

The Tucson

May/June 2021

DOG

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

Cover Story: Flying High!

**Pet Health: Aquamation —
An Environmentally Friendly
Alternative to Flame
Cremation or Burial**

**Training: Summer Fun
For Your Dog!
How to Burn Energy
During the Hot Summer.**

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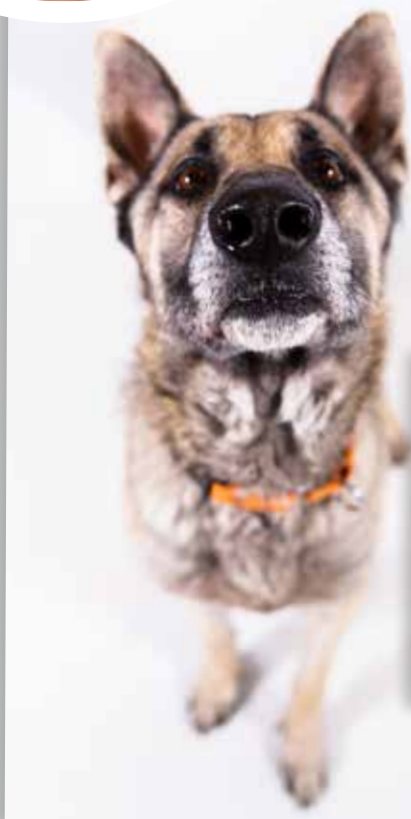
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The Leader of the Pack Speaks

Dearest Readers,

As we head into summer, I am encouraged by everything trying to go back to "normal" in our world although I think it will be a "new normal" with some insights gained and lessons learned.

With that said, we have a lot of changes going on here at The Tucson Dog. With the loss of revenue from some of our advertisers and our adopt-a-thon events being cancelled, we have had to make some changes to keep ourselves going. We have cut back in certain areas to still be able to print our magazine but we are now implementing some new things to be more digital friendly and make it convenient for our readers to get our magazine easier. First, our Cover Photographer, Candice Eaton held a contest for a FREE photo session with her to gain more Facebook followers. As well, we are now offering readers the opportunity to get our full magazine delivered to their inbox by signing up on our website. Not only will you get the magazine delivered to your inbox, you will also be kept up-to-date on events and changes happening there as well as they happen. We are also implementing QR codes on the front our magazine so you can read it with your phone and go directly to our website to read it if you like.

We are also going to launch a campaign to redo our website to add a lot of new features and other things that will be beneficial to the magazine and to our readers. Stay tuned to hear more about that. Meanwhile, please go to our website and sign up to get your new copy of The Tucson Dog emailed to you as soon as it comes out to keep up on everything going on as it happens.

In this edition, I am really excited about our cover story titled **Flying High!**, which shares the lengths organizations and many individuals are willing to go through to help animals in need. These incredible people thought "outside the box" and found ways to save dogs by moving them from a city or state where they were sometimes facing euthanasia to a rescue or individual in another city or state that could take them. They go by plane, car, and even a ferry at times. These rescue warriors found there was more than one way to get a dog out of the shelter. I was so happy to read about this and all the people that took the time to help transport dogs to safety. I LOVED this story and I know you will too! While rescue is a very difficult job, (actually, it has to be more of a passion than a job) with all the many animals that are neglected, abused and abandoned. But thankfully, it is offset by these extraordinary people that know no bounds when it comes to helping to save an animal. It warmed my heart and reminded me that no matter how difficult this past year has been for many of us and our businesses, we must continue to move through our challenges and stay the course in the fight to help those without a voice!

In our Training Feature, you will find out how to keep your dog entertained and stimulated during the summer when it's too hot to go out.

Please stay safe and enjoy the beginning of summer with your beloved animals! We continue to need each other right now more than ever!

Love, Light & Laughter,

Ann

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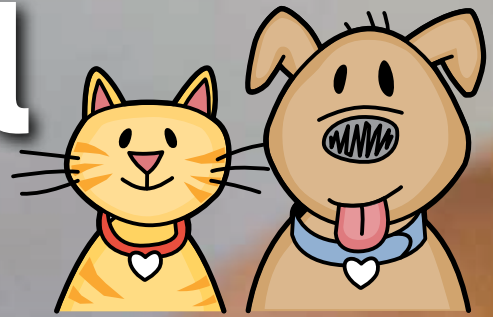
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The Tucson **DOG**

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ISSUE 12
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COVER STORY

Flying High!

Pet Health: Aquamation:
An Environmentally
Friendly Alternative
to Flame Cremation
or Burial



Training: Summer
Fun For Your Dog!
How to Burn
Energy On
Hot Days.

Celebration of
Life: Sheesha;
The Dog Who
Saved My Life!



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



Heather McShea - Sales Manager - Heather is the owner of a local Home Health Care company and often volunteers in helping find new homes for the pets of her hospice patients. She has three rescue dogs of her own but has a constant flow of neighbor dogs stopping by all the time; She calls her house the neighborhood dog park. Heather's love of our most vulnerable populations has lead her to Home Health Care and helping all animals in need. Email: heather@thetucsondog.com



Rebecca West - Staff Writer - Rebecca is a freelance writer and editor for print and digital who loves to travel the globe. A life-long pet owner, she adores animals and has taken part in fostering dogs for military members during deployment. She has given many rescued and surrendered dogs the forever home they always wanted, and her two favorite canine quotes are, "Be the kind of person your dog thinks you are," and "My dog rescued me." Email: nomadshighway@gmail.com



Bonnie Craig - Staff Writer - Bonnie 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: bonniehooligan@yahoo.com



Emily Dieckman - Staff Writer - Emily loves to tell stories - especially about animals. While she impatiently looks forward to living in an apartment that allows dogs, she fills her time with writing, reading, cooking and petting other people's dogs. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from California State University, Fullerton, and her writing has appeared in several magazines and newspapers. Email: emily.dieckman@gmail.com



Brian W Pettepiece - Staff Writer - Brian has a life-long affection for dogs and has been lucky enough to utilize his passion for canines in his professional life, operating a pet photography studio and participating on the board of animal related charities. Brian is attending the University of Arizona and loves to camp, hike, and generally spend as much time with as many dogs as he can. Email: poptop_vw@yahoo.com



Bella Wexler - Staff Intern/Writer - Bella is a student at Catalina Foothills High School, born and raised in Tucson with her family's two dogs and one cat. Her passion for promoting animal welfare has been inspired by her mom's dedication to fostering homeless pets and her sister's volunteer work with local rescue groups. She is grateful for the opportunity to learn from such a caring and talented team at the Tucson Dog Magazine and is honored to write about local people and pets. Email: bella@thetucsondog.com



Gracie - Canine Writer - Gracie is a 4 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 brother Andy, who is also a rescue. She loves traveling, Tucson and the many friendly animal lovin' people and their pets she has met. Email: gracie@thetucsondog.com

THE TUCSON DOG

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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. The Tucson Dog was established in June 2017 and is a nonpartisan publication that is published bi-monthly by Ann Herrington, Founder. Entire contents copyright 2021 by The Tucson Dog. Layout, Design and Graphics by EMI Printworks, Prescott, AZ., Linda Morris - Lead Designer, Mark Davidson - Production Manager.

