

# IRONWOOD

Happy Holidays

SUBSCRIPTIONS  
NO. 85

NOVEMBER  
2018



Johnny  
Rocket

## PIG SANCTUARY



# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490  
Tucson, AZ 85740

November 2018

Dear Supporter,

As I have done for so many years now, I want to wish you a very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season. We continue to do what we have done successfully for so many years now; save the lives of as many pigs as we are able during each succeeding year. This year more than 100 pigs have come to us and we have a couple months to go yet. Since many have come from dire situations it is so exciting to see them blossom, their faces turn to hope, their wounds from dogs or other mistreatments heal, their thin bodies begin to fill out, and some can now move more easily since they are no longer eating junk food or are no longer in tiny pens from which they were never released. Many have been strays, many from hoarding situations, some from breeders who have gratefully given up breeding and many from owners' life changing situations that result in their pigs coming to live with us.

You and so many like you make this possible. Your financial donations, sponsorships, bequests, bags that show up at our donation sites, many many boxes that arrive at our P O Box, art work and so important to me, the huge number of letters and notes of encouragement when I am feeling despondent are all appreciated. And there is another whole level of support that I am so grateful to acknowledge and am thankful for. I would like to thank our staff who have hung in there over this incredibly long, hot summer always working with far too few helpers. Caring for so many pigs each day is hard work and when 100 plus temperatures persist for many months it is truly a daunting task. Each day presents new challenges that must be met to provide good care to our pigs.

Our veterinarians never turn us down. We call with a pig or pigs in need and they fit us into their busy schedule. It is so comforting knowing when we have a sick pig we have a competent group of veterinarians to take care of them. Our volunteers are wonderful. Some come to the sanctuary to work each week or more often and do many different tasks that help to relieve me and the staff of some of our daily burdens. They often show up with treats or entire meals to help our day go more smoothly. Some days when we are particularly short of help or have many urgent things to accomplish I am not sure how we would get by without them. Some of our volunteers come from far away states and stay to help us for a whole week. Others work off-site to answer our phone calls, make wonderful cards, write hundreds of thank you notes to you our supporters, sew blankets, do fundraisers and garage sales entirely on their own.

I also must mention Carrie at Adoptapigaz and Daneille and Matt from Better Piggies Rescue. Together they have found homes or foster homes for so many pigs on our list and have transported and arranged spays and neuters for many pigs as part of our outreach. This relieves us of a great deal of time and effort and gets pigs into homes that otherwise may not get placed or have an uncertain ending.

I am so grateful for all the hands that help to make Ironwood a wonderful sanctuary. Thank you all and Happy Holidays to you and your loved ones.

Sincerely,



Mary Schanz  
President & CoFounder

Pictured here are two of the 100 plus pigs we have taken in so far this year. These two were from a hoarding situation.



# Name That Pig

I taught elementary school for 18 years before becoming a “pig lady”. Every August when school started and the classroom filled with 25+ new faces, each child got a name tag and wore that for a few days until I learned who was who. Some of them got known quickly; the class clown, the helpful one, the non-stop talker, the troublemaker, the super smart one, etc. Those falling in the middle of all that were remembered by personality quirks or their looks but the names were learned and remembered before the week was out. Well, the pigs can’t wear name tags, so you just have to do your best to learn their names. Some of them are easy because they are so unique. For instance, Churchill is the big white 550 pound hog. Kind of hard to confuse him with anyone else. When you go into Sunset Field there are several larger than average pigs but the biggest and pushiest is Big Charlotte. She makes sure that everyone knows her! Over in Far Northwest Field a cute girl walks around with a permanent head tilt due to a past



Dexter in North Field

severe ear infection. That would be Nellie...easy to recognize because she always looks at you



Nellie

with her head cocked like she’s trying to figure you out. Amber is missing parts of her ears and has a lot of facial scars from a dog attack so she is easy to distinguish from her friends. Lily has only



Lily

one ear, again from a dog attack. Rambo is the super sized white pig in Special Needs Field. Dexter is the big spotted guy in North Field. Another pig named Dexter that lives in the Northwest Field squeals over and over at the top of his lungs every day at breakfast time. You not only remember who he is but you learn to recognize his voice from three fields over!

