

Dear Ms. Fariss

Going through Hurricane Katrina I learn that if the horses of Magnolia Forest Stables and/or my trainer, Lionel Wolfhol, needed anything my mom, sister, and I would do all that we could for them. After the storm my mom, sister, trainer, and I went back to the barn to see if we had any horses that had not made it through the storm. I could tell my trainer and family were really worried about the mare and foal. Once we finally got to the barn, we saw that the rigrow had been ripped up by the wind. Before we got there however, we had to park at the church down the road and climb over trees and power lines all the way to the barn. All the trees at the barn were gone or had been ripped up from tornadoes and strong wind. The few trees that remained standing had lost many limbs and some were leaning. We only had one horse who had a branch scrape his back so he was very stiff and could hardly walk for a few days. He is doing much better now and his scratch is barely visible.

Before we were able to ship the horses out to safer locations, we had to carry buckets full of water from the swamp to the barn (about 30 yards). After about the first or second day, we had to cut feed to half of what the horses normally ate. Finally, after the third day of doing this, we decided that the horses needed to go because conditions were not improving. We drove until we got phone service and told my trainer's and our family members that we needed horse trailers and supplies. On the fourth day the horses left and my sister and I went to Georgia to escape from the gloom the storm had brought.

Now the barn has been fixed and the horses are back. Most of the kids who were taking lessons have also come back. My life is also starting to return back to order. It will take a long time for things to be the way they were before the storm and some things will never be the same. But from this storm, I have learned that some people will do all they can to help you out when you really need them.

Sincerely,

Brittany Kendrick