

THE SCOOP

Whispering Hope Ranch Ministries

A NEW RIDE

I (Mr. Matt) have always written my horse stories mostly centered around my horse Rocky. But with a sad heart I share that Rocky died last fall. I have great memories, and will always have a special place in my heart for him. Now, I am in the process of trying to find a horse to be my new ride and I have one in mind. His name is Takoma. Takoma was donated to the Ranch by a great couple that loved him a lot. He is a handsome palomino quarter horse; friendly, (but a little pushy) and has great personality. He has only one little problem... he bucks. Not all the time, just when you might least expect it such as 1/2 hour into your ride on a trail. The ranch staff and I all know what its like to look up at Takoma from the hard ground. I believe he has great potential so I

have scheduled him to receive some training in May, hopefully, to get this problem dealt with. I believe we, as Christians, are sometimes not much different than Takoma. We may claim to be mature men and women of faith, but when we are asked or led by God's Spirit to do something out of our comfort zone WE BUCK! Then, by God's grace He takes us to school, trains us, and teaches us how to give to His will, follow His lead and experience His peace. Unlike Takoma, we have God's word available to us, instructing us in His ways.

**Psalm 145:17 "The Lord is
righteous in al His ways and
faithful in all He does"**



God Bless, Mr. Matt

(P.S. I'll keep you updated on Takoma's progress.)

WHAT'S NEW AT THE RANCH?

- ★ New Programs! - Summer horse program ministering to kids in foster care.
 - Ranch Round-up program for adults with special needs.
 - ★ New Camps! - This summer we are adding a Family Camp and an Extreme Adventure Camp.
 - ★ New Horses! - This one we actually need YOUR help on, check out the back for more details
 - ★ New Dates and Times! - If you were getting used to our typical summer schedule...check again! We've changed and added some things such as Family Dinner at 4:00 P.M. at camper registration (overnight camps only)
 - ★ New Signs! - Signs fade; we're due for a new look in our advertising. If you're local to our area be
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WHISPERING HOPE RANCH MINISTRIES ~ 659 MAYHEW ROAD-ROSE CITY, MI 48654

WEB: WWW.WHRM.ORG ~ EMAIL: OFFICE@WHRM.ORG ~ PHONE: 989-685-3525

IN WILLY'S WORDS

Hi everybody, it's Willene (Willy) here. I get asked a lot about what it's like to work on a horse ranch. Well it's absolutely wonderful and amazing as well as challenging. I work with all the animals and it is my responsibility to make sure that they have food and water, and stay healthy. This is easier said than done sometimes. Especially with winter subzero temperatures getting as cold as -25° A few times this winter, the automatic water systems in the horse pastures froze. I had to go out with a heat gun to warm up the pipes in the systems to get the water flowing again. This may sound like an easy process, but it's far from it! It's frustrating not knowing where the pipe has a frozen blockage or how long to hold the heat on one area, etc. I spent anywhere from 45 minutes to 2 hours working on just one waterer out in the freezing cold. When I called for advice Justin would give me encouragement along the lines of "You're doing exactly what you should be. Just keep doing it." So that's what I did, and as I worked I would pray that God would give me the patience and determination to keep going. Sure enough, He did. I was able to keep the waterers going and make it through the subzero temperatures. I am so grateful to serve an amazing God and I am thankful that He has give me a wonderful team of people to work with. Despite the challenges, it is extremely rewarding to work at a place where I can see God move in so many different ways; from giving me patience to fix frozen waterers, to seeing Him impact both kids and adults lives in amazing ways. This job is a blessing and I thank you all for your support..



Some staff and kids in our Hope Riders Program

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus." - Philippians 4:19

A huge **thanks** to everyone who helps keep the Ranch going through funding and prayers!

NEW HORSES

If you don't already know, horses are one of the main tools we use to break down walls, connect, and open doors to share the gospel with everyone who comes to the Ranch. We have some GREAT horses. Unfortunately, many of them are getting too old to use as much as needed for our programs. We have a **critical** need for some new horses to continue the effective ministry God has given us. We are always open to having horses donated to the Ranch, but if you don't have or know of a horse that could be donated would you consider giving financially so that we could purchase some new horses this year? We are looking for horses between the ages of 6-15 that need little to no further training in order to be immediately used in our current programs. Currently to purchase a horse like that would cost somewhere between \$2,000-\$3,000.

ARENA WORK PROJECT & SPRING CLEAN-UP

March 17 and April 7

The Ranch and the arena are due for some TLC after the winter. Join us from 9 - 4 on either or both days to help us spruce things up. Lunch and snacks are provided. Give us a call to let us know you're coming.

Congratulations Class of 2018!
Did you know you can have your senior pictures taken here at the Ranch with one of our horses?



Have we mentioned how incredibly grateful we are for those of you who faithfully support us both in prayer and financially? We could not do what we do without you! Sometimes the list of needs at the Ranch seem so constant and overwhelming. On the other hand, a list of ways that God has protected and provided for the Ranch would be so much longer! Can we share just a few that would make the list?

- we did not have to purchase any hay this year, it was all cut by Ranch staff and volunteers from our own, or donated hay fields.
- a staff member is able to be at the Ranch full time to take care of the horses and enable us to run more programming throughout the year.
- the horses are healthy, and had no major issues through the winter
- the indoor arena is getting so close to being able to be used for full time ministry year round.
- funding for bills has been provided (sometimes down to the very last minute, but always on time!)
- people have been calling the Ranch, already inquiring about spring and summer programs. When the weather breaks and the all the ice melts we will continue to minister to everyone God brings to the Ranch.

