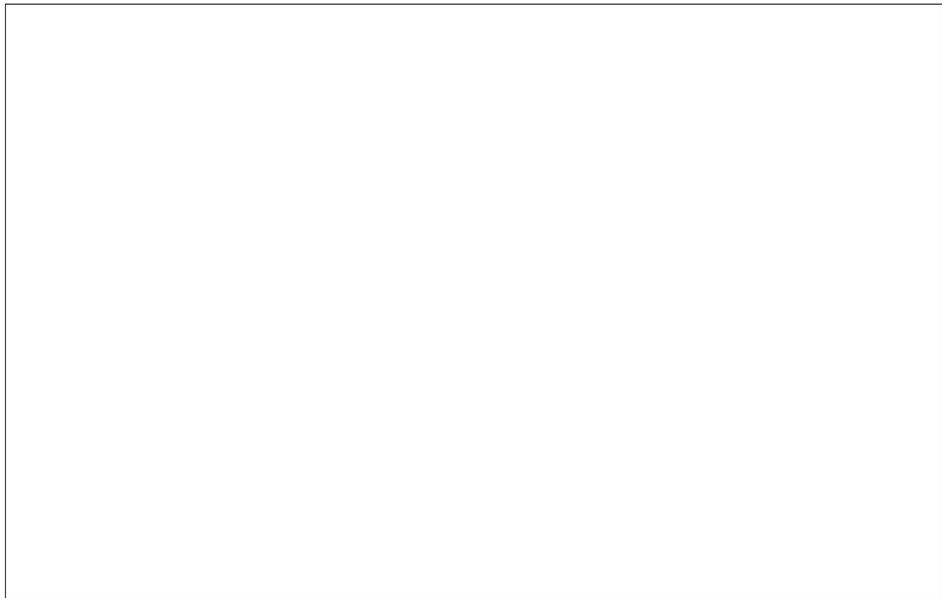


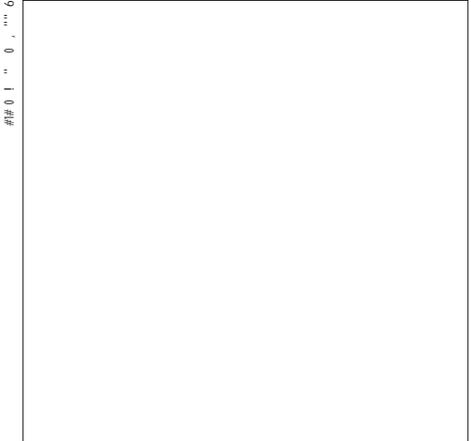


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Zachariah *(Continued from page 1)*

Rescue Group, and I was told that if I could foster him, the group would help find him a permanent home. Unfortunately, as soon as the rabbit was brought to me, I realized that his medical issues were more extensive than I had originally thought. This little guy was an old man, with quite a bit of muscle loss on his back and puncture wounds on his rear legs. He had a lot of problems getting around.

I discussed what I found with Denise Bertolotti at LIRRG, and we agreed that a visit to a rabbit-savvy vet was in order. I named him Zachariah (and later found that according to the Urban Dictionary, Zachariah means “pure, unadulterated awesomeness” or, as my husband told me, “The Lord remembers,” in Hebrew). At our visit to Catnip & Carrots



This little guy was an old man.

Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Laura George treated Zachariah with Revolution for possible fur mites, and taught me how to clean and treat his eyes twice a day. We put him on Metacam daily for pain, and decided to switch him to Oxbow young rabbit pellets to try to help him gain a bit of weight. My husband and I also ascertained that Zachariah is deaf.



Zachariah's first week at home.

True to his name, Zachariah – nicknamed “Grampy” – proved to be an awesome patient, willingly letting me treat his eyes and taking his Metacam with gusto! As I am a proponent of alternative treatments, he began weekly acupuncture and cold laser therapy with Dr. Michel Selmer at Advanced Animal Care Center

(Continued on page 3)

Bonding Sessions

(Continued from page 1)

around my family and me that I was surprised he didn't feel the same way around the other rabbits.

After introducing him to four girl bunnies, we brought back Isobelle, the front-runner, to see if they could be a match. Well, Isobelle stepped up her game and groomed him for at least a full minute. While I was still cautious, as I had never bonded two bunnies before, I definitely wanted to give another rabbit a good home, and I signed the adoption papers.

I will admit that those first few weeks were tough. For three days Isobelle would run away when I entered her pen. I was so sad for her! At first the bonding sessions weren't going as well as I hoped they would. Alan Rickman was still afraid of her and while they had some good dates (they just sort of stared at each other), there were other times when Isobelle would growl and lunge at him. I was starting to regret getting another rabbit and feared



Isobelle was beginning to feel more comfortable and lying somewhere other than her Amazon box hideout. She and Alan Rickman enjoyed observing each other.

that they would both be unhappy forever (a tad dramatic, I know).

After about two weeks of bonding sessions, I felt comfortable giving them more space to be together if I was home. Alan Rickman seemed to enjoy having more space, and that made him more comfortable around her. Isobelle would still growl but would no longer chase him. Progress! They soon were eating about a foot apart from one another and Isobelle stopped growling altogether.



At long last, Alan Rickman and Isobelle are best friends.

Three weeks from the time that I brought Isobelle home, I was able to remove the second pen and the two now share the area that Alan Rickman had to himself. They share the whole apartment, with one litter box, one food bowl and two water bowls.

We celebrated Isobelle's one-month adoptiversary in August, and I can't believe that there was a point when the two rabbits didn't get along. They hop

(Continued on page 3)

Zachariah *(Continued from page 2)*

in Huntington Station. We also added two Chinese herbs to his daily regimen. I saw positive results, and within a few weeks, Grampy Zachariah was getting around pretty well. I knew he would never be 100%, but he was able to hop around the house. Moreover, his fur was growing in beautifully.

Photos: Eileen Hagerman



Eileen and Zachariah now.

After a few months of care, however, I noticed a bald patch on his rear end; despite how well he ambulates, it appears that he may be slightly incontinent, thus causing some problems with urine scald. I've found that having hospital pads layering his pen, with a crib mattress on top, makes it easier to change them out a few times a day and keep the area dry. I now know about "panty shaves," which, along with cleaning his bum frequently and keeping it dry with corn starch, have become a regular routine.

I will never know whether Grampy Zachariah was abandoned because of his difficulty in getting around, though it astounds me that someone would set a geriatric (and deaf) rabbit loose. What I do know is that he was lucky to have been found – and then to make his way through a chain of people who wanted to help. Caring for a special-needs rabbit means a lot of laundry and cleaning. But it also involves a lot of love and mutual appreciation. Grampy Zachariah is a happy old man who actually grooms me when I groom him! He is safe, and he is home. Yes, we have formally adopted him.