Calendar

MAY

Fri. May 7, 7p.m.-8p.m.

Movie Night with Cats

Up to 3 in a group, 1 free bev & popcorn pp. Face Masks Required. Ages 13 & up. BYOB allowed.
El Jefe Cat Lounge
(520) 849-8856
eljefecatlounge.com

Sun. May 9, 6p.m.- 7p.m.

Cat Bingo - Table for Two

Reservations & Face Masks required.
Ages 5 & up.
Prizes include free hour lounge pass & El Jefe merch! Seating limited.
El Jefe Cat Lounge
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Sun., May 16, 3p.m.-4p.m.

Fostering Basics Class

Learn basics of becoming a foster parent from Finally My Forever Home Rescue. In addition to cats, learn about neonatal kitten fostering.
El Jefe Cat Lounge
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Fri. May 21, 6p.m.- 7p.m.

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Sat. May 22, 7p.m.-8p.m.

Movie Night with Cats

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Sun. May 23, 4p.m.-7p.m.

**HOPE Animal Shelter
Top Golf Fundraiser**

Sponsorship opportunities & booths available. Indoor golf experience for 3 hours of family-friendly fun & entertainment to raise funds for the animals of HOPE. Support the benefit & beyond!
4050 W. Costco Pl., Tucson 85751
hopeanimalshelter.net

Wed., May 26, 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

Meet the Artist Night

Meet & view the works of 3 local artists plus short Q&A sessions.
Art depicting cats or Tucson culture available to purchase.
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JUNE

Fri. June 11, 7p.m.-8p.m.

Movie Night with Cats

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Sun. June 13, 6p.m.- 7p.m.

Cat Bingo - Table for Two

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Sat. June 19, 7p.m.-8p.m.

Movie Night with Cats

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Thur., June 24, 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

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Fri. June 25, 6p.m.- 7p.m.

Cat Bingo - Table for Two

Reservations & Face Masks required.
Ages 5 & up.
Prizes include free hour lounge pass & El Jefe merch! Seating limited.
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(520) 849-8856
eljefecatlounge.com

Sun., June 27, 3p.m.-4p.m.

TNR Class

Learn basics of Trap, Neuter & Release from Finally My Forever Home Rescue.
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ON-GOING EVENTS

**SMILING DOG RESCUE SNIP-A-PIT
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**SAVING ANIMALS FROM
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**1st & 3rd Fri. of each month
3p.m.-6p.m.**

Saving Animals from Euthanasia

Dog adoptions at PetCo Pet Store
8050 N. Cortero Rd., Tucson 85743
(520) 719-6100
safeanimals.com

Saturdays 11a.m.-2p.m.

Saving Animals from Euthanasia

Dog adoptions at PetCo Pet Store
5405 E. Broadway Rd., Tucson 85711
(520) 571-1772
safeanimals.com

Saturdays 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

Saving Animals from Euthanasia

Dog adoptions at PetSmart
4740 E. Grant Rd., Tucson 85712
(520) 322-5080
safeanimals.com

**MOON & STARS RESCUE
ON-GOING ADOPTION EVENT**

Mon.-Sun., 9a.m.-8p.m.

Adoptable cats 7 days a wk at the Grant & Swan PetSmart location.
4740 E. Grant Rd. Tucson 85712
(520) 322-5080
moonandstarsanimalrescue.org



**PINAL COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL
CENTER ON-GOING EVENT**

PCACC Pets for Vets Program

PCACC's Pets for Vets program waives adoption fees of pets over 1 y/o for veterans. \$15 license fee applies for dogs (\$0 cats). Service verification required.
pinalcountyzaz.gov/AnimalControl/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx

**SAVING AT RISK ANIMALS
ADOPT-A-PET ON-GOING EVENT**

Saturdays 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

PetSmart (Swan & Grant)
4740 E. Grant Rd. Tucson 85712
(520) 322-5080
savingatriskanimals.org

**EQUINE VOICES RESCUE
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(520) 867-1193
pimapawsforlife.org/donate.html



MISSION:

To Promote the Human/Animal Bond and raise awareness of shelter and rescue animals.

THE WAY WE DO THIS IS:

- Donating to shelter and rescue animals in need
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- Paying adoption fees
- Grants to the public for emergency pet medical
- Education about responsible pet ownership
- Sponsoring adoption events



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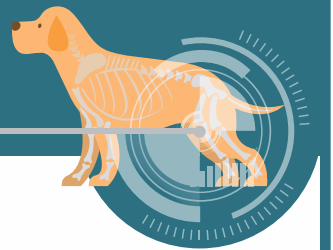


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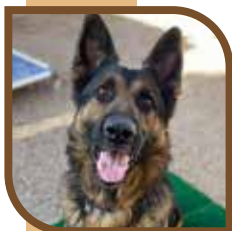
A VISIT TO THE



DOGHOUSE

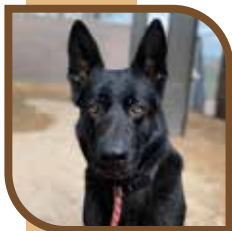
All the dogs on these pages are available for adoption now.
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PACC is currently doing appointment-based scheduling for people interested in adopting. Contact for
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neuter, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip & a free vet visit.



BRADLEY ID# A729679

I'm 5 y/o & always ready for a walk around the park! All about fun, I love playing with the soccer ball & enjoy splashing in the kiddie pool. Treat motivated, I obey polite sits & downs upon request. I'm a chipper guy, always happy to accept pets & affection. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



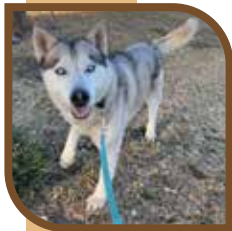
BRIELLA ID# A730450

I'm a stunning 3 y/o who can be a bit shy, a tad goofy, curious & affectionate. I leash up & exit my kennel well & love to sniff everything on walks. If you're lucky, I'll roll over & offer my belly for rubs. A sweet lady, good listener, fun & easy to handle, I can sit, make good eye contact, am very in touch with my handler, & I have a \$0 adoption fee.



