

# Press Release

## Popular home and garden show to feature backyard chickens this year!

**Richmond, VA February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014:** With Backyard Hens now legal in Richmond, this year's 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Home and Garden Show plans to celebrate by featuring a Chicken Stimulus Package to help integrate more family flocks into urban gardens. Three hundred female baby chicks will find new homes over the show's three days from Feb 28th to March 2nd through an adoption program offered by The Gossamer Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated global sustainability and local foods.



*Poultry Superstar  
Oprah Hen-Free and  
Author Patricia Foreman*

The chicks, donated by [Murray McMurray Hatchery](#), includes a "flockette" of four heritage breed members: Buff Orpington, Black Australorp, Americana and Plymouth Barred Rock. This provides an egg-strodinarily gorgeous eye-candy flock. In addition to the chicks, qualified adoptees receive detailed brooding and chick care instructions, a starter bag of organic chick feed (donated by [Countryside Organics](#)) and coop design considerations. First-time chicken owners have priority for adoption. The application process screens adoptees for the ability and commitment to provide long-term humane care for the chickens, and asks that adoptees agree to participate in follow-up evaluations. An Adoptee Telephone Hot Line will be active throughout the 6 week brooding period.

Any unwanted bird—no matter the reason—can be returned to the Gossamer Foundation and a new home will be found. There will be no chick left behind.

Patricia Foreman—author, poultry activist, pharmacist, and founder of the *Chickens and You*<sup>™</sup> Training Series, and Lisa Dearden—local foods activist, poultry educator, owner of ChiknEGG Productions, and fellow chicken fanatic, will be manning the booth and offering hands-on poultry tips and tricks and urban gardening advice. Poultry superstar Oprah Hen-Free will be doling out her own brand of heritage entertainment.

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chicken Stimulus Package in the US. The first was in 2010 organized by Andy Schneider (AKA The Chicken Whisperer) with volunteers from the Atlanta Backyard Poultry Meetup Group. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was in 2012 in Rockbridge, Virginia as part of the Chickens and YOU<sup>™</sup> Training Series offered by The Gossamer Foundation. This Stimulus Package is one of several projects offered by The Gossamer Foundation. To arrange a Chicken Stimulus Package, Coop Corps<sup>™</sup> and/or Chickens And YOU<sup>™</sup> Training Series in your area, visit [www.ChickensAndYou.com](http://www.ChickensAndYou.com) or email: [info@GossamerFoundation.org](mailto:info@GossamerFoundation.org).

For additional information about the Richmond Home and Garden Show, go to:

<http://www.RichmondHomeAndGarden.com>.