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Friends News



Friends of Deer Hollow Farm is a non-profit organization supporting Deer Hollow Farm and its educational programs.

Summer 2020

Say Hello to Our Spring Babies!

by Tara Shreekrishnan

We hope you and your loved ones are safe and well during this trying time.

Our small, yet mighty Farm staff works taking precautions and providing extra loving care to our beloved animals. The Farm will continue to take proactive steps to operate safely and effectively.

In line with the county's public health guidelines, the Spring Farm Tours were cancelled. These events help pay for our animals' care. Through internet fundraising campaigns initiated by our board, we were able to raise a good amount of money for food, bedding, medical needs, and general animal upkeep. We appreciate all who contributed for their

generous support that truly makes a difference for our animals.

We know that many of you missed visiting our spring babies at the Farm. The animals missed you as well. Thankfully our spring babies are warm, safe, healthy, and thriving, with mothers keeping a close eye on their young.

Our newborns can't wait to meet you!



Pippin, the Nigeri Dwarf goat, delivered these kids. Two are bucks, and one is a doe.



Penny is with her two buck kids and one doe kid.



Merry is playing with her two buck kids.



Mint welcomed three lambs. Two are ewes, and one is a ram.



Twiggy and her two kids stay warm under the heat lamp.



Pepper delivered a ewe lamb and a ram lamb.

Not Pictured: Flemish Giant rabbit **Peaches** welcomed eight kits.

2020 Vision – A Board Update

by Lauren Merriman

What a year, and we're only halfway through! First and foremost, on behalf of the Board of Directors for the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm, we hope you and your family are safe, healthy, and adjusting to these new and ever-changing times. In January when the board discussed our goals for 2020, we certainly didn't foresee where we are today. Normally this article would provide a review of the Spring Farm Tour events and a look into the next few months as we gear up for summer outreach and summer programs. While the status of many future events is unconfirmed at the time this article was written, we do continue to look forward and plan for the future at Deer Hollow Farm.

The Amino Fund

The annual Spring Farm Tours are two of the main events where the proceeds go straight to the animals at Deer Hollow Farm. With the order from the county to shelter-in-place issued a week prior to our March 21st event and the knowledge that the April 18th tour would also be cancelled, the board launched a multi-faceted campaign to raise funds for the

animals in place of these events. We know you saw our Facebook, Instagram, and e-mail blasts seeking donations because we had a huge influx of funds. Over the course of just a few weeks we were able to raise over \$15,000 for the animals! This support is truly incredible and so generous! The funding goes to purchase feed, bedding, and medical supplies for the residents at Deer Hollow Farm.

New Faces in 2020

Jack Kay, a resident of Sunnyvale and retired engineer, joined the FODHF Board in January 2020. He is a Master Gardener and is very active with the California Rare Fruit Growers Santa Clara Valley Chapter.



In addition to Jack joining the board, we've hired **Barbara Cole** as our accountant to assist with many of the accountant functions that retired

board member **Carla Dorow** provided. Barbara comes to us with a variety of accountant and administrative skills. We are thrilled to have Jack and Barbara join our team.

The board wishes to thank our recently termed-out board members **Park Chamberlain** and **Nina Wong-Dobkin**, both served two-three year terms. They both brought incredible energy, expertise, dedication and commitment to the FODHF.

White Barn Update

Despite the uncertain times, we are happy to report Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has been moving forward with the project drawings for the White Barn with the completion targeted in May 2021. Construction of the site is estimated to begin in the fall.

With the future a little unclear at the time of writing this, I want to encourage you to sign up for our e-newsletters, follow us on Facebook and/or Instagram and check our webpage www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org to stay up to date with our outreach efforts, upcoming events, and any opportunities to get involved.



Seated left to right: Pamela Baird, Nancy Stuhr, secretary, Lauren Merriman, president
Standing left to right: Dick Walker, Kate Rainwater, Jack Kay, Wai Mo, Tara Sreekrishnan, David Fung
Not pictured: Katie Stern, treasurer

Familiar Face at the Farm—Nancy Stuhr

by Nina Wong-Dobkin

Many paths lead people to volunteer at Deer Hollow Farm. Some read about the Farm's volunteer program in the Mercury News. Others learn about the Farm from friends or community events, or they stumble on the Farm while hiking in Rancho San Antonio. As they enjoy the Farm and the animals, they see bulletin board notices or talk to staff about volunteering.



