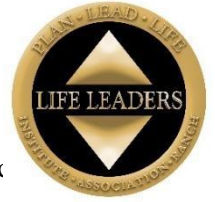




Compassion Ranch & Institute

Mission

1. **Compassion Ranch:** care of animals and student development.
2. **Life Leadership:** student development focused on *life planning and leadership, Courage, Patriotism, Compassion...*
3. **Patriotism in Action:** care for retired military equines from The Old Guard at Arlington National Cemetery and teaching *Veterans Day Started in Alabama* plus the *Pledge of Allegiance*.



Progress March 1-31

New Photos & Stories / Progress & People / Plans & Possibilities / Land Improvement / Impact Options



United Pet Fund (Ohio): donated a tractor-trailer load of animal food and supplies, plus Auburn and Alabama toys.

[Donors and volunteers, we can share toys and/or puppy pads with you.](#) Another Chance Dog Rescue accepted our invitation and received a carload of puppy pads and more. Five families caring for pets received puppy pads, cat watering bowls, or Auburn and Alabama toys. Crazy Old Ladies Dog Rescue in Selma loves the pads and toys. Special Equestrians of Birmingham accepted toys for staff and volunteers when they visited to donate horse blankets and more. We also invited Birmingham Humane, Shelby Humane, and Chilton County Animal Shelter.

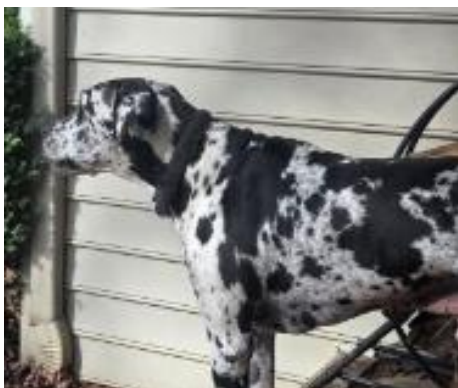
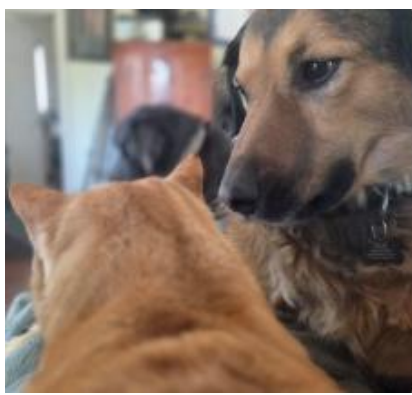
Dr. Zeke Zekoff, founder of the nonprofit and a veterinarian (AU graduate) and fellow volunteer Steve Edwards traveled from Ohio and worked hours helping us offload then store pallets. Dr. Zeke also donated and manned a pallet jack to move 26 pallets into our storage barn. LJ Jackson at Sunbelt Rentals provided equipment to move heavy pallets on roads and Ovie Powell drove the equipment plus taught Shawn and me how to operate it.



Our cats who live in the storage barn (plus cat garden attached) love the extra places to play (26 pallets)! And, they protect the food. Tabitha and Stormy were tiny kittens alone in a construction site before they came to us.

Extra Photos of Life on the Farm – which make you smile?

Animal lovers can visit to meet and enjoy the animals--it's a bonus when volunteers help groom or give TLC. Some people prefer exercise such as moving limbs and sticks to pile on stumps to help clear for pastures.





Progress and People

Treasure Donated

Bill Abernathy (Oklahoma): helped us purchase needs for Auburn Vet Fest, pay students, buy hay.

John Hornsby: sponsored BBQ lunch for Auburn friends visiting to meet new animals and see updates.

Nick Irvin: donated meat for the dogs.

Josephine Lowery: supported our efforts to help dogs get re-homed.

Petivity (Purina): donated 2 GPS trackers plus one-month subscriptions for Chief and Major.

Special Equestrians of Birmingham: donated horse blankets and other cold weather protection.

United Pet Care: donated a trailer load of food and supplies plus a pallet jack.

Partners Who Donate Monthly or Often

Anonymous (Texas): mails a check monthly to help buy feeds plus sends dog and horse "cookies."

Anonymous (friend of Anna Nall): donates "In Loving Memory of Anna."

Joyce Cochran: "use this check where you see the need."

John Decker: helps feed and care for **Indy (Indian Legend)**.

Dawn Dixon: donates broth to add to feed for dogs with allergies or skin conditions--Annie, Teddy...

David Dyson: donates use of land, equipment, facilities, work as trustee-ranch hand, \$ needed.

