

# Spring Farm CARES

## Animal & Nature Sanctuary

# 2020

December 2020

## From the Animals' View

This has been the oddest year on record here at the farm. We all made it through the winter and were just heading into a wonderful spring and the excitement of our human visitors returning for another year of sharing, when it was like everything for humans just stopped. Just like that..... no more visitors. No more people coming through and laughing and talking to us. No more children seeing a horse or goat or pig for the first time. No one coming to read to us cats. And our human caretakers took on more and more stress and fatigue. They were consumed with worry. It was harder for us to reach them. In a heartbeat, everything became eerily quiet.



Hello out there..... where are you? We decided if you couldn't come to us this year, that we now have to come to you. This year, we animals will write the newsletter and we will tell you what we wish you to know. Because while life took on a weird stillness for you, we can assure you that the world kept spinning. The seasons changed. New life entered and we said good-bye to some dear friends and family whose time came to leave for now. And through it all, we stood together – united. We animals were not torn apart by hatred or negativity. We didn't allow apathy to swallow us whole. And we want to bring you back home. We need you to come back. And so, we have come to retrieve you.

I am Misty, the head greeter cat pictured above.  
And, I am Mary Beth, the head greeter donkey in the barn.



Together, we will narrate and invite our other animal friends to contribute to this newsletter. And we dedicate this newsletter to all of you, our human friends who we so dearly miss. Those who we've met before, and those who we have yet to meet. This is for you from all of us at Spring Farm CARES. So, grab your coffee or your mug of hot chocolate and snuggle in with your dogs or cats or horses in the barn and have a good read. We promise to entertain and inspire you with all that you've been missing this year. We are still here and we miss you.



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.

### CONNECT WITH US:

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501(c)3 Not-for-Profit Organization  
EIN: 16-1388835*

# Meet Max

by Mary Beth



Max, the day he arrived at the farm in May 2020

In May, two goats arrived who were in fairly rough shape. When we watched them arrive, we knew they would need our help. The humans named them Max and Gilligan. They had been through some hard times for sure. But all of us in the barn welcomed them to their new home and we set out to let them know they were safe here.

Max could not walk when he got here. Mostly, he stood on his front knees and he couldn't straighten out his front legs enough to walk on them. He could stand for very short periods of time, but even that was too much for him. Max had badly overgrown feet which caused him to be unable to stand and walk properly. But it eventually caused major problems in his legs as a result. We urged Max not to give up. He landed in the right place with us and all that could be done would be done to help him. He also was very thin and needed lots of food, which he readily accepted. That was the easy part.

All of our human friends got together and gathered a whole team to help Max. The veterinarian and the farrier all set out to help him. This is what I like most about being a part of all of this here at the farm. I love to watch my animal friends come in and transform into who they really are meant to be. I experienced that very same thing when I got here.

I used to watch Max try to walk around the arena near my stall. He never gave up trying to walk and neither did his human team either. And step by step, he got better. He also got a lot feistier but that is the same will that got him through all of this. Max is a fighter and he worked very hard at regaining his strength in his legs. Inch by inch he began to stand taller and taller and his legs began to get stronger.

If you could see Max now, you wouldn't believe it. Max now runs up and down the hill in his pasture with his friend Gilligan. In fact, he has been known to give our human friends a bit of a challenge now and then. But Max and Gilligan are very happy here. They are doing very well.

All of this healing happened when you couldn't even see it. But we want you to know that all of your support is still hard at work, even when you aren't able to be here to see it for yourself. Max could not have made it through all of this without all of this support.

We want to be sure you know how much we understand that you are out there helping us. We feel you. And we thank you. Just look at that photo of Max today. He is very grateful.



Max, October 2020



## Our Gift to You for the Holiday Season:

Join us for our annual tradition!

From Thanksgiving Day, November 26th thru December 31, daily we will post a photo of an animal and their message about what they are most grateful for in life.

