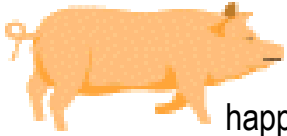


Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary

October 2015 Newsletter



happytrailsfarm.org ♦ 5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Ohio ♦ 330-296-5914



The
unbelievable
story of
Vernon

**"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent
about things that matter."**

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

letter from the director

Dear Friends of Happy Trails,

This edition of the Happy Trails newsletter is doing exactly what it is supposed to be doing — slowly turning into the Happy Trails magazine! We have now added an additional four pages for this issue, and are filling it with more stories, more educational materials, more photos, and more of everything you want to read about! It's happening with the support of individuals and businesses who are taking out advertising to help make this happen. We are grateful for your support of this endeavor, and hope to keep things going in this direction. Our readers and supporters are nothing short of amazing, so I am confident that page by page, our publication will continue to grow and prosper.

And by the way, our readers know quite a bit about what I am up to regularly, so to keep you in the loop, I have some news to share. I am planning my wedding, which will take place on Saturday, November 28th. My fiancé, Kevin Bragg, and I are hosting just a few friends and family to share our day with a small ceremony, but I will be sure to share some photos with all of you in an upcoming newsletter.

On another personal note, many of you know that in the last two years I lost both my mom in 2013, and my dad in January of this year. To honor their memory, my family is presenting Happy Trails with a pavilion to be constructed at the sanctuary. Depending on the



contractors time table, this could still be in place this year. This will hopefully be used for many purposes, and will be a great testament to their love for the animals at Happy Trails.

And one more personal note...I adopted a turkey this past year. And then, I got a turkey for my turkey. My turkey's name is Bill, and he is the best comedian I have ever watched. He is funny, silly, and a joy to have around. Bill's new girlfriend is of course named Jill. People often don't think of farm animals as pets, but I grew up with ducks, chickens, geese and anything with feathers that my dad brought home for me to love and care for. To me, having a pet turkey is as natural as my pet dogs, my roosters, my pot belly pigs, my goat and my horses. There are a lot of really amazing animals at Happy Trails who are available for adoption. Please consider checking out those who are in need of a home this winter by going to www.happytrailsfarm.org and clicking on Adopt/Sponsor.

Thanks for not only reading our newsletter/magazine, but for sharing it with your friends and co-workers. All of us at Happy Trails are grateful for your outreach and networking. Together, we are making great things happen!

With kindness and compassion for all animals,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Annette".

Annette Fisher
Executive Director

Meet Cinnamon, One of Happy Trails Newest Residents

This lovely lady was spotted running by herself near the Rt. 44 exit in Rootstown. Fearful that the stray goat would cause an accident on one of the major roads near that location, the sheriff's department requested Happy Trails assistance to capture the shy beauty. Unfortunately, the result of the attempt was

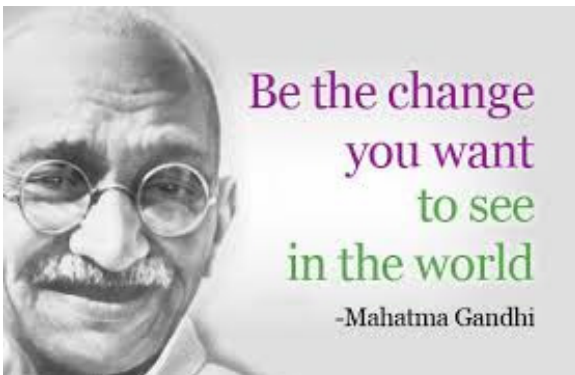


that the goat was not caught but when crossing the stream in search of the goat, a rotted log gave way and one of our crew (meaning Annette) fell in the water.

But within the next week a call came in from a Rootstown family who had a privacy fence up around their entire property. They left the gate to their yard open during the night, and the goat in question managed to wander in and for all intents and purposes, captured herself!

Not too trusting of people, the reddish-brown sweetheart kept her distance, and had to be corralled in the yard by a team of sheriff's deputies and Happy Trails crew.

She has been named Cinnamon, and is getting friendlier with our staff every day. Soon she will be available for adoption, so if you are interested, contact Animal Placement Coordinator, Rebecca Scalise, at rebeccas@happytrailsfarm.org.



On Sat., Nov. 14th Join Us for a Very Special Thanksgiving Celebration

Every year Happy Trails welcomes everyone to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with us at a warm and welcoming event called the Compassionate Thanksgiving. This event features a unique Thanksgiving buffet with traditional holiday foods that are created animal-friendly and cruelty-free. And every year, the event gets bigger and bigger and *bigger!*

Guests now have an opportunity to start their holiday shopping at the mini-gift shop set up at the dinner. You can find the Happy Trails logo on everything from stocking stuffers such as magnets and thumb drives to major winter apparel like coats, hoodies and scarves and everything in between.

The talented chefs at Todaro's Party Center in Akron work together with Happy Trails to create a mouth-watering menu of traditional Thanksgiving foods that contain no animal products. A vegan Thanksgiving buffet is a treat to many people who are interested in environmental concerns, animal abuse issues, and who are health-conscious.

The buffet is a **MUST** for meat eaters, vegetarians and vegans alike — everyone always raves about the food, and it's a great opportunity to celebrate the holidays and try something different.

Compassionate Thanksgiving

Todaro's Party Center

1820 Akron Peninsula Rd., Akron

Saturday, Nov. 14th

Doors Open/Holiday Shopping 5pm

Thanksgiving Buffet 5:30pm

Presentation by Annette Fisher 6:15pm

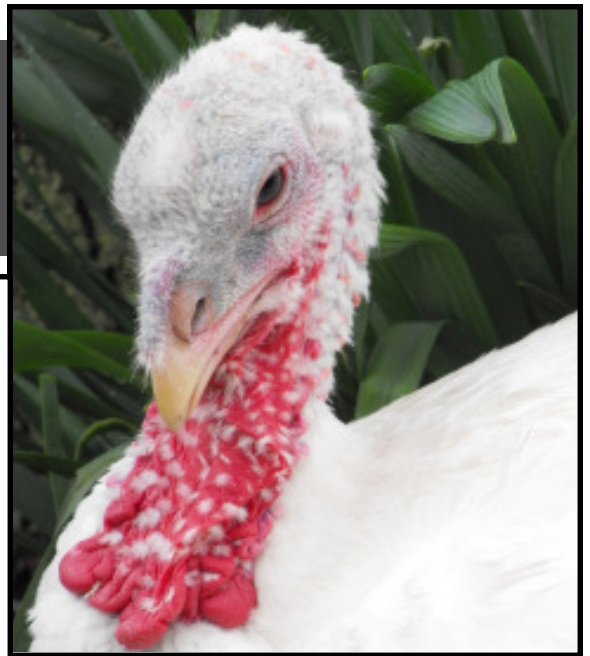
Tickets \$55 per person

Pre-registration only. No tickets at the door.

Private VIP Cocktail Reception

4pm to 5pm. Enjoy unlimited cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the private reception to meet and greet Board members, key staff and Founder/Director Annette Fisher.

(Add \$40 to attend VIP Reception)



What is your compassion level this holiday season?

Here are some important *facts* if you want to learn more about making compassionate choices as a consumer, especially during the holiday season.

Most people, if given factual information, do their best to “do no harm”. In fact, most people do not endorse nor condone cruel standard industry practices.

- 46 *million* turkeys will be killed for Thanksgiving 2015 (CNN)
- When the first Thanksgiving took place in November, 1621, the Pilgrims and Tampanoag Indians feasted mostly on seafood, *not turkey*
- More than nine *billion* chickens and turkeys are killed for food in the U.S. each year. They're shackled upside down, paralyzed by electrified water, and dragged over mechanical throat-cutting blades, *all while conscious*. Millions of birds each year *miss* the blades and drown in tanks of scalding water. This occurs because the U.S. Department of Agriculture exempts birds from its enforcement of the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act, which requires that farm animals be insensible to pain before they're shackled and killed.
- On factory farms, these gentle, intelligent turkeys are packed into dark sheds with *no more than 3½ square feet* of space per bird.
- Turkeys, like Homer (shown above), are genetically engineered and bred to grow as fast as possible, and often become crippled under their own weight. They are *not* the creatures that God created, but rather creatures man altered without empathy or compassion for the quality of life of the animal.
- To keep the overcrowded birds from scratching and pecking each other to death, workers cut off portions of the birds' toes and upper beaks with hot blades and desnood the males (the snood is the flap of skin that runs from the beak to the chest). *No pain relievers are used in any of these procedures.*
- A documentary video-taped one turkey-farm operator beating sick and injured birds to death with a pole, a killing method deemed “*standard industry practice*”.
- Turkeys are transported to slaughter for hours without food or water through all weather extremes, and many die on this horrific journey.

There are *many* ways to not support factory farming, and there are *many* food alternatives out there. You can choose to celebrate the holidays with kindness and compassion for all animals by not supporting industries that condone severe animal abuse.

Stall Sponsorships Help Pay for the Care of the Rescued Horses

Every abused horse that comes to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary for rehabilitation is assigned his very own "Horse Cave", a recovery stall where he is kept safe and well-cared for.

