

Circle A Home for Horses <admin@circleanews.com>

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## Circle A Home for Horses Newsletter, August 2020

To pwhalen324@cox.net



# Circle A Home for Horses

*Equine Rescue, Therapy and Rehabilitation Center  
Non-Profit Organization in Virginia Beach, Virginia*

## Newsletter

August 2020

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### Jail Sentence for Horse Abuser



Last Friday, July 31, Powhatan General District Court convicted Nathaniel White Feather of “animal cruelty in gross mistreatment of six horses.” Judge Jacqueline Reiner sentenced him to six years in jail, with three years

suspended. Assuming good behavior, White Feather will serve at least 18 months in jail for starving ten horses, five of which belonged to Circle A Home for Horses. [[See Richmond Times-Dispatch report.](#)]

During the sentencing phase, Alicia Mahar, Executive Director of Circle A Home for Horses, was the only witness called to testify to the condition of the horses when delivered to White Feather, and the condition of the surviving horses.

Between October 2018 and August 2019, White Feather adopted ten horses for what he told Circle A was as a program for kids that included trail riding. All the horses were in excellent health when they left Circle A. Alicia, Circle A board members, and volunteers conducted frequent farm checks.

In November 2019, the Powhatan Sheriff's Office was called to White Feather's property. White Feather told the deputy the horses were thin because they were kill-pen rescues and were delivered to him in that condition. A deputy returned in late February 2020 and saw horses declining in health and found fewer horses on the property. That was when they alerted Alicia to how the Circle A adoptees were suffering. She said the photos they sent were devastating. Alicia immediately tried to contact White Feather, but he did not return her calls. She wasted no time in her second rescue of the Circle A horses.

When the trailer arrived to retrieve the horses, White Feather admitted only five were available; the remaining five horses were dead. On April 1, Powhatan authorities located and exhumed the bodies of four horses buried on White Feather's property. White Feather said a fifth horse drowned.

During sentencing proceedings, Deputy Commonwealth Attorney Rob Cerullo told the judge, "(Mahar) brought them back to life, and they're in peak health now. It's remarkable how these animals look today."

The loss of young, healthy, and vibrant horses, that survived a kill pen only to suffer again at the hands of this man, is incomprehensible. Alicia has expressed her gratitude to her team of volunteers for their unfailing work in bringing those poor horses back to health. Circle A volunteers are the foundation of the horse rescue.

Although Alicia finds it difficult to discuss the case, she wants readers to know she is very grateful to all Powhatan authorities involved in getting justice for the horses.

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## **Rosa Says "Thanks, Doc!"**

Circle A sends a big shout out to Dr. George Sabol of [Drs. Savage, Sabol & Visser Orthodontics](#), who made a generous \$1,000 matching contribution to aid Rosa's rehabilitation. Dr. Sabol has followed Rosa's story from when she was so weak she couldn't make the two-hour drive from Powhatan to Virginia Beach. During the drive she fell down on the trailer and stayed down until she arrived. Later, Dr. Sabol saw a stunning and healthy horse, and offered to support her with the match fundraiser. We thank Dr. Sabol and his family, especially his daughter, Madison Fevrier. And we send a big thank you to our volunteers who were there for Rosa from day one!

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## **Raylynn Struttin' with Her Horse**

Last August Circle A was notified that 15 horses at Kaufman Kill Pen in Texas needed immediate help. Lacy was one of those horses, just look at her today! Raylynn loves her pony!

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## **Tracy Boline, Circle A's Volunteer of the Month!**

Tracy has been volunteering with Circle A since March. Tracy became interested in horses as a young girl while her family was stationed in Northwood, England. When she was 11 Tracy took lessons at the wonderful Park Farm School of Riding in Canterbury, England. When her family moved back to the United States they were stationed in Tampa Florida at MacDill AFB, which is where Tracy had her very own horse, Chancey. As with all things situations change, but Tracy's love of horses has remained constant and it was that love that brought her to Circle A. Tracy became a Horse Angel to Josie and spends multiple days a week at Circle A grooming and loving on Josie. When she's not tending to Josie she's pitching in to help with stalls, feeding and all-around cleaning. Everyone agrees Tracy is one of the most genuine and selfless people they've ever met.

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### **Is That the Same Horse???**

Yes, that's Fiona, one of the Powhatan survivors. The photo on the left shows Fiona on March 7, after her return to Circle A. You can see where Fiona's halter was so tight it had dug into her face. On the right is Fiona on July 27, just over four months after her rescue. What a transformation!

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## Mowed Pastures = Happy Horses

Did you know it takes the Circle A crew (that would be Alicia!) ten hours every seven to ten days to mow the pastures? Lots of work in the summer sun, but it's all worth it when she see the happy horses.

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## Smoochies!

Meg Newberry shares smooches with Learn the Sport (Sport) and Lego (Ole Bay), both adopted from Circle A.

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## **Happy Forever, Latte!**

From a North Carolina kill pen to living her best life with the Stowell family in Pennsylvania.

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## **New Pals, Echo and Vicky**

Circle A welcomed Vicky Pickwood, from the Charlottesville area, on July 30th. Vicky has worked with several horse rescue organizations in the past and reached out to Circle A for a visit. During her tour Vicky got to spend some quality time with Echo.

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### **Ringo's a Star!**

Ringo is another Powhatan survivor. On the left is Ringo when he came back to Circle A last March. Today Ringo is healthy and happy and ready for adoption to an amazing home.

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### **Sometimes You Just Know When It's Right**

Cinnamon, a smart and beautiful 3-year-old mare, found her forever home with Joe, a Navy pilot. They clicked from day one! Another happy Circle A adoption.

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## And Last, But Not Least

Little Skylar hangs out with mom, Hunny. He's turning into a real pistol. Check out this video of his [first turn out](#). Too cute!

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