



Friendly Flash



Friendly Farm
Where farming meets Fun and learning!

December 2013 Volume 1, Issue 11

What's happening on the farm....

Well November has been a different month on the farm. Traffic slowed down the temperatures were down right COLD, The animals were not quite ready for 10 degree nights and neither were the people! But we made it through.

It has been a sad month. If you follow us on Facebook you know that Polka-dot had a really bad time having her babies and we lost them. She had the first one but it was very small and weak. Then it was obvious that she was not done but nothing was happening so we threw her and the baby in the car and rushed to the vet. WE have the BEST vet every, Dr Cindy Backus at Countryside animal hospital. She had to work very hard to get the second baby delivered. It did not make it. It seem the babies were premature which is NOT what I would have said at all but they were not ready to be born, that is for sure. Cindy tried very hard to keep the first baby alive. She tube fed it every 2-3 hours for 2 1/2 days but it just did not have the strength. Floppy Joe was a fighter and beautiful but she did not make it. Polka-dot struggled for over a week missing her babies, she still calls for them a lot. On the positive side of that, she is a GREAT milker and we have some awesome milk. We have used that milk to make some soap, and the boys and I enjoyed some fresh goat's ilk mozzarella cheese. That was so very yummy! I am anxious to get where we need to be so we can sell the cheese. It is so good!

Our little piggy's are just about gone. We are very happy that they have all gone to loving homes and are being catered too. Right now we have one we call

Freckles but that we plan to keep, she is pink. WE intended to keep Star but I mistakenly told someone we had 2 females and we really don't need to keep that many so I think Star will go to a new home. I will know this evening. WE also have Oreo, a tiny little one that we traded for. WE do love our pot belly's. We also got Miss Piggy last week. Someone had her to give away and we took her. She is very sweet and about half the size of Petunia. So our Pig population as it stands is Petunia, Max, Miss Piggy,



Oreo, Freckles, and then three babies left. I think that is enough piggies.

Mama still no babies but we felt one little head yesterday. She is ready just any day but I am all done wising they would hurry up after Polka dot. Fudge is also getting close. She is a

couple weeks to a month away. According to my records she is due tomorrow, Dec. 8th but I don't think so. Baby goats are so very much fun.

. Feathers and Mrs. Turkey survived Thanksgiving. She is laying an egg every third day or so. We hope they are fertile. They are in our incubator, we shall see.

Still no baby rabbits, Not sure what to think about that. We built the rabbits a nice cozy house on one end of their outdoor cage so now they can stay out no matter the weather. This makes putting everyone

Boys Need to Be Boys & Kids OUTside

This is still our favorite time of the week. The boys come out and have so very much fun learning. Some of them have been coming for an entire year! It is amazing to see what they have learned. They can now come and do all the barn chores without instruction, We handed

them a project and some scrap wood and they enclosed the quail cage. Without instruction. Last week they moved the slides from up front and built them in the back playground. Without instruction. It is a great program for the boys. They have made lasting friendships and developed

thinking skills and problem solving skills that will take them far in life even if they never do anything farm related. We have space for a couple boys on Tuesday and several spots on Wednesday which is co-ed so if you have a son, 5-14 years old that could use some outside time. Get him involved!

Special deals

Do you own a business? We have a few sponsorship opportunities available check out page 5

Are you having a function that you would like to have a petting zoo? We can come to you....

Special points of interest:

- Visit us on Facebook at friendly farm
- Check the website often of updates friendlyfarmforfun.com
- Follow us on Twitter @friendly_farm

Come spend an old-fashioned Christmas on the farm!

December 13, 20-21, 27-28

5:00pm- 9:30pm

Decorate a tree for the farm animals

Help build a tree for the birds

Help make a Christmas for the wildlife

Roast marshmallows around the fire

Drink some homemade wasel

Decorate a cookie

Make an ornament

Christmas pictures with Santa Goat! or Santa piglets!

Will Santa Claus be here? Maybe...

And more.....

Admission: \$10 per person (some things extra charge)

All included wrist band just \$8 with paid admission!



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Fun recipes with fresh produce...

This month we made some apple jam. Not apple butter, apple jam. We made one mistake: we did not peel our apples. It is delicious

- 6 cups apples, diced and peeled (1/8 inch cubes, roughly – this takes about three pounds of whole apples)
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon butter
- 1 package (1.75 ounces) powdered fruit pectin
- 2 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 1/2 cups brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

In a pan, combine the apples with the 1/2 cup of water and 1/2 teaspoon butter. Cook this over low heat for an hour or so, stirring regularly, until the apples are soft.

Once the apples are nice and soft (use your own judgment – you don't want them to be really crisp in the jam, after all, but some soft chunks are delicious), add the pectin, stir it in, then bring the whole mix up to a rolling boil.

Then, add the sugar. This is a fun part, because it all becomes a very thick liquid as you stir it. Bring it back to a rolling boil (and be careful here, it can splatter). Stir it

constantly and let it boil for one minute.

