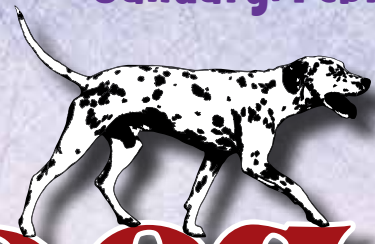


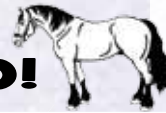
January/February 2018



The Tucson Dog



CATS & HORSES TOO!



Cover Story

A New Day Dawns At Hope

Feature Highlights

Dogs in Blue:
The K9 Beat;
Tommy: Pima County
Sheriff's Wonder Dog

Barbara Bridges:
A Champion for
Dogs & Founder of
K9 Heroes

The Legal Beagle:
Pets and Divorce:
Establishing a
Pet Parenting Plan

Ironwood
Pig Sanctuary:
A Porcine Paradise

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The Tucson Dog

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COVER STORY:

A New Day Dawns At Hope

Barbara Bridges:
A Champion for
Dogs & Founder
of K9 Heroes



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Bringing Home the
No-Kill Equation;
No Kill Pima County



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Horsin' Around:
Therapeutic Ranch
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Ironwood Pig
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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.



Claire Sheridan - Associate Editor - 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.



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.



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.



Zach Fitzner - Staff Writer - Zach has a degree in Biology. His love for animals, the outdoors and adventure has taken him all over the world as a volunteer, traveler and biology technician. Originally from Colorado, the Sonoran in winter lured him south. Zach lives with his partner, Erin and their Shih Tzu; he works as a fossil preparator and also writes for Earth.com



Bella Wexler - Staff Intern - Bella has always adored animals. She is a vegetarian and raised \$3,000 for Hoofs N' Horns Farm Sanctuary as her Bat Mitzvah project in 2016 while raising awareness about the brutality of factory farming. She helps care for the many dogs that her family fosters. She is currently a Freshman at Catalina Foothills High School with a passion for writing and music. Bella has two adopted dogs and cats and a room that is never complete without layers of shed pet fur. Bella is inspired by the Tucson Dog magazine family and is thrilled to be part of them.



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

5151 E. Broadway Blvd., Suite 1600
Tucson, AZ 85711

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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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URGENT HELP NEEDED

ASAVET Charities is a 501(3) organization that provides low to no-cost veterinary services to under served and remote communities in Arizona and New Mexico with their mobile unit. Recently, they suffered the loss of their mobile unit in an accident on their way to provide services to the Navajo Nation. They need to raise \$30,000 to supplement what insurance didn't cover.

**Please make a donation today
at www.gofundme.com/asavet-mobile-veterinary-care**

**Thank you for you help
asavetcharities.org**

The Leader of the Pack speaks!

Dear Readers,

First, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and hope your holidays were filled with joy and love. 2017 was just the beginning for The Tucson Dog magazine and I could not be happier with the outpouring of love we received from you, our readers, about our publication. We are so grateful to all of you!

As we begin 2018, we are planning to bring many more great stories and information for you and your four-legged friends. We really appreciate the emails and calls we have received telling us about news-worthy stories and we have heard you and listened; bringing you those fascinating and inspiring stories. We will continue to bring you stories that show everyone how important our companion animals are and how they enrich our lives every day.

In our first issue of the year, we have many wonderful stories to bring you and some great fundraising events from some of your favorite rescue and shelter groups.

In our cover story, we are thrilled to bring you the story about HOPE Animal Shelter who has made many new changes in their program and is looking for support from you to help them continue their wonderful work. While HOPE may be smaller than some shelters, it is the oldest no-kill shelter in the area. I met Executive Director, Susan Scherl and new Shelter Director, Rory Adams who gave me a tour and whom I can tell you are totally devoted to HOPE. They are working diligently to take it to the next level and create a cohesive approach to animal rescue by reaching out to work with other shelters which is so commendable! I hope you enjoy this story as much as I did. HOPE is just that, for all the animals that come into their care.

Also in this edition, we have a special section called, "Volunteer Opportunities" where we have listed some shelter/rescue groups with specific job responsibilities for volunteers. It's a great way to help animals in our community this year and you will feel great doing it!

We also want to share some of our Favorite Photos from 3 major events that The Tucson Dog was proud to sponsor and be a part of: Sweat For Pets, Doggie Dash N' Dawdle and Dogtoberfest. We are already making plans to sponsor more events this year which we enjoy doing because we get to meet many of you, up close and personal!

Also, please check out our calendar as we have many events going on helping animals in the community that you can participate in which is so important. It gives us all the opportunity to go out and enjoy a fun event while helping shelter/rescue animals.

I'd also like to remind you all of two special things in February: USA Spay Day and Dental Month. Please, please, remember to spay and neuter your pets if they aren't already. It is healthier and safer for them and you become part of the solution. And, if you are thinking about adopting a new "best friend" for your family, please go to a shelter or rescue group to adopt. Spaying and neutering along with adoptions from these groups is the only way we will end pet homelessness in our country.

Thank you again for your support and we look forward to an amazing year in 2018 for everyone!

Love, Light & Laughter,

Ann



Greetings from Gracie

Helping Animals in Our Community for 2018

Dear Humans,

Happy New Year! Being a former shelter dog, I would like to talk about something very near and dear to my heart....shelter and rescue groups. If you love animals and want to help them, I would like to suggest making a New Year's resolution (you humans like to do that every new year!) to volunteer to help local shelter/rescues and non-profit groups that help animals. You can find those groups in every issue of The Tucson Dog in our Animal Resource Guide. In this issue, we have a special section we have created called, "Volunteer Opportunities" where you can find some of these groups with their specific volunteer jobs.

I know that you've probably seen the TV ads that pull at your heart strings with a sad song and pictures of shelter animals in need asking you to donate to help them. Some of these large organizations bring in millions of dollars every year with very little of that money actually going to the animals and none of it going to our animals locally. A lot of that money goes to big salaries, pension plans and administrative work. Many people don't know this, but you should, which is why, if you want to help animals in your community, you should give directly to your local rescue or shelter organizations. And Tucson has so many wonderful groups with dedicated people that help animals.

Our groups still need lots of help financially to save and care for the animals that end up in their care. Veterinary care, spaying and neutering, feeding, housing and re-homing animals is very expensive. Whatever the adoption fee is for different groups, it NEVER covers the cost of all the animals in need. If you want to donate dollars, please choose one of these very deserving local groups to give to.

If you cannot afford to give financially, there are also other very important ways you can help and that is by VOLUNTEERING your time! Many shelters/rescues/non-profits rely on volunteers to help with different jobs and some of them are listed on the Volunteer Opportunities page. Some of the jobs include walking dogs, grooming, playing ball, cleaning and more. It's a great way to make a difference this year for local animals and volunteers are always appreciated.

Another way you can help is fostering an animal, as many rescue organizations save animals but do not have a facility where they can keep them, so those groups are in need of foster homes. So, if you have a little space in your home and heart, you may want to consider becoming a foster parent which can mean the difference between life and death in some cases. If organizations don't have enough foster homes, it limits how many animals they can take in and help. It also helps the animal so much to be in a home rather than a shelter where some do not do well at all.

So, in this New Year, if you are an animal lover, make some resolutions to help animals in our community in whichever way you can. Whatever your circumstances, I think everyone can contribute in some way and feel great doing it! And, you can change the life for the better of a homeless animal!

Peace, Love, Biscuits and Happy New Year!!

Gracie





Calendar of Events

Ongoing Adoptions

Animal League of Green Valley

Onsite Adoptions

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

Hermitage Cat Shelter & Sanctuary

Onsite Adoptions

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

Hope Animal Shelter

Onsite Adoptions

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

Humane Society of Southern AZ

Onsite Adoptions

Main Campus

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

Pawsh at Park Place

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

Pawsh at La Encantada

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

HSSA Thrift Store on Speedway

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

PAWSitively CATS No-Kill Shelter

Onsite Adoptions

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

Pima Animal Care Center

Onsite Adoptions

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

Ajo Substation

Onsite Adoptions

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

Pima Paws for Life

Onsite Adoptions

7 Days A Week
7a-11a & 3p-7p
2555 W Zinnia Ave., Tucson
(520) 867-1193

Ongoing Dog Meet-ups

Canine Co-Pilots

Fun places to go with your dogs with other dog-loving people. Dog events, socialization, dog parks, travel and more. Friendly dogs and people welcome.

www.meetup.com/Canine-Co-Pilots/

MOCA Tucson Third Thursdays: Yappy Hour! January 18th Free Event From 6-8p

265 S Church Ave., Tucson
Bring your pups down to the museum and enjoy our peanut butter licking contest, art-making and specialty drinks for dogs and humans alike! More info: moca-tucson.org or (520) 624-5019

Yappee Hour!

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

Tucson Tails and Trails: Dog Friendly Hiking

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

Special Events

JANUARY

Pucks For Paws

Sat., Jan. 20th at 7:30pm

Gates open at 6:30pm

Tucson Convention Center
U of A Wildcats vs. Milwaukee School of Engineering Raiders. Benefits Humane Society of Southern AZ. Enjoy the game with your favorite furry friend! Well-behaved, vaccinated dogs welcome. Doggy tickets are only \$5. People and doggy tickets available at door

No Kill Pima County presents "Best in Show" movie

fundraiser at the

The Loft Cinema

Jan 27th – 3-6p

Benefits SavetheSaveable.com. Food vendors & raffle prizes. A No Kill Pima County fundraiser to support the special needs animals. Details and tickets: <https://savethesaveablemovie.eventbrite.com>

FEBRUARY

Casino Night Fundraiser

February 17th

Benefits Animal League of Green Valley
More info at talgy.org in January

Fur Ball Paws Vegas

Sat. Feb 24th – 6pm

La Quinta Inn & Suites
102 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson
Benefits Pima Paws For Life Shelter.
\$60 per person or \$100 per couple.
Tickets go on sale Dec. 1st. More info:
LeeAnn@PimaPawsForLife.org
Or call: (520) 358-6875

SAVE THE DATE

Out of the Ruff for Golden's Charity Golf Tournament March 10th

El Conquistador Golf & Tennis
10555 N. La Canada, Oro Valley
Benefits Southern AZ Golden Retriever Rescue. Online sign up begins January 10th. www.sagrr.org or call (520) 792-4653. Questions? contact@sagrr.org

Adopt Love, Adopt Local April 14th 9a-4p

Tucson Expo Center
3750 E Irvington Rd.
Dozens of local rescues, shelters and pet-service providers come together for this annual event gives local homeless animals a second chance at finding love and happiness, while celebrating the human animal bond. Adoptable pet of all breeds, ages and sizes. Learn about fostering for those organizations. Information about spay/neuter, visit with veterinarians and purchase pet supplies. See K9 unit demonstrations. Admission and parking are free. Please leave your pets at home. More Info: adoptloveadoptlocal@gmail.com

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 Thrift Stores

Pawsh at Park Place

5870 E. Broadway Blvd.
(520) 881-7406

Pawsh at La Encantada

2905 E. Skyline Dr., Ste 208
(520) 327-6577

Thrift Store on Speedway

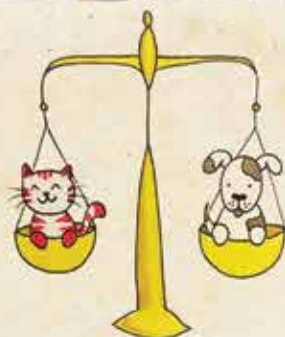
5311 E. Speedway Blvd.
(520) 327-0010

Best In Show Thrift Boutique

408 N. 4th Ave.
(520) 882-3016



Jane with Henry



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Ambrose the Assistant

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'painterly effects'



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MEow
too



The Legal Beagle

Pets and Divorce: Establishing a Pet Parenting Plan

Story by Jane Jacobs, Attorney At Law

Pets capture our hearts and instill themselves in the very center of our lives. So it's no wonder that a divorce or a break-up can cause an emotional battle for custody, not just of children, but for our loving, irreplaceable, furry family members.

