

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary Post Office Box 35490 Tucson, AZ 85740

March 2013

Dear Supporter,

When you get this newsletter we will be at the beginning of our hot 8 months ahead. While I mourn the passing of the winter months, some here, like Donna and Tim love the heat. Even though we experienced several days of deep-freezing weather with many broken water pipes, I will take that any day over the 110-degree-plus temperatures we experience in the summer. But alas, moving the sanctuary is not really an option, and without Ironwood here in Arizona where would all the future Miss Piggys or Chandlers go to live?

In this issue you will read an update on our little Amber. She is such a joy for sure and oh so spoiled. Our next challenge will be to get her to learn to live with others of her kind so she can run free out of her pen forever. Your outpouring of love and support has truly been overwhelming. Thank you all so much, not just for her but for all of your support for all of our pigs these past months. Ben did the budget for this next year and every year we see a rise in our expenses. We have more special foods and medicines to prepare, more medicines to buy and more medical procedures to do. We have a need for more employees to care for all these pigs and their needs.

We try to make reasonable decisions about who we can save, like Amber, and who receives palliative care to ease their final days when we know there is nothing we can do for them. We have learned a lot about who will benefit from the care of our vets and who will not. We always try to err on the side of giving our pig a chance if we believe there is a chance. We know that pigs experience many of the same emotions that we experience, which makes our decisions and evaluations even more difficult.

We have included in this issue some writings from others across the country who have learned about and from pigs. I want to thank them for allowing us to reprint their stories and I believe these stories will give you more insights to pigs as well. Lorelei Pulliam's article about her Annie Mae reinforces my belief that all beings deserve respect and a life free from oppression and abuse. We know that these emotions felt by our pigs are not unique to them. All animals have emotions like ours and our pigs.

Martin Luther King once said, "One day the absurdity of the almost universal human belief in the slavery of other animals will be palpable. We shall then have discovered our souls and become worthier of sharing this planet with them."

Sincerely,

Mary Schanz

President & Co-Founder

Mary Schan



Amber Alert - Update

o many people have called or written or emailed wanting to know how Amber is doing. I think we received more comments about her story that appeared in our January newsletter than we've ever gotten on anything else. I wanted to let all of you know the latest happenings in Amber's life.

After that article went to print, we found that the deep puncture wound behind Amber's ear was not healing properly and continued to ooze and scab over. It was the same hole that a bone chip had come out of earlier.



In late December, Amber returned to the vet clinic for x-rays but no further bone chips were found. Dr. Staten found that the wound was healing from the inside causing a fistula to form which was preventing proper healing. She scraped and cleaned the wound to clear out any infected tissue and the improperly healing tissue. The hope was that the wound could now heal and close up.



Unfortunately that was not the case. In January Amber was once again whisked away to the vet, this time for a dye contrast test to detect any foreign objects such as bone chips down inside the wound or any deep pockets that weren't healing. Again nothing was found and again the wound was scraped down to healthy tissue. Knock on wood, but it looks like that did the trick. Amber's last open wound was finally healing and beginning to close.

Amber is happily enjoying life without bandages, socks and vet visits. Every day she is allowed out into the "big yard" which is the area around the housing and



outbuildings. There Amber excitedly runs, explores, visits other pigs and gets lots of attention from people. Yes, she is physically scarred forever, but her spirit and love of life is unblemished.



Thanks to all of you for your financial support, words of encouragement and healing thoughts that were directed toward Amber. She holds a very special place in all our hearts.

---Donna

Video of Amber

See a video of Amber running around the "big yard" enjoying herself. On your smart phone download the ShopSavvy or the RedLaser app, then scan the QR code below. Or go to this web site. http://youtu.be/GQ-JmejetZ8 Or you can go to the "Pig Profile" page of our web site.



Sleep Well Sweet Pigs

s much as we love seeing the pigs out and about we also enjoy seeing them all tucked into their blankets at nighttime.

To make sure that everyone is comfortable for the night we do 'tuck-ins'. Tuck-ins involve checking on the more needy pigs in their beds as the sun goes down. This could mean sick pigs, the elderly, or someone we know who likes a little extra attention before their slumber. What we do on the tuck-ins depends on the season.

During the warm months tuck-ins involve making sure everyone is cool enough and not stressed in any way. We go around to different fields and make sure that no one is overheated and that there is water around enough everyone. We often have to keep cool towels on the special needs pigs until 6 or even 7 o'clock in the evenings. For example, we always know that Cookie will be one of the pigs who will stay hot



Sweet Pea Sleeping

pretty late, so we do several checks on her.

