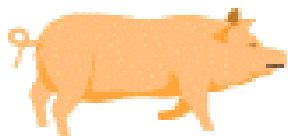


Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary

FEBRUARY 2007

Newsletter



How Can You Make A Difference?

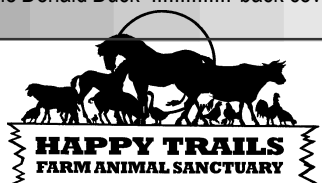
- ☐ Volunteer ☐ Donate
- ☐ Adopt ☐ Transport
- ☐ Sponsor ☐ Collect Cans

Join the Happy Trails crew!

Be a part of an expanding, well-respected and highly visible farm animal sanctuary serving all of Ohio! Happy Trails is made up of compassionate volunteers who make good things happen. Volunteer with an organization that promotes and encourages compassionate care for farm animals!

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HAPPY TRAILS
FARM ANIMAL SANCTUARY

(330) 296-5914

2007 Is The Year Of The Pig!!!

The Year Of The Pig is the 12th sign of the Chinese Zodiac. It symbolizes wealth, family, prosperity, happiness and good luck!

As we here at Happy Trails already know, the pig is known to be honest, trustworthy, and peace loving.

2007 is a Red Pig Year — with the element for 2007 being Fire.

Here at Happy Trails we'd like you to help celebrate the Year Of The Pig with us!

First, some fun facts!

Chinese New Year is the longest and most important celebration in the Chinese calendar. The Chinese year 4705 begins on February 18, 2007.

Legend has it that in ancient times, Buddha asked all the animals to meet him on Chinese New Year. Twelve came, and Buddha named a year after each one. He announced that the people born in each animal's year would have some of that animal's personality. Those born in pig years tend to have excellent manners, make and keep friends, work very



Sharon Barnard, Happy Trails President, holds Rodan, a sweet 10 month old sanctuary resident!

hard, and appreciate luxury. They are very loving and make loyal partners.

If you were born in one of the following years, you were born in a Year Of The Pig: 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007.

Are you a pig? If so, this is what

(Continued on page 3)

“Having A Sculpture Named After Me During The Year Of The Pig Is Quite An Honor!!!”

A commentary from Janice The Pig, Founder Of Happy Trails

Normally I reserve this space for our “letter from the director”... that’s me. However, Janice the pig, founder of Happy Trails, has a most important article to share with our readers for this edition!

“Janice The Noble Pig”

I have received quite an honor that I would like to share with Happy Trails friends and supporters!

As you all know now, 2007 is The Year Of The Pig! I was quite surprised and thrilled when I received the news that a most important sculpture has been named in my honor! Here’s how that happened.

Last fall, two very talented artists, Donna Vance and Beth Gregerson, volunteered at Happy Trails and had a chance to learn about the various animals and how we came to reside at the sanctuary. My story (*see the website at www.happytrailsfarm.org for my complete story*) truly touched their hearts and made a lasting impression.

An art exhibition and competition celebrating The Year Of The Pig was announced, and Beth submitted two proposals. Much to my delight, Beth named one entry “Janice” after yours truly!!! Beth’s exact words were...”of course I had to name my entry after Janice!

page 2



I want 2007 to really be the Year Of The Pig, with public awareness.”

Beth’s proposal is entitled “Janice The Noble Pig”. I’d like to share a few lines of what I feel is an important part of her proposal...

“My design is in honor of the Pig; which contrary to popular

Happy Trails.

Janice is decked out in a colorful ornate costume to help celebrate the Year of the Pig and the colorful, evolving neighborhood of St. Clair Superior where she will proudly reside...”

Wow, what is a pig to say???

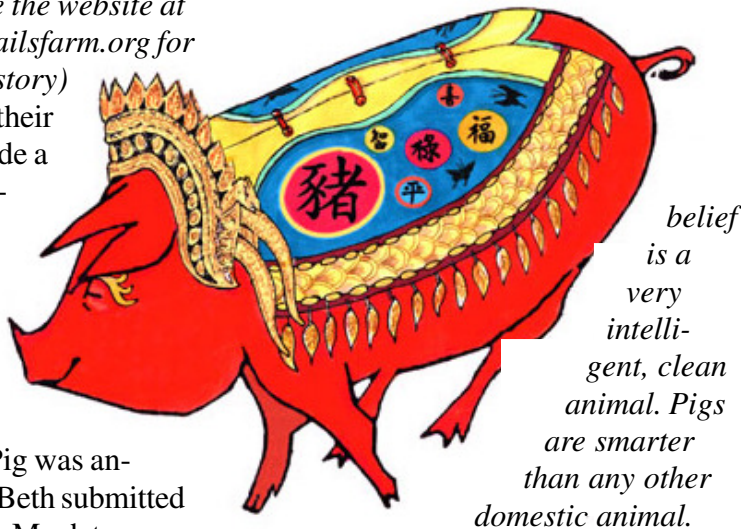
I humbly and gratefully accept this honor, and would like to encourage all my friends to visit the pig sculptures and especially make sure to visit Beth’s sculpture (which has been adopted by the Asian Plaza) named in my honor!

Best of luck in the contest, Beth, and many grunts and oinks of thanks for being such a compassionate and caring person!

On behalf of all pigs everywhere, may you all celebrate The Year Of The Pig with love and care and compassion for all living creatures!

With love from,

Janice The Noble Pig



belief is a very intelligent, clean animal. Pigs are smarter than any other domestic animal.

Janice is named after a rescued pig that resides at Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary in Ravenna, Ohio. Janice is the founder and mascot at

Pig Sculpture Display & Contest Details

On February 18, 2007, THE YEAR OF THE PIG will begin...

St. Clair Superior Development Corporation will turn the neighborhood streets into a forum for public art, creativity and innovation.

St. Clair Superior Development Corporation (SCSDC) welcomes the 2007 Year of the Pig celebration to the St. Clair Superior neighborhood! This is a public art exhibition that places fiberglass pig sculptures, designed by Viktor Schreckengost and decorated by local artists, throughout St. Clair Superior businesses for the public to view and interact with.

To make each pig sculpture a unique work of art, each artist is challenged and inspired by cultural influences, their personal history, and their own interpretation of the pig as an object of art.

143 design proposals were received. Of those, 58 were chosen by a Selection Committee to present to sponsors. 45 individual artists from throughout the region are represented.

