



The Tucson Dog



CATS & HORSES TOO!



Premier Edition
July/August 2017

Cover Story

**Pima Animal Care
Center — Past, Present
& Bright Future**

Feature Highlights

Dogs in Blue: The K9 Beat:
Tucson PD's Borus
and Sgt. Pelton

Kids & Animals:
The Beauty of Bella

Seniors & Their Pets: Sheila
and the Naked Dog

Vets & Their Pets:
David Rafus and Menifa —
A Second Chance



THE TUCSON DOG: FREE TO A GOOD HOME

A publication dedicated to promoting the human/animal bond
and raising awareness of shelter and rescue animals.



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After 72 years of serving pets in our community, we need your help to build our new forever home. Learn more about how you can help at HSSAZ.org/Building/



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Tanya Barnett
REALTOR®/Team Leader
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TBarnett117@gmail.com



The Tucson Dog

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COVER STORY: Pima Animal Care Center: Past, Present & Bright Future



Vets & Their Pets:
David Rafus and Menifa –
A Second Chance



Kids & Animals:
The Beauty of Bella



Dogs in Blue:
The K9 Beat:
Tucson PD's Borus
and Sgt. Pelton

The Tucson Dog Staff & Writers



Ann Herrington - Publisher/Editor - Ann began working in animal welfare in 1997 when she adopted a shelter dog named Harley who changed the direction of her life. She utilized her experience working in the media and advertising for many years to help shelter animals through education and off-site adoption events. In 2008, she founded the first of 4 magazines, The Prescott Dog. She continues to dedicate her life to helping rescue and shelter animals through awareness, education, and adoptions. Email: ann@thetucsondog.com.



Judith Clark - Account Manager - After thirty five years in Colorado, Judith relocated to Arizona in the late 90s, and then Tucson in 2001. A career of marketing, sales and customer service led her to our new project. She is a photographer, welder and artist and has been a constant pet parent. Judith and her husband currently have two Labradors and a very large kitty. Getting to know the animal community in Tucson is becoming her newest hobby. Email: judith@thetucsondog.com.



Kristin Beery - Staff Writer - Kristin is a native of southeastern Arizona, growing up in the small town of Vail outside of Tucson. As a child she grew up with many pets. Dogs, cats, horses, pygmy goats and pigs were just some of her furry friends. She has been a veterinary technician for the past 13 years, and while she loved the field, physical limitations have prevented her from continuing with it. She now lives in Vail with her husband and two teenagers, along with her rescue dogs, spaniel Raven and Chihuahua Remi. Email: kristin@thetucsondog.com.



Devon Confrey - Staff Writer - Devon Confrey lives with his parents and sister, and sometimes his uncle, in Tucson, where he was born. He was first introduced to cats and dogs by his older brother and has liked being with them ever since. Fred and Daphne, his two awesome cats, like to play with his cool dog, Arlo. Devon has a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Arizona. He likes reading and writes on his own, too. Email: devon@thetucsondog.com.



Bonnie Craig - Staff Writer - Bonnie Craig lives with three dogs, a cat, nine chickens, and a Betta fish. As well as writing, she enjoys painting and playing music. She is passionate about the natural world and loves gardening, botanizing, hiking, and camping. Most evenings she can be found in the garden listening to the chickens and playing endless games of fetch with a certain ball-obsessed border collie. Email: bonnie@thetucsondog.com.



Rhishja Larson - Staff Writer - Rhishja is a California native who moved to Tucson in 2016 to enjoy the desert fauna and flora. She is passionate about helping animals. During the day, she works at a canine recreation center in Tucson. On nights and weekends, she advocates for wildlife protection - a mission which has taken her across the globe. Rhishja and her husband Andy are pet parents to one dog, two cats, and two tortoises. Email: rhishja@thetucsondog.com.



Claire Sheridan - Staff Writer - Originally from the east coast, Claire relocated to Tucson from Seattle because she loves EVERYTHING about the desert. Her interests include: hiking, mountain biking, cooking and gardening. A former criminal justice professional long time yoga practitioner, and certified instructor, Claire blends her experience in trauma and crisis intervention into her consultant and life coach practices. Most of all Claire loves canines, and has a special affinity for large "bully breed" dogs. Email: claire@thetucsondog.com.

THE TUCSON DOG

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Jamie Johnston - Celebration of Life

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY

Courtesy Pima County

If you have a story idea, please send it to
ann@thetucsondog.com

The Tucson Dog reserves the right to editorial control of all articles, stories and Letters to the Editor. The Tucson Dog assumes no responsibility for errors within its publication. The views herein do not necessarily represent the policies of The Tucson Dog and should not be construed as endorsements.

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Carolyn Stark - Staff Writer - Her first time rescuing a dog was when she saw someone throw a dog out of their truck on to the side of the road. In college, she volunteered at a shelter so she could be around dogs. Now, many years later she still rescues dogs. They have been strays, second-hand, elderly, and disabled. Each is a special blessing and the most loyal of friends. Email: carolyn@thetucsondog.com.



Deborah Straw - Staff Writer - Deborah Straw is a writer, editor and educator. She lives in Burlington, VT, with her landscape painter/chef husband, Bruce Conklin, and three rescue animals - Sophie, a mixed-breed dog, and SweetPea and Avocat, black cat siblings. Her two books are *Natural Wonders of the Florida Keys* and *The Healthy Pet Manual, A Guide to the Prevention and Treatment of Cancer*.



Gracie - Canine Writer - Gracie is a 1½ year-old former shelter dog who loves giving pet parents tips on how to keep their four-legged friends healthy and happy with her column, "Greetings from Gracie." She loves playing with her many dog friends every day as well as taking them on walks and car rides. Grace was 4½ months old when she adopted TD Editor, Ann Herrington. She loves traveling and has fallen in love with Tucson and the many friendly animal lovin' people and their pets she has met.

**THE TUCSON DOG THANKS ALL OUR STAFF
WHO HELPED MAKE THIS PREMEIR EDITION A SUCCESS!**

The Leader of the Pack speaks!

Dear Readers,

It is my extreme pleasure to welcome you to the Premier Edition of the new Tucson Dog magazine. I started this concept back in 2008 with The Prescott Dog and then The Flagstaff-Sedona Dog followed by The Phoenix Dog last year. I have been wanting to bring this to Tucson since 2012 but time did not allow me to do it until now. And, with all the amazing things happening in the Tucson community for animals, it seems like the timing is just perfect. We want to be of service to the community and share our love of animals with others who love and care for them like we do.

We at the Tucson Dog are on a mission to promote the human/animal bond and raise awareness of shelter and rescue animals. We do this by bringing you information and heartwarming stories that show how our pets enrich our lives every day. We also give free space to shelter and rescue groups to show their animals for adoption and promote their fundraising events. The way we are able to do this and keep the publication free to our readers as well is through the support of the businesses who advertise with us. I ask that you please support them and let them know you saw them in The Tucson Dog!

The cover story is always about an organization or individual that is doing extraordinary things to help animals in our community. Our Cover Story this issue is about Pima Animal Care Center who is a cut above most county shelters with their amazing people and programs dedicated to serving the community. What they have done with the existing shelter and what they will be able to do with the new shelter currently under construction is nothing short of incredible. I enjoyed meeting the people and animals there and I hope you will be as inspired by their story as I was.

We also have many regular features you will see every issue such as, *Seniors & Their Pets*; stories about the amazing relationship seniors have with their pets. Another reader favorite is *Dogs In Blue: The K9 Beat* where we highlight K-9 officers and their relationships with their human partners and the jobs they do every day to protect our cities. One of my favorites (I have many) is *Kids & Animals* as it is so important to encourage and inspire our young people to learn about animal welfare. This issue, you will read about a young gal named Bella who is a shining example of an enlightened young person who is ready, willing and able to take on the challenge of teaching others to care for animals in need. I loved this story and this young gal who is inspiring to all who meet her. Other favorites of mine are our *Training* feature and *Health & Wellness*, both designed to help us be better pet parents.

Don't let our name, The Tucson Dog, fool you as our publication covers all companion animals including cats, horses and more. Our section called *Kitty Korner* always has a story about our feline friends as well as *The Scratching Post* showcasing cats for adoption from local rescues. In addition, we have *Horsin' Around* with stories about our equine friends as well as *In The Barn* highlighting equines for adoption.

Our wonderful staff and writers are dedicated to bringing you information and stories that are current and relevant now in our community in an upbeat and positive way. We also want to hear from you about stories you like and other things you would like to see here.

I hope you enjoy our first edition as much as we all enjoyed bringing it to you and look forward to being a big part of the Tucson community for years to come.

Love, Light & Laughter,
Ann



Greetings from Gracie

**Summer Heat and
4th of July
Safety for your Pets**

Dear Readers,


My name is Gracie and I am a 1 ½ year old Australian cattle dog/border collie mix and a former shelter dog. I love people, car rides and playing with all my doggie friends every day including my new brother. My mom says she is "owned" by me and I'm not sure what that means but I think it's good, right? My goal in each issue of The Tucson Dog magazine is to give you tips on how to keep your pets healthy and happy. I mean, after all, we depend on our humans to take care of us and make sure we are always safe. I think humans can learn a lot from us because we know how to love unconditionally, forgive and live in the moment and have lots of fun!

In this first issue, I would like to talk about a couple of things that come up this time of year for us four-legged people. First, the summer heat can be devastating for us so it's best to keep us inside if possible with plenty of fresh water available. And please, don't leave us in the car if you go somewhere as an outside temperature of 80 degrees can rise to 99 degrees inside your car within 10 minutes. Rolling down the windows has been shown to have little effect on the temperature inside a car. So, if you're running errands, please just leave us at home. And in case you weren't aware, Arizona just passed House Bill 2494 providing lawsuit protection for people who break into cars to rescue children or pets if that person has a "good faith" belief that a child or a confined domestic animal is in imminent danger. Also, the Humane Society of The United States (HSUS) has reported that many pets are stolen each year that are left in cars unattended. So overall, it's just not safe to leave us alone in cars, especially in the summer.

The other thing I would like to talk about is the 4th of July. While humans enjoy the booming sounds and flashing lights of fireworks, it can be terrifying and overwhelming for us four-legged people. Did you know that on the 4th of July, shelters around the nation report a dramatic increase in lost pets during this holiday? So, it's a good idea to keep us safely away from fireworks. Preferably indoors with a radio or TV turned on to hide the sound of loud noises. And if your best friend is really traumatized by loud noises including thunder, you might want to check with your veterinarian for medications or techniques that might help with fear and anxiety. And please, always keep a collar on us that has an identification tag with your name and phone number. And I strongly recommend getting your pets microchipped which can help identify us if we get lost and lose our collars. It's worth the small price and shelters always scan lost pets for microchips when they come in to see if they can identify their humans.

Hope you enjoyed my column and don't forget to check back every issue to find out more about keeping your pets safe, healthy and happy! Have a wonderful summer and I will see you right back here next issue.

Peace, Love & Fun,

Gracie 



Calendar of Events

Ongoing Adoptions

Animal League of Green Valley

Onsite Adoptions

7 days a week – 10a-2p
1600 West Duval Mine Rd.,
Green Valley
(520) 625-3170

Hermitage Cat Shelter & Sanctuary

Onsite Adoptions

Tues-Sat. 10a-5p
Until August 25th. Located at
4501 E. 22nd St., Tucson
(520) 571-7839

Hope Animal Shelter

Onsite Adoptions

Mon-Thurs, by appointment
Fri., Sat., Sun noon-4p
8950 N. Joplin Lane., Tucson
(520) 792-9200

Humane Society of Southern AZ

Onsite Adoptions

Main Campus
Mon-Sat 11a-6p
Sun: noon-5p
Closed Major Holidays

Pawsh at Park Place
Mon-Sat. 10a-5p
Sunday 11a-5p
5870 E. Broadway Blvd.
(520) 881-7406

Pawsh at La Encantada
Mon-Wed. 10a-7p
Thurs-Sat 10a-8p
Sun 11a-6p
(520) 327-6577

HSSA Thrift Store on Speedway
Mon-Sat 10a-6p
Closed Sunday
5311 E. Speedway Blvd.
(520) 327-0010

PAWSitively CATS No-Kill Shelter

Onsite Adoptions

Mon-Sat 10a-2p
1145 Woodland Ave., Tucson
(520) 289-2747

Pima Animal Care Center

Onsite Adoptions

Weekdays noon-7p
Weekends 10a-5p
Closed the last Sunday of every month
4000 N. Silverbell Rd., Tucson
(520) 724-5900

Ajo Substation

Onsite Adoptions

11a-1p MWF
4:30-6:30p Wed
1259 Well Road, Ajo
(520) 387-7502

Ongoing Dog Meet-ups

Canine Co-Pilots

Fun places to go with your dogs
with other dog-loving people.
dog events, Socialization, dog parks
travel and more. Friendly dogs
and people welcome.
www.meetup.com/Canine-Co-Pilots/

Yappee Hour!

