



**June 2019**

Dear Friends,

This is one of my favorite times of the year. Spring is here, and I get to bring you along with me on a walk around Spring Farm CARES, to tell you about the impact you have made this past year. Many of you have been with us for quite a long time and have seen a lot of growth and change. This year was no exception in all that you have helped accomplish, and the lives you have touched. We are so grateful for you. And there is so much more to come!



The sounds from the barn increase as we get closer. Guff guff guff. Grunt grunt. Guff guff grunt. I start to smile before I even reach the door, knowing what is going to happen next. As the door opens, the grunts and guffs turn into ear-piercing squeals of delight. It is feeding time for the pigs. Pigs approach their food with absolute joy. You can tell, as they eat each mouthful, just how much they love it. And watching these pigs enjoy their food gives such special pleasure. They were literally being starved to death when we rescued them.

The donkeys are next to start their own choir -- of brays. They, also, have known horrific neglect and starvation. The horses then join in, with their nickering and banging their stalls. I remember the traumas that many of them endured before they came here. Yet, every one of them exudes gratitude for what they now have. Every one of them greets the day with enthusiasm. Animals are wonderful at teaching how to live in the moment. They remind us, each day, to appreciate and give thanks for each moment.

In our small animal facility, the cats are impatiently awaiting their caretakers' arrival so that the daily feeding begins. The birds are chirping, the rabbits are hopping around in anticipation of the day ahead. There is a particular peacefulness that comes from animals who know they are loved, and that they have a purpose. It's that same peace that visitors, again and again, tell us that they find here. It is healing. And it is an energy and magic that you help create and spread.

When I look into the eyes of these animals, and when I watch them interact with the staff, volunteers, and visitors each day, it reminds me of the mission for which we founded this place 28 years ago. We are a sanctuary for animals ... and humans. We offer a space where humans can come and realign themselves -- spending time with the unconditional love and peace of the animals. We aim to keep that space open, so that people can come to understand that animals have feelings and thoughts and souls just as we do. We are also here for people to, in visiting our Nature Sanctuary, reconnect with nature, and understand the responsibility and stewardship that we all share for this planet. Providing firsthand experience of the animals, and of the beauty of nature, is the true mission of Spring Farm CARES. You are a vital part of that.



3364 State Route 12, Clinton, NY 13323 / Office Phone: (315) 737-9339 M-F, 9am-4pm

Email: [office@springfarmcares.org](mailto:office@springfarmcares.org) / On the web: [www.springfarmcares.org](http://www.springfarmcares.org)

NYS Shelter/Rescue Reg. # - RR025



With your help, we have done a lot of amazing things. In the past year, we have been able to step up, say yes, and assist when asked to by law enforcement, on several cruelty cases involving larger animals. Your support made it possible for all of these animals to escape the hell that they were in and find safety and a place to heal at Spring Farm CARES. Sadly, many of our original and oldest horses (from 32-38 years old) passed away in the last 2 years. But this left us space to say yes to others that were in dire straits. We took in five horses and seven mini-donkeys, all found living in deplorable circumstances. (Shortly after they arrived, we discovered that one of the donkeys, Cora, is pregnant, so we are awaiting the birth.)

Then there are the pigs. We were not set up for pigs here, but the first one, who desperately needed us, came in with the

mini-donkeys. We could manage one pig, we figured. We named her Eloise. Much to our surprise, shortly after she arrived, she presented us with six charming piglets. Still, we figured that we could manage them all. They're a small breed of pig. We created a pig habitat for them in the barn, connected to a nice pasture and a stream for them to wallow in. Eloise and her piglets love their digs, and we love watching them be happy.

On New Year's Eve, 2018, came a new twist. We were called in by law enforcement to rescue some large – really large -- farm pigs who were starving and living in substandard and dangerous circumstances. Five of them were already dead. Another one was in such bad shape that the veterinarian had to euthanize him on site. The surviving seven had to be gotten out of the place that they were in that night. Our staff worked for hours in horrific conditions, getting them out and loaded onto a trailer, taken to Spring Farm, and put into temporary quarters. We really didn't have room for them. Yet we made space happen. Their very lives depended on us that night. How satisfying it was to provide them with water, and a bit of food, then, along about midnight, watch them gratefully snuggle down together onto warm, clean straw. It was not lost on us that January 1, 2019 ushered in the Chinese year of the Pig. We started the year off well. But we were also now over our heads with very large farm pigs. We began searching for qualified pig sanctuaries to take them. At this writing, we have found placement for the largest two – who we named Statler and Waldorf. We will continue to care for the remaining five of these sweet and loving guys as long as necessary, while also continuing the search for more appropriate sanctuaries for them.

With the advent of a new generation of horses, and donkeys, now in our barn, we find ourselves dealing with some dramatic changes. Having to manage and work around some of the individual needs, quirks, temperaments, and social ability or disability of some in our herd has caused us to reassess the farm's infrastructure, and what we are currently providing for them. We have realized that major changes, repairs, and improvements are needed. We must, for instance, reclaim acreage by clearing brush. We must rebuild thousands of feet of fencing that is 25 to 30 years old. We must create new pastures and paddocks, for the horses and donkeys. We must better accommodate our blind horses, and horses who cannot be on lush pasture due to illnesses such as Cushing's Disease or Laminitis, or horses just too cranky to safely pasture with others. We must ingeniously utilize our land in a much better way, giving each animal an even better quality of life.

