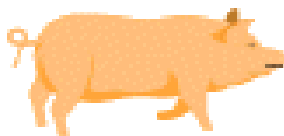


# Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary

## AUGUST 2007

### Newsletter



**Pookie The Duck** heads up a new Happy Trails program — **The Farm Animal Visitation Program** for senior citizen nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Farm animals begin to visit nursing homes to be pet and loved by elderly residents — story on page 11.

#### DON'T MISS READING

- **Save The Trailer** — page 3
- **Scheduling Personal Sanctuary Tours** — page 5
- **Cockfighting Is Alive And Well In Ohio** — page 8
- **The Story Of Chipara** — page 10
- **Typical Sanctuary Expenses** — page 13
- **Holistic Veterinary Medicine With Dr. Holly Troche** — page 14
- **Animals And Religion** — page 17



(330) 296-5914

## *Amish Equine Programs Earn Happy Trails A Grant & Recognition*

## Addressing The Needs Of Ohio's Amish Communities

About four years ago, Happy Trails created a unique program that would barely begin to address the equine-related issues in Ohio's extensive Amish communities. We christened it the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program, created when it was brought to our attention the sheer number of Amish-owned horses that were going through the slaughterhouse auctions every weekend. These horses were once hard workers and had served their families well, most of them for quite a number of years.

Often these hard-working horses had simply reached an age



Tony, a 21 year old Belgian gelding, gets a friendly pat from Ernie Krasovic. Tony is an ambassador for the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program, and helps people who are interested in adopting a retired Amish draft horse learn about big-horse safety. Tony and his hitch-team partner, another Belgian gelding named Red, came to Happy Trails from an Amish farm in Fredericksburg several years ago.

where, due to their years of hard work, succumbed to health issues such as arthritis from pulling the heavy plow equipment used for planting and harvesting, or blown

(Continued on page 18)

## letter from the director



*The sanctuary is growing in leaps and bounds, our outreach programs are quickly expanding, the number of people stepping up to volunteer is amazing, and literally hundreds of farm animals are receiving refuge, kindness, shelter and much-needed medical care and placement services, all thanks to your encouragement and support!*

*I'd like to take this opportunity to invite all of our readers to get involved in some way with Ohio's Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary. Perhaps helping us rake out horse stalls sounds too physically demanding, but you'd like to help as a Happy Trails representative at our booth at community events. Maybe applying medication to an animal's wounds sounds a little intimidating, but you would enjoy taking an animal to visit the elderly in our all-new Farm Animal Visitation Program for nursing homes. Your skills as a carpenter or other building professional may guide you to help out with one of our many repair or building projects, or you may decide to use your truck to help us haul hay and straw as needed. If you are a "people-person", then you would want to ask about being a host or hostess for sanctuary tours.*

*There are a zillion different ways that you can choose to get involved with the sanctuary, and either myself or one of our representatives will be happy to talk to you about where your interest lies and how we can incorporate your particular skills and talents into the Happy Trails all-volunteer staff.*

*Our new Volunteer Orientation Program will acquaint you with many of the volunteer opportunities available, review upcoming projects and promotions, and provide you with a tour of the sanctuary and a chance to meet the rescued farm animals that you are helping.*

*Happy Trails has truly been blessed with the support and encouragement of compassionate and kind-hearted folks not only from our Ohio community, but from across the country. Much larger rescue organizations want to see us succeed and prosper, and we are grateful to have some wonderful mentors.*

*As Happy Trails continue to grow and serve our state in a much larger capacity, we are realistic in the fact that we will be outgrowing our humble facilities. We will continue to share our plans for expansion with everyone, and we are hoping that someone who believes in our work of spreading humane treatment of animals and kindness and compassion to all people may step forward over the next several years with a donation of a larger tract of land.*

*Many thanks for being a part of Happy Trails!*

*Annette Fisher*

## Upcoming Events

### • TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY HOSTS HAPPY TRAILS USED TACK SALE

**WHAT:** Fundraiser to raise money for Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary Equine Rescue Programs. Clean, good condition used horse tack and related horse items will be available for sale.

**WHEN:** Saturday, Oct. 4, from 10am to 3pm

**WHERE:** Tractor Supply Company at the intersection of Main Street (Route 59) and New Milford Road in Ravenna, Ohio

**DONATIONS:** Tack and horse-supply items in good condition can be donated to Happy Trails prior to the sale: call (330) 296-5914 to make arrangements to drop off donations.

### • BURTON ARTS EVENT FESTIVAL

Make sure to visit the Happy Trails display at the **Arts, Antiques and Autumn 2007** weekend event on the center in Burton, celebrating Burton's Best!

**WHEN:** Sat. Sept. 22, 10am - 6pm;  
Sun. Sept. 23, 10am - 5pm

**WHERE:** Burton Village Green

#### THINGS TO SEE & DO:

Animal Arts featuring Animal Portrait Artists and Wildlife Artists, Antiques, Culinary Arts, Amish Arts, Visual Arts & Crafts, Arts of Wellness Tent; attend a special Blessing of the Animals, meet Animal Communicators and Animal Massotherapists, visit the Alpaca Farm display, and much more!



# Save The Trailer!

**Happy Trails would LOVE to be able to keep the livestock trailer that we used to haul ten rescued piggies out to California**



*Jim Shekleton's semi tractor hooked onto our wonderful and safe livestock trailer.*

**in May during our "Pigs Across America" venture** — it would become a very important part of our animal rescue equipment! Happy Trails transported ten rescued pigs (five farm pigs and five pot bellies) to the much larger sanctuary of Suwanna Ranch, owned by Humane Farming Association, in Elk Creek, California. We used this heavy duty, safe and sound, 1985 Wilson pot belly double-decker livestock trailer.

In order to make this trip a reality, Happy Trails had to purchase a livestock trailer that was spacious, comfortable, and capable of handling our precious cargo. Rob Willard, Happy Trails Board Member, found this beauty on ebay for only \$5,000. I say only because most of the newer, similar styles of

trailers run about \$40,000 to \$50,000, and finding a decent used livestock trailer was turning out to be no easy task. This trailer was a steal, and after ebay bidding closed, Happy Trails had the trailer we needed to get the piggies out to California. We added \$1,500 of updates to repair the brakes and a few miscellaneous items, and after a



*The trailer is well ventilated as shown here!*

However, in order to purchase the trailer and make the repairs, we had to secure a short-term loan. The original plan was to sell the trailer when we returned from California, and this would enable us to repay the loan.

However, it soon was apparent to all of us how invaluable this piece of rescue equipment is for Happy Trails. It is solid and secure and safe. It will enable us to assist humane agencies much more easily when we are called

out to deal with groups of animals in need of rescue. It is a multipurpose trailer, and is designed to haul pigs, cows, sheep or goats. The multi-levels and various compartments enables us to isolate an injured, smaller or sick farm animal needing rescued.

About four years ago Happy Trails assisted in the removal of 220 goats from a severe neglect situation in southern Ohio, and had to pay a commercial hauler to step in to help with transport. One haul alone cost \$1,200. Happy Trails has also been in a position where we had to co-



*The second floor features a comfy room with a view, and has a separate storage area for extra bedding and grain.*

good acid wash and some elbow grease to clean it up, it was as good as new!



