



SPRING FARM CARES



ANIMAL SANCTUARY



ANIMAL COMMUNICATION



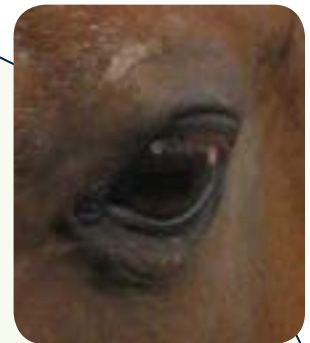
NATURE SANCTUARY

December 2012

THROUGH THEIR EYES



THEY
HEAL YOUR HEART
WITH THEIR
WISDOM



AND
TOUCH YOUR SOUL
WITH THEIR
LOVE



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INTERSPECIES

SANCTUARY

Animals love unconditionally and without judgment. That is why we allow them into places in our hearts where we allow no one else. Many are master teachers and guide us along our paths, reminding us of who we really are, each and every day. And animals most often live at the mercy of humans. Our sanctuary is full of animals who found themselves homeless through no fault of their own. But they bear no grudges, carry no hatreds - instead, they walk into our space knowing they are safe and realizing they are home. Many begin to teach immediately, touching the human heart as only they can do. Some get adopted and go to homes where they spread their love and magic. Others have had a rougher time and are here to heal. But all of them, no matter how they got here, change our lives forever.

Humans have separated themselves from the rest of Nature. We forget our connection to the world around us, and, in many cases, shut off our hearts completely. Animals teach us how to reconnect and how to open our hearts once again. Together we can regain harmony. Animals show us and teach us how to be better humans. Our sanctuary could never help all of the animals in need. But we can share what the animals teach us to try to enrich the human heart, thus enriching the lives of animals. You may say that that is idealistic, but its an ideal whose day has come. The future of humanity depends on it and that is why we are here.

Spring Farm CARES is far more than a Sanctuary for 275 animals. We are more than just a sanctuary for animals who have nowhere else to go. We are a sanctuary for the human heart as well. We are a place for the animals to share their hearts, their wisdom, and their messages for all who will hear. We are a center where hearts meet unconditionally and without judgment and where lives are changed forever. We are a place where healings occur every day - not just for the animals, but for the humans who come in contact with them or who are touched by their messages, their stories and their gifts. We provide the space for them to live, share, teach, and heal. We are a center for teaching and change and healing. We see heartbreak every day. But, more importantly, we see miracles and healing, and reconnection. And we know we are a part of something so much greater than we can ever see or measure.

You are the one who makes it happen. Without you, they wouldn't have a place to be. Their words would not be heard or shared. The people's lives who are enriched by them would be less bright. You make all this possible with your support. And, you are their messengers, taking what they share with your heart out to others. The world is in need of change. Change occurs one heart at a time. You are a part of the change we most need in this world. You are their heroes and what you give you get back many times over. An act of kindness never goes unnoticed.

Thank you for being a part of this circle of healing.



SHARED WISDOM

“Life is life’s greatest gift. Guard the life of another creature as you would your own because it is your own. On life’s scale of values, the smallest is no less precious to the creature who owns it than the largest...”
Lloyd Biggle Jr., American Author

“Listen with your hearts and your souls will be enriched with wisdom. Enrich your souls and you nourish all other souls with whom you share. Tend to your own growth and the world shall expand. It is the way of the Universe.”
Deeteza, horse

“Be the change you want to see in the world.”
Mahatma Gandhi

“When you touch one heart, your heart is felt by all else that heart touches. When I speak, I feel you listening, connecting hearts, and we touch so that all others know this touch too. It is the biggest network around. Try it.”
Charlie, pony

HELPING HANDS

Here are some of the new arrivals this year who you have helped and who in turn are touching many hearts.



