



Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

August, 2019

Our thanks to Stuff Etc for supporting Miracles!

Stuff Etc. stores in Coralville, Iowa City and Cedar Rapids, all participated in the Stuff Charity Umbrella Program to benefit Miracles. From May 31st until June 2nd, 10 percent of purchases was donated to the Miracles program. Lois James, board president, was delighted to pick up a check for nearly \$1,400 on July 25th at the Coralville Stuff Etc. store.

Thanks go out to our volunteers who helped distribute coupons as well as Mary Beth Sundblad-Greb, Stuff Etc. owner, Jody Hagerty, Stuff Etc. director of marketing, and the team at Stuff Etc. in Coralville, who participated in the check ceremony.

Stuff Etc. is a great source of quality, gently used clothing, furnishings and more, sold on consignment. If you have items you would like to donate to benefit Miracles, check out their option to give unwanted items to the Miracles charitable store account!



Miracles welcomes Nick Andeway, Farm Maintenance Person

We are delighted to have Nick Andeway on board to work on a variety of projects as well as mowing, routine maintenance and chore detail at Miracles. His farm background is indispensable in helping take care of our 76-acre farm and older farmhouse. Born in Florida, he grew up near Hedrick, Iowa. He headed to Iowa City to attend the University of Iowa. He and his brother have now bought a house in Cedar Rapids that they are currently remodeling in their "spare" time. Although Nick didn't grow up around horses, he's a quick learner and has taken part in horse lead training to learn the "Miracles way".





We're showing our age!

Miracles is so blessed to have a beautiful piece of property that supports our horses, our programs and our volunteers! We use the house for an office, storage of supplies, meeting space, volunteer training and at times a residence for onsite personnel. As with many older homes, it has ongoing maintenance requirements, most of which are provided by our skilled volunteers.

The porch is the first thing that visitors to the property see. Unfortunately, it needs to be replaced. Like many porches on older homes, the underpinnings are giving way. This project is a bit too much to expect from volunteers, so we have reached out to Home Repair Team in North Liberty. They have significantly discounted the price, counting on our volunteers to help with the demolition. Even with the discount, the cost is a bit of a strain on our budget and we are hoping you can help.

Please consider a donation of any amount so that we can continue to maintain and improve the structure that provides so many functions for our programs.

Miracles website: www.miraclesinmotion.com



Spa Day and visitors for Blaze

Of all our therapy horses, Blaze is probably most affected by hot, humid weather. We don't use him in class if the temperature is over 75 degrees. The week of 90-degree-plus temperatures was a particular challenge for us. We ran the arena sprinkler system and gave all of the horses access to the arena, which they definitely took advantage of! A heavy-duty fan was pulling warm air out the west door to create a bit of a breeze. Blaze received extra attention with a cooling wet-down each day.

In preparation for clipping his very thick coat, we recently did even more with a shampoo, rinse, dry and then haircut. He was in a stall with a fan blowing and seemed to very much appreciate the attention!

Thanks to Liz Ford and Diana Harris for the extra pampering!



All this was just in time for a visit from Ellen and Kaylee Deisbeck. The Deisbeck family participates in our Adopt-a-Horse program and as a family chose Blaze as their "adoptee". For the second day in a row, he benefited from extra attention – and a few extra treats from Kaylee.

We still have several therapy horses that would like to be adopted! If you are interested, check out the particulars on our website.

Check out our horses available for "adoption" under "Horses" on our website.

It's just one more way to support Miracles!

Thanks to a great fencing crew!

Our appreciation goes out to neighbor, Joel Van Zante; board members, Joe Petta and Jerry Mohwinkle; farm maintenance person, Nick Andeway; as well as volunteers Bruce Guyer and Stan Barta for putting up a fence that will make the south pasture much more functional and safe for the horses! This spring, we were again challenged by a boggy area in the south pasture – with more than

one vehicle becoming stuck in soft ground! It also ended up being an escape route for a couple of our adventuresome horses! By running a fence east and west and dividing the south pasture, we are able to have another area for facilitating pasture management and

introducing new horses to the herd. Joel brought his skid steer with an auger to quickly dig holes for the posts; Nick and Joe had the job well organized with fence posts and rails already laid out and Jerry, Bruce and Stan brought a “can do” attitude that made what could have been an all-day project into a morning of hard work.



Phase two of our newly divided pasture – goats and sheep to clear off the vegetation!

Once our new pasture area was secure, we needed to get rid of some unsavory (at least to horses) vegetation that was hiding some large rocks making it difficult to mow without potential damage to equipment. Twin Pine Farm in Manchester brought a trailer of voracious goats and sheep to help with the vegetation removal. It was quite the sight to see the horses watch their temporary pasture mates being unloaded! I'd have to say “curious, but wary”. Once the goats and sheep decided it was okay to exit the safety of their trailer, about 35 animals quickly jumped out and disappeared in the several-foot-high vegetation. This environmentally safe way to get rid of undesirable and noxious weeds is a great solution for Miracles as goats prefer poison ivy, garlic mustard, curly dock, honeysuckle and Canadian thistle to grass for food. Once the goats have done their job, the horses and periodic mowing will keep the pasture healthy.

Our thanks to Twin Pine Farm— they have donated the services of their goats and sheep this year! If you interested in helping fund future pasture clean-up—head over the website to donate.



BOO AT THE BARN!!!

The date for our Third Annual Boo at the Barn has been announced so mark your calendars for October 26 - and start thinking about your costume today! We will be reaching out shortly for volunteers to help with this delightful event!



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
3RD ANNUAL BOO AT THE BARN
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH
12 TO 1 PM EARLY ACCESS FOR OUR FRIENDS
1 PM TO 3 PM WITH SENSORY SENSITIVITIES
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

 *Miracles in Motion*
THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

2049 120th Street SW Swisher, Iowa 52338