



# Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary Annual Appeal



## Dear Friend of Happy Trails,

Looking back at 2014, it has been an incredible year — **a year filled with progress, victories, celebrations, major animal rescues, and guilty verdicts. Then throw in to that mix a bit of heartache when the goat barn burned in February and four precious lives were lost.** Talk about a roller-coaster of emotions and events.

**Personally I feel like being a part of Happy Trails is being a part of something so much bigger than myself. I am guessing that many of you feel the same way.** Together we have moved mountains, or well, at least traveled over some of them when doing animal rescue. And we have each played a vital role in creating awareness of the importance of addressing animal abuse both in our communities and in our court systems.

**Once a year on behalf of Happy Trails, we send out an annual appeal.** Though we provide folks with opportunities to show their support through events and various sponsorships throughout the year and we post our wish lists in our bi-monthly newsletters, **we only reach out once every year with an actual appeal for your personal support.**

For those of you who have already been major supporters and regular donors, maybe you would consider simply passing this along to a friend or co-worker and ask them to become a supporter as well. We are extremely grateful to everyone who has made our combined efforts possible throughout the year.

And, **we want everyone to know how your donations are spent.** We believe we are extremely good stewards of our funds, and would like to share with you our accomplishments of this past year along with details of our hopes and dreams and a snapshot of our daily expenses.

**If you are considering making a donation toward our Annual Appeal and have questions, call me.** I appreciate every opportunity to speak with our partners, for that is what we are...partners in creating a kinder, more compassionate world by addressing animal abuse in its many forms. We are making our communities safer, and we are a leading example of the amazing accomplishments that can happen when we all work together.

Your encouragement and inspiration, our cooperative efforts, and the beautiful combination of all of us working together, is truly making a remarkable difference.

**Thank you for your support of our annual appeal. We are grateful. The rescued animals are grateful. And with the services and outreach we are doing together, everyone wins.**

With kindness and compassion for all animals,

Annette

Annette Fisher, Founder/Executive Director  
Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. • 330-296-5914 • [happytrailsfarm.org](http://happytrailsfarm.org)



**O**ur goal with this annual appeal is to raise \$100,000 toward some very important projects, to cover the costs of some daily routine-but-necessary expenses, to address veterinary and health care costs, and to provide you with the opportunity to choose a special area to sponsor that may speak directly to you.

With all of us working together, we have made amazing strides in the number of animals and abuse cases we have been able to handle; improved the professionalism of the facilities by **upgrading barns, shelters and buildings; added several key staff positions; and have been able to involve many people in the world of animal rescue through our volunteer program, sanctuary tours, foster and adoptive programs, the Amish Horse Retirement Program, and through educational presentations to special interest groups, grade schools, high schools, colleges and universities.**

As a long time supporter, you may be in awe at what you and Happy Trails have been able to do together as we address animal abuse and its affect on our communities on a larger scale. As a new supporter, hang on to your hats because you ain't seen nothin' yet! The plans, dreams, expansion projects, new educational programs, and the bigger and broader outreach of Happy Trails are coming true for one reason and one reason only — we are working together to spread kindness and compassion for all animals because we care. With sincerity and honesty we are supporting each other to achieve a very worthwhile goal. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and to serve the abused, neglected and abandoned animals.

You make Happy Trails rescue, rehab, adoption, education and outreach services possible.

# What We've Accomplished Together

Through our supporters, in 2014 to date so far we have:

- ...accepted 157 abused animals into our rescue and rehabilitation program
- ...assisted 14 Ohio county humane societies and law enforcement agencies with farm animal abuse, neglect or abandonment cases, including the Humane Society



Beautiful Jackie O was rescued this summer from a hoarding situation in Summit County.

of Columbiana County, Pawsibilities Greater Akron Humane Society, Portage APL, Geauga County's Rescue Village, Stark, Crawford, Harrison, Lucas, Ashtabula and Mahoning County Humane Societies, the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Akron Animal Control, Portage County Sheriff's Department and Dog Warden

- ...assisted with animal rescues in other states including the Humane Society of Elkhart, Indiana and the Humane Society in Kokomo, Indiana.



