

It's tour season at Sanctuary One

BY DELLA MERRILL

Imagine for a moment that you wake up on a Wednesday or Saturday morning, and the sun is shining, the birds are singing, and you feel great. What could possibly make the day better? A drive through the Applegate to visit Sanctuary One, of course!

You will be delighted when you come face-to-face with Lulu the pig or when you touch the soft fur of Indigo the rabbit. You'll laugh when you witness the antics of our cat cottage residents. And you'll certainly marvel when you see the results of our garden sheet mulch. Who knows? You might even be inspired to take home an idea or two.

Tour season at Sanctuary One is in full swing. We welcome visitors by reservation on Wednesdays and Saturdays. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn about our programs and meet our residents.

Sanctuary One, a 55-acre care farm located in the heart of the Applegate Valley, is a place of healing for people, animals and the earth. It's a place where animals are accepted despite their flaws. It's a place where people come for respite, peace and beauty. And it's a piece of land that one can get to know intimately, learning what

it takes to care for it.

Founded in 2007, Sanctuary One is the dream of local philanthropist Lloyd Matthew Haines, who wanted to create a space modeled after the European-style care farm. But unlike the European version, which uses animals and the earth for the treatment of people, Sanctuary One embraces all three, recognizing the value of the individual elements and how they interconnect to make up the whole.

Our earth care program is inspired by the principles of permaculture that value diversity, cooperation over competition, conserving resources, celebrating joy and beauty and personal responsibility. We teach these principles as we work in the gardens and interact with the animals and each other.

Our animal care program focuses on providing sanctuary to abandoned and/or abused farm animals and homeless pets such as dogs, cats, and most recently bunnies. We shelter 70 to 100 animals at any given time. Many are re-homed, while some will live out their lives at the farm.

Our farm animal friends include cows, horses, goats, sheep, ducks, geese, pigs and more. Our dog and cat program

focuses on providing sanctuary for animals that are the least likely to be adopted: elderly, injured, chronically sick, shy—or simply those of a less “desirable” color. Whereas potential adopters in a traditional shelter setting might see these individuals as flawed and unworthy of adoption, we celebrate their differences and challenges and welcome them to our farm.

Our people care and education programs provide opportunities to interns and volunteers to learn about care farming through hands-on participation. Interns stay a month or more, living and working on the farm. Volunteers help weekly, biweekly and sometimes only once a month.

Our education program welcomes school groups and social service agencies, many of which visit every year. We currently partner with three organizations on a frequent basis: Ruch Elementary School, Lithia Springs Boys Program and Armadillo Technical Institute, a newcomer to our education program.

So if you're looking for something really cool to do between now and the end of October, please consider visiting Sanctuary One.



Meet Martin, a buff silkie bantam rooster who rules the roost at the Sanctuary One hen house.

Public tours are by reservation only on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 10:30 am. Tours last about 90 minutes and we request a minimum donation of \$10 per visitor. You can learn more about us by visiting www.sanctuaryone.org, emailing info@sanctuaryone.org or calling 541-899-8627.

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