Living With a Blind Bunny: Preparing Your Heart, Preparing Your Home

By Shane York

The psychic said, "Prepare yourself." I was in New Orleans on business when a friend suggested we stop by one of the many fortunetelling shops. I had asked about my bunny Lola, and his response made my heart stop, mostly because she's over 12 years old and has started to see some health issues. He looked at my panicked face and said, "She's not going to die, but you need to prepare yourself." He provided no details. Did I just pay to be terrorized or was I given a real warning? Now I couldn't get home fast enough. Speeding through the airport, I finally bounded through the front door to see my little bunz running around as normal. It was a major relief. Just as I was thinking how silly it was to let a stranger freak me out, I suddenly noticed something different in her right eye.

It was a little lighter and cloudier than normal. The next day it seemed slightly worse so we ran to Dr. John Pisciotta at the Rye Harrison Veterinary Hospital, who confirmed Lola was developing a cataract in her right eye. "She's looking through some really dirty windows," Dr. Pisciotta said. He warned that once cataracts start, they usually progress very quickly and then often spread to the

Photo: Shane York



Lola.

other eye, causing near-complete blindness. This was devastating news; my heart instantly broke. Within days her right eye was completely glazed over and the left eye started to show signs of a cataract as well.

We didn't have much time before her sight was completely gone. I had to make plans quickly so she could see and remember a new way of getting around the house. She had started running into walls and chairs – she remembered the general direction of where she was going but couldn't see her surroundings. I knew she was also frustrated and sad; my hearty little eater no longer found joy or an appetite for her pellets or

(Continued on page 4)

Bonding Sessions

(Continued from page 2)

around together, sleep together, and harass my parents' cat together. Alan Rickman has even shared his "fun tunnel" with her. I just wanted to thank Amy for everything she and the ACC volunteers have done for both of these rabbits. Words can't adequately express the amount of love I have for them and I would deal with the stress of the first few weeks ten times over for the sake of Isobelle. She is such a wonderful addition to our little family and I am extremely grateful for that.

Photo: Amanda Cranney



Three weeks after adoption, and Isobelle was much more comfortable. She loves eating her greens! This is also my favorite solo picture of her.

Older Bunny *(Continued from page 3)*

treats. Three days on Critical Care, however, and she was feeling better.

Watching her move from room to room, I noted each of the “hot spots,” or places where she needed help with direction. These included areas like walls, door jambs and furniture that she tended to hit because she didn’t turn early enough or else hopped in a straight line for too long. What she needed was a track she could run along, so I purchased “pool noodles,” which are long, tubular floats, and connected them end-to-end to create a runway we could use to keep Lola going in the right direction. This worked beautifully. As she hopped too far left or right, she would feel the noodles and correct her path. I also found small- and medium-sized beach balls and taped them to the bottom of the walls and door jambs she tended to hit. She seems to sense the balls faster and easier than the wall, (and they’re softer) so she quickly diverts her path to avoid them. Also, I had to be especially on the look-out for the corners of cabinets or other furniture with points or sharp edges she could run into. I covered everything in something soft, like bubble paper wrapped in a towel.

I learned that if you have a sight-impaired bunny, you have to re-think your original bunny-proofing ways. It’s all about clearing the floor of obstacles as best you can while trying to leave the things that the bunny remembers as “markers” in order to navigate around the house. You also need to be vigilant that pathways are always clear of obstacles like shoes or bags that could confuse a bunny or trip her up.

Once Lola’s sight was completely gone, I noticed she also found her way by recognizing familiar smells and sounds that occurred along her journey to the kitchen. As she hopped along, she detected the smell of her hallway hay box, and the sound of the wine fridge near the kitchen to create points of reference.

Photos: Shene York



Little beach balls are attached to walls.



Lola on the go between pool noodles.

Now Lola primarily hops between the bedroom and kitchen, choosing to forgo the larger living room where it’s harder to get her bearings. Also I’ve found when you pick up a sight-impaired bunny, it’s very important to put her down in her hay box or someplace where she knows 100% where she is. If I put Lola down in a random spot, even in a room she’s very familiar with, it becomes stressful and confusing until she finds something familiar to touch.

In the end, the psychic was right. I did need to prepare myself and, more importantly, I needed to prepare my home with the special protective measures to keep my Lola feeling safe and secure. But now that she’s familiar with her new guideposts, she’s able to go wherever she wants. She leads a happy, contented life and she knows that we love her and will do anything to make her life easier – and stress-free.

Tiny Abandoned Rabbit Is Rescued After Seeking Refuge in Tire Shop

By Nicole Weiss

It was early May, and our organization, Long Island Rabbit Rescue Group, received an email about an abandoned domestic rabbit. The case was unusual because the rabbit was living in a tire shop on a busy road in Valley Stream.

Once a foster home was in place, we got the go-ahead to bring this rabbit to safety. This young rabbit, left on a roadway, had sought shelter in the tire shop. The shop smelled of rubber and motor oil. It was loud, dark, dreary and dangerous. The rabbit had made this tire shop her temporary home, and used its many hiding areas to stay safe until the good-hearted workers in the shop found her and contacted us for help.

On the day of her rescue, our team arrived at the scene facing a complicated task. There were tires stacked to the ceiling and heavy pieces of equipment everywhere. The building's doors were wide open, making it very easy for a rabbit to run out into a nearby parking lot or the roadway.

We realized that the rabbit could be hiding inside any of the hundreds of tires in the garage. Some quick thinking by our volunteers, lots of fences to block her in and some treats were some of the tools we used to our advantage. Who knew when she had last eaten? She followed our trail of treats, and after a few failed attempts when she ran back into the darkness, she eventually let her hunger overtake any uneasy feelings she had about us.

We eventually led her into one of our carriers. Thanks to volunteer Lisa Freitag's quick reflexes, we were able to shut the carrier door the second that the rabbit hopped into it. Lauren Marchant also helped with rescue logistics.

Once the rabbit let her guard down, she seemed to trust us. After taking her into

Photos: Long Island Rabbit Rescue Group



The volunteers who were on the scene were Nicole Weiss, Lauren Marchant, Lisa Freitag. The last photograph shows Lauren Marchant with Serena.

our car and spending time with her in a safe, quiet environment, we decided to name her Serena. Serena seemed to be a fitting name for this beautiful Silver Marten rabbit because although she had lived for a few weeks in a noisy tire shop, she was calm and sweet, and she had a serene personality and overall aura about her.

Serena lived for a few weeks with her foster mom on eastern Long Island, until she found a wonderful family who fell in love with her amazing personality and beautiful soul. This sweet girl is where she was always destined to be, forever safe and loved indoors!

Close Encounters of the Furry Kind: Understanding Your First Rabbit

By Dana Krempels

Before you begin, you should treat yourself and your bunny to a copy of “**The House Rabbit Handbook**” (5th edition) by Marinell Harriman, the most up-to-date and accurate book on rabbit care. It is available at most major bookstores, or can be ordered at any online book source. No rabbit home should be without it. More information on rabbit care can be found at www.rabbit.org.

The Rabbit Personality

“Is a rabbit more like a cat or a dog?” It’s one of the most frequent questions we rabbit folk are asked. The answer: neither. Dogs and cats are predatory animals, with evolutionary histories completely different from those of herbivores such as rabbits. Whereas the ancestors of today’s dogs and cats were bred for centuries to lack their natural fear of humans, domestic rabbits have been bred primarily for meat, fur and other physical characteristics. This means that when you adopt a bunny, you adopt a “domestic” animal with much of the heart and spirit of a wild creature whose ancestors survived only if they were alert, easily startled, and had a natural tendency to avoid large, scary-looking animals like humans. It may be more challenging to win the trust of this sensitive, intelligent creature than it is to win the heart of a puppy or kitten that has been bred to trust you from birth, but it’s worth the effort.

