

# IRONWOOD

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JANUARY  
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Gilligan

# PIG SANCTUARY

# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490  
Tucson, AZ 85740

January 2018

Dear Supporter,

I wish you a Happy 2018 and a big welcome to everyone who has just joined Ironwood in the past couple of months. We are so grateful for your support. This enables us to continue our mission to provide a safe home for abandoned, abused, neglected, or unwanted pot-bellied pigs and a couple of hogs who have recently joined us as well.

The world continues to change in so many ways as California burns and Puerto Rico remains in the dark in so many regions after horrific hurricanes that struck this year. With Climate Change we here at Ironwood are not left untouched. We have experienced the hottest October on record and only now in December are we rolling up shade cloth to provide sun for the pigs to enjoy. This is usually done before our Open House in November. But compared to other areas of the country our sanctuary here at Ironwood remains a safe haven and thankfully life goes on with relative stability. We are not under the threat of hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, or floods. With your support we have been able to continue to bring unwanted pigs to Ironwood and our outreach efforts to help with spay and neutering pigs for many in the community continues as we have time and resources. Ours and others' efforts to stop the breeding of these innocent animals remains elusive, but I hope as the word spreads we will make progress toward that goal.

So while others suffer through the threat of other natural calamities, we suffer through the relentless heat. But the Sonoran Desert is extremely beautiful and when we walk our little dog in the evenings I feel so fortunate to be in a rare place of peace and beauty. Our sunsets are some of the most spectacular in the world. We often hear the coyotes howling or the owls hooting from on top of one of the gigantic saguaros. As we walk we can hear the sounds of the pigs arguing over their coveted spot in their shelter shared by their favorite companion pig or pigs and this is how it should be. I smile to myself knowing all is well in the fields as they settle down for a good night's sleep with nothing to fear, knowing they will get up the next morning and we will be there to greet them with breakfast.

These are the things that make me look forward to the coming year. I hope in your life you share moments with your family, friends, and companion animal friends that make you smile and give you strength and joy. Happy 2018.

Sincerely,



President &amp; CoFounder

Happy Holidays and  
have a great New  
Year. Thank you for  
all your support.  
---Mary



# Special Needs Field

**W**hen the first field was built for the pigs back in 2001, it was huge! The pigs would wander around the six acres and disappear into the vegetation. Granted there were only about 25 pigs or so back then since we had only been open for a few months, but soon the flood gates opened and pigs started coming in faster and faster. We found that having all the pigs in one herd was not going to work for everyone. The pigs' needs and physical abilities varied too much for everyone to live safely together. That's when we began subdividing that big area into different fields to better meet those needs.

One of the first new fields we created was called Special Needs. Ellie Mae was healthy but had



deformed legs and simply could not move too quickly. Tulley had epilepsy and would have a seizure when overwhelmed or overexerted. Fido was extremely shy and emotionally could not handle being around a lot of pigs at once. Travis Magee was an older pig that puttered around

muttering to himself. These piggies needed a smaller area as well as a smaller herd to make



their life easier and more comfortable. None of the original inhabitants of Special Needs are still with us all these years later, but today their field provides a safe haven for eleven pigs with mild physical disabilities or emotional issues.

Lulu and Hammie are brother and sister. They both have a genetic bone weakness due to inbreeding as well as improper nutrition during their critical growth period. Because of their lameness and probability of bone injuries, Special Needs was the perfect place for them to have space to roam but fewer pigs to compete with. They are both fed in individual pens to prevent being jostled around by others during



feeding time. Lulu and Hammie have been safe and happy in this field for the past two years.

Speedo has chronic urinary tract issues and needs to be monitored for problems with urination. Being in a small herd allows us to keep a close eye on him and more readily notice when things aren't normal. Speedo is fed in an individual pen so that he can be given lots of diluted juice with his meal. He is also served juice again midday to ensure that he is drinking plenty to keep things flowing thus reducing the formation of crystals or stones in his urinary tract. Speedo receives medication and supplements twice daily to help acidify his urine and keep him healthy.



Sigmund is a 15.5 year old male that has been living in Special Needs since his arrival over ten years ago. The small field and herd fit his low-key, calm personality. Daisy is another of the elderly residents of Special Needs. She and Sigmund sometimes hang out with one another, even occasionally sharing a shelter. Both were



raised in their former homes as an “only child,” so they have a tendency to spend time on their own.

