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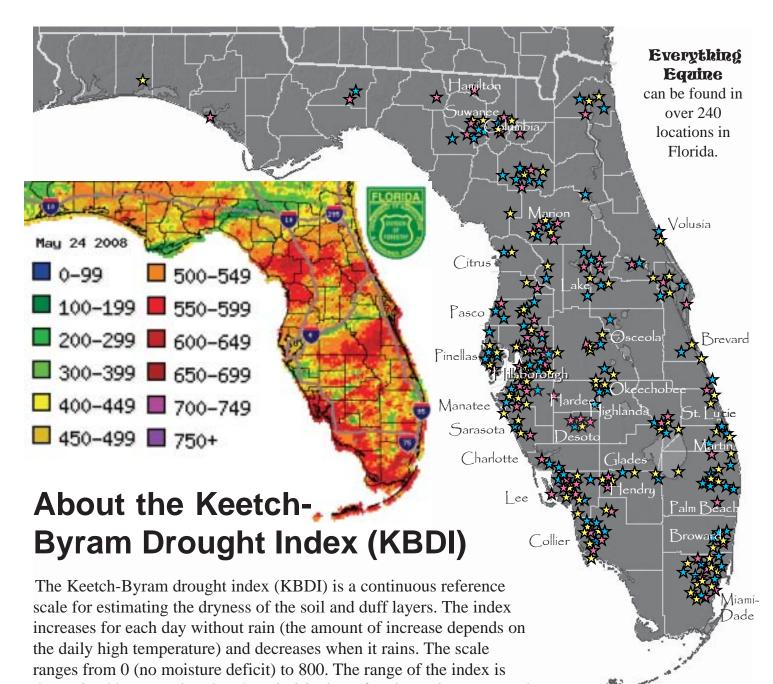








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determined by assuming that there is 8 inches of moisture in a saturated soil that is readily available to the vegetation.

For different soil types, the depth of soil required to hold 8 inches of moisture varies (loam=30", clay=25" and sand=80"). A prolonged drought (high KBDI) influences fire intensity largely because more fuel is available for combustion (i.e. fuels have a lower moisture content). In addition, the drying of organic material in the soil can lead to increased difficulty in fire suppression.

High values of the KBDI are an indication that conditions are favorable for the occurrence and spread of wildfires, but drought is not by itself a prerequisite for wildfires. Other weather factors, such as wind, temperature, relative humidity and atmospheric stability, play a major role in determining the actual fire danger. http://flame.fl-dof.com/fire\_weather/KBDI/4km\_main.html





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Happy Trails 4-H members Cheyenne Bechtol, Annabelle Moll, Sofia Curkovic, Claire Sullivan, Tristin Vazquez, Ariel Folk, Aubrie Hemmer, and John Kuszlyk, competed in the Florida 4-H Area Horse Show May 2-4, 2008, in Ft. Myers. Annabelle Moll, Sofia Curkovic and Cheyenne Bechtol qualified to represent Collier County at the State 4-H Horse show in Tampa In July. Way to go 4-her's!

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Marjorie R. Margentino, Former Program Associate in Animal Science; Karyn Malinowski, Ph.D., Director of the Equine Science Center; Sara R. Malone, Department of Animal Sciences Revised July 2007 Fact Sheet #608

Barn fires are a farm owner's worst nightmare. Most have tragic results such as the loss of human life, animals, valuable equipment or the building itself. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimated that from 1999-2000 there were 5,800 structural fires in barns and livestock facilities resulting in \$124.6 million worth of property damage. These fires resulted in 34 human injuries and one death; the number of animals lost in these fires is not reported. Insurance statistics show that the two most common times of the year for barn fires are summer and winter. Summer fires are often the result of electrical storms or spontaneous combustion of hot hay. Winter fires are caused by appliances, rodents chewing through electrical wires or the accumulation of dust and cobwebs on electrical surfaces. This fact sheet will explain to horse owners and others the short and long term precautions that should be taken to help reduce the incidence of barn fires.

