

# IRONWOOD

A large black pig, named Tom, is the central focus of the image. It is standing in a field with dry grass and some green trees in the background. The pig has a thick, dark coat and a large, prominent snout. The overall scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a clear day.

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Tom

PIG SANCTUARY

# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490  
Tucson, AZ 85740

January 2012

Dear Supporter,

Happy New Year to all of you from all of us and welcome to 2012 and another year of stories about the many pigs here at Ironwood. We, and especially our pigs, are so very glad you are here with us making this a year of possibilities and of dreams come true to many who are now homeless or living in abuse or neglect. We hope you will stay with us as we enjoy the highs of breathing a sigh of relief that another pig has been saved today. We watch their personality develop as we get to know them individually and they emerge from their shell after being suddenly uprooted from what and who they knew to this strange place and strange voices. Soon they will be at the gate and anxious to get their breakfast with all the others, knowing that they are safe and out of harm's way.

As I reflect on the year past, I look back over our records and see that 57 more pigs have come through the gate at Ironwood, most of whom will be with us for the rest of their lives. As I leaf through the records each pig's story flashes before me and they are all poignant. Most are a tale of neglect, abandonment or abuse while others are shattered lives of families who have had to reluctantly release their pig to us. Whatever their reason, we welcome them to their new home. In time they make their way into one of our herds, be it large or small. Sadly, our attrition was great as well. Many lived their lives to the fullest here and have now continued their journey to make room for those that have come to us this past year and those who will come to live with us in this new year.

While I like to think that a new year brings new hope and fewer homeless animals of all kinds, this has never been the case, so we must be prepared to meet the challenges ahead. This will not be an easy task as the largest portion of our herd is ever older. Each day we meet their challenges and deal with each crisis that we are faced with.

The New Year brings more pigs in need of a home and with your support we will be able to continue to rescue these pigs and provide them a good home.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz  
President & Co-Founder

PS: When I think of not saying yes to Duke or Penelope or Buddy, I think of what would happen to them if we did not take them in and that increases my resolve to continue to provide a sanctuary able to fulfill the needs of these innocent pigs.



**Mary & Duke Ellington**

# Pigs Make Terrible Pets

## I should know. I have two!

I'd been around pigs. I'd read about pigs. I'd printed out hundreds of pages of information on the care and feeding of pot-bellied pigs and still, I was totally unprepared a year ago when Mary and Ben brought me two pot-bellied girls. Their names: Pinky and Strawberry, a.k.a. "Stop That!" and "Butt Head."

On at least three afternoons a week for the next three months I sat in my backyard with the girls and cried. I bought my house a year earlier because it had a large yard and I love to garden. The girls loved to garden, too, but they had their own way of doing things.



### Strawberry

In the first week they ate \$300 worth of salad in the form of the native flora I'd purchased and planted a month earlier. What they didn't find tasty they simply uprooted and left to wither. (Cue crying, lots of it.)



### Pinky

Pinky and Strawberry also re-landscaped. They dug out large divots in the dirt where they took sun naps; they disassembled the rock perimeters of my gardens; and in their verve to find every last fallen mesquite pod, they trampled what plants they hadn't already killed. (More crying.)

On top of that, Strawberry hated Pinky, and wasn't too crazy about me either.

Strawberry is the smaller of the two girls. She's lived almost all of her 12 years at what is now the Ironwood Annex spending most of her time alone and not becoming part of the herd. She always enjoyed attention and belly rubs when Mary was at the Annex. Because of that, Mary thought Strawberry would enjoy the companionship and personal attention she would get in an adoptive home. Wrong!

Strawberry was always alone because she does not like other pigs!

Pinky and Strawberry have lived

together for just over a year now and I'm still mediating disagreements.

