Happy Trails Says Good-bye To Our Piggy Founder, Janice The Noble Pig:
How One Pig Helped Spread Compassion For All Animals

On Friday, October 12, Happy Trails supporters grieved as Janice The Noble pig, crossed the Rainbow Bridge. Her gentle spirit will be with us always, and this tribute helps to celebrate her life and accomplishments! What a truly incredible pig!

“Boof.” That was Janice’s word, or rather her favorite sound, that she would make when all was right with the world. If you hand fed her Ginger Snap cookies, or gave her a belly rub, or tucked a fresh blankie under her head at night, you were often declared “Boof”.

It’s now been seven years since Janice was discovered in the miserably dark corner of someone’s barn, and became the foundation on which Happy Trails would be built. She would become the reason that hundreds upon hundreds of farm animals received sanctuary from abuse and neglect, received medical care, healing and recovery, experienced love and compassion, and were given a chance at having a life

Continued on page 8
Dear Friends Of Happy Trails,

What an incredibly challenging time this has been here at the sanctuary recently! I sat and cried while writing the tributes to our animal friend residents who recently crossed the Rainbow Bridge before they could find their forever homes. I also cried through the memorial to Reverend Fisk. It was kind of tough not to stay focused on the recent sadness, and I want to make sure that everyone stays positive and encouraged by balancing out the difficult news with all the wonderful and amazing things that are happening (as always) at Happy Trails.

The sanctuary has been blessed with an incredible number of kind and compassionate people wanting to adopt farm animals for pets. We said good-bye on a much lighter note to horses, pot belly pigs, chickens, ducks and a goat! Adoptive families have been so thrilled with their farm pets that they have needed no encouragement to send photos and keep us up-to-date on all the latest funny antics their fuzzy or feathered family members have gotten into.

The Farm Animal Education Program, a four week course designed especially for the area Girl Scouts, was met with a huge thumbs-up from both moms and girls alike.

The Farm Animal Visitation Program, a unique program created by Happy Trails to take farm animals into senior care facilities to be hugged and pet by elderly residents, finished our pilot series for this fall. The program was welcomed with open arms and given rave reviews by all the nursing homes that participated.

The Happy Trails volunteers tried their very best to be at ALL the community events that wanted Happy Trails to be there — we were very much in demand, sometimes having two events scheduled on the same day, stretching our volunteers time to the limits! But we did it!

The fall Amish Horse Health Seminars are in full swing, and our work with the folks in Ohio’s Amish communities continues to grow.

The phone calls and emails come in daily from humane societies and animal protective leagues across Ohio requesting our help with abuse and neglect cases of farm animals and horses. The sanctuary has recently welcomed even more horses, pot belly pigs, roosters, geese and ducks.

We are working toward bringing about the day when everyone extends compassion and kindness toward all animals. You make our rescue efforts, rehabilitation and adoptions, educational programs, and the ability to provide medical care for the abused and abandoned animals, possible — for this we are eternally grateful.

Many thanks for being a part of Happy Trails!

Auntie Fisher

Happy Trails is asked regularly if we give presentations to groups, organizations, schools, universities and other events. The answer is a resounding “yes”! We simply ask that everyone remembers that we are an all-volunteer organization, and try our very best to accommodate as many activities as we possibly can.

The presentations can be about the sanctuary itself and provide information as to the farm animal rescue services that Happy Trails provides for Ohio. We also have volunteers who are knowledgeable in animal care, animal welfare issues, the Pigs Across America tour, and other animal-related topics.

Chuck and Nancy Conring and Cheryl Livensperger staff a Happy Trails booth at a community event.

It is much more difficult to schedule displays and booths with animals in the cold winter months, but we are already taking dates for spring and for next year, so if you’d like to get us on your community calendar, our best suggestion is to call early — (330) 296-5914.
Happy Trails is proud to introduce an all new Equine Adoption Program: New Horse “Foster To Adopt” Pilot Program runs Oct. to Feb.

Are you considering adopting a rescued horse?

Due to the overwhelming need for Happy Trails to move our rescued horses into permanent homes in order to make room for the many requests to help more starved and abandoned horses, the all new foster-to-adopt program waives the adoption fee and provides an opportunity for you to bond with your potential new four-legged family member!

What are the benefits of the all-new Equine Foster-To-Adopt Program?

This new program allows potential horse adopters a longer period of time in which to get acquainted with their new furry companion, and also waives the adoption fee if you adopt the horse during the trial period. This pilot-program will be available from October 2007 through February 2008.

After you complete the steps listed below for adoption, you may foster the horse for a period up to 90 days. The horse will come to you with a start-up horsey care package consisting of a winter horse blanket, a tube of wormer, a hoof pick, a brush, curry comb and a mane comb, a halter and a lead rope,..

All rescued horses at Happy Trails are up-to-date on their regular vaccines, all receive a Coggins test, paste wormers every eight weeks, have their hooves trimmed every six week, and are updated medically.

During the foster period you are completely and financially responsible for the horse’s care since you are fostering with the intention of adopting during this trial period. This includes their feed, grain, bedding, vet visits, hoof trims, and anything the horse may need. This is the perfect opportunity to see what it’s like to own a horse if you are a first time horse guardian, and to make sure that you can handle the costs involved in horse care.

Happy Trails counselors will be happy to provide care and nutrition information to new horse owners on a continuing basis, and can answer any questions you may have. We are more than happy to provide horse-care education!

At any time during your 90-day foster time period, you may choose to adopt the horse. If you choose to adopt the horse during this 90-day trial period, Happy Trails will waive the adoption fee.

At this time this new program is considered a “Pilot Program”, and will only be available from October 2007 to February 2008.

Our goal is not only to find appropriate, permanent homes for the rescued horses already in our

Continued on page 18
Holiday Sponsorships Make A Great Gift For Someone Who Has Everything!

Farm animal sponsorships can be a fun way of giving something very unique to that special or hard-to-buy-for someone in your life!

Who wouldn’t want a pig sponsored in their name for the holidays? You can also sponsor a rowdy rooster, a darling duck, a friendly farm pig, a pudgy pot belly pig, a mammoth-sized draft horse, a retired Amish horse, a chubby chicken or a galloping goat!

How does a sponsorship work and what makes a holiday sponsorship special?

Check out the list of animals in need of sponsors. There are always new animals coming into the sanctuary, however. You can choose an animal from the list, or ask us to choose on for you. Fill out the sponsorship form and return it to Happy Trails along with the sponsorship fee. This gift will sponsor that animal for the month of January.

The sponsor will receive a full-color photo and fun-facts about the rescued farm animal.

An information sheet is also included with the sponsorship packet and outlines how your kind donation is used toward the animal’s care, and details items such as feed, bedding, shelter, medical, and any other costs associated with the special needs of that particular animal.