Farm owners and managers should be able to identify potential fire hazards around the farm:

**Highly Flammable or Combustible Materials** - If at all possible, hay, straw and other types of bedding should not be stored in the same building in which livestock is housed. Care should be taken that these materials are not stored with machinery or near any type of electrical or heat source. Highly flammable materials may include:

- Hay and straw
- · Bedding material (especially sawdust and shredded newspaper)
- · Cobwebs, dust, and grain dust
- Horse blankets
- Paint
- · Fertilizer
- Pesticides and herbicides

Once hay is stored, it is important to monitor the temperature to determine if the hay is at risk for spontaneous combustion. The Humane Society of the United States suggests inserting a thermometer into the middle of the stack to check the temperature of the hay. If it reads higher then 150 degrees Fahrenheit, the hay needs to be checked regularly. If the temperature climbs to 175 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, call the fire department.

Accelerants - Accelerants are substances that increase the speed at which a fire spreads. All accelerants are highly flammable or combustible, but not all highly flammable or combustible materials are accelerants. Accelerants must be stored in approved containers and properly labeled as such (plastic milk bottles do not qualify as approved containers for storing chemicals). An updated list of all chemicals on the farm should be maintained. The list should include the name of the chemical, date purchased, the quantity of the chemical, and the place of storage on the farm. This list should be kept in a safe, handy place such as a farm office (not in the building where the products are stored). In case of a fire, the list should be given to the fireperson in charge to aid the fire department in knowing what potential toxic fumes or explosions may result and how best to contain the situation. Common accelerants include:

- Gasoline
- Kerosene
- · Oil
- Aerosol cans

**Ignition Sources** - An ignition source is something that can cause an accelerant or flammable material to ignite or smoulder. Examples of ignition sources are:

- · Cigarettes and matches
- Sparks from welding machines and machinery (trucks, tractors, mowers)
- Motors
- Heaters
- Electrical appliances
- Fence chargers
- · Electrical fixtures and wires
- Batteries
- Broken glass
- · Chemicals which may react with each other or with water or dampness.

### **Barn Construction**

When constructing a new building in which to house horses and/or livestock, precautions should be taken to reduce the chance of barn fires. Many of these measures are required by the township's building code. Always check with the town building inspector's office for the requirements and permits necessary in your area.

Many insurance companies will lower premiums if extra fire safety precautions are taken during the construction of a new building, some of which may be above and beyond the standards required by the township. Check with industrial insurance companies regarding features which will possibly lower insurance premiums. Extra measures may include:

- Approved fire doors
- Fire wall between hay/bedding storage and the actual stabling area
- Use of materials that are flame retardant or fire resistant
- $\cdot$  Use of fire retardant latex paint preferably two coats
- Installation of smoke detectors, fire alarm and sprinkler systems all of which can be monitored by local police or fire departments
- Trickle-charged battery powered emergency lighting to permit evacuation of people and animals in case of power failure
- A water source on the premises, especially a pond, will help the fire department to save buildings. Trucking in water from a distance if a water hydrant is not available is time-consuming. Remember to have the water source properly fenced to keep "unwanted" visitors out.

### **Electrical Systems and Devices**

Electrical systems in barns, especially in older structures, are often the cause of a barn fire. The following safety precautions (sometimes beyond the township electrical code requirements) should be taken when installing a new system or repairing older electrical systems.

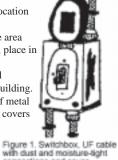
- Avoid areas of excessive moisture for the location of the main electrical panel box.
- Place panel box in the driest, most dust free area possible. (Stall areas are not recommended; place in tack room or utility room.)
- Panel box should be corrosion-resistant and weather-proofed even if installed inside a building.
- Outlets and switch boxes should be made of metal and have dust and watertight spring-loaded covers which close when released (See Fig. 1).
- Wires should be encased in metal conduit pipe. Even temporary wires (such as extension cords to a tank heater) should
  - extension cords to a tank heater) should be run through conduit pipe to keep the wires safe from breakage and away from the teeth of horses, livestock and rodents and the metal shoes of horses.

# An external switch should be installed that will cut off all electrical power to the barn, without affecting other buildings, in the case of an emergency.