ANGUS ID# A731452

I'm 10 y/o, have a pure heart, & my love is genuine. I take treats from your hand very gently, thanking you with some sweet kisses. I might be considered a senior, but I still have a spring in my step. I'm easy to leash & walk, housebroken, & just an all-around sweet boy with a \$0 adoption fee!



GHOST ID# A727957

I'm a 4 y/o who enjoys exploring the yard, inspecting & sniffing everything. I love when toys are tossed & chase after them to carry them back. I'll take a break from the toys to show you how well I do zoomies & then gently bump your hand so you can throw the toys again. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



TRUFFLE ID# 901205

Hello, I'm ready to go on my next big adventure with you! I'm only 1 y/o with lots of boundless energy, so I'm searching very hard for a special adopter who can keep up with me. I'm very smart & love people, plus I enjoy learning new things & going on long walks 'til I'm spent.

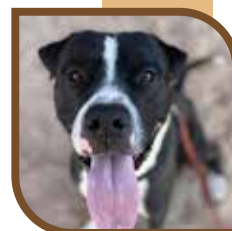
PRUNO ID# A730562

At 6 y/o, I LOVE my stuffed dog & take it with me on walkies! An energetic boy with a curious personality, on my daily walks I love to smell all the smells & keep an eye out for anything interesting. I'm one of those pups who leans into you for scratches & soaks up all the affection. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



BLAZER ID# A730629

I'm a smart 2 y/o boy who's very food motivated, so I learn quickly with treats. In the play yard, I enjoy practicing skills I already know like sit, shake, down, watch, stay, & leave it. I love to fetch balls, play tug, or throw the tire toy around. I'm a really sweet fella, full of life with a great personality & a \$0 adoption fee.



MILO ID# A680285

At around 2 y/o, I'm a cute little nugget with a happy personality who loves going for walks, smelling all the smells, & checking out all there is to see. I likes treats in exchange for doing tricks, & I'm fabulous at sit, shake, & down. A friendly companion, I would make a good jogging partner. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



JOSEL ID# A729902

An energetic 2 y/o, I want to know if you're up for a game of soccer, tennis, or basketball, cuz I LOVE to play ball, both offense & defense! A friendly, gentle, tail-wagging pup, when meeting other dogs in PACC playgroup I was appropriate with greetings & warmed up to/was playful with other dogs. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



LUCY ID# 901082

If you're looking for a loyal, loving girl who will always be by your side, look no further! I'm 3 y/o & love attention. Everyone I meet is my friend & I get super excited about meeting new people & other dogs! I would be the perfect BFF or partner in crime!



Humane Society of Southern Arizona
635 W. Roger Rd. Tucson, 85705, 520-327-6088 Ext. 128 hssaz.org

Cover Story: Flying High!

Story and photos by Nancy Schuessler



Johnson delivering Toby to Southwest Oasis Labrador Rescue at Marana Regional Airport

Several times a year, Al Johnson boards his blue and white Cessna airplane and flies from Marana Regional Airport to Deming, New Mexico and back. His cargo? A homeless dog. His mission? To help it find a family.

"It starts with a phone call. If I'm available, I'll get the basic details and look at the weather. If that's a go, I might prepare the plane a day before; one less thing to worry about," says Al. Most trips take him about six hours door-to-door. "Transport day starts about four hours before departure with dog duties at home and fixing a lunch. I arrive at the airport about 30 minutes before departure, get the plane ready, pull it out of the hanger, and I'm on way."

Al has been transporting dogs by plane for about two years. But it doesn't happen without sacrifice. The fuel alone costs about \$50 an hour. If you add in other costs like insurance, storage, airport fees, and more, the total cost might be closer to \$120 an hour. But that's just a guess on Al's part.

So far, Al has made over a dozen flights to help save homeless dogs. He removed the back seat to make a large cargo area for a dog crate. One dog can fit comfortably in his 1972 Cessna 182P. If there are two dogs, they must both stay in the same crate – and there can't be any fights. "Once I'm in the air, I can't do anything about a fight."

Going by air is not the most reliable means of transport. Bad weather and other factors can intervene. In two years, Al has had to postpone two trips – both for weather.

While a few dogs get to go by plane, most go by car. Every day and all across America, volunteers help move dogs that might otherwise go unsaved. Drivers might cross several state lines or even the U.S. border to help a dog in need. Some drive hours, even days.

Nancy and Ken Lindendoll, who live in Deming, New Mexico can tell you just how busy transport work can be. They keep a yearly log – how many dogs, for whom, and to where. Last year, they drove 16,347 miles, completed 92 trips, and transported 181 dogs, plus 1 tortoise, and 1 kitten. They provide their own crates, bedding, extra leashes, collars, treats, water, a GO bag for miscellaneous items, and handle all their own expenses. They do not stop for food and never eat while the animals are with them. "If a dog is anxious or needs a potty break, we'll stop. Otherwise, we drive straight to the next meeting destination." Their top priority is for the safety, comfort, and well-being of their precious cargo.

But they both love to drive. They see time on the road as time they get to spend together. And, of course, they are saving dogs. They started in 2015, soon after volunteering their time and car to a local animal shelter in Deming. Almost immediately, they got a call asking if they could help a little huskie-mix puppy get part way to Farmington. It was their 53rd wedding anniversary – a wonderful way to celebrate. "It was only a three-hour round trip for us, but it was the most rewarding experience, and we were hooked."

How does a driver know when a transport is needed? It often begins with a transport

coordinator, like Jeannette Wahl, who lives in Phoenix. Jeannette heads up the transport team for a Tucson-based non-profit called Southwest Oasis Labrador Rescue (SOLR). SOLR rescues homeless and abandoned Labrador Retrievers from an area that includes Arizona, Utah, Texas, New Mexico, and Mexico. Rescuing one dog might involve 300 to 1200 miles and up to 10 volunteers.

"When we get a request to save a Lab, I check to see where the dog is," says Jeannette. "There are transport coordinators in different states who help. They set up transport from their state to all over the United States. If it is a Labrador from another state, I will see if they can help. When the dog gets close to Arizona, I will use our transporters to finish the trip." Jeannette currently has 25 volunteers who assist with transportation.



A Labrador en route to a foster for Southwest Oasis Labrador Rescue

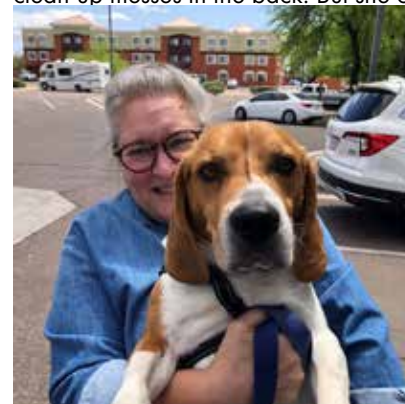
Like Nancy and Ken, volunteers often help several different dog rescues and cross-country transport organizations. Most work with a transport coordinator, who plans the route, secures the drivers, and creates a time schedule. Once on route, dogs are shifted from one transport volunteer to the next in a series of "legs." A transport might involve 25 or more legs, with one to three overnight stays for the dogs. Travel can be stressful for dogs, so drivers work hard to keep them safe, secure, and comfortable.

