

# IRONWOOD

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Ziggy

## PIG SANCTUARY



# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490  
Tucson, AZ 85740

January 2015

Dear Supporter,

Happy New Year to all of you and welcome to all the new supporters who have joined us this past year to help us fulfill our mission to provide a safe happy home for so many pigs in need. This is indeed a daunting task. The demand to provide a home for unwanted pigs is spiraling up across the country since the breeders are once again breeding and selling the fraudulent “micro mini” pigs to people who have no idea what the needs and behavior of a companion pig is, big or small. This is truly a disaster for these pigs who find themselves homeless in a few months to a year or two. There are not enough sanctuaries in this country to provide all these homes.

A friend and supporter recently sent me a card that touched me deeply. It is a beautiful card and it read: “Three thoughts for you... for strength, hope, and courage to carry you through.” She knew I and all of us here at the sanctuary had experienced many difficult times this past year with the loss of so many of our dear friends and the stress of trying to provide a home for so many more pigs in need.

As I grapple with these many needs I think often of her card and I look to where I get strength, hope, and courage to carry me through. My husband Ben is surely at the top of my list. He is always there to help me over the humps and to do so many and varied tasks here at the sanctuary. The Staff here makes it work, without which we could not function. Feeding and watering alone takes more man-hours than there are in a day, not to mention the multitude of other tasks that remain to be accomplished. Volunteers and friends and family offer help here at the sanctuary and from their homes and also offer emotional support.

We could not exist without you our supporters, who like our Staff, are the backbone of Ironwood. Each pig’s life here, whether they are old and sick or young and healthy, is part of a web of so many people who help in some way to provide for them. Your generosity over the past year, your outpouring of support and singing our praises at our open house, and your notes, cards, boxes and donations over this holiday season make 2015 look like another hopeful year for our pigs here at Ironwood. We are so thankful for your support and wish you a very Happy New Year.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz  
President & Co-Founder

PS After writing and thinking about this letter I know that my strength, hope, and courage comes from the thousands of people who are part of this web and the faces and smiles and wagging tails of the hundreds of pigs here at Ironwood.



**Petunia Was a House Pig  
- She Thinks She Still Is.**

# Julia's Retreat

I need a retreat. Life is exhausting. It feels like there's never enough time; always too many demands and too many people "needing" everything. I'm going to Ironwood.

My laptop stays at home with the "Out of Office" turned on.....if it's an emergency, please contact someone else. My work clothes stay home.

I'm living in blue jeans and a T-shirt for a week. This is my uniform for the week. It's my favorite clothing in the world. And the last thing I left back East were my worries. They will need to wait a week as well.



average day and an Ironwood day! But it's my mindset that is the most different. My mindset is one of excitement at seeing the people that are now old friends again. I am excited to meet new friends; contented with being able to take the time to breathe deeply, look up at the beautiful Arizona mountains, and look down at little feet..... belonging to a pig

who will not allow me to stop his long awaited belly rub. This mindset doesn't mind the cacti, the heat, or the tired muscles,



This change in environment serves as great therapy for me. Sometimes, that's all the therapy we need. How is life different in the Ironwood environment?

\* I left NH during the first Nor'easter of the season. Everyone in Arizona is telling me I chose a good time to come visit while it is "cool". Really? Is it the "cool" weather that's giving me the sunburn?

\* At the sanctuary, my Fitbit tells me I've logged 23,841 steps - and that's a NORMAL day at Ironwood. Back home, I am lucky to get in 6,000 steps and that's if I can convince myself to take a walk at lunch. Now I understand why these pigs are in the best shape of their lives.

\* I back into cacti with my body instead of the mailbox with my car. And I can quite confidently assure you that the \$500 damage to my car is less painful. This is an everyday occurrence for all of us at the sanctuary.

\* Every individual here is considered "somebody", not just the humans. Very refreshing.