In the winter we are making sure that everyone has enough blankets and is in a shelter. We make sure that the carpet doors on the shelters are down to keep the cold air out and that blankets are tucked into the shelters to keep the pigs warm. The pigs can get cold quite easily and love to snuggle up with blankets and/or hay. Sometimes we even have to warm up bed buddies for a cold or sick pig or hook up a heating



Arnold & Sandy

blanket for them. We often have to check on someone more than once if they tend to come out of their house or stay up later than the others.

When we head out to do the tuckins we generally know what to expect from most of the pigs. Everyone usually sleeps in the same shelter every night, so we know where to find everyone. Occasionally the pigs switch houses or will split up for a few



Miss Piggy & Shelby nights, but they usually end up back together.

Arnold and Sandy will be nose to nose every night, unlike Penny and Dolly who sometimes decide to sleep in separate shelters. Miss Piggy and Shelby will be cuddling. Huey and Louie can be found in a few different shelters but will always be together. It's exciting when we check on a pig and see that they have found a new friend to share their house with. Bruce and Arnold are new friends that have been keeping each other warm this winter. Ernest and Susie sleep in the same house the majority of the time, but Ernest likes his space occasionally.



Squeaky Under a Blanket

We take turns on who does the tuck-ins so we can all stay in the loop on who stays where and with whom.



Megan Uncovered



Megan Covered

Just like us, the pigs each prefer to sleep a certain way. Squeaky will completely wrap herself in her blankets while Freddie not only needs but also wants someone to cover him up, but only after a belly rub. Megan will be outside and will need to be



Freddie

covered. Some pigs, like Sweet Pea, prefer to cover their faces with their blankets but want the rest of their body uncovered. Some pigs, like Pete, will grumble if you come near their shelter and don't want to be bothered. Petunia likes to keep covered but if you give her a pillow she knows how to make use of it.

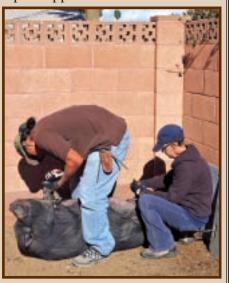
One event that can add to our tuck-ins is when we move pigs to different fields. If someone is new to a field they may be hesitant to choose a shelter, or they may kick someone out of theirs so that they can have it. We try to show the pigs the available shelters and coax them near them. No matter the circumstance we try to make sure everyone has a place for the night.

Tuck-ins are definitely one of my favorite parts of the day. Getting to see everyone tucked in and relaxed for the night is very comforting.

---Taryn

Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson, Phoenix and surrounding areas can contact Donna Thomason for pot-bellied pig tusk and hoof trimming. Donna is experienced trimmer living on site at Ironwood. provides house calls for pig and goat trims. Please call 520-780-8832 or e-mail hoofandtusk@yahoo.com to set up an appointment.



www.facebook.com/IronwoodPigSanctuary

Don't forget to check out our facebook page. You can stay updated on how our pigs are doing and see pictures of our new intakes. If you sponsor a pig or have a favorite, you might just see their picture show up on your newsfeed! Facebook has been making changes, so if you already like our page be sure to check your pages feed which you may need to click on to see our posts if they aren't showing up.

---Taryn

Remember the Sanctuary in your Will

We have been the recipient of bequests from many supporters. And many current supporters have included the sanctuary in their wills. These donors feel that they need their assets during their lifetime but decided to link themselves with the ongoing life of the Sanctuary by making bequests through their estate plans.

Attorneys like to include the tax ID number in your will for the non-profit organization you are donating to. If yours does, then you must include our parent organization, The Mary C. Schanz Foundation, in your will. Our EIN number is 86-0999483. We are doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. There are no administrative or other expenses associated with The Mary C. Schanz Foundation. Use the PO Box address on page 16 of this newsletter.



You can make secure One-Time or Multiple Monthly Sponsor or Sustainer donations to the Sanctuary with PayPal (no PayPal account required) using your credit card by going to the SUPPORT page of our web site at www.ironwoodpigs.org. Or if you have a PayPal account you can make a donation using our e-mail address ironwoodpigs@yahoo.com.

Sustainer

You can become a Sanctuary Sustainer by making a monthly donation of \$5, \$10, \$25, \$100 or any amount you choose which can be charged to your credit card, debit card or e-check each month.

