



SPRING FARM CARES

ANIMAL & NATURE
SANCTUARY

OUR MISSION

We believe that when our Mother Earth and all her living things were created, a loving balance, respect, and communication existed between Humans, all other life forms, and the Earth.

We believe that Humankind has forgotten the original plan, to the detriment not only of others in the animal kingdom, and of the Earth, but of ourselves.

We believe that a return to an understanding of our oneness with All That Is will cure the cruelties and horrors, and the illnesses with which we find ourselves surrounded.

Through our caring contribution, we hope to help Humankind remember that original plan of love and respect, to remember our natural ability to communicate with All That Is, and so return to balanced health, physically, mentally, spiritually, and in relationship to all.



December 2019

TIME FOR HOPE

Many people are feeling overwhelmed by the seeming chaos of the world. While these are trying times, it is also true that in times of greatest challenge and turmoil are the greatest opportunities for growth and healing. We are in a great time of hope. It is up to each one of us to create within us the world we want to see. Every single heart makes a difference.

This year, we at Spring Farm CARES, have reached back down deep into our roots and back to the heart of our mission. We had allowed chaos and turmoil to distract us from our true vision. We firmly believe in our mission. We have dedicated

our lives to ensuring that Spring Farm CARES moves forward with that mission. So, this year, we came home and it feels good to be back home again.

Many of you have been with us for many years on this journey and others of you may be finding us for the first time. This is your story as much as it is ours and we are so grateful to have you along. Inside these pages, we hope you will be inspired by all that we are doing together. Let us remember as we step into a new year of opportunity and challenges, to be grateful for our loved ones and for all of the animals in our lives who bring us light and love and teach us to never give up on hope.



This year marked a milestone when we said good-bye to Viva, the horse responsible for starting this all. Viva was born March 20, 1985 after co-founder Bonnie bought her very first horse, Kazinka, only to find out later that she was pregnant. Viva arrived 3 weeks late as Bonnie slept beside Kazinka in the barn in sub-zero weather awaiting his arrival. His birth changed the course of Bonnie's life and planted the seed that became Spring Farm CARES. Viva and Dawn arrived at the farm exactly at

the same time. Destiny brought all of the ingredients together, and 34 years later it is amazing to see where we are and who we've become. And one stubborn, obstinate, magnificent horse set the course and loved this farm as much as anyone ever could. Viva lived his whole life here on this farm. He was loved since the day he was born. And he lived a life that very few horses get to live. By all accounts, Viva should have died two years ago when we discovered that he had a

huge mass in his abdomen. He later had other medical complications on top of that. But, he made it clear it was not his time to go. He pulled through enormous odds and kept on trucking. Each winter, we thought it would be his last. But he lived for spring and the hope of green grass. In the end, it was his legs that gave out. He squeezed every ounce of usefulness out of the body he was born into and he polished off a whole bucket of green grass just before the end.

From the hilltop on which he resided for the past 34 years, he could look over the entire farm. He watched enormous changes and growth over the years. He was proud of what we have become. He felt he was a part of it all and indeed he was.

Viva lived with three mares for over 20 years. Two of them, Story and Harriett, both passed in the last few years. That left Viva and Belle as the last of the hilltop herd. Sadly, Belle now finds herself the sole survivor. Our hearts ached for Belle as she said good-bye to her last companion, the pesky gelding who the mares constantly had to keep in line, but who was her friend and companion nonetheless.

Just after Viva was euthanized, Belle came close to pay her last respects. As she fully understood that he was gone, she suddenly spun around and looked up the hill to the pasture on the hilltop. Ears perked, nostrils flaring, and watching with wonder at something we couldn't see. It was then that we realized, the ghost herd had come to pick him up. She knew they were there. She could feel them. Belle herself is not in good health. We know that Viva and friends will be watching over her, and the entire farm that he helped create.

He told Dawn before he left, "Look, it's gonna have to be up to all of you now to carry this forward. Don't drop the ball now. My energy will still be here forever with you. But don't mess this up." No pressure there. The dream will continue. The mission will move on. And the stubborn gelding that always from day one did things in his own way on his own time, will always be a part of the very heart of this mission. ■



Coming Soon: Spring Farm CARES Nature Sanctuary Newsletter

Watch your mail in the Spring of 2020 for the launch of our first Nature Sanctuary Newsletter. Matt Perry and his team do outstanding work and will share a wealth of information and photos about our 260-acre nature sanctuary. Our Nature Sanctuary also has a dedicated Facebook Page which you don't want to miss. Search Facebook for Spring Farm CARES Nature Sanctuary.



