

The Rundown

A Quarterly Newsletter

November 2020

Issue #9

We Are Thankful For Our Volunteers

Hope Lives has been blessed with a wonderful group of kind and generous volunteers. We would be lost without them! I want to specifically thank a few irreplaceable members who have given their all.

Hannah lives just down the road from us. You will find her cleaning stalls or braiding a mane one or two times a week at the ranch. Even though she is one of our younger volunteers, her attention to detail is remarkable. I can always tell when Hannah has been out to the barn because it is usually spotless after she leaves.

Tiffani owns Cezar. He is a star equine member of our program. Tiffani lets us use him every summer to work with our students. On top of that, she cleans stalls and feeds horses in the morning two or three times a week and is always willing to take up the extra slack when we need it.

Juli helps us with everything from scheduling and running Donkey Calm Encounters to pulling weeds. She has been an invaluable resource in helping us develop our organizational structure and is always coming up with new ideas to help us fundraise or streamline our processes.



Volunteer Linda and Winston



Volunteer Addison and Mabel

Linda started volunteering with us to take care of Winston's hair and keep him exercised. His breed is one of the hairiest in the world and they are typically hard to keep fit, so it is a big job! Now she comes out twice a week to help with chores as well.

We also have a group of students who come out in the evenings to help feed the horses.

Whether you come out once a year or once a week, we could not do this without you. Thank you for all that you do!

If you are interested in joining our volunteer team, please contact us at www.hopelivesyouthranch.org/contact or send us an email at hopelivesrr@gmail.com. Many hands make light work, and there is always work to do! We are still in need of people who would like to help with morning chores around the ranch on Tuesdays and Fridays, and we can always use more people on our hay team; transferring the hay bale delivery into the barn loft.

Great Strides

I met a girl this summer who was struggling with anxiety. I asked her out to the ranch when our 2020 season ended. She would not say much to me when she first got here and she was nervous around the horses. I paired her with Cezar. Cezar stood like a rock while she brushed him and petted him. She was only going to be able to visit us once, so we put the saddle on Cezar, just in case, but left the barn with no intention of riding. Cezar was patient and sweet while she got comfortable leading him around the riding ring, walking him over some ground poles, and getting him to stop and turn. Eventually, she turned to me and asked quietly if she could ride. I nodded and we took Cezar to the stairs where she could climb on. I led her around while she got used to the movement of the horse beneath her and slowly she began chatting about her dogs at home and what she liked to do. By the end of the session, she asked if we could do a few steps of trot on him before we finished. Cezar was happy to oblige. I was so excited to see so much improvement in a student in just one session. I cannot wait for next year when I will get to spend a whole 7-week round with her!



Cezar and one of our many students



**The 2021 season will begin on May 3rd!
Applications will open on our website
after the first of the new year.**

Notice! We have a new web address!

We renewed our website address to better reflect our name. You can now find us at www.hopelivesyouthranch.org

How to Contact Us:

Phone: (309) 339-1641

Email: hopelivesrr@gmail.com

Address: 976 E 2250 North Road
Monticello, IL 61856

Website: www.hopelivesrescueranch.org

Also Find Us on Facebook and Instagram!

www.facebook.com/hopelivesrr/

www.instagram.com/hopelivesrr/

How We Are Funded

Every session at Hope Lives Youth Ranch is free of charge. However, we request a donation from students to cover babysitting charges incurred by our director, Emily Reichmann. We are a registered 501(c)3 and are funded solely through solicited donations and the generosity of our community. 100% of the funds donated to Hope Lives Youth Ranch are used to care for the horses and create a safe environment for the children we serve. If you would like to donate to our program, go to: www.hopelivesrescueranch.org/funding or mail your contribution to: 976 E 2250 North Road, Monticello, IL 61856