Your donation will be there each month to care for the Piggies. You can use the enclosed envelope or go to our web site to sign up.

Double or Triple Your Donation

You can easily make your donation to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary go even further if you work for a matching gift company. Many employers will double and sometimes triple their employees' or retirees' charitable contributions.

Simply request a matching gift form from the personnel department of your employer, fill it out and mail it to us with your donation or use it for one of your past donations. Your gift, with your employer's match will go further toward taking care of the 600 pot-bellied pigs at the Sanctuary.

If you make a minimum donation of \$100, we are willing to check out your employer to see if they will match your donation and if they will, we will obtain a matching gift form for you. Make sure to give us your employer's name and city and state where you worked.

Some of our supporters copy their employer's matching gift form and use it every time they make a donation. You can see if your company does matching gifts by going to the bottom of the Support page on our web site at www.ironwoodpigs.org. Or you can also check with your personnel department. Check it out even if you are retired from your company. Thank you for your support.

A Pig In The House

his article may seem humorous to some and that is one of the reasons we are including it in this newsletter. However, more importantly it shows the reason why not everyone should have a pig, particularly an indoor pig, and why any decision to get a pig should be considered seriously.

I received a phone call from a woman who had a pig that she couldn't handle. She had her in her backyard but the pig was able to dislodge her sliding glass door to get back into the house. She wanted us to take her pig. I asked her to send me an e-mail on the particulars and here is what she sent.

"Hello - My name is Sandi and I was referred to you folks as I have a pig that I simply cannot take care of. I viewed your website and spoke to a gentleman at your office, explained my situation and he asked that I send an email.

I've had her inside my condo with a small back yard for the past year...and while I do take responsibility for my lack of thinking the decision through to have a pig as a pet...I am way over my head here and asking for your help.

She is aggressive towards people; even to myself at times and has bitten on two occasions. My 11 yr old daughter tolerates her, but she



too, is scared. Honestly, my friends do not come over nor do I invite them over — because she is aggressive towards them. Legally, this is a liability to me so as a result - I do not have people over, and haven't for many months. I cannot and have not been able to leave my home overnight because I fear for the person's safety taking care of her.



Unfortunately, I've over fed her-she weighs approx 250+? lbs. I am aware of better pig-food for her diet, but I simply cannot financially afford that so her diet has been mostly dog food and scraps. The other day, I stopped

by a quaint little farm thinking 'that looks like a nice place for a pig'... the lady I spoke with mentioned she is over the legal weight limit for the City of Phoenix. She also referred me to your organization.

She is just too much and frankly, out of control...way too big for my home. Countless items, cupboards, furniture, doors, walls etc have been broken, damaged, or ruined. She even figured out how to open the refrigerator so I have to keep the door taped shut at all times.

I do hope you can help me. I thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing back from you.
Sandi"

When we arrived to pick up Vittles I knew Sandi's e-mail was not an exaggeration. You could tell from the twinkle in Vittle's eve she had caused some serious chaos in that household. She too was a mere piglet when she was brought home. So before you think that a cute little piglet would be great to have running around your house, reread this e-mail. Vittles is 2 1/2 years old by the way. Hmmm... billed as a tea-cup pig no doubt. She digs and roots all she wants here and does not destroy anything and loves to rub her head on us. A sweetheart in her own element.

---Mary

Sponsor



I've been waiting quite a long time for my turn in the limelight. I can't think of anything better than back scratches or belly rubs except getting a sponsor (or maybe a bag of cookies!).



I know you're thinking, "What! Another Wilbur?" Yes, we're everywhere. And I'm not even the latest Wilbur to arrive. But if you pick me, I'll bet you'll be happy with your choice of Wilburs.



I'm one of the pigs from another sand down. I am so gla friends. What an lives!



I was in the newsletter two years ago to get a sponsor, but no one chose me. Right after that I got really sick, but I'm doing pretty good now so I thought I'd give it another try. What do you think?



Winnie

You can just call me Wild Winnie! Donna says I'm quite a character although I'm not really sure what she means by that. Anyhoo....just waiting around for a sponsor to share my story with.



I don't have much boy, back in the NASCAR fans of their heart for the pig you've been

Specia

Pig



s that were brought here ctuary that is shutting ad to be here with my improvement in our



A little trivia for you.... the word 'pinkerton' means a detective. So, if there's anything you want to find out about Ironwood and its piggies, I'd be the one to ask. Let me know if you need me!