The holiday sponsor will be personally invited to the sanctuary to attend one of our Holiday Sponsor Days to visit his or her sponsored animal and to meet in person the adorable creature that you are helping to care for.

For more details, call the sanctuary at (330) 296-5914.

---

FARM ANIMAL HOLIDAY SPONSORSHIP

- I would personally like to sponsor a rescued animal for the holidays.
- I would like to sponsor a rescued animal for the holidays as a gift for:

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City/State/Zip ________________________________________
(Gift recipient will receive a gift card from you)

DONOR INFORMATION

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City/State/Zip ________________________________________
Phone (home/cell) __________________________________

For additional sponsorships, please simply add your gift-recipient names and sponsored animal requests on a separate sheet of paper.

Please let the following animals know that they have been chosen to have a holiday sponsor!

- Draft Horse: $75 ____________________________
- Retired Amish Horse: $50 _____________________
- Horse (general category): $50 ___________________
- Farm Pig: $40 ________________________________
- Pot Belly Pig: $40 ____________________________
- Goat: $40 ________________________________
- Goose: $30 ________________________________
- Duck: $25 ________________________________
- Chickens/Roosters: $20 ______________________

You may specify a name, or leave the name blank and Happy Trails will be happy to choose a new arrival in need for you!

Please return sponsor form and donation to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. 5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Ohio 44266
Who Is In Need Of A Holiday Sponsor???
Here are just a few examples!

The list below reflects the rescued animals at the sanctuary as of the printing of this newsletter. New arrivals continue to come in, and we’re sure that they would like to be welcomed with a holiday sponsor also! You may choose to sponsor an animal from this list, or we’ll be happy to choose an animal for you.

HAPPY HORSES

DRAFTS
• Red, 21 year old Belgian gelding
• Tony, 21 year old Belgian gelding
• Shelby, 7 year old Belgian mare

RETIRIED AMISH BUGGY HORSES
• Hurricane Jenny, mare
• Chevaz, 20 year old gelding

FRIENDLY FARM PIGS
• Mrs. Beasley, the piggy matriarch
• Oliver The Great, the comedian
• Maria Pigget, loves her snacks

MARIA
...pretty and pink and very opinionated, Maria weighs is at nearly 900 lbs.

FEATHERED FRIENDS
• Zeus the Goose, large & in charge
• Quincy, Zeus’ right-hand goose
• Aristotle, sneaky and pinches you
• Sweet Pea, just had eye surgery

ARISTOTLE
...loves to sneak up on people and pinch them really hard on the back of their leg!

ROWDY ROOSTERS
• Apollo, handsome and knows it
• Gershwin, crows a LOT
• Dudley, likes to be held and pet

APOLLO
...is small but mighty, and struts his stuff around the barn yard

And many, many more roosters available!

GOATS
• Natasha, visits nursing homes
• Aphrodite, especially sweet

APHRODITE
...currently recovering from starvation and neglect
ATTENTION SENIORS AND RETIREES!

Happy Trails has many volunteer opportunities to choose from for those who are young-at-heart and would like to help us spread compassion and kindness through the work that is being done at Happy Trails. What are some volunteer areas that are great for seniors?

• Be A Volunteer Tour Guide!
If you enjoy walking and talking to people, learn how to be a trained tour guide and help give one-hour personal tours of the sanctuary.

• Be An Adoption Counselor, and help by visiting potential homes to approve their facilities!

• Be A Happy Trails Representative At Community Events — talk to people about the animal rescue work of Happy Trails!

• Return Phone Calls — we are overwhelmed with phone calls daily that need our attention!

• Help With Administrative Work — there are always letters to write, thank-you’s to send, and information provide!

ATTENTION KIDS!

How can kids under the age of 18 help out and support the animal rescue work at Happy Trails?

• Help us collect aluminum cans from your family, friends and school. Ask your friends to ask their parents to collect aluminum cans at their place of work or business.

• Ask your teacher to arrange to have a Happy Trails representative visit your school and talk about how to treat animals kindly.

• Have your class or your school sponsor an animal.

• Ask your school to arrange a field trip to the sanctuary in late Spring.

• Ask to attend a special Junior Volunteer day at Happy Trails.

WINTER VOLUNTEER PROGRAM — PLEDGE 4 HOURS A MONTH

The rescued animals at Happy Trails of course all live outdoors, being farm animals. This means that our all-volunteer staff will continue to feed, water, clean shelters, muck stalls, accept new animals and adopt out rescued animals all during the cold winter months.

We would like to encourage Happy Trails supporters over the age of 18 to sign up for our Winter Volunteer Pledge Program, where you would pledge to donate four hours of your time each month from November through May, a total of six months, to help out with outdoor chores.

HELP THE SANCTUARY ARRANGE FOR SNOW REMOVAL

Happy Trails is hoping to find volunteers this year who are willing to help us out with snow removal on an as-needed basis. Our goal is to secure individuals who are willing to help with a) major snow removal using a snow plow and b) snow removal using snow shovels — shoveling snow away from animal shelter doors, entrances, etc.

Winter is always a challenging time at the sanctuary, and volunteers who feed and care for the animals already have their work cut out for them!

For volunteer information, call Lauren Carroll, Volunteer Program Coordinator at (330) 867-2836
Happy Trails Farm Animal Emergency Rescue Crew Is Being Created

Happy Trails receives an assortment of strange and disturbing farm-animal related emergency calls on a fairly regular basis, leading us to work on creating the Happy Trails Farm Animal Emergency Rescue Crew.

A call from the State Highway Patrol at 10:00 pm says: There is a cow loose on the turnpike in Portage County — can you help?

From an Ohio county humane officer: There’s a starved horse that needs to be immediately removed from a property. Can you pick it up?

From a local sheriff’s department: These home owners moved away and left behind all their animals. Can you please come get three ducks, a pot belly pig and five Arabians?

From a city police department: There is a calf that has been running loose and we are afraid it is going to cause an accident. Can you help catch it?

From a county humane officer in an Ohio inner city: We just picked up a rooster from the highway. Can we bring it to you?

From an Ohio humane society: A day and a half old goat was just found abandoned on the side of the road. Can you save it?

From an Ohio sheriff’s department: A cockfighting bust just happened. Can you take in 44 fighting roosters?

These are just a few of the emergency-type of calls that Happy Trails receives regularly from Ohio’s county humane officers, sheriffs and other law enforcement officers.

Happy Trails Board Member, Rob Willard, is the coordinator of this new, unique and much-needed farm animal emergency crew, and is in the process of organizing, fine-tuning, and creating a ready-to-roll crew that will be available to help out at a moments notice.

How can you get involved in emergency farm animal rescue?