A "Horse Cave" Features

- Rubber mats for horses with hoof problems or leg injuries
- Electric heated water buckets to keep drinking water from freezing in the middle of winter
- Stationary feed buckets in the corners of the stalls for grain and special treats
- Hay bags which provide cleaner hay
- A ceiling light over each stall for vet exams and grooming
- Wooden walls reaching all the way down to the floor to prevent any ankles or legs from getting caught or breaking underneath short walls
- Thick, fresh, fluffy straw or sawdust for bedding provided daily — for the comfort of emaciated horses to have soft bedding in which to lie down
- Fans for the hottest summer months to help keep body temperatures in a safe zone
- Smooth welded edges on the stall frames for safety purposes

For Stall Sponsors

- Four complimentary tickets to visit Happy Trails for a personal tour
- An engraved plaque hung proudly on the outside of your stall with your name (and/or your business name or memorial dedication if appropriate)
- A photo of your stall cave
- A tax-deductible receipt

NOTE: "Horse Cave" sponsors are yearly sponsorships and stall sponsors reserve the first option to renew their sponsorship yearly.



"Horse Cave" Sponsorships

10-2015

☐ Yes, I would like to sponsor a stall for a rescued horse for a year. I have enclosed \$1,200. Please send me the sponsorship material.

☐ Yes, I would like to sponsor a stall for a rescued horse for a year. I would like to make monthly payments of \$100 every month for twelve months. I have enclosed \$_____ at this time and pledge to complete the stall sponsorship payments. Please send me the sponsorship material.

Name _____

Business/Company Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

☐ I have enclosed a check.

☐ Please charge \$_____ to my ____ VISA ____ MC

☐ Please deduct a monthly payment of \$_____ from my charge

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____ CSC (3 digits on back) _____

Name On Card (Please print) _____

Signature _____

OTHER WAYS TO PAY A STALL SPONSORSHIP

- Donate on-line at www.happytrailsfarm.org
- Call in your charge card information to Happy Trails at 330-296-5914.

"Horse Cave" sponsors are yearly sponsorships and stall sponsors reserve the first option to renew their sponsorship yearly.



330-296-5914

www.happytrailsfarm.org

Donations are tax-deductible.

Happy Trails is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

Many thanks for your support!

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

10-2015

The Story of Bell and Solveig

The stories that come through Happy Trails regarding the connection between people and animals is nothing short of miraculous at times.

This past summer, a wonderful lady by the name of Solveig Jentner sponsored a "horse cave", our tongue-in-cheek name given to the horse stall sponsorship program. This program allows individuals or businesses to sponsor a horse stall in the horse barn, and that sponsor has their personal name, company name, or a memorial honoring a person or animal engraved on the stall plaque. They also receive a photo of one of the rescued horses who is residing in their sponsored stall at the time. A sweet, beautiful mare who we named Belle was being cared for in the stall that Solveig sponsored. A sponsorship package was sent to Solveig including a photo of Belle the horse, and a beautiful story of healing and a treasure chest of memories were shared with us at Happy Trails after Solveig saw the photo and learned of Belle's name.

During the time of the Holocaust, soldiers arrived and took away seven-year-old Solveig's best friend in the entire world — her dog named Bell. Now, more than 70 years later, Solveig was chosen to sponsor a horse stall in which a horse by the name of Belle was residing. Was this sheer coincidence,



(Above) Solveig Jentner and her dog, Bell, living in a Nazi-occupied European country.

luck of the draw, or simply fate? No matter which answer you choose to believe, the fact is that the sponsorship of Belle the horse has assisted in the healing process for the young girl who still lives inside Solveig, the child who continued to miss her dog throughout her adult life. **Solveig wrote a short essay on her experience to share with our readers.** I like to believe the sponsorship of Belle the horse is a sign from Bell the dog that all is well, and that it is way past time for peace and healing to take place for Solveig. We at Happy Trails are honored and privileged to be a part of the healing. **Thank you, Solveig, for your support of the equine programs and the horse rescue work of Happy Trails.**



(Above) Solveig Jentner at Happy Trails, meeting for the first time the rescued horse named Belle, who recovered in the stall sponsored by Solveig. Solveig's story has touched the hearts of everyone at Happy Trails.

For information on sponsoring a horse stall, see page 4.

"It was 1942 and I was seven years old. My family was caught in a Nazi-occupied European country, and all borders were closed.

I had a young German Shepherd dog named Bell, which is a Scandinavian dog's name. (We were Scandinavians.) I adored my dog above all else. He accompanied me to school and waited for me at the gate when school was done.

One afternoon however, Bell was not there. I ran all the way home to be told that my beloved dog had been taken away by soldiers who "needed dogs of my Bell's size and weight to find the wounded on the battlefields". I was inconsolable! After the...

Continued on page 24

Coleman Professional Services and Happy Trails Create One-of-a-Kind Farm Animal Group Program

Always seeking ways to bring the rescued farm animals and people together, Happy Trails partnered with our friends at Coleman Professional Services of Portage County to create a truly unique, heart-warming group program. This program came about thanks to Happy Trails staff member, Hope Evans, LSW, and Coleman staff member, Camille Pavlicek- Fauser, Case Manager. Camille chose four clients to participate in this pilot program involving farm animals, and the sessions helped the



loving families and how they came to have such an impact on the people whose lives touched theirs. Many people are able to relate to

the stories of the animals, and to how they act or re-act to certain things as they are going through their healing process. While learning about their stories, we spent a great deal of hands-on time with the rescued animals, holding the chickens, giving pigs belly rubs, hugging the horses, and playing with the goats. To be able to connect with these animals on such a personal level has helped the participants in many, many ways.

The Happy Trails staff has agreed that we ourselves have received just as much as the clients who agreed to participate in the program. This was definitely new territory for everyone. Working together, the Coleman staff, clients, and Happy Trails staff made an amazing team. Considering the enthusiasm that this new program was met with and its success at the end of the day, we are currently working with Camille to hopefully make this test program a

regular staple of the services provided by Happy Trails. We are honored to be a part of such ground-breaking work, integrating farm animals rescued from abuse and neglect situations with such a unique and caring group program for our



communities.

And to our four participants in the test program — we love you guys and you were amazing! Thank you for working together with us here at Happy Trails!



people connect with the rescued animals on many levels. The animals' stories of past abuse and neglect were shared, along with details of their rehabilitation, their amazing

recoveries and their progress regarding their physical care, emotional and mental progress, and behavior. We discussed the success stories of animals who have been adopted into caring,



Vernon the Pig Reminds Us of Why We Do What We Do

That critical link between animal abuse and domestic violence is clearly illustrated time and time again. This time, the innocent victim is a very sweet, very badly injured pot belly pig, who with the help of rescue workers from other organizations made his way to the gates of Happy Trails. It's often difficult to wrap your head around the violent acts of others, and it is indeed tough to hear about what happened to this little guy. However, together let's try to focus on the fact that many good people already have outweighed the one bad person in this case, and that the team of people working together for the good of the pig is nothing short of incredible. So be prepared, for here is the story of Vernon.

A call came in to Happy Trails on Friday, Sept. 11th, from Chris Fontes, a rescue worker on the Emergency Response Team at PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). Could the Happy Trails crew help catch an injured pig in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on Saturday morning?



Though Vern suffered a terrible injustice, his spirit, his optimistic outlook on life, and his love for people remains intact. He is friendly, kind, polite and loves belly rubs. Apparently Vernon chooses to forgive and move on, putting the violence of his past behind him and concentrating on healing and on a bright future.

We wanted to rush over and help, but the timing was not great on our end. Though we had no-one available to drive to Pennsylvania the next day, we offered to help by accepting the pig into the rehab program at Happy Trails once they caught him. Chris was elated, knowing they would have somewhere safe to place the pig once he was in good hands.

On Saturday we finally got the news about the pig and how his rescue came about.

A pissed-off man with a violent temper who was angry at his wife took out his anger on the family pet, a precious, chubby black and white pot belly pig.

He allegedly repeatedly and violently stabbed the pig with a knife and beat him with a long, solid metal pipe. The pig laid in the yard for about a week before someone called PETA for help.

During that week, the pig suffered with open wounds and horrific injuries from the beating.

On Saturday, Sept. 12th, rescue workers found the pig still alive and laying under a tarp, his now-week-old wounds covered in maggots. A veterinarian was called to the scene, and he sedated the pig to check his injuries. The vet didn't think the prognosis was very good, and he gave him about a 20% chance of survival. The stabs wounds covered the pig's face, abdomen, legs and hind quarters. Some of the flesh was dead, and his left ear had



Sweet Vernon's left eye was badly damaged by the beating he sustained. His left ear had to be surgically amputated by the veterinarians at Ohio State University Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, where he remained for over a week.

been nearly severed from his head and was now hanging by necrotic tissue.

At the direction of the field service vet, Cammy Ripley, a rescue worker with Sunrise Sanctuary located in Marysville, Ohio, and her crew transported the pig to OSU (Ohio State University) Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. Upon arrival at the hospital, an emergency crew met them and began to work on the pig immediately.

