

Porkchop living the good life at shelter

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Staff Writer

Porkchop is living the good life at the Randolph County Animal Shelter after scrounging for food on Highway 48 and having dogs tear his ears off.

RCAS President Chuck Smith said they rescued “the little bugger” where the pig had apparently been abandoned. When passersby saw it they would call it in saying it was going to get run over.

Shelter personnel had been trying to catch it for awhile. People would call and they would go to where it had last been seen but it had disappeared.

One day Smith sent Debra Moncrief, office manager, and Ricky Pool, kennel manager, out right away. They went by Jack’s and got a hot dog, put it in a circle of rope and when Porkchop investigated they pulled the rope and caught the hungry pig, who was out of its usual diet of grass.

That was about six weeks ago, and Chuck says he and Porkchop have bonded and become fast friends. At that time the pig was about two or three months old.

Smith laughs as he says Porkchop is so happy he jumps like a goat. He

liked to swim in a pool when it was warmer and then roll in the dirt.

“He is just like a dog. I like him a lot. We leave the gate open and he doesn’t even try to get out,” Chuck said.

“He’s such a sweetheart. He likes to play. I have to put on my old clothes to play with him,” he said.

If they find him a good home they will just give him away. He needs a fenced-in yard out in a rural area.

“He was quite wild when we got him and he was afraid of everything,” Smith said. They found him about four miles from the shelter in Wedowee.

Now he likes to play and butt people when they butt him. He has been eating and now weighs 80 to 90 pounds.

“A lot of people tell me pigs are smarter than dogs. He’s plenty smart,” Smith said.

Among other unusual inhabitants of the shelter are two turtles a person brought in that would be good for a young family. Turned in with them were a heating element, food and a terrarium. There will be no charge for them, but the shelter will always accept donations, he said.



Chuck Smith and friend Porkchop