Even though I built a pig house that's roomy enough for both girls, Strawberry still tries to keep Pinky out. Every night at bedtime, Strawberry gets in the house first and sprawls length-wise across the floor trying to take up as much room as possible. When Pinky tries to get in, Strawberry stands up and goes on the defensive. Lots of grunting and other assorted loud pig noises ensue.



### Strawberry & Friend Alice

Early on I tried to mediate by (foolishly) climbing into the pig house and explaining to Strawberry how sharing worked. She tried to intimidate me with some loud grunts and lunging at me, hackles raised, but eventually she realized I was not as easily intimidated as Pinky. Truth be told, I wasn't agile enough to get out of the pig house when Strawberry became aggressive. Had she not been bluffing, she could have seriously kicked my butt that evening!

After about three months, as I was once again sitting in my backyard crying over the mess the girls had made of my gardens, I had a realization: They weren't the problem. I was. Pinky and Strawberry were just doing what pigs do. I was the one who had to modify my responses to their natural behavior. Duh!



### **Pinky Destroying The Raised Bed Garden**

So, up went a modest fence preventing the girls from getting into a small part of the yard where I put all the plants the girls deem tasty. I explained to them what I was doing and why. They seemed to understand. As proof, I've accidentally locked Pinky in the small fenced area a couple of times and she didn't eat a thing.

After I figured out my role in this co-habitation arrangement, I was less stressed and took the time to try and understand the girls' personalities. Pinky always seemed to be Strawberry's hapless victim. Whatever Pinky had – a bowl of food, a clump of alfalfa, a sunny spot on which to nap – Strawberry tried to take it away and usually succeeded. Strawberry didn't actually want

what Pinky had, she just didn't want Pinky to have it either. And Strawberry wasn't fooling anyone when she tried to convince me the muddy snout marks on Pinky's backside were where Pinky bit her own self on the butt.

Then one day, Pinky did something that amazed me. I was doling out apple slices as treats and I was taking too long handing over hers, so in response she sat, just like a dog might when trading a trick for a treat. I was charmed! Pinky is 6-years-old and well-socialized. She must have learned the trick from her previous owners. It was then that I realized poor bullied Pinky wasn't any less intelligent than Strawberry. Whereas Strawberry has pig smarts, Pinky is people-smart.

In the last few months we've all mellowed and settled in to this living arrangement. There's still ample grunting each evening when the girls are jockeying for



### **Pinky In The Melon Patch**

space to bed down in the pig house. Strawberry still bullies Pinky, though Pinky has become more self-confident and harder to intimidate.



### **Pinky Loves Her Lettuce And Shakes It Back & Forth Like A Dog Might**

The girls completely ignored my melon patch over the summer, which I found surprising, until I came home one day to find Pinky standing in the middle of trampled vines and cracked open watermelons. At that moment I realized she had patiently waited all those summer months until the melons were ripe.

As a result of a six-month diet and a recent hoof trim Pinky is feeling spry. Good for her, not so much for me. Recently I found her standing in the middle of my raised-bed garden snuffling for food after having eaten all the pepper plants. (And she doesn't even like peppers!)

Over the summer Strawberry was

queen of the wallow, expanding the mud hole to fit herself and 10 of her closest friends – if she had any friends. And each time it rains she uses her ridiculously strong snout to dig up the rest of the yard.

And last week I discovered that one (or maybe both working as a team) had chewed through the

base of all the vines I had growing along the fence. They didn't eat any of the vines, but they ensured all of the tendrils I'd been cultivating for the last year will shrivel and die.

In recent months the crying has subsided and the girls are getting along a little better. Strawberry has even found a friend, my 2-

year-old Jack-huahua (Jack Russell-Chihuahua mix).

Would I adopt more pigs in the future? Maybe. Maybe not. But I'm definitely keeping the two I have!

---Kim Matas

## Check Out Our Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/IronwoodPigSanctuary>

Taryn, one of our resident staff, maintains our Facebook page with frequent updates about the sanctuary.

