



With great maternal pride, "Gleaming Stone" keeps watch over her young daughter. The healthy filly was the first of a set of twins born to the thoroughbred mare two weeks ago.

Miracle twins

Milton version are equine type

By LINDA KIRBY
Champion Reporter

The birth of twins doesn't usually make the news, but when you are of the equine species, it is nothing short of a miracle and something of a major event.

"Marie" and her brother "Tony" made their big entrance into the world less than two weeks ago on Feb. 26 at the stables of Sam Son Farms on Fourth Line in Hornby.

What makes them unique is the fact that both are alive and kicking (literally).

Few equine twins survive at birth and more often than not, one or both eventually die within a short space of time.

This pair however, have all the makings of big, strong racehorses.

Their mother is a fine thoroughbred by the name of "Gleaming Stone" and has a string of winning races to her credit.

Their father, a giant of a horse—"Grey Dawn II" has an equally outstanding track record.

A very important member of this new family is a nursemaid, "Johnny's

Angel", who is nursing young "Tony". "Johnny's Angel", a standardbred mare, was hired to help out with providing milk since the twins' mother was unable to provide enough for both.

Ironically, she was also due to give birth to twins, but aborted last month and lost both.

She has now however, firmly established herself as mother for "Tony".

The pair arrived fairly close to schedule, coming just two days early.

"Marie", named after one of the stable attendants and the lady who kept a vigil over the expectant mare, was born at 6.45 a.m.

Her brother "Tony" (named after farm vet Tony Calverley of King City) arrived 15 minutes later.

"The brother arrived like a true gentleman, letting his sister come first," said Mr. Leach.

According to the experienced farm manager and horse trainer, the youngsters are in "perfect" shape, the young filly weighing in at 80 pounds and the colt at 100 pounds.

Widows and widowers comfort each other

Finding comfort in others who have shared a similar experience is one of the reasons a group for widows and widowers has been initiated at St. Paul's United Church.

The initial meeting last week attracted only three people but organizer Roslind Richardson hopes 50 letters sent to widows and widowers at the church will spark more interest for the second gathering tonight

(Wednesday) at 7.30 p.m.

Open to the general public, Mrs. Richardson suggests the widows and widowers group will "provide companionship, if nothing else."

"You can only help someone else if you've gone through it yourself," the organizer suggests.

Further meetings will depend on response and the wishes of those who form the group.



Sam Son Farms manager Frank Leach coaxes camera-shy "Tony" towards the camera. The little colt, shown here with his adoptive mother, "Johnny's Angel" has risen to fame along with his sister for their rare and successful birth.

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