Just like the troublemaker in the

classroom that all the teachers already seem to know by reputation, there are a handful of pigs here that everyone learns to recognize quickly for their own safety. Winnie in the North Field



Winnie

is one that you have to keep an eye on. Most of the time she is fine but there are moments when she gets the urge to bite people so watch out for the black and white pig whose white encircles the middle of her body. Far East Field has two pigs to beware of, Mayzee and Stinkbug. Mayzee is the small white girl, the only white female in her field. She is fast and sneaky and has bitten



Mayzee

several of us. Stinkbug is a large solid black pig. That description is not very helpful since the majority of the pigs here are solid black. With the black pigs you have to learn body size and shape,





Stink Bug

the wrinkles on the forehead, notches on the ears...anything that distinguishes them from others. Stinkbug is the one that will most likely be chomping his teeth at you.

Lollipop in Lil' East Field is a sweet girl but when the sandwiches with the pigs' medications are being handed out she turns into

Jaws. People being trained to feed in that field quickly learn who Lollipop is and know to keep their fingers out of her range.

And speaking of handing out the medications, that is the number one reason staff members must learn to distinguish among the pigs and learn the names. The meds come in a peanut butter sandwich inside a Ziploc bag with the pig's name on it. Each field has a bundle of med bags that must be handed out to particular pigs. It can be confusing and difficult, so you learn tricks to help you remember. Everybody has their own techniques. A father and son pair came in years ago and for some reason I had trouble remembering which was



Bob

George and which was Walter. George is solid black but Walter has one white front foot. I began calling him Walter White Foot to get that ingrained in my mind. Same thing happened with two brothers, Bob and Randy, who look an awful lot alike. Bob has a small patch of white hair on his forehead while Randy's is all black. I had to think of the bobwhite quail and associate that with Bob (in my mind he is Bob White). Tressie, one of our long time staff members, helped me

with two brothers in the North Field. Zeus and Titan look nothing alike, one is gray and the other is black with white markings but I had trouble with the



Randy

names. Tressie said she thought of the metal Titanium and metal is gray in color so therefore Titan is the gray pig. It worked for me!

Liz and Janelle are sisters, both black with white markings. The one with the "short white" on her front legs is the one with the short name, Liz. Janelle has "long white" on her front legs and has the long name. Morris in East Field looks a lot like all the other black pigs in his field but he has a small mole below his right eye, so



Morris

he is Morris the Mole. Clark, Dudley and Caroline, siblings in Lil' East are hard to tell apart. Clark is the easiest because he has a large white ring around his shoulders. I picture the words Clark and large, both with "ar" in the middle. Caroline and Dudley are more difficult because their white rings are about the same size as are the white patches of hair on their foreheads. When teaching new staff those pigs we simply tell them to look for male and female parts to tell the difference. Violet and Mona are sisters, both white. Violet has a black circle on her back which helps me because I think of "dot the i" in Violet's name. Mona is smaller too which helps until



Violet

Roxanne comes along. She's not related to them but lives in the same field and is a white girl about Mona's size. Mona has several cute little black dots on her nose while Roxanne only has two. Batman and Robin are



**Batman**

brothers that look very much alike; black with white front legs and a white band across their shoulders. Batman's white band is wider than Robin's. To remember that I think of the characters they are named for. Who was

the larger person? Batman, of course. And being larger he needs a larger cape, thus the wider white across his shoulders.

Sometimes if the look alike aren't standing together it is almost impossible to know which one you're looking at. Sapphire and Ginny live in the same field...Sapphire is bigger and rounder than Ginny but if they're not side by side, who knows! Sisters



**Robin**

Sharona and Londyn...Sharona has shorter legs and Londyn longer legs but again, if they aren't together it's hard to tell. Arlo and Cole...both solid black boys that hang out together. Cole has more wrinkles on his forehead which is easy to see in the summer when they've shed their hair but once the thick winter coat is in place there goes that helpful hint.

cards of each pig, some with helpful hints like "missing piece of left ear", "has split right ear", "has deep scar on right side", etc. Short of ear tagging everyone, an idea that Mary and I nixed right at the beginning, it's just a matter of picking out things that help you remember the pig and its name. I use a lot of word association while other people depend on color markings. Everyone has their own learning/teaching technique. We share ideas to help one another along the way.

And now for your test. Which of the brothers, Pedro and Miguel, has a heart on his forehead? Which of the friends, Richie and Griffin, has a folded ear? Which of the brothers, Java and Kava, has white on his forelegs? Which of the brothers Zipper and Buttons has the white dot on his forehead? It's an endless name game to be played with 585+ pigs at Ironwood. But each pig does



**Roxanne**



**Mona**

So when people ask us how we remember the names of all the pigs, there is no easy answer. We do our best and some of us know most or all of them. Other staff members are learning as they go. We do have identification books divided by fields with picture



**Buttons & Zipper**

have his or her own name and is treated and loved as an individual.