\* I am physically tired at the end of each day. This is not the same tired I get from wondering why numbers don't balance at work - but a pure, physical tired. This type of tired is what I think human bodies were meant to feel. So many differences between my



because those are all part of this wonderful package. This is the mindset that I hope for everyone who happens to be caught up in the rush and gush of everyday life. I don't know what does it for you, but a trip to Ironwood Sanctuary does it for me.

---Julia

# Three Brothers

**S**pidy, Deuce and Buddy are brothers that came to us in April of 2014 with a variety of stories as to why their owners couldn't keep them. First we heard that there was no money to take care of them. Then it was because of a divorce and no one to help care for them. Next, the landlord said the pigs had to go. Yet when we arrived to pick them up, the boys were living on a large piece of property along with horses, dogs and other animals. Seems odd that only the pigs had to go.....

Anyway, the first order of business with these 7 year old guys was to get the three of them neutered which was taken care of during their first week with us. Buddy had a large testicular tumor, but the surgery went well and all three recovered quickly from that ordeal. Males remain fertile for 45 days after neutering, so Buddy, Deuce and Spidey needed to remain in holding pens for a while before they could join a herd in one of our fields. We moved the boys to a



**Buddy**

large pen located within one of our fields so that they could be together and have more space during their quarantine time. All

three of them were looking a little scruffy, so we began giving them vitamins and flaxseed oil supplements as well as a second round of wormer. We delayed their move to the field until they had gained a little more weight and were looking healthier. They were happy in the place they were living and had room to roam.

Then the trouble began for Spidey. One morning in July he would not eat his breakfast, his belly was bloated and he was just standing still as if he didn't feel good. After discovering that he was running a



**Spidey**

fever, we moved Spidey to a holding pen for observation and treatment. The next day he was breathing heavily and straining to defecate. We gave him an enema which produced a few hay packed poops. He was in obvious distress, so we took him in to the vet clinic. Dr. Page took x-rays and found that Spidey's stomach and lower intestine were full of sand and pebbles. He was dehydrated as well as anemic and ended up staying at the clinic for five days and nights. During that time he was given IV and subQ fluids, Metamucil, mineral oil, Baytril and Flunixinamine. Daily

sonograms or x-rays were done to monitor the movement of the sand which was passing through very



**Deuce**

slowly. On the fifth day Spidey returned to the sanctuary where we continued the same regime the vets had been doing. We offered him milkshakes with Miralax, vegetable broth, juice, watermelon....anything he would eat or drink that would keep him hydrated and flush out his system. The poor guy had to endure more enemas and more shots over the next week or so before his bowels starting moving on their own. And to top it all off, Spidey developed a bad cough. Spidey returned to the



**Brothers' Field**

clinic after 3 weeks for more x-rays. The report was good this time. His lungs were clear, the sand was gone from his belly and he was near a complete recovery.



The Baytril, an antibiotic injection, had to be continued every few days for a full month. By the end of August Spidey was finally eating and drinking well and “taking care of business” with no troubles at all.

In mid September shortly after Spidey was able to rejoin his brothers in their large pen, Buddy began having problems urinating and had to be moved up to a



Buddy

holding pen. This is almost always bad news for a male pig! Buddy was straining and dribbling bloody urine as well as running a high temperature. He was given some oral and injectable medications to help his body relax so that he could empty his bladder. We also started him on antibiotics but ended up changing that later after a culture showed a resistance to what we were using. Buddy lived in the holding pen for just over three weeks until we felt sure that he had recovered completely from what turned out to be a urinary tract infection. He is still taking daily supplements to help acidify his urine and will remain on those indefinitely.

So finally all three boys are healthy and ready to make the big move into our Sunset Field. On October 12th we brought them over and introduced them into the existing herd. Spidey, Buddy and

Deuce now had new challenges brought on from the other pigs. There were fights as they established their territory, chose a shelter and decided where they would eat. Spidey was easy since he is fed a special mash. He began using an available feeding pen and easily picked up on that routine. Buddy and Deuce became what we call “trough pigs”, those that go back and forth between the various troughs spread throughout the field. There were some minor injuries from scuffles with the other pigs. Deuce ended up with a bad bite on the inside of his leg and had to take antibiotics. Within days of moving into Sunset, Buddy and Deuce both had swollen puffy eyes. A few days of Benadryl cleared that up for both of them.

