

IRONWOOD

ISSUE
NO 89

JULY
2019

Penny

PIG SANCTUARY



Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490
Tucson, AZ 85740

July 2019

Dear Supporter,

This past Saturday, June 8th, Ben and I traveled to Douglas, AZ, a small community on the Arizona/Mexico border. We went to pick up Mom, Dad and 6 five day old babies. The mom and dad were strays and had been picked up by the Douglas Animal Control. They have no local regular veterinarian to do spaying and neutering. We were alerted about their need by Kelly from Bisbee who does a lot of rescue and volunteering in the community. All pigs are settling in very happily and the boar, now named Douglas, has been neutered and Mom and her babies are thriving and growing every day.

These kinds of situations, like so many that we face each day, make me think about what a life is worth. As a rescuer I face that question almost daily. I take responsibility for the life of every pig that arrives at Ironwood. Each life is important to me and we work to see that they are safe, their basic needs are met, they have social interaction with others of their kind, their medical needs are tended to, and when their time with us is over that they are humanely euthanized, most often in their familiar environment.

Some say that we should not spend so much on an individual animal or that arthritic pigs should be euthanized. I think this is a matter of philosophy. Because we have so many caring and generous supporters we are able to save a life in peril if the outcome means their quality of life will be good and they have the possibility of many more years in good health, as it is with Bailey from the June Update. None of our herd suffers from lack of food or basic needs. If, however, they are old and they will no longer recover or have quality of life, then the decision to euthanize is clear and we are so grateful to give them that gift.

For me and I believe most people who rescue, the life of each animal is important. Those of us who love animals know this to be true. Animals are sentient beings capable of the same range of emotions and feelings that humans have. So why then, since as humans we value our lives, do we not value the lives of others like ourselves?

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

Sincerely,

Mary Schanz
President & CoFounder

Mom and
her sweet
babies



Feeding Peoria

The majority of Ironwood's current population of 626 pigs lives in large fields while others who are elderly or have special needs are in smaller areas. It takes a lot of time and effort each day to get all these pigs fed, medicated and watered. The largest herd is a group of 56 pigs living in the Peoria Field. We'll take you through the steps of getting this particular herd fed to give you an idea of what it entails.

Because the Peoria Field herd is so large, the feeding of the pigs is spread out over most of the field to separate them as much as possible, enabling everyone the opportunity to get their fair share of food. There are four staff members working in three different sections of the field to get this accomplished. The front portion of the field has the bulk of the herd and requires two folks working in tandem. Upon arriving at the field, laden with totes stocked with juices, mashes

and peanut butter sandwiches filled with medications, one person immediately begins preparing the individual bowls for those pigs getting specialized



Feeding Hercules

meals. The other person grabs a bowl of grain as well as a large horse toy filled with grain to feed Hercules. Hercules is a large hog mix that lives next door in his



Hercules

own area and is a bit aggressive.

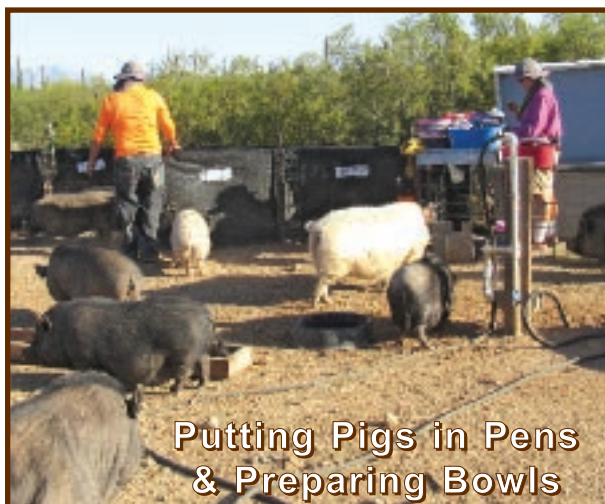
The feeder gets him busy with the grain and toy then goes inside to clean and refill his water dishes while he's preoccupied with eating. Once Hercules is taken care of, that person goes back into the Peoria Field to begin putting the pigs into individual pens. The "pen pigs" are the ones who have special

meals or dietary needs and must be in a pen away from the hustle and bustle of free feeding at the troughs for various reasons. Gwendolyn is arthritic and moves slowly, needing extra time to finish her meal. Phil is a youngster that eats super fast and was getting way more than his share. Mr. Piggles is a little