Wish list

Please visit our website for more details or email our office at:
www.springfarmcares.org
office@springfarmcares.org

We have a wish list that includes items that we commonly use and need for the animals as well as for around the farm. There are two wish lists on our website. One for new and used items and one on Amazon.com.



Name
Thank you for sharing your heart with me.

"Sometimes my body gets moving before my brain can catch up. It's true. But my heart is in the right place. I'm trying to learn about a lot of things in life. One of them is patience to myself. I often have had to rush through things because people wanted me to move but with little time to think. But life shouldn't be that way and I get a bit confused. The fighting it all out I think. I lost my connection to the wisdom of the forest. But I am finding it again. I live with some older and very wise horses. They have taught me the skill of breathing and slowing down so I can think. They say I carry the wisdom of the forest too. I hope on some day I want to be wise too."

- Ziek

SPRING FARM CARES
 Animal and Nature Sanctuary

Sponsor an Animal

You can sponsor one of our resident animals and make a difference in their lives!

Annual Sponsorship is \$100
Great Gift Idea too!

A card and message from that animal will be sent to you (or the person you are gifting to) and your name will be posted next to that animal on our website.

www.springfarmcares.org

Dear Friends,

As this year comes to a close and we head into our 29th year as a non-profit sanctuary, we are filled with gratitude to have you along on this journey with us. At the end of every year, I set out to try to give you an update on what is happening at Spring Farm CARES. This year has brought a lot of changes and, at the same time, it also has been a year of coming home and going back to our roots.

As I'm looking back over the past year, there is one thing that stands out the most to me that I'd love to share with all of you. It's something that we observe regularly on this farm and it is something that you are all such a part of in a profound way – healing. The healing that we experience and witness here on the farm is not just limited to this space. Healing, like love, spreads from heart to heart. We see it in the healing of the animals who come here after experiencing deep pain and trauma. We see it in people who find healing when they come and spend time with the animals who show them the gift of unconditional love. We see it in the land itself as the land is allowed to heal and move back to its natural state of being. The world is in need of healing right now in a big way. It doesn't matter where it starts, as long as it starts somewhere. One heart heals and touches another and another and another as kindness and compassion replace abuse, neglect, and despair. Eyes that were once dull or void of any hope suddenly begin to soften until that spark of light returns. Hope replaces hopelessness. Joy fills the holes of despair. And

life continues forward. In any given moment, we have a choice in how we interact in this world. Those choices have tremendous ramifications. When we choose compassion and kindness, the universe responds in kind, and love and healing spreads from heart to heart.

This year, we took a good look at where we have come from and where we are headed as an organization. We found some things that needed



changing. There were upgrades needed to our infrastructure, such as replacing our nearly 30-year-old fencing and upgrading loafing sheds. The composition of our horse herd has changed so much over the last couple of years that we had to reconfigure our pastures and paddocks to better meet the needs and challenges of the current population of equines. And there were difficult decisions to be made on programs that we could no longer afford to operate and to turn our focus towards the future to ensure the long-term goals of our organization.

In short, we had strayed from the heart of our mission and our roots. But, we found our way back home and returned our attention to the heart of what we are all about. We are digging down deep into our roots while reaching for the stars.

This farm offers an ever-flowing spring of wellness. The animals come here for healing. People come here for healing. And, the most amazing miracle of all to watch is that those who come here initially to be healed, become agents of healing for others. The well of healing energy gets deeper and deeper as time goes on. Where many of these animals once

walked in here filled with despair, they are now offering peace and hope and wisdom to other hurting hearts looking for respite and repair. We see this universal truth here daily – the more you give, the more you have to give.

Every year, I am tasked with trying to convey to you what your support has achieved and to enlist your help for our future. But I cannot do that by giving you lists of numbers and pie charts. It is hard to even quantify the effects of what happens on this farm in a given year. I can't put



numbers to the healing of a human heart. I can tell you how many animals we have and how many we have taken in this past year. I can even tell you about the ones who left us. But I cannot even begin to show you the other hearts and lives they have touched in that same time span. I cannot show you on paper how visitors' grieving hearts were offered solace and peace both from humans and animals as they spent

time with us. I cannot put a value on the effects on children's lives as they came to the farm for a visit, some of them stepping foot on a farm for the first time in their lives, and leaving here with their hearts touched and their minds enriched. How can we put a value on what people learn coming to workshops and learning to hear with their hearts what the animals and planet have to offer? How can I express to you what animals who have been through absolute darkness and hovered on the brink of death, alone, and giving up on hope find when they walk in our doors and feel the depth of care and compassion that feeds and renews their life force energy as well as heals their bodies?

