HOME ON THE RANGE ANIMAL HAVEN

VOL. 6 LARAMIE, WYOMING 2022 Year-in-Review

As the saying goes, "It takes a village..." This is true at Home on the Range. For 11 years the Laradise community has stepped up and allowed us to keep growing, fulfilling our mission of returning abused, neglected and abandoned animals to sound physical, social and emotional health while providing a forever home and working with community organizations to enhance the well-being, sense of purpose and self worth of their members.

It takes a village to build a storage shed.

We needed a place to store outdoor stuff like mowers, manure spreader, 4-wheeler, rakes, you get the idea. The pandemic was winding down and building materials prices were through the roof…but we came upon an idea, could we put up a carport and enclose it?

After shopping around and doing research, we ordered a 12'x19' carport in July of 2021. Long story short, we didn't receive it until November which was too late in the year to get it put up.

Fast forward to May 2022. Cadets from Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy were the first group to visit. They were on a mission to get the carport constructed. With the help of TJ's building skills, and the knowledge and ability of the Cadets, the carport was assembled and in place.

In July, we applied for the First Interstate Bank Commitment to Community Volunteer Day grant. The $500 grant also included an afternoon of volunteering from the bank employees. We received the grant and bought materials to enclose the carport. On Sept.14th, the FIB crew came to due the installation. They brought with them expertise, tenacity and the most positive attitude you could imagine. It started raining mid-project and they continued to work in the rain. All the while being serenaded by Adam, one of the (obviously more talented) volunteers, belting out "Singing in the Rain".

The culmination of the project happened on October 8th when a group of fraternity fellows from Sigma Alpha Epsilon participated in UW's Big Event and painted the shed inside and out.

It takes a village to build a wind shelter.

We were *so* excited to receive a $5,000 grant from the LEK Endowment Fund at the Wyoming Community Foundation that allowed us to expand the barnyard with a 16' x 36' enclosed windbreak, providing visitors a place to interact with the animals protected from the elements. Construction materials had to be altered due to availability resulting from the pandemic. The materials arrived just in the nick of time to meet the project completion deadline. Eight hard-working volunteers from WyoTech came out October 9th and got the wind shelter constructed and painted all in the same day!

Bambi's Village

Bambi, a 17-month-old Nubian goat arrived in August from another town in WY.
He was very thin, unable to stand or turn over from side to side. He presumably had been butted by a ram from his herd.
His people weren't prepared to take care of him.

He joined the family and began receiving a good diet, supplements to help build muscle and help the nervous system. After a couple of weeks, he could turn from side to side on his own, followed by countless hours of massage, energy work and physical therapy.

The Stand: Volunteer Ali White, a UW engineering student, designed a stand that would support his weight with a sling. Bambi spent at least a couple times a day in the stand, beginning to support weight on his legs. The sling that held him up was, gradually lowered to allow him to support more and more of his own weight.

Enter Wade: Bambi was putting on weight - it was a struggle to get him up into the sling & hooked onto the rails of the stand. Wade suggested a Come -A-Long to help with the task. It worked perfectly! Bambi began kneeling to eat, supporting himself with his back legs.

Next step…wheels for the stand so Bambi could start propelling himself. Steve, a friend of Home On the Range, suggested a design and Wade implemented it. The wheels worked perfectly to get Bambi moving his legs on his own. Over the next several weeks he was able to put more weight on his legs, build muscle, and began propelling around the yard.

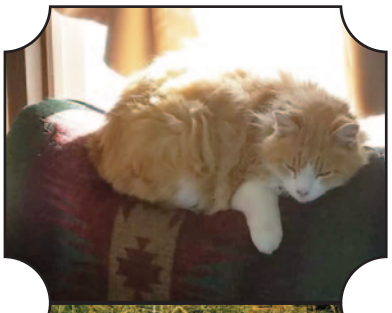
October16th: With cheers from Diane and Lucy, regular visitors to HORAH,
Bambi stood on his own and ran a few steps!

Now, Bambi is up and moving all the time.
He's still a little wobbly, but You Go Guy!

