

The Tucson

September/October 2023

Dog

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

Cover Story:

**Spay & Neuter and
Declan The Cover Dog!**

Features:

**Women Of Rescue:
Getting Things Done Part II**

**The Story of Nic and Bennett
Who Rescued Who?**

**Dog Gone - How Far Back
Does the History of
Pet Cemeteries Date?**

Cats & Horses Too!



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to a good home.*



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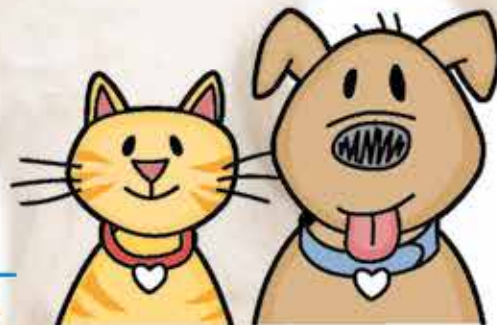


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pima.gov/animalcare



PIMA COUNTY

PIMA ANIMAL CARE CENTER



520-724-5900 • 4000 N. Silverbell Rd.

Photo by M. Kloth

The Leader of the Pack Speaks

Dear Friends and Readers,

While continuing to enjoy our Monsoon weather and the beautiful afternoon storms, we've been constantly reminded of our pets' sensitivities to the weather. Making sure our pets are protected from the heat, rain, and booming thunderstorms is an important part of our relationships with our pets and their safety. Just a few helpful hints; create a cozy corner in the house to wait out the storm, bring them indoors during extreme heat, rain, and thunderstorms, provide them plenty of fresh water in more than one location of the house and yard, plan their exercise and potty breaks during cooler times of the day and be sure to check for snakes and frogs before letting them outside. We are all looking forward to the upcoming cooler temperatures.

In this issue, our cover story announces *The Tucson Dog* **Cover Dog Declan** who is representing the importance of Spaying and Neutering our pets. As you may be aware, Pima County is experiencing an overwhelming number of pets in our shelters. This is not only an issue plaguing the whole country but it's been a reported problem abroad as well. Our local Spay and Neuter Solutions plays an important role in our community by providing funding, solely on local community donations, for low-cost spay and neuter programs throughout Tucson and surrounding areas. Declan wants you to read all about it in our cover story and asks that you spread the word and please do your part in making sure your pet has been spayed or neutered to help reduce the future population of unwanted litters. **Don't Litter! Spay and Neuter!**

Rebecca West has shared another group of Women of Rescue. There are so many, this will be our 2nd series of 3 and I know there are so many more that we can't mention all of you. We know and appreciate each and every one of you whether you are mentioned in the articles or not. Feel free to reach out and introduce yourself! And GENTS! We haven't forgotten you either!

For our Directors Desk feature, The Humane Society of Southern Arizona shares their new "Almost Home Rescue Program" coming up soon and we have many fun summer and fall adopt-a-thons, fundraisers and of course, I'm very happy to announce DOGTOBERFEST 2023! On Sunday, October 22nd, 10A-4P at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park. Bring the whole family including your 4 legged family members, enjoy, play, eat, enter

some contests, and help get as many dogs adopted as we can. In closing, I would just like to say thank you to all the amazing women and men who are helping animals during these challenging times. All the shelter and rescue workers, volunteers, fosters, and those who can adopt. You are all heroes and our inspiration for continuing to do what we do! And thank you to our advertising partners for continuing to support The Tucson Dog and to you, our amazing readers; Please foster when you can and continue loving your pets!



Marley

See Marley's photo representing "Bob Marley Day" on the February page of the new Friends of PACC 2024 Calendar!

Yours Truly,
Heather McShea
Publisher & Editor In Chief

THANK YOU

LINDA C.

It's animal loving people like yourself who will change the world, certainly someones world.

DONATE

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS to The Tucson Dog during these trying times. Your donation will help us to continue serving our community by continuing to promote local shelters and rescues (at no cost to them), helping homeless pets find homes, providing local resources and events, and continuing to share heartwarming stories about local people who give their lives to saving animals and animals saving humans.

Please send donations and your story, if you'd like to share, to:
The Tucson Dog Magazine
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The Tucson Dog Staff & Writers



Heather McShea - Publisher/Editor - As the owner of a local Home Health Care company, Heather often volunteers in helping find new homes for the pets of her hospice patients. She has worked closely with The Tucson Dog for over 4 years, and throughout her life has loved many rescue dogs of her own including a family therapy dog. Although she has only one dog now she 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 led her to Home Health Care and helping all animals in need. Email: heather@thetucsondog.com



Shiloh Walkosak - Account Executive - Shiloh is a midwestern girl who spent her early years roaming the wheat fields of Kansas with two great danes. If you ask her if she was raised by wolves she'll tell you "Kind of" At thirteen she started volunteering at Sedgwick County Zoo in Wichita and was instantly hooked. She has spent more than three decades dedicated to wildlife conservative, pet rescue and animal advocacy. In 1999 while teaching wildlife rehabilitation at El Dorado Correctional Facility Shiloh attended a conference in Arizona and it was love at first hike. A year later she moved to Tucson. She shares her home with her boyfriend, his daughter, a jack russell, a cockatoo, a tortoise and three millipedes. shiloh.tucsondog@gmail.com



Alison Martin - Staff Writer/Account Executive Alison is a compassionate Animal Communicator & Educator, Animal Energy Practitioner, and Pet Loss Grief Guide. For over 25 years, Alison has been making a positive impact in the lives of animals and their people through her professional work. She shares her life with five dogs, two horses and two goats with never a dull moment or lack of dog kisses. One of her favorite quotes is from Anatole France 'Until one has loved an animal, a part of one's soul remains unawakened' alison@animalsoulconnection.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."



Bonnie Craig - Staff Writer - Bonnie works as an educator and artist. She lives with her family which consists of 3 dogs, 3 cats, and lots of plants and chickens. They control her life, and she wouldn't have it any other way. 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.



Jeremy Brown- Staff Writer - An animal lover for life, Jeremy has been a dog trainer for over 16 years. As the Area Trainer for Petsmart he trained dog trainers for years and opened The Complete Canine 7 years ago. A therapy dog evaluator for years, he founded Kienrnan's Kindness, a local therapy group that spreads kindness and also trains the Pima County Sheriff Therapy dog program. A Graduate from Indiana University and Applied Animal Behavior from University of Washington. He has four dogs; Archie, Lacey, Louis and Sabine, with the first two being therapy dogs. Email: completecaninetucson@gmail.com



Melissa Barrow - Staff Writer - Melissa is a freelance writer, photographer, and life enthusiast. She holds a Master in Sustainable Enterprise and is a devoted advocate for the natural world. Melissa has lived with all sorts of animals; currently she resides with her cat friend Freyja (who rules the household like the goddess she is), and way too many (but never enough) books! When not writing on behalf of animals, Melissa thinks and writes obsessively about music, books, and films, loves dancing madly to live music, and is just as happy cozying up at home with a warm mug of homemade cold brew.

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 Heather McShea, Publisher/Editor. Entire contents copyright 2023 by The Tucson Dog. Layout, Design and Graphics by Prescott Design Pro, LLC — Linda Morris, Owner & Designer (928) 642-2609.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Pima Animal Care Center

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

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

The Story of Nic and Bennett Who rescued who?

Story by Melissa Barrow



Photo Courtesy of Lindsey Dittmer

noncombat PTSD; Bennett is a pit bull — not your average service breed. Their stories are equally unique and how they ended up together truly inspiring.

