



Horses Need Homes



Morgan talks with Dreamy, a thoroughbred, as she works to identify and tag animals at McKillian Farms in Fairfield, Florida on Friday, Oct. 1, 2010. The farm's owner, Suzy Blommaerts, returned to Belgium, and left all of the animals behind.

McKillian Farm owner departs

By Carlos E. Medina

compiled from and courtesy of Ocala Star Banner

The owner of McKillian Farms in Flemington in Northwest Marion County apparently left the country, leaving behind 40 thoroughbred horses and more than two dozen dogs and cats on the 30-acre farm.

Susie Blommaerts told a neighbor she was leaving for Belgium. Before she left, however, she gathered the horses' papers and signed blank bills of sale for the ones she owned. The person who was left in charge of the farm called the Horse Protection Association of Florida on Friday seeking help.

Most of the horses belong to clients who boarded the animals at the farm, but the association says between 10 and 15 horses - mostly thoroughbred broodmares - will need adoption, said Morgan Silver, executive director of the association, which is located near Micanopy, close to the Marion/Alachua county line.

"There was no abandonment because

she left the animals in someone's care. There is no cruelty because the animals are in good shape. She left the situation better than most of the cases we get. She left some food and they are all fat and well cared for. Their feet need some work, but it's nothing serious," Silver said. Also on the farm were about 20 cats and six dogs.

The owners of the boarded horses were contacted and they have started picking up their horses, said Kim Heath, the president of the HPAF's board of directors. "The farm was sold, but the closing was not completed yet," said Heath, who added that the buyer of the farm may keep some of Blommaerts' horses. Right now we're going to try to care and feed all the

animals here at the farm while they are adopted out. There is some food, but we are going to need more, and any donations we can get would go a long way. We are really stretched beyond our means," she said.

It wasn't immediately clear why Blommaerts left the country. It was not known if any of the broodmares owned by Blommaerts were pregnant, but there was a yearling among the horses. "Most of them are older broodmares for racing stock," said Heath.

Silver said the number of horses being turned over or abandoned has increased this year as the economy continues to struggle. "Nothing surprises me anymore.

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Horse Protection Association Of Florida's mission of rescuing horses who are victims of abuse, neglect, and abandonment, IS ACCOMPLISHED SOLELY BY YOUR DONATIONS.

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**FTBOA
Golf Tournament
Benefits HPAF**

On October 15th Florida Thoroughbred Charities held their annual charity golf tournament at Golden Hills Country Club. This annual event was to be canceled but through the tremendous efforts of the staff of Golden Hills. The clubhouse and course are beautiful and the tournament was a resounding success with 144 golfers, and lots of great prizes.

Special thanks to the dynamic Deni Alexander, Darren Robinson, Janis Getz, Jose Sanchez, Bill Atkins, Jaye McCarthy, Lucille Rideout, Gracie Forbes, Wayne Green, Bernie Dickman, Marti and Dave Haut, Paul Sharp, Charlie and Linda Dobbs, Jimmy Alexander, Kathy Cairns, Peggy Sprinkles, and all of the wonderful volunteers, donors, and golfers who made this event a tremendous success.

**MATCHING
DONATION**

**NOW THROUGH
DECEMBER 31ST**

An anonymous donor has offered to match donations totaling \$10,000, received between November 3rd and December 31st. Please help us meet this goal!

HPAF Receives Grant

Horse Protection Association of Florida (www.hpaf.org) is pleased to announce that they are the recipient of a grant from Blue Horse Charities. Blue Horse Charities awards grants to rescue organizations for Thoroughbreds that they have successfully adopted into a second career. HPAF adopted out 90 horses in 2009, 57 of them Thoroughbreds. We are honored to receive this grant; it will help HPAF's



Heart - July, 19, 2010



Heart - September 20, 2010



Precious - August 29, 2010



Precious - November 3, 2010

mission to help neglected and unwanted horses. HPAF is truly grateful for the support of Blue Horse Charities and Thoroughbred Charities of America.

Martin Stables, South

In March of this year, HPAF took on the large project of assisting with the feeding, caring for, and disbursement of the horses at Martin Stables South in Reddick, FL. Upwards of 80 Thoroughbreds, Quarter horses, and a few other breeds needed new homes right away.

Ed Martin, the owner of Martin Stables South worked with HPAF president, Kim Heath in finding new homes for the horses, and provided full access to his farm and employees.

All the horses were re-homed by mid-August, 2010.

We wish to thank all the volunteers, adopters, and donators for assisting in this endeavor, and to Ed Martin for his cooperation with this immense undertaking on the part of Horse Protection Assn. of Florida.

4th Annual Have a Heart Ride

Thanks to all participators in the Have A Heart For Horses Poker Ride at Tidewater in the Goethe Forest on November 6th. 60 riders participated and raised \$2262, for HPAF. A very special thanks goes to Cheri McDermott for her Herculean efforts to organize and run this event for the fourth year in a row.