*Outside ladders provided ample opportunities to check on the animals inside to assure their comfort. It gave us quick and easy access to both the first and second floors, as well as the front and rear compartments between the floors. Here Mary Bittance was checking on baby Ansatsisa.*



*The rear of the trailer had storage space galore, and held pet porters, additional grain, vegetables, and misc. piggy needs. Here Jim Shekleton, our semi-driver, works the overhead door leading to the second floor.*

*Continued on page 11*



# New Arrivals...

## Heidi The Hen...



...was discovered abandoned in the parking lot of a local McDonalds. Oddly enough, the only thing her rescuer's could find to put her in safely until she was brought to Happy Trails was a McChicken box. After poking air holes in the box, her rescuers contacted the local humane officer who in turn contacted Happy Trails. Heidi has since been adopted by a wonderful family.



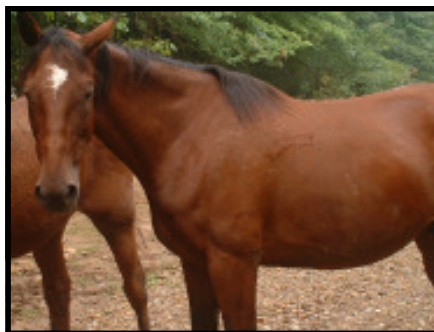
## Baby Ducks...



...were born at the sanctuary after we unfortunately did not find a

nest that Mama Duck Loretta had been sitting on. One morning Loretta The Duck proudly displayed, much to our dismay, 15 fuzzy, peeping ducklings. There were two eggs that she left unattended

after her brood hatched. This little guy (above) was one of them. All the babies have since been adopted, as well as Mama Loretta.



## Hurricane Jenny...

...was recently accepted into the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program. What a wonderful mare! She is polite, has fantastic manners, and gets along fabulously with all the other horses. Someone is going to get a gem when they adopt this former buggy horse!

## Sue The Pig...

...was here and gone! This raving beauty was placed in a foster home,

and three days later left the Happy Trails program to go to her perma-



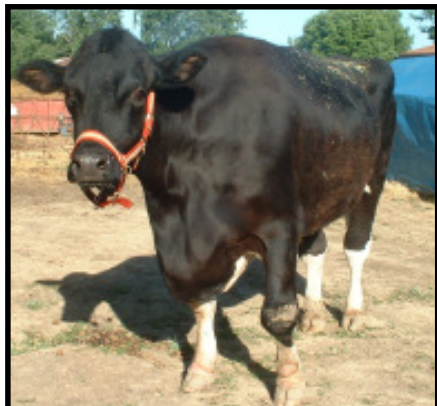
nent forever home with Steve and Annie, where she has a beautiful barn, heat lamps for winter, and a large and spacious yard she can call her own. What a lucky piggy!!!



## Winchester The Calf...

...survived a vicious attack by stray dogs, and was brought to Happy Trails. After a trip to OSU and plenty of recuperation time, Winchester was adopted by a family where he has many other pet farm animals for playmates, including a beautiful Swiss heifer his same age, a sheep, several goats, chickens and even two pot belly pigs.

## Max The Cow...



...is a friendly, lovable, giant 15 year old Holstein steer who arrived at Happy Trails in July. He is just as loving as the day is long, and absolutely thrives on attention! Due to severe arthritis in his knees, Max loves body massages that help relax his sore muscles.

## KEEP INFORMED WITH WEBSITES THAT EDUCATE

**Humane Farming Association**  
<http://www.hfa.org/about/index.html>

**Humane Society Of The United States**  
<http://hsus.org/>

**Animal Welfare Institute**  
<http://www.awionline.org/farm/fai.htm>

**American Humane**  
[http://www.americanhumane.org/site/PageServer?pagename=pa\\_home](http://www.americanhumane.org/site/PageServer?pagename=pa_home)

# Scheduling Personal Sanctuary Tours ...

Happy Trails operates on an all-volunteer staff, and everyone has been very understanding in that it is not realistic for us to have daily sanctuary hours for people to stop by and simply visit. There are days we are happy to just be able to get the rescued animals cared for, watered and fed, their bedding cleaned, handle the vet visits, settle in new animals and handle transportation for animals who may be moving on.

To enable a guests to visit the facility and meet the animals in person, Happy Trails is going to begin a "Personal Sanctuary Tour" program to help not only raise funds for the sanctuary, but will enable visitors to come out to the sanctuary throughout the year and not have to wait until we have a special event.

A Personal Sanctuary Tour will consist of a one-hour sanctuary visit that will be hosted by a

trained sanctuary volunteer. You will get a personal tour of the animal barns and shelter areas, get to pet some of the furry and feathered rescued animals, hear their background stories and how they came to reside at Happy Trails, and see our on-going facility projects and upgrades.

A one-hour Personal Sanctuary Tour can be scheduled for an individual or a family of up to six people for a minimum \$50 donation. Since most of our volunteers work full time jobs during the week, the majority of the tours will be scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays.

If you are interested in supporting the rescue work of Happy Trails with your kind donation and would like a personal tour guide to show you around the sanctuary, give us a call at (330) 296-5914 to schedule a visit.

## Do You Recognize These Cuties?



The three adorable faces in this beautiful store wall mural are, you guessed it, Happy Trails rescued farm animals! Talented local artist, Sue Steiner, had agreed to add her creative touch to the outside walls of the newly renovated Lehman's Hardware in Kidron, Ohio. As you pull into their parking lot, you are pleasantly surprised to see the outside wall decorated with stunning paintings of farm animals, such as the one above featuring the Happy Trails crew.

Be sure to visit Sue's website at [www.suesteiner.com](http://www.suesteiner.com) to see more of her animal and Amish-theme art work.

If you are in the mood for a leisurely drive through some gorgeous Ohio country side, stop by Lehman's Hardware in Kidron at 4779 Kidron Road to check out the colorful farm animal murals. Make sure to tell them you love the one with the Happy Trails animal the best!

## A Tribute To Cornelius The Goat

Cornelius, a two year old male goat, came to Happy Trails as an abandoned animal. He appeared healthy and happy and was a joy to work with.



He was comical and playful. Without warning, he became ill and was sent

to Ohio State Teaching University for evaluation and treatment.

His diagnosis was poor, having succumbed to Listeriosis, a fast-acting neurological goat disease that takes it's victim downhill rather quickly. After two days of intense treatment at the hospital, sadly we lost Cornelius.

Though he was here only a short time, he will forever be in our hearts and we will forever hear his loud "maaaaahhhh" at feeding times. May he now be enjoying lots of fun goat stuff to climb on and be surrounded by many goat friends!



# Animal Updates: Rocky, Lady Jane, Tinkerbelle, The Donald & Migisi



Here proud adoptive mama Eileen (above) is dwarfed by her two enormous Happy Trails Percheron draft horses, **Rocky the Ornery** and **Lady Jane!** Rocky originally came into the Happy Trails program at ten months old, a sickly youngster who could barely walk on weak legs. His Amish owners donated him to the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program as opposed to sending him through the local slaughterhouse auction. The vet even suggested euthanasia for Rocky. We had made a simple request to the vet: "Let us try."

