August 1, 2006

Dear Friends,

I want you to hear from me personally that after a great deal of consideration, Serena, Christopher and I have come to the realization that it is in the best interest of us all to close the Catskill Game Farm as of October 9th, 2006. This has been a long and difficult decision to make.

It is a sign of the times that private zoos do not have the appeal of yesteryear. The Catskills used to be a thriving resort area, but this generation desires more sophisticated entertainment.

Each year new federal and state regulations are imposed upon us. This spring for instance, we were unable to open our newest addition, a splash pad. This interactive water system cooled not only the children, but also the adults. It was one of the most popular spots on the farm on a hot summer day. Last summer a state park in western New York had a problem with the chlorination at their water facility. As a result, all parks with free standing splash pads were shut down until ultra-violet systems could be installed. The manufacturers insisted it would not work on our type of water spray pad. We face many such obstacles in this day and age.

This has been the most painful decision of my life. The memory of my parents and how they built the farm from nothing makes it the hardest to accept. I am greatly concerned about the impact this will have on our staff and community. My father always said, “There is nothing so definite in life as changes!” Little did I know how this would come to define our future.

Having reached the milestone age of 65, I really would like to retire. Serena and Chris know what it is to work seven days a week just like me. They, too, know the responsibilities that go with an establishment like ours. As much as we would all have wished it to go on forever, it just is not feasible. My children are young and the world awaits them. Both of them are well educated and will be able to follow their dreams as I have mine.

On October 17th and 18th the Norton Auctioneers of Michigan will be holding an animal and equipment auction on the premises.

My children and I have so many fond memories of our zoo friends, the circus world, the llama and alpaca people, business associates, neighbors, employees and personal friends. They will always be a very special part of our lives. We know we have to accept life’s changes, but trust our ties to one another will always remain strong.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]