• If you have a truck and/or horse trailer, you can sign up to be one of our haulers.
  • If you enjoy talking to people on the phone, you could work dispatch and help contact the emergency crew when calls comes in, as well as contact the attending veterinarians who will need to meet the new animals at the sanctuary. It also helps to have a home-base person that the authorities can contact during a rescue.
  • If going to the actual scene of an emergency is not your cup of tea, you could be a part of the behind-the-scenes preparation team that meets at the sanctuary and prepares a stall or shelter with fresh bedding, and sets out clean water and food bowls in anticipation of the new emergency arrivals.

If you are interested in learning more about being a part of the emergency crew and receiving an emergency volunteer application, call Rob at (330) 592-2763.
where they would be cared for and respected for simply being the incredible, intelligent, personable, funny, trusting souls that they are.

Janice was rescued from her situation of neglect when she was about six years old. At that time she created Happy Trails, and that was about seven years ago, making her nearly fourteen years old this year. Janice the pig has accomplished more in her lifetime than most people have. Janice is responsible for being the inspiration to create a sanctuary that serves the farm animals of Ohio. Janice has made rehabilitation and recovery possible for large numbers of farm animals who have experienced abuse, neglect and abandonment. Janice has enabled educational programs to develop and made it possible for kids to experience the joy of petting a goat, giving a pig a belly rub, and handing a horse a special treat. She has made it possible for visitors to interact with a rescued farm animals, an opportunity not often available in a setting that is energized with peace and tranquility.

And above all, Janice has taught everyone who knew her a lesson. Janice had a unique way of stealing your heart, of putting you in your place, of communicating with each of her people friends, and of allowing you into her world when she felt you were trustworthy. She was able to bring people together for a higher good, and she did all this and more from a simple but well-loved log cabin built especially for her.

It’s very difficult for me to write about such a wonderful creature that I have had the pleasure to know and to bond with over the past seven years. But through the tears that I shed from simply missing her companionship, I am determined to focus on all the good and positive things that Janice made happen during her brief stay with us here in this world.

If you would have told me about ten years ago that a very special pig was going to change my life forever and bring about the beginning of help and hope for Ohio’s farm animals, I would have thought you were out of your mind. I like to think that I am a better person because of Janice the pig, and I also like to think that the life-lessons I learned through her will be cherished and acted upon.

At this time, all of us here at Happy Trails would like to celebrate her life, and redeﬁne our organization to our mission of spreading kindness and compassion for all animals. Though Janice ﬁnished her work here and has now crossed the Rainbow Bridge, her spirit lives on through the work, the rescue eﬀorts, the educational programs, the volunteers, and the other animals here at Happy Trails.

May we all see a world one day as Janice hoped to see it — a world where kindness and compassion is extended to all living creatures. And as the sanctuary continues to move forward, to expand, to grow and to inspire, may Janice see our work from wherever she may be, and declare us to be “Boof”.

Donations to Happy Trails may be made in memory of Janice, which will continue to help care for the abused, neglected and abandoned farm animals and horses of Ohio. See donation form on page 17.
As many of you already know, two piggy sculptures beautifully painted and named after Janice and George, (Janice’s long time piggy companion), were part of the Year Of The Pig Sculpture Contest that took place in Cleveland this past summer. Talented artist, Happy Trails volunteer, and Janice’s number one fan, Beth Gregerson, graciously bestowed this honor upon the Happy Trails piggies to help bring awareness to the sanctuary and to help spread compassion for animals.

The contest drew to a close at the end of September, and the breathtaking statue entries were put up for auction. Beth had talked about the hope that Happy Trails could purchase the statues in honor of Janice and George, and about the importance of their meaning to everyone at Happy Trails. Though we longed to bring the beautiful and personal statues home to the sanctuary, it did not seem possible due to the usual financial challenges that often accompany the rescue and rehabilitation of a great number of abused animals.

Beth, determined to try her very best to save at least Janice’s statue from the auction block, sought the help of her friend, Carolyn Yane. Between Beth’s determination and Carolyn’s caring nature and willingness to participate in the greatest secret ever kept, the two of them attended the auction. After the auction, they assured us that the bidding had went too high and they were unable to purchase even Janice’s statue. We were sad but realistic, and appreciated their efforts. We were none-the-wiser for what really had taken place.

The following week, Beth and Carolyn requested a special visit to Happy Trails, under the notion that since they were unable to purchase the statues, they had picked up a little something else instead and they wanted to “drop it off”. The two friends secretly laughed and joked and planned their big surprise. Beth and Carolyn wandered with me throughout the sanctuary, visiting all the animals, talking about their stories, and enjoying a gorgeous day and some beautiful weather.

Our visit nearly complete, we stopped at the area to visit the roosters rescued from a cockfighting situation in Lorain. I handed one friendly bird to Carolyn and told her that I’d be right back with something that she could hand-feed to him (he loved to be held and hand-fed), I hurried up to the old barn, grabbed a bag of bread, spun around and started to run back to roosters. I seriously did a double take. My head whipped around and I couldn’t believe my eyes! Amazingly enough, there in the middle of the yard appeared the incredibly beautiful statues of Janice and George!

I immediately started to cry. It wasn’t the kind of cry you could turn off quickly. The meaning of the statues...the great lengths these two went to in order to surprise us and get the statues safely into the sanctuary without anyone else knowing about it...knowing that we had hoped to some day use them as headstones in honor of George and Janice when they finally passed on...the reality of Janice’s health having gone downhill beginning the week before...all these thoughts and more tumbled through my head at the same time. I couldn’t quit crying. I also made everyone else cry. Beth and Carolyn were smugly satisfied with themselves, having pulled off a nearly impossible caper.

I don’t believe the two of them will ever know what their kindness means to me personally, and the selflessness of their heroic act of saving the precious piggy statues from the auction to bring them home...
to the sanctuary where they both belonged. May God bless them both for being so devious and thoughtful, all at the same time!

And George’s timing was incredible — at the same time I became aware that the statues were prominently displayed in the yard, George the pig, Janice’s companion, was inspecting the situation and carefully rubbing his nose on the sculptures. He very carefully and closely examined both statues, one at a time, and then satisfied with his findings, carried the exciting news back to Janice in the log cabin.

Janice at once declared both of the statues “Boof”!

I knew in my heart that one day these masterfully-crafted art pieces would honor the grave sites of two very important pigs. No-one knew, however, just how soon that day would come for Janice.

The following week, Janice’s health deteriorated at an alarming rate, and the vet assured us that it was time to help her pass into her next life quietly, calmly and humanely. The time to use Janice’s beautiful statue as her grave marker came all too quickly. I didn’t have time to continue to enjoy the “fun-ness” of the moment and revel in the happy and exciting surprise of receiving such a very special gift. The timing of the whole situation over the past several weeks was nothing short of miraculous. The contest time drew to a close, the time of the auction arrived, the surprise of receiving the beautiful statues came next, and the following week we sadly said good-bye to our beloved Janice The Pig.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to Beth Gregerson for her incredible art work and for bestowing such a grand honor as having statues named after piggies Janice and George. And I will forever be indebted and grateful to Carolyn Yane for surprising us by not purchasing just one, but by purchasing BOTH statues for the sanctuary! I truly don’t believe either one of these ladies will ever know how much their acts of kindness and caring means, and how deeply appreciative we are of their efforts!