Between 20 and 30% of combat veterans suffer from PTSD annually, depending on where and when they deployed. Nic never deployed or saw combat, making his situation less common: his PTSD derives from the plummet in his physical and mental health after a shoulder injury sustained in a 2013 training exercise progressively worsened due to delayed and inadequate treatment. Owing to military healthcare's red tape and restrictions it can take months, even years, to prove that an individual's PTSD is service-related. Nic was ensnared in that bureaucracy for five years, during which chronic pain and the anguish of finding insufficient support from the military snowballed into anxiety, night terrors, depression, and constant irritability with spikes of rage. This convolution of torments led to a year of binge drinking and eventually a DUI. "I wasn't an alcoholic," he qualifies, "but I was self-medicating."

Two major, disturbing incidents sparked his wakeup call: first, an attempted suicide in 2018; later, a spike of uncontrolled rage at his mom over a minor issue, after which his patiently stoic parent, who'd heard of service dogs for PTSD, urged him to consider it. Nic embarked on a six-month search to find a program, but nearby organizations had no ready dogs, while COVID prompted those farther to become local-only. He temporarily gave up in frustration, until two weeks spent caretaking his brother's German Shepherd revived his determination.

Impressed by the dog's steady ability to intuit and soothe his mood changes, Nic affirmed his need for a companion animal, this time reflecting on what would suit him most. His PTSD-fueled temperament issues got him researching breeds labeled aggressive. He wanted his future dog and he to relate to each other. He found the American Pit Bull Foundation (APBF) website where he learned of their shelter-to-service program Operation Sidekick, pairing vets with pit bull service dogs. This Charlotte, NC group saw an opportunity to transform 20 military suicides from PTSD daily, and 1000 pit bull euthanizings weekly into a hopeful community service.

After years of feeling broken, abandoned, and shamed, Nic felt a special kinship with pit bulls, who have been similarly stigmatized through ignorance, as most incidences of pit bull aggression stem from neglect and improper training. He immediately began communicating with founder/CEO Sara Ondrako who would coach him through the extensive, interview-heavy process. Pairing humans with service dogs is neither quick nor simple. As Nic says, "It's not just, 'Here's a dog, here's

"Not all disabilities are visible" declares a patch sewn to the vest of Bennett, the service dog of Nic Everhart. Nic and Bennett — a familiar sight around greater Tucson — are a striking, unusual pair: Nic is an Army veteran with



Not all Disabilities
Photo Courtesy of
Melissa Barrow

the commands, go forth'...". It requires intensive vetting and training of both parties. Two months into this, Sara called him with the great news: they'd found a potential canine candidate. Nic travelled to Illinois to meet and hopefully bond with now one-year-old Bennett. If the bonding happened, they could launch training.

Bennett's story is as unique as Nic's — his rescue was not abuse-related. He was in a litter of 10 American Staffordshire Terrier puppies who all contracted parvo. Donated to a rescue organization by their breeder because unguaranteed treatment was financially impractical, seven survived with help from a partner veterinarian. They were donated to APBF, where Bennett was the sole qualifier for the service training program! Nic's long wait was worth it: he found his "matching pair" dog in Bennett. They're a perfect fit. Even Sara was amazed by how quickly they bonded, declaring them "...peas in a pod." Bennett is a truly extraordinary dog, from his calm, watchful demeanor to the star-shaped pupils in his pale amber eyes. If you're lucky enough to observe them in public, you may witness him resting 3 feet crossways to Nic in a crowd as a protective barrier, and periodically side-eyeing him watchfully for status checks.



At Ease
Photo courtesy of Nic Everhart

Initially, Nic was apprehensive about being out with Bennett. While seeing eye dogs are familiar, psychiatric service dogs are more recent. He worried about having to face questions or challenges, but Bennett has helped Nic socially, bringing out his natural calm. He's highly perceptive, adept at noticing the slightest cues of rising anxiety, from changes in breath rate or smell, to nervous ticks like leg-rubbing. Once cued, he employs a progression of tools to get Nic's attention: nudges and nose "boops" against the leg; next, a quick yelp. If neither works, he's trained in Deep pressure therapy (DPT), and will sit on Nic's lap or — during night terrors — his chest.

Thanks to pit bull stigma, the pair do sometimes encounter disapproval, even occasional verbal abuse, and Nic gets trolled on social media by the vehemently prejudiced who assume pits are dangerous.

But a properly-trained service terrier like Bennett is fully aware of how to behave on the job. Vest on, he's a sober, hyper-aware medical service dog. Without it, he's a 2-year-old, rambunctious puppy! Even without the vest, at home or the dog park, he snaps back into work mode if he sees Nic showing any signs of anxiety.

Today, Nic says that Bennett saved his life and sanity thanks to Operation Sidekick. His only complaint: Bennett gets more attention than him in public!



The Side Eye



Happy Ending Photo courtesy of Nic Everhart

For more information on Operation Sidekick, visit <https://apbf.dog/programs/os/>

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Calendar OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Sat. Sept. 2, 11am-2pm

**Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary
Petco Adoption Event**

The 1st Saturday of each month we bring kitties who are ready for adoption, as well as info about us & other upcoming events, to the Petco at 5625 E. River Rd., Tucson 85750.
Contact: (520) 571-7839

Sat. Sept 2, 10:30am-2pm

**Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
Adoption Event at PetSmart**

The 1st Saturday of each month we will be at the PetSmart at Orange Grove & River with adoptable pets.
3850 W. River Rd, Tucson 85741

Sat. Sept. 2, 9am-11am

**Southern Arizona Beagle Rescue
Playdate in the Park**

We have a 'beagle play date' the 1st Saturday of each month at the small dog park inside of Reid Park. Bring your beagles & have some fun in the sun beagle style!
Info at (520) 247-7720 or soazbeaglerescue.com.

Sat. Sept. 2, 11am-2pm

**Humane Society of S. Arizona
Pups in the Plaza Adoption Event**

Visit PAWSH Park Place at 5870 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson 85711 to meet your new best friend. Adoptable dogs will be available outside of the Victoria's Secret Store. Get 25% off all PAWSH Merchandise with your adoption.

Sat. Sept. 2, 11am-2pm

**Park Place Mall Adoption Event for
S. AZ. Reptile Rescue & Education**

Come view adoptable reptiles & talk with our adoption team member to see how to get your new scaly friend. North end of the food court.
Text or call (808) 747-6445 or email SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

Sun. Sept. 3, 7am-9am

**Humane Society of S. Arizona Pet Food
Assistance Distribution**

Monthly opportunity for those experiencing economic hardship to pick up free pet food at 635 W. Roger Rd., Tucson 85705
For more info: (520) 321-3712

Sat. Sept. 9, 10:30am-2pm

**Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
Adoption Event at PetSmart**

The 2nd Saturday of each month we will be at the PetSmart at Grant & Swan with lots of adoptable pets.
4740 E. Grant Rd., Tucson 85712

Sat. Sept. 9, 11am-2pm

**Southern Arizona Cat Rescue
PetSmart Adoption Event**

Most Saturdays you can find us at the PetSmart located at 4374 N. Oracle Rd. with adoptable kitties! Visit sacatrescue.org or FB/IG @sacatrescue for available cats, times, & possible schedule changes.