Lutavia Heaton: donates for "most pressing need."

Ramona Price: donates for dog food for Major, plus chew toys and peanut butter he loves.

Celeste Rodgers: sponsors food for 3 cats **Daggers, Nat, Scarlet**.

Caroline Uhl (Arizona): sponsors **Tessee** (rescued in Tennessee as an abandoned kitten).

Carol Schauffhausen: sends cans of wet cat food, adds donations, advises on cat care.

Time Donated

Diamond Dodson: grooms animals (sometimes assisted by Braxton, age 9), for **Rocky** and **Brogan**.

Molly Kate Lacey: teen helped feed horses, learning, preparing for college and vet school.

Dr. Doug Meckes: advising us on pasture plans for **Hank the Tank**.

Ovie Powell: helped us transport pallets of food and supplies to storage and braced a shed roof.

Ramona Price: visited Major multiple days to help him feel secure and socialize with other animals.

Dr. Zeke Zekoff: manned the pallet jack in the storage barn to organize pallets.

Steve Edwards: helped unload tractor-trailer load of food and supplies.

Compassion Ranch Program Progress

Best In Alabama notified us, we are nominated again among Animal Rescues and Shelters. You can vote daily: guidetoalabama.com/calera/pets-animals/compassion-ranch-institute

Auburn University Vet School invited us to attend and present info at Vet Fest Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Visitors can learn about Hank the Tank, "cap horses" for US presidents, plus get free Auburn toys....

Chief and Major: got GPS trackers from **Petivity**.

Hank: groomed. **July:** got a brushing of her winter coat.

Indy: got a trim and treated for a wound, got a co-sponsor, **John Decker**.

Lanny: groomed, increased feed to help him gain weight.

Life Leadership

6 teens work 4-5 hours per week helping with chores and projects. Each has a job description to help animals. They get paid to earn for their developmental and social activities and personal needs.

Patriotism in Action

Cards 4"x6": *Riderless Horse, Veterans Day Started in Alabama, Pledge of Allegiance.*

Web pages: www.PatriotismInAction.us & www.VeteransDayFoundingEducation.us



Land Improved by Triple D Ranch to serve Animals and People

Arabian Barn and Pasture:

- Porch chair painted white.
- Table added inside for guests.
- Solar lights added.

Bryant Barn:

- Hank's stall gate repaired and reinforced with sakrete, rebar.
- Lincoln pen gate reinforced.
- Wounded stall rail repaired.
- Lancelot's roof repaired and metal roof repaired.



Pond

- Bench added at fire pit.
- Island: bench and table added.

Hangar (storage barn):

- Furniture and lumber consolidated to create floor space for feed and supplies.
- Hay shed braced.
- Concrete drive repaired.
- Sunroof panels (6) cleaned for better lighting.
- Ceiling insulation repaired and re-attached.
- Floor filled with 26 pallets of feeds and supplies to use and donate to care givers.



Farmhouse and Entrance:

- Wooden gates built and added in foyer to protect guests from excited dogs.
- Recycled truck load of plastic.
- Iron gate to homestead entrance damaged by hit and run driver repaired, painted black.
- Front door painted red to complement red barns.

Orchard Barn:

- Feed room door painted red.

North Pasture Barn:

- Feed room door painted red.
- X and trim added on the feed room door.

Ranch Entrance:

- Fallen tree removed.



Mission: *To provide land, facilities, and labor for Compassion Ranch and Institute animals, students, and programs.*

Lease for land, facilities, equipment...donated by Triple D Ranch & Farm to benefit animals and people.

Donations to www.CompassionRanch.org pay for animal feed, students, and services....

Partners Needed to turn Possibilities into Plans

Menu: do you see at least one action we can take together?



- ❑ **Retired Military Working Equines from The Old Guard of the US Army need us.** They helped pull a green beret to his grave at **Arlington National Cemetery**. A fellow soldier adopted them, though since has learned he has cancer. **Reuben and Rowdy** need transport from Virginia to Alabama. First, we need materials, labor, and funding to build fence around 7+ acres plus a barn with shelter.

Do you know of an innovative foundation, veteran organization, or patriot?

To consider the draft plan, ask for a call or to receive a copy: Doc@CompassionRanch.org.

Recurring Funding Needed for the Animals and Ranch

- ❑ **50 animals:** sponsor food, shelter/repairs/utilities, labor, health care.
- ❑ **Student workers:** sponsor teens to help clean troughs, bowls, areas...develop work ethic.
- ❑ **Carpenter:** build and repair barns, stalls, gates, fences, vehicles....
- ❑ **Services for the animals:** trimming (farrier), grooming...