So our work is now cut out for us, and we plan to create a memorial where the statues will be protected by a gazebo of sorts, and they will be available for visitors to view from spring to fall each year. The statues will stand proudly in honor of everything Janice represented — kindness and compassion toward all living beings.

Janice was softly laid to rest right next to her favorite place in the whole wide world, her log cabin, and this is where the statues and the memorial will be located. On the first night after she passed, the geese and ducks lined up after dark around her grave sight, with Zeus the Goose the closest to her flowers, and guarded her grave throughout the night. The chickens went into the log cabin and spent the night sitting next to George to offer comfort. It was truly remarkable.

George still lives in the log cabin. He is slowly adjusting to life without his best pig friend. She was his world, just as he was hers. George would religiously stroll about the sanctuary, gathering bits of information and stories from the other animals, then go back and share with Janice all he had seen and heard on his adventures. George has recently begun taking his leisurely strolls around the yard once again, showing us that his sorrow, too, can heal with time. Of course George is also getting a lot of extra hugging and smooching on a regular basis. And, he has finally decided that the chubby broiler hen named Pollyanna, and her tiny little Banty rooster friend named Apollo (who thought they would now casually move into the log cabin with George) were welcome to stay and become his regular roommates.

Everyone has been making sure to give George some extra visiting time, and though we humans can’t really take the place of Janice in his life, I think we add a little something extra to help him be content and peaceful.

Janice was the heart and soul of Happy Trails, and she touched more people’s lives than we will ever know. Janice’s good heart and spirit definitely touched the lives of Beth and Carolyn — and we are hoping that Janice has touched yours as well!

Until we meet again dear Janice, we will try our best to live up to your expectations and promise that we will keep Happy Trails “Very Boof” in your memory!
The Discovery Girl Scouts Interest Groups were created to encourage young ladies to pursue interests that were meaningful to them, and each girl could “mix and match” the events she wanted to attend this fall. The events were planned and designed to allow the girls to explore their own individuality and interests while having the opportunity to meet new people—outside of her school or regular circle of friends—who share similar interests. For that reason, each girl was able to register individually for whichever activities best met her schedule and interests.

Happy Trails is honored to have been chosen and to have received the request to participate in such an important program for these young ladies!

On Tuesday nights in October and into the first week of November, Girls Scouts in grades 7th-12th met at Happy Trails for two hours from 5pm-7pm, and on Saturday’s, Girl Scouts in grades 4th-6th met at the sanctuary for two hours from 11am-1pm, to learn about animal care, the role of a sanctuary in their community, and how to help to spread compassion and kindness for animals.

The Girl Scouts had even created a special Happy Trails badge that was be awarded to the girls who complete the four week course.

The girls (and some mom’s as well!) were real troupers, and participated rain or shine, wearing boots, layers of coats, and enjoyed being outdoors in all types of weather that fall brought with each session.

Happy Trails is thrilled to have helped the girls grow in Confidence, Courage and Character, and to have the opportunity to teach them about caring for and spreading compassion for animals!

Happy Trails constantly collects old blankets, sleeping bags, and comforters, used mainly for the older or arthritic piggies at the sanctuary. In addition to their heat lamps, we offer them something warm to snuggle underneath on a cold winter night. Also, when taking a ride to or from the vet, we often line the cages or pet porters with blankets for the comfort of the animal during transport. Blankets don’t make quite the mess that a pet porter full of straw does in a vet’s nice clean and sanitary office!

Happy Trails also accepts old towels and wash cloths.

This a great project for kids to be involved with, and they can help the animals by asking their friends and other family members to donate an old sleeping bag or old blanket to Happy Trails.

Your kind donations to keep the rescued “Pigs In A Blanket” this winter, can be dropped off on Sunday’s from 1pm-4pm.
In Loving Memory
Of Reverend John Fisk

On Monday, July 30, 2007, Reverend John Fisk, a gentle soul, a compassionate human being, and a big fan of Happy Trails, left this world to continue on his spiritual journey.

About five years ago, Reverend Fisk, a Cherokee Native American, together with his daughter, Rachel Whitehawk, adopted Jack, a brown and white, accident-prone, small yet mighty, Paint gelding. Jack was continuing to heal from major wounds when the adoption took place, and the people-friendly horse had already overcome many obstacles in his short life. Jack’s Native American name became Washakie, after a famous Indian Chief who also had endured and overcome many obstacles during his lifetime.

Reverend Fisk adored Jack, and was thrilled to have adopted a rescued horse. Jack not only healed from his serious wounds and began to prosper, but he also became an integral part of Rachel Whitehawk’s Ranch Program for women who are breast cancer survivors — a program that teaches self-confidence, a spiritual connection to all things, offers encouragement, and instills a sense of hope, peace and accomplishment.

Reverend Fisk was the ultimate example of how to show compassion and kindness to all people. Often when I am in a difficult situation, I will now stop and wonder, how would John have handled this situation? The answer, of course, is usually never anywhere close to my own immediate reactions. So even though Reverend Fisk has left us to continue his good works on a different level, his spirit lives on here in this world through the shining example he set for everyone who has ever had the pleasure of enjoying his company. Throughout his life on this earth, he truly walked the Red Road.

During Happy Trails humble beginnings, Reverend Fisk, accompanied by his daughter, Rachel, honored us with a Native American ceremony and blessed Heaven’s Trail, the pet cemetery that was created to honor those animals that arrived at Happy Trails only to cross the Rainbow Bridge. The cemetery was made sacred ground, and to this day, the people who visit Heaven’s Trail experience a sense of peace, healing and a personal connection to the animals who have taught us many lessons.

I have never met a kinder, more gentle soul, who touched an amazing number of lives in a way that only he could. That sentiment was echoed throughout his beautiful memorial service which was held at the dream he had built, the Church In The Valley in Peninsula. Even Jack, his horse, attended the service to honor the man who adopted him and had declared him to be “good medicine”.

May we all honor the memory of Reverend John Fisk by continuing his work of spreading kindness and compassion to all people, to strangers, to each other, to our spouses, siblings and children, to people we come in contact with daily, to those who may be unkind to us, to those who make it difficult for us to be kind to, to those who have never experienced kindness or compassion, and to all the furry and feathered living creatures we share this world with. May his spirit live on through us.
“Not until we extend the circle of compassion to include all living things shall we ourselves know peace.”