The myth that certain rabbit breeds make better pets is just that: a myth. We have known aggressive lops (a breed supposedly gentle and friendly), super-affectionate dwarfs (supposedly hyper and mean) and every type of personality you can imagine in our “mutts.” Some rabbits are friendly from the day they’re born, whereas others are shy and

retiring. Once in a while, we’ll meet a true Attila the Bun, with an aggressive nature that can’t easily be tamed. There are as many rabbit personalities as there are rabbits.

Rabbits are highly intelligent, social and affectionate. They also can be bratty, willful, destructive and even vengeful. It takes a special type of person to be able to coexist happily with such a complex, demanding little soul.

Unfortunately, many people buy rabbits without understanding their true nature, and this is one of the main reasons so many rabbits are “dumped” soon after reaching sexual maturity, when they begin to assert their strong personalities.

Bunny Handling – and Not

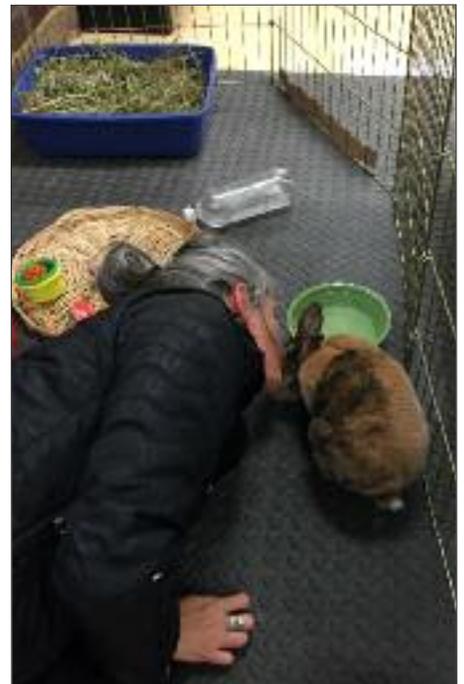
One of the most common misconceptions people have about rabbits, possibly because they look so much like plush toys, is that they like to be held and cuddled. Many people are disappointed to learn that their bunny does not like to be held. But consider for a moment the natural history of the rabbit. This is a ground-dwelling species, and a prey item for many predators. It is completely against a rabbit’s natural tendency to want to be held far above the ground where he cannot control his own motions and activities.

When you force a bunny to be held against his will, you reinforce his innate notion that you are a predator trying to restrain him. Holding a rabbit while he struggles and kicks is not only dangerous for the human (sharp claws!), but also for the rabbit. A rabbit is built for quick escape, with powerful muscles attached to a relatively light, flexible skeleton. When a bunny is held in the air, he lacks the natural “brake” of the ground against his hind feet, and one powerful kick can hyperextend the spine, causing

Photos: Jane O'Wyatt



Olivia, a former Rabbit Rescue & Rehab bunny, in her new home.



At Petco Union Square, rabbit volunteer Nadine Heidinger lies down on the floor to snuggle with Bongo, her former foster bunny.

it to sublunate or fracture. We have seen an alarming number of young rabbits with broken backs and legs because people (usually children) insisted on carrying them around and handling them against their will. A very few rabbits enjoy being held and cuddled. The vast majority do not, and prefer to snuggle on the ground, with you lying close (like a fellow bunny). If you love your bunny, you’ll respect his preference,

(Continued on page 7)

Close Encounters

(Continued from page 6)

Photos: Jane O'Wyatt



Spooky, who weighs 9 pounds, presents less of a temptation to people who might want to grab and pick up a bunny.

knowing that his safety and well-being depend on your playing with him on his own terms.

This is not to say that a rabbit can never be picked up. Sometimes, as for trips to the vet, a rabbit must be handled, and it's best to learn to do this safely before you have an emergency. A rabbit should never be handled by the ears. To safely pick up a bunny, gently and simultaneously place one hand scooped under the rib cage, and the other splayed around his rear end. Lift quickly and confidently, and turn the bunny so that his feet are placed against your chest. This will make him feel more secure, and less apt to struggle. If he struggles wildly, carefully and firmly lower him to the ground and release him, and then try again. Practice makes perfect. But remember that for playtime situations, it's better not to force the issue of holding and cuddling.

Getting to Know Your New Bunny

To understand rabbit behavior, try to think like a rabbit. Remember that as a prey species, a rabbit is naturally shy and wary – much more so than a predatory dog or cat. It will be up to you, the adaptable human, to compromise and alter your own behavior so that the bunny understands you are a friend. Once you have done this, you will have won the unending love and loyalty of a most amazing creature, whose ways of communicating with you may be as subtle as a nose bump on the leg (“Hi, Mom!”), or as overt as a skin-breaking nip (“Put me down!”) or an adamant thump of the hind foot (which can mean anything from “Mom! There’s something scary outside!” to “Hey! Pay attention to me!”)

Imagine what the world looks like to this bunny. She’s surrounded by a new environment, and there’s a big, strange-smelling animal that’s always looming over her. She has no idea you’re trying to be friendly. Her “hard wiring” tells her: “AAAAAAGH!!! It’s going to EAT ME!” Imagine yourself in her bunny slippers: No one speaks her language; she has been taken from her family and has no one of her own species to comfort her; and she has no idea whether you



Cute Lil Britches would probably try to bite a stranger who tried to pick her up!

plan to love her, cage her forever, or have her for dinner. You must gradually and patiently earn her trust. It can take an hour, a day, or even weeks or months. It depends on the personality of the individual rabbit, and on your willingness to be patient and loving.

You and bunny should be together in a private, quiet room. No other pets. No distractions. If children are present, they should be instructed to lie on the floor, too, being very quiet and emulating the behavior of the adult in charge. Stress to the children that getting to know a bunny is a little bit like waiting for a butterfly to land on your head, rather than chasing it around with a net and forcing it to hold still.

Have a little treat – such as a carrot or piece of apple, banana or a little pinch of oats – in your hand. Lie prone on the floor and let the bunny out of her pen. (This should be at ground level so that the bunny can come out and go into the pen as she pleases. Having to grab the bunny every time you want her to come in or out can undo hours of patient trust-building.

Don't expect the bunny to approach you immediately. Remain quiet and patient, even if it takes an hour or more. Rabbits are naturally curious, and eventually she will come over to sniff you, and perhaps even climb up on your back for a look around.

If the bunny is very shy, resist the temptation to reach out and pet her. Instead, let her sniff you, hop on you and get to know your scent. Eventually, when she sees that she can move freely around you without being touched or grabbed, she will learn that you are not a threat.

If bunny smells the treat you have, and comes to investigate, hold onto it while she nibbles, instead of letting her grab it and run off to eat in a private place. This will establish that she can safely eat

(Continued on page 8)

Close Encounters

(Continued from page 7)

in your presence without worrying that you're going to grab and restrain her.

