

# The Tucson

July/August 2021

# DOG



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



## Cover Story: Pet Partners: Improving Human Health

Kids and Animals — Rowan and Archer's Animal Kingdom

Training — Preparing for Stressful Outings

• Special Feature — Road Trip



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# The Leader of the Pack Speaks

Dearest readers,

As we head into summer, I am so happy to see things opening up in our world with most of us finding a new normal in our daily lives. It has been a very rough year and a half for everyone, and it feels good to see things moving in a forward motion again.

And speaking of summer and the unprecedented heat we are having, it is more important than ever to take care and be aware of the heat with all of our pets. It can be deadly to our pets and cause great harm to them. Please take all precautions by making sure they are in the house and have sufficient water and please leave them at home, rather in your car in this heat. Temperatures can rise quickly and kill a dog left in a car in a matter of minutes. I would also like to remind you that the pavement can also reach extreme temperatures so if the ground is too hot for you to walk on barefoot, then so it is for your dog. Walks should be limited to early morning or late evening when the temperatures cool down and you might even want to consider Paw Protectors or shoes for them to protect their feet from the burning heat.

Another thing that always concerns me is dogs being scared so badly during the 4th of July fireworks and monsoons. Shelters see a rise in dogs and cats coming in that have run away due to firecrackers and storms that we see during this time. Please take care to keep them inside in a comfortable place where they feel safe. Also, please consider getting them microchipped if they are not already and wear a collar with tags on them identifying you and your phone number in case they are lost. Our pets depend on us to make good decisions to keep them safe during times that might make them fearful.

On the cover this issue, we are happy to bring you a group that does a lot to help people through therapy dogs. Since before, during and after the COVID outbreak, Pet Partners has been doing lots of work to help those in need of some loving paws. This is a fantastic organization that has been around for many years and is helping college students, police departments, kids, seniors and more through their incredible programs. I hope you will enjoy this wonderful story as much as I did that proves how much our beloved pets enrich all of our lives every day.

Also, I am very excited to announce that as of this issue, you will find The Tucson Dog in 12 Safeway stores around Tucson. We have also been in all the Albertson's stores for over a year now as well in case you weren't aware. As we move forward out of the limitations of the Pandemic, we plan on expanding more and more until we are back at full speed again.

Thanks to all of our readers and to all of the businesses that have supported us through these challenging times. We are so grateful to still be here and look forward to the day when we can resume our huge adoption events in Tucson. More to come on that as it develops.

Please have a safe and healthy Independence Day!

Love, Light & Laughter,

Ann



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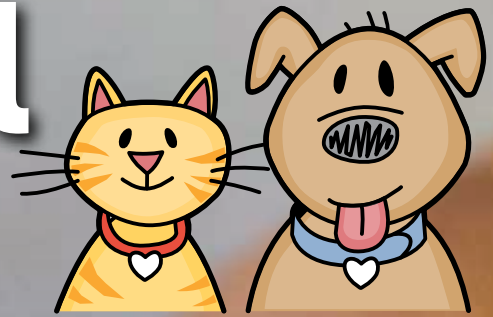


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# The Tucson Dog Staff & Writers



**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



**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



**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



**Gracie - Canine Writer** - Gracie is a 5 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



**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

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# Kids and Animals



## Rowan and Archer's Animal Kingdom

Story by Bella Wexler, Photos Courtesy of Melody Albright



Rowan holds her pet tarantula

It's hard to find a kid who doesn't care deeply about their pets. In the Hawkins' house, Archer and Rowan prove that their love for animals isn't even limited by how many they can count. When asked how many pets the Hawkins have, Rowan admitted that she couldn't quite remember "because we have a lot of pets!"

She wasn't kidding, either. Included among those she could remember are "three dogs, three cats, ten chickens, two quails, three lizards, seven snakes, and lots of invertebrates... and a frog!" Spiders and cockroaches are not unwelcome guests in the Hawkins' house, either. In fact, they are just a few more of the family's many

beloved pets. "I love all the animals, even the spooky ones," says Rowan. Although Rowan has affectionately declared that all of the pets are her favorites, her little brother Archer has his preferences. "My favorite is my mom's cat, Quill," he says. Quill has been known to take naps in Archer's Lego boxes and chase the family's smaller critters around the house.

The family dog, Moose, however, is known to spend more of his time chasing sprinklers. Rowan and Archer helped their family foster Moose, her brother, and her sister before they eventually decided to adopt her. Now, Moose loves playing in the dirt outside, rinsing off in the pool, and protecting Archer and Rowan from scary movies by barking at the TV. "It's fun when we get to play with [our pets] because sometimes they're just hilarious dorks," Rowan says.

Of course, having so many pets certainly comes with some serious responsibilities. Both Rowan and Archer chip in to help care for their animals. Rowan feeds the dogs, Archer feeds the cats and helps with the chickens, and they both help walk the dogs together.

When Rowan and Archer aren't playing with or caring for their pets, they are studying at Amphi Academy Online. This year, Rowan is in 3rd grade and Archer is in 1st grade. The online learning environment brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic this past year has affected their school experience in many ways. For one, they often find that taking classes at home means a few interruptions from their many pets. "When the



Archer (left) and Rowan (right) in online school with their pets

frog croaks, the dogs flip out," laughs Rowan. Despite the fact that these animals don't always make the best lab partners, Rowan always finds ways to engage her animals in her education. She even likes to show off her rescued savannah monitor to teach her class about reptiles!

When class is over, Rowan and Archer continue their love for animals by playing Zoo Tycoon, Animal Crossing, and Pokémon video games. They also enjoy playing with their pets outside and jumping on their trampoline. When they grow up, Rowan aspires to be a scientist and a model. But this won't stop her from keeping her family tradition alive; "I want to have a whole bunch of pets when I'm older. I want to foster them and everything!" Archer also hopes to have some pets to keep him company when he grows up, but "just a few." This way, he can still fulfill his goal of traveling the world. These two young animal lovers' dreams are as big as their hearts, and they all start with their great big family at home.

When asked what wisdom they'd like to impart on other kids who don't know what it's like to have the different pets they do, the Hawkins had some important messages to share. Rowan said she thinks more people should learn how to take care of different animals so that fewer end up being abandoned on the streets. Archer thinks people should be more open minded about the types of animals for which they care. "Animals make great pets... even cockroaches," he says. "And I love ALL the spiders!" Rowan chimes in. At the end of the day, we can all learn a thing or two about compassion from Rowan and Archer Hawkins.



Archer cuddles with family cat 'Quill' while playing on his tablet



Rowan (left) and Archer (right) play a board game with one of their lizards



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**MARINA** ID# A743075

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**JAMIE** ID# A481669

At 8 y/o, I'm the total package: looks, personality, & skills! I'm a great loose leash walker, I know a good "sit" when I hear it, & I take treats ever so gently. If you throw them, you'll see I'm a super good catcher, too!



**PUMBA** ID# A730556

I have the most adorable overbite! I'm a super cute, lowriding munchkin you just have to meet in order to see how truly glorious I am. I'm 22 m/o, housebroken, & enjoy sleeping on the couch or the bed with my people. I am a happy boy who wants to do nothing but cuddle on your lap, give kisses & play with my toys.