Rev. Dr. Albert Schweitzer

THE TRAILER WAS SAVED!

Thanks to many kind individuals, enough donations were sent in to help us “save the trailer”! The trailer in question was the double decker livestock trailer that we used to haul the group of rescued piggies out to a much larger animal sanctuary (Suwanna Ranch) in California in May in our Pigs Across tour.

We were hoping and praying to not have to sell the trailer upon our return as originally planned, since it is absolutely perfect for hauling groups of animals in need of rescue. Again, many thanks go out to the folks who stepped in and saved the trailer! It is now an integral part of our emergency rescue team!

Meet A Happy Trails Supporter!

Dr. Lori Bieber, owner of South Russell Veterinary Clinic and long-time supporter of the animal rescue work at Happy Trails, continues to help the sanctuary by providing our animal medications for all the rescued farm animals at Happy Trails at a greatly discounted rate.

Though her practice in South Russell focuses on domestic animals such as dog and cats, Dr. Bieber has her own troupe of farm animals at home, consisting of four very spoiled horses.

Happy Trails and the rescued farm animals are indeed extremely grateful for Dr. Bieber’s assistance with the amazing amount of medications that we go through regularly. With nearly 30 pot belly pigs at the sanctuary at any given time, and with many of them being elderly and/or arthritic, their piggy vet often prescribes Peroxicam, an anti-inflammatory, to help with their health issues. Often the older and arthritic horses are on Bute, a horse aspirin, and to offset any side-effects from Bute, they may be put on Rinitidine, an acid reducer, to help prevent stomach problems. The burned piggy that recently came in has her own set of wound care medications, the blind goose has eye ointment to promote healing after surgery, many of the older animals are on joint supplements, and there is always meds that we need to keep on hand for emergencies and crises.

Dr. Bieber sets a fantastic example for other vet’s to step in and help the sanctuary at cost or at greatly reduced rates for their services. Though Dr. Bieber is not a large animal or farm animal vet, she wants to make sure to do her part to support the rescue efforts of Ohio’s only farm animal and equine sanctuary that serves the county humane societies and animal protective leagues across our state.

Please help us in turn to support Dr. Bieber, and give her a call for your dog or cat’s health issues.

Many thanks, Dr. Bieber, for your continued support!

Dr. Lori Bieber
South Russell Vet Clinic
5210 #C Cillicothe Rd.
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022
440-338-6322

Don’t forget to check your shampoo, conditioner and lotion bottles for the important disclaimer: “NOT TESTED ON ANIMALS”
Who are they???

ALEX HALE, white-collar corporate office worker by day, jeans-and-Happy-Trails-sweatshirt wear-er on the weekends, Alex is a long-time (and we’re talking about four years now) Sunday volunteer, took on the challenge of making the six street corner signs for the Amish Horse Health Seminars. They turned out fantastic, and he did a terrific job!

CAITLIN DOHERTY has a way with animals. Although Caitlin is a Kent State student, works part time, and has a busy sorority life, she still makes time every week to volunteer at the sanctuary. RICK TURNER, talented construction worker, created a unique “wall-unit” of nine compartments to safely, comfortably and spaciously house nine of the rescued cockfighting roosters. Hard worker ADAM BUTTERMORE, works full time, races his shiny race car on weekends (even painted it for Happy Trails!), and faithfully makes time weekly to spend a day with the rescued animals. Adam is a great sport, and will do pretty much anything that needs done, from grooming horses to fixing fences to cutting down trees. SUE

BUTTERMORE, Adam’s mom, invited their entire family out to spend Adam’s birthday as a workday for Happy Trails. What an awesome group of people! JULIE GRAY, animal-lover extraordinaire, can (and does) spend countless hours socializing, visiting with, and caring for the rescued farm animals. Several horses have already tugged at her heart-strings, so Callie, Nick and Koda tend to get maybe just a little more attention than everyone else! TRACY McIVOR has quite a drive! Some people use distance as an excuse for not being able to volunteer. Not Tracy! Making the weekly drive from the Cleveland area has become an addicting habit for this hard-worker! Tracy loves the animals, and they obviously love her! DAVE PETROVIC, faithful weekend volunteer, is very much a “pig-person” (a quality that we greatly admire) and has a way with working with the rescued piggies. However, he also has a soft spot in his heart for Nevada the horse! CHERI RIDER heads up our Farm Animal Visitation Program for Nursing Homes as well as being a regular hard-worker for whatever projects need done! BRITTANY WAPLES is leaning toward a career as a veterinarian, so her volunteer work at Happy Trails is leading her on the right path! She is also fantastic at cleaning horse stalls! NANCY and TOM HORVATH have a bit of a drive also, but they don’t let that stop them from volunteering and being hard workers! Thanks too, Tom, for the great photos you took of the animals!

RESCUE GROUPS SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

Golden Treasures Retriever Rescue came to our aid!

How does a dog rescue and a farm animal rescue work together? Very well I would say! When Happy Trails received a call about a severely burned pig from the Crawford County Humane Society, Golden Treasurers, a Golden Retriever rescue group, stepped up to the plate and provided a pet porter to haul Rachel the pig for the hour and a half drive. By Golden Treasures extending this kindness, it shaved quite a bit of un-necessary driving off the trip for our volunteer hauler, Phyllis Leonhardt.

Golden Treasures has both adoption and foster programs, and is always searching for people interested in this fantastic breed of dog. You can call them at (330) 659-2202, and check out their website at www.goldentreasuresrescue.org.

If you plan to buy a 2008 Entertainment Book, you can pick one up and support their rescue efforts at the same time. Cleveland books are $25 and Akron books are $30. Talk about working together — you can either purchase a book for Golden Treasures at One-Of-A-Kind Pets in Akron at 1700 W. Exchange Street from 7:30am-5:30pm, or you can call Sarah Aitken at (330) 459-1731. One-Of-A-Kind Pets handles all breeds of rescued dogs, cats, puppies and kittens in need of loving and caring homes. They also provide low-cost spay/neuter clinics for the public. One-Of-A-Kind Pets can be reached at (330) 865-6890. Their website is www.oneofakindpets.org.

We are honored to network with both of these wonderful dog and cat rescue groups!
A very fine bovine indeed, Max, an 18 hands tall black and white 15 year old Holstein steer graced the sanctuary with his presence from July 1st, 2007 to Sept. 14th, 2007. Within his first week at Happy Trails, Max developed a fan club. EVERYONE loved Max! He was comical, gentle and absolutely bigger than life itself.

Max had a few health issues, including arthritis in his joints and some rather large and unsightly fatty deposits. However, his disposition and outlook on life was remarkable! He would wander into the barn at feeding time for cow chow (like he would miss that) and would stand quietly for giant cow body massages and to have fly ointment rubbed on him with a big towel. Everything about Max was big, from his big head, to his beautiful big eyes, to his big-as-all-outdoors heart, to his big love for the Happy Trails servants who cared for him!