You can find these on the blog on our website:

[www.springfarmcares.org](http://www.springfarmcares.org)

And on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/springfarmcares](https://www.facebook.com/springfarmcares)





# In Memory of J.B.

by Kernel

Sometimes, we meet others who are not meant to be with us for a long time but who nevertheless touch our lives beyond measure. I have had a life that has made it difficult for me to trust. I have lost a lot of friends and seen a lot of terrible things. But I have also seen great kindness and I am finding great peace living here. This summer a new horse arrived and little did I know that he would become one of my greatest friends. He wasn't here for long, but he brought such wonderful gifts with him.

He came with the name James Bond and we all called him JB. JB was big like me. Well, truth be told he was actually bigger. He had greater accomplishments in life than I ever could have. He was more sophisticated about moving through life. He was wise. He was kind. He was gentle. He walked this earth a little differently than most. His wish when he came here was to be with other horses again. He missed having a horse friend. But JB had also known what it was to be loved his whole life. He radiated a certain light that made me settle within myself. He taught me to be stronger and calmer. And I got to say that I was his friend.



James Bond - "JB"

JB, Cami, and I loved being out in the pasture together. And at the end of the day when we all came back into the barn, I could look across and see him in his stall right across from me. Somehow, just seeing him there made me know it was all ok.

But one beautiful, sunny, fall day, after being out in our pasture all day, life drastically changed. JB suddenly got very tired and he lay down outside. He told me that he felt more tired than ever before. And he told me that it was going to be ok. He said he could feel the heartbeat of the Earth and that his was fading. He said it was time for him to go back among the stars. And he told me that he'd always be my friend. He did get up again and he did go back into the barn to his stall. But as I watched him from mine, I knew something was happening. Our human friends were on it and called our doctor who got here very quickly. But nothing could be done anymore for JB. His large, loving and kind heart had given out. His heart broke, and I felt mine break too. He left us with a message for the herd.

"This place is special, hold the space for me my friends. You have much work to do together. The humans need you. Open your hearts and share with them. You will journey well and you will bring much light to those in need of finding it. I will always be with you. I am home now."

And with that, he left. Right before my eyes, he was gone. It is hard to make sense sometimes of the passing of things. Yet, I have found that I can still feel his friendship. I can still feel his steady breath beside me. And I can forever take comfort in knowing that neither distance nor time will dim that. JB will still be with us. He has made his mark. He has shared his light. And we will carry it forward with us.



Kernel

We will do as you say JB. We will be your light. We will continue to work with the hearts of humans. And we will continue to breathe energy from the Earth herself and honor our ancestry. But meanwhile....I just need to be concentrating on being me and doing my best. And that will be your legacy in my heart.

**About Kernel:** I came to the farm with three other horses in 2017. Thanks to the support of my human friends, I was able to heal and decompress from a difficult time. My hope is that I one day will be able to share my heart and wisdom with humans who come to visit the farm. I'm starting to understand life much differently now. I am finding out that I have things I can offer to others. That is a good feeling to have.

# Finding José

by Shawnee

I know this is not supposed to be a story about me, but I need to include just a bit about myself so that you can understand the heart of this story. I came to the farm just hours old back in 2005. My mother died giving birth to me and I got very injured in the first few hours of my life. When I got here to the farm, people fed me and tended to my injuries and I felt loved. But my mother was gone. I had watched her die. And I was alone. But then a wonderful mare named Tasia offered to take me in to live in her stall with her. My human moms still fed me but Tasia gave me all the love and care I needed from a horse. Life was good again. But then, one sad day Tasia unexpectedly died. It has been this way my whole life. I make a friend and then life comes to an end for them. I understand that being a young horse in a sanctuary of elderly horses is going to mean I have to get good at saying good-bye. But it is never easy.