**K9** ID# A725533

At 8 y/o, I'm a handsome, distinguished senior seeking forever love. Volunteers say I'm a very sweet, gentle lap dog who loves everybody. I'm housebroken, like belly rubs & walks, & have learned "down." When meeting other dogs in PACC playgroup, I was easygoing, appropriate, tolerant, social & playful. A rock star, basically!

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[smilingdogrescue.com](http://smilingdogrescue.com)

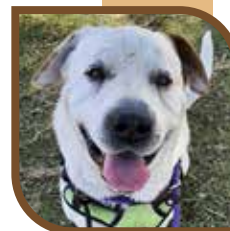


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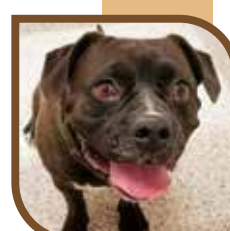
**HERCULES** ID# A730238

I'm a squishy 3 y/o lovebug who wants someone to love. I'm easy to walk & I've been known to enjoy it when my volunteer friends shower me with affection. I look forward to time in the play yard when I can do all the zoomies! I have a good "sit" & I'm working on "shake" right now.



**JAKE** ID# A729730

I'm a people-oriented 3 y/o boy who loves the outdoors! I sit to leash up, walk well, & when I return to my kennel, I flop down so you'll pet my belly! I was housetrained & spent time around other dogs & older kids. In PACC play group, I did my own thing exploring the yard, but was tolerant of other dogs greeting me.



**RONAN & LUKE** ID# A741172 & ID#A479055

Ages: 14 & 7 We are the sweetest dogs! Luke is the playful, ball crazy pup who enjoys kiddie pools & having the hose sprayed over him. Ronan is much less interested. He's way more into human love. They're fantastic together with treats, attention, & playing. We'd love to see these two find a home together, but they're not particularly bonded & could be adopted separately.



**The Animal League of Green Valley 520-625-3170**  
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**NUTCRACKER**

I'm an affectionate 3 y/o, 44lb Chow mix boy. I like being petted & talked to & I take care of my good friend Walnut. He's a bit shy & usually waits for me to check things out & give my approval. Please come & meet us. Fee \$85 for bonded pair.



**WALNUT**

I'm an 8 y/o, 50lb Chow mix fella that loves my buddy Nutcracker. I'm not crazy about walking but I'm okay with it if we all walk together. Once Nutcracker gives his approval, we'd love to get to know you better. Please call about us. Fee \$85 for bonded pair.





# Calender

## JULY

**Wed. Jul 7 – Wed. Jul 28**

### **Southwest Oasis Lab Rescue**

Voting period for 1st Annual SOLR Spokesdog Search! Competition for Spokesdog to be featured on SOLR's social media & calendar during one-year tenure. Open to SOLR & non-SOLR labs/lab mixes residing in AZ only. Zero entry fee. \$1 per vote or \$10 for 12 votes. Visit [solraz.org](http://solraz.org).

**Sat. Jul 24, 10am-2pm**

### **Moon & Stars Animal Rescue**

Adoptable cats at the Grant & Swan PetSmart location.  
4740 E. Grant Rd. Tucson 85712  
(520) 322-5080  
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**Sun. Jul 25, 10am-2pm**

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## AUGUST

**Wed. Aug 4**

### **Southwest Oasis Lab Rescue**

Winner of the 1st Annual SOLR Spokesdog Search announced. Visit [solraz.org](http://solraz.org) to view winners.

**Fri. Aug 13, 7pm-9pm**

### **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](http://eljefecatlounge.com)

**Sat. Aug 21, 10am-2pm**

### **Moon & Stars Animal Rescue**

Adoptable cats at the Grant & Swan PetSmart location.  
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(520) 322-5080  
[moonandstarsanimalrescue.org](http://moonandstarsanimalrescue.org)

## ON-GOING EVENTS

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### **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.  
[pinalcountyaz.gov/AnimalControl/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx](http://pinalcountyaz.gov/AnimalControl/Pages/PublicNotices.aspx)

### **Equine Voices Rescue**

Meet our horses! Tours available at sanctuary by appointment only. We are always in need of volunteers for our store and sanctuary. Visit our store in Tubac or contact us at: [equinevoices.org](http://equinevoices.org)

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# Cover Story: Pet Partners,

Story by Rebecca West and Photos courtesy of Pet Partners of Southern Arizona



TPD Members with Teams Toni Kalish & Cosmo, Susa Boswell & Yogi, Etc.



Team member showered in treats at UofA

Gentle eyes, a loving gaze, and a soft nudge. Antics that bring laughter and uplift spirits. Companionship and loyalty like no other. Animals bring joy and comfort to hundreds of millions of people across the globe. The benefits of including furry and feathered creatures in our lives have been documented time and again for reducing stress, lowering blood pressure, improving self-confidence, relieving depression, and eliminating anxiety brought on by certain triggers.

Therapy dogs have been recruited at airports, in courtrooms, and in libraries to calm harried travelers, bring a sense of security to fragile

victims, and improve reading comprehension among school children. With increasing frequency, canines are a part of programs at correctional institutions where inmates are responsible for their care and welfare, leading to an improvement in the mental health and wellbeing of both prisoners and animals. Horses have also been included with remarkable success.

In recent years, people have even found ways to incorporate domestic animals and pets into all sorts of fitness activities, such as interactive doggie workouts and goat yoga, and the trend shows no signs of abating anytime soon. Interacting with animals has been proven so effective for improving the human condition that they have been routinely utilized in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and nursing homes for many years now.

On a local level, the benefit to patients and other community members is recognized by Pet Partners of Southern Arizona (PPSAZ). One of their lead organizers, Diane Alexander, sat down with us recently to fill us in on PPSAZ's mission and explain the gist of how it works. The all-volunteer group is a community partner of the national



Pet Partners team member during exams week at UofA

and seniors, but there are younger members as well. Becoming a registered therapy team consists of four steps. First, you'll be required to complete the Pet Partners handler training course – training for the human end of the leash. This can be accomplished



Team members Sharon Raymond & Splash share Splash's trading card during a visit

online. "We hope to be able to also offer the in-person version of the Handlers course in the future," Diane added.

Next, you and your animal will have to pass a 22-part Pet Partners team evaluation. In the evaluation, the team demonstrates both their skills and aptitude for therapy visits. You can read about the evaluation process on either the Pet Partners national website or the local website. Assuming those two steps are greenlighted, your veterinarian will then need to fill out a health screening for your pet. After that, it's only a matter of submitting your completed registration packet. Once everything is reviewed by Pet Partners, you will receive a letter confirming your registration, and you can start visiting. Your badge and tag will follow.

Obviously, dogs must have basic obedience skills, and all critters must enjoy being petted as part of the criteria for acceptance into the program. But the ideal therapy pet is recognized as being well-socialized, controllable, predictable, non-aggressive, not too shy, and is comfortable in various environments. The animals also need to be at least 1 year old and resided with their handler for at least 6 months to be considered.