When I started the Ironwood Facebook page I had hoped to spread the word about the sanctuary. Little did I know that over 1,400 people would soon be following the page and commenting on the pictures. I try to update daily to keep everyone updated on the happenings at the sanctuary. I really enjoy seeing people's comments and questions. Recently I updated about one of our sick pigs, Rufus, who had many and long vet visits. It really warmed my heart to see people from the Facebook world sending donations to help Rufus.

It's amazing what Facebook can do. I'm excited to gain more followers and to keep sharing pictures and updates with everyone. Thank you to everyone who has helped keep the Ironwood Facebook page alive.

---Taryn

## Our Wish List

- \* Gift Card to Fry's, Home Depot, Lowes, Office Max, Office Depot, Target, or PetsMart are an easy way to give.
- \* The above gift cards can be purchased on-line
- \* VISA gift cards that can be used anywhere
- \* Postage Stamps (44, 29, 20 cents)
- \* Used Blankets are always welcome (*Pigs Love Comforters!!*)
- \* Antacid comparable to Zantac (No Tums)

- \* Utility Knives
- \* Wire Cutters
- \* Milk Thistle
- \* Stool Softener - Docusate Sodium 100mg
- \* **Banana Wound Cream - Best value is 16 ounce size at KVSupply.com**
- \* **Children's Multi Vitamins (No Iron)**
- \* **Fig Newton Cookies or equivalent**

*Items in Purple are the Most Needed at this time*

# Flip & Clip

**I**n past issues of our newsletters we have talked about the importance of keeping the pigs' hooves and tusks trimmed. Having nicely shaped hooves allows the pig to walk normally without putting undue stress on their joints.

Keeping the tusks short is a safety issue for other pigs, staff and visitors as well as the pig itself. However, we have never really talked about what is involved in getting the trimming done for nearly 600 pigs. As you can imagine it is quite a daunting task!



## Staff Cornering a Pig

Many times a staff member will notice that a particular pig has long hooves and/or tusks and will alert me to add them to "The List," that never-ending list of pigs needing attention. It saves time for the trim team to work one field at a time, so I usually go out in advance to do an inspection. The best time for this is during the morning feeding when all the pigs are out and about eating or grazing on hay. I walk around looking at everyone's feet while running down the list of names for

all the pigs in that field, marking off those that are in need of a trim.

To trim a pig's hooves, you must either lift or roll the pig onto its back then straddle it while working on the front hooves while another person trims the back hooves. Most of the pigs won't just let you walk up and do that to them! Go figure! We use our "pig boards" to herd the pig into a corner or up against the fence and are then able to get them onto their back. Usually it only takes two people to do this job if we are working in one of the smaller fields, with tame pigs, or with the elderly pigs. But then we still have to trim pigs living in the big fields and those that are not tame at all. Then it becomes a whole different ball game!

The pigs in our East Field all grew up together at another sanctuary in one herd. They still maintain their herd mentality and once one pig spots a staff member with a board, they send out the signal (a loud snort) and all the pigs start running for the hills. So our usual



## Tim And Jonny Trimming

methods don't work well with them. Instead we rig up a fence to make a holding area outside of their gate, chum them out with



## Donna & Jonny Catching a Pig to Trim

Cheerios or popcorn, wait until a bunch of them have come out, then close the field gate. Then we just start picking them off one by one, getting them trimmed and slipping them back through the gate into the field. We can get the majority of the field done this way but then there are always the few suspicious pigs that will never be fooled by a mere box of Cheerios or a bag of popcorn. Also, we can only do this during cool weather, as it becomes too hot for the pigs to be milling around out in the sun waiting for their turn. In situations like this we like to use the method of having four people, one on each hoof, to get a pig trimmed quickly, out the gate then move on to the next one. Jonny dubbed that our Nascar pit stop method.

