

Spreading Kindness and Compassion for ALL Animals

Connections, Where the Magic Begins

Dear friends of Happy Trails,

My name is Ilona Urban and I have been a volunteer with Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary since July, 2007. I am also a part time staff member, working as a tour guide on Fridays and Saturdays. From the first day that I walked into the sanctuary, I knew I was home. There is a peace that surrounds Happy Trails and working with the animals, staff and volunteers is an honor. In future newsletters you will be hearing from other staff members and volunteers as they share their thoughts and feelings about the work that we do at the sanctuary.

The healing powers of animals have long been proven scientifically and anyone who has ever loved a living creature would surely confirm that. How many times do we turn to our animal friends for solace and comfort? It could be a draft horse or a chicken but that amazing and mystical connection will still be present.

At the sanctuary we are fortunate to witness these magical connections every day. Buddy, a recent arrival from our Amish Horse Retirement program has become accustomed to our hugs and kisses in less than a month. Dakota. a blind horse, has bonded with two other horses and every person on the sanctuary grounds. His trust as he is led in and out of his stall and with his two buddies is beautiful to see. His connection and love can break a heart wide open. With programs such as our Healing Hearts with The Kevin Coleman Center or watching the residents of Hattie Larlham tour the sanctuary, trust, connection and love occur. Over and over again the miracle happens. We rescue abused, abandoned and neglected farm animals and horses, but we connect them with people and that

is when the magic begins.

During a tour this summer, a gentleman told me that looking into the eyes of one of our farm pigs was a very powerful moment for him. He said, "She was looking right back at me and I knew there was something behind those eyes."

Francis Hodgson Burnett said, "How it is that animals understand things I do not know, but it is certain that they do understand. Perhaps there is a language which is not made of words and everything in the world understands it. Perhaps there is a soul in everything, and it can always speak without even making a sound to the other soul."

The more people we can connect, the more kindness and compassion are spread throughout our homes, communities, our country and our world. We are a small rock thrown into a large pond but who knows how far the ripples we create will reach.

~Ilona



Passion for Development? HT Needs you!

At Happy Trails there are no vacations from the 24/7 care of the animals. Some one must always be there to feed them and assess their health and well being as well as to keep the stalls, pens and premises clean and tidy. Others must keep the machinery working, the fences mended and tended, and the facilities safe. Supplies need ordering and paperwork completed. In short, it takes a village to keep Happy Trails humming and the village needs a stream of income to survive and thrive.

As a non-profit, Happy Trails is supported by grants, funders, individual donors and fund-raisers of all kinds. We even have a gift shop on the grounds! To keep all this moving requires a skilled, passionate, and creative Development Director who can provide leadership and direction. At the present moment the Board of Directors is searching for the perfect fundraising professional to bring his or her knowledge, talents, enthusiasm and expertise to our village of hope and compassion. It's just a plain truth that financial resources are required to run Happy Trails.

Peaked your interest? For more details and to apply visit our Career in Rescue page at happytrailsfarm.org.



Come Take a Tour!

What would any good wedding be without the Chicken Dance? But have you ever truly witnessed a chicken dancing? If not, we invite you to come spend an hour or two with us at Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary and witness the real McCoy for yourself.

A rooster dancing

for his hens is truly something to see as he dips one wing, shakes his tail feathers and struts around for his ladies. Then there is the "dust bath" dance where chickens wiggle a nice spot in the soft ground or their sawdust filled kiddie pools and roll and flap their wings with abandon. The phrase, "dance like no one is watching" most certainly applies to chickens.

Our tour season has a number of weeks left so there is still plenty of time to register for a visit. We will be conducting tours every Friday, Saturday and Sunday until the last Sunday in October which will be October 30th.

> Our horses eagerly wait to gently take a treat from your hand or to give you a soft warm nuzzle and no tour would be complete without a visit to Cal, Willow and

friendliest farm pigs you will ever meet. They will all eagerly flop and roll for their belly rubs, and at close to 1,000 pounds, that's a lot of belly to rub!

Pet a former cock fighting rooster and see just how sweet and gentle he is. If you get just the right spot on his neck he will most likely close his eyes in appreciation.

