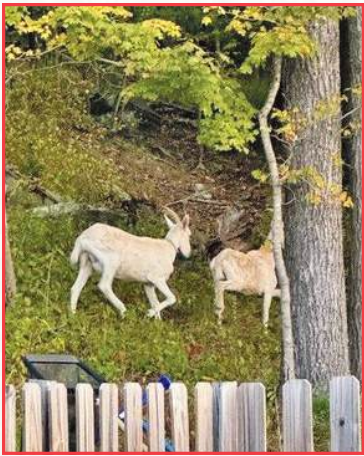


A Home for the Holidays!

Abandoned! For nearly a year, a mother goat and her son wandered the fields and forested areas of a vacant farm, foraging for food and dodging coyotes. The former owners had placed the property up for sale and simply left to return to their home country. Luckily a year-round stream kept the pair hydrated, grasses and leaves kept them alive, and a ramshackle barn provided them some shelter. No one knew they were there.



Mom and Son running into the woods.

In early summer, a family bought the farm and was surprised to see two big, white goats crowned with huge horns peering at them from the tree line. Though they felt bad for the pair, they were unable to care for them and reached out to many organizations for help - without success. Word reached NYSHA and we decided to intervene, as we did not know what would befall this sad duo if we did not.

Both goats were thin, and the son had a collar around his neck. The pair were never without each other; the son followed the mother everywhere and if he lost sight of her, he let out a piercing bleat.

We launched a team effort to find them a new home, with one Board member reaching out to goat and farm rescues for assistance in removal which would require skilled handlers, while another began contacting organizations to find placement. The race was on to rescue them before cold weather arrived.



Curious mom & son peering out of old silo on property.

Capturing and transporting the goats was an issue, as strong horns on a frightened animal are dangerous in inexperienced



In the back of Tacoma, the pair head upstate to new home.

hands. Frederick Farm Goat Rescue and Sanctuary in Napanoch came to the rescue. Though they could not take the goats, they agreed to capture and transport them to a sanctuary that could.

But who would take them? They weren't exactly cute minis; these were big goats with big horns! Since the sanctuaries in Ulster County were full, another Board member reached out to Broome Animal Sanctuary in



Mom (Apple) and Son (Fig) in isolation stall at new digs.

Schoharie County. They agreed to take mom and son, as they felt compassion for the harrowing lives these two had led.

While coordinating a date for the rescue, a Board member brought a feeding station to place in the barn to accustom them to eating in one place. When the day came, the barn door was shut to enclose them. Experienced handlers from the Napanoch sanctuary removed the collar from the son, and then with a push here and a pull there, transferred the pair into the capped back of a Toyota Tacoma and up the Thruway the duo sped to their new digs.



NYSHA Board member Rebecca Diamond with Broome Animal Sanctuary's Greg Gude (L) & Tony Frier (R) - all happy with the successful outcome. Rebecca initiated & actively participated in the rescue effort. Diane Fingar, who was not present, arranged the placement.

Broome Animal Sanctuary owners greeted them and bestowed names - Mom is Apple, Son is Fig - and placed them in an isolation pen. After veterinary clearance, they will join the herd of rescued goats who live there. They are safe and will never have to forage for food and dodge coyotes again.

We are thrilled that we were able to achieve this wonderful outcome for these resilient critters who had fought the odds and now were home for the holidays!

We thank you for your support and look forward to your continued partnership in the coming year. We could not do what we do for the animals without you!

The Board and Staff of NYSHA wish you a joyous holiday season and a happy New Year!

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