Terry Abrams, a resident of Tucson, has at least five rescue groups that call on her for assistance. A typical trip for Terry might involve moving dogs from Nogales or anywhere along the Cochise county border. She transports all sizes, shapes, and breeds. "I love driving south from Tucson. The rescues know the routes I like, and they call me when they need me." She says she never has a bad day doing transport, and loves being out on the road.



Volunteers moving dogs between cars

According to Terry, having the right vehicle helps, especially one that holds a lot of dogs. And sometimes a little muscle is needed, too. Terry can lift dogs, cart kennels, and clean up messes in the back. But she claims there's been very few messes to clean. "It's surprising how seldom it happens. I can count them on one hand."



Terry Abrams transporting a beagle for Southwest Arizona Beagle Rescue

Like Terry, most transport volunteers take several dogs each trip. For safety, the dogs are secured within a kennel or crate. If they're medium-sized dogs, she can fit four in her vehicle, but only two if they're big dogs. The most she's ever taken? "Ten, and that was crazy. It was a very crowded shelter in Pinal county, with far too many dogs. They were bringing dogs out of the back, and the rescues were calling me, asking 'can you pull this dog,

too?" She remembers one dog in particular – a little blind pit bull all the employees had fallen for. "It was a really sweet dog, but it would have been euthanized if someone didn't take it that day."

Nancy also recalls some very special transports. She helped two military dogs returning from service in Iraq get to Yuma so they could be reunited with their handlers. "We overnighted the dogs, and then drove them to Wilcox to continue heading west." She says the dogs were gorgeous and well behaved – a German Shepard and a Belgian Malinois. They were trained to detect explosives.

Friendships can develop, too, especially between those who meet on a regular basis, although the time together is brief since all have time schedules to follow. "We see each other on Facebook," says Nancy. They all share one goal – that is, to safely, successfully, and compassionately transport dogs to rescues and new families, so they can live a healthy life of love and comfort. "We only have them for a short time,



Nancy Lindendoll hugs "goodbye" before giving her rescue to the next volunteer

but we never consider a transport complete until the dogs reach their final destination."

"Rescues like ours cannot save dogs without this process," says Jeannette. She says her transport volunteers get a special bonus: "They get to see the new dog before anyone else sees it. It's very rewarding."

Al remembers flying 13 tiny puppies on a two-hour flight from Deming, NM to Buckeye, AZ. "They had a little accident before takeoff, and I had to deal with the smell for two hours. But it was worth it." He says the two volunteers who received the pups at the airport cleaned everything up. He was very grateful!



Toby arrives at the home of his foster, Steve Carrel

Two Dogs Get New Homes

A request comes in from Animal Services in El Paso, Texas asking if Southwest Oasis Labrador Rescue can save two Labradors that were taken away from their owner – Joey, a one-year-old yellow male and Ross a one-year-old black male. Jeanette Wahl, a transport coordinator, sets to work. Here's how the transport goes:

A worker at the pound volunteers to drive the dogs from El Paso to Wilcox, Arizona, which is 236 miles. This does not include the drive back home!

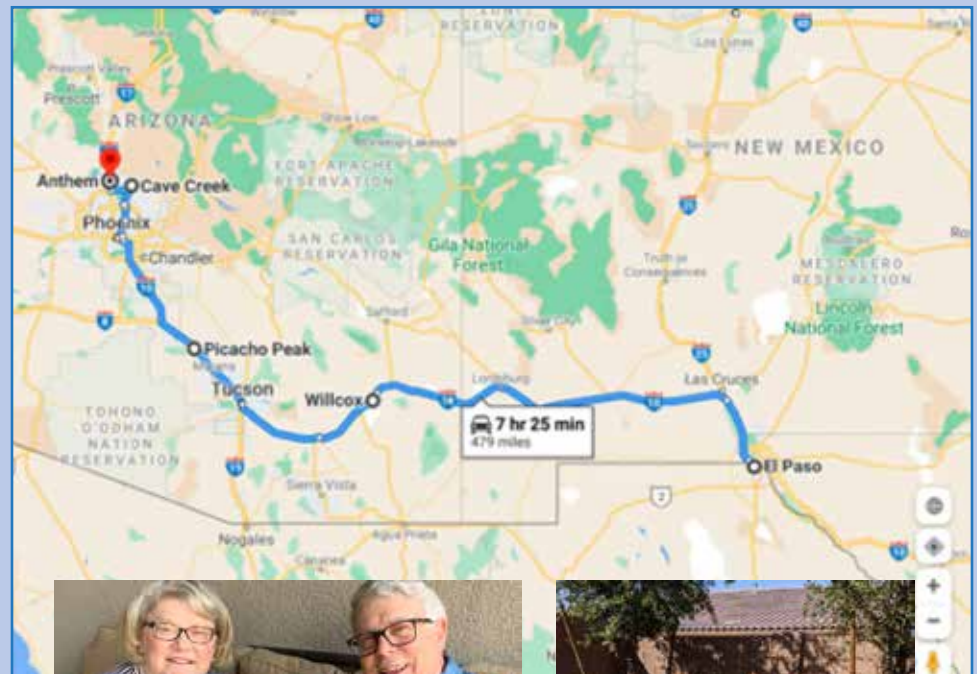
Stan Lindenfeld picks them up and drives them 123 miles to Picacho Peak, Arizona.

Fred Rykwalder drives them 99 miles to Chaparral Veterinary in Cave Creek, Arizona, for their health checkup. After the checkup, they will need to get to their foster homes.

Erica Gudenkauf, Joey's foster Mom, drives 27 miles to Cave Creek, Arizona. She picks Joey up after his checkup, then drives him to her home in Anthem, Arizona.

Jeannette Wahl picks up Ross and drives him 10 miles to meet foster, Brian Hubbell.

Brian Hubbell, Ross's foster Dad, drives Ross an additional 30 miles to his home in Gilbert, Arizona. And it all happens in just one day!



Joey with his new family, Karen and Michael Roberts



Ross with new family, Amy and Charlie Beier

The Scratching Post: Cats for Adoption



All the cats on this page are available for adoption now.

If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends, please call the group listed with the picture.