After examining him closely under anesthesia, the vets determined that the pig, now named Vernon, should be given a chance to survive and live a full life. As many of you folks who work in the health profession know, any wounds left untreated for a week will start to heal, and stitching up the open wounds up was not an option when Vernon got to OSU. His left eye was swollen shut, and there was immediate concern that the eye would have to be removed. An assortment of knife wounds covered his legs and abdomen, some open and raw. He

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page 7***

Story continued from page 7



The folks from Sunrise Sanctuary in Marysville handled the transportation of Vernon from Lancaster, PA, to OSU. They stayed with him and visited him throughout his stay at OSU. Happy Trails considers it an honor to work together with other rescue organizations for the higher good of the animals. With everyone working together, great things can be achieved!

was covered in scabs from scrapes from either the knife or the metal pipe where it cut into his skin. His wounds were cleaned up and what remained of his left ear was surgically removed. They also determined that his eye was intact and that he wouldn't lose the eye, but if he would ever regain his sight was unknown. Everything was cleaned, treated and bandaged, and the pig was taken to a stall to wake up. During this time, the rescue crew from Marysville held vigil with him and waited to make sure he would not wake up alone.

The pig's original name was "Hammie". Somehow it's funny to some pig owners to name the animal after the food they represent to them. I can't tell you how many people think they are being original by naming pigs Hammie, Kevin Bacon or Pork Chop. I personally feel it's disrespectful to the animal. The rescue workers from Sunrise Sanctuary re-named the little guy, Vernon — a fitting name for a handsome, lovable pig.

Authorities plan to charge the owner with domestic violence, vandalism, and animal cruelty.

In the meantime, Vernon spent more than a week at OSU being treated for multiple injuries. While PETA was kind enough to pay for his initial expenses, Happy Trails has picked up the bill for the second part of his stay and of course all the follow-up treatment and special care.

When it was time for Vern to be released from the hospital and come to Happy Trails, Board Member, Walter Shields, and myself went to pick him up. The little guy was absolutely precious, and we intro-



duced ourselves to him as his new caretakers and friends. He was loaded into the back seat of the Happy Trails logo truck, and sat on a pile of soft, comfy blankets like the king of his castle. He rooted around for a little while, then laid down and slept for nearly the entire two hour ride back to the sanctuary.

As we entered the front gates, an assortment of excited staff and volunteers were on hand to meet and greet our newest arrival. Immediately a ramp appeared from nowhere and was snugged up to the back seat so he could exit the vehicle safely. A huge, satin comforter was laid on the ground in front of him so he wouldn't have to walk on any rocks as he headed into the vet clinic. Once inside the vet clinic, he explored his world, ate a few snacks, and laid down in a heap of comforters for yet another nap, this time surrounded by a group of well-wishers wanting to show their support for Vernon.

There have been times when he seems like he just can't get comfortable, and as things are healing, they are also starting to itch. Vernon is



(Above and left) Here open knife wounds on Vernon's legs show just two of many punctures across his abdomen, legs and face.



(Above right and bottom left) Both of Vernon's ears were badly damaged during the vicious attack. His left ear had to be amputated by the surgeons at Ohio State.

more than happy to itch his face, sides, belly and butt on anything and everything within reach.

If any person or animal has a reason to be grumpy, aggressive, angry, or even hateful, it would be



In animal rescue, we have learned that forgiveness doesn't mean cruel owners still can't be prosecuted - they can and they are. In fact, we help make sure they are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. But that also means that we don't let the past hinder or restrict a bright future for the animals, for that is the goal — to help them heal and find a peaceful, loving home.

There are several ways you can help Vernon.

Adopt: We will be seeking an indoor home for this handsome fella. He is potty trained, loves blankies, and should live indoors where it is heated to help him get through the remainder of his healing processes during the winter season. He should be placed in an environment free from stress, and if other animals are present, they

Continued on page 10



(Above top) Vernon quickly settled into the back seat of the logo truck for the two hour ride from Ohio State University in Columbus to Happy Trails in Ravenna not complaining one bit. He and Happy Trails Board Member, Walter Shields, became fast friends.

(Above left) Vern fell asleep snuggled against his pink stuffed toy pig companion he acquired while in the hospital. The cherished toy was compliments of his admirers and rescue workers from Sunrise Sanctuary in Marysville. We made sure to bring his little stuffed buddy with him on this next leg of his journey to a new life.

Vernon. To realize the pain and suffering he experienced, anyone would understand if he were fearful and distant. However, he is none of the above. Vern does not appear to hold anything that happened in his past against the loving, caring people who are now in his world. Vernon adores belly rubs, he cooperates to have his open wounds cleaned and scrubbed, he takes his medication like a champ, and he stands politely while we examine him multiple times throughout the day. Vernon is very forgiving, very sweet, and very easy to fall in love with.

He looks at you out of that one eye he can still see with, and comes over to it to itch the bad eye on the side of your leg. You tickle his lumpy, stabbed belly and he falls over in bliss to have his tummy rubbed and his wounds tended to. Offer him a piece of banana and he takes it very gently out of your hand.

We can learn so much from Vernon about forgiving, about healing, and about moving forward in life.



(Above) Vernon is carefully escorted out of the back seat of the truck and down the ramp. His little piggy hooves touched down on a teal-colored satin comforter to help him on his way walking into Happy Trails mini vet clinic.

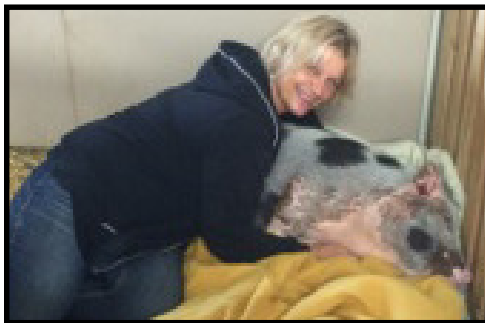
Story continued from page 9



(Above) Here Vernon ventures outdoors at Happy Trails to see what he can see. His suite in the mini-vet clinic allows him indoor/outdoor access to either a warm, comfy room or to go outside to explore the great outdoors. He can see other pigs safely through a fence, so he can have friends while recovering. The bright pink ointment visible on Vernon is a product called SWAT, and it keeps flies away from wounds. His spirit of adventure has not been dimmed, and his curiosity often gets the better of him. He loves to root and find treasures in the grass and dirt that only pigs know about. He seems to know that life has taken a turn for the better, and for right this very minute, Vern is content.

should be calm and gentle.

Donate: PETA graciously picked up Vernon's expenses through the Wednesday of his stay at OSU. From Wednesday on, Happy Trails is picking up Vernon's tab, and that includes not only his hospital expenses, but his daily care, bedding, grain, medication, and staff time to address his special needs. Donations may be sent to Happy Trails, 5623 New Milford Road, Ravenna, Ohio 44266 with a note for Vernon; donations can be made via the website at www.happytrailsfarm.org and make a note the donation is for Vernon; or you can call in a donation to the office at 330-296-5914 and donate via credit card.



Vernon's many visitors include (from top right) Walter Shields, Jason Wolboldt, Hope Evans (who gave Vern his meds in a delicious cup cake), and (above left) myself, Annette Fisher. His fans are many, as he is a great teacher and his story has touched many hearts.

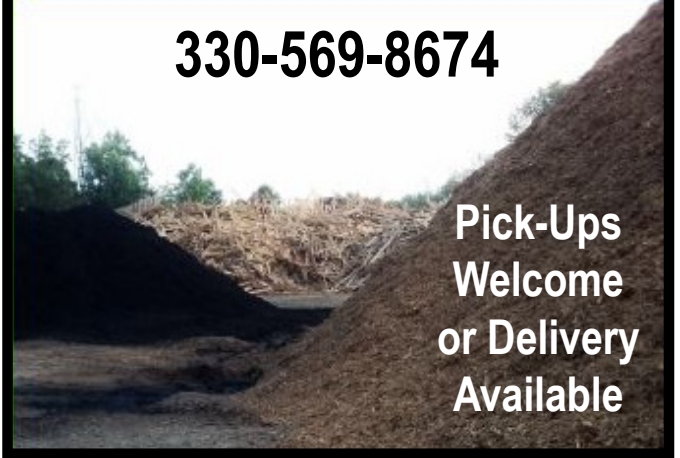
Thank you for supporting Happy Trails sponsors!

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MULCH AND SAWDUST

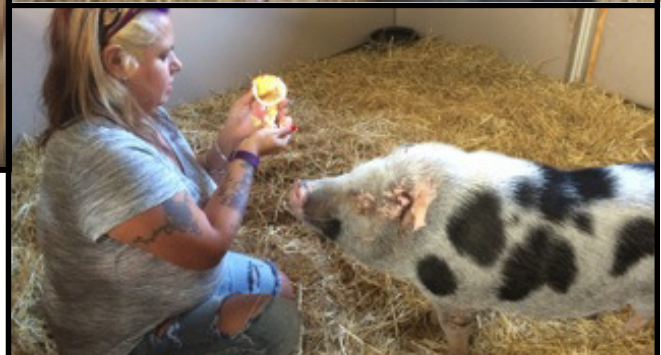
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When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Happy Trails. Bookmark the link and support us every time you shop!

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Happy Trails also participates in GoodShop! GoodShop — *the site that donates to us when you shop and save* — just got easier!

Simply personalize your home page by selecting your favorite stores. It'll help you raise money for Happy Trails and save you \$\$ with just one click! Make Goodshop your starting point to help us with every purchase!

Go to www.goodshop.com!

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Children's Hospital Holiday Tree Festival



volunteers of
akron children's hospital

Every year, more than 200 decorated trees, 85,000 strings of lights, wreaths, miniature trees, and countless other holiday creations are displayed at the Holiday Tree Festival at the John S. Knight Center in Akron, Ohio, and the proceeds from the holiday display items benefit Akron Children's Hospital.

