



Masks of Mexico

Unique exhibit opening at Arizona State Museum. **Easy Living, B1**

New study will use satellite technology to track mountain lions. **A4**
Fire District hosting free pancake breakfast Friday morning. **A5**

Drought resistant plants with a special twist. **B10**



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Rescued horses and troubled kids to find common ground in landmark program

AMADO—Karen Pomroy, founder/president of Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary and nationally acclaimed psychologist Dr. Carolyn Crowder will join forces in January 2006 to provide troubled children in Pima and Santa Cruz counties with a life-changing therapeutic experience.

The groundbreaking workshop, Equine Voices Child Therapy Program, which will bring 25 "at risk" children from five area schools once a week to the ranch southeast of Green Valley.

Bonding with horses

It is designed to help children develop greater empathy and attachment through helping and bonding with horses who have been abused in the past.

According to Crowder, the therapy will aid the children by helping them to "gain an understanding of the abuses suffered by the horses and insight into how abuse affects a horse's psychology and their own."

Some of the 106 horses Pomroy has rescued from slaughter in the first year of her operation will participate with the children.

Eighty-five percent of the horses are mares and foals saved from the pharmaceutical industry which uses the pregnant mare's urine to produce Premarin (PMU).

Interaction beneficial

Pomroy believes that the horses will benefit greatly

through social interaction with the children, as the horses are often more trusting with children than with adults.

Pomroy and Crowder issued a joint statement citing their common goals for the program: "We hope that this program will lead to improved behaviors and attitudes in the children toward others, which can then lead to the tapering off of the many psychotropic drugs being used with these troubled youngsters."

"Bonding with, and caring for these horses will bring about deeper change than any amount of medication."

Crowder said her current concern is the rampant use of psychotropic drugs to treat children for behavioral problems.

"The program will be offered as a better treatment option than 'telling kids that they have a 'brain disorder' and are in need of medication," she said.

Crowder is a highly respected speaker and author of three parenting books, one of which was a national best-seller ("Backtalk," Simon and Schuster, 1994).

She has appeared on the "Today Show," "20/20," "Dateline," and NPR, among others. Crowder, whose area of expertise is in teaching the Adlerian model of effective, practical, common-sense, respectful discipline, has worked for the past 15 years in the Tucson and Sunnyside school districts as a therapist for their "worst" behaved ele-



KAREN POMROY, founder and president of Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary will be joining forces with Dr. Carolyn Crowder in a program to help troubled children from Pima and Santa Cruz counties develop empathy and attachment through helping and bonding with horses who have been abused in the past.

mentary students. Pomroy founded Equine Voices in August 2004 after learning about the plight of PMU mares and foals while

working at a wild horse sanctuary in California.

Farmers losing contracts

The need to place PMU mares and foals is greater than ever due to the fact the PMU farmers are losing their contracts with Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, she said.

This past June, Wyeth terminated contracts with more than 19 Canadian PMU farmers, putting 15,000 more mares and foals in the slaughter

pipeline, adding to the already 20,000 there.

The program is seeking children, ages 10-12, who exhibit rudeness, aggression, severe anxiety, tantrums, and poor attitudes, Crowder said.

The schools will be asked to select the students for participation.

The program hopes to help children before they advance to middle school where many of these "problem" kids drop out or are expelled.

Crowder and Pomroy expect the children to return to their classrooms and educate their classmates and teachers about what they have learned.

For more information, please contact Frances Causey at 203.952-7083 or frances@equinevoices.com.

Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary is a non-profit 501(c) 3 tax-exempt organization.

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'Horse whisperer' to be in Amado

Internationally renowned horsemanship expert and "horse whisperer" Anna Twinn is to hold holistic "Reach out to Horses" clinic and fund-raiser at Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary in Amado Oct. 14-17.

The clinic will be for horse trainers and managers, riders and owners, featuring the expertise of Twinn, who trained under the original "horse whisperer," Monty Roberts.

Twinn is an internationally respected Equine Specialist, Animal Communicator and Intuitive Healer.

She holds clinics throughout the world and has trained more than 1,500 students and instructors. She most recently gentled mustangs for foster care.

Equine communications

She has worked with horses nearly all of her life and is on the leading edge of equine communications.

The universal communication between humans and horses, known as "horse whispering," involves body language, listening to your intuition, and understanding the laws of energy.

This innovative clinic will

provide participants and viewers with essential information that will lead to increased respect and patience between horse and human.

Goals of the clinic

During the clinic, Twinn will work with participants and their horses to accomplish the following goals:

- Gaining trust while training your horse
- Read, assess, and attune to your horse
- Recognize how horses see the world and understand how they learn
- Establish clear communication with your horse
- Identify and understand horse talk through body language

• Introduce a young horse to its first saddle, bridle, and rider (if appropriate) in a timely fashion without trauma.

Karen Pomroy, president of Equine Voices founded the non-profit organization in August 2004 after learning about the plight of Premarin mares and foals while she was working at a wild horse sanctuary in California.

Premarin is a hormone replacement therapy drug made

from the urine of pregnant mares. Premarin and other products such as PremPro and PremPhase are taken by millions of women every day.

With recent news that these drugs have been medically proven to cause cancer, blood clots, and other harmful medical conditions in women, Wyeth Pharmaceuticals cut production of Premarin by 50 percent.

In June of 2005, Wyeth terminated contracts with over 19 Canadian PMU farmers, putting 15,000 more mares and foals in the slaughter pipeline, adding to the already 20,000.

Space available

Space is available for those who wish to view the workshop. The cost for the Friday evening demo from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. is a \$15 donation. The Saturday-Monday sessions from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. are \$25 each.

Viewing tickets may be bought at the door. All of the proceeds from viewers go directly to Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary, which is hosting the event.

For more information and directions, go to www.equinevoices.org or call (520) 398-2814.