Miniature horses and pot belly pigs will also be on hand to welcome you. We will gladly refund your money if you don't thoroughly enjoy yourself and learn something new in the process about the animals at the sanctuary. All proceeds from our tours go directly back into animal care.

Visit our website at happytrailsfarm.org for more information as you must register online or by phone (330-296-5914) before coming to the sanctuary.

We hope to see you soon!

Adoptions, Adoptions, More Adoptions!!!

Sonny

What an exciting summer it has been for adoptions! With the help of our wonderful supporters and friends who spread the word, 20 of our animals have found homes just since June. 12 more are in the process of finalizing their adoptions, and should be official within the next couple of weeks.

Horses:

ADOPTE

Lily, Jake, Sonny and Princeton were all adopted by their wonderful fosters.

After years of being adopted and returned, **Roy and Cabrio** finally found their forever home with a young couple who couldn't be happier with them.

Prince William found his Princess all the way in Indiana where he is living the ideal Happily Ever After.

Tyee is pasture mate by day, and trusty riding partner by evening.

Pandora was recognized as the athletic beauty she is, and is fulfilling the dreams of her adopter.

Chip found his perfect partner in a young girl and we have never witnessed mutual "love at first sight" such as this before.

Pigs:

Elsa and Bernie were adopted together after a brand new barn and enclosure were built just for them. They have plenty of trees to scratch on and room to root for treasures until their hearts content.

Piggie Smalls also went home to a brand new barn and play area, complete with a Piggie size in-ground pool, lots of toys and plenty of love and kisses to make any little pig's life complete.

Sheep:

Harland, the sweet little guy who mysteriously found his way into a residential neighborhood and hid in a garage, was adopted by Bella Run Equine and has fit in perfectly with 3 other sheep.



Harland



Cash the rooster went to a most amazing home where he will have the finest sweaters made just for him, a comfy lap to snuggle in while watching TV and his own little flock of girls to watch over and protect.

Bess Truman, Mary Todd Lincoln, Beatrice, Lois and Millie are all now happily pecking and scratching from dawn to dusk in their new homes.



Princeton

Horses: Falcon, Violet, Cactus, and Buddy

Sheep: Miranda, Charlotte, Kacey, and Ronaldo

Pigs: CoCoa, Yamka and Ozzie Chickens: Alexander, Liza and Judy

'Ren'aissance—The Rest of the Story

by Ashley Harris

Many of you know I was privileged enough to have Ren become a part of my family in October, 2014. Since the first day he was brought to Happy Trails I knew he would have to come home with me. I saw a strong horse whose spirit was bruised and in pain, but I also saw a will so strong and a trust that was so true it shook my core. How could an animal that was locked in a stall with insufficient care, blind and neglected have so much trust in me from the moment I met him. I started off just grazing him on the patches of grass around the sanctuary. Every day I would come in and he would seem to know the moment I stepped into the barn. He could sense my presence. Being a part of a blind horse's life is so unique. You first worry about, how is he going to deal with other horses? Can he be in a herd? How will he know where the water trough is? How is he going to be able to tell when another horse is upset with him? Or, where are the boundaries of his pasture? So I asked him. He knew more than I can ever come to understand. He knows where the trough is. He can navigate hills and ditches. He allows his brother (my TB gelding) to help him when he gets introduced to new members of the herd. My TB and Ren are the best of friends and watching them interact is truly amazing. Ren has overcome all of these challenges and continues to amaze me every day. In every challenge I have presented him with, he has excelled. Then came the question, "How do you feel about me riding you?" Well his reaction was so heart-warming I could barely contain my emotion. The first time I rode him I had yet to purchase a saddle for him and, not knowing how he would react, I walked him up to the mounting block and swung my leg over, and as soon as he felt me on his back he immediately puffed up like the proudest horse that ever walked the planet. It was like his spirit was rejuvenated and from there it was absolute, indescribable joy. We knew little information about his past, but knew he had competed in the Dressage discipline at some point in his life. So I again asked the questions. He knew every answer to every question I asked him. Even when I wasn't quite sure what I was asking he said, "Mom, let me handle this one." Flying changes, half-pass, canter pirouettes he knew it all. The culminations of all our



efforts were recognized on June 26th, 2016 when we had the opportunity to compete in the Dressage Derby of Ohio in Painesville. He trailered in perfectly on the hour ride to the show and walked off that trailer like he owned the place. We competed 1st level and had the time of our lives. He was so proud of himself and I was overjoyed to see how far we have truly come since that first day we met at Happy Trails. I could not stop smiling as I warmed him up in the big field and practiced our test. As soon as I trotted him into the show ring he was showing off to the judges. I am so happy to provide this update and to share our amazing journey that continues to warm my heart and bring joy to my life. Thank you to everyone who was a part of bringing this amazing horse into my life. I cannot begin to explain how much he truly means to me.