It can't be measured. Yet, these are all very real direct outcomes of your support. We cannot do this without you. I hope you will get a taste of what you are a part of and what you offer through the stories

in this newsletter. All of this is only possible because of you.

Each year, the hardest part of my job is having to ask for your support again. Every year, expenses go up and we have to grow our financial base to continue to offer the opportunities that are here. Yes, we can quantify our expenses for feed, medical care, fencing, repairs, and payroll for the people who do all of the physical labor to make this all happen. But we cannot even begin to tell you how your financial help is making a world of difference and a difference in this world.

This year, you have an opportunity to double your impact. A generous donor has offered to match the first \$30,000 in donations in the month of December. This year we face a \$300,000 funding gap that we need to fill through donations and support. When you give from your heart, as you do, that energy goes far beyond the monetary value of your gift. You are touching lives and healing hearts that are desperately looking for help. They make it to safety because of you. You are the wind beneath their wings and you put the light back in their eyes.

We are forever grateful for your love, kindness, compassion, and generosity. You continuously renew our hope in the future and our faith in humanity. You are our heroes and we thank you.

From our hearts to yours,
Dawn Hayman
Co-Founder/Director

A copy of our most recently filed financial report is available from the Charities Registry on the New York State Attorney General's website (www.charitiesnys.com) or, upon request, by contacting the New York State Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005, or from us at Spring Farm CARES, 3364 State Route 12, Clinton, NY 13323 or on our Financial Disclosure page on our website (www.springfarmcares.org). You also may obtain information on charitable organizations from the New York State Office of the Attorney General at www.charitiesnys.com or (212)416-8401.

One of the things we have learned over the many years in sanctuary work is that it is most important for us to listen to what the animals tell us. We are the place where they will live out their lives. It is vital for us to get things right for them. Their health and welfare is obviously important. But, equally as important is their enrichment and quality of life. We need to be sure that we are always doing things that they feel are in their best interest and not just what we think that should look like for them. Our mantra is, “just because we can, should we?” Our animals get whatever medical care they need. We do not make medical decisions based on a price tag. However, with that comes a great responsibility to listen to each individual animal about what is right for them. We decide case by case with each animal. Here are a few of the animals that you have helped bring to safe haven and who are going forward on their terms.

Your support makes it possible for us to say yes to helping animals like these that have no other options in life. You are their heroes. They thank you and we thank you.

Year of the Pigs

2019 was the Chinese year of the pig and here at Spring Farm CARES we went all out. Last New Year's Eve we received an emergency call about a group of large farm pigs who were in life-threatening conditions and needed to be moved that night. Already, several had died and one needed to be euthanized at the scene. That left seven very big pigs in dire straits. We stepped up and helped. Some of our staff spent hours helping law enforcement in horrific and dangerous conditions to get the pigs out and to our farm. After hours of getting them here and settled, with midnight approaching, we realized the hilarity of ringing in the new year of the pig. The stay of the pigs was supposed to be temporary until we could get them to other sanctuaries. We are still trying to find suitable sanctuaries for five of them. For now though, we have accommodated them here, and they seem to be quite pleased with their new digs.



Woodward

Woodward was brought to us by a good Samaritan who found her lying on the side of the road. It was first thought that she had been hit by a car. We immediately got her to our veterinarian where it was discovered that she was very badly injured, but not by a car. She was covered in bite wounds from some kind of animal. Whatever it was that attacked her had even been strong enough to break one of her back legs, and all four of her feet had been bitten as she apparently tried to fight off her attacker. She had to be treated for many punctures and infection as well as the broken leg. We didn't know if she would survive. With no health records, she also had to be put on six months of rabies quarantine. We are fairly certain that Woodward is a feral cat. There were several seen around the area where she was found, and she is not at all amenable to being

handled, so we have to adapt to her preferences. But, after several months, she has made great progress. She is now free of infection, her wounds have healed, and, thank goodness, she can use all four of her legs. She is also beginning to take great interest in our comings and goings and things happening around her. She is starting to play with toys with us from a distance (as she is still on rabies watch). Daily she seems more and



their car. She was obviously a stray, and in very bad condition. They brought her to us for help and we immediately got her to a veterinarian. We have no idea what Scarlett's history is other than to say that she is an older cat with medical issues including thyroid disease. She was very ill first, with a severe upper respiratory infection on top of everything else. Now she is feeling much better. She takes great pleasure in strolling around our main hall during the day, greeting everyone and soaking up attention. Just a few minutes with her makes you understand her new-found joy. And her gratitude. That is something that animals are great at. Showing gratitude.