Communications staff visited by Diane Robles & Mia

nonprofit PetPartners.org., which focuses on touching lives and improving health and wellbeing through visits with pets that come in all shapes and sizes. Diane, along with her dog Ella, has been spreading the joys and wisdom of the human-animal bond here in Tucson for quite some time.

"We have roughly 75 therapy teams with nine different species of animals that take part in the program, not just dogs," Diane explained. "The majority of therapy dogs are golden retrievers and Labs because they're so easy to train. But our southern Arizona handlers have cats, rabbits, birds, horses, pocket pets, Guinea pigs, and other animals. They are registered rather than certified, but there is still a process teams have to go through."

"Teams" are made up of the animals and their handlers, aka pet parents. As mentioned earlier, they are all volunteers, and Diane noted that many are retirees

and seniors, but there are younger members as well. Becoming a registered therapy team consists of four steps. First, you'll be required to complete the Pet Partners handler training course – training for the human end of the leash. This can be accomplished

online. "We hope to be able to also offer the in-person version of the Handlers course in the future," Diane added.

Next, you and your animal will have to pass a 22-part Pet Partners team evaluation. In the evaluation, the team demonstrates both their skills and aptitude for therapy visits. You can read about the evaluation process on either the Pet Partners national website or the local website. Assuming those two steps are greenlighted, your veterinarian will then need to fill out a health screening for your pet. After that, it's only a matter of submitting your completed registration packet. Once everything is reviewed by Pet Partners, you will receive a letter confirming your registration, and you can start visiting. Your badge and tag will follow.

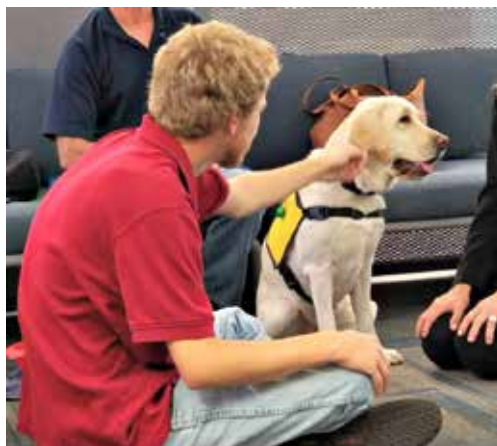


# Improving Human Health



activities, including the University of Arizona, Pima Community College, and Davis-Monthan Airforce Base.

Before the pandemic, PPSAZ had more requests for therapy animal teams than they had volunteers, so they were frequently reaching out and inviting folks to join them. As things begin to open back up, scheduled visits will undoubtedly rise – especially after all of the stressors so many people have faced. It also stands to reason that with that rise, the need for registered teams will likely increase.



UofA students interacting with Pet Partners Team member

So, how does it work? Requests or invites can come from facilities or groups expressing interest through the local or national websites, but often it's handlers reaching out to individuals and organizations they'd recognize as benefitting from their presence. Handlers, for their part, can make their own personal preferences known, and Pet Partners will do their best to match them with the environment they're seeking. Hospice helpers, however, must undergo more training than other team members.



Team member reminding UofA students to Keep Calm & Study On during exams week

Meetings between teams and small groups take place in outdoor settings, but they are sometimes set up in assembly rooms. Each visit is an hour in duration.

"One of our favorite group events is visits to the University of Arizona during exam weeks," Diane shared. Library visits started in 2012 at the U of A law library and soon went to their Main library. The Main library now organizes the visits for the five on-campus libraries that the teams frequent. They include treats and coffee for students to make things as bearable as possible during exam week.

This particular program really took off between 2013 and 2014. Staff at the campuses began tracking interactions, and some years as many as 30 teams have visited with thousands of students, staff, and faculty members. The feedback to date has been phenomenal. While 2020 was a bust, PPSAZ is looking forward to getting back into action for exam week later this year. Under normal circumstances, school visits can occur twice a month year-round. The pandemic has been challenging to the teams since they could not visit.

Always moving forward and branching out, it's not unusual for handlers and pets to step into crisis response situations after a loss. Last fall, their presence was requested by the Tucson PD as part of a wellness program for officers and staff. Lieutenant Dominic Flores, Wellness Officer with the Tucson Police Department & Chief Master Sergeant with the 162d Arizona Air National Guard, first contacted PPSAZ concerning visits with the Main station. The slots were immediately filled, and things



Tucson PD Lt. Flores with PP therapy dog

took off from there with visits now occurring at their Main station, four substations, 911 centers, and records department. Davis-Monthan inquired about self-care visits for anyone on base, and that became an instant hit as well.

Due to animals' shorter lifespans and the expanding need for the benefits that come from the animal-human bond, Pet Partners is always looking for assistance. Diane, who also volunteers with Gabriel's Angels in Prescott, Phoenix, and southern Arizona, has been making the rounds with Ella for PPSAZ for at least seven years, and Ella is 14 now. She loves the work but is pragmatic about the numbers.



Ella Trading cards

"There is a tremendous need for teams. Dogs and people retire or pass on, so there's always that need. We're always hoping people will reach out to us to become a part of the program. If they're interested in kids, seniors, hospice, whatever, we can accommodate them. We even work with inmates in correctional facilities for their benefit, too. Across the board, the work we do is rewarding and fun. Anyone who wants to get involved or who may have questions can contact us through [info@petpartnerssoaz.org](mailto:info@petpartnerssoaz.org)."

One of the ways Diane has found to make it fun is by utilizing Pet Partner trading cards. They're like baseball trading cards but with team members' pets. They feature the pet or animal on the front of the card and its stats on the back. Pet Partners uses them nationally, and their southern Arizona community partner has been handing them out to anyone interested in them for years.

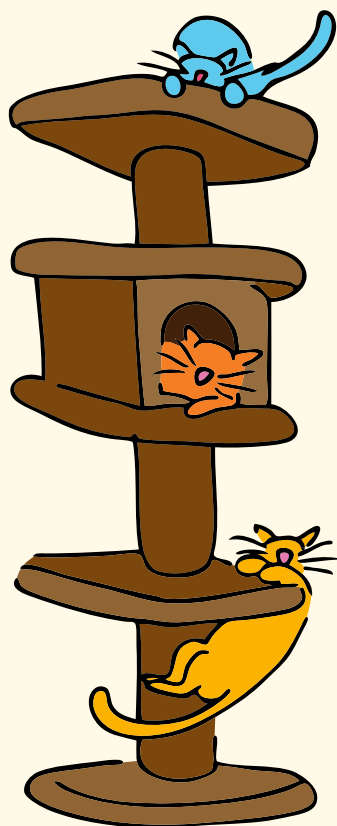
"I lead with them when meeting people during visits as sort of an icebreaker," Diane excitedly admitted. "They're a great calling card, and some people like to collect them, particularly students. It's just something fun to share with people and get the word out there."

For anyone who feels they'd like to become a part of an organization such as this, it is truly a rewarding experience. And if you're worried about flexibility and making it work with your own schedule, don't. It's a nonissue. Volunteers are afforded tons of flexibility. As referenced earlier, handlers can make their own personal preferences known and Pet Partners of Southern Arizona will do their best to help them find the right environment for them. Besides that, who wouldn't like to see their very own pet featured on a trading card they could pass out and trade, given the opportunity?