The pig sculptures will be placed throughout the neighborhood the week following Memorial Day. The sculptures will remain on public display until the week before Labor Day.

2007 Is The Year Of The Pig!!!

(Continued from front page)



you are made of:

"The Pig is a fun and enlightening personality blessed with patience and understanding. People born under the sign of the Pig enjoy life and all it has to offer, including family and friends. They are honest and thoughtful and expect the same of other people. Pigs can be perceived as oblivious or gullible because they do care about others so much that they will do just about anything for a friend in need."

Here at Happy Trails we already know what awesome creatures pigs are, both the pot bellied kind as well as their much bigger counterparts, the farm hogs. We'd like you to find out how cool pigs are too!

What can you do to celebrate the year of the pig?

ADOPT: Adopt a pig, of course! Though many people have pot belly pigs as indoor pets, the rescued adult pigs that come through the sanctuary enjoy being outdoor pets and having the luxury of rooting around a big yard and hanging out with their friends. Many are friendly and funny and would make an incredible family pet! They are also very social creatures, so consider adopting a pair!

The Happy Trails pig volunteers can help you make sure that you have safe fencing and a shelter that is appropriate and will allow room for heat lamps for cold weather.

Zinger, pictured above, is just one of over 20 pigs residing at

Happy Trails in need of loving, caring homes. Montel, sweet and huggable, shown below, is one of six farm hogs seeking a loving, caring family

SPONSOR: Become a monthly sponsor of a pig, and help Happy Trails pay for it's vet and medical care, feed, bedding and shelter needs during it's stay at the sanctuary. A pig sponsor is \$25 a month. What your sponsorship does is help pay for typical care costs which include yearly vet visits when the pig is vaccinated, wormed, has it's hooves and tusks trimmed, it's eyes and ear canals cleaned, and receives an overall health and wellness

examination. This normally costs approximately \$200 per pig. They eat a healthy commercial diet of pot belly pig food, which costs \$12 per 25 lb. bag. A bag will last one pig about two weeks.

Straw is the bedding of choice, and straw usually costs about \$3.50 per bale.

Sponsors also get to visit their precious pigs and pet and bond with them in person!

What better spokesperson than a pig to help promote kindness and compassion throughout our communities, since the pig is the very example and essence of the characteristics described for the humans born in The Year Of The Pig !



Seven Rescued Happy Trails Animals Travel To Their New Home In Illinois —

And The Standardbred Mare Who Had Eye Surgery, Cindy Lou Who, Is One Of Them!!!

Unbelievable!!! How does the song go...."I believe there are angels among us!!!" And we are all certainly believers here at Happy Trails, especially after adopting a family of rescued animals to a wonderful and caring home in Illinois! Traveling together on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, were two Standardbred mares (Cindy Lou Who and Darlin' Dixie), two pot belly pigs (Hogan and Mr. Bojangles), two Muscovy ducks (Count Chocula and Fred Astaire), and a little hen named Ruby!

Guardian angel for animals, Stephanie Moore recently moved to her dream farm in LaMoille, Illinois. Now to fulfill a part of her dream, she requested Happy Trails help to fill her life (and barn) with rescued farm animals! What an incredible opportunity for everyone involved!!!

This blessing brings about nothing but goodness everywhere — the rescued animals of course get their wishes fulfilled and find a loving, permanent home they can call their own; Stephanie and her family get to enjoy the company of the furry and feathered and hairy creatures who are sure to bring her as much joy as they are also sure to make her completely crazy at times (especially the drama that can accompany very smart as well as very opinionated pigs); and Happy Trails will now have "room at the inn" to help the next call we receive concerning a farm animal in distress.

Rob Willard, Happy Trails die-hard volunteer driver and hauler, gra-

ciously agreed to make sure the animals got to their destination safely.

Cindy Lou Who, the 15 year old

Standardbred who recently underwent eye surgery, healed very nicely but had been diagnosed with cancer in both eyelids. Stephanie agreed to take her and love her all the same. Darlin' Dixie, another Standardbred mare, had bowed tendons in her front legs and weak suspensory tendons in her back legs. Stephanie was thrilled to take her in and care for her also! Mr. Bojangles and Hogan didn't have any health issues, but they are what they are — pot belly pigs with opinions and attitudes — again, Stephanie didn't even bat an eye! "What about



Mr. Bojangles immediately went about inspecting his new facilities — everything about it met his piggy approval!



Darlin' Dixie drinks while Larry Carlson fills up her outdoor water bucket!

two male Muscovy ducks?" I inquired. "They are the one breed that doesn't like water and they would be more than happy with a small kiddie pool in the summer." "I'll take them too!" was the reply.

"And do you have any hens? I would like some laying hens since I already have a rooster." "Not right now, but we get calls daily," I replied. I hung up the phone. A few calls later I hear, "We found a rooster that must have been abandoned — can Happy Trails help?" Of course we would help, but luckily the rooster turned out to be a very nice hen named Ruby, who was then added to our list of travelers!

How lucky can a group of rescued farm animals be — to be adopted by not only a kind and caring person and re-located to a wonderful facility, but also to have as their new guardian a person who has dedicated her life's work to animal welfare!

To check out details about the trip, visit our website at www.happytrailsfarm.org!

Highly Recommended Reading

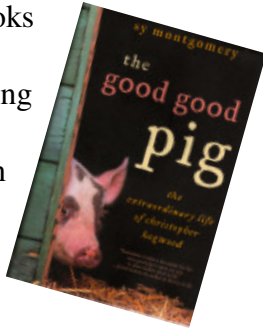
Book Review By Annette Fisher

“The Good Good Pig — The extraordinary life of Christopher Hogwood”

author: Sy Montgomery

Rarely do books get me excited. Don't get me wrong — I absolutely love to read. I can always find a book that I like and can get into the content. But for an author to reach into your very soul and talk-your-talk and having walked-your-walk, this book was absolutely astounding. It truly felt like I could have written the book. It also felt like I met a kindred spirit — someone who can understand what it is like to feel more comfortable in the presence of animals and understand them in a way that only someone who feels compassion for all creatures can. I can probably relate to the story in such an intense way because of the personal relationships I have formed here at Happy Trails with the extraordinary pigs that grace the sanctuary.

