

# Black Pine Animal Sanctuary

## Animal Facts

Breed: VIETNAMESE POTBELLY PIG

Names / Sex / Age:

Spike	Male	At least 14 years
Wilbur	Male	2
Arnold	Male	8

Previous Home: Former farm/house pets.

Native to: Vietnam

Weight: Up to 200 pounds.

Life Expectancy: Late teens and longer.

Diet: Vegetation. At Black Pine grass hay and grain.

Facts:

- Dwarf swine breed developed in the 1960's, originally distributed into Sweden and Canada from Vietnam
- First sold in the U.S. in 1986 to become a hugely sought-after household pet
- Unspayed females suffer from PMS and experience vast mood swings
- George Clooney famously owns a pot-belly pig named Max

Personal History:

After one of two male pigs killed a newborn lamb the owners feared more killings could occur. Unwilling to house the animals separately from the other livestock the pigs were relocated, adopted by Black Pine. Hamlet passed away in late 2009 from unknown causes. The pigs' original owners were employees of Black Pine at the time the park adopted the animals. Shortly after they moved out of state and would have sought out a new home for them anyway.

Wilbur was recovered in spring 2010 from a home in Kendallville, IN following the arrest of the occupants for methamphetamine manufacturing and possession. A city ordinance prohibits keeping such animals as "pets" in Kendallville. The pig was just a few months old when adopted by Black Pine.

Arnold was owned by an elderly couple living between Columbia City and Fort Wayne, IN. During summer 2010 the wife visited the sanctuary with several of her lady friends and she inquired if her pig could join Black Pine's family because her husband had passed away in February, leaving her with several pets and a farm estate to manage and prepare to sell. She was completely overwhelmed and in tears. A few days later Black Pine advised the woman we could take Arnold, but before arrangements were made to go get the pig, the woman passed away. She was 87 years old. Local police called the sanctuary and Arnold was brought to his new home just a couple of days later.