Calypso the goat arrived with a group of animals rescued from a situation of severe neglect in Elkhart, Indiana.

enforcement agencies with farm animal abuse, neglect or abandonment cases, including the Humane Society

including the Humane Society of Elkhart, Indiana and the Humane Society in Kokomo, Indiana.

- ...took on 11



Kyle is one of over 20 animals still involved in an open court case in Columbiana County.

court cases involving 113 animals

- ...adopted out over 40 animals, including horses, sheep, goats, mini-horses, a mini donkey, and feathered friends
- ...provided extensive community outreach and educational programs. We have given 14 presentations to schools and special interest groups and reached over 600 students and members; made 4 nursing homes visits and visited with 120 residents; attended 7 community events and reached over 3,000 people.



GSNEO Troup #90616 raised money for the rescued animals and enjoyed a visit to Happy Trails when they presented their donation.

- ...given nearly 60 educational group tours at the facilities itself and reached over 300 visitors
- ...re-built the barn that was

destroyed in the Valentine's Day Fire

- ...completed a major capital campaign resulting in a new covered arena
- ...built a new 2-story building that will in part serve as a mini-vet clinic when we raise enough funds to complete the inside of the building
- ...added several key staff members to keep up with the growing

Ashley Kloes (right), a Kent State University graduate, is one of several key members added to the Happy Trails staff this past year. Ashley is in charge of animal adoptions, foster homes, and serves as an animal care giver as well.



demand for animal care, animal adoptions and administration

- ...welcomed 2,000 visitors at Happy Trails Open House in June
- ...made many repairs and key purchases thanks to generous donors
- ...cleared new areas of our woods and installed new fencing to expand our horse turn-out paddocks
- ...replaced the engine on our dump truck when it blew up at the beginning of the year
- ...upgraded areas of the sanctuary regarding electrical needs

At the time of this appeal there are approximately 200 animals in our rescue and rehabilitation programs. This number changes constantly depending on the rescues and adoptions on any given day.

# Daily Operating Expenses

**Often it's our Annual Appeal that helps the most in funding our daily operating expenses.**

Because of the eye-opening number of abuse cases competing with each other for our assistance this year, our daily and animal care expenses have far exceeded those of the previous year. To give you an idea of some of our costs from January to August of this year, here are some facts and figures that illustrate the basic needs of the sanctuary:

## 2014 January-To-August

### Bedding ..... \$5,984

Straw and sawdust is used as bedding for the rescued animals and is purchased in bulk.

### Grain & Hay ..... \$24,423

Grain is purchased in 50lb. bags, and each week we purchase approximately 1,500

to 2,000 lbs. of grain. Though hay is sometimes donated, we purchase the majority of hay that we use, including large round bales for the paddocks as well as smaller square bales to feed in the stalls.



### Vet & Health Care ... \$31,314

Veterinary expenses include examinations, vaccinations, deworming, radiographs, wound care, gelding and castrations, spay and



Con the Belgian draft horse is examined by a vet and a vet student at OSU. He was successfully treated for eye and lip cancer.

neuters, dentistry, surgeries, bandaging, medications, antibiotics and anti-inflammatories, pain relief, ophthalmic exams, and lameness testing.



Many of the rescued horses have sadly neglected hooves and often require special care as they begin to learn to walk properly.

### Farrier ..... \$1,785

Blacksmiths are used to trim horses' hooves and to shoe or create corrective shoes as needed.

### Electricity ..... \$3,370

During the hottest summer months, the recovering animals are provided with access to fans and during colder months they are provided with access to a heat source such as a heat lamp when and where possible. Each shelter also has its own electricity, lighting and power outlets. Power tools and batteries are also often plugged in.

### Propane/Fuel Oil ..... \$1,775

Propane is used to heat the rest room and fuel oil is used to heat the house at the sanctuary where our Animal Care Coordinator lives.

### Dumpster ..... \$1,105

The dumpster is normally emptied once a week.

### Facility Repairs & Maintenance

..... \$17,718

Facility repairs are a constant need, with fences being kicked or broken, stall gates being bent, older roofs leaking, shelters needing painted, doors not opening properly, etc.



The Happy Trails logo truck is always on the go, hauling animals and representing the sanctuary.