This is a true story from author, Sy Montgomery, documentary script writer, radio commentator, and naturalist, who spent months at a time living on her own among wild creatures in remote jungles. Sy gladly opened her heart to a sick piglet who had been crowded away from his mother by stronger siblings. She named her porcine companion Christopher Hogwood. Sy refers to her intelli-



gent pet as “a great big Buddha master”. In this awesome book, Sy shares what she learned from this kind soul who just happened to be a pig — lessons of self-acceptance, the meaning of family, the value of community, and the pleasures of the sweet, green Earth.

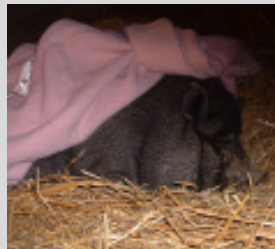
I strongly encourage everyone to read this heart-warming book, and then to look at your own animals to see what lessons they may, in fact, be teaching you!

(Perhaps we should also send a few complimentary copies to the owners of the hog farm mentioned in the article on page 8.)

Don't Give Up Dropping Off Your Old Sleeping Bags And Blankets Quite Yet!!!

With temperature having been dipping down into the single digits, pigs rescues going on, pigs getting transported to and from vet visits, and trying to keep the little chubby guys warm under heat lamps, Happy Trails is still going through more than our fair share of blankets for pigs! If you have any old blankets, comforters, or sleeping bags (they're the

best!), drop off days are any Sunday between 1:00pm and



4:00pm. Many thanks to everyone who has donated warm, snuggly bedding for the arthritic and cripple piggies!

What Can You And Your Family, School or Place Of Business Collect For The Rescued Animals At Happy Trails??

CANS!!!

Aluminum cans help fund many of the special projects needed at the sanctuary. Increased participation in our aluminum can drive is making our can collection fundraiser a huge success! Sunday drop off times at the sanctuary are from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, or call Sharon Barnard at (330) 928-3623 to make other arrangements .

INK CARTRIDGES!!!

Printer ink cartridges are our newest item to collect and recycle. (So far Epson is the only cartridge we are not able to recycle). Place your old printer ink cartridges in a plastic bag, and drop them off at the sanctuary on Sunday's from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

ACME RECEIPTS!!!

Keep those Acme receipts coming in! Acme receipts will continue to be collected through April 7, 2007. They can be mailed to:

Attn: Chris Cook
Happy Trails Farm Animal
Sanctuary, 5623 New Milford
Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266.

Volunteer With The Best!!!

It's that time of year again, and we are looking for hard working and dedicated volunteers who want to get involved with Happy Trails.

To become a Happy Trails volunteer you are required to attend an orientation session and be at least 18 years old.

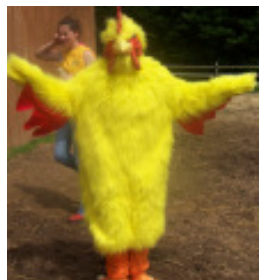


Joanne Marshall, welcoming the new turkey upon his arrival!

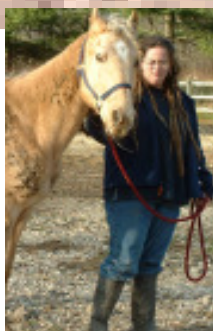
Our next New Volunteer Orientation Sessions will be held on Saturday, April 14th, from 11am-1pm and again on Sunday, May 6th, from 11am-1pm.

Though this is our very biased opinion, Happy Trails proudly proclaims

that we have *thee* very best volunteers around! Our volunteers are dedicated, responsible, hard-working animal-lovers who choose to show their compassion for animals



Jeanne Alger is a good sport in a giant chicken costume at the Summer Festival!



Carolyn Hayes walks Migisi out to a paddock.

and fitness program" (read, shoveling heavy horse poop, raking out piggy shelters, unloading hay trucks, construction and fencing projects, and facility maintenance). Or, you may choose to take the more leisurely road, and become a part of a planning committee for a special event, help us return phone calls (from your very own home!),



Helen Carpenter and Treasurer, Nancy Conring unravel yards of electro-braid fence.



Kevin Bragg exercises Shelby the draft horse.

of actual animal rescues, you can be a part of our still-forming Volunteer Emergency Rescue Crew. We need volunteers with trucks and trailers to be able to haul rescued farm

through their involvement in animal rescue.

Volunteer opportunities abound at Happy Trails! You can choose to be a part of our "aerobic

Russ Fisher, co-founder of Happy Trails, takes a break from breaking ice out of horse water troughs.



animals to the sanctuary when a frantic humane officer calls us from somewhere in Ohio. Hauling help is also regularly need to haul the farm animals to the vet clinics and to their new homes when adopted.



Rob Willard holds onto Nick outside the Equine Specialty Hospital.

Many people will tell

you that they volunteer at an animal rescue organization because of their love for animals and that they want to help with their care. But we all know better! The love and healing and peace in our hearts that the animals give back to us as we work around them and with them is simply priceless and sometimes hard to describe!

Please contact Chris Cook, Volunteer

Program Director, at 330-256-8011 or by email at cmcoo23@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in becoming a volunteer for Happy Trails.



Debbie Friend staffs a logo apparel booth at a community event.

Summer Fundraiser & Festival

Happy Trails is thrilled to announce that we will be presenting our All New Summer Fundraiser & Festival to be held at the sanctuary on Sunday, June 24, 2007 from 11am - 5pm. Sure it seems like June is a long ways away, but it will be here before you know it! So mark that date on your calendar now!

This year the Summer Fundraiser & Festival is being completely revamped, so that it will be bigger and better and more fun than ever, with new and exciting things to see and do! A whole \$1 donation per person will get you in the gate. Tickets for special activities, kids crafts, games, contests and raffles will be available.

This very special and most important event is Happy Trails major yearly fundraiser to secure funds to provide care for the rescued animals at the sanctuary. Plan on coming out to the sanctuary and having a good time, while supporting Ohio's own major farm animal sanctuary!

THINGS THAT ARE NEW:

• Yoga For Equestrians!

Lisa Deckert, CYI, will host a yoga tent and yoga sessions that teach you how important balance is when riding your trusty steed. (Anyone like me who has ever fallen off a horse knows just how important balance and your body language communication with your horse is!)

• Silent Art Auction!!!

Custom prints, paintings, and sculptures by talented and professional local as well as national artists will be available for bid through a silent art auction! Beautiful,

unique and made-with-compassion, these art items are a must to complete the decor of your home!

• Carnival Games!

