

IRONWOOD

A black and white pig named Frank is the central focus of the image. He is standing in a field of dry grass and dirt, looking directly at the camera. He has a distinctive white blaze on his face and a white patch on his back. In the background, there is a fence and another pig.

ISSUE
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MAY
2007

Frank

Six Year Anniversary
PIG SANCTUARY

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

May 1, 2007

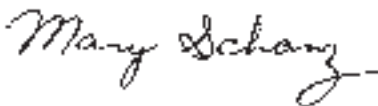
Dear Supporter,

This is our six year anniversary! During these six years we have rescued and provided sanctuary for many hundreds of pigs. Many have been adopted into new homes, many have passed on to what we hope is a better place, and nearly 450 remain with us and are provided sanctuary by us. This number has remained remarkably stable since June of 2005 even though well over a hundred pigs have come to the sanctuary during that period. But the dynamics are changing dramatically.

The herds are aging with more chronically ill, requiring increased care and medical attention. Even our Annex now has an assisted living field. All of this means more demands on my time and staff time. The average age of the pigs coming to us has increased as well. From age 16-1/2 to babies with many of them around 8 to 10 years old. We are, therefore, more dependent than ever before on your continued support to help us help our pigs through their last years in comfort and with the knowledge that we will be able to care for them until the end of their natural lives. That is the promise we make to them when they come through our doors.

These past six years have been filled with triumphs and failures, tears of joy and sadness, anger and gratefulness. Running a sanctuary puts one in the position to experience the whole range of human emotions on almost a daily basis. Never have the demands on our time and our lives been greater. There is no way we could have prepared ourselves for the challenges these six years have bestowed on us. Since I started this letter we have taken in seventeen pigs, whose stories are told in this newsletter. It was a totally unexpected occurrence.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz
President and Co-Founder

PS Each time our van pulls in the driveway of the sanctuary and a frightened, bewildered pig steps out of its carrier and begins to root and explore its new home, it knows instinctively it is safe and secure. And I know instinctively that what we are doing is right.



Abner

Mary

Ramona Rescue

Evelyn of Ramona, California, wanted to help out her neighbor, who had to move, by taking all of her animals, which included horses, dogs and 4 pot-bellied pigs. She was able to find good homes for

babies were at least 6 months old. Since the males and females were still together, we figured that the 4 female babies and the original 2 females were almost certainly pregnant. We were looking at 4 pigs that had become 14 pigs and

felt that they were too large and not adoptable. We mobilized our resources and Mary and I made a plan to meet Walt in Ramona the next week, a 400-mile one-way trip. We were planning on bringing hog panel, T-posts and 4 large shelters for the 14 pigs (6 females and 8 males). We wanted to separate the females from the males as soon as possible and to deal with the pregnancies.

We arrived the next week and Mary, myself, and Walt, with Evelyn and her son's assistance, began building two large pens and a chute in order to separate the two sexes. The two pens were built under a group of trees that the pigs like to lie under. There was a common side between the pens where we used two rows of fencing to absolutely make sure that the pigs couldn't get into each other's pens. Once the pens were completed, we ran each pig down a chute and directed them into the appropriate pen.



the horses and the dogs but couldn't find homes for the pigs. She was able to keep the male pigs separated from the female pigs but after a time they broke down the fence separating them and the result was 10 babies 4 months later. With 14 pigs now, Evelyn turned to the San Diego Animal Control for help. Since she rescued the pigs initially, she felt that they should now take the pigs from her.

The San Diego Animal Control refused to take the pigs and instead called the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary for help. We reviewed the situation with Animal Control and Evelyn and realized that it was an emergency since the 10

the risk was that we could now be looking at 50 babies in a short time.

Time was of the essence. We contacted Walt from SCAMPP (Southern California Association of Miniature Pot-bellied Pigs), who had visited Evelyn the previous day in order to determine the possibility of the babies being adopted. Walt



Dad (Center) And Two of His Sons

Ramona Rescue cont.

The next day Mary and I returned and used the chute and a holding area to inject each female in order to avoid any unwanted pregnancies. We were pleased to see that our pens were holding up very well and all the pigs seemed contented with their new environment and new shelters.

A few weeks later Walt returned with a local veterinarian and neutered the 8 males. Once we heard that the neutering was completed, we really relaxed. Males can be

fertile for up to 45 days, but we were definitely over the hump. SCAMPP is planning on spaying

the 6 females in the near future. We have received some donations for the cost, and Mary and I have helped with a donation.

