



# Summer Newsletter

## Our Story

After our marriage in 2008, we became active participants at a wonderful local rescue, volunteering and fostering dogs whenever we could. Several years later, we were made aware of a hen, named Gaga, that needed a home and we agreed to rescue her. Gaga settled in well, and a few short months later, we rescued several more hens, and we knew we needed more land! About a year later, we found the perfect location that had the makings of a beautiful haven for a variety of farm animals. The property had been a small ranch in its former life, with the name Yesahcan Ranch.

Because so much of the ranch displayed the words “Yesahcan”, we felt it should become the name of the sanctuary. It was almost a play on words, with “Yesahcan” sounding like “Yes, I can.” This phrase became a motto of sorts, both for the animals who would live here, and the humans who would care for them.

*Yes, I can start a sanctuary.*

*Yes, I can help a creature in need.*

*Yes, I can live wild and free.*

And voila! Yesahcan Sanctuary was born! It all started with Lady Gaga, and the rest is history!

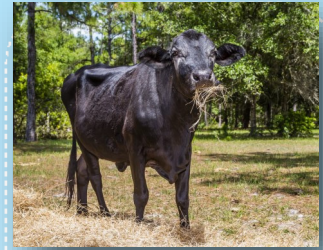
Here, we are committed to creating and maintaining a space that allows our residents to live their best lives with plenty of room to roam as they please. Our mission is two-fold: first, to shelter; second, to educate. Not only do we offer safety and a forever home to as many rescued farm animals as possible, but we also teach the public about more compassionate lifestyle choices, starting with what we put on our plates.

Yesahcan Sanctuary is designed to be a refuge for everyone who steps foot on its grounds. We feel fortunate to be able to share our days with so many loving creatures and to delight in this little sliver of paradise with each of you!

This is our first newsletter and we’re excited to share it with you. We appreciate your support and can’t wait to see you soon!

With gratitude,

Karla & Jody Dumas



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## Mark Your Calendar!

08/22 Volunteer Orientation





## Resident Spotlight: Meet Owen

Rescue Story: Owen made his way to Yesahcan Sanctuary after arriving at one of the veterinary clinics we work with regularly. A person pulled to the side of a busy road, after watching what they thought was a puppy get hit by a car. The puppy was actually a newborn piglet that still had the umbilical cord attached. We were contacted immediately and agreed to help this little guy! A few days later, Owen became critically ill. Owen was in and out of the hospital for over two months, and we weren't sure he would pull through. Thankfully, Owen began to recover and strengthen. Owen's illness had reached his heart, leading to heart failure. Owen's heart failure is managed with daily medications and semi-annual echocardiograms. Owen is truly a miracle and we are so happy he will spend his natural life here at Yesahcan Sanctuary!

Favorite activities: Grazing on the grass and wading in the pond

Personality: Owen is so full of life and loves a good belly rub or back scratch. Like all of the feral pigs at the sanctuary, Owen can be expressive and often dramatic at times, even throwing tantrums when he doesn't get his way. One way to calm him down, give him a treat and he will walk away satisfied, for at least a short period of time!

Favorite foods: Bananas and watermelon, but Owen will eat most treats offered to him!

Best friend: Owen enjoys his solitude but doesn't mind snuggling or rooting in the dirt with Gigi from time to time.



### Facebook

@yesahcansanctuary

### Instagram

@yesahcansanctuary

### Email

yesahcansanctuary@gmail.com

### Website

[www.yeahcansanctuary.org](http://www.yeahcansanctuary.org)

## Coming Up Next: Volunteer Orientation!

### Volunteer Orientation, Tour, and Light Brunch

When: Sunday, August 22nd, 2021, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Our volunteer opportunities will be looking a bit different. We are seeking out volunteers that can commit at least one day a month (3 hours). This orientation is mandatory for anyone interested in volunteering at the sanctuary. Minimum age for volunteering is 18 years old or 16 years old if accompanied by a guardian. COVID-19 vaccination is mandatory to volunteer.

Registration begins August 1st at [www.yeahcansanctuary.org](http://www.yeahcansanctuary.org)





## Summer Plans

Winter and spring have been absolutely fantastic times at Yesahcan. We've welcomed new residents, hosted a number of events, and enjoyed the company of our volunteers and friends throughout each month. This summer, after hosting our first board member retreat, we have big plans for our little piece of paradise. Our goals are to:

- Create our membership program
- Schedule and plan our fall events
- Start the design phase for a hurricane shelter for our residents

Since summer is the hottest time of the year here, we've decided to focus our events on the fall/winter/spring seasons, and spend our summers enhancing our sanctuary and dedicating our full attention to our residents.