I haven't been here long but I'm loving it! People try to pet me, but I can't slow down for that. There's so much to see and do and well, gotta go! My brother found something interesting and I gotta go see what it is.



We would love to have you join our family of sponsors! We have so many pigs that still need a sponsor and there are new ones coming in all the time. Your support of \$30 monthly would provide your

Ellie May

Donna

pig's care and their share of sanctuary expenses. I will send you a letter with your pig's history along with photos then give you an update with new photos during the year. Please become a proud "pig parent" today!

....Donna



ch speed left in me but, ne day...! For any out there with a place in e old #3, I would be the waiting for!

Annie Mae

This touching story comes to us from Loreiel Pulliam of Gallastar Equine Center.

ne pig named Annie Mae bears testament to the emotional lives that animals possess. This picture of her is right after the burial of her friend Bull who passed away in his lovely heated barn the day before. Annie Mae slept with her head protectively

on his back until we had to remove him to his final resting place. We placed him beside his pal Harley who had left us a few weeks before. As we feared, Bull grieved a great deal and soon joined his friend.

Right after the grave was finished, Annie Mae left her pen for a very rare outing and chose to lie beside her two friends. It might have been a coincidence but anyone that has met Annie Mae knows that she has crippling arthritis. In fact, to keep her comfortable



enough to just live in her barn and small flat pen, she needs injections in her joints from the University of Tennessee and daily prednisone tabs. It was no doubt a long and painful journey to lie next to her two friends one last time before she one day joins them in her final rest.

This is yet another beautiful reminder to us all that our

animal brethren have complex lives and emotions that are not so different from the best of what is within any of us.

She bears testament that each and every life has a value and should be cherished and honored as Annie Mae did for her friends.

GIFT CARDS

Fry's

Home Depot

Lowes

Office Max

Office Depot

Staples

Petsmart

Target

Discover

MasterCard

BIG STUFF

Van, Cargo - Late Model Full Size, rear A/C Truck - Late Model 3/4 Ton Long Bed Pickup

Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Postage Stamps (Forever, 46, 33, 20 cents) Other denominations can also be used

Used Blankets always welcome

*Cranberry Capsules (Equivalent to 25,000 mg of fruit)

*Flaxseed Oil Capsules (1,000 mg)

*Glucosamine, Chondroitin with MSM (Triple Strength)
*Good value can be had at Puritan's Pride at

1-800-645-1030 or www.puritan.com. They offer free shipping for orders over \$100.

Fig Newton Cookies

Antacid comparable to Zantac, No Tums

Triple Antibiotic Ointment

One of Our Vets, Dr. Karter Neal

few years ago we began to receive help to get more pigs spayed and neutered through the Humane Society of Southern Arizona. Dr. Karter Neal was the veterinarian that performed the majority of the surgeries for our pigs. Vet school had not prepared her for dealing with pot-bellied pigs, as their lessons were geared toward swine production management rather than treating pigs as individuals. Both Dr. Barbara Page, our regular vet, and Dr. Marie Curtis, former vet for the HSSA, coached Dr. Neal on the ins and outs of pig surgery.



Rose & Dr. Neal Prepping Petra

At the time we began seeing Dr. Neal, she stated that she was unaware of the homeless problem with pot-bellies and was very excited to help Ironwood as well as learn more about the pigs. She discovered how smart and friendly pigs are and was surprised at the distinctive



Dr. Neal With Morley

personalities of each pig. Dr. Neal and her entire family have visited the sanctuary on different occasions and have enjoyed spending time with the pigs.

In January of 2013 Dr. Neal opened her own practice at the Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic in Tucson. We were extremely happy to learn that she wanted to continue her relationship with Ironwood. On February 5th Tim and I took our first trip to Dr. Neal's new clinic to get Morley



Dr. Neal Neutering Morley

neutered and Petra spayed. We were back on the 12th to have Glenda and Patsy spayed as well as neutering a newly arrived boar. It's great to have Dr. Neal and her staff working with us to keep up with our goal of having all our pigs spayed and neutered. Thank you, Dr. Neal!!

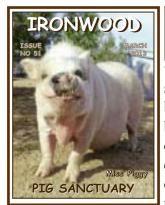
---Donna



Dr. Neal Spaying Petra While Rose Keeps Track of Petra's Vital Signs

Dr. Neal provides care for privately owned potbellied pigs as well as other pets at her Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic, 5408 S. 12th Avenue, Tucson, AZ. The clinic phone number is 520-889-9643.

