

September/October 2017



The Tucson



Dog



CATS & HORSES TOO!



Cover Story

**A Well-Earned New Home;
The Humane Society
of Southern Arizona**

Feature Highlights

Dogs in Blue:
The K9 Beat:
Bosco - New Dog
on the Beat

Kids & Animals:
Cody Allen —
A Most Popular
Young Fellow

Seniors & Their
Pets: Cathy and her
Two Special Horses

Vets & Their
Pets: Ashley;
Changing a Life
for the Better

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

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ANIMAL LOVERS PROGRAM 



Stop by our office today and meet Pepè, our rescued office kitty! While you're there, pick up a Red Solo Cup to participate in our Challenge. Take pictures with your cup in fun and interesting places for a chance to win dinner and a movie for 2 to Roadhouse and a \$300 donation to the charity of your choice. Our office is located at 6644 E. Tanque Verde Road #201, 85715.



The Tucson Dog

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Story

- 20 A Well-Earned New Home;
The Humane Society of
Southern Arizona**

Regular Features

- 6 The Leader of the Packs Speaks
- 6 Greetings from Gracie: A Safe and Happy Halloween for your Pets
- 9 Seniors and Their Pets: Cathy and Her Two Special Horses
- 10 A Visit to The Dog House: Dogs for Adoption
- 13 Vets & Their Pets: Ashley; Changing a Life for the Better
- 15 Kitty Korner: PAWSitively CATS No-Kill Shelter; From Tragedy Thrust into Rescue
- 16 The Scratching Post: Cats for Adoption
- 27 Kids & Animals: Cody Allen — A Most Popular Young Fellow
- 28 Horsin Around: A Home Where Horses Can Be Horses
- 29 In the Barn: Horses for Adoption
- 30 Book Review: A Canine Journey for the Ages
- 33 Dogs In Blue: The K-9 Beat; Bosco - New Dog on the Beat
- 35 Training: Sudden Agression in Dogs
- 38 Celebration of Life: Lobo

Special Feature

- 25 C'mon Out for the 4th Annual Doggie Dash 'N Dawdle!
- 26 Welcome at Rainbow Bridge

Important Information

- 7 Calendar of Events
- 18 Animal Resource Guide
- 20 Pet Directory: Pet Related Services
- 31 Pet Friendly Establishments
- 37 Important Numbers
- 39 Area Dog Park Listings
- 39 Tucson Dog Advertisers Index



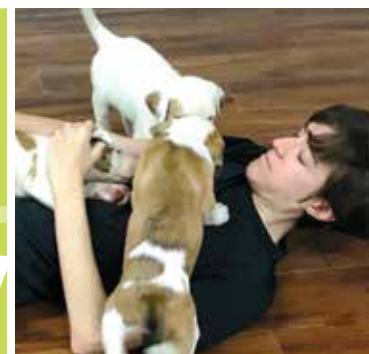
COVER STORY: A Well-Earned New Home; The Humane Society of Southern Arizona



Vets & Their Pets: Ashley;
Changing a Life for the
Better

13

Kids & Animals:
Cody Allen —
A Most Popular
Young Fellow



27



Dogs in Blue:
The K9 Beat;
Bosco — New Dog
on the Beat

33



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.



Julius Schlosburg - Staff Photographer - Julius Schlosburg is a local photographer and musician, as well as companion to a wonderful cat named Bailey. After taking many, many photos of Bailey, friends in the local music scene, and the Sonoran Desert he changed careers to photography full-time in 2017. Working with so many wonderful organizations and artists in Tucson has been extremely rewarding and he's happy to get to work with The Tucson Dog!



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.



Carolyn Stark-Meyers - 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.



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 new brother Andy, who is also a rescue. They both enjoy walks and car rides everyday. Gracie 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

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**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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HAPPY AUTUMN!

The Leader of the Pack speaks!

Dear Readers,

We were overwhelmed at the amount of emails and calls we got about our premier edition of The Tucson Dog magazine. Thank you to those who took the time to tell us how much you loved it. We also heard some wonderful story ideas and received much interest in advertising with us. On behalf of the entire Tucson Dog staff we thank you so much for welcoming us to this great community filled with so many animal-loving people. We are humbled and thrilled to be here and be of service to those who love and care for animals.

Our cover story this issue is about a wonderful shelter that has been serving this community for 72 years. The Humane Society of Southern Arizona has done remarkable things in their current limited space and I know they will do so much more in the comforts of their new shelter being built right now. You'll read all about this amazing organization and their new facility that they will be moving to in January of 2018. They get a big "paws up" from The Tucson Dog!

We are finding such incredible stories about young people for our Kids and Animals feature. In this edition, you will meet a fascinating young man named Cody who has already found his calling in life. He founded Cody's Friends which is a non-profit organization that is doing unbelievable things to help animals, not the least of which included collecting and donating over 500,000 pounds of pet food last year. I loved this story and Cody's commitment to helping animals. I think you will enjoy this story as much as I did!

In our Seniors & Their Pets feature, you will meet Cathy Blodgett who has adopted, trained and loved two very special horses. Her dedication to them is wonderful to witness and she makes the word "senior" look good! No slowing down for her!! Through many ups and downs, Cathy remains devoted to these horses and I'm sure they share the same sentiment toward her. Animals just seem to know when they have been saved and it is wonderful to see them flourish with patience, love and kindness. Way to go Cathy!

I am very excited to share with you that The Tucson Dog will be sponsoring three major events in the upcoming months. Handi-Dogs Dogtoberfest, The Humane Society of Southern Arizona's Sweat For Pets and Oro Valley Parks' Doggie Dash N' Dawdle event. We will have a booth at each of these events and hope to meet many of you there. We will be giving out some magazines of course as well as some great goodies and prizes. We also plan on actively participating in the Sweat For Pets and Doggie Dash N' Dawdle's Walk with our own Tucson Dog team. You can find out more about each of these events and how you can participate in this edition of The Tucson Dog. Each event has a full-page ad with all the details and contact information. These are not only great events that help animals but it will be a good time to enjoy it with your four-legged best friends now that the weather has cooled down. We hope to see you all there.

Please keep the emails coming! We love hearing what you've enjoyed about the magazine and what you'd like to see in future editions.

Love, Light & Laughter,

Ann



Greetings from Gracie

A Safe and Happy Halloween for your Pets

Dear Humans,

While humans (especially the little ones) enjoy this haunting holiday, we four-legged people can often find it truly scary. To make sure we have a "howling" good time too and stay safe, please follow some of these guidelines.

Take the "terror" out of your pets' Halloween by keeping the "happenings" on the down low.

Before trick-or-treating starts, put your pets in a quiet room where they will feel safe and comfortable. Even if you're just having friends over for a party, masks and costumes and how people look could frighten us.

1. If you are going out trick-or-treating it's best to leave us at home. We could be traumatized by all the little trick-or-treaters and get lost or maybe even bite someone out of fear.
2. Make sure you keep "treats" up and away from us because many foods like chocolate, gum and xylitol (a sweetener used in many foods) are toxic to us.
3. While we like to get treats from the little ones and they enjoy giving them to us, it's best to tell them not to give their Halloween treats to us.
4. Keep on hand the number for the 24-hour Pet Poison Helpline: That number is 855-764-7661. If you suspect your pet has eaten something toxic, call your veterinarian or the Pet Poison Helpline. There is a fee for the hotline.
5. Be aware of decorations that may pose a threat to your pet. Some hazards are obvious, like candles, but others like rubber eyeballs (choking hazard) glow sticks and fake blood (possible poisons), fake cobwebs (can choke or entangle pets) and potpourri and strung lights can also pose big problems for us.
6. OK, Pet Costumes – while we are happiest wearing nothing but our birthday suits, if you have to dress us up, please be aware of some things. First, choose a loose enough fitting one that is comfortable and allows your pet to move freely. Second, forgo the masks or anything that covers our eyes or ears or anything that could get tangled in our legs. And if your pet appears uncomfortable, take off the costume. Signs of discomfort include, folded down ears, eyes rolling back or looking sideways, a tucked tail or hunching over.
7. Please protect your pet from outdoor perils. Bring your pets indoors before night falls. Cats are always safest inside with you but on Halloween, it is especially important to secure all pets inside.
8. As always, make sure your pets are wearing tags with current ID's and consider microchipping them if they aren't already. That makes identification possible, even if they lose their collars.

Have a safe and Happy Halloween,

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

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
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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/



Happy
Halloween
from The Tucson Dog!

Special Events

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 (520) 724-5900

Dog Days of Summer August 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
dog membership for \$20 with unlimited
admission from June through September
More info call (520) 326-9686 ext. 13

OCTOBER

Sweat For Pets, benefitting HSSA Sunday, October 22nd University of Arizona Mall 7am registration, 8:30a start

Walk, Run or Roll to benefit HSSA
Kids Fun Zone, Vendor booths,
Face painting, live entertainment,
Pet Costume Contest,
Registration \$10, dogs FREE
More info: www.SweatForPets.org
Or call (520) 327-6088 x 188

Doggie Dash N' Dawdle Sat. October 28th, 8am-noon

Hosted by Oro Valley Parks
Riverfront Park
Run/Walk event begins at 9am
Registration is \$10 from 9/1-10/13
Registration 10/14-event \$15
Event souvenirs with registration.
Vendor booths, contests & more!
More info: contact Nick Scala at
(520) 229-5054

NOVEMBER

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

The Gregory School 10
3231 N. Craycroft Rd., Tucson
\$5 per person (dogs FREE)
A Carnival for Dogs & Their People
Games, Contests, Prizes, Raffles,
Vendors, Live Band, Food, Beer Garden
and adoptable dogs!
More info: (520) 326-3412 or
www.DogtoberfestAZ.org

Fall Fundraiser for Equine Voices Sunday, November 19th Dinner with Silent and Live Auction

