



Spring Farm CARES

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Dear Friend,

I hope this finds you and your loved ones well. You will soon be getting your annual newsletter, but I wanted to personally connect with you before then. You, no doubt like all of us, have had another challenging year. But in these times, there is also so much hope. We must never lose sight of hope. And here is a beautiful example for you.

One morning last week, accompanied by our full-time staff vet, Dr. Christine Schneider, I went to the barn to talk to our beloved African Grey Goose, Lucy. We assumed that we were losing her. You see Lucy is just a few short months away from the age of twenty-five. That's ancient in goose years. Lucy had suddenly become ill. Her face and neck swelled enormously. She wrapped her head and neck around herself and remained that way, in a pathetic and almost comatose bundle, refusing to eat or drink. We thought that she was dying, quietly, in her own time and in her own preferred way. But she didn't die. And it had been nearly a week! I was there that morning to ask Lucy if she wanted us to help her spirit fly free of a spent, but stubborn, body.



Lucy's pen is adjacent to Mia and Waylon, two horses who we took in from a neglect situation recently. Waylon, a lovely palomino, had arrived in horrible condition. He had given up hope. But he found hope again at Spring Farm CARES, and is trying hard to survive. He watched me intently as I communicated with Lucy. "What can we do for her?" he asked earnestly. I wished I had an answer. But Lucy answered for herself. "Don't count me out just yet. I'm tired. I only need to rest." Well, all right. So we had a plan. Lucy's plan. We'd take it day by day, if not hour by hour.

Two mornings later—oh, how we wish you could have been there--defying all medical and scientific logic, as Lucy's favorite bearer of treats, Bonnie, came into the barn to see if she could tempt Lucy with some canned corn, Lucy rose to her feet, honking enthusiastically. She rushed to the door of her pen and dove into the corn, radiating joy and appreciation. When I visited the next morning, Waylon looked at me and said, "Well, I guess that's the way we do it!" Indeed, Lucy is an inspiration for Waylon, for all of the other beings, animal and human at Spring Farm CARES, and for you.

It was natural for my thoughts to turn to you during this miracle experience with Lucy. For you are the hero who makes such things possible. It is because of you that Mia, Waylon and all of the other 250 animals in our sanctuary have found safety. It is because of you that we could enable Lucy to do what she needed and wanted to do with her life, on her own terms. And it is because of you that these animals can aid us in fulfilling our mission...through their messages reconnecting the human heart to animals and to nature alike. And the fact is that the animals need you more than ever! Because hope is needed more than ever. Not only do you help our animals live good and happy lives, but you further our mutual mission of dispensing love, understanding, and hope to all who will listen.

You, yourself, know, from the animals in your life, that animals are beings of unconditional love, non-judgement, and compassion. The world is aching to understand and learn to live by these very things. Your gifts to us keep those healing understandings flowing. You and your gifts are a legacy in the making. This is our 30th year! And we look to you to help us move forward into the next 30 years. With guides like Lucy and Waylon and all of our other master teachers in animal form, Spring Farm CARES goes forth day by day and hour by hour, understanding that each and every heart makes a difference in this world. Your kindness and generosity make it possible. Your heart makes a difference to animals and to fellow humans each and every day.

There are many ways you can continue to help.

- Your cash donations all go directly to our programs. 100% of your donations are applied immediately, and make a difference, to animals in need. Not a cent goes to administration or fundraising.
- You can sponsor one of our animals, or renew your annual sponsorship if you have one coming due. For details, go to our Sponsor page: <https://bit.ly/3DdHivI>
- You can donate items listed on our wish lists. We have wish lists with Amazon and Chewy. For a list of items we use on a daily basis, go to our website at www.springfarmcares.org and click on the red Donate button at the top right corner. Of course, you can always also send donations through the mail.
- You can consider us for your estate planning. Your legacy will help carry our mission forward for years to come.



Although we must still remain closed to visitors, and had to cancel workshops again for 2021, we are finding other ways to connect with you. We miss you! The animals miss you! Sorely! How all of the hearts here at Spring Farm CARES are looking forward to seeing you again!

You can keep in touch with the magic and wisdom of the Spring Farm CARES animals right from your own home.

- Follow us on Facebook or our website blog for our annual daily message from the animals, starting November 25th through December 31st. Let the animals inspire you with messages of gratitude and compassion as you move through the holiday season.
- Attend a free Zoom Lecture with Dawn and/or our naturalists in the nature sanctuary. To view previously recorded lectures go to our website at: <https://bit.ly/3oFBNBU>
- Follow our blog on our website and sign up for your email newsletters which have additional content such as videos and photos that are not in the print newsletter version.
- Get your copy of our new book, *Stories from THE MAGIC YEARS*, which will soon be available on Kindle or in print from Amazon, or on eBook sites, Nook and Smashwords. *(See attached flyer for details.)*



Your support is essential to us as we continue to help animals who have nowhere else to go find safety, love, healing, and purpose. Your gifts save lives and enrich hearts. You bring hope to a world desperate for that commodity. Watch for your upcoming newsletter, filled with heart-lifting stories of how lives have been enriched and changed by the wisdom and love of these animals.

May the very best be yours. Thank you from the depths of our hearts for all that you have done and continue to do to further our mission.

With Gratitude,
Dawn

Dawn Hayman
Co-Founder/Director