



Agnes  
available for  
adoption

# Potbelly Manor

by Frank Chrupcala

Unique Rescue Dedicated  
to an Uncommon Cause

Believe it or not, it's easy to hear Potbelly Manor's inspiring message through the oinks, snorts, grunts, quacks and moos that occupy ears of all shapes and sizes at the unique North Kingstown animal rescue.

With their famous cow car parked in the driveway, founders Audrey Agli and Liz Smith currently care for seven pigs, one bull, two llamas, one duck, one turkey, a flock of pigeons, 14 cats and one St. Bernard. Despite their incredible commitment, Agli and Smith still have the energy, drive and devotion to do everything they can for the animals they love. The two live on the property and are always ready, willing and able to respond to the needs of their rescued friends.

Through the years, Potbelly Manor has rescued countless

animals. Agli and Smith's first was Skipper, an abused potbelly pig that escaped and ran loose in Providence in 1995. After receiving a call about the situation, the duo, who already had two potbelly pigs of their own, knew they had to step in and save the innocent animal.

*"Making a difference  
in the lives of animals  
is a privilege we  
are honored to have."*

After his successful rescue, Skipper spent 12 happy years with Agli and Smith, inspiring the rescue that continues to thrive today after nearly 20 years in operation.

As their diverse list of residents indicates, Agli and Smith have found it difficult to turn a blind eye to a

wide variety animals in need. However, as the name Potbelly Manor also indicates, the pair tries to focus primarily on pigs - an oft-forgotten genus in the world of domesticated animals.

Highly intelligent and sociable, a pig can make a perfect pet. Unfortunately, many people do not know what they are getting into when purchasing a pig. Abolishing myths - like that of the tiny teacup pig, an animal that, while cute and desirable in theory, does not exist in actuality - has become a top priority for Agli and Smith. They have made raising awareness a major aspect of Potbelly Manor's mission.

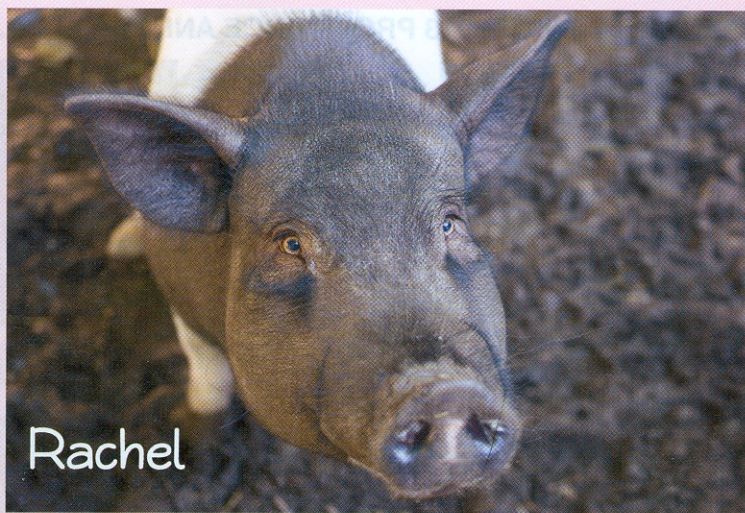
"Pigs make phenomenal pets. They're smarter than dogs - they're smarter than most people!" Smith said with a laugh.

"Potbelly pigs can even be housebroken," Agli added. "They are very clean and they listen so





Sir Wickford



Rachel



Audrey Agli, Liz Smith & Ariel

they are easy to train. They're not aggressive naturally, but they are protective."

Ariel, a 4-year-old Juliana Pig, arrived at the rescue in 2009. She is now the star of Potbelly Manor, serving as a therapy pig and working with Agli and Smith at schools, nursing homes, programs and events.

"Ariel helps us educate people on the dos and don'ts of pig ownership," Smith said.

Agnes, a prototypical potbelly, is up for adoption. Her friendly demeanor is surprising given her troubled past, but nonetheless, she is as sweet as she is stocky and is spayed and ready for adoption.

"When we send a pet to a new home, we make sure it's the right fit," Agli said. "We do as much as we possibly can to make sure we find them a forever home."

Potbelly Manor is also home to four large hybrid pigs, including Paige, who arrived at the rescue pregnant and gave birth to her piglets four days later. Rachel, a sassy plus-sized sow, rounds out the crew.

Currently, only Agnes is available for adoption. If the pair cannot find a home for a particular animal or if it has special needs, they keep the creature at their rescue, adding another permanent member to their family.

Agli and Smith balance their busy lives to make sure they have enough time to fulfill their substantial commitment to the animals. Agli, an Air Force National Guard veteran, now works for the state. Smith works in spiritual healing and has over 20 years of experience in the field.

Later this month, the pair will host a Halloween party at the Kelley-Gazzerro VFW Post in Cranston.

Ticket sales and proceeds from the party will benefit Potbelly Manor. It will be held on Saturday, October 19, at 7 p.m. Visit [PotbellyManor.org](http://PotbellyManor.org) or find the rescue on Facebook for more information.

To discuss adopting, volunteering or donating, call 401-295-4241 or send an email to [Info@PotbellyManor.org](mailto:Info@PotbellyManor.org). Potbelly Manor's wish list for donations includes grain, apples, vegetables, hay, straw, cat and dog food, blankets, towels and gift cards to Allie's Tack & Feed.

Potbelly Manor is a non-profit organization and 100 percent of what they receive benefits their animals.

To contribute, send a donation to:  
**Smith & Agli's Potbelly Manor**  
401 Ten Rod Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02852