Charlie Brown - what a character - came to us from another rescue after he had injured a disc in his back, leaving him unable to walk, even after undergoing major back surgery. Charlie is about 8 years old. Whether he walks again or not is not the focus for us or for him, although there is still hope that he may walk one day. Charlie has shown us the incredible spirit that he is, and his love for life and the human friends he has chosen. And while Charlie gets all sorts of rehab with us -- acupuncture, laser treatments, underwater treadmill, physical therapy, cranial-sacral work, massage therapy, energy work, homeopathy, and, most important, TLC -- he gives as much to us as we give to him. Charlie is a big heart who has now landed in a place where he can share that with those he chooses. He is touching lives every day in his very own special way. It doesn't matter if he walks again or not. What matters is that he has found something meaningful in his life. We will help him as he guides us along his path. Charlie may have lost the use of his back legs, but he found the purpose in his life and a place to share his heart. The rest will unfold as it will and we'll take each step together.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Baby came to us injured and extremely pregnant. Huge! Concerned citizens in a neighborhood had been seeing this abandoned cat around for a while, but when they noticed that her head was bleeding, they started calling rescue organizations. They got no help until they called us. The two people we sent out to collect Baby found her willing and eager to be helped. The bleeding was from a bite wound. We got her to our vet, the bite was treated, and she healed nicely. But we had a problem. With a bite wound and no rabies vaccination record, we would have to keep her in quarantine for six months. And her babies as well when they arrived! Most facilities would have euthanized her. We don't work that way. We just started praying that the huge belly was mostly fluid, that there would be only a couple of babies. No such luck. She gave birth to 8 kittens! One grey - and 7 black. Ouch. Black cats are the hardest for us to adopt out, and once they are past the tiny kitten stage, they are even harder to adopt out. But what Baby and her kittens lack in color, they make up ten-fold in personality. In fact, it is well known on the farm, if you are having a hard day, just go in with Baby and the kids for 5 minutes and you are guaranteed to feel better. These cats are amazing love bugs, each and every one of them. Their quarantine will be over in December, just in time to find homes for Christmas and we are hoping that, once we can show them to the world, everyone will see what an extraordinary special group of cats these are. Major heart workers in tiny fur coats just looking for their new homes and patiently waiting.



HEALING HEARTS



Clark is a Muscovy Duck who was rescued by passers-by from the shoulder of a road, in very bad condition. We will never know what happened to Clark, but his feathers were coated with a very smelly black substance. He may have fallen or been thrown into a manure pit. In fact, we thought he was black and white until, after hours of bathing and cleaning him up, we discovered he is entirely white. Clark also had an old injury and significant infection in one of his feet that required weeks of intensive care by our staff. But caring for Clark is food for the soul. His injuries and lack of care tell us that he has had a very hard life. But Clark knew, the moment that he was carried, cold and injured, into the warmth and kindness of Spring Farm, that his life had taken a wonderful turn. He has been a stellar patient, and has never stopped demonstrating his gratitude by showing affection in every way that a duck can contrive to demonstrate that emotion. Lord love a duck. And do we ever.

NEW HOPE

Whisper came to us when her person could not give her the care that she needed. Unfortunately, Whisper sustained an injury to one of her back legs after going through a fence over a year before we got her. The injury was bad enough that it would have required surgery, but the people could not afford a veterinarian and so the leg was not treated properly. As a result, her joint is permanently affected and bones have fused. She had also foundered severely at some point. While all of this is bad news medically, and she can certainly never be ridden again, Whisper can still find joy in life. She is only 14 years old and will live out her days at the farm, for as long as she cares for her life to last. She settled in as if she'd been here for years, but she has a lot of healing to do at the emotional/spiritual level. We can't help her leg, except to make sure that she is comfortable and pain free. But we can provide the loving space in which to help her heal the wounds that we can't see, but which we know are there. Whisper, a gentle soul who seemed to have lost her way, yet whose path led her straight to us. And, as we, her caretakers and friends, watch her heal, parts within our own selves are healing as well.



TWO HEARTS FIND ONE ANOTHER

A Story of Love as Told Through the Eyes of an Adopter



In February 2012, we received a call about a kitten found lying out in the middle of a field in the freezing cold. People actually saw him there for 3 days and called other organizations to have someone come out and pick him up, but no one came. They thought he was a feral cat and must be injured as for 3 days he never moved. He just lay there curled into a ball. On the third day, they finally called Spring Farm and told us that a bird was now circling the cat. We sent two of our staff straight out. It was below freezing outside and the ground was ice and snow-covered all around him, save the tiny circle of bare ground that had melted beneath him. It was as if he was waiting for us to come and get him. Our staff instantly realized he wasn't feral at all, he was just terrified and didn't know what to do, so he curled into a little ball trying to keep from freezing to death. He wouldn't have lasted much longer. We took him immediately to our veterinarian. They could find nothing wrong with him at all. So he came back to the farm where he could be fed and kept warm. The second day he was here, one of our most dedicated and trusted volunteers came to give her special care to our cats. We had her go in with Leroy (as we named him) to give him some loving. Little did we know that Anna was indeed the exact person he had been waiting to find. All the pieces fell together nicely in this beautiful story of love.

This is from Anna, in her own words:

"I will be forever grateful to Spring Farm CARES, specifically Caitlin and Robin, for driving out to that frozen field and rescuing my baby boy, Nikko (aka Leroy, which will forever be his middle name, or, as I lovingly refer to it as, his 'street' name).