Our medium-sized fields each have a permanent chute built in

one corner that we can herd pigs in one by one. This works pretty well for most pigs but we sometimes still need 3-5 staff members with boards to get the wilder pigs into the chute. Several times throughout the years, we have had people suggest we use a temporary chute that we can move from one field to another as needed. Sounds like a good idea until you get a nervous 200 pound pig crashing through the fencing taking the chute down with them. These guys are extremely strong and determined so something “temporary” would never be enough to hold them.

Then comes the dreaded task of trimming pigs living in the Sunset Field! One issue we face here is Missy and Daisy, two very large feral sisters who do not like for anyone in their field to be



### Four Staff Trimming

trimmed. I repeat, THEY DO NOT LIKE IT! Tim and I discovered this a few years back when we innocently went in, cornered a pig and began trimming. This pig began to squeal rather loudly as some of them do while being trimmed. Missy and Daisy rushed over, snorting and barking in full attack mode with Tim and I being the

targets! We had to call for help and have people stand around us with boards to keep the girls off



### Cornering the Next One

us. (And of course, we wouldn't let go of our pig and kept on trimming!) From then on, for our safety, we decided to lure or herd the pigs out of the field to trim them which becomes a time-consuming process. We have also tried moving Missy and Daisy out of the field or into a pen, but they are both wild and very difficult to herd. On top of that problem is the fact that many of the pigs in the Sunset Field are not at all tame and are hard to catch. Also, it is a very large field with lots of trees, bushes, rocks and a wash to maneuver through and around. Recently five of us worked very hard for over two hours and only got seven pigs trimmed. Great, seven down and 593 to go!

Hoof and tusk trimming is an important part of our total pig care here at Ironwood. Tim and I have been the main trimmers for several years, but we now have trained Jonny and Sam to be members of the “flip and clip” team, as a former employee called us. We have been working hard

since the weather cooled down late in the fall to get as many pigs trimmed as we can. During the hot summer months, we can never trim for long because of the intense heat and the possibility of the pigs overheating, so we're busy taking advantage of the cooler temperatures. It's hard work but for some weird reason, it is one of my favorite chores out here. I'm just glad that I've got the Flip and Clip team working with me!

--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.



# Sponsor a S



Virginia

I'm only two years old and suffering from severe elbow dysplasia. I really need a sponsor to help support the extra expense of my medications. Would you be willing to help?



Claire

There's another pig named Claire who was the very first pig to arrive at Ironwood and she has been here for over ten years! Well, I'm the other Claire. I have no claim to fame like she does. I am interested in finding a sponsor though. Any idea where I could find one?



Ziggy

I came to Ironwood adopted. Now I'm becoming someone's sweet old gal just looking for a home.



Mario

Don't expect me to start a rhyme game with a name like Mario! Nellie is related to me but I don't have her ability for poetry. I prefer going on hikes, mud digging, rooting for buried treasure...ya know, guy stuff!



Miki

I've been around the block lately...first, I was abandoned by my owner then picked up by Animal Control. Next I got moved to a feed store for a week then brought out to Ironwood. Wow! I'm thinking I'll just stay here. I never want to move again!



Nellie

Hi! My name is Nellie. I have a white belly. I've never watched a deli, maybe a name is not Nellie. Ta da!

# Special Pig!



wood years ago and got  
m back and would love to  
e's sponsored pig. I'm a  
looking for a friend.



Duke Ellington

Man, I was so jazzed when mom and dad loaded me into the car with my blankets and food. I thought we were going on vacation together! We drove for hours, but then they just left me here without even saying goodbye. Twelve years as a family.....then this.



Penelope

If you're looking for a calm lovable pig, then look somewhere else! If you want a feisty gal who tells it like it is, then you're in the right place. I can be just as nice as the next pig, but only for a moment and only if I feel like it. So there!!



me is Nellie, I have a black and  
. I'm not very smelly and have  
ched the telly. I'd love to visit a  
be eat some grape jelly. My  
not Kelly but will always be  
a da!