Once the females are spayed, Evelyn is planning on repairing the fence surrounding her property and letting the pigs loose together once again on her whole property. Since the pigs are so large it would be hard to adopt them. Evelyn is planning on giving them a forever home.

We are very pleased with the successful conclusion to an otherwise potentially bad situation.



Evelyn, Ben and Walt

COVER

Frank came to Ironwood on May 27th of 2003. He was a baby about 5 to 8 months old. He came with two other little boys, Monty and Fred. We got a call to take them from a landlord. He said his tenant had committed suicide and he found these three baby pigs on the property. Once they were all neutered, they were released to our North Field where they have been living nearly four years now. Frank is beginning, after all these years, to let us approach and pet him.



Anna

Annex Update

It has been a few months since I have reported on our progress at our Annex facility. We are still fighting the good fight to remain on site and not have to move our pigs to our main facility. What a shame it would be to have to move them. A large majority of the remaining pigs at our Annex have lived there all their lives and the ones who



are rescues have been there many years now. Many of them are well over ten years old, and it is evident as one looks at the herd that within a few years, they will all have continued their journey beyond this life. It is what they know and where they feel secure. This is their home and any disruption at their age would be very stressful to them.

Since we purchased the property in May of 2003, nine pigs have passed away or been euthanized and three have been adopted. Therefore, the population is dropping and we are not putting any more pigs at that site.

The good news is Pamala is still living on the property and taking care of the pigs and William continues to bring large loads of produce to the Annex for our pigs' enjoyment. We also have a new volunteer, Laura, who comes to help Pamala twice weekly, which is a great help to keep things clean and keep the fruits and veggies fed to the pigs. They are very lucky to have a large bouquet of fruits and vegetables each week to keep them happy and heart healthy!

We may have to call on our AZ supporters to help us with letters, phone calls, e-mails, or their presence at a Board of Supervisors meeting to offer their

support of our pigs living at our Annex. Moving our pigs to our main facility is not a very good option. We would have to hire another employee and that is no easy task in a remote area with bad roads.

We hope that the Pima County Board of Supervisors will write an ordinance that will provide for much needed sanctuaries such as ours. These animals have no place to go and they did not create this problem, people did. And just as counties now provide

funding for dog and cat rescue, they should, at the very least, allow for sanctuaries where other species of animals who are the victims of human cruelty and callousness or personal human tragedy can be cared for.

Update on Zoning Changes

Pima County is considering a change in their zoning codes that would allow sanctuaries such as our Annex to apply for a Conditional Use Permit in order to remain in existence. That would allow us to keep the 95 pigs there, many of which have been there all of their lives, and not have to move them to our Crystal Visions facility. The Zoning Commission recently delayed a decision in order to allow input by the Southern Arizona Humane Society which had an issue with the way the draft zoning was written. Hopefully their input will not kill the zoning change.



Pamala With Fruit & Veggies

New Arrivals - All Sizes

Our New Arrivals come in all sizes.

Our new pig **Phoenix** was rescued by a woman in Phoenix. She had pigs of her own and his presence caused quite a stir at her home, so she decided to take him to her shop to live. He was getting along fine there and she had him on a diet, but soon life's problems made it necessary for her to find a home for him. Phoenix is a very sweet boy. He enjoys attention from us and likes to go out for walks around the exercise yard. He is very obese, but with time he will lose weight and will join other pig friends in one of our assisted living fields unless someone wants to give him a good home.



Phoenix is about 4 or 5 years old.

Big Mama (Chicklet) came to us on March 16th. Her owner had two pit-bull dogs and in order to be sure she was not harmed by them, she had to tie her in a room during the day to

keep her away from the dogs. We were told that she had already been attacked once. She is one pig with self-confidence. She never slows down either. We let her out in our large area around the houses and she takes off exploring everything she can



get her little snout on or into. She must love the freedom to run after spending so much time in a room. She is four years old and I have rarely seen a pig with so much energy. Unlike most other pigs, she never meets a stranger she doesn't like. She really needs to go home with a family who can give her a lot of attention and a big yard to play in.