*"Yesahcan Sanctuary is one of the most peaceful and serene places I've ever experienced. Many of the residents endured such pain and suffering before making their way to Yesahcan, yet there's no trace of that sadness as they are living their best lives now surrounded by love and friends. It's truly magical." ~ Samantha Gentrup, Volunteer & Board Member*

## A Rescue Story

In September 2017, a listing for a beautiful black cow was spotted on Craigslist. She was being discarded because she "was old", "wouldn't breed" and "would make a great dinner". She was rescued and brought to Yesahcan. She went from being #111 to having the name Elizabeth and being the matriarch that she was meant to be. She has spent the past four years grazing, snuggling, and spending quiet days in the pastures at Yesahcan. Elizabeth is a gentle soul and will spend her remaining time, however long that may be, surrounded by friends, love, and safety.

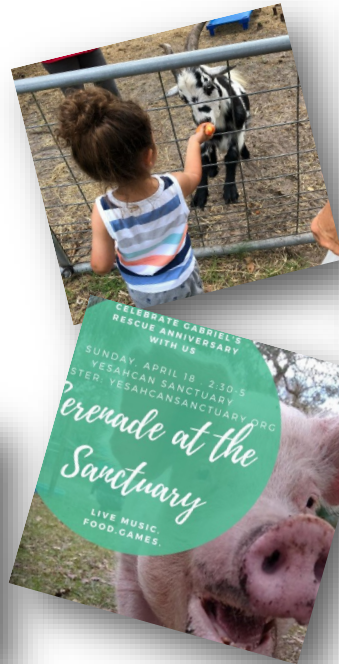
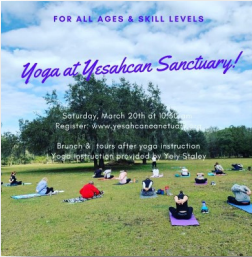


Cattle/Black Angus Slaughter Cow - 



## Our Winter & Spring Events

From December through May, we enjoyed hosting many events at Yesahcan. From yoga to movies, and birthday parties to serenades, everyone had a great time connecting with one another and spending time with the residents that call Yesahcan home. Our residents are always happy to see their human friends and get snacks and snuggles (not necessarily always in that order!).



*"Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty." ~ Albert Einstein*

## Recipe

### Nacho Cheez

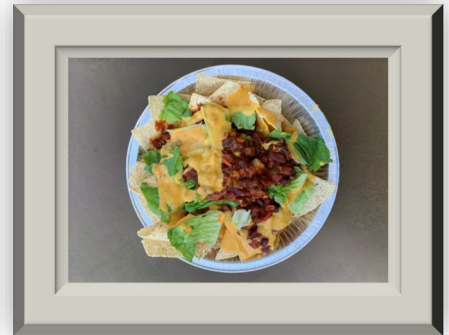
\*Adapted from The Humane Society of the United States, Food & Nutrition Culinary Program

#### Ingredients:

- 1 cup - potatoes, white, peeled
- 1/2 cup - carrots, whole, peeled
- 1 tbsp - olive oil
- 1 to 2 cups - reserved potato/carrot water
- 2 tbsp - lemon juice
- 1 1/2 to 2 cups - nutritional yeast
- 1/2 tsp - salt
- 1 to 2 cloves garlic
- 1/4 cup - onion, chopped
- Cayenne or Crushed Red Pepper to taste

#### Preparation:

1. Boil potatoes and carrots until tender; about 20 minutes.
2. Reserve at least 2 cups of the liquid. Drain the potatoes and carrot.
3. Combine all ingredients in a blender or food processor, starting with 1 cup of reserved water and blend until smooth.
4. If cheese is too thick add the reserved liquid 1/2 cup at a time, until desired consistency is reached.
5. Taste sauce and add more nutritional yeast for a "cheesier" flavor.
6. Serve with tortilla chips, pasta, or however you desire!







*Founders and Directors: Jody and Karla Dumas. Also pictured are residents Milo and Billie.*

## Become a Supporter

Yesahcan is home to almost eighty residents, all rescued from various types of situations. Everyone enjoys top-of-the-line care, love, snuggles, snacks, and friendships with fellow residents. The sanctuary is truly a paradise for animals that have come from all sorts of situations and needs. The cost of food, medical, and shelter easily exceeds thousands of dollars per month. Your support would be greatly appreciated. Want to help make a difference in the life of a rescued animal? There are multiple ways to support Yesahcan:

- One-time donation via our Facebook page, Website, or mail
- Monthly recurring donations
- Sponsor a resident via our website
- Become a member: coming soon! There will be various levels of membership which will include a monthly subscription and access to different types of perks!
- Join us as a volunteer: send us an email and we will include you in our next volunteer orientation event
- Donate food for the residents
- Corporate sponsorship: work at a local company and want your company to get recognition for supporting our local sanctuary? Contact us for ways to become a corporate sponsor



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