Hello Dolly

She came with the name Diva and was living up to both of the definitions for Diva: female opera singer and temperamental and demanding female. We were calling her Dee for a while but while working with her one day, Deb said "Hey Dolly come over here!" and she did. So, Dolly it is. Her person said "Diva" was going to auction (which is not a good thing) because she could no longer produce enough milk for lambs. Instead, she came to HORAH. Now, she just has to learn to be a good girl.

Who Will Be Missed



Meow has passed away. He came to HORAH when he was 6 years old and lived with us for 10 years.

Meow got his name because he was always announcing it to whoever showed up. He loved people and showed up a lot to get his fair share of attention. He'd been a barn cat all his life until the Community and Living Center was put into place. He made the decision that he would be much more comfortable, on the couch, next to the window, laying in the sunshine in the people's place. He was loved by many and will be missed.

Carmon (13 years) passed away eight days after Meow, they were close friends. Carmon was in charge of seeing that all was well in the barnyard. She got to go wherever she wanted, making sure everything was as it should be. When a new being came to live at HORAH, she was there giving them a warm welcome and comforting them until they were settled in. She was the matriarch of our tribe. We miss you.

Many Thanks to all the people and community partners who have contributed their time, talent and financial support each and every year to make sure HORAH stays around.

In 2022 we received funding from the City of Laramie Community Partners Grant, LEK Endowment Fund at the Wyoming Community Foundation, First Interstate Bank, the Hughes Charitable Foundation, and local campaigns including the Betty White challenge, summer raffle, spring bulb sales, Facebook birthday causes, Allison's Pantry, Bonfire shirts, holiday wreath sales and generous donations from the community. We couldn't do what we do without *YOU*!

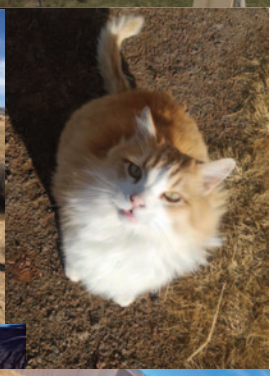
Cathedral Home Youth came to out eight times (weather interfered with two of the visits) during the summer to help with fencing, painting and grooming the animals. On one trip, the goat bedroom got a new paint job. This was especially challenging when Chester thought he could help by spreading green paint with his cheek.

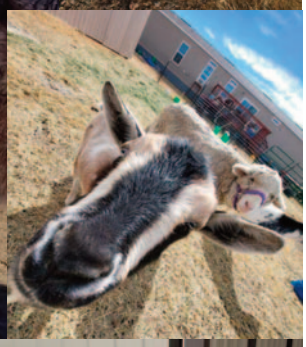
Anna, Brian and Eva whose motto is "*Neither rain nor snow nor giant piles of manure"* will keep them away from their self-appointed rounds. Seven years ago Anna turned to Deb, after a tour, and said "You need help and I'm going to do it." She and friends have been there since.

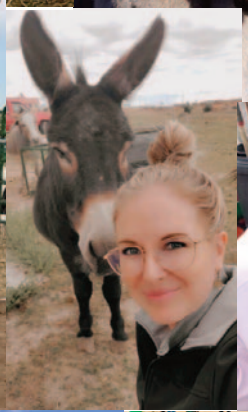
Wade, who is Johnny-On-The-Spot when there is a crisis, materials need to be moved, hay needs to be retrieved, etc., etc., etc.

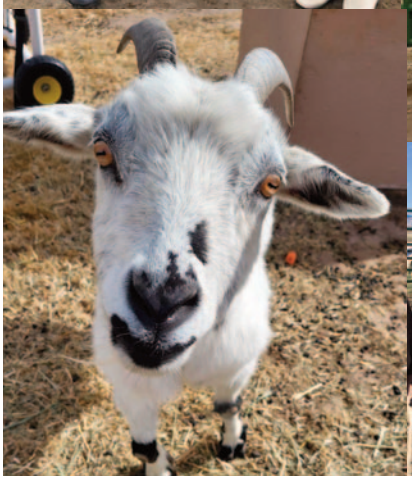
Thanks for the hay! It relieves a huge financial obligation and stress to have it donated. It is such lovely hay and keeps the animals healthy throughout the winter.

