



THE BARNYARD BULLETIN

June 2026

May Recap

We wrapped up our Spring Program at the end of May, having 34 participants join us for the program. We worked in the garden, and got to see hard work turn into harvest by watching the vegetables grow for our participants to share!

We hosted the Upside of Downs for a special event and got to meet lots of new faces while sharing the beauty of the farm with everyone.

Josephine, our Founder/CEO, was able to attend the Non-Profit Summit for the CSRA Foundation, make new connections and learn new ways to help Cooper Ridge continue to grow!



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Volunteer With Us!

Love animals, the outdoors, and giving back to your community? Join the Cooper Ridge volunteer team! From assisting with sessions to helping around the farm, there are plenty of ways to get involved and make a difference!

Click the link out to learn more and fill out a volunteer application now: **[Volunteer Information](#)**



<https://www.facebook.com/CooperRidgeFarm>



<https://cooperridgefarm.org/>



<https://shorturl.at/zSiL1>



June 2026

NEWSLETTER

What's Happening at Cooper Ridge?

Looking Ahead

Summer has officially arrived, and the farm is buzzing with excitement! We are thrilled to kick off our Summer Program and welcome more than 22 participants to the farm for the summer season!

This month, Josephine will be representing Cooper Ridge Farm at the Get Augusta Reading Annual Community Conference hosted by the Augusta University Literacy Center. She'll be sharing how literacy is incorporated into our programs.

June is also a very special month for us as we celebrate Cooper Ridge Farm's 6th Anniversary! We are incredibly grateful for the support of our farm family and community over the past six years. Be sure to follow our social media pages for photos, memories, and anniversary updates throughout the month.

We also have some important birthdays to celebrate! Our "King of the Herd," Zeus, along with our beloved mascots, Tank and Gus, will all be turning 9 years old this month!

Finally, we are excited to continue our partnership with I-Care For The Voiceless as they help expand mental health support within our programs. Their work plays a vital role in helping participants, as well as guiding us on best practices within the mental health field! To learn more about their mission and services, visit their website:

[iCare For The Voiceless](#)

Success Story

Over our Spring Program, two of our participants worked together during their sessions to create a special story about their journey on the farm. As participants coming to the farm for the first time, both girls shared feelings of nervousness and uncertainty when they arrived. Through spending time together, helping one another with farm tasks, and building a friendship, they gradually gained confidence and found comfort in their new environment.

Their story reflects the power of friendship, teamwork, and perseverance. What began as two girls stepping outside of their comfort zones grew into a wonderful bond that helped them overcome their fears and fully embrace all the opportunities the farm had to offer. We are so proud of our participants for sharing their experiences and reminding us that sometimes the best part of a new adventure is finding a friend to walk alongside you.



"An animal's eyes have the power to speak a great language."

-Martin Buber



Did you know?

Rabbits use their ears for more than just hearing. They also act as radiators, helping them regulate their body temperature.

How Can I Help?

Donate Now!



<https://cooperridgefarm.org/donate>



Amazon Wishlist

<https://shorturl.at/zSiL1>



June 2026

NEWSLETTER

Beyond The Barn

In this section you'll gain an inside look at Cooper Ridge and the world of Animal Assisted Interventions, while learning how our work creates meaningful change through education and outreach.

**Have you listened to our latest podcast episode yet?
Click the link to the right to listen now!**



Human-Animal Interaction Conference

This spring, the Cooper Ridge Farm session instructors had the opportunity to attend the Human-Animal Interaction Conference at Green Chimneys. The conference brought together professionals from around the world who are passionate about the many ways animals can support learning, growth, and well-being.

Throughout the conference, we attended keynote presentations from experts in the field of Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI), who shared research, experiences, and innovative approaches to working with both people and animals. These sessions provided valuable insights into best practices, while also inspiring new ideas for our own programs.

We also participated in breakout sessions where we explored hands-on activities and ways to enhance participant engagement. These sessions gave us practical tools and fresh perspectives that we look forward to incorporating into our farm programs.

One of the most valuable parts of the conference was the opportunity to connect with other professionals in the field. We exchanged ideas, shared experiences, asked questions, and learned from organizations with a wide range of backgrounds and specialties.

We are grateful for the opportunity to represent Cooper Ridge Farm at this conference and bring back new knowledge that will help strengthen our programs for years to come. A huge thank you to our donors for this opportunity of professional development and the continued support of our ever growing programs.

Want to hear more about our experience? Be sure to click the link to the right to check out Episode 7 of our podcast, where we share highlights from the trip, discuss some of our favorite sessions, and talk about how we plan to apply what we learned here at the farm!

Podcast Link

Spotify:

<https://shorturl.at/OXO2O>

Apple:

<https://shorturl.at/EiqAN>





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NEWSLETTER

Golf Classic Information

Come along with us as we tee up for an incredible event that will support the individualized therapy programs that we have here at Cooper Ridge!



West Lake Country Club
November 30, 2026

Volunteers Needed

As we continue preparing for our upcoming Golf Classic, we are looking for volunteers to help make this event a success! We need individuals who are interested in assisting with event planning in the months leading up to the tournament, as well as volunteers who can help on the day of the event with registration, contests, hospitality, and other activities. Whether you can give a few hours or help throughout the planning process, your support makes a tremendous difference. If you're interested in getting involved, please email friends@cooperridgefarm.org

We Need Sponsors!

We are looking for business sponsors to partner with us for this exciting event. All proceeds from the golf classic will directly support our programs and the incredible participants who benefit from them.

If you know of anyone who would be interested in partnering with us, please send us their information, or share this link with them for more information: <https://cooperridgefarm.org/golf-tournament-2026>

Our Sponsors:



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Golf Classic Info

Months Until
The Golf Classic:

6



**Tickets/
Sponsors**

<https://cooperridgefarm.betterworld.org/events/1st-annual-cooper-ridge-farm-gol>



June 2026

NEWSLETTER

Meet The Team



Participant Spotlight: Naomi H.

Meet Naomi! Chances are you already know her as she truly never meets a stranger! Naomi has been coming to Cooper Ridge Farm for over 5 years and has grown so much during her time here. She loves spending time with her favorite, Clyde the bunny. Naomi also enjoys working in the garden, especially when it's time to harvest her favorite vegetable: green peppers!



Upcoming Events

Animal Partner: Sassy

Meet Sassy! She may have earned her name with her sass, but has become one of our biggest stars. Since arriving with Clyde 5 years ago, she's discovered a love for training and recently learned the "stand" cue. These days, she's much more social and happy to stick around for extra pets and attention from visitors!



Volunteer Spotlight: Stephanie Cohen

Meet Stephanie! For more than 2 years, she has been a dedicated volunteer and an invaluable part of the Cooper Ridge family. No matter the task, Stephanie is always ready to jump in and help wherever she's needed. She brings a vast knowledge of animals and nature and she is always ready to share what she knows. Stephanie's hard work, kindness, and commitment never go unnoticed, and we are incredibly grateful that she chooses to spend her time with us each week!

June 1
Summer Program
Begins

July 2-3
Farm Closed



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[RidgeFarm](#)



cooperridgefarm.org

