Bojangles the pony just needed someone to step up to help him. A victim of long-term neglect, he had long curled-up hooves and had gone many years without farrier or veterinary care. Luckily for this pony, someone saw him in this condition and contacted the Animal Humane Society of Minnesota. Even though it was Sunday, Investigator Wade Hanson made the trip out to the property to investigate the humane complaint. The pony was surrendered to AHS, who then signed him over to MHARF. We took him to Anoka Equine Veterinary Services where his hooves were radiographed to determine the extent of damage and then debulked to begin the process of making him more comfortable. He was then placed in foster care with Erin and Kris from Hay Chix, who will help to rehabilitate him until he is ready for adoption (Thank you, Erin and Kris)!

Bojangles is one of the lucky ones simply because the person who noticed him took the extra steps to report his condition. Humane investigators and law enforcement officials depend on the public to inform them of possible humane complaints. We are lucky in Minnesota to have a fairly good system in place. While not perfect by any means, it’s a very effective system compared to that in many other states. We are also finding that law enforcement agencies are becoming more interested and willing to learn about the humane care of animals, as well as resources available to them when they step in to investigate a report. Many humane complaints are made by people (often relatives or neighbors) who see the animals on a regular basis and have seen their condition decline to a point where it can no longer be ignored, but sometimes the reports are made by people who are not regulars in the area and just happen to be driving by. Instead of turning a blind eye, they stop to take another look and note the property address. Then they take the most important step of making a humane complaint.

The Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation has been working with law enforcement agencies throughout Minnesota since our founding in 1994. We also work with humane investigators on state, county, and township levels. There are two main options we recommend for reporting a possible humane case. You can contact the Humane Investigations Unit at the Animal Humane Society of MN or you can contact the local county sheriff’s department. A link to AHS contact information, as well as a link to contact information for all Minnesota county sheriff’s departments, can be found under the “Resources: Suspected Neglect or Abuse” menu on our website www.mnhoovedanimalrescue.org. If you aren’t certain whom to contact, please feel free to email us at info@mnhoovedanimalrescue.org and we will be happy to advise you.

If you think you are witnessing neglect or abuse of an animal, Investigator Wade Hanson of the Animal Humane Society of MN says it is important not to trespass on the property to get evidence. Instead, do your best to get the address, report it, and let officials do the rest. Anyone reporting a humane complaint is assured of confidentiality. However, if you choose to take photos or video from a public road or neighboring property, these can only be used as evidence in a court case if you are willing to appear and testify. Investigator Hanson also says it is important not to feed, water or do anything else to remedy the situation for the animal/s. Doing so will greatly interfere with the investigation.

When reporting a humane complaint, Hanson says the most important piece of information to have is an address for the property. If you know the name of the owners, that information is helpful. If you contact an investigator by email, be sure to leave a phone number where you can be reached. It’s best to keep your email concise: property address, description
of humane complaint and number and description of any animals involved. A successful investigation begins with accurate information. You can find a full list of Minnesota Humane Statutes for Equines on the “Resources” page of our website. Remember, if you see an equine in distress, your report may be the key to changing its life!

For a full list of available horses please visit mnhoovedanimalrescue.org

2018 MHARF Trainer’s Challenge of the Unwanted Horse (once again featuring the “Promise of the Future” Training Competition for Young Horses)!

Saturday, September 22nd has been set for the 2018 MHARF Trainer’s Challenge of the Unwanted Horse! This will be the 11th year we have held this event, which, for the second year in a row, will also feature the “Promise of the Future” Training Competition for Young Horses. This year we have 10 horse and trainer teams competing in the main Trainer’s Challenge. They include: Thomas Smittle with Banner, Jessica Amundson with Brando, Michael Saterbak with DeNiro, Marirose Berner with Lyric, Melissa Stuckey with Odin, Natalie Linders with Electra, Elizabeth Robins with TomTom, Sarah Lemke with Zarah, Aubreanne and MyKayla Dockter with Monte, and Kiley Miller and Jeremy Anderson with Padre. Once again each team has set up a Facebook page so you can follow their progress. You can find links to these pages on the “Teams” page under the “Trainer’s Challenge” menu on our website. You can also find general event information, horse and trainer bios, trainer contact information, and information on how to become preapproved to adopt the Challenge horses on the day of the competition.

The Promise of the Future Training Competition for Young Horses is an additional in-hand-only competition we originally designed in 2017 because of the number of young horses in our program who are either too young to start under saddle or are too small to enter the regular Challenge. The Promise of the Future competition is a great way to get these youngsters (and ponies) the ground manners they need to move on to the next step of under-saddle training when they are ready. It is also a great opportunity for younger or less experienced trainers to gain experience in the competitive training venue. We are accepting Promise of the Future trainer applications until May 1st, 2018.

MHARF is thrilled to welcome back The Hay Chix as our $5000.00 2018 Grand Championship Sponsor. The Hay Chix, makers of the best slow feed nets on the market, have been with us since the beginning of the annual competition back in 2008. They have acted as our Grand Champion sponsors since 2016 and our Reserve Champion sponsors from 2013 to 2015. Hay Chix is a company that truly cares about equine welfare. We are also very happy to have Horse Crazy Market back as our Freestyle Class sponsor. HCM has also been with us for several years and we truly appreciate their support. If you haven’t yet checked out the Horse Crazy Holiday Market at the MN fairgrounds in December, be sure to do so in 2018. It is a do-not-miss event for horse lovers (find more info at horsecrazymarket.com)! We also welcome back The Valley Equestrian Newspaper Online as an advertising sponsor (theveonline.com). The VEN has also been with us for a long time! We have many more sponsor-ship opportunities open (corporate or private) and are actively looking for sponsors. For more information please visit us at mnhoovedanimalrescue.org (Sponsorship info available under “Trainer’s Challenge” menu) or email us at info@mnhoovedanimalrescue.org. Thank you!