Lizzie

Lizzie came to SFC this spring and it turns out that she needed to be with us more than anyone realized at the time. She was born in 1995 and had been retired a few years ago due to leg issues. But we have discovered other medical problems and special needs as well. Lizzie was very shut down and depressed when she first came to us. We know now that she was in more pain than anyone suspected. She had a history of stomach issues, but, after getting her a full medical workup and sending her to be scoped, we know that she actually has very severe ulcers. She also has Cushing's Disease. These conditions are now being treated and we are starting to see a different Lizzie emerge. She is still very much a loner. She prefers her own company and doesn't like other horses at all. She does, though, enjoy being a part of the bustling activity in our barn. And, as we treat her many problems, including specialized foot care to address her leg issues, as, each day, we manage to make her more comfortable, we think that we will find a horse long hidden under unrecognized and untreated pains. Maybe then Lizzie will even decide the other horses aren't so bad after all.

more comfortable, with us and with her new life. We'll let Woodward do everything on her own terms with her own timetable. We have no agenda of our own.

Scarlett

Scarlett came to us in late summer after she had wandered into someone's garage and collapsed under



Our Gift to You for the Holiday Season:

Join us for our annual tradition!

From Thanksgiving Day, November 28th thru December 31, daily we will post a photo of an animal and their special message of what they are most grateful for in life.

You can find these on our blog on our website: www.springfarmcares.org

And on Facebook: www.facebook.com/springfarmcares

“Every second of life is precious. Sometimes the only thing I need is a soft bed and a ray of sunshine to make my day delightful. If the sun is not out, then I have to remember the times that it was and let that fill me with joy. With that, my world is complete.” - Gizmo

Keep Spring Farm CARES In Mind for Your Estate Planning

Your gift 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 stock gift to Spring Farm CARES. Your broker can electronically wire shares to our account.

We are committed to longevity and transparency to our donors. Spring Farm CARES intends to be around for generations to come so we take our commitment to long-term goals and investments seriously.

We have a Financial Disclosure page on our website where we also have our IRS Form 990 and Audited Financial Statements for the past several years. We are always happy to answer any of your questions.

For more info, contact Margot, our Treasurer at (315) 737-9339 | Margot@springfarmcares.org
Spring Farm CARES EIN#: 16-1388835



WORKSHOPS WITH DAWN

COMMUNICATING WITH ANIMALS & NATURE AN INTRODUCTORY COURSE FOR BEGINNERS

Dawn Hayman returns to teach a 2-day beginner-level Animal Communication Workshop. Dawn is one of the pioneers in Animal Communication, bringing over 30 years of professional consulting and teaching experience to share with you at her home – Spring Farm CARES. This is an opportunity for you to learn, not only from Dawn, but from our amazing Spring Farm animal teachers, in the safety of a sanctuary dedicated to the human/animal bond. It is an opportunity you don't want to miss, an experience you will treasure.

We all have the innate ability to communicate with all of the rest of life. It is so natural however that we usually pay no attention, don't "listen" to the communications being sent to us. This workshop will help you remember how to listen. You will learn to "hear" the communications that your animals are constantly sending to you, and you will learn the skills needed to practice after you leave the workshop and become strong and adept at the art of communicating with animals and with nature.

2020 Dates: June 27-28 and September 19-20
Saturday & Sunday | 9:30am – 5:00pm | \$225
Breakfast snacks and lunches will be served.

EMBRACING LIFE/EMBRACING SPIRIT

Life is happening all around us all of the time. How fully we choose to participate in Life and how much we live Life from our hearts determines the course and depth of our experiences. Death is also a part of Life and something that all of us experience. And the extent to which, with our hearts, we understand Death also determines the course and depth of our experiences.

This Seminar is as much about Life as it is about Death and is built on compassion and joy, not fear and despair. If we hide in fear of death for the greater part of our lives, then we miss so much of Life as it is happening. This seminar is about our eternal heart connections and how our loved ones, even from Spirit, are always in connection with us – heart to heart. It is a celebration of unconditional and eternal love and it is a celebration of the miracles of Life. Join Dawn for two uplifting days in "Embracing Spirit/Embracing Life", as we look at the full circle of Life and how the Spirit and the Physical realms are connected in a loving embrace.