Consider Adoption. A Rewarding Journey that Helps our World Right Wrongs, One Animal at a Time...

Looking for a special addition to your animal family? Consider the journey of adoption. Whether farm animals are dear to your heart or majestic horses are your fancy, Happy Trails has many animals of all shapes, sizes, colors, ages and riding levels.

Easy as 1-2-3...1) Fill out and submit an application; 2) Complete a home check; 3) Select your new friend!

For more information visit happytrailsfarm.org/adopt-an-animal

Free for you...

- Like us on Facebook
- Bring your aluminum cans to the sanctuary for recycle
- Save your ACME receipts for HT to turn in for cash
- Sign up with your email to receive our e-news
- email "go green" to info@happytrailsfarm.org to receive our newsletters digitally
- Use AmazonSmile to earn 5% of your Amazon purchases for HT
- Save your Nutrena tags for HT to receive 5 cents each
- · Volunteer with us!

Donations of hay, straw and feed are always welcome; items such as chicken scratch, meal worms, sunflower seeds and sweet feed. Due to the importance of maintaining a consistent diet for the horses, HT feeds Tribute Maturity, Essential K, Alfalfa pellets and Speedi-Beet.

- \$49 (gallon) Fly spray to end the season fly-free
- \$80 Ceiling fan w/ light for the office, poor Shawnna can't see!
- \$300 Gravel/limestone for our gate areas and fill
- \$500 Tractor repairs to the hydraulic steering and oil change
- \$500 Microscope/testing kit to do our own fecals saving time and \$\$
- \$540 Tires (pair) for Old Blue, our dump truck, who could really use 'em to haul our manure away safely
- \$1,200 Tractor tires (pair) to keep Bentley mowing safely
- \$1,750 Stall Butler to save hours of mucking and tons of bedding

Be a Part of the Team

Our prayer is that you read through this newsletter and soak in the amazing work of Happy Trails, the unstoppable dedication of our staff, the continued blood sweat and tears of our volunteers, all to uphold our mission to provide rescue and respite for the criminally abused and neglected farm animals and horses we encounter. Recognize the magical connections that evolve from this work and the definitive need for this work to continue; for Happy Trails to succeed. When you are done, come back to this page and be the reason we succeed. Ask yourself in what way you can help to insure Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary will continue to provide the love, nurture, rehabilitation and care to these animals for the *next* decades. We cannot do it without you, we do not pretend to be able to, and. . .

We can do anything with your support!

- \$5,500 Brushcat to attach to our Bobcat to handle tough brush clearing jobs
- \$1,400 Auger attachment for our Bobcat to save on rental costs to dig fence post holes
- \$7,750 Estimated to paint our buildings to help keep them beautiful and in good repair for years to come
- \$8,000 Manure spreader to spread our manure instead of hauling it off property, saving us time, gas and Bentley:)
- \$13,200 Horse trailer to replace our 2-horse which has become a bit unsafe. Used to transport horses to their homes and smaller farm animals to vet appointments etc. Also used for smaller rescues!

Rooster Condos - can be sponsored yearly at \$600 (\$50/month). A plaque will be placed on the condo door to honor your sponsorship.

Horse Stalls - can be sponsored yearly at \$1,200 (\$100/month). A plaque will be placed on the stall door to honor your sponsorship.

Event sponsorship - personal and/or corporate funding of our annual or community events in exchange for incentives and announcement of your partnership with Happy Trails.

WishList Item of the Season

\$35 - Safety Heat lamps to safely warm the animal shelters this winter. This important project requires

31 fixtures

We have several specific facilities projects marked with an asterisk (*) These can be discussed with our Facilities Manager, Jason Wolboldt (jasonw@happytrailsfarm.org) to understand the funding needed to make them happen.