*José when he arrived*

The amazing thing though is that I have gained so much wisdom from hanging with the elders. So, when José walked into our barn, I saw an old man who had all but given up on life. I was so relieved when the humans decided to pair him up with me. Because I knew just what to do. I had seen this with other old horses who had shut themselves down when they couldn't be heard. And I knew that it was up to me to find José and to help José find himself. At first, this meant just quietly standing by while he ate. He was so thin. He was tired from fighting to survive. He had set hope aside. But I had plenty of hope for both of us and I lent him some of mine.

José turned to me one day and I saw the look in his eyes that told me I was getting through to him. There was just an ounce of joy peeking through. As we were grazing nearby one another, I heard him sigh. It was a deep sigh of letting go. And I told him he was home now and was never going to have to leave here. "We all get to stay until the day we have to leave our bodies. I've seen it over and over again. You can count on that. And when it's time to go, we will all be here with you. We will honor you. We will breathe with you. And we will miss you. But you will never be gone from us. Never."



*José today*

It was in that moment that I knew he'd be ok. Because he leaned into that truth and he wrapped it all around him. In that moment, I knew that I had found José. But I also know that in trying to give him that understanding, that I had found the deeper understanding that I needed for myself as well. I understood that being the youngest horse with the most years on this farm counts for something special. I understood that I had a job to do here. And I understood that none of my losses were losses at all. Because each one of those old souls who comforted me when I most needed comfort, had also now just changed the life of my new old friend. One day I will stand with him on his last day. And I will know for sure that I had the gift of finding José. And that will never leave me. Because I will always know him and he will always know he has me.



And just look at him now. Life is alive in his eyes. He has hope. He has strength. And his wisdom is his gift to me which I soak up all that I can. For finding José was the greatest gift he has given me. José's gift is that he has also found me.

**About Shawnee:** I arrived at the farm in 2005, just a few hours into life and already finding myself in trouble. Life didn't start out easy and I've had my share of difficulties due to my being just a bit hard headed at times. But I've learned much from some amazing, wise elders. I am humbled to live here and call this home for my entire life. What an opportunity this life is offering to me. I hope to offer something of value to others as well.



# Hellos and Good-Byes

**We have some new humans joining us on our mission!** With an eye on Spring Farm CARES moving ahead way into the future, the humans are making all sorts of plans to make sure that happens. Two new humans this year in particular are working very hard to make sure we are in good shape moving forward through all there is to come. We are so excited to have them with us!

## Welcome to our New Director

From Misty:

I'm thrilled to introduce you to our new Director, Margaret G. Brown. We call her Peggy. She has now joined Bonnie, Dawn, and Margot in the daily management and operations of this whole place. It is a big job and we are very fortunate to have her help. I am her assistant. It is also a big job but I manage to keep up. Peggy does a lot with personnel management as well as working with lots and lots of numbers in accounting and bookkeeping and I help her. I've learned how to work the adding machine. It's quite awesome how fast I can run it. And, clearly, Peggy is very grateful for my help! She says she just adores me. What more can I say? Peggy is focused on bringing our mission into the future and we are all very happy she is with us.



**Margaret G. Brown CPA**

## Welcome to our New Facility Manager

From Mary Beth:

I'm honored to introduce you to our new Facility Manager, Dave Smith. Dave hasn't been with us for long but he already has long lists of projects to do here. There is a lot that needs fixing and over-seeing. We are in very capable and kind hands. Already Dave has done a lot of important things. He has been fixing our hay barn where all of our hay gets stored. He also is putting on a new roof so that our barn stops leaking. And, some of us, provide Dave with lots of job security. Like Whisper who keeps kicking parts of her shed apart and Dave goes and fixes it. Actually, thanks to him, Whisper is going to get some pretty nice upgrades to her shed. Dave is a very nice man and with all the right skills to maintain, fix, and build things. We are very lucky that we found him!