In a divorce, Arizona courts will consider the best interests and needs of children in determining a parenting plan. However, under Arizona law, pets are considered only as property, and are divided and awarded as a part of the property settlement. That means that a judge won't spend time outlining a plan for the parties to co-parent a pet, or share the pet after the divorce is final.

Having a plan to care for your pet in the event of a break-up or divorce is key to ensuring that your furry friend will not become a pawn in the middle of settlement negotiations. If you are not married, and thinking of getting a pet with your significant other, consider making a plan that contemplates the future ownership of the pet, what a sharing or visitation plan would look like, who would have financial responsibility, and who would make medical decisions.

Pets can be expensive, and knowing who is going to be in charge of paying veterinary bills is worth talking about ahead of time. Decisions on surgery or euthanasia should be made in advance, to save those difficult decisions from being made at emotional times.

For couples getting divorced, the family pet(s) will be a part of the property settlement agreement. But be aware that the court will only award the pet to one party or the other, and will not consider time sharing, financial responsibility or other decisions.

Leaving those decisions to a judge may not be the best way to manage the care and ownership of your valued family member. A pet parenting plan can be incorporated into your divorce decree, and can provide both parties with a fair and thoughtful plan for all of your pets. This type of plan will require an agreement between the parties, but can be negotiated by you or your attorney.

The ownership of your pet should be clearly established. Arizona is a community property state, which means any pet purchased by either party during the marriage is the property of the community, and therefore subject to community

division. However, in the event of a disagreement about who should receive the pet, a judge would likely rely on licensing information, to see whose name is on the license to help determine "ownership". A court might also consider evidence of ownership from looking at veterinary records to determine who has been in charge of obtaining medical care for your pet, who has obtained vaccinations, and who is listed in the records as the responsible party for payment.

In the event that separating parties can agree on a time-sharing plan, effort should be made to make it thorough. The plan should take into account vacations, school breaks, holidays and even birthdays. The more details you can include in your plan, the better. It's better to have more details than you need, rather than

not enough. In some cases, a simple week on/week off schedule may be sufficient. In other cases, it may be necessary to develop a more comprehensive yearly schedule.

Include an agreement in your plan about medical veterinary bills and a general medical plan for the pet in the event of a serious illness or emergency. You should include as much agreement about costs and life-saving measures as possible. If your pet has dietary restrictions, weight issues or other medical conditions, make sure a care plan is reflected in your agreement.

A financial arrangement for the support and care of your pet should be contemplated, much like a child support agreement. Understanding the day-to-day or monthly expenses for your pets is important when sharing time to avoid either party bearing the financial burden inequitably. Don't underestimate the cost of food, vaccinations, pet-sitting, toys, treats, and any other expenses your pet may have.

If your divorce or break-up includes a disagreement over where or with whom your pet lives, consult with an attorney to develop a solid plan. A pet parenting plan will provide a comprehensive plan for your pet, and afford you some peace of mind. Because your pet is considered to be an item of property under the law, the judge in your divorce will not develop a parenting plan for you. Your pet will simply be awarded to one party or the other.

Don't leave the care and control of your pet to chance. There may be disagreement or contention in making a residential plan or deciding financial responsibility, but the results will be well worth it.



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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 group listed with the picture.



EUROPA (A615190) - I am a spayed, black and tan German shepherd dog mix. The shelter staff think I am about 1 year and 4 months old. I have been at the shelter since October. I'll be your eyes, nose, and ears if you take me home with you (and sometimes maybe your taste tester as well). No crumb will go uninspected while we're together. See you soon!

Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900



CAFE (A595204) - I'm a white and red ticked pointer mix who is 1 year old. I came to the shelter in September. I'm shopping around for a new home now, and applying for a new job too. I'm looking for somewhere comfortable, with a view and a nice neighborhood, and that pays generously and deliciously. In exchange, I'll be your friend for all seasons, in cold weather and warm.

Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900



ANDIE (845602) - Hi, I'm Andie! I am a 1-year-old playful girl who already knows how to sit! I have been waiting for my forever family since July and can't wait to meet them! If you have any kids or dogs currently in your home, I would love to meet them. I would do best in a home with older kids. Lots of love, Andie.

Humane Society of Southern AZ 520-327-6088 x173



CYAN (845933) - Hi, I'm Cyan! I am a 1-year-old boy with a great smile! I am an active boy who loves going on walks. I can be shy at first, but am sweet and full of love. Are you falling in love with me? I would prefer to be your only pet but am open to meeting female dogs. If you have a female dog, please bring her to meet me.

Humane Society of Southern AZ 520-327-6088 x173

BUSTER BROWN I am a 3-year-old Chihuahua mix, who weighs about 10 pounds. I'm a sweet little guy. I seem to like everyone and everything. One of my favorite things is a lap! I get along well with other dogs. I can use the dog door and am still working on being housebroken. I'm a special dog that will make a great addition to your home, and I am so very worthy.

Tucson Cold Wet Noses

adoptions@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

KANGA I'm a loving, attentive, 50 pound German shepherd mix around 7 years old who needs a dog savvy parent. I warm to women faster than men, but once I trust you, you will have a wonderful friend. I'm house trained, ignore cats, and would do better with older, calmer kids. I currently live with other dogs and do OK with most of them, but I really want to be the "female dog boss."

Tucson Cold Wet Noses

adoptions@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

REGGIE I'm a 3-year-old heeler pit bull mix. When my puppies and I were found, x-rays revealed that I had been hurt. I will most likely always have problems with my legs, especially when there is a chill in the air. I make the best of my situation and don't let it get me down. I need regular walks to help my legs, and further care down the road. I do well with dogs of all sizes, and cats. I need a home that will enjoy me and give me the carefree life I deserve.

Miss Maggie May's Rescue 520-603-6908

LIL WILL Being your typical 2-year-old shy love bug, I am known for all my kisses and cuddling. Basic commands and outside potty breaks are right up my alley of knowledge. I even walk on a leash. I've been getting along great with all the other dogs and even this goofy resident cat in my foster home. So now I'm looking for my forever home and can't wait to meet you.

Miss Maggie May's Rescue 520-603-6908



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A VISIT TO THE



DOGHOUSE

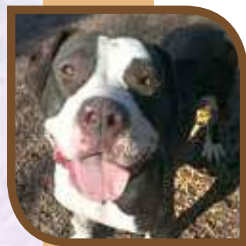
If just one of every five Americans wanting to add a cat or dog to their family in the next year adopted from a shelter, not one single healthy, treatable cat or dog would lose his life in a shelter.

Source: Humane Society of the United States



OREO I'm a 3-year-old dog with only three legs. But that doesn't slow me down at all! I would like to be an only dog—I don't like other dogs or cats. When it gets cold, you can keep my ears warm. I'll look at the sunset with you, and the moon, after everyone else has gone to sleep. We can have our midnight snacks together too, if you'd like.

Pima Paws for Life 520-867-1193



CLARA I'm a 2-year-old black and white pit pup who is so excited to meet you that I could run in circles. I'm vibrant and I like to live an active lifestyle. I love people and kids too! Right now I'm looking for a foster parent or maybe a future forever home where I can be the only pet. I need a yard or a crate that's secure for me to stay in when everyone is out for the day too.

RAD Rescue, Inc. 661-400-5151



MISSY I'm a sweet, petite 3-year-old boxer mix. I love to play with a ball and chase after it when someone throws it for me. I'm crate-trained and housebroken, and I like to get a good amount of exercise regularly. I'd like to be in a home without cats or other small animals. When it comes to canines, respectful, mellow companions are all right with me, but otherwise I would like to be the only dog.

RAD Rescue, Inc. 661-400-5151



MOKA I'm a gorgeous horsecoat Shar-Pei. I spent a large portion of my life delivering puppies and my health was a bit neglected. My hearing and vision aren't great due to untreated infections. I'm a super sweet girl that has impeccable house manners. I'm great with other dogs, even though I'm not super interested in playing with them.

Pei People 520-730-5183

BUTTERS I'm a 5-year-old Shar-Pei mix. I'm good with other dogs but would also be fine in a home as an only dog. I am in excellent health with none of the usual Shar-Pei health issues like skin and ear infections. I'm excellent in the car as well as on a leash. I would be a wonderful apartment or condo dog as I love lounging on the couch, but I love my walks as well!

Pei People 520-730-5183

DAKOTA I'm a beautiful 2-year-old healthy bully mix that is sweet 'n mellow! I stayed and cared for my tiny pup Peepers on the streets of Rio Rico and wouldn't leave his side for anything. :) We've bonded and we think it would be wonderful if we could go to the same home. Both of us are all-around awesome dogs. Just rock solid, bomb proof, and ready for any environment.

Smiling Dog Rescue 520-977-8000

PEEPERS Meet me, I'm Peepers. My mom Dakota and I were found on the streets in Rio Rico and are now very bonded. I'm 8 months old now, and outrageously smart with a lot of energy and drive. I think I would be awesome at agility or any kind of work really. We think it would be really great if we could go to the same home.

Smiling Dog Rescue 520-977-8000

TOBY I'm not sure what "cute" means, but humans smile when they say that word about me. For my part, I'm happy just being with someone who enjoys the company of a friendly, active dog. I'm a 2-year-old beagle mix, about 30 pounds, and I do speak beagle, a sound some like more than others. If you make me yours, I'll do my small hound dog best to make you smile every day.

The Animal League of Green Valley 520-625-3170



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Friends of PACC is a non-profit that supports the work of Pima Animal Care Center by enhancing its efforts to save the lives of pets in need, like Sweetie (l) and April (r). Our vision is that every pet who comes into PACC will be supported with the resources they need to find a loving home.



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Photography © Michael Kloth

VETS & THEIR PETS

Bryan Kelsey & Barrett

Story and photos By: Zach Fitzner

Sitting on the couch next to Bryan sits a giant Schnauzer named Barrett who is also his Service Dog. Barrett was full of life and clearly wanted to climb in Bryan's lap or mine. Bryan gave me pieces of treats and opened his door, letting Barrett out to meet me. My first reaction was, 'What kind of dog is he?' Bryan first told me Barrett's story before delving into his own.