Tubac Golf Resort
1 Ave De Otero Rd. Tubac, AZ
5-6:30pm – Silent Auction
6:30-8:30p Dinner & Live Auction
Tickets \$85 per person
More info at www.equinevoices.org
Or contact Angie at 520 398-2814
Or email angie@equinevoices.org

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

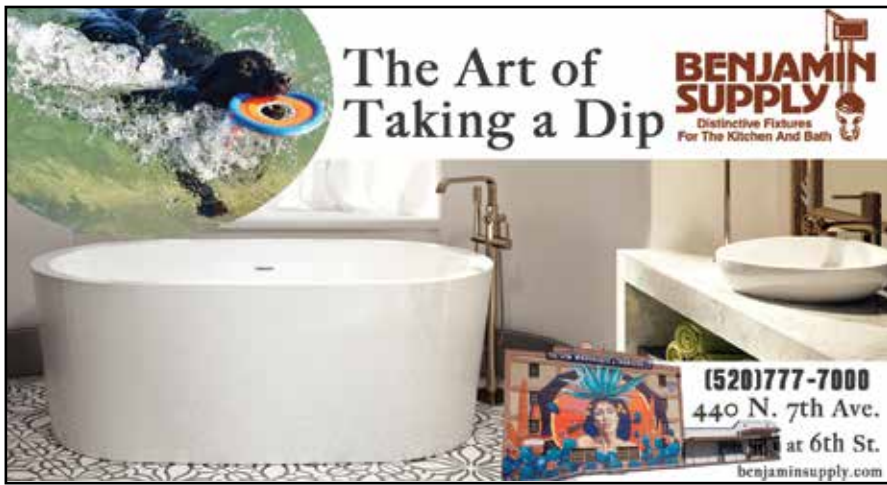
Humane Society of Southern Arizona

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

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(520) 882-3016



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& Seniors THEIR PETS



Cathy Blodgett and Brownie

Cathy and Her Two Special Horses

Story by Carolyn Stark-Meyers • Photos by Cathy Blodgett

Cathy Blodgett of Green Valley, Arizona has two very special horses.

The first is Brownie, a 9 year old boy, brave and inquisitive. Even at 17 hands tall, his kind eyes show his love for Cathy. Brownie was rescued from a PMU farm in North Dakota. PMU farms breed mares for their urine, while they are kept in stalls so they can't move. The urine is then used to make the hormonal estrogen for women going through menopause, called Premarin. All the female foals, when old enough, are bred and put on the "pee line" along with their mothers. This usually happens for 10 cycles or whenever the mare is no longer able to be bred. The colts are not needed.

Cathy had been to Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary in Amado, Arizona, at several of their fundraising events. It was here, where they specialize in PMU horse rescue that she heard of a rancher in North Dakota who wanted to get out of the PMU business. He had 32 foals. Cathy and other supporters were alerted to their fate. She wanted a paint or another fancy looking foal, but they had all been taken. However, there was a six-month-old colt, born in May that was only labeled "brown colt number 10." He was to become Cathy's horse Brownie.

All the foals were just weaned, loaded into a transfer truck and 28 babies were dropped off in Nevada, California, and Arizona. Cathy did not have her own horse trailer but was able to borrow one from a friend. She transported Brownie to a ranch in Amado. There he was able to play in the pasture with other horses and she could visit him daily as he was close to her home.

She understood that the foals had no training and were not tame. It was going to take time and patience to get him to trust her. By talking to him, and building a bond, he allowed her to touch and brush him. Later, she was teaching him to lead, back up, and other manners that made him a reliable companion. He really enjoyed cart training where he could be out front. Some days he surprised Cathy with his silly antics, such as putting his two front legs in



Brownie cooling off in the water trough.

a water bucket, and giving her a look like "what?" She can always tell what he is up to with the mischievous look he gives her. Her favorite though is his soft content look, with his beautiful eyes, knowing that he is happy. Now he can pull a cart, be ridden, and is just a dependable all around guy. He has come a long way from the unhappy colt on the PMU farm. Equine Voices Rescue has even used him as a demonstration horse when they have special horsemanship classes.

Cathy's other horse is a Westphalian/Thoroughbred Warmblood named Arty. He is a medium bodied horse, with his breed type originating in western Germany.

Warmbloods are often used for competitive riding events. Arty was 10 years old when Cathy bought him from a woman in Canada. One day she noticed Arty favoring his left rear foot. While out in the pasture he had sustained a 3x1 inch cut just above his hoof. Everything was tried to heal the cut, but it still became infected. Arty was transferred to a veterinarian in Phoenix for specialty care. He was there for a long time but the wound was not getting any better. Many people suggested that she should put Arty down. Not to be deterred, she researched home remedies and started putting a poultice of white bread, Epsom salts, and water on the cut twice a day. Slowly the cut healed. He has been recovering and has not been worked so he can regain his strength.

Eventually when Arty is ready they will compete in dressage events. As such he needs to be athletic enough, supple and attentive to Cathy, so they can go through all the required obstacles and moves. Along with Arty's abilities, the rider also needs to be balanced and have a "soft" foot. Cathy teaches Pilates and ballet and believes these disciplines strengthen her core and give her a balanced seat. She believes this is even better training for horseback riding than yoga.



Cathy and Brownie

Every day when Cathy goes to visit and care for her boys, she watches them in the pasture. This is a special time for her. Brownie and Arty can often be seen in the pasture grooming each other. Brownie is now 6 and Arty 13. They have grown so much, and Cathy watches them with pleasure knowing how far she has brought them.



Cathy and Brownie at 10 months old

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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.**



BUUNA (A593600) - Nice to meet you! My name is Buuna. I am a black and white American Staffordshire terrier who is 2 1/2 years old. I have been spayed. I am thoughtful. I am the kind of girl whose ears perk up when I see something I like. Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900

FRANCIS - I am an active girl looking for a home. I am a 5-year-old heeler-Chow mix. I love playing with people, and I like other dogs and cats too. I am smart and trained and I like to go on walks, hikes and jogs when the weather is right. I tend to get excited so a family without small children is best for me. Tucson Cold Wet Noses 520-235-6309



SPARKLER (A604642) - Oh boy! I'm Sparkler. I am a tan and white German shepherd, Labrador retriever dog. I think I am about 1 year and 1 month old. I know I've been neutered. My nose tends to get sunburned when I stay outside too long, but gosh, the smells out here are great! Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900

BEN - For 12 years my favorite place to be in this world is in someone's lap. I'm a Chihuahua mix who likes to relax and get chewy with my stuffed bunny toy. I'm okay being in a house with cats or other small dogs or bigger dogs who are mild-tempered. I'm also a good walker, so try to keep up! Tucson Cold Wet Noses 520-235-6309



HARLEY (842211) - I'm a 1-year-old boy who came to HSSA as a stray so they don't know a lot about my history, but they do know that I'm a sweet boy! I'm looking for a home that is willing to give me ample time to adjust to my new environment. Once I warm up to people I really enjoy going for walks and giving doggy kisses! Humane Society of Southern Arizona 520-327-6088 x173.

CARLA - I am a sweet Chihuahua mix who is 2 years old. I get along great with the other pups in my foster home and I also enjoy playing with kids. Pua and I first came into our rescue after being picked up from a house that had over 70 dogs, so we were nervous at first, but we overcame it and have adapted well to our new life. Miss Maggie May's Rescue 520-603-6908



NICHOLAS (838453) - I am a 4-year-old boy who has gone through a lot in the past 7 months! The veterinarian found that I had a leg deformity which causes my kneecap to rotate inward while walking. After multiple surgeries and weeks of healing I am finally feeling better! I would do best in a home without cats and I'd like to meet your current dogs to see if we would be a good match! Humane Society of Southern Arizona 520-327-6088 x173.

PUA - I'm Pua (Poo-uh), the Chihuahua mix! I am 6 years old and I love to be held and given head scratches. I get along with kids and the other pups at our place. I've had some work done on my teeth recently that will need to be checked up on, but I feel much better now. I will sleep in your bed if you let me! Miss Maggie May's Rescue 520-603-6908



**NKPC supports & implements
the programs and services of
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A VISIT TO THE



DOGHOUSE

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



SCOOTER (PD397944) - Hi, I'm Scooter the terrier. I'm 5 years old and I love treats. I'm a lively pooch who is starting to learn training and is looking for someone to help me continue to learn and have fun. I don't like cats very much. I can't wait to be the boy that is the center of your attention. Pima Paws for Life 520-867-1193

DIAMOND - I'm a lovely blue mama pit bull terrier who was saved from a shelter in California with my four pups. I am a year and a half old and a loving mother. As soon as homes are found for my babies I will be looking for a new home too. Are you interested in meeting me? Smiling Dog Rescue 520-977-8000



MILA (D20161125176) - Mila here. Ready to go for a walk? I'm a sweet dog who knows sit. I can't see so well out of one eye. I like meeting new people on the side that I can watch them. I think I would be good fit for anybody looking for a friend, or a family with children who are older. Pima Paws for Life 520-867-1193

DAKOTA - Hello new friend! I am Dakota, a healthy 2-year-old pit bull terrier mix. I am so totally sweet and mellow. I get along with kids and other dogs, I even get along with cats! I stayed and cared for my tiny pup on the streets of Rio Rico and wouldn't leave him until we found a better home, and now he has, and now I hope to too. Smiling Dog Rescue 520-977-8000



ZSA ZSA (3468643) - I'm a shepherd Labrador mix with big eyes and long legs. I'm only 8 months old, so I'm still learning how to be a good girl. If you have room for me in your heart and your home, I would love to meet you. I'm attentive, and exercising is my favorite. I think that Saturdays are the best. Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) 520-349-8637

FRODO & BUBBA - We are sweet, loving mastiff/pit bull terrier brothers who just turned a year old. We are terribly spoiled, but good with other dogs, but not good with kids or cats. Bubba will sit immediately for treats, but you have to tell Frodo to sit first because he wants his treats now! Cochise Canine Rescue 520-212-1718



NOCHE (35221278) - Noche is my name. I'm a little guy who is a 1-year-old Xoloitzcuintli mix. I've been told I'm a good listener because my ears stick up so high. I'm ready to take over your couch and keep an eye on the place, that is, if you'll have me. Hope to sniff you soon. Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) 520-349-8637

TUCKER & COCO - We're Tucker (I'm the female Corgi) and Coco (I'm the male poodle). We found a home, but sadly our human recently had to go into assisted living. We are 10 and 13, so we are looking for someone that loves seniors and can give us the extra TLC we need. We are healthy (though need to lose a few pounds). We have always been together, so we are only looking for a home where we can stay together. HOPE Animal Shelter 520-792-9200



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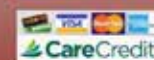
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VETS & THEIR PETS



Ashley: Changing a Life for the Better

Story by Rhishja Larson • Photos courtesy of Henry Johnson

Henry Johnson served as a Vietnam-era Marine from 1975 - 1981. Tragically, like so many other servicemen and women, the battle continued for Henry as he suffers from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Unimaginable nightmares, paranoia, and a fear of crowds plagued Henry for decades, at times rendering it difficult for him to navigate daily life.