We could go on, and on about the great things God has done and is doing here at the ranch! If you are already involved, THANK YOU! If not, would you consider partnering with us in some way? You can pray for us, volunteer here, or help on a Ranch clean-up day.

Will you consider partnering with us financially?

Detach here to send in along with donation. Checks may be made out to: Whispering Hope Ranch Ministries

Yes! I'd like to donate \$_____ each month to help support the day to day operations of Whispering Hope Ranch.

Yes! I'd like to donate \$_____ towards buying new horses for the Ranch.
(Horse cost: \$2,000-\$3,000)

Yes! I'd like to donate \$_____ to pay off the updated hay equipment and purchase the hay bine needed to keep supplying our own hay.
(Equipment cost: \$ 4,500)

Yes! I'd like to donate \$_____ to sponsor a camp fee for a child who would otherwise not be able to come to camp (Camp fees: \$175-\$300)

HORSE CAMPS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

At Whispering Hope Ranch ~ 659 Mayhew Road, Rose City, MI 48654 ~ 989-685-3525

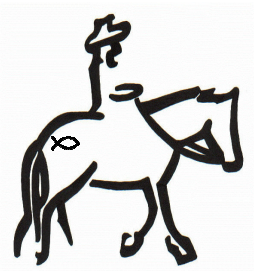
Family Ranch Camp

July 27-29

Friday 7:00 P.M.—Sunday 3:00 P.M.

Bring your whole family for a rustic camping experience at the Ranch. Bring your own camper or tent to set up for the weekend. There's a full schedule of things to enjoy such as:

- trail riding (ages 9 and up)
- riding lessons/arean games (ages 7 and up)
- hands on grooming and horse care
- bonfires, cowboy chapel and s'mores
- octaball challenges
- Tasty meals cooked for you
- Black light dodgeball and zip line



Don't worry we've scheduled some good ole' fashioned relaxing time in there too. All ages are welcome. Pony rides are available for kids under age 7. Child care available as needed during activities with age requirements.

Cost: Ages 9 - Adult - \$200 per person / Ages 5-8—\$75 / Ages 0-4 Free

Extreme Adventure Camp

August 3-4

Friday 10:00 A.M. - Saturday 7:00 P.M.

If you have a thirst for adventure and a simple one hour trail ride just isn't enough, have we got a camp for you! The Ranch will be our base camp where we will provide tons of hands on horse time to prepare you for the off-site adventure of trail riding along the Ausable River, rugged terrain, hill climbing , and lunch on the trail. Bring your own tent or trailer to set up at the Ranch. In the evening enjoy relaxing around the campfire, tasty treats, and cowboy chapel. Saturday we will be caravanning to South Branch to ride on a portion of the shore-to-shore horseback trails for the day.

Open for adults and kids ages 13 and older (accompanied by a riding adult).

Cost: \$250 per person (includes all meals)

To register please fill out form and return along with deposit to Whispering Hope Ranch—659 Mayhew Road—Rose City, MI48654

NAME:	Age:	Family Camp 9—Adult (\$200)	Family Camp 5-8 (\$75)	Family Camp 0-4 (\$0)	Adventure Camp 13— Adult(\$250)	TOTAL:

Total Amount due:

Amount Included with this form: (At least \$50 non-refundable deposit must accompany this form)

Phone Number: _____

Amount due upon arrival:

Home Address: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Number: _____

Allergies or Special Needs: _____

Each participant must have a signed release form. You may sign when you come to the Ranch or print them from our website.

Whispering Hope Ranch is a place horse-loving kids can enjoy a full schedule of horse fun and summer camp activities. Our focus is on safety, fun, and sharing the love of God through the use of His creation, the horse. Smaller camp sizes mean more horse time and more individualized instruction. Our trained staff follows CHA (Certified Horsemanship Association) guidelines.

- Riding and horsemanship lessons

- Trail riding

- Arena riding

- Horse grooming and care

- Games and ranch activities

- Campfires

- Cowboy chapel

- General Store treats and souvenirs

- And more!



Check out the camps that are available for various age groups, and skill levels.

Find more information and forms to register on our website: WHRM.org

Or Call: 989-685-3525

2018 Summer Camp Schedule

Dates	Camp	Cost:	Ages	Registration/Dinner	Shodeo/Pick up
June 17-22	Girls Ranch Hand Program	\$300	13-17	Sun 4:00 P.M.	Fri 2:00 P.M.
June 24-29	Project SPUR (teen girls)	\$300	13-17	Sun 4:00 P.M.	Fri 10:00 A.M.
July 8-11	Girls Buckaroo Camp	\$275	7-9	Sun 4:00 P.M.	Wed 6:00 P.M.
July 16-18	Day Camp 1 (boys/girls)	\$175	7-12	Mon - Wed 9:00 A.M.	Mon - Wed 4:00 P.M.
July 22-25	Girls Ranch Camp 1	\$275	10-12	Sun 4:00 P.M.	Wed 6:00 P.M.
July 30—Aug 1	Day Camp 2 (boys/girls)	\$175	7-12	Mon - Wed 9:00 A.M.	Mon - Wed 4:00 P.M.
Aug 5-8	Girls Ranch Camp 2	\$275	10-12	Sun 4:00 P.M.	Wed 6:00 P.M.