Pet Parent socialization group.
Many meetups at Pet Friendly patios
Walkabouts, pet events and more.
Participants must be well-behaved.
No aggressive dogs allowed.
www.meetup.com/Yappee-Hour-Pet-Play-Dating/

Tucson Tails and Trails: Dog Friendly Hiking

A group for people interested in dog
friendly hikes in Southern AZ. All hikers
welcome. If you are Bringing a dog,
he/she must be well socialized with
People and other dogs. For more info
go to: www.meetup.com/tailsandtrails/

Special Events

JULY

Dog Days of Summer June through September Tucson Botanical Gardens

Guests are welcome to bring their
Well-behaved leashed dogs to enjoy
The urban oasis in the Heart of Tucson
Dog admission is only \$3 or purchase a
seasonal dog membership for \$20 for
unlimited admission from June through
September. More info call
(520) 326-9686 ext. 13

4th of July Community Dog Walk At Pima Animal Care Center, 6-8a

Take a relaxing stroll or jog walk around
the lake with a shelter pet in need.
Register online at webcms.pima.gov

Rattlesnake Avoidance Training July 11th, 18th, 25th, 5-8p

Humane Society of Southern AZ
Companions For Life Center
3465 E. Kleindale Rd., Tucson
Call Inge Koopman-Leyva
(520) 321-3704 X 142

Craft for Cats at Lucky Cat Social Art July 21st, noon-5pm

Evening session: 6:30-8:30p
Craftstravaganza benefitting HSSA
Drop in to make a variety of family-
friendly Cat-themed crafts.
More info at: hssaz.org

AUGUST

Dog Days of Summer June through September Tucson Botanical Gardens

Guests are welcome to bring their
Well-behaved leashed dogs to enjoy
The urban oasis in the Heart of Tucson
Dog admission is only \$3 or purchase a
seasonal dog membership for \$20 for
unlimited admission from June through
September. More info call
(520) 326-9686 ext. 13

Save the Date

SEPTEMBER

Putt For Paws Golf Tournament Saturday Sept. 9th

The Lodge at Ventana Canyon
6200 N. Club House Ln. Tucson
7:30am Shotgun Start
Benefits Humane Society of Southern AZ
\$100 per player, \$375 foursome
Contact: Tanya (520) 333-5894

Pima Animal Care Center PetSmart Charities National Adoption Wknd September 15, 16 & 17th

Adoptions at Select Local PetSmart
Stores and Adoption SPECIALS at
PACC
Check website for more info:
Pima.gov/animalcare

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(520) 326-9686 ext. 13

OCTOBER

Oct. 21-22nd, 10a-7p
Tucson Pet Expo
Tucson Convention Center
260 S. Church Ave., Tucson

NOVEMBER

Dogtoberfest for Handi-Dogs November 5th, 10a-2p

The Gregory School
3231 N. Craycroft Rd., Tucson
A Carnival for Dogs & Their People
Games, Contests, Raffles, Vendors
Live Band, Food, Beer Garden
More info: (520) 326-3412

Shopping to Benefit Animals

The Animal League of Green Valley The Attic Thrift Store

1600 W. Duval Mine Road
(Located next to the kennels)
Green Valley, AZ 85614
Open from 9a-2p 7 days a week
Donations Welcome

Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary Gulliver & Friends Boutique & Thrift

6 Camino Otero, Tubac AZ
(520) 398-2814

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Pawsh at Park Place
5870 E. Broadway Blvd.
(520) 881-7406

Pawsh at La Encantada
2905 E. Skyline Dr., Ste 208
(520) 327-6577

Thrift Store on Speedway
5311 E. Speedway Blvd.
(520) 327-0010

Best In Show Thrift Boutique
408 N. 4th Ave.
(520) 882-3016





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Where you roam I will follow. **LUNCH** **DINNER** **HAPPY HOUR** **WEEKEND BRUNCH** **GRILL & SPORTS BAR**



Business Spotlight

The Reliance Group; Realtors to the Rescue

Story by Kristin Beery • Photos courtesy Tanya Barnett



The Reliance Group

The Reliance Group prides itself on doing things differently from other real estate groups in the Tucson area. They believe they stand apart from other agencies because their main focus is client service, and making sure their clients are happy throughout the entire home buying process. Tanya Barnett formed her team approximately 2 ½ years ago, and they have been expanding the business ever since. They have recently joined Omni Homes International, and have just moved into a brand-new office space on Tanque Verde Road, in Tucson. Tanya and her group pride themselves on focusing 100% on customer service. For them, it's not about the paycheck; it's about taking care of their clients to the best of their ability.

Along with her strong emphasis on client service, Tanya and her group do many things for the community. The first is a yearly competition called the "Red Solo Cup Challenge". Anyone can visit the office and pick up a red solo cup. Throughout the year, challengers



Red Solo Kitty

take selfie photos with the red solo cup, and tag themselves on the Reliance Group's Facebook page. At the end of the year, the best photo wins. The winner receives dinner and a movie for two at the Roadhouse, and a \$300.00 donation to the charity of their choice.

Tanya began her love of animals at a very young age. Since she was 14 years old, she has been involved in animal outreach in some

form or another. She attended the U of A as an animal science major and has been heavily involved with shelters and fostering animals. She began selling real estate a few years ago, and although she missed working with animals she loved her new endeavor. This prompted her to find a way to combine her love of animals with her love of real estate. Over the past few years, she has been able to do just that.

Not only is the Reliance Group client-focused, but they are animal-focused as well. Tanya herself has been a long-time foster mom of ill or abandoned kittens. She takes care of all their veterinary care and provides a loving home for them to grow up in until she can place them into a forever home. She even brings them to work with her to make sure they are safe throughout the day.

Another example of Reliance's focus on animals is their annual client appreciation party. The cover charges collected plus 10% of bar proceeds will be donated to the Humane Society of Southern Arizona. This year, the event is called "Come Together", featuring a Beatles cover band and will be held at Nancy's Boondocks. Admission is free for clients and \$5.00 for the general public.

Along with the client appreciation party proceeds, Tanya also has other programs and events that benefit the Humane Society. The first is her Animal Lovers Program. Any client that purchases a home through Tanya that is an animal lover receives discounts on commission and closing costs. Further, if a client adopts a rescue animal while closing on the home, Tanya will double the discounts offered throughout her program, and donate a portion of her commission to the Humane Society.

Along with the Animal Lovers Program, Tanya has also started holding an annual golf tournament in September called Putt for Paws. This year, the event will be held at Ventana Canyon Golf Club on September 9th. Players can either purchase solo tickets or team tickets. There are multiple charity tents set up throughout the course, and plenty of refreshments. There will also be multiple raffle drawings, with prizes all being donated by local businesses. There are 144 spaces open for the tournament and they are filling up so reserve yours today. Though this is a fun event that brings members of the community together, it has a greater purpose. All the proceeds raised by the tournament are donated directly to the Humane Society. Last year, Tanya was happy to take them a check for \$10,000 and this year she and her Title Sponsor, Chris Lawler from Nova Home Loans, have already raised \$3,000. Donations for this event are always welcome. They are tax deductible, and a great way to help our furry friends at the Humane Society.

If you would like to learn more about any of these beneficial programs, please contact Tanya at the Reliance Group located at 6644 E. Tanque Verde Rd, suite 201, Tucson, call (520)333-5894, or email ebarnett117@gmail.com



Reliance Group Tanya Tee box



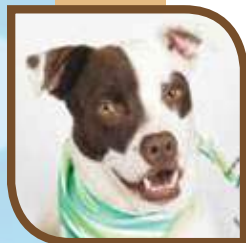
Reliance Group Humane Society donation

A VISIT TO THE



DOGHOUSE

**All the Dogs on these pages are available for adoption now.
If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends,
please call the rescue group listed with the picture.**



CHEWY ID#A59082

I am a handsome 2 yr. old, brown/white Australian shepherd with lots of energy. I have been at PACC for a month and am looking for a home of my own. I have all my shots, have been microchipped, and neutered. I am all ready to go! Pima Animal Care Center (520) 724-5984



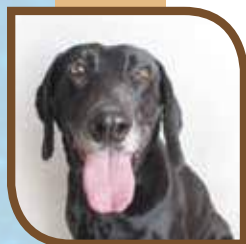
MADIE ID#A221831

Hi, My name is Maddie. I am a pretty yellow Labrador retriever mix with the cutest floppy ears. The staff thinks I am 9 yrs. old, so I am out of that crazy puppy phaze. I would love if you would visit me and make me your girl. I am spayed, have all my shots, and a microchip. Remember to look for me. I'll be waiting! Pima Animal Care Center (520) 724-5984



AQUILLA

I'm a fun, 4 yr. old girl and I need a new home! I was adopted a few months ago, but it wasn't the right fit. I love to go for long walks and jogs and am very playful! I like other dogs and children, but not smaller animals...I like to chase them. If you have a current dog bring them for a doggy meet and greet so we can make sure that we have similar play styles. Humane Society of Southern Arizona (520) 321-3704



JOE

I'm a 5 yr. old boy, looking for a home! I have been homeless now for over 50 days! I get along well with my kennel mate, love to meet new people and love to exercise! I'm a very sweet dog and would love an active home. Humane Society of Southern Arizona (520) 321-3704

TIKI

I am a 9 yr. old Chihuahua who weighs only 8 lbs. I am very tiny. I love to be held and like dogs. I do well with children as long as they are gentle with me. I am house-trained, have my shots, a microchip, and have been neutered. I also have had my teeth cleaned. If you would like a cuddle bug I might be your friend. Tucson Cold Wet Noses (520) 235-6309



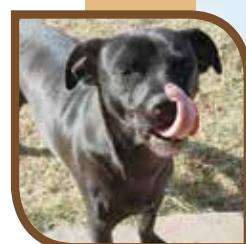
TAZ

I am almost 2 yrs. old. I like to play with toys and take walks. I also like to cuddle in your lap or lay by your side. I want to be your only dog and would do best with no children under 18. Please come check me out. Love, Taz Tucson Cold Wet Noses (520) 235-6309



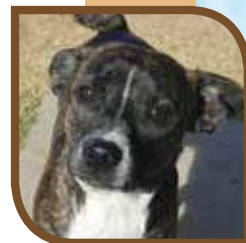
SABRINA

I am a black, 1 yr. old, 23 lb Chihuahua mix. I like to play, and I am crate and leash trained. I will ask to go out, but I don't like the doggie door. I like other dogs but NO cats. Please come see me. Miss Maggie May's Rescue (520) 603-6908



BOSLEY

I am Sabrina's brother, only 9 years old, and about 23 lbs. I am a handsome brindle/white color. I am crate and leash trained. No children or cats are best for me. I am very cautious/shy and would need your patience while I get used to my new home. I do like playing with toys and would love to meet you. Miss Maggie May's Rescue (520) 603-6908



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A VISIT TO THE



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MAX

I am a big goofy 2 yr. old puppy who is very smart and wants to please. I love to play and run but if you want me to lie down by your side and play with you, I will be glad to do so. I am very curious with everything. The world is my teacher. I love every dog and every human. I am a big boy weighing over 61 lbs. Please come see me. Pima Paws for Life (520) 867-1193



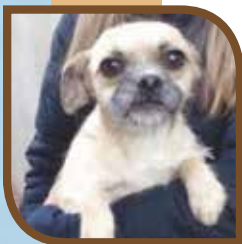
BELLA

I am a blk/wht Lab mix. I am a big girl but would do best in a home where I can get all your attention. No other dogs or cats please. I am spayed and up to date with all my shots. Would you come see me? Pima Paws for Life (520) 867-1193



LaLa

I am a small female terrier mix. I am cream colored and just recently came to SAFE. I will have my shots, spay and microchip done. Can I be your award-winning dog? Love, LaLa Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) (520) 349-8637



CHAPIS

I am a small pug mix girl, currently living in a foster home but not much is known about me as I just got here. My foster mom will know more about what I like later. I am trying to be a good girl so I can get my own home. Come see me please. Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) (520) 349-8637

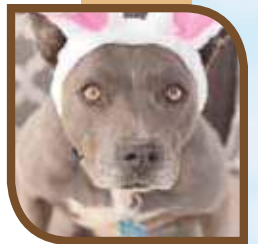
BO

I am a happy, healthy, 80 lb, tan/wht 3 yr. old boy. I love peanut butter, chew toys and kids. I am a very good dog and completely housebroken. I would like to be your only pet so I can give you all my attention. If you would like to meet me call Smiling Dog Rescue (520) 997-8000



JUICE

I know that's a silly name but I can be silly even though I'm an older girl. I would like to be the only pet in your home but I love all people. I especially LOVE children, even babies and toddlers. I am a 9 yr. old, blue lady, housetrained, and I do not chew on anything that is not my own. Smiling Dog Rescue (520) 997-8000



GIGI

I am a cute, 3 yr. old Chihuahua. I like to play with my humans, and other dogs and cats. I like to snuggle and watch tv with you for hours. When it's bed time, I pull my covers over myself in my crate! I would love to bury myself in your bed with you...If you're looking for a love bug, that's me!! Cochise Canine Rescue: I am in FOSTER CARE with MAGGIE so please call 602-451-3312 for more information.