Farm animal Spin-The-Wheel, Farm Animal Bean-Bag-Toss, an old fashioned Western Town, fun board cut-outs great for photo opps, and much more!

• Treasure Hunt!

Fun for the whole family, this treasure hunt will bring out the detective in you! Find answers to questions as you visit the various animals at the sanctuary, and have your name entered in a drawing to win the grand prize!

• Kid's Craft Area

Kids can make their very own stick pony and ride them in a horse parade; other crafts include decorating cowboy and cowgirl hats, enter a coloring contest, and more!



THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN IMPROVED:

• Two, yes that's right — two, shuttle buses will be running this time!

No more standing in line and waiting to board the shuttle bus! Thanks to everyone for their kindness and patience last year while we tried to accommodate a much larger crowd than anticipated. This year, we'll be ready for ya, so bring ALL your friends!!!

• Expanded Lunch Area and More Food Items To Choose!

Vegetarian lunches, snacks, beverages and snowcones available. Kids meals available, complete with farm animal surprise and complete adult meals, all reasonably priced!

RETURNING GUESTS BY POPULAR DEMAND:

• **Doris Straka, well-known and highly respected Animal Communicator**, will help you communicate better with your feathered, furry or fuzzy pet companion! A \$25 donation will earn you a personal communication session with Doris, so be sure to bring along your most treasured photo of little Fluffy so Doris can help share your little buddy's thoughts with you. (*Please do NOT bring your pet!*)

• **Ken Aberegg, the horse world's own funny-man and equine trainer** will again entertain and educate us concerning our friend, the horse!

THINGS THAT ARE EDUCATIONAL:

• Each animal area will have a representative presenting fun facts and everything you've always wanted to know but were afraid to ask about pot belly pigs, horses, ducks, chickens, turkeys, geese, farm hogs, goats, and more! Educational seminars and clinics will be announced!

Be sure to watch the Happy Trails website and the spring newsletter for more details!



The Mane Event!

Another very special fundraiser day to mark on your calendar will be Saturday, October 6th. Happy Trails will celebrate everyone's love of horses at the Portage County Fairgrounds! This event will feature everything you could possibly think of to do with horses — health seminars, demonstrations, a tack sale, nutritional clinics, training techniques, and much more! Watch for details to unfold!

A Short But Necessary Commentary Regarding The Commercial Hog Farm In Creston, Ohio Accused Of Hideous Animal Cruelty

Many of you have been following the story of severe abuse inflicted on the pigs at the Wiles factory hog farm in Creston Ohio, and many Happy Trails supporters had help write a polite but concerned letter to the prosecutor encouraging him to file charges in the case — thank you for your efforts. Charges have been filed.

Since here at Happy Trails we are so enamored with the kind and gentle creatures that the big pigs are, and with their intelligence and openness to their humane caretakers, no-one was able to write a story with the horrific details.

For complete updates and news about the cruelty charges that have been filed, please go to the always up-to-date articles at the Humane Farming Association's website at <http://www.hfa.org/campaigns/wiles.html>. The Humane Farming Association promotes humane farming practices and sanitary conditions for businesses housing animals used for food production.

Enough said in this sad and heart-wrenching case...

*A special thank you once again
goes out to guardian angel
Dr. Iori Beier of
South Russell Veterinary Hospital
for her and her staff's
continued support
of our rescue efforts here at
Happy Trails! Dr. Beier helps
provide a great deal of the
medication needed for the
rescued animals at the sanctuary.*

Feathered Friends Now Available For Adoption At Happy Trails!

Diller the rooster is one of the newest sanctuary residents! Arriving from a county



human society, Diller had been found apparently abandoned. He was injured, and spent ten days on cage rest. Now fully recovered, he is happy, bright, colorful, and ready for a new home!



Apollo the rooster is a tiny, full-of-energy ball of fire who is very

much in charge of the hen house! Several of his toes had been frozen off before he arrived at Happy Trails, but that doesn't stop him

from staying busy and keeping his chickens in order! He even put up a sign saying "No other roosters allowed!"

Sir Henry, a black and white male Muscovy duck is quiet and shy



around people, but he has been very aggressive (read simply evil) around other feathered animals! We believe Sire Henry would do best in a home where he would be the center of attention as the only pet duck. The vet said that Sir Henry has one leg shorter than the other, and that is why he sports a slight limp. However, that doesn't stop him from chasing down and traumatizing anything else with feathers! If you can provide a caring home for a single duck (who needs to stay single!) please give us a call at (330) 296-5914.

*"Not until we extend the circle of compassion
to include all living things shall we
ourselves know peace."*

— Rev. Dr. Albert Schweitzer

Here's A Big Happy Trails Welcome To Nick, Happy Trails Latest Resident Accepted Through The Amish Horse Retirement Program!



The Happy Trails Amish Retirement Program has been well-received by both the Amish community as well as the English community. When an Amish buggy or plow horse can no longer service their family, usually for health reasons, they are often taken to the local auctions where meat buyers pick them up and in turn sell them to the horse slaughterhouses. Happy Trails provides an option for these hard-working horses. If their families choose to donate their retiring horse to our program, Happy Trails provides the horse with a thorough medical evaluation and helps it through a recovery period. Then through our adoption program, it is placed in a safe and caring adoptive home.

So here's Nick, completely handsome, with an awesome personality to match his good looks! Nick was a very hard worker, a fast and reliable buggy horse. At only 12 years old, however, his legs could no longer handle the stress of hard road work.

Like people, each individual horse handles stress and work loads differently, and each have their own unique circumstances, environment and health concerns.

Nick has a weak suspensory tendon in his back right leg and is also dealing with some arthritis. Though he appears perfectly silly and playful out in the pasture, the vet determined that Nick should not be worked or ridden in any capacity — we do not want to cause further damage to his legs nor would riding

be a comfortable situation for him.

This big boy that stands at about 15.2 hands is a gentle giant, accommodating, obedient, sweet, and have we mentioned how handsome he is??? Nick (Nick-Knack as he is now known!) would make an absolutely fantastic horse for a beginner to learn to work around, a calm and gentle buddy for another lonely horse, or simply a beautiful lawn ornament for someone who is a "horse-petter" and doesn't have the time to ride.

If you have a heart of gold and would like to include Nick among your extra furry family members, and would like to provide a caring home for a horse that — if not for him having a very caring Amish owner — would otherwise right this very second be standing in the chute line at the Illinois chop plant, please give us a call! An equine adoption counselor will be happy to help you visit with and meet Nick-Knack! (330) 296-5914.