On Monday morning, Sept. 10th, Max didn’t come into the barn for breakfast, and it was then that we discovered him laying outside the barn where he couldn’t stand up. He had apparently done something not good to his back leg. Doc Alger, our cow vet, arrived and determined that Max may have twisted his leg in the mud or slipped in some way when laying down. Along with some pain killers and anti-inflammatories, it was suggested that we “give Max a little time and see what happens”. Over the next several days, Max tried to stand on his own with no success. If Max were to survive, we were supposed to get him standing up by Wednesday evening. At least if he were to stand up, maybe the vet could make a better determination as to the origin of Max’s problems. Our dilemma at the sanctuary was, how would we get a 2,500 lb. steer to his feet safely?

Enter Happy Trails volunteers, Adam Buttermore and his mom, Sue Buttermore. After what seemed like a million phone calls later, the two of them pulled off the impossible. At 7pm Wednesday night, a cow-rescue posse began to file in the gates at Happy Trails.

Never did a cow bring an entire community together like Max did. Everyone was eager to help Max and Happy Trails, and everyone wanted to see Max recover. Newspaper reporters and photographers arrived, as well as helpers from every imaginable source, including Jennifer Sanders, the Portage Animal Protective League Humane Officer, her family, a representative from the local Fire Department, Dr. Randy Alger, Max’s personal cow vet, Russ and Annette Fisher, and a host of well-wishers and concerned cow fans including Christian Cirino, Barb Steibling, Adam and Sue Buttermore, Doug Senseman, and Bob Willard Sr., totaling 20+ people. Two big, lumbering tow trucks arrived, compliments of Dean Stebbins Sr. of Fall and Stebbins Automotive of Mantua, and also John’s Towing. These two companies worked together to generate a rescue plan. Giant 12” wide straps were fastened in place, and a trench was dug under the

Continued on page 21
Happy Trails has several specific projects in mind that are our short-term goals. If you are able to help us make any of these projects a reality, we will be forever grateful!

**LASER PRINTER: $600**
Happy Trails runs the beeegeezus out of our plain ol’ printer, causing us to have to replace it regularly. We looked into getting a laser printer (complete with scanning and copying capabilities), which seems more appropriate for the amount of information we print out regularly. The cost of the laser printer we hope to purchase is $650. Large quantities of printing are still done on a copier, but we are constantly running out original copies of animal health care information, newsletters to proof, grants, adoption applications, Sunday work lists, letters, community event display items, small signs, feeding notes, vet instructions, and much, much more. We give our busy little printer more than it’s fair share of work!

**STORAGE SHED: $8,489**
Happy Trails is out of “room at the inn” for items that need stored safely out of the seasonal elements. We have finally acquired a pre-built storage shed, which can be delivered to Happy Trails and installed, for the price listed. The shed will be 16’x32’, and the price includes delivery, assembly and flooring. Items that we need to store out of the elements include the small-animal crates which we use regularly to transport chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys; the pet porters which we use to transport the pot belly pigs; tables and chairs which are used for seminars and community events; extra buckets, bowls and animal-care supplies; the forcart which is the small horse-drawn vehicle used for our Amish horse retirement team of Tony and Red; and all of our tools and equipment used for our daily repairs and sanctuary upkeep. Right now, space is at a minimum, and many items are not organized or stored in a safe way. This has been something we have dreamed of getting for quite a while, and with winter almost here, we are keeping our fingers crossed that someone will help out with this project.

**COMPLETION OF OUR OFFICE: $9,550**
For several years, Happy Trails has been slowly edging our way toward completing the small 18’x24’ office area at the sanctuary. Though it’s important to us to finish this project, we seem to always direct our funds to go toward some poor animal’s medical and recovery needs.

The very old, small barn has been uprighted and secured for some time now. Our next steps are to have a concrete floor poured, update the electrical wiring, and then have the walls insulated, dry-walled and painted. We also need to install a heating system. The office is important for quite a few reasons: we need a warm, temperature controlled room in which to store our animal medications, a place to meet with potential adopters, a place where volunteers can warm up when pulling an long day of manual labor outside in crappy weather, a place where we can store all of our files, medical records and paperwork, and a place where we can hold meetings for fund-raisers and community events.

The cost listed above should cover all material, labor and supply items needed to complete inside construction and finish the creation of a Happy Trails office.
WISH LIST

- Hay and straw (not more than a year old, not moldy)
- Several loads of sand and dirt to fix the horse stalls, the barn aisle
- Heat lamps and bulbs
- Bottled water or soft drinks for our hard working volunteers
- Horse paste wormers such as Quest, Strongid, Zimectrin or Panacur
- A concrete aisleway for our barn. Aisle is 10’ x 84’
- Sleeping bags, comforters and blankets for the arthritic or injured animals
- Large pet porters, crates or cages in good condition
- Tools: pitch forks, stall forks, leaf rakes, muck tubs

Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary is a 501c3 non-profit organization that relies on the generosity of kind folks who believe in our animal rescue efforts.

Please consider making a difference by sending a donation to help spread compassion and the save the life of a neglected, abused or abandoned farm animal today.

DONATION INFORMATION

I’d like to send a donation at this time of

- $25
- $35
- $55
- $75
- $125
- $_______other

Please use this donation where it is needed the most.

Please keep me on your mailing list. Please take my name off your mailing list.

Please send me a tax-deductible receipt for my donation.

NAME _____________________________________ ADDRESS ____________________________________
CITY/STATE/ZIP ________________________________________ PHONE___________________________

Gifts, Bequests and Planned Giving

A bequest to Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. will ensure the gift of life for abused, abandoned and neglected animals. Please consider including the work of Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. in your will.

There are many options for planned giving. They can provide you with tax benefits while they help the animals. Through a planned gift, you may be able to increase your current income or provide additional retirement income, while reducing income tax and estate taxes. Some types of gifts virtually eliminate estate taxes, while others greatly reduce the amount of tax you are responsible for during your lifetime. It is important to explore your options so that both you and the animals receive the full benefit of any considered gift.

Some options include:

- Bequests through your will
- Charitable Gift Annuities: May provide numerous tax benefits to you, and you are guaranteed income for the rest of your life
- Life Insurance Gifts: Make Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc. the owner and beneficiary of a life insurance policy
- Retirement Plans: Donate your interest in an IRA or other qualified savings plan

If you are considering a gift or would like more information, please e-mail us through www.happytrailsfarm.org, or call us at 330-296-5914.

Note: Happy Trails representatives would be happy to discuss your planned giving and bequests, and work with your attorney or other financial expert of your choosing.

Happy Trails Logo Items Available To Purchase!