Feeding Pens

chunky and on a diet. Ira and Toby have dental issues and both need a soft mash. Tank, the eldest of the herd, moves slowly and could no longer keep up with the younger competition in the troughs. Uno, Eloise and Judy are all senior ladies who were getting too thin, a common problem for older pigs. They need extra rations as well as the time to eat it all uninterrupted. These pigs and others have their own pen and have learned to wait by their gate to be let in for their meal. By the time all the pigs in this part of the field are put inside their pens, the other staff member has the meals prepped and ready to hand out to



Putting Pigs in Pens & Preparing Bowls

the “pen pigs”. One person passes out bowls filled with meals and



Handing Out Meds

meds while the other hands out the peanut butter sandwiches with pills and/or powders tucked inside to other pigs requiring daily medications.



Feeding Back Section

While those two feeders have been busy up front, another staff member is in a different corner of the field basically doing the same thing...fixing up special meals, handing out meds and putting pigs in pens...but on a smaller scale. The fourth member of the team is in the back of the field getting meals into pens for Gertie, Toby, Celie and more. The feeders contact one another by walkie-talkie when they're done with their pen pigs and ready to feed the remainder of the herd. Once the signal is given three of the four take off in different directions

pouring designated amounts of grain into troughs spread across the field while the fourth person



Feeding Troughs

fills bowls scattered in one corner for Nelson, Perdy, Bonnie and the few other pigs that eat there. Poke'mon, Joel, Peaches, Ruby, Stephano and many others jog from trough to trough in their favorite section of the field gobbling up grain as they go.

While the pigs are eating their breakfast, either from a bowl inside a pen or from the many troughs, the feeders take care of any special “doctoring” that needs to be done. For example, Tripod has chronic



Tripod's Eye Treatment

problems with goopy eyes that have to be cleaned daily then have ointment put in. This is much easier to do while he is contained inside his feed pen and busy with eating. Cindy, one of the white pigs who has ongoing skin cancer

issues, needs to have zinc applied to her ears and other problem spots. She doesn't really like to be touched by humans but is fairly easy to handle by reaching through the side of her pen while she's eating. Just that arm and hand approaching her is not quite as scary as a whole person looming over her. Brazil, another



Treating Cindy's Sores

of the white pigs often dealing with skin cancers, also eats in a pen. She is very friendly and is happy to let anyone put zinc on her.



Feeding in Bowls

Now that the pigs are all happily eating their meals, the two staff members that fed the smaller corner sections take off to feed in other fields. The two people that handled the front section split up the remainder of the chores. As the feeding frenzy is rolling to an end and all the grain is gone, one

person begins opening up the individual pens to let the pigs out while the other person starts putting out the alfalfa hay that is spread across the field for the pigs to graze on. The “hay person” will swing by the corner sections of the field to open up the few pens located in those two areas. Once the gates are all opened, the hay is spread and the pigs are settling down into grazing mode,



Handing Out Hay

the two feeders go back to close up the pens and gather up the bowls and rinse them out. Those bowls are then taken back to the feed station and placed into their appropriate slot in the memory boards. Each “pen pig” has their name on their bowl and a spot on the board. The names are matched up and the memory boards filled with clean, empty bowls ready for the next day’s meal. The purpose of having the memory boards is a way to check and make sure that each and every pig was let out of their



Letting Out of Feed Pens

pen. If Marilyn’s slot is empty, then she must still be in her pen and needs to be let out and have her bowl picked up. It’s just a way to double check that all pens are empty and all pigs are out in the field.

During the entire feeding process the pigs are being observed by the feeders. Is Kelli limping worse than usual? If so, she may need to have her meds altered or even need a few days of rest in one of the holding pens if it’s gotten too bad. Is that Heidi coughing? She may need to come in to a holding pen for observation to determine the extent of the issue and decide if medication is necessary. Is that an abscess on Murphy’s face? It will need to be monitored to determine when it’s ready to be lanced and medicated.



Grazing on Hay

Feeding time is when we notice if a pig is consistently holding back from the troughs and not getting enough to eat. That may mean switching that particular pig to being fed in a pen to ensure they get plenty of food. That is what happened with Uno and Brazil, among others. Then there is just the opposite occurrence happening. Priscilla was getting bigger and bigger (and not in a becoming manner!), so she was started as a “pen pig” to cut back on the amount of grain she was consuming.