Rocky is now an incredible, strong and gorgeous beast. Having won halter contests as a two year old stallion before he was gelded, this once-weak and fragile baby now stands at a very proud and healthy 18 hands tall. He is Eileen and Bob's pride and joy, and Eileen has declared him "the family comedian".

Lady Jane, a 21 year old 18 hands tall retired Amish plow horse, with a personality opposite of youngster Rocky, brings a great peace and joy to her family. "She is just a love — I'm SO glad we got her!" declares Eileen.

**Tinkerbelle the goat** (shown center with proud mama Debbie)

had come to Happy Trails as a severe starvation case. She stole the heart of Debbie, who continued Happy Trails program of TLC and nursed the sweet creature back to health.

Tinkerbelle's mom writes:

*"She is doing great! Her appetite is very good...She like the warmer weather and the sunshine. She*

*truly is a special little lady!"*



**"The Donald" duck** (shown below right, with his very special duck friend) was adopted by Liz, a wonderful "duck person", a true animal-lover who provides the very



best care possible for her feathered friends. The Donald's best duck girlfriend is named "Harley".

The Donald's adoptive mama proudly proclaims: *"I love my babies. I let them out in the yard every evening after work. They also have had the kiddie pool out on the patio. When the weather stays warm, the kiddie pool goes into their pen with them... It is quite funny — they both "bicker" at times like little kids...Glad I got Donald before anyone else did!"*



**Migisi the horse**, who lived most of his life alone, hungry and locked in a barn, is a true survivor! The 20 year old starved stallion that came to Happy Trails last December received the much-needed medical attention he required thanks to your kindness and generosity. Here he is shown in March, still sporting his furry winter coat, not long after his surgery. He has gained an incredible amount of weight. Migisi had surgery and was gelded at the Equine Hospital and also had his teeth professionally floated as soon as he was healthy enough to take a tranquilizer. He now looks and feels fantastic!!!

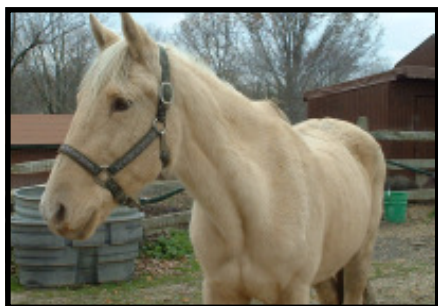
Migisi is currently in a foster home and is still hoping that he will find someone to adopt him! He has a kind nature, loves attention, and will make someone an awesome family pet. His Native American Cheyenne Indian name means "Freedom Of The Eagle", and this wonderful horse has definitely earned his freedom!



## Animal Updates Continued



**Huckleberry the sheep** is the love of Lori's life! Lori is Huckleberry's newly adoptive mom who declares him to be "the best sheep in the world!". Huck now claims Cheyenne, Lori's Standardbred mare, as his very best friend, and even tags along on trail rides with Cheyenne and Lori! What an entertaining sight that must be for their neighborhood!



**Buttercup the horse** is going to be on her way to Pahrump, Nevada! Networking once again in cooperation with a fellow horse rescue organization, Miracle Horse Rescue has graciously agreed to accept this sweet, old mare into their program. Buttercup has heaves, an equine condition similar to asthma in people. We are hopeful that Buttercup's breathing condition will improve with a different environment. Several years ago, Happy Trails successfully sent Cowboy, another rescue horse with heaves, to Miracle Horse, and he is doing fantastic!

## "Is the goat supposed to be in the dryer?"

That's one question that most people don't normally get asked. Or should I say, that's one question normal people don't usually get asked. Especially at 11:00 at night.

But then, what's really "normal" at an animal sanctuary?

Late one night I was working away at the computer, content knowing that Natasha, the baby goat who needed to be bottled fed every hour or so, was safely asleep on the back porch of my house.

Even at that late hour, there was still traffic in and out of the house — typical for all the activity that accompanies handling animal rescue almost 24 hours a day.

Suddenly I heard a voice call to me from the porch. "Hey Annette, is the goat supposed to be in the dryer???"

Always in a hurry, I had left the dryer, which resides on the back porch along with goat, with an open door. Apparently the goat, who enjoys climbing on top of and into things, found the open door inviting. There was still several items of clothing left in the dryer, and after inspection, Natasha declared them good and soft. She had settled in for the night and snuggled against the left-behind warm jacket and went to sleep — only to be awoken by a rude person seeking out the missing goat from the back porch.

With a question like, "Is the goat supposed to be in the dryer?" echoing in my head, I quickly jumped up and ran to the back porch to find Rob and Russ laughing at the situation. Strangely enough, the camera was within reach and I quickly grabbed it and snapped several photos. She looked sleepily backwards at us as if to say, "Is there a problem?"

So, to answer the original question, technically no, the goat should not be in the dryer. But then again, I guess it depends on who you asked. I believe the goat would have said that she was right where she wanted to be!



## "The Mane Event" Cancelled

The fall fundraiser that was to be held at Portage County Fairgrounds on Saturday, October 4, has been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. We are sorry for any inconvenience. The used tack sale that was to take place will now be held at the Tractor Supply Company event (see article on pg. 2).



# Cockfighting Is Alive And Well In Ohio

On Wednesday, August 1, Happy Trails assisted the Lorain County Sheriff's Department by accepting 43 cock fighting roosters and several emaciated hens into our farm animal rescue program.

You may mistakenly think that cockfighting doesn't affect you in any way, but please realize that it affects the world around us and encourages the violence that we would prefer not to experience in our lives. Let's look at some facts.

**Animal abuse is the number one red flag the pre-empts domestic violence and a life of criminal conduct. Don't ignore it.** It's abundant and prevalent here in our own backyards — right here in Northeast Ohio.

**Take a second to consider how cockfighting does affect you and your family.**



*• If you knew ahead of time, would you choose to live next to a person who is so void of compassion that they can casually socialize with friends while*

*they horrifically cut the combs off the top of a rooster's head, or laugh while they cut off the chicken's spurs (toes) from the backs of their legs?*

The thought of myself doing either of these things to an animal makes me cringe at the very idea. Yet, these are two practices are common place among the owners of the fighting roosters.

*• How about unknowingly giving your child permission to go over and play at a friend's house whose dad, brother or uncle, has what it takes to attach metal bands with razor-like spikes to a chicken's leg for the sheer enjoyment of watching that bird either brutally blind another chicken or shred it's opponent ruthlessly and call it entertainment? Are these the type of people you would want to have access to your child?*

Sadly, the Loraine County situation is not an isolated incident. Neighboring counties and other counties across Ohio have had their share of cockfighting rings to deal with this year also.

**Violence attracts more violence, and this type of behavior *has* to become unacceptable by their neighbors and by the people who are aware that this extreme cruelty and animal abuse is taking place.**

**What can you do to help?** Report any suspicious activities to the authorities. Your concerned call can always be

placed anonymously. Keep an eye out for violence toward animals — it usually is the tip of the iceberg pointing the way toward other violence in the household and toward children. If you suspect



cockfighting or dog fighting in your area, keep a notebook handy to jot down times, days, descriptions of people, and note why it is that you suspect animal cruelty is taking place. The more detailed information you can offer the police or sheriff's department, the better the

chances that they will be successful in investigating your concerns.