Have a “bunny playtime” like this every day until it becomes routine, and bunny loses her wariness around you. Touches should come gradually. Extending a finger or hand for her to sniff is a polite overture, and she may allow you to gently rub her forehead, ears, or her temples (the smooth areas on the sides of her head, just below her ears). These are favorite rabbit “scratchy spots,” and a shy bunny is more likely to allow you to touch her head than she is to let you rub her back or any other area where she can't really keep an eye on you.

If bunny withdraws from your attentions, let her. Be patient, and never force anything. Never, ever chase the bunny. Despite what you might hear from other sources, we've never met or heard of a rabbit who truly likes to “play chase.” That's a predator's game, and is more likely to cause terror and stress in your bunny than entertain her. This is one reason that boisterous children and rabbits are NOT a good match.

Rabbits and Children

In most cases, children and rabbits are not ideal companions. A rabbit's delicate skeleton and prey-species nature predisposes him to be fearful of the attentions of most active, happy children, however well-meaning they might be. It takes a very special, mature child – willing to follow the procedures described above – to make a good companion for a rabbit.

Some people tell us they are disappointed that the rabbit is “not turning out to be the sort of pet we wanted for our kids.” Such folks may have had unreasonable expectations for a rabbit, expecting him to behave more like a dog or cat than a rabbit.

Rather than being disappointed that a rabbit is naturally shy, and not what you might have expected, take the opportunity to teach your children respect for a very different kind of animal whose behaviors and ways of communication are not the same as their own. If a child wants something to carry around and cuddle, provide a stuffed toy – not a live rabbit.

Even if your rabbit is the “family pet,” an adult should always be his primary caretaker. Young children don't have the sense of responsibility necessary to properly care for a rabbit, and should not be expected to behave as adults, especially if the safety of your companion rabbit is at stake. Parents also should be ready to take over the rabbit-care duties of the teenager who goes off to college, leaving Fluffy in their care. A well-cared-for house rabbit, spayed or neutered, can live eight to 12 years, or even longer.

She Is a Sentient Creature, Not a Toy

Look at your rabbit with enlightened eyes. Understand that nature made her just as surely as it made you, and that, like yours, her personality is at least partly a product of her ancestry. She is not a toy; she is a highly intelligent, loving being who can become an interactive, loyal member of the family if you allow her to be what she is – a rabbit. The person who can do this is in store for the most delightful companionship of a lifetime.

*Copyright – Dana Krempels, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer;
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Department of Biology,
University of Miami*

Photo: Jane O'Wyatt



Marshmallow, at Petco Union Square, is protected from an impulsive admirer.

Photo: Kerstin Aumann



Rabbit volunteer Kerstin Aumann trained her son Alex (seen here with Snowball) how to behave toward bunnies.

Photos: ACC



Sailors, Police and Bunnies

The NYPD adoption van took part in an ACC mobile adoption event on Memorial Day weekend. Two sailors, Aaron Baker and Gary Ramirez, above, were in the city for Fleet Week NYC with their ship, USS Fort McHenry. They visited the van to chat with rabbit volunteers and staff. Below, Police Sgt. Maria Sexton, left, who has owned rabbits, was in the truck talking to the public about rabbit care.



Meet Our Brooklyn Bunnies

Adoptable bunnies are available at the Brooklyn shelter, 2336 Linden Boulevard. Volunteers are there most Saturdays and Sundays, and speed dates can be arranged

by emailing adoption@nycacc.org. These photos are just a sampling of the great rabbits waiting to meet you.

Photo: Thea Harling



Bon Bon.

Photo: Thea Harling



Oreo.



Bloomie.

Photo: Thea Harling



Darkwing.

Photo: Thea Harling



Deimos.

Photo: Nadine Heidinger



Chewy.

Photo: Thea Harling



Laurel and Sarah.

Photo: Thea Harling



Oahu with Maui in the background.

Photo: Thea Harling



Bunny.

We Are Looking for Loving Homes:

These Rabbits Are Available At Manhattan Animal Care Center (NYC ACC)

By Kirsten Ott

Cordelia

Cordelia is an adorable medium-sized black and white dwarf mix. This girl is quite shy. She's curious enough to approach and sniff you, but will quickly retreat. Cordelia is also a bit pudgy, so in addition to socialization she'll need a good diet and exercise regimen. Therefore, she really should be adopted by a bunny-savvy adult-only home. Cordelia has very interesting markings. She's mostly black, with white fur on her chest and front legs. She also sports a Dutch-like crooked white stripe down the front of her face, and best of all she has a cute white cottontail!

Sheldon

Sheldon is a large brown/charcoal boy with a very nice temperament. This guy is a bruiser of a bun, with a sturdy body and big round head. He's easy to approach and loves being petted. When you pet his head, his ears don't relax and flatten the way most bunny ears do – they pop back up as though they're on springs! Sheldon might take a break from affection for a bite of hay, but soon enough he'll hop happily back to you for more love. He has a fun white mark on one nostril and just a bit of white fur near one shoulder.

Jocelyn

Jocelyn is a small-to-medium grayish-brown Lionhead or Jersey Wooly girl. This girl is about 80% fur! Her super fluffy coat, wonderfully fuzzy cheeks and flat face give her a comical, somewhat unkempt look. Jocelyn is a very opinionated, spunky girl who insists on getting her way. Her adopter will have to worship and obey her – and do a lot of grooming!

Kylo Ren

Kylo Ren is a small tan male bunny with a very determined personality. This



Cordelia.



Sheldon.



Jocelyn.

little guy is very curious – he wants to sniff and chin everything in his path. Kylo Ren isn't really interested in affection – probably because it would require sitting still for a spell. He's likely to calm down somewhat post-neuter. Kylo Ren's delicate looks are deceiving – he's actually quite a brave soul.



Kylo Ren.



Mai.

Mai

Mai is a small- to medium-sized female bunny with a reserved nature. This girl seems shy – she's not inclined to approach people. She does like affection, though, but she just prefers you to come to her. Mai has a dainty face – it's heart-shaped, with a pointy nose – and delicate little feet. Best of all, she has a gorgeous, warm, reddish-brown coat. Mai would do best in a quiet home.

Ibis

Ibis is a very large Himalayan male who was surrendered with 10 family members, most of whom are not particularly well-socialized. This is definitely true of Ibis – he's not very comfortable with people, and while he's curious, he won't linger in your presence for very long. It's too bad, because Ibis is easily one of the handsomest bunnies in his family. He has a sculpted, aristocratic face, and nice sturdy build, and gorgeous large pink

(Continued on page 12)

Looking for Loving Homes

(Continued from page 11)

eyes. Ibis would do best in a bunny-savvy home, and would probably benefit from a bunny partner.

Milo

Milo is a small brownish-black boy with a fearless, curious outlook on life. This little guy is clearly still on the young side, and is far more interested in exploration and play than in affection. His hormones – and he – should calm down post-neuter, but his forever people will have to do lots of bunny-proofing, because he's likely to be very active for quite some time.