Donner Grant

HPAF has received a grant from the William H. Donner Foundation. This foundation memorializes it's founder's vision and willingness to take risks that characterized his business and philanthropic career. We are forever grateful for their support of our work, and the horses we serve.

Parelli Rendezvous

HPAF had the great fortune to attend the Parelli Rendezvous in Jacksonville. Parelli Savvy club members and Parelli professionals brought their horses to

(continued on page 7)

new rescues

! EMERGENCY ADOPTIONS NEEDED !



Bob, yearling



Cherry Cola, yearling



Explosive Secret, 25-year-old



First Patty, 15-year-old



Hope and Filly



Lady of the Night, 7-year-old



Paso



Mara's Hooligan, 13-year-old



Yearling Paso filly



Silver Sun and Pat Trick, yearlings

featured horses

READY FOR ADOPTION



Brave Ruler — 3yo, 15.1hh TB gelding. Broke to race, but too laid-back to run. Great disposition, loves people.



Heart — 3-year-old filly, approx. 14:1 hands. She has no training but is easy to handle and willing to learn.



J.J. — 12yo Standardbred gelding, retired racehorse, now a great pleasure driving horse. Started under saddle.



Rosie — 4yo mare, 14.3hh, Parelli foundation and six wks under saddle. Needs adopter who will continue training.



Miss Diva — 3 year old mini. Afraid of people, she needs a patient loving horse person to bring her along.



Tony Pony — sweet 25-year-old medium pony. Former kid's barrel racer.

If you have an unwanted item to donate or and / or would like to make a contribution please call:

352-466-4366



Special Thanks

Many thanks to all the veterinarians, adopters, donors, and volunteers for their help with the McKillian Farm case. They made it possible for us to handle a large undertaking.

Dr. Sarah Kirk, Dr. Salpeter, Dr. Fleck, Dr. William Russell, Dr. Rick Erwin, Doctors-to-be Oswald, Bernal, Lewandowski, Spencer, Kathy, Jackie Diamond, Julie Osborne, Mandy Pope, Lambholm South, James Calderazzo, Joe Switt, Sharon Duncan, Raymond Einhorn, Ken Westlye, Ursula Garfield, Terry Moore, Omar Ramirez, Tina Evers, Phyllis Thurman, Julie Rawlins, Judy Mahon, Alexis Greenburg, Kathy Pennenga, Dr. Fleck, Sheltering Hands, Katherine Duval

Thanks again to Dr. Joan Gariboldi for all the ways she continuously supports us.

Thanks to Karen and Miles Anderson for fostering four malnourished Paso Fino horses. They were there when the horses needed them.

Thanks go to Kathy Pennenga, Stacey Ewing, and Missy Clapp for fostering Zen. Thanks again to Kathy for maintaining our Facebook page!

Thank you Kate Seabury for fostering the TB mare Baby Doll, and the Paso mare and foal from the Hillsborough case, and going to Tampa to pick them up.

Thank you to Mark Morell for the much needed donation of mats.

Thank you Sharn Wordly for fostering Dreamy, Kissy, Dawn Premier, Sultan, and for training Cherry Cola.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Do you have eBay skills?

We need to sell some items on eBay.

— Call Julie —

Outstanding Contributors

William H. Donner Foundation	Donald Manuchia
Blue Horse Charities	Abercrombie Foundation
Florida Thoroughbred Farm Managers	Camp Lenny Foundation
Graham Foundation	Marion County Horseman's Association
Michael A. Nuzzo	Lou and Margie Fischer
Hennessey Arabians	Fran Marino
Richard Reed	Susan Nulman

Horse Sponsors

(Name of horse sponsored follows)

Jean Pecor of Shelburne, VT	- Cindy
Karen Fischer of Ocala, FL	- Bandero
Beverley West of Miami, FL	- Sandman
Alice Crum of Havana, FL	-- Scarlett
Virginia Day & Michael Chapman	- Prince Edward
Richard Reed of Miami, FL	- Toni
Rosemary Taylor & Eugene Rodriguez of Brandon, FL	- Cali & Fez
Kathie Schlesinger of Coral Gables, FL	- MooMoo
Susan Dresnick of Pinecrest, FL	- Tawanda
Dianne Haddick of Cheverly, MD	- Buttercup
Elly Mims of Miami, FL	- Safiro

Donations — In Honor of

Byron Rice	Robert H. Scott
Melissa Forsberg	William and Susan Forsberg
Michael Johnson	Mary Johnson
John Schaefer's 82nd	Carolyn S. Howd

BIRTHDAY:

Braille	Victoria Babcock
Lee Split	John and Jayne Healy
Bravo	Hans and Violeik Papenfuss
Hillcrest Tishamba	Madge M. Gunia



Congratulations New Adopters! _____



Rich Miller and Surprise



John Raymond and Hobby



Katherine Duval and Ginny Auxier



Ronda Hyatt and Merlin



Joe Switty and Missy



Karen Jolly and Magic Bill



Polo Baez and Spice

In Loving Memory of Penelope and Thunder



Veteran rescues, Thunder and Penelope, lived many good years in the safe and peaceful environment of HPAF.