Peanut arrived at Ironwood on 3/1. We neutered him upon his arrival and trimmed his beautiful tusks. We were especially anxious about getting

him in since he had three unspayed female companions and that could mean disaster. We were told there had not been any babies for a few years, but any combination of males and females together that have not been spayed or neutered is a red flag to us, so we work to get them in ASAP. Sadly two of the three females had very large uterine tumors, very common in unspayed females, and had to be put down either in surgery or not long after surgery. The third girl was spayed shortly after arrival and she and Peanut will soon be going to a new home together. He is very shy but she is not, and we are hoping that he will adjust to his new family and will become less timid over time. What a cute little guy he is.



Ways To Support Your Sanctuary

Become a Sanctuary Sustainer

Use Your Credit or Debit Card to Make a Monthly Donation

By joining as a sanctuary sustainer, a monthly contribution, be it \$5, \$10, \$25 or \$100, or any amount you choose, will be charged to your credit or debit card each month. 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.

Remember the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary Through Your Estate Plan

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary has been the recipient of bequests from a number of generous supporters. These donors felt that they needed the assets during their lifetimes, but decided to link themselves forever with the ongoing life of the Sanctuary by making bequests through their estate plans. The fair market value of a bequest is deductible in determining a taxable estate for estate tax purposes.

Bequests can be a percentage of the estate, or a specific dollar amount, a particular stock, bond or mutual fund portfolio, a piece of real estate, naming the Sanctuary as remainderman of the estate after providing for family and friends, or stipulating that the Sanctuary will benefit from a portion of the estate if certain beneficiaries predecease the donor.

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.

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





Mr. Ebony



Lulu



Cinder Cone



Henrietta



Arnold



Penelope

Hi! My Name is Lulu.

I have lived here at the Annex for many years and came with my friend Rudy, who moved to Ironwood many years ago. I was supposed to go with him, but he was sick and I tried to take advantage of that and beat him up so they brought me back here to live, which is ok with me. I used to be the gatekeeper when the volunteers came with the produce and I always got a lot of extra food when they came through the gate.

They bring the food in the other gate now and I don't want to walk that far, so I let them bring it to me.

I and all my friends on these pages would love to be sponsored. There are many others not listed here that would like to have a sponsor as well. Many of our friends are sponsored and we wonder why not us?

If you sponsor one of , you will receive 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 your help. Choose one of them or send Mary a description (male, female, young, old, special needs, etc.) and she will send you a picture with background information.

Thank you for making a difference! ---Lulu



Jaeger



Mr. Pig



Patrick



Glen



Scout



Harriette



Hamlet



Edith



An Auction Rescue

During three weeks in March/April Ironwood took in seventeen pigs all needing a new home. It has been quite a while since we have taken in so many pigs. It has strained all of our resources.

It all started when we received a call from a woman in Cornville, Arizona, who had taken 2 males and 1 female from a friend and now couldn't keep the pigs due to a complaint from her neighbor. When we hesitated for a couple of days, she gave the pigs to a feed store for sale. We were very concerned because the young female was old enough to be pregnant. The woman wouldn't cooperate with us by telling us the name of the store so we could buy the pigs. We also received a call the same day about a baby pig in the same area that had been abandoned near a dumpster. The woman and her friends were able to catch the baby after trying for 4 days. Shorty, a woman who had adopted a pig from Ironwood,



First Two Girls Rescued at The Auction

lived in the area and was able to find and buy the pigs from the feed store and also pick up the baby. She kept them safely for us until we were able to pick them up a few days later.



Roger Dodger, Dumpster Rescue, and Screech, Smallest of First Three, Comfort Each Other

The woman who had rescued the baby told us about 4 babies and 3 adults that had been found in Mayer, Arizona, and taken to the Livestock Auction. I found out that the pigs were going to be auctioned off that Saturday.

I had never been to a livestock auction. Not even once. The auction started with tack, which consists of bridles, blankets, saddles, and other horse accessories. I went early so that I could experience the way the auctioneer ran the auction and learn how to bid. He spoke very fast and it was very hard to understand the bids and who was bidding.

The auction was held indoors with the front of the building surrounded by heavy metal fencing and heavy metal entrance and exit doors in order to control all of the animals that were brought in from one side and exited out the other. The bidders and observers sat behind the metal fencing on wooden benches that were arranged one above the other on a slope similar to a movie theater but steeper.

I found it difficult to understand the auctioneer. But gradually I started to figure it out. Always in the back of my mind I was afraid that I would get it wrong and someone else would buy the 7 pigs I had come to rescue.