Labyrinth

Labyrinth is a very large, extremely striking female bunny. This lady is a Lionhead/helicopter lop mix with red eyes. She has wonderful large mutton chops and long tresses that flow chaotically from between her big pink ears. And those ears! Both move around independently in all directions – straight up, out like wings, flopped down – and often go in different directions. Labyrinth brings to mind a mythical creature, such as a unicorn. Maybe that's why she has a somewhat mythical name! She is a fairly relaxed bun, and seems very comfortable with people, soaking up any affection that's offered.

Hank

Hank is a large brown and white helicopter lop with a feisty, sometimes cutely ornery personality. This guy is fun to watch – he has cute jowly cheeks, a big dark brown mustache, and nice big fluffy feet, and he alternates frequently between active and relaxed mode. Though he's on the hyper side much of the time, he'll hold still longer than usual if you rub the nape of his neck or the base of his ears. Hank's coat is white with multiple shades of brown, including a mostly brown face.

Babs

Babs is a large agouti/brown and white girl who's in real need of comfort and



Ibis.



Milo.



Labyrinth.



Hank.



Babs.



Judy.

TLC. This girl is very nervous, and becomes agitated when you first approach her, staring at you with her big shining brown eyes. She will let you pet her, but she'll lean into a corner of her litter box or cage as you do so, as if she's scared about what might happen during your visit. As she gradually becomes more comfortable with you, she'll turn into a total snuggler. Babs is likely to get very attached very quickly in a good forever home. She would do best in a home with quiet adults, and would probably also benefit from a bunny partner.

Judy

Judy is a small agouti Lionhead mix who was found with three other bunnies, likely relatives of some sort. Judy is less comfortable around people than a couple of the others, which could mean she's younger and has had less contact with humans, and could be partly due to her temperament. She crouches in a corner of her cage when you pay her a visit. Therefore, she needs to be placed in a bunny-savvy home for gradual

(Continued on page 13)

Looking for Loving Homes

(Continued from page 12)

socialization. Judy is a very pretty bunny – she has beautiful eyes with glamorous dark lashes.

Jay

Jay is a darling little brown Lionhead mix who was found with three other bunnies, likely relatives of some sort. He's quite skittish, and needs a bunny-savvy home where he can develop trust in people. Jay's Lionhead tufts, size, and coloring give him the appearance of a tiny gnu. His white cottontail adds to his cuteness.

Jaylen

Jaylen is a medium-sized dark agouti female who was found with three other bunnies, likely relatives of some sort. Jaylen is by far the most confident and assertive of the group. She is very active, and loves to redecorate her habitat – she'll need lots of stuff to chew, rip, and push around in her forever home. She also loves affection. She'll jump into her litter box and stare at you until you respond, and then hunker right down for petting. Finally, she's very bright and



Jay.



Jaylen.

feisty – she gets annoyed if you stop petting her. Jaylen will need a home with lots of stimulation and attention. She has an adorable mini-dewlap.

Sky

Sky is a tiny young Lionhead mix male with a real zest for life. This itty-bitty



Sky.

guy is very alert, curious and bright. He'll approach to sniff you, interact for a bit, and then binky with delight at what he's done. At this stage of his life, he's more interested in fun than in affection, and he seems to have a mischievous streak. Because he's such a busy guy and he's so little, his forever home will have to be carefully bunny-proofed. Sky is mostly white with dark brown ears and face markings and a long brown patch on his back. His large eyes look altogether too big for his young, diminutive head.

These Rabbits Are in Foster Care

Dashie

Introducing Dashie! He is a very handsome young male Dutch rabbit who our rescue pulled from the shelter because he had been abandoned there with a bad case of head tilt. After receiving the vet care he needed, he is doing remarkably well. He no longer rolls and simply looks like a rabbit who is tilting his head slightly to listen to something curiously. However, as any other rabbit with head tilt, he will need a padded habitat setup. He will have to be closely monitored and taken to the vet for follow up care. Dashie is a very sweet rabbit who loves to run around and be

petted gently. He has a great appetite! We are looking for either a foster home or forever home for him. If interested in fostering or adopting Dashie, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Bob

Introducing BOB (a/k/a Big Orange Bunny!). All rabbits are beautiful and special, and this sweet guy is no exception. Bob came to us after being abandoned outside with a group of other rabbits. A testament as to why it is so important to never expose domesticated rabbits to the outdoors, all of these young rabbits had terrible ear mites, parasites like coccidia



Dashie.

and giardia, as well as other infections and abscesses. Bob has received extensive veterinary care and is now free of mites, parasites and abscesses. We continue to

(Continued on page 14)

Looking for Loving Homes

(Continued from page 13)

monitor his health to ensure that he remains on the right track after such unimaginable neglect. He is a large, friendly and active rabbit who is appreciating every moment of his new life. Bob is the kind of rabbit who reminds us why we do rescue – no matter how stressful, difficult and expensive this work is, these rabbits are worth all of it. Seeing him living happily ever after in a home where someone will adore him as much as we do would be the icing on the cake. He has been neutered and is living in temporary foster care. If interested in long-term fostering or adopting Bob, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Lex

Lex is a medium-sized male harlequin Rex, approximately 2 years of age. He has a medium to high energy level. He is a shy guy when meeting new people, but quickly warms up. This sweet, gentle boy is very inquisitive, likes to play with his toys and due to his sweet demeanor would make a great companion rabbit. Lex is an excellent eater, loves his greens and hay and has exceptional litter-box skills. He is very well behaved and enjoys petting and hanging out with his foster mom in her kitchen during playtime. Lex has been neutered. If interested in adopting Lex, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Carmela

Carmela is a young medium-sized Rex rabbit. Her beautiful coat is mostly white with tan and black spots. She is a sweet rabbit who loves to have her soft nose petted. She also likes to explore her house, but her favorite thing is to relax with a nice soft blanket. Carmela is shy and would likely do best in an adult-only home. She would also likely make a good partner for another rabbit. She has been spayed and is in foster care. For more information and/or to arrange a meeting with Carmela, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.



Bob.



Lex.



Carmela.

Pearse

Pearse is a gray Flemish Giant boy who was born in May 2015. He is very large and will still grow some more. He loves to be petted – after you let him sniff and bump your hand a few times. Pearse is a little bit nervous and would probably do best in a quiet home with patient adults. He has been neutered and is in foster care. For more information and/or to



Pearse.



Reese.

arrange a meeting with Pearse, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Reese

Reese is a medium-sized Harlequin rabbit who was abandoned at a vet clinic in very bad shape – obese and with a terrible case of fly strike. Think how uncomfortable he must have felt with fly larvae crawling on his backside, unable to reach to groom himself. He was given the vet care that he needed and has been slowly losing weight the natural way – with a proper healthy diet and exercise. Reese is the perfect combination of energetic and mellow – he loves running around during playtime, then lounging and being petted by his human friends. Reese has been neutered and is currently in foster care. For more information and/or to arrange a meeting with Reese, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

(Continued on page 15)

Looking for Loving Homes

(Continued from page 14)

Hardy

Hardy is a large Californian mix who was born around March 1, 2012 into a family of 50 rabbits. Our group placed most of the family members into foster homes. Hardy is very sweet but quite shy. He is very interested in the other bunnies in his foster home. Because of his shy nature and interest in other rabbits, he can only be adopted out as a partner for another bunny. He has been neutered. For more information and/or to arrange a meeting with Hardy: nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.