For the first time, Happy Trails will be donating and decorating a beautiful "country" tree entitled "A Compassionate Christmas", celebrating farm animals and horses. In this way we are able to spread a holiday



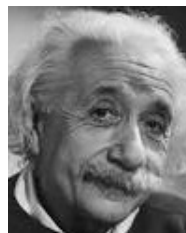
message of kindness and compassion for animals, while raising funds for the Akron Children's Hospital through the auction of the tree.

The 2015 Holiday Tree Festival takes place Nov. 21 – 29 at the John S. Knight Center. Admission to the festival is free.

Festival hours are Monday - Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thanksgiving, 2 to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Holiday Tree Festival has been the volunteers of Akron Children's Hospital's gift to the Akron community for more than 30 years and has raised more than \$4.7 million for the hospital since beginning in 1982. Last year, the Holiday Tree Festival raised \$300,000. **Happy Trails is proud to help raise funds for Akron Children's Hospital through our "Compassionate Christmas" tree!**

For more information about the festival, go to https://www.akronchildrens.org/cms/holiday_tree_festival/



*"Our task must be to free ourselves...
by widening our circle of compassion to
embrace **all** living creatures and the
whole of nature and its beauty."*

— Albert Einstein

Happy Trails Wish List

Listed below are a few items that we would be grateful to receive. The list covers everything from simple wishes like bottled water for our volunteers who generously donate their time to larger needs such as emergency rescue supplies and heated equipment for animals suffering from hypothermia this winter. Whether you choose something big or something small, you don't need to go out and buy any of these items. Simply indicate on your donation form what you would like us to purchase with your donation, and we will gladly carry out your request.

Emergency Rescue Supplies

Bair Hugger 505 Warming Unit with Roll Stand.....\$595 plus shipping



This 3M™ Bair Hugger™ therapy temperature management units have become the standard of excellence in forced-air warming and can be used at Happy Trails to assist with warming our furry friends who may be rescued and are suffering from hypothermia this winter. The Bair Hugger therapy Model 505 provides safe, quiet and effective warming and can be used under blankets.

- Small size frees up more usable work space
- Light weight makes transport and set-up a breeze
- Built-in hour meter makes it easy to monitor usage for preventative maintenance
- Unique snap-fit hose swivels at three points for easy blanket attachment and positioning

Nikon Coolpix AW130 16.0 Megapixel Water Proof Digital Camera at Best Buy.....\$349.99

We currently use whoever's phone takes the best photos when we are documenting animals and



page 12

evidence at an investigation. To provide best quality photos for prosecution, we really need to use a good quality digital camera. For about half our rescues, we are often working in sleet, rain or heavy snow, so a water proof camera will last much longer.

Winter Needs

20 Quart Heated Horse Water Buckets at Big D's... ..\$44.95

Right now all horse stalls have heated water buckets to make sure horses have access to fresh water during the coldest winter days. However, every winter several buckets will need replaced, and emergency stalls are often constructed in the arena to allow space for multiple horse rescues. Our goal is to have ten heated buckets on hand this year for those buckets that break or for those emergency rescues.



Safe Paw Non-Toxic Ice Melter...\$20.99



For the safety of the animals at the sanctuary, we try to always use an ice melt product that won't hurt our furry or feathered residents. Safe Paw comes in 8lb. 3 oz. containers. These are easy to handle and one container can be placed in each shelter. We currently have 13 areas where a container of Safe Paw should be kept. To purchase 13 containers, the cost would be \$272.87. Shipping on this order is free.

Animal Health Care

Orchard Equestrian Digital Thermometer...\$12.95

This digital thermometer comes with its

own plastic storage case and has a guaranteed accuracy for 300 hours of use. It would be ideal to have five thermometers to keep at the various horse locations at the sanctuary. All five thermometers would cost a total of \$64.75

Gift Cards

Gift Cards...\$ any amount

When out on a rescue, we can end up hauling animals to hospitals, foster homes, or back to the sanctuary. Fuel cards are most helpful because often we use volunteer haulers to assist with hoarding cases where multiple trailers are needed to haul large groups of animals. Other gift cards to grocery stores such as Giant Eagle allow us to purchase prescription medications for the animals at their pharmacy, or to purchase electrolytes in the form of Gatoraid or protein in the form of Ensure at the direction of our veterinarians.



Equipment/Vehicles

Repairs to Sanctuary Vehicles and Machinery...\$3,354

Happy Trails has an assortment of vehicles, trailers and farm equipment



that constantly keeps us on our toes with repairs and maintenance. The rescue truck needs a rusted-out light bar replaced and rusted back quarter panels replaced at \$2,500 which also will mean replacing the logo graphics at \$235; the two-horse trailer needs four new rims at \$46 each; the Bobcat skid steer needs a new key start at \$260; and the dump truck needs shocks at \$35 each times two and brakes at \$145. It would be great to have a reserve fund set aside for our vehicles and machinery for when things break and repairs are needed.

Sponsorship Opportunities

There are a variety of sponsorship programs for those individuals, businesses, groups or other organizations who want to show their support of the work of Happy Trails through a sponsorship opportunity.

Here are several new projects and promotions:

Fence Banner Sponsors

Thousands of people come through the gates of Happy Trails every year - people attending educational seminars, taking tours, adopting animals, volunteering, visiting, dropping off donations, reporters arriving to cover rescue stories, businesses send employees out for group community service days, veterinarians come and go daily, and senior centers and schools schedule special visits. The first thing that people see when they enter the sanctuary is the large area behind the gift shop, where impressive and unique concrete statuary are sold seasonally as a fundraiser. The chain



link fencing that surrounds this area is going to feature sponsored banners that will be proudly displayed on the fence during tour season from May 1st through October 31st beginning May 1st, 2016. There are a limited number of spaces available for banners, so we are taking reservations for the 2016 season.

We will be happy to help you design your banner free of charge. Banners will be 3' x 8' and printed in full color to accommodate your logo or business information. The cost to show your support of Happy Trails and sponsor a fence banner is \$1,200. To sponsor a

section of fence to display your banner, contact Hope Evans at hopee@happytrailsfarm.org or call her at 330-212-9313.

Water Hydrant Upgrade

Every year one by one, our water hydrants freeze and quit working, causing our caregivers to haul water from longer distances. This makes care of the animals that much more difficult. There are five water hydrants that need to be re-dug to have the bottom pipes placed further down into the ground, and to have additional gravel placed around the piping for insulation. We are confident that with proper installation the water hydrants will not freeze this year. The average estimate to complete this project is about \$600 per hydrant to dig up the existing hydrant, remove it, dig down one foot deeper, re-configure the bottom piping, install a new hydrant, include additional gravel, and then put it all back together.

To sponsor all five hydrants, it would cost \$3,000 total.

Visitors 'Village'

This past year Happy Trails was able to purchase 8 acres on the other side of New Milford Road from the sanctuary. Our goal is to be able to use this area to create a small "village" where guests who come from out of state to volunteer at Happy

Trails for the week or the weekend can stay. Putting together this 8-acre extension of the sanctuary with a variety of options to choose from in which to stay will help



Happy Trails become more self-sustaining and guests can enjoy the quiet solitude of the beautiful wooded setting.

We are planning to set up teepees to represent our Native American beliefs that we are all connected; log cabins to represent our Amish Horse Retirement Program, and one or two yurts to represent the environmental conservation nature of many of our visitors.

To start out, we will construct four Native American Sioux-style teepee's, ordering them from Nomadic Tipi Makers. \$6,200 will purchase a 22' teepee, complete with poles, fire resistant liner, stakes and rope, door, rain cap, ozan, PVS floor, art and graphics, back-rest chairs and shipping. The teepee's will be set on either concrete pads or wooden decks, with an average cost of either material being between \$2,200 and \$2,600, depending on the size of the pad and the style of the deck. Sponsors of these teepee's will have a sponsor sign outside each one to thank those who are making this village possible.

The income from the use of the teepee's will help bring in sustainable funding for the sanctuary for many years to come.

For more information on becoming a sponsor of a tipi or tipi foundation at Happy Trails new Visitor's Village, contact us at 330-296-5914.

Happy Trails Across the Globe!

Proudly Wear Happy Trails Logo Apparel When You Travel and Get Your Pic Featured in the Newsletter!

(Below) Ilona Urban sported a Happy Trails logo tee when she recently visited Universal Studios in Hollywood, California. At this time of year in Northeast Ohio, we wish we could all be California girls!



(Above) Brandon Sheetz toured Epcot Center this summer in Orlando, Florida, while spreading kindness and compassion for all the animals of Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary. Thanks Brandon - you ROCK!

Simply send your photo via email to info@happytrailsfarm.org. Give us your name, your destination, when the trip was, and we'll include you in an upcoming edition of the Happy Trails newsletter and send you a cool Happy Trails bumper sticker!

Happy Trails Giving Tree Program — Trees Needed Due to Program Growth!

Every holiday season, Happy Trails Giving Tree Program has grown exponentially. This program allows us to set up a holiday tree in a store or business from Thanksgiving through Christmas, and we create ornaments for the tree with photos of the rescued animals. On the backs of each of those ornaments is a need that can be purchased at that particular store. For example, if the tree is in a feed store, the need may be a bag of grain for the goats, a heat lamp for the pigs, or a hoof pick for the horses. If the tree is in a tool supply store, the need may be a new hammer, a snow shovel for the farm pig barn, or a new light fixture to replace one that had been broken. By now, you get the idea. The person who purchases the item gets to take the ornament home with them to hang proudly on their own tree.