Memory Boards

It is a laborious, time-consuming process to feed and care for the 56 Peoria pigs. But it is all necessary to ensure that each pig is treated as an individual and given the care they deserve. And remember, this is just one of many fields! Pick up the pace, there are hungry pigs everywhere! It is your support and donations that enable us to provide proper care for George, Shiloh, Diamond, Annette and all their friends.

---Donna

Sanctuary Life

One of my favorite questions that I get asked about the sanctuary is “What do the pigs do there?” A lot of people wonder this since they can’t imagine a pig being outside all day. Well, our pigs are definitely content having the choice to live their days how they please.



Shakey & Webster

The first part of my answer to this question is always “They get to live!” All of these sweet souls get



Mona

to live and have a safe future. So many of our pigs came to us when their future wasn’t looking so bright and now they get to be themselves without any doubt of where they will be living. We’ve had a lot of pigs come in that were



Curtis & Bart

either living on the streets or left behind after their human family moved away. They found



Francesca

themselves without a family and without a place to live! We offer them a safe place to call home.

The second part of my answer is that they get to do whatever they



Vittles

want. They can sunbathe all day if they want. They can play in the mud or a pool. They can mingle with their herd or just be a loner for the day. They can snuggle in comfy blankets or rip their



Jasper

blankets into the perfect nest. They can push soccer balls and stuffed animals around. So many options for them!



Special Needs Field

Like anyone else, pigs all have different personalities and likes and dislikes. Some of them like to hang out with their herd all day. We’ve had groups of 17 or more lounging around together. While many pigs prefer the company of other pigs, some need time away from the group for a little while, just like us. They’ll often find a spot under a tree to relax or just stay in their house for most of the



Dozer

day. Sometimes they'll do this but peek out every now and then to see what's going on, which is often what Dozer Hill does.

The pigs here also get to do whatever they want with their blankets. Some keep them in their houses with them. Others like to pull their blankets outside to sunbathe on them. Some of the pigs like to cover their faces or wear a blanket or pillow as a hat. Jasper manages to do this often. A lot of the pigs like to shred their blankets to the perfect messy, consistency. We can hear them ripping them in the distance.

While they get to use their blankets how they want, they also get to use their houses how they want. Whether they are fully in



Webster

their house or have part of their body sticking out, they love having a shelter to have for naps and night time. We often catch pigs like Webster with their back end hanging out of their house. We like to think this is like us when we kick the covers off our feet or legs. Another way we see pigs using their houses is for a scratching post.



Rudy

We also see pigs use the trees and cactus for scratching. That's right, the pigs will use the cactus to poke and scratch their skin. This is like their acupuncture time. Pigs like Rudy, Daphne and Albert can often be found standing with their face or back touching a cactus.



Nick

They can usually do this without issue but sometimes they need our help getting leftover cactus spines out of their skin.

Sanctuary pigs also get to stay cool however they want! A lot will choose a wallow and cover



Sully

themselves in mud, like Nick. Others will choose pools or even a water bowl to cool off their tush! We keep plenty of options around for pigs to cool themselves off.

Another way pigs amuse themselves here is by hopping on



Dave

a wagon. Usually it's to find extra hay that may have gotten left behind. Our pigs are also welcome to dig and root, nap in the troughs and even give their friends belly rubs. The possibilities are endless for a pig at Ironwood.

The moral of this story is that the pigs at Ironwood have a variety of things to do and have the ability to choose what they do. They're all fortunate to be in a safe place where they can be themselves.

---Taryn

Sponsor a S



Goldie

My owner was breeding "mini pigs" but got in trouble because she wasn't zoned to have so many pigs. All my brothers and sisters came here to live with me.



Benjie

I was a stray that got picked up by the police for being "a nuisance". They took me to a woman who found a home for me but those people didn't keep me long.



Oinky

A teenage girl rescued some boys she knew were planning to torture me. I was so scared but goodness she was there!

How about celebrating Independence Day with a new friend! All of these pigs are looking for someone special. For a \$30 monthly donation you will receive a



Donna

Latoya

letter and pictures to introduce you to your piggy pal. Later in the year you will get new photos and an update to keep you connected to your pig. Please join Ironwood's family of sponsors today!

---Donna



I lived in a small enclosure with my 3 siblings for a long time. It was really crowded and I was so happy to come here where we have lots of space.

Special Pig!



rescued me from
e knew that were
rture me then kill me.
scared! Thank
s she got me out of



Abraham

I was a stray terrorizing a rural
neighborhood, eating all the pet
food I could get my hooves
on and breaking into yards,
pens and barns. It was fun
while it lasted!



Miss Lady Gray

I was a stray that got picked up by
Animal Control. A foster mom
took me from there then later
sent me to the sanctuary. I
like it here with other pigs!



Clementine

ll enclosure with
or over 2 years. It
d and filthy. I
o come to here
lots of space.



Winky

I'm Clementine's sister and like her,
I am super happy to be at Ironwood
where we get fresh water every day
and have a house to sleep in. It's
awesome!



Sully

My owner bought my dad and
mom to let them breed to "teach
his kids about raising animals"
then sent us all to auction to be
bought and eaten. What did that
teach them?!!

Our Wish List

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

****Used Blankets are needed year round.****

Fish Oil Capsules
 Utility Knives
 Antibiotic Ointment
 Animal Crackers
 Fig Newton Cookies (NOT individually wrapped)
 Ranitidine Acid Reducer, 150mg
 Vitamin E Capsules, 400 IU
 Children's Multi-Vitamins, NO Iron
 Canned Pumpkin
 Flaxseed Oil Capsules 1000⁺mg
 Stool Softeners
 Prunes
 Sheets

GIFT CARDS

Master Card
 Discover Card
 Fry's
 Home Depot
 Lowes
 Office Max
 Office Depot
 Staples
 Walmart
 Amazon
 Walgreen's

Donate When You Shop

There are two easy ways for you to support the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary while you do your own shopping. One is with smile.amazon.com by designating the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary as your charity of choice when you sign up. Amazon will donate 0.5% of all your purchases to the sanctuary. During the last quarter Ironwood earned **\$765.44** through Smile.Amazon. Yay!! (Note, we are listed as Mary C Schanz Foundation which is the parent organization and is doing business as (dba) the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary.)



Chewbacca & Ewok

The second easy way to add your support is for Arizona residents who shop at Fry's Food Stores. Every time you shop at Fry's and use your Fry's VIP card, you can help the pigs! Just go to FrysFood.com, click on "Save" and scroll down to Fry's Community Rewards. Follow the prompts to designate the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary as your charity of choice. There are 46 households currently signed up and Ironwood earned **\$150.91** for the last quarter. **Remember, you must renew your charity of choice every year.* It only takes a few minutes to renew then you are able to help the pigs for a full year every time you shop at Fry's.

Thank you for all the ways you support the pigs!

Holly's Favorite Pig

During 2019 we've been sharing some of the staff's favorite pigs. This month meet Holly, part of our watering crew. Holly has been working hard for the past 3 years providing clean fresh water to the pigs in their bowls, pools and wallows. After filtering through a list of many favorites, she narrowed it down to Ellie Mae.

When it comes to sweet faces the sanctuary is full of them. But Ellie Mae has such a cute way about her and the most adorable lips ever. ---Holly



Blanket and Donation Drop Offs

Summer is here and it is hot but the need for comforters and blankets is ongoing, so please keep collecting them! There are now four locations where you may drop off blankets and other material donations from our Wish List (no monetary donations can be accepted here).

For east Phoenix area, please drop off donations at Carolyn's in East Mesa near Superstition Springs Mall. Call 480-981-8069 for directions.

For north Phoenix, you may go to Danette's near the 101/Cave Creek Rd area. Call 602-376-1086 for directions.

For northwest Tucson, please go to Ben and Mary's near N Oracle Rd and W Hardy Rd. Call 520-631-6015 for directions.



Clarice

For east Tucson, go to Sandra's in the Civano neighborhood. Call 804-840-5296 for directions.

July Days

July has so many serious, weird, and funny national holidays to celebrate. Here are just a few that my friends wanted to share with you. Pick a few to observe, like we are or in your own fashion, that will lift your spirits or even better, bring a smile to someone else's day!

And by the way, I didn't get dressed up to celebrate any particular holiday for this month. It's just when I got out of bed this morning I felt like singing and dancing; "I feel pretty, oh so pretty!"



Pearl

July 4th



Toby

I just love singing the National Anthem on Independence Day! "Oh, say, can you feed by the dawn's early light..."

