

# Ironwood Pig Sanctuary

Post Office Box 35490

Tucson, AZ 85740

Dear Friend,

February 2022

The last two years have been a real challenge for everyone all across the world. We keep hoping things will settle back into “normal” and although 2021 was better in many ways, there are still



**Crystal & Gotham Herd**

worries, concerns and unknowns to deal with. A big struggle at the sanctuary has been the

lack of a full staff to care for the pigs. The employment problems that plague so many businesses these days as well as people out for illnesses (nobody pushes on to work with a cold anymore!), have us running on half empty most days. Our skeleton crew has been working hard and putting in extra hours to get things done. We're so thankful to those of our staff who stuck it out through the Covid mess, the rainstorms, the long



**Babe at Adobe Vet**

hours, the cold temperatures, etc.

Your support, especially during the past two years, has been absolutely amazing! We cannot thank you enough for hanging in there with your financial

and material donations. Every bit of it means a lot to the success of the sanctuary and we can't do this without you. Especially helpful with the sanctuary's budgeting are those that give

regularly through the Sustainer Program with monthly donations going into General Funds or the Sponsor Program to support a particular pig or pigs. Your donations keep the pigs fed, watered and able to receive medical care. With over 650 pigs, we keep the vets at Adobe Veterinary Center busy.



**Emma & Topanga**

There has been a continuous influx of packages coming in from supporters and through our AmazonSmile and Chewy wish lists. More Arizona residents have signed up on Fry's Community



**Hobson & Stella**

Rewards designating Ironwood as their charity of choice. The drop-off locations in the Tucson and Phoenix areas are doing a great job of collecting blankets and other supplies.

There are many ways to help the pigs and you are doing a fantastic job! Thank you and Happy Valentine's Day from the handsome Valentino (on the back cover) and all the piggies of Ironwood!

Sincerely,

Donna Thomason  
Sponsor Coordinator



# The Candy Kids



**W**hen February rolls around, people think of Valentine's Day which brings to mind sweethearts, flowers...and candy! There are tons of sweet piggies here at the sanctuary, but let's get to know four with candy names.

At the age of 14, Twix is the eldest of the Candy Kids. He has been here since March 2010. He



Twix

came with a huge testicular tumor the size of a bowling ball. That was successfully removed and he was neutered at the same time. As the years went by, Twix's belly began to sag more and more until he was stepping on it. In November of 2021, he had a successful tummy tuck done. He is looking very sleek these days.

Jelly Bean is a tiny girl that was born here June 8, 2016. Her mom, Ruby, gave birth to 6 babies just 10 days after arriving at the sanctuary. Jelly Bean lives in Lil' East Field with a herd of 39 pigs which includes 3 of her siblings. She is timid as far as the herd hierarchy goes but has a large



Jelly Bean

group of friends that she enjoys spending time with. Her closest pals that she shares a house with include Quincy, Lollipop and her sisters Sharona and Londyn. Jelly Bean loves getting attention from people and calmly accepts pets and belly rubs.

Lollipop is one of Jelly Bean's good friends but very different in personality. She is a 6-year-old that has been a resident since June 2017. The poor girl had been passed around to several different homes with the last owner



Lollipop

claiming "the pig needs a better environment". Well, Lollipop has that here! She is a happy girl that is also rather nosy. She is quick to

be up and at your feet to see what you're up to and if it involves anything that would benefit her in any way. She is an energetic, friendly gal.

Twizzler was a stray that had been picked up along with his siblings Nacho and Popcorn on Valentine's Day 2019. He is close to 3.5 years old now and has turned into a very friendly boy.



Twizzler

Twizzler lives in the Princess Field with a herd of 29 pigs. He remains in a close relationship with his brother and sister but has made several other buddies too. Like Jelly Bean, he never says no to the offer of a good back scratching or belly rub.

These are only 4 sweethearts out of the hundreds that call Ironwood home. Thanks to your support all 650+ pigs are living a sweet life here.

—Donna

# Henry's Horrible Hot Spot

**H**ot spots...the awful result of a pig rubbing its face over and over because of pesky flies. Last year was the worst fly season ever and the number of hot spots we treated was crazy. The one who suffered the most and the longest was Henry. The flies are attracted to the fluid that pigs naturally

secrete from their eyes. The itchy, irritating flies lead to rubbing on anything and everything which Henry did to the point of creating a deep wound on his face. Despite ointments, medication and fly repellent, he kept rubbing until it got infected and a trip to the vet was necessary to do a deep cleaning. That was the first of many trips to the clinic.

calcium alginate dressing inserted with a patch sutured over it. The next week Henry returned to the clinic for a cleaning and redo of the patch then repeated that procedure weekly throughout September. On the last of those visits, the hole was closing over the bone and only a putty was used to cover the wound. It was believed that Henry was over the

had separated from his nasal bridge. Later in the month it got infected again and a round of different antibiotics was started. In mid-December Henry made his last trip to the clinic. The x-rays showed that the hole had closed and no bone infection was present. He has a lumpy scar, but it just



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adds character to his handsome face. As of this writing in January, it remains healed and is no longer giving Henry grief. It's about time, says Henry!!

—Donna

worst of it and could continue healing with daily treatments at the sanctuary with no further trips to the clinic.

One day in November, while cleaning Henry's wound, there were bone splinters present. Off he went to the vet again where they pulled out pieces of bone that

*The numerous vet procedures came to a total of \$2,532.31. To help with Henry's medical bills, please designate your donation in his name. He appreciates your love and support!*

**IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY**

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**FEBRUARY 2022**  
**NEWSLETTER UPDATE**

# **IRONWOOD PIG SANCTUARY**



**Valentino**

**Resident Since  
February 2019**