### Vehicles ..... \$3,053

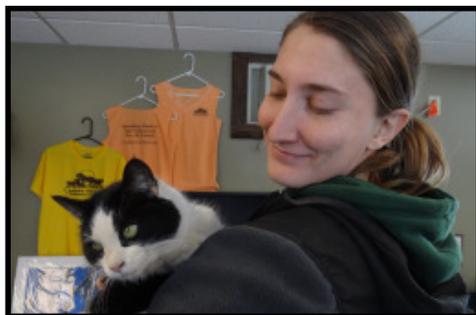
This cost for upkeep and repair includes two pick-up trucks, the dump truck, the golf cart, the Cub Cadet, farm machinery such as the skidsteer, and 2 trailers.

### Fuel (Gas/Diesel) ..... \$4,648

Happy Trails geographical area of assistance knows almost no boundaries. We are constantly transporting animals or driving to assist law enforcement with rescues. We go through a great deal of fuel throughout the year. Diesel is used to run the farm machinery.

### Wages ..... \$90,780

Happy Trails currently operates our entire organization with only 4



Ashley Ehmann, Animal Care Coordinator who lives on site, hugs Miles the barn cat.

full-time paid staff members and 6 part-time paid staff members. This small but mighty and dedicated staff makes amazing things happen!

**The above items alone total \$174,464 year to date.**

**Happy Trails 990 for 2013 shows that 98% of all donations go directly toward the rescued animals.**

# Special Projects and Needs to Sponsor

**Facilities improvement projects are many.** This grocery list of projects in need of sponsors outlines some of our more important projects and special needs, any of which can be sponsored in part or entirely with naming rights. If a project or special need speaks to you, we invite you to contact us for more information or to visit the site of a project to fully understand its importance and its role in the efficiency and effectiveness of the sanctuary.

## New Multi-Purpose Building & Mini-Vet Clinic

The recently constructed 24'x40' 2-story multi-purpose building located toward the front of the sanctuary is designed to house a



small group of pot belly pigs, serve as a mini-vet clinic, and provide storage area for animal-related supplies. Though the building has already been constructed, we are just now reaching out to request sponsors and donations toward its cost. The expense breakdown is:

- **Building construction . \$27,000**
- **Gravel base pad and cement foundation ..... \$3,600**
- **Electricity ..... \$4,000**

*This electrical cost will also cover the specialized lighting needed for the area of the vet-clinic to aid*

*with examinations and treatment of the animals.*

- Pot belly pig area (*stalls, gates, mats*) ..... \$950
  - Mini-vet clinic ..... \$15,475
- Constructing the inner walls of multi-purpose building to create the mini-vet clinic. This includes all construction materials, insulation, installing special padding on the lower portion of the walls, non-slip floor mats, and two medicine cabinets.*



## Horse Barn Roof

This project is an **absolute need** scheduled for this fall. We need to install a new metal roof over the current rolled roofing on the horse barn that is constantly in need of repairs. We have patched and replaced and repaired the current rolled roofing until it is now beyond anything we can or should repair. **The metal roofing and related supplies will cost \$4,300.** The labor to install the metal sheeting will be handled by an all-volunteer crew lead by a professional volunteer carpenter.

## Concrete Manure Pad

A 12'x12' concrete pad is needed in the area where manure is dumped while waiting to be transported away. This will eliminate the slow but steady unwanted removal of the dirt below the pile each time the pile



is scraped up with the skidsteer. **The cost for this concrete pad is \$400.**

## New Farm Pig Barn

One more new barn is being added out of sheer necessity so we can better care for the farm pigs throughout the record-breaking cold temperatures that are predicted for winter. This new barn will replace three other smaller and not-so-nice shelters and will enable three groups of farm pigs to live comfortably in one barn, with the body heat from each pig helping to keep them



warmer. This new pig barn will also enable our animal care giver staff to feed and water the animals more efficiently and will help keep their environment cleaner and more sanitary. A second story on this building will allow for hay and straw storage for all animal shelters located in this area of the sanctuary. There are several steps in the creation of this building:

