

Behold, I make all
things

New

SEAMARK
RANCH

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MORE THAN A HOME, A FAMILY



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www.seamarkranch.com

Seamark Ranch is a Christ-centered home for Northeast Florida's children from families in crisis.

BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW

Revelation 21:5

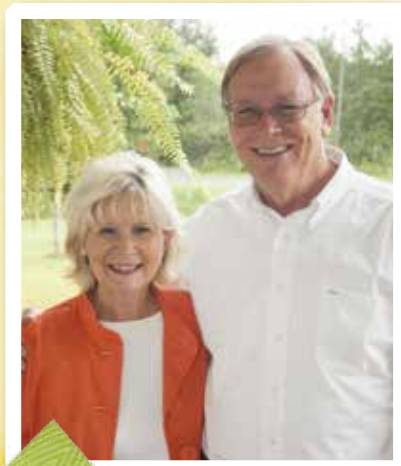
Each spring I enjoy seeing the plants that have been dormant through the winter putting out new leaves. The grass turns green and flowers begin to appear. Soon our fruit trees will bear fruit. Everything is made new again!

Each spring I am reassured that if our Heavenly Father does this for His creation, how much more will He do this for His children at Seamark Ranch? He is renewing the lives of these children and they are flourishing! This spring we have two students graduating from high school and beginning the next phase of their lives after growing up at Seamark Ranch. Two of our young ladies have been adopted by loving families in our community. Three young children have joined our Seamark family and are just beginning their journey. We are confident that the lives of these precious children will be made new by their Heavenly Father.

So many of you have joined God in this work by partnering with Seamark Ranch. As we highlight just a few of these partnerships in this newsletter, please know how grateful we are to all who want God's best for the children of Seamark Ranch.

Faithfully,

Fred Meiners
Executive Director



Debbie and Fred Meiners



SEAMARK EVENTS

SEAMARK MUDDER A HUGE SUCCESS

Over 650 runners braved the Seamark trails for the second annual Seamark Mudder on Saturday, April 18th. This year's 5K mud run was our biggest and best race yet! Seamark created six entirely new obstacles for a total of 25 including walls, cargo net climbs, zip-lines, mud tubes and more. We heard our participants from last year when they wished for more mud. This year's Mudder had the best "designer" stick-to-you-all-over-your-body mud—and lots more of it! Kids and families also enjoyed our one mile Fun Mudder as they ran, climbed, slid, crawled, and slithered through a mile of muddy mess! Over 100 volunteers helped host the event, insuring it ran smoothly.



Runners and guests enjoyed post-race food from local food trucks and a pancake breakfast provided by the Keystone Heights American Legion. Thanks to Brumos Automotive and all our 2015 Seamark Mudder sponsors. A complete list can be found at www.seamarkmudder2015.com along with all the muddy photos. Special thanks to all our race partners, terrific volunteers, and friends who helped make the annual Seamark Mudder such a success.



**Make plans now to join us for next year's Mud Run fun!
2016 Seamark Mudder - April 16, 2016**

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SUMMER FUN ON THE FARM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Calling all Retirees, Teachers, College Students, Groups, Churches, and High School Students!

Seamark Ranch will once again host fun and educational field trips for urban, at-risk children. Over 550 children visited last summer and even more are expected this summer! We need help with educational stations, fun and games, and just to be "buddies" to the children.

For more information and to volunteer contact volunteer@seamarkranch.com or (904) 529-1951.

Field trips are a fun and rewarding way to gain school-related community service hours. Short internships are also available.

**Tuesday - Friday
June 16 - July 10 * 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**



**WE NEED YOU TO HELP HOST SUMMER FIELD
TRIPS TO SEAMARK RANCH!**



EQUINE SPOTLIGHT

MAY IS EQUESTRIAN MONTH AT SEAMARK RANCH

Our horses fill the children with joy and the joy overflows to all connected with the Seamark Ranch Equestrian Program!

Seamark Ranch is spotlighting our Equestrian Program and the dedicated volunteers who work with our children and horses. The Equine Center was a hub of activity each afternoon as the children and volunteers prepared for the Clay County 4-H Horse Show preceding the 2015 Clay County Agricultural Fair. Children were clipping horses and cleaning saddles and bridles in preparation for the March 28th show. The 4-H Horse Show was an opportunity for the children to show both their horses and their handling ability. Seamark girls were "old pros" at this year's show, while the show was a first for several of the young men at our Boys' Home.

In April, the Seamark children and our community school children are working on special horse drills that they will demonstrate at their end-of-school party.

The Equestrian Center was open on Saturday morning, for tours while the Seamark trails were being used for the 2015 Seamark Mudder, our family - friendly mud run. The community come out to meet our horses, tour the Equestrian Center and cheer on our runners!

Allene Zvara, Board Member and founder of our equestrian program explains, "It is rewarding to see the growth in our children, not only with the horses but translated to other areas of their lives. Children, who were initially fearful, are now winning ribbons at the 4-H horse shows, riding every chance they get, and having a ball!"