This program not only helps us provide some much-needed supplies and items for the sanctuary, but it brings additional revenue into the stores as well.

This same concept is also applied to lobbies, such as car repair

shops, doctor and dentist offices, etc. The ornaments then list a monetary donation if that particular business doesn't have items that can be purchased for the sanctuary, and the donations are then collected for the rescued animals.

Due to the popularity of this program, we are in need of additional Christmas trees this year to setup in various locations. Last year we had 13 locations participating in Happy Trails Giving Tree Program. This year we anticipate over 20 businesses participating! We will be happy for any size or color donated Christmas trees. If you have a tree to donate, contact Amanda at amandaf@happytrailsfarm.org or call 330-296-5914.

If you are interested in setting up a Happy Trails Giving Tree in your business or office for the holidays, we would love to work with you. It's a win-win situation for everyone, from the business owners who show their support of the work of Happy Trails in a big way, to the customers and clients who are provided with an opportunity to show their spirit of making a difference, to the rescued animals who are in recovery at Happy Trails. A complete list of this year's participants will be posted in the next newsletter.



Compassionate Brides Starting a Trend!

Several brides have contacted Happy Trails with the hope that their guests would make a donation to Happy Trails to help care for the rescued animals in lieu of gifts. Over the past several years, several couples have even brought their bridal parties out to Happy Trails to meet and greet the farm animal residents.



Two couples even took it a step further, and had their wedding ceremony at Happy Trails in the new arena, complete with animals present for the service!

As we look ahead to 2016, this indeed is something we are planning to officially offer — to host wedding ceremonies at various locations of the sanctuary for those folks who want their lives to focus on spreading kindness and compassion for animals of all types. What a wonderful way to start out a new life together! At Happy Trails, we are honored to work together with these bridal couples to bring a sense of peace, healing and a very special meaning to their beautiful wedding ceremonies.

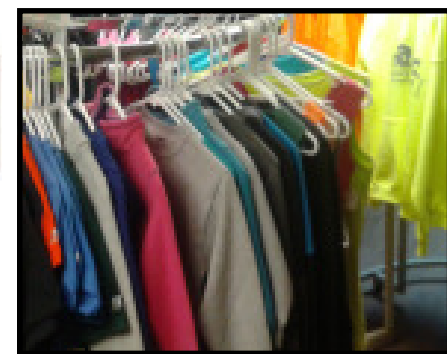
If you are making wedding plans and want to include Happy Trails in some way, give us a call at 330-296-5914.

Gift Shop

Fridays 10am - 5pm
Saturdays 10am - 5pm
Sundays 12noon - 5pm

Happy Trails Gift Shop, located at 5623 New Milford Road in Ravenna, is open seasonally, and will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday beginning Black Friday, the Friday after Thanksgiving, through Sunday, Dec. 20th.

Happy Trails warm and welcoming gift shop features some great new gift ideas just in time for the holidays, such as cozy winter jackets, stylish hoodies, long sleeve and short sleeve t's, women's fashions, polos, mouse pads, and more!



Other great items such as animal memorial statuary, paintings, photography, and other donated goods are also available in the gift shop. For concrete memorials, choose from angel puppies, angel kitties, angel animals on pedestals, heart-shaped stones, and more.

100% of the proceeds from every purchase will go directly for the care of the rescued animals.



"Animals give me more pleasure through the viewfinder of a camera than they ever did in the cross hairs of a gun sight. And after I've finished 'shooting,' my unharmed victims are still around for others to enjoy. I have developed a deep respect for animals. I consider them fellow living creatures with certain rights that should not be violated any more than those of humans."

—Jimmy Stewart

Introduce yourself to Happy Trails' new friend, photographer and vegan Debra-Lynn Hook as she photographs our Thanksgiving event!

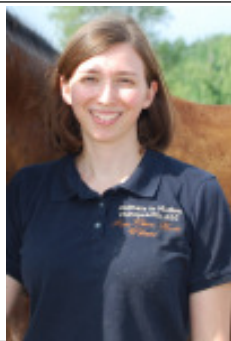
Mention us when you book her for an upcoming family portrait, senior photo, wedding or other event, and she will donate a portion of her fee to the farm!

dlbhook.zenfolio.com
330-283-6907

Debra-Lynn Hook PHOTOS

"I expected to feel awkward and not know what to do, but Debra-Lynn makes you feel completely at ease." — 2015 graduating senior Rhuna Wall of Kent.

"I am generally not the most comfortable being in front of the camera, but Debra-Lynn has a personality that put me and everyone else at ease right away. The pictures were lovely - she captured both posed shots and also moments I was not even aware of." — Bride Mia Gatsmaitan of Cleveland



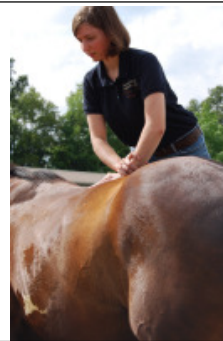
Dr. Sara Jerman Animals in Motion Chiropractic, LLC

440-655-5195
aoc.docsj@gmail.com

Thanks to Dr. Sara Jerman for donating her services of chiropractic treatments for our rescued animal friends at Happy Trails!

Dr. Sara treats a wide variety of pets, both domestic and farm animals. Find out if your pet would benefit from chiropractic.

Give her a call today!



Happy Trails Hosted HSUS Ohio Legislative Update

On Saturday, October 17th, HSUS (Humane Society of the United States) gave a presentation reviewing Ohio animal laws and legislative process to about 50 visitors in Happy Trails new Education Center. Thanks to HSUS Ohio rep, Corey Roscoe, for providing great insight as to how Ohio passes laws and how everyone can use their voices to speak up for animals. Learn more about Ohio's animal laws at HSUS Ohio Facebook, or email at Ohio@hsus.org. To find out who the legislators are in your area, go to www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislators/find-my-legislators/



Tribute to Moose

Many of our adoptive families keep in touch with us about the rescued animals in their lives. While we were saddened to hear about the recent passing of



Moose, a big, lovable Standardbred (originally named Justice) who we rescued from a meat auction many years ago, we took comfort in the fact that he had the best mom and family life any horse could ask for.

This is from the email I received from Moose's mom, Kathy Kall: *"Justice, a beautiful Standardbred I adopted from Happy Trails in 2002, had a heart attack today and is no longer with us. We will miss him dearly. He was such a big guy we named him Moose. He was a very gentle horse and ended up being one big baby. We have enjoyed many years with him and thank you for the opportunity to give him a good home. Here is a recent picture of him with his two girls, Shala, my Arabian who I have had for 25 years, and Lacy, a Haflinger I also adopted from Happy Trails in 2005 (from the Amish Horse Retirement Program). They will also miss him very much."*

Our hearts go out to Kathy and her family. Thank you for taking such amazing care of these rescued horses, and for providing them with such long and happy lives!



We have been providing high quality medical care for horses in Northeastern Ohio since 1999. Horizon Equine Veterinary Services is a **family-friendly business**. Our mission is to maintain a professional but caring relationship with both our patients and our clients.

At Horizon Equine Veterinary Services, we believe there is something more important than the technical ability to get each procedure done. We treat every animal with gentle hands and compassionate hearts, as if they were our very own.

Horizon Equine Veterinary Services

11001 Ashland Rd., Wooster, OH 44691

330-263-7755

www.horizonequine.net

Many thanks to Dr. Mike Geiger and the staff at Horizon Equine Veterinary Services for participating in Happy Trails animal education programs!

Welcome Jason Wolboldt, Facilities Manager

After volunteering faithfully at Happy Trails many times each week and driving the long distance from



Jason and his buddy Radar, a special-needs goat adopted through Happy Trails.

Wayne County to Portage County for seven years, Jason Wolboldt joined the Happy Trails staff as our new Facilities Manager. This past Spring, Jason came on board to oversee the upkeep of the facilities, the implementation of special projects, repairs of vehicles and farm machinery, grounds maintenance, and so much more.

Jason's background as a design engineer gives him the experience needed to draw out projects and schematics and figure out the details of projects.

We have no idea what we did without him in the past, and are grateful to have such a talented, dedicated, hard-working individual on the Happy Trails staff.

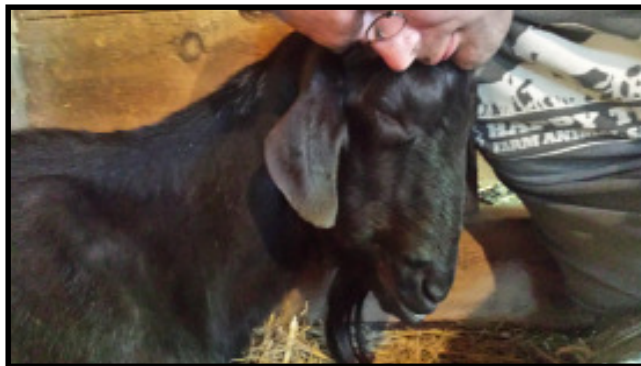
Over the years Jason adopted five goats from the sanctuary, one goat at a time. His love for animals and his compassion for their care shows in everything he does.