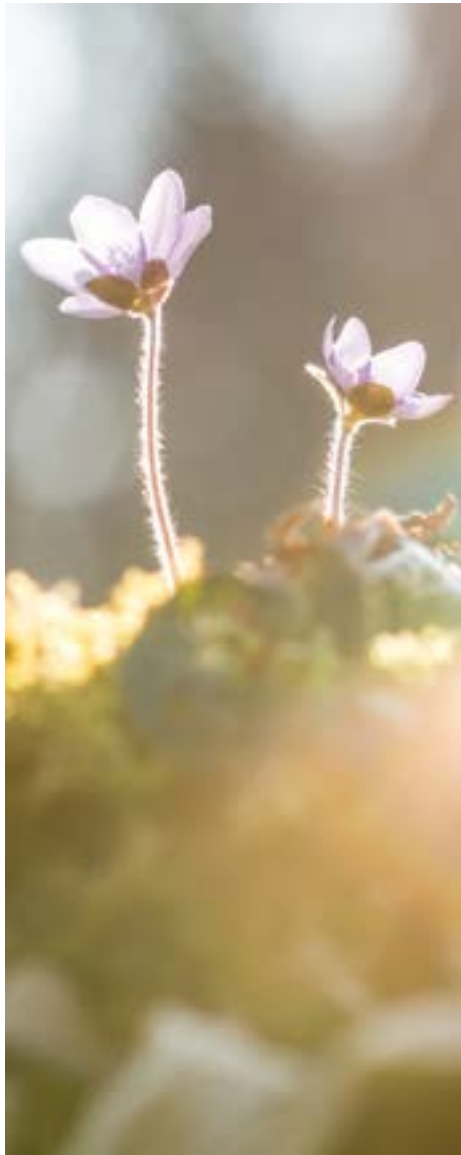
2020 Dates: May 2-3 and October 17-18
Saturday & Sunday | 9:30am – 5:00pm | \$300
Breakfast snacks and lunches will be served.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT:
www.springfarmcares.org/services/workshops**

As we regroup, we will once more center our attention on elements that were part of our original mission.

Education will be a major part of our focus.

Here are just a few things that we will be working on.



Moving Forward ... Our Plans for the Future

Nature Sanctuary: Though our 260-acre nature sanctuary has always been one of our most vital programs, we have not, heretofore, emphasized it in our newsletters. Thus it has been a de facto well-kept secret! This is going to change. The sanctuary, under the direction of Matthew Perry, is one of a kind. He and his crew comprise an incredible treasure trove of information regarding birds, mammals, reptiles, insects, amphibians, plant life and forest management. We will be making more of their truly extraordinary reports, articles, photos and videos available to our supporters, while, in Spring 2020, we will publish our first dedicated nature sanctuary newsletter. Our nature sanctuary web page will expand as well.

We wish also to announce that, in gratitude for Matt Perry's nearly 25 years of dedication to the creation of the nature sanctuary, our Board of Directors recently resolved that, henceforth, it will be known as the "Matthew J. Perry Wildlife and Nature Sanctuary at Spring Farm CARES." Congratulations, Matt.

Humane Education: Our humane education program will greatly expand. One of our staff is currently completing her certification in humane education and we have already welcomed scout groups and school classes, -- students from first grade up through high school and college -- to the farm for presentations. Reports from teachers and parents have been rave. There will be much more to come. We will keep you informed as we progress.

Resource Center: Over the years, we have accumulated much valuable information regarding all aspects of animal care and interaction. We are actively working on ways to share this information with you. For example, we now have a Resource Page section on our website. These articles offer helpful information from experts, from Dawn's experience as an animal communicator, and from decades of our own everyday experience in our sanctuary. Currently, you can find articles on Inappropriate Litter Box Issues for Cats, Aggression in Cats, and Dog Aggression. There is also a Nature Sanctuary section where you can access educational videos. People are telling us they find these articles helpful, and there will be much more to come.

Community Education: Years ago we had an active lecture program. We are reinstituting that, and plan to offer lectures and presentations from various experts and professionals on a wide array of animal care, nature and wildlife, animal communication, and other topics.

Happy Hearth Spay/Neuter Program Comes to a Close

The running of an animal sanctuary is both rewarding and exhausting in its complexity. Many times, two equally worthy situations come up at odds with one another. This is one such time for Spring Farm CARES. In times like these, we always need to reach back down to the roots and foundation of our mission. We have a responsibility to the mission of Spring Farm CARES and to the animals and nature for whom we are custodians. We must never lose sight of that mission.