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Donate Tack
- Donate Feed or Hay
- Donate gently used Riding Boots or Western Wear
- Sponsor a horse for a year (\$50 a month or \$600 a year)
- Donate to Seamark Ranch or the Seamark Ranch Equestrian Program



Meet some of our dedicated Equestrian volunteers - we love you! *Left to Right:* Mary Knight, Margaret Lazuka, Lindsey Girardeau, Corla Niesen, Dawne Sutton & Allene Zvara



SEAMARK LIFE

SEAMARK RANCH EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

Seamark's Equestrian Program implements a "hands-on" approach to enhance skills, reestablish trust and motivate positive change in an engaging way. By caring for and riding Seamark's twelve horses, children learn respect for self and others, empathy, self-control, confidence, accountability and problem solving. The horses help break down the children's protective walls and help them learn to trust again.

The Equestrian Program at Seamark Ranch is managed exclusively by a team of skilled equestrian volunteers including 6 regular volunteers and 15 on-call and as-needed volunteers. With the help of these dedicated individuals and many other community partners, Seamark hosted its first trail ride for the community in the spring of 2013.

Our goal for the equestrian program is to build upon this solid foundation to introduce even more children and the community to the therapeutic and recreational benefits of horses.

MEET THE HORSES!

PATCHES, age 6, is one of the original Seamark horses. Patches continues to be a wonderful horse for first-time riders.

NOAH is 8 years old, sixteen hands high and almost solid white. He is much beloved by the Riverside Presbyterian Day School PreK-3 class that raised money to sponsor him this year.

RIO, age 14, loves school, and Seamark students love her!

BUCK is a retired police horse that has such a sweet, gentle nature you quickly forget his intimidating size.

ROSE loves to have her picture taken and EAT. She works hard to please and loves the kids.

BRANDY is 7 and very camera shy but loves working with the Seamark children

Sweet **BABY** lives up to her name!



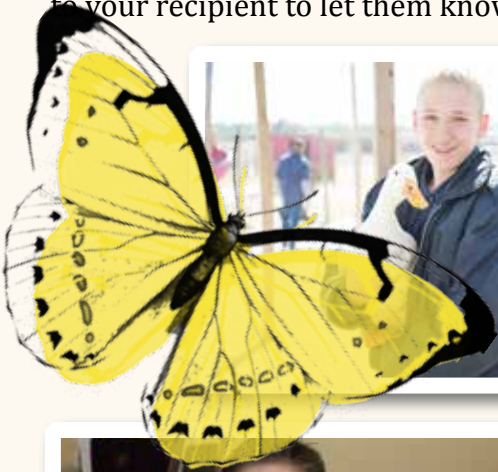
SEAMARK GIVING



SEASON OF PRAYER

Each spring Seamark celebrates the gift of love and family with a *Season of Prayer* beginning on Mother's Day and concluding on Father's Day. This year our dates are May 10th – June 21st. As you give thanks for your family and loved ones, would you considered joining our Seamark Ranch family in two very important ways?

First, join us in praying daily for the Seamark Ranch children and house "moms and dads" during our month-long emphasis. Second please consider making a special gift to Seamark Ranch to remember or honor your loved ones during this special time. Through your prayers and financial gifts you too can make a lasting difference in the life of a Seamark Ranch child. Return your gift and indicate your tribute information, or visit our website at www.seamarkranch.com or call our office at (904) 288-8885 with credit card information. We will send a card to your recipient to let them know of your tribute.



THE SEAMARK PRAYER

FATHER IN HEAVEN, THANK YOU FOR OUR FAMILY.
WE ARE DIFFERENT FROM MANY FAMILIES,
BUT WE REALLY ARE THE SAME.
WE ARE ALL YOUR CHILDREN.
WE CARE, WE SHARE, WE LAUGH, WE CRY.
WE WORK, WE PLAY, WE LEARN, WE GROW.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE AND
OUR LOVE OF ONE ANOTHER.
TOGETHER WE WILL SPREAD THIS LOVE AND
STRIVE TO DO YOUR WILL.
WE TRUST IN ONE ANOTHER AND WE TRUST IN YOU
BECAUSE WE ARE FAMILY.

SEAMARK HONORS & MEMORIALS

The following supporters have made contributions to Seamark Ranch in honor or in memory of family, friends and loved ones. Gifts were received between November 16, 2014 and March 20, 2015 and include holiday and Christmas tributes. Names are listed alphabetically by the person being honored or memorialized. We regret any unintentional omission or misspelling of names. *Please call our office with omissions so that we can include them in our next newsletter.*

Donations may be made by mail or online at www.seamarkranch.com. Please use the comment field for tribute and recipient information when donating online. Tribute forms may be printed from our website for mailing or we will gladly take your information over the phone and mail an acknowledgement card to your recipient. Please call our office at (904) 288-8885 if we may assist you in this way.

ALL DONATIONS ARE USED TO FUND GENERAL OPERATIONS
UNLESS DESIGNATED OTHERWISE.
SEAMARK RANCH IS A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.



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SEAMARK FARMS U-PICK BLUEBERRIES ARE ALMOST READY !

Last spring Seamark harvested over 850 lbs. of plump, sweet blueberries. With over an acre of blueberries, we are expecting an even bigger crop this year!

Open to the Community
Seamark Farms U-Pick Berries
Saturday Mornings in May (call for hours and availability)
Weekdays by appointment
(904) 529-1951

Blueberries will be available as the weather and ripening permits. For specific times and dates follow us on Facebook or call (904) 529-1951 for the latest berry updates!

