Freedom Ranch Newsletter





JANUARY 2021







2020... WHAT A YEAR!

WE MADE IT!

There were some struggles, but we ended up on top thanks to every one of our supporters!

Thank you!

WHAT'S NEW

WE ARE GROWING!

Get ready for some exciting events, virtually and at the ranch!

2021 will be the best year yet!

A HUGE THANK YOU! GFL CONTRIBUTION

Freedom Ranch received a very generous donation from GFL Environmental.

See their impact!

UPCOMING EVENTS

DO YOU COMPOST?

Sustainability & environmental responsibility is very important for us at Freedom Ranch. Learn how you can replenish your soils and help save the environment.

2020 VOLUNTEER DAY

GREAT TIMES!

Our 2020 Volunteer Day was a success and look forward to our 2021 schedule of events!

WHY I DO THIS

COFOUNDER MESSAGE

Want to know what drives our cofounder, Gail Currin?

Get a personal account of the passion that drives her role at Freedom Ranch.



Call for Artists

Get ready for our Annual Art Contest!

We are currently accepting various artwork with our 2021 theme, *Nighttime at the Ranch.*

Contact us for contest rules: FreedomRanchNC@gmail.com

2020... What a Year!

With the *AMAZING* support of our Freedom Ranch friends & family in 2020, we overcame obstacles and grew leaps and bounds.

Although our yearly fundraiser was canceled and we dealt with severe, damaging weather, we made it!

Your support allowed us to care for current animal residents and continue to grow. We look forward to a spectacular year in 2021!

Thank you for your support!

A GREATLY NEEDED CONTRIBUTION!

In the Fall, Freedom Ranch received a generous financial gift from GFL Environmental, a diversified environmental services company.

We are incredibly thankful for the thoughtfulness and continued support from the GFL folks in Henderson, North Carolina! Their generosity has allowed us to complete critical projects at the Ranch. **THANK YOU!!**

2020 VOLUNTEER DAY

We are so thankful for our talented and eager volunteer teams who joined us for our 2020 Volunteer Day!

Thank you to our vendors who made this possible with critical donations!

- * Louisburg Tractor
- * Lowe's Home Improvement of Henderson
- * Sheetz of Youngsville

- * DJ Rockin' Rick
- * Toney Lumber of Louisburg
- * Several individual, anonymous donors 🎔

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at <u>FreedomRanchNC@gmail.com</u>

We are growing! Freedom Ranch is now a proud member of the North Carolina Center for Nonprofits







Thank You for Your Support!

Our hearts go out to everyone who pushed through 2020! Like many of our neighbors, we too have experienced setbacks in working towards our mission however, we have the best supporters who have allowed us to continue.



Thank you!

HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US...

Your donations help us provide safe, loving environments for our current animal residents and allow us to grow so we can open our doors to more animals in need.

Here are just some of the ways you can continue to support Freedom Ranch:

- * PayPal <u>https://freedomranchnc.org/donate-1</u>
- * Venmo <u>www.venmo.com/FreedomRanchNC</u>
- * Zelle <u>FreedomRanchNC@gmail.com</u>
- Mail us your donation in a check: Freedom Ranch
 401 J A Rogers Rd.
 Kittrell, NC 27544
- * Donate items from our Amazon Wish List Search for "FREEDOM RANCH NC"
- Sign up for AmazonSmile
 Choose FREEDOM RANCH NC for your charity
- * Share our social media pages @FreedomRanchNC
- * Fresh veggie and fruit donations
- * Volunteer as a group or individual

Have another suggestion? Contact us! FreedomRanchNC@gmail.com

What's New?

Check out our 2021 calendar of events on our website & stay tuned for some big announcements! <u>WWW.FREEDOMRANCHNC.ORG</u>

DO YOU COMPOST?



At Freedom Ranch, we strive to practice sustainability - collecting rainwater for re-use, using LED lighting, and yes, **COMPOSTING**!

By mixing our bedding, leaves, and food waste, Freedom Ranch has produced incredible compost. We use these nutrients to replenish our fescue fields and vegetable gardens for our animal residents.

Replenishing the soils of this earth, using less water, and eliminating synthetic fertilizers is not only key to the success of our daily operations at the ranch but also keeps this land viable for generations to come.

> Do you want to learn more about composting at your home or farm? Contact us for more information and stay tuned for our upcoming Composting Workshop



A message from our Cofounder

Dear Freedom Ranch Supporters,

I hope you and your families are all staying safe and healthy!

Reflecting on 2020, I felt it was incredibly important to share why Freedom Ranch was founded and why this organization is so meaningful to me.

Like many others, I am no stranger to life struggles. In fact, those difficult experiences will always be a part of who I am. I grew up with an extremely loving family but we were sadly impacted by addiction. This caused a tremendous amount of gut-wrenching anxiety and emotional pain throughout my life. I had pain but I also found healing.



So, you may wonder why is this relevant to Freedom Ranch and what we do here.

I have always felt a unique connection with animals, especially during the toughest times of my life. As a kid, I found comfort sitting in my backyard talking to our family dogs throughout the years.

When I was 16, I volunteered to help rebuild houses in a poverty-stricken area in the mountains of Kentucky. We were taking a quick break from repairing the roof on a mobile home and I heard something from the underpinning of the house... there was a crying kitten. My world stood still.

It was a multifaced moment in time for me – here I was, in emotional pain from my personal life, in this beautiful, yet miserably poor place where people fought to survive, and to top it off, I find a crying kitten... it was incredibly sad but also enlightening. I began to see life with more purpose.

I recognized something that keeps us going through tough times and that heals us. My father who struggled with addiction, this community in need, this crying kitten, and yes, me – we all needed LOVE – the comfort of a gentle touch, a smiling face, and a nonjudgmental mind, no matter our life struggles, love was healing.



My father was a very caring, loving man who lost his long battle with addiction years later. Although his illness and death were devastating to me, I find healing in knowing he loved me, and I loved him. Unconditionally.

This love and kindness is the foundation of what we do at Freedom Ranch.

Animals here need us, and it is our mission to provide the nonjudgmental, loving environment where they can find healing. We also respect the

struggles others have in keeping their animal companions – life is harsh, but love is amazing!

I find joy and hope with each wet nose and wiggly tail that the future will be amazing, and that Freedom Ranch will thrive for years to come.

From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU for your amazing support! We are incredibly fortunate to have you as part of our Freedom Ranch family!

Wishing you all happiness, health, and love in 2021!

Emily Gail Currin

2021 Winter Newsletter