Our featured volunteer, **Nancy Stuhr**, discovered Deer Hollow Farm when a friend took her for a walk to help her recover from an accident. While walking through the Farm, Nancy became excited by the smell of the pigs. That day she found out about volunteering opportunities from **Claire Moore**, the livestock coordinator at the time. Nancy was off work, so she signed up to volunteer at the Farm right then. That was eight years ago. When she started volunteering, Claire taught Nancy how to milk cows and goats (goats were milked by hand at that time) and do other Farm chores, such as cleaning the barns and picking up warm eggs from our chickens and ducks.

Over these years, Nancy has connected



with the animals, maybe not with individual chickens or ducks but definitely with each cow, goat, sheep, and rabbit. She loves spending time with them and observing how they think. She is convinced that even though animals do not think and learn and communicate the way humans do, they do think and learn and communicate. She takes on the job of trying to understand them and communicate with them.

Nancy also enjoys the physical work of cleaning the barns because she gets a good workout, and she feels a sense of accomplishment when the cleaning is done.

When Farm visitors find Nancy working in the animal pens and talk with her, they are in for a treat. Nancy is passionate about sharing what she knows. She has a rich collection of little-known facts about our animals, which she enthusiastically shares. Nancy is sure that sometimes her many favorite animal stories make people think she is nuts.

Nancy treasures connections with animals at the Farm. She remembers the time one of our pigs, Clove, was sick and could not come out of her barn. Nancy knew Clove needed water so brought water in a bucket and lowered it to her. Clove,

who was unaccustomed to drinking from a bucket, knocked the bucket out of Nancy's reach. Clove was grunting at Nancy for more water but Nancy could not reach the bucket, so she looked hard at Clove and the bucket and back at Clove while saying, "Hand me the bucket, Clove." Clove understood and lifted the bucket by the handle and handed it to Nancy! Now, of course, Nancy ties a rope to the bucket when she needs to offer water that way.

Nancy knows the value of meeting our Farm animals and relaxing in the calming environment at the Farm.



Wanting to help ensure the Farm has funding to remain open, Nancy joined the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm board in September 2016. She is currently the secretary for the board. She shares, "I have enjoyed my work with the board. They are an enthusiastic, hard-working group."

Nancy encourages anyone who is interested in volunteering at the Farm or with the Friends board to contact the Farm office or check www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org. "There are lots of different ways to help," she asserts, "involving animals or not."

When she is not at the Farm, Nancy is a real estate broker. She enjoys visiting friends and spending time gardening and hiking.



Out in the Orchard

by Tom Lustig

The good news was that the Farm's Granny Smith tree had 100 apples. The bad news was that 90 of the apples had worms. That was ten years ago. The worms were the larvae of the Codling moth.

Each Codling moth female lays approximately 50 eggs on the leaves and apples. The eggs hatch in about two weeks.



The larvae make their way into the apple and especially like to feed on the seeds. After another three weeks, they exit and

find a place, perhaps in the bark, to make a cocoon. Three weeks later they emerge as a second generation and begin the life cycle all over again. We had to act!

The following spring we suspended moth traps from the limbs of the apple trees. The concoction in each trap lured the male moths and led to their demise (drowning). After a few years we had very little worm damage.

The trap: a one-gallon plastic container with a 2.5-inch diameter hole cut on the side near the top.



The trap contains:
1/3 cup of molasses
1 cup apple cider vinegar
5 cups water
1/8 teaspoon ammonia

We suspend one trap on a small tree and up to three traps on a large tree. We hang the traps after most of the blossoms have been pollinated. As the season progresses, we refill the traps as needed.

We now have a good harvest of Granny Smith apples and Fuji apples from the tree pictured here.



Other Farm apple trees are Gravenstein, Red Delicious, and Golden Delicious. Last summer the Gravenstein produced 600 apples.

Not only do we enjoy the apples, but we like to see the blossoms in spring. This is a blossom from the Golden Delicious tree.



Our newest tree, planted in February, will provide four apples on one tree:

- Gala
- Fuji
- Granny Smith
- Golden Delicious

When the orchard is open, take a stroll along its meandering path and perhaps visit its resident rabbit, **Paul Bunyan**.

Meet Our Hoopy Rabbits

by Pamela Baird

Of the more than 300 identified breeds of domestic rabbits, the Farm has three rabbits from the largest breed, the Flemish Giant, and two rabbits from one of the smallest and softest breeds, the Mini Rex. Both breeds are friendly, making them good domestic pets and good choices for the Farm.

Flemish Giant

Flemish Giants weigh on average 18 to 20 pounds or as much as 25 pounds. They were bred for their fur and meat in Flanders over three hundred years ago and were introduced to the United States in the early 1890s as meat rabbits.