But all of that changed when Henry met a dog named Ashley.

It was a few months after Henry's beloved black lab, Layla, had passed away that he decided to rescue a new companion.

"So I walk past the kennels, I see her, she comes to the gate. But she's not a lab, so I continue walking. None of the other dogs came to the gate. I went through a second time, there she is, waiting at the gate."



Service dog Ashley has opened up a whole new world for Vietnam-era veteran Henry Johnson.

Henry could not resist the adorable girl who obviously had a thing for him, and so he adopted the one-year-old boxer and pit bull mix, named Ashley Monroe, that same day.

After about six months, Henry noticed that when he began raising his voice or losing his temper, Ashley would gently take his hand in her mouth or rub up against him. She would even climb into his lap if he was seated.

"Later on, I found out that she would come in the middle of the night and nudge me and lick me. My wife finally told me that Ashley was waking me when I was having nightmares. I don't remember nightmares. I just wake up in cold, wet sweats and I don't remember anything."

Henry added that Ashley had been braving the family cat - "the bedroom is Emmy's domain" - in her dedication to soothing the effects of his nightmares.

He decided to contact Dave Rafus at 1 Veteran Foundation, a Southern Arizona nonprofit which provides service dogs to veterans dealing with PTSD. Henry completed the required paperwork, obtained his doctor's approval, and then Ashley was sent off to school for her PTSD service dog training.

Henry missed Ashley terribly while she was away at training. Fortunately for the pair, Ashley graduated from the eight-week program in just five weeks.

"She was away from me over Thanksgiving and I got her back just in time for Christmas!"

Despite her refusal to climb the dreaded open-backed stairs, Ashley passed her Service Dog Certification test with flying colors. The most challenging part of the test for many dogs is, of course, the food. However, that was no problem for Ashley.

"They take a hotdog piece and put it about four feet in front of her. She looked at it one time, then put her head back down. Fifteen minutes later, I told her she could have it."

For the last three years, Henry has worked as a pre-need funeral advisor for Service Corps International, the largest funeral home provider in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. He helps people make arrangements before the fact and he sells cemetery property. And thanks to Henry and Ashley, SCI now has a Standard Operating Procedure for service dogs in the company.

Prior to having Ashley as a service dog, Henry's PTSD had kept him from company functions, such as the Awards Night.

"Since I've had her, we've been to Awards Night, where I wouldn't go before. I wouldn't go because of the large groups and crowds."



Belle of the ball: Ashley and Henry strut their stuff at the company Awards Night.

When Henry and Ashley attended the company Awards Night together in California, little did they know a surprise awaited them.

"After all the dignitaries were announced, they said, 'We have a special guest. Where is Ashley Monroe?' So we had to strut up to the front, and Mike Ross, my boss, danced with her!"

I asked Henry about Ashley having her own last name "Monroe" - where did it come from?

"She came with that name. On her adoption papers, it says 'Ashley Monroe.' If you call her Ashley, she responds, but call her Ashley

Monroe, and she responds like 'uh oh, what did I do now?' Just like a human kid, you know?"

Ashley will be three years old in October. Henry beams as he tells me the two of them are just getting started.



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Kitty Korner



PAWSitively CATS No-Kill Shelter; From Tragedy Thrust into Rescue

Story and photos by Devon Confrey

Sheryl Campbell never imagined when she was younger that one day she'd find herself surrounded by cats. Nor did she think she'd have the job she has now—one where she'd choose to wedge herself between a fence and a shed, using a rake to bring a litter of kittens to her one cat at a time.

As executive director of PAWSitively CATS No-Kill Shelter, Campbell is the lead guardian of over 180 cat lives. Her duties include getting cats ready for forever homes, caring for cats that otherwise might not have been saved, and lending traps to help spay or neuter feral cats.

Cats relax and strut along the PAWSitively property, converted from an old house, like they own the place, without worrying whether or not they'll be adopted. But they almost weren't so lucky. Another shelter, where Campbell volunteered 5 years ago, home to nearly 450 cats and 4 dogs had to close.

"There was nowhere for these animals to go," Campbell said. The shelter had no back-up plan for them. "There isn't one shelter in this country that would step in and absorb this many animals," Campbell said. So she and some others she was working with decided to get together and do just that.

Until then, PAWSitively CATS had mostly focused on helping keep stray kittens from being born, by humanely trapping cats, having them spayed or neutered, and then returning them to where they lived. The business grew out of Campbell's earlier efforts to control the feral cat population at a low-income housing complex where she was a rental manager, which had multiplied to a point that Campbell found a kitten that had been hit by a car. Tenants donated whatever money they could to assist her mission. She started out equipped with only a fishing net and an oven mitt.



Jake is one of the first cats that Sheryl Campbell fostered when he was a kitten.

Cats that are leukemia positive live in their own room that they play in at PAWSitively CATS. Older cats, cats with special diets, and cats that prefer to avoid everybody else have their own spaces too. There are sponsorships for these cats that are less likely to be adopted. The main population mingles in the air-conditioned areas, taking naps in the dim light, stretching between blankets on bunk beds.

These cats can be met on Saturdays during adoption events at PetSmart at 4740 E. Grant Road from 11 a.m.–4 p.m. or at the shelter at 1145 N. Woodland Ave. from 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m., or by appointment. Also, PAWSitively CATS will be hosting a cat art auction on Tuesday, October 31, at La Cocina downtown. The fundraising event starts at 5 p.m. and will have jewelry, clothing, sculptures, and paintings along with music and a raffle. The shelter is largely run by donations.

"We could not do everything that needed to be done without volunteers," Campbell said. A regular group of about 30 people come and help brush the cats and clean the facility.

"I don't think the general public realizes the scope of the problem we have with abandoned free roaming animals in this city," Campbell said. Spaying and neutering cats can get expensive. Especially when there are whole families found at once.



Mira looks upon her toys in the room for feline Leukemia positive cats.

As much as PAWSitively CATS is a sanctuary for cats without homes, it can't keep up with the number kittens born daily.

"It's sad that we have the issues we have with animals being abandoned, or people taking in too many," Campbell said. She reached into a carrier on her desk and pulled out a small pink cat, Jedrek. He is the only one of six kittens that survived after being rescued from a house where a man who had died had 31 cats in his care.

"He picked up the animals that people dumped and left behind in this tiny little trailer park," Campbell said. Even though there were kittens, Campbell said, a lot of the cats had been spayed or neutered. Jedrek mewed until he had his bottle of milk, purring after he finished.

"I know in my heart he's not out of the woods," Campbell said. "But I certainly hope that I've done everything for him I can to give him a good healthy life."

If you would like to donate or volunteer for PAWSitively CATS, you can find them at www.savecats@PAWSitivelyCATS.org or call them at (520) 289-2747.



Not all of PAWSitively CATS' 180 stay at the shelter. Kittens usually spend time in a foster home.

"I wish we didn't have to do it," Campbell said. "I wish we could all shut down. I wish there was a waiting line."

The impact of all the shelters and foster homes in town is spreading the adoption burden, making it more manageable.

"We all do what we can," Campbell said.

As much as PAWSitively CATS is a sanctuary for cats without homes, it can't keep up with the number kittens born daily.



Sheryl Campbell holds 14-day-old Jedrek at her desk.

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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.

MEOW



BOB (840516) - I am a 3-year-old boy. I am FIV positive. Don't be scared. It just means I need to be an indoor only cat and that if I am around other animals they need to be as calm as I am. I had entropion of the eyes which means my lower eye lids needed corrective surgery. Now that my eyes are fully recovered I am ready to meet my forever family! I am very friendly, fun and LOVE people. Humane Society of Southern Arizona 520-327-6088 x173.



ROLLIE (20952240) - My name is Rollie. I'm a fluffy white 4-year-old kitty with a big tail. I'm a boy with gold eyes. I like to hang out in high places and watch and clean my whiskers. I live with a foster parent right now. During catnaps I imagine what sort of sunny spots my future permanent home might have and purr. Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) 520-349-8637



SOPHIA (A594858) - My name is Sophia. I am a black and white domestic shorthair tuxedo cat who is almost 3 years old. I have been spayed and am ready to find a home. You may recognize me from PetSmart on North Oracle Road and East Wetmore Road. I like meeting people there and giving them a meow. Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900



CARRIE (28616094) - Call me Carrie. I am a good kitty who is almost 3 years old. Give me time to get to know you, a good spot to lie down, and maybe a few toys. Don't forget a litter box! I have short hair and a pink nose. I hope you like me! Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) 520-349-8637



NIGEL (A598805) - Meow! I am Nigel. This blue tabby here with green eyes. I am neutered and am ready for a family to adopt me. The shelter staff here tell me they think I am about 5 years old, but I still feel young. The bases of some of my whiskers are still dark near my face. Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900



LACIE - I am a little shy—with both people and other cats, but once I trust you I can be very loving. I can be talkative—I'd love to tell you about my day, but I will never share your secrets. Adopt me and you can brag to your friends that you have a "teacup Maine Coon." I'm looking for a quieter home, but teens and tweens are fine. Saving at Risk Animals 520-499-0545



ALLIE (838987) - I'm a 3-year-old female kitty. I have been homeless now for over 90 days and I am a staff favorite. I didn't enjoy my photo shoot very much (lol), but I do enjoy being petted and love getting attention. My previous owner moved away and couldn't take me. HSSA promised to take care of me until I can find a new home. Please consider me. Humane Society of Southern Arizona 520-327-6088 x173.