Don't forget to visit our AmazonSmile wishlist online. Did you know you can purchase the items elsewhere and still mark it as purchased on our list? We love and appreciate the savvy shoppers who put their bargain shopping skills to use!

Vet bills galore!

Falcon (horse) \$1,257.16 - evaluation including EPM test and x-rays to determine the cause of his muscle atrophy and lack of coordination to finalize his adoption!

Chip (horse) \$253.42 - exam to determine lameness and treatment to finalize his adoption!

Kate (horse) \$384 prescription of Previcox for her pain due to ringbone, teeth float and yet visit

Suvali (mini horse) \$299.75 - prescription of Prascend for Cushings disease

Cocoa (potbelly) \$650.29 - spay surgery to finalize her adoption!

Audrey (mini horse) \$3,062.32 - surgery to remove infected tooth and longstanding tumor

Sponsor a horse in training -HT has a budding relationship with Trainer Kelly Chapman who uses natural horsemanship to make our horses good citizens for adoption. Next up...Hercules for his 2nd month - \$550

- *Driveway expansion finish the driveway parallel to the arena to insure safe access of emergency vehicles to the back of the property
- *Fencing complete the fencing of our new pasture areas for horses and sheep
- *Hot/cold running water in Vet Clinic - to soak wounds, clean instruments and keep bacteria contained
- *Ventilation for arena to expel the trapped hot air in our riding arena to make it usable for turnout during summer months
- *Wash stall safe area to bath horses
- *Potbelly Pig Barn replace the aging Piggerton Estates with a new Piggerton 2.0 for our potbelly pigs

Intake and Court Cases

Seven Horses have a new lease on

life....Mahoning County responders arrived at a working fire of a residence. Once the fire was under control, not only had it gutted the family home, it shed light on seven horses kept in a small pole building with no food, water or hay. Their conditions were cold, wet and unsanitary and the horses were definitely in need of rescue from their situation.

You may remember this story, and we now have the privilege to report that thanks to the efforts of Animal Charity, Jeff Holland, prosecutor, and the decision of Judge Kobly of Mahoning County, this case is closed and it's a win for the animals! The defendant, Patricia Floyd, of Youngstown, received 5 years probation during which time she may not own animals other than 2 dogs. This is after being convicted of 4 counts of cruelty to animals, all 2nd degree misdemeanors. Although ordered to pay restitution of \$17,400, Happy Trails has not received a penny.



We now are free to find homes for the 5 amazing horses and 2 minis now legally signed over. For a complete listing of the available horses from this case as well as others visit happytrailsfarm.org.



Buddy, a personable and dependable Amish work horse was retired to Happy Trails. The day we picked him up from his family he was still roadsound and was pulling his 84-year-old owner loyally and safely.

Harland, a scared and tiny little lamb, was found of all places in a residential area of Kent in a garage! Imagine the surprise of the residents who took the time to care and called Happy Trails to

take over. Two staff members scooped little Harland up and transported him safely back to the sanctuary. Harland was named in honor of Summit County Humane Officer, Tim Harland. Tim and fellow officer Shannon O'Herron work tirelessly to protect and serve the animals of Summit County.



Star comes to us from an Amish family as well. This beautiful Morgan mare was a show horse and did her owner proud. Due to a riding injury, hospital bills and pending vet bills, the family made the hard decision to ask for help. Honoring our Amish Retirement program, we accepted Star in and are working to help her gain weight as well as bringing in a vet to diagnose a lameness issue.



Henrietta the hen was brought to us by an Akron Animal Control officer, Ron Dowdy. This sweet little gal was found wandering the streets and although, under-nourished and dehydrated, she should spring back to health under the care of our staff.