- · Light fixtures, fluorescent lights and insect control devices should
  - have dust- and moisture-resistant covers. Incandescent bulbs should have gloves with seals that are dust- and moisture-proof, surrounded by a globe cage to prevent accidental breakage (See Fig. 2).
- Motors such as the type used for circulation fans, water pumps or hay elevators — should have moisture- and dust-proof on/off switches.
  - Motors should not be within 18 inches



Figure 2. Light Fixture, dust and moisture-tight globe and wire cage to protect globe





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2 year old bay gelding with lots of chrome, big and nice, started under saddle, Watch Joe Jack, Two ID Bartender, Mr Baron Red, Two ID Watch Joe-rope prospect deluxe. \$2500



5 year Palomino mare, white socks, pretty head, rides good, quiet, barrel horse prospect, Rocket Wrangler, Shawnee Bug, Sonny Dee Bar, Sugar Bars, \$4000



AQHA bay gelding 10 years old. Poco Bueno/Doc's Hickory. Gentle, rides and knock your eyes out pretty. must see ..... \$5000



Thunders Gray Lady, AQHA mare 16 years old, 16 hands and big boned, rides quiet and gentle. sound in every way. check her out! \$4000



6 year old black mare, Appendix QH, gorgeous and big. gentle enough for a youth rider, would go english and low jumps. Zippo PineBar, Bar War Three, Sky Ship. Has baby on side that will be weaned in June. \$4500 mare only. baby already sold.



11 yr old Bay roan broodmare, Hancock Driftin Ruth. Throws color every time. broke to ride too. \$1500 bred back to our Streakin Six Red Roan stallion for an 09 baby. Buckskin weanling stud colt on her side. \$1000 at weaning or \$2000 for the 3 in 1 package. Come see them!



Golden palomino AQHA stallion, 10 years, One of the few living sons of Oklahoma Fuel (SI 108). Broke nice and quiet to handle. Quincy Fuel produces beautiful big hipped, pretty headed babies. \$10,000 firm.



Bay roan broodmare, 12 years, cutting bred Docs J Jay/Tee Cross/Little Tom B/Roan Bar. Super looker with pretty head, pencil neck, \$1500 bred back to our Streakin Six stallion for an 09 baby. Red roan 08 filly on her side out of cutting bred Dry Doc/Hiredhand Cardinal \$1000 at weaning or \$2000 for 3 in 1 package.



	thingequine@comcast.net June 2008 Page 15
South Eastern Distance Riders Association SEDRA "to educate, promote and encourage participation in equestrian competitive distance events throughout the southeastern United States"	Have monthlyHosting a rated show?Club Sceneevents?Hosting a schooling show or fun show?Show?Then your information should be in theClub Scene
Jun 20-21 GERA FUNDRAISER 25/50 11 Mile Fun Ride, Dawson Forest, Dawsonville, GA. RM Sandy Thomson sandyatdock@aol.com Sharon Wilson rwco05@alltel.net SANCTIONED June 28rd & 29th SEDRA's Annual Meeting, Awards Banquet, Annual Meeting and Distance Clinic at the SE Livestock Pavilion, in Ocala. OUR RIDING SEASON RUNS FROM JUNE TO MAY, PLEASE CHECK BACK FOR OUR NEW 08-09 EVENT CALENDAR Visit our Web Site www.DistanceRiding.org 407-365-5601	HORSE CLUB CO-OP!CUD ScoreCub Co-Op is where any horse club may print their showbill or other club- related information. The pages are discounted and will be divided onto 1/4 sections, so the different clubs can share in the cost of the page. This is open to any club regardless if they host a show.Cub ScorePlease call 239-403-3784 for more details.For \$25, you can reach over 11,000 possible members in Everything Equine's Co-op!
Sterling Silver Farm EQUINE RESCUE We Need Your Help to Save Lives	<b>Lost?</b> Stolen? Everything Equine would like to help. Please send a photo and information about the lost or stolen animal. It will be included free of charge on a space permitting basis.

### Page 16 June 2008 www.everything-equine.com Continued from page 10

- Any appliances used in the barn (e.g. clippers, dryers, vacuums) should be UL approved and grounded. Appliances with broken, frayed cords or bent plugs should not be used until properly repaired. (Wrapping the cord in electrical tape is not a proper method of repairing a frayed cord.) All appliances should be disconnected when not in use.
- Portable heaters should not be used in the barn area. If they are used in tack rooms, heater units should not be left unattended and should be turned off when you leave the room. Many of these heaters do not contain safety devices which prevent overheating.
- Do not place portable space heaters near livestock where they may be knocked over. Make sure heaters have a shut-off device that activates if the unit is knocked over.
- Improperly utilized heat lamps are a major source of barn fires. They are often placed too close to hay and bedding which may ignite quite easily from the heat. Never use extension cords with heat lamps.
- Heat tapes, heated automatic water tanks and water tank heaters must have a thermostat and be UL listed. All heating devices should be installed and used following manufacturer instructions. Tank heater cords and heat tapes should be adequately protected so that animals (horses, livestock, cats, dogs, rodents) cannot easily chew through them and cause electrocution, electrical shocks or a barn fire. Heat tapes should be protected with a fireretardant insulation material.