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Source: Humane Society of the United States



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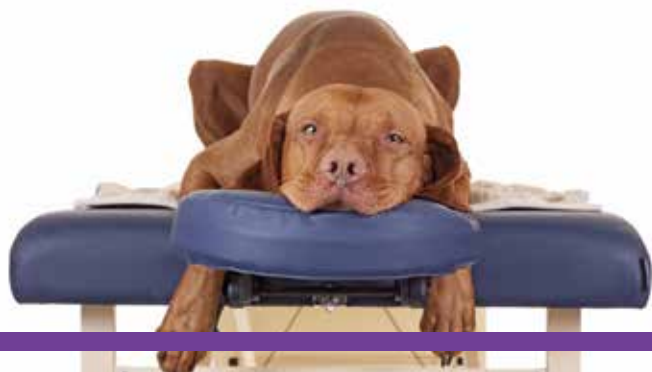
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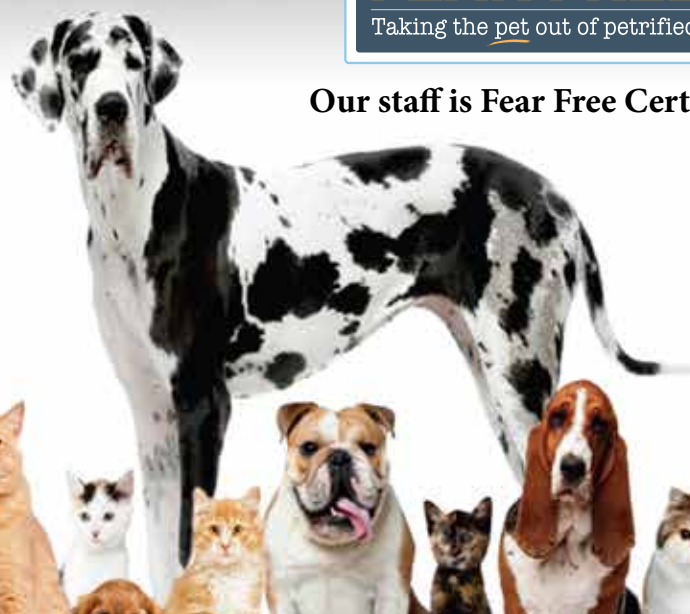
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VETS & THEIR PETS

David Rafus and Menifa; A Second Chance

Story and photos by Kristin Beery

David Rafus served bravely with the United States Marine Corps in the war of Desert Storm. While stationed in Manifa Bay in Saudi Arabia, David came across a stray puppy wandering the streets. He decided to take in the puppy and raise it as his own. They did everything together. When it was time for David's unit to return home to the United States, he was unable to take his best friend with him. He describes this as "one of the hardest things I have ever had to do." After returning home from the war, David noticed that other people were looking at him differently. He would struggle in social situations, and always felt like he was on high alert. He was having nightmares four to six nights a week. To his surprise, this all changed when his family brought home Menifa from Pima Animal Care and Control.



Menifa at Work

David had always been an avid rescuer of a breed of dog called heelers, and had owned them for many years. He and his family decided that because his current dog was aging, it was time to bring home a new friend. They visited Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) in hopes of being able to adopt one of the dogs they had seen on the website. Once there, David was told that dog was no longer available. They decided to stay and look around and came across Menifa sitting in the corner of her kennel, which she shared with a German shepherd. It was not David's intention that day to bring home a pitbull/American bulldog mix, but that is exactly what happened.

Over the next few weeks, David noticed Menifa doing things that were a bit strange. No matter which way David was facing, Menifa would always be looking behind him as if to say, "I am watching your back." During the night, David would have nightmares of his times in the military, and almost instinctually Menifa would wake him out of his sleep when this would occur. Because of these behaviors, David and his wife Jo decided to have Menifa trained as a PTSD service dog for David.

David learned dog handling and training skills while in the Marines, and he believed that because of Menifa's nature she would make the perfect service dog for him. Her training took a total of one year to complete. Menifa was trained in all the aspects that David needed her to be. She can sense when he is having a nightmare, and will wake him up using several techniques. Sometimes, a gentle breathing in his ear or nudge with her nose is enough to wake him back to reality. Other times, she will take a flying leap across the bedroom and land on top of him to wake him if her previous, more gentle attempts, didn't work. She always has her place next to him in bed to make sure she does not miss any subtle clue that it is time for her to go to work. Menifa will accompany David to the grocery store and other crowded places, walking a circle around him to create a barrier between him and anyone else that may

get too close for comfort. She will also bump in to him purposely to alert him of someone approaching that he may not be aware of.

David says that because of Menifa, he no longer needs any of the medication that was prescribed to him by the VA doctor. His nightmares have gone from 4-6 per week to 1-2 per month. He is currently not as hypervigilant as he used to be if she is by his side. He can sit with his back to the door at restaurants, and has an easier time attending large conferences for work because he is able to bring her along.



Love Goes Both Ways

Throughout the process of training Menifa to be a PTSD service dog, David and his wife realized that there were currently no programs in Tucson that offered services to veterans to help them obtain PTSD service dogs. David states that the national VA does not recognize service dogs for management of PTSD. There is also no formal training program to certify a dog as a PTSD service dog. That is when the 1 Veteran Foundation was formed.

David and his wife formed this organization to help veterans suffering from PTSD obtain their own service dog, at little to no cost to the veteran. They can do this because of a few different things. The first is that each dog picked for a veteran is from a local rescue shelter, many of them coming from Animal League of Green Valley and PACC. Second, local businesses provide donations to help cover the many costs of the training.



Jo Rafus, Menifa, David Rafus

David and Jo Rafus call Menifa a "second chance". There are a few reasons why this is. First, David says that she has provided him a second chance to make up for the best friend that he lost while overseas. He felt that by rescuing Menifa, he could forgive the fact that he had to leave his other friend behind. Secondly, David

states that Menifa has given him a second chance at a normal life. Although he rescued Menifa, she has repaid him and his family by rescuing David in return.

For more information on the service dogs and 1 Veteran Foundation, please visit www.1veteranfoundation.org.



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Kitty Korner



Hermitage; For Strays, A New Cat Corral

Story and photos by Devon Confrey

As the Pima Animal Care Center and the Humane Society of Southern Arizona construct new buildings this summer, a third shelter - the Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter and Sanctuary - with a vibrant past in Tucson, modernizes as well, rebuilding from the ground up.

The Hermitage rescues and finds homes for cats that otherwise might be left as lost causes. This sanctuary provides a place for them to stay for life, and veterinary care, whether or not they are adopted.

During their stays, the cats at the Hermitage roam large cage-free rooms. Geriatric cats, diabetic cats, cats with gastro-intestinal issues, Feline Leukemia Virus, or Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, along with those healthy and in their prime, all find their own spaces to stretch out in.

After 50 years of renovations, the old building at 5287 E. 21st St. has been demolished. A new one is going up, for which the shelter raised over \$1.2 million in funding.

"One thing it's going to offer is a better place for the cats. It will be very feline centric," the director of development and marketing at Hermitage, Lee Bucyk, said. "What it offers the community is the opportunity to take in more cats."



Lee Bucyk, the director of development and marketing at the Hermitage

Originally from Chicago, Bucyk has lived in Tucson for twelve years, and has worked at the shelter for the last four. During that time, she's been Executive Director, though recently her title has changed.

For the last year the Hermitage has taken temporary residence in a smaller building at 4501 E. 22nd St. "The new facility should be completed by mid-August," Bucyk said.

After that comes the Hermitage's gala event in November, where bearded cat behaviorist and host of the Animal Planet show "My Cat from Hell," Jackson Galaxy, will speak.

The Hermitage was started by a spirited nun from England, who had gone to school in Switzerland and lived in a Russian Orthodox convent in California, before moving to Arizona because of her arthritis. Sister Theresa Seraphim first began offering a home to animals in Tubac. She made the Hermitage her home and her work after moving to Tucson in 1967, with her newly published book about the sacredness of animal life.

Bucyk too, is lively, though maybe more reticent than Sister Seraphim. During our interview, she took time to give Dory, a cat lying on the table, a scratch on the head.

As for the summer in Tucson, "I think the main concern is controlling the population," Bucyk said. "I think that's one thing that all the rescue groups have in common is we're just really trying to educate the public to spay and neuter their animals to control the overpopulation, so the animals don't end up in shelters."

This year has been hot for the Hermitage, in more ways than one. "It's been a big kitten season because it's been so warm," Bucyk said. "The winter was warm; it's like breeding just went on and on and on."

All over the city, new cats are being born. The Hermitage takes on the wave annually with a "Kitten Shower" adoption drive.

"The Hermitage, and every other shelter, desperately needs foster homes," Bucyk said. "That's huge for us, it's hard to find a lot of fosters."

Bucyk has had to contend with the challenge that public relations doesn't always come naturally for a shelter of whiskered ones. Creativity is a necessity in feline outreach.

"If anything that's changed in the last couple of years I've been here, I would say it's the addition of programs and services for the public," she said.

Over the last year the shelter distributed 41 tons of dog and cat food to pets in need. "Cat Camp for Kids," which runs in the summer, and programs like "Purr for Autism," help children build relationships with animals, while other programs get cats out into the community by visiting the VA or living facilities. The Hermitage even held "Catapalooza!," a benefit concert featuring local metal bands.

In between screen doors, two cats growl at each other. "Some of them act up. Sometimes, there's no way around it," Bucyk said.

The blanketed cat trees in the rooms are colorful and plentiful. Some cats seem to congregate on particular trees, while others remain untouched. A cat-coop provides those seeking some shut-eye a dark place to cuddle up.

Up on shelves that run along the length of the room's high roof, one black cat strides along before collapsing with a thump and lying down.

"Cats love vertical space, so the more vertical space you have, the better," Bucyk said. This shows in the shelter, which is a jungle gym for cats - 235 of them on a day in May, that is, until one was adopted.

"It's hard not to want to take them home," Bucyk said.

Lee Bucyk, Director of Development & Marketing, The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary, (520) 589-2734, lee@hermitagecatshelter.org. Some history info from Tucson Citizen archives.



Layout for the new shelter



Kitty

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The Scratching Post

CATS FOR ADOPTION

All the Cats on these pages are available for adoption now. If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends, please call the rescue group listed with the picture.



LOLA

I'm a pretty 5 yr. old girl and I need a home as I have currently been homeless for over 200 days, and wasn't doing very well in my kennel. I live in a foster home with a kind volunteer who is willing to give me ample love and attention as I wait for my new permanent home. If you're looking for a sweet, big kitty to join your home I might be the perfect one! Lola (722095) Humane Society of Southern Arizona (520) 327-6088 ext. 173



OLIVER TWIST (aka Flopsie).

I am about 4 yrs. old and was found roaming the desert. Unfortunately the other desert cats were beating me up but the kind humans were feeding me. I love people and I like other cats because I don't hold grudges. I am looking for my forever home that will keep me inside and safe. Take care of me and I will take care of you. Saving Animals From Euthenasia (SAFE) (520) 349-8637



WISDOM

I am a blue/grey neutered male cat and just over 1 yr. old. I have been here since Feb 3rd. I would love to have a home. Will you come by and see me? ID#A589780 Pima Animal Control Center (520) 724-5984



LACIE

I'm a little shy initially – with both people and other cats, but once I trust you I will cuddle up at night and I would love to be held. I am very talkative – I'll tell you about my day, but I'll never share yours. I am a petite blk/wht Maine Coon mix. I'm looking for a quieter home, but teens and tweens are fine. Saving Animals From Euthenasia (SAFE) (520) 349-8637



IROH

My name is Iroh. I am a 4 yr. old, blk, spayed female cat. I am litter box trained. I am good with men or women but prefer to be in a house with older children. I love the feather stick toy and scratcher. I have all my shots and a microchip. I am ready for my new home today. ID#A492866 Pima Animal Control Center (520) 724-5984



#5813325

I am an almost 12 yr old, spayed, vaccinated wht/grey domestic short hair cat. I know I am an older lady, but I am looking for my forever home. I am not declawed. Saving at Risk Animals (520) 499-0546



EDGAR

I'm a handsome blk/wht 5 yr. old boy. I am FIV positive. I know that sounds scary, but it's really not. It means I shouldn't be let outside, ever. This virus is transmitted through blood. So casual grooming and sharing space with other cats isn't a problem. There are studies that show that FIV positive and negative cats can live happily together in a home! (#840658) Humane Society of Southern Arizona (520) 327-6088 ext. 173



BUTTERS

I love to chase cat toys and play in water. Have you ever heard of a cat who likes water? Well I do! I've been told I'm a charmer. Although I have tested positive for Feline Leukemia I currently live with 40 other cats with the same diagnosis. This disease does not make us live shorter lives, so I could be your friend for a long time. PAWSitively Cats No-Kill Shelter (520) 289-2747



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If just one of every five Americans wanting to add a cat or dog to their family in the next year adopted from a shelter, not one single healthy, treatable cat or dog would lose his life in a shelter. Source: Humane Society of the United States.



BENNY

If you've been to the shelter before, you probably met me. I'm the guy who's always waiting by the front door, trying to escape. It's not that I don't like the shelter, it's just that I'm an adventurous kind of guy. I actually did get adopted once, but I got in a fight with the cat that was already in the home. That's how they found out I need a home that I don't have to share with other cats. If an active, independent, adventurous cat is what you're looking for, we should meet! Hope Animal Shelter (520) 792-9200



BOOTS

I came to HOPE after my human passed away. I'm easy going for the most part, but I do need to take some time to get to know you. I guess you could say I'm a little dominant. Hey, if you were as big and beautiful as I am, you would be too. If you are a loving and patient person who will give me time to settle in to my new home, please come and meet me. I think I deserve to have a wonderful new home. Hope Animal Shelter (520) 792-9200



CALVIN

I was first at HOPE many years ago when I was a kitten. I was adopted and thought that I had found my forever home, but now I'm back at the shelter because my human moved and didn't take me. It's so scary to come to a shelter after you've had a home, and I never want that to happen again. I'm a sweet gentle guy and know I'd be a great addition to your family. If you can give me the forever home I deserve, come and meet me. Hope Animal Shelter (520) 792-9200



TITANIA

I am a 2 yr old calico girl. I have been spayed, have all my shots and am microchipped. The Hermitage Cat Shelter and Sanctuary (520) 571-7839



NAPA

I'm a goof ball and love bug. My short life hasn't been easy but I don't let that get me down. I take meds for my nasal discharge. It's only \$30/yr. I lost my right eye due to glaucoma. I like strings, ping pong balls, twisty toys.... and other cats. I'm also good with dogs if they are not too scary. I love lying near a window, bird watching and/or sun bathing at my foster home but I'd rather do this in my forever home. SOS Cat Rescue Arizona (520) 445-3889



HAVEN AND WINTER

We are a 16 yr old white brother and sister pair. We were supposed to be euthanized because of our age. Luckily a nice man got us out of that scary place. Our foster home has a cat tree, chairs, beds and TV we can watch. We are long past the crazy kitten stage and are looking for a home where we can live out our senior years getting pets, love and taking naps. SOS Cat Rescue Arizona (520) 445-3889



#35020056

I am a 4 yr old, neutered male Siamese mix. I have been at SAFE almost 2 months and I am looking for a home where I can be loved. I have all my shots, and a microchip. I have not been declawed. Saving at Risk Animals (SAFE) (520) 499-0546



QUADE

I am a 1 yr old handsome black boy living at the Hermitage. I have been neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. I am looking for a home of my own. Could it be with you? The Hermitage Cat Shelter and Sanctuary (520) 571-7839



LICORICE

I was rescued by the nice people with Hearts That Purr after my owner died. I had been taken there because no one wanted me. I am a 4 yr-old, black boy. I am a cuddly lover-boy. I get along well with other cats. I am neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. I am also Felv-, FIV-. I would love to curl up and purr for you. Hearts That Purr Feline Guardians (520) 297-3780



LOLA

I am a grey/wht 3 yr. old girl who likes other cats and cat friendly dogs. I came in with an upper respiratory infection but the nice volunteers made me all better. I am all healthy now and looking for my own home. I am a very clean kitty who requires my box be cleaned a few times daily to keep me happy. I am in foster care right waiting for my forever home. Cochise Canine Rescue: Please call MAGGIE (602) 451-3312.