Happy Trails Hosts Equine Health Seminars Addressing Specific Needs Of Amish Buggy and Plow Horses

Here at the sanctuary we often see and treat the same equine injuries and health issues regularly that are a common factor to many of the Amish buggy horses and many of the Amish draft horses.

Thanks to caring veterinarians willing to donate their time, the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program is able to host several horse health clinics to be held in the heart of one of Ohio's largest Amish communities. The seminars will address the specific health issues of buggy and plow horses. There will be one clinic in February and one clinic in March, both held at Jacob Yoder's farm in Fredericksburg. A special thank you goes out to Mr. Jacob Yoder for



Barney, a retired Amish buggy horse adopted by Happy Trails Executive Director, Annette Fisher, always takes a lazy nap on the round hay bales in the pasture.

offering Happy Trails the use of his new building at his beautiful farm to help host the seminar!

Guest veterinarians at the February clinic will be Dr. Holly Troche and Dr. Mike Geiger (many thanks to them!)

Guest speakers at the March clinic will include veterinarian Dr. John Gifford, Lisa Deckert, Equine Massage Therapist, and several other guests awaiting confirmation.

Welcome to Nevada!

(No, not the state, the new horse resident!)

Thin from malnutrition and sporting a distended hay belly from trying to find healthy food to eat, this sweet and loving gelding was brought to Happy Trails during a typical January snow-storm! Here is Nevada's story...

The snow was pouring down, the roads were slippery, and weather conditions were not favorable. Happy Trails volunteers (thanks, Phyllis and Jake Leonhardt!) braved the icy winds and agreed to haul Happy Trails latest rescued horse to the sanctuary on Wednesday, January 24th.

A big brown 10 year old horse was calmly unloaded off the trailer, and he looked at us with his sad, white encircled eyes. His stomach was absolutely huge. Being a gelding, he appeared pregnant — not a good nor healthy sign.

A short time after we settled him into a warm stall with thick straw bedding, this handsome gelding with three white socks began to exhibit signs of colic — pinning his ears, he would look back at his side. A back leg came up — a kick to his stomach. Lips back, he smiled....all signs of an upcoming colic.

Normally, we would treat such symptoms here at the sanctuary and call for the assistance of a field service vet. We weighed our options....a new horse that we didn't know anything about his background or health issues, roads quickly becoming hidden under a blanket of icy snow, no-one would be in the barn overnight to watch the horse, and our closest field service would be about an hour away with bad weather conditions.

So off to the Equine Specialty Hospital (thanks to volunteer, Rob Willard) we went before driving conditions would continue to deteriorate — this way he could be safely monitored by a professional staff.

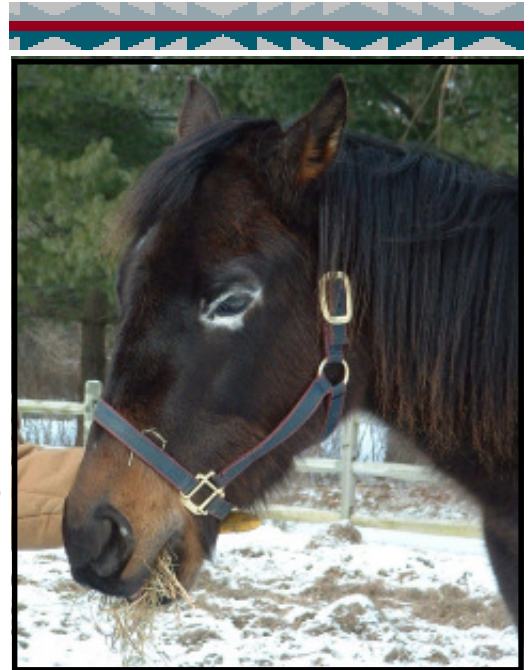
Nevada encountered his second trailer ride of the day! At the hospital he was monitored throughout the night, and his signs of colic eventually subsided. For the next two days he underwent a series of tests so that we would know of any possible health issues. Nevada had blood tests, had his eyes checked, an ultra sound was done on his huge belly, had a lameness evaluation, and every other check-up we could possibly think of.

Malnutrition was his biggest enemy, with his second being severe rain rot. Nevada received a 1½ to a 2 on the Equine Body Score Conditioning Chart that has a number 5 as the best. So to the tune of nearly \$900, Nevada was given a very honest and very thorough medical evaluation. At Happy Trails we do our best to provide adoptive families with the most accurate health information we can concerning the rescued horses, since as is typical in most cases, we do not know their background and what is shared with us is often questionable.

Though Nevada appears to be extremely round, you can sadly feel every bone in his back and every rib in his side. We were advised that the white fur that encircles his eyes is most likely due to malnutrition also. His extended abdomen is the result of the horse trying to eat everything he could find, whether it was nutri-

tious or not.

Nevada is a sweetheart to work with here at Happy Trails, and after a period of recovery and hopefully about a 250 lb. weight gain, this gentle gelding will be made available for adoption. He has been given the ok for light trail riding and light pleasure work after his recovery period. He had been used as a trail horse in the past. Though Happy



Since we believe he may be an Appaloosa, he needed an appropriate Indian name. Arriving during a snowstorm and sporting matching white circles around both eyes, the big brown horse was named after a Native American word meaning "snowcapped", hence the name "Nevada!"

Trails adoption fees in no way cover our expenses with each horse we rescue nor do they actually represent the true market value of the horse, it is a token amount that is dedicated to helping the next neglected or abused horse that comes through our rescue program. His adoption fee is \$700.

If you are interested in adopting Nevada, we are currently accepting applications — to speak to an adoption counselor and to arrange a visit with this gentle creature, call the sanctuary at (330) 296-5914.

Meet Migisi! Then And Now!

Look closely — it really is the same horse!

On Friday, December 1, 2006, this sad but beautiful horse was accepted into the Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary Equine Rescue Program.

This 20+ year old Quarter horse was suffering from severe malnutrition.

The palomino stallion weighed in at almost 650 lbs. About 25 lbs. of that consisted of mane, tail and forelock, which were completely matted with burrs and caked with dried manure.

He had lived at the same location his entire life and was mainly kept in the aisleway of an old barn. His small yard next to the barn, was overgrown.