Well I had learned as best I could from the previous auctions. I just



Rescue Seven Getting Their First Meal at Ironwood

hoped that I wouldn't mess up. There are those people who will

buy a pot-bellied pig for food or just to render them for fat. I didn't want any of them to get one of the pigs. Just after the horses



Auction Adult With Extremely Long Hoofs Getting Trimmed by Donna

they started with the pigs. I have to admit I was scared but I did well. I understood the auctioneer by now and made my bids. I didn't want the starting bid to get too low because I was afraid someone might jump in and compete with me. I had looked at the pigs in their pens prior to the auction to make sure I had it figured out who was who. So when the heavy steel door opened and two young pot bellied pigs that I hadn't seen before ran in, I was taken by surprise. I didn't know these two were for sale! I had planned on saving 7 pigs, but now these two made 9. I didn't have time to check with Mary to see if we had room for 2 more. I did a quick survey in my mind about how I was going to get 9 pigs into 4 large carriers.

The bidding started. The auctioneer started with \$20, then went to \$10. When he got to \$5 I

placed my bid by raising my arm. I had no competition and the first two pigs were mine. That wasn't too bad. The next few pigs were farm hogs which I couldn't help even though I would have liked to.

The 4 babies were next. They were so small that a couple of them were able to crawl under the metal door into the ring while there were still two hogs there being sold. They were not hurt, and after the hogs were sold the other 2 were ushered into the ring. The auction went the same as before with me buying them for \$5 each. I could have waited until the price was a dollar or less, but I didn't want to risk competition and I also felt that would be an insult to these poor pigs.

I bought the other 3 adults in a similar manner, paid my bill in the office, loaded them into the 4 carriers and was on my way to Ironwood to give these poor pigs a new and better home. They were small enough and fit just fine into the 4 large carriers. I called Mary to tell her I was on my way home.

When I arrived at Ironwood around 6pm, an hour after the end of the work-day, Mary, Alex, Tim, and Ellen came out to see the new arrivals and help put them into their pens with fresh

water, food, hay, and a cozy home with blankets and a carpet door. You could see them relax as they nosed around their new forever home.

They were in such terrible shape. The 4 babies weren't too bad but the adults that came with the babies had hoofs that were at least 3 inches longer than they should be. One young female was just skin and bones. The other small female was pregnant. The two pigs I purchased first were both female and in better shape.

It was a long, hard day for me, but it was well worth every minute to save these 9 special creatures.

The next Saturday I drove to Phoenix to pick up Patrick and Pinky after their owner had died and QPig from a couple that were moving to a new home that didn't allow pigs.

And then to complete the seventeen new arrivals, I picked up QT from a man in Tucson. It was his mother's pig, who had recently passed away.



Auction Seven's First Arrival

New Expansion Fields

After several months and interruptions our pigs who have been waiting patiently and not so patiently in pens have finally been moved to their new large field and freedom. Everything was finally in place with piped-in water, shelters and shade, blankets and hay and even feeding troughs. We moved 11 pigs out to the new field. I wish I could say and they lived happily ever after. But, of course, that is not the case. It takes weeks and sometimes months before they



Pigs Enjoying Their New Expansion Field

settle down and the fighting is over. They eventually find their friends and settle in to their new life, away from the security of their shelter and pen that they had known before. Even though there are plenty of shelters stuffed with bedding hay and blankets, 5 chose to sleep in the wash or nest in under a tree. I went around that first evening and gave them all plenty of hay and blankets to be comfortable. Days later they still had not moved up to the existing shelters, so we moved the shelters

to them. Once we got our first rain, they soon found that living outside in a wash was not much fun and the shelters are now occupied.

They come from varied backgrounds. Some were strays, one from the Humane Society who seemed to have suffered years of neglect, some were single pigs from a family and others spoiled pets. They are all trying to make their way in this new strange environment. Although this is a difficult transition, we know from the experience of six years and several hundred pigs that they will settle down and soon be content with their new pig friends and large area in which to roam. For those of you who have visited and seen our pigs in our fields that are now stable, you are witness to the fact that, in time, there will be wagging tails and relative harmony.

We have also moved our “babies,” the hoglets we have reported on since last summer, to their new field as well. They had to give up the very large field we built to make room for the subdivisions, but they have a large area in which to run and have been busy clearing the land for us, which we don’t really appreciate. We have referred to them as the “babies” for so long, it is hard to change how we think about them, but they will soon be a year old and well beyond the baby stage of



Hoglets In Their Own Field

their lives.