Pierre was scared of his own shadow when he arrived at Ironwood 5.5 years ago. His placement in Special Needs was to give him a place with fewer pigs to compete with as well as an area with a quieter atmosphere. Pierre and his companions have quite a few trees and huge creosote bushes providing plenty of natural shade as well as hiding places. Over time Pierre began to feel comfortable with the other pigs and now even lets people pet him. His confidence has grown



Pierre

and he is a very happy piggy these days.

The pigs in the Special Needs Field have their favorite napping spots in the shade or sun depending on the time of year. They each have shelters they prefer to use although sometimes they switch around and try out new places. Pigs are normally territorial and stick to their chosen section of the field. In a smaller field like this one, the passing of one pig or having one move out to a special care facility can create a major shift in the dynamics of the group causing them to branch out



their territory or seek new housing options. But this particular herd is a good group that gets along well with one another for the most part. There are always times when tempers flare up or someone wakes up in a bad mood. (Hmm....does that sound like any group of people you know or work with??) The majority of the time these piggies lead a quiet, peaceful life and feel lucky to be a part of the Special Needs herd.

In upcoming newsletters during 2018, you will “visit” some of the other fields and meet their

residents. Ironwood has the east side of the property with the original field and its twelve



Rambo

subdivisions, the west side where we expanded during 2006 to accommodate the population growth with the addition of ten fields then various areas in between created to meet the needs of the elderly and physically disabled. And we’re still building and adjusting to provide for the ever changing needs of the current pigs as well as the new arrivals. None of this would be possible without your support. The pigs of the Special Needs Field as well as the rest of the nearly 550 pigs of Ironwood send out a huge Thank You and wish you a very Happy New Year!!

---Donna



Pumba

# Open House 2017



**I**ronwood's annual Open House was a beautiful day with perfect weather for touring the sanctuary and visiting with the pigs. There were 650 visitors this year not only from the Tucson/Phoenix areas but also from other states. Many supporters were making their first trip to Ironwood while others were familiar faces coming back for more fun. Visitors took tours of the sanctuary and got to meet the pigs up close and personal. Lots of petting and belly rubs were given and enjoyed!

Visitors were greeted by Oolong, Billy and Lucinda who took turns being the "mascots" hanging out up front to welcome everyone. There was plenty of great vegan food prepared by our staff and volunteers. There were games to play and knick knacks for sale plus plenty of Ironwood gear...hats, shirts, calendars and more.

If you were not able to make it this time, we hope to see you next year. Open House is always held in November. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped to make the day a huge success. A big thank you also goes out to all of the visitors, supporters and sponsors who brought donations and enjoyment to all our pigs!

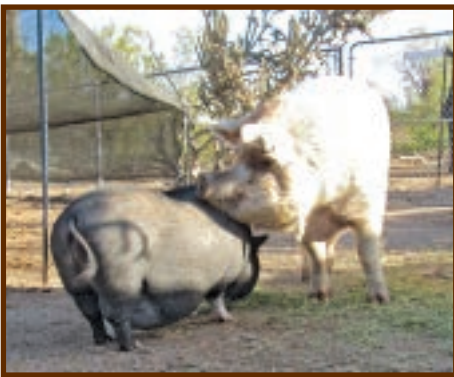


# A Thanksgiving Gift

**O**n Thanksgiving Day, November 23rd, Ben and I traveled first to Gilbert to pick up a borrowed horse trailer from Aimee who owns and operates a small farm animal sanctuary. From there we proceeded to Williams, AZ where Eleanor and her companion Henry awaited their rescue. Well, not



really since they were running loose and were free to travel wherever they wished. Keith, who previously owned and operated a small farm sanctuary there, had already moved out having placed all other animals except Eleanor and Henry. We



found them pretty thirsty that evening since Eleanor has a habit of dumping all available water. We gave them water and some treats we had brought and left for

the night. Friday morning two of Keith's friends showed up with a large bucket of left over food from Keith's vegan restaurant. We happily got Eleanor in the trailer by baiting her with the bucket of food. But of course, that was not the end of the story. We loaded her pot-bellied friend in a carrier and as we were trying to slip him into the back of the trailer Eleanor pushed past us and escaped. Pigs learn very quickly and she would not be fooled again. With a great deal of maneuvering, one of our very helpful helpers got Eleanor



Henry & Eleanor

into a small shed where the pigs had spent the night. We were able to trap her in there then back the trailer up to the door. With good planning and timing we got her out the door, up the ramp and into the trailer. Wow, what a stroke of luck, planning and good help! We thought we may be there for days.