I had often heard about cockfighting and had always wondered what type of person would make an animal fight for it's life in a bloody battle. I had never experienced a cockfighting rescue in person though, until that Wednesday. It was definitely a scenario that made it real and drove home the hideous cruelty that occurs regularly.

Once beautiful chickens had three-quarters of their lower body's feathers shaved. They sadly looked like living, walking rotisserie candidates, their skin extremely hot to touch. Several of them held their bloody eyes and heads down onto their chest because their pain was too much to bear to stand upright. A few were already blind in at least one eye. Most were missing their back toe spurs, which were either torn or cut off. Most of their combs, once bright red and the crowning glory of a rooster, had been callously cut off flat against their heads. **All of them were emaciated, hungry and fearful.**

When I picked them up to load them into the trailer to take them to Happy Trails, some were very fearful at first. When they realized no-one was going to hurt them and that they weren't being thrown into yet another fight, many settled down comfortably in my arms. One



reddish brown rooster, who I am sure had an incredible headache, softly laid his head down on my shoulder while I carried him to the rescue trailer and relaxed. I named him Hemingway. **I am convinced that Hemingway was, in his heart of hearts, a quiet soul who really didn't want to fight any more.**

Others, apparently winners at their blood sport, had no intention of allowing even a human hand to come into the cage with the them. A firm hold and a soft voice quieted down a few of the aggressive ones, but not all.

**Makeshift housing has been put together for the some of the chickens, and they are able to enjoy a small yard of their own.** It brought tears to the eyes of more than one volunteer as we watched them, for the first time, flap their wings over and over again, finally being outside the confines of small cages. Several of the birds started to immediately peck and scratch at something only they could see on the ground. Others simply laid down on their sides in the warm sunshine, tired and weary and enjoying a safe, relaxing and very healing afternoon nap. They seemed finally at peace.

**What will become of the birds?** That part of the story is still to be written. For right now, Happy Trails is providing them with care, comfort and kindness, something they knew nothing of until now. Medical attention is being provided for those with injuries. A great deal of time is being given by our dedicated volunteers who handle their daily care, feeding, watering and cleaning. We are hoping to eventually secure the help of much larger animal organizations who may be able to step in and help with permanent placement of some of these chickens. Many of them are friendly and loving and should be able to be adopted. If you would like to share your compassion for animals and adopt a friendly, retired rooster, let us know! We have named them all to give them the dignity they deserve as one of God's creatures.

**This is but one of the many, many cases that Happy Trails Farm**

**Animal Sanctuary is called to help with.** Humane officers and sheriff's departments across Ohio contact Happy Trails regularly to assist with abuse, neglect and abandonment calls concerning farm animals and horses.

Your support of our rescue efforts is very much appreciated, and **we will continue to spread the word that compassion and humane treatment for all animals is the only way to go.** Happy Trails is an all-volunteer organization — we don't even have a paid staff — but our hearts are big and our courage is monumental when it comes to eliminating needless suffering of our furry and feathered friends. We are dedicated to bringing Ohio up from being at the bottom of the list — we are currently number fifty out of the fifty states in regards to our lax animal cruelty laws and nearly non-existent and unsuccessful animal cruelty prosecutions. Together we can change that, one situation at a time.

**We are greatly in need of your kind donations in support of our rescue and educational efforts,** which can be either mailed to: Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, 5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266, or you can donate through [PayPal](#) on our website at [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org).

*Many thanks to everyone who is helping to provide care and comfort for these beautiful but sad little creatures.*

## Rescue Groups Working Together

It's all about working together and spreading compassion for all living creatures. Thanks to the following groups for providing cages for the big Loraine County rooster rescue: Portage Animal Protective League, Rose's Rescue of Portage County, and One-Of-A-Kind Pets of Summit County.

If you are looking to add a fluffy dog or a fuzzy kitty to your pet family, please contact one of these wonderful organizations:  
Portage APL — (330) 296-4022  
Rose's Rescue — (330) 325-0582  
One Of A Kind Pets — (330) 865-6200

The above organizations are always seeking volunteers, foster homes, and have their own wish lists that benefit thousands of homeless dogs and cats. Please support them on behalf of Happy Trails and thank them for supporting our farm animal rescue work!



## "Pigs Across America" Update

The ten rescued Happy Trails pigs that ventured out to California in May and are now living at the much bigger sanctuary of Suwanna Ranch are doing fantastic!!! Bob, their sanctuary manager, said that they don't often see the big pigs during the day. Their "yards" are so big that the big boyz (and Chloe) have their own stream where they go and dig giant mud holes and burrow down in the soft, cool mud. Baby Anastasia has doubled in size. Pearl has become best friends with Sophie, a pink piggy like herself. And the pot bellies have made friends with all the other pot bellies and they are one big happy family!



# The Story Of And Tribute To Chipara The Horse

Happy Trails was recently asked to help out with the rescue of a neglected horse. Rob Willard, Happy Trails Board Member, and I arrived that Wednesday evening in Berlin to pick up a Saddlebred mare in a horrific condition. The horse was in much worse condition than was even evident in the original photos that were presented to us. She had large open sores where her skin stretched tight over protruding bones evident from starvation; she was covered with flies, her chest was completely sunken in, she had no muscles or meat on her bones whatsoever, and three of her four hooves had turned into "clubs" from lack of proper hoof care. She could stand, but was very wobbly and would not move on her own. Her pain and discomfort was clearly evident. She would even step on her own feet when attempting to move.

Now eight years old, this poor mare had not been trained or even handled...probably ever. She was very much afraid, and even though I was able to get the 5cc of Banamine in her that our vet suggested (a lower dose was suggested due to her poor condition), it did nothing for the extreme amount of pain that she was in. She was physically unable to walk forward due to the absolutely horrific condition of her hooves, and she could only move backward. We slowly and carefully *backed* her into the trailer one step at a time. Once in there, she took a minute to assess matters, and then violently threw herself backwards and underneath the safety bar at the front of the trailer. After several panicked minutes, we were able to free the horse and get the trailer secured, with her still standing backwards in the trailer.



We didn't get more than 100 yards or so down the road at 5 miles an hour, when we decided to stop and discuss the situation. It was all too apparent that the kindest thing to do for the mare was to euthanize her right then and there. There was no way she was going to even survive the painful two hour trip to the equine hospital.

A very nice and caring vet came out and agreed with our decision, but to even get close to the mare in the trailer proved to be extremely dangerous due to her fear and pain. The vet allowed us to take the horse to a near-by property and we opened up the back of the trailer. Still facing backwards, the mare could not come out of the trailer since she could not walk forward. The vet was barely able to get close enough to give her a sedative...not once, but twice....and when the mare finally laid down in the trailer, she was humanely euthanized. It was one of the most incredibly sad situations we have ever encountered.

Everyone knows how large and heavy horses are, and anyone who has had to euthanize a horse knows that it normally takes a large piece of machinery to even move the horse. This mare should have been a very large and healthy horse — she was every bit of 16½ or more hands tall.

Rob and another individual pulled this poor mare's body off the trailer by themselves with very little effort on their part, and we arranged to have her buried. Without exaggerating, the horse maybe weighed about 400 lbs. if that.

This mare would have had a lot of potential and I'm sure she would have had a lot of love to give to some lucky horse owner had she herself been treated with love and care. Unfortunately, she was never given the chance. Instead of bringing someone happiness, her situation and condition broke our hearts.