Barrett is a rescue originally from Mexico brought into the US for adoption by Arizona Desert Rotti & Pals. Bryan found Barrett through Petfinder.com. Barrett growled when Bryan first met him but Bryan gave him a second chance and has never looked back.



Barrett

I asked Bryan why he joined the military. He laughed a little and talked about playing with guns and toy soldiers as a kid, something many can relate to. As a high school student, Bryan joined the Civil Air Patrol, a sort of ROTC combined with search and rescue. Bryan said because he loved Civil Air Patrol, why wouldn't he love the military?

Bryan wanted to join the Air Force but he was then on ADHD medication and they wouldn't take him. They said he needed to get off his medication first. In the meantime, he had a friend who was joining the Army. Bryan agreed to talk to an Army recruiter. Laughingly, Bryan says it was a hard sell. The recruiter made the Army seem adventurous, exciting, so he signed up.

Bryan's experience is mixed. Bryan told me, "You cry, scream, scratch, live with your platoon." They become your family while you're in the army.

During his first tour of duty, Bryan was manning the machine gun turret in a Humvee. When the Humvee entered a government center, an IED (improvised explosive device) knocking him unconscious exploded. After a few minutes, Bryan's squad leader shook him awake, yelling to see if he was ok. Bryan first thought was he'd fallen asleep on duty and quickly apologized, "I don't know what happened." as he straightened up over the gun and scanned the area for enemy combatants while others in the Humvee were evacuated. Bryan was lucky; before the attack, army mechanics had welded a 1/4 inch steel shield behind the gun turret, to stop sniper's bullets. The steel stopped more shrapnel from being piercing Bryan's body, "The mechanics literally saved my life."

Three pieces of shrapnel about the size of a .22 caliber bullet tore into Bryan's pelvis. After being treated by coalition forces, a doctor told Bryan he could be sent back to the US if that's what he wanted. Bryan couldn't leave half way through his deployment. "I actually felt really guilty for being hurt. It wears on you; at the same time, you wouldn't want to be anywhere else; you're with your family," Bryan explains. After two weeks in the hospital, Bryan returned to duty.

As we talk, Barrett is always near, sitting by Bryan, sniffing for treats, climbing onto the sofa between us. I know how comforting it must be for Bryan to have Barrett in his life.

Bryan's war experience wasn't always negative; sometimes he was able to help Iraqis, offer protection, but it was hard to trust anyone. While he was in Iraq, Bryan saw someone get killed and couldn't help feeling he was on the wrong end of the gun. He said he wanted to help the combatant, not hurt him. Bryan shared, "It's hard to shake a hand or give a hug" because there's a machine gun between you and people.

Bryan had a hard time back in the US; he felt paranoid. Large crowds of people now made Bryan uncomfortable and it was making his life harder. Dave Menifa from 1 Veteran Foundation approached Bryan and told him about his work with service dogs and how it could help Bryan.

Barrett is now only about a year old and is still in training, but obviously important in Bryan's life. Bryan said smiling, "I can't be mad around Barrett". All I need is for him to set behind me; that's better than taking a drug."

Now an EMT hoping to attend Physician's Assistant school, Bryan talks about the difference of a stethoscope between him and people instead of a gun. Bryan tries to volunteer once a month in Mexico, helping with medical needs while his girlfriend translates.

Barrett is part of Bryan's medical training as well and attends classes with him. During one lecture, Barrett kept trying to climb into Bryan's lap. Bryan started thinking that maybe he was putting too much stress on Barrett too soon. "I thought maybe it was too much for him," Bryan said. So during the next lecture, Bryan left Barrett at home. Bryan's professor stopped at his desk in a lecture hall with hundreds and told him, "It's ok if you miss a class, but your dog has to be here".

Bryan tells me there's no one solution to his PTSD; diet, exercise and keeping his mind active with school and work help. Barrett also helps. "He's always happy, always wagging his little nub." Barrett shields Bryan from crowds and supplies much needed morale. "Dogs do funny stuff all the time. You laugh a little bit more when you have a pooch." Bryan seems to laugh a lot these days.



Bryan and Barrett

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Business Spotlight

**COLDWELL
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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Finding Home: Coldwell Banker Realtor Jeanne Kubiak

Story by Claire Sheridan

Jeanne Kubiak is no ordinary Real Estate Agent; she's a driven, experienced professional woman with a sharp sense of humor, and she dedicates herself fully to the needs of her clients. Although she is a relative newcomer to the real estate business, she brings a multitude of past experiences to her craft.



Cheyenne, Dakota & Jeanne

A 15-year veteran of the Navy, Jeanne definitely knows a few things about dedication, service, and discipline. After her retirement from Naval service, Jeanne and her late husband spent 12 years working as civilian contractors to the Department of Navy/Department of Defense, where they continued to travel on ships all over the world. Some of her favorite places included: Washington State, Singapore, and Australia.

Her personal experience of near constant travel, combined with the necessity of having to make home wherever she was, fueled Jeanne's interest in finding her own home. Her love of HGTV (which she admits to being slightly addicted to), her enjoyment of meeting new people, and her interest in always learning new things helped propel her decision to make finding homes for others into her next career.

In addition to the influence of HGTV, Jeanne's father, who was a manager at a lumber company, was a contractor who built houses from the ground up. She recalled that her dad would build or remodel a new home for her family, and that, growing up, her family would move every two to three years. The childhood house Jeanne most liked living in was one that her father built; she was sixteen years old when the family lived there. The house was on a highway in Iowa. Two of her favorite features were the open floor plan, and the central vacuuming system, which, because it was so quiet, enabled her to vacuum while watching television!



Dakota & Cheyanne

Jeanne did her homework when looking for a real estate company with which to affiliate herself. She wanted to be independent in her job, but also wanted the camaraderie that comes from working in a team. Jeanne found exactly what she was looking for at Coldwell Banker. She said, "Everyone at Coldwell Banker helps everybody."

One of the best parts of having her own home on land was that she was able to once again have dogs! Traveling in the Navy and as a civilian contractor on ships, Jeanne had not been able to have dogs, which she sorely missed.

As a child, her family had a much-loved Pomeranian named Nikky. Jeanne longed to have a permanent non-floating home where she would be able to share her love with another dog.



Birthday Girls

After moving to their home east of Tucson, Jeanne and her late husband each got a dog. Cheyanne, a half Queensland Heeler-half mutt, was her husband's loyal companion. Since his death, Cheyanne has lived even more up to the shy prefix of her name. The other half of Jeanne's pack is a Blue Heeler named Dakota. Where Cheyanne has a white coat, Dakota's coat is black; where Cheyanne is shy, Dakota is garrulous. The two come together to form the perfect bookends of the pack.



Cheyenne & Dakota

When Jeanne decided she needed to be closer to town, she looked for a house that would suit "the girls." Cheyanne and Dakota, while not exactly spoiled, certainly have a human who caters to their needs. The pack takes frequent long walks; there is rarely an evening that passes without the throwing of balls in the backyard, and the weekly

doggy daycare dates help keep the two herders busy with dog friends, while keeping their human sane.

Jeanne believes strongly in the importance of finding the right home for each person. "Everybody finds their own unique way of fixing a home for their own special family." She works hard to develop a relationship with each of her clients, and she focuses on really understanding their needs. It is important to Jeanne that her clients are pleased with her service, and she goes out of her way to go beyond expectations.

One of her particular areas of expertise is in preparing for home inspections. "You've gotta know what to expect from different kinds of inspections. I just did a VA inspection, and we flew through with no discrepancies." Jeanne noted that the number one way to prepare for inspections is to be honest.

Additionally, Jeanne has completed specialized training to become both a Military Relocation Professional (MRP), and a Certified Military Residential Specialist (CMRP). Her personal experience serving in the Navy helps her to really understand the unique circumstances surrounding finding the right home, especially for folks in the military.

You can reach Jeanne at: 520-308-9131, or email: Jeanne.kubiak@azmoves.com. Check out her website: www.jeannetucsonhomesforsale.com



Jeanne Kubiak

Residential Realtor

520-308-9131

Jeanne.kubiak@azmoves.com
jeannestucsonhomesforsale.com

The difference between a house and a home is love – and sometimes the smallest things are all it takes to fill that void. Let me help you find the home for you and your pets.



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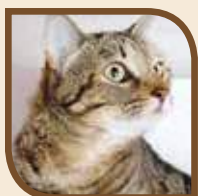
All the cats on these pages are available for adoption now. If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends, please call the group listed with the picture.



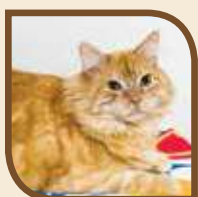
ROSEMARY (A615998) - I'm a brown and white tabby who is around 3 years old. I came to the shelter in October. I keep my coat clean and my paws dry. If you choose to meet me and take me home, I promise to help you when you're tying your shoelaces. I'll look for leaky faucets in the house and remind you to clean up any dirty dishes lying around. [Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900](#)



JAMES (A612073) - I'm a 5-year-old black and white domestic longhair boy. I've been living at the shelter now since September. I'm a fan of gardening so I'll watch you through the window when you go to work outside. I like feeling the breeze blow along my whiskers so a screen sounds wonderful to me as well. My worst enemies are fluffy high dusters so if I see one I will stalk it for you. [Pima Animal Care Center 520-724-5900](#)



LOLA I am a 5-year-old girl looking for the purr-fect home! I am currently the longest term resident at HSSA. I am very affectionate and love to give head bumps and kisses! I will do best in a home where I am your only pet so that I can get all of your love and attention. My dream home would have a sunny corner with a comfortable bed where I can watch the birds outside. [Humane Society of Southern Arizona 520-327-6088 x173](#)



WYATT EARP (841699) - Hi! I'm a 2-year-old boy that came to HSSA overweight and with teeth that were not in very good shape. Now I'm on a special diet that helped me get back on track to being a healthy, happy cat. I love people and will happily sit with you. I am calm and looking for someone just as mellow. I want to be an only pet. I have been diagnosed with FIV but don't be scared. It just means I will need to be an indoor only cat. [Humane Society of Southern Arizona 520-327-6088 x173](#)



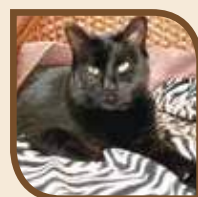
ANNA (23481236) - I'm a 3-year-old kitty with pointy ears. Meet me and fall in love. Take a photo of me and have it framed so that you can place it on your bedside table, and so I can knock it over in the middle of the night when I get up to have a drink out of your water glass. That mysterious crash you heard that woke you up was just me. [Saving Animals from Euthanasia \(SAFE\) 520-349-8637](#)



BUDDY (34313815) - I'm Buddy and I'm a Siamese mix who is almost 8 years old. My New Year's resolution is to find the best home ever. I'm ready to take the spotlight. If you leave out important papers, I may lay on them, but that's only because I like the attention. I may step on your keyboard, or bite your pen while you write, but that's only because I'm hungry. [Saving Animals from Euthanasia \(SAFE\) 520-349-8637](#)