### **General Fire Safety Precautions**

- Smoking should never be permitted in any barn, hay/bedding storage area, tack room or lounge. No-smoking signs should be posted in these areas and at all exterior entrances. Butt cans should be provided as an incentive to extinguish all cigarettes.
- Exit doors should be clearly marked.
- Aisles should be raked or swept clean of hay and bedding. Vacuum up cobwebs and dust regularly. Wipe dust/dirt off light fixtures, outlet covers, switches and panel boxes.
- Weeds, twigs, and other trash should be kept mowed or picked up from around the outside of the barn.
- Manure piles should be at least 20 feet away from the barn to reduce the chance of combustion fire.
- Hay/bedding storage should not be near lights, fans, electrical boxes, heaters or outlets.
- When storing newly baled hay, the temperature of the bales should be monitored. Adequate ventilation should be provided for additional drying of the hay. If too much heat builds up, spontaneous combustion can occur. (Never purchase hay that is hot because it can mean that it was baled too wet. In addition to being a fire hazard, the hay may turn moldy, making it unpalatable and unhealthy for horses to eat.)
- Flammable substances should be kept away from the barn.
- Store vehicles and machinery in a separate building.
- If a vehicle is being driven through the barn, during stall cleaning for example, care should be taken not to block horses in stalls.
- A halter and lead shank for each horse should be hung on all stall door fronts in case of an emergency.
- A fire hose and buckets should be available and kept for this purpose only.
- Practice fire drills should be held so employees and boarders are familiar with their responsibilities should a real fire occur.

### **Lightning Protection**

The Lightning Protection Institute estimated that 41 percent of 250 lightning-related equine deaths were not the result of horses being struck directly, but were due to horses being asphyxiated or burning in barn fires caused by lightning.

- Buildings should be equipped with professionally installed lightning rods of copper or aluminum. The system should be properly grounded.
- All pipes, water systems, electrical systems and telephone lines should also be grounded.
- Contact a professional company for proper maintenance and installation.
- Information on proper lightning precautions for your livestock structure can be obtained from the Lightning Protection Institute, www.lightning.org.

### **Fire Extinguisher**

- ABC (all class) dry-chemical fire extinguishers should be in all livestock buildings, workshops or wherever welding is done.
- The extinguisher should be 5 lbs. minimum. 10 lbs. is ideal.

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Even if a unit is only partially discharged, the extinguisher must be recharged.

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- A fire extinguisher should be hanging at all exterior doorways, in the middle of long aisles, and next to the electrical panel box.
- Signs denoting placement of fire extinguishers should be highly visible

### **Smoke Detectors for Livestock Buildings**

Early fire detection systems may give you enough time to get livestock out and maybe save the building. Heat and smoke detectors are available for livestock facilities. The detectors should be professionally installed to guarantee that they are in the most effective location within the barn. Sirens or bells should be loud enough to be heard from a distance, in case no one is in the immediate vicinity of the barn. The alarm should go directly to the fire department alerting them that there is a barn fire and live animals and/or humans might be involved.

### What not to do!

Never fight a fire if it is already large and spreading. Never fight a fire that could spread to block your escape route. Never fight a fire if you have not been trained to properly use a fire extinguisher.

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The National Equine Safety Association (NESA).

U.S. Fires in Selected Occupancies. National Fire Protection Association. Marty Ahrens. March 2006.

### **Other Related Rutgers Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets**

Hamilton, George C. "Storage of Pesticides and Their Containers." 1988. Rutgers Fact Sheet FS 320.

Ponessa, Joseph T. "Ground Fault Circuit Interrrupters Offer Improved Electrical Safety." 1986. Rutgers Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet FS162.

