



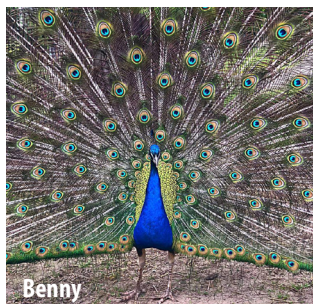
# mitten misfits messenger

## NEWS FROM OUR FARM SANCTUARY

@mittenmisfits



Joe



Benny



Finnegan &amp; Bob

## From Our Founder: Celebrating Our First Year!

**Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary** (MMFS) celebrated its inaugural year as a 501(c)(3) non-profit with a community Open House Extravaganza on July 31, 2022. During the past year, there has been nearly a 75% growth in the number of two- and four-legged rescued Misfits at our sanctuary. The Open House provided a “pinch me” moment when the synergies of passion, ethics, compassion, commitment, and community all came together to celebrate the first year of a dream-turned-reality: providing a community-supported, safe, forever home for senior and at-risk farm animals in the Greater Lansing area.

The Open House was a resounding success with nearly 250 old and new friends and families from our community and beyond gathering at the farm, interacting with each other and the volunteers, learning more about the stories of the incredible rescued animal residents, and gaining insight into plans for future developments at the farm.

Our deep appreciation to everyone who supported and attended our inaugural Open House! Special thanks go out to our fantastic Open House partners: Veg-N Lansing ([eatvegn.com](http://eatvegn.com)), who provided a delicious array of complementary food and beverages; the pre- and post-event support and coordination provided by Chase DeBack of Action for Animals; and the monumental ongoing support provided by our Misfit community of volunteers, partners and donors whose knowledge, support and impact are evidenced every single day and appreciated beyond words. —**Vick Worthy, Founder and President**



Our Chef



Chase &amp; Vick



Visiting Doodles

## COMING EVENTS

### September 17

**Stuff the Truck Fundraiser:** held in the West Lansing Tractor Supply parking lot (510 N. Marketplace Blvd.) You're invited to stop by, meet our volunteers and purchase needed items from the Misfit Wish List to place in our truck. This is a fun event that truly makes a positive difference in the lives of our Misfits!

### November 5–6

**Fall Mini Photo Session Fundraiser:** 15-minute session and 3 images for \$50. All proceeds go directly to MMFS. Reserve now, as spots are limited! [expressyourselfphotography@hotmail.com](mailto:expressyourselfphotography@hotmail.com)



## MISFIT SPOTLIGHT

Meet one of our newest adorable little Misfits, **Doodles!** She is a delightful 12-year-old pygmy goat who lost her pasture mate earlier this summer. It quickly became apparent Doodles wasn't doing well being alone and she desperately grieved the sudden loss of her beloved friend. Then, Doodles's human mom reached out to MMFS and decided to place her in our care. As with most animals, change is never easy; however, it took only a few days for Doodles to become familiar with her new surroundings and mingle with the other goats.

Doodles's previous caregiver attended our amazing Open House event on July 31, and this was the second time they were reunited since the move. Tears were flowing from everyone who watched the loving encounter! Doodles ran to her open arms and it was a wonderful sight to see. We all love Doodles very much and we're so happy she's joined our Misfits family.





## Community Support Saves Trio of Donkeys

Kill lots, also known as auction houses, are where people send their unwanted animals! Most of the animals who end up there don't have a good ending to their lives, but because of our wonderful community support in the form of donations from our very first garage sale, we were able to purchase and save three standard donkeys that needed a soft place to land. These donkeys were in horrible condition: emaciated, overgrown hooves, patchy hair, and what hair they did have was matted and filthy. The poor souls were so scared they couldn't be handled. We were able to bring them home to Mitten Misfits and get them the medical care and farrier services they so urgently needed. This care is ongoing even after four months in their new home, and will continue through their lives because of the past neglect. The donkeys now have names, not numbers: Victoria Rose, Falcor and Duncan. They have made so much positive progress! They are now allowing us to feed them treats with short amounts of touching. We are blessed with the most dedicated volunteers, and they are working with the donkeys to further gain their trust. Here is what one of our amazing volunteers, Dena, had to say...

"Every time I give them a treat, I touch them so they can get used to me and used to being touched. It has taken Duncan the longest, but today I could

tell he is now good with me touching his forehead. I tell everyone what an honor and reward it is for me to see how much the donkeys have grown, as they came about the time I started volunteering. The progress of seeing them scared of every little noise when they first came compared with now is amazing. Victoria Rose had lost most of her hair and only had patches; now it feels like silk and she lets me hand-feed her. Every snack she takes, she lets me touch her soft, beautiful face. I tell her how pretty she is and her eyes brighten up. Duncan has very much touched my heart, as he was the most skittish with me at first, but recently he has started coming right up to me to get his treat. He has really come around! The first time I fed him a snack, Duncan made this noise, a "bray" I'm told. I had no idea what was going on, as I love animals, but I am a city girl. I asked Vick and she told me he was happy or hungry! It's hard to explain the happiness that Vick and The Mitten Misfits have given me. The joy and reward of watching these donkeys grow these past months has been such a blessing of happiness."

**The Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary couldn't help animals like Duncan, Falcor and Victoria Rose without the support of our donors. We are very grateful for your help supporting the animals entrusted to our care!**

## Our Volunteers are the BEST!

The mission of Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary is to enrich the lives of animals and people while educating the public on proper care to improve animal welfare. Our volunteers ensure that this mission continues!

