

Tuesday, January 24, 2006

## news

[EMAIL THIS STORY](#)[PRINT THIS STORY](#)[LETTER TO THE EDITOR](#)[SUBSCRIBE NOW!](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

## Mistreated animals become blue-chip livestock at farm

Donors can sponsor 'residents' of nonprofit sanctuary

KATHLEEN ELLYN

Statesman Journal

January 24, 2006

Most of the volunteers cleaning pens and feeding animals at the Lighthouse Farm Sanctuary are vegan or vegetarian -- but you don't have to be a vegetarian to enjoy volunteering at the sanctuary.

"I'm not a vegetarian," said David Fridenmaker of Keizer, "but I still think you should take care of the animals."

He was among about eight volunteers who showed up Saturday for a work party at the farm.

About 150 farm animals fall under the care of the sanctuary. They all came from situations of abuse or neglect; none is an "exotic" or pet.

That's because Wayne Geiger, the president of the nonprofit sanctuary, was an animal-welfare director for the Willamette Humane Society, where one of his duties was to oversee animal-cruelty cases.

"We didn't have facilities to handle livestock, and we had a situation involving four starving sheep," Geiger said. "There was no place for them to go. I threw up a fence and brought them home. Then, it was a goat here, a chicken there -- it just kept going."



THOMAS PATTERSON | STATESMAN JOURNAL  
The Lighthouse Farm Sanctuary is home to about 150 unwanted farm animals saved from abusive situations or from the dinner table. Above, sanctuary President Wayne Geiger feeds a carrot to Marty the llama.

### Related news from the Web

Latest headlines by topic:

- [Family](#)
- [Kids](#)

Powered by [Topix.net](#)

Now, turkeys, llamas, donkeys, pigs, cows, horses and other farm animals have a permanent home where they live out their days with "no fear, no injury, no electric fences," Geiger said.

Hundreds of schoolchildren visit the farm each year and see that "animals are unique and have character, and there's an alternative to buying them in a store in a Styrofoam package," Geiger said.

Just how important that lesson can be was brought home when a group of foster and homeless children from Cottage Grove visited the farm earlier this year, Geiger said.

"Many of these kids had not been treated well -- had been abused in their own lives. It really impacted them to see animals being treated well," he said.

"The big lesson is not to accept or tolerate animal abuse -- or abuse of people."

Animals at the farm are supported entirely by means of donations, and "sponsorship" of animals ranges from \$7 per month to sponsor Sydney the chicken to \$360 per year to sponsor Roy the steer.

"It's a unique gift for a special person," Geiger said.

*kellyn@StatesmanJournal.com or (503) 399-6736*

[▲ TOP OF PAGE](#)

---

OTHER ARTICLES FROM: Tuesday, January 24

---

### News

- › Duplex fire kills three children
- › Schools offer help to families, children
- › Counselor offers ways to help children deal with fears
- › Courthouse upgrade estimates reviewed
- › Mistreated animals become blue-chip livestock at farm
- › Board allows no-bid process to hire contractor
- › Ameritrust agrees to \$325 million settlement
- › City works on flood prevention
- › Lewis and Clark dinner set for Feb. 4
- › Grants, aid offered to 'math heroes'
- › Summer programs eligible for award
- › Nuisance-wildlife help is available
- › Program provides degrees for adults
- › Women's pageant offers scholarships
- › Leslie performance to aid storm victims
- › Sierra Club leader will speak Feb. 2
- › Lecture in Willamette series about American Indian culture is Feb. 1

### State Government

- › Panel will focus on lawmakers' staff help, pay
- › Signature gathering tougher for Oregon independents

### Business

- › Clash with Knight costs Nike CEO his job
- › AFL-CIO initiative targets large companies on health care
- › LifeSource's renovation is scheduled to be finished in mid-February
- › Dale's Remodeling in Salem modifies its name

### Sports

- › Nelson key for McNary
- › McNary's Yankus learned early to 'bring it on'
- › McNary's Titus signs with D-I school
- › High school highlights
- › San Diego downs Portland
- › Baseball: Kennedy has an opening for assistant coach
- › Athletes of the week

### Outdoors

- › Reservoir fish yield increased mercury levels
- › Salmon, steelhead topics of upcoming meetings
- › Climbs to raise money for cancer research

### Arts, Culture & Entertainment

- › Pentacle opens season with 'Savage' comedy
- › Scenes from Sundance

### Editorials

- › Informed public could spur legislative changes

### Letters

- › How can the U.S. justify strikes that kill innocents?
- › 16 Cubans on boats are victims of a cruel policy
- › Fire department looks out for us; let's reciprocate
- › Lowlifes should pay after killing good-hearted man
- › City handled jump threat well; were so many cars needed?
- › Kitzhaber's choice hinders reform goals
- › Only moral option is health care for all
- › HMO, pharmacist eased the transition
- › Medicare plan aids drug firms, not seniors

› [Pop-up-ad developer draws complaint to FTC](#)

› [The Rant](#)

**Columnists**

› [Sprague, W. Salem wrestling top matchup of week](#)



StatesmanJournal.com

| [Home](#) | [News](#) | [Things to Do](#) | [Notices](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Cars](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Our Services](#) |

Copyright ©2006 StatesmanJournal.com All rights reserved.

Use of this site indicates your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), updated June 7, 2005.

Jobs: [CareerBuilder.com](#) - Cars: [cars.com](#) - Apartments: [apartments.com](#) - Shopping: [ShopLocal.com](#)