It's "Father/Daughter Take a Walk Together Day." A day for strolling through the field side by side; talking, laughing, just being together.



Mr. Pitts & Christie

July 7th

July 11th



Pickles

On "Cheer Up the Lonely Day" go out and find someone lying under the bushes all alone. Then prance around, tell a joke, do something silly to make them smile!

July 12th



Sprinkles

Just a suggestion for the next "Eat Your Jello Day"...make the serving dish edible! It would make things so much easier (and tastier too!).

Can you believe there is a day to celebrate us?! National Mac and Cheese Day! We didn't even know anyone outside of Ironwood knew our names. Woohoo!



Mac & Cheese

July 14th

July 23th



Grandma

Well, I am so honored to represent the senior ladies on this "Gorgeous Grandma Day". When I was given this tiara it brought a tear to my eye and then I took off as fast as I could go so I could keep it!

Our family is huge with lots of aunts, uncles and...*cousins!* Celebrate "Cousins Day" by doing fun things together. Eating, napping and visiting with your cuz!



Annette, Nelson, Robbie

July 24th

July 27th



Cowboy

Celebrating the "Day of the Cowboy" is easy here out west. I'm just plodding through the desert to the nearest watering hole to wet my whistle after filling up on vittles.

Front & Back Cover

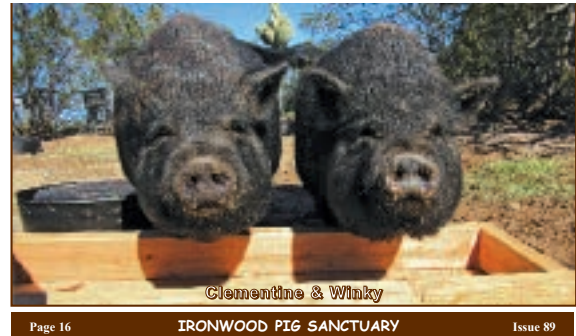


Penny arrived at Ironwood in December of 2007. She was 5 years old at that time and is now 17 and one of the many seniors. She lives in one of the smaller assisted living areas and has made friends with a number of others there as they

have come and gone. Penny is a tough old lady for sure. During the winter of 2017 when we were experiencing our awful illness, Penny spent 10 days in the hospital but returned to us well again. She recently went back to the clinic to have a dental and is now home and recovered. Piggy Spears, pictured below with Penny, is one of Penny's friends. She is a young pig. She is one of the many "micro mini" failures who has issues with her back legs and was never able to go run with other young pigs. Piggy Spears has settled in and made friends and has ample room to roam with her disability. Penny continues to enjoy her life with Piggy Spears and the others who share her area. We are happy to have Penny be the cover girl this month.



Piggy Spears & Penny



On January 6th of this year Clementine, Winky, Hobson and Arthur came home to Ironwood. They came from Jessica who mainly does horse rescue.

During the summer of 2016 some people had driven to a parking lot at Walmart and were giving pigs away from the back of their truck. Jessica was called and she went there and took the mom and all her babies. Another lady took a young pig from the people in the parking lot and she called us to take her. We brought Priscilla to Ironwood and she now lives in one of our large fields.

Jessica was able to rehome most of the litter of babies but four had remained with her for the past 2½ years. She asked if we could take some of her pigs due to changes in her life and we agreed to do so. The two girls and two boys came to live here. They settled in very easily and are happily living in a small field now but will soon be released to the large North Field where they will be able to live out their lives as a family within a herd.

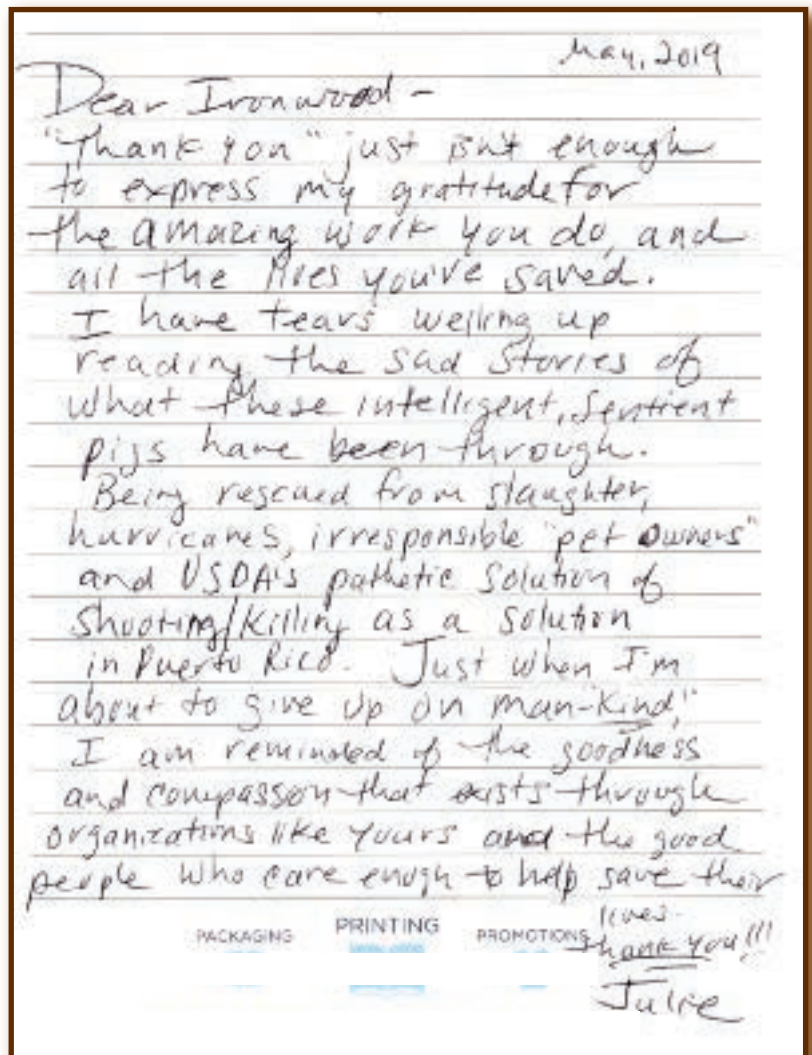
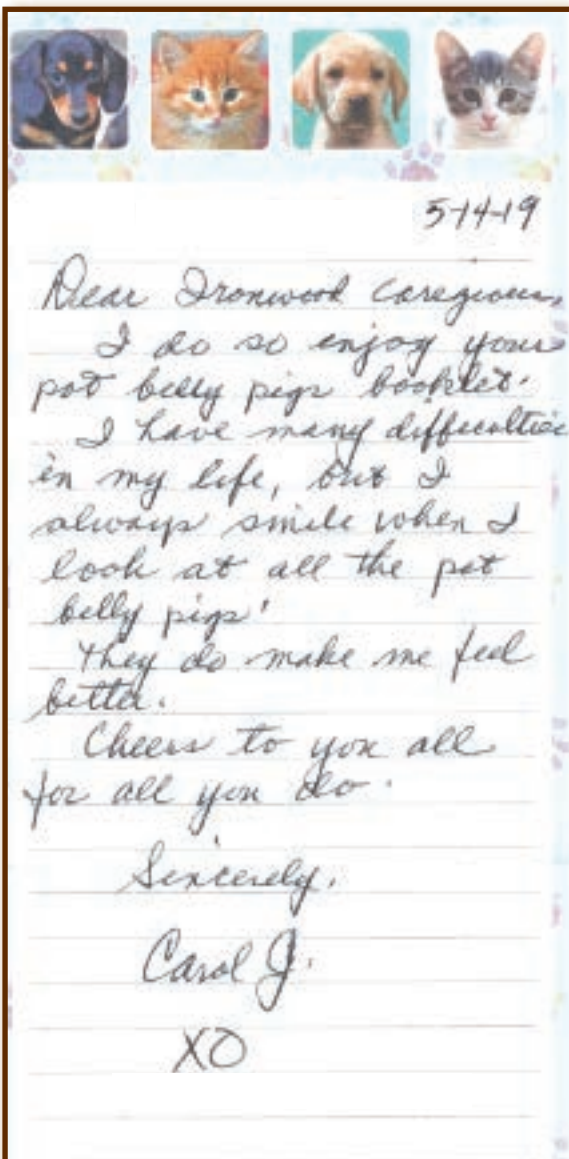


MISSION STATEMENT

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.

Supporters Write



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Published at the above address regularly.

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
PERMIT NO. 2216

JULY 2019
ISSUE 89

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Clementine & Winky