---Donna

(I'm the one with short hair wearing glasses and a camo ball cap.)



# Holiday Gifts

**Y**ou can support the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary while doing your holiday shopping or for other special occasions like birthdays or anniversaries. The following make great gifts.

You may purchase these gifts using the enclosed envelope or go to Ironwood's web site and use PayPal or your credit card. *Please note that the T-shirts, hats and aprons are ONLY available online or when you visit the sanctuary.*



**Sponsor a Pig**  
get a letter and pictures of an adorable pig



**Jigsaw Puzzles**  
252 piece puzzles of Ironwood pigs



**T-Shirts, Hats & Aprons**  
with the Ironwood logo, are available ONLY at [www.ironwoodpigs.org](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org) on the Support Page or when visiting the sanctuary



**2019 Ironwood Calendar**  
different pigs are featured each month



**Donations "In Honor Of"**  
get a certificate or card of acknowledgement

# Open House



**I**ronwood's annual Open House is coming up soon. Invitations with a map and directions have been sent out. You can also check our web site for directions if you did not receive one.

Donations are much appreciated!! Check out this list for items that are ongoing needs. An \* denotes items we use and need the most.

- \*\***BLANKETS** (pigs love comforters!)
- \*Sheets
- \* Peanut Butter, CREAMY ONLY
- \* Cranberry/Grape Juice (cran/grape combo only please)
- \* Animal Crackers
- \* Flaxseed Oil Capsules, 1000+ milligrams
- \* Ensure (or Generic), Vanilla only
- Vitamin E Capsules, 400 IU
- Prune Juice
- Fig Newton Cookies (or equivalent brand)
- Canned Pumpkin
- Ranitidine 150mg Acid Reducer
- Benefiber (not flavored)
- Antibiotic Ointment
- Children's Multivitamins (NO IRON)
- Vitamin B Complex (small tablets please)

These happy, smiling pigs are just a few of those anxious to meet and greet you at this year's Open House! Be ready to pet some pigs, eat some great food and have lots of fun!

Saturday November 10th  
from 11:00AM to 3:00PM



Elvis



Dave



Houdini



Kwili



Stella



Charmaine



# Sponsor a S



Gummer

My owners took good care of me; got me neutered and everything. Then they had to move into an apartment and I couldn't go with them.



Patti

My owner had been using me for breeding but after my last two litters all died she said I cost too much and wasn't worth keeping. That hurt!



I had been dumped at Mountain Park and a hiker. He got the help catch me. I was running but they h

*These pigs are just a few of those hoping for your love and support. For a monthly donation of \$30 you will receive pictures of your pig along with their*

*background. New photos and an update will arrive later in the year to keep you connected to your piggy. Remember that a sponsorship makes a great holiday gift! What a fun way to support an Ironwood pig!*

*---Donna*



Donna

Heather



Janelle

I came here with my 3 of our friends to go were supposed to go our dad decided he c back.



# Special Pig!



Hal

I was dumped in Tucson and was found by a Park Ranger to the Park Ranger to I was gonna keep they had food!



Sadie

I came from a bad hoarding situation. There were 150 pigs that got taken to a place in another state but I got left behind for some reason.



Craig

I was a stray wandering in a neighborhood. Some people took me in for a couple of months then said I was "too high maintenance." What does that even mean?



my mom, sister and to get spayed. We go home later but he didn't want us



She-ra

I came here with my sisters, brothers and mom. Our owners ate my dad then decided they didn't like the taste and got rid of the rest of us. Scary!



Liz

My owner asked for help getting all his girls spayed so we came here for the surgery. He never came back to get us though. I'm lucky to still have my mom and sister with me.





# Front Cover



**J**ohnny Rocket arrived at Ironwood on August 4, 2017 along with his mother Lucinda and his sister Latoya.

They were being cared for by a man named Johnny living and working at the

cotton fields about an hour's drive from Ironwood. The owner lived in Phoenix and had asked him to care for her pigs.