HALO Hello! I'm a super sweet girl who has had a bit of a rough time—I don't have a tail anymore, but I'm not letting that get me down. I'm affectionate, outgoing, and ready to find my forever family. I'm a bit of a talker—but a good listener too. I'm more torby than tabby, with a great streak of orange, and then an Abyssinian "ticking" ... can we call me a torbyssinian, perhaps? [Saving at Risk Animals 520-499-0545](#)



WANDA I'm a loving, lovable lap cat, looking for a new family and a home of my own. When you walk by the couch I'll hop right up, hoping to entice you to sit awhile. I'm sweet, sleek, and clearly go well with any decor. With a fabulous purrsonality, I get along with cats, dogs, and people. My asthma, common in pets, is well controlled with an inexpensive medication, which I take daily. [Saving at Risk Animals 520-499-0545](#)



CHEYANNE Hi, I'm Cheyanne. I had an injury that didn't get treated for a long time. Feeling bad made it hard for me to trust that people cared about me. I'm healthy now, but I prefer to keep to myself. I haven't decided yet if maybe I'll trust people someday. If you're the kind of person who is willing to give a guy like me a chance and a loving home, please come and meet me. [HOPE Animal Shelter 520-792-9200](#)



JACK I'll be honest, it took me a while to trust people. I've come around though. It turns out that being pet feels really good! I like other cats a lot, and boy do I love to eat. We have chicken one night a week here, and I hope we can do that at home too! Since I was born at the shelter, it may take me some time to get used to living with you. [HOPE Animal Shelter 520-792-9200](#)



REVERSE My brothers found their forever home already and now I'm determined to find mine. I'm an outgoing and fearless kitten who will greet all visitors at the door and entertain them all night long if needed. I play a lot and snuggle a lot. My ideal home would include either a feline or canine sibling as well as loving humans who will appreciate my enlightening their home and love me to pieces. [SOS Cat Rescue Arizona 520-445-3889](#)



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CATNISS My pregnant momma was dropped off in the middle of the Sonoran Desert. My siblings and I were rescued and given a safe life indoors, where I live peacefully with other cats. I greet my family with purrs, especially during breakfast and dinner, and love being on a cat tree. I'm a very active and playful kitten, love feather toys, ping pong balls, and those twisty things ... and love playing tag. Even though I'm initially shy, I will warm up to people.
[SOS Cat Rescue Arizona 520-445-3889](#)



SMEAGOL I'm a sweet, shy boy looking for his forever home. When you go off to a room by yourself, I will try to find you. When you come back from a long trip, I may have to sniff your shoes and the legs of your pants. Before you leave in the morning for work, you may find me trying to hide one of your ties. [The Hermitage Cat Shelter and Sanctuary 520-571-7839](#)



UMA I'm a very shy domestic longhair girl that will let you pet me if you move slow and talk softly. I'm good with other cats. I'm also good at finding the highest reachable spot in the house for you. I can be the centerpiece that brings together that homey look for your living room.
[The Hermitage Cat Shelter and Sanctuary 520-571-7839](#)



GALAXY Hi I'm Galaxy! I'm a silly playful kitten. I get along with other cats and dogs. I love to cuddle and play with my toys. Don't you want a cute little one like me? I'm not above fetch while I'm interested. String is always fun too. I'll check on you when it's time to wake up, and then collapse on you to keep you from leaving. Don't roll over on top of me! [Tucson2Tails 520-812-5682](#)



TIGGER I am 9 years old and came from a home where my owner was going into a nursing home. Before that my first owner passed away. I'm a talker and meow for attention and love. I'm affectionate and adventurous. I come when you call my name. If I'm the special boy you are looking for, I would love to meet you. [Tucson2Tails 520-812-5682](#)



SADIE I'm a 15-year-old longhaired cat. I would love a home where I can sit in a lap and be brushed often! My eyes are green, which is lucky, because it's my favorite color. I'll try to wake up when you do and then go to sleep for the night at the same time as well. Let's take it easy and become fast friends. [Pima Paws for Life 520-867-1193](#)



CLAUDETTE Since posters and inquiries failed to turn up my owners, their loss is going to be your gain! I'm a 2-year-old sweet beauty at only 6 pounds, so you'll hardly feel me at all when I hop up into your lap. If you get yourself on over here to meet me, well, life will be just peaches and cream for us both! [The Animal League of Green Valley 520-625-3170](#)



CATO Seven years I lived with my wonderful mom who just went into assisted living. We shared lots of love, many mornings perusing the paper over coffee, afternoons sitting in a chair and helping her knit (THAT was fun!), evenings watching TV. I'm going to miss all that, but I know that given my personality (and superb good looks and loving nature) someone can help me fill that void in my life just like I'll do for them. [The Animal League of Green Valley 520-625-3170](#)



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Animal Resource Guide

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www.talgv.org

HOPE Animal Shelter

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

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

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

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter

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

Pima Paws for Life

2555 W. Zinnia Ave., Tucson
(520) 867-1193
info@pimapawsforlife.org

The Hermitage Cat Rescue & Sanctuary

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

Local Rescues

Animal Rescue Foundation Tucson

ARFTucson@gmail.com
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BARK (Baby Animal Rescue Koalition)

Find us on "Facebook"
At Baby Animal Rescue Koalition
barkntucson@AOL.com

Cochise Canine Rescue

P.O. Box 87
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info@cochiseaninerescue.org
www.cochiseaninerescue.org

Fair (Foundation for Animals in Risk)

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info@faircares.org

In the Arms of Angels

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inthearmsofangels@gmail.com

Miss Maggie May's Rescue

(520) 603-6908
missmaggieymay@cox.net

RAD Rescue Inc.

Rehabbing and Advocating for Dogs
radrescueinc.com
radrescueinc@gmail.com

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

The Sanctuary Project

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Tucson Cold Wet Noses

tucsoncoldwetnoses.com
info@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

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Tucson2Tails@Gmail.com

Tucson's Cause For Canines

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tucsonparrotrescue@gmail.com

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(520) 289-2747
savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org

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Arizona Cattle Dog Rescue
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www.ArizonaCattleDogRescue.org

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Aussie & Friends
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www.aussiefriendsrescue

Amazing Aussie Lethal White Rescue
Mesa - www.AmazingAussies.com

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Arizona Basset Hound Rescue
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Southern AZ Beagle Rescue
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Information@soazbeaglerescue.com

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Saving Paws Rescue, AZ
German Shepherd &
Belgian Malinois Rescue
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www.savingpawsrescueaz.com

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Arizona Bernese Mountain
Dog Rescue
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www.bernesemountaindogrescue.com

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Arizona Border Collie Rescue
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www.azbordercollierescue.com

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www.azchihuahuarescue.org

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www.equineencorefoundation.org
cfolch@gmail.com

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Contact@Heartoftucson.org

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Theresa Warrel Co-founder, President
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HorsenAroundRescue@yahoo.com

Wildhorse Ranch Rescue
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www.wildhorseranchrescue.com

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www.ironwoodpigs.org

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www.Handi-Dogs.org

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Therapy Dog Training & Volunteering
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Therapyanimalsaz.org

Equine Assisted Therapy Programs

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traktucson.org

T.R.O.T. (Therapeutic Riding of Tucson)

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(520) 297-2360
trotarizona.org

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

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

McDonald District Park

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(Harrison Road and Prospect Lane)
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(520) 724-5000

Northwest Community Neighborhood Park

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(Mona Lisa Road and Magee Road)
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Star Valley Park

6852 W. Brightwater Way
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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

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Green Valley
Hours: Open daily · 6AM-10PM
(520) 822-8896

Anamax Dog Park

17501 S Camino De Las Quintas, Sahuarita
Hours: Open daily · 6AM-10PM
(520) 445-7850

Story by Claire Sheridan Photos by Julius Schlosberg

*"Hope is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all" - Emily Dickinson*



A Box of Hope

for approximately 100 cats and 20 dogs in the converted residence, which is situated on 4 acres at 8950 North Joplin Road.

Although you won't find any feathered residents at Hope, you will find plenty to make your soul sing. Established in 2006, Hope Animal Shelter is Pima County's first shelter to totally commit its operations to the No Kill philosophy. As of September, the shelter's 2017 annual percentage of animals saved was 97.9%. They currently have capacity

available for adoption; they are only waiting for humans who are the right fit.

Hope's Executive Director, Susan Scherl, has always loved animals. She has a special fondness for cats. The former New York advertising executive took a trip to Africa that changed everything. Upon returning stateside, Scherl "knew she would work with animals."

Shortly after that fateful trip, Scherl moved to Santa Fe, where she became a volunteer at an animal shelter, then worked with a veterinarian, and eventually became the shelter's manager. It was a pattern she repeated when she moved to Tucson: Scherl first worked for a veterinarian, then became the administrative assistant to the Director at the Humane Society, and finally ended up working at Bernarda Veterinary Clinic, where she joined forces with veterinarian Dr. Kayomee Daroowalla, and the pair opened Hope.



**Executive Director Susan Scherl
Knows Every Animal**



Rocking The Cat Shelf

Upon entering Hope, you won't find kennels or crates. Instead, the shelter "co-houses" their animals, separating cats from dogs, and dogs by size and temperament. The rooms are open; animals are free to roam and interact with

one another (or not) as they choose. Surprisingly, even with 75 cats and 20 dogs in residence, everyone figures out how to get along, and skirmishes are rare. The lobby is used for food preparation, medication and food storage. Many of the cats have special needs: they are geriatric or require medication. All are

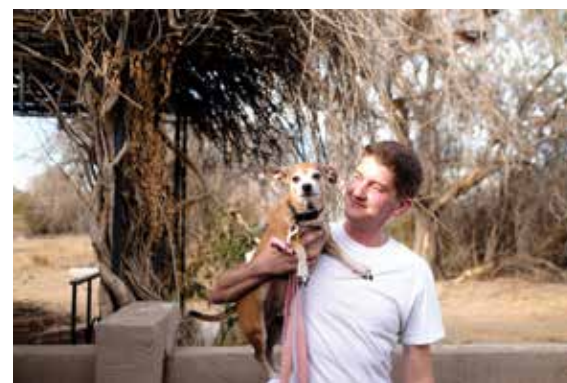


At Home in The Littles Room

Originally located on Broadway and Campbell, Hope Animal Shelter operated out of a veterinary office. The goal was to provide a home-like environment for the animals. Coming from the Humane Society, Scherl wanted to "know the animals and get them out of cages." Within the confines of Hope's original space, cats lived in 12-foot by 6-foot enclosures; the enclosure's open wire walls were the only things that separated the cats from the space they shared with dogs. Prompted by unfavorable feedback from the landlord of their building, the search for a new location began in 2014. Scherl recalled that she and another staffer found the real estate listing for their current home on the same day. Hope and fate intertwined as the owner of the building agreed to carry a mortgage for the shelter at a low interest rate, and the down payment was donated.