**Dave Smith**

## **Good-Byes are Never Easy**

On October 31st, we said good-bye to the last of our SFC dogs, Mack. Mack was around 15 years old and had spent the last 12 years of his life with us. He was a border collie on a huge mission in life and he set out to work when he got here. Words cannot express the great loss we all feel. He had a huge presence and every aspect of this farm revolved around his schedule. Mack touched a lot of hearts in his lifetime. His was not an easy life, having a spinal fracture (prior to coming here) that left him bowel and bladder incontinent. Mack may not have had a "normal" life but he had a wonderful life and was an enormous presence.

Spring Farm CARES will not be taking any more dogs into our sanctuary as we feel we are not able to meet the needs of most dogs with the challenges that bring them in to placement in a sanctuary. That makes Mack's passing seem even larger.



**Mack**  
**Forever In Our Hearts**

# We Need You

## Why We Need You

By Mabel



*Mabel*

This requires a serious discussion for a moment. I know that there is a lot of struggling going on among the human population right now. Life can be extremely humbling. Sometimes we find ourselves in need in ways we could never have thought. Sometimes we find others there to help us. And other times, we feel alone and forgotten. Everyone needs the compassion and kindness of another heart. Everyone. I don't care how tough you think you are or how you've always done it on your own in the past, etc. Deep down, there is a truth in every single heart that is universal. We need one another. We need connection. We need to feel the heart of another reach out and hug our own. And we need to be able to give kindness and compassion from our heart to others around us. This is a fundamental truth of Life. And it seems that humans have sometimes misplaced this knowledge and understanding. But nothing is lost forever. And there is much cause for great hope that the human heart is awakening in great ways.

Asking for help is never easy. It can be excruciatingly painful. Yet, if no one knows you are in need, then they don't know what to do to help. I am an old donkey. I have lived so many lives in just my years on this Earth. I have known good times and hard times and happy times and sad times. I have known great need that wasn't met and for which I was so despondent that I just wanted to die. That is the truth. When I came here to this farm, even though I was quite elderly, I was also quite pregnant. Giving birth, yet again, was not high on my list of things I wanted to do. But there I was. I was tired. I was run down. I felt hopeless. I was not in a good place to be welcoming in a new life into this world. I had no energy left to give to another. I had nothing to spare. And I knew that. It was a very tough time for me.

But I was welcomed in here and was promised help. They held true to their word. They held true to their mission. And I found a sanctuary not just to deliver my baby, but also to heal and find hope and to live once again. I am the richest most appreciative donkey on the planet. I gave birth to a boy they named Murfee. The hardest thing I had to do was to honestly say I couldn't do this one. He was tough. He was headstrong. He was going to take everything out of me just to raise him. I needed help. It was hard to ask. But my caretakers stepped in. They saw my dilemma. They arranged for me to feed Murfee but to not have to be the one to raise him. How could I teach him anything when I barely could sustain myself? I watched our donkey friend Noah, who was such a lost soul himself, see the situation and offer to help. "I can be his friend," he said to me. "I can be his role model. And I just ask to be a part of the donkey herd here and be welcomed."

Now it is true that prior to this moment, I had not been so welcoming to Noah. He was an odd sort of donkey. Different than any I'd met before. Yet, all I was seeing was the difference but I was never looking at him for who he is. In that moment, I took a good look at him. I studied him. I spent some time with him. And then I welcomed him and let him take my son with him. "Uncle Noah", the caretakers called him. And it was true. Noah has become my friend. He is brilliant and wise and kind. My own blindness to the fact that he was "different" almost prevented me from finding one of the greatest beings to grace my life. Murfee had struck gold. And I had found the space to rest and just let it be. Noah is a fine prince. I was right that he was different. And I am so thankful each and every day for that difference.

I am one life that has been changed here in our sanctuary. Just one. Each one of us has a story. And each one of us touches many hearts of animals and humans alike. But we could not be here if it were not for the help of you. You, dear friend, are the one that makes this possible. There is no other way to say this. We need you. And right now, we need you more than ever. Things are changing greatly in this world. But don't think for a second that it is not for the better. You see, you are able to make that difference. It's true. I'm going to let Noah tell you a bit more about this. Because Noah understands all of this in an amazing way.

