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Rescue groups saving horses from being killed

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Rescue groups saving horses from being killed

**By Debbie Elmore
And Leslie Chaffin**



Courtesy photo

Stella, a foal rescued by Amy Bayes, is now living at her Greenwood Stables and Equine Rescue outside Peabody.

(<http://online.theactiveage.com/app.php?bookcode=20150901&PageLabel=7>) to read complete stories of two of the horse rescue groups.

“People honestly don’t know what is happening when they send their horses to auction,” says Amy Bayes of Greenwood Stables and Equine Rescue outside Peabody.

Many of those buying horses at auction are actually “kill buyers,” purchasing horses to be slaughtered and sold for meat.

“Sometimes I can go to an auction and buy horses on commission,” Bayes said. People wanting to save the horses sometimes buy more than one.

Ande Armstrong, founder of Hope In The Valley Equine Rescue and Sanctuary, said this month it celebrates its 10th year and 300 horses saved.

She said gets “two or three calls a day from people wanting to surrender their horses. With adoptions going in spurts, we can’t take on more until some of the ones we have find homes.”

Several area women and men share a dream – saving horses from being killed simply because they are aging, slowing down or their owners no longer want them.

See pages 7 and 8 in the September newspaper online

Southern Winds Equine Rescue

By Leslie Chaffin

For Victor McMullen, Sr., retirement offered the opportunity for him to pursue his passion. He established Southern Winds Equine Rescue, an all-volunteer organization, near Udall in April 2002.

Volunteers assist in the care and exercise of the horses, hay harvest, helping with maintenance and assisting with events. More than 350 horses have been adopted or placed since it began.

On any given day, he has a dozen adoptable horses. Besides caring for horses on site, McMullen assists law enforcement and the public in Sedgwick, Cowley, Butler and Sumner counties with neglect and abuse investigations and placement of horses in need of care.

Located on 20 acres just east of Butler Road on 2nd Road, McMullen engages in a labor of love each day caring for the horses that have found themselves in need through no fault of their own.

The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries has verified his rescue operation. Like all rescues in the area, donations from the public are the primary source of income. Adoption fees rarely cover the cost of care.



Several years ago it became a Horses for Heroes location, offering veterans and those in the armed services the opportunity to come out and ride or just be around the horses. In 2013, the rescue was verified by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries.

Horses have always played a pivotal role in the success of a civilization, Bayes said. "Historians have said horses were the second most valuable soldier in World War II. The Mongols understood those who had the best horses won, and they lived on their horses. Throughout history, it has always been about the horses."

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Courtesy photo

Amy Bayes also rescued Ginger, another foal, and she too is living at Bayes' Equine Rescue farm.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy

Volunteers Aiden and Brooke visit with the horses at Hope In The Valley Equine Rescue and Sanctuary after helping to feed and exercise them. The rescue goes through 9,000 pounds of Equine Senior feed each year.

Ande Armstrong, founder of Hope In The Valley, said r the horses arrive at the rescue as a result of abuse. Si shows Regal's neck where he was injected so often th there's a line of scar tissue along his neck muscle.

Contact information:

Hope In The Valley Equine Rescue and Sanctuary

9025 N. Broadway
Valley Center, KS 67147
316-519-4129

hopeinthevalleyequinerescue.org/about/ (<http://hopeinthevalleyequinerescue.org/about/>)

Southern Winds Equine Rescue

4447-2nd Road

Udall, KS 67146

1-316-858-3233 Office

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www.southernwindsequinerescue.org (<http://www.southernwindsequinerescue.org>)

Greenwood Stables and Equine Horse Rescue

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