He had them in a pen but since he had not received any money from her for food he was feeding them food from his garden. When he fell on hard times and his car broke down and he was being evicted, he turned the pigs loose so they might have a chance to



**Johnny Rocket**

survive on their own. Remarkably Ben and I found Johnny an hour before friends were coming to help him move his belongings and he would have been gone. The pigs were located about a mile from where he was living and we never would have found them had he been gone. They were wandering near the barn where they had been kept. They had water from the canals for the cotton and there was a pasture with a water trough for

some horses. The dad and one son could not be found. Lucinda was pregnant and Johnny said she had had two previous litters all of which were gone except for Johnny



**Lucinda**

Rocket, Latoya and the baby we could not find. Lucinda was quite social and we were able to coax her into a carrier without much difficulty but her son,



**Latoya**

Johnny Rocket and daughter, Latoya, were elusive and difficult to secure in a carrier since they had not been socialized. But they were hungry and

we were eventually able to coax them into the pen where they had been kept and finally got them safely into carriers. What a relief it was to have them safe! These are the things that keep us going.

The rest is history as they say. The three pigs all live together in the Main Field. While Latoya has become pretty social, Johnny Rocket remains shy and keeps his distance, but as you see from his picture he has settled in quite happily.

---Mary





Lucy & Carnie

Page 16

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

Issue 85

# Back Cover

Carnie arrived at Ironwood in October of 2015. She was being released to us because the HOA where she lived said the owner had to give her up. "I have a four year old Juliana Mini Pig and she needs a new home." The lady who had her said Carnie was a service pig and was very friendly. She sent us a picture of this cute baby pig. We thought great and expecting a

small pig, went to pick her up with a modest size carrier to bring her home. Well, we were greeted at the gate by a very large pushy pig, now four years old. We immediately



Carnie

knew we would have to return with a GIANT carrier. Carnitas was her name, but we quickly changed that to Carnie. She was full of herself and still is to this day. Before she was spayed and still living in the holding pen, many a staff member ended up jumping onto a shelter to safety when Carnie was in heat and out for her yard time.



Carnie as a Baby

**L**ucy and Oscar arrived at Ironwood in April of 2015. They were relinquished to us because their "Mom" had cancer and could no longer care for them. For quite some time Mom came to



Lucy

visit and brought them treats. The pair were sort of like Jack Sprat could eat no fat and his wife could eat no lean. Lucy was and remains a big heavy set girl and Oscar was a lean boy with a

misshapen body. We dubbed him Oscar Hoo since when he talked to us he always said, "Hoo Hoo." Lucy has quite an attitude and due to their personalities and physical conditions they were not



Oscar Hoo

put in the same field together at first. However, Lucy caused so much commotion in her field that she was brought back to a pen then later released to the Northeast Field where Oscar Hoo and Carnie live. Lucy and Carnie enjoy roaming around the field to be sure they do not miss out on any goodies that may be passed out to others while Oscar Hoo is more of a homebody.

Carnie is full of personality and loves attention but also doesn't mind taking a swipe at you if you are not careful and have food that she wants. We do love her though.  
--Mary

# Spike's Field

**T**hroughout the bi-monthly newsletters of 2018 I have introduced you to several different fields and their residents that are not usually included in our regular tours. This time we will visit a field that was originally built for a group of older pigs coming from a sanctuary in Apache Junction, AZ that finally closed its doors after several years of attempts to shut them down due to inadequate housing and lack of medical care. Ironwood took small groups of pigs from this particular rescue whenever the owner would allow us. One of those earlier rescues in May of 2010 was a poor old guy named Spike whose eye was bulging out of the socket. We immediately took him to see our vet but the infection behind Spike's eye had gone too long without treatment and sadly he was euthanized to prevent further suffering. When we finally took

the last group of the Apache Junction pigs in 2013 and prepared an area for them to live, it was named Spike's Field in memory of the one who never got the chance to improve his life.

just a dozen or so pigs living in this mid-sized field, but in September of this year we added 11 new pigs to bring the total population up to 22.

Spike's Field is L shaped with six clusters of shelters situated under large shade ramadas. Each cluster has pools and mud wallows in the center where the pigs can lounge around with one another and relax in the shade. In three corners of the L, there are single houses set up

for those that need or want some time to themselves like newcomers Dexter and Woody. As with all the various fields at Ironwood, the housing comes in different sizes so the pigs can have the choice of being alone or sharing with their friends. The pigs will tend to buddy up more as the temperature gets colder. Pigs put off a lot of body heat and they are smart enough to take advantage of that when needed.