Thank you... Everyone at Happy Trails - the animals, volunteers and staff, would like to take a moment to thank as many as we can for all of their generous donations

and acts of kindness. To Allen Hart for sponsorship of a large portion of our pathways project; to Solveig Jentner for Dakota's new mask; to Paul (and Carol) Wagner and friend for seeing a need and hand-crafting 8 wooden benches for the sanctuary; to Crystal Brook Farm for countless bales of hay; to Dr. Sam Costello for the continuous donation of his services for our birds; to the Burton D. Morgan Foundation for funding our entire perimeter fence project; to Eileen Judge for her continuous support for the animals; to Kathy Schaefer for our new rooster condos; to the Hillier Foundation for their generous grant; to Kelly Chapman for her training skills and patience with our horses; to Fred Snowden and Christina Lang for the energy work they contribute along with their team; to the Dalton Family Foundation for their monthly support for our mission; to Dan Kennedy for his focus and support; to each foundation for granting us funds to complete key projects and for important needs; and to each of you reading this for the way you plug in to support our mission. Because of you, we make a difference in our community and our world.



Hearts 4 Hooves - Sophie Makes a Difference

by Shawnna Lemerise

We recently welcomed some good friends for a special visit to the sanctuary. These friends are Victoria and her kids, Miles and Sophie, who are the adoptive family of Vernon. Vernon is a potbelly pig who was abused by his previous owner, and made his recovery at Happy Trails. One of the things that made this visit special was that it was Sophie's birthday. What is even more special is that for her birthday, Sophie brought *us* a gift! She has been working hard all summer to save money in order to visit and make a contribution.

Vernon has been given the name, "Koa," which is the Hawaiian word for "brave." We think this is a perfect name for such a brave pig, who teaches us that animals can experience great tragedy and overcome. This bravery helped inspire Sophie to be a voice for her pig, Koa, and she is passionate about sharing his story in order to help others like him. As a result, Sophie founded the "Hearts 4 Hooves" organization which helps abused animals learn to love again and raise awareness for Happy Trails.

Sophie worked hard this summer hosting yard sales and organizing lemonade stands to raise money for Happy Trails. She distributed her brochure for Hearts 4 Hooves to provide her customers with information about

Happy Trails and to share Koa's story. Thanks to Hearts 4 Hooves and Sophie's business savviness, enough money was raised to sponsor two animals at Happy Trails! She chose to sponsor dwarf mini horse, Kachina, and a potbelly pig. She loved all the pigs she met so much, she couldn't decide on one to sponsor. So, we decided we would surprise her with a potbelly pig who needed a sponsor, which is Lillian! Congrats, Sophie! Your hard work paid for an entire month's care for both Kachina and Lillian - and that's no small feat! Sponsorships, donations, tour visits, fosters and adoptions don't end with a one-time event. Your contribution, support and adoption changes lives for the better. We are so proud of Koa's family for being such huge champions of our mission. We also hope that this inspires you to know that your involvement, whether

great or small, is critical to helping us continue to spread kindness and compassion to farm animals everywhere.



Sophie and Miles (and friend) sell lemonade to raise money for Happy Trails through Hearts 4 Hooves.

Want to make a donation to Happy Trails as well as show your support for Hearts 4 Hooves and Sophie's hard work? Visit happytrailsfarm.org and click the Hearts 4 Hooves donation link.

Facilities Updates

by Jason Wolboldt

When I first became involved with Happy Trails eight years ago, I would have never imagined the sanctuary would have come this far. Thanks to our generous donors and volunteers, Happy Trails has become more safe, more efficient, more beautiful and has greatly improved the quality of life of the animals who call Happy Trails home. It has been an exciting summer full of improvements to the facilities.



New Pavilion – Thanks to our founder, Annette Bragg, and her family, we have a new pavilion built in memory of their parents for holding seminars, meetings and picnics. It's a beautiful and useful addition to the sanctuary.

Rooster Condos – Earlier this year we rescued a large number of roosters from two different underground cockfighting rings. We gave them the best we could with what we had, but we really needed to give them a larger home with the freedom to go inside and outside when they wanted. Thanks to a very generous donor, we built a luxury twelve coop roosterplex complete with top and bottom wire mesh for

protection from predators, screen doors for ventilation, carpeted perches and individual electrical

outlets for heat lamps in winter.

New Pasture – Last fall we cleaned up, graded and seeded a new pasture for horses.

Previously it was a heavily wooded area that was always muddy and so crowded with trees the horses could never get a chance to run and be horses. This year we finished the fence and the new pasture grass grew and filled out. Now we have a new gorgeous pasture perfect for horses.