Wed. Sept. 13 & 27, 4pm-5pm

**Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru
Vaccine & Microchip Clinic**

Low-cost dog & cat vaccinations available including distemper/parvo & Bordetella/fvrpc & microchipping. Cash, Venmo, Zelle, Apple Pay & checks accepted, no debit or credit cards.
2035 E. 17th St., 85719
Pathwaysforpaws.com/join-the-cause-clinics

Wed. Sept. 13, Beginning at 6am

**The Animal League of Green Valley
Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic**

Low-cost/no-cost spay/neuter options the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1600 W. Duval Mine Rd, Green Valley, AZ. 85614, provided in conjunction with ASAVETS.
First come, first served. (520) 625-3170

Sat. Sept. 16, 11am-2pm

**Hermitage No-Kill Cat
Shelter Adoption Event at Bookman's East**

The 3rd Saturday of each month we bring kitties who are ready for adoption, along with info about us & other upcoming events to Bookman's East at 6230 E. Broadway Blvd. Contact: (520) 571-7839

Sat. Sept. 16, 11am-2pm

**Bookman's Adoption Event with
S. Arizona Reptile Rescue & Education**

Come view adoptable reptiles in the Kids' Books section on Speedway & Wilmoit & talk with our adoption team member to see how to get your new scaly friend. Call or text (808) 747-6445 or email SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

Sat. Sept. 16, 11am-3pm

**Pathways for Paws Adoption Event at
Bookman's East**

Every 3rd Saturday the public is invited to come find their next furry friend at 6230 E. Speedway Blvd.

Sat. Sept. 16, 1pm-2pm

**Puppies & Poses for Pathways for Paws
Yoga Event**

During this special event, you'll have the opportunity to practice yoga in the company of some adorable four-legged friends from Pathways for Paws. Location: Barefoot Studio - Casas Adobes.
Tix \$20 for ages 13+

Sat. Sept. 23, 5pm-9pm

**Therapeutic Riding of Tucson
25th Annual Hearts & Horses Gala**

TROT's The Copper Horse fundraising gala will be held at the Tucson Convention Center 260 S. Church Ave. It includes cocktails, silent auction, & noteworthy performances.
Info: (520) 749-2360 or info@trotarizona.org or Ticketsatbidpal.net/heartsandhorses2023

Sat. Sept. 30, 9:30am-5pm

**The 21 Annual Tucson Reptile & Amphibian
Show & Sale**

S. Arizona Reptile Rescue & Education will be at the Pima County Fairgrounds, Old Pueblo Hall, located at 11300 S. Houghton Rd. with a selection of adoptable reptiles. For questions email them at SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Sun. Oct. 1, 10am-4pm

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For more info: (520) 321-3712

Sun. Oct. 1 - 31st

Humane Society of S. Arizona 50/50 Raffle

Online raffle event supporting the Humane Society of S. Arizona
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Fri. Oct. 6 - 8,

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To register, contact Alison Martin at (308) 391.1540 or tucson@healingtouchforanimals.com.

Sat. Oct. 7, 11am-2pm

**Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary
Petco Adoption Event**

The 1st Saturday of each month we bring kitties who are ready for adoption, as well as info about us & other upcoming events, to the Petco at 5625 E. River Rd., Tucson 85750.
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2035 E. 17th St., 85719
Pathwaysforpaws.com/join-the-cause-clinics

Sun. Oct. 15, Time: TBA

**Friends of PACC Barks & Brews
Dog Washing Event**

Visit Barrio Brewing Co. at 800 E. 16th St., Tucson 85719 to have your pup scrubbed will you enjoy some suds. Small Dogs \$15, Large Dogs \$25.
Follow FoP on FB & IG for more info.

Sat. Oct. 21, 11am-3pm

**Pathways for Paws Adoption Event at
Bookman's East**

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Sun. Oct. 22, 10am-4pm

**The Tucson Dog Magazine Dogtoberfest &
Adopt-a-Thon**

Come join us for our annual fall adopt-a-thon event with plenty of adoptable pups, fun games & prizes, a Kids' Zone, great music & food trucks, tons of vendors, & low-cost vaccinations & microchips all at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park, 3482 E. River Rd., Tucson, 85718.



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talgv.org info@talgv.org facebook.com/talgv

OPEN DAILY: 10am-2pm PHONE: 520-625-3170

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A VISIT TO THE



DOGHOUSE

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

Pima Animal Care Center

\$0 adoption fee. \$20 license fee adult dogs. Adoption includes spay/neuter, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip & a free vet visit.

Pima Animal Care Center 4000 N. Silverbell Rd., 724-5900.

Mon - Fri 12pm-7pm, Sat/Sun 10am-5pm

MARTIN - ID#A804047

I'm Martin! I'm just 2 y/o & ended up at PACC after one of the officers found me abandoned in a crate. They're not sure what my story is, but they do know I'm a great guy to have around! Volunteers describe me as a super happy boy who "oozes joy" - whatever that means! I'm a little nervous around other dogs - but friendly! - so I would like to meet any potential roommates before heading home.

TYLER GIBSON - ID#A796981

My name's Tyler Gibson; not all pups get a full name, but I'm so special that I do! I am a 2 y/o boy full of love & life. I am a staff & volunteer favorite at PACC, where I love to go for walks & play with my doggy friends. I also had a brief foster stay where I was said to be very well-behaved; my foster mom said she wished she could keep me!

OREO - ID#A773276

My name's Oreo, & I have to say, I'm just as sweet as my name. I'm 5 y/o, the perfect age to have some pep in my step but to also know how to relax! I have lived with kids previously & done well, & my former owner said I was well-behaved, housebroken, & very smart & loving. Volunteers at PACC agree & say I'm one of the best gals around. I get along well with other dogs, too!

BLUE - ID#A801529

I'm Blue, named for that little bit of blue in my eye! I'm just 1 y/o, but unfortunately I've already spent a lot of time at PACC. I came to the shelter after being attacked by a coyote, & because I didn't have my rabies vaccine, I had to quarantine to make sure I wasn't exposed. Now that I'm all done with that, I'm ready for a home! I'm a bit of a shy boy at first but very sweet, & I get along well with other pups!

The Animal League of Green Valley

Adoption fee: \$85. TALGV • (Appts 10-2 daily) 520-625-3170

BROWNIE

I'm a 3 y/o Shepherd/Corgi mix boy that's often shy at first meeting, so I watch my canine companion to see if all is well before I check out the company. My trainers recommend a home with another dog who can show me the ropes. I must say that I'm a fast learner! Please call about me.

CROCKETT

I'm a 2 y/o, 47lb. Shepherd/Bull Terrier mix boy that used to live in Texas. How I got here is anyone's guess. I'm a friendly guy that will sit for a treat & use the doggy door as needed. I'm ready for a stable home with a loving family to share it. Please call about me.

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Main Campus: 520-327-6088 ext. 173

Meet: 635 West Roger Rd. Tucson, AZ 85705

BANANAS - 921943

My name is Bananas, B-A-N-A-N-A-S! Did you sing the song? My friends at HSSA sing it to me all the time, & I love it! I'm a 5 y/o Pit Bull Terrier. When people first meet me, they notice I'm a handsome hunk of love. In my opinion, my goofiness is my best attribute. I can't wait to be your next best friend!

IRWIN - 926659

My name's Irwin, & I'm a 5 y/o male Cattle Dog with a heart of gold who's a bit shy. While I may be a little reserved at first, once you get to know me, you'll discover a truly sweet & gentle soul. One of my favorite things is exploring the great outdoors. So, if you're looking for a walking buddy who appreciates the quieter moments in life who'll be a steadfast companion through thick & thin, I'm the perfect match!

CANELO - 923904

I'm a sweet 5 y/o Boxer mix. While life threw me a curveball with Valley Fever, I've rallied & it doesn't dampen my spirits! I'm a laidback & easygoing guy that adores cuddling up with my humans. I'd do best in the company of low-energy dogs that can appreciate my relaxed pace & provide a supportive & understanding environment. If you're looking for a gentle & affectionate pal, I'm the one for you!