We bid our capable helpers goodbye and headed back to Ironwood with our new companions safely in the trailer. But nothing goes easily it seems. We pulled off for gas in Chandler

to see that one of the trailer tires was almost completely flat with a large stick in it. We were so grateful we had pulled off in time rather than have a blowout on the freeway. That was the good news. The bad news was the jack we had



did not work and AAA would not come to change a tire on a horse trailer and we would have to unload the pigs if they did come. Really?! The garage they had us call did not show up and wanted \$150 to change the tire anyway. Firestone, not far from us, would do it, but it was the day after Thanksgiving and they were busy



and it would take hours. Finally Ben called an auto parts shop that was within a few blocks of our location where we could buy a new jack. The spare tire was put on and we were ready to roll. It

was a hot day, so we sprayed the pigs off and were finally on our way again. We arrived home just



before dark where Taryn and Donna were waiting to help us unload and get Eleanor and Henry settled in their new home. "All's Well that Ends Well," as Shakespeare says.

Keith had been emailing us since

August trying to place his two pigs since he said he was not getting donations or volunteers and his landlord was selling the property. He had tried every possible place to find them a home at a farm sanctuary but time had run out. Winter was coming on and with no one living on the



property frozen water and a lack of shelter could be a big problem, so we agreed to take them. Plans for him to find a way to bring them had also failed. So now I think of them as our Thanksgiving



gift because they are safe and happy and we all got home safely. But let's not have any more gifts like this on Thanksgiving!!

---Mary

**Our Wish List**

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

**\*\*Used Blankets are needed year around.\*\***

- Wire Cutters
- Lineman's pliers
- Sheets (NO pillow cases)
- Fiber Powder (NOT Metamucil & NOT Orange Flavored)
- Flaxseed Oil Capsules
- Glucosamine/Chondroitin, capsules or tablets
- Ranitidine Acid Reducer, 150mg
- Postage Stamps (Forever, Post Card Stamps, 47 and 34 cents)  
Other denominations can also be used
- Animal Crackers
- Probiotics
- Stool Softeners
- Utility Knives
- Neosporin

[We have a wish list on Smile.Amazon.com.](http://Smile.Amazon.com)  
They offer free shipping on many items if you sign up for Amazon Prime.

**GIFT CARDS**

- Walgreen's
- Home Depot
- Lowes
- Discover
- MasterCard
- Office Max
- Walmart
- Amazon
- Office Depot
- Target
- Fry's
- Staples

# Sponsor a S



Daisy

My owners couldn't keep me after one lost her job and the other had major health problems. They couldn't afford to take care of me or my sister Jade any more.



Clark

I was born here in 2016 four days after my pregnant mom was rescued by Ironwood. Tabitha was a great mom and I'm lucky to be living here with my siblings.



Carlton

My mom, Ruby was ten days before she rescued me and my siblings growing up here with my piggies.

*Happy New Year! How about starting off 2018 as a piggy parent? These pigs really need your support and would love to have you as their*



Anderson

Donna

*sponsor! Your monthly donation of \$30 goes toward their basic needs plus their share of Sanctuary expenses. You will receive the history of your pig along with photos then an update and new pictures later in the year. Please join our family of sponsors today! ---Donna*



My family moved to me behind with friends really want me. The while then asked Ironwood. I like it here!



# Special Pig!



Sapphire

My owner was rescued just before she gave birth to her piglings. It's been fun to live with so many other pigs.



My owner passed away then her family locked me in a horse trailer without food or water because they didn't want me. A neighbor saved my life and helped me get here.



Eleanor

I came here a few weeks ago with my little friend, Henry. We had been left behind on some rental property that was being sold. Our owner couldn't take us with him.



Puppy

I was brought to Texas and left behind by my friends who didn't want me. They kept me for a while at Ironwood to take me to my new home.



Jade

My family loved me but ran out of money. My sister Daisy and I came to live at Ironwood this summer. Now we live with lots of other pigs in a big field. It's fun!



Henry

My best friend Eleanor and I are lucky to be here. We have our own field with a really cool barn to sleep in. Everybody has been so nice and made us feel welcome!

# Family Friends

**W**ith your support we have been able to take in families of pigs in need. Sometimes these are pigs released by owners, sometimes strays running loose in the desert, maybe another rescue closing down or the results of abandonment or abuse cases. The pigs come from many places for different reasons, but with your help we are here to provide a forever home.



have been living in the Sunset Field for almost eleven years.