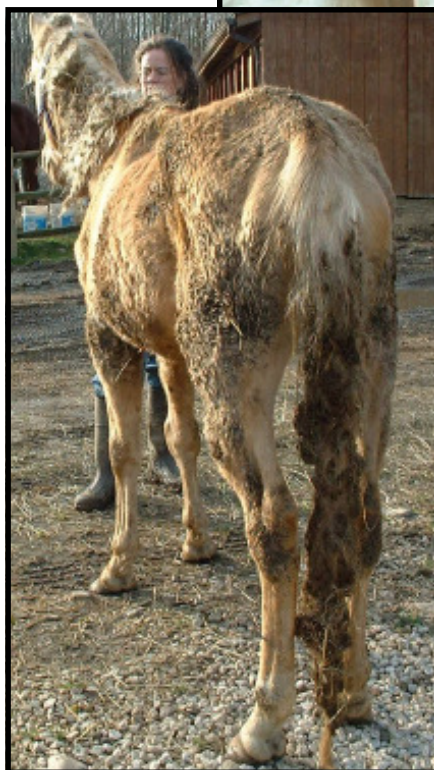
We felt he needed a very special name for a very special horse who was a survivor. We named the little fella Migisi (pronounced mee-gee-see), which is a Cheyenne Indian word meaning “freedom of the eagle”. He had definitely earned his freedom!

He was rather weak due to muscle atrophy. Once at Happy Trails, Migisi was slowly introduced to the outdoor arena where he could exercise and enjoy his new-found freedom. On his first venture outdoors, he very carefully sniffed the air, the ground, and took in everything he could see. He walked around carefully at first, and then slowly began to trot. The trot suited him well, and he soon moved on to kicking up his heels and joyfully bucking! I stood and watched him, both with an incredible admiration for his strong and determined spirit, and at the same time with

Migisi has gained over 150 lbs. so far! Thanks to volunteer Kevin Bragg and about 5 gallons of vegetable oil, we were able to save Migisi's mane and tail, which weighed about 15 lbs. each, and were completely matted with dried feces and burrs.



Migisi on Jan.27, 2007, after having been at Happy Trails for only eight weeks.



(left) Migisi's hip bones and withers were very prominent, and the atrophy in his hind quarters was painfully apparent.

NOT like examined, he would need to receive a tranquilizer. Not a safe bet early on. He also needed to be vaccinated — again not possible because his compromised immune system was not up to receiving shots.

So slowly Migisi began to gain weight, and as we watched him transform from a skeleton into a more normal-looking but still extremely small horse, he began to exhibit his stallion-like mannerisms. As he got stronger and healthier, he started to regularly announce to the world that there was a brave and handsome stallion among us...yikes...

The horse had never been taught to ride, and since he was removed from a situation where he was alone, he never learned “horse manners” around herds of other horses. Most individual horse owners, as well as the facilities at Happy Trails, are not set up to safely contain and control hormonally challenged

(cont'd. on page 12)

a tear in my eye and a sadness that he was finally experiencing the freedom of running like horses should, but only now as a senior citizen. He did not have a large enough area where he could ever move about comfortably or quickly in his old home, and he breathed in his new environment with gusto.

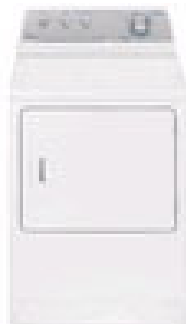
Healthwise, Migisi needed his teeth floated, but we could not have that done yet because of his poor body condition. In order to float his teeth, which he did



(left) Dr. Doug Hasbrouk examines Migisi, who was suffering from severe malnutrition. On the equine body score chart of 1-10, Migisi was sadly rated a #1.

Happy Trails Gets A New Dryer!

Happy Trails cares for many rescued smaller farm animals, and we go through more than our fair share of



blankets, comforters and sleeping bags. We use these items to help keep the pot belly piggies warm in the coldest of temperatures. Often pot bellies experience

arthritis, and a combination of cozy heat lamps and warm snuggly sleeping bags are just the ticket to help keep the little guys comfortable in single digit weather.

But pigs being pigs, they often decide to walk around with their blankets on their backs after they initially crawl underneath them for a nap, or manage to spill their water bowls in such a way that their blankies get soaked.

Normally we could hang the piggy laundry outside to dry on warm sunshiney days, but when we try that in the winter, we end up with giant ice-

cube blankets. Not wanting to throw any good bedding away, and also not wanting to continue to experience the glare of the attendants at the local laundramats, we have been wishing and hoping for a heavy-duty dryer that could handle many loads of wet blankets and comforters. If the blankets and comforters are soiled, we can always hang them out in the fresh air and rain to get cleaned, but drying is always a different story.

Our wish has now come true, and we have several kind donors to thank for that!

We also use blankets and large towels when transporting the piggies to and from vet appointments, or sometimes we have to wrap a sick or injured duck or chicken in a blanket while giving medication or treatments.

This dryer hopefully will make everyone's life easier and make caring for the rescued animals more efficient — we are thrilled to get our new heavy-duty dryer!!!

We have named it...Maytag!!!

More Awesome Adoptions!

Goldie, a beautiful Palomino mare, left us in time to enjoy the holidays at her new home in Wellington, Ohio! She now has a big pony for her new best friend. Goldie had gotten all gussied-up for her big moving day! Here's Goldie decked out with pretty



braids in her forelock and tail and she even has bows in both braids!!

Leo the friendly rooster crowed his way right into the hearts of his new owners! He now rules the roost of his

very own group of happy hens in Mentor!

Meet Migisi!

(Continued from page 11)

stallions. In order to even attempt to find the little guy an adoptive home, he needed to be gelded.

Normally the geld procedure is not a major surgery, but due to Migisi's age, Dr. William Jackson at the Equine Specialty Hospital recommended that the horse be placed under anesthesia and extra care be taken with him. We wholeheartedly agreed, wanting to make sure Migisi continues to do well with his recovery after having brought him along this far.

Migisi went to the Equine Specialty Hospital on January 22nd, for a health evaluation. He was kept overnight with geld surgery scheduled for the next day. He is now recovering with flying colors! After he recovers from this surgery, he will need to be a patient a second time. This is so that he can be carefully tranquilized in order to have his teeth floated to help him gain the remaining weight that he still needs to gain more easily. His medical, surgical and vet expenses will total approximately \$1,850 when he is completely done with procedures, check-ups, surgeries, vaccinations, teeth floating, and hoof care. The geld surgery alone was \$1,222.