SIMON - Hi! I'm Simon the Explorer! When I am not exploring, I am taking a long kitty break. I'm the first to try new things and my siblings follow along. My foster mom says I'm an imp. I'm not sure what that means but I think I'm a natural born leader. I'm looking for a forever home with toys, nom-noms and lots of cuddles. I would make a great pair with one or both of my sisters. Saving at Risk Animals 520-499-0545



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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.



POPPY - Hi, I'm Poppy! I was such a scared youngster when I first came to this shelter, but you'd never know it if you met me today. I feel very comfortable now and they say I am very friendly. It would be so great to have a home of my very own. Don't I have a beautiful coat? I hope you'll brush it to help me stay so lovely. HOPE Animal Shelter 520-792-9200



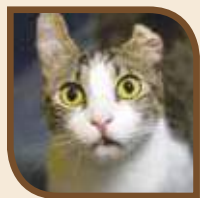
ZIMA - My name Zima and I'm a 6-year-old girl perfectly content to go in the carrier on the car ride home with you. I'm a sweet cat that enjoys people-watching, along with bug-watching and bird-watching. When a lizard gets into the house, I will protect you. My fluff may collect dust, so make sure you attend to petting me often. The Hermitage Cat Shelter and Sanctuary 520-571-7839



JOSEPH - Can you believe that I've lived at the shelter my whole life? I was actually born here! I'm an adult now, so HOPE is the only home I've ever known. I hear that having a home is a great thing, and I'd love to find out for myself. I have a feeling it would be pretty scary at first. If you adopt me you will need to give me time to get used to having a home. HOPE Animal Shelter 520-792-9200



WYETH - I am a 4-year-old tabby who weighs 6 pounds. My brother Wycliffe was adopted recently, so now I'm hoping for a forever home too. I am a love bug, but I will stand up to other alpha cats. When I first arrived at my foster home I hid, until I learned I could get love and attention any time I wanted. I will cuddle with any cat, I'm very affectionate, but I'm not a pushover either. Tucson2Tails 520.812.5682



VANDER - I am Vander. I am 2 years old and I am awesome. I am a strong guy with some personality. I will lay down on the floor in front of you blocking the path. I am a sweetheart with cute black toes. My coat is a mix of colors. My charm is hard to deny. The Hermitage Cat Shelter and Sanctuary 520-571-7839



HOPE - Hi, I'm Hope. I'm a little 1-year-old brown and white tabby. I have been spayed and now I'm ready to be adopted. I am done being a mama and now I want to be treated as the princess in everyone's home. I will try to be a good and understanding friend. We Save Kitties at Risk info@wskr.org



CASSIDY - My name is Cassidy and I am a "morning" cat. What does that mean, you might ask. Well, morning is when I'm most cheerful and enjoy company the most. I am a 1-year-old Siamese lynx point / tabby mix. One more thing. Can I tell you a secret? I LOVE cupboards. I don't know how to open them yet but I can't resist exploring them when given the opportunity. SOS Cat Rescue Arizona 520-445-3889



EVANGELINE (C20160606101) - I am Evangeline, a tortoiseshell kitty cutie. I have been spayed and I'm up to date with shots. Even though I'm not good with dogs, I am brave when it comes to other things, like facing down moths, or giving an honest opinion. My fur is soft and my meow is clear. I hope to be adopted. Pima Paws for Life 520-867-1193



RONDO - In an ocean of kittens, you would still pick me out. Wouldn't you agree that I'm special? I like to chase my toys around the room, but I also like to curl up in your lap. Of course I like to play and wrestle with my brothers; they are my best buddies and it would be great if I could get adopted with one of them (or my sister!). SOS Cat Rescue Arizona 520-445-3889



BRAVE - I am a 2-year-old Bengal mix. I can be aggressive with cats and small animals, but I am okay with medium or larger dogs. I love to play with all kinds of toys; mice, lasers, and stuffed animals. I'm vocal and affectionate with people I know and I will follow you around the house like a dog. I might also add that I'm an athlete, agile and graceful. So come meet me. The Animal League of Green Valley 520-625-3170



IAN - I used to hide under the furniture because I was so scared of all of the activity, but I've gotten used to it and decided that I love people. I will come right up to you and love on you all day long. I am especially fond of butt scratches. I am a big and fluffy guy with a white-tipped tail and some adorable white mittens. PAWSitively CATS No-Kill Shelter 520-289-2747

MEOW

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Animal Resource Guide

Area Shelters

Animal League of Green Valley

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Green Valley, AZ 85614
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www.talgv.org

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. (through Sept.)
5278 E. 21st St., (by mid-Oct)
Tucson, AZ 85711
(520) 571-7839

HOPE Animal Shelter

8950 N. Joplin Lane
Tucson, AZ 85742
(520) 792-9200
hopeanimalshelter.net

PAWSitively CATS No Kill Shelter

1145 N. Woodland Ave.
(520) 289-2747
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
info@cochiseaninerescue.org
www.cochiseaninerescue.org

Fair (Foundation for Animals in Risk)

(520) 203-0201
info@faircares.org

In the Arms of Angels

(520) 873-8135
inthearmsofangels@gmail.com

Miss Maggie May's Rescue

(520) 603-6908
missmaggiecox@cox.net

Pima Paws for Life

Kimberly Walker, President
(520) 867-1193
Kimberly@PimaPawsforLife.org

RUFF Rescue

Ruffrescuetucson.com
ruffrescuetucson@gmail.com
Donna Dunham (520) 490-0401
Sharon Burmeister – (520) 339-0841

SAFE (Saving Animals from Euthanasia)

3661 N. Campbell Ave., #220
Tucson, AZ 85719 (Mail only)
(520) 349-8637 or (520) 250-5080
www.safeanimals.com
Staff@www.SafeAnimals.com

Save-A-Bull Rescue

www.saveabullrescue.org

Saving at Risk Animals

(520) 499-0546
recueSara@earthlink.net
Save the Pets AZ (520) 477-2738

Smiling Dog Rescue

(520) 997-8000

Tucson Cold Wet Noses

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

The Sanctuary Project

(800) 691-9168

Tucson2Tails (520) 812-5682

Tucson2Tails@gmail.com

Tucson's Cause For Canines

www.tucsoncauseforcanines.org

Wild Hearts Rescue Ranch

(520) 661-4522
wildheartsforcrow@gmail.com

Bird/Reptile Rescues

Tucson Parrot Rescue

Tucson Parrot Rescue-(520) 747-0554
tucsonparrotrescue@gmail.com

Tucson Reptile Rescue

(520) 991-9553

Cat Rescues

Hearts That Purr-Feline Guardians

(520) 297-3780

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter-

1145 N. Woodland Ave.
(520) 289-2747
savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org

The Hermitage Cat Rescue & Sanctuary

4501 E. 22nd St. (temporary home)
5278 E. 21st St., (by mid-Oct)
Tucson, AZ 85711
(520) 571-7839

SOS Cat Rescue AZ

P.O. Box 344
Cortaro, AZ 85652
(520) 445-3889
info@SOScatrescueAZ.org

We Save Kitties at Risk

info@wskr.org

Feral Cat Assistance

Tucson Feral Coalition

(520) 256-0443
Contact: Alecs tucsonferal@gmail.com
Info about TNR (Trap, Neuter Return)
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Specific Breed Rescues

AIREDALE

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

AKITA

Akita Advocates Relocation Team AZ
Glendale (602) 882-5482

AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG/HEELER

Arizona Cattle Dog Rescue
Flagstaff (480) 442-ACDR(2237)
www.ArizonaCattleDogRescue.org

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD

Aussie & Friends
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www.aussiefriendsrescue

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Mesa – www.AmazingAussies.com

BASSET HOUND

Arizona Basset Hound Rescue
Gilbert (866) 88-AZBHR

BEAGLE

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

BELGIAN MALINOIS

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Arizona Bernese Mountain
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www.bernesemountaindogrescue.com

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www.azchihuahuarescue.org

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Cover Story: A Well-Earned New Home; The Humane

Story By Claire Sheridan • Photos By Julius Schlosburg
Renderings & Plans Courtesy of HSSAZ

Many Tucson Dog readers are likely familiar with the Humane Society of Southern Arizona (HSSAZ); their great work has been well-documented. Last year 5,807 animals were taken in, 4,515 found new homes, and 211 lost pets were reunited with their humans. HSSAZ provides low-cost spay and neuter services, vaccinations to public pets, and medical services for all of the shelter's animals patiently awaiting their forever homes. They provide education to humans in the form of Dog Days in the Desert summer camps for kids, seminars about animal care best practices, court-mandated animal cruelty education classes, and pet first aid; they have even offered Rattlesnake Avoidance Training.

What is less well known, perhaps, is the fact that all of this good work is being accomplished from a physical plant that is more akin to a mobile army surgical hospital, or MASH unit, than to a modern animal shelter. Not a single square inch of the aging campus is wasted. Similar to the old television show, *M*A*S*H*, it is the people who work at HSSAZ who make the place shine in spite of whatever difficulties and challenges they may encounter.

Originally donated to the HSSAZ in 1944, the current location was formerly a residential property that has been continuously retrofitted to accommodate its use as a shelter. Dr. Santana Overton is the primary care provider veterinarian to the animals who reside at the shelter. She practices her healing arts in a space that appears to have surely once been the broom closet of the former residence. From this space, which narrowly allows an average-sized human to pass between the exam table and the wall, Dr. Overton examines each and every shelter resident upon his or her intake to HSSAZ. Here she also provides ongoing care. Everything short of surgery takes place in this small space, and no animal, regardless of size, is able to avoid Dr. O's loving care.