Thunder came to HPAF on a stormy September 14, 2001 from Palm Beach Animal Services. Emaciated and laminitic, Thunder was a sad looking guy. He came to the farm with Buck our dear friend

who was with us for four years before passing at age 36. Penelope was rescued, emaciated, in Alachua County in 2005. At age 30 she recovered and was a beautiful, healthy girl while here at HPAF.

Thunder and Penelope were inseparable. They might wander a little apart, but never for long. Penelope lost sight in one eye and would sometimes lose track of Thunder and call out for him until he whinnied and she found him. They were the matriarch and patriarch of the farm for the last five years. They got their bananas every morning as they could not chew carrots, they had three meals a day of soaked cubes, senior feed, and peanut hay sifted to just leaves. It is not the same without them. They were dearly loved and are missed everyday. A very special thank you to Michael Nuzzo of South Miami, sponsor of Penelope and Thunder since 2005. They had a loving sponsor who cared deeply about them and made sure that they had the very best of everything. ❖

Donations — In Memory

Celia W. Coll	Celia Coll
Louis Trepto	Gretchen Trepto
Helen Greening	Vicki Wilson
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Thunder & Penelope	Michael A. Nuzzo
Wishbone (Big Red)	Laura Nicholson
Skipaway	Margaret and Kenneth
.....	Kaplan
Solar Hawk, April & Lady	Geraldine Fuller
Lekka	Laura L. Wolfe
Sharon Jerdeman	Holy Guacamole

(McKillian Farm Owner Departs, continued from page 1)

We get calls every day from people that are trying to get rid of their horses," she said.

The association is currently caring for about 100 horses, 25 of which are in temporary foster care on other farms because there is no more room on the association's farm. Typically, the HPAF averages about 60 horses for adoption. Once the horses are sorted, their information and photos will be added to the association's adoption rolls, which can be seen at their website at www.hpaf.org.

To complicate matters, the association now has to care for the cats and dogs. "Most shelters are not accepting adult cats. We're kind of out of our league with the cats and dogs," Silver said.

As of November 1st, all of the cats and dogs have new homes, nine of the horses have been adopted with five older horses and one 5-year-old still in need of homes. ❖

(Parelli Rendezvous, continued from page 3)

showcase the relationship they had developed with their horse partners. Watching these folks with their horses was truly inspiring. Horses were being ridden in halters or only ropes around their necks. Watching people playing the Seven Games with their horses was like watching a choreographed ballet of horse and human.

So many horses with no halter or lead rope, completely at liberty, following and playing with their humans with clear, but silent gestural communication between them. Seeing what is possible between horse and human, not just with high level professionals, but with people who love their horses and spend time with them to develop these incredible relationships, made our weekend special. ❖

WISH LIST

With the continued rise in the number of homeless or neglected horses, the need for supplies and equipment increases. Your generous support helps ensure a road to recovery for so many of these horses.

- Quarantine Barn**
- Intensive Care Barn / Mare Barn**
- Indoor Arena**
- Tree trimming, culverts, & fill dirt**
- Newer truck for hauling horses**
- 24' x 7' or higher stock trailer with cut gate**
- Oak trees**
- 2.5 miles of 4 ft. no-climb horse fencing**
- 400 - 6 - 7" posts / 1200 fence boards**
- Horse-safe black fence paint**
- 1,000 black electric fence insulators**
- Heavy duty wire, tensioners, gate hooks and stretchers.**
- Solar fence chargers**
- 10 or 12 foot Bush Hog**
- Weed eater / Pasture drags**
- 5 ft WW stock Panels**
- Stall mats**
- Natural Horsemanship 12 & 22 foot lines**
- Printer Ink (HP 93, 95, 98 & Brother LC 61)**
- Stamps / Recycled copy paper**
- Feed store credit**



Horse Protection Association of Florida

20690 NW 130th Avenue • Micanopy, FL 32667
Tel: 352-466-4366 • Fax: 352-466-4072

www.hpaf.org

**ANONYMOUS DONOR
TO MATCH DONATIONS
See page 2**



Your support helps save lives!

HPAF MEMBERSHIP FORM

- | | | | |
|--|-------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Membership | \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor | \$350 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rescuer | \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winner's Circle | \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$_____ |

To help the horses, please fill out this form and mail it in with your tax-deductible donation.

PLEASE MAIL TO:

Horse Protection Association of Florida, Inc.
20690 NW 130th Avenue
Micanopy, Florida 32667

Tel: (352) 466-4366
Fax: (352) 466-4072
Email: hpaf@bellsouth.net

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Email: _____

Please charge \$ _____ to my (please check) Visa _____ or Mastercard _____

Name on card _____ Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

does your company have a matching gift program? Company name: _____

The Horses Thank You!

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