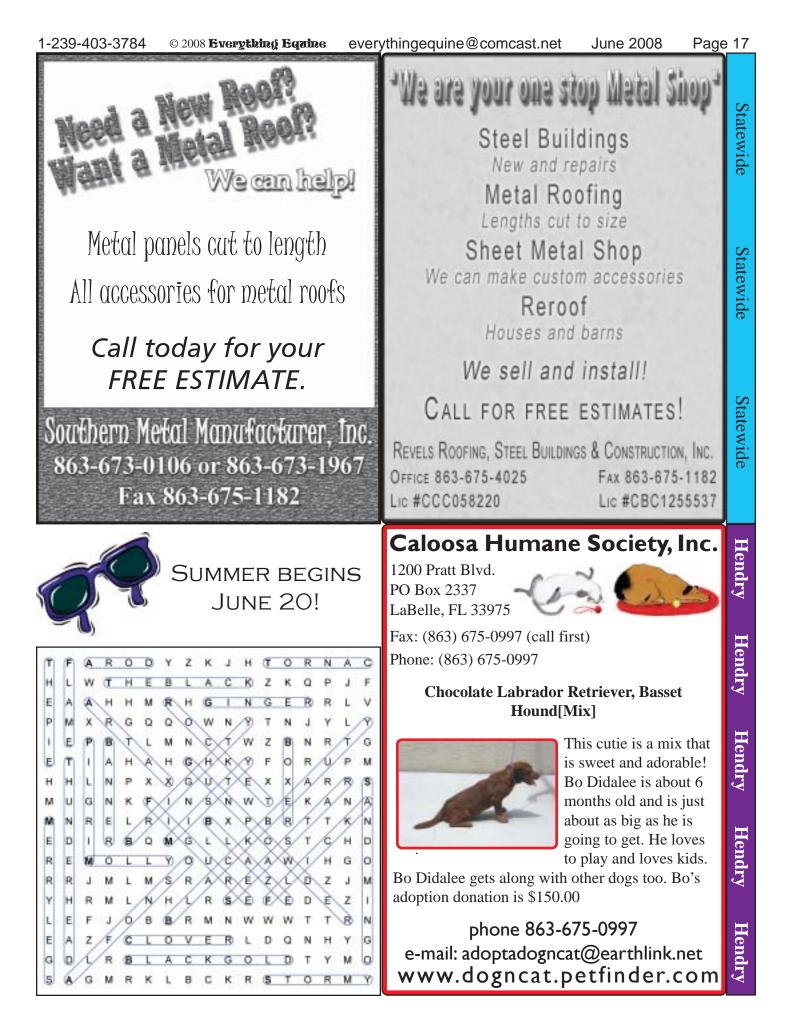
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# Words of Wisdom

People who don't take care of their own horses will be the first ones to tell you how to care for yours.

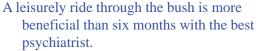


You should never buy a cheap girth!

A handsome horse that's badly behaved will become a lot less attractive in about 15 minutes.

People who think they have nothing more to learn about riding hit the ground the hardest.

- Children and ponies are natural allies and often have identical dispositions.
- The richest horse people often look the poorest.
- The closeness of a horse is one of the sweetest smells in the world.
- If someone says that horse has a little buck, it has a BIG buck.



- The worse a person rides the more likely they are going to blame it on the horse.
- The best thing about going to the barn first thing in the morning is that horses don't care how you look.
- If a dealer insists a horse is worth twice what he's asking he's usually worth half that much.
- The best way to appreciate how another person rides is to get on their horse.
- I can recognize another horse person no matter what town, city, state, county or country I visit.
- You can never have too many hoof picks.
- It is not wise to argue with something that outweighs you by 1,000 pounds

I'd rather have a horse with a perfect mind then a perfect head.



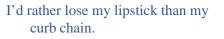
Eight hours is too long to be in the saddle!

If you think you have left the water on in the barn you have, if you

think you have closed the pasture gate you haven't.

When someone asks you if you like their horse always say yes.

- The happiest people I know own horses, dogs, cats and at least one deranged goat.
- If you're looking for the perfect horse you will never own one.
- Owning a horse can either make a marriage or break it.





You shouldn't talk about your first place ribbon to someone that came second.

If we need rain, schedule a horse show or trail ride.

- I've never warmed up to someone that didn't want a walk down to the stables to see the horses.
- A clean stable and a sparkling horse are among life's great pleasures.