Hardy.

Emma

Emma is a large female Chinchilla lop with a big personality. Want to be a slave to a gorgeous, feisty girl? Emma is your answer! Potential suitors must provide head rubs whenever Emma desires (frequently and for long periods), and not do things Emma disapproves of, like rearrange her stuff or move your hands too fast by her face. She absolutely loves having her head rubbed and will insist on a massage. Don't try to rush her – let her do things on her own

terms. It helps to speak to her softly when you are close by to let her know where you are. She'll reward your patience with love and companionship, forever and ever. Emma was found with extremely long nails, suggesting she was a neglect case, and she was placed in foster care for a while to help her become less defensive. Emma also has some minor vision issues, so all in all she



Emma.

would do best in a patient, experienced bunny home. She's a gorgeous big girl, with a classic Chinchilla coat and a large dewlap. Emma has been spayed and is currently in residence at the Petco store on Union Square in Manhattan. For more information or to arrange a meeting with Emma, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Forever Homes Found!

Rabbits adopted since the last newsletter include: Archie, Maury, Barbero, Melo, Patrice, Cicely, Iron, Buttersnap, Blinky, Spots, Olivia, BunBun, Lilo, Snowball, Brownie and Smores, Jocelyn, Bandit, Squishy, Layla, Hazel, Dolman, Ellie, Lyla, Tyra, Benny, Freddie and Flossie, Pancakes, Pelham, Kelly, Tori, Igloo and Indigo, Xavier, Dutchess, Hopper, Maxi, Stretch, Cinnamon, Potter, Josie, Chevy, Tex, Nanny Ogg, Kenny, Quick Silver, Jaime, Lucky, Bunny, Carrots, Alfie, Munchie, Jade, Cocobutter, Tootsie Pop, Mrs. Peabody, Bobby, Panda, Bongo, Stormie, Charlie, Roosevelt, Lilly, Frenchie, Carly and Daisy.

As an Actress, I Found My Perfect Leading Man: Mr. Trix

By Anita Sabherwal

In July 2008 an actor friend contacted me about adopting his 2-year-old rabbit, Trix. I had grown up with a beloved pet rabbit as a child, and my ex and I had a rabbit who had died a couple years before. I was adamant that I couldn't possibly survive the heartbreak of losing another furry family member and I would never be a pet parent again. I had worked a couple of shifts as a rabbit volunteer at Petco with Marcie Frishberg and was feeling the pangs of bunny adoption pulling at my heart strings. Just as I was contemplating if I was ready again, Trix needed a home. My fellow actor, Sam, had moved back home with his folks and Trix was not part of the package. He needed rehoming and would possibly be sent to a shelter. I saw a picture of Trix and fell in love.

Sam drove Trix from New Jersey to Soho. Trix had a small cage and some generic food. He stretched out on my living-room rug like he owned the place. The next few weeks brought a hurricane of destruction to my apartment. I had a friend staying with me for a few weeks and had become used to the daily phone calls from her telling me that my unneutered baby had damaged various pieces of furniture. He was instantly the man of the house, and he was now a Soho bunny who ate only the finest organic hay, pellets, greens (he was now hooked on sweet baby lettuces from Whole Foods and stuck his nose up at anything else) and papaya treats. This boy with fancy tastes was now called Mr. Trix.

At first Mr. Trix was aggressive with me and peed everywhere. Marcie and my vet at the time recommended he be fixed, saying it would calm his feisty nature. He was fixed in September 2008 but his feisty personality remained. Shortly after, he had dental work and stayed

Photo: Anita Sabherwal



Mr. Trix.

overnight at the animal hospital. When he came back, he was very loving and affectionate. It was as if he really knew he was home and that I was his mum.

Mr. Trix was a rainbow of emotions, much like his mother. He was the fur baby of an actress, after all. He could be sweet, tender and loving. When I was in bed for a week with a back injury he would not leave my side, except when doing binkies all over me in my bed. (Yes, we did have a penned area for him in my living room but he would fall asleep with me at least half the time, either on the sofa or on my bed.) Whenever I was sick, he would hop up next to me and lie against me. Every morning we had "cuddle/grooming time" where he would snuggle on my chest and nudge my hand to be petted, and then would groom his mother.

Mr. Trix knew when to wake me up if my alarm didn't go off. There is no better alarm clock than a hungry bunny jumping on you and putting his whiskers in your face. He also seemed to know when it was the weekend, with extended cuddle time. If I came home from work

later than usual, he would growl and lunge at me, but he would usually forgive me after several minutes. The same would be true after I returned from a trip. Even though he had the best bunny-sitters, he would growl and lunge, but he always forgave me and would end up doing binkies to show me he was happy to see me. He was possessive and territorial, too. If we had a houseguest and he wasn't a fan, there were sure to be about 50 poops outside of his litter box and pee on his blanket. He hated every single boyfriend I ever had. I remember once when my partner and I went to bed, Mr. Trix rattled against his pen noisily. We would get up and turn on the lights and he would sit there, still and innocent, and as soon as we went back to bed, the rattling resumed. A family friend sent Mr. Trix a stuffed animal bun that resembled him. He seemed to regard it as competition and attacked it on a regular basis.

Mr. Trix was my partner in life. We did everything together. He would circle my feet while I chopped and cooked the

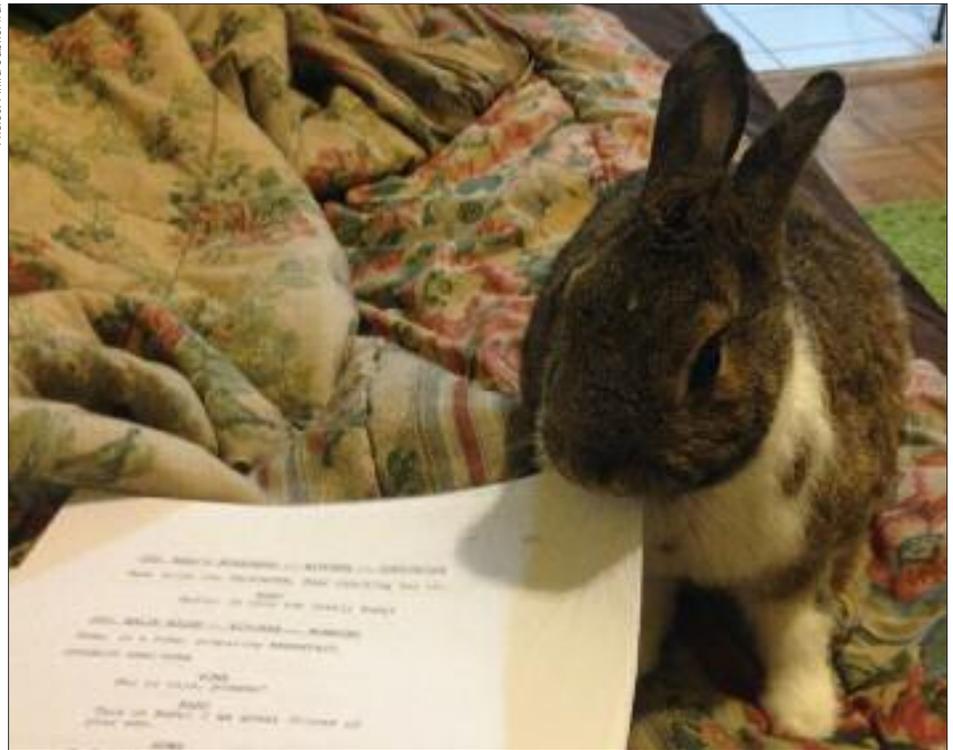
(Continued on page 17)