Everything settled down nicely though and Deuce, Spidey and Buddy are very happy in their new



Deuce

home. Most times they sleep together in a shelter but occasionally go out on their own. The boys have explored the entire field numerous times. Deuce and Buddy tend to hang out more on the south end of the field while Spidey is often closer to the front. They have found favorite spots for naps in the sun as well as cool shady spots. All three boys mingle with others in the herd while grazing on hay. They have a good



Spidey

relationship with one another, spending a lot of time together yet are independent enough to wander off on their own when they want. The Sunset Field turned out to be the right choice for them. Another happy ending for three scruffy boars....now happy healthy boys living a safe, secure life!

---Donna

## 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 an experienced trimmer living on site at Ironwood. Donna provides house calls for pig and goat trims. Please call 520-780-8832 or e-mail [hoofandtusk@yahoo.com](mailto:hoofandtusk@yahoo.com) to set up an appointment.



# 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. Donors are encouraged to make a bequest in a Will or Living Trust to benefit the charity of their 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) 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.

## Make a Donation In Another's Name As a Gift

Go to our web site and click on the donate button on the home page. You will be opening up the PayPal web site. Once you select your donation amount and either log into your PayPal account or if you don't have an account, put in the information they ask for and go to the next screen. The next screen is a confirmation of what you have entered and there is a statement near the top on the left side that says "send a message to the recipient." You can type any message you want. For example you may want to make a gift to Ironwood in your sister's name. Put in the name and address of your sister who loves pigs. Add any message from you that you would like her to receive. You can make the message long enough to cover all that you want to tell us. Make sure you put in your name and address. We will send her an attractive acknowledgement of your gift.

## Employer Matching Gift

You can easily make your donation to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary go even further if you work for or are retired from a Matching Gift company. Many employers will match and sometimes double their employees' or retirees' charitable contributions. For a list of the larger matching gift companies please go to the bottom of the Support page of our web site at [www.ironwoodpigs.org](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org)



Laurie and her son Logan visit their sponsored pig at Open House.





# Open House 2014



**O**ur annual Open House was another fun filled day for just over 400 visitors not only from the Tucson/Phoenix areas but also from around the country. Some of our supporters planned their vacations to include a visit here. Others made a special trip here just to come to Open House. We love it that so many of you make the effort to come and meet the pigs!



All our visitors got to take a tour of the sanctuary and meet a lot of pigs including Bert and Arnold who were this year's "mascots" hanging out up front to greet everyone. We welcomed a lot of familiar faces as well as many new ones who we'll hopefully see again.



If you were not able to make it this time, make your plans for next year. Open House is held every 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 the visitors, supporters and sponsors who brought donations, treats and enjoyment for all our pigs!

## Shopping On Amazon.com is Easy

Shopping on Smile.Amazon.com is identical to Amazon.com except that for all your normal shopping including our wish list items, Ironwood Pig Sanctuary receives a 0.5% donation from Amazon. It is a super easy way to give to the sanctuary, especially if you want to give something extra for the holidays. We have numerous items on our Wish List already picked out so you'll know you are donating exactly what we need. The list is updated frequently so it's always current.

Here's how it works: On Amazon's Home page, click on "Wish List" in the top right corner and go to "Find a Wish List" then enter Ironwood Pig. You may choose items from our list and click on "Add to Cart" for each. When you have completed your selections, go to "Cart" and check out. The items you choose will be shipped directly to us. How easy is that! Thank you for all of your support.

# Sponsor a S



Peaches

I have lived here for several years but recently lost my sponsor. Can someone find it in their heart to give me another chance?



