



“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s Creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”

St. Francis of Assisi

Grading Begins at Rancho St. Francis

Construction is underway at Rancho St. Francis, the future home of the horse rescue sanctuary planned by the Foundation. Contractor for the project, Chuck Melber, President of Peregrine Inc., reports that approval to begin grading on the project was received on October 1, 2004..” Melber is best known as the builder of the Gardens of the World Community Park in Thousand Oaks, the Foundation headquarters and the Hogan’s home in Lake Sherwood.



Two modular homes, two barns (a raised center aisle and a mare motel) have been ordered for the facility, which covers 22 acres on Potrero Road in Hidden Valley.

because they will allow the plan check to proceed quickly.” continued Melber. “The main house pad and
(continued on page 2)

“The modular homes and barns are advantageous

While the 15 Hands Horse Sanctuary is in the con-

St. Francis Rangers Education Program Begins



struction phase, the Foundation has announced that the educational part of the program has started at the Ventura Farms location. The program will be called the St. Francis Rangers and will provide the opportunity for underprivileged children to participate in the equestrian experience.

“While the lengthy process of building our new property continues and we have horses that can be ridden,
(continued on page 3)

A St. Francis Ranger begins to learn riding and horse care as the new educational phase of the program begins.

Assisi when he says that man who has no pity o com-

Construction Begins (cont)

the horse arena have been graded. The main objective now is the upper pad where the barns and secondary housing will go.”

Foundation Executive Vice President Chris Hogan announced that the hope is to be able to bring horses into by late summer. The rescue sanctuary will be able to house as many as 35 horses including rescue horses, sanctuary horses and those to be used for the educational riding program.

“David Murdock, Chairman and CEO of Dole Foods and Castle & Cooke Corporations and owner of Ventura Farms, has kindly donated 11 of his senior champion Arabians to the Foundation and is allowing us to lease his North Barn in order for the Foundation to begin the educational phase of our new program”, said Ed Hogan, Foundation Chairman. “These retired horses will work very well with the St. Francis Rangers Program.” (See related St. Francis Rangers story).

Icelandic Pony Passes Away



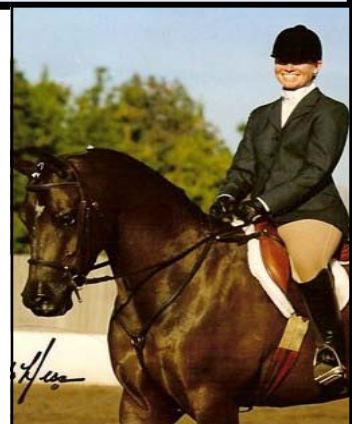
The Sanctuary had its first loss recently with the death of an Icelandic pony who had been brought to the facility in January to live out her last days. The pony, named *Sigga* was 33 years old and passed away peacefully from natural causes. She had been used as broodmare at one time and had several foals. In her last years she was at the *Ride On* facility where she was providing riding experiences for people with physical disabilities. “We are very sorry to lose her,” said Ranch Manager, Meaghan Shaffer. “She was wonderful with the children.”

Management Staff Hired for Ranch



The Foundation has hired Miguel Vega to fill the position of Director of Operations and Maintenance for the Ranch. Miguel has worked with horses for 25 years during his employment with Ventura Farms. He is currently building a new tack room and office at the North Barn Facility and is caring for the horses.

The Foundation has announced the hiring of a new employee Meaghan Shaffer who holds the position of Ranch Manager. She will be responsible for teaching the St. Francis Ranger Program as well as managing the ranch. Meaghan comes to the program with many years of experience in the equestrian field. “I am very excited to have this incredible opportunity,” she said. “To be able to work to help Mr. Hogan to realize his vision and work with children and horses is a dream come true.



St. Francis Ranger Education Program Begins (cont)

and are safe for the children we will go ahead with the education phase of our program,” said Ed Hogan. “We believe that we can teach children to have compassion and care by learning about horses and learning about the discipline of a productive life. The program will be available for pre-qualified children who might not financially have the opportunity to experience the benefits of interacting with our four legged friends,” said Hogan.

“Learning to work with horses, riding them, caring for them and bonding with them can be a great educational experience. I hope we will teach children to have respect for all God’s creatures, large and small, as they learn responsibility for the care of these horses. We will call these children the St. Francis Rangers. The program will give them a feeling of accomplishment and self-confidence as they learn about horses. They will also learn a greater appreciation of ecology, the environment, and fellowship.



A little love goes a long way as Natalie Zavala, daughter of new Ranch Manager Meaghan Shaffer, offers a kiss to one of the new mini horses on loan to the Ranch.

The Rangers will meet once a week for instruction for approximately 1 1/2 hours. The first session of the program began on Saturday , January 29, with 15 children in attendance. This pilot program is primarily filled with the children of ranch employees . Additional children will be added at the new facility.

Volunteers Needed

**If you are an Experienced and
Qualified Rider**

We Need Your Help

Exercising Horses

Monday - Friday 8:00 am-5:00 p.m.

North Barn at Ventura Farms

(Must be 21 years old)

Call or Email

Meaghan Shaffer (805) 480-3039

meaghan.shaffer@hoganfoundation.org

Prayer of the St. Francis Rangers

***I pledge to St. Francis of Assisi that as
a St. Francis Ranger I will respect
and be kind to all God’s Creatures
Great and Small and have pity and
compassion for those animals that
are sick or abused or abandoned.
As I learn more about Horses at Ran-
cho St. Francis I will teach others to
love and care for these beautiful
Animals who have helped mankind
for centuries.***

***St. Francis help me learn how to be a
good Ranger. Amen***

A Hogan Family
Foundation
Program



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Mini Horses On Loan

The St. Francis Rangers have some visitors. Two mini horses are on loan to the program. They are about 2 ft. tall and the small children are excited to be able to reach to groom and halter the horses. The smallest visitor is a brown gelding named *General Custer*. The other is a pinto named *Angel*. The horses are trained to be able to pull a cart which will also be available for the program to the delight of the smallest Rangers.



Donations Needed

The Hogan Family Foundation is asking for the support of the equestrian community for both their 15 Hands Horse Rescue Sanctuary and the St. Francis Rangers Program. The program is in need of saddles as well as items such as bits, bridles, tack, feed, halters, etc. The program will be supported by the Foundation and there is no charge for the children to participate, however the donations received will serve to help with the effort and allow more children to become involved. Anyone wishing to donate new or used equipment in useable condition that would help with our program please contact:

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