The nine species the Pet Partners Therapy Animal program officially registers so far are: dogs, cats, horses, rabbits, birds, guinea pigs, rats, mini pigs, and even llamas. Established in 1990, Pet Partners community partners are currently in all 50 states and overseas, with 13,000 handler teams performing 3 million visits annually. For more information, visit them at [petpartnerssoaz.org](http://petpartnerssoaz.org) or [petpartners.org](http://petpartners.org) for the national program.



Team members Sheri Calderone & Tess



# 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.



**Southern Arizona Cat Rescue**  
520-200-1643 [adoption@sacatrescue.org](mailto:adoption@sacatrescue.org)



## WONDER

I love to talk & tell you stories hanging out on the couch. I also love my toys, window watching & I'll be your BFF if you give me wet food! Great with humans but not other cats, I'd be fine in a home with a laid back, respectful dog with proper introductions. A 1 y/o, I'm spayed, vaccinated, dewormed, microchipped & negative for FIV/FelV. Fee \$110.



## MIDNIGHT

A loving companion looking for a forever family to live out my golden years, I adore head scratches & TLC. At 12, I've always been around other kitties & can get lonely, so another calm, older cat in a quiet home without dogs & young kids is best. I have some medical issues requiring meds, so I'll need exams every 6 mths. I'm neutered, vaccinated, dewormed, microchipped & negative for FIV/FelV. Open to fospice or adoption. Fee \$85.



## CHLOE

I'm a 3 y/o happiest atop my cat tree. I like wet food & being held/petted, but also independent. A bit shy, I need a patient adopter to help me blossom! With proper introductions, I'd be OK with other kitties & best in a quieter home without dogs & kids. I'm spayed, vaccinated, dewormed, microchipped & negative for FIV/FelV. Fee \$85.

**The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary**  
5278 E. 21st St, Tucson 85711 [www.hermitagecatshelter.org](http://www.hermitagecatshelter.org).  
Adoption app: <https://bit.ly/2Ws7HCG>



## TYRELL

I'm Tyrell, & I'm 6 y/o. I know I have a "resting grumpy face," but I hope you'll look past that to my loving marshmallow heart! I love snuggles & get along great with kitties! I am FIV+, but I'm super healthy. Ask about me; you won't be sorry!

**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](http://pima.gov/adopt), or sign up to foster at: [pima.gov/foster](http://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.**



## SEBASTIAN - DSH ID# A743122

I am a super sweet, playful, 1 y/o kitty. I love to cuddle, am very social & have done well with other cats. I'm diabetic & need insulin twice a day along with an oral antibiotic. I've been day dreaming of finding a foster family to give me a break from the shelter. Email [Stephanie.Stryker@pima.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Stryker@pima.gov) with any questions.



## NALA - DSH ID# A736099

I'm a mellow, independent 2 y/o lady. I love being high up on ledges as I watch over my surroundings. I'm looking for that special someone who'll give me lots of love & play time w/a stick or string. Email [PACC.AdoptAFoster@pima.gov](mailto:PACC.AdoptAFoster@pima.gov) & ask for me. I have feline siblings, if you're interested in adopting two or more kitties.



## SIMBA - DSH ID# A736101

I'm a tender & sweet 2 y/o lady who loves to play & watch birds while sitting on the windowsill. I adore chasing after red laser dots, climbing around on the cat tree, & think treats are tasty. Email [PACC.AdoptAFoster@pima.gov](mailto:PACC.AdoptAFoster@pima.gov) & ask for me. I have siblings, if you're interested in two or more kitties.



## CANDY CORN ID# A720234

I've been called "The Ultimate Bachelor." My ideal home would be cat savvy where I'm the only furball over my domain. At 3 y/o, I enjoy long adventures around the house; no surface, cupboard or corner is left untouched. A sophisticated gent with sophisticated tastes, I'm particular to chicken & I prefer taking the lead & making decisions for myself on my own time.

**The Animal League of Green Valley 520-625-3170**  
1600 W. Duval Mine Rd, Green Valley 85614  
[talgv.org](http://talgv.org)



## ARTHUR

I'm a 14 y/o, 15lb shorthaired Tuxedo guy that is friendly, charming & really wants to be your lap cat (you can scratch my ears & chin all day!). I never scratch furniture, am okay with other cats, but am afraid of dogs.  
Fee \$45 with Vet Care Support for Life.



## CRABCAKE

I'm an 11 y/o shorthaired brown tabby lady who likes to be in charge. I like catnip, sitting in windows watching birds, & hunkering down in laps. I can be slow to warm up but hope you will give me a chance to be your one & only. Fee \$45 with Vet Care Support for Life.



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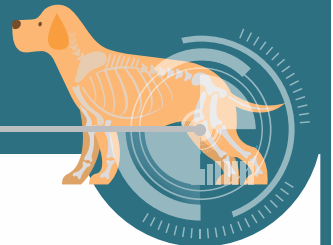
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# From the Director's Desk



## Pima Animal Care Center

### Story and photos by Monica Dangler, Interim Director

It's been quite a year and it seems like we may be seeing the light at the end of the tunnel for COVID-19! Fingers crossed. However, at PACC and shelters across the country we are just beginning to see the long-term effects COVID is having on our community's pets. PACC has seen an increase in animals coming into the shelter, as well as people reaching out for help to keep their pets after they suffered a loss or reduction in income, loss of home, or lack of affordable vet care.

After an already tough and busy year helping people in crisis due to the pandemic, we are seeing an even bigger need within our community to help keep pets with the people who love them. We can do it with our community's support! We've all probably found ourselves in a tough spot where we could have used some help from kind-hearted folks like you.

There are five ways that you can help today!

1. **DONATE:** Please consider making a donation to Friends of PACC ([www.friendsofpacc.org/](http://www.friendsofpacc.org/)) so that we can continue to help families in need through the Friends of PACC Keeping Families Together fund (KFT fund). This program is fully funded through donations (meaning none of it comes from PACC's operational budget). The KFT fund can help with non-emergency medical care, pet deposits, temporary foster placement, and more. There are some limitations, such as expensive procedures or surgery, emergency medical care, on-going needs like cancer or Valley Fever treatments, and needs above a one-time \$500 amount (this fluctuates as funding is exhausted).
2. **PREPARE YOUR PETS:** Register your pets now at [lost.petcolove.org](http://lost.petcolove.org) just in case your pet becomes lost. This site uses pet facial recognition to notify you if your pet enters a shelter and helps get them reunited quicker! You can also help by spreading the word on social media to your friends, family, and neighbors who have lost or found a pet. Keep an eye on our accounts to see when the next pet microchip event is being held. Microchips are the quickest way to get your pets back home!
3. **KITTENS:** Leave kittens with their mothers. We see many folks with good intentions who will accidentally kidnap kittens because they think they have been abandoned. Mother cats will leave their kittens for long periods of time – potentially several hours -- to get food and water. It's a sad truth, but kittens without their mom have a much lower chance

of survival. Visit [pima.gov/animalcare](http://pima.gov/animalcare) to learn more about how to know when to bring kittens to the shelter.