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Animal Resource Guide

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Humane Society of Southern Arizona

3450 N. Kelvin Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85716
(520) 321-3704 hssaz.org

Pima Animal Care Center

4000 N. Silverbell Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85745
(520) 724-5900
Ajo Substation
1259 Well Road
Ajo, AZ 85321
(520) 387-7502

The Hermitage Cat Rescue & Sanctuary

4501 E. 22nd St. (temporary home)
Tucson, AZ 85711
(520) 571-7839

HOPE Animal Shelter

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(520) 792-9200
hopeanimalshelter.net

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter

1145 N. Woodland Ave.
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savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org

Local Rescues

Animal Rescue Foundation Tucson

ARFTucson@gmail.com
(520) 319-9292

BARK (Baby Animal Rescue Coalition)

(520) 825-6719
barkntucson@AOL.com

Cochise Canine Rescue

P.O. Box 87
Pomerene, AZ 8562
(520) 212-1718
www.cochisecaninerescue.org

Fair (Foundation for Animals in Risk)

(520) 203-0201 info@faircares.org

In the Arms of Angels

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inthearmsofangels@gmail.com

Miss Maggie May's Rescue

missmaggieymay@cox.net
(520) 603-6908

Pima Paws for Life

(520) 867-1193
Kimberly@PimaPawsforLife.org

SAFE (Saving Animals from Euthanasia)

(520) 349-8637
Staff@SafeAnimlas.com

Saving at Risk Animals

(520) 499-0546
recueSara@earthlink.net

Save the Pets AZ

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Smiling Dog Rescue

(520) 997-8000

Tucson Cold Wet Noses

Terri Goddard (520) 235-6309
tgoddard@hotmail.com
Signe Razzi- coldwetnoses@msn.com

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Tucson2Tails@gmail.com

Wild Hearts Rescue Ranch

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wildheartsforcrow@gmail.com

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tucsonparrotrescue@gmail.com

Tucson Reptile Rescue

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(520) 571-7839

SOS Cat Rescue AZ

P.O. Box 344
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(520) 445-3889
info@SOScatrescueAZ.org

We Save Kitties at Risk

info@wskr.org

Feral Cat Assistance

Tucson Feral Coalition

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Contact: Alecs tucsonferal@gmail.com

Specific Breed Rescues

AIREDALE

Southwest Airdale Terrier Rescue
Tucson, (800) 688-1402

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD

Aussie & Friends
P.O. Box 121, Payson, AZ
www.aussiefriendsrescue

Amazing Aussie Lethal White Rescue

Mesa - www.AmazingAussies.com

BEAGLE

Southern AZ Beagle Rescue
Tucson (520) 247-7720
Information@soazbeaglerescue.com

BORDER COLLIE

Arizona Border Collie Rescue
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www.azbordercollieresue.com

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www.danehaveninc.com

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www.azlabsandgiants.org

Desert Labrador Retriever Rescue

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Standing Proud Pill Bull Rescue

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www.standingproud-pitbulls.org

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Arizona Puggle Rescue, Inc.
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www.azpuggle.org

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azdesertrottis@aol.com

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www.saintrescue.org

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Westie Rescue of Arizona
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(520) 398-2814
www.equinevoices.org

Equine Encore Foundation

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cfolch@gmail.com

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Cover Story: Pima Animal Care Center;

Story by Bonnie Craig • Photos by Frank Simon

Pima Animal Care Center (PACC), located on the west edge of Tucson where the city meets the desert, is a somewhat small and unassuming building. Around it cluster a tents and several portable outdoor buildings used for overflow and veterinary purposes. Inside a dedicated group of people work tirelessly for the welfare of Pima County's less fortunate companion animals. Stray, abandoned, and owner-surrendered pets as well as pets seized by animal welfare enforcement officers can find a safe haven at PACC, where they receive everything from medical care to grooming to training and socialization as they await adoption. This organization has come a long way from its humble roots, and even more improvements are underway as construction continues on a new facility with an even greater capacity to help Pima county's pets in need.



PACC Animal Control Officers from left: Veronica Sanders, Kelli Baugus, Danielle Hinte and Adam Kirby

In 1968 when PACC opened at its current location, it was nowhere near the organization it is today. As Director of Development and Marketing Karen Hollish explained, "At that time they were not focused on animal care. It was just animal control. Animals who came in would only be held for a few days and if they weren't claimed or adopted before then, they would be euthanized." As it stands today, PACC has seen some amazing improvements in animal care, saving 90% of all animals that came through its doors in 2016. This is up from 59% in 2012.

So how was PACC able to save 90% of over 20,000 pets in 2016? The staff's dedication and hard work as well as some important new programs are two huge reasons for PACC's increasing success. Their medical program has expanded, giving more chances to sick or injured pets who come in. A large climate-controlled tent has been added to house strays during their holding period. A full time professional trainer has even joined the staff. This is incredibly important when it comes to getting pets adopted, as behavior, just as much as physical problems can be a big hurdle on a pet's road to their forever home.



Karen Hollish snuggling orphaned kitties

PACC's low cost spay and neuter program helps overpopulation and keeps animals out of the shelters as does the Trap-Neuter-Release program. This program's staff captures, vaccinates, and alters feral cats and then returns them to the wild where their populations will be healthier and reproduction will decrease. Offsite adoptions take place at Petsmart, freeing up shelter space, and the Pet Retention Program provides counseling and resources to community members as an alternative to surrendering their pets. While all of these things are amazingly beneficial to Pima county's companion animals, PACC couldn't do nearly as much without the help of the community.



Veterans with Lori in meet and greet yard. From left Kevin, Justin (Lori's new dad) and Tom



A quiet moment in the puppy room

PACC has a number of successful volunteer programs, and Tucsonans have stepped up to help in impressive numbers. In 2016, 1,200 volunteers showed up for PACC pets, volunteering an amazing 89,000 hours. People volunteer in the shelter, helping with things such as grooming, veterinary assistance, socialization of the animals, clerical tasks, adoption counseling, Pet Retention Program counseling, and dog walking to name a few. In-home fostering has also helped to save

many lives. Pets placed in foster care most often include big dogs that need a calmer, less chaotic environment in order to become adoptable, kittens and puppies who are too young to be adopted or live in the shelter, and companion animals that are sick or injured and just need a safe place and some love to help them get well. In addition to all this hands-on volunteering, over \$2 million in financial donations, as well as hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of supplies have come in to the shelter in 2016 alone. If all this isn't proof enough of the compassion Tucsonans have for animals, proposition 415, passed in 2014 should be.

Proposition 415 allotted \$22 million dollars to PACC for improvements, which are well underway now. Pima County approved a \$16 million contract with Sundt Construction for a new building on the current PACC site, slated for completion in late 2017. When the move to the new building is complete, the renovation to the dog room and demolition of the rest of the existing structure will begin, and are scheduled for completion in mid-2018. The new facility will be over twice the size of the existing one and will include a larger, more modern veterinary center, more natural light and air flow, improved housing units including more dog kennels with indoor/outdoor space, and nearly triple the cat housing. The new and larger lobby will have separate areas for dog and cat admissions and adoptions, which should cut back on stress for pets in an already stressful situation. Ultimately, this new building really is all about the animals. 93% of its space is allocated specifically to animal housing or the support of housing, care, or adoptions. The remaining 7% of the space will be used for administrative purposes. Overall, this new building is a boon for Pima County's animals in need, whatever species they may be.

Past, Present & Bright Future



Rendering of new spacious lobby area

While predominantly caring for dogs and cats, PACC doesn't discriminate based on domesticated species. Rodents, birds, and even some potbellied pigs have found refuge at the shelter. When asked about her most interesting experiences while working at PACC, Karen Hollish had a few. At one point, a stunned bobcat who had been hit by a car was brought in in someone's back seat. They were told PACC does not accept wild animals and were urged to hurry to Tucson Wildlife Center before the cat came to its senses and disaster ensued. Hollish also talked about an incident where around 200 baby turtles were seized. That was a lot of reptiles for a shelter equipped predominantly for mammals. Luckily, a community member stepped up once again, and was able to foster all of them until they were big enough to be adopted.

Hollish herself has fostered pets through PACC as well. It is one of the sadder things PACC staff sees when senior pets are brought in. After living a life in a family home, being abandoned at a shelter during their later years is devastating. One such case occurred when Maya, a 14 to 15-year-old Shih Tzu mix was brought in for euthanasia by her owners. She was in



Kim Stoll enjoying time with Macy in "Real Life" room

terrible shape with dirty matted fur and very emaciated. The PACC staff, however, weren't ready to give up on Maya the way her owners had. Before long they had her bathed and groomed, and Hollish took her home to foster until she was feeling well enough to be adopted. Eventually Maya did find her forever home, all because of the second chance fostering gave to her. There are so many rags to riches stories like Maya's that come from people's willingness to open their hearts and homes to these special animals. Fostering really does save lives.



New mom with her puppies

Now as the summer temperatures rise, so does the population at PACC. With the warmer months comes puppy and kitten season. This is a crucial time for shelters and rescues, and fosters are desperately needed as they are overwhelmed with a flood of mothers with babies as well as orphaned puppies and kittens that need to be bottle-fed. Often there simply isn't the space or time at the shelter to take care of all of these families, and foster families make all the difference for them. Fostering doesn't cost the fosters anything but time, space, and kindness, as PACC provides all food, supplies, and veterinary care. This is also a time when financial donations to the foster program are greatly needed, as lots of babies mean lots of extra care costs. In Addition, PACC has an ongoing wish list of items to be donated including:



Kittens in need of foster homes

- Canned cat, dog, kitten, and puppy food
- Kitten and puppy formula
- Towels and blankets without stuffing
- All sizes of pet crates
- Plastic cat toys
- Hard Kong dog toys
- Peanut butter
- Dog and cat treats
- Pet supply gift cards

Animals give so much to humans and we owe them the proper care and security they deserve from us. Unfortunately, some people don't take into account that it should be a lifelong commitment when they take on the responsibility of a pet. PACC's statistics show that at least in our area, the shelter animal issue is improving, but it is still the responsibility of the community to make choices that will continue to ease the suffering and overpopulation of companion animals. Just the seemingly small act of spaying or neutering and choosing to adopt, not shop can make all the difference in the world. Luckily, we have places like PACC that facilitate these things and so much more as we work together to make the world a little easier for our animal companions.



Thor with new dad Brian



Construction Begins! Photo courtesy Pima County

KIDS & ANIMALS



Bella Wexler

The Beauty of Bella

Story by Claire Sheridan • Photos by Christy Pickrell

Bella Wexler is your typical fourteen-year-old, that is if the phrase "typical teenager" conjures up images of a brilliant, socially conscious, philanthropic, animal-loving young woman who looks like she belongs on the cover art of an independent music record. There are people you meet who you can tell are as beautiful on the inside as they appear on the surface, and Bella is surely such a person.

For her Bat-Mitzvah, Bella raised approximately \$3,000 for a nearby animal rescue called Hooves N' Horns. The rescue focuses on saving farm animals from poor conditions and the fate of becoming factory food. Although she likes all animals, Bella has a special place in her heart for farm animals. She became a vegetarian as a result of her study of the farming industry and concern for animal welfare, and she aspires to veganism one day. Bella has been inspired by her older sister, Lilly, and her mother Allison, both of whom are animal lovers and activists.

It isn't just her mom and older sister who support the animal welfare cause; Bella's father, local dentist Michael Wexler, is also an active part of the volunteerism. A few years ago, Michael and Allison took a trip to Thailand, during which they donated their time at a rescue for dogs who otherwise would have become food. From that trip, Mom and Dad brought home a dog who became a member of the family. Allison is also part of the dog rescue group, In The Arms of Angels. As a result of her involvement, the family provides foster care to a multitude of dogs on a continuously rotating basis. One of whom, Markie, was introduced to me as a "foster failure" because he has been permanently adopted by the Wexlers. The family facilitates visitation for Markie with his former human, who is struggling with health problems.

Next year Bella will attend Catalina Foothills High School, after a tough decision to turn down her acceptance to University High School. Unlike many kids, she isn't content to take the summer off to vacation. Instead, this summer Bella will be taking classes to get a jump start; she intends to use the time she frees up during her normal academic year to add Mandarin Chinese class to her schedule. She hopes to travel, and is considering being an exchange student, or possibly hosting one. She looks forward to traveling so she can gain exposure to other cultures, with the goal of becoming involved in human rights work in the future. She believes that human rights provide the foundational basis for animal rights. Bella said, "We need to have human rights at the

level they need to be in order to treat animals the way we treat people."