ORION - 926487

My name is Orion, & I'm a 2 y/o who's full of life & love! I've got a heart as big as the moon & an endless capacity for love & affection. I care about the well-being of those around me & go above & beyond to bring happiness & comfort to everyone I meet. Whether it's wagging my tail, offering gentle nudges, or simply giving warm cuddles, I'm always there to remind you that you're loved.

Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary

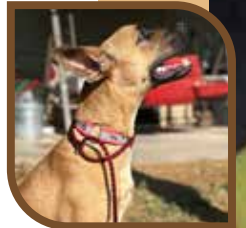
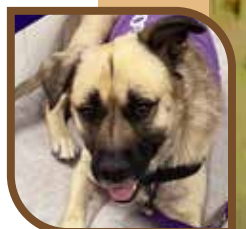
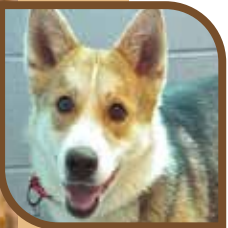
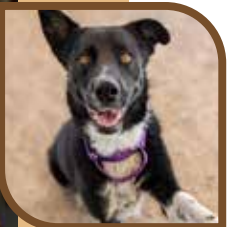
Application: <https://form.jotform.com/cherishedtails/dog-application>

CHOOCHOO

Born in a rescue & adopted at 9 wks, I was recently returned for still being a puppy at 8 m/o. I guess I had too much energy for the senior dogs there. Like any puppy, I need exercise & stimulation. I'm 40lbs, love to have my belly rubbed, house & crate trained, & doing much better on a leash. Do you have the time & love a girl like me needs?

ASHLEY

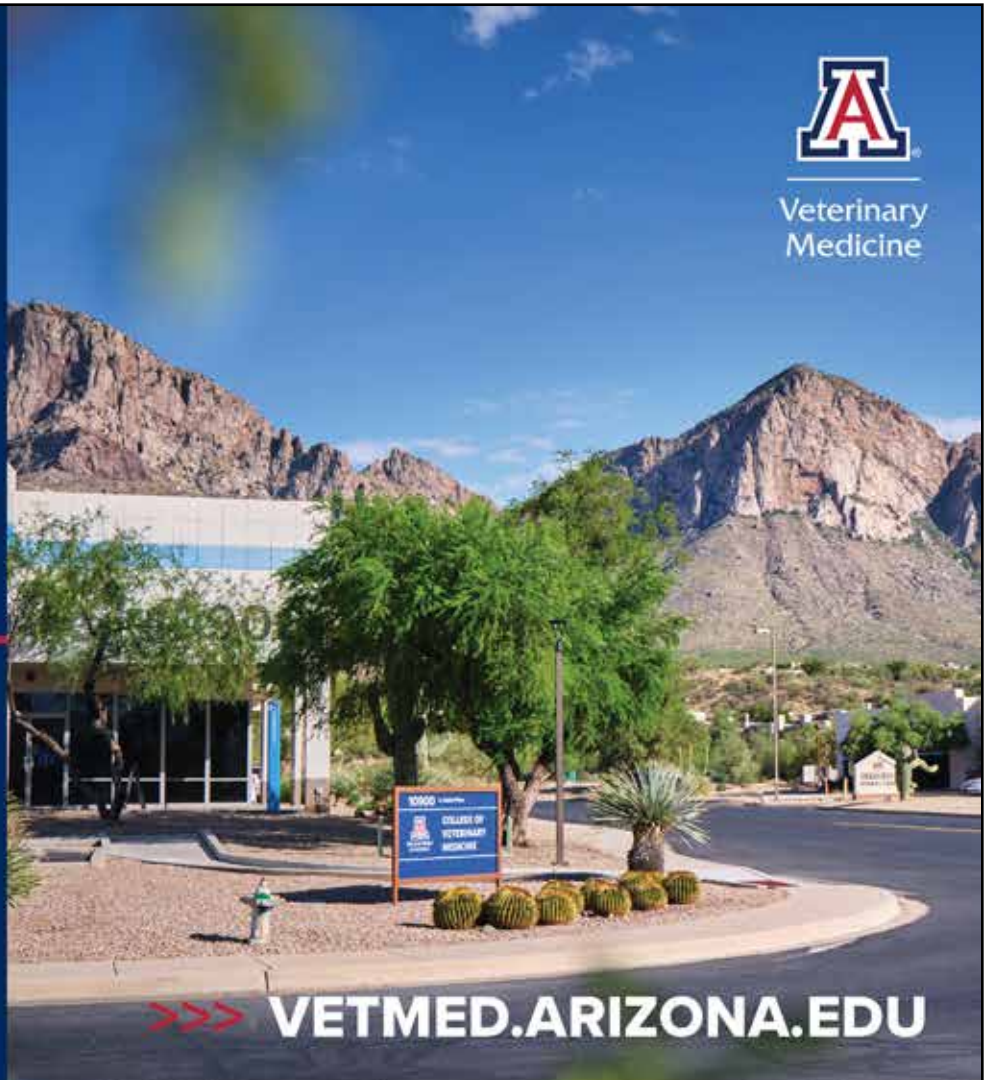
I'm a sweet & loving girl that gets along fine with other dogs. Mostly deaf, I do just fine, plus I'm leash, potty, & crate trained with very nice house manners, so I'm good if left free at home. A bit of an adventurer, I need a secure fenced yard. I'm estimated to be about 9 y/o & I had a recent dental at the shelter.



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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.

Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Main Campus: 520-327-6088 ext. 173.

Meet: 635 West Roger Rd. Tucson, AZ 85705



MAMBO - 668054

Hi my name is Mambo. I'm a 13 y/o chunk of a boy who's ready to find his forever home. I'm currently in foster care living my best life while continuing on my weight loss journey. I can now jump & actively play with toys! I adore cuddling & love to sit & listen to birds. I can be talkative when I want attention & love to be brushed. Come meet me!



PUMPKIN - 897174

I'm a 3 y/o gal who's simply a sweetheart. One of my most endearing qualities is my gentle nature. I've mastered the art of communicating with the sweetest, faint meows. When I want attention or a little cuddle, I'll softly vocalize my desires, tugging at heartstrings of anyone nearby. It's hard to resist my charming pleas! Meet me at HSSA's Pawsh retail and adoption center at Park Place Mall.



WOBBLES — A765258

I'm a very special young girl with cerebellar hypoplasia looking for a home willing to accept me for who I am. AKA wobbly kitten syndrome, I shake & have awkward motions when moving around, making it difficult to walk. I'm not in pain & able to adapt & hang out with other cats with no problem. I can even climb short cat trees & use the litter box most of the time. For more info, email Christinakinsey@gmail.com.



OLITA — 926093

I'm a 4 y/o in a great foster home but I'd really love a forever home. I'm feeling more confident & trusting every day. Last night I jumped on the couch & slept by my foster mom for a long time & then climbed on her lap & snuggled while purring up a storm! I came from a bad environment & it's taken a while to gain trust & confidence. I love to play & do zoomies down the hall every day! toys, climbing my cat scratcher, & wrestling with my sibs. I also sit patiently, gaze lovingly, & wait for my turn for cuddles. I'm fixed, vaxed, dewormed, & chipped.

The Animal League of Green Valley

Adoption fee: \$45, includes vet care support for life.

TALGV (Appts 10-2 daily) 520-625-3170



BRYSON

I'm a handsome 2 y/o boy with a buff-colored coat that approached the front door of my rescuer & was brought straight to TALGV to get checked out. After being here for a while, I'd like to say this place sure beats being on the street! Would you please take me home now?