4. **VACCINATE YOUR PETS:** This way they don't catch a deadly illness like Parvovirus, Distemper, Panleukopenia, Calicivirus, or Rabies. PACC has been seeing an influx of pets coming in with these preventable diseases or after being exposed to wildlife. No Kill Pima County has a great list of resources here: [www.nokillpimacounty.org/pet-owner-resources/](http://www.nokillpimacounty.org/pet-owner-resources/)
5. **SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PETS:** This keeps them from developing some potentially very serious side effects later in life and helps us reduce the number of kittens and puppies coming into the shelter. For help getting your pets spayed or neutered, again, No Kill Pima County has a great list of locations: [www.nokillpimacounty.org/pet-owner-resources/](http://www.nokillpimacounty.org/pet-owner-resources/)

In conclusion, there are a variety of ways that YOU can help the shelter. In addition to the list above, we always need fosters and volunteers as well, especially right now as the intake rises daily.

Thank you, Tucson, for everything you do make Pima County a better place for people and their pets. We couldn't do it without you!



 **Give the Gift of Life**

Your gift to Friends of Pima Animal Care Center saves lives. Make a donation to homeless pets, today!



[www.friendsofpacc.org](http://www.friendsofpacc.org)

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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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# Special Feature

## Road Trip

Story and photos by Nancy Schuessler



Joan Nickum with her brother Dick

Joan Nickum is on a mission. Her mission is saving dogs. She coordinates a network of volunteers who move dogs by car, truck, van, ferry, or even plane, to cities and towns where they can be adopted. Every hour of every day, dogs are being driven, flown, or ferried across country, each with its own story on how it became lost or abandoned. The selfless volunteers who do this work find it especially rewarding, but it takes someone at the center, like Joan, to make it all possible.

"We call it 'the underground railroad,' says Joan, referring to how dogs are moved along the route from one volunteer to the next, until a final destination is reached. A native of Kansas City, KS, Joan first became involved in transport in 2001, when she volunteered to drive a dog from her local shelter to St. Louis. It was about six years later that she coordinated her first transport. She's been busy ever since.

Most weekends, Joan coordinates three transports. If she has only one, she doesn't know what to do with herself. But that's not all that occupies her time. During the week, she's an office manager in the Superfund division of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which cleans up toxic waste sites and provides emergency response to environmental disasters, like wildfires or oil spills. On weekends, she saves dogs.

The work begins when Joan learns about a dog – or dogs – needing transport. It might be a rescue group that contacts her, an owner, or a good Samaritan. "People find out I do this, and they contact me. It's mostly word of mouth." There might be several unadopted dogs in an overcrowded shelter about to be euthanized unless a rescuer can save them. The shelter might be in Memphis, but the dogs need to get to Denver, where a rescue group has offered to take them and find homes. That's where Joan comes in.

She maps route, secures drivers, and gets the dogs safely to the destination.

"There's a driver I know in Tulsa who's married to a veterinarian. She's one of the individuals who might contact me. An owner might pass away, and the family asks if he can find the dog a new home. Right now, the veterinarian has a dog that needs help, and there is someone in Seattle who wants to adopt it. So next weekend, we will get the dog from Tulsa to Seattle."

Before any dog can start its trip, Joan makes sure it has its vaccinations and whatever else it needs. If crossing state lines, health certificates are needed. "That's non-negotiable." The next step is mapping a route and securing drivers. She "posts" by email to the drivers who "work" the route she's mapped, asking who is interested. She does not post on Facebook or other social media, yet she couldn't do without the internet. "The internet has really enabled all this to happen," says Joan, referring to the scale of

transports happening nowadays. "You couldn't transport all these dogs without it." Once drivers are secured and the date set, the journey begins.

Each driver will complete a portion of the route, which is referred to as a "leg." For example, getting a dog from Leonard, Texas to Tucson – a trip she organized last June – takes 13 legs, two days, and crosses one time zone.

The drivers meet in truck stops, gas stations, parking lots, and exits along the interstate where they exchange their cargo – dogs. They are told where to meet, whom to meet, and what vehicle the other driver is in. If a driver has a problem on the road, they are told to call Joan, not the person they are meeting. This allows Joan to tackle any problems or delays that might come up, like snowstorms or traffic jams, and keep everyone along the route informed.

One driver, Terry Abrams, describes the moment of "exchange" in colorful terms. To an uninformed observer, she claims it might look like something dark and shady was going on. "You pull into a parking lot, and you see all these cars with darkened windows just waiting there." Suddenly, a windowless van might drive up, dogs are taken out and brought to another car, which then drives off. Another vehicle arrives, another back door is opened, more dogs are removed, and two more cars drive away. The process repeats itself until the parking lot slowly empties. One vehicle might hold German Shepherds, another has beagles, another has Labradors. Dogs of all breeds, shapes, sizes, and colors are carefully exchanged. Males and females, puppies and seniors, purebreds and mixes. Many are healthy, most are frightened, others need special tending. But good medical care, love, and forever families await them all.

According to Joan, hundreds of dogs are moved across the United States every weekend. They are taken from cities and towns where there is an oversupply of dogs, to areas of the country where there is an abundance of homes. They are the special ones. The chosen ones. Picked from countless others whose fate is not so clear, who must wait in overcrowded shelters or continue to wander empty streets.

Joan learned her craft several years ago from a woman named Nancy Walker, whom she likes to call, "the Empress of Transport." "Nancy taught me everything I know. She does everything really right, and I learned a lot from watching her." The most important thing she learned was finding drivers. "If Nancy doesn't know a driver in that area, it's not a good route."

Not a good route? "The most direct route is not always the easiest route because there aren't always drivers for that route, especially in some states like Arizona, New Mexico, Texas. For example, I might have a dog that needs to get to Tucson from some southern area, like Austin, Texas. I can't go the direct route. I have to take the dog up to I-40 and then down through Phoenix."

She has moved dogs to and from almost all fifty states, except Hawaii. She's brought them from the East Coast to the West, from the South to the North, even to Alaska and back. "There's no good way to get to Alaska," she complains. Alaska cannot be driven to but must be ferried or flown. She calls the eastern part of southern California "no man's land" because "you cannot find a driver in some areas." Instead, she might find a pilot, who takes the dog to a place in California where she can pick up the route again by road.

And yet... even with all it involves, homeless dogs arrive at their destinations safely, where they are adopted, loved, and given new lives with new families. Some say that rescue dogs are grateful dogs. But none of it could happen without people like Joan and her selfless transport volunteers.



Drivers meet in exits along the interstate to exchange dogs



Ten puppies in the back of a vehicle ready for transport



# Pet Directory

## BOARDING

### **Sabino Canyon Pet Resort**

2001 N. Sabino Canyon Rd., Tucson  
(520) 290-8181  
[Sabinocanyonpetresort.com](http://Sabinocanyonpetresort.com)  
Tucson's Premier full-service boarding  
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## CHARITABLE ANIMAL NON-PROFITS

### **Friends of PACC**

P.O. Box 85370, Tucson  
(520) 610-4915  
[friendsofpacc.org](http://friendsofpacc.org)  
Supporting the efforts of PACC  
to save the lives of pets in need.