The Humane Society of Southern Arizona
(520) 327-6088 Ext. 173



OMID ID# 901621

I am 12 y/o who's ready to retire & spend my golden years snuggling up to you on the couch. I'm a friendly, sociable, & curious boy who loves to be pet & enjoys all sorts of attention. I am well behaved & would love to be a part of your family!



CEESA

I am a sweet little 8 y/o lovebug who enjoys being pet & loves attention, so if you're looking for a special furry friend to share your love & life with, you should come meet me. I have a feeling we're going to get along great!

Pima Animal Care Center: PACC is currently doing appointment-based scheduling for people interested in adoption. To be contacted for an adoption appointment: pima.gov/adopt, or sign up to foster at: pima.gov/foster, 4000 N. Silverbell Rd., 724-5900. Monday - Friday, 12pm - 7pm. Saturday & Sunday 10am - 5pm. \$0 adoption fee. Adoption includes spay or neuter, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip, & a free vet visit.



BAGHEERA ID# A733414

Approximately 1 y/o, I am a handsome floofer with a super silky coat who daydreams of stretching across the windowsill & catching sun puddles while gazing out at the lizards & bunnies. In return for some head scratches, you'll hear the sweet sound of my purr. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



ARETHA -DSH ID# A728741

At a year old, I'm a very social girl who enjoys pets, belly rubs, & showing off for all to see! I have the silkiest fur, love crinkle toys, & enjoy being perched up high to watch all of the exciting happenings just outside the window. I have a \$0 adoption fee.



TAMALE ID# A717245

At 4 y/o, I'm quite the character! I'm a little bit sweet & a little bit independent. I love sunning near a window & hanging out high upon a cat perch. I will also listen intently if you read me a bedtime story & love to roll around on my back. Please adopt me, as I have a \$0 adoption fee.



PERCY - DSH ID# A735978

I'm 2 years old & I make the best air biscuits! I love back scratches, I welcome all the love you're willing to share, enjoy playing with crinkle toys, & I love rolling around. Besides having the softest purr & loving tuna, I have a \$0 adoption fee.

The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary
5278 E. 21st St, Tucson 85711

By appointment only, with processed application Tues-Sat between 10am-5pm
Adoption applications: <https://bit.ly/2Ws7HCG>



CHAYA

Just look at my gorgeous face! I came to The Hermitage from another shelter, hoping to find my forever family. I'm a "Total Tortie," so I do get an attitude—but I'm pretty adorable about it. An affectionate yet independent girl, I love ear scratches & will reach out when I need snuggles.



BIG BERTHA

Hi, I just celebrated my 7th birthday! I came to The Hermitage because the doggies in my home were being mean to me—this makes me wary of dogs now. I'm also a little shy with new people, but if you give me a chance, I'd love to chat with you & give you my love!

Pet Health

Aquamation: An Environmentally Friendly Alternative to Flame Cremation or Burial

Story and photos by Dr. Kellie Barrett, Kindred Spirits Pet Services

Unfortunately, all pets eventually pass away and families are faced with the decision of what to do with their beloved companion's body. Until recently, pet owners have been limited to burying their friend in the ground or choosing flame cremation. Both processes result in a breakdown of body tissues and leave bone remains, but both

also come with disadvantages for the environment. Ground burial produces methane, a greenhouse gas, and can release harmful euthanasia medications or other chemicals in the soil. These toxic substances can pose a danger to the ecosystem as they could be ingested by scavengers that might dig in the burial area. Flame cremation burns fossil fuels at 1400-1800 F° and releases greenhouse gases and other pollutants into the air.



Pet Aquamation Machine

Aquamation is a pet aftercare alternative that has no harmful greenhouse gas emissions and does not contaminate the soil or ground water. It uses no fossil fuels and uses less than 10% of the energy of traditional flame cremation. It is a water-based process known scientifically as alkaline hydrolysis and was patented more than 130 years ago. The modern technology has been in place for over 25 years and is used for both animal and human disposal in prestigious hospitals like Mayo Clinic and many other major universities across the country like UCLA and Duke University. Aquamation is approved for use in the human funeral industry in more than 20 states.

This process is essentially an accelerated version of what takes place during natural decomposition in the soil, similar to Mother Nature. The body is placed inside a stainless-steel machine designed specifically for pets. A combination of gentle water flow, warm temperature, and alkali chemical are used to accelerate the natural process of tissue breakdown. The amount of water used during aquamation is low; about the same amount a family would use to give the pet a bath. The alkalis make up only 5% of the water solution and are the same alkalis used in cosmetic products, body washes, and even food preparation. After 18 hours, the alkali has been completely consumed and all organic material in the body is reduced to its most basic building blocks, leaving a sterile water solution and inorganic bone remains. The water solution is recycled or can be returned to nature as a liquid fertilizer containing micronutrients, amino acids and sugars that are beneficial to the environment.

After flame cremation, some pet families choose to have the "ashes" returned to them.

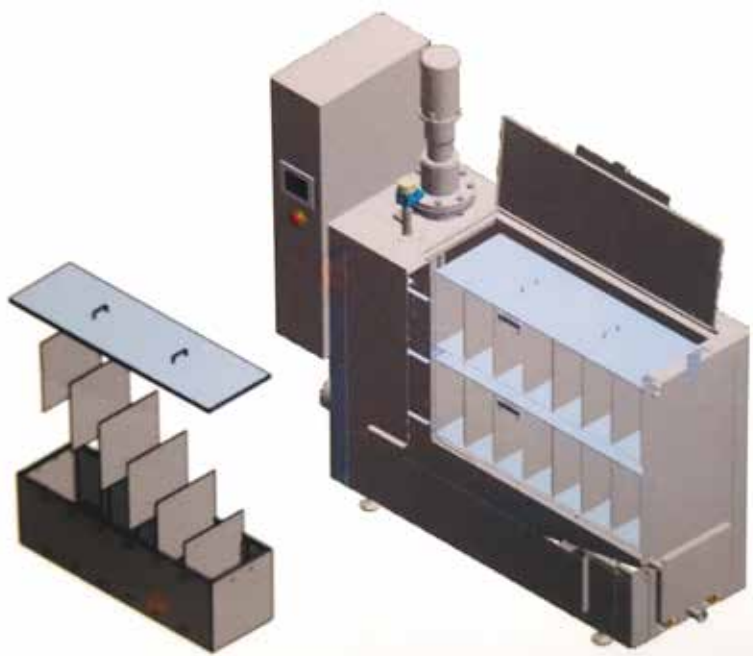
The "ash" is actually pulverized bone fragments left behind after the other organic material is burned away. Aquamation also results in bone remains that tend to be more brittle as they contain only the bone mineral calcium phosphate. The bone remains are processed into a sand-like powder or "ash" that can be returned to the family, as with flame cremation. Aquamation can result in up to 20% more remains than flame cremation as some of the bone is destroyed and expelled into the atmosphere through incineration. The bone remains are 100% safe and free of disease, chemicals or pathogens after the aquamation process.