I am pleased to introduce you to a very special soul – my friend, Noah.

# You Make A Difference

## You are the Difference

*By Noah*

Everyone needs to feel like they are wanted and belong somewhere. I was lost myself for many years. I just never belonged and I longed to find that place where I felt home. It's not that people didn't care for me, because they did. But I hadn't found that place inside where I understood who I was and that I was home.

When I first came here to the farm, I knew I had found something special. I started to let others enter in my world a little bit at a time. I liked it. That is when I realized that I also wanted to be a part of this farm. There were opportunities here to connect in a different way. This felt so right to me. People. I wanted to reach people. People just seem so lost. I see them looking for "home" too. I get that. When I was most lost, it was a person who reached in to my world and said, "Come on, let's walk together. We'll go at your speed. You tell me where you want to go and we'll go together." What a beautiful thing. I was even asked what my name was. The name that I like to be called myself. I had to really think about that. Who am I? And then, I knew, I am Noah. And Noah became the name they called me. Do you feel seen and appreciated for who you are? Isn't that really what we are all looking for?



*Noah*

You see, it doesn't matter if you have two legs or four legs or wings or fins. We are all here together. But what I have learned is most important is that each one of us makes a difference in ways we may not fully understand or realize.

So, I am speaking to you now. Yes, you. The one whose eyes are reading these very words. Or the one whose ears are hearing someone else read this to you. Are you listening? As you are reading this, there is a voice speaking the words in your head. Hear it? That is you. That is your very heart and soul. Only you have that voice. You are both the voice within you and the one listening to your voice. But don't let that concern you. Just know that it is true. And this may be a stretch for some of you, but that's ok too. The truth is that animals have their own inner voice as well. You can hear it in your own silences if you listen. Just like we animals feel and hear you. It's about connection. It's about reaching out and reaching within. You are the difference in this world. You have the seeds within you for amazing change. There is no one else in the world that has the seeds that you brought with you.

At Spring Farm, we all believe that we can change this entire planet by nurturing the seeds that each of us have brought. We waste too much time on focusing on what we don't want. We need to be the change we know we want to happen. Want a world of peace? Be peaceful. Want a world of love? Be loving. Want a world of tolerance? Be tolerant.

We see this every single day. You are the difference this world needs. We want to feel you here. Connect with us. We cannot do this without you. We must all be together. Heart to heart.

We need you. We have missed seeing you this year. But the mission goes on. We must still connect and work together. We feel you. I'm here to ask you not to give up. Don't give up on the world. Don't give up on each other. There is so much beauty. There is so much hope. Reach out with us.

We have great plans to reach out into the future. But we need your help to continue.



# You Are The Future

## You are the Future

By Misty Mew



*Misty Mew*

Before I talk about you, I hope you don't mind me telling you a little bit about me. I came to the farm a few years ago. Now, if you hear this story from the humans' perspective, they will tell you that they rescued me when they found me on the front porch where I must have been dumped. I was pregnant and ready to give birth soon. They saved me and brought me in to safety. That is all true of course. But, there is way more to the story here. You see, I was looking for more than just a place to rest. I was indeed very lost but I wasn't hopeless. I knew the light when I felt it. I understood this place. I chose to be here. I am the one that walked up to their door and waited until they saw me. That wasn't by accident. I hate to tell them this, but they may have opened the door, but it was I who came to rescue them, not the other way around. I just needed to state this for the record.

They named me Misty and I think that is a good name. Think of me as coming in out of a mist like an angel. Because that would be an accurate way to think of me. I do a lot here. They put me in one of the cat rooms here but I was able to quickly show them that I needed to be out in the main building where I could move around to wherever I

am needed. I have lots that I do. From high level management decisions and accounting and bookkeeping to all of the animal care in every aspect of what that entails, you will find me helping. It's a big undertaking. But I am here to do the job.

