

News & Stories from  
**River's Wish**

*Dedicated to caring for animals*



## River's Wish supports county cruelty seizures

This past year we have had the opportunity to help several large animals for SCRAPS. Thankfully, each of their stories had a very happy ending.

### *Little Christmas Goats*

On December 26, two African pygmy Nigerian Dwarf cross goats were born in the cold weather. Officers from SCRAPS found one of the babies unresponsive. The babies, their mom and their 'aunt' were rushed to a local veterinary hospital, where miraculously, the nearly frozen baby was saved. Within a few days they asked us if we could take in this family.

*Continued on page 2*

## Annual Campaign Launches!

Please give to our first annual campaign and help River's Wish continue to provide quality care to its animals. Your gift is 100% tax-deductible, 100% for direct animal care, and 100% appreciated.

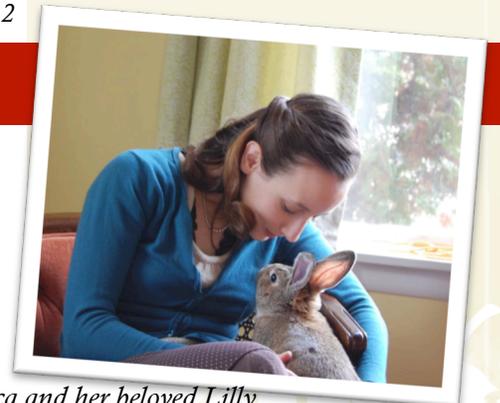
See pictures of Jane our one-eyed spokesbunny, hear about her story and read the complete letter from board member Jessica Schultz-Leyk on page 3.

## Our Wish List

As a busy, non-profit sanctuary, we always have a pretty healthy wish list. Your support is appreciated!



- Canned cat food
- Gift cards to feed stores and building supply stores
- Wood pellets
- Paper towels
- Hay Angels (just \$9/bale)
- Loving, permanent adoptive homes for our available bunnies



*Jessica and her beloved Lilly.*

## Just in time for the holidays...

*Consider a lovely plant or bird house hanger or a custom piece of art*



### Made with care by River's Wish artists

At this time of year we reach out to our wonderful supporters to consider a gift to help continue the important care for the animals who come into our refuge. Please consider one of these ways to help:

- For a \$50.00 gift you will receive a set of cards made from paintings of the animals by Kit Jagoda.
- For a \$100.00 gift you will receive a forged steel plant hanger made by Pete Jagoda.
- Interested in consigning a 12 x 12 oil painting of your beloved companion? Please contact us!

#### *Newsletter Dedication*

Pat Dennison, for her unending support of the people and animals in her life. She has always gone the extra mile for River's Wish.

Thank you Pat!

Betty Dean, who passed away on October 22 at the age of 90. Betty was a true believer in the mission of River's Wish.



## Baby goats find comfort

### *Cruelty cases continued...*

With the bunny's permission, we set up a stall for them in the rabbit house. It was warm and comfy. We named the little miracle goat 'Milagra' and her brother 'Prancer'. He looked just like a sweet little deer. Their mom was named Joy. It was several days before their aunt, Noelle, could come to River's Wish. She had to have a cesarean, but lost her baby.

Within a few months of their arrival we received a call asking us to take a newborn pair of baby lamancha cross goats in from a large seizure that SCRAPS did. This pair was born a day after the seizure, while at the fairgrounds. Their mom was not responding to them. To make a long story short, this delicate little pair came to River's Wish in hope that perhaps Joy would allow them to nurse. She did not. We bottle fed the pair and were eventually able to get their mom to nurse them as well. Initially, it was really touch and go and we thought we might lose one or both. They had had a rough start and their mom was malnourished. Fortunately, they were able to pull through those first difficult weeks and then just blossomed. They were by far the most friendly and hilarious little goats we had ever encountered. Dr. Leese, at Mountain Empire Veterinary Hospital, told us that she was interested in adopting this little pair. We receive updates and they are doing just great.



# Meet Jane

## *Spokesbunny for our Annual Campaign*

As the year winds down and the bunnies snuggle in the rabbit house and the horses, goats, and other animals at River's Wish Animal Sanctuary gather closer on these cool nights, the sanctuary is beginning its very first annual campaign. This is an exciting time for the sanctuary and its supporters, giving us all the opportunity to raise the funds we need to continue to care for nearly 200 formerly abused, neglected, and abandoned animals.

River's Wish is a very special place, as anyone who has been out to visit can attest. The sanctuary's founders and volunteers work tirelessly to provide a beautiful and loving refuge for all of its animals. The care the animals receive is truly a labor of love, but it doesn't come cheap, and River's Wish would not exist without the generous support of its donors. Your financial support ensures that River's Wish is able to continue giving its animals the quality care and peaceful home they deserve.

