

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490

Tucson, AZ 85740

Dear Friend,

October 2019

So far in 2019 we have taken in over 90 pigs from various situations. Many of them were strays but there are 3 siblings now known as the “Snack Pack” that arrived in February that I want to tell you about.



The 3 pigs were running loose in Buckeye, AZ. A man caught them and took them to his uncle’s house while they tried to find a home for them. The youngsters were a bit thin but fortunate to not have any



Twizzler and Buddies

wounds as many strays do.

Once word got out to the pig network, we volunteered to take them in for spaying and neutering if someone else



Nacho and Pals

would provide a permanent home. Well, they’re still here! We called the female Skinny Girl which became Skinny Girl Popcorn, my favorite brand of popcorn. After it was shortened to Popcorn, Taryn and I were joking about other movie snacks, which is how the boys ended up being named Twizzler and Nacho, hence the “Snack Pack”.

The three pigs were monitored for any health issues before being deemed well enough to undergo surgery to be altered. While at the clinic Popcorn had her eye checked and was diagnosed with entropion (the lower eyelid turns in with the lashes

rubbing the eyeball). Surgery was done to correct that condition but had to be repeated three weeks later because her eye was still irritated. That is under control now although Popcorn was left with a permanent red distended look to that eyelid.

Once the Snack Pack had fully recovered from their surgeries, they were moved out into the Princess Field along with 15 other new pigs.

The boys settled in pretty quickly, but Popcorn turned out to be a

feisty little gal that got into all kinds of trouble before finally calming down. The boys are good buddies with Charlotte and her 3 young daughters Rosalie, Sugarfoot and Sweet Cheeks. They all hang out under a big shade ramada with Homer, Marge, Freya



Popcorn and Friends

and Wilburt. Thanks to your generosity Nacho, Twizzler and Popcorn got the medical care they needed and now live in a safe environment with plenty of food and good friends. Thank you for giving them a happy life!

Sincerely,

Donna Thomason
Sponsor Coordinator

Open House

Saturday, November 9th From 11:00AM to 3:00PM

We hope to see you at this year's Open House which is always a blast! Everyone is welcome to attend and don't hesitate to bring your friends and family along! There is no admission fee, but donations are appreciated. You can have a tour of the Sanctuary, pet lots of pigs, purchase shirts, hats, Ironwood calendars and more then relax at the Visitor Center where snacks and drinks are available. It is always



a great time, so come on out and enjoy the day with us and the pigs. Come see how your support provides a fantastic home for so many wonderful animals!



You should receive an invitation with a map in the mail. If you don't, please check the web site for directions.

Check out the list of things we need at the sanctuary. If you bring peanut butter, please bring CREAMY ONLY... it spreads so much quicker and easier when making hundreds of "medicine sandwiches" for the pigs. (Those marked with "*" are items we need the most at this time.)

Things to remember when touring the sanctuary:

1. Wear a hat! You'll be out in the desert sun.
2. Wear sunscreen! You'll be out in the desert sun.
3. Wear comfortable walking shoes that you don't mind getting dusty.
4. We have two golf carts available for those needing physical assistance for the tour.

****BLANKETS** (pigs love comforters!)

*Sheets

*Cranberry/Grape Juice (**Cran/Grape Combo** only please)

* Animal Crackers

*Canned Pumpkin

Flaxseed Oil Capsules, 1000+ milligrams

Vitamin E Capsules, 400 IU

Prune Juice

Fig Newton Cookies (or equivalent brand)

Peanut Butter, **CREAMY ONLY** please!

Ranitidine 150mg Acid Reducer

Benefiber (not flavored)

Antibiotic Ointment (regular and Pain Relief)

Children's Multivitamins (**NO IRON**)

Stool Softeners

The above items are things we are in need of now as well as **blankets, blankets, blankets!** (I know I keep repeating **blankets**, but....)

We love you all, appreciate your support and hope to see you at Ironwood's Open House. Mark November 9th on your calendar!

—-Donna

The Queen of Weird Wounds

While not actually being a queen, Princess does win the Weird Wound Award for 2019. On July 18th Princess had a strange red and purple spot on her back. There was nothing there the previous day so we felt it may have been a spider bite or something of that nature that causes a fast reaction. Within two days the area had opened up into a nasty looking wound and Princess was running a fever. Pictures were taken and sent to the vet and she agreed that it must be a spider bite. A culture was taken and sent off to the lab and Princess was started on



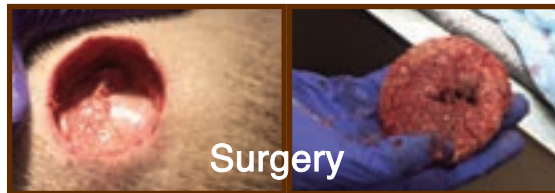
After reviewing all the lab test results, it was determined that there was no bacteria present but the lump did have necrotic tissue which supports a spider being the culprit. Princess was taken off the antibiotics but continued with topical treatments. The thing just

shimmy out of her bandages! She was examined by Dr. Staten again during an onsite visit on August 23rd. She is still on the road to recovery, but the wound is shrinking and surrounded by healthy tissue. During this ordeal she spent a few weeks in a small recovery area with air conditioning, her tiny yard covered with sheets and carpets that could be wet down to keep her cool but clean while healing. As the healing progressed, Princess was able to move to a regular holding pen in early September, still covered with sheets but giving her more space. Now she is

First Day



antibiotics. For the next two days she was running a high fever but that got under control once the medicine kicked in. The redness surrounding the sore decreased but the actual site continued to swell and ooze. Alarmed at the changes, we sent Princess to the vet clinic. They aspirated the lump and sent that sample to the lab. She returned to the sanctuary the following day where we watched the spot continue to get more disgusting.



Surgery

kept getting bigger and harder, so another trip to the vet clinic was necessary in August. The lump was solid like a hockey puck, 2.6 inches in diameter. Dr. Staten had to cut the entire thing out. (Everyone in the clinic had to come look because it was so bizarre!) Princess was left with a crater that was packed with medication, covered with half an adult diaper then bandaged in a body wrap that had to be changed daily. Some days it was multiple changes as Princess found new ways to



Most Recent

almost ready to go home to Sunset Field. —Donna



If you would like to help with Princess' medical bills, please allocate your donation in her name. Her two clinic visits and the onsite vet exam came to \$1,518.45. Thank you for taking care of Princess!

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY

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Published at the above address regularly.

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
PERMIT NO. 2216

OCTOBER 2019
NEWSLETTER UPDATE

IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY



Melody, Quincy & Goldie