I came to help them move this mission forward. They had gotten just a little bogged down and distracted. Not totally lost mind you. But they just needed a little nudge in the right direction. They are on course now, which brings me to my discussion with you.

You are a part of something so magnificent here. We have so many amazing ideas that are being brought together now in a new way. We are working on ways to connecting more hearts together and to bring this farm and our sanctuary out to the world in a more intimate way. It's happening. But we need you to keep this going. You see, you are the future. Truly.

The humans tell me that they have been doing this here now for 30 years. That's a long time. But that is just the beginning. We have plans to take this way into the future. None of us are getting any younger. But we all are only getting started. The light that shines from this farm drew me in and changed my life. I have watched it draw many other animals and humans here as well. That light is reaching out to you now. Because we animals are in charge of drawing you in. I hope you are feeling us. Will you add your energy to working on the next 30 years now? We have so much to do. I know we can count on you. And we are so incredibly grateful to all of you. So much love is flowing your way. Close your eyes for a moment and feel it. But don't fall asleep yet, there is much more to read.



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 in myself. I often have had to rush through things because people wanted me to move fast with little time to think. But life shouldn't be that way and I got a bit confused. I'm figuring it all out I think. I lost my connection to the wisdom of the horse, 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 horses too. I hope so. 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](http://www.springfarmcares.org)**



# Your Legacy Lives On

## ***Your life makes a world of difference ..... and a difference in this world***

Life is beautiful and full of so many gifts and opportunities. While we can do all that we can to help our friends and loved ones on this path of life, we also often touch the hearts and souls of strangers who we never even meet. There is also opportunity to let your heart and generosity reach out well after you are gone from this life to be a light in the darkness for someone in need. Your love indeed can reach out for lifetimes.

Your legacy gift to Spring Farm CARES will go to the continued mission of reuniting the human heart with animals and nature, offering an opportunity for healing and enlightenment for years to come. The number of lives you will save and hearts you will set free will be endless. Legacies are put into our investment fund where we can build upon them over the years and continue spreading your love and generosity over the decades.

Indeed, it is the legacies of people who have come before and who are no longer with us now that are helping sustain us through this pandemic during a time where donations are down and income from programs is lost. Our mission continues thanks to their gifts and we think of them with gratitude and love each day. Their hearts live on through our work as we stand on the ground that they have helped build and we continue to nurture the seeds that they have planted.

## **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](mailto:Margot@springfarmcares.org)  
Spring Farm CARES EIN#: 16-1388835**

# Looking Forward

## What's To Come?

*By O'Malley*

Hey there, O'Malley here. I can't tell you how much we have missed human visitors this year. We need you to know that we are still here and with you in your hearts. We are cheering for you to get clear of all that befuddles you. You are human. You have big hearts and strong spirits. We know that about you, even when you have forgotten. We have faith in you. We also have lots of work to do with you. It's been a long year for us to not be able to continue as strong on our mission. Because we are here for you. And when you can't see us, you may not remember that we are here.

Dawn tells us that right now she is not scheduling dates for the coming year for workshops here at the farm. But, we think we have some very clever humans here at the farm. They are coming up with ways to find you and connect with you when you cannot physically come to the farm. Indeed, there are some big plans being worked on. We animals are holding space to give them inspiration. But being we don't have thumbs, we can't do the actual physical building. But don't get carried away in thinking that thumbs are everything. We can teach you so many things to do to make this world better without thumbs. All you need is a heart and we know you have one of those for sure. You just need to use it to connect to life around you and even more importantly to one another.



I may be a cat, and I hope you are not thinking that I am JUST a cat, because I am also a dreamer. I have been known to inspire the hearts of those who needed my special touch. Our humans assure us that we will once again be open to visitors as soon as it is safe. You need to know though that our mission lives on. We have not stopped working and connecting and loving. In fact, we are helping and holding on even harder. You've got this humans. You've got this. Now, let's see you put all that love and compassion and kindness to good use. Let's feel you connect and grow into your greater good. We have total faith that you as a species will reach a greater depth of understanding.

