



Field Trip at Personal Ponies

Nonprofit Personal Ponies, Ltd. (Cindy & Mickey Pullen on River Rd.) hosted a field trip from Lake Park Home School Group on Tues., Oct. 10. There were 19 kids and 10 adults ranging in age from 2 to 17 years. The activities included watching a demo of how therapy ponies are trained for their jobs, grooming and braiding manes and leading ponies over the confidence course.

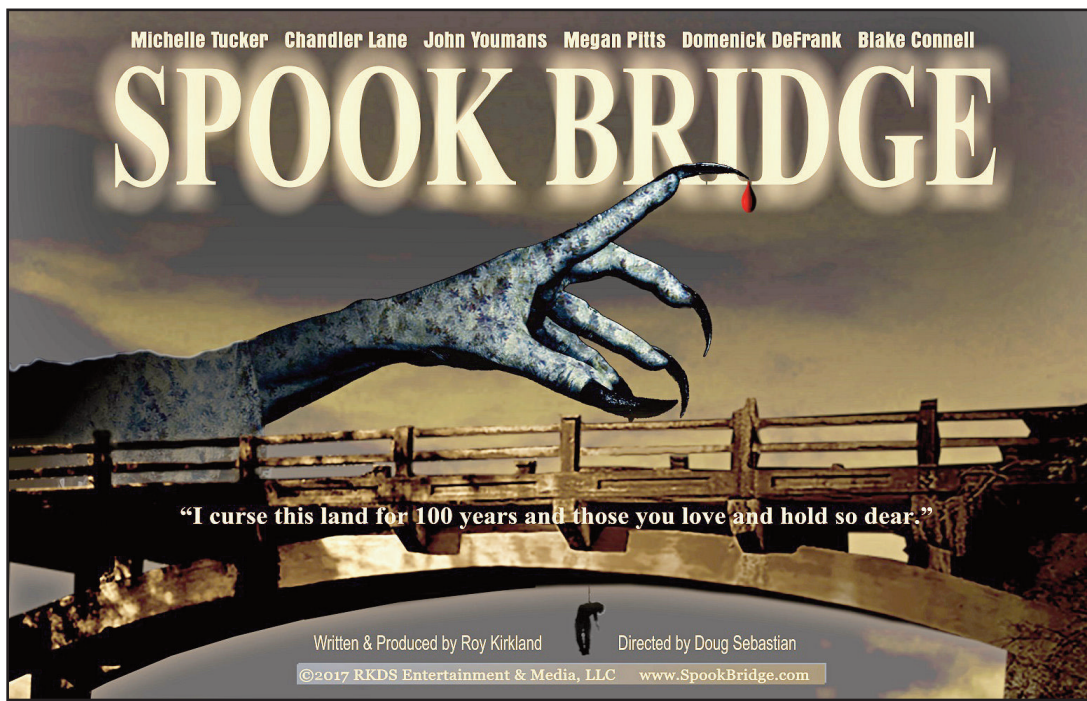
They also got to walk through a horse trailer and see what kind of feed ponies ate. All the kids got to lead a pony as well as groom. Most of them groomed and handled one

of the 3 foals born this spring. They also had a hay ride behind a tractor and ended the visit with a wonderful barbecue lunch donated by South Eastern Credit Union and catered by Bobby Flowers Bar-B-Cue. The trip was organized by Amy and Jaime Gibbons. Star volunteer, Lindsey Fender, helped with all the activities to insure everyone had a safe, fun learning experience. A great time was had by all. Rumor has it that several of the older girls will be back to help train ponies further in their careers as therapeutic ponies.

Spook Bridge film ready for debut Gov. Deal praises World Premiere

According to RKDS Entertainment & Media, Hurricane Irma only made things better for the World Premiere showing of their latest film, Spook Bridge. "Moving the event to a date closer to Halloween is what we should have done while originally planning this event", Producer Roy Kirkland, said. The original date was set for September 13, but Irma had different plans. Instead Mathis City Auditorium, the venue for the premiere, was converted into a shelter for those displaced by the hurricane.

The event will now have a Halloween theme much more fitting for the horror film which is based on the actual South Georgia legend. To add even more fun to the event, everyone is asked to wear their favorite Halloween costume. It's not a requirement but for those who do, they'll



receive a unique gift bag filled with goodies from local merchants.

