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Dear Friends,



Every year, **PIGS** takes in many new animals. Each one has unique medical and emotional needs. I would like to introduce you to several of our most recent rescues:

COOPER

A short time ago, **PIGS** received a call from a local shelter. They were going to euthanize a Persian kitten because he had ringworm. The shelter did not have the funds to treat him and could not risk having him infect the other animals. **PIGS** agreed to take this little fluff ball instead. We are so glad we did! The kitten arrived a ball of fur (and mats) with crusty ears. His "ringworm" was actually just a bad case of ear mites – something that is easily treatable. Cooper was given the appropriate ear treatment, vaccinated and neutered. He is currently living in the Sanctuary house and seeks a loving, adoptive family. Almost any home would be

perfect for this healthy, playful, lovable cat. He is a true joy and keeps us entertained with his crazy kitten antics.

If you are looking to adopt a sweet cat, please contact us! Cooper cannot wait to be someone's special friend!

BELLE

A humane society in Virginia called **PIGS** about a four-month old piglet named Belle. Belle's owner had brought her to the shelter after unsuccessfully trying to raise this poor pig in a condominium. She was never allowed to step foot outside in the fresh air or bask in the sun. When the condominium association found out about the piglet, they reported the situation to Animal Control. When told to "get rid" of the pig or be cited, the owner surrendered Belle to the local shelter. Thankfully for Belle, the shelter made a call to us. We agreed to take in the little piglet and drove six hours round-trip to pick her up. To our surprise, we did not find a sweet little pig, but instead a grossly obese piglet. Her previous owner told the shelter staff that Belle's favorite food was jellybeans! Clearly, she had eaten too many!



Once at **PIGS**, the Sanctuary veterinarian examined Belle, giving her a clean bill of health. She was spayed and immediately put on a jellybean-free diet! Because Belle had lived inside a heated home, we let her stay in the Sanctuary office until the weather became warm. Life with Belle was certainly entertaining. She loved the dogs and cats who shared the office with her. Though she hated her diet, she loved "cheating" by rooting the floors to find dropped dog food. We are happy to report that Belle only stayed at **PIGS** a few weeks. She quickly found a wonderful home with a nearby gentleman who just lost his elderly potbelly pig. Belle is living her life in pig luxury. She is enjoying a heated barn and a big yard at her new home. Follow-up reports are excellent and she has adjusted quickly to her new life.

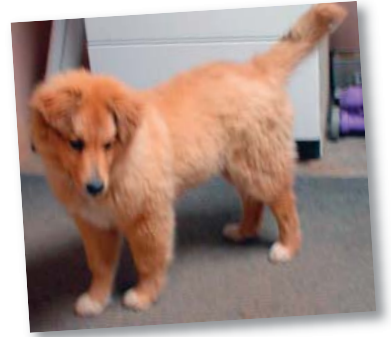
SCARLET

Scarlet is an eighteen-year old dark brown Thoroughbred mare. Scarlet has moved from home to home over the years. She was surrendered by her original owners and lived for a brief time at an equine rescue. From there, Highroad Farm in Virginia adopted her. Highroad Farm operates a therapeutic riding program for children. Due to Scarlet's old injuries, however, she was not able to handle the daily riding required in this program. Highroad wanted to place Scarlet in a loving retirement home, so she came to **PIGS**. Scarlet arrived at the Sanctuary a few weeks ago and has settled in nicely. She is a sweet, well-mannered mare who enjoys grazing on the rolling hills of the Sanctuary. Scarlet still needs a special someone who can make a monthly \$30.00 donation to sponsor her care at **PIGS**. This special horse is worth every penny!



APACHE

One cold afternoon towards the end of winter, we received a call from a local woman. She said her husband had bought a collie puppy from a nearby breeder four weeks ago. The woman was unwilling to allow the dog into the house. Yet, she claimed she felt badly that the puppy had spent the last several weeks tied to a tree in the cold, wet weather. We gave the caller several suggestions about how to bring the puppy into her home without intruding on her lifestyle. It was clear, however, that she would not let the puppy live with them. She said that if **PIGS** did not take him, the dog would just remain tied to the tree for the next ten years. Clearly we could not refuse to take this dog. The caller drove the puppy to **PIGS** in the back of her pick-up truck. The puppy was scared to death and cowered around his "family."



The four-month old puppy (who was a collie mix) was given a complete examine, vaccinated and neutered. He lived in the Sanctuary house with the menagerie of other animals and humans. He quickly learned that humans can be kind and started craving human touch. He learned housetraining and picked up basic obedience commands. After placing his story on www.Petfinder.com, we got dozens of calls about this beautiful boy. We screened potential adopters carefully, wanting the perfect family for him. We were not disappointed. Now Apache lives with his adoptive mother, father and their pre-teen son. Regular updates from the family confirm that this is the perfect home for him. It is always such a privilege to watch a scared, shy animal discover a world of love and peace. Though it was hard for us to let him go, we know he will live happily ever after with his new family. And we have to remember that it opens the door for the next animal in need.



ISABELLA

Isabella is a beautiful gray tabby, about eight-months old. **PIGS** received a phone call from Hagerstown Animal Control about a horrible situation in which a hoarder was collecting dozens and dozens of animals. When the hoarder's home burned down, he moved out of the property and left the animals behind. When the animals were discovered, they were severely neglected. Dozens of rabbits, chickens, ducks, geese, goats, a dog and a cat needed immediate sanctuary. **PIGS** took in the little stray kitten, Isabella. A volunteer who was helping the rescue efforts drove this sweet kitty straight to our vet. She was spayed, vaccinated, and given a clean bill of health. Isabella will remain in isolation for a few weeks before she moves over to the adoptable cattery. She is looking for a wonderful family. Could you be her new home?

PRINCESS PEAHEN

Recently, **PIGS** took in another animal from a local shelter. Princess Peahen is slowly adjusting to life at the Sanctuary. She is still overwhelmed by the change in her environs, but is starting to settle down. Princess is a sweet bird who allows us to handle her as needed (especially when we reward her with food!). She is extremely thin and needs to gain weight. **PIGS** will either get another peahen or peacock with whom she can bond or will eventually find another sanctuary for her that has peafowl. Until that time, however, Princess is safe with us and will get lots of attention. Princess is seeking someone to sponsor her monthly care. Royalty such as herself deserves the very best!



Thanks to your continued support, **PIGS** takes in many incredible animals who need and deserve loving homes. However, for every happy ending described above, there are countless animals that we are unable to help. The Sanctuary desperately needs adopters, sponsors and other donors to help us continue our important work. Please help us help them. Adopt Cooper or Isabella. Sponsor Scarlet or Princess Peahen. Or simply donate to **PIGS**. We use your gifts to provide veterinary care and temporary shelter to lucky animals like Belle and Apache. Without you, they would never have found their forever homes.

For the animals,



Melissa Susko

Executive Director

P.S. PIGS is hosting its first ever "Wine, Swine & Chocolate" event on Saturday, July 9, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. This event will feature wine, a chocolate fountain, live music, and of course, an evening with the animals. We hope you will be able to join us for this special evening.

PIGS, Inc., a Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent permitted by law.

West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of PIGS's registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston West Virginia 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.