Our mission continues. And you are at the heart of it. Stay tuned for some new ways of connecting with us. You may be able to meet up with Dawn on your computers soon. I don't understand it all but apparently your thumbs are handy after all and have developed some pretty interesting technology where you can be here without really being here. We are extremely excited about this! I'm being told that there will be some lectures and classes and more soon. Also, there are so many of you who have never been here before and we will be able to have you participate from a distance now too.

Dawn says there is something called Zoom and we cats get that. We have zoom time around our rooms all the time! It is very exciting and entertaining for sure. I'm also certain that Zoom must have been invented by a cat as we are very good at being multiple places at once. We can't wait! We'll be watching for you!



## Wish List

Please visit our website for more details or  
email our office at:

[www.springfarmcares.org](http://www.springfarmcares.org)  
[office@springfarmcares.org](mailto: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.



# The Learning Center - Building on our Mission

## And now our human directors may have a page ...

Bonnie has organized 30 years of SFC newsletters into a book, *THE MAGIC YEARS: A Thirty-Year Interspecies Conversation*, to be available in 2021 for our 30th Anniversary. This turns out to be a book like no other ... reports of a more than 30-year ongoing conversation, between the animal communicators of Spring Farm and their students, and the amazing Master Animals who have graced and guided us.

In 2019, after a hiatus of ten years, Dawn was moved to once again offer a Beginners Animal Communication Workshop. That workshop filled up with 30 people within a week of being announced! Obviously, Beginners Animal Communication's time had returned. Dawn thus scheduled two of those workshops for 2020. Again, both of them filled up, with waiting lists. Unfortunately, of course, those workshops had to be cancelled.

The long COVID hiatus has, however, given us time to think and to get creative. Understanding the real hunger out there for guidance in animal communication, and inspired by re-reading our own history -- reminding ourselves of the solid gold encounters of, not only ourselves, but, Dawn's hundreds of students, with our Animal Teachers over the years -- we were inspired to, as a 30th Anniversary project, create A Learning Center.