WHIMSEY

I'm a 4 y/o brown tabby girl that's good with other cats but not so good with dogs. I love all toys & always use my scratching post. I love attention & will sit on your lap & sleep with you. If you'd like a lively female companion, I'd love to share your home. Please call about me.

PACC

\$0 adoption fee. Adoption includes spay/neuter, age-appropriate vaccinations, microchip, & a free vet visit. Contact: Pima Animal Care Center, 4000 N. Silverbell Rd. 724-5900. Mon - Fri, 12pm-7pm, Sat & Sun 10am-5pm.



SNOWY CAT ID#A817650

I'm Snowy Cat, & I'm a 12 y/o gentleman looking for a place to spend my golden years. I am blind & have some hearing impairment, & the PACC clinic is helping me with some other medical issues, but I am very, very sweet & enjoy a good meal & a nice brushing. Won't you give me a chance?



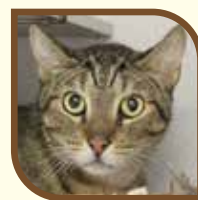
BIMBY - ID#A816060

I'm Bimby! I ended up at PACC after I was attacked by a dog, & I was injured pretty badly. The attack left me unable to use my hind legs, so I need some help going to the bathroom. However, I am a super sweet girl, & I'm quite young at 11 m/o, so I'm ready to adapt to my new life!



RALPHIE - ID#A788218

Hi! My name is Ralphie. I was very sick when I ended up at PACC way back in September 2022, but the clinic team has gotten me all fixed up! I am a true favorite of PACC volunteers, staff, & fosters alike. I've been in foster for a while now & my foster mom says I'm truly the best, sweetest boy ever!



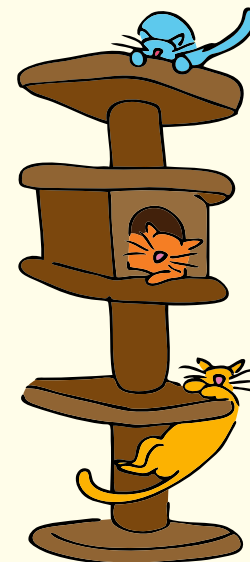
TRANCE - ID#A811478

My name is Trance, & I'm a little overwhelmed at the shelter. I am a very sweet boy & enjoy being with people, but there is always so much going on here that I can't quite get relaxed. I'd really love a quiet home where I can unwind and receive some lovin'! Even a foster home would be divine.



MIGHTY MOE - ID#A814558

I'm Mighty Moe! I'm just a baby at 3 m/o, & I'm one of many kittens who come through PACC looking for homes every day! I have had a couple of seizures, & I could really use a foster home while the PACC clinic helps me find the right balance of medication to keep me safe! Could you please help?



Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary

5278 E 21st St; Tucson, 85711; hermitagecatshelter.org

Adoption app: <https://bit.ly/2Ws7HCG>



EL GUAPO

I'm only 4 y/o & I'm a pretty laid-back dude who enjoys being petted. I'm used to being on my own, so I don't like roommates. I get feisty sometimes, but never mean. I am FIV+, but very healthy, & the humans can tell you about FIV.



ANGELES

Though I'm only 4, I've had big adventures! I was born in California & abandoned. Then a nice lady found me & sent me to Tucson where I could (hopefully) find a home! I love cuddles & snuggles. I'm a "double positive" but healthy. Ask my caregivers about FIV & FeLV.


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Dog receiving a Healing Touch treatment

Business Spotlight

Energy Therapy and Our Animals

Story by Carol Komitor, Healing Touch for Animals & Alison Martin, Animal Soul Connection

Photos provided by Carol Komitor

A rescued shelter dog that is well cared for in its forever new home yet was still uncomfortable with movement, sounds, and unexpected things happening within the home finds change through a Healing Touch for Animals® session. The session created a grounded placement and a sense of connection to his new surroundings.

A depressed horse who is not eating well or interacting with the people who care for her is more open and vibrant after her balancing session. Her appetite improved, and she interacted more with her herd and her people.



Students practice with horse

A new veterinary diagnosis of osteosarcoma is never good to hear. A young Labrador retriever was comforted by the hands-on energy therapy, giving her quality of life during her health challenge.

Each one of these stories changed the animals and their people through Healing Touch for Animals® (HTA), an energy-based therapy that provides relaxation and comfort to the animal. HTA balances the body's energy system, affecting the body, mind, and spirit (or instinct). The HTA Practitioner practices a cooperative model working with veterinarians to provide the best for an animal's care through traditional veterinary care and innovative energy techniques.

The HTA techniques clears energetic congestion from the body, opens the energy system to function better, and allows deep relaxation to release stress and anxiety around all life's scenarios. The body is then allowed the opportunity to begin healing. Relaxation is the key. When the body is relaxed, all working parts of the body's machine begin to promote the individual's wholeness.

When there is energy balance in the body, the overly concerned dog or cat that is acting out because they are reacting to its owner's stress can better support and offer its caregiver pure unconditional presence. This allows the animals and the people to support each other and anchor the bond between them.

Healing Touch for Animals® founder, Carol Komitor, recognizes the energetic differences between people and animals and has developed a multi-course curriculum that gives a person a variety of techniques and philosophies to better care for the animals. "Anyone who desires to work with animals in any capacity can learn the inner workings of our animal kingdom. The concepts and applications are easy to learn, accepted well by the animals, and make a difference in everyday lives," Komitor says.

Carol worked 13 years as a veterinary technician, then became a Healing Touch Certified Practitioner and Instructor teaching people how to work with humans using energy therapy. Her two careers merged as she realized people didn't understand the energetic workings of the animals, and in 1996 started teaching HTA. After more than 30 years in energy therapy, Carol loves sharing her knowledge with those who desire to help our animals and their people.



Students practice with dogs

Carol is coming to Tucson to teach the Level 1 Healing Touch for Animals® course on October 6th - 8th. You will learn techniques to balance, clear, and stabilize your animal's energy system. You can help your pets, the animals in shelters, and those animals within your community. The fun experiential learning environment, working with dogs and horses, will offer you different tools to help the animals and make changes to their lives and yours. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Level 1 is a 2 1/2 day course, each day building upon the previous day's teachings. On the first day, you will work alongside other students in the class to learn basic energy facilitation. The following day you will work hands-on with dogs as you practice the techniques with other students in class. You will work hands-on with horses on the final day of class, thus experiencing how to apply the techniques to a larger animal. Printed workbooks and energy assessment tools are provided during the in-person course.

For information on the Level 1 program and registration, please contact Alison Martin at alison@animalsoulconnection.com or visit www.healingtouchforanimals.com. Early incentive pricing is available and ends on September 15th.



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Cover Story

Spay, Neuter, and the Cover Dog!

Story by Bonnie Craig, Photos Courtesy of Candice Eaton and Chawntel Hunt



As Tucson's heat rages on, so does the stream of animals pouring into local shelters, so many this time of year being puppies and kittens. Some come in with their terrified and desperate mothers, and some come alone. Often their only hope for survival is a human to bottle feed

them every two to four hours. This is not unique to our town, or our part of the country. Companion animal overpopulation and resulting homelessness is a worldwide issue. While so many people work tirelessly to rescue and care for these animals, it can feel like an uphill battle, and ultimately, if we hope to one day solve the problem, we will have to look at root causes, namely, overbreeding, either intentionally or otherwise. So the most obvious solution? Spay and Neuter!