Perimeter Fence – Thanks to a generous grant from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation, we are putting up a much needed perimeter fence. If we encounter heavy winds and a tree falls on a fence holding in our animals and they get loose, the perimeter fence will provide a second barrier that will allow us to keep them on the property and get them back to safety. It also provides protection from predators and adds another layer of security for the sanctuary.

Flooded Area Drainage - Ever since I is started with Happy Trails there has been a low area on the south of the property that always flooded and prevented us from expanding our horse pastures. We really needed the space. We installed 150ft of drainage pipe to drain this flooded area into our true pond at the back of the property. We did

the back of the property. We did this to allow fencing contractors to access the property line when the time came to put up the perimeter fence scheduled later in the season. Not only did this reduce the cost of the fence by \$3,500, it has opened up several acres of land for us to use as new pasture for horses, goats and sheep.

Fan Upgrades – First I want to give a huge thank you to all of our supporters who donated to this project. Since our last newsletter, we received over \$1,300 towards upgrading our fan system from box fans to proper barn fans. These fans are designed to work in dusty environments and therefore are safer and more reliable than the old fans. They are also much more powerful, are adjustable and look much more professional.



Volunteer Spotlight

by Fred Lefton

Volunteering at Happy Trails is both rewarding for the participants and also critical to the successful operation of the sanctuary. Every day our volunteers are on site, helping the staff to provide safe and happy homes to the animals we rescue. I think the staff would agree that without their help, it would be a much more difficult mission to accomplish.

Each month we hold orientations to bring on new volunteers who want to give their time and love to our resident animals. July 23rd we had a small group join us, including two ladies who have been very generous with their time and caring ways. Sherry Alexander and Libby Kurfis shared their thoughts with me about their experience at Happy Trails.

Sherry joined Happy Trails after attending the Home & Garden Show and speaking with Happy Trails representative, Ilona Urban. She was impressed with the description Ilona gave of the volunteer experience and decided to give it a try. Sherry has been coming in several days a week and helping with a variety of tasks including cleaning up the stalls and courtyard, watering the animals, weed whacking, and working in the gift shop. She especially enjoys holding the animals and giving them hugs, when she can. Sherry feels she has learned new things each day. Although she has horse experience, working with the other animals is a new adventure to her. She says that she recommends volunteering at Happy Trails to friends because it makes her

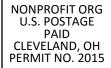
feel good, and although the work is not easy, it is rewarding.

Sherry's favorite animal at the sanctuary is Judy, a hen with lots of personality, who loves to be held. Sherry will be the first to tell you how dedicated and hard working the staff is at Happy Trails and why it is so important to have the volunteer help she and others provide.

Libby came to Happy Trails because she loves animals and was looking for such a place to volunteer. After taking a tour, she knew this was right for her. Libby has put many hours in each week cleaning, watering, and otherwise helping the caregiver staff, and has been working a lot with the horses. She helps to groom them and with turning them out in the pasture.

Libby feels she has gained a lot of knowledge about horses as well as the other animals. She now hopes to pursue training as a vet tech. Libby's favorite at the sanctuary is Dakota, one of the fine horses residing at Happy Trails. Libby sums it up by stating, "I'm always excited to come here and always leave having learned something new."







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Sign up online for our weekly e-news. Like us on Facebook for great stories, info and #wilbycrushwednesday!

Make a Difference - Volunteer for Happy Trails

Have you ever thought of helping out by volunteering with Happy Trails? Now is a great time to come work with us; there are a lot of great ways you can help. Many of our volunteers love to help with the labor needed to make this a great place for the animals to live. Scrubbing buckets, raking leaves, weed trimming and mowing, cleaning stalls, Saturday shelter cleaning and projects with our facilities manager take place daily. It is hard work but also satisfying and enjoyable. There are also opportunities to help in other ways; staffing our gift shop, picking up donated items, working with horse tack and helping to plan fundraisers are just a few. The type of work and the days/hours you work can be flexible to utilize your skills and to fit your schedule.



Ready to get started?

Visit our website at happytrailsfarm.org to take the next step!

Our Mission

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary Inc. is a non-profit 501c3 organization that rescues, rehabilitates and provides an adoption program for abused, abandoned and neglected farm animals such as horses, ponies, pot belly pigs, farm pigs, chickens, ducks, turkeys, sheep, goats and cows. Happy Trails serves Ohio as well as 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.