### Volunteer Spotlight: Kelly Siwek

"I'm a sophomore pre-veterinary major at Michigan State University, and I have been working at Mitten Misfits since August 2021. I started at Misfits with absolutely no large animal experience and I was quite nervous, but also very excited to learn!

At the time, I had been doubting my future in veterinary medicine, but that changed shortly after my first day at the farm. Mitten Misfits showed me the difficult, sometimes harsh realities of animal care, as well as the overwhelming benefits. Working at the farm made me realize that veterinary medicine is where I want to be. I get to work with the sweetest animals, and some pretty amazing people every week, and I could not be more grateful. This experience helped me discover that caring for animals is what I am passionate about, and what I want to do for the rest of my life.

I will always have the farm to thank for my future in vet medicine—this is where my journey truly began. I am also grateful for Vick Worthy for being



such a great mentor and providing a nurturing environment for us to learn. If you have the opportunity to volunteer at Mitten Misfits, I highly encourage you to come out and see what they are all about. You may find the same joy that many of us feel when we are at the farm, and maybe make a few new friends as well!"





## Girl Scouts Transform Chicken and Pig House

A local Girl Scout troop and artist Jessie Smith were instrumental in giving our chicken and pig house a makeover. They created a colorful masterpiece, taking the structure from dull and drab to bright and lively! Words truly can't express our thanks and sincere appreciation for their many hours of hard work and devotion to cleaning and painting the little building. These young people are truly an inspiration and set a wonderful example for others. Above are some before and after photos. Guests at our Open House were able to see the final outcome!



### Donate your returnables and make a difference

One of our young, enthusiastic volunteers, Lucas Palmiter, is working on an Eagle project with a pop can drive. The goal is to raise money for a beautiful new duck pond, as well as a portable sign for the driveway entrance to the farm. If you have returnable cans and bottles to donate, please call 517-449-1145 to arrange for pickup, or drop off at the farm. All proceeds will go directly to funding building materials for this generous project!



## WISH LIST

Can you help us with any of the following items? Our Mitten Misfits will surely appreciate your kind donation!

- Tractor Supply gift cards
- Family Farm & Home gift cards
- Tribute Calm & EZ Grain (horses) - 50 lb bag (Family Farm & Home)
- Tribute Seniority Grain (horses) - 50 lb bag (Family Farm & Home)
- Beet Pulp Shreds with Molasses (horses) - 50 lb bag (FF&H)
- DuMor Alfalfa Timothy Hay Cubes (horses) - 50 lb bag (Tractor Supply)
- DuMor All Flock Pellets (ducks) - 50 lb bag (Tractor Supply)
- DuMor Alfalfa Pellets (donkeys & goats) - 50 lb bag (Tractor Supply)
- Producer's Pride 12% All Stock Feed (sheep) - 50 lb bag (TS)
- Producer's Pride Cracked Corn Grains (pigs) - 50 lb bag (TS)
- Purina Nature's Match Pig Feed (pot belly pigs) - 50 lb bag (TS)
- DuMor Hog Grower pellets (large pigs) - 50 lb bag (TS)
- Pine Shavings - Flake Premium Pine Animal Shavings, 8 cu ft (TS)
- PDZ Kitty Litter
- Livestock feed buckets - 12-qt Hook-n-Feeds Livestock Feed Buckets, 2 pack (TS)
- Rubber Gorilla Carts - 4 cu ft Poly Yard Cart (Lowe's)
- Steel Garden Gorilla Cart with removable sides - 400 lb capacity (Amazon)
- Stall rakes - 14 inch bedding fork (Tractor Supply)





## Mitten Misfits Board of Directors

Victoria Worthy, Founder/President

Bob Worthy, Treasurer

Nancy Wonch, Secretary

Cheryl Baase, Fundraiser Chair

Holly Guild

Pat Brown

Angela Martin

Janell Count

Chase DeBack

## How You Can Help MMFS

We are a 100% volunteer-based charity. Your support and contributions are direct lifelines to the operation and continued success of MMFS. Monetary donations go directly to the care of the animals and enable us to meet our goals and improve conditions for the animals. Donations can be made on our website using PayPal or Venmo: [mittenmisfits.org](https://mittenmisfits.org)

You can also mail your contribution to:  
Mitten Misfit Farm Sanctuary  
8650 W. Mount Hope Hwy.  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

### Other ways you can support us without spending any money:

- **Volunteer your time.** We always need help with feeding and grooming the animals (especially morning times), animal socializing, cleaning stalls and pastures, medical care, carpentry and construction, fundraising, clerical work, social media, special events, website maintenance, database entry and copy writing. There's really something for everyone!
- **Follow us on social media.** Share and like our posts, tag a friend, write a nice comment, post a photo in support of us, give a shout-out or leave a kind review. This all helps build awareness of our farm.



@mittenmisfits   

**517-281-0511**

[mittenmisfits@gmail.com](mailto:mittenmisfits@gmail.com)



8650 W. Mount Hope Hwy.  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837

[mittenmisfits.org](https://mittenmisfits.org)

*Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community-run sanctuary that provides a forever home for senior farm animals. Our mission is to enrich the lives of animals while educating the public on proper care to improve animal welfare.*