When asked about her favorite subject, Bella chose English because, in class, they talk about philosophy; this past year they wrote speeches about what makes us human. She enjoys writing, and has been writing poetry since third grade when she wrote a poem about people misunderstanding pit bulls. She has also written a poem about Isabel Celis, a little girl who went missing in 2012, and whose remains were just found this year. Her poetry usually focuses on problems in the world, and her current writing is about "trying to navigate doing as much as I can in the small life that I have. I want to impact the world as best I can, in as prominent a way as possible, in the little time I have. So many things need fixing."

Bella is also a musician who plays the French Horn. When she isn't playing music, she enjoys listening to Korean music, or K-Pop, which she was introduced to by one of her friends. She also listens to Chinese music, so that she can try to "self-teach" herself Chinese! She uses Skype to communicate with a friend from 5th grade who now lives in Taiwan, and she practices her newly acquired Chinese language with that friend.

She seems to come by her passion for people, animals, culture, and travel genetically. In addition to her parents' Thailand trip for dog work, Allison has traveled to Nepal to volunteer at an elephant rescue sanctuary, and Michael has provided pro bono dental services to refugees in the local Tucson community.

Bella said that she has "an amazing family," and that her "parents and sisters are inspiring." She credits her mom with teaching her that "the world is only as big as you make it." She wants to learn about other cultures and languages in order to "expand [her] capacity to see how big the world is."

Most certainly, the world is a better place from the positive energy of this amazing young woman, and the lives of many animals are better because of her kindness and generosity. The Tucson Dog salutes Bella Wexler and her family for their contributions to animals the world over.



Bella



**Bella and Markie
photo by Allison Wexler**



Bella

Do you know of an amazing kid whose contributions to animals should be included in our next issue? If so, I would love to hear from you. Please email me at: claire@thetucsondog.com

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Pet Friendly Establishments in Town

Whether we are looking for a new place to live, traveling or going out for some coffee or something to eat, many of us want to take our dogs along. Below are businesses that welcome our four-legged friends. Please thank them for allowing our "best friends" to come along and tell them you saw it in The Tucson Dog!

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Promontory
60 W. Stone Loop, Tucson
(520) 887-8556

Quail Ridge
4500 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson
(520) 299-2820

Rillito Village
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(520) 293-1040

Sycamore Creek
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The Arboretum
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(520) 519-6800

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(520) 747-3771

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Comfort Suites Airport
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(520)299-1501

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520-881-4200

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Tucson, AZ 85750
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(520)545-0577

Mutt's Premium Hot Dogs & Sausages
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(520) 529-7277

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(520)296-9759

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(520)326-7737
6450 E Grant Rd., Tucson
(520) 838-0809

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(520)305-4493

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(520)206-0017

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RESCUE NEWS



TUCSON COLD WET NOSES

Tucson Cold Wet Noses is a rescue that caters to the special needs of senior dogs, those with medical issues, and even hospice dogs. Their goal is to get these urgent cases out of the shelters, and into the comfortable homes they deserve. TCWN works closely with Pima Animal Care Center (PACC), and many of the dogs in the rescue's care would most likely have been euthanized without the intervention of this special rescue group. TCWN have no kennels, so foster families are everything to them, especially considering they generally have 80-90 dogs in their care at a given time. The more fosters who step up, the more dogs get out of the shelters. As with many rescues, TCWN pays for all veterinary care, food and supplies. The foster family need only supply a loving home until the dogs are adopted. On the second Saturday of summer months at Petsmart El Con Mall, and on the forth Saturday at Petsmart at Ina and Oracle potential adopters can meet TCWN adoptable dogs.



DESERT LABRADOR RETRIEVER RESCUE

Desert Labrador Retriever Rescue has been saving the lives of labs and lab mixes throughout Arizona for nearly 20 years. They take in any lab in need, and having no kennel, place them in one of their numerous foster homes until they can be placed with the perfect forever family. This was the case with a special pair of labs in April.

After the tragic foothills restaurant shooting death of their owner, Eliot Cobb, 9-year-old Shasta and 8-year-old Diesel were taken in by the rescue. Cobb had originally been fostering Shasta with the Desert Labrador Retriever Rescue, but became what is known in rescue circles as a "foster failure" and adopted her, later adopting Diesel from DLRR as well. Adoption coordinator, foster and home visit volunteer, and foster parent Jennifer O'Connor was there for them within days and took them into her home. There was an initial outpouring of support and offers to adopt Shasta and Diesel from as far off as New York, but none were a fit, and interest waned. After a local news story however, more potential adoptees contacted the rescue and finally, just over a month after they went into foster care, the perfect family applied to adopt the pair. Scottsdale couple Kim and August Reno would have loads of time to spend with them, and they would even get to go along to work each day. Stories like this show just how important rescue groups are to the wellbeing of our canine companions.

With around 50 dogs in foster at any given time, this large rescue ends up with some pretty hefty medical bills. In 2016 alone DLRR racked up \$275,000 in veterinary bills for everything from amputations to parvo to chemotherapy to snake bites. Tucson DLRR coordinator Stacy Gigger stresses that donations of any kind are always welcome and needed. In addition, DLRR is always in need of more volunteers and fosters. For more information on this rescue go to DLRRPhoenix.org.



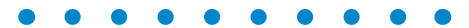
ARIZONA GREYHOUND RESCUE

Arizona Greyhound Rescue, an all-volunteer nonprofit founded in 1992 offers the lifesaving second chance that not every racing dog gets. After being used for a short time, and often mistreated, so many of these beautiful dogs are cast aside when they are no longer lucrative for their handlers. Luckily for greyhounds in Arizona, we have AGR. Since their inception, AGR has successfully placed over 1,900 dogs in forever homes. In 2016 alone, 46 dogs were placed, which was also the year the Tucson greyhound track finally closed for good after a 72-year run.

While some of the racing dogs were sent to other tracks, many came into local rescues as well. AGR took in 20 dogs in just over two months, making for a busy time in the rescue. Just because the track has closed, however, doesn't mean TGR is closing down too. With the need for greyhound rescue ebbing in their immediate area, the group can now reach out to help dogs in the 5 remaining states where greyhound racing is still legal.

The rescued greyhounds give back to our community as well through TGR's Heartfelt Hounds program. This program trains greyhounds and other Sighthounds to be service dogs. These dogs are becoming more common as service animals because as an ironic byproduct of the racing industry, they have been well socialized by being handled by many different people. When dogs selected for the program have finished training, they are paired with disabled people, especially veterans, and can make a difference in their lives that TGR made for the hounds.

As with any rescue, TGR is always in need of fosters and volunteers. They also accept tax-deductible donations. To learn more, go to AZGreyhoundRescue.org.



TUCSON PARROT RESCUE

Tucson Parrot Rescue was founded by Carol Klamers in 2007 when Tucson Avian Rescue and Adoption disbanded. Left with so many needy birds, Klamers formed TPR. At any given time, the rescue has around a dozen adoptable birds, as well as others that are with the rescue to stay, due to issues that make them unadoptable. The most common birds to come through the rescue are Cockatoos, Cockatiels, Conures, Macaws, and African Greys.

Klamers explains that most of the birds in the rescue are owner-relinquished. She goes on to talk about how complicated good parrot care really is. Ignorance on the part of the owner is the main reason parrots' needs are often not met. Malnutrition and respiratory and cardiac problems, as well as self-destructive feather plucking are some of the main issues that can affect parrots. Luckily, TPR is here to help. Not only do they take in any unwanted or mistreated parrots, they offer classes both to adopters and the general public, on how to care for these birds properly, and to help them successfully live out their lives, which can be as long and longer than those of their human companions. Klamers stresses that adoptions are not necessarily about which bird the adopter wants, but about which bird fits with the home. For more information go to TucsonParrotRescue.org



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Business Spotlight

Adobe Veterinary Center; Where Your Pets Are Family

Story and photos by Kristin Beery



Daisy's eye exam from Dr. Abby Don

Adobe Veterinary Center was a dream between two veterinarians that was realized some years ago. As Dr. Barbara Page and Dr. Christine Staten came together, they were able to form one of the most unique veterinary hospitals in Tucson. Adobe Veterinary Center not only cares for small animals such as dogs and cats, but also large animals and livestock.

The practice has grown

to include seven veterinarians - four are dog and cat specialists and three are horse and livestock specialists - and approximately thirty other healthcare team members. Adobe Veterinary Center was nominated as one of the best places to work by the Copper Cactus Awards. Each member of the team is a vital part of why the clinic works so well.

The veterinarians and staff at Adobe take time and care in educating clients about proper patient care. They explain the importance of preventative medicine, including annual vaccines and diagnostic testing to keep your pet healthy. While most of the care is centered around client education and preventative medicine, do not let that fool you. The clinic is equipped with state-of-the-art digital x-ray, ultrasound, surgical suites, dental equipment, a laboratory, and a pharmacy. The highly trained technicians have the ability to run most diagnostic tests while owners and patients wait comfortably for the results in the patient exam rooms. While you may think that these tools are only for small animal procedures, the staff at Adobe can perform these procedures on large animals as well. In addition to patient exam rooms and procedure space, the clinic also has covered stalls and a large livestock examination area. While most of their

patients in this area are limited to horses, livestock and other hooved animals are welcome as well. Dana Reardon stated that the most exotic animal they have cared for was a zebra.

Besides the fully functional hospital, Adobe also offers a pet resort. The resort is staffed with its own entire team to make sure that your pet's boarding stay is as relaxed as possible while you are away. Cats have condos that give them a view of the outside through a huge window. Dogs have a comfortable indoor room and most have private outdoor access all day. The dogs are also taken outside to a grassy area three times daily for a bit of playtime. There are luxury accommodations should an owner decide their pet deserves a bit more pampering during their stay at the facility. Pets staying in rooms are given a bath and nail trim before they go home to their family. While these services are offered to all pets staying at the resort, they are given to pets in the luxury rooms at no cost.

In addition to the massive 8,000 square foot facility, Adobe large animal veterinarians have two fully-equipped mobile units that they can take out into the field to provide veterinary services to those who prefer a barn visit. The trucks are fully stocked with medical equipment that allows the veterinarians



Adobe Veterinary Center. Courtesy Adobe Veterinary Center

and technicians to do almost anything in the field that they can do in the clinic. There is a mobile digital x-ray machine and ultrasound machine, laboratory equipment, heated running water, and anything else they may need when examining your large animal in the field.

Not only do the veterinarians provide quality care to the pets that they see, they are also long-term Tucsonans investing time and compassion back into their community. Dr. Staten is the large animal veterinarian for the Animal Cruelty Taskforce of Southern Arizona. The veterinarians are also involved with 4H and the FFA, providing veterinary care to the animals at the Pima County Fair. Besides seeing large and small animal patients, every now and then you may see a porcupine or some other wild animal in the clinic. This is because Dr. Page is also the mammal veterinarian for the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. The doctors and staff also care for animals at the Tucson Wildlife Center and several other rescue groups. Pet adoption is encouraged, and the center provides free initial exams to dogs and cats adopted from the Humane Society or Pima Animal Control. Free horse owner lectures are provided to owners on the second Wednesday of every month. In addition to animal-related community service the healthcare team is actively involved in, and financially supports, multiple other community groups including sports teams, church groups, school events, and scout troops.

Should your pet ever need veterinary care, you can be confident in knowing the veterinarians and staff at Adobe Veterinary Center will treat them like family. The hospital is AAHA, American Animal Hospital Association, accredited. There are over 1900 criteria that the facility must meet to gain this accreditation, which covers all aspects including medicine, surgery, and diagnostics. Only fourteen percent of all North American veterinary hospitals have been able to gain this elite title. You can be sure that while visiting Adobe Veterinary Center you and your pet are receiving the highest standard of veterinary care in a clean, compassionate, and state of the art facility. If you choose to visit Adobe Veterinary Center, you will not be disappointed. The facility is located at 8300 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson, AZ. You can also visit them on their website at <http://adobevetcenter.com/> or call at (520) 546-8387



Treats for being a good patient

Horsin' Around



Therapeutic Loving Caballos

Story and photos by Kristin Beery

Step Up Into TLC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation that was founded by Nancie Roahrig in 2006. "Step Up" refers to a command for an increase in gait while driving horses, and TLC is an abbreviation for Therapeutic Loving Caballos. She offers equine-assisted therapy programs to several organizations throughout the Tucson area. Nancie and her group of volunteers travel to hospitals, retirement communities, nursing homes, rehabilitation clinics, and group homes for the terminally ill. In addition, Nancie also travels to libraries, schools and churches to hold presentations about the horses.

Nancie currently owns a ranch outside of Marana in the Red Rock area. There she trains and keeps her "herd" of approximately thirteen horses of all different breeds. Currently, there are Clydesdales, Miniature Horses, Shetland Ponies, and Arabians.



Jumping Jack (JJ) and Nancie

The horses are cared for by nine to ten volunteers that come to the ranch on a rotating basis to feed, water, and clean the horses and their stalls. Nancie stated that she goes through approximately seven bales of hay per week.

On her last trip, Nancie took two of the horses to an assisted living community called the Villas at Houghton. With the help of George, a dedicated volunteer, she visited residents of the community with Sir Snickers and Jumping Jack, also known as JJ.

Sir Snickers is a Miniature Horse weighing in at approximately 200 pounds. As Nancie was getting him ready for the visit, he donned a patriotic fabric saddle and shoes from the Build-A-Bear Workshop. Snickers is twenty years old and has been visiting communities and hospitalized patients for approximately ten years. Nancie stated that they can live up to 35-40 years.



