

KENDALL GAZETTE

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Gala activities celebrate Sunset Feed's 50 years

BY YELANY RODRIGUEZ

From live music to free dog washes, Sunset Feed and Supply had it all at its 50th Anniversary Celebration and Customer Appreciation Day on Sept. 18.

Guests enjoyed pony rides, a petting zoo, mechanical bulls, and numerous giveaways with the first 500 customers who spent \$50 or more receiving a free barbecue lunch.

Those bringing canines to the event gave back to the community at a free dog wash at Sunset Feed with all proceeds benefiting the Paws4You Rescue. Celebrants also received storewide discounts during the "Buy one, get one 50 percent off" sales special.

"Never in our wildest dreams did we expect such a huge turnout," said Heather Riera and Tara Townsend, co-owners. "The day turned out to be a huge success, thanks to our loyal customers, dedicated employees, and volunteers.

"Without the support of our community we know we would have never survived for 50 years. Thank you does not begin to express our gratitude to everyone involved." Riera said.

Sunset Feed and Supply, a third generation family-owned business, opened its doors in 1960 in a rural area of Kendall that is today on the edge of what is known as "Horse Country."

With so many changes during the past 40 years, including newly built condos and shopping malls consuming land areas, the owners reflected that the love of horses and other farm animals have pre-



Pictured are Tucker Townsend (center), former owner; Tara Townsend (left) and Heather Riera, current owners.

vailed, not only keeping "Horse Country" alive and well but also the need for Sunset Feed and its widely varied farm and equine

ing equipment, and supplies for all farming/Western needs. For information, call 305-271-0341.

supplies.

From horse feed, hay, farm and pet supplies to jeans, boots, hats and an extensive line of tack and riding apparel, there hardly is an item that can't be found at Sunset Feed for horses and pets, and their caretakers.

Joining for the celebration at Sunset Feed were Paws4You Rescue representatives, the Cat Network, SPCA and Good Hope Equestrian Center.

"We were honored to not only be invited to this extravaganza, but to raise much-needed funds for our organization by holding a dog wash," said Carol Caridad, president of Paws4You Rescue, a non-profit donor-subsidized animal rescue organization, manned by volunteers.

"The sales were fantastic; the crowd enjoyed the music and food. Raffle items were amazing, really reaching a scope of different 'animal people,'" said Tyra Hearn, board member and volunteer with South Florida SPCA, a non-profit organization that rescues abused, abandoned and neglected horses in South Florida.

"I was proud to represent our organization and help spread the word about animal abuse, neglect and abandonment," Hearn added.

Sunset Feed and Supply is located 7650 SW 117 Ave. providing clothing, feed, rid-