



You Bring Them Comfort and Joy



Our New Arrivals

A Second Chance For Alfred



Alfred does not want his story to define who he is, as he is living each day to the fullest and soaking in all of the love and care. Alfred is estimated to be about 17. He was originally brought to a veterinary clinic by animal control, who found him collapsed on the side of a road. They tried for two months to find an owner but no one ever came forward. He was then scheduled to be euthanized, but everyone could see how very much he still wanted to live. So we were asked if we could take him in for this final phase of his life. We are grateful to have been able to say yes.

Alfred has kidney disease as well as being hyperthyroid. He is being treated for both. And while Alfred may be near the end of life, it is clear that he cherishes each and every day. He loves his caretakers, and has recruited a little army of fans from staff, volunteers, and visitors alike. He calls people to himself like a magnet then soaks in the love and attention. And it is thanks to you that Alfred got to live to experience all of this love instead of dying on a road abandoned and alone. His time with us might be short, but to Alfred, it is everything he wanted.

Tulip's Journey: From Surviving To Thriving

Tulip was in need of placement after being rescued from an animal cruelty situation with many other animals. Tulip has very special needs. She has a cyst on her face that is inoperable and is being monitored closely. Right now it does not interfere with her eating or her comfort level. She is also being treated for Cushing's Disease. But while she came in vastly underweight, she is now putting weight back on. And while she is not really thrilled about all the medications that she has to take each day, she makes it clear how very much she loves being pampered. Life is getting a lot better now. She even has a new friend, our pony Charlie, who is extremely excited about having a pretty girl like Tulip at his side. Your support helps give Tulip all that she needs to thrive, instead of fighting just to survive. You made her dream of having a home come true. She shows us her gratitude every day.



Your Continued Support Provides Care For Their Lifetime

Once these animals arrive safely in our sanctuary, their story doesn't end. In fact, each step is a new beginning. Your support follows them through the rest of their lives. Some have long lives with us while, sadly, others come to share very few final days. As long they are here, however, they are blessings to us. Their journeys vary as much as their stories and personalities. But one thing remains constant. They all get the special care that they need and deserve right here with us. You are the one who makes that difference for them.

Here are some of the animals who know that you are by their side every single day. You have given them the gift of a second chance and they are eternally grateful.



The Resilient Joy of Mary Beth



Mary Beth has been receiving your love and support since 2015 when she came here all the way from North Carolina. Mary Beth is now 14 years old and was born with a deformity to her neck that inhibits her movement. She cannot lift her head up or turn it. She is, however, a most amazing soul who, in her opinion, has no limitations. Visitors are constantly moved by her genuine kindness. She loves to connect with people – most especially children.

As Mary Beth ages she will have more issues that will eventually end her life. But right now, we simply support her with some pain medications for arthritis and monitor her closely. One problem she has as she has aged is that she can no longer get up on her own after she lays down. But we have a special sling that her caretakers have learned to use to help balance her and support her as she gets up. Mary Beth is clearly happy and content with her life here. The number of human hearts that she has touched is simply amazing and beautiful to watch. Her joyful bray lights our lives every day.

Three-Legged Triumph: Olivia's Light Shines On



You have been helping Olivia since 2008 when she was brought to the farm having been caught in a leg-hold trap. Sadly, her right hind leg had to be amputated, but that never really slowed her down. Now, at 17, she is slowing just a little bit, but she's still the head cat in her room, where she has helped many cats over the years to adjust to various challenges that they have faced. She is truly an inspiration. She loves human companionship and will settle instantly onto a lap and purr to her, and your, hearts' content. Olivia has never lived her life as if she is incomplete because of a missing leg. She never once let that get her down. She is now developing normal aging issues. We treat her for arthritis as well as watching her kidney function. But she doesn't really care to be fussed over. She rejected acupuncture for example – politely – well, maybe not so politely. We honor her wishes and marvel at how well she has done all these years. It is hard to imagine a time when she was not here, or a time when she will no longer be here. For now, we treasure each day that we have with her.





From Adversity to Friendship: Stevie & Buster's Special Bond



Stevie and Buster have only recently found one another even though they both arrived at the farm in 2020. Each has his own story to tell. Each has been through a lot. And both are alive today thanks to good Samaritans who rescued them from sad situations, and to you and your continued support.

