



Speak Up For Horses

www.speakupforhorses.org

Happy Spring to everyone! Here's the skinny on what's happening with Speak Up For Horses.

We are in negotiations for a 70 plus acre farm in Bracken County Kentucky! It is the PERFECT farm. Not only is it strategically located on the AA Highway, but it has beautifully rolling pasture land naturally divided by tree lines. It is a historic piece of property with an aged home in need of TLC that goes back to the early 1800's and a fabulous Charlotte's Web type log pin barn perfect for visiting children to sprawl in the hayloft or pet the ponies. We have one major donation, but we are in desperate need of further purchase money. There are lots of grants available for fencing, barns, pastures, trees, etc. so we are confident once we secure the property that the improvements can begin.

How can you help? By spreading the word about our fundraising effort since any size financial contribution helps the purchase fund, and you just never know who might be wanting to give a major tax deductible contribution to further our cause. By telling everyone you know to do their online shopping by going to the links on our site. Those vendors on our site donate to us every time someone uses our links to access their site for purchases. By using <http://www.goodsearch.com> for all your internet searches. When you sign up Speak Up for Horses, Inc. in the donation box the first time you search, Goodsearch donates a penny for each search you make. By asking organizations and businesses with whom you have connections to chip in either by a fundraiser, by passing the hat, or by again just spreading the word. By just putting out your hand to your friends and saying, how about a few dollars to help this really cool organization? By sharing with us suggested names and addresses of people to whom we should send one of our fundraising letters about our farm project.

Two special horses came to us: Wolf and Ariel. Wolf is a 20 year old retired race horse and broodmare whose owner died. The owner's mom asked for our help making sure Wolf's future was a safe one. Wolf is temporarily living with Shelly until Wolf can cut the ribbon as the first official resident at our equine center. Ariel is a very talented quarter horse who needed a fresh start in the hands of an experienced horse person who could enjoy her talents. She is now living in Cynthiana Kentucky on a beautiful farm with several horses, dogs, goats, chickens, ducks and pigs where she is teaching a young horse the lessons of life and being ridden on the hundreds of acres of trails surrounding this farm. Thank you John for opening your heart to this special mare and thank you Jeanie for your donation.

Our bundles of books project affectionately named SaddleUp for StoryTime launched in March. We donated 21 horse books to a Pendleton County elementary school where the library was devoid of horse books. Now the children can snuggle with Flicka, Black Beauty, Misty of Chincoteague, the Black Stallion and Sing. Who is Sing? Sing is the racehorse in the darling children's book entitled [Sing and Alex](#). The author Rob Saur has graciously

offered to donate a portion of the sale of each book to Speak Up. You can purchase his book through PayPal by going to his site at <http://www.childrenshorsebooks.com/> . Make sure you specify you want the donation to go to Speak Up For Horses.

On the legislative front we have some BIG news. All three US horse slaughter plants are currently closed! The two in Texas are closed because the US District Court ruled that a 1948 Texas State Law is not outdated and stands as law; thus ending the slaughter of horses for human consumption there at this time. The Illinois plant closed last week with a US Court judge ruled that the USDA acted in bad faith by ignoring Congress' appropriations vote last year to defund USDA inspectors. This decision is monumental. An injunction can still be filed, so pray the Courts uphold this ruling and deny the injunction.

However, horses are still being hauled to Canada and Mexico for slaughter and that includes hundreds each week from our tri-state community. Until Congress passes the Horse Slaughter Prevention Act this cruel practice will continue. We ask that you write/fax/call your US Representative asking that House Bill 503 be passed and then write/fax/call your US Senators and ask they pass Senate Bill 311.

We plan to be out in the community soon at neighborhood events and such. We are finishing up some handouts and targeting some good places to be seen. If you have ideas and/or would like to staff a table, please contact us.

Now that the weather is getting better, if you'd like to visit Wolf in Kentucky or Lucy and Desi in Amelia Ohio, please contact us. While it would certainly be a lot more fun to visit them down on our farm, until we have the farm, they are willing entertainers in their current digs.

Keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we work tirelessly to help horses in need and to educate our community about horse welfare.

The pace remains a fast one one of thundering hooves.

Sincerely,

Ginger, Paula and Shelly
<http://www.SpeakUpForHorses.org>