## JOIN OUR FAMILY OF SPONSORS

*These pigs are just a few of those still in need of a sponsor. A monthly donation of \$30 will provide for their food, shelter, medical care and their share of sanctuary expenses. In return you will receive pictures and updates of your pig. Help us make 2012 the best year ever for the*



Winnie

Donna

*sanctuary! Join our family of sponsors and become a part of the group that keeps us moving toward our goal of providing a loving, caring home for so many piggies!*

---Donna

# Open House

**W**e had a very successful Open House on November 12, 2011, with over 275 visitors, many of whom came to see their sponsored pigs. The pigs got pets and belly rubs and treats during the day.

Thank you all for coming and making our Open House such a great success!

The day was overcast with a perfect cool temperature. Instead of being dreary it was nice because in previous years with the bright sun the day was warmer than desired. We were worried all week about rain during the Open House. In fact a few days before we were forecast to get rain but at the last minute it missed us. We had rain two days before and the day after but not during the Open House.



## Thank You For All The Blankets & Wish List Items

Everyone seemed to be having a good time. There were tours of the fields with opportunities to pet pigs. Donna, Mary, Taryn, and Tim gave the tours with Donna taking many of the sponsors to see their sponsored pigs. There were plenty of pig items, t-shirts, hats, books, cards and art to buy.

So many people had a hand in making our Open House such a success. The great food was provided by Jon and Francie with vegan chili, as always, wonderful baguettes from Don from the Barrio Bakery, a huge amount of baked goods from Sherry's home kitchen and also a huge amount of vegan baked goods that Taryn made. Jen and I made additional



## Sherry With Some Of Her Baked Goods

vegan dishes and Barbara brought all the veggies cut and ready for dipping.

Also we have 15 acres of fields to rake, no small job for sure considering there are hundreds of pigs living in those fields. So Julia arrived a week ahead to begin her yearly task and Lori, Rhiannon, Sugar, and Monty had rakes in hand for several days. Many others came to help with this endless task: Wes, Ed, Tammie, Randall, Laura and others and they were all real troopers to help make Ironwood shipshape. Great job! Everything looked wonderful for our big day.

Many people sent items to us for

sale. Totes, earrings, books, hand-painted Christmas ornaments, and so many other items for our tables. Rhiannon and Sunny had their own tables. Rhiannon sold Rhia's pigs while Sunny had her art and painted pig magnets. Jeanie came with Diane and Mona and her husband to help with items for sale and Barbara sold Ironwood pig hats, tee-shirts and totes. While Kate and Julia greeted folks as they arrived, Rebecca and Monica were on hand to help out and keep things moving smoothly. Shades were loaned by Andy and Gary.

Certainly the staff were all on hand to help get the feeding done quickly, get things set up and taken down and to safely store the huge amount of donated items that evening before the rains came.



## Diane and Arnold

Thanks to everyone, including our visitors, who helped to make our pigs' big day such a great success. All the pigs had to do was come out of their shelters and enjoy the pets and treats and get their pictures taken. Lucky them!!!

---Mary

# Dear Supporter

**Do you think of yourself as special? Indispensable? Irreplaceable?  
We sure do!**

**Why? Because of this simple truth: Your support! -- The donations you make to the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary make everything we do possible. Supporters like you have made it possible for us to care for the 600 pigs at the sanctuary. During the 10 1/2 years we have been rescuing pigs, we have given a safe and secure home to over 1000 pot-bellied pigs.**

**And thank you for your continued support of the Sanctuary.**

## Remember the Sanctuary in your Will

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

Bequests can be a percentage of the estate or a specific dollar amount, a particular stock, bond or mutual fund, real estate, or 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.

## Sponsor One of Our Sweet Pigs

When you sponsor a pig from Ironwood, you are creating a special bond. We understand that not everyone can adopt one or two pigs from all of those up for adoption. That is why sponsoring that special pig whose story touched you in some way is a popular alternative to adoption. The bond formed through a sponsorship is one that keeps you connected to the life of your special pig and gives you the rare opportunity to witness their growth over time.