We are currently taking adoption applications for Migisi and encourage everyone to watch his progress as he recovers! He needs to be placed in an environment where he can be the only horse, or at least the only horse in a pasture, due to his dominant nature with other horses. He is in the Pasture Pal (non-ridable) Program. *(Professional trainers have discouraged us from considering trying to train a 20+ year old stallion that has never been ridden.)* He is completely awesome with people and thrives on attention.

Donations contributed toward the care of this very special and sadly neglected horse will be very much appreciated. We try not to make a habit of asking for additional donations with special cases, but due to the fact that Happy Trails relies on all private donations, special cases such as his most certainly and quickly deplete our general funds.

Donations toward medical care for Migisi can be sent to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary at 5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266, and simply indicate his name with a note.

Expenses At Happy Trails: How Does Your Donation Help?

Happy Trails daily expenses can be typical or unusual, depending on what animal came in or what broke at the sanctuary.

Here's some examples of what we've spent our budget on over the last few months — some medical bills we expect, some rather surprised us.

Our weekly grain order from Western Reserve averages out to be about **\$180 per week**. Currently this includes grain for 12 horses (a lot of Senior Feed), six farm hogs, over 20 pot belly pigs, and always an assortment of ducks, geese, chickens and turkeys.

Two new pot belly pigs were welcomed to Happy Trails. As is our policy, they were vet checked, wormed, vaccinated, had their hooves trimmed and a complete physical evaluation. The younger pig (10 months old) was neutered. We received a **\$758** invoice from Metro Animal Hospital.

Migisi the starved Quarter horse had finally gained enough weight to be gelded. Due to his age he had to be anesthetized and monitored closely — **\$1,222** later he was on his way to recovery.

Nevada the malnourished Appaloosa gelding gave us a possible colic scare, and after two days of very thorough check-ups at the Equine Specialty Hospital, he was on his way "home" to the sanctuary with an **\$857.50** invoice.

The Cub Cadet, Happy Trails farm vehicle, needed repair recently. There went another **\$869** to White's Farm Supply.

Hauling animals cost \$345 in gas alone for one four week period — thank God for volunteer drivers!

Gas and diesel to operate the farm equipment averages \$25 to \$45 per week, depending on the weather and also how many facility projects we have the Bobcat involved in.

Heated water containers for the ducks, geese and chickens totaled **\$146** from Tractor Supply.

Hay and straw is a whole other arena: we go through impressive amounts of both. Occasionally good samaritans donate bales of hay and straw. We go through approximately 8 square bales of hay per day and about 35 bales of straw per week. An average cost of both would be \$3.25, resulting roughly in a hay and straw cost of **\$110 per week**.

One container of Ester C, a powdered dietary supplement of vitamin C formulated especially for equine that we use for older horses or horses needing to be kept on Bute (a horse aspirin), is purchased at Big D's. A six pound container which will last us for almost six months will alone cost **\$230**.

Spring vaccines will be due for the horses: Happy Trails is currently responsible for **11 horses**, with shots costing approximately **\$40 per horse**.

These are just a few examples of some of the expenses we encounter here at the sanctuary. Regular daily operating expenses always get thrown into the mix too, as well as mending fences and constructing new and better shelters and barns.

Right now Happy Trails continues to operate on an all volunteer staff. If we are to continue to grow and develop into the much larger sanctuary that Ohio needs us to be, we will continue to work toward our goal of creating a small, reliable, paid staff.

New Duck, Chicken, Goose and Turkey Enclosure In The Planning Stages!

Thanks to several very kind donors, Happy Trails is thrilled to begin the planning stages of creating a new barn to house the abused, abandoned and neglected feathered friends!



The new barn will be complete with isolation cages, separate areas for recovering fowl, and safe zones for youngsters or babies being brought in.

If things go as planned, we are hopeful that the new Feathered Friends Area will be constructed in time for you to see it at the All New Happy Trails Summer Fundraiser & Festival on June 24th!

Please know how much we appreciate everyone's continued support of our rescue efforts at Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary. If you read or hear about a special project such as the Feathered Friends Area and would like to donate to a specific project, feel free to indicate your wishes on a note along with your donation, and we will be happy to oblige your request!

Many many thanks to everyone who in some way, no matter how big or how small, has improved the quality of life for the abused, abandoned and neglected farm animals and helped us show them compassion and care.

We will continue to educate and to work toward creating a world that is truly cruelty-free!

Important Info About Happy Trails

An Honest Assessment Of What Happy Trails Is All About

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary is exactly that — a **farm animal** sanctuary!

Happy Trails is a support organization for county humane societies and animal protective leagues across Ohio. When a humane officer removes a farm animal from a situation of abuse, neglect or abandonment, Happy Trails can accept full custody and responsibility of that animal, or help provide foster homes in the event the case proceeds to court.

Happy Trails does NOT handle domestic animals such as dogs, cats or rabbits, and we are NOT a licensed wildlife facility. Many people contact us insisting that we help with their "barn cats" because they are a farm animal. Seriously! So we patiently explain that no matter where the cat actually lives, it is still considered a domestic animal and we are not set up to handle domestic animals...

Happy Trails is also NOT a placement service. We do NOT help people sell their horses or other animals. Our volunteers have their hands full with caring for neglected and abused animals — taking time to try to help people sell their horses is not what we do here.

Happy Trails is also NOT a retirement facility or a convenient dumping ground. The amount of calls we receive from people simply wanting an easy place to dump their old or injured horse or unwanted goat or duck is both sad and amazing. These folks normally (and happily) offer "to donate" whatever it is they don't want to take care of any longer. If Happy Trails were to take in all the animals that people simply grew tired of, we would not have room to help the abuse and neglect cases, which is why Happy Trails was formed in the first place.

We want Happy Trails friends to understand that your kind donations that make us successful do go directly for the care of the animals that are brought in from situations of abuse, neglect or abandonment. We offer advice to people needing to simply find homes for their farm animals and horses, and explain how to word newspaper ads and fliers to find good and caring homes. Though we wish we could be the answer to everyone's farm animal problems, we cannot. So until we grow larger and more fully staffed. We will continue to serve the abused and mistreated farm animals of Ohio and support the county humane officers when they remove farm animals that are being treated inhumanely.

Mexican Night At Home!

How about giving the animals a break one night a week and go for a yummy vegetarian feast at home? Here's a few recipes you're sure to love if you enjoy Mexican food!