Dr Overton in her exam and intake room

Lost animals who are reunited with their humans often rely upon the friendly folks who operate the Lost & Found call center. There are two full-time staff members, Tanya Valasquez and Sandi Drye, whose job is to answer the approximately 500 calls per day that the shelter receives about missing and misplaced/found animals. They handle this volume from a long narrow space that barely allows their office chairs to roll backward from the mounted desk without hitting the wall behind.

In spite of the close quarters, the ladies of the Lost & Found call center make room in their office, and in their hearts, for the so-called "office pets" (see cover photo). The shelter environment is a challenging one for many animals. In an attempt to help the shelter's resident pets to cope with the stresses inherent in being in their kennels and runs, the HSSAZ staff allow individual animals to hang out in offices while they work. This practice not only helps the animals, but also contributes to the atmosphere of compassionate caring created by the staff. Who doesn't love seeing a wagging tail, purring cat on the desk, or napping puppy curled in the corner?



Nicholas the Staff Favorite Dog

During our visit to the shelter the television star Nicholas the dog, performed his duty as the office pet of the day in the Marketing Department's modular home. In an effort to unite pets with their forever homes, HSSAZ partners with local media outlets, including television stations, to feature individual pets. Nominated "Staff Favorite," Nicholas is a complete love who doesn't especially relish being in his kennel. Like many dogs at the shelter, Nicholas jumps and barks at his kennel door when people come to look for a new pet. These behaviors are a common symptom of being stressed by the shelter environment, and they are not usually representative of the dog's personality. As such, it can be difficult for potential pet parents to see past the kennel to the sweet animal within. In real life, Nicholas loves nothing more than to be with his humans, and to play with toys.

Another resident, Firefly, has been described as a special needs kitty. According to her online profile, she would be best as an only pet, as she doesn't do too well with other cats or dogs. She also would prefer a household without children. She was the mother to a litter born at HSSAZ, and all of the kittens have since been adopted. Only Firefly remains. While Firefly may come off as aloof, the staff at HSSAZ extoll her virtues, and it is not uncommon to see her out of her enclosure as someone's office cat of the day while she awaits her forever home.



Firefly the Special Needs Kitty

The shelter will be moving to its new, state-of-the-art facility on Roger Road just west of Oracle, with a scheduled occupancy date of January 2, 2018. This new facility has been impeccably designed with the careful eye and experienced input of HSSAZ's expert staff. Years working in a challenging environment have given the staff a lot of understanding upon which to build its wish list and its definitely-must-have list for the new facility.



Artist Rendering of New Facility's Welcome Center

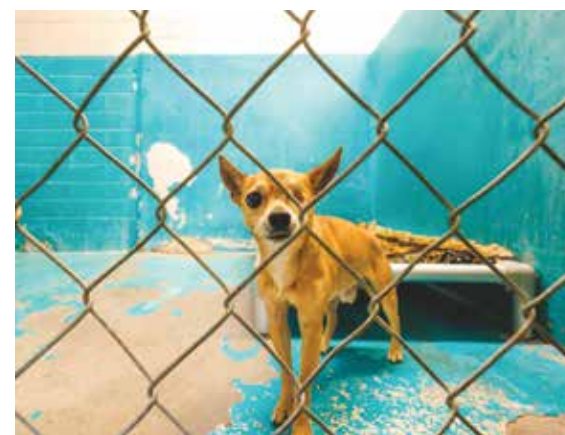
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Artist Rendering of New Clinic

In the past few years the shelter has seen an increase in the number of pets coming to the shelter with complicated medical issues. Fortunately for those animals, there is the Second Chance medical fund, which is earmarked specifically for pets with those complex medical needs. One of the animals who benefitted from these Second Chance medical funds is Willie, a 5-year-old Chihuahua mix. Willie, who came to HSSAZ as a stray, is a sweet little guy who loves his kennel mates. Unfortunately, one of his eyes was infected, and needed to be removed. The surgery was paid for by the Second Chance funds. Like the entire budget of the HSSAZ, all of the funds come from donations and fund-raising events; HSSAZ does not receive any federal or state government monies for its operation. HSSAZ's 2016 annual income was comprised of donations from the public (74%), payments for services (16%), and special events and other fund-raising (9%).

Each year, the HSSAZ puts on many fun events around the community to raise awareness and funds. These events include: Putt for Paws golf tournament, (Put on by Tanya Barnett of The Reliance Group Real Estate. Last year, Tanya happily presented a check for \$10,000 to HSSAZ.) Puttin' On The Dog (see Tucson Dog's first edition story on our website), and many more. One of the big upcoming events is the 3rd Annual Sweat For Pets on October 22, 2017 at the University of Arizona Campus Mall. For more information, and to register, check out the events page on the HSSAZ's website. The Tucson Dog magazine is thrilled to be a sponsor of this event and will be there with a booth and a team that will walk too.



Willie Second Chance surgery recipient shelter dog

In addition to receiving donated funds, HSSAZ could not operate without its volunteers. There are over 1,500 active volunteers; between 700 and 800 of these folks provide foster homes for the shelter animals. In 2016, volunteers donated 148,645 hours of their time to the HSSAZ. One unique program that relies on volunteers is Fostering Adoptions on the Streets of Tucson, or FAST, which started last year. Through this program, dogs are taken out of the shelter and are given exposure to potential new homes in the real world. This allows potential new pet parents to meet dogs in a more normal environment than the shelter can provide, with the goal of making adoptions happen more quickly.

For more information on how you can volunteer, join in one of their fundraising events, donate money, or adopt a new member of your family, please visit the Humane Society of Southern Arizona's website at: www.hssaz.org, or visit them in person at their current location: 3450 North Kelvin Boulevard, Tucson, AZ 85716.



HSSA Site plan

are housed in small kennels about the size of a medium dog crate. Additionally, shelter dogs will be relieved that the play yard and meet-and-greet areas are no longer adjacent to their private dog runs. This separation will allow individual dogs to have more one-on-one time with their prospective humans, without the stress of other animals barking through their enclosures. At the same time, this feature will give the resident dogs a more peaceful and relaxing atmosphere.



Artist Rendering of New Site

The spay/neuter clinic time and space is shared between the resident animals and the public's pets. Due to space constraints at the current location, this means that shelter resident animals are limited to spay and neuter surgeries on Tuesdays. This reduced surgical capacity increases shelter residents' length of stay, which currently averages 34 days. Larger clinic space in the new facility will allow greater opportunity to perform operations for shelter residents. This is a very important development; the staff projects that it will lead to a greater number of animals being served annually, with up to 1,000 more animals getting new homes as a result. (The clinic currently performs over 6,000 spay/neuter surgeries per year.) At the same time, the hope is that the increased surgical capacity will decrease each animal's average length of stay by two to three weeks.



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Special Feature

C'mon Out for the 4th Annual Doggie Dash 'N Dawdle!

Story by Bonnie Craig • Photos courtesy of Town of Oro Valley



Pups, round up your people and get ready for the fourth annual Doggie Dash 'N Dawdle brought to you by the Town of Oro Valley. This great event has been growing every year and this year might just be the best one yet!

On Saturday October 28th from 9:00-12:00 at Oro Valley's Cañada

Del Oro Riverfront Park, there will be all kinds of fun for the whole family: two-legged members included. The event consists of two parts. The Dash 'N Dawdle portion kicks off at 9:00 AM sharp, with a two-mile run for the more ambitious, and a one-mile walk for those who would rather take it easy and enjoy the morning at a more leisurely pace. Early bird registration for this part of the event is \$10 from September 1st through October 13th, and \$15 from October 14th through the 28th. Both registration time slots include fun souvenirs from the event. Race packets can be picked up beginning at 8:00 AM on race day.



Following the Dash 'N Dawdle is the doggie carnival, which is free to the public. This year promises to be bigger and better than ever. The many booths will include various community sponsors and rescue groups. They'll be doing adoptions on site, so if you've been considering bringing home a new family member, this might be the day.

The booths will offer plenty of giveaways and free goodies as well fun craft projects such as the Town of Oro Valley's dog biscuit decoration station. What better way to bond with your furry friend than by

presenting them with a custom designed treat? By the way, don't forget to dress for the occasion! The event will be holding a costume contest for dogs and their people, extra points for creativity and matching getups.

If your stomach is rumbling after all the exertion of the race, never fear! This year's event offers a tantalizing lineup of local food trucks, so there should be a little something for everyone's tastes. The atmosphere should be extra festive as well this year as there will be a DJ keeping the tail wagging tunes going. On top of all this fun, local dog training specialists from Sublime Canine will be inspiring good dogs from far and wide with their

obedience and Flyball demos. This crazy canine team sport was developed in California the 1970's and is a combination between a relay race, an agility trial, and a game of fetch, and is pretty dang impressive to behold. These dogs have some serious moves.

Stick around after the demos and let the folks from Sublime Canine evaluate your pup to see if they have what it takes to pass the canine good citizen test, and pick up a raffle ticket to enter to win great prizes from community supporters. All proceeds from the raffle will be donated to participating rescue groups.

The Doggie Dash and Dawdle may be big and boisterous now, but it took a little time to build it up into the event it has become. Event runner and Town of Oro Valley Assistant Recreation Manager Nick Scala recalls that in its first year the event only saw about a half-dozen vendors and around 15 participants. By last year it was up to 23 vendors and over 60 attendees, as well as about 30 dog/person pairs for the costume contest. This



year Scala expects over 100 attendees, pointing out that "Oro valley is such a pet friendly town. It's just a matter of getting the word out about an event like this."