Mr. Trix *(Continued from page 16)*

meals that we ate together. I would have my salad and he would have his. I couldn't snack without him begging like a dog. He would hop up on the sofa and snatch apple slices off my plate, or climb all over me to get a taste of banana. I remember watching TV one day and looking over to see him face down in my handbag rustling around. I informed him it is very impolite to go through mummy's handbag and pulled him out. The next day at work I pulled out an apple to snack on and found it covered with little bite marks. Mr. Trix's grandpa made the naughty mistake of letting Mr. Trix try a potato chip and cheerios. Even though I informed him we couldn't give Mr. Trix people food, that didn't stop Mr. Trix from begging. You could not eat cereal or any type of chips in our apartment without him begging or trying to steal something. When his grandma came to visit he would follow her around begging because he knew his cuteness would be rewarded with a piece of cilantro or a bit of a carrot.

He would keep me company late at night when I was learning lines for an audition or a booking. He would lie on my lap as I rehearsed. I don't think I owned a single script or play without teeth marks. Mr. Trix always wanted to leave his mark. It was as if he was my little study buddy. He loved when we decided to "Netflix and chill." He seemed to say, "Yes, it's cold outside and mum and I are going to binge watch 'House of Cards' and 'Breaking Bad' while I get petted!" The funniest times were when I did workouts at home. I think his personal favorite instructor was Jillian Michaels. Whenever I did jumping jacks, he would think mum was doing binkies and would join in. He loved to hop on my stomach when I did crunches and would run over to check my face (to see if I was okay) when I would lie down to meditate. When I packed to go somewhere, he would jump into my

Photos: Anita Sabherwal



Mr. Trix would keep me company when I was learning lines for an audition or a booking.

suitcase as if to say, "don't go" or "take me with you."

Mr. Trix gave me unconditional love. My family is scattered all over the globe, and friends and boyfriends have come and gone over the years, but he was always at my side. He loved me when I was dolled up for an audition, or at the top of my game doing really well in life and feeling really good about things. He loved me just as much when I was in sweat pants, getting chubby after the holidays, or just feeling exhausted from dealing with the harsh realities of being a performing artist in New York. He



He would jump into my suitcase as if to say, "don't go" or "take me with you."

knew when life was giving me lemons and always had the most instinctual way of knowing when I needed comfort and love the most. He was a huge part of my support system in life. He understood me, never judged me and loved me without question. He was the biggest and most important part of my day and a huge piece of my heart. I couldn't wait to wake up to be with him and I couldn't wait to rush home to be with him. It's an incredible feeling to look into the eyes of an animal and know you are so connected, that you are soul mates, forever.

My soul mate left me on June 15 at the age of 10, just a couple months shy of his 11th birthday.

Mr. Trix (aka Trixu, Trixu Mixu, Bonbon, Simon Le Bon, Richard Parker, Baby George, MooMoo, Baba, Poochu, KitKat, Fat Cat) you will always be my Prince and I am blessed that I had you in my life as long as I did. I know you are in bunny heaven bossing the other buns around and eating as many papaya treats as your heart desires!

Letters From Adopters

Elliot

Lourdes Robles recently adopted Elliot as a partner for Aki, and she sent us this update.

I am enclosing a photo of my new bunny, Elliot. I adopted him as a companion for my bunny Aki (pictured in the inset at the bottom left), who lost her partner in May.

After meeting several eligible bachelors at the Manhattan ACC, Aki picked Elliot out of the bunch, and he is truly the sweetest, most adorable bun.

While it was not necessarily love at first sight, I am hoping they will bond soon. However, even if they don't bond (my Aki can be a bit neurotic and he has a stronger personality than I previously thought), Elliot is too much of a sweet-heart not to keep around. He likes to run in circles to get attention, stretches



Elliot, with Aki pictured as an inset in the photo.

his head to get some head rubs, and has started binkying and stretching to show his contentment.

I also make sure to tell Elliot often that whether or not Aki and he bond, he is now in his forever home!

Lourdes Robles



Munchkin.

Munchkin

Kesi adopted Munchkin in August as a partner bunny, and we received this wonderful update later in the month.

I'm writing with a bunny love story. I adopted my Munchkin in August. I met him at the NYC AC&C in East Harlem

on a sizzling Sunday afternoon. I arrived with sweaty brows and a nervous heart, and with my four-year-old bunny, Boo, in tow.

Munchkin was the first contender among the available bachelors. When I first laid eyes on his fur – a sleek coat of midnight sky – I gasped. Not only is Munchkin handsome, but he is compassionate. When he met Boo, he patiently let her play “diva.” Munchkin shed his shy shell and he ran around the pen, clicking his heels in the air. He was a bunny in love. We knew we could create a happy family with Munchkin.

So far, Munchkin is a pensive, calm and mellow fellow. Bananas are his favorite treat. I am slowly working to bond him with Boo. She is all he thinks about, and he can't take his eyes off her cotton tail, even as she devours his hay. I can't wait to learn more about him as the days go on!!

Kesi Augustine

Coco

Kim Berndt adopted Coco, formerly known as Petrice, in August as a partner for Scrappy. The two rabbits are already good buddies.

We took Scrappy to the ACC in Brooklyn to go speed dating with a few bachelorettes. Thea Harting “moderated” the introductions. Scrappy ended up choosing Coco (née Petrice), the second bachelorette. He was ready to hump her the moment she hopped over to introduce herself. Thanks to Thea for helping slow things down a bit! Once Coco gave Scrappy his first kiss, we knew these young lovers were a match made in bunny heaven.



Scrappy and Coco.

After only a week of living as neighbors, and a few additional dates on neutral territory, they are already bonded and sharing the same run. Other rabbit pairs we've worked with had taken months to bond, so we are fully aware of how lucky we are. We are also so lucky to have this wonderful new addition to our family – the sweet, sometimes silly, always playful, extremely loving Coco.

Kim

(Continued on page 19)

Photo: Marta Michaud



Marta and Moxie.

Moxie

Marta Michaud and her husband, David, adopted Moxie two years ago. They are a very happy family.

We are so in love with Moxie! My husband and I are both madly in love with her. She has so much personality and brings us so much joy and fun, and our kitty loves her, too. They are officially “sisters”! They both hang all over my husband. It’s hilarious.

Moxie purrs and purrs. We have a great time at our home zoo! And Freddy our parrot dances and sings in his cage, too. Good times!

