



Spring Farm CARES

Animal & Nature Sanctuary

September 2025

You Are The Light Out Of Their Darkness

Welcome Hershey & Mocha!

When we were asked to help two male sheep rescued in a neglect case, we knew that the universe was at work, as it so often has been for Spring Farm, sending exactly the right help at the right time. For, as the sheep desperately needed our help, we needed theirs. We were down to one lonely sheep. Mary's long-time companion, Daisy, had passed away in May, while her other sheep friend, Minnie, had passed a few months before that. The universe understands how badly sheep need other sheep. It knew of Mary's depression. And it sent those two brothers to her.

Chocolate brown in color, we named them Hershey and Mocha. They are young, and boy were they ever thin when they arrived. They are two of the friendliest sheep we have ever seen, clamoring for attention and love. And they repeatedly let us know how happy they are to be here with Mary, and to have food, shelter, and their own pasture.

As for Mary, her joy in welcoming them was obvious. They bonded right away. And though they look a lot alike, Hershey and Mocha have very different personalities. It's been fun getting to know them. What is most evident to us though is how incredibly grateful they are for everything they are given. Not just the food and treats and mineral blocks that they so love, but the attention and affection as well. One of our veterinarians described them as "aggressively friendly", and that truly sums them up.

Thanks to you, we could say yes to helping them. And, as much as we do to enrich their lives, they enrich ours.

Their gratitude for being helped to safety then reaches beyond us to you. The gratitude that exudes from these two boys is like a great light reaching from out of their hearts and into yours – you, whose support brought them to a place of such happiness.



*Hershey (left), Mocha (right), Mary (back).
It is hard to see how skinny they actually were.*



Mocha (front) and Hershey (back) enjoying their pasture time. What a difference two months can make.



Max when he first came to us. This was the most he could stand up. He could only walk on his knees.



Max arriving back home from his second visit to Cornell.



Max and Gilligan enjoying their pasture together.

The Ever Amazing Max

Max arrived at the farm with his goat buddy Gilligan in 2020. Some of you may remember reading about Max when they first came in from an animal neglect case. Max could not stand when we first met him and actually walked around on his knees. Both goats were emaciated and weak and had very poor socialization which sometimes made them challenging to handle. It was not that they were mean, but they just did not know how to interact with humans in a way that was safe for the humans. These are huge goats, weighing about 250 pounds each.

Max responded well to all that we did to help keep him comfortable and to improve his strength and stamina and, just a few months after arriving at the farm, he was up and walking on his feet. Today, you would never be able to tell how bad he was when he arrived. And both Max and Gilligan have become sweet and lovable – although very large with impressive horns.

Max gave us all a scare when in June he had a sudden urinary blockage (something that neutered male goats are prone to). Our alert staff caught it right away, and, thanks to your generous support, we could rush him off to Cornell University. He underwent a surgery that then required a three-week recuperation there. He was such a charming patient that the vet students who cared for him fell in love with him. When we came to bring him home, many of them were there to wish him well and tell him how much he would be missed.

Luck was not on Max's side however. Only a few days after he came home, he stopped eating. Our staff immediately reported the problem and again we rushed him to Cornell ... where he was met with hellos from the vet students. "It's Max! He's back! What's wrong, buddy? We'll fix you up." And he needed fixing. His bladder had sprung a leak. He was urinating into his abdomen. There was another major surgery and another stay of three weeks. Because recovery this time was harder. It was actually touch and go for a while. But he finally rallied. And, again to fond farewells from his student friends, he came home. Gilligan had been missing his buddy horribly. The reunion was touching. And watching them now as they enjoy one another out in their pasture is a daily pleasure.

Max made a come-back thanks to you. It took a team effort -- of our staff and onsite Veterinarian Dr. Christine, and the Cornell vets and his student caretakers -- to pull him through. The most important team member, however, was Max himself. He fought for life because he knew how much he loves his life and he also knew how much he is loved. That would never have happened if you weren't there helping. Thank you!

Ron's Story Of Hope & Survival



Ron's body tells the story of the rough life he has lived so far. But thanks to you, Ron's life just dramatically changed. Ron was living in a feral cat colony out on the streets. He came in to our Max Memorial Clinic through a Trap/Neuter/Return program we are helping with. One look at Ron, however, and we knew that he could not be returned outside. He was not faring well at all. He was incredibly thin, his body unusually worn and scarred for a cat of only about 2 years old. Part of one back leg is also missing – whether it's a birth defect or a traumatic injury we don't know. Whatever the cause, the effect is that the leg will need to be amputated for his comfort level. Clearly, life has been hard for Ron.

He is, however, wonderfully friendly, soliciting attention all the time. Unfortunately, on top of everything else, he came in with ringworm. Hence, he has been kept in isolation. As soon as he finishes treatment for that problem though, he will be cleared for surgery to amputate his deformed back leg. He will then have a forever home here in our sanctuary.

**Ron's gratitude for your help
is evident every single day!**

We can't wait to be able to snuggle with him and give him all of the attention that he craves. (And that he deserves after what he has been through!) He has made it to safety, to comfort, to many loving hands, and to home. Once lost and abandoned without anyplace to turn, he found help through you.



Ways You Can Help

Donate Securely On-Line: bit.ly/3TKtpO3

Become A Monthly Donor: bit.ly/3TKtpO3

Sponsor An Animal - \$100 for one Year: bit.ly/3DdHivI

Donate Items From Our Wish Lists: bit.ly/3TKtpO3

**Please keep us in mind for your estate planning -
Let your legacy live on through the animals and nature.
<https://bit.ly/3RuaQ1v>**



The Gift Of Contentment



Esteban - Sun Bathing

Because of you, he gets to nap in the sun on a beautiful day knowing he is forever safe and loved.

Pigs by nature are some of the most intelligent and loving beings on the planet. They are often misunderstood and rarely given the gift of living their lives freely. But thanks to you, in 2018 when we were called upon to take in a pig in an emergency situation from a cruelty case, we were able to say yes. What we didn't know then is that Eloise was pregnant. She soon presented us with six bouncing baby pigs.

Your continued support has enabled this family of seven American Guinea Hogs to live their best life. We have outfitted a whole living area just for them, where they can spend their lives together in pig-style luxury. They are five females and two boys, who sometimes have their little squabbles, usually over food, but generally they love to sleep cuddled together in their house, to run around in their paddock, sun bathe, wallow together in their creek, or in the mud holes that they have carefully excavated.

Momma Eloise knew horrific living conditions in the past. Her children, however, have never known anything other than this little slice of paradise that they call home. And while the kids sometimes get obnoxious and annoying, we also sometimes watch Eloise just standing there looking at them. It is the first time that she actually got to raise her children, watch them grow up. One can clearly feel her contentment, her knowing, that she can now rest easy and just spend her life with her family - just being a pig. It's a most amazing gift, and you have given it to them.



We are participating in the 24-hour giving day with Mohawk Valley Gives on September 19, 2025. You can find out more details and even host fundraisers on your own for us. Your donations will go toward our Mohawk Valley Gives Campaign goal of \$100,000 and the \$25,000 match to help us get there.

For more information:

<https://www.givemv.org/organizations/spring-farm-cares>

Or go to: www.givemv.org and search for Spring Farm CARES

Thank you for supporting the animals!

Your donations received (through mail or on-line) by September 19th will go toward our Mohawk Valley Gives Campaign goal and \$25,000 match.

September Match - Double Your Dollars Donation

**Thanks to a generous donor -
from September 1 - 30th
All donations will be matched up to
the first
\$25,000**