Front & Back Cover



iss Piggy has a long history with us. Although she was not the first pig at the sanctuary, Ben and I brought her to our home before we opened. We got a call to take her in February of 2001. She was a year old. The owner was pregnant, didn't like her

and did not want to be bothered with her. Her condition was shocking! She was very thin with sores all over her body. A woman offered to foster her with her pig, but when she saw her condition she refused to take her in. So we kept her at our home and worked to bring her back to health. However, one day while we were transferring her to a different yard she ran off to our neighbor's briefly. I brought her home right away and did not think much about it. Two nights later I went out to tuck her in and noticed she was bleeding from the mouth. We brought her into our house and called our vet. She suspected she had been poisoned. We were able to get one large dose of Vitamin K for her that night, but she continued to bleed throughout the night. I sat with her all night and was sure she would die, but she did not.

The next morning we checked with our neighbor and indeed he had put out a very powerful rat poison and it was gone. We took her to our vet early that morning and she started her on large doses of Vitamin K. Lucky for us and for her she survived this horrible ordeal with no lasting side effects and is now 13 years old.

We transferred her to the sanctuary where she could not escape again to a place that would put her in harm's way. She has lived in our Northeast field for all these years and except for some arthritis, she has been well. How glad we are to have rescued her as we started our new adventure with Ironwood.



handler is another pig who has been with us since we were volunteers at what is now our Annex facility. Back in 2001 Lynnette got a call from someone

at the University of Arizona. They had a Yucatan pig a little over a year old that they had been using for medical research. The research was over and the staff had grown attached to him, so they were trying to find a home for him. Yucatan pigs are often used in medical research we are told because they have a mild manner. Lynnette said she would take him, so he was brought to Pigs*A*Lot. He still had stitches in both sides of his face that I removed shortly after his arrival. He had lived indoors on concrete all his life. He had never been in the sun or dirt. When he arrived at Pigs*A*Lot he was like a kid. He rolled in the dirt and rooted in the mud, but not so good for him, he laid in the sun. We put sunscreen and aloe on him, but he still got very sunburned. We had to put tee shirts on him to try to protect him from the sun and finally had to put him in a smaller pen and put shade cloth over the whole pen. Soon his skin healed and he was able to enjoy his new world again.

He grew up there and became part of Ironwood in May of 2003 when we bought the property. Most of



the pigs remained on the property including Chandler. He is beginning to slow down now at age 13, but he has had a long happy life with all his pig friends at what is now our Annex. What a wonderful life from a beginning as a poor research animal.

---Mary

Amazing Pig Information

Southern California Association of Miniature Potbellied Pigs (SCAMPP) has allowed us to reprint their president's report. We found it interesting and thought that you might also.

I found some more amazing piggy info that I would like to share - I especially love that piggies sing to their babies. Pigs are social, playful, protective animals who bond with each other, make nests, relax in the sun, and cool off in the mud. Pigs snuggle close to one another and prefer to sleep nose to nose. They dream, much as humans do. In their natural surroundings, pigs spend hours playing, sunbathing, and exploring. People who run animal sanctuaries for farmed animals often report that pigs, like humans, enjoy listening to music, playing with soccer balls, and getting massages. Pigs recognize their own names, learn "tricks" like sitting for a treat, and lead social lives of a complexity previously observed only in primates. Many pigs even sleep in 'pig piles,' much like dogs. Some love to cuddle and others prefer space. Pigs can even play video games!

[We once had a pig released to us that could play the keyboard. Another pig would sway to the music when its neighbor had a party.]

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY

Pigs communicate constantly with one another. More than 20 of their oinks, grunts, and squeals have been identified for different situations, from wooing their mates to expressing hunger. Newborn piglets learn to run to their mothers' voices, and mother pigs sing to their young while nursing.

[When we rescued the 42 pigs that made up our Peoria field, there were three very pregnant females. They had a total of 18 babies within a few days of each other. When the babies were a little older and able to go out into our exercise yard, we put the three mothers and their 18 babies out together. What a grand site that was! When it became time for them to go back to their pens we realized that we didn't know what baby went with what mother. One of our staff had a great idea. Since the three pens were adjacent to each other, he suggested that we cut holes in the fencing large enough for the babies to use



to get to their mothers but too small for the mothers to get through. The reason that we excluded the mothers was because they fought with each other and we were afraid they would hurt the babies. So for the balance of the time that the babies were with their mothers we made sure that the holes were large enough for the babies. They had a great time visiting with each other throughout the day but seemed to find their mother when it was meal time. And their shared time in the exercise yard became a common occurrence.]

