

Farmington woman leads Horses' Haven in huge rescue effort

BY VALERIE OLANDER
STAFF WRITER

Disbelief is the typical reaction when hearing about the 57 neglected horses that were quartered in an unkempt stable in Davison Township.

The conditions were so inhumane two of the horses have since died and many others still bear the scars of being stalled in manure several feet deep and having unclipped hooves.

Action has been another response. A number of volunteers from Horses' Haven have donated their time and money to help in the animals' rescue and care.

Farmington resident Holly Williams is the vice president of the 2-year-old non-profit group, Rescuing the Davison Township horses was their first assignment.

"When I was called about the rescue, I said, 'But 57 on our first try,'" said the EDS systems administrator.

Last week, horse owners Susan and James Knotts signed a plea agreement in Flint's 67th District Court to one count each of felony animal cruelty punishable up to four years in jail. They will be sentenced Feb. 17 in Genesee Circuit Court.

The only count in response to an autopsy on one of the horses that revealed there

was no fat in its bone marrow. The horse starved to death.

The horses are expected to be given to Horses' Haven permanently and given up for adoption, said Williams.

The nonprofit group has temporarily housed the animals at a South Lyon stable since their rescue began Dec. 29.

"They probably have never been touched by humans. Some have never gotten out to get exercise," said Dan Carr, a teacher at Tonka Elementary School in Canton Township.

Carr spends five to seven days a week as a volunteer for Horses' Haven. He feeds, brushes and exercises the horses. The stalls also need to be swept and cleaned.

"Once I saw how needy they were, I couldn't turn my back on them. I was committed until the end," he said.

Carr has two horses of his own at his Superior Township home. Williams began riding as a teen in Farmington, currently the site of the Deerfield Apartments.

A number of the horses have been named by the volunteers. There is "Tu-Tone," named because one side of the horse was all black with manure and the other all white, and "Hingles," a baby who had 50 to 60 pounds of manure caked on him.

"He laid down for the entire



Muzzle nuzzle: Holly Williams shows some affection to a previously abused horse rescued by her group, Horses' Haven, based at a South Lyon stable.

first day because he couldn't stand at all. We called him Jingles because you could hear the clumps of manure clanging together when we took him out to get exercise," said Williams.

"St. Peter" was a black stallion that wasn't expected to live. His hooves were so long they curled and cut into his legs. He couldn't stand up.

"He was in such bad condition we named him St. Peter because we figured he needed a good name to get through the Pearly Gates," she said.

On Jan. 30, St. Peter died at Michigan State University where the horse was getting medical attention.

"There is no logical reason why someone would do this. I guess it would be for the same reason people murder and rape," said Carr.

Districts plot Durant II suit

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The ink from the Durant settlement isn't dry yet. But Farmington Public Schools and other Michigan districts are considering joining a new lawsuit against the state regarding its funding of special education and other mandated programs.

"The issue isn't settled," said Farmington schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield, a member of a liaison committee working with attorneys on the issue. "Retrospectively, it's settled (with the Durant ruling), but prospectively it's not."

Money awarded by the state for that lawsuit, approximately \$211 million, covers 1991-94, Maxfield said.

A lawsuit, probably in the Michigan Court of Appeals, would attempt to draw clear, legal guidelines for how the state pays for special education in the future. Both Maxfield and an attorney working with the liaison committee estimated that the state is paying about 10 percent of special ed costs during 1997-98, less than the 28 percent required under the Headlee Amendment.

According to Richard Kroopnick of Bloomfield Hills-based legal firm Folland & Albertson P.C., the state is underfunding special ed this year by about \$350 million. That figure was determined by accounting firm Plante & Moran, he added.

"It (a new lawsuit) is definitely being discussed," Kroopnick said, adding that districts are being contacted to determine their interest in joining a case. "This would be for the years beginning in 1997-98... because the state hasn't come close to complying with what the (Michigan) Supreme Court ordered."

"What we'd expect if we file this kind of litigation is it would require that the state comply with the Headlee Amendment" regarding special education funding, Kroopnick said.

He said a lawsuit, if there is to be one, probably would be filed "in the next couple of months."

Elementary from page A1

their school career. Electronic portfolios and multi-media presentations are other examples. "We're on the edge of this revolution in elementary education that's so exciting," McKinley said.

Collation noted that some parts of the recommendations are already being tested in the district. But one key is to find extra planning time for teachers.

"Farmington schools does have resources we can draw from to get started and hopefully, we'll be able to add the important resource of planning time," Collinson said.

White said the foreign language pilot program would begin in 1999, at two schools where it would be a good fit.

"We're building toward language proficiency," White continued. "We believe you will see a much higher level of fluency in foreign language the earlier you introduce it."

The program would probably impact both foreign language curriculum in middle schools and high schools and an existing

lunchtime foreign language class taught by the district's community education department (See related story, page A2).

"The earlier you introduce foreign language, it's bound to affect programs all the way up the line. So, as we move forward, we'll just have to make the revisions and adjustments," White said.

School board President Linda Enberg said a foreign language pilot program for elementary schools "makes sense, but we have to start slow with it."