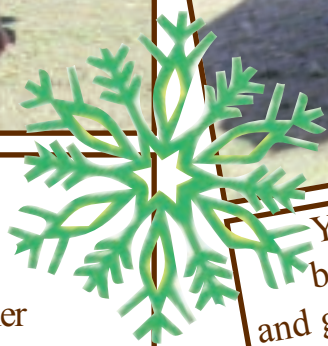
Taz

You might remember seeing me before. Two years ago I was here and got a sponsor. Lost that one, got another....lost that one too. What am I doing wrong??



Bandit

I came to Ironwood t my parents couldn't t anymore. I hope som be my new parents!



*Some of these pigs have been with us a while and need a new sponsor. Others are new pigs that have never had a sponsor before. Pick your favorite and join our family of sponsors! Your monthly \$30 donation helps cover your pig's basic needs and share of sanctuary expenses. I will send you a letter telling their story along with a few photos. Later in the year you'll receive an update and new pictures to keep you posted on what's happening in your pig's life. Please consider becoming a pig parent today!*  
.....Donna



Princess



Chatty Cathy

I'm another young stray wandering the roads in I feel lucky to have ended these other pigs!



# Special Pig!



od this summer because  
n't take care of me  
somebody wants to  
s!



Pickles

My mom got hurt really bad and  
needed a bunch of surgeries. She  
couldn't take care of me and  
my friend Wiggy anymore so  
we came here.



Dexter

I am clever and persistent (and  
also cute!). I managed to  
open my pen's gate  
numerous times so I could eat  
hay and more hay.



stray that was found  
s in Maricopa, AZ. I  
ended up here with all



Jasper

I am one of the sweetest piggies  
you'll ever meet. I love people and  
will talk and talk. You can pet me  
and rub my belly all day long!



Oompa

Just like Peaches, I too lost my  
long time sponsor. This fall I  
had surgery and have some  
medical bills to pay. Can anyone  
help me out?

# Young & Small We See Them All

**W**hen I first came to Ironwood we were getting a lot of pigs in from home foreclosures and families having to relocate quickly. We've had many intakes for various reasons over the years but recently we have been getting a lot of intakes that are young, small pigs. How could this be? A 4 month old pig is already getting the boot?

We have had a lot of pigs coming in because the families weren't prepared for a pig. Kevin was one of those cases. He is about 6 months old and has already been in two homes, the first being an apartment. A friend of Kevin's first family knew that he didn't belong in an apartment so he took him but soon realized that he wasn't prepared to have a pig either. He traveled often and would not have the time Kevin needed. He was right. Kevin is



young and needs space to play and someone to give him attention. He is extremely friendly and we have already started socializing him with other pigs in hopes that he will be adopted.



Oscar is another pig that came from a home that wasn't prepared for him. This home had the time and space but not the allowance from their HOA. This has become a huge problem for pigs and pig parents. HOA's are very strict on this and we receive many calls from pig parents that have to give up their pig because of restrictions.

A neighbor of Oscar's family reported them to their HOA and soon after the family was told that they could not keep Oscar. He is four months old and came to us unaltered. Oscar of course was acting tough and exhibiting boar behavior upon arrival. Typical boars, which are unaltered males, are a bit more rowdy and can even get aggressive. We have already neutered Oscar and expect him to calm down soon. He has grown since being here and is getting used to us. He will soon be able to go into a field and make new pig friends.

There have also been several young strays that we have taken in. People are always shocked

when I tell them that there are stray pigs but it is becoming common. Anna was found as a stray.

When she was found she was also about four months old and was not spayed. She was very friendly and sweet. Anna accepted attention and was very social so it was clear that she had been around people. We tried to find her owners but no one stepped forward so we kept her and had her spayed. Anna has since been adopted but then brought back to us as the home wasn't ready to socialize her with their pig, Wilbur.



Wilbur is also a smaller, younger pig. He came to us when Anna was brought back. Wilbur was initially living in a home inside of a dog carrier with many dogs in the home. He rarely got out of the carrier. Word of this got to the woman who would then take him out of that situation and into her home. Anna and Wilbur have been socializing together every day since arriving here and they've been getting along great. We have hopes that they will be adopted together.