- **Construction ..... \$27,000**
- **Rock/gravel base ..... \$1,750**
- **Cement pad ..... \$4,400**
- **Electricity ..... \$2,500**
- **Stalls (lumber /gates).\$1,300**

# Special Projects and Needs to Sponsor

## Gravel for Driveway

As we attempt to deal with the ever-present mud at the sanctuary, the extension of a usable driveway that reaches further



back to the newer buildings is crucial to have easy and safe access to all areas where animals

are present. Larger gravel is normally put down first on the driveways, with a smaller gravel that packs and knits together placed on top of that. Commercial grade geo-cloth will keep the rock from sinking. The commercial grade geo-cloth is \$500 per roll, and we need 3 rolls. We are estimating that we need 5 loads (20 tons per load) of each type of gravel to get us through the winter season at a cost of \$13 per ton delivered. The total cost of this project will be \$4,100.

## Pay-off for the Mortgage on the Property

Happy Trails has nearly paid off the mortgage on the sanctuary. We only have \$29,000 remaining to pay off the commercial loan. We will indeed honor requests to have your donation of any amount go toward paying off the

remaining mortgage on the property. It is very exciting for us that this reasonably smaller amount is all that we owe from the original purchase price of \$128,000!

## Covered Arena Phase II - Drainage

The creation of our beautiful new arena was completed during Phase I, which was developing the base pad, construction of



the building itself and the installation of the first two layers of sand. It truly is a thing of beauty. We have now moved on to Phase II, which includes installing proper lighting and electricity (this portion of the project has already been sponsored) and creating appropriate drainage on all sides of the building (this portion has *not* yet been sponsored). Between the new arena and the horse barn, we need to lay drainage pipe, cover it with gravel, and create a walkway between the two buildings for horses who cannot get bandages or casts wet. We also need to dig several trenches and install drainage pipe on the South side of the building as well. The total cost of addressing the drainage portion of Phase II is estimated at \$1,800.



*Animal care even involves the “b” word... baths. Here Animal Care Giver staff member, Ashley Harris, gives a little mini horse a much-needed bath.*

## Animal Care Giver Staff - Sponsor Shifts of Animal Care

It takes an average of six to seven hours for one staff member to complete one animal care shift, and there are two care shifts per day. This means actual hands-on care — feeding grain and hay, scrubbing water buckets and providing fresh water, distributing and applying medications, turning horses out to exercise in paddocks or bringing horses in to the barn, cleaning horse stalls, observing all animals for signs of lameness, illness or injury, deworming, delicing, hand-walking horses on stall rest, and providing dry comforters or sleeping bags to the elderly pot belly pigs. \$84 will sponsor one staff member per care shift; \$168 will sponsor two animal care shifts, and \$1,176 will sponsor our animal care giver staff for an entire week.



# Planned Giving • Wills • Trusts



**Leaving a legacy of compassion for animals and continuing to do amazing work together with Happy Trails through planned giving is a true testimonial to your convictions and an incredible way to memorialize your dreams of spreading peace and healing on this earth in a big way. By including Happy Trails in your estate planning, you can be the reason we are able to implement new programs, reach more people, rescue more animals, change mindsets, heal the broken and continue to make a big impact in many, many lives.**

Planned giving is a way to include Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary in your estate and financial plan. Depending on your giving strategy, there could be immediate or future tax benefits for you. Here are the nuts and bolts of giving options.

## **PLANNED GIVING OPTIONS:**

### ***Gift of cash***

Gifts of cash provide an income tax deduction for the year in which the gift was given.

### ***Wills and bequests***

Bequests can be made in a new will, or an existing will can be easily amended to include a bequest to Happy Trails. An unrestricted bequest is one that allows Happy Trails to direct your gift where it will have the greatest impact. A restricted bequest allows you to designate what you would like the gift to be used for.

### ***Gifts of Stock***

Gifts of stock can be made in two ways. You can call your financial advisor and transfer shares of stock directly from your account to Happy Trails, or you can give stock certificates. You will receive a tax deduction for the full amount of the current value of the gift on the day on which the gift was given, and if the stock has appreciated significantly, you will avoid paying the capital gains taxes due if you were to sell the stock.