### **No Kill Pima County**

P.O.Box 86231, Tucson  
(520) 477-7401  
[Nokillpimacounty.org](http://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](http://resources.bestfriends.org)

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

## DOGGY DAY CARE

### **Sabino Canyon Pet Resort**

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[Sabinocanyonpetresort.com](http://Sabinocanyonpetresort.com)  
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## END OF LIFE CARE

### **Kindred Spirits Pet Services**

3544 N Romero Rd. Ste 112, Tucson  
(520) 367-5222  
[www.kindredspirits.pet](http://www.kindredspirits.pet)  
[info@kindredspirits.pet](mailto:info@kindredspirits.pet)  
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## GROOMING

### **Groomingdales Pet Salon**

4759 N. 1st. Ave., Tucson  
(520) 292-9436  
[groomingdales.tucson.com](http://groomingdales.tucson.com)  
Providing caring, knowledgeable grooming And  
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### **Sabino Canyon Pet Resort**

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[Sabinocanyonpetresort.com](http://Sabinocanyonpetresort.com)  
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### **Teddy's Dog House**

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### **Velvet Bow Pet Grooming**

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

## PET PHOTOGRAPHY

### **C. Eaton Photography, LLC**

(520) 440-2167  
Email: [ceatonphotography@gmail.com](mailto:ceatonphotography@gmail.com)  
[ceatonphotography.com](http://ceatonphotography.com)  
They are not just pets. They are your family!  
We capture your precious memories

## SHELTERS/ RESCUES

### **Humane Society of Southern AZ**

635 W. Roger Rd., Tucson  
(520) 321-3704  
[HSSAZ.org](http://HSSAZ.org)  
Helping homeless pets for 72 years

### **Pima Animal Care Center**

4000 N. Silverbell Rd., Tucson  
(520) 724-5900  
[pimaanimalcare.org](http://pimaanimalcare.org)  
Pima County's only safety net  
shelter for pets in need  
**Pima Animal Care Center  
Ajo Substation**  
1259 Well Rd., Ajo  
(520) 387-7502  
[pimaanimalcare.org](http://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](http://Golden-Retriever.org)  
[tucson@golden-Retriever](mailto:tucson@golden-Retriever)  
Non-profit statewide Rescue  
Re-homing Goldens since 1998

### **The Animal League of Green Valley**

1600 W. Duval Mine Rd.  
Green Valley  
(520) 625-3170  
[talgv.org](http://talgv.org)  
A private, donation funded, all  
volunteer, 501(c)(3) non profit

### **Whiskers Sanctuary**

(520) 455-5424 or (502) 455-9246  
[toni@rrheartranch.com](mailto:toni@rrheartranch.com)  
Rescuing unwanted animals of many  
varieties for 16 years

## TRAINING

### **The Complete Canine**

4767 N. 1st. Ave., Tucson  
(520) 403-1401  
[www.completecaninetucson.com](http://www.completecaninetucson.com)  
Changing Lives using Positive Methods

## VETERINARIANS

### **Acoma Animal Clinic**

6781 N. Thornydale., Ste. 207, Tucson (520)  
297-3593  
[acomaanimalclinetucson.com](http://acomaanimalclinetucson.com)  
We treat all kinds of animals  
Yes, even pocket pets!

### **Adobe Veterinary Care**

8300 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson  
(520) 546-8387  
[adobevetcenter.com](http://adobevetcenter.com)  
Compassionate high-quality care to Cats/  
Dogs, Horses & Livestock

### **Humane Society of Southern AZ Clinic**

635 W. Roger Rd., Tucson  
(520) 881-0321  
[HSSAZ.org](http://HSSAZ.org)  
Low Cost Spay-Neuter Clinic  
Low Cost Vaccinations and Microchipping

### **Northwest Pet Clinic**

252 W. Ina Rd., Tucson, AZ  
10825 N. Oracle Rd., Oro Valley  
(520) 742-4148  
Primary and Urgent Care  
Open 7 Days a Week

## VETERINARIANS - EQUINE/LIVESTOCK

### **Adobe Veterinary Care**

8300 E. Tanque Verde Rd., Tucson  
(520) 546-8387  
[adobevetcenter.com](http://adobevetcenter.com)  
Compassionate high-quality  
care to cats/dogs, horses & livestock

## VETERINARIANS - SPECIALTIES AT HOME EUTHANASIA

### **Kindred Spirits Pet Services**

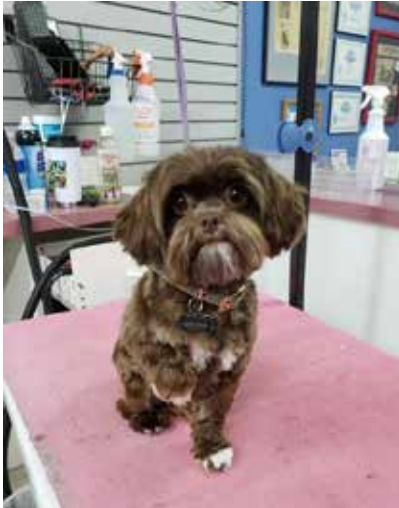
3544 N Romero Rd. Ste 112, Tucson  
(520) 367-5222  
[www.kindredspirits.pet](http://www.kindredspirits.pet)  
[info@kindredspirits.pet](mailto:info@kindredspirits.pet)  
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Home Euthanasia, Aquamation

# Training



## Preparing for Veterinary Visits, Grooming and other Stressful Outings

Story and photos by Jeremy Brown, The Complete Canine



When it comes to stressful outings for our canine friends, some struggle more than others, yet we can do things as handlers to help them through the rough times. For me, if we have a new puppy in my home, one of the first things I start to do is desensitize them to human touch. If we touch every part of their body early on, then it becomes normal and can actually be enjoyable for them, not scary. I like to focus on my dogs' feet, nails, ears and tails as I massage and touch each of those areas daily. The same principles apply with brushing their coat and brushing their teeth. This can increase your ability and lesson the stress on your canine friend! Mary Alice, the

owner of Groomingdales in Northwest Tucson, states "It is important to have confidence while doing this as well as being patient." We can inadvertently make these situations more complicated by forcing behavior and being too gruff with grooming.

Another important thing to consider, is to make these places a normal, fun place to go. After having her back leg amputated as a puppy, my rescue dog Lacey did not like going into the vet's office. So, each morning I would wake up, walk to our vet office, have them give high value rewards and show her this place is not bad. However, her past made it hard to trust this at first, but hot dog treats allowed her to let her guard down for a second and feel more confident. She is the only dog I have ever seen that pulls in excitement to get into the lobby of the vet's office and this is only after a little bit of work to shift her mindset.



At a vet hospital or grooming studio, our canine friends are typically placed on a table to raise them up and allow whoever is working with them to have an easier position to work from. Before they go to the groomer or vet, it would be a great idea to have them practice this. Mary Alice likes to have her clients place a bathmat on the top of their washing machine, so the pup does not slip and to practice being in this situation. If we have less control than desired, it is a dangerous situation for the canine and human alike, so a little training can absolutely alter these situations.

