



# Miracles in Motion

THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN CENTER

June 2020

## Blaze gets his summer cut

Thanks to Diana Harris, our PATH instructor, and volunteer, Liz Ford, for giving Blaze his summer cut. Blaze is a Belgium/Haflinger mix and really suffers in the heat and humidity. On the hottest days, you can find him in the arena firmly planted in front of the fan. He was very patient as Diana and Liz trimmed away some of his excess coat. Check out the highlights in this video. <https://vimeo.com/428846797>



Prepping for trimming



I was patient, now where are my treats!

## From the Directors Desk...

Fulfilling our mission to foster personal achievement by providing equestrian activities with therapeutic, educational, and recreational benefits for persons of disabilities, has presented us with new challenges during the current health crisis. The way we achieve this mission for now needs to look different. I do believe in times of uncertainty we need to be creative in our daily approach. Here at Miracles in Motion, we have done that in many ways.

Diana Harris, our PATH instructor, along with a few volunteers, have taken videos that will stream on Zoom. We are planning weekly educational classes with a horse involved for some of our students in the coming weeks. We wanted a way to stay in touch with our student community and provide an educational experience at the same time. Interested students should contact us at Miracles in Motion.

Miracles will provide a photo of two of horses on our website and Facebook each week. You can post what you think that these two horses are saying to each other. We have often said, we wish our horses could talk! A fun way to interact with Miracles and the herd!

We also welcome anyone writing a letter to any of our horses. We will read the letter to the horse that you choose and post that video on our website for everyone to view!

Everyday day life continues at Miracles with farrier and vet visits, tending to the gardens, mowing, care of the herd, and exercising the herd to ensure that they will be ready when classes resume. All being done, while staying safe with our exceptional and caring volunteers.

Thinking of everyone. Be safe and take care!

Deb Leichsenring, Director of Operations



What are Memphis and Lucky talking about?

Email your thoughts to  
[miraclesinmotion@gmail.com](mailto:miraclesinmotion@gmail.com)

Check out more horse conversations on our website:

[www.miraclesinmotion.com](http://www.miraclesinmotion.com)



Last month's horse conversations featuring Jasper (on left) and Diamond. Here are some of the response:

Jasper: I'm hungry, it must be time to go in  
Diamond: You're always hungry and ready to go in! - Tracy

Jasper: Hey Diamond, check out the new kids on the farm.  
Diamond: Yeah, they're just rookies here  
Jasper: Right. We've got the seniority and all the right moves  
Diamond: I suppose we have to train another pair of recruits.  
Jasper: Yup. Here we go again! – Jackie

"Ready, set, aim", says the red horse (Diamond)  
"Spare me", says the black horse (Jasper) - Luke

Jasper: I'll take the small one's tail.  
Diamond: Okay, I'll move around and distract the big one. - Nancy

### Thank you to The McIntyre Foundation

Miracles would like to thank The McIntyre Foundation for its continued support of our programs, particularly during this very difficult time. Their significant annual donation makes such a difference in our ability to provide therapeutic riding classes to those with special needs. The McIntyre Foundation is a private foundation started by the former chairman and son of the founder of United Fire Group, Scotty McIntyre. The Foundation's support is deeply appreciated.

THE  
**McIntyre**  
FOUNDATION

### Memphis arrives at Miracles

Our two newest horses at the farm, Memphis and Shadow, have become fast friends. If you would like to view a video of Memphis' arrival and the first time he and Shadow met, follow this link <https://vimeo.com/422919909>



**Thanks to Twin Pine Farm** for sponsoring our newsletter! Check them out on their website: [www.iowagoats.com](http://www.iowagoats.com) as well as on Facebook. Contact them at [io-wa1spanishgoats@yahoo.com](mailto:io-wa1spanishgoats@yahoo.com).

### Volunteer Michelle Reitinger brings beauty to Miracles

Michelle, a kindergarten teacher at Prairie View, found she had extra time on her hands because of the Covid 19 pandemic. While watching the local news, she saw a feature story on Miracles in Motion. When she heard that Miracles' gardens were in need of some tender loving care, she said she knew "this was the place for me".

For Michelle "working at Miracles is so rewarding because every time I come out to volunteer, new flowers are blooming. It is a beautiful reflection of how many volunteers before me have put in the time to make Miracles a beautiful place".

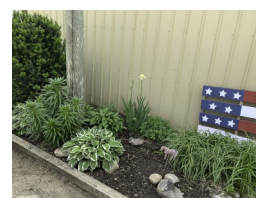
Michelle does have a favorite garden, the area next to the barn. "It was overgrown with a lot of weeds, but when I was cleaning it out, I discovered that there were so many beautiful plants just waiting to be seen again. I also discovered two metal horse stakes and it is fun to have them visible again. All of the gardens are so beautiful with so many donated plants blooming this time of year".

Thank you, Michelle! If anyone is interested in getting your hands in the dirt and helping Miracles, we have gardens waiting for you.

Your protection remains our primary concern, so we are asking you to come by yourself, bring your own garden gloves and tools. If you would like to wear a mask, please do. If it happens that more than one person shows up at the same time to garden, Miracles has several gardens spread around the house so not more than one person would be in any garden.

Please let Deb Leichsenring, director of operations, know if when you are coming by calling the office at 319.857.4141 or her cell at 319.360.9501 or emailing her at [miraclesinmotion@gmail.com](mailto:miraclesinmotion@gmail.com).

We are in the country and can't promise you won't run into poison ivy in the gardens. Remember - Leaves of three, let it be!



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