



Sharks

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most. The Bamboo Cat Shark was close to \$500 and the other Horn Sharks ranged from about \$400 to \$700.

"I enjoy having the sharks, but they aren't as special as everyone thinks," said Fortuna. "I was excited when we first got them but over time they just seemed like normal pets." Taking care of the sharks isn't as difficult as people may think.

"We can't put other fish in the tank because the sharks will just attack the smaller fish," said Fortuna. The sharks don't have very good eyesight and would confuse the other fish with food.

All of the sharks are named after the movie "Alladega Nights." The first shark the family purchased was a Horn Shark that they named Ricky Bobby. The

Sleigh Bells Ring at Richmond Ice Festival

By: Hailey Dziegelewski
News Co-editor

Santa's not the only one who drives a sleigh during the winter.

Sophomore Raechel McKiernan, her dad and grandpa drove a sleigh at this year's annual Richmond Ice Festival. It was a chilly 34 degrees with occasional snowfall that Sunday, but the weather didn't stop 80 passengers from coming out to Beebe Street to experience the ride.

"We pulled a sleigh owned by the Historical Society that has been restored from the 1860's with my grandpa's and uncle's horses, Charlie and April," said Raechel. Charlie, owned by her uncle, is 16 years old and April, owned by her grandpa, is 17.

The event raised money for the Historical Society which exhibits local landmarks such as the one-room school house and log cabin at Beebe Street. A friend of her grandpa's asked if the family would be willing to assist in contributing to the society's fundraiser.

This was the first year the event took place but will be annual from now on. Raechel is most excited about this new tradition because she is able to share her family's animals with other people.

While the children waited for their turn, Raechel noticed they brought treats like carrots and apples to feed the horses which warmed her heart. The kids would ask Raechel questions about the horses such as: What are their names? Or how old are they?

Raechel was more than willing to answer and share stories with the excited passengers.

The ride was an estimated time of five to seven minutes and the path circled around the play structures of the park. The sleigh held about five people, not including the driver, and was a perfect size for the amount of people that came throughout the day.

"I am excited for next year because there has been talk that we're going to have three sleds instead of one. My dad, grandpa and I will each drive one," said Raechel.

Raechel has been taking care of these horses since she was 10. This is the same age she began her training with them as well. She now owns her own horse, Carrie, which she keeps at her grandpa's barn. For next year's festival, the other horses at the barn may contribute to the sleigh work. Although the ride was both fun and memorable, the horses became tired quickly due to winter and exercise being limited. They made sure to give the horses breaks in between rides.

This helped the horses with their endurance and allowed them to continue to please all of the costumers. Unfortunately, they had a malfunction with the sleigh, which caused them to have to delay ticket sales. But, their fundraiser was still successful and full of happy faces.

Raechel and her grandpa both share the same passion for

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other two little horn sharks are named Walker and Texas Ranger. Then the bigger Bamboo Cat Shark is named Cal Naughton Jr.

Fortuna said, "I think what I like most about the sharks is that not everyone can say they have them for pets."

The Cold

J U X I M B I D N S W S S I M
 B L U S T E R Y K O H E N E K
 G B E C I A D A C G S K O V N
 U X H R Z W T E I D M A W O R
 P Q V Z I I J E R X I L E H O
 R P I N N D L R C K R F J S K
 F I D G F S V V B A Z W I Q F
 B R V Y Y R G A T R Y O P Y H
 N R O Q M Q E L H W I N T E R
 Z H U S I R P E J W R S G V T
 N O P M T R L E Z F D G O W U
 M H U H E T S Q S U I T K E G X
 P Z Y S E I C I C I N O X B Y
 H T F N N A P G Z A L G I G U
 S D J F S M Y R G S N H S T M

BLIZZARD	ICICLE	SLEIGH
BLUSTERY	MITTENS	SNOW
FREEZING	SEASON	SNOWFLAKE
FROST	SHOVEL	WIND
ICE	SKATING	WINTER

Trip to Mexico

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making dishes for Mendez and his family.

They usually eat things like burgers, fries, variety of meats, pasta and even types of Mexican dishes such as tacos. Although, his favorite thing to eat while he is in Mexico is Ramen Noodles. "We usually buy our foods from the market just like we do in the United States," said Mendez.

Jesus, being part of the only family out of the entire Mendez extended family to live in the United States, plans to return and visit more often.

He said, "Me and my dad plan to visit our family more often. It was really nice to see everyone I love and to spend quality time with them."