Tribute to George the Goat

In April, 2010, Happy Trails helped capture an elusive stray goat in the Boardman area. To read the original story of his rescue, visit happytrailsfarm.org and click About Us > Newsletters > April 2010 to read the article entitled "Stinky George".

George was adopted five years ago by Jason Wolboldt, but recently George became ill and sadly left our world while being treated at OSU in Columbus. Our pets become such a huge part of our lives, and George was a huge part of Jason's life for many years. Here is the tribute Jason wrote for George...

"For those of you who never met him, when George came in to Happy Trails, he was far more scared of people than any of our sheep. If you went into the same room with him, he would either flee from the building or try to hide in hay racks of the rooster cage that was in the barn at the time. I decided to foster him to try to get him more socialized and make him more adoptable. In the beginning I had limited success with him. He didn't feel the need to flee from the building like it was on fire any more but he still was nervous around me. It turns out that though he was scared of humans, he was comfortable around my goats and he really seemed like he was happy and felt at home, so I decided to adopt him. He built a good friendship with Pedro, Kenard, and later on, Radar (for some reason Radar was scared of him in the beginning, but later on I would often see them cuddled



together). For sometime, George still had not improved towards humans, but for the last few months especially the last month he finally learned to fully trust me. He would let me pet him and even cuddle with him. It got to the point where he would follow me around everywhere and rub his forehead into my hand so I would scratch it. I am glad that Happy Trails was able to rescue him and I got the chance to take him in and be his friend, and for him to make friends with my other goats. We became family and I miss him so much."



Save Your Receipts!

Rescue animals while you shop simply by saving your Acme receipts!

Save all Acme receipts dated

August 20, 2015, through January 6, 2016.

Ask your family, friends, co-workers and neighbors to save their receipts too! Acme Fresh Market will issue a rebate check equal to 5% of the Cash Back amount printed at the bottom of the receipt.

Last year Happy Trails earned \$574.04!

The Cash Back amount includes all Acme Fresh Market Store Brand purchases.

**Mail your receipts to Happy Trails,
5623 New Milford Road, Ravenna, Ohio 44266.**

"Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver."

Barbara de Angelis

Kaleigh Miller — an Exception to the Rule

Meet Happy Trails youngest intern ever, Kaleigh Miller, a student at Biomed Science Academy.

A year and a half ago, Kaleigh reached out to



Here we found Kaleigh snuggling with Vernon the pot belly pig. Of course we did. Where else would she be?

Happy Trails when she was only 16, and asked if she could possibly do her required internship for school with our organization when she became a senior.

After meeting with Kaleigh and her family, we decided to make an exception to the rule for this very mature, very responsible teenager.

To volunteer or intern at Happy Trails, you must be at least 18 years old. Kaleigh was very eager to work with animals, and planned on studying to become a veterinarian. She had impeccable grades and was flourishing at her new school with her pre-college courses. At 16 years old, she reminded me of...well, of me. Ready to work, to take on the world, and get going with life. Though Kaleigh wasn't asking to be an exception to the rule, the offer was presented to her and her family. If Kaleigh could juggle school with volunteering, follow directions, and be reliable, we would try her out in the volunteer program.

Fast forward from that year and a half ago to today. Kaleigh proved herself very quickly to be a stellar volunteer and was able to follow directions and be safe around the animals. Last year she was invited to join our paid staff as an Animal Care Giver.

This year, Kaleigh is going through her senior internship program — the program she originally contacted us about. With quite a bit of farm animal experience now under her belt, Kaleigh has chosen to work specifically with the pot belly pigs as the focus of her internship.

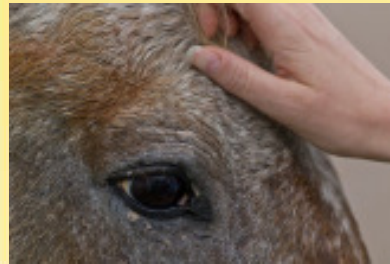
When asked to describe her experience working with Happy Trails, Kaleigh stated, *"Happy Trails has shown me what my purpose in life is — to help and love all animals the best I can."*

Energy Healing Group Lead By Christine and Fred

As the animals often come in to Happy Trails with health concerns, fears, anxieties, stress, and trust issues, we do our very best to treat the trifecta — body, mind and spirit. Volunteers Fred Snowden and Christine Lang have put together a wonderful, amazing group of individuals who do energy work to help with



healing of all three important aspects of the animals' recovery and rehabilitation process.



People who work in various modalities of energy healing, including Reiki (there are now Reiki centers at

many people hospitals and clinics across the United States) have been asked to join the healing group lead by Fred and Christine. The combination of prayer, good intentions and energy healing have helped the animals heal and recover, and have also helped many of them cross into the world of the spirit if it was their time to pass. To be treated with dignity and love during their time with Happy Trails is the best gift we can offer to them. That gift is given generously by Fred and Christine and Happy Trails energy healing group. Many thanks to everyone who



receives the weekly email animal updates and dedicates their time to send healing energy to the animals, and a heart-felt thank you goes out to Fred and Christine for taking the time to create this group and to welcome new members.

Essay from Solveig Jentner Continued from page 5

...war the truth came out. Those dogs were used to detect mines. Fast forward to 2015 at Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary here in Ohio. They had received a number of horses who needed special care. I signed up to sponsor a horse cave where neglected horses live during their recovery. I was surprised to be assigned a horse named Belle, which is anglicized for



Bell. I was stunned beyond words. I feel a sense of healing has taken place within me after all these years of tearing up everytime I saw a German Shepherd. I am however, Godmother to a very handsome German Shepherd dog named Hagrid

who started the healing process, and now Belle the horse is completing it. I am very grateful to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, to Hagrid, and of course to Belle. I leave it to the reader to wonder why more than 70 years later this happened to me. Much love to all animals and animal loving friends... from Solveig"



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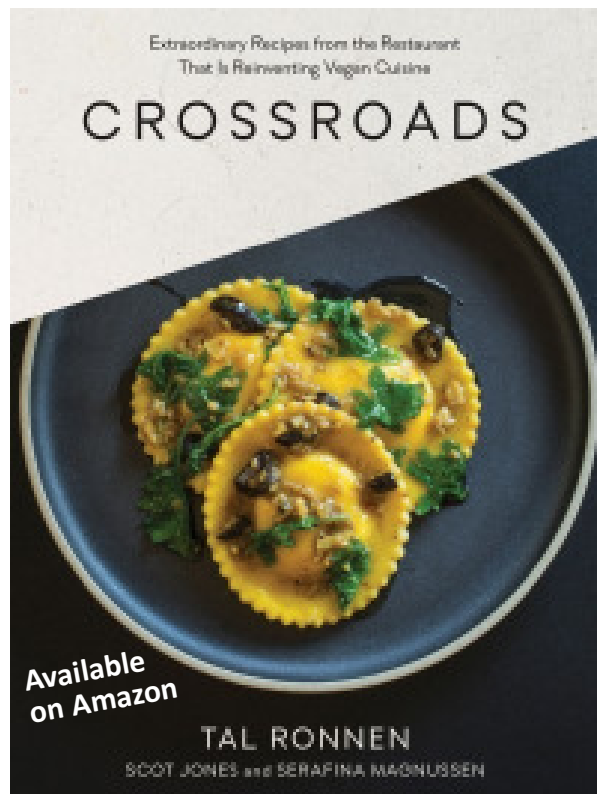
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Vegan Chefs Tal Ronnen and Scot Jones Sacrifice Animal Products — Not Taste

**Check out their latest cook book
"Crossroads" that was just released!**



"Restaurants get it wrong all the time by serving fake meat that doesn't interest meat eaters, or a vegan plate that's little more than an uninspired pile of vegetables," Ronnen wrote in his new cookbook, *Crossroads*. "Some still fall into the trap of thinking that vegetables or legumes need to be disguised as meat in order to be palatable."

Excellent article in the Washington Post — search Washington Post Ronnen Crossroads for a great read!



**(Left) Scot Jones and
Tal Ronnen at their
Crossroads Restaurant
on Melrose Avenue in
Los Angeles.**

**Their latest cook book
has the same name
as their restaurant.**

"If you're in the LA area, eating at Crossroads is a MUST! I ate there in September during a trip to California and got a chance to reconnect with Scot. His latest cook book is really amazing!"

— Annette Fisher

Stark County Hoarding Coalition

On Friday, August 7th, Happy Trails Director, Annette Fisher, gave a presentation to the members of the new Stark County Hoarding Coalition regarding the animal hoarding cases that the sanctuary has been involved



with over the years.

The two organizations are hoping to find ways to partner with each other to address and provide treatment for individuals who are animal hoarders.

Stark County Hoarding Coalition was developed in 2014 to respond to the hoarding problems in Stark County. The mission of the coalition is to serve *"...the community using an inter-disciplinary approach in providing outreach, treatment and education to the community regarding hoarding."*

Supported by the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County, the Hoarding Coalition hopes to:

- Increase awareness of hoarding in the county
- Educate the community regarding hoarding
- Provide an inter-disciplinary approach to hoarding in the county

- Increase resources, including treatment, of hoarding
- The coalition consists of members of the area health departments, Adult Protective Services, housing authorities, treatment agencies, the humane society and many others. The Coalition meets at 10:00 am on the first Friday of the month at the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County, 121 Cleveland Ave. SW Canton, OH 44702.

For more information, please contact Jeannie Cool, Forensic Coordinator at 330-455-6644 or jcool@starkmhrs.org.