To pre-register for the Doggie Dash 'N Dawdle you can go to the Oro Valley Parks and Recreation website in the pet classes section. Also, donations for the raffle are being accepted and can be dropped off at or



mailed to the Oro Valley Community Center, at 10555 La Cañada Drive, Oro Valley, Arizona 85737. (See full-page ad in this edition.)

The Doggie Dash 'N Dawdle promises to be a blast this year, and we at the Tucson Dog Magazine will be sponsoring this great event. We will be there with a vendor booth, prizes and a team to walk so we hope you will all join us for a great day!



Welcome at Rainbow Bridge

In Memorandum: Many of you have read the story of Rainbow Bridge. It tells the story of where our pets go when they die and how they will be waiting for us to arrive when it is our time. A while ago, we found another version of this story as it relates to the tragedy of September 11th 2001. Welcome at Rainbow Bridge is the true epitome of the loving, forgiving nature of our beloved pets. In Memorandum of all that was lost on 9/11.

Story by Alexander Theodore Bovier

On the morning of September 11, 2001, there was an unprecedented amount of activity at the Rainbow Bridge. Decisions had to be made. They had to be made quickly, and, they were.

An issue, not often addressed here, is the fact that many residents really have no loved one for whom to wait. Think of the pups that lived and died in hideous puppy mills. No one on earth loved or protected them. What about the many who spend unhappy lives tied in backyards? And, ones who were abused. Who are they to wait for?

We don't talk about that much up here. We share our loved ones as they arrive, happy to do so. But we all know there is nothing like having your very own person who thinks you are the most special pup in the Heavens.



Last Tuesday morning a request rang out for pups not waiting for specific persons to volunteer for special assignment... An eager, curious crowd surged excitedly forward, each pup wondering what the assignment would be.

They were told by a solemn voice that unexpectedly, all at once, thousands of loving people had left earth long before they were ready. All the pups, as all pups do, felt the humans' pain deep in their own hearts. Without hearing more, there was a clamoring among them- "May I have one to comfort?" "I'll take two, I have a big heart." "I have been saving kisses forever."

One after another they came forward begging for assignment. One cozy-looking fluffy pup hesitantly asked. "Are there any children coming? I would be very comforting for a child' cause I'm soft and squishy and I always wanted to be hugged." A group of Dalmatians came forward asking to meet the Firefighters and be their friends. The larger working breeds offered to greet the Police Officers and make them feel at home. Little dogs volunteered to do what they do best, cuddle and kiss. Dogs who on Earth had never had a kind word or a pat on the head, stepped forward and said, "I will love any human who needs love."

Then all the dogs, wherever on Earth they originally came from, rushed to the Rainbow Bridge and stood waiting, overflowing with love to share-each tail wagging an American Flag.



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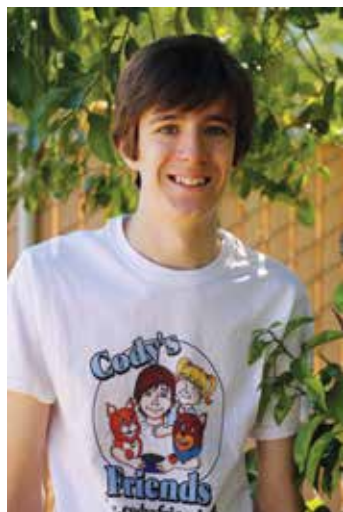
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KIDS & ANIMALS

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead



Cody Allen

Cody Allen — A Most Popular Young Fellow

Story by Claire Sheridan • Photos Courtesy of Amber Allen

Cody Allen is a young man with a purpose. Oh, and he has friends, lots of friends. When Cody was in fifth grade he decided to follow in the footsteps of his hero, John F. Kennedy. President Kennedy famously said, "...ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." Inspired by these words, Cody has been helping his country by providing basic necessities for kids and pets in Southern Arizona for the past 6 years.

What began with a prompt from a school assignment has grown steadily into an organization that touches hearts and lives throughout the community. In the beginning, Cody distributed flyers around town, asking folks to place donations of items for kids or pets on their porches once per month. He and his mom, Amber, spent over a year lovingly collecting those first donations, one household at a time. Since that time, with the help of his sister who established his Facebook page (Cody'sFriendsCharity) and website (www.codysfriends.org), the word has spread. Cody's Friends became a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization through services donated by local attorney.

Last year Cody's Friends gathered and donated over 500,000 pounds of pet food. They are on target to make 2017's donation an unbelievable MILLION pounds of pet food. Cody's Friends has local warehouse space, where Cody and his volunteer friends receive, sort, and store donations of pet food and children's items for distribution to and pickup by local organizations.

There are two separate aspects of Cody's Friends. First, the organization serves as an affiliate distributor of pet food to registered nonprofit organizations. Cody receives recurring food shipments from an organization, Rescue Bank, which is headquartered in Houston, TX. They are an affiliate of GreaterGood.org. According to Rescue Bank's website (www.rescuebankhouston.org) they are "a collection and redistribution point for surplus pet supplies and donations." Rescue Bank donates 50,000 pounds of food at a time to Cody's Friends; this food is earmarked for donation only to registered 501(c)3 organizations, such as the Pima County Animal Shelter and the Humane Society of Southern Arizona.



Group of Cody's Friends Volunteers

The second aspect, appropriately dubbed the Community Room, is even more locally-focused and harkens back to the grassroots beginning. After meeting highest volume need through bulk food donations to larger rescues, Cody's Friends works to distribute to smaller groups or organizations that regularly

interact with members of the community needing food for their pets. These groups come to the Community Room at least monthly to pick up supplies. They include: Tucson Fire Department, Sister Jose Women's Shelter, Caridad Soup Kitchen, Angels for Animals— providing food at Dogpatch, Handi-Dogs, Silver Seas pet pantry for homeless on 4th Avenue, Animal League of Green Valley community pet pantry, Asavet Charities spay/neuter clinics, Tohono O'odham and San Carlos Apache Indian Reservations, Animal Crusaders, Pinal County Animal Shelter, Woofs Without Roofs, Gospel Rescue Mission, and Valley Humane Society in Casa Grande. Most of these items are donated at Cody's Donation Stations— collection boxes that can be found in 40 Tucson-area businesses.

When he is not working with his Friends, Cody stays very busy caring for animals. He currently works for a local veterinary office, and he has been working full-time during his summer "vacation." Cody's inspiration for focusing on animal welfare was his perception that Tucson has problems with animal cruelty as well as problems caused by large-scale breeding. He said, "I have always wanted all dogs and cats to have a good home because it hurts to see one by itself in the streets."

Cody will be attending Pima Community College through a dual enrollment program with a charter school that will allow him to finish 11th and 12th grades while getting a jump start on college classes. He's already ahead of the pack, having taken chemistry, physics, and biology for 4 years, Latin for 5 years, and a first-year medical school pathology course through Banner Hospital.

It should come as little surprise that Cody was a recipient of a Ben's Bell award (www.bensbells.org) in July. The mission of Ben's Bells is "to inspire, educate, and motivate people to realize the impact of intentional kindness, and to empower individuals to act according to that awareness, thereby strengthening ourselves, our relationships and our communities." It is easy to see why Cody's efforts came to the attention of Ben's Bells. His mom, Amber Allen, said, "He is a huge animal lover and when someone brings a rescue to Cody's Friends he gets down on the floor with them all. I don't believe there's ever been a dog come in that he doesn't embrace or vice versa. Sometimes I wonder if he's a dog whisperer."



Cody's donation station

Cody's Friends is always looking for help in the form of donations and volunteers. For more information and to get involved, check them out online at: www.Cody'sFriends.org, email: helpcodysfriends@gmail.com, or call: 520-419-0450.

The Tucson Dog loves hearing from our readers! Special thanks to Tucson Dog reader Joan Unwin for letting us know about Cody's Friends. Do you know of a kid who is doing good work with or for animals? If so, I would love to hear from you! Email: claire@thetucsondog.com

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Horsin' Around



A Home Where Horses Can Be Horses

Story and photos by Carolyn Stark



Just three miles north of the Mexican border, in Hereford, Arizona, you will find the Single Star Ranch. Named by a previous owner, who was a retired one-star general, the ranch now serves as the home for the Horse'n Around Rescue. Theresa Warrell and Steve Boice along with a group of over thirty volunteers keep the ranch running smoothly. Some volunteers come weekly, some monthly, but they are all considered part of the Horse'n Around Ranch family.

Unlike many volunteer organizations, Theresa and Steve believe that everyone should be involved with the horses. No one should be doing just the clean-up work. Beginners are paired up with more experienced horses, and experienced volunteers take care of the beginner horses. Everything is very hands on. From feeding, grooming, riding, to just giving the horses love.

Areas near the ranch are given to older horses and those in need of special care. There are training areas along with barns, tack rooms, and quick growing fodder boxes that are climate controlled. The fodder that grows in these boxes produces a nutrient dense food in as little as 6 days. They also use brew grain, provided to them by local breweries. The combination of these along with pellets and senior feed are good for the older horses or those with teeth problems.



There are other animals on the ranch as well: dogs resting in the shade of a truck, cats guarding the grain from mice, and two sheep ready for a shearing. In a nearby pasture are a pair of mothers, their babies, and one very pregnant mare. Steve is gently teaching them to accept human touch, and learning their manners such as respecting his space and not nipping. Baby Snip is even getting so calm with Steve that we were graced with several baby horsey smiles.

There are cattle that are rotated through four different fields nearby to prevent overgrazing. There is also one large field that is left fallow for back up land management. This area was hard hit by the 2011 Monument fire. As the rains came, with nothing to hold the soil in place, the water swept down the mountain washing out water supplies, pipes, and fences. Using heavy equipment purchased by friends for the ranch, Steve created berms to stop further erosion.



