

Dear Karen Fariss,

My name is Michaela Corb. I am a member of the Slidell 4-H Horse Club. I live in Slidell, LA and take riding lessons at Magnolia Forrest Riding Stables. I ride a Quarter Horse named Maggie. We ride Western and English. She is a great horse.

On August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated our town and many areas around us. My family and I evacuated to my great-grandmother's house in Bush, LA, which is about 45 minutes NW from my house. We were in a house with 9 people, 4 dogs, and a cat. When it first started it was just a little rain. Then the rain started to get harder and the wind began to fall like dominos. My dad saw a tree fall by this truck, so he decided to move it to the field. My mom said it is too dangerous, but he did it anyway. Thank goodness he did, because about 3 seconds after he drove off a tree fell right where his truck was parked. Then a few minutes later we heard a loud BOOM! A tree fell on my great-grandmother's bedroom. We had to find buckets to try to keep the water off the floor. It did not help. We still had to tear out the whole room. Almost every tree around the place had fallen over. After the storm passed and we walked outside, it looked like a bomb had gone off. There were leaves everywhere, trees were down as far as you could see and all our sheds were smashed by trees. My dad and grandfather spent 2 days cutting trees out the road so we could get out. It is impossible to explain what we saw as we drove back to Slidell. Thank goodness our house only had minor wind damage. Our town has changed forever.

Thank you for your generosity. We appreciate you thinking of us in this devastating time. We continue to make progress do to the kindness of people like ya'll.

Sincerely,
Michaela Corb