



## HOOFPRIENTS

*Dedicated to the enhancement of therapeutic riding*

Spring, 2018

Volume 21, No. 1

### WHAT'S NEW?

An Exciting New Season for Horses Unlimited, Inc.

**At the Horses Unlimited riding program,** we work with families to design individualized, therapeutic horse riding lessons. This gives each rider the opportunity to grow and expand the limit of their abilities in a safe and nurturing environment. It is suitable for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders or other special needs and disabilities. Our students, volunteers and sponsors are everything! Here is what our volunteers have been up to, what we have planned in the coming

months and what you can do to get involved with our program.



**We'd like to thank and give 5 neighs** to the Graeagle Lions Club, for putting

up a new barn and helping tear out old fencing in our arena. Many hours of volunteer time went into the preparations of our new arena, with Wilburn Construction providing the machinery and an operator to drill new post holes for new fence panels. Wayne Fountain took on this fence project and saw it through to the end. Other volunteers included Vaughn Vajgrt, Larry and Lauren Sternberg, Kim Walker, Lloyd Buckner, and Marty Segarini.

**Student enrollment** begins in May for the summer session. Lessons begin on June 5th and 6th. You can go online to [www.horsesunlimitedinc.org](http://www.horsesunlimitedinc.org) for enrollment forms or contact Lauren Sternberg at (530) 836-2795 for more information on enrollment and scholarships.

**Volunteer training and works days** will begin in May. This is a great opportunity to get involved and be around our gentle horses. Contact Lauren Sternberg if you are interested in working with our students and horses, (530) 836-2795 and Kim Walker (530) 927-8361 if you can help with weed-eating or other clean-up tasks around the facility. Many hands make quick work!

### APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

April is Autism Awareness Month, and we have a very special event planned to raise sponsorship money for riders with Autism.

We are working with Autism Speaks to celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Light it Up Blue" Fundraiser.

Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

Dinner, Raffle and Live Music

Graeagle Millworks

4:00 to 7:00 PM

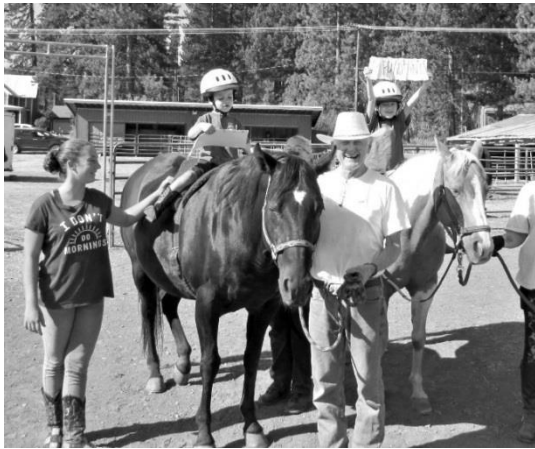
Contact Kimberly Walker at  
(530) 927-8361 for more details or to RSVP

## A SPECIAL PART OF THE “VILLAGE” A HUI Mom’s Story

By Brenda Lory

We all understand that “it takes a village to raise a child.” For my family, raising two children who both have an Autism diagnosis, this truth feels so incredibly powerful. At times, living in a rural community can be extremely isolating, especially when your child cannot participate in all the typical activities available. However, in terms of having a sense of a “village” that cares for my kids, I can say with confidence that more often I feel that this incredible place we chose to put down our roots exceeds all expectations.

Without a doubt, our kids’ participation in Horses Unlimited these past two summers is our biggest blessing since relocating to Plumas County. Each week, we attend their lessons as a family, and we’re greeted and treated with sincere enthusiasm and excitement by the volunteers. They are patient, calm, and kind, without exception.



My son began participating with HUI the summer he turned 4. At the time, he was extremely sensitive to clothing, never choosing to wear pants or shoes. I thought there would be no way to convince him to wear the required helmet, so my expectation was that his sister would participate, and he might not. During his first lesson, he was allowed to sit on Buffy with volunteers on each side; he was told if he wanted her to move, he had to put the helmet on. I was shocked, not only by his understanding of the instruction, but with his near immediate compliance. Once that horse started moving,

he was in Heaven. Each week since then he has willingly adorned the helmet for the entire lesson. This was also a learning experience for me: my children are capable of working through some very challenging tasks, if the reward is great enough.



Both of my children have received the greatest gifts imaginable from this little portion of our village: they have gained confidence in themselves as well as what could easily become a lifelong love of horses. Last summer, my daughter was awarded a trophy with a horse on top, carefully and lovingly painted to match “her” horse, Razzzy. That is truly something “above and beyond” anything we could’ve imagined before starting this journey. These memories will forever be cherished by us all, and we are waiting impatiently to return again in June!



# Horses Unlimited, Inc.



## 2018 Calendar of Events

- April 28 (4:00-7:00 PM)** “Light it Up Blue” Fundraiser, Graeagle Millworks
- May 1** Student Enrollment Begins, Mohawk, Call Lauren (530)836-2795 to schedule.
- May 22 (9:00 AM)** Mohawk Facility Work Day
- May 28 (10:00 AM)** Volunteer Sign-ups and overview, Mohawk
- June 3 (9:00AM)** Volunteer Training and scheduling, Mohawk
- June 5 & 6** Lessons begin and continue on Tues. & Wed. through August 15.  
NO LESSONS ON JULY 3 OR 4.
- September 8** “Ride-a-thon” Fundraiser, Mohawk
- October or November** “Bowl-a-thon” Fundraiser, more details to be announced.

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### 2018 TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

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How can I help? My donation is enclosed in the amount of:

\_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_\$500 \_\_\_\$1,000

\_\_\_ Please use this donation to sponsor a student.

\_\_\_ Please use this donation to sponsor a lesson horse.

## HUI

A 501 (c)(3) not for profit organization dedicated to providing therapeutic horseback riding to individuals from Lassen, Sierra and Plumas Counties in the Shasta Cascade region of California.

Contact for details:  
P.O. Box 30194  
Cromberg, CA 96103  
[www.horsesunlimitedinc.org](http://www.horsesunlimitedinc.org)

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Horses Unlimited, Inc.  
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