This is going to come with a big price tag. But it must be done ... done for the current animals and for generations of animals to come. Your gifts will go toward improvements that will last for the next 25 to 30 years. These improvements will service not only







the coming generations of animals, but the next generations of humans who will come to meet with these animal teachers, humans who will leave Spring Farm with their own lives enriched and changed.

The small animal part of our operation also saw many changes this year. Our cat population of about 150 cats now consists basically of elderly cats or those with special needs, or who are in hospice care. This is the demographic of the cat population that we originally intended to serve in our sanctuary. We will no longer focus on adoptions. Almost all of our cats are, and will be, permanent residents receiving special attention, but also participating in educational programs. Programs such as Purrfect Readers, where kids come and read to the cats. This is a win/win situation for both the animals and the children. The children read out loud in a completely non-judgmental environment, while cats love to be read to. Many of the shyest come out of their shells, responding to a non-threatening childish presence.

As the stewards of Spring Farm CARES, we are now taking a deep look at where we are and what we are doing. Over the years, our work has spread like a meandering stream, inch by inch, almost unnoticeably, stretching the boundaries of our original mission. We are now returning to that original mission ... returning to the heart and soul of the farm. We will be cutting back in some areas and even eliminating programs that we can no longer afford to maintain, and that were not intended when we began. Just as we will now be cutting away the brush which has stealthily stolen pasture acreage away from our horses ... as we will now be giving our horses access to better pastures and paddocks, with stronger fences, while also providing ways for visitors to visit them ... so we will be pruning programs. At the same time, however, we will be planting new seeds. You'll be learning soon of new programs geared to bring more people to the farm, to meet these animals, and to enjoy our beautiful gardens, and our nature sanctuary. We will be broadening the reach of our message of compassion and kindness and hope, while continuing to teach and facilitate animal/human communication, as well as access to nature. We are excitedly looking to our future plans ... of which you are such a critical part.

Again, the human/animal bond remains the core of our mission. We have so many wonderful animal teachers, including horses, donkeys, ponies, goats, sheep, ducks, chickens, a goose, pigs, cats, birds, rabbits, guinea pigs, and turtles. All of them have found safety and purpose here, thanks to you. The human hearts they touch are also part of the contribution you make.

Please join us again this year as we renew our mission, while taking major steps to insure the future, the next generations, of Spring Farm CARES.

As an example of the ways that your contributions reach into unexpected places ... recently, a young lady came to our facility to get some animal nurturing time. Her parents asked if we had any chickens. Their daughter especially loved chickens. Indeed, we did! We brought Pip out to sit with this young lady. The photo above says it all. You make this sort of human/animal comforting possible. The young lady and her family were going through a challenging time. They found respite here. The peace went with them as they walked back out the door. We are humbled to be a part of this process, and eternally grateful to have you with us. You are making a difference in a world hungry for kindness, compassion, and connection. Bless you.

In gratitude,

*Dawn*

Dawn Hayman  
Co-Founder/Director

**You've asked for this for years and she finally said "Yes"!!!**

# **Communicating with Animals and Nature An Introductory Course for Beginners**

**with Dawn Hayman**

**After over ten years, Dawn Hayman will once again offer a beginner level Animal Communication workshop.**

Dawn is one of the pioneers in Animal Communication with over 30 years of professional consulting and teaching experience to share with you at her home – Spring Farm CARES. This is an opportunity to learn from some amazing animals in the safety of a sanctuary dedicated to the human/animal bond. It is an opportunity you don't want to miss.

All of us have the innate ability to communicate with all of the rest of life. It is so natural for us that we often overlook what information we receive. But we can be taught and reminded how to listen.

In this workshop, you will start to recognize how you receive communications from your animals and nature and start to build the skills needed to practice and get stronger at this communication after you leave the workshop. This workshop will provide you with insight and inspiration and will start the basics needed to develop your communication skills. In fact, many people have found that their communication skills with people improved after taking this workshop as well.

*Here are some of the topics we will explore in this 2-day workshop:*

- What is Telepathy?
- Discover how you can increase your listening skills to receive telepathic communication
- Different ways of receiving telepathic communications
- How animals view their world and their relationships with each other and with humans
- Learning to access an animal's viewpoint and perspective
- Recognizing and respecting the cultural diversity in the animal and nature kingdom
- How we can make a difference in this world simply by listening
- There will be plenty of time for question and answer discussion
- 'Hands on' practice with the animals and with nature in our sanctuary

**Date: October 26-27, 2019 - 9:30am - 5pm.**

**Cost: \$225 (lunches and snacks included both days)**

**Contact: [office@springfarmcares.org](mailto:office@springfarmcares.org) for more details and to sign up**



## **Today's Seed Becomes Tomorrow's Tree The Future Is In Your Hands Today**

When doing your estate planning, please consider a gift to Spring Farm CARES. You will leave a legacy and plant seeds of hope and compassion for years to come. Leaving a lasting gift is easy and reaches beyond the confines of time.

It's also easy to make a gift of stock to Spring Farm CARES. Your broker can electronically wire shares to our account.

Please contact Margot, our Treasurer at (315) 737-9339  
for more information or email at:  
[Margot@springfarmcares.org](mailto:Margot@springfarmcares.org)  
Spring Farm CARES EIN#: 16-1388835