This may sound like an oversimplification of the issue, but regardless, the spaying and neutering of companion animals is indeed the best way to ensure that there are enough homes to go around, which currently, is far from the case. The ASPCA estimates that companion animals (predominantly dogs and cats) enter US shelters at a rate of 6.3 million yearly. Of those 6.3 million, they estimate that 920,000 are euthanized. These rates are down significantly from past years, likely as a result of higher reunion and adoption rates, as well as education and better access to resources, such as low cost spay and neuter programs. Ask any animal lover, however, if 920,000 euthanasians per year is an acceptable number, and chances are, the answer will be no, across the board.



Yappy Hour with Alan & Candice



Yappy Hour with Jackie Russell

Recently, The Tucson Dog Magazine was able to help out one local non-profit that works to solve the problem of pet overpopulation. The Yappy Hour event, held at the Skyline Country Club, raised over 750 dollars for Spay and Neuter Solutions (SNS) generating private pledges as well. It also helped the Tucson Dog find our latest cover model, to be immortalized by photographer, Candice Eaton. The day of the event the club was all abuzz. People enjoyed fancy snacks and sips, their pups by their sides, as they relaxed and took in a doggy fashion show. The manager even got in on the fun, dressing up as a dog



Doug The Dog
1st Runner Up"



"Doug The Dog"

as well. Many entered the cover dog contest, and all entrants were tres chic, but after a vote, it came down to just one runner up and the winner.

Runner up, Doug, a 9-month-old French bulldog, was born for the runway. He also enjoys the good life at home with his family, parents Chawntel and Eric Hunt and human brother Jase. He has his own

splash pad, enjoys car rides, fetch, napping, and sunbathing on the patio. At his brother's soccer and baseball games he sometimes steals the show, but who can blame him?

It's just that animal magnetism. According to mom, Chawntel, "He is very protective but

is working on his relationship with the trash collectors. He aspires to be a professional food critic, sampling as much human food as he can get." He is a perfect fit to our family!" It sure sounds like it! What a great guy you are, Doug the dog.

Taking first place and weighing in at 12 mighty pounds, meet Declan the Cavapoo.

For those left scratching their heads, a Cavapoo is a cross between a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel (Say that three times fast!) and a poodle. Like so many midwestern snowbirds, this former Buckeye moved to Tucson from Ohio. He joined his new southwestern family, Ken and Linda Burr, at the tender age of three months. Ken was struggling with his health, and since he had had a similar dog when he was young, Linda felt that Declan would be just what the doctor ordered. Declan proved to be a true and loyal friend and family member to the Burrs, comforting and entertaining Ken through the months of his illness at home. Declan was not above a little mischief, however, and his tendency toward petty theft, along with his facial markings resembling a mask, earned him the nickname, Bandit, from Ken. Even when Ken was eventually hospitalized, Declan never missed a chance to visit his dear friend.



Cover Dog Declan



Linda Burr with Declan "Best Friends"

Sadly, Ken passed away in March of 2023. Through their devastating loss, Declan and Linda stuck together, however, and have become best friends. They are working as a team to curb the kleptomania, and practicing some new skills as well. There are the common skills such as sit, heal, and come, as well as the more advanced safety skill of stopping at the end of the driveway to check for traffic before heading out on walks. We all know the importance of looking both ways before crossing the street. His current favorite trick is a little more flashy however. Declan loves to give high fives, and after politely sitting for a greeting, lavishes them on the neighbors he meets on walks.

Declan loves all the human friends he makes, and he loves to make dogs friends too. He especially enjoys rubbing shoulders with other pampered pups at the groomers.' He's really just a salon kind of guy, especially when it comes to the dryer. Declan loves dryers so much that he drops everything and comes running any time he hears Linda doing her hair.

Ever the active boy, Declan likes to run and fetch his ball, and is becoming a pro at getting in and out of his travel carrier, which he will be taking on its maiden voyage in October when he goes on his first airplane ride.



Katie Powers

In the meantime, and in keeping with his taste for the finer things in life, Declan enjoys his visits to the country club, where he is quite popular, and of course took his cover dog win, simultaneously helping other pups in need by raising money for Spay and Neuter Solutions.

Katie Powers founded Spay and Neuter Solutions in 2002. With a background in fostering animals in need, she wanted to do even

more, so decided to go straight to the source of the overpopulation issue. She wanted to find a way to help people and their animals access services through education and financial assistance, eliminating two of the main barriers to spay and neuter. 20 years later SNS is still going strong. They provide financial support on a case by case basis. A person can simply apply for help through their website where they also list various low cost clinics and links

to organizations that offer live traps on loan. This is especially helpful in the case of the many feral cat colonies that proliferate in Tucson's warm climate. Trapping, vaccinating, sterilizing, and releasing these essentially wild and often unadoptable felines makes all the difference when it comes to controlling population and disease within the colony.

SNS even has a medical fund dedicated to one such feral cat. The Pretty Boy McTavish Fund is named for a beautiful tuxedo cat who was trapped by SNS Vice President Dot Jones after seven months of trying. Though he had been badly beaten up by other ferals, had serious dental issues, and had contracted FIV, they were able to get him fixed up, and he went on to live the life of a beloved family member. Pretty Boy got lucky in the end, but perhaps he would



never have had to go through the suffering he did if we had more organizations like SNS around, and more people willing to alter their animals to prevent not only overpopulation, but also potentially aid the animals' health and quality of life.

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, spaying your female dog or cat can help them avoid breast cancer (yes, this affects non-human mammals as well), uterine infections, and other health problems. Neutering your male can help protect him from enlarged prostate and testicular cancer. There is

also evidence to suggest that these procedures result in calmer temperaments in both sexes, and reduce their wanderlust.

All of these factors reinforce the importance of spaying and neutering companion animals, and the organizations like SNS that help make it possible for everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status. Dot Jones reflects on the event at Skyline saying, "What struck me at the event was the pride and love each person had for their pet(s). It was displayed in the meticulous grooming each dog had received... and the expression on the pet guardians' faces as they showed off their pooch. It made me think that most people who have dogs share that love and pride of their animals, but not all can afford to pamper or care for them in such a luxurious style. That is why I believe SNS is such an important organization in our community." Declan, Doug, and the other country club dogs of the world have made it, with wonderful lives and families who adore them, and are able to give back to the community. This is not to say that less privileged folks love their pets any less. Some of us just need a little help sometimes.

Spaying and neutering your animals will help make the world better for others, but for those who want to pay it forward even farther, there are plenty of ways to help out Spay and Neuter Solutions. Monetary donations are incredibly helpful of course, but they can also use administrative help, general research, grant research, writers, event coordinators, event attendants, and Spanish translators. Requests for help and volunteer inquiries can be addressed to help@spayandneutersolutions.org. So be like Declan, Doug, and their families, and do something to make a difference for animal overpopulation today.



Business Spotlight

Combining a Love for Real Estate and Animal Rescue

Story and Photos by Tonya Neuman

of the challenges faced by bully breed dogs and instantly fell in love with these big-hearted, block-headed wiggle butts. My husband and I quickly expanded our pack, at one point having six large dogs, four of which were bully breeds, with three rescued through Smiling Dog. This experience exposed us to the difficulties of caring for rescue dogs with unknown backgrounds, fostering a newfound respect for the tireless efforts of the rescue community.

We also fostered a few dogs, but I always had a hard time sending dogs off to their new home as I worried they would be discarded again at some point. At one point while I was pregnant with my son, my husband and I had 6 of our own dogs and 5 fosters that were part of a cruelty case; to say we were spread thin would be an understatement. We now only have 4 rescue dogs but a small farm in which we have branched out to owning donkeys, pigs, goats, and chickens.