Educare approved, too

Meanwhile, the school board Tuesday night also approved expanding Educare, a full-day program for kindergartners whose parents pay tuition. It will be continued at Hillside Elementary School and Alameda and Fairview early childhood centers, and expanded as needed.

Educare could expand to Lanigan and Woodcreek elementary schools, if there's sufficient interest.

Farmington Observer
(ISSN 107-4402)
Published every Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Made, Farmington, MI 48030-2810. Periodical postage paid at Farmington, MI 48030-2810. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric, Newspapers 805 E. Made, Farmington, MI 48030-2810. Telephone 313-591-1100.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

ONE YEAR (in Oakland County)	\$42.00
Newsletters	per copy, 75¢
Home Delivery	per copy, 40¢
Mail	per year, \$3.00

All advertising published in the Farmington Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. The Farmington Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric does not accept liability for loss of or damage to advertising materials. Advertisements are accepted on the understanding that the advertiser warrants the accuracy of the advertisement's content.

READER SERVICE

HOW TO REACH US

- Newsroom: 248-477-9450
- Nightline/Sports: 313-953-2141
- Reader Comment Line: 313-593-2042
- Classified Advertising: 313-591-2300
- Display Advertising: 313-591-2300
- Home Delivery: 248-901-4716
- Cable TV Weekly: 313-953-2190

HOMELINE: 313-953-2020

- Open houses and new developments in your area.
- Free real estate seminar information.
- Current mortgage rates.

CLASSIFIED AFTER HOURS: 313-591-0900

Place classified ads at your convenience.

CIRCULATION AFTER HOURS
OAKLAND COUNTY: 248-901-4716

If you have a question about home delivery or of you did not receive your paper, please call one of our customer service representatives during the following hours:
SUNDAY: 8 AM - NOON
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY: 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM

Request SUBSCRIPTIONS:
FAX LINE: 313-953-2288

You can use a MasterCard or Visa to access the following information from our classified ads. This service is available by noon Wednesday and Friday:

- Item No. 9402: Looking for a place to rent or someone to share an apartment will? Get a listing of our rental classifieds. Cost: \$5.95.
- Item No. 9800: Recreation: boats, motorcycles, campers, airplanes, etc. Cost: \$5.95.
- Item No. 9822: Vehicles: Used trucks, vans and all makes of automobiles. Cost: \$39.95.

HOME ON-LINE: 248-644-1100

You can access On-Line information about any communications software—PC or Macintosh. On-Line users can:

- Send and receive unlimited email.
- Access all features of the Internet—Telnet, Gopher, WWW and more.
- Read electronic editions of the Observer & Eccentric.
- Chat with users across town or across the country.

If you need help signing on to our service, just call the **O & E On-Line Hotline: 313-953-2266**

PHOTO REPRINTS: 313-591-0500

Request reprints of pictures that have been taken by our staff photographers:

- Provide the publication date, page number, and description of the picture, which must have been published within the past 6 months.
- \$20 for the first print, \$7.50 for each additional print paid in advance (check or credit card).

SHANGRI-LA
GOURMET CHINESE RESTAURANT

Featuring Authentic HONG KONG Style Cooking

Wonderful Traditional Favorites...Super Variety of Dining Specialties

- LIVE PISH, LOBSTER, and CRAB in one tank, **COOKED TO ORDER**
- DIM SUM LUNCH SPECIALS 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- SAT. SUN. DIM SUM 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- LUNCH SPECIALS 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- CARRY OUTS AVAILABLE

HOURS:
Monday thru Sunday 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.

6407 ORCHARD LAKE ROAD
In The Orchard Mall
481-9288

CONSIGNMENT Interiors

NOW ACCEPTING:

- Sofa's • Chairs
- Tables • Lamps
- Linens
- Art Objects
- Rugs • Beds
- Children's Toys & Furniture

IT ALL SELLS!!!
Northville • Open 7 Days
Highland Lakes Shopping Center
42048 W 7 Mile
Ph. 248-347-4731

It wasn't the snoring that kept me up all night, it was the silence in between.

If your spouse snores loudly and periodically stops breathing throughout the night, it could be something serious. Your spouse may be one of 12 million Americans who have a life-threatening sleep disorder called sleep apnea. See your doctor or one of our sleep specialists.

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE FOR SLEEP MEDICINE

- William T. Allen, MD, Diplomate American Board of Sleep Medicine
- Timothy Hsu, MD, Diplomate American Board of Sleep Medicine

PROVIDENCE HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTERS

Sleep Disorders Center
47601 Grand River Avenue
Novi, Michigan 48374
248-380-4290

Sleep Apnea. It's no way to sleep. It's no way to live.

Couples Only!
Have a Romantic Valentine's Day Portrait done on our Balloons and Roses Background This Saturday for only **\$19.95**

Limited to first 16 couples
Call Now
LaMoore Photography
(734) 261-4660

Prestige Dry Cleaners

COUPON

30% OFF

INCOMING DRYCLEANING
Excludes leathers, suedes, furs & wedding gowns

Offer good through 3-14-98

1 2 3

COUPON MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE TIME OF SERVICE
18219 Woodward
Farmington, MI 48030
Call 248-224-2222