**Siblings  
Slater, Tori,  
Screech**

Thelma, a pig that came here with her sister Louise a couple of years ago. Louise fell in love with Rupert and moved in with him. She and Thelma rarely cross paths or acknowledge one another. Thelma seems fine with that and is very content with her new friends.

In the spring of 2009 a family of seven arrived from the Yuma County



Once new arrivals have gone through a period of evaluation and had any medical issues taken care of, they are placed in one of



**Brothers Moe & Izzy**

many fields to join an existing herd. It is always interesting to watch and see if those family members remain in a close relationship or if they will go their separate ways. Tori, along with her brothers Slater and Screech

They have always been the best of friends, hanging out together and sharing a shelter. They have several other close buddies they spend time with including a family of girls Doris, Boudrette and Charlotte who have been here for ten years. We think Doris is the mother of the two younger girls but they have remained in a very close relationship. The only male in that family, Moody, moved off to a totally different section of the field and made his own group of friends.

Sunstar and Antaris are sisters that came from another sanctuary that shut down. After five years of living in Spike's Field, the girls are still very close spending nearly all their time together. They share their home with

shelter. The parents had been abandoned in the desert. After being rescued and placed in the shelter Gwendolyn gave birth before we could arrange to pick them up. Later Gwendolyn, Scott (dad) and the remaining babies Aida, Linus, Stephano and Kelli all moved into



**Sisters Pebbles & Ashley**

the Peoria Field. Scott immediately went off to the back

section of the large field and established his territory and friends there. Mom stayed up front and lives in a house by herself. The four siblings moved to the middle part of the field and joined a group living in the big community shelter. They have many close pals but still interact with one another every day and maintain their relationship.



They have let other pigs into their social circle but none have quite gotten through into that strong family bond.

Being transported to Ironwood for various circumstances can be a traumatizing experience. Moving out into a field to join an existing herd is always stressful. Having a

There have been many siblings that have arrived in pairs that have stayed together for years and

**Peoria Family**

into two groups. The majority of them stay in a front corner section while the rest use the large community shelter in the back of the field. The pigs in the front are a particularly close knit group. They love to snuggle and cuddle with one another. Another family that has stayed close together was rescued from an abandoned resort in the desert outside of Tucson. Karter, Christine, Aibileen, James Dixon and Karloff obviously love each other a great deal. They are seldom far from one another.



**Mom and Daughter, Stella & Morgan**

upheld their family bonds. Ora and Nate, Pebbles and Ashley, Hope and Maddie, Bob and Randy, Izzy and Moe are just a few examples. There have been several mother/daughter pairs remaining closely bonded; Ellie May and Miss Piggy, Stella and Morgan for instance.

One case of abuse and neglect in 2008 brought us an inbred extended family of 45 pigs. They live in the Peoria Field and have split

**Family - Christine, Karter & James Dixon**

sibling and/or other family members to share those times with can make things a lot easier. Knowing that we can offer a home where families can stay together for their lifetime is a blessing. Thank you for making that possible for all of them!

---Donna



**Siblings Aida, Stephano, Linus and Kelli**



# 2018 Calendars & Puzzles



**W**e still have calendars available featuring residents of Ironwood. You can purchase one for \$20 which includes shipping. There are also 252 piece jigsaw puzzles for \$28 which includes shipping. Don't miss the opportunity to have some Ironwood pigs at your home! Order yours today using the enclosed envelope or go to Ironwood's web site to use PayPal or your credit card.



**Princess Field**

# Planned Giving



A planned gift is an investment in the future of your favorite charity or charities that ensures the means to continue that charity's mission into the future. You are encouraged to make a bequest in a Will or Living Trust to benefit the charity(s) of your choosing.

Planned giving offers a wide variety of benefits to you as you plan to accomplish your charitable and financial goals. Benefits may include: personal satisfaction in providing for the continued mission of your favorite charity or charities, income tax savings, avoidance of capital gain tax or federal estate tax, reduction in the administrative costs of settling your estate, and a reminder to your heirs of your dedication to your favorite charity or charities.

Thank you for considering the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary in your estate plans. The Mary C Schanz Foundation is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. For your Will please use both names (although it is okay if you've already used only the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary name), the post office address from the back cover and this tax identification number for the Foundation: 86-0999483. Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to the almost 600 Pot-Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated.