Up toward Thompson Peak is leased land where the horses run free. Not only is the sight of horses in their natural environment exciting, but the view of the surrounding area is stunning. The day I was there Theresa's two nieces went



with us. The herd was not bothered by us, the truck we rode up in, or the girls going to visit their favorites. The belief of Horse'n Around Ranch is that horses should not be left in corrals where their muscles and joints cannot develop; that horses should be horses. While out in the upper pasture they walk over varied terrain with grass, rocks, hills and gullies. This helps them to become stable on their feet. They forage for food with supplemental hay bales being brought up daily. All the horses on the ranch, and in the pastures, are given every day human

care so any problems can be taken care of quickly. The horses on the ranch do not have shoes put on. Instead a Velcro boot can be used if needed. This allows the horse to have a natural hoof.

Horses ready for training and possible adoption are brought from the upper pasture down to the ranch. Steve and Theresa are very gentle with the horses and it takes a long time and handling by many different people to know when the horse is ready for a new home.



Adopters are personally chosen for specific horses. They must go through a 10-week training course no matter how experienced they are. In this way Theresa and Steve can be sure that the horse and the rider are a perfect match. Before they can take their horse home, a home check is also required. The new owner must sign a no breeding clause, and if for any reason the owner can no longer take care of the horse it must be returned to the ranch. Without any one of these things being signed in the contract, the horse will not be adopted out. Steve and Theresa make sure all the animals are ready for their new home.



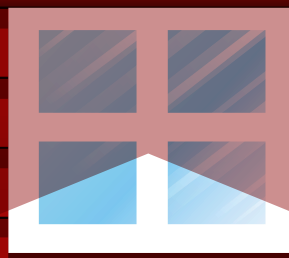
Along with horses that are trained to ride, there are many horses that cannot be ridden because

of age or medical problems. They are often overlooked, but can still make great companions for people who do not want to ride, or as barn buddies for other animals.

A big portion of Theresa and Steve's time is spent on fundraising. They sponsor events on the ranch, or out at other locations. They apply for grants, which are not as numerous, but bring in a few thousand dollars at a time. The local community helps by donating feed, corral sections, and heavy equipment. Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization and any donation of time or money is greatly appreciated. If you would like to find out how you can help this wonderful rescue, go to www.horsenaroundrescue.org or call (520) 266-0236



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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.**



WENDY - Casper and I found what we thought was a forever home. But 8 years later, we have arrived back at the sanctuary. We were well cared for, but due to a change in our adopter's living arrangements, they could no longer look after us two magnificent horses. Because we are extremely bonded, Casper and I would like to be adopted together. Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary 520-398-2814



CASPER - During these last 8 years Wendy and I were loved and given all we needed. Now that we are back at Equine Voices we are looking for a new home. I am cremello in color, which means I have a cream-colored coat, pink skin, and a white mane and tail. Because we are extremely bonded, Wendy and I would like to be adopted together. Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary 520-398-2814



MAMACITA - I am Mamacita the mustang. I was taken in by Equine Voices last November as part of a large-scale International Society for the Protection of Mustangs & Burros rescue. They were able to care for five mustangs, and I was one of them! Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary 520-398-2814

PAINTBRUSH - I'm a flashy gelding who has it all... good looks, smarts, and a gentle disposition. I was rescued 2 years ago, and now I'm 12 years old. I am strong and healthy. I require an experienced rider. Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation 520-266-0236



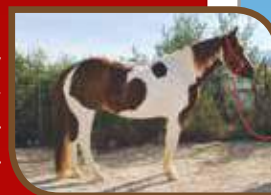
SKY - I am a gentle sorrel thoroughbred mare who is 17 hands. I was a sore sight when I was taken by Arizona Livestock Officers. The judge awarded me to Horse'n Around Rescue where I have transformed into a beautiful creature. I am looking for a home that would be right for me. Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation 520-266-0236



HOTSHOT - I was born 6 years ago right here at this rescue. I am still busy growing right now, but I have heard that I am a fabulous prospect. I hope to have the chance to meet you. Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation 520-266-0236



CISCO - I am a 10-year-old gorgeous paint gelding. Very sweet boy. I have wobblers so I cannot be ridden. I love to have attention. I am a funny horse who likes to play with toys and tug-of-war with other horses. I like to be near other horses. I am a sweet boy and would make a great companion horse for someone that has a big enough heart to adopt me. Happy Equine Acres Rescue and Therapy (Heart of Tucson) 520-445-1510



DURANGO - I am a 2-year-old mustang reservation pony who is 13 hands. I am sensitive to any training, and will be great for someone that has the time, talent and ability to put into a sweet horse like me. I ask that only an experienced trainer into Natural Horsemanship apply for my adoption. I bond closely with anyone that works with me. Happy Equine Acres Rescue and Therapy (Heart of Tucson) 520-445-1510



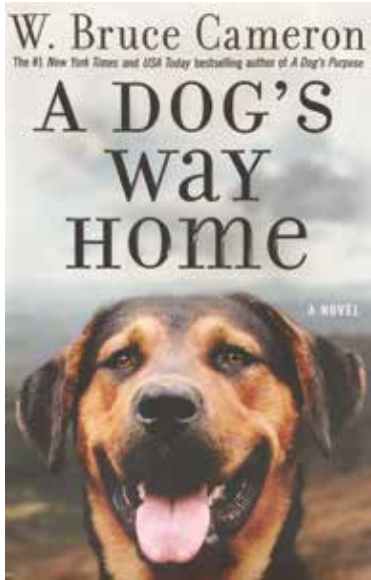
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BOOK REVIEW

**Book Title: A Canine
Journey for the Ages**

Author: W. Bruce Cameron

**Reviewed by:
Claire Sheridan**



Reading W. Bruce Cameron's *A Dog's Way Home* was like eating a box of good chocolates. When eating chocolate, I try hard not to finish a whole box in one sitting. As much as I might want to keep eating (or reading), I also want to savor the experience. The book's narrator and protagonist, Bella the dog, was completely captivating. Typically, I am unenthused by the form of writing (or television, or movies) which uses the dog's voice. It often comes across as hokey; I find myself questioning the words without being able to relate to the character. However, in *A Dog's Way Home*, I found Bella's voice to be plausible, while her interpretations of human and animal interactions were humorous, and at times very poignant.

I imagine that, like me, many of our Tucson Dog readers are guilty of anthropomorphizing (giving human traits to animals) dogs, so surely you'll understand! We talk to the animals in our lives, we wonder what

they are thinking, whether they like jazz, perhaps what their political affiliation would be if they could vote... The list of ways we treat our pets as humans goes on. Cameron captured these emotional connections between humans and animals in a very heartwarming way. *A Dog's Way Home* is a feel-good read where you clearly know whom to root for, as well as which characters are the villains. The book touches upon the unintended consequences of breed bans, and the misuse of power by people in authority.

All of the folks that either help or hinder Bella on her journey home each play a unique role in her character's development. Cameron's anthropomorphizing doesn't stop with giving Bella voice; it extends to her interactions and relationships with other non-human creatures. She ascribes human traits to each, though mercifully Cameron spares the reader actual dialogue between Bella and the other critters. I was most grateful for this exclusion of dialogue among the creature characters, which might have risked deteriorating the novel to the level of a children's cartoon script.

I can easily see Bella becoming Cameron's next big screen star. He is also the author of *A Dog's Purpose*, which has been made into a major motion picture. *A Dog's Way Home* is a must-read for anyone who has ever been owned by a dog.





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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Canyons at Linda Vista
9750 N. Oracle Rd., Oro Valley
(520) 812-7887

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(520) 742-0770

Desert Springs
6710 E. Golf Links Rd., Tucson
(520) 745-6415

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Fountain Plaza
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Tucson
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Valley
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Mountain Village
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(520) 297-0804

Overlook at Pantano
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Promontory
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Quail Ridge
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(520) 299-2820

Rillito Village
3700 North 1st Avenue, Tucson
(520) 293-1040

Sycamore Creek
1701 North Wilmot Road, Tucson
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4700 North Kolb Road, Tucson
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The Enclave
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DOGS IN BLUE: THE K-9 BEAT



**Officer Ryan Danaher
and his K9 partner, Bosco**

Bosco - New Dog on the Beat

Story and photos by Rhishja Larson

A new K9 officer has joined the ranks of the Tucson Police Department. He is a Belgian Malinois named Bosco and his handler is Officer Ryan Danaher.

Have you ever wondered how dogs like Bosco are selected and trained for police work? Me too - so I was thrilled to have the opportunity to go behind the scenes at the Tucson Police Department Service Dog Unit and find out how dogs are readied for deployment with the TPD.

Three dog breeds are utilized by the TPD: the Belgian Malinois, Dutch shepherd, and German shepherd. The dogs are imported from Europe, and acquired by the TPD from a company in California.

Typically, the canine candidates have undergone training in basic obedience, bite work, and tracking. Many have earned Schutzhund titles before arriving in the States. The TPD handler will continue to use the dog's "native language" - German, Czech, or Dutch - throughout the dog's working life.

The dogs are between eighteen months and three years old when they are selected by TPD K9 Unit trainers, who put potential canine recruits through rigorous tests in order to evaluate their temperament.

Officer Andrew Birtcil, who has been a trainer for five of his twelve years in the K9 Unit, described one of the tests as tying a dog to a fence and then agitating him with a stick. If the dog backs down, then he is not going to be the right fit.

"A real courageous and confident dog will stand toe-to-toe with a man," explained Officer Birtcil. "Those dogs are usually fine with biting a person when commanded to do so."

Another crucial test for these dogs is their ability to immediately adapt to any surface underfoot in an unfamiliar environment, so he and Officer Birtcil take them to a local recreational center that has dark, highly polished floors - and tiny bathroom tiles.

"Some of the dogs don't like to walk on those one-inch bathroom tiles," notes Officer Birtcil. "We get them over that by throwing a toy in there and getting them to play."

Officer Rumsley adds, "We try to pick a dog that's indifferent to other dogs, so that when we go searching for people, they're not fence-fighting a dog in somebody's yard. We want dogs that are more concerned about finding the person. We test for that, too."

Once the dog is selected, he is brought by car to Tucson, and during this two-day road trip, the dog and handler begin the bonding process.