Pigs have very long memories. Dr. Stanley Curtis, formerly of Penn State University, put a ball, a Frisbee, and a dumbbell in front of several pigs and was able to teach them to jump over, sit next to, or fetch any of the objects when asked to, and they could distinguish between the objects three years later.

Biologist Tina Widowski studies pigs and marvels at their intelligence: "When I was working with the monkeys, I used to look at them and say: 'If you were a pig, you would have this figured out by now.""

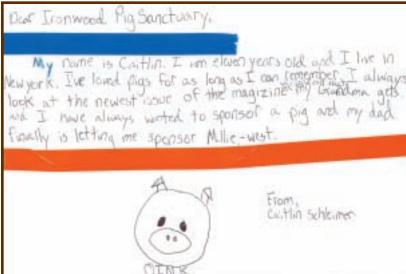
Scientists at the University of Illinois have learned that not only do pigs have temperature preferences; they also will learn through trial and error how to turn on the heat in a cold barn if given the chance, and turn it off again when they are too warm.

[We have latches on all of our gates because some of the pigs will figure out how to open them. We have actually observed a pig opening one of our gates. We had a farm hog named Pinkerton that used to turn the water faucet on and off at her home to get a drink.]

---OINK! Karrie
President SCAMPP

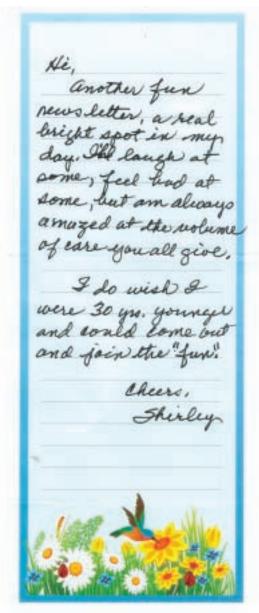
Our Supporters Write





Jointimes when
you're fealing close
to overwhelmed, a
word of encouragement
helps, well, here's such
a word. It's not much,
but it's heartfalt:
Thanks so much for
undertaking such a
huge, and very important
more reserve
experition.

Jim Gillian



THE PROGRES ARE SO DEESE IN
THE METTINE AT THOME WAS
SO VERY TOWNING -/OWN YOU
THOSE SHOW LOWING CARE DIKNING
HER LONG RECOVERY SHEELY
GRABBED MY HEART THANK YOU
FOR ALLYON DO THE THESE
SPECIAL INNECENT CRITTERS

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.

Mr. Bill Roich

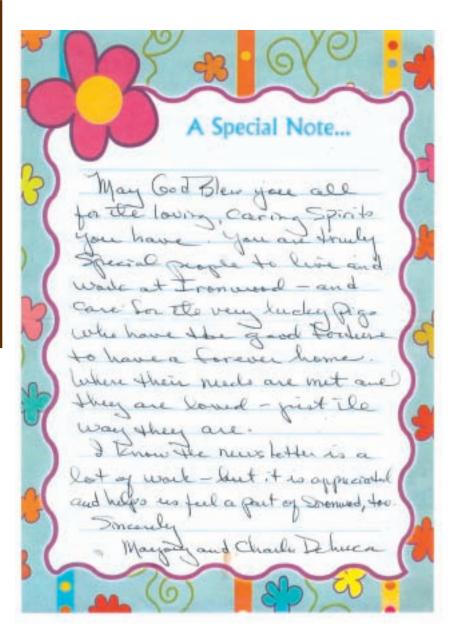
To The Pigs

I have in front of me mail solicitations requesting donations to come to the aid of: horses, chimps, fernicates, abused dogs, donkeys; wolves, elephants in Africa, wolves, elephants in Africa, wolves, elephants in the desert.

But... I chose to send a check to you be cause check to you be cause you're so damned cute! You're so damned cute!

Please let me know when Please let me know when you'r next "open house" is, so you'r next "op

Thank you all so much for taking such good care of the pigs, I con't tell you have much I appreciate knowing there are good people like you folks out there! Your newsletter is beautiful, all the pictures are so cute, I just want to come to your so much for your hard work thing hearts! Thank you so much for your hard work thing hearts! Think



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