Even given-away horses can be too expensive.

- No matter how badly behaved you are your horse always gives you a second chance.
- A more expensive horse doesn't make a better one.
- I can't stand to have an empty stable.
- Losing a horse can break your heart, but it will have been worth it.

If you can't imagine life without a horse... DON'T! From the internet, author unknown.



# The results are in. The winner of the Tikigator Coloring Contest is....

Madison and Olivia MeGrath, ages 6 & 7, won Grand Prize. Shayna Lewkowicz, age 11, won Honorable Mention.



Grand prize earned a free week of summer horse camp at Tikigator Farms. Honorable mention won a free lesson.

## Why do we mount horses from the left? Is there any reason why we should or shouldn't mount from the right?

The tradition of mounting from the left dates back to the time when warriors carried swords on horseback. Since most people were and are right-handed, the sword was carried on the left hip to enable them to draw it quickly.

Horses were mounted from the left so that the right leg could swing up over their back without the sword getting in the way. Mounting from the right would be difficult, as the sword would get in the way of swinging the leg up, and might poke the horse.

So it really is nothing more than tradition. We mount from the left because we've been taught to. Mounting from the left resulted in tack that was designed to be buckled, cinched, or fastened from the left-most halters, bridles, and saddles are left-sided.

It's actually a good idea to teach your horse to accept everything from the right side as well.

Xenophon— an ancient Greek general who wrote the first book on horsemanship— wrote that it was good to practice mounting from the right in case of an emergency. Today it's a good idea because it will teach your horse to be balanced and accept things from both sides.

It can also help to reduce strain on their shoulder. Xenophon didn't use stirrups (they hadn't been invented yet), but we do, and when we mount it pulls the saddle over the horse's side. Mounting from both sides equally can help to balance things out and prevent the horse from getting sore. It'll probably help you to balance too- notice that if you've always mounted from the left, and you try to mount from the right, it feels 'wrong' and is more difficult! If you do it enough you'll get better and it will become just as natural as mounting from the 'correct' side.

Of course, most horses will need to be accustomed to rightside handling if they've been handled from the left all their life. Most horses are one-sided to begin with, so working from both sides can benefit them by helping to balance them out.

http://www.ultimatehorsesite.com/info/hq\_mountleft.html

Horse tales is an area where original, unpublished works by local writers and artists will be featured. If you have a short story, poem, work of art or anything that you've created and are interested in seeing in print, please submit to Everything Equine. Everything Equine provides this opportunity for children and adults alike to show their creative abilities and talents to the entire community. Please limit your submissions to horse related tales that coincide with an

equestrian or farm oriented way of life.

Horse Tales



Horseback

Horseback Safaris - Standard

one-hour, two-hour, or threehour horseback safaris are available daily. Horseback

Safaris can be arranged for riders with varying levels of

experience. All guests should be at least 12 years of age; 10 years of age is an acceptable age with proven riding experience. Guests weighing more than 275 pounds will need to be assessed by our Equestrian Director before they are allowed to take a Horseback Safari. Call-in reservations are recommended in order to assure that we and our horses are ready for you.

A favorite with visitors is our two-night "Crescent J Cattle Drive Weekend Safari," which includes some training in Florida Cowhunter skills of ridin', ropin' and cow cuttin'. (Florida cattlemen weren't "cowboys" because hunting those wild Spanish-descent cattle in Florida's woods and swamps was a man's job, they said.) Choice of campground depends on weather, type of group and recommendation of the riding instructors.

Another favorite is similar, but shorter - an Overnight Trail Ride Safari combined with a next-day "Rawhide Roundup." More time is spent riding the wilderness trails of Forever Florida and learning about nature, less on cowpoke skills.

Corporate Co-workers, Schoolteachers, Professional Club, Flying Clubs, School Groups, Church Groups, Families, Friends, Scout troops or multi-troop Camporees - there are activities and a campground on Forever Florida or the Crescent J Ranch that are just right for a bonding experience. See the Facilities and Events page for more details.

From a small primitive one-troop Scout Camp on the Crescent J that has been used by Girl and Boy Scouts for more than 30 years, we expanded to a remote but up-scale campground 'way back in the wilderness of Forever Florida, then added two campgrounds in between and most recently, a large area "up front" (near the highway) that comfortably holds up to twenty Scout troops for a big Camporee.