River's Wish and its donors have saved countless lives. Jane the rabbit, for example, was rescued from

an abusive home after a friend of the sanctuary saw photos online of her owner feeding her beer. Kept in a tiny cage all alone, Jane was miserable and in a lot of pain from a mysterious eye injury before coming to live at the sanctuary. Thanks to the generous

support of its donors, River's Wish was able to have Jane's eye removed in an operation when the veterinarian declared it irreparable. No longer in any pain, Jane now enjoys room to run in the bunny barn, and daily partakes in delicious, high-quality hay and pellets, along with



*Jane, happy and healed, at River's Wish.*

bunches of fresh greens. And because no happy ending is complete without a little love, Jane has also found her soul mate in a gorgeous Flemish giant named Francis, who arrived at the sanctuary after an amazing and terrible journey of his own.

Jane's story has a happy ending because of donors just like you, who care for the plight of mistreated animals, understand the great need that River's Wish fills in giving these animals a forever home, and become a part of the work we do by providing financial support.

## How You Can Help

Your donations are 100% tax-deductible.

*Mail them or make them online!*

### BY MAIL

River's Wish Animal Sanctuary  
PO Box 18371  
Spokane, WA 99228

### ONLINE

Visit us on our website  
[RiversWishAnimalSanctuary.org](http://RiversWishAnimalSanctuary.org)  
and click the donate button  
to use PayPal



## Around River's Wish

### Rabbits often abandoned

Did you know that rabbits are often simply 'turned loose' or abandoned? Chance and Jewel were found by a good Samaritan, Deb, who was riding her horse along Rimrock. She came upon a box and found two bunnies. The rabbits were so friendly that they came right to her. Chance and Jewel will be available for adoption soon.

Most recently we took in a beautiful little rabbit who had given birth at the shelter. We named her Willow Rabbit and she was one of several rabbits who had been turned lose, basically abandoned. She is a little shy and it's hard to know how many generations into the abandoned group she falls. Initially, we thought she might be feral, but we are rethinking this. Her babies are an amazing array of grays. They could present as a value scale with their gradations of gray.



We do adopt rabbits into homes where they will be family members. We follow the House Rabbit Society philosophy (rabbit.org). We do not adopt rabbits, or any animals, to children. Parents must be the primary caregivers and they must want them enough to be willing to care for them for their entire lives. Rabbits can live 12 years. Unfortunately, some people buy rabbits at pet stores for their kids. When the novelty wears off the bunny is forgotten. The rabbits are often turned lose (abandoned), given away on craigslist, taken to a shelter, or simply forgotten. It is imperative that animals be family companions. Eventually the kids grow up and move away and the parents want the rabbit to move out too. We hear about this all the time. People may contact us to inquire about adoptions. *See more pictures on page 5.*

### River's Wish summer visitors

Art Among the Animals: A Day at River's Wish, was a special live auction item won by Debbie. Debbie brought three of her friends who are involved in animal care and rescue. We had a wonderful visit with this great group of supporters.

Pete forged steel plant hangers for each of our guests. We had a delightful vegan lunch and we were so happy to have had them visit the animals that find refuge at River's Wish.

### Evacuation team helps out

In July, we had HEART (Humane Evacuation Animals Rescue Team) of the West out to visit. Brenda Wright, a Spokane City firefighter and a member of HEART, gave us an afternoon of her time to help develop plans for disaster preparedness.



### See more online!

View our newsletter online to see more pictures.  
Go to [riverswishanimalsanctuary.org](http://riverswishanimalsanctuary.org)  
and go to Events & News

## Mare and foal find happiness

In March, we fostered Journey and Argo, a mare and foal from the same winter seizure SCRAPs did. Argo was in very poor shape and he had to be carried out of the field. He and his mom spent the first few weeks at the vet's hospital. When they arrived at River's Wish they were still in pretty rough shape. We had our work cut out for us, for sure.

Over the next several months we worked with the pair and watched as their coats grew in beautifully. Both filled out and by September, they were gorgeous. A wonderful family adopted this pair and plans to keep them for their entire lives.



*Argo and Journey in the field at River's Wish...*



*...and with their new family!*



*Willow Rabbit safe and warm.*

### **Thank you for your support!**

Without you, we would not be able to provide for these animals. We appreciate all you do.

*The design & printing of this newsletter have been donated.*



*Willow's babies...talk about shades of grey!*

## Blind appaloosa finds solace and companionship at River's Wish

This past spring Wrangler came to live at River's Wish when his person passed away. Wrangler is a 26 year old blind appaloosa who road the Chief Joseph ride with his person Sheryl many times. Since losing his sight he has grown to rely on familiar surroundings and other horses. When he came to River's Wish we introduced him to Jesse, a 30 year old bay. Jesse has taken Wrangler under her wing and has become his 'bell' horse. Where Jesse goes, so does Wrangler. Bryce, the 30 something donkey, is also part of their special senior herd.



Feeding senior horses can add up rather quickly as they require special care and support. This trio receives moist grass pellets, equine senior and other supplements. We always appreciate special donations to our senior equines.

Thank you for your support!



### River's Wish Animal Sanctuary

PO Box 18371  
Spokane, WA 99218

To Our Friends: