

IRONWOOD



ISSUE
NO. 18

NOVEMBER
2006

Corgie

PIG SANCTUARY

**Ironwood Pig Sanctuary
34656 E. Crystal Visions Road
Marana, AZ 85653**

November 1, 2006

Dear Supporter,

I come to you this holiday season with a wish for peace and health to you, your family and your companion animals. I want to sincerely thank you for your continued support throughout the year and for making it possible for all of us here at Ironwood to continue to save unwanted pigs, one by one. Our work is not possible without your help. I know the decisions are often difficult because there are thousands of organizations throughout the country with causes, all in need of assistance. That is why we think you are so special because you have chosen to help our pigs, and we think they are so deserving.

This has been a very difficult quarter for Ben and I. Never before since we opened have we been faced with so many calls in so short a time for unwanted pigs. Like you, our decisions are difficult also, because we cannot take them all and we try to save the ones whose lives are in immediate danger, like Francis in the adjacent article. These calls take their toll on me emotionally. We are a rescue and sanctuary and our soul purpose is to help the pigs in need of assistance in the community and state. I agonize over each call knowing that one more time I have to make the decision if he or she can come to us and if not what will the fate of this innocent life be. The callers have no idea how difficult this is and sometimes they are desperate themselves to find a home for a pig they may love. Other times they are insensitive and irresponsible and I would like to hang the phone up on them, but I know that would put the life of their pig in jeopardy.

So I come to you this holiday season to thank you not only from our pigs but from myself as well. If your donation makes it possible for me to build another field or hire another staff member, then when the phone rings because a baby was found at a construction site and its mother was shot dead, as recently happened, I can say yes we will take that baby from you and thank you for calling and caring.

Sincerely,

Mary Schanz

Mary Schanz

PS Thank you for caring and have a very Happy, Healthy Holiday Season.



George

The Burden Grows

This is our little Francis. He came to us on August 28th of this year. He was an unneutered lean male. The owner thought that he was a three-year-old obese female. He is very shy, but he has learned to take treats from my hand if I move very slowly. He had lived in his previous home for three years, but the man did not know his sex, never touched him, and he was in a small confined pen. He was not starved nor do I believe he was physically abused. However when the man called me, he told me he was "getting rid of his pig" and if he couldn't "get rid of it" he was going to send it to be rendered. I suppose that means he would give "it" to the livestock board and they would take him to the livestock auction to be sold for slaughter. I passed this information on to my husband to make the arrangements to pick Francis up because I never wanted to talk with that man again.

This is one pig that we were able to save, but since we took Francis we have had calls for 59 more pigs during the month of September and the first few days of October. Twenty of these pigs were from the Arizona Humane Society from a cruelty seizure. The good news is this is one more back

yard breeder who is shut down, but the sows were nearly starved to death and now there are 20 more pigs that need a home in addition to all the other calls we have taken recently. Thanks to Sioux from Pig-A-Sus in CO, most of the babies will be placed in new homes. We can only take a small fraction of the recent pigs that need a home.

thought we were making inroads on the pig population, but this past month has shown us that the problem still looms huge. We pride ourselves in being a no kill shelter, but every time we have to turn a pig away that needs a home, we are afraid that we are condemning it to death. Please help. Don't buy animals, adopt them. Don't



Mary

Francis

I have put out an alert across the country for anyone who is able to assist in finding homes for some of them. I have had e-mails from people as far away as Texas and am able to place a few of them but not all. It is a huge burden to get calls every day from people from all around the state who want us to take their pig or pigs and we have to make the hard decision about who can be saved and who cannot. We

breed animals, adopt them. Don't get an animal you can't take with you when you move or get divorced. Please help us with a donation so we can provide a home for more of these pigs in need of a home or for help with outreach projects that help us get them in to their own personal home.

--- Mary

Our Babies are Growing Up

The sweet little hoglets you saw pictures of in the last newsletter are growing like weeds and getting into everything. They are fast, full of energy, inquisitive, friendly, and pushy. They have been running loose around the property for more than three months now and greet everyone who comes for a visit. But they are starting to get in the way of our daily routine and it will soon be time to move them to our new large field along with the Yucatan. Even though we try to only rescue pot bellied pigs, we have accepted that these hoglets will stay with us as they grow into 500-pound animals, and I do appreciate all of you who wrote with suggestions. Like us, the farm sanctuaries are full as well, and since these babies are clearly in no danger of being harmed, the farm sanctuaries will reserve their precious space for those animals whose lives are in danger. I think this picture says a thousand words when it comes to how these “kids” feel about being here with us. The tragic loss of their mother saved their lives.



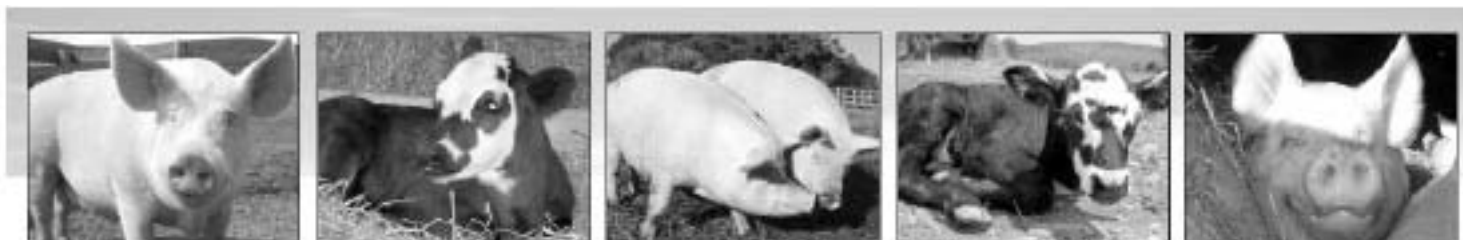
**Buttercup Crawls Onto Tim's Lap
While Mojo Jojo, Blossom And
Bubbles Take a Break**

Vote Yes on Prop 204

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 204 in ARIZONA

Millions of hogs across this nation, not unlike the ones pictured above, are raised in unspeakable conditions prior to slaughtering for food. Having seen these hoglets grow up and run and play in delight, I know it is unbearable for other intelligent creatures like them to live in the horrible cramped

conditions in which they are forced to live. Proposition 204 is a very modest change in the law that would require room for veal calves and pregnant sows to turn around, lie down, and extend their limbs. Right now the industry standard is a two-foot-wide gestation crate for pregnant sows. Take a few moments to think about what life would be like in their world.




Arizonans for Humane Farms

Unbelievable True Story

Call it fate, call it coincidence, call it destiny, but this is a story that makes you wonder. One day my husband Ben received a call from one of our supporters who wanted to talk with him about giving the sanctuary some exposure on his business web site by placing pictures of pigs there. During the conversation Ben asked the caller if he would like to sponsor a pig. The man asked if we had a pig named Homer. Ben said we did not but we would name one after him and he could sponsor him. On the same day the Arizona Humane Society brought a male pig to us that they had picked up as a stray. They gave me the paperwork that I did not look at that evening. When we returned home from the sanctuary that evening, I asked Ben to check the name of the man who had called earlier that day so we could name our new pig after the caller. The man's name was HOMER

so we were going to name our new pig Homer. The next morning I picked up the paperwork from the Humane Society and was shocked to see on the paperwork the pig had been named

Kennel No:	Animal No:	ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY <small>We Build Healthy Relationships Between People and Animals.</small>	
S2DOG 29	A151677		
		Name: HOMER	
		Color: BLACK	
		Breed: POTBELLY PIG	
		Sex: MALE	Age: UNK
		Collar Color:	Collar Type:
		Tag:	
		Markings:	
Intake Date: 09/18/2006	Intake Time: 2:53 pm	Review Date: 09/21/2006	Intake Type: STRAY / FIELD
Found @ / Comments: SAN TAN RD AND RIGGS			Intake By: BMARCOTTI
			Surrender Reason: STRAY

HOMER while staying at the Humane Society!!! I have included a picture of Homer and the paperwork from the Humane Society. What are the chances of that?

COVER

Corgie came to us with his friend Cheesecake from Chino Valley, AZ. Neighbors had been taking care of them and many other animals left behind after the owner had passed away leaving all the animals with an 85-year-old woman who was unable to care for them. Lucky for these two shy but sweet pigs, the neighbors cared enough to take care of them and find them a home. Corgie is without a doubt one of the most striking pigs I have ever seen. His eyes are large and beautiful and he looks straight at you. He is neutered and ready to go to a new home, but he could only go with his friend Cheesecake.



Open House Cancelled

I am very sorry to inform you that the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary open house has been cancelled for this year due to all the other work that we have to do. We have received many calls to rescue pigs, much more than normal. We have our new field development and our winterizing to complete. At this time we just can't add anymore to our plate. I hope you all understand. And don't forget that we do have individual tours throughout the year just in case you want to see the sanctuary. Make sure that you plan ahead and schedule your visit so that we can make sure that Mary is available that day to give you a tour. We are very sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused you.



HoofsnHorns Farm

Some of our pigs just might become famous... You may remember last summer, Goat rescuer Shelby Brawley of HoofsnHorns Farm helped us get eight very sunburned and frightened piggies (including a couple of their goat friends) out of a soon to be fatal situation in Scottsdale. Well, to date two of the piggies have been adopted, but the remaining six will stay at Shelby's farm as their forever home.

Shelby and her mother, Sidney, have a goat rescue farm in the Picture Rocks area. For the past six years, they have taken in many abandoned, injured and some retired (considered "useless") goats, whom for many different reasons were in need of a loving and safe forever home. Home to many goats and now several rescued piggies, including our Scottsdale six, the farm has been in need of some assistance. Hence... our little herd of pigs have now found their faces, or snouts, rather on T-shirts! These Tshirts are being sold through their website at www.hoofsnhorns.com to generate funds for the farm. There are shirts with goats, cows and of course, more pigs on them. Please visit their site and meet many of their residents,

including "Pedro" the Miracle Goat, who has quite the story as well. Shelby can be contacted at hoofsnhorns@earthlink.net or through her website if you are interested in a tshirt, some goat's milk soap, or just to help the farm or meet the critters.



Rescued Goat And Deer

www.hoofsnhorns.com
<http://www.hoofsnhorns.com/Tshirts.html>

Thank Yous Abound!

First of all I would like to thank the staff at Ironwood and our Annex who have made it through this long, hot summer. As I type this letter it is Oct. and still 100 degrees today. It is no easy task to work outside for 10 hours a day when it is 100 plus degrees in the shade. Trust me, I know.

We are beautifying Ironwood thanks to Mountain States Wholesale Nursery in Litchfield Park. Thanks to Tina, one of our staff, who made the contact. They donated 40 Honey Mesquite trees and thirty other beautiful desert plants and they delivered them without any cost to us. This has been a huge savings to Ironwood and we have long wanted to get some trees for the fields and around the property. Once the time came to plant the trees, Donna and Justin offered to help by bringing in a large backhoe from Justin's work and that was what made it work. John and



Justin & Donna Move Two Trees While Ben Looks On

Francie, Holly, and Bob came also to help get them in the ground. We still have about twenty more trees to plant, but by Open House they should all be in.

Eege's put donation boxes in all their stores for us again this year for one full month and they collected a total of \$1038.40!!! Thanks to everyone who dropped their extra change in the boxes for us and to eegee's for their support. We didn't even have to do a thing and that is great considering all we have to do.

We would also like to thank St. Mary's Veterinary Hospital for donating boxes of medical supplies and Lorin for coming twice, loaded with wood, and within a few short hours had porches and stairs for two of our buildings. Herb has continued to collect blankets for us all year and we really will need them soon, we hope. Willy continues to bring fruits and veggies to those lucky pigs at the Annex and Community 301 folks continue to stuff envelopes into our newsletters. Bob shows up here on Wednesday with boxes of produce and is always ready to rake or help where he is needed as well as with other of our outreach projects.

We recently built our new Phase IV assisted living field and John, Bob, and Cindy helped us complete it so we could get our pigs moved in. The pigs love it!

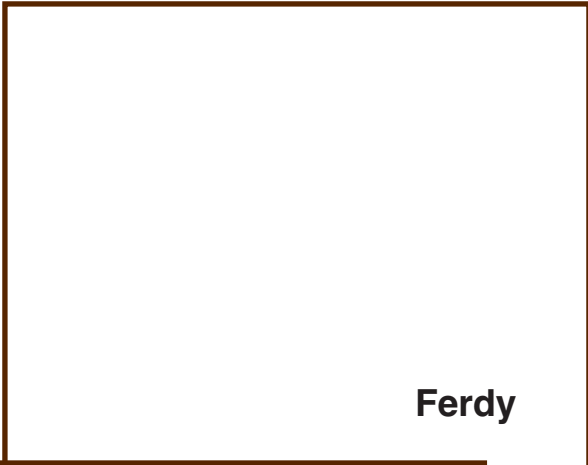


Pigs in The Main Field Check Out Three of The New Trees

Barbara, Jeannie, Donna S., and Anne help me to thank all of you who are so kind to donate to our pigs. None of this would be possible without the help of all of you. Feed, hay, medical, staff, fuel, insurance, materials are all expensive and there is absolutely no way we could do this alone. The lives of these animals depend on us doing our part and upon you helping us to do our part. Thank you.

A final thank you to Jeannie who had taken over our sponsor program and did so much organizing for us. Due to personal reasons she has had to quit and I have taken the program over. Please bear with me while I try to catch up.

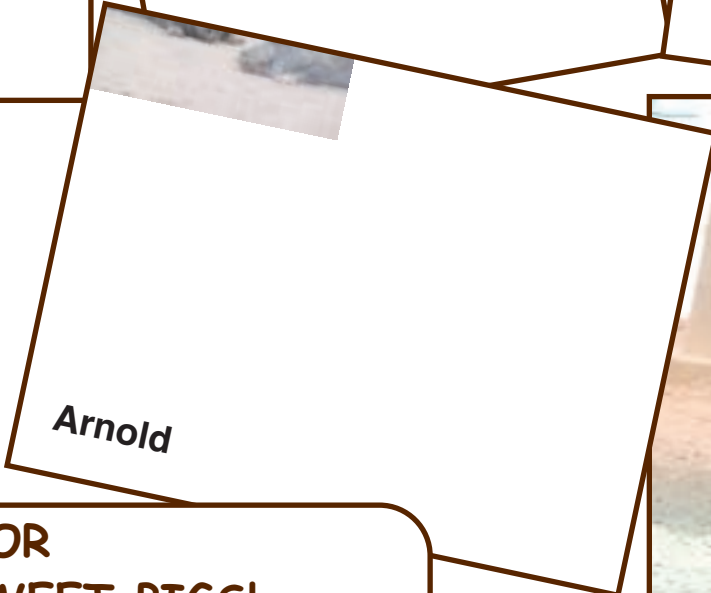
---Mary



Ferdy



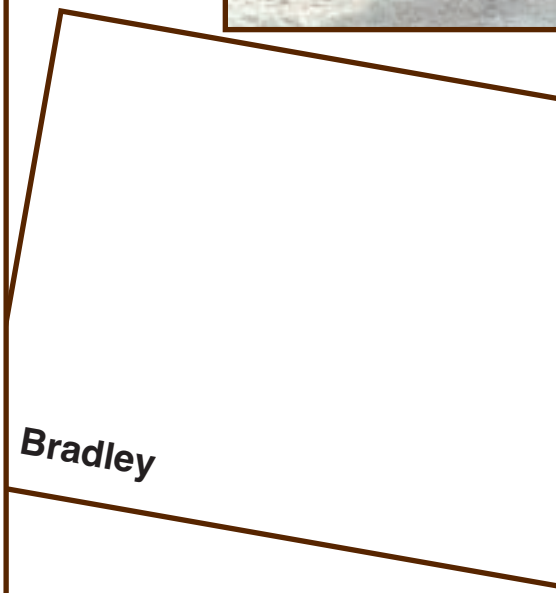
Mr T-Bone



Arnold



Corgie



Bradley

SPONSOR

ONE OF OUR SWEET PIGS!

All of these pigs need a sponsor! These are all loving animals that miss their homes and would love to have a sponsor. Their friends are sponsored and they wonder why they are not. I will send you updates and pictures of your selected pig throughout your sponsorship. A contribution of \$30 a month will cover all your pig's expenses including food and health care. Listed are just a few of the pigs needing parents. Choose one of them or send me a description (male, female, young, old, special needs, etc.) and I'll send you a picture with background information.

*Thank you for making a difference!
Mary*

ester

Walter Riley

Rosie

Bruno

Erma

Wilbur & Pinky

Spike

Marvin



Transporting Your Pig

I can't count the number of times I've heard about a pig that died of a "heart attack" while being transported. Bob, Mary, the staff at Ironwood, and I have transported over 700 pot bellied pigs in the seven years we have been involved with pigs, originally volunteering at Pigs*A*Lot, which is now our Annex, and later with the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. We have transported young pigs, 16-year-old pigs, obese pigs, neutered males, pregnant females, boars and malnourished pigs. You name it and we have transported it.

In all this time and with all these transportations we have not lost any pig. Not to a "heart attack" or otherwise.

The secret is using the proper methods of transportation to ensure the health and survival of the pig being transported.

I recall a particularly bad transportation case where a well-meaning couple had convinced a neighbor to give up their pig because they felt that it was not being properly cared for. They were bringing it to the sanctuary so we could take care of her. They arrived with the medium sized female in a carrier so small that she was jammed into the carrier and could not move. To compound the situation, they brought her in the back of a

pickup truck on a hot Arizona day. Upon her arrival I hurried to get her out of the sun into a pen where she would have water shade and shelter. I opened the crate to let her out and she just lay there on the cool ground. She was terribly hot and distressed. I poured cool water on her and she lay there for over an hour slowly recovering. I am happy to report that today she is doing great and is a happy sponsored pig.

Here are the recommendations we think are important to ensure the safe arrival of your special pig during transportation.

Secure Your Pig:

It is important to always use a carrier to transport your pig. This

the vehicle for transportation and will allow you to deliver them safely to their destination. The last thing you want is a scared pig running around in the street while you try and get them into a back yard. We find that most pigs will urinate and defecate in the carrier during transportation, so the carrier will also protect your vehicle from being soiled. We always put a carpet in the carrier to absorb any liquids and minimize your pig from getting dirty. Never put an unprotected pig in the back of a pickup. They can get hurt due to sudden stops or turns and they may even jump out if scared enough.

The size of the carrier should be selected with the pig in mind.

You should always use the largest carrier available so that the pig can turn around and lay down. Size of the pig is an important consideration, but the final size of the carrier should be determined by the age and weight of the pig. For

example, where the size of your carrier is smaller than you would like, a healthy and not overweight pig can go into a



Ben And Tim With Two New Arrivals

will ensure their safety from sudden stops or turns. It will also be easier for you to put your pig in

the size of your carrier is smaller than you would like, a healthy and not overweight pig can go into a

smaller carrier more safely than an obese pig. This is because the healthy and not overweight pig can sit on its haunches and support its front with its legs and fit into a smaller carrier. On the other hand, an old or obese pig cannot support itself and must lie down. If it doesn't have enough space it may suffocate. A pig that is lying down needs a much longer carrier. Unfortunately they don't have special carriers for pigs which would be a little longer than dog carriers.

Reinforce Your Carrier:

Carriers made for dogs, which we use to transport all of our pigs, are generally not strong enough for transporting pigs. We find that the carrier itself is almost always sufficient but the gate is not strong enough to contain a pig trying to get out. Pigs are very strong and can lift the gate out of the holes in the plastic carrier. When transporting pigs we drill holes in the plastic carrier near each pin and pivot point of the gate top and bottom and halfway down the sides of the gate. We insert 50# rated plastic ties through these holes and around the bars of the gate in order to secure the plastic carrier against the gate.

Plan Ahead:

We use a dolly to transport our pigs. Quite often we are picking up a pig in a backyard that is remote from vehicle access. It is very difficult for two people to carry a 150# pig, or even a 100# pig any distance in a carrier. We

use a 4-wheeled dolly and load the pig on the dolly for transportation to and from our vehicle. We also set the handle of the dolly on the entrance to the rear of the vehicle and two people can slide the carrier up into the vehicle. This works well for a large pig. We also use a plastic bed liner for our van so that it is easier to slide in a carrier.

Temperature:

Since we have received our donated Astro Van we never transport a pig in an open vehicle in any kind of weather. It is very hot in Arizona during the summer and we do not recommend that any animal be in a carrier exposed to the summer sun and heat. Even in states other than Arizona the sun can be very hot even though the outside air temperature is moderate. Before receiving our van we had carried pigs in carriers in a trailer, in the back of a pickup truck, and in the back of a pickup with a shell, but only during mild weather. Before our Astro Van we would rent a cargo van to transport pigs during hot or otherwise inclement weather.

During hot weather while transporting pigs in our Astro Van we make sure that the air conditioning is set to the highest airflow and coolest temperature. We do NOT set the air conditioning to the Max Air position because this position circulates air in the passenger compartment only and doesn't allow air to flow through the vehicle. Most vehicles allow you

to select "circulate" or "flow through" for the air conditioning. Always select "flow through" and at the maximum flow for the hotter days.

I always check the back of the van periodically on hot days to make sure that the temperature is comfortable for the pigs.

Safety:

I always make sure that I have cutters for the ties securing the gates on the carriers so that if a pig is having a problem I can get to them in a hurry. We also ALWAYS carry 5 gallons of water in the van so that if a breakdown occurs we have water to keep the pigs cool. We will dump the water into the carriers and splash it on the pigs in an emergency. Pigs do not sweat. Their only method of cooling off is by evaporating water.

Follow the advice in this article and avoid giving your special pig a "heart attack". --- Ben



Sweet Dreams Collie

New Expansion Field

Ironwood recently completed a new 6-acre field adjacent to our existing fields. This field will be used for new arrivals. The primary motivation was to have a place where the Annex pigs could come if it was necessary to move them from their location in Avra Valley in the Twin Peaks area.

The field required 1,500 feet of high-strength chain link installed by the sanctuary with



Assisted Living Phase IV - Part of the New Expansion Field

some outside help. The new field was just put to use recently with the creation of a new Assisted Living Phase IV field within its boundaries that eleven pigs now call home. The Phase IV field was created by partitioning off an area in the new field with hog panels,



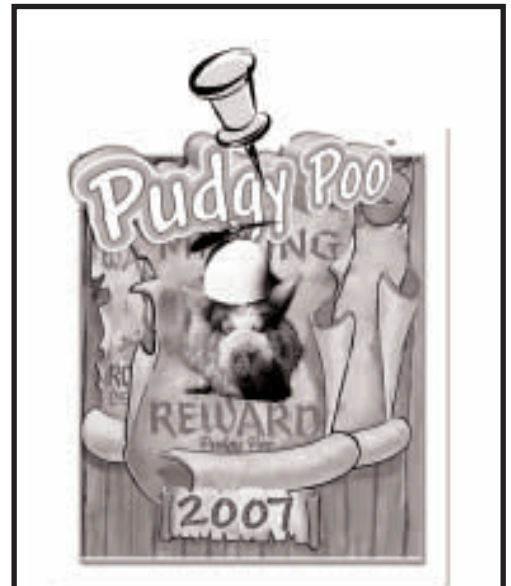
Wilma Found a Nice Spot

installing a complete watering system, putting up shade ramadas, building enough shelters with floors for the rainy weather and setting up the feeding station. The pigs have now moved in and are making new buddies.

