



September 2014

Volume 17 Issue 9

# OVER HERD

## Feed a Horse

Help to feed the horses by having a nice lunch or dinner at **Ruby Tuesday** on September 5, 2015, Friday. This is an all-day fundraiser so you can stop in any time for your meal. Just remember to take your flyer so the Horse Protection Society will receive a donation of 20% of the total cost of your meal. The fundraiser is being held at **Ruby Tuesday - 2461 Wonder Drive NE, Kannapolis, NC**. You will need a flyer for each ticket for your table if you are going with friends.

HPS normally runs in the red during the months of August and September and this makes life here at the sanctuary difficult.

Please help feed the horses by having a nice meal out with family or friends.

You can print your flyer(s) by going to our website [www.horseprotection.org](http://www.horseprotection.org) and following the link.

Hope to see you there!

ENJOY A MEAL WITH US AND WE'LL GIVE BACK.

**Ruby Tuesday**

COMMUNITY **GiveBack** PROGRAM

100% OF THE GIVEBACK AMOUNT IS DONATED DIRECTLY TO THE ORGANIZATION.

Ruby Tuesday is extremely proud to be part of your hometown and believes in giving back. As a fellow member of the community, we invite you to participate in...

**Ruby Tuesday's Community GiveBack Program.**

Grab your family and friends and join us at the 2461 WONDER DRIVE NE location on the dates listed below. Please present this flyer to your server, and we will give back 20% of your purchase to the organization.

(Our giveaway list we cannot accommodate requests for other discounts in conjunction with our GiveBack Program.)

**HOW IT WORKS**

To make a reservation, call us at 704-720-7829 or visit us online at [rubytuesday.com](http://rubytuesday.com)

Organization's Name: HORSE PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Event Name: ENOUGH TO FEED A HORSE

Date(s) of Event: 9/5/2014

For directions to the restaurant or a peek at the menu, visit [rubytuesday.com](http://rubytuesday.com)

**Ruby Tuesday**

2461 WONDER DRIVE NE, KANNAPOLIS NC

## Our Hearts are Breaking

Taking care of the horses at the sanctuary is daunting. Making sure the feed, supplements, medicines and doctoring are all being taken care of and changes made as needed. Adding and subtracting things as the horse's condition changes is a balancing act. The good news is the horses respond and improve. But then....

Late on a Friday afternoon we received a phone call from a gal, Wendy, who has helped with reporting and rescuing horses in the past. She seems to have a knack for running across horses in terrible condition. When Wendy says, "It is an emergency to get a horse out," I know it really is a horse in great need; her main work is with rescued cats and dogs, but her love is for all animals.

Wendy has courage and will walk into areas and situations where others would not dare. This was one of these cases, and she confronted the owner of a horse in disgusting condition. Wendy is not as knowledgeable about horses as she is about dogs,



but anyone with eyes could see this horse was starving to death. Wendy dealt with the horse's owner, got him to release the horse to HPS and arranged a trailer to bring him to the sanctuary.

It was late when they finally arrived and the trailer was pulled close to the barn to put him up in a hospital stall for the night. Michelle and Crista had prepared the large stall that was now deep in hay and had a large tub of water. We always give a horse time to get his balance after a trailer ride before unloading. We were in deep shadow even with the barn's outside lights on. This poor starved horse was reluctant to leave the trailer full of hay. Finally the two front legs came out and there was an overwhelming smell of infection. The chestnut gelding's front hooves were now in the light from the barn and we were horrified by the condition of his right hoof. The hoof had separated from the coronary band and pus was running down his misshapen hoof. *(We have a photo but it was too graphic to appear in the newsletter.)*

*(Cont. Page 2)*

## Our Hearts are Breaking (Cont. from Page 1)

It took Wendy, Michelle, Crista and me to move him very slowly and reluctantly into the barn and the prepared stall. Everyone realized that this poor horse was in excruciating pain and each step was torture. Over half of the top of the hoof was not attached and full of infection. Warm water and the needed supplies were collected to clean the area and try to make him as comfortable as possible for the night. The infection was also in the leg which was too warm. Both hooves had founder rings all the way to the toe. We did not want to stress him anymore than we had to with cleaning the area and lightly examining his body. He had a goiter, he was sloughing skin over numerous parts of his body to count, some with open sores and a small edema starting on his belly line.

I warned the others that this horse was in such bad shape that we would have the veterinarian come first thing in the morning. I was not hopeful that we could save him. Dr. Mary Gochnauer arrived early Saturday morning and was appalled that anyone could let a horse get into this condition. His suffering had been going on for well over a year by the look of his hooves. Someone had clipped off the front, but he had three inch bars laying over and two layers of sole; the coffin bone had come through the bottom of the sole and worn away. The hoof capsule was full of infection. The other front hoof also showed signs of extreme founder.

