Duchess Sanctuary provides elder care for equines

With a name like Duchess Sanctuary, you might expect that the animals who live there to be treated like royalty. Indeed, that’s the case for the 196 horses and donkeys rescued from slaughter, the pharmaceutical industry, public lands and other horrific situations who call this care center home. Established in 2008 on 1,120 acres in Oakland, Oregon, the Duchess Sanctuary is operated by The Fund for Animals in partnership with The Humane Society of the United States.

Forty-five of Duchess residents over the age of 20—senior citizens in the equine world—receive extra special attention. Like humans, the needs of horses change as they age. The average life expectancy for horses is 25-30 years, and donkeys can live past 40. Senior horses have problems regulating body temperature, and some are particularly sensitive to cold. Arthritis and joint issues are common. Frequent veterinary and dental exams are needed, along with special diets and vitamin supplements to ensure proper nutrition.

Because the sanctuary provides lifetime care, the staff handle those changes every day, meeting the considerable emotional and physical needs of an aging population with individual care plans and great attention to detail. As a horse ages, the typical progression begins with removal from the main herd during the winter for supplemental feeding, then transitions to year-round life in a designated pasture and, when necessary, additional special-needs care in a paddock or stall. Staff treat each animal as the individual that it is, with respect given to family and friendship bonds.

This graduated-care system ensures that all of their deserving horses and donkeys are as happy and comfortable as they can be during their “golden years.” While the suffering and trauma they faced in the past cannot be erased, it will never happen again.

To learn more, visit fundforanimals.org/duchess-sanctuary.

Your legacy for animals

The Fund for Animals has spearheaded significant events in the history of the animal protection movement by employing national advocacy campaigns, performing rescue operations and operating a network of four world-famous animal care facilities, including Duchess Sanctuary and Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch. Because of generous, forward-looking friends like you, animals will have a strong and vocal advocate well into the future. The Fund simply could not exist but for investments like the one you are making. To receive our suggested bequest language, please contact Steve Maughan at 800-808-7858 or smaughan@fundforanimals.org.
Goats, sheep and pigs relish second chance at Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch

EIGHTEEN goats, three sheep and three not-so-little pigs have settled into their new home at Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch, the largest animal care center operated by The Fund for Animals, an affiliate of The Humane Society of the United States. The animals were among the nearly 400 (mostly small dogs) rescued from deplorable conditions on a Habersham County, Georgia property in April 2017 by The HSUS and several Georgia-based organizations.

On June 1, the two dozen farm animals arrived at Black Beauty Ranch in Murchison, Texas, following a temporary respite at Save the Horses in Georgia. After a two-week quarantine to monitor their health, they were released to their new life at the 1,400-acre ranch, where they now live with more than 900 other rescued animals.

“No animal should have to live in the horrific, unsafe and unsanitary conditions these animals had to endure,” remarked Noelle Almrud, director at Black Beauty Ranch. “We did not know what to expect when they arrived, but the moment they stepped off the trailer into their new pasture and a healthy environment, we saw the happiness radiating from every one of them. Seeing 18 goats excitedly jumping and frolicking in the green grasses of what may be the first pasture they have ever stepped on was breathtaking.”

While they await construction of their new multi-acre pasture, the goats occupy a temporary pasture much larger than their former cramped quarters. With access to an appropriate diet, they are now gaining weight at a normal rate. The 10 babies among them are growing especially well, with their protective mothers always close by.

The Fund for Animals is currently seeking funding for the new arrivals to help ensure they receive lifetime care. For more rescue stories and ways to help, please visit fundforanimals.org.

A humane retirement

You may not be aware that you can help animals in need while at the same time providing yourself with a retirement income for life. A charitable gift annuity allows you to make a donation now, and in return you will receive an income for life based upon your age. Part of your donation is tax-deductible, and some of your income could be tax-free.

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Charitable gift annuities rates are determined by age and set by the ACGA. Please note: The HSUS offers gift annuities for the benefit of its affiliate, The Fund for Animals. Gift annuities are not available for residents of Alabama, Arkansas, Hawaii or North Dakota.

To learn more or to receive a customized illustration, please contact Ann Kolakowski at 800-808-7858 or akolakowski@fundforanimals.org. Or you can explore legacy.fundforanimals.org/charitable-gift-annuities.

We encourage you to consult your financial adviser to determine if a charitable gift annuity complements your financial objectives.