Scherl stated, "We have always been small and underfunded. We struggle month-to-month. Donations are down a lot." One of the challenges faced by organizations that make up greater Tucson's animal welfare community is "fighting for the same money." Locally, Scherl would like to see increased communication, collaboration, and "glue" between and among the rescues and shelters. Her philosophy is, "Why reinvent the wheel? Let's work together." In addition to financial assistance, Hope has a great need for more hands on deck

in the form of volunteers, and they are actively recruiting foster homes so that they can help save more animals.



New Shelter Director Rory Adams with Peanut

A recent positive development at Hope was the hiring of Shelter Director, Rory Adams, in August. Scherl said, "Rory is a godsend. More animals have been adopted out since he's been here than in any of the months prior. He was at the top of my wish list." With Adams in this newly created position, Scherl plans to focus her energy on fundraising to keep the doors open.



Adams is self-professed “total dork about animal welfare,” which he admits to reading about constantly. His love of working with animals began early; his mother, a physical anthropologist, “let me keep all the animals I found as a child.” His first rescues were daddy long legs spiders, which he hid in his closet. He began working at a veterinary clinic at age 13, first as a volunteer, then as an employee until he turned 18 and went to college.

As a student at Antioch University, Adams found his passion for social justice, which he combined with his love of animals by working at a nearby animal sanctuary. Upon graduation, Adams worked as director of a dog daycare, which cared for 150-200 dogs daily. While managing the daycare, he became fascinated with dog behavior and positive training methods, and he utilized the daycare center’s extra space to start a dog foster care program.

When he decided it was time to graduate from doggy daycare, Adams went to work as a foster care coordinator at Maddie’s Fund (www.maddiesfund.org). He soon moved into the organization’s education department, where, among his many achievements, he was responsible for creating an apprenticeship program. The program developed funding and sites to enable shelter staff from around the country to study at 12 different shelters that were identified as having best practices in 24 distinct programmatic areas. The goal was to give staff exposure to these shelters, so that those staff could implement the best practices when they returned to their own shelters. In its first year, the program educated over 600 people.



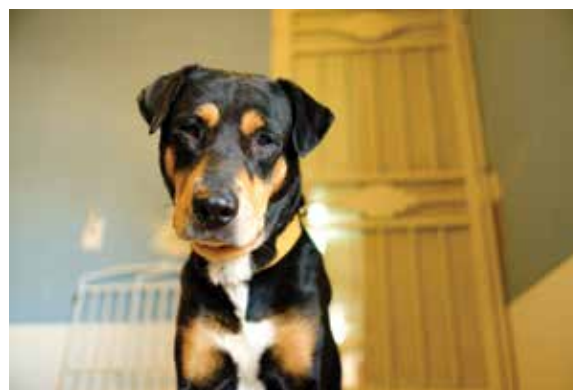
Little One Filled With Hope

Adams said that, while working at Maddie’s Fund, he learned that, “all solutions to problems are out there.” Truly a **HOPE-filled** outlook! He has many goals for his new shelter home. Among them are replicating the model of the No Kill group, Austin Pets Alive, here in Tucson. Adams’ first orders of business

at Hope include performing a gap analysis to determine the characteristics of animals that are currently being killed in the local shelters and starting a program for Valley Fever afflicted dogs. He is committed to increasing Hope’s capacity through an active foster care program, which he envisions will at least double the number of animals the shelter can serve. He also hopes to quicken the turnaround for new animals, reducing the time they spend at the shelter by getting them placed in foster care or adopted.

Scherl and Adams have quickly developed what they dubbed a “work-husband-wife” relationship; she’s a cat lady, while he is a dog guy. Smiling, both talked about how they “bicker constantly, like an old married couple, but it is always from the heart.” Adams said of Scherl, “One of the things that’s amazing about Susan is that she handles these cats and dogs. She knows every single animal. No other Executive Director does that; she has a total love of, and compassion for, the animals.” Between the two, playing to the complementary strengths of one another, Hope’s future looks very bright.

As a proponent of positive behaviorism, the philosophical underpinnings Adams brings are in perfect keeping with Hope—he believes all animals deserve love and kindness. To achieve that level of care, Adams has implemented the use of positive behavioral training methods by all of Hope’s staff and volunteers.



Jake who was Returned to his Human

This caring and compassion extends to interactions with humans as well. Drawing upon his passion for social justice, Adams uses what he calls a “conversation-based adoption” method. As opposed to strictly adhering to a yes/no checklist when speaking with potential adopters, Adams works diligently to match pets with people by asking questions about the prospective adopter’s lifestyle, and providing information about the individual animals. He is an animal matchmaker! For Adams, “the best part of my job is teaching people different ways to care for their pets.”

One of the happier occurrences at any shelter is the return of a lost pet to its human. Jake, a friendly and outgoing dog was fortunate to call Hope his home for only a brief time before being reunited with his person.

The leadership of Hope Animal Shelter believes in the importance of transparency and maintaining accurate records. The shelter participates in the growing nonprofit initiative called Shelter Animals Count, to which Hope reports monthly statistics. These numbers are included in the aggregate data of US animal shelters. According to their website, Shelter Animals Count’s goal is “[through] standardized reporting and definitions for shelter statistics including intake, adoptions, return-to-owner, transfers, euthanasia and shelter deaths, we will increase live outcomes.” By sharing their numbers, Hope contributes to the betterment of the animal welfare community locally and across the country.

Nobel Prize winner biologist Francois Jacob once said, “It is hope that gives life meaning. And hope is based on the prospect of being able one day to turn the actual world into a possible one that looks better.” For the animals that call Hope Animal Shelter home, however briefly, the world definitely looks better and lives are given a safe place to have meaning.

For information on how you can become a foster pet parent, volunteer, and/or

make a tax-deductible donation to Pima County’s oldest No Kill animal shelter, check out Hope’s website at: www.hopeanimalshelter.net, call 520-792-9200, or visit them at: 8950 N. Joplin Lane, Tucson, AZ 85742.



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Working Dogs



Gabriel's Angels believes that the bond between a therapy dog and a child is strong enough to break the cycle of violence.

Gabriel's Angels: A Blessing for Children and Dogs

Story by Rhishja Larson

Photos courtesy of Jackie Theodorakis/Gabriel's Angels

Do you believe a dog's love can mend a broken heart? I certainly do, and here in Arizona, there is an entire organization built on the healing power of a dog's love: Gabriel's Angels.

Founded in 2000, the mission of Gabriel's Angels is "to deliver healing pet therapy to at-risk children, nurturing

children. A list of partner facilities can be viewed on the Gabriel's Angels website at: gabrielsangels.org/volunteer/facilities

I asked Jackie what makes Gabriel's Angels Therapy Teams different from therapy dog work in hospitals, for example, which is known to have positive physical effects on people, including lowering blood pressure and reducing anxiety.

She explains that Gabriel's Angels capitalizes on those physical effects by "using that knowledge as kind of our key into the door."

"Once we're there, we can help teach these kids core behaviors like empathy, trust, respect and self-esteem, which are so much easier to learn when it comes to a dog, and that sets us apart."

their emotional development and enhancing the quality of their lives forever." According to its website (gabrielsangels.org), the charity serves 14,600 abused, neglected and at-risk children in Arizona.

The program's goal is to increase the overall sense of well-being and happiness for children in a safe environment and to build critical core behaviors, such as trust, empathy, respect, tolerance and self-esteem.

Recently, I spent some time with Jackie Theodorakis, who serves as Development and Program Manager, Southern Arizona, for Gabriel's Angels. "This is my dream job," she says; her enthusiasm is contagious.

"I started out as a Gabriel's Angels volunteer seven years ago, and then started my job two years ago. My Master's degree is in education and I've always loved dogs. When I was a teacher, I used to take my dog to my classroom."

Jackie explains that a Therapy Team is usually one person and one dog, but can also be two people and one dog. In Tucson, there are 50 registered Therapy Teams, part of a statewide roster of nearly 185, along with 40 Helping Hands delivering pet therapy to over 122 agencies.

"This is a really cool program for people who want to be a part of Gabriel's Angels, but might not have a dog or maybe their dog is not suitable for therapy dog work, or while their dog is in training. They can be a 'Helping Hand' - which means they go along on visits with the Gabriel's Angels Therapy Team."

Gabriel's Angels provides Pet Therapy ("animal assisted activities") at no charge to the agencies and the



In addition, volunteers are trained to provide humane education. "Some of these kids might have seen dad kick the dog, and that's normal. Or come from a situation where dogs are disposable."

But the real kicker is when Jackie tells me that many of these children "don't realize a dog is a living, breathing being."

"Their eyes light up when we pull out a stethoscope and they listen to a dog's heartbeat."

Therapy Teams offer unconditional love, as well as teach empathy, respect, trust - and a host of other life skills.

In many cases, that heartbeat is just the beginning.

Jackie recounts the emotional story of a Gabriel's Angels therapy dog who sadly passed away after going on visits to a K through 12 school for five years.

"The school held an assembly and a funeral. Lots of those kids knew that dog for the whole five years. You get to form really lasting relationships."

In order for you and your dog to become a Gabriel's Angels Therapy Team, you must first be certified by a national organization, such as Pet Partners. Jackie says that Therapy Teams have dogs of all shapes and sizes.

"We have a St. Bernard and a Chinese Crested. We have a dog that was a second place Westminster Best of Breed, we have a dog that was a three-time reject from a shelter. We have a dog with three legs. It doesn't really matter. It's all about dogs who love to be loved."

If you would like to know more about Gabriels Angels or how you can get involved, call (866) 785-9010 or goto: gabrielsangels.org



In Tucson, there are 50 registered Therapy Teams, part of a statewide roster of nearly 185, each consisting of one person and one dog.

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Tucson Cold Wet Noses: Bringing Hope to the Hopeless

Story by Bonnie Craig Photographs by Bonnie Craig, Heather Binnie

Tucson is a city of animal lovers. We have amazing rescues ranging across so many species and breeds. We are home to dozens of dog rescues alone. Rescues like Tucson Cold Wet Noses (TCWN) take in any and all breeds. What sets them apart is the fact that they most often cater to special needs dogs.

Dogs are the most common of service animals, but what about dogs with special needs? Who helps them, and what happens when they end up in shelters? Unfortunately, the odds are often not in their favor, and while places like Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) do absolutely everything they can for them, their resources don't always extend quite far enough. For many of these dogs, a shelter environment is not conducive to their wellbeing, and people are less likely to adopt them, especially when shelters are brimming with younger, healthier dogs.



This is where Tucson Cold Wet Noses comes in. They pull dogs almost exclusively from county and Humane Society shelters. Older dogs or dogs with chronic issues such as

Diabetes, Valley Fever, seizures, or behavioral issues have a real advocate in this group. Since 2006, when co-directors Terri Goddard and Signe Razzi created the 501(c)3, TCWN has rescued between 2,500 and 3,000 dogs, many of whom are seniors, special needs, and/or hospice cases. These dogs all have remarkable stories, many of them starting tragically, but TCWN continues to provide them with happy endings.