### ***Charitable Remainder Trust***

A Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) enables you to give a highly appreciated asset, such as stock or vacation home, to a trust for which Happy Trails is the beneficiary (or one of several beneficiaries). In the trust document, you designate what income you want to receive from the trust. The CRT sells the gifted assets and reinvests the proceeds to provide you with income as

stated in the trust document. You do not pay the capital gains tax on the sale of the appreciated asset, and you receive an immediate tax deduction for your gift to the trust. As a beneficiary of the CRT, Happy Trails receives the gift, or a portion of the gift, upon the death of those indicated in the trust document.

### ***Charitable Lead Trust***

A Charitable Lead Trust (CLT) also allows you to gift a highly appreciated asset, such as a stock or a vacation home, to a trust for which Happy Trails is the beneficiary, or one of the beneficiaries. With a CLT, however, the beneficiary first receives distributions for a number of years as stated in the trust agreement. At the end of the stated time period, the remainder of the trust is distributed to whoever is designated in the trust document. Because the ultimate recipients of the trust proceeds must wait a number of years before receiving the gift, the amount of the gift is calculated in a manner that could be extremely favorable to the donor. This strategy may be very effective in minimizing or eliminating the gift taxes that would be associated with an outright gift.

### ***Life Insurance***

If you would like to give an insurance policy directly to Happy Trails, and would like it to qualify as a gift with the IRS, you will need to make Happy Trails the owner and the beneficiary of the policy. If the policy is paid up, your charitable tax deduction is usually the cost basis or the replacement value of the policy, whichever is less. If the policy is not paid up, the premiums that you continue to pay on the policy would also qualify for charitable deductions. This is an extremely effective way to leverage your gift to Happy Trails. Depending on your individual situation, incorporating an Irrevocable Life Insurance Trust (ILIT) into your plan may also be beneficial.

**We are happy to discuss your charitable objectives with you. If you have questions, please contact Happy Trails representative Attorney Alan G. Segedy at 330.434.1166 or via email at AlanGSegedy@juno.com**

## **We Don't Throw Our Senior Citizens Away**



*At nearly 15 years old, Willis, a hairless breed pot belly pig, may have some arthritis and be on joint supplements, but he still loves life. He adores belly rubs, peanut butter sandwiches, Oero cookies, and taking long naps while snuggling with his best pig friends. His secret to staying young? He recommends taking leisurely walks barefoot in soft clover.*

Every life has value. Even if an animal has not had the good fortune of being adopted, they are cared for and loved at Happy Trails for as long as they are with us. When it's time to assess the quality of life of any animal and pain can no longer be controlled, a veterinarian helps us make that often-tough decision to help them cross the Rainbow Bridge. Until that time comes, we cherish the senior rescued animals, continue to learn from them, and make them comfortable, warm and happy. Just because an animal is old, doesn't mean that he or she doesn't have a lot to offer. We encourage respect for all senior animals.

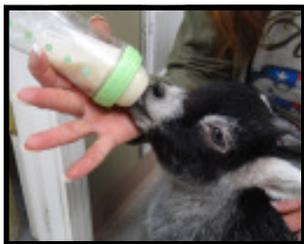
## Top Reasons...

...why the work of Happy Trails is so critically important.

**1. We make communities safer by addressing animal abuse.** Many of our animal abuse cases are connected to other violent crimes. We believe that animal abusers should be held accountable for the suffering they inflict to help prevent the cycle of violence from continuing. Violent criminals initially start out with abusing animals.

**2. Most humane societies and law enforcement agencies are not prepared to handle abused animals other than dogs and cats.**

There is a wide range of animal abuse out there that involves many types of animals. When your local humane agency discovers a starved horse, an abandoned goat, or the pig that fell off the meat truck onto the highway, they often rely on Happy Trails to provide transportation, rescue and rehabilitation services.



*A humane society that rescued Virgil the baby goat was more than happy to pass him along to Happy Trails for constant care and bottle feeding.*

and rehabilitation services.

**3. We believe education equals prevention of and creates a new awareness of animal abuse.** Bringing any tough topic to light is the first step in addressing it. Animal abuse is no longer an affliction that is swept under the rug thanks to the involvement of Happy Trails. If we're involved, you hear about it. We let you know what's going on and give you the opportunity to make a difference and participate in animal rescue through donating, adopting, fostering, and volunteering.