Since many of the residents of Spike's Field are in their teens, their diet needs have become individualized out of necessity. Snort, the oldest of the bunch, has a deteriorating jaw and needs a soft mash and extra time to eat. Her best friend Squeal has a history of urinary tract problems and gets served diluted juice with



Antaris



Big Momma

Antaris and Big Momma are the only two of the original Apache Junction pigs still living in Spike's Field. Both girls are around 15-16 years of age now and are dealing with the effects of arthritis as most elderly pigs do. Even though both lost their lifelong friends to age related issues, each has formed relationships with other pigs who are part of the Spike's Field herd. Antaris hangs out with Thelma

and Delta Dawn often sharing a house with both girls. Schnuddl sleeps in a neighboring shelter. Big Momma spends her time with Rasputia who had joined the herd back in its early days as well as Peggy, Dottie and Piggy Smalls who all came in later. For quite a long while there were



Thelma, Delta Dawn, Antaris



his meals. Dottie eats really fast and was getting more than her share of grain from the feed troughs. Thelma and Princess are a bit thin and need extra rations. Schnuddl was simply “too helpful” to the person trying to feed the herd which translates into “being a royal pain”. Piggy Smalls was unable to keep up with the others in the feed troughs due to his mobility problems. Samson and Delilah both need



Samson & Delilah

wet mashes because they choke easily while eating. Dexter, one of the new additions to the herd, kept getting in fights during meals. For these and similar reasons, a lot of the pigs are fed in individual pens so that they can



Going Into Feeding Pens

enjoy their meal peacefully and get the appropriate amount of food. There is a feed station where the grain and hay are stored

with a table where the feeder can prepare the individual bowls for the pigs being fed in pens. On most days about half of the herd gathers to watch and wait for the meal to be served. Schnuddl, being ever so helpful, stands on



Dottie, Peggy, Schnuddl

the fence peering over the edge of the table to oversee the preparations and offer her advice which most often is, “Please put more grain in my bowl!” and “Hurry up!” The pigs are very smart and know exactly which pen belongs to them and will go directly there once the feeder heads out with the bowls. Gates are opened and pigs pop right in eager to get their meal. Many times Squeal holds back though, so his gate is left opened for him to contemplate going in while the rest of the piggies get in place and get fed. He likes the idea of saving the best for last and will meander inside to be the last one fed. The remainder of the herd is fed in several troughs and bowls placed in one section of the field.

After the grain is finished and the pigs are let out of their pens, alfalfa hay is scattered around the



Eating From Troughs

field for the pigs to graze on at their leisure. The person feeding that field will open all the pen gates while setting out hay so the pigs can come on out to get started. Once the hay is down that person goes back to gather all the food bowls and close the gates while the pigs are munching on



Grazing On Hay

hay. During this process Dottie takes advantage of all the gates being open and dashes from one pen to the next “cleaning” all the bowls as quickly as possible



Dottie



before they get picked up. Naptime is at the top of everyone's list once the hay is gone and tummies are full. Dottie is usually the last pig scrounging for scraps before settling down to grab some sleep. (Are you taking note of a pattern here with Dottie? Look at that belly!) Around this time someone from the watering team arrives to clean and refill the water bowls, pools and wallows. Depending on how hot it is on a particular day a few of the pigs will get up to have a drink of fresh water or a quick roll in a full wallow. If they time it just right, they can get a shower from the hose. That's always fun and refreshing!

Squeal gets a little extra attention because of his past problems with urinary stones. He always has



Squeal's Juice

diluted juice with his breakfast but is treated to more juice around noon. Squeal knows to come out and meet the person bringing his juice. Dottie, of course, is usually there sticking her nose in trying to get some too. Later in the afternoon another staff person will bring out a peanut butter sandwich for Squeal and one for his best friend Snort. They both have medications tucked inside the treat that they take twice daily.



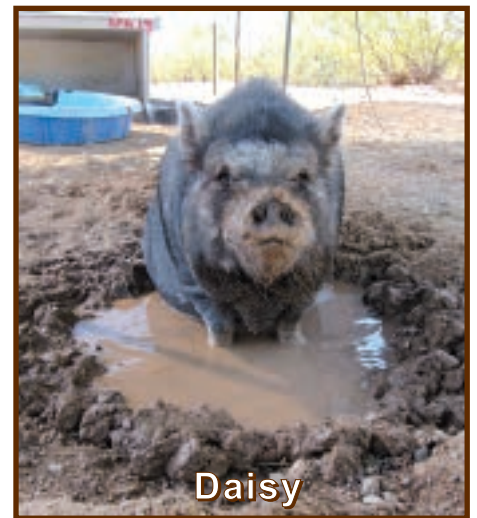
Snort's Evening Med

After eating his sandwich Squeal again gets juice. This is done to encourage him to drink more, flushing out his system so that stones or crystals are less likely to form in his bladder. The juice is heavily diluted with water with just enough vanilla syrup added to make it irresistible. Squeal loves juice time!