I saved a piece of this poor, sweet mare's mane for my medicine bag, a practice I do with all the horses that we help cross the Rainbow Bridge, in order to symbolically take the lessons that I learned from her along with me to help the next horse we encounter.

At only eight years old and having endured a great deal of pain, suffering and abuse, this Saddlebred mare did not even have a name.

Since we met her just in time to help her cross the Rainbow Bridge, I named her "Chipara", a Native American Indian name meaning "Rainbow". Happy Trails is going to have a plaque designed for Chipara to be put in our pet cemetery in her honor, so that she will know that someone did love her and will remember her.

We will not share the difficult-to-look at photos here, but would rather we all remember her sweet face. I am so sorry that we were not able to save her.



*To honor the memory of Chipara, Cornelius, and the other rescued Happy Trails animals as well as your own beloved pets who have left this world before us, we'd like to once again present...*

## The Rainbow Bridge

Just this side of heaven is a place called the Rainbow Bridge. When a pet dies — one that's been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to the Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water, and sunshine, and our friends are warm and fear and worry free.

All the animals who were abused, hurt, or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we would want to remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by.

The animals are happy and content except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them — someone who had to be left behind. That someone who was kind, gentle, and loving. That someone took the extra step, stayed the extra minute, reached out and touched with love, even once.

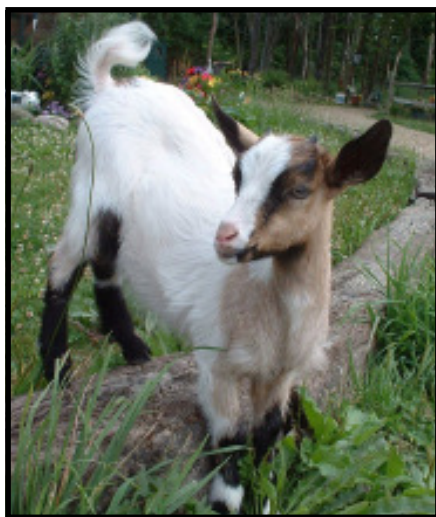
The animals all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent, his eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face, your hands caress the beloved head, and look once more into the big, trusting eyes of your special love, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross the Rainbow Bridge together...

## Happy Trails New Animal Visitation Program For Nursing Homes

Who will be heading up the new Happy Trails Farm Animal Visitation Program for senior citizen elder care facilities? Why



none other than the “goat in the dryer”, baby Natasha!

Well, actually we should acknowledge Cheri Ryder as the human person in charge, but baby Natasha gave us inspiration to create this program. Natasha, along with Pookie the duck and several other Happy Trails rescued animals, are going to be the creators of this program designed to bring smiles to the faces of the folks who live in senior care homes.

The program is still in the “working out all the details” stage, but if you know of a nursing home or elder care facility that may be interested in getting more details about the new program and having a visit from a friendly farm animal or two, have them give us a call at (330) 296-5914.

## Save The Trailer

*(continued from page three)*

mingle an assortment of cows, goats, sheep and chickens in our one-compartment horse trailer at the same time. This built-for-farm-animals livestock trailer will enable us to separate animals from a rescue in the safest and most humane way possible due to the various compartments, and will enable us to make less trips.

There are several semi-tractor drivers who have offered their rigs and their volunteer services to haul this trailer whenever needed for Happy Trails.

We are hopeful that you, our dedicated supporters and animal-lovers, will help make this livestock trailer a permanent part of the emergency rescue equipment that enables Happy Trails to step in and help remove neglected and abused animals from their sad situations.



*A smaller single efficiency apartment on the second floor proved to be perfect to isolate baby Anastasia for her own protection. Yet it was roomy enough for her to receive visitors such as Annette Fisher, Happy Trails Director, during the trip.*

Donations can be sent directly to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary at 5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266, with a note that directs the donation to be applied toward the purchase of the livestock trailer. Donations can also be made through PayPal on our website at [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org).

We appreciate your help and support!

# What Are Some Typical Sanctuary Expenses?

## What do your kind donations help pay for at Happy Trails?

Here's just a few examples of how we receive the abused, abandoned and neglected animals, and how they are helped:

- Betsy the Standardbred mare came into the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program. Her health was evaluated at the Equine Specialty Hospital. Betsy's check-up, lameness evaluation and Coggins test cost \$150.
- Baby Natasha the goat was found on the side of the road at only a day and a half old, and was brought to Happy Trails by a local humane society. After several weeks of round-the-clock care, she bloated. Though she has fully recovered, her emergency vet cost was \$175. This does not include her regular exams, check-ups or powdered milk-replacer.
- Louie Louie, a handsome pot belly pig, was recently found abandoned on a road with no owner to claim him. He needs neutered, vaccinated, wormed, his hooves and tusks trimmed, and an overall health check. His vet bill will cost the usual \$280 for a complete medical update on a pot belly pig. Happy Trails currently has 16 pot belly pigs in our care that will be due for their yearly vet visit this fall.
- Three sheep, 27 chickens and seven ducks were removed from an abandonment situation where their owner was incarcerated on drug trafficking charges. Unfortunately they were housed next to the owner's pit bulls that were trained for

fighting, and sadly, often farm animals are used as bait to train fighting dogs. The sheep's medical costs amounted to \$385, including hoof trimming, shearing, medications, vaccinations, worming, and care of the new baby sheep that Mama Sheep had shortly after her arrival at Happy Trails

- Cornelius the goat was abandoned at a local vet's office and brought to Happy Trails. Cornelius's initial vet visit and medical update amounted to \$125. After a brief stay at the sanctuary, Cornelius experienced a neurological disease and ended up at the Ohio State Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Columbus. Sadly we lost Cornelius. Between his field service vet's emergency visit and the OSU invoice, Cornelius earned a bill of \$475.
- An eight month old Hereford cow was discovered on the turnpike one cold rainy night. His vet bill came to \$135 for vaccinations, a health evaluation and examination, and worming. The gas to move him to his new home in Virginia cost \$275.
- Happy Trails was called in to pick up a horrifically neglected Saddlebred mare (see story page 16). Though we sadly had to immediately euthanize her, the cost for the lengthy trip, vet costs and burial service amounted to \$355.

## Here's a few examples of projects we hope to accomplish in the near future:

- The horse stalls need dirt added to bring them up to the proper level in the barn. About five loads of bank run is needed at approximately \$145 per load.
- Rolls of insulation needs to be

installed in the roof of each of the pot belly pig and farm pig shelters before winter. Approximately 15 rolls of insulation is needed at \$40 per roll.

- A cement floor needs to be poured in order to finish our office. A commercial company will charge about \$850.
- We are creating large holding pens for roosters or other feathered creatures that need isolated. One unit will house nine 3'x3' pens. Our goal is to make five of these units. Materials for one unit costs \$145.
- Several loads of sand are needed to finish the gravel driveway that leads back to the horse pasture and farm pig areas — the current gravel is hard on the hooves of some of the horses and is difficult for volunteers to walk on. One load of sand is approximately \$165.