Sir Snickers and George

Jumping Jack, or JJ, has also been making his debut all over Tucson for the past ten years. He is a 13-year-old Clydesdale who weighs in at approximately 2000 pounds. Nancie explained that JJ will eat approximately 50 pounds of hay per day, and drink around 30 gallons of water. JJ also wears a size 8 shoe, where most standard sized horses wear a size 1.

Once everything was ready, JJ and Snickers were ushered into a patio area where the residents were gathered in anticipation of the horses' arrival. Snickers quickly started greeting the residents in eagerness of the affection he would receive. He made his rounds throughout the patio area, allowing residents to gently touch his face while they asked questions about the horses. Afterward, Snickers was allowed to go inside of the facility, where some residents had

taken solace from the outdoor heat. He greeted each resident, and while he was provided with love and affection, he was giving them something as well. Outside, JJ could be seen with his nose in the residents' laps while they pet his head and face. His calm and gentle demeanor was surprising considering his size, and he was referred to as a gentle giant many times.



Greetings from Sir Snickers

Much to everyone's surprise, JJ was caught in the act of falling asleep multiple times during the visit as the attention relaxed him.

In speaking with Michael Burton, the Activity Director at the Villas at Houghton, he said that these visits provided the residents with much more than

just something fun for them to do. As he states, "Nancy and her beautiful horses along with her caring staff have been providing Horse Therapy every month here at The Villas at Houghton for over 3 years now....and it never gets old. This extraordinary program has been a favorite among our residents, family, and staff. The one hour therapy session has proven to be very effective for easing anxiety and depression. After every visit, our residents can't stop talking about the horses. The interaction between the horses, staff, and community is an uplifting experience that the whole family can enjoy! The TLC program provides our residents with sensory stimulation as well as a sense of belonging, reminiscing about the "good ol' days", and creating new enriching memories to share with family and friends. Smiles, laughs, and plenty of photo sharing is guaranteed!"

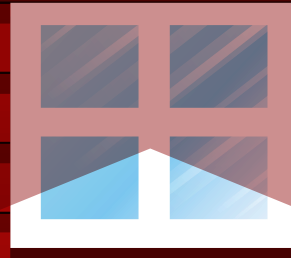
This program has allowed children and adults alike to enjoy the wonder and beauty of horses. While the horses receive much wanted attention, the families whose lives they touch receive something even greater. Whether it is a parent who is afforded the opportunity to see their ill child's dream of riding a horse come true, or a resident of an assisted living facility being able to touch a 2000 pound Clydesdale, the mission is the same. To enrich the lives of people through equine therapy.

Although Nancie does have dedicated volunteers to help in her mission, she is a non-profit organization and survives solely on donations. Anything she receives helps, whether it is monetary donations, food and supplies for the horses, or even gas cards so she can make her very important trips to these facilities. If you would like to help Nancie in her mission, please contact her directly through her website at <http://stepuptlc.org/>.



A Goodbye Kiss

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IN THE BARN

**All the Horses on this page are available for adoption now.
If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends,
please call the rescue group listed with the picture.**



DESERT BREEZE

I was rescued from a Premarin farm in Canada by the nice folks at Equine Voices Sanctuary. I am a very pretty girl and extremely sweet. I like to give horse-hugs to the volunteers that groom me. My coloring is called Grulla. I am 15.2 H and 1,035 lbs. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



SUNDANCE

I was found wandering in the desert with 300 pounds of marijuana packed on my back. I had open wounds and was extremely underweight. I am good boy and was featured in a National Geographic Kids' Article. I did have a home but they had to send me back because of financial reasons. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



CHANEL

I was left in the desert after having many babies. My owner said I was no good. I am really a sweet girl looking for someone to love me. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



NAYLA AND BABY STRAWBERRY MOON

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JOY

I was born here at Equine Voices in 2005 after my mother Little Miss was rescued from an auction in Texas. I am beautiful, sweet, and get along well with other horses. I have had a little training but am willing to please. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



MYSTIC

I am a gorgeous Percheron cross former PMU mare. I am kind and smart. I have had little training, but am willing to please. I do need an experienced person in my life. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



ILLUSION

I am a beautiful dun with one blue eye. I was found in the desert in 2010 and was then released to Equine Voices. I do have some arthritis, and some trust issues. I would do best with one person who I can trust and who will take the time to truly understand me. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



MAMA

Mama I was rescued from Dog Patch south of Tucson. My owner had died and I had no home. I now live with other burros in the "Burro Habitat" but would love to have a home of my own. Equine Voices Sanctuary (520) 398-2814



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& Seniors THEIR PETS



Maxx

adopted by families and that bigger dogs would be too active for a senior, she kept looking for that perfect dog.

There in a kennel towards the back, all by himself was the saddest dog she had ever seen. He was small and underweight, but he also had no fur. His skin was black and shiny, looking like he had been burned. This was caused by a skin disease called pyoderma. It is a skin infection under the first layer of skin that causes hair loss and itchiness. Sheila asked if she could see him. Once she went in his kennel she could see close up how bad off he was and how unsure and depressed was his attitude. Eventually she was able to pet his little body. She knew that he was the one she had been looking for. However, it would not be an easy path for either of them.

They went home with a bag full of special shampoo, conditioner, mousse, lotion, antibiotics and Benadryl. He also had a special diet that he had to follow. The first bath he got he did the normal doggie thing and shook all over the house. Sheila taught him to shake three times in the bathroom before he could leave. She taught him commands in Spanish, and he even knows what to do when she says "I'm going to church." He goes to his special bed to wait. He is very smart, never has accidents in the house and has even figured how to use the two doggie doors to get outside. The only thing he does not like, and Sheila does not do, is go into a crate. Maxx has the run of the house.

Sheila had to follow a rigorous schedule of bathing, administering medication, massages, and walks to help Maxx. He also had appointments with his vet, his veterinary dermatologist and other specialists. Some were in Tucson and even helped her when she unexpectedly ran out of his medicine. They met her half

Sheila and the Naked Dog

Story and photos by Carolyn Stark

For anyone involved with animal rescue the phrase, "who rescued who" is a reality. This couldn't be truer than for Sheila Beck and her West Highland white terrier, Maxx.

Sheila had recently lost both her husband and their beloved lab. Her life was lonely without them. She decided to look at the dogs at the Animal League of Green Valley. Knowing that puppies get

way from Green Valley. Many people were willing to help Sheila and Maxx. She created a notebook so she could keep track of everything that was done each day: from medications and baths, massages and walks, even if he was scratching... when, where and how often. In this way she could see his progress and accurately report any problems to Maxx's vets. It was in this way that she noticed a lump on his rear leg. Fearful of the results, Maxx went to the vet's for a biopsy. Luckily he got a clean bill of health with the biopsy coming back as benign. Sheila has also added pictures of Maxx in her notebook. This enables everyone to see how he progressed in his healing with Sheila's care. It even chronicles the exciting day he started to grow a little fur.

Often adopted animals become very attached to their rescuers and Maxx is no different. Sheila has Type 2 Diabetes. One night she woke to Maxx's continual licking of her face. He had sensed that she was having trouble with her insulin levels. She called 911. Maxx had just saved her life! He has done this two more times since he has come to live with Sheila. Her doctor explained that Maxx was picking up on the chemical change in her body when her insulin was not at the correct level.

Just as Maxx looks after her, she still looks after him. He is taking his Benadryl and special food now. The groomers know to only use scissors on his fur and a grinder on his nails so his sensitive skin is not injured. Sheila and Max are grateful for the help of specialty veterinarians, their staff, and the Animal League of Green Valley who helps seniors adopt senior pets by giving financial assistance with medical expenses.



Maxx and Sheila relaxing

Sheila and Maxx have come far in their eighteen month journey. Maxx has a lovely white coat and has come far from that sick, naked and scared dog in the shelter. He is always by Sheila's side. They spread their love by visiting a blind friend in a nursing home, and a 98-year-old in hospice. People everywhere know about Maxx, the amazing dog and his wonderful mom. Recently they even went on a family trip to the Grand Canyon for three days. Things are looking up for Sheila and Maxx. Who rescued who? Both!



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Tucson's Oldest Dog-Friendly Hiking Group on Meetup.com

Story by Claire Sheridan • Photos by Alayna Wiley

After graduating from college, Alayna Wiley moved to Tucson in 2012. On the advice of her new boss, Alayna joined Meetup as a way to get to know people and places in Tucson. When she could not find a group specifically geared to dog-friendly hiking on the website, she started her own, naming the group Tails & Trails. Although some of the existing hiking groups had the occasional dog-friendly hike, Alayna said, "If I am going hiking, I am going to bring my dogs with me."



Alayna Morgan and Hazel

Among her favorite hikes is the Lower Green Mountain Trail on Mount Lemmon. Alayna said she likes this trail because it is close enough to town that it doesn't take too long to get there, but the elevation is high enough to provide some relief from the heat, and she notes there is tree cover on the trail. Another favorite is Old Baldy Trail combined with Super Trail at Madeira Canyon.

When hiking, Alayna is accompanied by her two rescued furry friends, Hazel and Morgan. Morgan, who is often mistaken for a jack russell terrier, is in fact a 10-year-old Chihuahua and pit bull mix. Hazel, a five-year-old pit bull, found Alayna a year and a half ago. Both pups hail from rescue organizations in Alayna's native Georgia.

Having a hiking pit bull on the trail made Alayna a bit trepidatious at first, as she was concerned what other people's reactions would be. To date, she has not encountered any negativity, quite the opposite in fact. People often compliment Hazel's behavior and appearance when they are hiking. Although hiking seems to be a new activity for Hazel, she has taken to it well, as fish to water or a dog to dirt! Somewhat shy and cautious at first, now Hazel often bounds over obstacles, which give her human and more experienced canine sibling, Morgan, pause.



Morgan at Cochise Stronghold

Alayna prefers hiking with her pups over visiting dog parks because she has observed that even first-time dogs seem to have direction and unite in a common purpose when hiking. According to her, they have not had socialization problems in the hiking pack, even when new members have been introduced. She contrasts this with experiences she has had at some dog parks. Alayna encourages folks to try bringing their dogs to a hike, even if they have had less than positive experiences at dog parks in the past, as "the energy [on a hike] is completely different." Friction among canines has been exceedingly rare, even though the group has had many varying past attendees.



Group shot on Agua Caliente Trail

Owing to competing obligations and time constraints, as of this May, Alayna no longer heads the group on Meetup. However, she definitely intends to remain an active participant. She is also glad that an existing member stepped up to fill the leadership vacancy. In reminiscing about a fun camping trip the humans and canines shared on Mount Graham, she remembered meeting the new leader of the pack. Of that leader, Thomas Schafer, Alayna said, "He and his wife are great members." One of her favorite aspects of the group has been meeting "amazing and life-long" friends.

I met Thomas, his wife Nancy, and their furry friends Tinkerbelle and Wendy at a trailhead on Mount Lemmon. All four were clearly experienced hikers, and Thomas' enthusiasm for his new role leading the Tails & Trails group was obvious. Thomas plans to solicit input from group members, and is eager for folks to suggest locations for upcoming hikes. When not working as a counselor in the mental health field, or leading hikes for Tails and Trails, Thomas is an avid trail runner. He has also completed several marathons, including his first a few years ago, with his adult daughter in their home state, Minnesota.

For information on upcoming hikes and to join the group, be sure to check out their page on the Meetup website: <https://www.meetup.com/tailsandtrails/>



Group shot on Bug Springs Trail, leader Thomas in hat

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Special Feature

Puttin' On The Dog

Story and Photos by Claire Sheridan

The Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSA) held their 19th Annual Puttin' On The Dog Fundraiser on April 22. For the first time, the event was held at Loews Ventana Canyon Resort; in previous years it was held at the Hilton El Conquistador in Oro Valley, and at the Tucson Country Club. The pristine grounds and opulent amenities of the Ventana Canyon property helped make the evening special, and many attendees cited closer proximity of the resort to Tucson as a factor that made attendance more convenient.

By all accounts, this year's event was a huge success. For the first time, humans and their furry companions had the option to dance the night away. The space afforded indoor and outdoor options for musical entertainment. The food spread was enormous. With approximately 20 food vendors on site, there were options to suit the most discriminating eaters; all of the food and staffing for this event was donated by the restaurants. Most impressively, the Humane Society raised over \$230,000 this one evening. The event included a silent online auction and a live auction; the auction's highest bid-upon items (a Canyon Ranch stay, and a private at-home dinner prepared by a gourmet chef, with post-dinner maid service) fetched \$4,000 apiece.

Funds raised by the event help provide much-needed community services. According to Clinic Director, Pat Brayer, HSSA provides low-cost spay/neuter, vaccination clinics, microchipping, and end-of-life services. For more information about HSSA's pet health services, check out their website (hssa.org); there you can find details about times, locations, and pricing of services.

Innumerable people are involved in putting on such a great event. Chief Operating Officer Brandy Burke oversees it all, and Director of Marketing & Communications for HSSA Vanessa Ford, plays a huge part in the event. Vanessa wears many hats, including this year's Puttin' On The Dog Master of Ceremony. In her daily life, Vanessa is human to three koi, two red snapper turtles, and three dogs. At work, her team produces all HSSA's marketing materials, including adorable pictures of all animals during their HSSA stays. Each year, the team begins planning and preparing Puttin' On The Dog in January. Events Manager Steff Hunter ran the spotlight from behind the scene. Alongside employees, volunteers dedicate their time to organizing Puttin' On The Dog. As an attendee, it was clear that everyone's efforts paid off, providing a fun and enjoyable evening for canine and human attendees.

Sponsor, Committee Member, and Puttin' On The Dog attendee, Ruthy Sedjo has been an HSSA volunteer since 1999. She reported that this year's event was "the best ever." Ruthy also said, "Steff Hunter is phenomenal, she did this [the event]." Attending with Ruthy was her fabulous adopted Yorkie, CoCo, namesake of Coco Chanel. Coco will be eight-years-old on her next Thanksgiving adoption-birthday. Absent was Ruthy's shitzu, Brigitta.

