



PHOTO BY KIM DARLING

STEED OF STEEL — A steel horse sculpture by Martin McGowan of Newark dangles from the logging truck of Russell Riendau of Lyndonville. It is being placed on a trailer Saturday for travel from Riverside School in Lyndonville to Lancaster, where it will preside over a downtown lot. Assisting McGowan with the move are Riendau, Rick Langford and Lucy Wyman.

Lyndon/Lancaster

Steel Horse Finds New Home Across The River

BY KIM DARLING
Staff Writer

Massive and majestic, the metal horse that has graced the grounds of Riverside School in Lyndon for the past two years, departed by trailer for new pastures Saturday.

The welded steel steed, richly colored by natural oxidation, was formed by sculptor Martin McGowan of Newark, from scraps of old automobiles and other discarded metal.

The horse, one of a series made by the artist, is the result of a long evolutionary process. "I've been working on it on and off for 10 years," said McGowan, as he prepared the sculpture for its journey to Lancaster, which will be its new home.

The horse will stand in a downtown lot that was purchased by the Phoenix Group, a group of citizens who are looking for ways to improve downtown Lancaster.

"Ten people bought that lot so we could have some influence over what it looks like," said Lucy Wyman, a member of the group who helped with the move. The horse will stay in that location while a decision is made on a permanent project for the lot.

Wyman, owner of a Lancaster health food store, said Saturday, "I'm delighted to have (the sculpture). I'm really tickled pink that Martin wants us to have it."

McGowan's parents were on scene to

witness the move. Kari McGowan, the artist's mother, said this sculpture is a particular favorite of hers, because of the ecology of it. She said that people not usually attracted to art will stand and gaze at the horse, seeing within the construction remnants of metal things they remember, such as the bumper of a car from a former decade.

"The most unlikely people like the horse and understand the beauty of it," she said.