Training a few commands to assist can even push this to the next level. It can be very hard to work on a dog that lays down or sits when on the grooming table. Therefore, teaching watch me, touch and stand stay will make your groomer and/or vet love you and your dog more! Watch me teaches your dog to look into a person's eyes. If doing this when on the table, we will have less movement and a better attention span. The touch command can be a huge game changer, for touching your hand can allow them to change positions easily which can make it easier for the human to do their job! However,



the most important command is stand-stay, especially for the poodles, doodles and longer fur/haired dogs. The longer they can hold a standing position, the easier it is to check out their body on the vet table and trim their fur or hair at the groomer.

To teach watch me, hold a treat between your pointer finger and thumb, bring it to your canine friend's nose. While drawing it to the side of your eye, you say watch me and hold it in that position. When they reach the goal duration, mark the behavior and reward; slowly adding duration and correcting if they look away before reaching that goal. Touch can be taught so

very easily. In fact, you place a treat under your thumb in the palm of the hand, draw it to the side and say touch. Once they touch your hand, because the treat is in it, you mark the behavior and reward. Stand-stay is another easy command to bring home. You want to start with a stand command first, then add stay to the equation. Stand is simply taught by baiting them into a standing position (on all 4 feet) from a sit. Once they understand this, then we will add stay so they can hold multiple positions.

When it is a little harder than just basic training, we may have to be a little more creative so we can set them up for success. One tool that I absolutely love to use when touching, brushing, etc., is difficult, is the Lickimat. These silicone mats can be an easy way to help, as they distract our dogs with enticing foods that keep their attention. Cream cheese, peanut butter or something that is spreadable then frozen can allow you to distract enough to have things done that couldn't happen before. One of my favorite clients has a pup that would bite when trying to trim their nails, but a little work with the LickiMat turned that troublemaker into a happy canine when he gets his nails done. Also, calming collars can be a tool to relieve stress and I have seen great results with the Sentry Calming Collar. The lavender and pheromones allow for a less stressful life as they bring them down a notch in stressful settings.

Being proactive with these situations can help immensely. In fact, this goes a long way in allowing our canine friends to succeed in a very stressful environment. Think about the situations we want to thrive in and make these situations a normal occurrence. None of us would ever be good at math if we did one problem a week, yet we expect our dogs to do so with little to no practice. Be patient and be a good leader and your confidence will make the situation much more manageable and less stressful for everyone involved!





# 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org)  
[www.PAWSitivelycats.org](http://www.PAWSitivelycats.org)

Paws Patrol  
750 W. Camino Casa Verde  
Green Valley 85614  
(520) 207-4024  
[www.greenvalleypawspatrol.org](http://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](mailto:info@pimapawsforlife.org)  
[www.pimapawsforlife.org](http://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](http://www.hermitagecatshelter.org)

## Local Rescues

Animal Rescue Foundation Tucson  
[ARFTucson@Gmail.com](mailto:ARFTucson@Gmail.com)  
(520) 319-9292

BARK (Baby Animal Rescue Koalition)  
585 E Wetmore Rd.  
Tucson 85705  
[barkntucson@AOL.com](mailto:barkntucson@AOL.com)  
[facebook.com/BARKTucson/](https://facebook.com/BARKTucson/)

Central Arizona Animal Rescue  
[Mike@caaronline.org](mailto:Mike@caaronline.org)  
[facebook.com/CentralArizonaAnimalRescue/](https://facebook.com/CentralArizonaAnimalRescue/)  
[www.caaronline.org](http://www.caaronline.org)

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

Cochise Canine Rescue  
Pomerene 85627  
(520) 212-1718  
[info@cochisecaninerescue.org](mailto:info@cochisecaninerescue.org)  
[www.cochisecaninerescue.org](http://www.cochisecaninerescue.org)

Coalition of All Breed Rescues Arizona (CABRA)  
Phoenix  
[arizonaweimaranerescue@cox.net](mailto:arizonaweimaranerescue@cox.net)  
(623) 931-1428  
[www.cabra.org](http://www.cabra.org)

Hard Luck Hounds  
(520) 261-7677  
[hardluckhounds.org](http://hardluckhounds.org)  
[info@hardluckhounds.org](mailto:info@hardluckhounds.org)

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

Lil' Bit Of Love Rescue  
[lilbitofloverescue@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:missmaggiemay@cox.net)

RAD Rescue Inc.  
Rehabbing and Advocating for Dogs  
[www.radrescueinc.com](http://www.radrescueinc.com)  
[radrescueinc@gmail.com](mailto:radrescueinc@gmail.com)

RUFF Rescue  
[www.ruffrescuetucson.com](http://www.ruffrescuetucson.com)  
[ruffrescuetucson@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.safeanimals.com)

Save-A-Bull Rescue  
[www.saveabullrescue.org](http://www.saveabullrescue.org)

Saving at Risk Animals  
(520) 499-0546  
[www.savingatriskanimals.org](http://www.savingatriskanimals.org)

The Sanctuary Project  
(800) 691-9168

Tucson Cold Wet Noses  
[info@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com](mailto:info@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com)  
[www.tucsoncoldwetnoses.com](http://www.tucsoncoldwetnoses.com)

Tucson2Tails  
(520) 812-5682  
[Tucson2Tails@Gmail.com](mailto:Tucson2Tails@Gmail.com)

Tucson's Cause For Canines  
(520) 283-3423  
[TucsonCFC@gmail.com](mailto:TucsonCFC@gmail.com)  
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[www.tucsoncauseforcanines.org](http://www.tucsoncauseforcanines.org)

Tucson Rescue Now Adoption Store  
La Encantada Shopping Center  
2905 E Skyline Dr. suite 28  
Tucson AZ 85718  
Contact John Gilbert 206-718-3309  
Store 520 401-1950 and on FB

Wild Hearts Rescue Ranch  
(520) 661-4522  
[wildheartsforcrow@gmail.com](mailto:wildheartsforcrow@gmail.com)  
[www.wildheartrescue.org](http://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](mailto:tucsonparrotrescue@gmail.com)

## Cat Rescues

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

The Hermitage Cat Rescue & Sanctuary  
5278 E. 21st St.  
Tucson 85711  
(520) 571-7839

PAWSitively Cats No Kill Shelter-  
1145 N. Woodland Ave.  
Tucson 85712  
(520) 289-2747  
[savecats@PAWSitivelycats.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@SOScatrescueAZ.org)

## Feral Cat Assistance

Tucson Feral Coalition  
(520) 256-0443  
[tucsonferal@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.equinevoices.org)

Equine Encore Foundation  
(520) 349-6008  
[cfolch@gmail.com](mailto:cfolch@gmail.com)  
[www.equineencorefoundation.org](http://www.equineencorefoundation.org)

HEART (Happy Equine Acres  
Rescue & Therapy)  
Tucson  
(520) 445-1510  
[www.heartoftucson.org](http://www.heartoftucson.org)

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

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

Wildhorse Ranch Rescue  
Gilbert  
(866) 926-8007  
[www.wildhorseranchrescue.com](http://www.wildhorseranchrescue.com)

Whiskers Sanctuary  
(520) 455-5424 or (520) 455-9246  
[toni@rrheartranch.com](mailto:toni@rrheartranch.com)

## Pig Sanctuary

Ironwood Pig Sanctuary  
(520) 631-6015  
[www.ironwoodpigs.org](http://www.ironwoodpigs.org)

# Celebration of Life



## Funny Girl

Story and photos by Heather McShea



Sandy's first Week in her New Home

The day Sandy and I met was at The Tucson Dog's 2019 Woofstock event. I was running at full speed working and coordinating the many moving parts of putting on a big event. As the rescues and shelters started streaming in and setting up with their adoptable dogs in tow, I was helping to transport much of their necessary canopies, crates and signs to their designated spots on the grass. Little did I know, my household and my heart would soon be forever changed. As the dust settled and the event commenced, I decided to do a walkthrough of Adoption Alley, making sure everyone was situated and things were running smoothly. There were about 25 rescues and shelters hedging the winding pathway of Adoption Alley that day, one being HOPE Animal Shelter where I noticed Sandy sitting, relaxed next to her handler.