Mary Moreno, Chairperson for the Puttin' On The Dog Committee, was among the many sponsor-attendees. Mary is the owner of Innovative Marketing, a Tucson-based marketing business, which opened in 1989. Innovative Marketing has been sponsoring Puttin' On The Dog for 12 years; the business serves HSSA by providing bulk mailing and newsletter printing services. Mary has three girl dogs, a Doberman pinscher and two Yorkshire Terriers.



Ruthy & Coco Sedjo
-table sponsors



And the band played on

Sponsor Sam Levitz Furniture had several attending representatives, including the rescue dog Chase and her person, Lindsay Levitz, Sam's daughter. Lindsay said the company has supported Puttin' On The Dog for the past five years by donating auction items; this was their first year sponsoring a table. six-year-old Chase was adopted five years ago; this was her first event.

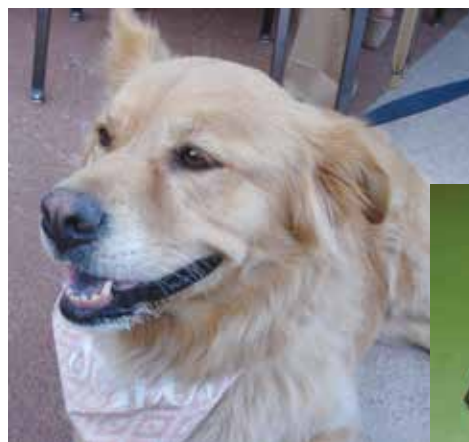
Lelo, one of the evening's canine stars, is a four-year-old dachshund who rocks her wheelchair. Adopted by Audra and Brandon Kelley, Lelo had surgery for a spinal injury. As a result, Lelo's back legs no longer work, but don't tell her that! The wheelchair was a gift from Audra's coworkers, and it doesn't slow Lelo down. At home Lelo prefers to pull herself around sans chair while chasing the two family cats. She even tries to climb stairs, and always greets people who come to the door.



Calendar Dog Colby with
humans Silver & Dinesh

Another pup-star was Colby, a long-haired English Cream dachshund, accompanied by his people, Silver and Dinesh. They were the winning bidders for the Calendar Cover Dog Photo, and Colby's adorable visage will soon decorate refrigerators and office walls all over town in the 2018 HSSA calendar. Dinesh said he thought the event was, "amazing, educational, and inspirational;" he was particularly impressed by "the Tucson community coming together to raise so much money for the Humane Society and that the Humane Society is doing so much." Silver and Dinesh have three dogs. Only Colby was in attendance, which makes one wonder if Colby's canine siblings will be even more envious of his top slot as Calendar Dog!

Be sure to check out the Humane Society's upcoming fundraiser events, including the golf tournament, "Putt for Paws" at The Lodge at Ventana Canyon on Saturday, September 9th and the 3rd Annual "Sweat For Pets" at the University of Arizona Mall on Sunday, October 22nd.



Chase Levitz (above) and
Lelo and her wheelchair (right)



DOGS IN BLUE: THE K-9 BEAT



Tucson PD's Borus and Sgt. Pelton

Story by Kristin Beery • Photos by Frank Simon



Sgt Pelton and Borus

Many of us have seen Tucson Police Officers driving the streets of our city, and protecting and serving the public in many ways. When you see these officers, you probably do not think about our four-legged protectors as well. These are the members of the Tucson Police Department K9 unit.

The dogs who are part of the TPD canine unit are friends, partners, and sometimes the last line of protection for our officers who serve in the department. Currently there are nine teams of dogs and officers, with another two dogs possibly joining the force at the end of the month.

Choosing a dog is a rigorous process. The officers make trips out to California, and the dogs are put through a complicated selection process which typically takes about four hours from start to finish. The first thing the officers look at is how friendly the dog is. They do not want a dog that is too aggressive because it may be more difficult to call off the dog while working. Secondly, the officers look at the play drive of the dogs. Lastly, they are tested in their courage. Once the dogs are selected, they are brought back to Tucson and put through a series of training and testing. Environmental factors such as stairs and slick floors are part of the testing, and the dogs are also checked to see how they will react to sounds such as gunfire.

Each dog costs approximately \$10,600 after taxes. They are usually breeds that include Belgian Malinois, Dutch shepherds, and German shepherds. The age range of each K9 officer that begins the program is anywhere between eighteen months and three years. Their training time is typically between twelve to fourteen weeks. Once the training is complete, each dog is equipped with a bullet proof vest, and they hit the streets with their partners. After their time in service, which usually lasts until eight years of age, the K9 officers are retired and offered for adoption to their handler at just one dollar.

Sergeant Brad Pelton took command of the TPD Canine Unit about five years ago. Along with his partner Borus, a Belgian Malinois, they have been protecting the citizens of Tucson ever since. Not only do these canine officers help support TPD and the Pima County Sheriff, but they also assist SWAT, the DEA, and other law enforcement agencies that may require their special services. Each dog in the department is dual-trained. They work closely with their officers to locate and

take down perpetrators while on patrol, and are also very capable when it comes to drug location.

Each dog goes home after their shift to live with their officer partners. Fortunately, the Tucson Police Foundation has funding to help provide food, toys, and other goods for the dogs so that their handlers are not forced to pay for all their expenses. In speaking with Sgt. Pelton, we learned that each dog goes through approximately one fifty-pound bag of food per month.



Borus in patrol car ready for work

A typical shift consists of ten hours, four days a week. The officers have one hour during their shift to care for, feed, and water the dogs. There is usually half of the department on shift at a time. Weekly training sessions with the dogs are held on Wednesdays at different locations throughout the city. This helps the dogs and officers stay sharp with their skills, and possibly learn new skills along the way. Officers also participate in the K9 Walk with their four legged partners in the spring.

The K9 officers are well cared for. Annual health checks and vaccinations are done at Valley Animal Hospital with Dr. Vagnetti and his caring staff. Safety for the K9 officers is an extremely important aspect of the job. Not only are they provided with bullet proof vests and top of the line training, but other measures have been taken to ensure that they are as safe as possible. The backs of the patrol vehicles have been modified to make the environment more comfortable for the dogs. The rear seats have been removed to allow for more room, and bowls are mounted inside the vehicles to provide food and water. Screens are mounted on the inside of the rear windows so that officers can allow fresh air into the vehicle without worry of the dog jumping out. This past year, the Tucson Police Foundation also provided funding to allow for heat sensors to be installed in each one of the patrol cars. An app can then be downloaded onto the officers' phones, and when the inside temperature of the vehicle gets over 78 degrees, an alarm with sound on their phone alerting them to the rising temperature.



Sgt Pelton puts on the bite sleeve

So, next time you are out and about in the city and see one of these selfless teams, think about what it is they do and the danger involved in protecting the citizens of the city. You may never need the services of the TPD K9 unit, but if you ever do you can rest assured that you are in the best of hands.

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Training



Puppies, Puppies, Puppies

Story by Kim Silver

Adding a new puppy to your family is exciting yet stressful. An 8-week-old puppy in your home is like having a toddler to feed, potty train and monitor 24/7. Planning and prevention improves your puppy's likelihood of a healthy and happy life with you and decreases the probability you will relinquish your puppy due to behavior problems.

When To Bring Your Puppy Home

Staying with the litter through eight weeks of age is important so that your puppy learns appropriate mouth pressure, social and play skills. Some social disorders associated with leaving the litter too early are separation anxiety, compulsive disorders, hyperactivity, fear and dog-dog aggression. When the mother begins to resist nursing and puppies are eating on his or her own is often an indicator that the puppies are ready to move on to their new families.

Socialization & Fear Periods

Puppies have a finite period between three and twelve weeks of age for socialization. During this time puppies identify with other dogs as being like them and accept other species such as humans and cats if raised with them. Most importantly, puppies are learning the social cues necessary to communicate with dogs and other species. At 7 weeks of age puppies begin to curiously explore their environment. Puppies undergo a primary fear period between eight to ten weeks of age. Consequently, puppies may be frightened of people, objects, sounds, and other species or breeds of dogs which they have not encountered.

It is important that puppies have proactive and positive exposures to many of the things they may encounter in the world. An exposure that is frightening or negative can leave a lasting impression on your puppy. This critical socialization period is the best time to start socializing and training your puppy. Learning how to read your puppy's body language for signs of fear and having a plan in place to address fear can be learned in a well-designed puppy class. Your puppy will undergo a secondary fear period between four and twelve months of age lasting approximately 3 weeks. Early training and socialization with your puppy will prepare you for this as well as how to problem-solve other potential behavior issues.



Puppy Preschool Classes

Puppy Preschool classes are designed for puppies between the ages of eight and fourteen weeks of age. These classes educate pet parents about normal puppy behavior and provide positive methods for addressing these behaviors. Puppy Preschool classes also provide the opportunity for puppies to play and socialize with other puppies of different breeds, meet humans, and explore various objects in a safe, controlled environment. Sadly still, pet parents are often instructed by veterinarians



to wait until their puppies receive their final vaccination before attending a class with their puppy, or to wait until their puppy reaches six months of age. Yet the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior says, "it should be the standard of care for puppies to receive socialization before they are fully vaccinated". AVSAB also says, "While puppies' immune systems are still developing during these early months, the combination of maternal immunity, primary vaccination, and appropriate care makes the risk of infection relatively small compared to the chance of death from a behavior problem". Since the number one reason for dog deaths in the U.S. is relinquishment and euthanasia for behavior problems, pet parents should take AVSAB's findings to heart. Puppy Preschool is vaccinating for behavior issues and may save your dog's life.

The Most Common Puppy Complaint

"My puppy won't stop biting me!" Hands down, this is the most common complaint from puppy pet parents. Here are some tips to help your puppy through the nipping and biting phase.

1. Be patient. This is behavior that may last through the first year of your puppy's life.
2. Provide your puppy with a variety of appropriate things for him or her to chew on such as KONGS or bully sticks. Make sure to monitor your puppy while they enjoy their item.
3. Whenever your puppy nips or bites, redirect your puppy to use his or her mouth on a more appropriate item. Toys, ropes, KONGS, bully sticks and other items are good choices.
4. Use crates, baby gates and/or exercise pens to create spaces for your puppy to enjoy an alternative activity to nipping and biting you such as the items mentioned above. Be sure to create a positive experience and association with the space so that your puppy does not view it as punishing to be there.
5. Training provides mental stimulation and serves as an outlet for your puppy's energy. Teaching your puppy some basic skills such as hand targeting, sit, or down will help to redirect your puppy to a more productive activity.
6. Teach your children how to interact with your puppy appropriately. Great resources for families are doggonessafe.com and stopthe77.com

Kim Silver CPDT-KA, KPACTP is owner of Building Bonds: a positive, reward based training and behavior consulting business in Tucson, AZ. Kim offers private training and group classes for puppies and adults. Kim has a passion for helping pet parents with reactivity issues and preventing the surrendering of dogs due to behavior issues.

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Health & Wellness

Cancer in Our Companion Animals; Part 1

Story by Deborah Straw • Photos by Bruce Conklin

Cancer is attacking our companion animals, not only dogs and cats, but rabbits, gerbils, guinea pigs and ferrets, at an alarming rate. The pace is not slowing down. A recent statistic on Petswebmed.com indicates that fifty percent of dogs over the age of 10 develop cancer. This percentage is up nine points since initial research for my book, *Why is Cancer Killing Our Pets?* (2000). Cats get fewer cancers (when I did my research, the percentage was that 32% of cats die from some cancer); they are also less likely to let us know when they're ailing. Lymphoma is one of the most common cancers in felines.

Many other animals, domestic and wild, develop many of the cancers we do. And, from *Zoobiquity, The Astonishing Connection Between Human and Animal Health* (2012), and based on my previous knowledge, I learned that other creatures also suffer from STDs, obesity, depression, diabetes, stroke, epilepsy and dementia, among other conditions and diseases.

I am a longtime journalist, an avid researcher and teacher of research techniques, and an animal lover who has always lived with dogs and cats. I wrote *Why is Cancer Killing Our Pets* (now in its second edition as *The Healthy Pet Manual, A Guide to the Prevention and Treatment of Cancer*), (2005) after four of our beloved animals, three cats and one dog, died from various forms of cancer. For my book, I received advice and clarification from veterinarians, M.D.s, other animal authors, breeders, animal advocates, and animal associations from around the world. I included both conventional Western medicine and holistic options as treatments. My book was not meant to endorse any one particular treatment but was intended to help in understanding and objectively evaluating the possible causes and variety of treatments for cancer in our animal companions.

The list of possible causes is rather long. Like us, our animals are living longer, and they are developing more cancers. We have, in our speed and efficiency, provided an increased number of ready-made products for them, but some of these are dangerous. We may often spend less time with our pets because we are just too busy. We may buy them the types of commercial food we can find most readily in our supermarkets. Food does seem to be particularly important. For starters, never buy a food product that contains meat by-products. As author Ann Martin (*Food Pets Die For*), recognized in 1997, some of these by-products are rendered, euthanized pets, some of them condemned for human foods.

Of course, genetics provide a link to the causes of a variety of cancers in certain breeds. We may be providing them with an old standby brand of cat litter or a popular chewy toy that may cause serious damage. Some flea remedies, inferior-quality dishes (like plastic), and drinking water can hold risks. Three other risks include

too much sun, second-hand tobacco smoke, and herbicides and pesticides used on golf courses. Are we loving our pets to death?