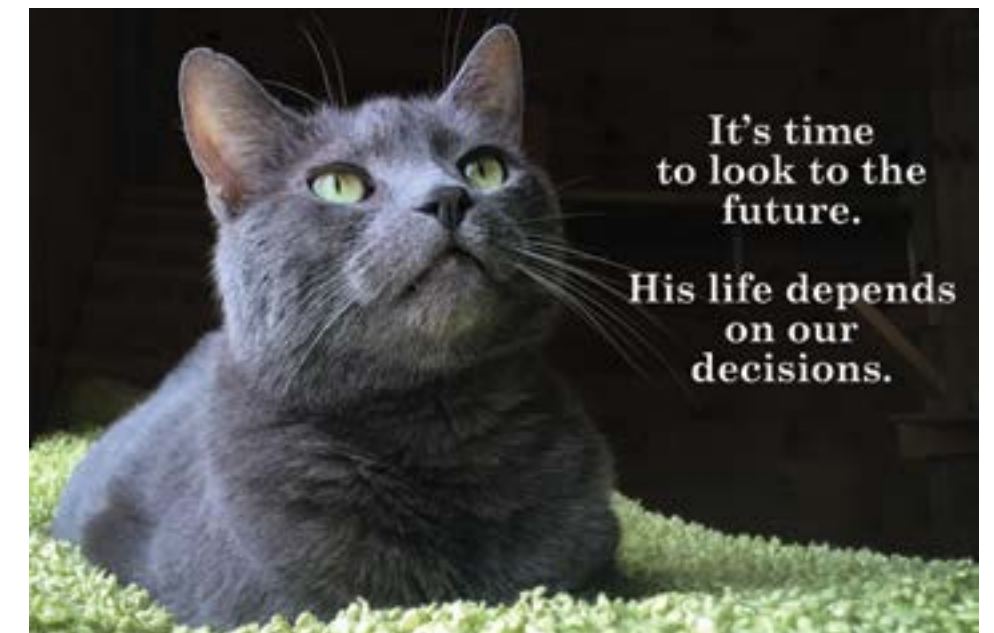
For the past twenty years, Spring Farm CARES has operated and financed the Happy Hearth Spay/Neuter Program. During that time, we spent over \$2.5 million and spay/neutered over 80,000 animals -- with over 60,000 of those being in Oneida County alone. The spay/neuter financial assistance program was aimed at low income families in Oneida County. This program was never part of our original mission. However, we saw a need in our community that no one else was filling, and we dedicated some of our funds to try and help.

Sadly, the time has come for us to make the difficult decision to end this program in order to maintain the financial health of our organization as we look to our future. First and foremost, the animals in our sanctuary are our top priority. We make a pledge to every animal that comes in our doors, guaranteeing a place to live for the remainder of their lives. Over 200 animals call our sanctuary home. We must always

be sure that we have the funding to guarantee care for all of them for life. Their very lives depend upon our financial health. Every year in this country, we hear about animal sanctuaries that fold due to lack of funds -- leaving their animals with no place to go. It is imperative that we care for our finances with the same dedication and diligence that we do the animals themselves.

part of this. However, we also walk through our cat rooms where over 160 cats reside, as well as the barn where our horses, donkeys, ponies, goats, pigs, sheep and poultry live and we look into their eyes and are reminded daily what we are here to do and the commitment that we have made to each one of them.

We are here for the human/animal/nature bond to be rekindled, and



The spay/neuter assistance program put a huge strain on our finances while it was not even the focus of our mission. That mission is to be a center where people can come and meet these great animals and learn of the importance of animals and nature and the well-being of the Earth herself. Never has this been more important than now.

We look at the numbers of animals who have been helped in our community through our program and are humbled to have been a

even discovered for the first time, by many visitors. People are as much our focus as are animals. We believe and hold close to our mission -- reconnecting the human heart to animals. We will still be here as a resource to our community, but not in the form of financial aid -- instead, in the form of education, and the healing on which no price tag can be placed. The human heart will always be at the center of what we do.

Spring Farm Center Alternative Research Education Sanctuary

Spring Farm CARES

3364 State Route 12

Clinton, NY 13323

**Double
the \$1**



SPRING FARM CARES

has a matching grant for any
donation we receive during our
double the dollar fundraiser.



**November 28th thru December 31st
anything you donate will be
doubled up to \$30,000!**