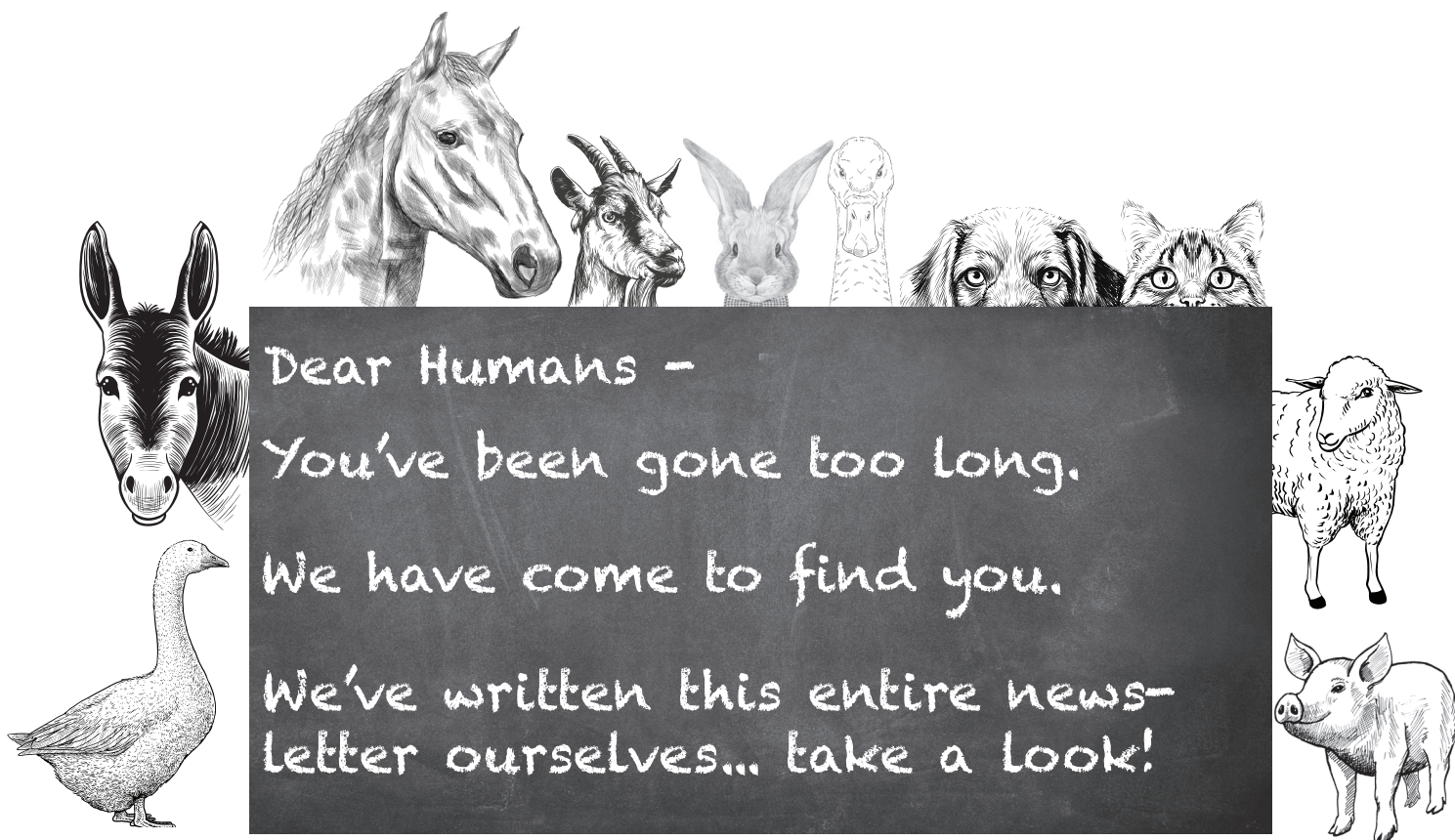
Heretofore, Dawn taught large workshops out in our main hall – roomy, but in the middle of our employees running around doing animal care chores and Bonnie setting up the lunch. For smaller groups, Dawn and students packed themselves into our 25'x20' library. Neither of these areas would continue to do ... not if we were to answer the deep need for animal communication that had been demonstrated to us, and create even more “magic years.” We are thus going to utilize the longer length of our front porch, build out from that area and enclose it into an area of about 45'x30' for the Learning Center. This will be a space of peace and serenity, enrichment and learning, where your heart can safely open to messages from the animals and nature that inhabit and surround Spring Farm. In this space, we will expand our mission of reconnecting the human heart to animals and nature. In this space, through animal communication and allied topics, we will reach out to more and more hearts and souls.

Naturally it's preferable to be physically present at workshops, for the mutual pleasure that face-to-face communication gives to both Animal Teacher and student. But there are those who would love to come to Spring Farm and can't -- and animal communication works just as well long distance. The COVID hiatus has taught us new technologies, such as Zoom. The Learning Center will have all of the equipment necessary for satisfying long-distance teaching and student participation. In our 30th year, we will continue to see students here at Spring Farm while also reaching out to the world.

Of course this project will cost money. We will be working on it throughout the winter and spring, expecting to have the space ready in mid-2021. We hope that many of you are as excited by our project as are we. And we'll need your help. Donations will be most gratefully received – by us and by our animals, so eager to again have the joy of working with students.

Bonnie, Dawn, Margot, & Peggy

Spring Farm Center Alternative Research Education Sanctuary  
**Spring Farm CARES**  
3364 State Route 12  
Clinton, NY 13323



Dear Humans -  
You've been gone too long.  
We have come to find you.  
We've written this entire news-  
letter ourselves... take a look!