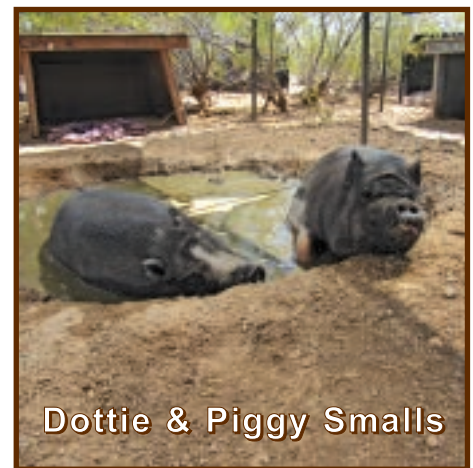
Because of your donations, Big Momma and Antaris have spent the last six years living in comfort with space to roam, receiving medical care when needed and enjoying the opportunity to form numerous friendships with other pigs. Snort and Squeal have maintained their close relationship while also becoming buddies with Peggy, Delilah and Samson. Your support allows Lyla, Daisy, Precious and Princess to receive individualized care as they grow older while still enjoying the opportunity to live in a field with a herd. Newcomers like Johann, Mozart, Pablo and Woody have the chance to establish a homestead and enjoy life within a herd. And thanks to you Schnuddl has the freedom to express herself and let her personality shine through.



Mozart & Johann



Daisy



Dottie & Piggy Smalls

Thank you from all the members of the Spike's Field herd!

---Donna



# Our Wish List

## MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

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

Animal Crackers  
 Ranitidine Acid Reducer, 150mg  
 Ensure Or Generic, Vanilla Only  
 Vitamin E Capsules, 400 IU  
 Peanut Butter, Creamy Only  
 Children's Multi-Vitamins, NO Iron  
 Canned Pumpkin  
 Flaxseed Oil Capsules 1000 plus milligrams  
 Stool Softeners  
 Fiber Powder (NOT Metamucil & NOT Orange Flavored)  
 Prunes  
 Glucosamine/Chondroitin, capsules or tablets  
 Sheets

## GIFT CARDS

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

The easiest way to provide for the pigs' current needs is to order from our **Amazon Wish List**. Please make all your purchases including your personal purchases on **smile.amazon.com** and designate Ironwood Pig Sanctuary as your charity of choice. Amazon will donate 0.5% of all your purchases to Ironwood.

## Blanket and Donation Drop Offs

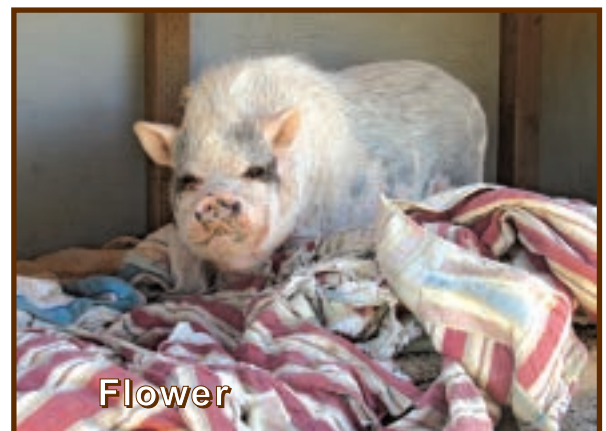
Cooler nights are here and the piggies are burrowing into their blankets inside their houses. The need for comforters and blankets is ongoing, so please keep collecting them! There are now three locations where you may drop off blankets and other material donations from our Wish List (no monetary donations can be accepted here).

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

For north Phoenix near the 101/Cave Creek Rd area, we're happy to add Danette as a volunteer. You may call her at 602-376-1086 for directions.

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

For far east Tucson in the Civano neighborhood we are happy to add Sandra as a volunteer. Call her at 804-840-5296 for directions.



**IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY**  
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**TUCSON, AZ 85740-5490**  
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# **IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY NEWS**



**Lucy & Carnie**