Wilma will never be attacked by a pit bull again. Big Porky, an only pig until he was 16 1/2 years old, has been seen lying in the shade with Piggy, 11, who was also an only pig until recently. Now that they have their own permanent home they don't have to be shuttled back and forth from their pens to the exercise yard. They will pick out their own shelter and when the cold weather sets in they will be cozy and ready for it.



Piggy at Her New Phase IV Home



Pudgy's 2007 calendar is on the streets!

This former Ironwood resident's calendar is a unique collaboration of Pudgy's family and fans! Just like last year, it's sure to please!!

You can help Ironwood Pig Sanctuary by ordering Pudgy's 2007 calendar!

When ordering on-line, just type "Ironwood" in the comments section of the order form at www.pudgypoo.com

or call 1-888-PUDGYPOO

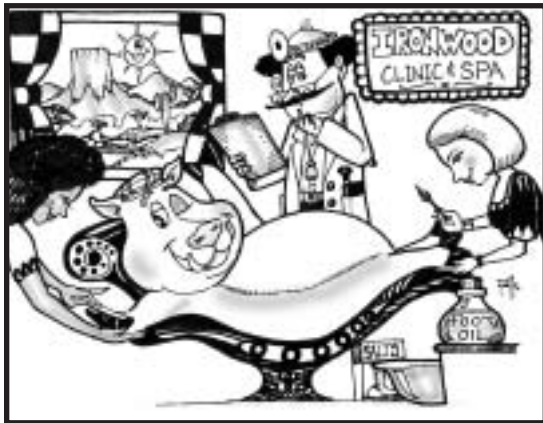
And \$2.00 of every calendar will be donated to Ironwood!

Care For Your Pig

Pigs are a lot different from cats and dogs. Not only is it harder to transport them for medical care, it is hard to find a veterinarian that will work with pigs, and the needs of pigs are different from cats and dogs.

Veterinarians that work with pigs are very limited in Tucson and Phoenix. Some will make a house call and others won't.

In Tucson we have Dr. Page and Dr. Staten at the Adobe Veterinary



Center (520-546-8387) who will come to your home to treat your pig, Dr. Curtis at the Eastside Spay and Neuter Clinic (520-731-1714) who offers low-cost spays and neuters for your pigs, dogs, and cats at her clinic and Dr. Brambert at the 7727 E Broadway PetSmart (520-722-0410) will treat pigs at their clinic.

In Phoenix there are Dr. Harris (602-494-9669) and Dr. Driggers (480-706-8478) who will both make house calls to treat your pig. For pig hoof and tusk trimming and goat hoof trimming in

Phoenix and Tucson and surrounding areas you can contact Donna Norton (520-682-4686). Donna also makes twice-a-year trips to Las Vegas for trimming. For Southern California you can call Kelly Moon (626) 419-6597 for hoof and tusk trimming. Contact Marcie Christianson at CPPA4Pigs@aol.com for a list of vets.

Over the years we have included articles in our newsletter that will help you to give the proper care for your pig. Below is a compilation of those articles. Instead of repeating any of the information, I will provide you an index to the issue where the article appeared. Our new web site that will be up and running by the time you read this includes pdf files of all of our newsletters so that you will be able to refer to any issue that has an article you are interested in.

August 2006 - "The Needs of Your Pig" - Page 12 & 13 What you should provide for your pig in your yard.

May 2006 - "Trimming Your Pig's Hooves" - Page 11 Importance of hoof trimming.

February 2006 - "What's Killing Your Pig" - Page 14 Arthritis limits the life of your pig.

May 2005 - "Should Female Pigs be Spayed" - Page 10 How spaying increases the life of your

female pig.

February 2004 - "How to Handle an Aggressive Pig" - Page 11 Here's help if your pig becomes aggressive.