Pam gets KUDOS for all she does to keep on top of fund-raising and communications! We simply can't do our work without financial contributions and community support. Hey Pam, you're the best and a huge part of Home On the Range and its success!





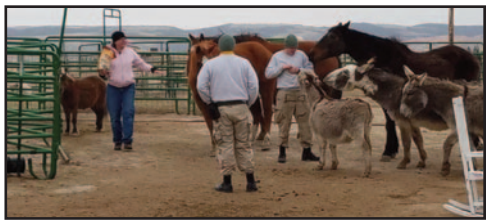




Salute to Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy

For those of you who are new to the HORAH newsletter, let us explain what Cowboy Challenge is:
"*The mission of the Wyoming Cowboy Challenge Academy is to provide a safe, disciplined and professional learning environment that empowers non-traditional learners (ages 16-18) to improve their educational level and employment potential and become responsible productive citizens of the State of Wyoming*."

Cowboy Challenge Academy Cadets came from Guernsey, WY two to four times during the Spring, Summer and Fall of every year (except for the pandemic year) for eight years. Christi, their guide and leader, would arrive at 9:00 am along with seven cadets who would pile out of the van with smiles and enthusiasm. After an explanation of the day's projects and adventures, they'd go to work.



Mid-day the Cadets would come inside to sit around a table with the adult volunteers and partake in a family style meal. When dinner and conversation was done, it was back outside to finish up projects, and connect with the animals.

The day would end with dessert and the trip home. This year, as is totally appropriate, the Cadets christened HORAH's new Community Center by becoming the first group to come inside to relax and have a meal.

So many of the major projects at HORAH were accomplished by the Cadets. Projects including, but not limited to, fencing, cleaning, erecting buildings and a huge move when HORAH changed location in 2019.

There were upwards of 170 Cadets who helped move Home On the Range forward and got it to where it is today. Sadly, just before the last trip to HORAH for the year, Cowboy Challenge Academy was forced to close its doors due to lack of funding to support ongoing teachers and staff. It's a major loss to the state of Wyoming. In the eight years Cowboy Challenge visited HORAH, we did not see one Cadet who was not grateful for the experience and support they were getting and the chance to become more productive members of society. Not only was it a loss for the Cadets but also for a dedicated staff. Christi, the mentor and leader when visiting HORAH, is a most amazing person that gave of herself to help and encourage these young people. It was awesome to see the respect and admiration she received from the Cadets.

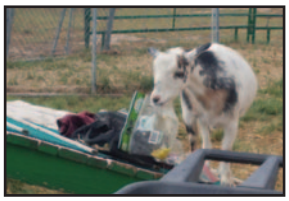
We salute you. Cowboy Challenge and appreciate all you have done for us.

Just Another Day of Animal Shenanigans

These three seemed to be lost on January 16.

Random visitor on March 9.

Husker got a bucket of mash stuck on his head.



Bandit thought the bag of treats was just for him.

Naughty equines snuck into the hay area.

How You Can Support Home On The Range

Send a check: Home On The Range P.O. Box 1674 Laramie, WY 82073

Donate on our website: https://www.laramiehomeontherange.org
click on the DONATE button

Venmo:

Deb Roberts
@LaramieHomeOnTheRange

Become a Sustaining Donor: https://www.laramiehomeontherange.org

Buy a shirt, hoodie or tote bag: www.bonfire.com/store/horah-holiday/

Shop at: smile.amazon.com - Home On the Range Animal Haven
Through their SMILES Program, Amazon gives a donation to HORAH anytime you shop.
To sign up go to smile.amazon.com, follow the prompts and **select Home On The Range Animal Haven**.

Volunteer or join our mailing list: LaramieHomeontheRange@gmail.com

Follow Us on Facebook: LaramieHomeontheRange

Call: Deb 307-760-0534 or Pam 307-760-4753

Donations, grants and fundraisers help pay for the following:

- Monthly Feed (in addition to hay donation) *alfalfa for goats and sheep; cat food; supplements, pellets and beet pulp for older equines (*$1,400*)*
- Monthly lease payment ($1,000)
- Farrier work 3 to 4 times a year for 15 equines ($2,700)
- Veterinary care and supplies
- Fencing materials and miscellaneous necessities including feed pans, troughs, halters, heaters, etc.