There is a marked difference in appearance between the buck (male) and the doe (female). The buck has a broader head. The doe has a large dewlap (a large flap of skin under the chin) to keep her kits (babies) warm. Seven different colors of fur are common.



Paul Bunyan is our Flemish Giant buck, who lives in the orchard.

Banana and **Peaches** are the names of our Flemish Giant does. Peaches had a litter of eight kits at the end of February.



continued on page 5

Meet Our Hoopy Rabbits *continued*

The gestation period for rabbits is only about 30 days, giving rise to the saying “breeding like rabbits” for reproducing quickly.

Mini Rex

Mini Rex are small, weighing only about four pounds. They originated in France in the nineteenth century as a result of a mutation that caused the hair to protrude outwards and the guard hairs to shorten to the same length. They were first recognized by the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) in 1988. The breed is identified by the plush feel of the coat. Over fifteen different colors of fur are acceptable for showing purposes.

The Mini Rex does living at the Farm are **Kiwi**, pictured below, and **Pineapple**. Both are sweet-natured.



The Farm also has an older rabbit, **Kanga**, of unknown breed. She was found by rangers after probably being abandoned by her owners. She is pictured here with Pineapple in their new cage.



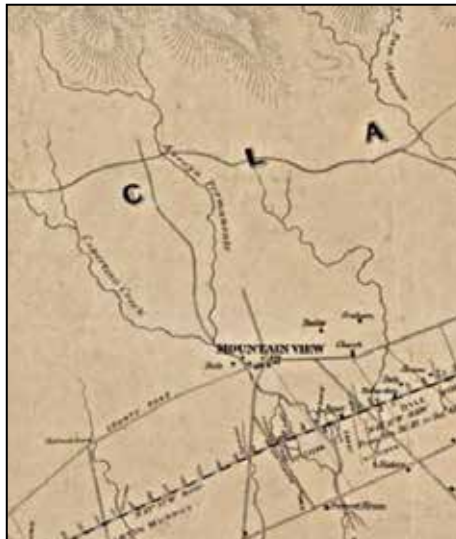
The six rabbits are fed rabbit pellets along with orchard grass hay and fresh greens as treats. The Flemish Giants eat pellets of alfalfa hay; Kiwi and Pineapple eat pellets made from Timothy hay.

Perpetual Creeks Bring Perpetual Enjoyment

by Jaime Villarreal

When the first European settlers arrived in the South Bay, they were greeted by Native Americans referred to by the Spanish as Costanoans (people of the coast). These people lived in communal villages such as the Partacsi village in the area of the current Rancho San Antonio County Park and Preserve. The abundant game, fertile land, and creeks that offered reliable sources of water sustained them for centuries.

The shared land of Native American villages became private land when settlers moved in, taking advantage of land grants.



Desirable homesteads were near the creeks. This Allard map, circa 1862, shows what is now known as Permanente Creek.

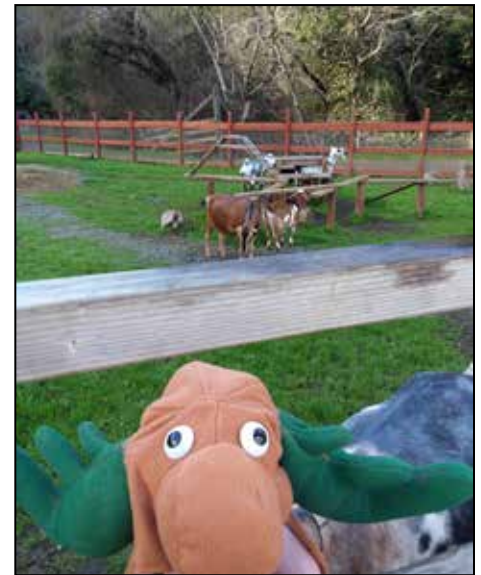
Its twists and turns may remind some of hair treated with a permanent wave. However, the name refers to its permanent or reliable water flow.

One Permanente tributary runs adjacent to Deer Hollow Farm. This creek has had several names. The official current name of West Fork Permanente Creek; older names include Big Green Moose Creek and Ohlone Creek.

There are many such streams and cascades during times of consistent rainfall. The one above and to the right is found along the Coyote Trail. The watershed also supports water tables, important for when water stops running above ground.



Visitors today may see deer or turkeys in the creeks. It was said that once a person saw a “green moose” in the creek. This was probably an adult male deer whose antlers were “in velvet,” referring to a time of year when they look like they are covered with moss. Pictured is what a moose in velvet might look like if it were in the goat pen.