And Wilbur and Pinky, our Yucatan, were also moved out of their pen and over to the remaining four acres. They now have the largest field of all and just love the freedom to roam and not have to go back to their pen ever again. They were a bit nervous the first night wondering where the heck they were and what was going to happen next. But once they understood the food was still supplied and they were not forgotten, they soon relaxed and went off to explore their new digs.



Pinky & Wilbur In Their New Field

Do You Want a Pig?

Pot-bellied pigs make very nice pets. They are very friendly and love to have belly rubs and scratches behind their ears. They are unique animals with their very own characteristics.

Having a pot-bellied pig is much different than having a dog for many reasons. The first and most important reason is that in many localities pot-bellied pigs are not allowed. Old zoning laws usually classify pot-bellied pigs the same as hogs and as a result they are not allowed. So before getting your pig, make sure that you check your zoning codes and homeowners association rules.

Pigs love to root; in fact, they need to root. Pigs get essential minerals from the dirt and it is also good for their well-being. Don't be surprised when you see your pig laying in a nice hole that it just dug in your flower garden. Oh, by the way, don't be surprised when your pig eats your flowers. When a new pig arrives at Ironwood one of the first things that it does is root around in its new pen. It gives them some comfort and helps them to adapt to their new home. Pigs need a space where they can be a pig. You need to allow an area of your yard for your pig where they can root and wallow all they want. It may look like a moonscape after a while, but your pig will love it.

Regardless what the breeder (as a sanctuary we are against breeding when there are many sweet pigs needing a good home) tells you, your pig will probably reach 120 to 150 pounds and maybe more in its lifetime. It takes about 3 years for a pot-bellied pig to reach full size. Because of this size it is not easy getting your pig in your car, van, or truck to take it to the vet



Miss Piggy

for periodic hoof trimming, shots, and general checkups. It is best to have a vet in your area that will come to your home to take care of your special pig. This is an important point because there are not many vets that will treat pigs let alone make a house call. Make sure that there is a pig vet in your area.

If you ever think of moving, you need to plan ahead to make sure that your pig will be welcome in its new home. Too often owners think that a pig is a pet and that the same rules for dogs will apply; usually not the case.

If for some reason you cannot

keep your pig due to a long-distance move, divorce, sickness, death or other reason, you will find it difficult finding a home for your older pig, particularly if it is overweight or has behavior problems. Most people looking for a pig want either a baby or a young pig.

We have heard of many stories where dogs and pigs get along just fine, and even play together. We have also heard of horror stories where the owner's dog attacked the pig inflicting mortal wounds. We always recommend that dogs and pigs be separated when no one is around. This will require a separate pen for either the dogs or the pig.

And finally, as with all of our pets, it is important to get your pig either spayed or neutered. Approximately 85% of all female pigs will get tumors in their lives so it is important for them to be spayed. Spays and neuters are best performed at a young age because the cost will be less and your pig will usually recover easier.

I hope you don't think I am saying not to have a pig as a pet. They make wonderful pets just as long as you know what you are getting into and make appropriate plans from the beginning.

--- Ben

Hammy's Birthday

I just had to tell ya about Hammy's Birthday Party. She was 15 years old in December and we had a nice party for her, with most of the



critters attendin', cept the snakes and they ain't into cake and yogurt, lol. But it was fun. Hammy wore a tiara and we had blown up balloons tyin' em to her shelter with ribbon. It was kinda windy and every time she would try to root at one, it would blow away. Boy, did she think she was powerful that day. Some of the critters, the horses, other pigs, dogs and goat got party hats to wear, cept the birds, cause the party hats were bigger than the birds were. After singin' Happy Birthday to her, her

tail started waggin'. When we showed her the cake, she got a big smile on her snout. We cut the carrot cake (made healthy for critters) in slices, set on paper plates and put a dollop of strawberry yogurt on top, one for each critter (about 20) and the biggest amount for Hammy. A volunteer, Megan Wharton, was nice enough to help me give Hammy a party, with my disabilities; I couldn't have done it by myself. For her help, I say a big thank you. It was a good day for Hammy; she was queen for the day. She got extra



treats, scratches and rubs at intervals durin' the day, a day we'll never forget.