Remove the jam from the heat, then add the jam to the jars with a spoon until there's a quarter of an inch between the top of the jam and the top of the jar. Clean off the rim of the jar, put a lid on it, then put a ring on top of that, turning the ring until you just begin to feel resistance. Repeat until you're out of jam (we made six jars, with a bit left over to have immediately on toast).

Take these closed jars and put them in the big pot of boiling water. Keep the water boiling and leave the jars in there for ten minutes, then pull them out. Put the jars on a towel with a couple inches free space around each jar. Let the jars sit for 24 hours to cool and make sure after the cooling that the lids are depressed (meaning if you push down in the middle, it doesn't "click" – if it does, the jar needs to go).

And there you have it – wonderful jars of delicious apple jam!

What's Happening continued...

to bed at night MUCH easier and the rabbits don't escape in transit so that is nice.

Nell and Fresca are doing well. We fattened Nell up she looks good now. We have decided that maybe Nugget and Two-bits would do well at a new home. WE don't use them because they are just too small. Hunter really doesn't care about riding them so they need a home with a boy or girl that gives them attention. If you know of someone looking for two nice ponies for Christmas, they are available but they MUST go together. They do not like to be separated. \$300 for both.

We are working on new fence rows. WE will soon have a very big pasture where the goats, horses, donkeys, pigs and chickens can all run together. We are hoping this will help the donkeys stay in. They LOVE to escape.

WE are still getting about 10 eggs a day. They are getting a little better about keeping their nesting spots so it is not quite as hard to find them. We sell eggs for \$3 a dozen and they are so very much better than store bought eggs. The Americana's are getting big, we want them to start laying, we want to taste a blue egg!

WE get 2 duck eggs everyday. We have about 30 in the incubator. We are anxious to see if they hatch.

Fiona, the chinchilla, is a well loved farm animal. She is very popular with guests. We would like to find her a mate so if you hear of a chinchilla for a reasonable amount of

I think that is all the animal news.

Our cold weather crops are in the ground. But they got in a bit late. We have harvested a couple turnips and rutabagas. The rest is there but we will have to wait for it to come back in the early spring.

The Ag Science class planted an herb garden. We will have lots of great fresh herbs soon. They will be learning all about what herbs can cure what illnesses.





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Upcoming events

Saturday and After school events

Kids OUTside

December Kids OUTside will be held on Saturday, December 21. Since this is the Saturday before Christmas this will be an AWESOME way for parents to get some extra things prepared for Christmas while the kids are here on the farm having a BLAST. Class meets from 10-2 on that day. We will be farmers for the day! The kids will learn all about the farm, take care of the animals, and work on a project. Most likely we will improve our bird habitat as the birds will be needing our help to stay fat and healthy all winter. But things change around here so if there is another project that needs our attention, we will do it. Register by email to friendly_farm@yahoo.com. Send your child's name and age. Payment can be done with a credit card by calling the farm or you can send a check to the farm. Class is \$20 if paid in advance and \$25 if paid day of class. Ages 5-14 boys or girls....

Special Days

Christmas on the farm!
Be sure to see the page on this GREAT family event!

Have you tried sports and just don't like it?
Tried music lessons and it just isn't for your child? How about Farm club?

WE are going to give Farm club another shot! Every Monday for the rest of the school year and beyond beginning in January, we will have farm club after school. Come to the farm, learn all about the animals, learn to care for the animals, learn what it takes to keep them healthy, what they eat, and more. Farm club will meet on the farm and be very hands on after a long day of sitting in school. Someone I met this week told me that showing goats was better than any sport for their children. I believe that is true for mine as well and it might just be true for yours!

Time: Monday 4:00—6:00

Cost: \$40 per month includes a snack

Register by email Jodie@friendlyfarmforfun.com or call 865-982-7255

ALL classes and programs on this page require registration

Preschool Time

Preschool craft time

Come to the farm, meet the animals and do a great craft! This month we will make a dough hand print ornament for the tree. What better way to remember your child's pre-school years than to have a handprint Santa on our tree every year?

Thursday December 19

10:00-11:00

Walking—5 yrs.

\$5 per child

Bring a picnic and stay for lunch.

Get 5 friends to take any workshop and you get to choose 1 FREE! Mix and match

All classes and workshops require reservations! To reserve your spot call Friendly Farm at 982-7255 or email friendly_farm@yahoo.com or register on our website at friendlyfarmforfun.com.



Upcoming Events

Book your birthday party TODAY!
Mention this newsletter and book for 50% off!

Goat's Milk

We have been asked by several about purchasing our goat's milk and cheese. Well, the cheese is a work in progress but we cannot sell you goat's milk until we can achieve Grade A dairy status with the USDA. What we can do is care for your goat and milk it for you then you can have the milk. If you are interested, call and let's discuss the options. We have PLENTY of great weeds for many more goats.