The Farm was settled in a desirable location rich in resources. It is fitting that the Rancho San Antonio and Farm area, originally shared land that transitioned into private ownership, has now returned to public land, making it possible for area residents to enjoy the historic Farm and surrounding wilderness area.

Wonderful Friends

We gratefully acknowledge these generous friends and community organizations who contributed to Friends of Deer Hollow Farm between November 1, 2019 and April 30, 2020.

Grants

Santa Clara County \$17,660 for
scholarships and bussing
Los Altos Community Foundation
\$5,000
Merrimac Fund \$3,000
Mountain View Kiwanis Foundation
\$2,500

Donations

Hawk (\$5000)

Aart De Geus and Esther John
Marcella Stauber

California Thresher (\$2,000 to \$3,000)

Timothy Dylan Wood, with Apple
Dirk and Venny Hoekstra
Manfroy Family Fund

Stellar Jay (\$1,000 to \$1,999)

Joy Desai
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Robert Hauge, in honor of Luis Grant,
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Virginia Grant Murphy
Iwamoto Family Fund
Roman Scheiter
Wendy Scheiter, in honor of Sadie
Scheiter
Vaswani Family Fund
Richard and Jane Walker
Anonymous

California Quail (\$500 to \$999)

Ruth Kaempf
Anonymous Google Employee
Coleman and Betsy Youngdahl, with
Dell match
Larry and Donna Aronson, in memory
of brother Paul
Chris and Genevieve Halvorsen

California Quail continued

Joan Anderson, in memory of
Mary and Ralph Kane
Mike Hammes
Anne Hanson
Richard and Diane Horn
David and Karen Jessen,
in memory of Gary Dymond
Pamela Lillquist
Lauren Merriman
Katherine Miller Wasilenko,
with Google match
Radar Foundation, in honor of
David Fung and family
Evan Schneider, in memory of
Phoebe and her garden
Bonnie Stearns
Anonymous

Acorn Woodpecker (\$250 to \$499)

Tom and Barbara Lustig
Rebecca Wolfe
Amazon Smile Foundation
Dennis Haas
Carol Jossi
Edward Reed and Johanna Schmid
Katrina Johnson Secoy
Sandra Bergan
Mary Shannon and Joseph Kava
Patricia Campbell, in memory of
Diana Cook Pearl
Rob Colwell
Neil and Ruth Foley
David Fung
Sue Gale
Chris and Bill Green
Marge Haley, in memory of Boyd Haley
Raymond and Elsa Heald
Susan Casner-Kay and Jack Kay
Chris and Amy Migdal
Tim Petersen
Darwin and Donna Poulos

Acorn Woodpecker continued

Jane Sanders, in honor of
Newt and her Dad
Ann Schmitt, in honor of Carla Dorow
Tara Sreekrishnan
Nancy Stuhr
Tim and Gail Sullivan,
in honor of Susan Gale
Jeffrey and Barbara Taylor
Don Weden, in memory of Kim Weden
Dee Wood, in memory of Chris Wood
Betsy and George Young
Phoebe (\$100 to \$249)
John and Brenda Robbins,
in memory of Karyl and Tom Robbins
Michael Carlton, with Google match
Pamela Carlton, in honor of
Luna and Soleil's kids
Anita Krishnan and Krish Ellath,
on behalf of daughter Tara Sreekrishnan
with NetApp match
Christine Goritschnigg, with HP match
Helene Hills
Jerry and Sandy Juracich
Ed and Jean Aiken
Sylvia Weiser
Merry and Steve Astor, in honor of
Susan Berman
Richard and Marcia Baugh
Christine Burns
Sally Cappucci
Cindy Castillo, in honor of
Susan Casner-Kay
Frances and Stephen Conley
John and Mary Jane Edwards
Penny Gardner
Jesse Imbach
James Morales
Gary Schlueter
Marion Sotcher
Helen Thompson
Barbara Weinstein

Wonderful Friends continued

Phoebe continued

Eric Helfenbein and Cheryl Anton
Barbara Arnoldussen
John Atwood
Olga Bruce, in memory of Bill Bruce
Ann Cerniglia
James Chin and Silvia Cen
Eugene and Clare Cordero
Doug Cox
Christel Fliss
Ivan Gendzel
Hans Bernhardt
Marianne Gregersen, in honor of
Lee Winchell for Christmas
Kevin and Lesley Hall, in memory of
Stanford Hall
Wayne and Judith Hooper
Alan and Valerie Huwe
James and Susan Jacobus, in memory
of Gerald L. Jacobus
Kimberly Jorgensen, in honor of
Roberta Jorgensen
Erica Kenworthy and
Carla Murray Kenworthy
Andy Lott
Carol Luckhardt, in honor of Lee Winchell
Christine Ludwick
Beatrice Birman and Mary Malgoire
Yeffi Vanatta and Philip Manela
Ellie and Dick Mansfield
Sidney Marks, in support of
Ryan DeAngelis—Scout project
Doug and Karen Morgan
Sapthotharan Nair
D. Nichols, in support of
Ryan DeAngelis—Scout project
Leslie C. and Anita N. Nichols
Michael and Susan Plass,
with Google match
James and Andrea Sandstrom
Greg and Susan Schaffer
Ellen and Marvin Schwartz, in honor of
Jessica, Lisa, and
all DHF staff and volunteers