## Here's a few examples of items we hope to purchase:

- We are hoping to secure fire extinguishers for each animal shelter and barn. We would need nine fire extinguishers total, allowing for two in the 80' long horse barn.
- Various sized tarps for emergencies, from smaller to larger water-proof tarps. Projected expense for a total of five: \$268
- Two large canopy tents to be used for our fundraisers, approximate size of 20'x40'. \$550 each.
- Fenders to fix our two-horse trailer. Two fenders installed will total \$168.

The needs of Happy Trails are many in order to successfully run and operate a sanctuary of our magnitude. Your participation in our growth, our success, and our ability to reach out and spread compassion throughout our communities is very much appreciated!





## Please Keep Saving Those Aluminum Cans!

You guys are fantastic! The amount of cans you bring to Happy Trails is nothing short of amazing! *Please* keep saving them for us — the revenue from the cans really and truly help us with expenses and special projects. Can drop-off times are Sunday's 1-4pm.

### WISH LIST

- Hay and straw (not more than a year old, cannot be moldy)
- A cement floor for our “office” area
- Several loads of sand and dirt to fix the horse stalls, the barn aisle, and several low areas on the paths
- A large storage shed to organize and protect tools, equipment and animal supplies
- Lime, used in stalls and shelters to eliminate odors
- Gas & fuel cards for diesel and gasoline
- Heat lamp bulbs and heat lamps
- Bottled water or soft drinks for our hard working volunteers
- Printer cartridges for our Epson CX4800 printer
- Horse paste wormers such as Quest, Strongid, Zimectrin or Panacur
- A post hole digger for our BobCat skidsteer
- A concrete aisleway for our barn. The aisle is 10' x 84'.
- Sleeping bags, comforters and blankets for the arthritic or injured animals
- Large pet porters, crates or cages in good condition
- Cleaning supplies: bleach, towels, brooms, long-handled scrub brushes
- Tools: pitch forks, stall forks, leaf rakes, muck tubs

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 sending a donation to help spread compassion and the 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.

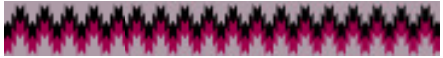
☐ Please send me a tax-deductible receipt for my donation.

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](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org) and register to receive farm news!*




## Happy Trails Is Still Searching For A Truck And A Storage Building

Two major things that would greatly help the sanctuary is:

- A one-ton heavy-duty pick up truck to haul rescued animals, pull trailers, haul hay and straw, pick up grain or donated supplies, and to be available for emergencies. Right now we rely on the availability of our volunteers who own trucks, and it would indeed be a blessing to have a reliable pick-up ready to assist with animal emergencies.

- A pre-built storage building to safely house our tools, cages and crates, farm vehicles, extra feed, shelter and cleaning supplies, and emergency rescue items.

A donation of either items is tax-deductible. If you are able to help out with such an important and major donation, please contact Happy Trails (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



# Dr. Holly Troche Provides “Whole Health” Equine Services Including Chiropractic Manipulation

Happy Trails volunteer, Dr. Holly Troche, DVM, of North Coast Equine Wellness Services, LLC, had originally built a career specializing in holistic veterinary medicine. Dr. Troche is also one of our regular veterinarian guest speakers for our innovative Amish Horse Health Seminars, and will once again join us for our fall seminar series. In order to reach her goal of providing “whole health” care services to horses of all disciplines and activities, she has now added equine chiropractic to her program.

Why is this important for Happy Trails? Happy Trails goal is very similar — we choose to treat the body, the mind and the spirit of the abused or neglected animal. NOT only is it important to us that the rescued animal receive proper health care and any medication that it needs, but often times we need to address behaviors that have developed out of fear and were instilled in the animal by other human beings. We try to provide a peaceful, comfortable, nurturing and non-stressful environment for the animal, while figuring out what it’s medical and health issues may be and how best to address them successfully. We try establish a trust and communication with the animals and let them know that they can relax while their broken bodies and

spirits begin to heal.

Dr. Troche has worked on Happy Trails rescued horses with much success. Houston, a 19 year old Arabian gelding, had become agitated and grumpy, with no source of pain or discomfort that was apparent to us. He suddenly and regularly began to pin his ears, not want to be touched, and would spin and turn his hind quarters to you when you would enter his stall.

Through professional chiropractic manipulation by Dr. Troche, Houston had several problem areas adjusted and is now once again happy and calm and seems to be much more comfortable.

Dr. Troche’s practice is not intended to be a replacement for your regular equine veterinarian, but rather she is an additional member of the health care team to help resolve current health issues as well as help to maintain horses at the peak of their health and athletic ability.

Dr. Troche explains: “The whole health concept is one where we look at the entire horse and how everything relates to any current medical or performance issues it is having.



If a horse is lame, having repeated bouts of colic, or just not performing up to par, we can give it Bute or Banamine or change bits, but in the end, we aren’t doing anything to fix the problem.

## KNOW YOUR VETERINARIANS

### Dr. Holly Troche, DVM

#### *Contact Information:*

**Phone:** (330) 465-4234

**email:**

doctorholly@northcoastequinewellness.com

**website:**

[www.northcoastequinewellness.com](http://www.northcoastequinewellness.com)

**Hobbies:**

- **Reading**
- **Music:** Teaching piano and saxophone, playing bass clarinet in the Medina County Community Band
- **Gardening,** outdoor activities
- **Personal Pets:** 3 cats (Bounce, Peabody and Midnight)



We are just covering up the problem and hoping it will go away. Odds are, the problem won't just disappear and over the long term, the repeated medication use or stress on the body from uncomfortable tack or training programs will cause the body to break down, whether mechanically as a chronic injury or in the form of digestive or hormone imbalances, prematurely ending the horse's career and comfort.

Whole health medicine doesn't take the approach of trying to cover up a problem. We look at trying to find the root cause and determine what can be done to address that. In many cases, resolving root causes that may seem totally unrelated to the current symptoms results in multiple problems being solved and the horse performing better than ever!

There are a number of different modalities that can be used to help address some of the root issues impeding good health in horses.

The use of herbal medicines have been a hot topic lately and are very useful in resolving a wide range of health problems when used appropriately.

Veterinary spinal manipulation (aka animal or veterinary chiropractic) can help resolve a wide range of conditions as it effectively treats the entire muscular and nervous system of the animal when performed by a trained practitioner. If one considers that all of the muscles and internal organs of the body are supplied by nerves, one realizes that this can be a very powerful therapy for many different health concerns. In addition, it is a very effective method of maintaining health and keeping the horse working at its peak, even

if there aren't any current performance complaints.

If someone decides to choose a "whole health" philosophy for caring for their horse, it would be best to seek out professional guidance on where to begin. Professional guidance on the use of herbs and nutritional supplements is important, as there may be the risk of adverse reactions or interactions between some herbs and drugs or supplements. The last thing anyone wants to do is inadvertently cause their horse harm with treatments that had good intentions. If one decides to seek veterinary chiropractic care for their horse, check references and/or ask for details on the training the practitioner received for animal chiropractic. Seeking out a veterinarian trained in animal chiropractic may be the best choice as they likely have a very strong interest in the subject since they devoted 4-5 months to complete a veterinary-level training course (as opposed to the weekend courses taken by some non-veterinary practitioners), and who else is going to understand how the whole horse works as a unit better than a veterinarian?"