I've been a Realtor for just shy of 7 years, and in the past 3 years, I've risen to the role of Team Leader for Signature Group, a prominent team in Tucson known for exceptional performance. My career is a true passion, allowing me to assist individuals and families in finding their ideal homes. First-time home buyers hold a special place in my heart as they often come with more questions and truly value my guidance throughout the entire process. While some might find it odd to prefer clients with more inquiries, I thrive on sharing the extensive knowledge I've gained over my career.

Before my venture into Real Estate, I dedicated a significant portion of my time to organizing fundraisers for various rescue groups. This effort aimed to support the remarkable work these organizations do for homeless pets within our community. As a part of the service industry, I had a significant platform to encourage donations for these valued animal groups. My involvement typically remained at a distance from the day-to-day rescue operations, focusing instead on hosting fundraisers to contribute financially. Recently, my team organized a cornhole tournament to raise funds for Friends of PACC, rekindling my appreciation for fundraising activities, which had been a bit distant from my involvement.

While I have always loved animals and did some amateur rescuing on my own growing up, my passion for animal advocacy ignited upon meeting the founder of Smiling Dog Rescue, Rica Powell. Through this connection, I became aware

My involvement in the animal rescue world prior to my real estate career led me to a special community that significantly enriched my network in Tucson. Many of my clients have a direct connection to the rescue community. A recent example involves a buyer whose motivation for purchasing a new home stemmed from a desire to reunite with her dogs. Her pups had been temporarily relocated with a family member due to a neighbor's complaint. Assisting her in finding a safe and suitable home with a backyard for her babies was an exhilarating experience. Witnessing their joyful reunion was incredibly rewarding.

Considering people's pets is consistently a priority of mine when helping them find a home. Drawing from my experiences with my own challenging dogs that excelled in escape artistry, I routinely inquire about concerns regarding dogs leaping over walls or digging beneath fences. This attention to detail ensures that potential escape routes are taken into account when assisting clients in selecting their new homes.

The abundance of animals in need of good homes is often devastating but in light of the sadness, the caring souls you meet that work tirelessly to advocate for these animals is something to be in awe of. I love the work being done by Tucson Dog to bring awareness to the ones in need and those in our community who strive to make it better for all those animals.

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Training

How to Train Our Fur Family to Get Along

Story By Kari Cleland & Jeremy Brown, *The Complete Canine*

How to integrate species into one home? Introducing new pets to the family can be a stressful time for every species involved, including the human. When rescuing a new family member or integrating households, meeting that new pet on equal ground can be a game changing way to help make these situations go smoothly. To help alleviate this stress and set them up for success, we will talk about different ways to do so and the various combinations of species we are trying to integrate.

Two dogs being introduced

Many factors can play a role in this situation, one important thing is to accommodate their needs. Meeting on equal ground can make the biggest change. They're less territorial of their space and distracted by what's going on around them. Sometimes distraction can help us! Once they're around each other and are not reacting to one another, we like to have them walk parallel in the same direction with distance between them, closing the gap as the walk goes on. You can go up and back on a field at a park or go on a walk. Once they're comfortable being there, we will have them walk in front of the other so they can get used to being a little closer and get more info about the other dog this way by smelling the dog in front of them, switching roles and getting closer as time goes on. Never force them to be closer or try to push it. Some dogs show avoidance, which isn't a bad thing either. Move the exercise to the new territory or neighborhood and onto the property. Depending on their level of attention towards one another and reactivity, I like to move this type of training first into the yard and finally into the home. Time and patience are necessary, so they might need to practice a few times. Using kennels or a crate can also make things work easier, as they both have their own space or den.



Dog and cat

With two different species, we may need to make adjustments. Most cats do not walk on a leash so this process needs to be done to accommodate, also territory can be difficult on either side of the coin here so we will look at ways to make

this better for both the cat and dog. It is imperative that both species have their own safe space as you start this transition. Having them get comfortable in the space while the other is close but not there to stress further. After a day or two in that space, if they're doing well with the other in the space, we will push their positive interactions. Helping them understand each other by scent is an amazing way to start. Kari suggests that we put a blanket or towel in each of the animals' spaces to gather their scent, then switch them to the other after a day or so, so they can smell each other. Next, a door between them can be a very positive thing because they can interact between it without seeing each other. With a person on each side of the door, we will do things like train and play and make it very positive as well as feedings. But remember that each situation can be adjusted if either side is reactive. When they are on each side of the door without being too focused on one another, a baby gate between can be great, you're slowly making them comfortable with each other. A towel covering at first could allow for easier scent transfer but less eye contact if needed. Kari also says to try to be as positive as possible when doing this. Correcting either side with shouting for example could lead to one side being



scared around the other and alter the situation. When they're doing well, we like to situate the gate so the cat can walk under the gate and be able to join as they choose. Watch carefully and allow for more interaction. The dog is allowed to be on a leash if this would help, however, some dogs can be more reactive on the leash so be aware of the dynamic. Remember the needs of both animals, having high places for the feline can help them immensely, and crate training can be great for the dog so you can control the spaces as needed. Always consult an expert if you have questions or concerns.



Dog/cat and pocket pets (rabbit, bird, etc)

Different species have very different needs and this category is probably the hardest because you can't always train each pet as easily as another. Similar

approaches as above would be ideal but usually, pocket pets are in their own enclosures as you're doing the integration exercises. Start with scent first! Then the exercises to bring them closer. Dogs can be trained a little easier around these animals, but if you notice a prey drive from one of the animals please take these interactions slower. Correction tools like loud noises or yelling can be detrimental because the pocket pet could be much more harshly affected which can make the reaction from the other species more intense. Just like with small children, please supervise the interactions and guide the animals as needed without forcing the situation.

Calming collars and calming aids can be very helpful in all of the training above. Sentry brand calming collars or Adaptil calming collars/diffusers can be helpful to manage stress. These can be used for both cats and dogs!

For more information, contact Jeremy Brown with *The Complete Canine* at 520-403-1401

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Women of Rescue: Getting Things Done Part II

Story by Rebecca West

"Our rescue thrives because of our dedicated volunteers. Everyone has a place. There is no room for ego - it's all about the dogs!"

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Money Makes the World Go Round

What a lot of people don't realize is that most of these groups couldn't do what they do without the financial support of the public. That's where ladies like Erin Christiansen and Diana Madaras — both of whom have been on our cover over the past year — come in. Anyone who's familiar with the chief meteorologist and award-winning painter know that they are devoted to helping pets and wildlife, and that they've raised tens of thousands between them.



Bonnie Kay

Philanthropist Bonnie Kay

Bonnie has donated vast sums of money to animal causes and even bought Cody's Friends a forklift for their warehouse. She sat on the board of the Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona (AWASA) for 11 years, which

is behind many of Pima County's free or low-cost spay and neutering options. During her time there, they began hosting free vax and exam clinics twice a year.

There's also Friends of PACC, plus she's a supporter of Spay & Neuter Solutions, that established the Bonnie Kay Medical Fund in her honor. And speaking of funding, she's established a fund through the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona that funds ASAVET, a mobile spay/neuter clinic where she generously helped fund a truck.

A CFSA donor, she's teamed up with Pima Alliance for Animal Welfare, and she's also become the president and fundraising director of the Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary, which we highlighted in the last issue. And this is just some of her work with animals.

Taking the Time to Make a Difference

And there are plenty of others. Ann Harrington, the founder of *The Tucson Dog Magazine*, has worked tirelessly over the years to improve the lives of pets throughout the state. During that time, she's made great strides in educating the public on overcrowded shelters, backyard breeding, puppy mills, and the need to spay and neuter pets.