Many thanks to Jeannie Cool for the kind invitation to Happy Trails to speak to the group. With everyone working together, we are hoping to help stop the cycle of abuse and provide peace and healing not only for the animals who are the victims of hoarding, but for the people as well.

Board Partners

- Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities
- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
- Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services



A popular, thought-provoking billboard created by our friends at Mercy for Animals.

"In a world full of people who couldn't care less, choose to be someone who couldn't care..."

- Anonymous

Adopt Yamka!



Beautiful, gentle Yamka is seeking a family she can call her own. Is your family ready to adopt a pot belly pig? For adoption info, email rebeccas@happytrailsfarm.org.

A Happy Trails Field Service Veterinarian

Dr. Randy Alger



Alger Vet Clinic

330-274-3463

Field service veterinary services specializing in care for cows, horses, sheep, and goats.

Jebbe's Painting by Loretta Samaniego

Who wouldn't want a commissioned portrait of their favorite pet pig gracing the walls of their house?

When Katie and Sam Costello attended Happy Trails "A Night of Hope and Inspiration" in March 2015, they purchased quite a few raffle tickets. Some of those raffle tickets found their way into the bag to win a commissioned pet portrait by artist, Loretta Samaniego.

After Katie and Sam won the raffle, Loretta's work was cut out for her. **"I'd like you to do a portrait of one of my pigs," Katie told Loretta.** Of course Katie had adopted a total of four adorable farm pigs through Happy Trails adoption program, and her very favorite pig in the world was, and is, Jebbe Boye. Jebbe came to



Stellar Presentation by Dick Houston and Elefence International Crew

On Saturday, August 22nd, guests gathered in the Happy Trails covered arena to hear an eye-opening presentation by Elefence International Founder, Dick Houston.

Dick's presentation shed light on the illegal (and very



(Left to right) Annette Fisher, Director of Happy Trails, Barbara Brooks, Dick Houston, and Bruce Lowe of Elefence, Laurie and Kerry Jackson, Board Members of Happy Trails.

cruel) ivory trade in Africa, the work of Elefence International to rescue baby elephants who are left behind after poachers kill the mothers, and he spoke about his connection and work with Cecil the lion, whose demise was reported world-wide when he was gunned down by a trophy hunter this past summer. Dick shared personal photos of Cecil and many inspirational images of his work through Elefence to save the elephants who are on the brink of disappearing from the jungles of Africa thanks to poachers.

A huge thank you goes out to Dick Houston, his crew and Elefence representatives, and to everyone who attended!

Thank you also to the folks who made the bake sale at this event a huge success: Laura Ross from **Cleveland Vegan Cafe** donated cookies and bars; **Debbie Holzheimer (below right)** from **Metro Croissants** in Cleveland donated mixed croissants; Lea Jacobson from **Terra Bakery** in Chagrin Falls donated cherry chip frosted cupcakes; Laura from **The Flaming Ice Cube** in Boardman donated desserts; Rebecca Szanyi from the **Vegan Sweet Tooth** donated cookies and cupcakes; Kimberly Whittington-Babcock donated baked goods; **Kim Fenton (left)** donated brownies and helped



at the event; Carol Skok made chocolate raspberry mouse chilled desserts; Ann Marie Wilson donated gluten-free and nut-free brownies; Victoria Lee brought donated baked goods; and **Ellen Zban (center)** donated goodies and helped at the back sale. And a big thank you to **Sandi Sajner (right)** who recruited and organized the committee and bakers, brought

supplies, and drove around Northeast Ohio picking up all the goodies. The bake sale was a wonderful success and we are grateful to everyone who donated their time and talents!

Happy Trails from Kentucky after he was viciously attacked by something or someone. He stole Katie's heart when she met him during a visit to the sanctuary, and their love story has gone on to make history. **Katie, RVT and owner of the Learning Dog Training and Enrichment Center in Hubbard, and Sam, veterinarian and owner of Town and Country Veterinary Hospital in Warren, are both quite smitten with their extended farm animal family.**



Happy Trails is blessed beyond belief and we have so many incredible people to thank for their generosity and spirit of community. While we wish we had unlimited space to publicly thank everyone in the newsletter, the reality is we try to highlight as many donations of kindness as we can. If you have taken a tour of the sanctuary, made a monetary contribution, donated items for our fundraisers, adopted or fostered a rescued animal, collected Nutrena tags, blankets, towels, or Acme receipts, volunteered your time, or have gotten involved and reached out to us in countless other ways, please know you are appreciated and that we are grateful for your continued support!

Many thanks to...

- ...everyone who donates bags of aluminum cans! Being located right around the corner from the recycling plant gives us easy access to taking hundreds of pounds of aluminum to recycle, and all the proceeds benefit the rescued animals. Thank you SO much for taking the time to save the planet and help the animals at the same time!

- ...tech volunteer, **Jesse Merritt**, for helping us set up our new podcast. Very soon you will be able to hear our own "radio program" of sorts on the Happy



Jesse Merritt and Scooter

Trails website, thanks to the time and talents of Jesse. Being an animal-lover, Jesse was more than willing to help us figure out the technical end of things to make this happen. The weekly show will cover a wide variety of animal topics and feature special guests. Thanks, Jesse, for setting up the podcast for the sanctuary!

- ...another tech genius, Happy Trails volunteer **Alan Megargle**, for setting up the most amazing system for the HSUS presentation in the new Education Center. We were able to have two different classrooms set up with a sound system, screens and projector, and both rooms could both hear and see the presentation simultaneously. That was one of our goals to figure out how to do that, and thanks to Alan, the set-up was flawless!

- ...dedicated weekend volunteers who handle everything from cleaning out animal shelters to running the gift shop to cleaning the rest rooms and offices.

This group includes **Cindy Dilley, Tari Addison, Angel Brandner, Sandi Tarrant, Brenda Schilling, Pam Summers, and Jennifer Sanderson**

- ...volunteer **Alex Hale**, who designed and constructed new feeding doors for the rooster runs. This guy who is more than handy with carpentry did a

fantastic job getting the new feed doors to fit and they look amazing. They help make feeding the roosters easier and more efficient.

Misc Wish List

There are a few random things we could use at Happy Trails as we continue to grow:

- **three more laptops** (we need one in the gift shop and two for showing power point presentations)
- **pocket knives** (we are always cutting strings off bales of hay and straw)
- **office supplies** such as plain old white copy paper, postage stamps, laminating sheets, manila file folders, gift cards to Sams Club, Staples, etc. for printer ink cartridges
- **paper products** such as paper towels, toilet paper, plates and cups
- **tape** - Scotch tape, duct tape, masking tape
- **trash bags** - 39 gallon bags and big heavy duty black outdoor trash bags



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MYTH BUSTING — Facts about Protein in Veggies

If you don't believe a plant-based diet provides all the protein you need for a healthy body, tell it to these (bad-ass) vegan body builders...

Chris Willitts is the founder of VegetarianBodybuilding.com and Mindful Muscle. He bases his body building routine on these three guiding principles:

- Have compassion for animals and one another, and strive for a healthier planet.
- Believe that plant-based fitness leads to thriving health and a beautiful physique.
- Eat and train mindfully, and with intention.

Chris's commentary: "I am also convinced that it's possible to **gain size and strength from eating a plant-based diet** with proper training, despite the prevailing archaic belief we need to eat meat to build muscle. I know this from personal experience.

The good news is, it's getting harder and harder to defend that outdated noise when **guys stronger than Arnold in his prime are vegan**. And I mean this literally. Two examples off the top of my head are **world-record-holder strong man Patrik Baboumian** and **300-pound NFL defensive lineman David Carter**.

The problem is, most people aren't aware that vegan athletes are performing at this level. VegetarianBodybuilding.com and our other friends mentioned in this article are trying to change that.

Interest in veganism is indeed on the rise, but the bodybuilding and fitness community at large remains skeptical and hesitant because of the profoundly effective and pervasive meat industry marketing machine.



Top 10 Sources of Veggie Protein

design / layout by
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Where do you get your protein?

(brought to you by The GIVE Project)

the GIVE
project

thegiveproject.org

www.facebook.com/giveproject



Spinach
49% protein



Kale
45% protein



Broccoli
45% protein



Cauliflower
40% protein



Mushrooms
38% protein



Parsley
34% protein



Cucumbers
24% protein



Green Pepper
22% protein



Cabbage
22% protein



Tomatoes
18% protein



Beef
25.8% protein

Protein in Meat:



Chicken
23% protein



Eggs
12% protein

You don't have to look far to catch a glimpse at how powerful, even hypnotic, advertising can be. It has been over a half century since the disastrous health risks of smoking cigarettes was first suggested by scientists, and it's just now finally dying off – sort of. There's still over 42 million smokers in the US alone.

We will see a similar trend with meat eating, I believe.

Just like with the health risks of smoking catching on, many of us are waking up to the health risks of eating animal-based products (with emphasis on the way they're being produced). I caught wind of how truly unhealthy most of our food in the US is just a few years ago. And only then did I realize what was possible in the gym with vegetarian bodybuilding."



Other vegan body builders include:

(left) **Robert Cheeke**, best-selling author of "Shred It!" and "Vegan Bodybuilding



& Fitness," two-time champion bodybuilder, and founder/president of Vegan Bodybuilding & Fitness; (top) **Debbie Baigrie**, founder of Natural Muscle Magazine; and (bottom right) **Samantha Shorkey**, first-ever vegan WNBF bikini pro and founder of the Jacked On The Beanstalk blog.

