

Bucky Billy

Bucky Billy greets everyone who enters the Bunny Healthcare Building. The little spotted lop is not quite a year old so everyone and everything is new and fun to him. He's never still a moment, and I've never seen him sleep.

Before I lock up the building for the night, I stand at the door and visually check the large room. "Is there anything I've overlooked?" I ask myself. "Can Bucky B get into any mischief?"

By day Bucky B accompanies me as I clean, do laundry, pass out salad, administer meds, and generally freshen up the (currently) eight resident rabbits. Let's get them set for another day! All have disabilities or are too old to live outdoors in the natural environment Rabbitats. It's Bucky B's job to visit and comfort them all. He's good at it...very good. They love him.

By night Bucky B undertakes his own projects and mischievous adventures. Early morning when I open up shop I face the consequences of his unsupervised night shift. One night he designed a house for himself by cutting two perfect circles in a cardboard box, one for entry and one for exit. He also "fixed" the phone, neatly snipping the cord in half. The room is quieter now. Perhaps his greatest accomplishment is his invention (patent pending?) of the "Perpetual Pellet Dispenser." He chewed a small hole in one corner of the spare 50-pound bag of pellets that was draped over a chair. With just a nudge of his nose, pellets pour out on demand.

There were some mornings when Bucky B did not come charging up to me, skidding to a halt at my feet like always. He was MIA. Where is he? Stranded...sitting high up on the third shelf of the large storage unit. Caged...sitting in the middle cage of the three-tier stackable unit. He had worked his way up from a step stool to the top of a large pet carrier and then up into the empty cage. Trapped...sitting in the laundry room. When I opened the door he came bounding out. Evidently he had pushed open the door; and once in, he pushed the door shut!

After 50+ years living with rabbits, I think I have them pretty much figured out – but Bucky B is always ahead of me. It's all good. Bucky B puts joy into life for all. Bucky B is the best medicine.

The Rescue

When Sabrina Campbell arrived home from work at dusk last fall and stepped out of her car, Bucky Billy came running up to her from out of nowhere. As she walked down her driveway to her front door, Bucky B followed. When she swung open the front door, he hopped right into her house. Bucky Billy rescued himself!

But Sabrina gets credit for his rescue too. She knew such a little bunny could not survive on his own. She understood he was looking for a home, and she kindly took responsibility for him. A few months later she had him neutered and intended to keep him forever. But when the pandemic radically changed her life, Sabrina realized it was best for Bucky B to come and live at the Sanctuary.