Aquamated Bone Remains

Pet families can use the aquamated remains to memorialize their dear friend in a variety of meaningful ways just like with cremation "ashes". The most common methods are storing them in an urn, scattering or burying them in a special place. The powdered remains can also be mixed into soil when planting a memorial garden, tree or plant. They can be incorporated into glass jewelry or art, tattoos, paintings, ceramics or solidified into parting "stones". The remains can be made into synthetic diamonds and even fireworks. They can be mixed with concrete for steppingstones, statues and even memorial reefs in the ocean.

Pet aquamation cost is comparable to flame cremation, which varies among crematories and veterinary clinics. Just like with cremation, pet families can choose to not have the aquamated bone remains returned to them and the pet is comingled with other pets in the machine. This is a less expensive option and can vary by pet weight. Pets can also be aquamated individually as they are placed within segregated compartments in the machine, completely separated from other pets. There is no comingling of the remains which are returned to the family in an urn or container. Individual aquamation is more costly and varies according to the size of the pet and the type of urn selected.



Pet Aquamation Machine with Segregated Compartments

Aquamation is similar to flame cremation in that bone remains result from both processes that can be memorialized in a variety of ways. However, aquamation is a much slower process, more natural and gentler than incineration by fire and does not harm the environment. Pet aftercare is a choice and families can seek the best option for them.

Pet Directory

BOARDING

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(520) 290-8181
sabinocanyonpetresort.com
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CHARITABLE ANIMAL NON-PROFITS

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P.O. Box 85370, Tucson
(520) 610-4915
friendsofpacc.org
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to save the lives of pets in need.

No Kill Pima County

P.O. Box 86231, Tucson
(520) 477-7401
Nokillpimacounty.org
Working to end the needless killing of shelter
animals in Pima County

Veterinary Care Foundation- Northwest Pet Clinic

252 W. Ina Rd., Tucson, AZ
(520) 742-4148
Help Us, help them!

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

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

Pima County Pet Licensing
(520) 724-5969

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

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

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

Pet Loss and Grief Support
resources.bestfriends.org

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

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Keller Williams
Team Integrity Tucson
(520) 488-4221
kristin@teamintegritytucson.com
Donation in your name of \$250 to a local
animal charity of your choice upon closing
of your home.

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C. Eaton Photography, LLC

(520) 440-2167
Email: ceatonphotography@gmail.com
ceatonphotography.com
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We capture your precious memories

SHELTERS/ RESCUES

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635 W. Roger Rd., Tucson
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HSSAZ.org
Helping homeless pets for 72 years

Pima Animal Care Center

4000 N. Silverbell Rd., Tucson
(520) 724-5900
pimaanimalcare.org
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shelter for pets in need
**Pima Animal Care Center
Ajo Substation**
1259 Well Rd., Ajo
(520) 387-7502
pimaanimalcare.org
Pima County's only safety net
shelter for pets in need

Rescue A Golden of AZ

P.O. Box 71987, Phoenix
(520) 360-4414
Golden-Retriever.org
tucson@golden-Retriever
Non-profit statewide Rescue
Re-homing Golden since 1998

The Animal League of Green Valley

1600 W. Duval Mine Rd.
Green Valley
(520) 625-3170
talgv.org
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Northwest Pet Clinic

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Home Euthanasia, Aquamation

Special Feature

Whisper's Sanctuary Needs Your Help

Whisper's Sanctuary is a 501c3 nonprofit lifetime Sanctuary in the Canelo Hills of Elgin, Az. For 16 years the sanctuary has been home to unwanted and retired animals of many varieties including horses, donkeys, mules, goats, geese, chickens, barn cats and dogs. The Sanctuary is currently caring for 45 animals, many of whom participate in a no-cost educational program for children and families. The equines participate in therapeutic programs for adults. The Sanctuary raises funds to care for the animals through Sparky's Cantina plant-based mobile kitchen. Due to COVID, Sparky's has been grounded for over a year. The Sanctuary could really use your help with donations and volunteers to keep the animals fed and cared for! Please call 520-455-9246 or 520 455-5424, or email toni@rrheartranch.com. Come on out to the cool Southern AZ mountains to visit and volunteer! Thank you for your support!



We appreciate your support through donations and volunteering. Please contact us to get involved, we are actively seeking volunteers! 520-455-5424 or 455-9246, or email toni@rrheartranch.com

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From the Director's Desk

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Story and photos by Steve Farley



SUMMER HAS ARRIVED, and we are celebrating a wonderful season of energy and growth for the Humane Society of Southern Arizona. We are compassionately serving pets and the people who love them in ways both time-tested and brand new.

You have enabled the pets and people we serve to not just survive, but thrive, during a year in which all of us faced many challenges. Because of your generosity, our shelter medical team

saved the lives of hundreds of pets who came to our door with life-threatening health issues. Our amazing staff of clinic veterinarians provided high-quality care for pets from low-income families in record numbers—an achievement that, along with increasing our free pet food distribution, helped to meet the needs of our community in a time of crisis. We are moving forward to meet Southern Arizona's needs in new ways and new places. We have heard your requests, and we are acting.

You told us you wanted more support for training and behavior, so with the help of our dedicated donors, we have begun building a new Education and Behavioral Center, in collaboration with the University of Arizona College of Veterinary Medicine and working with local animal behaviorists, so that we can get you the tools you need to keep your family healthy and happy for your pet's entire lifetime. And you told us you wanted a new animal services center on Tucson's eastside. We listened. This summer we will be opening a new eastside location — with your help we will ramp up adoptions, admissions, clinic services, and much more in the near future.

Since moving west to Roger Road three years ago, we have lost customers, patients, and clients who live in a large area from the central part of Tucson to the east and beyond. To some of our strongest supporters who have shared with us that you no longer donate or volunteer or adopt at a location so far from your homes: We hear you. And we are acting to bring a new branch of HSSA to you.

We have taken the first step to serve eastside pets and people and accomplish our mission even more effectively and creatively than even imagined previously. On February 27, we took possession of a 16,000 square foot building on nearly two acres of land at 22nd and Wilcox, just south of Park Place Mall, and we are beginning a five-year plan to bring a complete suite of animal services to the growing eastside - starting midsummer with an expanded Thrift Store, adoption events, and vaccination clinics.

We'll share more news in coming weeks, including how you can help us make this dream a reality. Stay tuned, and email me at sfarley@hssaz.org if you'd like to be a part of this new chapter in HSSA history!