Jim was another stray we have taken in recently. We received a call that there was a stray pig near the Pima mine. This is a well-known animal dumping area. Jim was about 3 months old when we



got him. Jim has similar features to another pig we took in earlier this year; we suspect they might be from the same breeder. He of course was not neutered so we had him neutered soon after his arrival. Jim has quickly learned that he likes attention from us and gets belly rubs often. We have even paired him up with another pig here, Pebbles. They have been spending time together and have a prospective home waiting for them.

Abandonment is another reason we have been seeing pigs, even the younger/smaller ones. Morgan and Stella were being



used for breeding purposes. We are unsure how many litters each may have had. They are both

smaller girls and most likely will not get much larger due to the way they were bred. Morgan also exhibits joint issues from the inbreeding. The man that had been using them for breeding left for California and had his friend look after them. He had been gone for six months when the man who was watching over them decided the pigs were abandoned. He informed us of the situation and that there was also a male there, Dexter. Dexter is a normal sized pig and was neutered soon after his arrival. These three still hang out and all enjoy a good belly rub. The girls have been spayed and all will be able to roam in one of our fields together.



Our youngest intake recently is Livvy. She was saved from an abuse situation. There was a dog fighting bust in Laveen, AZ. The accused man had a young pig with him at his jobsite that he was mistreating. A coworker intervened and gave the man money in return for Livvy. She then called us explaining the situation and that she wasn't in a position to have a pig. We agreed to take Livvy. When Livvy arrived we saw that she was only about 6 weeks old and had some kind of injury on her back. She was very curious but not

accepting of attention just yet. Since she has been here she now lets us belly rub her and give her attention. We have had our vet examine her and the injury on her



back is fully healed. She has been hanging out with a group of older girls and most recently has been getting to know Kevin, who was previously spoken about in this article.

It seems that the pig breeding craze is back but this time people are giving the boot to their pigs at a younger age than usual. We are used to having people call us when the pigs "get too big" or when the family is moving. Luckily the younger ones do seem to get adopted so we are hopeful to find good homes for some of them. However, we are taking in large numbers, which is disconcerting. Why are so many pigs being bred when there aren't enough homes for them or homes that will keep them? It seems like a cycle that won't be ending soon so we continue to try to educate the public on pigs and pig myths. We hope one day to see less strays and receive less calls about unwanted or mistreated pigs.

---Taryn

# For Love Of Pigs

**I** like pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals.”-Sir Winston Churchill

I have always loved pigs too. I have always wanted a pig. Porky Pig was my favorite cartoon character. So imagine how excited I was...sitting in the waiting room of my doctor's office...when I spotted the September 2012 newsletter from some place called Ironwood Pig Sanctuary...with the sweetest picture of a pig named Mexico on the cover...right here in Arizona! And if that wasn't enough to completely blow my mind right then and there...I almost spontaneously combusted with joy when I read that I could sponsor a special pig!!! My dream could come true! I remember telling my doctor that day that finding that newsletter was one of the best things that could have happened for my health!



I attended my first Open House in 2013. Tim conducted my tour. I was so amazed and touched that he knew all the pigs' names like they were his best friends! They were so happy, so friendly, everything I



Charmaine

knew they would be. I was hooked when the first one rolled on his side for a belly rub. That day was a magical day, and afterwards on the way home, I wondered about what would have happened to all those amazing animals had it not been for Ironwood. I knew on the ride home that day that I wanted to do a little bit more and that sponsoring a pig would be a great way to mix my passion and help sustain this amazing sanctuary.

