

The Rescue Round-Up

By DIANA TUORTO

Hope for the Holidays

This holiday season, as many enjoy the warmth of family, friends and pets, please take a moment to help one of the local rescues who work year-round to save the lives of abused, neglected or unwanted animals. Without the help of loyal sponsors and hard-working volunteers, these organizations could not continue to save lives. Just a handful of rescue groups who need support this holiday season are listed below:

Milestone Equine Rescue (for horses of all breeds)

Milestone Equine Rescue (MER) is a non-profit, horse rescue in Phillipsburg. Over the past 12 years, they have saved hundreds of horses from terrible fates. As this year's holiday season begins, Milestone Equine Rescue has implemented its annual holiday sponsorship program. The gift recipient will receive a holiday card with a photo of their sponsor horse, along with his or her biography. MER

also notifies the recipient that someone has made a generous donation on their behalf, which is providing a rescue horse with grain, hay and proper care.

One of the horses available for holiday sponsorship is Blue, a 15-hand Arabian/Quarter Horse gelding that was badly starved. At the time of his rescue, he was about 250 lbs. underweight and had muscle-wasting from severe neglect. Despite his condition, Blue was forced to give riding lessons. When he was rescued, he was reluctant to eat and didn't seem to understand that food would continue to come. Since Blue had no dental care and has facial muscle damage, he is unable to chew grass or hay. For the rest of his days, he will require approximately eight meals of bran mash a day to keep weight on him. Blue will live out his life as a sanctuary horse with MER; long-term sponsors are needed to supplement his care.

For more information on Milestone Equine Rescue and its holiday sponsorship program, visit its Web site at www.milestone.org or call 908-995-9300. Sponsorships are \$35 per packet (includes priority delivery) and must be received by December 17 for Christmas delivery. Monthly sponsors, volunteers, supplies and permanent homes for horses are also always needed.



BARKS (for cats and dogs)

BARKS (Byram Animal Rescue Kindness Squad) is a non-profit animal rescue organization founded in 1973 to provide veterinary care, housing and permanent placement of stray and abandoned cats and dogs. BARKS works in association with the Byram Pound. In addition to the pets at the pound, BARKS has cats in foster homes and several dogs in local kennels. These pets can be seen by appointment and on regularly scheduled adoption days. Several upcoming adoption dates include:

December 1 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PetSmart, 50 International Drive South, Flanders/Mt. Olive

December 15th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Pet Valu, 90 Route 206 North, Byram/Stanhope

On December 8th, BARKS is also offering pet & owner photos with Santa from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at

PetSmart in Flanders/Mt. Olive.

BARKS memberships start at just \$10 a year. For \$150 or more, sponsors can name a BARKS dog or cat. For more information, please contact BARKS at www.barksinc.com or 973-300-3185.

ReRun

What happens to racehorses after their careers are over? Many of the luckiest are donated to ReRun, a Hel-

metta-based rescue that rehabilitates and adopts Thoroughbreds. With every \$50 sponsorship, ReRun will send the sponsor a personalized card with their horse's photo and brief biography. Each sponsor will also receive bi-yearly newsletters, a full color ReRun brochure and updates on their rescue horse.

For those looking to make a new addition to their family, ReRun is reducing their adoption fees in half from now through Jan. 1, 2008, as part of their "Home for the Holidays" promotion. The organization hopes to encourage those already interested in adopting a horse to take advantage of this special offer. For more information, please visit www.rerun.org or call 732-521-1370.

Noah's Ark (for cats and dogs)

Located in Ledgewood, Noah's Ark was founded in 1966 as a small rescue group. Over 40 years later, the rescue continues to expand and help pets in need of a second chance. Dogs and cats for adoption can be seen at the Noah's Ark facility on Route 46 during posted hours. On Dec. 21 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Noah's Ark is also holding a gift wrapping fundraiser at Barnes & Noble on Route 10 in Ledgewood.

Noah's Ark is always in need of volunteers, donations (including cat and dog food) and homes for their many animals. For more information, please visit www.noahsarknj.org or call 973-347-0378.

If you know of a local rescue for an upcoming Rescue Round-Up, contact Diana Tuorto at lunar_aradia@yahoo.com.