The average dairy goat from decent bloodlines that should give a good amount of milk daily averages \$200. If you are interested in this program send an email to Jodie at Jodie@friendlyfarmforfun.com There are currently 4 very good dairy goats available to purchase. If you are interested, let me know ASAP!

Season Passes

A full year season pass for free admission for your entire family
Privileges include
admission to any open day
reduced price admission to special events like Beware of the Forest and Christmas on the farm,
50% off any class or program
10% off any on farm purchases.
Special pass holder pricing on summer camps
25% off birthday parties for your family
That makes it quite a deal!
Visit our website to purchase yours today. \$150
We will send you a card and a certificate you can give to a special child on your Christmas list!

.Parent's Night out!
Bring your kids to the farm and go enjoy dinner! We will keep your kids! They will have a great time on the farm while you have a well deserved break!

December 14 arrive anytime after 5 pick up BY 10!
Ages walking—I4 infants at an additional fee.
\$20 for first child, \$5 discount per child, \$50 maximum per family
Register by email to friendly_farm@yahoo.com

Soap of the Month Club

Soap of the month club
Do you enjoy Goat's milk soap?
Do you have sensitive skin?
At Friendly Farm we love to experiment and create some lavish, extra special fragrances in our soap. Join the soap of the month club and you join us on an adventure! Each month we will have a fragrance of the month and it will be shipped to your house at the beginning of each month. You will also get to choose 2 bars of soap from our available bars list to be shipped along with your fragrance of the month. Three bars of fresh hand made chemical free goats milk soap every month for a year! Begin with December with our Chocolate fragrance!
3 bars shipped to you for one full year is \$180 value without shipping!
Give the gift of soap for a year for just \$90
The first shipment will arrive by Christmas if ordered by December 15!



Upcoming events

Homeschool Opportunities
2013/2014

High School

Agriculture Science

It's not too late to join us

This class has "morphed" a bit. On the first day of class it became obvious that these girls (and it is all girls) were really interested in homesteading. They want to be able to provide for their family from the land. We have changed the focus to be just that. It will still be a credit in Ag science for high schoolers but we will learn all about gardening, animal care, milking, cheese making, soap making, and more. These girls will know how to use the land to provide when we finish. If you have a daughter that is in high school, needs a science credit but hates science, is interested in learning about gardening, and animals, then it is not too late. Space is limited so we only have space for 1 more but I might be talked into 2. The cost is just \$250 for the semester with a \$50 book fee. This is broken into payments of \$50 per month with the book fee being due at registration. If you are interested register by email at Jodie@friendlyfarmforfun.com or call 865-982-7255

Winter Fun Classes at Friendly Farm

Dissection!

We will meet for 12 weeks beginning January 15. We will spend one week learning about the animal we will dissect the following week. We will dissect 6 specimens an earth worm, a crayfish, a fish, a shark and a frog. Students will work with a partner to complete each dissection. In the event of an odd number we will have one group of 3. This will allow plenty of hands on work for everyone. Guides will be provided and all equipment will be supplied. Students will need a

notebook and writing utensil of their choice.

Age: 3rd grade – high school

Time: 2:00-3:30

Cost: \$30 per month for Jan. Feb, March and April due the first of each month. If paid in full at first class a discount of \$20 will be given making the total \$100.

Supply fee: \$25 per student

This class will be taught by Jodie Moore, a teacher with 28 years' experience. Included in this experience is over 10 years as a Biology teacher.

To register email Jodie at friendly_farm@yahoo.com or call 865-982-7255. First month tuition and supply fee due at registration to hold spot. Space is limited to 10.

Boys need to be Boys

In this class we learn all about farm life by caring for the animals on the farm. We then do other projects around that farm that we need completed. These range from clearing land, to building cages, to hanging tire swings. The basis for this class is kids need to be OUTSIDE and active. This is a great adventure for boys age 5-14.

Time: Tuesday 10-2

Cost \$20 per week or \$15 a week if paid monthly (\$60 or \$75 depending on the # of weeks)

First class of 2014 – January 7th

Register by email at friendly_farm@yahoo.com or by calling 865-982-7255 or on our website at friendlyfarmforfun.com

Friendly Flash

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Friendlyfarmforfun.com

Where farming meets FUN and learning!



Come feed a baby goat!

Calendar

December 3 Boys Need to be Boys
December 4 Kids outside! 10:00-2:00
December 10 Boys Need to be Boys
December 11 Kids Outside
December 13 Christmas on the farm
December 19 Pre-school craft day 10:00
December 20 Christmas on the farm
December 21 kids OUTside!
Christmas on the Farm
December 17 Boys Need to be Boys
December 18 Kids OUTside
December 27—28 Christmas on the farm

Check our website for details!
Friendlyfarmforfun.com

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friendlyfarmforfun

Follow us on twitter @friendlyfarm