March Muttiness 2021 results

LAST YEAR, HSSA CREATED the first annual March Muttiness tournament with eight shelters competing in a

bracket to see who could raise the most money in a designated period of time. Even with eight teams, it was a big success, and a whole lot of fun for everyone.

This year we set out again, with 32 shelters from across the country facing off for the championship, and the good-natured rivalries ran right down to the buzzer – with cinderella stories, last-minute donations that change the outcome, and a whole lot of money raised to help homeless pets all over the USA.

We didn't win it all in 2020, and we came so close this year. A magical run, thanks to our generous donors, got us into the championship game against Ten Lives Club in Blaisdell, NY - just outside of Buffalo. It was a good matchup but they prevailed, finally bringing a national championship home to Buffalo - no Wide Right this time! The whole competition scored a slam dunk for pets in need, raising more than \$205,000 to help homeless pets nationwide!

Supporting Community Cats

TRAP NEUTER RETURN (TNR) is the humane trapping of feral cats to be spayed or neutered, vaccinated and medically treated by veterinarians. Once treatment is complete, adult feral cats are typically returned to their colony. If kittens are young enough, they can be placed into a foster or adoption program, decreasing the number of cats living on the streets.



Research has shown that TNR helps to humanely reduce feral cat colony size over time and helps feral cats to live healthier lives. As a result, TNR helps feral cats be better neighbors to the humans and wildlife around them. Ensuring these cats are vaccinated helps community cats avoid diseases that are a public health concern, such as rabies. Bringing cats into HSSA's TNR program takes a lot of patience and dedication. With our recent success in this new program and the dedication of HSSA's Community Cat Coordinators we have introduced the inauguration of a Community Cat Coalition and the creation of a Community Cat Center — with two full-time staff. This program is aiming to end cat suffering and make sure no kittens are unwanted in Southern Arizona by 2025. To learn more about HSSA's TNR program and to make a donation to help us continue this vital community work please visit [HSSAZ.org/TNR](https://hssaz.org/TNR).

With your support, there's nothing we can't do to serve pets and the people who love them. The Humane Society of Southern Arizona has been one of the region's most trusted service organizations for more than 76 years. Our reputation, gained over decades of exemplary service to pets and the people who love them, has allowed us to carry out our mission all over the Tucson metro area. We are thrilled to expand our reach this summer and add new faces to our HSSA family along the way. To find out more about us or to help support our programs, please visit [HSSAZ.org](https://hssaz.org) today!



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To Surrender a Golden call (520)360-4414

To Adopt or Foster visit our website at golden-retriever.org and complete an "Application to Adopt"



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Even though I am no longer an Animal Health Care Professional, I want to contribute to the well being of local animals in need. When you choose me as your Realtor, whether you are Buying, Selling, or Investing in real estate, upon the Closing of your home, I will donate \$250 to a local non-profit animal charity of your choice in your name. Buy a Home, Provide a Home.



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www.TeamIntegrityTucson.com

Training

Training: Summer Fun For Your Dog! How to Burn Energy On Hot Days.

Story and photos by Jeremy Brown, The Complete Canine



Archie playing with his puzzle

One challenge we all experience during the summer is how to burn enough energy as the temperature rises. Walks are spread out further between and many canines become destructive as they're bored and have pent up energy. Here are some ideas on ways to challenge our furry friends mentally and physically when it's too hot to be outside.

One question I often ask clients is how they feed their dog. This is a great opportunity to burn energy, for there are many tools that provide enrichment during mealtime. During the summer, I switch from regular bowls to slow feeder bowls. This makes my furry friends work a little harder for their meal, and

for the higher energy canines I use a Kong Wobbler. This toy allows for the pup to bat around the toy that only lets treats or their kibble come out sporadically. When they're done, they're typically just as tired as they would be if they went for a walk!

Puzzles are another way to stimulate and challenge the canine brain and there are so many different ones to choose from. My favorite brands for this are Outward Hound and Dognition. They can be found with varying levels on the challenge scale and are available on amazon.com or chewy.com. Depending on the size of the puzzle, you can even feed meals this way as well!

The Kong and other enrichment toys can be a marvelous addition to any summer routine. The biggest problem I see is most people put peanut butter in the Kong and the dog either eats it fast and they're off to doing bad things, or they're not as interested in it. Kong has a great recipe page on their website with great ideas on how to stuff it, but I like to be creative and come up with various ways to challenge them. Freezing

canned dog food inside the Kong is a quick, high value stuffing that lasts much longer than most other stuffing options. Most people do not realize it but they're microwave, dishwasher and freezer safe, so it's easy to clean and start over again! One last note when it comes to the Kong, make sure you have the right size and strength for your dog's jaws. For heavy chewers, we use the Extreme Kong and for puppies and senior dogs, the Rubber Kong is more flexible for their jaws.

Training can also be a great way to stimulate the brain. In fact, I love to teach my dogs to find treats and use their nose to stimulate them while using an innate strength. Nose work can tire a canine friend faster than one would believe. I first start by placing a treat on the ground and cue "FIND IT." Once they find it, I will go on hiding more treats and continue to make it more challenging for them. Encouraging those natural foraging behaviors helps stimulate mentally and physically, more than ever.

Another fun way to invigorate their minds through commands, is playing the come game. We play hide and seek with the dogs and challenge them to find us. Tricks can also be a fun relationship builder and a way to burn energy. Teaching a new trick each day can really be a fun way to beat the heat!

Living in the desert with extreme weather makes it tough to give everything we want to give our canine companions. However, there are many things we can do that not only burn energy, but these summer fun ideas can also help with creating and maintaining the best relationship between canines and their handlers!



Louis playing with his Kong

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Sabine playing with her new pink Kong



Animal Resource Guide

Area Shelters

Animal League of Green Valley
Onsite Adoptions
7 days a week - 10a-2p
1600 West Duval Mine Rd.
Green Valley 85614
(520) 625-3170
www.talgv.org

HOPE Animal Shelter
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Thurs, by appointment
Fri-Sat-Sun noon-4p
8950 N. Joplin Ln.
Tucson 85742
(520) 792-9200
www.hopeanimalshelter.net

Humane Society of Southern Arizona
Main Campus
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Sat 11a-6p
Sun: noon-5p
Closed Major Holidays
635 W. Roger Rd.
Tucson 85705
(520) 327-6088
www.hssaz.org

HSSAZ Pawsh @ Park Place
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Sat 10a-6p
Sunday 11a-5p
5870 E. Broadway Blvd.
Tucson 85711
(520) 881-7406

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Sat 10a-2p
1145 N. Woodland Ave.
Tucson 85712
(520) 289-2747
savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org
www.PAWSitivelycats.org

Paws Patrol
750 W. Camino Casa Verde
Green Valley 85614
(520) 207-4024
www.greenvalleypawspatrol.org

