered into an exclusive partnership with the leading non-profit organization in the US for evaluation and registration of therapy animals-Pet Partners. For over 30 years Personal Ponies has a history of breeding, training and making UK Shetlands available for therapeutic work with children and people of all ages. Personal Ponies and Pet Partners both recognize the power of the Human-Animal bond and the skills needed by the handler and animal in safely delivering interactions that result in a positive physical, psychological and/or emotional outcome for participants.

With this partnership between the two organizations Personal Ponies teams have the opportunity to be evaluated and register to become Pet Partners therapy animal teams. Pet Partners will be the exclusive non-profit partner for evaluation and registration of therapy animal teams. Personal Ponies teams will receive a discount for online handler training and the registration fee. Both organizations, in turn will promote each other as strategic partners.

"Being the leader in animal-assisted interventions, a partnership with a great organization like Personal Ponies made a lot of sense. These small equines have the potential to bring much health and healing to their community. They have demonstrated a solid history in the ability to make wonderful therapeutic animals," said Annie Magnant, CEO of Pet Partners. She added “We look forward to getting many more ponies out in the field.”

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About Pet Partners

Pet Partners is the national leader in demonstrating and promoting animal-assisted therapy, activities and education. Nearly forty years since the organization’s inception, the science that proves these benefits has become indisputable. Today, Pet Partners is the nation’s largest and most prestigious nonprofit registering handlers of multiple species as volunteer teams providing animal-assisted interventions. For more information go to www.petpartners.org.

About Personal Ponies

For over 30 years, Personal Ponies has imported, bred, trained and made available the very unique United Kingdom Shetland for therapeutic work with folks of all ages- children, teens, seniors, veterans- any one for whom these magical ponies can bring smiles and joy. Our ponies lines trace back over 150 years and were originally called “pit ponies”- working in the ore mines in Scotland, Wales and later WVa and PA. They have a very special affinity for humans. Today we seek out premier therapeutic centers in which to place our ponies. More info can be found on our website www.personalponies.org