Daisy Duke has known more than her share of hardship. Her foster mom, Sara Thomas, thinks the beautiful Redbone Coonhound is around six years old. Daisy was originally rescued from the euthanasia list at Pinal County Animal Control. Unlike many of TCWN's other fosters, this was due to nothing more than overcrowding in the shelter, and the fact that she had been there too long. Not long after her rescue, at an adoption event at PetSmart, an employee fell in love with Daisy and decided to adopt her. They were a perfect fit. Her adopter was epileptic and trained her to be a seizure alert service dog. Sadly, this happy time for Daisy was short lived.

After a year and a half in her new home, Daisy's person passed away from a seizure. She tried to help him, but to no avail. After three days of her persistent barking, someone finally heeded Daisy's plea for help and discovered the situation, and so she was uprooted again. Daisy landed in another foster home, was adopted out, and ran away. She evaded capture for three days, until finally, a kind stranger opened up his car door, and in she jumped. Her last home didn't want Daisy back, but as luck would have it, the kind man in the car took her home to his father who had Parkinson's disease. Every time the tremors associated with that condition came on, Daisy would go to him and lay her head on his chest. Daisy adapted well, her personality and intelligence showing through her sadness and trauma. The man would always wear a hat when he went out, so Daisy learned to go and get the hat when she wanted to go out. Unfortunately, change, the only constant in Daisy's life, was coming once again.

While loyal, smart and sweet, Daisy simply proved too strong for the ailing old man, and was returned to foster with Sara Thomas. She was adopted once more by another epileptic person, but they didn't bond, and Daisy no longer



Daisy Duke

seemed to notice seizure activity, or perhaps she had just given up, so back to Sara she went, and remains, still holding out for the home that might finally keep her forever.

Sara said Daisy was sad and shut down when she came back to her this most recent time, but has come back around. Sara and the others at TCWN now agree that Daisy is retired as a service dog. It's time for her to be just a dog now. She loves to play with her ball and tug toys, and is great with kids and other animals, although, as Sara says, she is an "Alpha Wannabe", so needs firm guidance from her people. This dog is completely adoptable, unlike many others in foster with TCWN.

Many of the dogs in foster with TCWN will live out their sunset time with their foster people, getting the comfort, care, and relaxation they may not have had in their previous lives. For this reason, TCWN is doing fewer and fewer adoptions, which leads to the lack of adoption fees coming into the rescue. These fees help to balance the often exorbitant vet bills racked up by rescues, especially those specializing in special needs animals.



TCWN alum Loretta Sugar

Despite this setback, Tucson Cold Wet Noses continues the work they are so committed to, making the world a little better, one dog at a time. Terri Goddard says, "We are blessed. We are just grateful for all the past, present, and future donations and support we get." TCWN is always in need of great fosters, and monetary donations. They are also in need of leashes, harnesses and new dog beds.

For more information, to donate, or to apply to foster or adopt, go to www.tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

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Volunteer orientation and safety classes are held the first Saturday of every month. Come learn about volunteer opportunities and see how you can help.

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Community Service: We allow community service hours to be fulfilled at Hope except for charges related to animal cruelty, domestic violence or drug charges.

Volunteer application: go to our website at www.hopeanimalshelter.net/volunteer and fill out the application form and return to the shelter. For more information, call (520) 792-9200. All volunteers must attend a volunteer orientation class.

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- Group volunteering available for companies or groups – Call Associate Director of Education & Community Outreach at (520) 321-3704 X142
- If you need to complete court-ordered community service, please call our Thrift Store at (520) 327-0010.
- If you are a teacher looking for a class project, especially for younger students, please check out our service projects for children through our education department.

Pima Animal Care Center

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- We also provide court-ordered community service here at our shelter.
- Looking for group volunteer activities? Groups interested in one-time or short-term projects do not need to attend an orientation session. Based on the age, size, and availability of the group, we can arrange an appropriate activity for you. Please call our volunteer coordinator at (520) 724-5937 and include your name and organization, number of volunteers, and whether anyone in your group is under 18.

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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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Pima County Pet Licensing

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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.

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Below are the numbers for each town.

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Special Feature

Bringing Home The No-Kill Equation: No Kill Pima County

Story by Claire Sheridan Photos & Graphics
Courtesy of No Kill Pima County

No Kill Pima County (NKPC) is a nonprofit volunteer advocacy group. When NKPC formed in 2012, 52% of dogs and cats admitted to Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) were being killed. NKPC is arguably responsible for initiating community discussion to address this problem. In the five years since, NKPC has had numerous achievements including helping PACC attain a live release rate of 85% in 2017.

The framework NKPC adopted to address our community's homeless and shelter animals is a nationally recognized and tested model, The No Kill Equation. Attorney, author, and former shelter director, Nathan Winograd wrote the equation in 2004, and communities around the country have implemented it with great success. According to the No Kill Advocacy Center's website, "hundreds of cities and towns across America had save rates better than 90% and as high as 99% using our No Kill Equation model of sheltering."



NKPC board members Marcie Velen and Jessica Shuman dream of the day when no animals are killed in our community, and our live release rate reaches 100%. Their dream was the impetus for NKPC's "Save The Saveable" campaign, which markets individual vulnerable animals at PACC, and seeks to get these animals into forever homes.



The No Kill Equation has 11 elements. They are:

1) Trap, Neuter, Return Program for Community Cats: The goal is to reduce the number of feral cats through sterilization programs; these programs reduce population and intakes to the shelter, which prevents killing animals.

2) High-Volume, Low-Cost Spay/Neuter: In our community, many people spay and neuter their animals; this is a widely available resource in Pima County.

3) Working With Rescue Groups: Transferring shelter animals to rescue organizations opens shelter space, and reduces shelter's operating costs.

4) A Foster Care Program: Fostering animals reduces shelter costs and increases capacity. Animals that would not do well in shelter environments, such as those who are sick, injured, or behaviorally challenged often benefit from foster care. PACC's new Executive Director, Kristen Auerbach, has dedicated numerous resources to increasing the use of foster care.

5) Comprehensive Adoption Programs: According to the No Kill Advocacy Center, "shelters can adopt their way out of killing."



introducing the new dog to his other dog; with the assistance of NKPC volunteer dog trainer Kim Silver, the problem was resolved, and the owner kept the new dog instead of returning him to the shelter.

7) Medical & Behavioral Rehabilitation Programs: NKPC identified this as our community's area of greatest current need. Medical and behavioral programs at the shelter lead to happy and healthy animals. While medical rehabilitation has been one of the most improved areas of the last 5 years, NKPC hopes to help increase resources for medical and behavioral programs at PACC.

8) Public Relations/Community Involvement: Consistently communicating with the community about individual animals for adoption and the shelter's fiscal needs is critical. PACC and NKPC utilize social media to help with this communication.

9) Working With Volunteers: Identified by NKPC and PACC as a community strength, volunteers at PACC, foster volunteers, and rescue volunteers provide immeasurable benefit to shelter staff and animals.

10) Progressive Field Services & Proactive Redemptions:

This refers to returning lost animals to their families; NKPC noted there has been recent progress on this element. One NKPC success story involved a stray cat that was brought to the shelter by a Good Samaritan. The NKPC Help Desk discovered the cat's microchip and contacted its owner, who immediately came to retrieve the cat. This avoided a shelter intake.



11) A Compassionate Director:

According to the No Kill Advocacy Center, "The final element of the No Kill Equation is the most important of all, without which all other elements are thwarted—a hard working, compassionate shelter director not content to continue killing..." PACC's new Executive Director, Kristen Auerbach, came to Tucson from the successful No Kill community in Austin, Texas. Auerbach said, "Today, PACC is one of the top lifesaving communities in America, rehoming the vast majority of the 18,000 lost and homeless pets who come through our doors. Thanks to the tireless, heroic efforts of our local rescue groups and community advocates, we're saving our most vulnerable populations—the sick and injured, the very young and our older, geriatric pets. When we call on our rescue community for help, they open their arms, their shelters and their homes, every single time."

The No Kill Advocacy Center concluded that, "Communities can quickly save the vast majority of animals once they commit to do so ...some of these communities are urban, others are rural, some are politically liberal, and others are very conservative. Some are in municipalities with high per capita incomes, and others are in those known for high rates of poverty. These communities share very little demographically. What they do share is leadership at their shelters..."

Our local animal welfare community leaders' commitment to working together toward the common goal of eliminating needless deaths of shelter animals has positioned Pima Animal Care Center to be the next success story in the No Kill movement.

For additional information on The No Kill Equation, check out the No Kill Advocacy Center's website, especially the tab entitled "Shelter Reform," which has many downloadable resources, at: www.nokilladvocacycenter.org

To learn more about what you can do locally, contact No Kill Pima County at:
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Horsin' Around



Scott and Monyoso UofA flag

hay prices as high as \$20.00 a bale, some horses were even turned out into the desert.

Scott couldn't see himself happily doing anything besides working with animals.

Scott's wife Jill has a background in special education and had even previously used animals as a kind of therapy to help kids learn in Atlanta. Scott is quick to admit most of TRAK's program ideas come from Jill.

Together husband and wife hatched the idea of TRAK, a 501(c)(3), non-profit with a bold mission statement: "Strengthening kids and community through animal interaction".

Community is a huge part of TRAK. A retired judge donated the land TRAK currently occupies and Whole Foods donates approximately 200 lbs of fresh fruit and veggies daily for feed. Scott tells me that about 85% of the work done at TRAK comes from the 300 to 400 people who volunteer annually.

The hard work of the TRAK community greatly benefits kids. Parents ask Scott, "How do you do it?." Kids that won't clean up their rooms at home can be found shoveling horse dung at TRAK. "Kids just want to be here," Scott explains. "It's like fishing; you have to offer the right bait. We have the right bait."

Scott sees a world where kids are losing their connection to others; other people as well as to animals. As technology infuses every aspect of our lives, face to face time is scarce; hands-on skills are rare. Kids need a real connection to the world around them and the animals offer just that. TRAK gives something that previous generations may have taken for granted: pride in physical work and interaction with animals that never judge.

Elaborating on the philosophy that drives TRAK, Scott explains how horses and other animals have a perfect empathy. "I think they can see right into your soul." Then Scott told me the story of a mare used for Premarin production. Horses used to create Premarin have less than enviable lives. Horses are kept pregnant all the time and

Therapeutic Ranch for Animals and Kids (TRAK)

Story and Photos by Zach Fitzner

When I met Scott Tilley, executive director of TRAK, his passion for his work was as obvious as his work-hardened hands. TRAK has around 75 animals used to help kids; from wiener dogs and St. Bernards to rabbits, chickens and horses.

At the beginning of the economic downturn, Scott Tilley owned a horse boarding facility. With the recession Scott says, "There's a reason they call it the sport of kings." Horses are expensive and for many they became an impossible luxury. With

their foals are taken away immediately just to continue the process.