**4. We give back to our community in many ways.** The rescued animals visit nursing homes through our Farm Animal Visitation Program. We do hospice visits and provide educational programs for students. And the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program is one-of-a-kind and accepts retiring buggy and plow horses when they can no longer serve their owners. We rehabilitate these horses and find them adoptive homes.

## ANNUAL APPEAL DONATION INFORMATION

I would like to contribute....

\$35   \$75   \$125   \$250   \$500   \$\_\_\_\_\_

..toward Happy Trails Annual Appeal Campaign.

Please accept this donation:

To be used where needed most.

For the follow specific project(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor an entire project and would like to visit the sanctuary. Please contact me to make arrangements.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed

Please charge my \_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_ American Express

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CSC (3 digits on back) \_\_\_\_\_

Name On Card (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### OTHER WAYS TO DONATE

• Donate on-line via PayPal at [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org)

• Call in your charge card information to Happy Trails at 330-296-5914.

09-2014

Return to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary  
5623 New Milford Rd. Ravenna, OH 44266

## Want to become a *monthly* donor?

Simply fill out the donation form above and include this coupon!

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to support the work of Happy Trails on a monthly basis.

Please charge my credit card each month in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me pre-addressed envelopes so I can send in a monthly check.

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
AKRON OH  
PERMIT NO.12



5623 New Milford Road  
Ravenna, Ohio 44266  
**(330) 296-5914**

**happytrailsfarm.org**

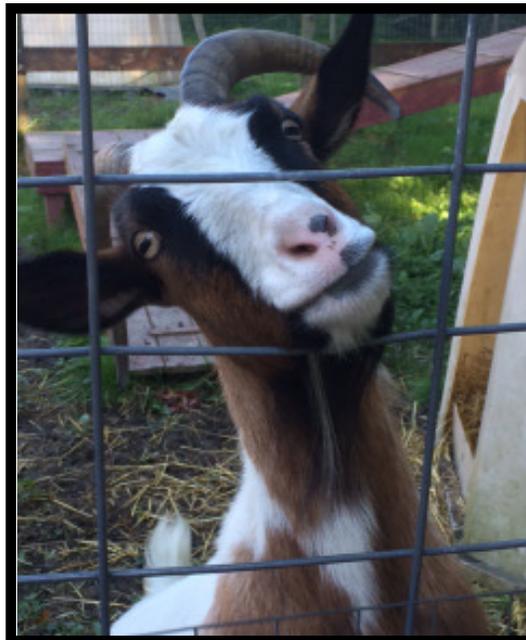


*Chrissie, a beautiful Appaloosa mare, is one of 48 horses in the Happy Trails rescue program available to foster or adopt.*

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## ANNUAL APPEAL

**Once every year Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary reaches out with a direct appeal, asking for your support.** We understand that there may be a lot of non-profit organizations that are near and dear to your heart who address topics that hit home for you in a very personal way. We invite you to get to know us, for we believe our work speaks volumes. We are asking for your support on behalf of abused, neglected and abandoned animals who cannot speak for themselves. Their abuse affects the safety of our community. Mentally stable individuals do not abuse animals. Animal abuse is a huge red flag that often connects the abuser with other violent crimes. Check us out at [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org). Read our appeal. We would be honored for your support and for the opportunity to work together with you to address these heinous crimes.



*Natasha the goat, found abandoned on the side of a road at only a day and half old, was rescued and raised at Happy Trails. She now visits nursing homes, schools and community events to spread kindness and compassion for all animals.*

## Our Mission

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that rescues, rehabilitates, and provides an adoption program for abused, abandoned, and neglected farm animals such as horses, ponies, potbelly pigs, farm pigs, chickens, ducks, turkeys, sheep, goats, and cows. Happy Trails serves the entire state of Ohio and any other state requesting our help, and works in cooperation with county humane societies, animal protective leagues, and local and state law enforcement officers. Animals in our program must have been removed from a situation of abuse, neglect or abandonment by law officials, and cruelty charges must be filed against the person(s) responsible for the crime.