



The Mini Tales

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Board of Directors develops new project



Milli and mommy Melinda sport tennis shoes to show that they are ready for the Minis Out, Forward Ho project.

Minis out, Forward ho!

That's what organization board members are shouting as they develop a new Minis and Friends project. The project will focus on working with the families and soldiers of the Deployed/Wounded Warriors program.

Wounded Warriors is an organization for troops who have been severely injured. According to their website, the organization leaders hope to raise pub-

lic awareness about the needs of these amazing men and women. The Deployed or Soon-To-Be-Deployed sections of the organization will be an excellent area for our minis to do their work.

From bringing big smiles, laughter, a new friend and the healing touch from our unique equine experience to giving soon-to-be-deployed troops a fun activity to enjoy with their families before heading out, our mobile herd of miniature horse ambassadors can help to open doors by bringing a sense of relief from stress, anger, general depression and more. This special activity will aid therapists in their work to provide these families with alternative forms of recovery.

Project Minis Out, Forward Ho is expected to be rolled out by mid-summer in the greater Austin and Williamson County areas.

Board members would also like to see the project help the organization grow by aiding us in our search for a new mini-haulin' van.

If you would like to join our development team, please contact Project Minis Out coordinator Sally Iwanski at sally@minisandfriends.org.

To find out more about the Wounded Warriors program, visit www.woundedwarriors.org.

Mark your calendar:

- June 21— Meeting (plans are being finalized)
- July 4— Northwest Hill Parade
- October 11— Bluebonnet Horse Expo
- October 14— Buddy Walk in Georgetown

Electrobraided gives back to minis

Minis and Friends is very excited to announce the addition of new fencing to the Onion Creek Ranch.

The fencing was provided by Electrobraided and benefits three of our minis. Buckshot, MasterCard, and SeanMonet (aka the Three Amigos) love their new fence and

spend quite a bit of time romping around the land and basking in the sun.

Head on over to Electrobraided's website to see the amazing fences and awesome prices for yourself. You'll be glad you did!

www.electrobraided.com.



(From left) Buckshot, Sean-Monet, MasterCard, and Gil enjoy the new Electrobraided fence.

Minis and Friends

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Little horses,
Big hearts

Site braves extreme makeover

"The new look signifies a fresh start for Minis and Friends."

If you have been shuffling through the Minis and Friends homepage, you've probably noticed that our site is donning some fresh new duds.

The website underwent a major overhaul in May. Construction only took a few days, but the

change will definitely have a lasting effect.

The new look signifies a fresh start for Minis and Friends. With a revitalized website, we can look forward to much progress in 2008.

Contributed
by Candy
Delleney

Cashew makes new friend in hospice

Cashew and I recently visited a lady in Hospice whom I will refer to as Mrs. Sweetness. She is an Alzheimer's patient at the Wesleyan in Georgetown. She is non-responsive with little or no eye contact and cannot stand on her own. As a young woman, this lady rode horses, so we thought that she might respond to a visit with Cash.

Mrs. Sweetness was in her wheelchair when we arrived with her eyes closed and fisted hands. As Cashew approached her, the aid said, "She is standing on her own." Mrs. Sweetness opened her eyes and touched her hands to Cashew's forelock. She held on to it for several minutes. Her son then took her hands and touched them to Cashew's coat and hair.

Eventually, the lady became tired and sat down. Cashew put his head down on her leg at one point and looked like he was about to go to sleep. As our new friend tired, she closed her eyes and was taken back to her room. Cashew and I followed with her family. By then, she was non-responsive, but walking Cashew on the tile floor seemed to perk her up a little. She seemed to know that Cashew was with her. Cashew laid his head against her leg, and she received the nuzzle calmly.

I hope to spend some more time with her, so I may be going back again soon. I love giving the family a bit of joy to see their mom happy.



Cashew enjoys his time as a mini ambassador.

Online store launched

Finally! Now you and your family can dress like true Minis and Friends supporters.

Recently, Minis and Friends opened its own CafePress store. The store is a unique opportunity for supporters of our mission to not only wear our logo, but to donate money to our organization at the same time.



Even teddy bears enjoy sporting Minis and Friends gear. (\$16)

Items range from bumper stickers and t-shirts, to teddy bears and even a t-shirt for your pooch!

Many items have been marked up a small amount, meaning that any time a product is purchased, proceeds go straight back to Minis and Friends.

Any funds gained from the shop will help us pay for mini visits around the greater Austin community. With rising gas prices, we need the help of supporters to keep our organization strong and growing.

We have high hopes that the store will be a success. If the CafePress venture proves to earn a sizable profit, the store will be upgraded to the premium level. This upgrade will allow us to design the CafePress store to resemble our homepage. We will also be able to sell a bigger variety of items, including products which sport our minis' adorable faces!

You can check out our shop by visiting <http://www.cafepress.com/minisandfriends>.

Thank
you!

A special thanks to 5 Star Roofing and Exteriors for sending metal roofing material to the Delleney family in Georgetown free of charge!

Also, a big thank you to Beausoleil Designs for our new logo!

Thanks to McCoy's in Georgetown for the 35% discount on shelter materials for our minis there!

Visit us online!

www.minisandfriends.org