## Blanket and Donation Drop Offs



**Atticus Loves His Blankets**

It can be cold here in Arizona so collecting blankets for winter is a priority. We never seem to have enough and really need your help. For those of you in the Phoenix and Tucson areas there are two drop off locations for your convenience to save on shipping charges for blankets and other items from our wish list. Please note that no monetary donations can be accepted here. All other material donations are very welcome and much appreciated - don't forget the blankets.

For the Phoenix area you may drop donations off at Carolyn's in East Mesa near Superstition Springs Mall. You may call 480-981-8069 for directions.

For the Tucson area you may drop items off at Ben & Mary's in Northwest Tucson near N Oracle Rd and W Hardy Rd. Call them at 520-631-6015 for directions.

# Front and Back Covers



**G**illigan and Sophie arrived at Ironwood unexpectedly on May 8, 2016. We got a call from a man who said he had two pigs that he had to give up and he was heading our way. Not something we like to hear. He owned a pet store in Wickenburg and had been breeding pigs and selling them from his store. The authorities in Wickenburg got word of this and said Wickenburg was not zoned for pigs and they had to go. He waited until he was desperate and had no time left, so he loaded Gilligan and Sophie then called us on his way to Ironwood.

They were both in pretty good condition except Sophie had and still has a huge indentation on her neck from a collar that clearly was too tight. She fully recovered and after having them spayed and neutered they were soon introduced to our Northwest Field. As always the transition was not easy and Gilligan was quite young so he had a harder time making his way. Now they have adjusted and have no problem running from trough to trough with the rest of the herd and enjoying themselves with the others in their large field. No more babies for these two.



**S**arge is quite the handsome boy as you can see from his pictures. He too arrived in 2016

in July. He was three years old and had been spoiled by his owner. A divorce had forced her to move into town and she lost her nice property where Sarge was living. She told us she had tried to find a home for him but now it was time to leave and she was out of options. He is very sweet, but like most single pigs he tends to have a bit of an attitude. Soon after his arrival we put him in one of our large fields, Sunset, since he was still quite young. However, spoiled family pigs often have difficulty making the adjustment to sanctuary life and Sarge was having a particularly hard time. We soon moved him to one of our smaller fields with less challenging pigs to deal with. Now the bullied becomes the bullier. Sarge was now the youngest and strongest and took advantage of his position. But we have mostly worked through his bad behavior and he has been able to settle in well, most of the time, without giving his older companions a difficult time.