After losing my 19+ year old Pumpkin (who had been with me since she was 5 weeks old), just 5 months prior to meeting Nikko, I honestly did not think that I would be ready to adopt again anytime soon, if ever. Not only was I worried about Misha, my 12-year-old cat (in regards to him getting along with another cat and not getting stressed and not feeling as though he was being replaced), but I am also so very close to all of the cats at Spring Farm that the thought of adopting one and not ALL would literally make me cry. It still makes me cry. But the signs were anything but subtle when it came to my Nikko. He was meant to come home with me and I could not deny the signs I was being given ... even though I tried to ... oh boy did I try to ... it was really freaking me out.

On Nikko's second full day at Spring Farm, I was visiting with him inside his pen. He was sleeping in my lap. I was just watching him breathe so peacefully and enjoying the moment when all of a sudden he literally whips his left hind leg into the air, and, right in front of my face, what do I see ... a white paw. Nikko is all grey, except for a tiny patch of white on his chest, stomach, and that famous left hind toe. I honestly got chills and the hair on the back of my neck stood up. Pumpkin's left hind paw was also white and I simply adored it and would always make a big deal about it. Right then and there I had no doubt that Nikko was Pumpkin's gift to me and that he was meant to go home with me. I could no longer deny the signs. He was a gift from the heavens, a gift from my Pumpkin who had passed, and will be treasured as such for the rest of his life and beyond.

Jump forward nine months and we couldn't be happier together. He is a complete joy and I feel blessed that he is with his big brother Misha and me. I cannot imagine life without him. As winter approaches, I am grateful that Nikko is safe and warm and will be forever loved. Thank you Spring Farm CARES for bringing my boy home to me. I am eternally grateful."

"Hearts know how to find one another no matter the distance between them. Neither time nor space are barriers to the heart or soul. It matters not where one heart is, if the other calls, the path is made clear to meeting. That is the nature of hearts. It is the way of love. It is how I always find you, no matter where you are. Heart connections are eternal."

Jessie, yellow lab



YOU ARE THE ONE WHO MAKES IT HAPPEN

Dear Friends,

As we look back upon yet another year, we marvel at the animals whose lives we were able to help thanks to you. Days here are busy and bustling and while they are filled with miracles and stories of hearts meeting and lives being changed, they are also filled with heartache for the ones we couldn't help and the ones we had to turn away. The truth is, no amount of money could enable us to help them all. So we do what we can knowing that we cannot possibly measure the lives who are helped in the process.

This world is so in need of change and peace and harmony. It is in need of every being knowing the gift of unconditional love, knowing the peace in not being judged, and knowing safety. That is a task that seems so daunting, yet the amazing thing is, it is all about hearts connecting and sharing. Just like the animals teach us every day.

So much is going on in this world that is impacting our lives in significant ways. Many of you are still struggling and dealing with the impacts of Sandy that disrupted and changed your lives. These are hard times, for you, for the animals, for all of us. And the way we all get through it is to remember we are all in this together.

Spring Farm CARES is working in many ways to help not just animals in need of help, but the human heart so desperately looking for help as well. We truly are a sanctuary, a place of safety and healing and respite. And that sanctuary is more than a physical space but is shared by all of you who participate with us on this path.

We are made up of our programs: Animal Sanctuary, Nature Sanctuary, Animal Communication, Happy Hearth Spay/Neuter Assistance, Humane Education and our Volunteer Program. But, most importantly, we are about sharing what the animals are teaching, to reach as many human hearts as we can, so that the world can indeed move into the vision we all hope we can be.

We ask for your gifts and support once again so that we may continue this work and continue to be a sanctuary of hope that spreads as far and wide as it can spread. Every penny of every dollar you give goes directly into our programs and not into administrative or fundraising costs. It costs \$1.25 million annually for us to keep operating at the level we do. Every year we face a funding gap between income and what we need to continue operating. At the beginning of 2012 our funding gap was \$268,000. We still have a funding gap of \$157,000 that we need to raise by the end of the year.

From covering the medical and daily needs of the animals who come into our facility with nowhere else to go, to helping spay and neuter animals to help reduce the extraordinary number of unwanted homeless animals, to teaching children about the proper treatment of animals, and to the maintenance of our one-of-a-kind Nature Sanctuary – your donations are what keep our doors open. You are a piece of the sanctuary. You are a part of the change we most need in the world. And your gifts allow us to send that change forward to help others, who help others, and so on down the line. Every dollar you give, gives something else to an animal in need, and to a human in need of what that animal has to offer. Thank you for being a part of the healing that this planet needs most right now. It starts with the generosity and compassion in your heart, and spreads farther than you can ever know.

From our hearts to yours, we thank you for all your compassion, giving, and support, and we wish you all a peaceful and loving holiday season and hope for a wonderful year ahead.

From All of Us at Spring Farm CARES



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