Your sponsorship of one of these wonderful pigs helps provide for the continued work at the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary. You can sponsor as many as you like or sponsor one as a gift or in honor or memory of someone special to you. You will receive photos and the story of your pig. Come join our family of sponsors today!



**Mario**

**You can make secure One-Time or Multiple Monthly Sponsor or Sustainer donations to the Sanctuary with PayPal (no PayPal account required) using your credit card by going to the **SUPPORT** page of our web site at [www.ironwoodpigs.org](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org).**

# Do Micro-Mini Pigs Exist?

I received a call recently from Julia about her experience buying a “micro-mini pig” for \$2,704 from a Texas Breeder.

Julia had a pot-bellied pig when she was younger that is now deceased. She learned to love pot-bellied pigs and wanted to have another. However, she was older now and felt that she couldn't handle a full size pot-bellied pig that might be 125-150 pounds. She saw an ad for a micro-mini piglet that as an adult was “guaranteed” to be no bigger than 28 pounds. She was told through several phone conversations that she was going to receive a tame little pig that loved to be picked up and cuddled and that could be taken for a walk with a harness. Julia felt that this was the perfect pet for her and jumped at the chance to buy this pig.

As it turned out nothing could be further from the truth. The pig was skittish and afraid. She could never pick it up or cuddle it as she was told. At 5-6 pounds on arrival it was very thin and its hip bones were clearly visible. She had it for 27 days and in that time its weight almost doubled to 9 pounds. Pigs will grow for 3 years and this baby was well on his way to exceed the 28 pounds and possibly reach 125-150 pounds.

Julia returned him and is now



## Julia's Micro-Mini Pig After She Had It For 27 Days

trying to get her \$2705 back by filing a claim with the credit card company. Crystal from Las Vegas Pigs and Ben from the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary wrote letters for Julia in support of her claim against the breeder.

Pot-bellied pigs are a breed of domestic pig originating in Vietnam. They were first imported to North America in the mid 1980's for inclusion in zoos. Due to their comparatively small size and wonderful personality, breeders quickly recognized the marketability of the pot-bellied pig as a pet. Unfortunately, many unscrupulous breeders (often referred to as “backyard breeders”) have perpetuated damaging misinformation in the name of making a quick and easy sale with tragic results.

The first pet pig “craze” hit in the late 1980's, resulting in the neglect, abuse and abandonment

of hundreds of pot-bellied pigs who exceeded their owners' expectations for size and care. Since then, the “craze” over this fad pet has cycled through waves. The desire for a miniature pig often stems from the association with celebrities. Many stars purchase their miniature pig-pet to set themselves apart. Michael Jackson. Paris Hilton. Rupert Grint. George Clooney. The list goes on and on. Their fans follow, hoping for some excitement and notoriety of their own.

Pot-bellied pigs are sold under a number of names, but none of them are true or accurate. Breeders manufacture names such as “Dandy-Pigs,” “Teacup-Pigs,” “Thimble-Pigs,” “Pocket-Pigs,” “Pixy-Pigs,” and “Micro-Minis” to help them sell. None of these names, conjured up to reflect a diminutive size, are true breeds of pig, nor do they accurately reflect the final size, needs, or behavior of the animal.



