

Press Release Southwick Farm

On April 25th 2014 Northfield Police received a report of concern for the animals that were being housed at the property of 85 Zion Hill Road, Southwick Farm. Officers responded to the property on this date to investigate and received information pertaining to the keepers of the animals on the property and the conditions the animals were living in. Officers were able to make observations of the many animals on the property and their physical condition as well as the conditions of the structure they were housed in. The observations made by officers were concerning. Northfield Police continued to investigate and speak with individuals with direct knowledge of the operation of the farm and gathered information pertaining to the health of the animals. There appeared to be a safety risk to the animals due to a lack of care and the situation appeared to be one that has been ongoing for a long period of time.

Bert Southwick owns the property and the farm, but it should be clear that Bert was not at the property or responsible for the care of the horses on the property over the period of time that conditions for the animals deteriorated. There are no pending criminal charges forthcoming in regards to Bert Southwick.

On June 4th 2014 Northfield Police Department obtained a search warrant for the seizure of the animals that appeared to be in danger. On June 6, 2014 the animals residing in the barn at 85 Zion Hill Road were seized and brought to a safe location. Northfield Police called on the help of Live and Let Live Farm, a horse and animal rehabilitation rescue and sanctuary located in Chichester, NH, at the request of Northfield Police and the NH Department of Agriculture, rescued five horses from the Southwick Farm in Northfield. There were four stallions and one mare, in need of adequate nutrition, dehydrated, and in various stages of extreme muscle atrophy and depleting health. In addition to the horses, Live and Let Live Farm also facilitated the rescue of two large hogs, one bore and one sow which was pregnant. Mr. Southwick relinquished ownership of the hogs, knowing that they would be moving into a better environment.

The biggest concerns for the horses at this time are parasites, hoof care, dental care, and potential respiratory issues. Initial exams revealed extensive lice and split and overgrown hooves, and they are being monitored for internal parasites, as well. The mare has some significant gashes in the area of her rear fetlocks, possibly from being hobbled or from rope burns from while being constrained. The pigs have been relocated to a new home, and word is they're healing, adapting to their new home, and enjoying fresh air and sunlight on their bodies.

If you're considering adopting a loving companion...a dog, cat, exotic bird, or horse... please consider contacting Teresa Paradis at Live and Let Live Farm. Financial contributions are always needed and greatly appreciated, as the costs to operate such a facility are quite staggering. As a registered, bona fide rescue operation with 501c3 status, contributions are fully tax deductible, and are 100% allocated to the care and healing of these animals. Please contact Teresa by email, at: tehorse@aol.com. Also, we welcome you for our weekly tours, held Sundays at 2:30 pm, to meet the animals of Live and Let Live Farm. If you're looking to adopt or to become part of the working hands and caring hearts of our volunteer family, the tour is where it all begins.

Kindly send donations to: Live and Let Live Farm Rescue, 20 Paradise Lane, Chichester NH 03258. Also, please check us out on Facebook, or our website where donations can also be made with credit or debit cards, at: www.liveandletlivefarm.org. Teresa, and the entire LLLF family, thanks you.

The Northfield Police Department continues to investigate this matter.