

## MESSAGE FROM KAUFMAN

The following is from Robert and Jualene Eldridge of Kaufman, TX regarding the closure of the horse slaughter plant that had operated for 30 years in their community. [Read by J. Caramante to the International Equine Conference on September 28, 2011].

Things are really changing since the plant closed—it started as soon as they left.

Now we can breathe. We can go outside. We enjoy our lives now.

It has been one of the best things that has happened in our lives.

Ms. Juanita Smith's kids got her house totally gutted and renovated. No more roaches, snakes and rats. The vultures still come back but we're hoping they will give up and stay gone.

The old run-down blue house on the corner has been fixed up. People are all fixing up their houses, working in their yards, and smiling **a lot**.

The Baptist have built a beautiful building, an educational complex down from the plant. Life is good.

Thank you to all the horse advocates for making this happen. There was a heavy sadness that hung over us all these years that's now gone. Praise God.

Robert and Jualene Eldridge