Items Needed you may no longer need and could donate or trade or sell

- ❑ **Horse water trough/s:** seeking 1 large or multiple troughs.
- ❑ **Saddle stands** to support kids and other guests to sit on saddles during programs.
- ❑ **Backhoe or excavator** to lift 1,500-2,000 pounds and dig 6+ feet for same-day burials, water...
- ❑ **Farm gates** 10' or larger for new pastures.

Volunteer Opportunities

- ❑ **Advocate:** Vote daily for *Best in Alabama* shelter until April 30.
- ❑ **Veterinarian:** dedicated to animals and nonprofits-- advise and assist 1-2 times annually.
- ❑ **Vet tech:** fecal exams, treatments for worms, fleas...Saturdays monthly or quarterly.
- ❑ **Farrier:** trim hooves more often (donate or discount your fees).
- ❑ **Web and tech:** 1-2 hours weekly – improve web site plus advise and assist with tech.
- ❑ **Land clearance labor:** limbs on ground to stumps for bonfires to improve pastures/grass.

Spending Monthly Supported by Partners & Donors

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------|
| 1. Trustee/director/top hand/purchasing/programs... | \$0 | Donated |
| 2. Land and barns | \$0 | Donated, free lease |
| 3. Equipment: trucks, tractors, trailers... | \$0 | Donated, free lease |
| <u>Partners and Donors Needed to Sustain/Improve</u> | | |
| 4. Animal food: grains, pellets, hay, supplements... | \$2,000 | |
| 5. Animal surgeries, treatments, trim, groom, care... | \$400 | range \$100-1,800 |
| 6. Students (6): clean stalls/spaces, chores, projects... | \$1,200 | range \$800-1,400 |
| 7. Building & repairs (carpentry, mechanical...) | <u>\$1,000</u> | range \$600-1,200 |
| | \$4,000+ /mo. (next generation may need \$10,000+) | |



Options to help animals and students



- Vote for Compassion Ranch
- donate
- volunteer
- visit with foundation leaders who take initiative
- honor someone
- remember a loved one

Donate: Once Monthly Recurring Annual Recurring Legacy/will

For Online

www.CompassionRanch.org/Donate

Donors typically use the web site with PayPal* or Venmo, send mail, or bank auto pay.

*PayPal approved us as a nonprofit so fees reduced to 49 cents + 1.99%.

For Bank Autopay / Shipping Goods / Mail

354 County Road 33; Calera, Alabama 35040

Some prefer to ship food or supplies for delivery through WalMart, Chewy, Amazon, Tractor Supply...

Compassion

If you prefer sending food instead of money to pay for food:



Ranch

CompassionRanch.org

Partnered with Triple D Ranch & Farm

- Purina Senior Feed (formulated nutrition, plus softer for senior teeth)
- Purina Omelene 100 (natural grains)
- Purina Strategy (popular for many horses not yet seniors)
- Purina One or Pro Plan for Large Breed Dogs or Purina Skin and Coat
- Purina One Skin and Coat or Pro Plan for Cats

FYI: we buy low carb feed for Hank (Enrich) and mixed feed for pig and goat.

WalMart delivers most dog and cat food, plus supplies weekly.

Chewy delivers equine and farm animal feeds. (Their process does not provide us email of who donates so please notify us so we can look for your donation and inform how we use your gift.)

Options for Impact



1. Donate for *where the need is greatest*.
2. Partner sponsoring an animal monthly \$1-10 per day to boost security.
3. Forward our info & advocate us to friends, foundations...looking for a mission like ours. **Vote.**
4. Visit/see what you are supporting and possibilities to improve.
5. Add our program to your will to leave a legacy for animals and/or students.
6. Request a call or comment: Doc@CompassionRanch.org
7. Request the latest edition of our docs to inform you of actions and intentions:

- Brochure (pics, summary info)
- News (progress)
- Mission & Goals 2026
- Annual Report 2025
- Arlington horses plan pasture and shelter
- Old Hog Barn Repurpose Plan for horses, dogs...

Our Vision for Multiplying Care

People who care about animals, students, and/or public service donate treasure so we can do the work planning, purchasing, feeding, caring, building, improving....

Compassion Ranch and Institute is a 501c3 nonprofit approved for charitable donations.
Personal Leadership (1992-); Patriotism in Action (2001-); Compassion Ranch (2020-).