The mare was at the end of her time being useful for Premarin production and so she was taken to live at TRAK. With a lifetime of negative association, the mare was shy around humans. She was especially shy around men. During a therapy session, a small group of people sat in a circle within the mare's pen. The people shared or just listened to others' stories as they felt comfortable, just as the mare kept her distance or approached people as she felt comfortable. Towards the end of the session the mare did something she'd never really done before: she approached a woman sitting in the circle. The mare gently nuzzled the woman, and as the people in the circle started

to leave, the woman broke into tears. With an animal, we don't doubt the affection as we might with a person. The woman told Scott a story of a rough past and it was clear that she and the mare shared something transcending the gap between species. Scott tells me the horse has passed away from natural causes but sometimes he still sees the woman lingering by the fence just outside of TRAK, feeding the horses carrots. "I can't explain it but that's the real deal."



The pasture near the front entrance to TRAK.



A duck near the chicken coup

TRAK helps other organizations in the community just as it receives help. Veterinarian and Animal Science students from various schools have opportunities to intern at TRAK and be fostered as the next generation of people helping animals. About nine behavioral health groups use TRAK for therapy. Several kids' special needs groups visit regularly. Students from two high schools come to TRAK. As we walk through TRAK's facilities, Scott tells me Boy Scouts also volunteer at TRAK.

The main thing about TRAK though, is of course the animals. We walked past pens of goats and sheep eating next to a sleeping pig. "That's Wilbur, the other pigs are mean to him, so he hangs out with the goats and sheep." We stop next to a pen of miniature ponies and Scott explains that the masks they wear are to keep out flies. In a chicken pen, small girls are gently caring for and handling small chickens. Scott explains that they once had larger chickens and a turkey but they intimidated the kids.

As I'm leaving TRAK, I watch a new batch of volunteers learning to handle horses and feel a twinge of envy. I know why kids want to be here. I linger near the front pasture, take a few departing snap shots and realize I don't want to leave.

TRAK is located at 3250 E. Allen Rd., Tucson, AZ 85718. To find out more call (520) 298-9808 or visit their website at traktucson.org You can also email them at: Trakranch@gmail.com



Lily, one of the pigs living near the bike path behind TRAK



A St. Bernard who greeted me as I walked into TRAK

me the story of a mare used for Premarin production. Horses used to create Premarin have less than enviable lives. Horses are kept pregnant all the time and



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.



TOBY I'm Toby, a registered paint horse that was rescued in Elephant Head when my owner had to give me up for financial reasons. While I walk, I like to imagine myself whistling. I've never yet made any music more than a neigh or stomp or a whinny, but a horse can dream. Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary 520-398-2814



CHAVALI I'm Chavali! I am a beautiful, sweet mare. I was originally rescued 13 years ago, but I came back here in winter of last year. I'm 15.5 hands and 1,025 pounds. Even though most might disagree with me, my favorite day of the week is Monday, because I like starting things over again fresh. Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary 520-398-2814



ARIANA I was found wandering in the desert, abandoned, starved, thirsty, and all alone. The Arizona Department of Livestock picked me up and then gave the rescue a call. Of course, they agreed to take me in. I've come a long way since arriving here in November 2014. I can hardly believe my hooves! Equine Voices Rescue and Sanctuary 520-398-2814



SUGAR I'm sugar, and I can only be adopted as a companion horse. Being a horse is not always easy. That's why I make sure I always take horse time for myself and have horse breaks, horse snacks, and horse naps. A horse spa day sounds like it would be right up my corral. Happy Equine Acres Rescue and Therapy (Heart of Tucson) 520-445-1510

TOO I'm Too! I'm a quarterhorse mare. Right now, I can only be adopted as a companion horse because I'm still recovering from feet issues. My friend Daenerys and I like spending time together like we are in this photo. Happy Equine Acres Rescue and Therapy (Heart of Tucson) 520-445-1510



SPY Spy - I'm 22 years old and 17.1 hands. I'm a handsome giant of a guy that is superbly trained. An excellent candidate for western pleasure, you might say, because I can make complicated maneuvers look easy. Yes! I am simply amazing! Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation 520-266-0236



SUGAR I'm 7 years old, 14.3 hands, and always ready for an adventure. I'm steady and willing to do whatever my handler asks. I will continue to improve with the miles. I am determined! Will you give me the attention and shelter and care that I need? Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation 520-266-0236



MAMA I'm 14 years old and 15 hands. You might say I'm put together well. Mostly, I make sure to take care of my riders. I can go all day. I will bring joy and fun to my forever home. I hope to meet you soon and that you have a nice rest of your day. Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch and Foundation 520-266-0236



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Special Feature



Barbara Bridges: A Champion for Dogs & Founder of K9 Heroes

By Claire Sheridan Photos Courtesy of K9 Heroes

Starting a nonprofit agency is not for the faint of heart. At 80 years old, Barbara Bridges is a lady never lacking drive, motivation or heart. A widow of 8 years, Bridges describes herself as “not one to sit around.” K9 Heroes was born from her compassion for animals, and understanding the need to fill gaps locally. Upon learning of the limited funds that many Arizona law enforcement agencies have to provide for police dogs, Bridges felt compelled to find ways to help.

As the grandmother of a military dog handler, Bridges had some personal experience with working dogs. One night she watched the television news and heard about police dogs injured in the line of duty, and began to pray for them. As Bridges learned more about the budgetary challenges facing local law enforcement, she knew she could help.



K9 Heroes Founder Barbara Bridges & Volunteer Stephanie Romero at Fundraising Table with Pima County Sheriff's Deputy Ahrens & K9 Biko



Deputy Ahren, K9 Biko and Barbara Bridges K9 Heroes Founder

With her professional background in sales (she was a realtor until 2005, and still maintains her license), her experience fundraising for other organizations, and a love of dogs and meeting new people, Bridges had all the elements necessary for success.

Even with those elements in place, Bridges was surprised that her 501(c)(3) paperwork was processed so quickly. When she filed in 2016, she was warned that the review process could take six months. She received her approval in less than two weeks. When she asked why, she was told that her agency's mission had motivated a quick turnaround of the paperwork.

Bridges has worked tirelessly since, often in the heat, usually solo. With a small crew of volunteers, she has personally set up and staffed tables at events and businesses all over Southern Arizona. Her mission is to educate folks about police dogs' needs and bring in donations.

One of K9 Heroes' unique commitments is that the money raised in any community will stay in that specific community. Although this makes accounting practices more complex, this tenet is important to Bridges because she believes that the work isn't just about the individual dog—it is a service to the community. “These dogs work to keep us safe; the least we can do is provide for their health in retirement by paying their pet insurance premiums.”

K9 Heroes provides a policy through USAA called Embrace, which helps cover veterinary costs for the dogs. At about \$1,200 per year per dog, there is much fundraising to be done to cover the many retired and actively working canines.



Southern AZ DPS Officers at K9 Heroes Fundraising Table

Some of the specific items that K9 Heroes helps to obtain for law enforcement agencies include: Recon Scout Throwbots, tugs, balls, toys, rewards, e-collars, regular collars, leashes, grooming supplies, nutritional supplements, harnesses, muzzles, camera mount systems that attach to canine harnesses, other tactical gear, bite suits and sleeves, cooling armor vests, first aid kits, canine oxygen masks, and K9 Heat Alert & Deployment systems.



A Small Sample of K9 Heroes' Toy Donations

The Throwbot is a tactical tool that is designed to enhance personnel safety by providing information about an environment before sending in humans or canines. According to ReconRobotics, the company that manufactures the Throwbot, the device “can be utilized to locate armed subjects, confirm the presence of hostages or innocent civilians, listen in on conversations, and reveal the layout of rooms – information that can save lives and increase the success of high-risk operations.” The cost of each device is between \$7,500 and \$13,000.

Ray Allen Manufacturing manufactures K9 Heat Alert & Deployment Systems. The company has been in business since 1949, and they call themselves “the world leader in professional K9 equipment.” The K9 Heat Alert systems consist of heat sensors placed in the K9 unit vehicle, which alert the officer-handler, via a pager carried on the officer's person, in the event that the vehicle reaches an unsafe temperature for the canine. There is also an option for a “deployment” feature, which enables the officer to remotely open the vehicle door to release the canine if it is deemed necessary. The cost of these systems starts at \$1200, and each system can be customized with additional accessories depending on the needs of the law enforcement agency.



Pima County Sheriff K9 Deputies and K9 Heroes

Joseph Campbell, author of *The Hero's Journey*, said, “A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.” K9 Heroes is a group of heroes serving other heroes.

For more information on volunteering, or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit: www.AZK9Heroes.org, email: Barbara.k9heroes@yahoo.com, or call: 520-840-2127

You may also contribute by buying groceries at Fry's stores; a percentage of your purchase will be donated to K9 Heroes through the Community Rewards Partner Program. Register your Fry's discount account online and select K9 Heroes as your preferred Community Rewards Partner. Their NPO number is: 81462.

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Special Feature

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary: A Porcine Paradise

Story by Bonnie Craig Photographs by Wyatt Welch

Most of us have seen the internet videos of impossibly small and adorable piglets frolicking around plush carpeted indoor environments. "Micro pigs" are just like dogs! They won't get over 35 pounds! These are just a few of the myths perpetuated about a breed of pig that doesn't actually exist. This problem, among many others, makes it so important that Ironwood Pig Sanctuary does.

Founded by Mary Chanz and Ben Watkins in 2000, the 501(c)(3) sanctuary is a boon for Arizona's dispossessed pigs. Every November the sanctuary opens to the public for their annual open house, people pouring in from far and wide to see what goes on at a pig sanctuary, and to support this fantastic organization. This year's event included free vegan food and soft drinks, a wheel of fortune fundraiser, and guided tours of the facility, which is spread over fifteen acres of desert, and is home to over 500 pigs.



This toothy yet charming lady is ready for some ear scratches.

Attending the open house was Tim McAvoy. When asked how he first became involved with the sanctuary, he says he was simply looking for something new and saw a classified ad for a position there. Being an animal lover, he said, "Why not?" McAvoy went on to live and work at the sanctuary for the next eleven years, learning the ins and outs of the sanctuary and its bristly residents. He explained some of the protocols while strolling the grounds, such as the twenty-nine separate fields that are strategically populated with pig herds based on their individual needs and personalities.

Pigs new to the sanctuary spend varying amounts of time in the temporary holding area where their temperament and personality can be observed, and matched to their new herds. These pens also serve as quarantine for contagious pigs and recovery areas for post-surgery and injured pigs. There is also an assisted living field for geriatric and otherwise handicapped animals who need special attention, and a slower paced life.

Because of their varied needs, feeding the pigs is a major production, and is carefully monitored. While the pigs graze throughout the day on hay and veggie treats, they must be fed in individual feeding pens for regular meals. McAvoy explains some pigs can be bullies about food, and some are shyer. There are also individualized diets and medications that some get with their meals, so separation is important, lest one of them accidentally get ahold of the wrong medication.

Water is a big deal too, especially in the summer. During cooler times of the year the 2,000 gallons per day supplied by their well is sufficient, but as temperatures hit triple digits, the sanctuary goes through 7,000 gallons of water per day. They must keep a constant supply of fresh clean drinking water available to the pigs as well as keeping wading pools full for play and relief from the heat. These pools are emptied into mud wallows each day for the pigs who prefer that type of refreshment, and are then cleaned out and refilled with fresh water. For these increased needs the sanctuary has two water trucks that make around nine trips into town per week to fill their 65,000 gallon water tank.