Variations on these basic campouts and safaris can be worked out with our staff.

1-888-957-9794 www.floridaeco-safaris.com

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# The next drawing is for a two hour horseback safari for two!

Congratulations to Angela Kelly of Brooksville, Fl. She won last month's drawing for a two hour Horseback Safari for two at Forever Florida!



Enjoy the ride! There will be another drawing next month, so send in your entry form! Winner is chosen by luck of the draw. Odds of winning depend on how many entries received.

Congratulations to Linda Vitale, who won last month's drawing for MD's Choice supplements.

# MD's Choice and Forever Florida Give-A-Way

### ways to enter

- By mail. Use entry form below. 1)
- Email your request to be entered to 2) everythingequine@comcast.net. 3)
  - Automatically be entered by submitting a classified ad.

Enter To Win One form per month enters you in all monthly drawings!

Name \_

Address

Phone Number \_\_\_\_

Alternate Number

Email Address

If your name is drawn for the MD's Choice Products, please indicate if you would like Arthrosamine for \_\_\_\_Dogs or \_\_\_\_Humans.

Mail to: Everything Equine 460 6th St NE

Must receive entry by the 20th of the month. One entry per person per month. Winner is Naples, FL 34120 chosen by luck of the draw.

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1-239-403-3784 © 2008 Everything Equine everything equine @comcast.net June 2008 Page 21 Submit your club or organization's event and it will be posted free

on a space permitting 1st come 1st serve basis.

# June 2008

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		mmer Camp	all week. See		/
				Friday night Jackpot Lee County Posse Arena Spm	Sunshine Barrel Racers Assoc. Exib. 9am - Starts 11am www.leecountypossearena.com
9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day
Evergl	ades Ranch Su	mmer Camp	all week. See	e page 4	Horse & Tack Auction see pg 15 www.floridaborsesales.com Horse Sale, Ocala
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				Show Canter	ixie Plantation ALL Breed Horse bury Showplace, Newberry, FL on.com or (904) 879-4084 toLcom
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Ad	deadline	is the	21st of	the	month.

**Business Ad Rates** 

# **Glassified Ad Rates**

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Medium 1/8 page		\$35	Inside Cover	\$234	\$272	\$325
Large 1/6 page	\$24	\$46	Back Cover	n/a		\$340
Extra Large 1/4 p	age \$35 80 words, additional w	\$60		n/a	n/a	334V
	e 60 words, additional		Centerfold	\$349	\$412	\$499
Description: (one word	per box, may use additional	paper if necessary)	Full page	\$214	\$2.46	\$299
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			1/4 page	<b>\$90</b>	\$101	\$123
			1/6 page	\$74	\$84	\$101
			1/8 page	\$53	\$58	\$ <b>69</b>
			Business card	\$38	\$42	<b>\$48</b>
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# The Mystic Equine

Now open in Lake Placid is The Mystic Equine, the only store of its kind in all of Highlands county. The Mystic Equine is an exclusive English tack store offering English Tack, Horse Care, Grooming Essentials, Show Apparel, Schooling Necessities, and Equestrian gifts. The store also has a selection of items for the future equestrian as well. There is a section dedicated for youngsters with toys and gadgets, Breyer horses, accessories, and even infant and toddler apparel. The Mystic Equine also offers a selection of ECO/GREEN fly repellents and sprays.

Olivia Fansler is the founder and owner of The Mystic Equine. She is a life long resident of Lake Placid. When asked about her feelings toward owning the new store Fansler stated, "I have wanted to open a store like this for quite a while. Seeing how excited and happy the customers have been is everything I had imagined. Everyone has such a fun time in our store!"

The Mystic Equine offers you many hard to find items at an easy to find location. The store is located at 122 Dal Hall Blvd. in downtown Lake Placid. The store hours are Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Give Olivia a call at 863-465-0561 for any questions. Come in and sit awhile, we'll talk horses!!

Show Apparel and Schooling Neccessities

> Grooming and Care Products

Equestrian Gifts and Free Gift Wrapping

> Kids Corner and Junior Rider Section





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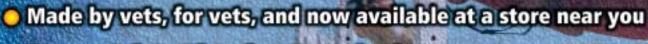
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