Inspiration of United Pet Fund

Supporting Our Mission

Facebook post by United Pet Fund



United Pet Fund

★ Favorites · Yesterday at 5:32 PM · 🌐

From Arlington to Alabama — where retired military horses finally find peace.

On Friday, March 13, 2026, United Pet Fund delivered a trailer full of farm and small-animal resources to a very special place — Compassion Ranch in Calera, Alabama.

Dr. Z and UPF volunteer Steve Edwards personally made the trip south to help deliver and unload the supplies. The connection came through Dr. Z's step-family ties in Alabama, leading to an introduction to Dr. David Dyson, founder of Compassion Ranch.

What we found there was something powerful.

Compassion Ranch is becoming a sanctuary for retired equine patriots — horses that once served in the solemn military burial rituals at Arlington National Cemetery.

One of the newest residents is "Hank the Tank."

Hank served with The Old Guard of the U.S. Army, participating in full military honors funerals — including the funeral of General Colin Powell — where a caparisoned horse walks riderless behind the caisson as a symbol of a fallen warrior.

After years of service honoring America's heroes, Hank now spends his retirement at Compassion Ranch, where he and other horses are given the care, dignity, and peaceful life they deserve.

But Compassion Ranch is more than a sanctuary.

It's also a teaching ranch, where children, families, and community groups learn about courage, compassion, and patriotism through their interactions with the animals.

These animals — many rescued, retired, or abandoned — now serve a new mission: helping shape the character of the next generation.

United Pet Fund is proud to support this work.

From our home base in Greater Cincinnati, UPF provides resources to more than 100 animal welfare partners — but our network of support now stretches from Alabama to Michigan and beyond.

Because when animals serve us...
we have a duty to serve them.

And when animals like Hank the Tank have spent their lives honoring America's fallen heroes, the least we can do is help ensure their retirement is filled with care, respect, and compassion. If you would like to learn more about this remarkable sanctuary and the horses who served our nation, visit:

[🌐 <https://compassionranch.org>](https://compassionranch.org)

[🇺🇸 Honor the service. Support the sanctuary. Celebrate the compassion.](#)

[#UnitedPetFund](#)

[#CompassionRanch](#)

America's Oldest Horse Registry



The first Morgan Horse, **Figure**, is ancestor to two of our horses, **Patriot** and **Hank the Tank**.

American Patriot is part of the foundation bloodline aka direct descendant. **Hank the Tank** is Morgan-Percheron.

The Morgan Horse is the **state animal of Vermont** and the **state horse of Massachusetts**. **Figure** was born in West Springfield, MA in 1789. The Morgan Horse breed was founded in Vermont in 1894.

The Morgan Horse Farm was established in 1878 as a breeding and educational facility. The grounds display a life-size bronze statue of **Figure**.

The Morgan is recognized as the first registry though Quarter Horse may be the oldest breed started in America.

For more: *Justin Morgan had a Horse* (book first published in 1945 and Walt Disney movie released 1972).



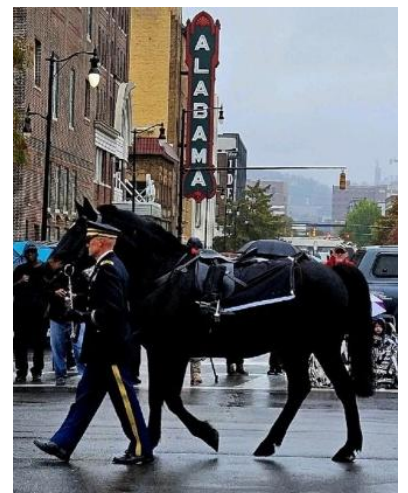
<=Patriot or American Patriot named 2007 for the book and program *Patriotism in Action* was born 2001 in Washington State on a Morgan Farm and registered as **Anakus Flynn** in the foundation bloodline of the original Morgan horse, **Figure**. Photo is at age 2.

Hank the Tank=>

born 2006 in Texas or Tennessee, we have been told, previous name **Cesar**, named **Hank** by The Old Guard of the Army 2010. He served as caparisoned horse at Arlington Cemetery and was retired 2023 to **Compassion Ranch** in Central Alabama.

At 1300 pounds, visitors often commented, "he's a tank," thus his name.

In 2023, **Hank the Tank** walked in the National Veterans Day Parade as the first cap horse from Arlington to do so and stood in honor at the funeral of Col. Bob Barefield at the Alabama National Cemetery.



Do you feel inspired to help make this year our best yet?
www.CompassionRanch.org