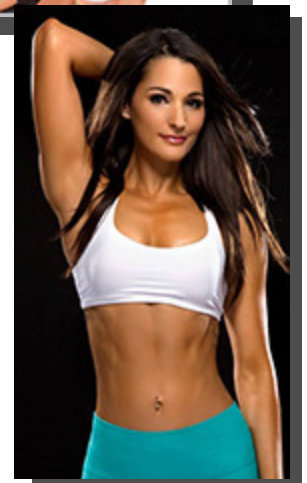


Photo Contest Winners

Happy Trails hosted our first-ever photo contest, with 32 photos to vote for. The top 13 photos would be featured in the 2016 calendar, which will be on sale on-line and in the Happy Trails gift shop the second week of November. At \$1 per vote, the contest brought in \$1,700 for the rescued animals. Thanks to everyone who submitted photos for the contest! Here are just a few of the winners.



Congratulations to contest winner Bill (far left) adopted by Barb Bakaletz.
(Though Bill won the coveted cover photo, Barb requested the big lovable guy be featured for the month of April.)



Gambler, the tenth place winner, was adopted by Mary Kay Hluch.



(Above) Beautiful Paryss and baby Gatlin, fostered by Rebecca Scalise.



(Right) Handsome Jebbe Boye, adopted by Sam, Katie and Anastya Costello, was the second place winner.

(Below) Woody, adopted by Laurie and Kerry Jackson.



"The closed mind, if closed long enough, can be opened by nothing short of dynamite."

Gerald White Johnson



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Working Together with the Boys and Girls Club of El Paso

This summer Happy Trails welcomed Victor Urbina, a visitor from El Paso, Texas. Victor was attending a marketing seminar in Cleveland hosted by Happy Trails supporter, Dan Kennedy, and wanted to see what Happy Trails was all about. In addition to being a business entrepreneur, Victor works very closely with the Boys and Girls Club of El Paso, a non-profit organization that is very near and dear to his heart and one that has a huge impact on the

lives of the children who need help the most. The Boys and Girls Club of El Paso and Happy Trails are now teaming up to network together for the good of the kids *and* the animals, and we are collaborating on several joint ventures. With a little luck and planning, we would love to bring the kids from the Girls and Boys Club of El Paso to visit Happy Trails next year as soon as our teepees are up in the new Happy Trails Village!

Be sure to check out this great organization at www.bgcelpaso.org.



Hattrick the goose welcomed Victor Urbina of the Boys and Girls Club of El Paso as only Hattrick could.

Happy Trails would like to thank TCP for being a Compassionate Thanksgiving Sponsor!

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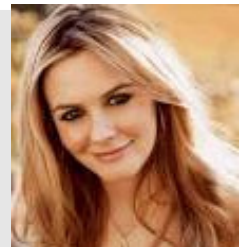


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"Once people spend time with farm animals in a loving way ... a pig or cow or a little chicken or a turkey, they might find they relate with them the same way they relate with dogs and cats. People don't really think of them that way because they're on the plate. Why should they be food when other animals are pets? I would never eat my doggies."

— Alicia Silverstone



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The Court Case Concludes Regarding 14 Neglected Horses in Summit County

On one of the coldest days of the year, Thursday, February 19th, Happy Trails was called out to assist Pawsibilities, the Greater Akron Humane Society, with the rescue and removal of 14 neglected horses from a property on Bath Road in Cuyahoga Falls. This was the third county in which their owner, Diane Silbaugh, was prosecuted and charged with animal cruelty.



Three of the fourteen horses removed from the care of owners Diane and Tom Silbaugh, sadly had to be euthanized due to health issues so severe that nothing could be done to save them.

After a series of court proceedings throughout the year, a trial date was finally set for Wednesday, August 26th, 2015.

In the last days leading up to the trial, the defense attorney indicated his clients would accept a plea agreement in lieu of the jury trial they originally requested. So instead of a trial taking place, a sentencing hearing took place on Wednesday, August 26th.

Judge Kim Hoover of the Stow Municipal Court sentenced Diane Silbaugh to:

- 90 days in jail (with no time served)
- \$750 court fine
- a court-ordered mental health assessment and follow-up treatment (hopefully to help stop the vicious cycle of abuse)
- restitution to Happy Trails in the amount of \$12,296.82 (while this is a court order and much appreciated by the sanctuary, we are realistic that the chances of the sanctuary recouping our expenses from a defendant are normally questionable at best).
- 12 months probation

For an in-depth article on this case, go to the front page of the Happy Trails website at www.happytrailsfarm.org.

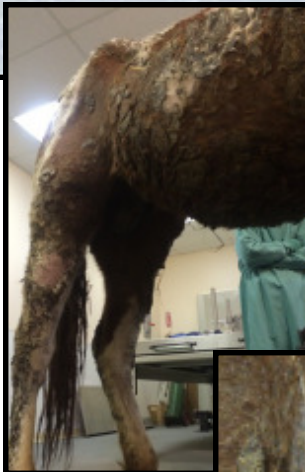
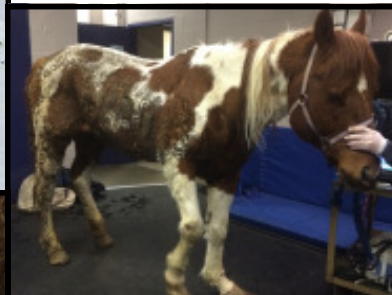
Tom Silbaugh received the same sentence, but instead of serving his time in jail, he was placed on house arrest due to his personal health issues. Five days after the court hearing, Mr. Silbaugh passed away.

Judge Kim Hoover took this case of animal abuse very seriously, and he should be commended for sentencing the defendants to jail time and acknowledging the role of Happy Trails and awarding restitution to the sanctuary. As I mentioned earlier — we are realistic in that we may not actually see much, if *any*, of the restitution, but it is now ordered by the court. Sometimes prosecutors won't even ask for restitution to cover our expenses or they reduce our request. Often in court the organization that provides the most support and assistance and pays for the care of the animals is the one who gets the raw end of the deal. In this case, the judge recognized that our restitution request was reasonable for the number of horses in our case and the level of neglect these animals suffered.

Please take a few seconds and send a polite letter to Judge Kim Hoover expressing gratitude for his role in making sure justice was served and for acknowledging the serious

nature of animal abuse cases. Letters should be addressed to Stow Municipal Court, Attention Judge Kim R. Hoover, 4400 Court-house Drive, Stow, Ohio 44224.

These horse are now available for adoption. Check out the website at www.happytrailsfarm.org for adoption information or email rebeccas@happytrailsfarm.org. Until they are adopted, Happy Trails continues to be responsible for the expense of their care and donations are very much appreciated.



- cannot own animals other than their current domestic pets during the term of their probation
- must submit to random inspections by the county humane officers regarding the care of their dogs



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

You can be sure your legacy of compassion lives on through the mission of Happy Trails to bring peace and healing to both animals and people. We honor all requests and directives as to how donations are applied.

Planned giving options can include wills and bequests, gifts of cash or stock, charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust, and/or life insurance.

We are happy to discuss your charitable objectives with you. If you have questions, please contact Happy Trails at 330-296-5914.

Enjoy Reading the Newsletter?

No, not *eating* the newsletter... *reading* the newsletter! A lot of folks look forward to *reading* the Happy



Trails bi-monthly newsletter (which is growing into the Happy Trails magazine).

If you like reading our publication but might not always be in a position to make a donation that month, consider dropping \$4 or \$5 in an envelope to help us cover our printing and distribution costs. While \$4 might not buy you more than a large cup of coffee, it would really make a difference to us. Every little bit helps!

DONATION INFORMATION

10-2015

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OTHER WAYS TO DONATE

- Donate on-line via PayPal at www.happytrailsfarm.org
- Call in your charge card information to Happy Trails at 330-296-5914

10-2015

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

Want to become a *monthly* donor?

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

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

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

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



"People who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do."

- Apple Computers



Retired school teacher, Ilona Urban (the one on the left) is one of those crazy people who want to change the world, and we are honored to work with her!



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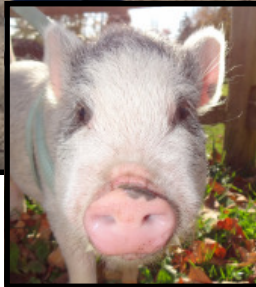
Willow wants everyone to learn to live in the moment and enjoy the sun when it shines.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

News Worth Sharing

(Right) A Service Learning student from Hudson High School, Alex Biazzo, teaches new four-month-old resident, Wilbur the adorable baby pot belly pig, to walk politely on a leash. Recently neutered, this little man is now available for adoption. He is seeking the perfect indoor home. For more information on piggy adoptions, contact us at rebeccas@happytrailsfarm.org.

(Below) Alex Hale, long-time volunteer, is constructing a new rooster refuge inside the rooster barn, and has also created new



feeding doors on the rooster runs. Volunteers with special skills such as carpentry, painting, plumbing, landscaping, and tech support are always very much appreciated. If you have skills to lend to the sanctuary, call us at 330-296-5914, or fill out the volunteer form on line at www.happytrailsfarm.org. Thanks Alex, for volunteering with Happy Trails for the past eleven years!

Our Mission

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