Sad to say that Hammy passed away in March, she had been loved by lots of people and she had friends of her own kind. All the critters and people mourn the loss of our Hammy, but she will continue to live in a part of our hearts forever.

--Cougar

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 on site 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 One of Her Pigs, Navajo



Dixie Lee

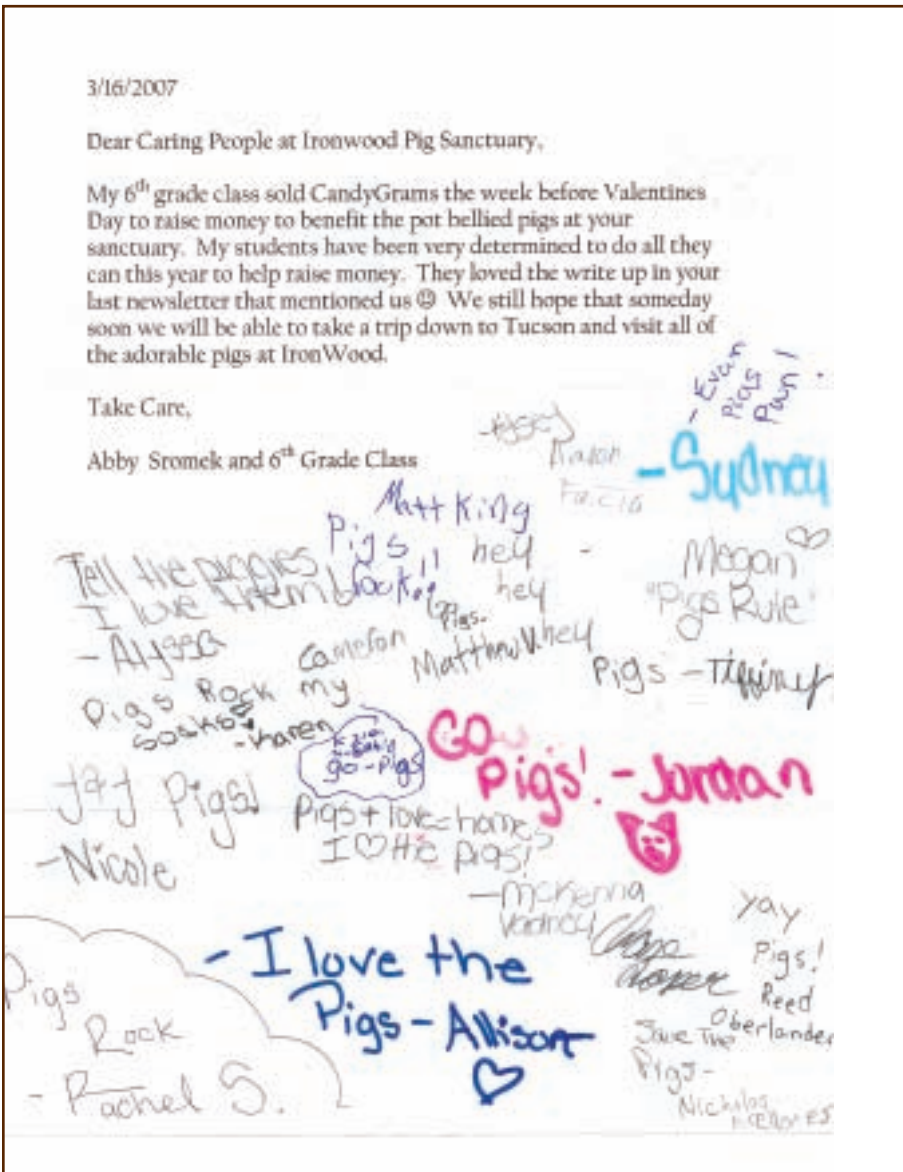
Claire

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.

Our Supporters Write:



March 17, 2007

Dear Mary and Staff,

My family and I have been so touched by your commitment and love in caring for these precious creatures that I had to send you some additional money to help you defray the cost of running your sanctuary. It's for Sam-Sam and whoever else needs it.

We give to animal charities, usually cat and dog ones, and we are also vegetarians. So we're happy to help you rescue and care for pigs who some people would not consider worth saving.

I'm a special education teacher here in connecticut and try to teach our kids the importance of kindness towards all creatures, even the ones that may not be so popular.

Again, may the good lord bless you and all your efforts.

Sincerely,
Rosemary
Rosemary B. and family

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Bubbles & MoJo JoJo