Phoebe continued

Monty Simpson
Lee Winchell, in honor of Stacie Williams,
Jack and Bev Winchell
Priscilla Sarinas and Kim Wong
Anonymous (4)
Junco (\$50 to \$99)
Jennifer Timmins, in memory of
Eleanor Jensen's birthday
Nancy Delbrueck, in honor of
Mini Mourkas
Andy Drexler
Christin Flahavan
Joyce Godecke
Karen Gough
Carl Baeuerlen and Jim Hulseman
Neal and Sonja Locke
Deborah Mancuso
Joan Meyer, in honor of
Lee R. Winchell
Joseph and Susan Mingione
Lynne Page
Celine Pena
Christine Bate
Stephanie Channing, in honor of
Nancy Stuhr
Robert and Judith Dahl
Drew Dara-Abrams, in honor of
Elizabeth Phillips
Claude and Gudrun DeBuhr, in honor of
Luna in retirement
Henry and Mildred Goltz
Barbara Goodwin
Thomas Goosmann
Annie Hart
Roberta Jorgensen
James Kermode and Carla
Bottenfield
Paul Kostka
Margaret Lanphier
John and Karen Lemes
Joan and Greg Loney, in honor of
Ulf Stauber

Junco continued

William "Buzz" and Georgie McClain
Robin Ohern
Mihai Parparita
Pazdel, Kamran & Lisa, in support of
Ryan DeAngelis—Scout project
Carol Peters
Karen Sanico, in honor of
Deer Hollow workers
Martin and Roberta Schwartz
Gretchen Vogel
Fred and Nancy Witteborn
Hummingbird (\$20 to \$49)
Walter Keutgens
Lori Tuttle
Deborah Dickinson, in memory of
Margaret Harwood
Summer Chambers
Patrick and Jan Dalton
Thomas MacDonald
Suzanne McDonough, in loving
memory of Freddie
Kelsey Meder
Sam and Anne Ng
Margo Plageman-Lee
Paul and Crystal Ryan, in honor of
Donovan Ryan
Meredyn Shapiro
Konrad Sosnow
John and Sandy Bressler
Elizabeth Moore
Timothy and Leigh Stevens
Glenn and Linda Wegner
Anonymous (2)

Thank you to all who contributed cash or through Pay Pal; the total was \$901.

Thank you **Hassen Lashgari** and your team at Pine Press for doing such an excellent job of printing our color newsletter for the price of black-and-white.



The Farm Welcomes Jelly Bean

by *Farm Staff*

Along with saying goodbye to our volunteers temporarily, we have also had to say goodbye recently to our cows **Luna** and **Roxy**. Not to worry though; they are still alive and well! We have found a better forever home on a beautiful private farm in Chico. (This farm came by way of reference through a farm sanctuary, so we know they will take good care of our girls for the long run.) It was a hard decision to say goodbye to Luna, but we felt that the bonded pair shouldn't be split up, and it was time for Roxy to be moving on, as she was not the best suited personality for our programming here. Luna and Roxy now get to spend their days grazing many acres of cow friendly crops, loving on some young bottle-raised calves, and interacting with their new human family, who are all full of love for cows!

We had a joyous welcoming too! We picked up a new cow, **Jelly Bean**, a 2-year-old miniature Jersey who is halter broken, small in size, and extremely sweet and friendly. We can't wait to introduce her to you and to all of our programs once our shelter-in-place has been lifted.



Deer Hollow Farm is a ten-acre working farm in Rancho San Antonio County Park and Open Space Preserve, 22500 Cristo Rey Drive, Los Altos, 94024. For Deer Hollow Farm information, call 650.903.6430.



FriendsNews is published for donors who preserve and improve Deer Hollow Farm. Find up-to-date information at www.deerhollowfarmfriends.org
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Your next **FriendsNews** will be mailed on December 1, 2020.

To Our Friends

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Friends of Deer Hollow Farm