Stevie was living outside in a feral colony. Estimated to be about 12 years old, he wore the scars of a difficult life on the streets. His ears are tattered and torn. He had obviously been through a lot. But, in addition, the person putting food out for this colony of feral cats realized that he had gone blind. She tried to befriend him. Winter was fast approaching. He clearly would not be able to survive outside. And when he was brought to our sanctuary it was found that his eyes were so badly damaged that, even after infections were brought under control, those eyes would have to be removed. On top of that he was losing his hearing. Yet Stevie was not ready to die. It was at first with great stress that he let himself be handled. We were not sure how things would go once those eyes were removed. It was then though that he began to welcome attention – maybe because for the first time in a long while he was pain-free. He adapted surprisingly well to indoor life. But we moved very slowly and carefully with him, gaining his trust, not pushing ourselves on him simply because we could. Today, he is a favorite of staff and volunteers alike. When Stevie comes over to sit with you, he makes you feel like you're something special. And.... you are!



Buster (left) Stevie (right)

Buster has quite a history as well. At only 8 years old, Buster has already gone through a lot. A lady rescued him from an abusive situation while he was still very young and already had injuries. He had lost his left eye and there was extensive orthopedic damage to his back and legs. The lady loved him dearly. She invested a lot of time and put enormous resources into helping him and gaining his trust. But he lived with her for only a few years when she had to go into assisted living and was not allowed to bring her beloved Buster with her.

We were able to take him into our sanctuary because of the on-going support from people like you – because of that support we have the resources necessary to help him stay comfortable as he ages. Buster is another favorite with caretakers and volunteers, a very special guy. And he has taken Stevie under his wing, helping that sightless friend find his way. To think of what he, Buster, has been through, but how he continues to trust the humans in his life, is amazing. It all started with one person who loved him and did so much to help him. And now you are carrying on for her and for Buster when she no longer could – providing him with a dependable life of warmth and kindness, where he knows that he is loved and always will be. And he turns that around and shares his love with others like Stevie.

Buster told Dawn, “I may only have one eye, but it is just enough to help Stevie to see as well.”

Animals never cease to amaze us with their compassion and kindness for one another and to humanity. They love without judgment even when they have seen some of the worst that humanity has to offer. What they focus on is what they believe is the best of our hearts. Thank you for being a part of the best that humanity has to offer.

Long Live The Queen: Lucy's Enduring Reign

We cannot close this newsletter without mentioning Lucy -- Queen of the Barn Animals. Lucy is an African Grey Goose and is an amazing 27 years old. She came to us in 2016 when her family was moving and could not take their beloved pet with them. She was 19 years old at the time and we didn't think we'd have her for long. But here we are eight years later and we can't remember life without her. In her (continuing!) elder years, she has become arthritic. She can no longer make the long walk down to the creek where she loves to swim. So her caretakers carry her down there to let her happily dive and flap about. She is scandalously pampered, her every whim catered to. Her favorite treat is canned corn. She greets us with enthusiastic honks whenever she sees that corn coming. She's a giant gentle soul in a goose body. And what a will and desire to live that gentle soul possesses.



Our Gift To You **Daily Messages of Gratitude From The Animals** **November 28th - December 31st**

This has been an annual tradition for several years now. Many of you have told us that it has become a tradition in your families to read these messages and share them. Each day, a message from one of our animals and their photo will be posted to our Facebook Page and on our Website. The animals are asked, "What are you most grateful for?" You will be inspired by their answers.

This year we are upgrading our daily messages! Each day, a video of the animal will also be posted with Dawn reading the message from that animal.

You can find the messages here:
www.springfarmcares.org/blog
www.facebook.com/springfarmcares
www.youtube.com/@springfarmcares



Happy Holidays From All of Us
at Spring Farm CARES



Ways You Can Help

Donate Securely On-Line: bit.ly/3TKtpO3

Become A Monthly Donor: bit.ly/3TKtpO3

Sponsor An Animal - \$100 for one Year: bit.ly/3DdHivI

Donate Items From Our Wish Lists: bit.ly/3gyrcaf

**Please keep us in mind for your estate planning -
Let your legacy live on through the animals and nature.**