



The Mountain Eagle

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THE ONLY WEEKLY SERVING THE ENTIRE CATSKILLS REGION: COVERING DELAWARE AND SCHOHARIE COUNTIES

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Sports B3

Horses Find Sanctuary At Rosemary Farm



One woman is making it her mission to provide a safe home for horses at a historic farm in South Kortright.

The town board indicated they wanted to be proactive and have a law in place prior to any proposals for commercial wind facilities and to help resolve possible conflicts should a project be a proposed in the future.

At last month's meeting, Highway Superintendent Russell Hatch informed the board there was a need for a new loader and board members approved going out to bid.

Three bids were received, including bids from Case Tractor, Nortrax and Caterpillar. All three companies bid within

Addressing last month's road construction concerns, Hatch updated the board on the progress of the two projects designed to slow down unsafe traffic.

Last month, residents voiced concern over the increased traffic on Truesdell and Terry roads, due to construction.

Truesdell Road is being used by motorists to go around the temporary stop light placed on state Route 23 because of ongoing construction. Accord-

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... benefit on Saturday, Aug. 21 in honor of "good friend," the late Ernest Whitney, of Bloomville.

A chicken barbecue and horseshoe tournament will kick off at noon and anyone interested in signing up in the tournament should register at 1 p.m. with a \$15 fee per person. The tournament will start at 2 p.m. with double elimination rounds. The barbecue will cost \$5 for a half portion and \$7 for a full. There will be a Chinese auction as well with a drawing at 4 p.m. All proceeds made throughout the day will go to the Children's

proceeds during the horseshoe tourney will go to the children's association and the remaining 25 percent will be awarded to the top two teams.

Whitney, 57, passed away June 10 of heart complications. He was born in Stamford and is the son of Chauncey E. and "Sally" Thelma (Snedeker) Whitney.

Bobbo and Sandy said they grew up with Whitney in Bloomville and described him as "good people."

"He would do anything for anyone," Sandy said. "He loved

he was fun to be around. You couldn't make him mad and he was always willing to help. He was just down-to-earth," Bobb said.

All of John's Tavern's staff and owner Santos Punturier will be volunteering their time for the occasion as well as Whitney's close friends.

"I think he would have appreciated this," Bobbo said "Without a doubt."

Enjoy good friends, memories, food and horseshoes: John's on the Saturday benefit.

Coffee House Provides Weekly Venue For Musicians

By Rosie Cunningham

Mountain Eagle Staff

STAMFORD - Grab a cup of coffee and listen to talented local musicians at the Kaaterskill House in Stamford.

Every Friday night from 7 to 10 p.m. through December, the coffee house features live bands

recently.

Bray, who said "all of the bands are favorites," named other local talents who will grace the River St. location in the coming months. Some of the performers include Honest Mistakes, The Pete Jacobs Band, Smokin Aces, Hard

and operated by Aree Bray and his wife, Sally, who are in business with Aree's brother John, his wife Carine and niece, Tieney. The Brays' two sons also help out.

Customers can order beverages such as lattes, mochas, cappuccinos, teas, machiatto





Photo By Rosie Cunningham

Dawn Petrlik moved to South Kortright with her husband, Robert Rosebaum from Brooklyn more than two years ago. Petrlik strokes Jude, a blue eyed, beautiful and healthy horse who she bid for at an auction. Her opposing bidder was a slaughter-kill.

Historic Rosemarys Farm Is Now A Sanctuary For Horses

By Rosie Cunningham

Mountain Eagle Staff

SOUTH KORTRIGHT

divided into sub groups, often divided according to level of care. She hopes good homes for art to fall by the wayside, temporarily, as she feeds her passion for the farm.

Roses Brook Road near South Kortright, there is now a safe harbor for doomed horses. Rather than see horses in distress go to the dinner table, one woman is doing all she can to see they go to safe stables.

Dawn Petrik moved to South Kortright with her husband, Robert Rosebaum, two years ago. After passionately tending an eighth of an acre garden in Brooklyn, which is large by New York City standards, she and her husband longed for open space and acres of land.

After coming across Rosemarys Farm through the Internet, the couple fell in love and purchased the 114-acre farmstead built in the 1890's. The farm was, and still is, in need of repair after having been neglected.

Petrik and Rosebaum, a writer, moved to the farm with their three rescue dogs, rescue chickens and rabbits. Soon, they decided to rescue two horses, Jack and Ginger too.

Petrik discovered her love of horses and was touched by the emotional and physical scars of the two equines. She began going to auctions and bidding on the animals in need of care and a safe home. Many of the horses she said, if there are no bids for them, would go to slaughter.

Petrik now has 19 horses on her property. They are

fosters out three others to kind homes.

"We currently have several adoptions of the horses pending," she said.

Petrik said she blames the economic downturn for the mistreatment of horses. Properly caring for horses is a pricey venture. She also said she believes one of the biggest reasons for horse mistreatment is over breeding.

"There are more horses than there are homes. The supply simply outweighs the demand," she said.

Petrik admits she has a lot to learn about the horse business, but is willing to learn. She said, "I am not embarrassed to ask questions of those who have the experience."

The artist stroked Jojo, a small, but attractive brown and white painted horse who at seven months, weighed less than 200 pounds. He was malnourished and had dangerously damaged feet.

Jojo and sister, Annabelle, have been on the farm for three months and seem attentive to Petrik's every move.

"Annabelle was afraid of people," said Petrik. "I handle all of the horses everyday and just work with them on how to behave. I show them respect and in turn, they learn to show me respect too."

Petrik is an artist and said she has allowed her passion

venture and it takes all of my focus until I find that balance," she said.

Petrik said she has help from her husband, who is a volunteer firefighter in Hobart. An additional Hobart volunteer fireman and Courtney Chambers, also work on the farm.

Chambers, according to Petrik, is her veterinarian daughter and a "great help."

Chambers said her step father, Dr. Wilcox, works with animals in the surrounding Stamford area.

Petrik praised the Chambers-Wilcox family, saying they have been an instrument in helping her learn and find her way in raising horses.

"A new addition to the 19 horses will be arriving soon from Walton, said Petrik. She was informed of a horse who is being starved.

"How could that happen," Petrik asked. "This was once someone's companion."

Petrik talked about her experiences at horse auctions, often attending the auction in Walton. Although the experience is sad, as she recounts on her blog at www.rosemarys-farm.org, she said there is no greater feeling than outbidding a slaughter-kill.

Although the horse slaughter business is hush, hush.

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Photo By Rose Cunningham

Petrik stands before the historic yellow Rosemarys Farm sign on Roses Brook. The not-for-profit currently has 19 rescue horses and many more rescue animals.