MEXICAN STUFFED PEPPERS

- 8 large red or green bell peppers
- 1½ cups cooked rice
- 1 finely diced tomato
- 2 finely chopped green onions
- 1 (4 oz.) can diced green chiles
- 1½ cups shredded Jack Cheese
- ½ tsp. garlic salt
- ¼ tsp. pepper
- ½ tsp. oregano
- 3 tbsp. salsa
- 1 slightly beaten egg
- 1 (8 oz.) can tomato sauce

Try to choose block-shaped bell peppers so they will stand up in a baking dish. Wash and seed the bell peppers. Set in a baking dish. In a large bowl, combine tomato, onions, cooked rice, green chiles, egg, cheese, seasonings, and salsa. Blend well. Fill each pepper with rice mixture. Pour tomato sauce over peppers and bake in a pre-heated 350 degree oven for 45 minutes. Serves 8.

CHILI CORNBREAD

- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1 cup flour
- 1 tbsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1½ cups milk
- 2 slightly beaten eggs
- 1 can (4 oz.) drained diced green chiles
- 1 (15 oz.) drained can corn
- 4 tbsp. salsa
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Mix all ingredients together in a large bowl. Pour into a nonstick 9x13 baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Serve warm or allow to cool.

Pet Photos With Santa Was A Hit Thanks To Western Reserve of Ravenna!



Many thanks to the kind folks at the Ravenna Western Reserve for hosting the always-fun and adventurous Pet Photos With Santa! This big fellow above (the dog, not Santa!) was one of about 45 precious pets who sat very politely and mugged for the camera. Digital photos were available immediately for everyone's viewing enjoyment. Thanks, too, to Santa for being such a good sport and holding every size and shaped creature imaginable, and thanks to everyone who participated in this holiday fundraiser — hope to see everyone there again next year!

"Due to the nature of my work, I am constantly lifting heavy supplies, dealing with unruly 1,200 lb. animals, and have my share of back pain. Thanks to Dr. Stevens, I have been able to find relief from the aches and pains of my physically demanding job!"

Annette Fisher, Executive Director
Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary

Stephen's Pain Recovery Center

Dr. John M. Stevens
Chiropractic Physician

(330) 626-4300

8961 St. Rt. 14, Streetboro, OH 44241

*Don't forget to check your shampoo,
conditioner and soap labels for the
important disclaimer
"Not Tested On Animals!"*

Gifts, Bequests and Planned Giving

A bequest to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. will ensure the gift of life for abused, abandoned and neglected animals. Please consider including the work of Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. in your will.

There are many options for planned giving. They can provide you with tax benefits while they help the animals. Through a planned gift, you may be able to increase your current income or provide additional retirement income, while reducing income tax and estate taxes. Some types of gifts virtually eliminate estate taxes, while others greatly reduce the amount of tax you are responsible for during your lifetime. It is important to explore your options so that both you and the animals receive the full benefit of any considered gift. We will be happy to discuss opportunities with you at your convenience.

Some options include:

- **Bequests through your will**
- **Charitable Gift Annuities:** May provide numerous tax benefits to you, and you are guaranteed income for the rest of your life
- **Life Insurance Gifts:** Make Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. the owner and beneficiary of a life insurance policy
- **Retirement Plans:** Donate your interest in an IRA or other qualified savings plan

If you are considering a gift or would like more information, please e-mail us through www.happytrailsfarm.org or call us at 330-296-5914.

Note: Happy Trails representatives would be happy to discuss your planned giving and bequests, and work with your attorney or other financial expert of your choosing.

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary is a 501c3 non-profit organization that relies on the generosity of kind folks who believe in our animal rescue efforts.

Please consider making a difference by making a donation to help save the life of a neglected, abused or abandoned farm animal today.

DONATION INFORMATION

I'd like to send a donation at this time of

☐\$25 ☐\$35 ☐\$55 ☐\$75 ☐\$125 ☐\$_____other

☐ Please use this donation where it is needed the most.

☐ I'd like my donation to be in memory of my beloved pet _____ (name), a _____ (type of animal), who has crossed the Rainbow Bridge

☐ Please keep me on your mailing list.

☐ Please take my name off your mailing list.

☐ Please send me a tax-deductible receipt for my donation.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____

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

You can sign up to receive occasional sanctuary news updates through e-mail. Log onto our website at www.happytrailsfarm.org and register to receive farm news!

Keep Up With News And Events Through The Happy Trails Website!

We are doing our best with our limited volunteer staff to keep our extensive website up-to-date with news, fundraisers, special events, adoptions, and all the daily "stuff" that we experience here at the sanctuary.

Happy Trails is currently in the process of incorporating some new technology into our

website so we can make it easier to update regularly. So keep an eye on our website as it grows and changes, and we'll do our very best to keep you in the loop of all the fantastic things are happening with the sanctuary.

Check us out!

www.happytrailsfarm.org



5623 New Milford Road • Ravenna, Ohio 44266
 (330) 296-5914
happytrailsfarm.org

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

“The Donald” Needs A Home....



...*“The Donald Duck” that is. Here is his story, as told by “The Donald” himself...*

“I came to Happy Trails after some good samaritans discovered me — I was abandoned. People would throw food to me and to the other ducks that were around, but

I was not fast enough to get much of it. You see, I was hurt really bad. Since I can't tell them for sure, the people think that I was attacked by a predator.

The kind-hearted humans that started to keep an eye on me, named me “The Donald” (which they thought was cute but I don't get it...) and took me to a vet. The vet said I had a spinal chord injury that had already healed, but it healed crooked. So I now have a very crooked neck. The vet assured everyone that it didn't hurt me any more, and he was right!

The nice people at Happy Trails make sure I get lots of food and gave me a really cool shelter — it even has a heat lamp that I sit under when it's really cold. And I have a best friend — a pig named Rosie! Here I am (top right) sitting on top of the blanket



that she sleeps under (you can see her head sticking out from under the blanket on the left!)

Though I like it here at Happy Trails, I'd like to find a home of my own so they will have room here at the sanctuary to help other animals like me who need help. I'm ok around other ducks, as long as they are quiet and wouldn't pick on me — my back and neck wouldn't let me run very fast away from any ducks that would be mean to me. I'd like to find a nice quiet girl duck friend if possible. I am friendly and outgoing and love to be pet and held.

Wouldn't you like to adopt me?