**CRITTER CORNER**

**Animal Updates, Spring 2016**

As usual, we have been very busy in the Barnyard! Currently, there are five Eagle Scout projects in the works. These projects help the Eagle Scouts to not only earn the coveted Eagle Scout rank but they also greatly enhance our park. Two of these projects that are nearing completion are the bison round-up corral renovation/improvement project, and the new rabbit hutch. By the way, the bison round-up equipment was generously donated several years ago by Friends of Hart Park!

The other projects involve a new pheasant house, new goose shelter, name plates, and improvements in the quarantine pen and diet preparation area in the barn. We would like to THANK all of our Eagle Scouts and their helpers – the animals directly benefit from your help and generosity!

One of the greatest resources that we have in the barnyard is our wonderful volunteer base. Some of our most dedicated volunteers that deserve recognition are: Sylvia Altamirano, Andrea Donner, Denny Truger, Rachel Barnes, Cole Dawdy, Marilu Pilar, and Esther DeLuna. In fact, Sylvia Altamirano was recently honored as Volunteer of the Month for all of her wonderful contributions. Congratulations, Sylvia! In addition, we have become the recipient of a local LDS Church Missionaries group’s weekly service hours. Again, we want to THANK all of our amazing volunteers for their contributions! We do continue to take volunteers in the barnyard. Minimum age is fourteen years old, and both a Volunteer Application and Live Scan Application (fingerprinting) must be completed. Interested in volunteering with us? Just contact William S. Hart Park office at 661-259-1750 during business hours for more information.

The final update is, of course, regarding our animal residents. Everyone is doing great! A couple of months ago, we took in a new duck. She is a female Muscovy and her name is Daisy. She was rescued by one of the Hart Museum volunteers. Daisy was found up in the mountains, where she was alone and had been attacked by something. She was injured and, in fact, has permanent damage to her wings. The volunteer was able to rehabilitate Daisy and, despite her wing damage, she has a great new life in our resident duck enclosure. We invite you to come visit Daisy and all of our other animal residents in the Hart Park Barnyard!