She was a senior girl looking much like a Wheaten Terrier mix with sandy blond hair and white knee socks. She drew me in with her sweet and sad eyes but I couldn't meet her just yet as I was immediately called to attend another area of the event. I eventually made my way back to meet Sandy and the coordinator of HOPE but unfortunately, I was too late, she had already been spoken for. HOPE's process for adoption is to interview and visit the household with the pet to be sure they are a good match, so I left my name and information just in case the new potential adoptive parents didn't work out. After the event, I couldn't shake the connection I felt with Sandy and the sad to happy change on her face when we interacted.



Relaxing in the Grass



I'm Afraid of Thunder

A couple of weeks went by and to my surprise, someone from HOPE called to explain that the new adoptive parents didn't connect with Sandy, they felt she had more energy than they had expected from a senior dog. Although you always hope that every adoption is a success, I was elated that I would have a chance to have Sandy as a new addition to my then family of two (Marley and Sheesha).

When Susan Sherl from HOPE arrived, Sandy jumped out to greet Sheesha and Marley and all was well. I was very pleased with Susan's genuine concern that Sandy's comfort and needs be met. They were insistent that she be an indoor dog and that she sleeps in close proximity to her

new family. She also explained her concerns that Sandy had been left outside in the elements most of her life and because of that she developed medical issues, and skin conditions which they attended to.

After she said her goodbyes and drove away Sandy ran and paced through the house looking out the windows for Susan. I could now see that nervous energy and her fears of being left outdoors alone. I spent about a month reassuring her that I would not leave her outside by staying with her and being sure to open the door to her every scratch or bark. Her nervousness and fears dissipated quickly but she had some attachment issues, which caused aggression towards other dogs and as it turned out she was a pretty serious "counter surfer". If she could reach it, she would eat it! Sandy was as much a HANDFUL as she was adorable.

It was time to call HOPE for some help. HOPE was giving some free training for their adopted dogs by Jeremy at The Complete Canine and referred me. I called and their team immediately evaluated Sandy. Jeremy took the time to listen and walked me through why Sandy was acting out and how to correct her behavior. He explained that because of Sandy's lack of socialization, training and neglect she just didn't know that she was doing anything wrong. He gave me a few training tool ideas and within a few days Sandy's problematic behavior was almost completely gone. After a few months, her stress sores went away, all evidence of neglect had healed, and she had very much become a part of my heart.



My first Christmas with my new Family



Portrait of Sandy  
Artwork by Seans Artography

Sandy was with us for only two years, but I cannot express the value Sandy brought to my life. She looked at me as if I was her beginning and her end and she was always by my side. She was a truly grateful companion who fit well into our little family. I will always remember her funny personality that made me roar with laughter; she was the oldest pup in the house but the most playful. At 13 years old she would run and chase and play with other dogs like she was a puppy. She LOVED her treats and loved to be hugged and snuggled in her dog bed.

Although Sandy showed no sign of illness, I came home the evening of May 10th, 2021, and she had just passed, lying in her bed next to mine where she had always slept.

Even though it has not been long since Sandy's passing, the memories of her funny personality brings a smile to my face.

I will always be grateful to Sandy for being my teacher and loving me through the process.

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intelligentoffice.com

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teddysdoghouse.com

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(520) 326.9686  
TucsonBotanical.org

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Northeast - (520) 760-8750  
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Velvetbowpetgrooming.com

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toni@rheartranch.com

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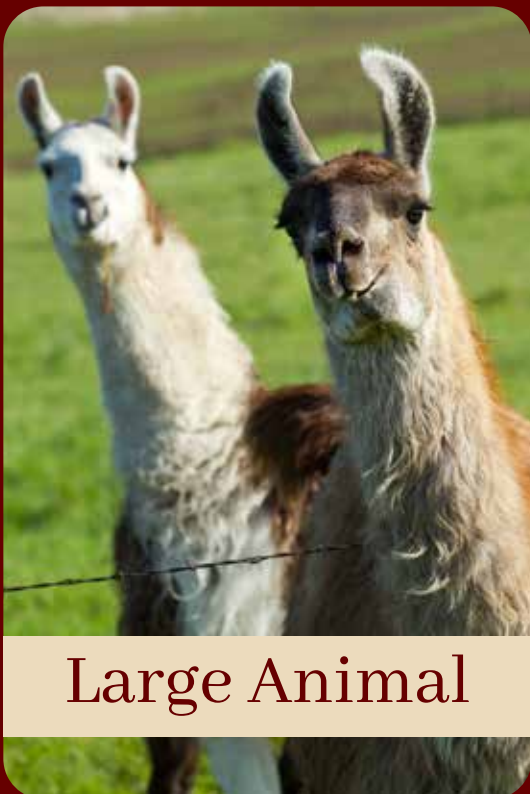
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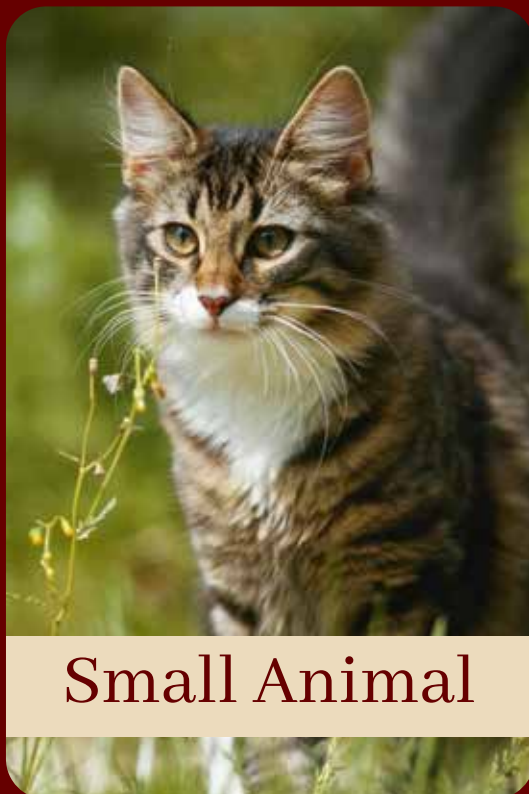
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**Open Every Day 10 AM to 2 PM**  
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# THE CARE YOUR PET DESERVES ALL SUMMER LONG



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