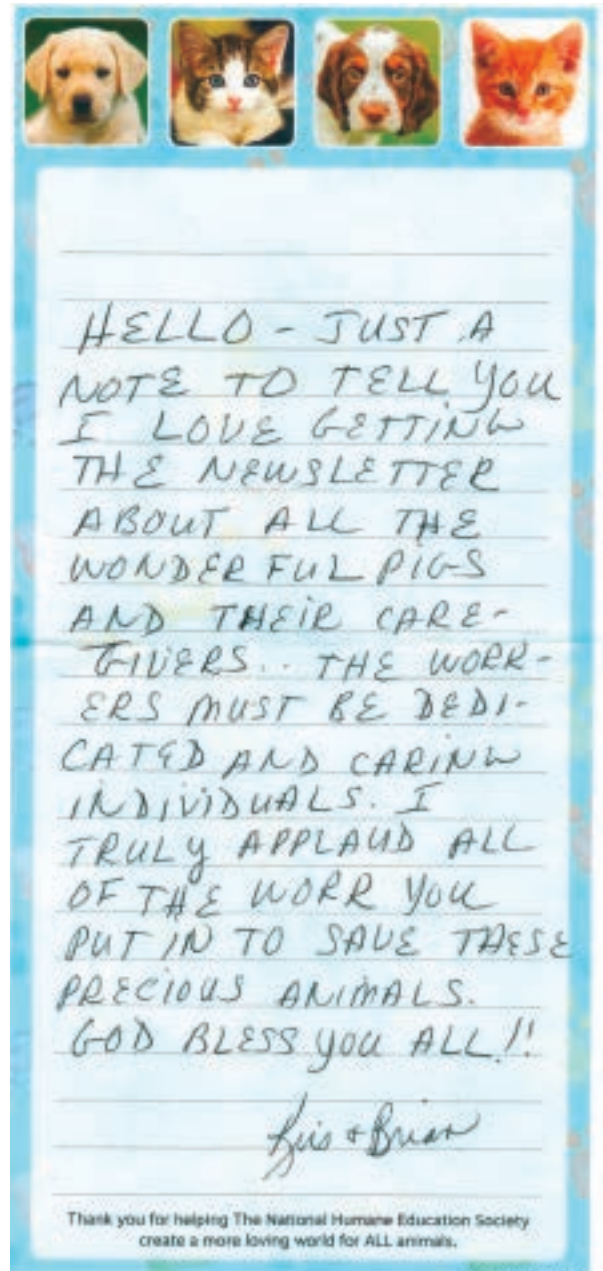
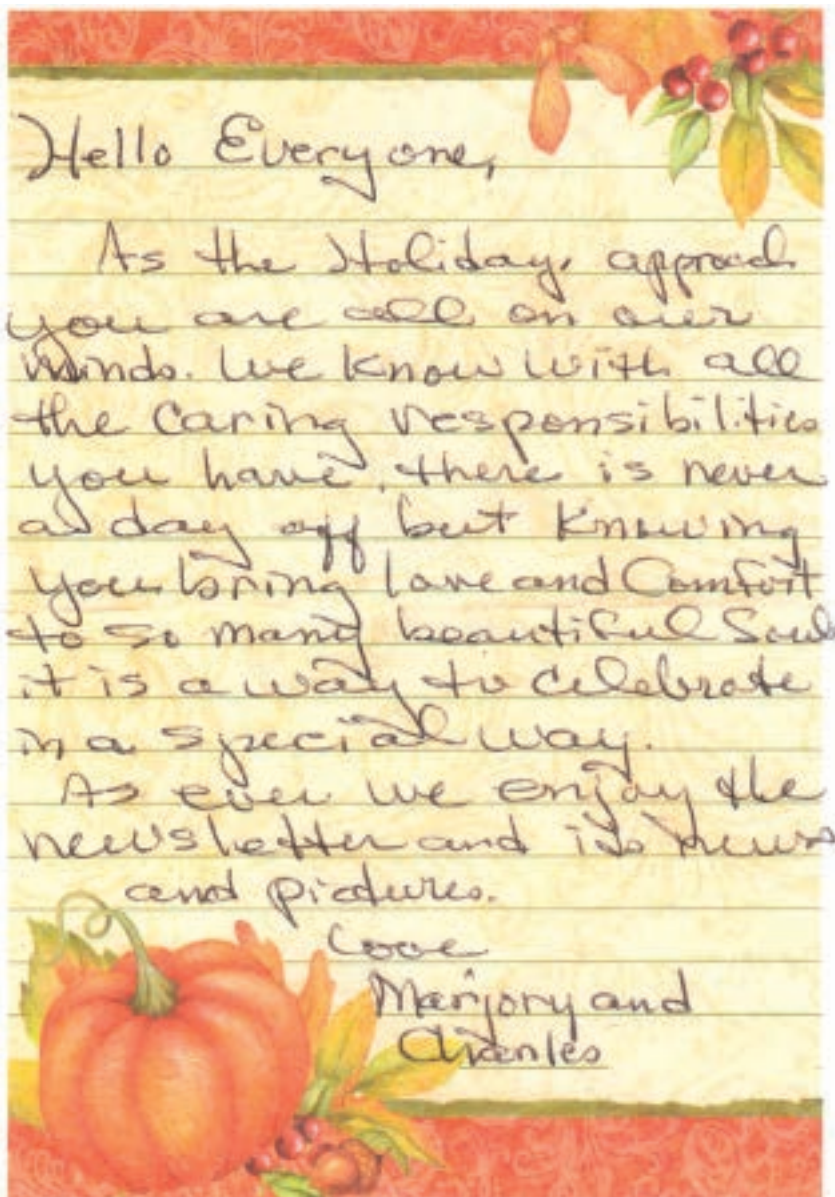
It is always a challenge getting our pigs adjusted to their new homes and life at the sanctuary. Sometimes they have to move a few times before they find a home they are suited to.



## MISSION STATEMENT

The **Ironwood Pig Sanctuary** is dedicated to eliminating the suffering of pot-bellied pigs by promoting spaying and neutering, assisting owners and other sanctuaries, and providing a permanent home in a safe, nurturing environment for those that are abandoned, abused, neglected, or unwanted.

- \* Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is accredited by the American Sanctuary Association.
- \* The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible.



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# **IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS**



**Sarge**