I contacted Ironwood to inquire about sponsoring a pig and they got me in touch with Donna. Like all of the Ironwood community, she was so friendly and welcoming and she helped me select the perfect pig for me. My pig's name is Charmaine and she lives in the Far Northwest Field. I think she is quite possibly the most beautiful pig in the world. I try to come down to visit Charmaine and Ironwood at least once a month and help out a little around the sanctuary. I get away from my computer and the Internet and texting and traffic. I'll admit I do take my phone...so I can snap some cute pics of sweet

Charmaine and her pen mates...and we take a few selfies. It feels fantastic to get away, unplug and unwind. I bring some grapes and apples to share with Charmaine and her pen mates and we all have a nice morning. Words cannot describe the joy I feel when I call Charmaine at the gate and she recognizes my voice and comes to me. We are good friends now...and over time...I have morphed Charmaine's name into "Her Ladyship Princess Charmaine of Ironwood." Maybe I'm crazy...but maybe not. I think I just found a place where I fit in with this crazy love of pigs thing that I have. Maybe we're all crazy.



Charmaine

Just one short year later, and I had the pleasure of working the front desk at this year's Ironwood Open House...and I hope I had the pleasure of meeting you! Thank you to everyone for your generous donations and great stories! What an amazing day! I met so many wonderful people! Many from



Arizona...but I was shocked how many traveled great distances to join the celebration. All of us drawn together because of our passion for pigs. People from California and Texas. A Philadelphia Flyers Fan (MY hockey team). Adult children bringing their senior parents. Families with small children. Young lovebirds. One woman had waited over a decade to finally come visit...and this was THE year! Sweet Millie, who touched us all when she cried tears of joy after her tour. And perhaps the most amazing of all, Julia...who also worked the front desk with me. I hope you all had the pleasure of meeting Julia because she is one of the most amazing women you will ever meet! Every year, this dedicated woman leaves her family back in New Hampshire...over 2600 miles away....and comes to volunteer at Ironwood for the entire week before the Open House. Her sweetness towards the pigs touched me so deeply as I would hear her in the fields saying so gently..."excuse me baby...I need to clean up your poopsies. We are getting ready for the Open House." Her pig Ducky lives in the Northwest field next to Charmaine and we bantered all day over who had the most beautiful pig!

I could go on and on about how much I love sponsoring Charmaine. I am so honored to be starting the New Year off by writing about how much I love Ironwood. Thank you so much to Mary and Ben and the amazing staff at Ironwood. You work so hard to make this one little patch

of desert heaven on Earth for almost 600 pigs...and me. Thank you Tim for being so caring and



Julia & Susan

for giving such a great tour that I couldn't wait to learn more about Ironwood. Thank you, thank you, to Donna who has been so amazing to work with and who taught me everything I know about pigs. Your sponsorship program is awesome and I had so much fun getting up at dawn to feed

Charlotte's boys with you. And thank you, thank you, THANK YOU to the kind couple who left your newsletter in the Cigna waiting room on Bell Road! That day changed my life in the nicest of ways. I still have that one newsletter. It is very precious to me.

I encourage all of you to make it your New Year's resolution to help create the world we want to live in...one filled with love and harmony and community. Ironwood is the pigs...yes. But it is so much more. It is the land. It is the people. It is the community. Come join us! Contact Donna to learn more about sponsoring a pig at Ironwood. Charmaine and I wish you all health, wealth and happiness in 2015!

---Susan

Our Wish List

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

Postage Stamps (Forever, 49, 34, 2 cents) Other denominations can also be used

Used Blankets are always welcome

Children's Multivitamin - NO IRON

Animal Crackers

Vitamin B Complex

Acid Reducer, Ranitidine 150mg

We received a lot of Wish List items donated at our Open House so that is why the list above is so short. Gift Cards are always welcome and we can pick what is needed at that time.

**GIFT CARDS**

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

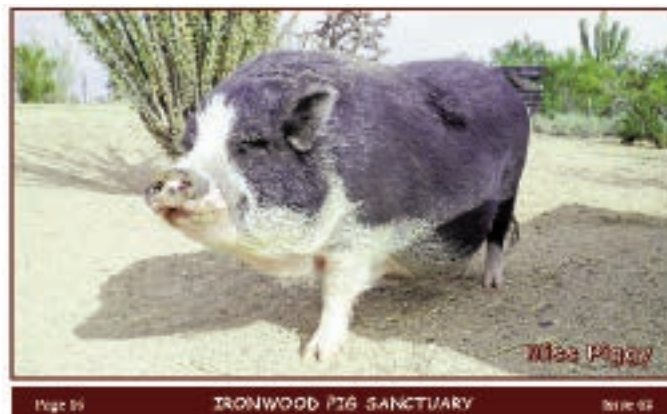
**\*\*We have a wish list on [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com). See page 7 for details.**