The best way to avoid cancer in animals is to provide them with healthy lives—

adequate exercise, appropriate medical attention, nutritious food, clean water and lots of love. Thankfully, many more healthy, including frozen raw, foods are available in pet specialty stores – and, increasingly, in some supermarkets. Stress plays its part. Prevention is critical in stemming this disease.

However, if you already have an animal with cancer, it is wise to read as much as you can and work with your primary veterinarian or other qualified health care professional. I do not recommend changing treatments or even diet without consulting at least one trained expert. A word of caution: The sometimes overwhelming internet, while a good source of much information, is also full of chat rooms and support groups advocating fly-by-night cures, which might or might not work for your animal. Some animal websites are merely fan clubs or memorials to departed pets.



Sophie



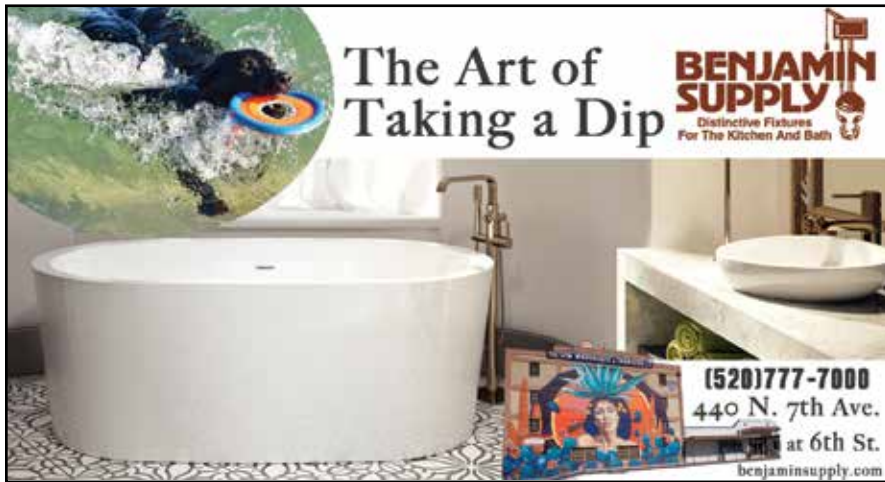
Bruno and Stella

Our knowledge of cancer- in humans and in other animals – keeps evolving. New trials and treatments are constantly being held and tested; herbal preparations and homeopathic remedies are being taken more seriously, even if not always “scientifically proven”; acu-puncture and therapeutic massage help some patients. As is true for people, do not consider a diagnosis of cancer to be a death sentence; it often need not be. For example, after surgery for Osteosarcoma, many large dogs are now living quite comfortable lives with three legs.

By being vigilant about their care, paying close attention to individual animals, and making a few healthy lifestyle choices, we can do a lot to extend our animal companions' lives.

Each case is different, as is each animal. In 2017, much more hope exists in treating many forms of cancer than there was twenty-five years ago when our gray tiger cat, Misty, aka, Buddha, died of a mammary tumor.

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ARIZONA BILL AIMED AT ENDING HOT-CAR DEATHS PASSES!

Governor Doug Ducey has signed into law HB2494, a bill that aims to end hot-car deaths and allow Good Samaritans to take action without risk of civil liability if they rescue a child or a pet from a hot car.



HB2494 Provisions:

A person who uses reasonable force to remove a child or domestic animal from a locked motor vehicle is not liable for damages in a civil action if they comply with the following conditions:

1. The rescuer has a good faith belief that the confined child or pet is in imminent danger of suffering physical injury or death unless they are removed from the vehicle.
2. The rescuer determines the car is locked or there is no reasonable manner in which the person can remove the child or pet.
3. Before entering the vehicle, the rescuer notifies the proper authorities (defined).
4. The rescuer does not use more force than is necessary under the circumstances to enter the vehicle.
5. The rescuer remains with the child or pet until the authorities arrive.

Source: AZ Humane Society

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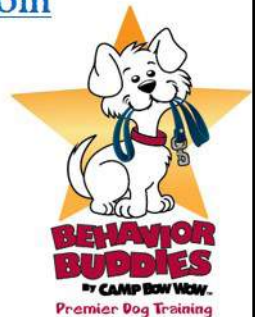
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Stray Dogs Tucson

Thank you to our good friends at Stray Dogs Grill
for rolling out the red carpet to host our VIP Launch Party
for The Tucson Dog magazine. We love their dog friendly patio
and especially their dog friendly menu for our four-legged friends!



Gracie says,
"Check out the
PARTY PHOTOS
in our next issue!!"





Working Dogs



Gidget!

Story and photos by Rhishja Larson

Meet Linda Grim and her Labradoodle, Gidget. They have been volunteering as a Therapy Dog team since 2011.

Being part of a Therapy Dog team came naturally to Linda, who has always worked with dogs. She and her family raised dogs for Guide Dogs for the Blind in Maryland before moving to Tucson.



Therapy Dogs like Gidget help people by providing comfort and easing stress levels

Her passion for Therapy Dog work was ignited at the Canine Walk for Cops, an annual event which benefits the Tucson Police Department. While attending the event, the Therapy Dog training information caught Linda's attention. At the time, Gidget was two years old.

"I knew right then and there that Therapy Dog training was the way to go," Linda says.

She was eager to get started and Gidget received her Therapy Dog certification six months later.

According to Pet Partners of Southern Arizona, "Therapy animal visits can result in lowering patients' blood-pressure, stress, and anxiety levels."

In addition, therapy animals "can help people forget about their pain and bring a sense of normalcy to those in need of a little joy and comfort. They can also inspire children to read or help calm and ease fears before a 'scary' medical procedure."

However, it is important to note the key difference between therapy animals and service animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

A "service animal" is defined by the ADA as a "dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability."

The ADA describes therapy animals as "animals that provide comfort just by being with a person."

Indeed, the good feelings are mutual: Linda's favorite part of Therapy Dog volunteering is the happiness it brings to people.

"I love walking up to someone, and seeing their face light up with a smile when

they see Gidget. It takes their mind off their illness or situation, even if for a few minutes."

Gidget loves the attention she receives as a working Therapy Dog. "Gidget gets excited when I get her vest out."

Linda and Gidget regularly visit facilities such as Tucson Medical Center and Peppi's House (TMC Hospice), and Santa Rosa Care Center nursing home.

They also visit the University of Arizona during finals - a time of stress and anxiety for many students. Linda says that on the weekends, there are nine or ten Therapy Dog teams at UofA and perhaps four teams on weekdays.



Therapy animals "can help people forget about their pain and bring a sense of normalcy to those in need of a little joy and comfort," according to Pet Partners of Southern Arizona

So what does it take to become a Therapy Dog?

Linda is now an Evaluator for Pet Partners of Southern Arizona. She explains that while any breed or mix can be a Therapy Dog, it is important for the dog to enjoy - and have an aptitude for - interacting with people. Those exuberant, wild dogs that love people can make good candidates - with patience and training.

"Observe your dog and see if he or she enjoys interaction with people. Your dog will need lots of exposure to people, dogs, places, smells, and noises. And of course, your dog needs to have solid basic obedience skills."

Once you've determined that your dog has the right aptitude and training, he or she will need to pass a challenging 22-part evaluation in order to become a certified Therapy Dog.

Therapy dog teams need to demonstrate that they can perform basic obedience exercises. For example, dogs are required to walk with a loose lead, walk past a "neutral" dog without reacting, sit on cue, and stay in place.

In addition to basic obedience, dogs are tested for their reactions to situations such as "crowded and petted by several people" and "exuberant and clumsy petting". Dogs must also allow the evaluator to handle and examine them thoroughly.

"The 'neutral dog' test is challenging for many dogs, and other dogs are simply not interested in the work."

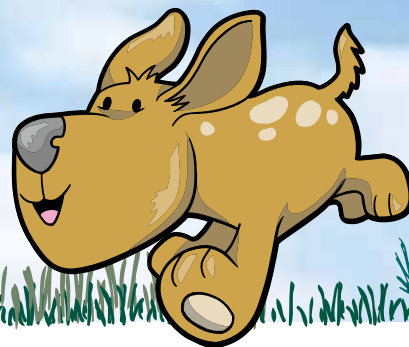
According to Linda, more than 50% of Therapy Dog candidates pass - if they're prepared.

Learn more at Pet Partners of Southern Arizona (<http://www.therapyanimalsaz.org>).

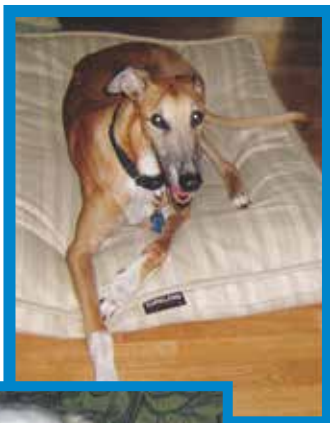


Linda Grim and her dog Gidget have been volunteering as a Therapy Dog team since 2011

Celebration of life



Bantam



OUR DOGS

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston

This old house has held 9 dogs, a cat and 4 lost dogs who were reunited with their owners.

My dogs were of various shapes and sizes with separate but very unique personalities.

We had three Samoyeds; Big Max, Little Max and Casper; a greyhound-shepherd, Miss Goldie; a retired greyhound, Bantam; a shepherd-wolf, Sierra Mae, a dachshund/Jack Russell terrier, Trouble; an American Eskimo, Samantha Ann.

This home now holds a boxer, Lucy, and a cat, Mamma Cass.

The past four years have been difficult when their lives were drawing to an end. However, the choice of adding them to our family seems to have eased the time when we had to release them from their suffering.

I learned about their unconditional love, how fragile a life can be and the strength and patience that is needed as we grow older.

We become unfamiliar with what used to be so simple and natural to us.

Our dogs had become so special in every way of our daily activities. Each time we lost a dog, a part of us went missing also.

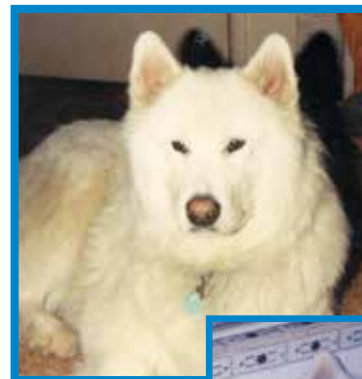
My only hope in remaining steadfast is that one day we will see our pets again. I believe they will be whole and young as we once remembered them.

Animals, if you watch and listen to them, will teach us the art of life, love and happiness that we are searching for in our own lives.

The many memories of each dog fills my heart and soul. They have made me grateful and they have filled this home with their love for us.

Together, they are once again reunited.

Big Max



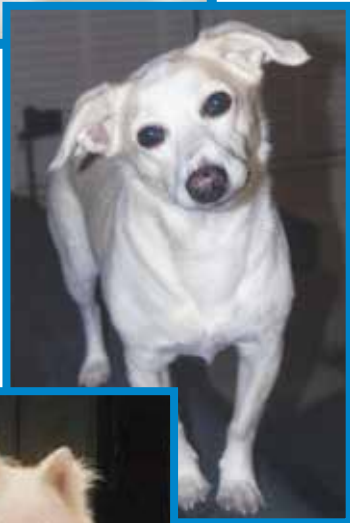
Little Max



Samantha Ann



Trouble



Sierra Mac



Casper



Miss Goldie



Celebration of Life is written by our readers in their own words. If you would like to celebrate the life of your beloved pet that has passed, please email your story and pictures to ann@thetucsondog.com



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Area Dog Park

LISTINGS



TUCSON DOG PARKS

Christopher Columbus Park

4600 N. Silverbell Road
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 791-4873.

Gene C. Reid Park: Miko's Corner Playground

Country Club and 22nd Street
use Picnic Place or Concert Place
entrances off Country Club
Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
(520) 791-4873
Named after Miko, a TPD police dog
that lost its life in the line of duty.

Jacobs Park

3300 N. Fairview Avenue
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 791-4873.
This small off-leash area is located on
west side of Jacobs Park.

Morris K. Udall Park

7290 E. Tanque Verde Road
Hours: 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
(520) 791-4873

Palo Verde Park

300 S. Mann Avenue (south of
Broadway, west of Kolb)
Hours: 6:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
(520) 791-4873.

Purple Heart Park: Ivan's Spot

10050 E. Rita Road
Rita Road near Rees Loop
Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
(520) 791-4873.
Named after Ivan, a TPD police dog
lost in the line of duty

Sixth Avenue Dog Park

2075 N. 6th Avenue
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 791-4873.

Brandi Fenton Memorial Park

3482 E. River Road
(River Road and Dodge Road)
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 724-5000

Flowing Wells Park

5510 N. Shannon Road
(north of Curtis Road)
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 724-5000

George Mehl Family Foothills Park – Smiling Dog Ranch

4000 E. River Road
(River Road and Pontatoc Road)
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 724-5000

McDonald District Park

4100 N. Harrison Road
(Harrison Road and Prospect Lane)
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 724-5000

Northwest Community Neighborhood Park

7601 N. Mona Lisa Road
(Mona Lisa Road and Magee Road)
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 724-5000

Star Valley Park

6852 W. Brightwater Way
(Brightwater Way and Wade Road)
Hours: Dawn to dusk
(520) 724-5000

ORO VALLEY DOG PARKS

Naranja Park

810 W. Naranja Dr., Oro Valley
Hours: Open daily · 6AM–10PM
(520) 229-5050

James D. Krieh Park

23 W Calle Concordia,
Oro Valley, AZ 85704
Hours: Open daily · 6AM–10PM
(520) 229-5050

SAHUARITA DOG PARKS

Quail Creek Dog Park

1905 S Old Nogales Hwy,
Green Valley
Hours: Open daily · 6AM–10PM
(520) 822-8896

Anamax Dog Park

17501 S Camino De Las Quintas,
Sahuarita
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(520) 445-7850

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