A graduate of the Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Troche will be certified as of August 28th in Veterinary Spinal Manipulation through the Healing Oasis Wellness Center, the only program in the nation that offers post-graduate training approved by a government board of education. She also has a Certificate of Proficiency in Herbal Therapy from the Texas Chiropractic College, Healing Touch Level 1 Certification, and has extensive independent study in application of Bach Flower therapies, muscle/body work, holistic

nutrition/supplementation and whole health concepts.

Happy Trails very much appreciates Dr. Troche's time and interest in helping the rescued animals at the sanctuary!

### **North Coast Equine Wellness Diagnostic And Treatment Services**

- Veterinary Spinal Manipulative Therapy (also known as animal or veterinary chiropractic)
- Tack fit evaluations
- Training program evaluations
- Evaluation of subtle performance problems (e.g. problems picking up a certain lead, reluctance to circle one direction, etc.)
- Nutritional evaluation and supplementation
- Western herbal therapy
- Bach Flower Therapy
- The unique perspective of looking at the whole horse instead of just the problem



## **CONTACT HAPPY TRAILS**

**[www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org)  
(330) 296-5914**

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**Sharon Barnard**, President  
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**Lauren Carroll**, Volunteer Program Coordinator  
**Chuck Conring**, Webmaster

# Acknowledgments And Thank You's

There are a many wonderful people and businesses who wholeheartedly support the rescue efforts of Happy Trails farm Animal Sanctuary. We never have enough room thank them all, but we'd like to mention at least a few!

Many thanks to:

- Photographer Eric Huth, who generously donated his time and talents to shoot some beautiful photos at the Happy Trails Summer Fundraiser & Festival. Contact Eric at (330) 414-9486 or visit him at [www.huthphotography.com](http://www.huthphotography.com).
- Dedicated "lunch ladies", Barb Steibling, Helen Carpenter and Lynnette Morrow, who faithfully create a wonderful, healthy and vegetarian lunch for our hard-working Sunday volunteers
- To special Summer Festival guests: Equine Trainer and Riding Instructor, Ken Aberegg (330) 821-2056; Doris Straka, Animal Communicator (440) 256-1245
- To some our dedicated and hard working weekend volunteers: Alex Hale, Mary Bittance, Adam Buttermore, Caitlain Doherty, Cheri Ryder, Nancy Conring, Sharon Barnard, Russ Fisher, Lauren Carroll and Rob Willard.
- To everyone who has donated sleeping bags, blankets, comforters, sheets and towels, for the cripple and arthritic piggies
- Dr. Holly Troche, DVM, for her professional advice concerning the rescued farm animals at Happy Trails
- Jacob and Mary Ester Yoder, who

have so graciously opened their home and new building to welcome guests for the Happy Trials Amish Horse Health Seminars.

- To Happy Trails volunteer Rick Turner for using his construction skills to put together a unit of large pens for the rescued roosters
- To Happy Trails volunteer Alex Hale for using his construction skills to put together beautiful intersection signs for the Amish Horse Retirement Program
- To Happy Trails volunteer and board member Rob Willard, for hauling everything everywhere
- To Happy Trails volunteer, Su Schmidt, for providing transportation for the great rooster rescue in Lorain County

There's never enough room to thank everyone who is involved with Happy Trails — we are grateful for everyone's support, time and donations!

## Acme Receipts Program

Many thanks you to all those who donated Acme receipts for our 2007-2008 Acme Receipts Program. Your thrifty shopping earned Happy Trails \$450.00 in revenue. This program allows non-profit organizations to collect Acme receipts ONLY during certain months throughout the year. The program normally runs from September through April. Plan to start saving your Acme receipts again in September!



**Many thanks to Dan King and King's Signs of Akron,** for thoughtfully surprising Happy Trails by creating and then donating this beautiful, brand new, professionally constructed yard sign for the sanctuary. For all of your signage needs, be sure to contact Dan at King Signs at (330) 762-7421 — and tell him thanks for helping out Happy Trails!

## Kevin Scott Disposal

Happy Trails is grateful to find a manure disposal company that shows up when they say they will, doesn't run over our fences with their trucks, and is happy to work with our unpredictable schedule.

For every three new clients that sign up with Kevin Scott Disposal and say they were referred by Happy Trails, the sanctuary will receive a free dumpster removal and disposal, **a savings of \$200 for Happy Trails!**

Manure Dumpsters Available  
10 - 20 - 30 - 40 yard

*Other services include:  
yard waste, scrap metal,  
clean-ups, concrete and  
home remodeling*

**(330) 677-0627**





# Animals And Religion

At Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah, a unique conference took place recently for a small group of religious leaders from around the country and beyond.

“In a world of increasing violence towards others, ourselves and the planet we call home, we believe it is absolutely essential to reclaim and recover a commitment to compassion for all living things,” stated Reverend Michael Bruner.

Father Larry Evans stated, “we as people of faith, have been called upon to care for the most vulnerable among us. And because animals are sentient beings who depend upon us for their quality of life and well-being, we call upon people of all faith to reject arenas that harm and exploit animals, and instead choose to support sports and entertainment venues that are both educational and beneficial to animals.

As always, Happy Trails is in awe of the leadership and examples set by Best Friends, a true mentor to our small but rapidly growing organization.

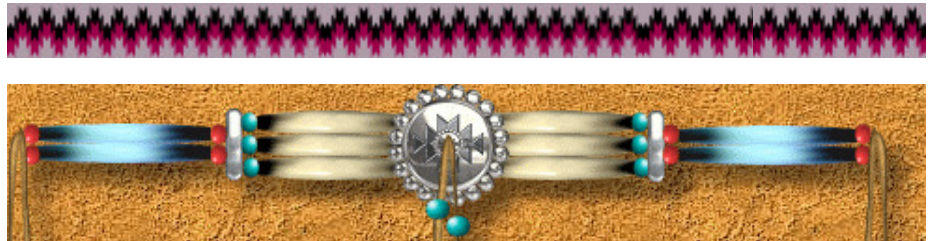
Perhaps you can help us in our area encourage your religious leaders to address the need for compassion and kindness toward animals.

For more details on this inspiring story, check out the following website articles:  
<http://network.bestfriends.org/religion/news/17477.html>  
and  
<http://network.bestfriends.org/religion/news/16133.html>.



## This Is One Happy Pig!!!

Too precious for words, Janice the pig awaits the arrival of a Ginger Snap cookie — her newest favorite treat! Her wisdom that she would like to share with you today is: Treat the animals like you would like to be treated...if you were that animal. What sound advice! Be sure to spread compassion for all living creatures everywhere you go!



## Two Wolves

***One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, “My son, the battle is between two “wolves” inside us all.***

***One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.***

***The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.”***

***The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: “Which wolf wins?”***

***The old Cherokee simply replied, “The one you feed.”***

# Happy Trails Amish Programs *(Continued)*

suspensory tendons from many days of pulling a buggy and pounding their legs on hard pavement.

When a buggy or plow horse is unable to continue to serve their families, most Amish horses are moved along to make room for the new guy. The “moved along” phrase refers to them being sent to the local auction, where 99% of the time, the only people purchasing these horses were meat buyers who would haul their purchases directly to the slaughterhouses.

Realistically, families with little barn space and limited incomes had no other alternatives for their retiring horses. Many Amish families recognized the fact that their family’s horses dedicated their entire lives to either plowing their fields or safely pulling their families buggies. Often they did not want to send their retiring horse through the local sale, but they felt they had no other options.

Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program accepts any Amish-owned horse into our retirement program, as long as it is donated by it’s owner. We provide it with a complete medical evaluation and address it’s health issues with proper care and treatments, and then place the horses in adoptive homes where they will be loved and cared for appreciated for their service during their life.

Some of the horses can only be placed through our “Pasture Pal” program, where they are adopted out a pet horse only and can no longer work due to health issues. Some are placed in our “Ridable/ Drivable” program, where the horse may have light activity, such as a ride around the back yard or a

short buggy jaunt down the street.

Most Amish horses are extremely well mannered, having been used to the same routine for quite a number of years, and most are kid and traffic safe. If you love horses, a retired Amish horse would make a wonderful addition to your pet family. If you are not in a position to adopt an animal, we have a sponsorship program which helps Happy Trails pay for their care until they can be adopted out. For more details on our Amish Horse Retirement Program or to sponsor a horse, go to our website at [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org), or call us at (330) 296-5914.

**After treating many of the same health issues time and time again when a new Amish horse comes into our program, we wanted to try to offer information concerning horse health issues and preventive care to the Amish Community.**

How would we begin to do that? We decided to offer horse health seminars, conducted by veterinarians and other equine professionals. Two pilot seminars were scheduled this past spring and held at the beautiful facility and Amish farm of Jacob Yoder’s in Fredericksburg, Ohio. These seminars were open to the folks in the Amish community only, and Happy Trails provided free transportation to any individuals wanting to attend. Horse-related door prizes were given out, and thanks to Eileen Roloff, a dedicated Happy Trails volunteer, and Mary Ester Yoder, a huge assortment of deserts and refreshments were available for guests. At the second seminar there were over 50 guests in attendance.

After seeing the success of the pilot programs and receiving

inquiries from Amish horse-owners as to when the next ones would be held, Happy Trails applied for and



*Lacey Luray, a 16 year old Haflinger mare, came to Happy Trails when her Amish owner could no longer use her for breeding.*

received a grant through the Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, a KeyBank Trust. We are grateful that this generous grant will enable Happy Trails to conduct four more educational seminars — two will be held this fall and two more will be conducted in the spring.

Our innovative Amish programs have caught national attention also. A wonderful article by writer, Karen Kirsch, was just published in the July/August edition of “Driving Digest” magazine after Karen attended one of our seminars. Copies can be purchased on-line at [www.drivingdigest.com](http://www.drivingdigest.com), or by calling (419) 929-3800. Another article by Karen reviewing Happy Trail’s Amish Programs is scheduled soon to be in the Heavy Horse Journal in the Ukraine.

**To volunteer to help out as a driver for Amish guests wishing to attend the seminars, to adopt or sponsor a retiring Amish horse, or for more information on our Amish programs, call Happy Trails at (330) 296-5914.**



# Many Animal Lovers Attended Happy Trails Summer Festival!

It was yet another awesome summer festival here at the sanctuary in June! Many many thanks to the Happy Trails Summer Fundraiser & Festival sponsors, talented artists, participants, special guests, hard-working volunteers, Portage County for the use of the parking lots, tent donors, other rescue groups, and all of you, our supporters, for visiting the sanctuary on our special day. We are blessed with the encouragement and support of our community, our



*Ken Aberegg, Professional Equine Trainer, entertains and educates the crowd about horses using Barney the Standardbred gelding.*

county, our state and other rescue groups! It was great to see old friendly faces and at the same time get to meet new friends! The weather was perfect and the day was beautiful!

## FESTIVAL SPONSORS:

***Festival sponsors help to defray the cost of putting together our very special yearly event. Without them it would be difficult to pull off such a grand day.***

## INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS

• John and Mary Bittance • Tom & Paula Seger • Patricia O'Donnell & Bruce Gaynor • Tom and Paula Seger • Victoria Johnson • Suzanne Jambe • Lea Boyas Morabito & Sebastian Ben Morabito • A.M. Krampel • Cindi & Phil

Satayathum • Anthony M. Salem • Charles L. & Bichnga Nguyen Brown • Kevin & Debbie Bragg • Mike Carrol • Ruby & Richard Winter • Shirley Ebbeson

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### • Wilson & Masi, Attorneys At Law

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(330) 296-9642

### • Elite Personnel (Valerie Stephens)

The Terminal Tower, Suite 940, Cleve., Oh 44113-2203

(216) 771-7810

### • Equine Specialty Hospital

17434 Rapids Road, Mantua, Oh 44255

(440) 834-0811

### • Wyans Auto Parts (NAPA) - Michael Doherty, owner

42 Osceola Ave., Tallmadge, Oh 44278

(330) 633-7772

### • Mohammed Saleh, Inc.

### • Kiwanis Club of Kent

1043 West Main Street, Ravenna, Oh 44266

(330) 931-6862

## MANY THANKS TO OUR FESTIVAL SPECIAL GUESTS

• *Jim Shekleton: Pigs Across America Semi Driver*  
• *Dr. Holly Troche, DVM*  
• *Janice the Pig's Beautiful Hand-*



*Colorful bean bag toss games like this singing duck tested the throwing skills of our guests!*

*Painted Year-Of-The-Pig Sculpture, compliments of Beth Gregerson and the St. Clair-Superior Art contest*

- Doris Straka: Talented Animal Communicator
- Ken Aberegg: Equine Trainer, Riding Instructor and Former Show Judge
- Adam Buttermore: Race Car Driver
- Paris Township Rescue Squad
- Thor: 19.3 hands tall Belgian gelding owned by Happy Trails Board Member, Rob Willard
- Vegetarian Advocates Group
- Horse Demonstration Riders: Melissa Keres and Mary Beth Mahoney

**MANY MANY THANKS TO ALL THE TALENTED ARTISTS WHO MADE THE SILENT ART AUCTION POSSIBLE!**



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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

## Be Aware, Be Informed, Be Educated

Ignorance is not always bliss. In fact, ignorance can often be the source of incredible suffering for the animals with whom we share this wonderful world around us.

To make informed, intelligent decisions when purchasing products, casting your vote, or choosing to stand up for a piece of legislation that will encourage humane treatment of our furry and feathered

friends, Happy Trails will begin listing educational and informative websites on our very own website at [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org).

An example of topics that will be covered include:

- Smithfield Foods Inc., the nation's largest pork producer, announcing that it will phase out the confinement of pigs in gestation crates over the next decade.

- Burger King is improving it's animal welfare policy to begin addressing some of the worst abuses

endured by farm animals.

- Anti-biotics used regularly used to promote faster growth in turkeys causing the human risk of developing resistance to the very drugs that help treat us when we're sick.

- New legislation being introduced regarding dog and cock fighting

- Downed animal legislation to protect sick or injured animals arriving at the slaughterhouses

Be aware. Be informed. Be educated. Go to [www.happytrailsfarm.org](http://www.happytrailsfarm.org).

Don't forget to check your shampoo, conditioner and lotion bottles for the important disclaimer:  
**"NOT TESTED ON ANIMALS"**

*"To know what you prefer instead of humbly saying Amen to what the world tells you you ought to prefer, is to have kept your soul alive."*  
**Robert Louis Stevenson**