There are several ways that this gelding's terrible condition could have developed. There were four horses in a field. If there was too much grass, laminitis could have developed in the horse and then, as it turned to founder, the horse would have stopped moving around as much. This, in turn, could have caused him to lose more and more weight. Or it could have started with one of the metabolic syndromes, like Cushing's. With immediate veterinarian care, this poor horse would not have suffered and could have lived a long and healthy life. None of us will ever be able to understand how an owner could ignore a horse suffering to this extreme!

There was no hope of saving this tough horse. In time he would have just given up moving and laid down to die a slow horrific death if he had not come here to have a peaceful end. Our job here can be very difficult and even heartbreaking at times. How sad that strangers to this gelding had to be the ones with the compassion to do the right thing and stop his suffering. Run free!!

*Posthumously, our rescued-too-late gelding has been given the name Lazarus. It is our hope that he has risen over the Rainbow Bridge to greener pastures on the other side.*

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## News from the Herd

**Chico** needed stitches on his face. Who knows how the horses do these things to themselves. It was just minor surgery, but having it stitched often helps wounds heal faster with less scarring. It also reduced the needed for daily doctoring.

**Aurora's** hair started to thin and she was losing large patches of hair. This happened very quickly and we had never seen this condition before. We knew it was not a fungus. Our vets thought it was being caused by Cushing's and a series of test were down on our pretty 40 year old mare. ACTH test, Equine panel CBC/Chemistry Abaxis and thyroid test. Aurora has Cushing's and the other test did not show any issues. Normally horse with Cushing's have exceptionally long hair and this is the first time we have ever seen a horse lose hair due to this illness. Pergolide was prescribed which has to be given daily.

Aurora's hair is already growing back in nicely.

## Honors and Memorials

In honor of my son, Doug Stacker, for his birthday. By Martha Stacker

In memory of "Queenie" a very special H.P.S. horse that made my world a better place. Still do - Love you.  
Dottie Rebhan

*For the love of Sam, Cry Baby, Bobby Lee, Crusader King, and Smokey. By Candace Reavis*

"In loving memory of my Three Amigos: Angel, Snickers and Comanche. Always held in my heart," Roberta

Happy Birthday Kristi Hartwig. By Jay Bolin & Carmony Hartwig

In honor of my wife, Alice Bischoff,. By Robert Bischoff

In memory of the poor foundered horse. By Marisa Bruno

*In honor of Pam Currie for her September birthday. By Carolyn Tice BFF*

A horsey "Thank You" to the members of The Lucy Christie Circle of Rocky Mount UMC for their kind donations.



### A Special Thanks To Our Wonderful Contributors

Anne Marie & James Allison	Betsy & Zeb Hargett Jr.	Karole Northrup
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**Angel Sponsor:**    \$20 for 1 month    \$60 for 3 months    \$120 for 6 months    \$240 for 1 year

Whom would you like to receive your Honor, Memorial, or Angel Sponsor (please circle)?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

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Your Message for the newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Any donation is appreciated. Please make your check payable to Horse Protection Society.

\*\*For a \$25 or more donation, the named person can receive "Over Herd" for 1 year.

[www.horseprotection.org](http://www.horseprotection.org)



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## Health Tips

The importance of Vitamin C should not be overlooked. The correct levels can reduce the risk of stroke by improving arterial elasticity. Fortunately, research suggests that supplementation with the micro-nutrients vitamin C, vitamin E and selenium can significantly mitigate cadmium's damaging effects on the kidneys and bones. Vitamin C aids in mitigating infections in the body and promotes healing.

Vitamin C is a powerful antioxidant, meaning that it can guard us from cell damaging effects of free radicals. Collagen is a simple protein and an essential part of our connective tissue and the very framework of our body. Indeed, all of the components that hold our bodies together, such as skins, bones, blood vessels, teeth, tendons, ligaments and cartilage, rely upon collagen. Since vitamin C is directly responsible for influencing collagen synthesis, it helps shield us from conditions relating to collagen deletion.

A team of researchers from the University of Kansas reportedly tested the effects of vitamin C given in high doses intravenously on a group of human subjects and found that it effectively eradicates cancer cells while leaving healthy cells intact. Oral doses of vitamin C act as antioxidants, protecting cells from damage caused by reactive compounds that contain oxygen. But vitamin C given intravenously can have the opposite effect by promoting the formation of one of those compounds: hydrogen peroxide. Cancer cells are particularly susceptible to damage by such reactive oxygen-containing compounds.