Although it usually takes an average of six to eight weeks of training for a new dog to be ready for police work, it will be about sixteen weeks for Bosco because Officer Danaher is a new dog handler.

Like all the dogs selected for work with the TPD, Bosco's intense play drive is the key to his training.

Officer Birtcil showed me some of the training equipment (wooden boxes with holes in the top and remote-controlled poppers) which is used for teaching dogs to "alert" to the odor of narcotics.

"We put a series of boxes out and run the dogs around. When they get to the boxes with the odor, they stick their noses in, we tell them to sit - and a tennis ball pops out."

I asked Officer Birtcil how long it would take a dog to figure that out. "It takes about twenty minutes to get them to sit at those boxes."

It was time for Bosco to do some bite work. I watched Officer Danaher send Bosco to attack the person in the suit (Officer Kyle Frank), and then return on command.

I learned that the "bite suit" and "bite sleeve" are some of the dog's favorite toys! The dogs love to grab that toy and try to tear it up - but they have also been trained to bite a person on command.

Did I want to put on the bite sleeve for Officer Birtcil's dog, Kiro? I agreed to give it a try. I braced myself for Kiro and stumbled a bit as he made contact. I let go of the handle inside the bite sleeve so Kiro could pull it off my arm. He proudly showed off his prize while I regained my balance.

I was curious if Officer Birtcil was a dog lover. "It's kind of tough to be a dog lover and be in this unit. We all like dogs and enjoy dogs, and have dogs of our own, but we wouldn't be necessarily on that same level of dog lover as maybe you would be."

What I'm saying is, would you be able to send Kiro to his death into a building with a guy with a gun? It would be more difficult if you were an absolute dog lover, to do something like that."

He went on to tell me about his previous dog, Jake, a Belgian Malinois. The two of them were in pursuit of a man driving a stolen truck who had committed 12 armed robberies in one weekend. The fugitive crashed the truck and took off on foot. When Officer Birtcil and Jake found him, he had a gun and was trying to chamber a round.

"Jake hit him and I was able to convince him to surrender. These guys save us all the time."



**Officer Andrew Birtcil and his
K9 partner Kiro playing with
one of Kiro's favorite toys.**

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Sudden Aggression in Dogs

By Kim Silver

Do you have dogs that once lived happily together then suddenly began fighting? Do you have a dog that abruptly began nipping at visitors in the home? If your dog is suddenly snarling, growling, fighting or biting people or other dogs, you need to seek professional help. Who should you call?

Your Veterinarian

Your veterinarian should be the first call you make. Sudden changes in behavior can be associated with either known or undiagnosed health issues. In humans, a protein known as the pro-inflammatory cytokine Tumor Necrosis Factor is elevated during times of illness and is associated with hostility and other sickness behaviors. Dogs have similar sickness behaviors as humans, but dogs cannot use words to tell us they don't feel well. A change in your dog's behavior could be related to any number of health issues including arthritis, hip dysplasia, dental issues, thyroid dysfunction, allergies, ear infections, digestive issues, yeast infections, cognitive decline, including hearing and vision loss, and Valley Fever. According to the Valley Fever Center for Excellence, dogs raised from birth in Pima or Maricopa county in Arizona have a 28% chance of being infected with the Valley Fever fungus by two years of age. Early signs of valley fever include coughing, fever, weight loss, and lack of appetite and lack of energy. Untreated valley fever can result in lameness, seizures, or body lesions. Sudden changes in appetite, energy level, or social interactions are good indicators your dog might not feel well.

A Trainer or Behaviorist

If your dog is diagnosed with a medical condition, his behavior may return to normal once the medical issue is resolved or managed sufficiently. Sometimes a behavior pattern develops due to the incidents of aggression, and the behavior may continue. It is not uncommon for relationships between dogs in the home to be damaged due to fights that occurred or for dogs to continue to avoid being touched in certain spots, for example the ears if they had an ear infection. If the behavior persists and a medical reason is no longer or never was a potential factor, it's time to contact a professional dog trainer or veterinary behaviorist who uses science-based, positive methods. And be aware, correcting or punishing a dog for aggressive behavior can worsen the behavior.

Other Reasons for Aggression

Aggression is normal behavior in dogs and is an important component in canine communication. Unless there is a genetic aspect to your dog's behavior (which usually exposes itself very early in a dog's life), most behavior can be modified to some degree to restore some harmony in your dog's life. Still, other reasons may explain your dog's aggressive behavior.

Social Development Periods

Puppies undergo a critical socialization period in the first several months of life. Puppies that have not been exposed to novel stimuli, other dogs, and people are at a higher risk for developing anxiety and aggression as adults. One puppy class is not enough. If you attend puppy class and then isolate your dog from the world, your puppy is at a higher risk later in life. If you can repeat your puppy class or advance on to the next level, do so. Try to have your dog in a group dog training class every few months until 2 years of age.

Hormones

Testosterone can cause a dog to react more quickly to stimuli with longer duration and intensity. Neutering male dogs may help to reduce this risk. Data from one study showed 62% of canines reduced dog-dog aggressive behavior after neutering. Estrogen and Progesterone can also impact behavior during heat cycles in female dogs that are not spayed. Talk to your veterinarian about the best age to spay or neuter your dog.

Learned Behavior

Aggression is a part of communication. When your dog uses less intense canine language to stop another dog or person from engaging him and it doesn't work, he escalates his communication to be heard. Barking, lunging, growling, and biting are effective ways to communicate how a dog is feeling. If he barks and lunges at the UPS man and he goes away, from the dog's perspective he made that happen.

Stress and Fear

Stress and fear are the biggest underlying causes for many aggression cases. Dogs who undergo chronic stress or have several stressors stacked on top of one another have a difficult time coping. When stress is chronic, a physiological change takes place altering the brain and behavior patterns. A "normal" response to stress for dogs is to avoid conflict, but a dog who is chronically stressed or stress stacked may go into defensive mode. Fear and stress are often seen together. Fear also triggers a physiological response. When afraid, a dog can either freeze up, flee, or fight, usually in that order. When the first does not work, the brain escalates the response. This type of reaction is physiological and not a learned behavior. Dogs think in terms of what is safe or not safe. They decide what is fearful or stressful, not us.

If you are struggling with aggressive behavior in your dog, please consult with your veterinarian and a professional dog trainer or veterinary behaviorist.

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.



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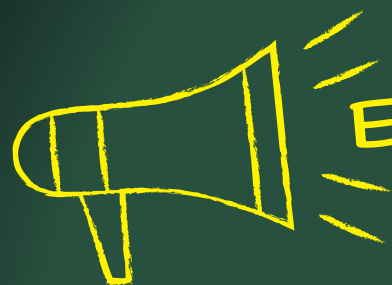
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EMAILS NEEDED



Dear Tucson Dog Readers,

We are in the process of building our Email Blast list so we can keep you informed about all the events, fundraisers, etc. going on in our town for animals.

If you would like to get an email with detailed information about animal events in town, please go to our website at www.thetucsondog.com. Click on "Sign up Today" and enter your name and email address. We will add you onto our list.

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Pima County Animal Control Services
4000 N. Silverbell Rd., Tucson
(520) 724-5900

Pima County Pet Licensing
(520) 724-5969

AS of July 1st 2017 HSSA has partnered with The Town of Marana and Sahuarita to provide Animal Services including enforcement, lost and found animals and pet licensing.
3450 N. Kelvin Blvd., Tucson
Below are the numbers for each town.

**Town of Marana Animal Care Services
& Pet Licensing** (520) 382-8020

**Town of Sahuarita – Animal Care Services
& Pet Licensing** (520) 445-7877 (520) 764-7661

If you have to give up your pet
and live in the Town of Marana or Sahuarita
(520) 327-6088

Poison Control Hotline
(855) 764-7661 (24 hrs. day)

**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

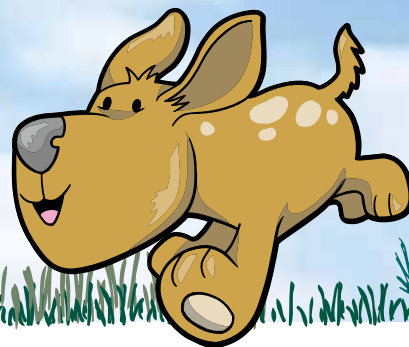
**Thanks to everyone who
celebrated the Launch of
The Tucson Dog magazine
especially the staff of**

Stray Dogs
Tucson

who hosted this fun event!



Celebration of life



Lobo

Story and photos by Carolyn Stark-Meyers

It was a day like any other. I had a million errands to do, including getting food for my houseful of dogs and cats. When I got to the pet store, there was a man standing just outside with a tiny puppy. He had found it wandering alone in the desert but couldn't keep him. He was afraid to take the puppy to a shelter for fear that it would be put to sleep because he was blind. I had never had a small dog, and

definitely not a blind dog, but something about him pulled at my heart. The man named his Lobo. It was a good name and I decided to take him home.

My husband was getting used to me bringing home strays, and my sons were excited as always. He got along with the whole family, human and animal alike. When I took him to our vet she said he was probably born blind and didn't know any difference.

Lobo adjusted well to our family life. He memorized where the furniture was inside, and where trees and plants were outside. He loved to run and play with the other dogs, and never hit things even if they had been moved. When I loaded the dishwasher, he would try to lick everything clean before I shut the door. If I was just watching TV, he was always on my lap and when I went to sleep he was always by my side. If I left the house he would sit by the door waiting for me to return. We took him everywhere the family went: hiking, camping, and kayaking. Somehow, he even knew where the snakes and scorpions were, and guided our paths around them.

I was lucky to have him for 13 years before he passed. He taught me that you don't have to be big to be brave, or be able to see to have faith. I have had many dogs since Lobo's passing, but none can take his place in my heart. I know that when my time comes, I will go to the Rainbow Bridge and find Lobo waiting for me.



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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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. Kriegh 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
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(520) 822-8896

Anamax Dog Park

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