

Farmer Rita LeRoy reaches out to pet Calvin, one of three alpacas Loma Vista Farm purchased to replace the three killed by dogs in February.

## Replaces animals killed by dogs Feb. 8

**By Richard Freedman**

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Tribute is now JoJo. Ansel is Calvin. Remington is now Jelly Bean.

In what sounds like an undercover witness protection program is actually the start of a new era at Loma Vista Farm, the five-acre animal sanctuary

in north Vallejo.

The three welcomed additions from Renaissance Ridge Alpacas in the Sierra foothills arrived at 10:56 a.m. Wednesday, filling a physical and emotional void 75 days after their predecessors were killed by two dogs.

“It feels like a new beginning and a healing point,” said “Farmer” Rita LeRoy, minutes before Renaissance Ridge co-owner

Julie Rosenfeld pulled up in the alpaca trailer with the three new Loma Vista tenants.

A handful of Loma Vista board members and volunteers witnessed the arrival as the curious alpacas huddled together around the strange humans, Rosenfeld notwithstanding.

“Today was a new beginning at the farm. To see alpacas back and such beautifully cared for ones was great,” said volunteer Arlene Hoffmann. “It was first priority in helping aid us and the

community to heal. It was hard to see the empty stalls.”

“They’re a great addition to the farm,” said Judi Wing, Loma Vista board member and chair of the animal committee, adding that it was “a great relief knowing they were coming from a wonderful ranch” when the \$1,000 purchase of the alpacas was confirmed.

Immense public support following the Feb. 8 tragedy raised nearly \$30,000 for the farm and

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