# Front and Back Covers

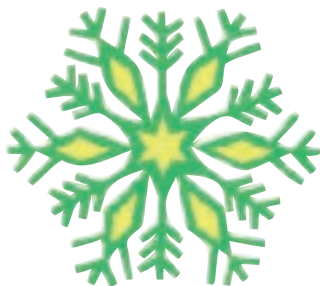


**Z**iggy found her way to Ironwood at the end of 2004. She was 6 or 7 years old at that time and the man who had her said he did not have time for her. She was such a sweet pig we adopted her to a nice lady in Show Low, AZ in 2005.

As so often happens, her people moved to New York in 2011 and Ziggy was left behind with her companion of four years, Coco who was our cover girl in March of 2014. The renters of the house where they were living did not want to care for them through the cold winter so we arranged to bring them to Ironwood in October of 2011. Ziggy just loves attention and belly rubs. She is just as sweet now as the day she arrived way back in 2004. She is 16 now and slowing down but she still gets to her feeding pen each day and always comes down with her small herd to greet us for breakfast.



**M**iss Piggy and Ellie May came to us sort of through the back door, if you will, in 2012. I am not sure of their relationship but I have always felt Ellie May was Miss Piggy's mom. One of Donna's clients had asked her to come trim both of them. The property was a large beautiful horse property but the pigs were confined to a very small pen with only a lean to shelter and a lot of wet mud and sand. Ellie May had a bad foot infection. Donna came home and reported the situation to us and we decided to offer to bring both of them to Ironwood to have Ellie May's foot treated by our vet. Once this was accomplished we offered to keep the pigs which turned out to be an easy transition. The lady no longer lived on her father's property and she never replied to our efforts to contact her. So Miss Piggy and Ellie May settled in nicely to our Northwest Field and they have plenty of room to run around and shelters and blankets to get out of the cold and weather. We are so happy they no longer live in the tiny pen. Miss Piggy loves to run.



## Ironwood Calendar

Our Ironwood 2015 Calendar is still available. It is full of wonderful pictures of our pigs. Each month will bring a smile to your face and remind you of all the sweet faces you are helping bring smiles to. Calendars are \$17 each which includes shipping.

If you would like to purchase one, order it through us by using our PayPal donate button on our web site at [www.ironwoodpigs.org](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org) and indicate you want a calendar. You can also send a check or give us your credit card number in the envelope we send with your newsletter.



## 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.



**B**lankets are a huge deal for our pigs. Not only do they need them but they love them! You'd be surprised, and actually we are too, at how many blankets we go through. We have almost 600 pigs so providing for them and replacing tattered blankets adds up to a lot of blankets. In the past couple of months we have been fortunate enough to have hundreds of blankets donated by two different companies.

First we were given word that the Renaissance/Radisson Hotel in Phoenix was renovating and had hundreds of comforters, blankets and sheets up for grabs. With communication between Donna Damone-Jeffries, who does a lot of work for shelter pups, and Matt Ezor at the Renaissance, we were able to jump on the opportunity and got two truckloads. The next day Susan, one of our pig sponsors even rented a van and loaded it up with comforters too and brought them to us. The Renaissance hotel was very accommodating to us and we are very grateful.

Soon after we were chosen by Gold Canyon Candles company as one of the places they would donate 1400 stadium blankets to! They were going through inventory and planned to donate their blankets. Javier Magallanes is a friend of mine who works there. He recommended us to Laura Washington, who is the Executive Assistant, as a place that they could donate to. Thankfully they agreed and Ben went up with a trailer and picked up boxes and boxes of blankets. A huge thank you to everyone involved on all ends; our pigs are very happy.

---Taryn



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**Miss Piggy**