

Animal sanctuary rescues calf

By Jodi Schneider McNamee
Correspondent

Harmony Farm Sanctuary (HFS) was built to create a safe place for rescued and adopted animals. They provide rehabilitation when needed, and a “forever home.”

Last summer HFS raised funds to construct a fence for a cow pasture at the sanctuary, built by local volunteers. The sanctuary paid for a vet, for feed and for the expense to get three sick feedlot calves from California to Oregon. Unfortunately, one of them died and the others were too sick to survive a cold winter in Oregon.

“Our journey into rescuing a cow in need has been a long and difficult one,” said Robine Bots, Harmony Farm Sanctuary founder.

However, Michele Lynn Cormalis, board member and volunteer for the sanctuary, had been recently following the Eugene livestock auction site online and rescued a two-day old male Jersey calf three weeks ago for \$30, and “Norman” is now the newest addition to the nonprofit

organization.

“Robine, volunteer Lene Banke-Fornalski, and I were all a part of trying to rescue the three dairy cows last summer. And we all agreed to continue to look for another cow to rescue,” Cormalis said. “When I bid on Norman it was over the phone and we had to drive over there to pick

“ We named him after the calf in the movie ‘City Slickers.’
— Michele Lynn Cormalis

him up right away.

“We named him after the calf in the movie ‘City Slickers,’” Cormalis added.

The sanctuary’s other animals include pot-bellied pigs, horses, donkeys, goats, chickens, ducks, sheep and bunnies.

After Norman arrived at the sanctuary, he developed scours and pneumonia, both of which are major causes of young-calf death. Since he was a dairy calf, he was

pulled from his mom at birth and did not get the colostrum essential for health.

“After Michelle brought him here to the sanctuary, we moved him into a heated room in our garage since the barn would be too cold for him to survive,” said Bots. “Dr. Cassandra Lodge from Broken Top Veterinary treated Norman. We also had lots of helpful advice from Dr. Jennifer Cole, Karissa Fronk from Sisters View Ranch, and Christine Cole who works part-time at Sisters Feed.

“It’s been a community effort saving this little guy,” Bots added.

Bots’ 12-year-old daughter, Marieke Jeffrey, has been involved with helping the young calf since he arrived. She helps with Norman’s daily feedings and exercise duty.

“Norman was only about two days old when we rescued him, and baby cows usually cannot survive under 50 degrees for the first few days. He was in a tiny stall in the cold at the auction. But luckily, we brought him here and he is in a warm heated stall,” said Jeffrey. “His scours and



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Marieke Jeffrey is taking care of Norman.

pneumonia are just about all cleared up.”

On Saturday, March 4, volunteers for HFS were invited to a cleanup party after the long, brutal winter at the farm in Sisters. And after a long day of scooping with shovels, the volunteers were introduced to Norman. The young calf came out running

and happily kicking up his heels.

“ It’s been a community effort saving this little guy.”
— Robine Bots

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