See page 21

GAS CARDS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

for gasoline and diesel, for use in both the farm equipment and for transportation of the animals.
program, but also to make room for those in need who are awaiting sanctuary. Happy Trails receives many, many large animal calls daily from across our wonderful state of Ohio, and our large-animal rescue barn is constantly full to capacity. It is often difficult though necessary to turn down a humane officer’s request for help.

**How does the new Equine Foster-To-Adopt Program work?**

- Review the horse adoption criteria to make sure you are all ready to bring home a new furry and four-legged family member and will meet the basic requirements of providing a suitable facility to properly care for the daily needs of a horse.
- Choose the horse you are interested in possibly adopting. By calling the sanctuary and leaving a message that you are interested in adopting a horse, an equine adoption counselor will return your call and set up a personal appointment for you to visit the horses that are available for adoption.
- Fill out the paperwork.
- Your adoption counselor visits your home and goes over together with you the facility safety checklist.
- Take your horsey home that you are hoping to adopt, enjoy spending time with him or her, and make sure that it will be a wonderful and lasting relationship.
- Choose to officially adopt the horse during the foster period, and the adoption fee will be waived.
- If you decided that adopting a horse will not be in the best interest of either you or the horse, the horse can be returned to Happy Trails at any time. If you choose to continue to foster for the entire time period, the horse will be removed from your care at the end of the 90 day trial period and brought back to the sanctuary.

**Horse Adoption Criteria**

- Make sure you have adequate and approved fencing. Happy Trails does not approve barbed wire fencing.
- The horse must have an appropriate large farm animal companion, preferably another horse, pony or other equine, but may also have as a friend a goat, a sheep or a cow.
- Fresh water must be available at all times.
- Horses must have daily turn-out of at least 8 hours per day weather permitting. (Horses enjoy a better quality and more natural way of life if not kept standing for hours confined to stalls.
- Turn-out and exercise areas must be safe from dangers and large enough for the number of animals living in that area.
- Adopters must keep the horse on their own property. We are sorry but we are not permitted to approve leasing facilities.
Please help us spread the word about our new equine foster-to-adopt program!

For more information on the all-new Happy Trails Equine Foster-To-Adopt Program, please call the sanctuary at (330) 296-5914 and ask to have an equine adoption counselor return your call.

TWO AMISH HORSES HOPE THAT SPACE WILL SOON BECOME AVAILABLE

Calls come in regularly from the folks in Ohio’s Amish communities wanting their buggy horses and plow horses to participate in the Happy Trails Amish Horse Retirement Program. Two Standardbred buggy horses are waiting in the wings as we speak for Happy Trails to find room to accept them. We are doing our very best to help these hard-working horses find a peaceful and caring home, and save them from being run through the local auctions where they are routinely purchased by the meat buyers (who are now sending “killer” horses to Mexico for slaughter since it is now banned in the United States). Please consider adding an Amish horse to your horsey family!

ROOSTER UPDATE

The court proceedings for the roosters rescued from the cockfighting situation in Loraine County are hopefully coming to an end. We anticipate that we will be permitted to place the roosters in caring adoptive homes. Many are very friendly and loving and not aggressive towards people. Please consider adopting a beautiful rooster into your feathered friends family. Call Happy Trails at (330) 296-5914 for more information.

EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES

Check out the following websites for some great educational information about current legislation and animal-related issues.

Be educated, be aware, be informed!

Humane Farming Association
http://www.hfa.org/about/index.html

Humane Society Of The United States
http://hsus.org/

Animal Welfare Institute
http://www.awionline.org/farm/fai.htm

American Humane
http://www.americanhumane.org/site/PageServer?pagename=pa_home

Carolyn's VEGAN MEATLOAF

Thoroughly mix all load ingredients with spoon or hands. This is enough for 3 loaves, 4 people each. Divide mix into thirds. Freeze two parts for later use. Press remaining 1/3 mixture into oiled loaf pan.

Sprinkle generously with garlic powder. Cover with foil and bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes.

Meanwhile, mix all coating ingredients except the fried onions and set aside.

Remove the loaf from the oven and spread the coating over the entire load. Raise the loaf and spoon coating under the loaf. Sprinkle with fried onions and coos, uncovered, for another 15 minutes.

ROASTING "KILLER" HORSES

"Killer" horses that are now being sent to Mexico for slaughter since it is now banned in the United States. Please consider adopting a beautiful rooster into your feathered friends family. Call Happy Trails at (330) 296-5914 for more information.

Here's a great animal-friendly & heart-healthy recipe to try for the holidays!

(Highly recommended by Mrs. Beasley the farm pig)

LOAF INGREDIENTS

1 large onion, diced
1 sweet pepper, diced
1 package Gimme Lean faux ground “beef”
1 package Gimme Lean faux “sausage”
¼ c uncooked oats
10 crackers, crumbled
3 T plus ½ c ketchup
2 t garlic salt
1 T garlic powder
1 t pepper
3 T vegetarian Worcestershire Sauce
1 T ground sage
Garlic powder, enough to cover top of load

COATING INGREDIENTS

¼ c ketchup
½ t dry mustard
½ c nutmeg
Fried onions, optional

Want to share your vegetarian or vegan recipes? Send them to Happy Trails at 5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, Oh 44266, and we'll try to include a new recipe in each newsletter!
THANK YOU’S

Happy Trails has been blessed with the support of many, many people who are interested in helping to bring about an end to animal suffering and to bring compassion and awareness into our communities.

Unfortunately there is never enough room in our newsletter to thank everyone who has touched the lives of the people and animals at Happy Trails, but we always like to mention a few. Gratitude and appreciation goes out to:

• Sue Buttermore, for hosting a family and friends birthday party for her now-27 year old son Adam, at Happy Trails. And thanks to Adam for going along with the idea! Instead of presents, their guest brought donations for the sanctuary, and instead of partying, their guests held a work day and helped cut down dead trees that were in danger of falling on the piggies.

• Everyone who donated items for the October tack sale, and many thanks to Tractor Supply Company in Ravenna for hosting our fundraiser! Thanks to Kevin and Debbie Bragg for donating the pony cart which brought in the most money, and thanks to Ken Aberregg for taking items that were not sold to a local auction and generated even more funds for the sanctuary!

• Abby Robinson and the Robinson family for being such a great foster home for Hurricane Jenny the Standardbred mare

• ABCO Fire Protection Company of Cleveland for donating nine fire extinguishers for the shelters at the sanctuary. We truly appreciate their kindness!

• Phyllis and Jake Leonhardt, our faithful animal haulers! What good sports these two are!

• Eileen and Bob Roloff for being instrumental in organizing the Amish Horse Health Seminars.

• Jacob and Mary Ester Yoder for hosting the Amish Horse Health Seminars at their farm.

