## News from the Sanctuary

## The Bunny House

## **Tunnels of Love**

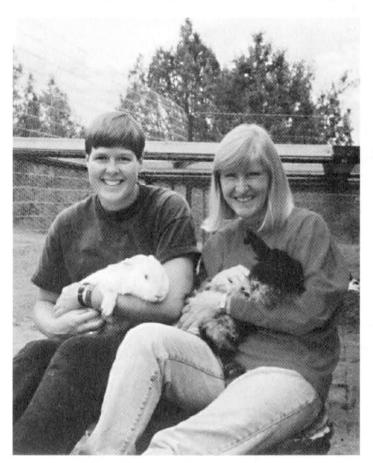
The man with the rifle was pointing it straight at McTavish. He'd warned "that darned rabbit" enough times, and still it kept invading his back yard and nibbling on the tasty green leaves.

McTavish was one of several rabbits who were "let out" into a field – possibly by the owner of a pet store. McTavish had learned to fend for himself, and had ended up in what seemed like a Garden of Earthly Delights – a lush green backyard where death awaited him at the end of a gunsight.

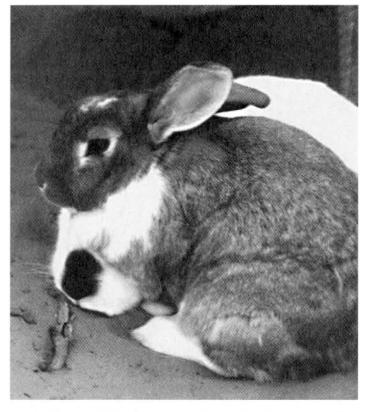
The man with the rifle felt a hand on his arm. "Don't shoot the rabbit," said his friend. "I'll take care of him."

Soon after, McTavish's good taste led him into a humane trap with a bunch of delicious parsley inside, and soon after that he arrived at Best Friends.

Space was very limited here, and McTavish couldn't be placed with any other boy bunnies in a confined space.



Bunny caretakers Carrie Godbe and Chandra Forsythe.



McTavish licks Petra's ears as she cuddles up next to him

(Bunny brawls can be quite a nasty business.) But soon after he arrived he met a shy, sensitive girl bunny called Petra who hadn't made friends with any of the other rabbits. For McTavish it was love at first sight. He licked her eyes and ears, and that night she cuddled up next to him.

When the new Bunny House opened at Best Friends McTavish and Petra got their own special apartment. There's a nice, roomy indoors, and an outdoors where they can burrow together and build their own tunnel of love.

There are fifteen other apartments in the new Bunny House. Right opposite McTavish and Petra live Ivan and Kelly. Ivan can't see at all, so Kelly leads him around their apartment and makes sure he knows where the food is. Next door, there's Rabbit Redford II and Babs. Like McTavish, RR was found wandering in a back yard and had been attacked by a dog.

Thanks to you, all these bunnies have a real dream home now. "They're very social animals," says bunny person Chandra Forsythe, "but they take a while to settle in once they arrive. They need to come to know you on their own terms. Then they start twirling and dancing to show how happy they are! They're really sweet animals, and they have a deeply calming effect on visitors from the big city."