McAvoy brushes up on his pig whispering skills.



Chilling out in Comanche's field.

surrenders, or are sometimes found abandoned. McAvoy recalls a major rescue from Peoria Arizona. A woman had started off with a male and two female pigs. They were unaltered, and were not well cared for. When animal control intervened there were thirty-two pigs which were relinquished to the sanctuary. Four of the females gave birth within two weeks, bringing their numbers up to fifty. Inbreeding caused many health issues such as bowing of the legs and tusk infections. Now they are all altered, and living out their days together in style.



Churchill the farm hog says hello.

The pigs of Ironwood are lucky to have found their second chances in a place where they are treated with respect, and cared for like family, but they are not the only pigs that benefit from the sanctuary. Through their outreach program the sanctuary is able to provide aide to pig owners in the form of education, boarding, transportation, and alteration surgeries to prevent rampant breeding. It takes a massive effort to achieve all the things they do at the sanctuary every day, so they are always looking for volunteers to help out. They are also in need of financial donations as well as material donations in the form of blankets, sheets, peanut butter (creamy only), cranberry/grape juice, Vitamin B complex (small tablets), Ranitidine 150mg acid reducer, flaxseed oil capsules, prune juice, Fig Newton cookies, canned pumpkin, animal crackers, Benefiber (not flavored), antibiotic ointment, and children's multivitamins (no iron).

At the end of the day it's safe to say that in the case of the Ironwood Pig Sanctuary, four legs are good, and two aren't so bad after all.

For more information please go to www.ironwoodpigs.org or call (520) 631-6015

Shelter is important year round. Pigs like a comfy place to snuggle up, and are sensitive to cold and hot temperatures. The shelters at the sanctuary include plastic igloos (pigloos), small wooden shelters built on site, and "lowboys", larger low-to-the-ground ramada type shelters where friend groups can laze around together. A high school shop class built several pig houses for their final projects, and gave them to the sanctuary for the cost of materials. Even camper shells are utilized. All of these structures are open to let in breezes for summer, and are hung with carpet curtains for the winter, making them warm and snug.

Most of the pigs at the sanctuary are Potbellied pigs. They come in from animal control, owner



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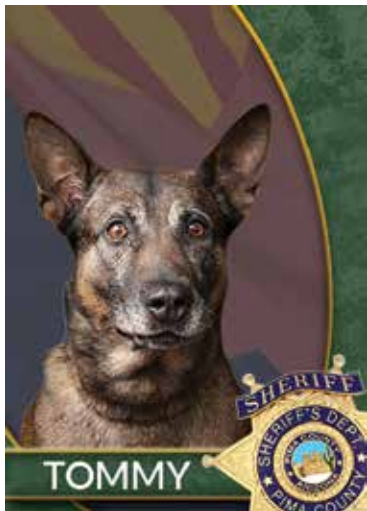
DOGS IN BLUE: THE K-9 BEAT



Tommy: Pima County Sheriff's Wonder Dog

Story by Claire Sheridan

Images courtesy of Deputy Richard Buelna & Southern Arizona Veterinary Specialists



Pima County Sheriff K9 Tommy.

Tommy, the six-year-old Belgian Malinois, is a three-plus year veteran of Pima County Sheriff's Department. Trained and certified in patrol tactics and narcotics detection, Tommy is the kind of dog a criminal would not want to meet. Even among dogs in his unit he is special, not only for his stellar record of finding humans and drugs, but also for the fact that Tommy is a cancer survivor.

In early 2017, Deputy Richard Buelna, Tommy's handler, noticed a lump below Tommy's right eye. The lump wasn't especially large. However, Buelna's keen powers of observation, sharpened during his nine years as a deputy, combined with the close bond he and his furry partner share, helped save Tommy's life.

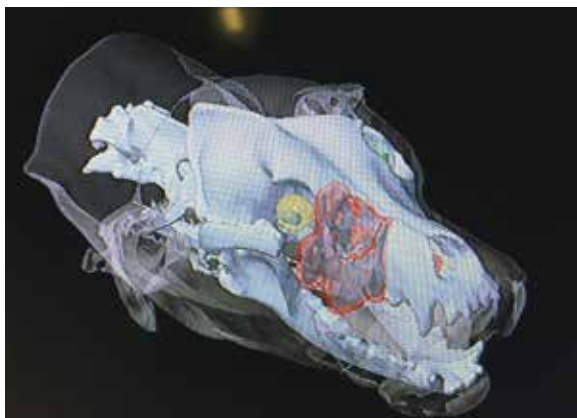
Buelna first suspected that an abscessed tooth caused the lump. He knew from previous dogs that abscessed teeth might cause puffiness under the eye. Tommy previously had two benign masses removed. Buelna took Tommy to his regular veterinarian at VCA animal hospital, where a biopsy was performed. This time the results were not good: Tommy's lump appeared to be cancer.

The veterinarian referred Tommy to Southern Arizona Veterinary Specialists (SAVS). There, the team met Dr. Mary Kay Klein, the area's premier veterinary oncologist. Klein, a native Tucsonan, is board-certified in both oncology and radiation oncology.

Dr. Klein repeated the biopsy and performed a CT scan to confirm the cancer diagnosis. Tommy had adenocarcinoma, a form of cancer that originates in glandular epithelium tissue. In his case, Klein suspected that the cancer started in his lacrimal gland.



Veterinary Oncologist Dr. Mary Kay Klein Image Courtesy of Southern Arizona Veterinary Specialists



CT Scane of bone removed from Tommy

The risks were high. Because of the tumor's location, surgery might impact Tommy's sense of smell; there was also a risk that his sight could be affected, or that he could even lose his eye. As a police dog, who depends on his senses to perform his job, these risks were especially scary. Dr. Klein referred Tommy and Buelna to her alma mater, Colorado State University (CSU), in Fort Collins.

In a move that would be unusual for most departments, the Pima County Sheriff's Department supported the procedure. Deputy Buelna believes that Lieutenant Carpenter, himself a former canine handler, was instrumental in making the procedure happen. "A big shout out to that guy. He understood the value of getting it done."

Once in Colorado, surgery to remove the tumor took five stressful hours. Tommy spent four days at CSU for observation, during which time Buelna had to return to Tucson. The anxiety of waiting for a sick family member to recover is something Buelna knows well, and his experience with Tommy provoked the same emotional response. "It sucked to see him come out of surgery; I didn't think he was going to live through that first week after surgery."

After being given the all clear to go home, Tommy and Buelna returned to Tucson to begin the long process of recuperation. But first they had the longest week of their lives; the next phase of Tommy's treatment involved daily trips to Phoenix for radiation treatment. Dr. Eric Boshoven, one of Dr. Klein's former veterinary residents, performed the treatments at Arizona Veterinary Specialists in Phoenix.



Tommy Undergoing Radiation Treatment

Dr. Klein said, "I was only the concert conductor [of Tommy's care]. CSU is the elite place to perform difficult surgeries. This was a big procedure, and Tommy never batted an eye. He is a wonderful dog; his handler loves him dearly."

Fortunately, due to the expert care Tommy received, not only did he "never bat an eye," he did not lose his eye, either. What he did lose were three of his back teeth, and a piece of jawbone with the tumor attached. Dr. Klein said that it was rewarding to see Tommy return to work. A month after radiation, he scored 100% in his recertification test prior to resuming his duties. Klein remains optimistic about his prognosis, although she is quick to remind that, especially in her work as an oncologist, "There are never any guarantees."

In the year since the diagnosis, Tommy has been monitored quarterly. In January he will have a CT scan of his entire body to ensure that the cancer remains in remission. Until then, Tommy will continue to perform his job with the enthusiasm he's had since before the cancer.

Tommy is known for the noise he makes, which sounds like Chewbacca. It is his go-to-work noise, a battle call of sorts. So far as anyone knows he is not part Wookiee, but this noise precludes the team from missions that require stealth. Tommy is the dog that finds people and drugs; he is highly attuned to Buelna's commands. Described by his partner as a "fun-loving knucklehead," Tommy's demeanor becomes all business as soon as he's in the cruiser.

The Tucson Dog sends best wishes to Tommy for a long, happy, cancer-free life. For more information about canine cancer treatment in Tucson, check out: <http://www.southernazvets.com/specialties/veterinary-oncology-tucson-az/>



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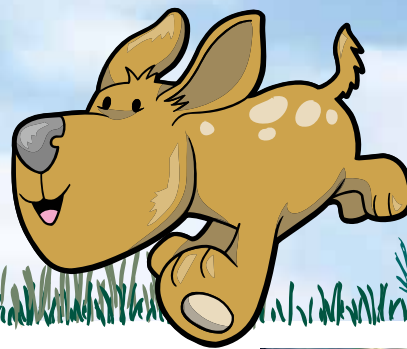
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Celebration of life



Tracy's Kidz

Story by Tracy Lyn Photos by Photo 2 Canvas

My life without dogs would be incomplete. Those of you who share my feelings know how intensely strong and deeply fulfilling the human/canine bond is. I cherish the 40+ years I've spent learning from, caring for, and living with dogs. I have devoted my life to my four-legged "kidz," and they have reciprocated with devotion and love that knows no bounds.

Grief is cruel and unpredictable. It hits whenever, wherever, with hurricane force, and with total disregard for however long it's been since it last erupted. It's been two years since Sophie died in my arms. Little did she know that at the exact same moment she took her last breath, I desperately gasped for my own.

A few years back I came across a book written in 1940 by Eugene O'Neill. It's a beautiful, touching, loving tribute to his dog Blemie: The Last Will and Testament of an Extremely Distinguished Dog. Coincidentally, two dear friends had quoted this passage upon learning that my boxer Seamus had died...

"One last word of farewell, Dear Master and Mistress.

Whenever you visit my grave, say to yourselves with regret but also with happiness in your hearts at the remembrance of my long, happy life with you: 'Here lies one who loved us, and whom we loved.' No matter how deep my sleep, I shall hear you, and not all the power of death can keep my spirit from wagging a grateful tail."

Many people have tearfully told me that they will never get another dog because losing their last one was far too devastating. Then they ask how I can continue (always and forever) to share my love and life with dogs, knowing how deep the grief will be when their far too short lives have to end. To quote Blemie: "I have heard my Mistress say, 'When Blemie dies we must never have another dog. I love him so much I could never love another one.' Now I would ask her, for love of me, to have another. It would be a poor tribute to my memory never to have a dog again."

I've been blessed to share my life with now 15 "kidz", and can't imagine my world without any one of them. There will always be more than enough love in my heart for however many dogs I'm compelled to give a forever home to. And my promise to them is that there will be more to come—it's just the right thing to do. Each one of my beloved Kidz has been a tribute to those that came before it. And although the heartbreak endured when losing one is immeasurable, it pales in comparison to the amount of love, joy, and celebration they bring to my life.



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