Spook Bridge has gained much attention and publicity from New York to California. Even the Governor of Georgia, Nathan Deal sent a congratulatory letter and

greetings to all those attending this unique event. "On behalf of the state of Georgia, allow me to extend my warmest regards to RKDS Media as you host and otherwise participate in your event of the World Premiere of the feature film, Spook Bridge in

Valdosta." The letter continues by welcoming distinguished guests, county and city governments, business leaders and other attendees. The letter was written by the Governor to be read each night of the event.

"Gov. Deal has played a tremendous role in growing the film industry in Georgia and making our state number one in the nation for film making. To have him recognize our film's Premiere, is beyond awesome. Now we just need our local leaders to recognize our efforts to grow the film industry in our area. South Georgia, unfortunately, seriously lags behind the rest of the state. This is why we wanted to have the event here. We could've bypassed this event and went straight to national distribution. But instead we opted to involve local businesses and the people to help bring awareness to this \$9.5 billion dollar Georgia industry," Roy Kirkland concluded.

The Premiere is set for October 25-26-27, beginning at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) at Mathis City Auditorium in Valdosta, GA. Tickets are \$10.00 each which includes Coca Cola, soft drinks and popcorn.

Tickets will be available at the event and at participating merchants. More information available at www.Spook-Bridge.com

Area 15 Fall Special Olympics starts soon

Each school year, the Valdosta-Lowndes Parks and Recreation Authority Therapeutics Division hosts 3 local Special Olympic event - 2 in October and 1 in March. Special Education students ages 8 to 21 from nine surrounding counties will compete in a variety of sports. We are looking for volunteers to take score, give out awards, assist with art and crafts, hand out lunches, supervise a bounce house, etc.

On Tuesday, October 31, students will compete in the Individual Bowling Event. This fun-filled competition will be held at Jac's Bowling Lanes located at 406 Connell Road, Valdosta.

Due to the overwhelming amount of athletes that participate in this event, we have split the students into two separate competitions. The high school and middle school students compete at 10 a.m. The elementary schools compete at 12:30 p.m. Volunteer registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Please look for the "Volunteer Registration" table to receive your lane assignment for the day. The event will end approximately 2

p.m. On Thursday, November 2, students will compete in Individual Basketball Skills and Basketball Team competitions. This fun-filled event will be held at the VLPRA Administrative Gym located at 1901 North Forrest Street, Valdosta. Volunteer registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Please look for the "Volunteer Registration" table to receive your assignment for the day. Opening Ceremonies begins at 10 a.m. The event will end approximately 2 p.m. The majority of the activities are outside, so please dress accordingly and wear closed-toe shoes.

If you are able to volunteer any amount of time for these events, please contact me via email or by telephone (229)259-3507 to sign up.

Please let us know if you have any special talents, referee experience or specialize in a particular sport. If you are signing up a group please have the number of volunteers, the name of your group and the date(s) you are volunteering available, so that we may plan accordingly. Don't forget to dress comfortably.



Lanier County helps Hurricane Irma victims

Amy Lollis, Lanier County Family Connection

Neighborhoods in Lanier County were without power for more than a week. Lanier County Family Connection collected food, water, paper products, baby food, and diapers. Volunteers delivered to the families in need and distributed food stamp emergency forms.

Three local churches part-

nered with Family Connection to serve a meal to one of the hardest hit neighborhoods. This neighborhood is very secluded and the families lack transportation. Personal Ponies also came out to entertain the kids. Churches bussed families into town to take showers at Southside Baptist Church. More than 100 families received help over a four-day period.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNC.

Drug overdoses have become the leading cause of accidental death in the United States with heroin and other opiates being the largest contributor. If your loved one is struggling with drug abuse of any kind, now is the time to get them the help they need.

ADDICTION SCREENINGS

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1-800-431-1754

ELECTIONS

From Front

Monday, Oct. 16., through Friday, Nov. 3. The last day to register as a voter was Tuesday, Oct. 10. All regis-

tered voters within the City of Lakeland can vote for both the mayor's race as well as all six of the city council posts. Lakeland's City Charter provides that all city council positions are "at large" which means that every city voter can vote for each councilman post. Tuesday, Nov. 7, is the general election date. On that day, voters will cast their votes at the Threatte Center, 209 US-221 or S. Valdosta Highway at Burnt Church Rd. from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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REOPENING
Country Closet Thrift Store
October 19, 2017 @ 10 a.m.
You're invited to come celebrate our reopening. We welcome new/old customers, family & friends to come see us.

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