## Elizabeth Is No Micro-Mini Pig

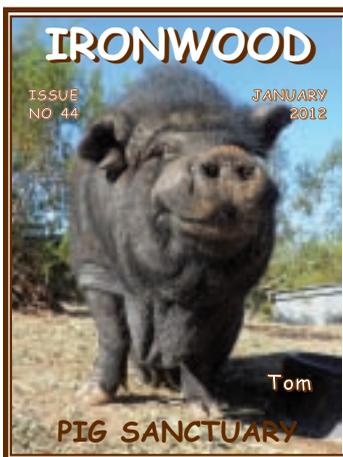
## A Great Gift Idea

# Ironwood's Hats & T-Shirts

We're excited to have great quality t-shirts and hats to offer to our supporters! The shirts are available for \$15 and the hats for \$10 plus \$5 for shipping. Both have the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary title and logo. Hats come in navy blue, black, chrome, hunter green, khaki and driftwood (a light brown). The short sleeve tees come in a wide variety of colors and sizes. There are 4 shades of green (spruce, pistachio, stonewashed and dark), chocolate brown, sand, black, pale pink, candy pink, stonewashed blue, maroon, light blue and heather gray. Sizes range from youth small and medium, adult medium to XXL and ladies small to XXL. Send in your orders today by phone, email, PayPal or check. Show your support for the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary with these comfortable hats and tees!



**Our Staff Modeling The Ironwood T-Shirts & Hats**



Two of our cute old men here at Ironwood, Tom & Odie, are featured.

We picked up Tom, our cover boy and his companion Rosanne from a man in Phoenix in June of 2006. They were both strays and hugely overweight. Imagine two stray obese pigs on a hot

June day in Phoenix! Lucky for them there was a man who cared enough to take these two homeless piggies in. They have lost weight and lived happily with us for the past 5 years. In June of 2010 Tom had to have a "tummy tuck" since he was stepping on his belly now that he was in his new thin body! He is still

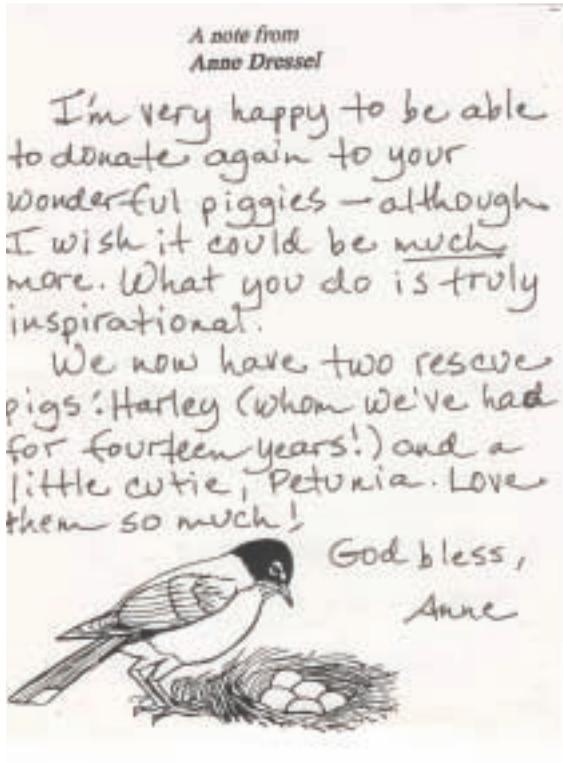
kind of saggy but gets along much better these days.



Oscar, nicknamed Odie, is a relative newcomer to Ironwood. We printed his loving story in one of our recent newsletters. His previous family lost

their home in a foreclosure and had to move to CA for employment. He turned 17 in August and while not without problems, he is getting along very well with new pig friends Samson and a recent addition, Emily. They share a small area of their own in one of our assisted living fields. He is dearly missed by his family, but we feel he has now happily settled in with friends of his own kind and is well cared for by all here at Ironwood.

# Our Supporters Write



Avery Giving Buttercup a Hug  
at Our Open House

Thank you for a wonderful Open House.

Keep up the fabulous work!

Kind regards,

Avery

## Animal Planet

The Ironwood Pig Sanctuary was involved with a pig rescue recently that was documented by the Animal Planet. It was mostly a cat hoarding situation but there were three pigs that needed a new home. We were wired for sound and there were many minutes of video taken during our rescue of the three pigs. We have no idea how much of the show will focus on our pig rescue or how it is presented. If you are interested in seeing what happened, you can watch the show on Animal Planet January 6, 2012, at 10pm Eastern and Pacific times. My guess is it will be at 9pm on Mountain time. Check the station to make sure of the time. The name of the show is Confessions: Animal Hoarding.