August 2003 - "Trimming Time" - Page 13 Advice on hoof trimming.

Hoof & Tusk Trimming

Pig owners in the Tucson, Phoenix and surrounding areas can contact Donna Norton for tusk and hoof trimming. Donna is an experienced trimmer, having lived onsite at Ironwood for over four years. Donna and her husband, Justin, provide weekend house calls for pig and goat trims.

Please call
520-682-4686 or e-mail at
hoofandtusk@yahoo.com to set up an appointment.



Donna Trimming Navajo, One of Her Pigs

Ways to Support Your Sanctuary

New Incentives on Donations

Congress recently approved important tax changes as part of long-awaited legislation to overhaul pension laws.

Charitable organizations have been waiting for years for lawmakers to approve the provision allowing direct, tax-free charitable distributions from IRAs to charities. Under the new legislation, taxpayers who are 70 1/2 or older

typically get an exclusion from their gross income for otherwise taxable distributions of up to \$100,000 from an IRA, which are paid directly to a qualified charity. Any amount donated to charity this way is taken into account for purposes of your minimum distribution requirement for the year.

Before making any distributions please consult with your tax adviser.

We accept donations with the following credit cards for your convenience.



Use Your Credit or Debit Card to Make a Monthly Donation

Almost every day the sanctuary receives calls about pigs needing our help and we must always ask the question, “where will the money come from to help this one?” The answer is: from people like you who care and want to make a difference.

By joining as a sanctuary sustainer, a monthly contribution, be it \$5, \$10, \$25 or \$100, will be charged to your credit card. The amount, which is determined by you, will be there each month to care for the animals. To sign up, just fill out the form on the enclosed reply envelope and indicate your monthly contribution.

Thank You for caring.

Please Consider Putting the Sanctuary In Your Will

Your support makes it possible for us to give a loving home to the 450 Pot Bellied Pigs in our care and is very much appreciated. Consider putting the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary in your WILL so that your support can continue after you are gone. We can accept appreciated stock, real estate, or other assets. Please check with your financial adviser.

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.

It's Cold Out There!

F For the last two issues I have included an article about protecting your pig from the heat. Well it is still hot here in Arizona as I write this article. The temperatures this week are in the high 90's. But other parts of the country have had snow and bitter cold weather at night. By the end of October it is going to be cold at night here in Arizona. We will have all of our wintering in place by then. We use Bermuda grass for bedding along with blankets we have collected over the year. We put carpet doors on the shelters to keep out the cold wind.

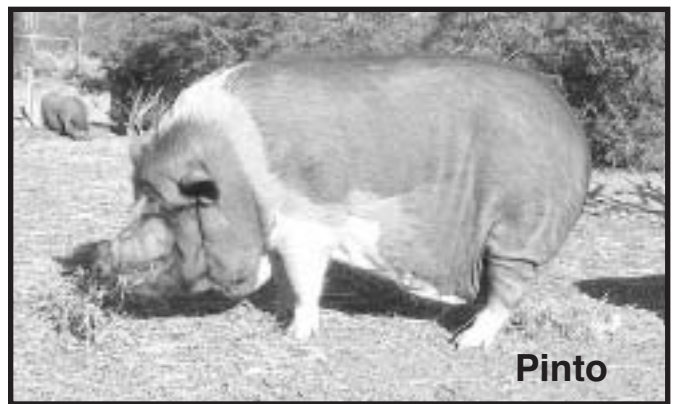
I remember a sad story of a pig in the higher elevations of Arizona that one morning was so cold that she could not move. The owners threw in some hay and as far as they were concerned that solved the problem. Her shelter was open to the elements and that poor pig was still cold at night but not so cold she couldn't move. Just think how she would

have liked a nice snuggly blanket and protection from the cold wind.

Make sure all your special critters have a cozy warm shelter this winter. Just think what it would be like if you had to spend the night in their shelter.



Spike



Pinto

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www.ironwoodpigsanctuary.org

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IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS



Feeding Time In Tina's Field