Tansy and Atticus the Donkeys Need a Home!

We are still searching for a forever home for the last two donkeys available from our June 2017 Pine County humane case. The case involved seven donkeys in total, all of whom suffered from extreme neglect. Sadly, two of them had to be euthanized after intake due to the severity of pain and irreversible damage to their hooves from many years without farrier care. Two others (May and Apple Brown Betty) have been adopted, and one (Irene) will most likely remain a resident at MHARF due to her age and lack of teeth. The last two, Tansy and Atticus, are also considered “special needs” due to their misshapen hooves and continued need for knowledgeable farrier care. They are both very sweet but still have trust issues—so a home with patience and experience is necessary. They will also require a dry lot and minimum access to grass to prevent laminitis. Tansy is approximately 18 years old and Atticus is approximately 10. They are extremely bonded and we would like them to be adopted together. If you are interested in adopting these two sweet donkeys, please email us at info@mnhoovedanimalrescue.org.

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Do you have a loved one who is crazy about horses? Make your gift to them go twice as far with a “Meet, Greet, and Bring a Treat” gift sponsorship from MHARF! These sponsorships are great for birthdays, Mother’s and Father’s day, anniversaries, and any other special occasion. (A sponsorship of one of our pregnant mares is an especially good idea for a Mother’s day gift). A “Meet, Greet and Bring a Treat” Gift Sponsorship of $100.00 includes a full-color certificate with the horse’s photo and story, a beautiful hand-made MHARF mug from Jasper Bond Pottery (we can substitute a plush horse toy for the mug if the gift is for a child), and the opportunity for you and your gift recipient to come out to the farm to visit the sponsored horse (available for Zimmerman location only). If your gift recipient lives out of state or can’t otherwise do a “meet and greet”, we also offer the sponsorship opportunity at a $50.00 level with the mug and certificate. Your sponsorship money will not only provide a thoughtful gift for your horse-crazy loved one, but will also help MHARF continue our important work rescuing, rehabilitating, retraining, and re-homing equines in need. You can set up your gift sponsorship by contacting us at info@mnhoovedanimalrescue.org or find more info at mnhoovedanimalrescue.org. (We want to say a special Thank You to Sydney Jordan Photography for many of these beautiful portraits! You can find more of Sydney’s work here sydneyjordanphoto@wixsite.com.)

We want to thank Morgan Hiscocks, James Kaul, and their volunteers for holding the first “Hold Your Lady Tight Night”, an All-Inclusive 90’s Country Dance Party, as a fundraiser for MHARF! The event took place on March 31st at the James Ballentine “Uptown” VFW in Minneapolis and was a huge success! Thank you so much to everyone who came out to support the cause, dance, shop, and bid in the silent auction! Visit HYLTN on Facebook to find out about future events!

Annual MHARF Spring Tack & Rummage Sale!

Thursday May 10th 9:00-5:00
Friday May 11th 9:00-5:00
Saturday May 12th 9:00-5:00
Sunday May 13th 11:00-2:00

Zimmerman Civic Building (25850 Main Street)

English & western tack, fly sheets, clothing & tons of miscellaneous horse gear & equipment!
Antiques, Furniture, Collectables, Household Miscellaneous, Books, and More!

100% of the Proceeds to Benefit the Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation!

For more information on the sale or on volunteering to help out please contact info@mnhoovedanimalrescue.org
MNHARF is a non-profit 501c3 organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, retraining, and re-homing of neglected, abused, abandoned and unwanted equines and other animals. Because some of the horses we take in need extended rehabilitation and some have serious medical needs, we are always in need of financial support from friends like you. Please consider joining the MHARF family by making a financial contribution. No donation is too small or too large!

All donations are tax deductible. We also accept gifts in-kind and gifts of stock.

YES I would like to join the MHARF family by making a financial contribution. I have enclosed a check for $______.

Complete this form and mail it with your donation to: MHARF, PO Box 47, Zimmerman, MN 55398

Or contribute online through PayPal or Network for Good at www.mnhoovedanimalrescue.org

In Memory of Andrew Phipps
We would like to thank the family of Andrew Phipps for designating MHARF as the recipient of memorial donations. Andrew, who had a life-long love of horses and other animals, passed away unexpectedly at age 22 on February 12, 2018. Andrew is the beloved son of Chuck and Ann Phipps and brother to Samuel and Graham. We cannot thank Andrew’s family enough for thinking of us at this tragic time. We also want to thank Andrew’s many friends and family members for their generous donations made in his memory.

In Memory of Mary Lee “Marly” Whiting
MHARF is extremely grateful to have received a donation from the Estate of Mary Lee (“Marly”) Whiting. Marly was an animal lover, dog trainer, and accomplished horsewoman who showed American Saddlebreds throughout her life. How very kind of Marly to remember MHARF in her estate planning so that many more equines will continue to benefit from her generosity! We also want to thank her Estate Trustees, Roberta Cole and Sheryl Juhl for all of their assistance!

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