## The Year of the Yum Nuggets An Invitation to Support Metropolitan Guinea Pig Rescue

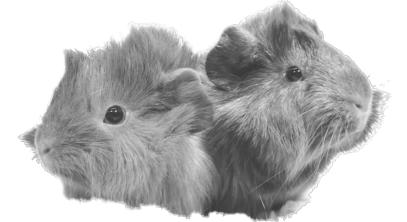
## Friends of MGPR,

It's hard to believe that another year has passed. We'd like to start this year's letter by updating you on the guinea pigs we wrote about last year. We lost sweet little Delores. She passed quietly in her cage. She was with us 15 months and happy every day.

The Bait Pigs would turn out to be quite the problem for us. Two of the boys were so traumatized that it took us over a year to get them sorted out. They were just afraid of everything. They went to meet after meet and continued to be impossible to pair. Finally, two of our members bonded them within the rescue and they were able to be adopted out as pair. The bonding process took months, but our members did it and watched how the boys blossomed after finding friends.

Then there is Bobo. He is happy, healthy and curious about everything. Living large under sanctuary as the famed MGPR spokespig.

2018 brought our rescue a great challenge: We were contacted to lend a hand with a huge horde of animals in Louisa County, Virginia. Over 500 animals were found on two properties. They were in pitiful shape. The guinea pigs had been left to breed indiscriminately. They filled their cages, and many were unable to move to avoid the chickens that would peck their ears and eyes.



Frankly, in the beginning, we thought the ears were a congenital defect. As we had time to examine them more fully, the horror of their existence became clear. Many boys had severe injuries from fighting with each other. The girls were the ones that had the most chicken damage. Many with no ears left at all. Two would eventually lose an eye. But through all this chaos one single thing went right for this group of severely inbred guinea pigs: They all, every single one, has the sweetest personality you could imagine.

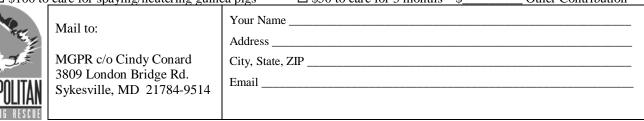
We left the shelter with 41 guinea pigs on that cold November day. We would eventually have 53, coining the name Yum Nuggets, because they were deliciously adorable. Our veterinarians were alerted and ready to see the guinea pigs right away. Most were underweight and stunted. They had several different issues that needed to be dealt with immediately. You can imagine our veterinary costs were astounding. We had hoped to get back to Virginia for more of them, but the demands for our cages from the local shelters did not ease up because of the Louisa guinea pigs. They remain as overcrowded as ever. We have recently assisted with two more large hordes - one out of Wisconsin and another from Baltimore. Each with their own challenges and every one of them is expensive.

We hope that we can count on your support once again to help us continue in our efforts to help these precious animals that we all love so much.

Learn more about these and other guinea pigs on our website,

WWW.MGPR.org Or find us at the Metropolitan Guinea Pig Rescue page at Facebook.com!

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