• All of our recent adoptive families! We have had some incredible people provide homes for rescued farm animals. Seth and Diana Klimas adopted three pot belly piggies, Peppe Le Pu, Paris and Louie Louie; Bob and Teri Gourley adopted three silkie chickens and Pookie the duck; Timy and Ed Sullivan adopted Polly and Token, two older retired horses; Ed and Pet Pavlish adopted Muffin, a young black female goat; Sue Effron adopted three ducks and three chickens; Vicki Claus adopted Big Red, a rooster, and to everyone else who welcomed a farm animal into their farm pet family!

• Foster mom, Jeanne Alger, for taking such fantastic care of Evita the Arabian mare, and for having adopted several other Happy Trails horses

• The Burton Arts Festival Committee for having invited us to have a display at such a wonderful event!

• Giant Eagle for welcoming the Happy Trails crew at their Family Safety Fun Days at their Stow and Streetsboro locations

• All the kind folks who sent donations for the rescued cats and dogs of Holmes County, which Happy Trails was thrilled to deliver to the Holmes County Humane Society at their fall open house. A special thanks goes out to Friends Of Pets!

We wish we had room to mention ALL the acts of kindness bestowed upon Happy Trails. We are grateful to everyone who supports our farm animal rescue efforts!

COLLECTIBLES

Happy Trails continues to collect items which help us fund multiple projects at Happy Trails. Many of you already collect aluminum cans for our can recycling program, and we appreciate everyone who takes the time to drop off the many, many bags of cans that arrive at the sanctuary! If you have any questions about the can program, call Sharon Barnard at (330) 329-9727.

We also can once again collect Acme Receipts, so if you are an Acme shopper, be sure to save and send in your Acme Receipts to Happy Trails, attention Lauren Carroll.

We now save ink cartridges also! So far we can accept and recycle any old ink cartridges except Epsom. These items can be dropped off on Sundays at the sanctuary from 1pm-4pm.

Many thanks to all who participate in our collection programs and for helping us to recycle!

We also can once again collect Acme Receipts, so if you are an Acme shopper, be sure to save and send in your Acme Receipts to Happy Trails, attention Lauren Carroll.

We now save ink cartridges also! So far we can accept and recycle any old ink cartridges except Epsom. These items can be dropped off on Sundays at the sanctuary from 1pm-4pm.

Many thanks to all who participate in our collection programs and for helping us to recycle!
...dedicated to Max...

SOFT WHISPER

by Lanie Blackmon

My best friend spoke to me last night a soft whisper in my ear.
I woke up and looked around the room, I was startled, yet I had no fear.

My best friend said that all is fine Rainbow Bridge is so much more. That there was so much love up there, even a beautiful ocean shore.

There are fields and fields of green green grass and the sky has different shades of blue. There are flowers, mountains, trees and clouds, everything they said it was, is true.

My best friend whispered in my ear last night saying “Please don’t cry or be sad. That what was done, had to be done, for me to live my life now, so be glad.”

My best friend said that I did the right thing for me to live my life now, so be glad.

I asked my best friend, “How could this be I miss you so much everyday. That my heart hurts so much for you, I wish there could of been another way.”

My best friend whispered in my ear last night “You will always be in my heart. Go on and live and love another, because we will never really be apart.”

My best friend whispered in my ear last night “It’s time for me to go towards the light. I just wanted to stop and say to you Go on my best friend, I’ll be alright.”

“I carry your unconditional love with me I have done this from the very start.” I whispered back to my best friend last night.

“I’ll always love you with all my heart.”

“So goodbye my best friend,” as I looked up at the sky A shooting star I see in a straight line Moving fast across the sky and out of sight, I whispered, “Goodbye my best friend. Now, I’ll be fine.”

Cow as the straps became a girth to help him stand. Slowly the tow truck lifted the giant beast into the air as the vet steadied our dear Max. Though the cow was up, his legs would not immediately work. It took some time for Max to discover his balance, and once he did, he planted all four feet firmly on the ground. As soon as he demonstrated he could stand on his own, a deafening cheer went up from the crowd, with more than a few faces streaming tears of joy. Everyone had hope that Max would make it!

However, our hopes were soon dashed. After being up and walking about for several hours, Max again needed to lay down, and there was nothing we could do to prevent that, nor would we want to. He needed to rest. Tons of soft straw made a giant cow bed to which we guided him to, and he carefully laid down for the last time, never to be able to stand again. We did not want to put the cow through the trauma of the lift a second time, and his back leg, for whatever reason, would simply no longer work. The vet determined that the leg did not appear to be broken or injured, but it simply could no longer bear the weight of the enormous cow. After giving Max the benefit of the doubt for another two days, it was decided that the most humane thing to do was to help him cross the Rainbow Bridge in a calm and peaceful setting. Late Friday night, with only a handful of Max’s admirer’s on hand, including Sue Buttermore, Debbie Bragg, Debbie Robinson, Annette Fisher and Doc Alger, Max was gently held and massaged as he slipped quietly from this world and into the next.

For being at Happy Trails a relatively short length of time, Max touched a huge number of lives, because, of course, everything about Max was big — including the number of people who connected with his gentle spirit and slobbery but happy greetings that only a cow like Max could offer.

Max had apparently taught us all the lessons he possibly could, and it was time for him to “mooove” on to bigger and better things. Max was lovingly laid to rest in the Pet Cemetery, and will live on forever in our hearts! Max, The Cow taught us many things, including unconditional love.

until we meet again little buddy, we wish you a field full of red apples (his favorite treat) and lots of Ginger Snap Cookies (his second favorite treat).

A million thank you goes out to Max’s rescue team — you’re the greatest and kindest and most compassionate folks ever, and we are honored to have met and worked with all of you!
Happy Trails Hooded Sweatshirts
$25.00
Features 50% cotton, 50% polyester 9.3 oz. fabric. Double lined hood with draw cord, ribbed cuffs and waistband, and muff-style front pocket. Bright yellow with a dark green logo or dark forest green with a yellow logo. SIZES: S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X

Happy Trails Short Sleeve T-shirts
$14.00
Features 50% cotton, 50% polyester heavy-weight fabric, seamless collarette, shoulder to shoulder tape, and double-needle sleeve and hem. Bright yellow with a dark green logo, or dark forest green with a yellow logo. SIZES: S, M, L, XL, 1X, 2X

Happy Trails Baseball Caps
$13.00
Quality baseball style cap with embroidered Happy Trails logo. Available in forest green or black with yellow logo. One size fits all with adjustable strap.

“Pigs Across America” T-shirts
$15.00

To order items over the internet, log onto our website at www.happytrailsfarm.org.

SHIPPING: For shipping options/costs or to arrange pick-up or local delivery, please call Nancy Conring at (330) 733-1478.

Send order form and payment to:
Happy Trails Farm Animal Sanctuary, Inc.
5623 New Milford Rd., Ravenna, OH 44266