Pima Animal Care Center
Onsite Adoptions
Weekdays noon-7p
Weekends 10a-5p
4000 N. Silverbell Rd.
Tucson 85745
(520) 724-5900

Ajo Substation
Onsite Adoptions
Mon-Wed-Fri 11a-1p
Wed 4:30-6:30p
1259 Well Rd.
Ajo 85321
(520) 387-7502

Pima Paws for Life
Onsite Adoptions
7 Days A Week
7a-11a & 3p-7p
2555 W. Zinnia Ave.
Tucson 85705
(520) 867-1193
info@pimapawsforlife.org
www.pimapawsforlife.org

The Hermitage Cat Rescue
& Sanctuary
Onsite Adoptions
Tues-Sat 10a-5p
5278 E. 21st St.
Tucson 85711
(520) 571-7839
www.hermitagecatshelter.org

Local Rescues

Animal Rescue Foundation Tucson
ARFTucson@Gmail.com
(520) 319-9292

BARK (BabyAnimal Rescue Koalition)
585 E Wetmore Rd.
Tucson 85705
barkntucson@AOL.com
facebook.com/BARKTucson/

Central Arizona Animal Rescue
Mike@caaronline.org
facebook.com/CentralArizonaAnimalRescue/
www.caaronline.org

Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
(520) 616-0171
Cherishedtails@yahoo.com
Visit us on Facebook

Cochise Canine Rescue
Pomerene 85627
(520) 212-1718
info@cochisecaninerescue.org
www.cochisecaninerescue.org

Coalition of All Breed Rescues Arizona (CABRA)
Phoenix
arizonaweimaranerrescue@cox.net
(623) 931-1428
www.cabra.org

Hard Luck Hounds
(520) 261-7677
hardluckhounds.org
info@hardluckhounds.org

In the Arms of Angels
(520) 873-8135
inthearmsofangels@gmail.com

Lil' Bit Of Love Rescue
lilbitofloverescue@gmail.com
(520) 869-9537
<https://www.facebook.com/lilbitofloverescue/>
<http://www.lilbitoflove.com/>

Miss Maggie May's Rescue
(520) 256-3073
missmaggiemay@cox.net

RAD Rescue Inc.
Rehabbing and Advocating for Dogs
www.radrescueinc.com
radrescueinc@gmail.com

RUFF Rescue
www.ruffrescuetucson.com
ruffrescuetucson@gmail.com
(520) 490-0401 or (520) 339-0841

SAFE (Saving Animals from Euthanasia)
(520) 349-8637 or (520) 250-5080
www.safeanimals.com

Save-A-Bull Rescue
www.saveabullrescue.org

Saving at Risk Animals
(520) 499-0546
www.savingatriskanimals.org

The Sanctuary Project
(800) 691-9168

Tucson Cold Wet Noses
info@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com
www.tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

Tucson2Tails
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Tucson2Tails@Gmail.com

Tucson's Cause For Canines
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TucsonCFC@gmail.com
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Tucson Rescue Now Adoption Store
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Store 520 401-1950 and on FB

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(520) 661-4522
wildheartsfrcrow@gmail.com
www.wildheartrescue.org

Bird/Reptile Rescues

Forever Wild Avian Sanctuary
8605 S. Craycroft Rd., Tucson
(520) 574-3579

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

Cat Rescues

Hearts That Purr-Feline Guardians
(520) 297-3780

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(520) 289-2747
savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org

Paws Patrol
750 W. Camino Casa Verde
Green Valley 85614
(520) 207-4024

SOS Cat Rescue AZ
Cortaro 85652
(520) 445-3889
info@SOScatrescueAZ.org

Feral Cat Assistance

Tucson Feral Coalition
(520) 256-0443
tucsonferal@gmail.com
Info about TNR (Trap, Neuter Return)
FREE Spay/Neuter of Feral Cats
Low-Cost Spay/Neuter of owned cats

Equine Rescues & Sanctuaries

Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary
(520) 398-2814
www.equinevoices.org

Equine Encore Foundation
(520) 349-6008
cfolch@gmail.com
www.equineencorefoundation.org

HEART (Happy Equine Acres
Rescue & Therapy)
Tucson
(520) 445-1510
www.heartoftucson.org

Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch
& Foundation Inc.
(520) 266-0236
HorsenAroundRescue@yahoo.com

Karuna Horse Rescue
(520) 243-3267
karunarescue4sanctuary@gmail.com
<https://www.karunahorserescue.org>

Wildhorse Ranch Rescue
Gilbert
(866) 926-8007
www.wildhorseranchrescue.com

Whiskers Sanctuary
(520) 455-5424 or (520) 455-9246
toni@rrheartranch.com

Pig Sanctuary

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary
(520) 631-6015
www.ironwoodpigs.org



Celebration of Life

Sheesha; The Dog Who Saved My Life!

Story by Christian McShea, Photos courtesy Heather McShea



Me and Sheesha



Tired Sheesha driving home from an outing



Sheesha enjoying the snow

Everyone always tells you when you're young that life isn't always easy, but you're young so who cares; I can handle it! Then you get older and life turns into a domino effect created by your choices and thought process. As a direct result of my choices my life went in a direction that most don't recover from... I did because of Sheesha. She saved my life.

I was 18 years old when Sheesha was born and she immediately caught my eye. I remember holding her on my chest while she was asleep in that puppy daze flinching and whining. I remember thinking... she's coming home with me. When she finally did I took her everywhere with me, every walk, every car ride, every party even because we were glued at the hip. Some would say she had me trained better than I had her trained.

She was the sweetest puppy I've ever known and as the days passed my decisions got worse and I started to go down the wrong path but whenever I would come home, she was there waiting to give me nothing but love and whenever I left, she would wait to do the same again. As my condition got worse you could notice she got sad too. We were so connected that we would feel the same no matter how far apart we were. Then one day I came home laid down feeling worse than I ever had and she came up to me, put her head on my arm and gave me the love I needed at the exact time I needed. She somehow knew that if she wasn't there at that time, it would have been the end for me. She gave me the love I didn't deserve that saved me. She helped pull me out of the place I was in to become the man I am today; she never left my side and always showed me nothing but love, even when I didn't show her it back.

I'm 27 years old now and Sheesha passed a few months ago and she was the best companion I've ever known. No matter how much I don't want to feel the pain of her not being here, I need to so I can truly value the impact she had on my life. So I can allow myself to visit her in my mind and spirit, so I can carry on with the beautiful life she helped me find.

I love Sheesha more than words can describe and she will live on through my heart. Continuing to help me live the life of happiness she wanted me to have.



Sheesha enjoying a walk by the water



Sheesha with her brother Marley

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pimaanimalcare.org

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