My Kindergarten class started a "Pennies for Pigs" project during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of school this year. They didn't raise a huge amount by any means but I told them that "every little bit helps". Indeed, I hope this does help.

Anna Lucia Pelletier  
+  
her Kindergarten Kiddos

## 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.



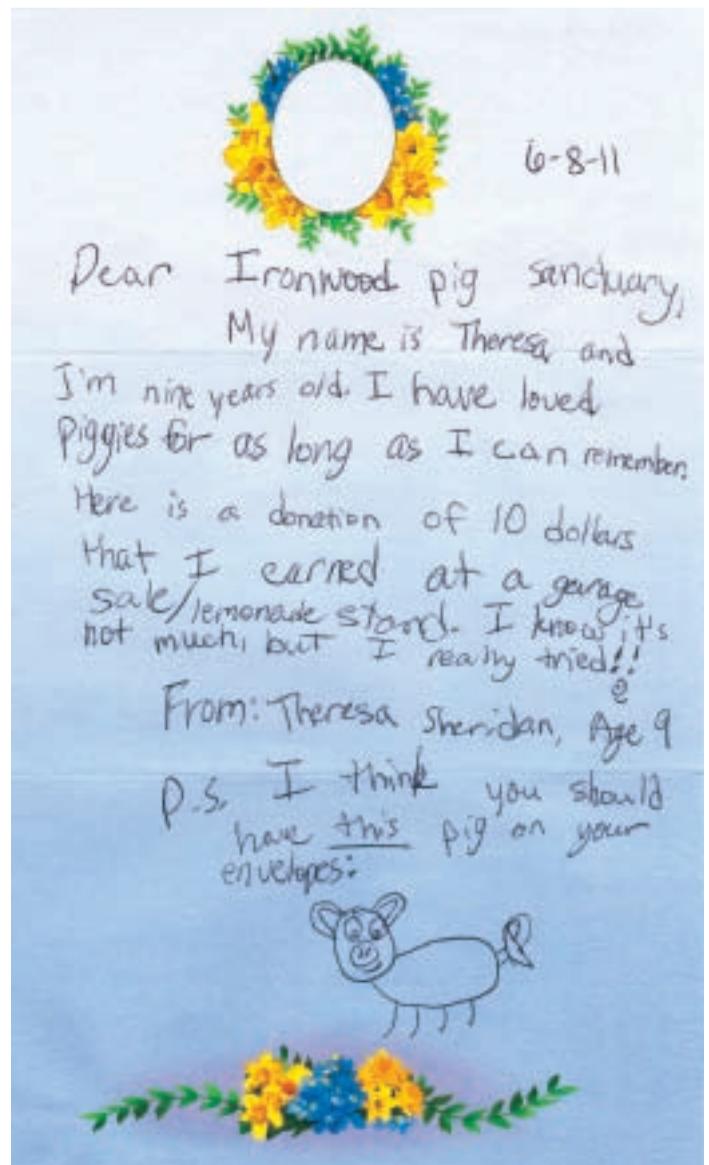
Dear Donna and Ben,

Thank you for all the information about Pinky, together with the photos. She is svelt and adorable and I am so glad she and Oompa have each other.

Victoria would have turned 21 today. She passed away July 14, 2009, four months short of 20. She taught us so much. I'm enclosing a photo of her with all of us, taken 2 weeks before she passed. She was vigorous and, except for arthritis toward the end, healthy until that day when after a large breakfast, she passed lying in the sun. May Pinky and Oompa enjoy equally healthy, happy lives.

Thank you for all you are doing for these wonderful pigs.

Valmai



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