Thank you for our baby girl! She such a pretty and affectionate little girl, and boy does she love her dolls! I buy her little toy bunnies whenever I travel, and she lines them all up and tends to her babies! She’s the best daughter that two empty nesters could dream of!

Marta

Cilantro

Cilantro, formerly known as Hazel, was adopted by Priscilla Cortes and her family in September. Cilantro is doing well in her loving home.

Photo: Priscilla Cortes



Cilantro.

Hazel is now known as “Cilantro.” What can I say, except that she is a dream! She is so calm, gentle and friendly. As soon as I took her out of her box at home it was as if she had lived here forever.

She is very different from the bunny I had for six years. (May our beloved Coco RIP). He was more skittish and shy. Cilantro is not skittish at all. She even wakes me up by jumping onto the couch if I’m sleeping and licks me until I wake up!

We are all in love with her. She is also acquainted with my 1-year-old cat, Miloh, and they get along just fine.

She is a Princess!

Warm furry regards,

Priscilla

Photo: Josephine Phung



Wampa.

Wampa

Josephine Phung adopted Wampa in mid-August. Wampa sent us a letter of his own to talk about his wonderful new home.

Hiya!

I’m Wampa, the English Spot bunny with a funny moustache.

I like to lounge around on my owner’s couch enjoying the air conditioner on these hot summer days.

My favorite food is hay. It’s absolutely the best!

I am a little shy in my new house so I don’t show off my awesomely cute binkies just yet. However, my cute moustache and little twitchy pink nose are enough for my owner to be head over heels in love with me.

Wampa



Buster.



Moose and Spooky.



Speed date: Moondog, top, with Minchie.



Dutchess.



Pelham.



Hugo and Delilah.



Tori.



Stretch.



Lisette.



Olivia at home with Pam Jones, her adopter.



Stuart.

Rabbit-Savvy Veterinarians

Here's our recommended vet list for the New York metropolitan area. **Please note that many clinics have multiple veterinarians, and our recommendations are for specific veterinarians in those clinics.** If you can't get an appointment with a recommended vet at one clinic, don't assume (no matter what you are told by the clinic) that other vets in the same clinic can help your rabbit. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the vets on this list, please contact Mary Cotter at (914) 337-6146. When you make an appointment with any of these vets, please tell them you were referred by us.

Manhattan:

Becky Campbell, DVM
Deborah Levison, DVM
Symphony Veterinary Center
170 West 96th Street, New York, NY 10025
(212) 866-8000

Katherine Quesenberry, DVM
The Animal Medical Center
510 East 62nd St., New York, NY 10065
(212) 838-7053, (212) 329-8622

Alexandra Wilson, DVM
Anthony Pilny, DVM
The Center for Avian and Exotic Medicine
568 Columbus Ave., New York, NY 10024
(212) 501-8750

Westchester County:

Gil Stanzione, DVM
Dakota Veterinary Center
381 Dobbs Ferry Road, White Plains,
NY 10607 (914) 421-0020

Laurie Hess, DVM
Veterinary Center for Birds and Exotics
709 Bedford Road, Bedford Hills, NY 10507
(914) 864-1414

Long Island:

Jennifer Saver, DVM
Laura George, DVM
Kristen Miller, DVM
Catnip & Carrots Veterinary Hospital
2056 Jericho Turnpike, New Hyde Park,
NY 11040 • (516) 877-7080

Heidi Hoefler, DVM
Island Exotic Vet Care
591 East Jericho Turnpike
Huntington Station, NY 11746
(631) 424-0300

Jeff Rose, DVM
Jefferson Animal Hospital
606 Patchogue Rd. (Route 112)
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776
(631) 473-0415

Shachar Malka, DVM
Long Island Bird & Exotics Veterinary Clinic
333 Great Neck Road, Great Neck, NY 11021
(516) 482-1101

Licensed HRS Educators

NYC/Westchester:

M.C. Basile, bunnytorts@gmail.com
Mary Cotter, Founder, Rabbit Rescue & Rehab,
Chapter Manager, NYC House Rabbit Society,
Adviser to Thump, mec@cloud9.net, (914)
337-6146, rabbitcare.org
Gabrielle LaManna, New Fairfield, CT,
gabbysbunnies@yahoo.com, (203) 746-7548
Mary Harnett, mmharnett@optonline.net,
(914) 948-7976

Marcie Frishberg,
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Cindy Stutts, bygolyoly@yahoo.com,
(646) 319-4766

Kerstin Aumann
Monica Shepherd, DVM

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Nancy Schreiber, President, Long Island
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nnschreibmd@gmail.com, (516) 510-3637,
LongIslandRabbitRescue.org
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altitude8@yahoo.com,
LongIslandRabbitRescue.org
Donna Sheridan, Long Island Rabbit Rescue
Group Volunteer, hpocus217@yahoo.com,
LongIslandRabbitRescue.org
Jennifer Saver, DVM
Laura George, DVM

THUMP October 2016

Newsletter of RRR/NYC HRS
56 West Pondfield Road #5C
Bronxville, NY 10708
www.rabbitcare.org

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Rabbit Rescue & Rehab is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation in New York State. Our purpose is to rescue, rehabilitate and find permanent homes for abandoned, abused and neglected rabbits, and to educate the public on rabbit care through publications, phone consultations, home visits and presentations. This newsletter is published by RRR/NYC HRS, which is solely responsible for its content. We retain the right to edit all submissions, which become the property of the NYC Chapter and cannot be returned.

All donations go directly to caring for our foster rabbits and are tax-deductible. Please help us help them. Mailing address for contributions: Rabbit Rescue & Rehab/NYC Metro Rabbit, 333 Mamaroneck Ave, PMB 363, White Plains NY 10605. To contribute to Long Island Rabbit Rescue Group, please go to www.longislandrabbitrescue.org.

Adoptable Rabbits 🐰

There are lots of adoptable rabbits available in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Westchester and Long Island.

To adopt a rabbit in **New York City** or **Westchester**, contact nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com. On **Long Island**, contact Nancy Schreiber at nnschreibmd@gmail.com or at 516-510-3637 (www.longislandrabbitrescue.org).

If interested in volunteering or fostering for Rabbit Rescue & Rehab, please email nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com.

Adoptable Rabbit Rescue & Rehab rabbits are at Petco's Union Square location. Rabbit volunteers are present at these stores on Saturday and Sunday afternoons to answer questions.

In addition, Rabbit Rescue & Rehab rabbits are at the Petland Discounts store on West 72nd Street.

You can also visit Manhattan Animal Care Center (NYC ACC) at 326 East 110th St., between First and Second avenues. Rabbits

for adoption can be found by going to: <http://www.nycacc.org/> and doing an adoption search. Volunteers are there every weekday evening and on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, but it is best to arrange an appointment first.

Bunny speed dates can be arranged by appointment only on weekend afternoons at Union Square. Please contact nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com to make arrangements.

Many of our rabbits are living in foster homes and you can meet them as well. You also can arrange to foster a rabbit until he or she finds a permanent home. Contact nyc.metro.rabbits@gmail.com

For basic information about rabbits as pets, go to www.rabbitcare.org, www.longislandrabbitrescue.org and the House Rabbit Society main site, www.rabbit.org.