And there's Diana Cannon, who, as Chief Development Officer, was instrumental in helping raise money for the new Humane Society of Southern Arizona facility, which opened in 2018. "We are completely locally funded by our community, and they have been extremely generous in helping us raise the funds for this new campus. It is a pleasure to be a part of this



Candice Eaton

momentous occasion for the homeless pets in Southern Arizona," Diana noted at the time. Also, in Part I, we touched on photographer Candice Eaton. She's been holding a photo contest for the last two years to raise money for Friends of PACC. The event runs for a month and has raised over \$40k during that two-year timeframe. "The 13 winners of the contest get a photoshoot with me, and then I create a calendar that Friends of PACC can sell to raise more money."

She also creates free marketing photos for rescues to use for animal adoptions, and she did a pop-up art gallery fundraiser last year for Tucson Rescue Now that brought in about \$3,000. ceatonphotography.com/capturingeverybuddy

More Dynamic Women in Rescue

And then there are the countless women who work in large municipal or community shelters, like the Humane Society and Pima Animal Care Center and those who work in the sciences behind the scenes.

If you picked up a copy of our July/August issue you already know that we are highlighting the amazing women working in rescue here in southern Arizona and the remarkable things they've accomplished over the decades. That work takes many, many forms.

In Part I, we covered 14 female founders that have made a difference in our community feeding, housing, protecting, caring for, and basically just rescuing animals in need. While we ran out of space last time, we wanted to include one more to the list in Part II.

Bree Kishman, Founder and CEO of Hope of Deliverance, Inc.



Bree Kishman

Hope of Deliverance is a foster-based canine rescue active in New York and Arizona. Its focus is on delivering hope to dogs in negative situations.

Described as The Little Engine that Could, the Arizona rescue officially opened its doors January 2020, just before the start of the pandemic.

Since then, they've managed to save nearly 400 animals by primarily working with understaffed shelters in disadvantaged rural areas.

By supporting those shelters with essential resources, they can, in turn, prevent euthanasia by finding safe homes for at-risk pups. Ultimately, the goal is to keep dogs from ending up in these situations in the first place. Bree and her team advocate for spaying and neutering while offering alternative solutions to pet abandonment, like training resources to help keep dogs in their homes. They are always looking for fosters.



Monica Dangler

**Monica Dangler,
Director at
Pima Animal Care
Center**

Monica began her career working with animals as a volunteer therapy dog handler visiting the Cerebral Palsy Center - Pittsburgh and other organizations with one of her two Therapy International Dog teams. From 2009 to 2011, she worked for an open-access non-profit shelter in western Pennsylvania, where she planned and implemented fundraising, adoption, and educational events raising more than \$200,000.

From there, she headed to PAWS Shelter of Central Texas and served as director, planning and implementing changes that resulted in a 60 percent increase in their adoptions before becoming the volunteer manager for Austin Pets Alive! There, she worked to save animals at risk of euthanasia and even became a kitten foster. Austin is also where she volunteered as a dog walker for shelter animals.

Next, she served as an Executive Leadership Fellow at Pima Animal Care Center for about a year until becoming PACC's director. "I am amazed by our community every day and am so excited to continue to grow our shelter beyond walls with the community's help in fostering, adopting, and reuniting pets with their families." They've implemented a number of nationally-recognized, innovative programs like the Pet Support Center, a grant-funded project that provides support and resources to keep pets and families together.

**Lisa Royal, Deputy Director of
Pima Animal Care Center**

Lisa's history with Pima County spans an impressive 34 years. She earned her Master's in Public Administration in 1984, and has since served in an administrative capacity in a variety of county departments.



Lisa Royal

Since 2021, Lisa has been sharing her extensive management experience as Pima Animal Care Center's Deputy Director, where she adopted one of the shelter dogs and fosters. She shared that her favorite part of the role is working with an incredible group of people who are striving to make a difference for animals.

A hands-on director, she can frequently be found seeing to it that everyone's needs are met. From assisting with adoptions, foster caregivers, volunteers, and APS, if she's needed, she's there. And, along with most everyone else at PACC, she's not afraid to get her hands dirty, saying, "It is not beneath me to jump in and help clean kennels."

**Michele Figueroa, Community Engagement
Manager at Pima Animal Care Center**



Michele Figueroa

Michele Figueroa is the Community Engagement Manager for PACC in Tucson. She has been with them for 18 years and served in a leadership capacity in almost every area of the shelter, including Animal Control (which is now Animal Protection), the Medical Clinic, Adoptions, and Admissions. Michele has implemented several innovative programs throughout the years, including increasing microchipping efforts in the underserved areas with the greatest need.

In her current role as the Community Engagement Manager, she has developed partnerships with GreaterGood, Amazon, and the Community Warehouse through Gap Ministries, who help her carry on the mission of supporting the community when they need it the most. During the last fiscal year, Michele and her team were able to distribute over 1 million meals to dogs and cats in Pima County and assisted more than 30,000 pets.

Incredibly dedicated, back in February 2020, she spent five days in a kennel decked out to resemble a dog house adorned with paper heart cutouts with a dog named Tessa to help get her adopted for Valentine's Day.



Michele Figueroa

**Dr. Lisa Gunter, Ph.D., CBCC-KA,
Companion Animal Scientist**

While she is now an Assistant Professor at Coastal Carolina University in the Department of Psychology, before beginning her graduate studies, Lisa worked for nearly a decade with dogs in animal shelters and with dogs and their owners.

Over her academic career, she has investigated the breed labeling of shelter dogs, their breed heritage, and how shelter housing, social interactions with other dogs and people, weeklong fostering, temporary stays in foster homes, and short-term outings impact the emotional and physical health of the animals.

Under the mentorship of Clive Wynne, Lisa earned her Master's degree in 2015 and her Ph.D. in 2018 in the Behavioral Neuroscience and Comparative Psychology Program at Arizona State University with The Canine Science Collaboratory, which is dedicated to improving the lives of dogs and their people. From 2018-2022, she was the Maddie's Fund Research Fellow at Arizona State University and managed the Arizona State University/Virginia Tech Maddie's Nationwide Fostering Study.

The study was conducted in conjunction with PACC to determine the impact weeklong fostering can have on the health and welfare of shelter dogs. Bettering the lives of companion animals and their owners has been the driving force behind her work, including Wagfield Academy — an online training and behavior resource for dog owners — and The Institute for Shelter Dogs.

Women of Rescue Part III

Stay tuned for Part III in our next issue. Even with three segments it's impossible to shine a light on all of the incredible women who have devoted the better part of their lives to animal welfare. It's still an honor to have them in our state doing what they do. In the meantime, we look forward to highlighting even more amazing females in the next issue, including some hardworking ladies at the Humane Society of Southern Arizona. See you next time!

The Yellow Dog Project is Trying to Tell You Something. Are You Receiving the Message?

Story by Rebecca West



A show of hands. How many of you are familiar with the Yellow Dog Project? There probably aren't nearly as many hands raised as those that aren't, but maybe we're underestimating the effort's reach. However, if you were thinking it might have something to do with yellow Labs and maybe a health or lifetime study, you'd be mistaken. It's actually nothing of the kind.

The Yellow Dog Project is an international movement created for canines that need a little extra space when out and about in public. This doesn't automatically mean they're aggressive and that you need to scoop up the kids and make a run for it. The animals could just be shy or skittish for any number of reasons, including trauma or abuse. They could also be in training for a job they're to perform or working on being in public. Sometimes dogs are reactive on leashes and haven't mastered being redirected yet.

The list goes on, but the point is, at times, it would be great to have a little extra space when working with these pups. That's what founder Tara Palardy was thinking in 2013 when she championed the idea of attaching a yellow ribbon or something similar to a dog's leash to indicate that they could use some space. As a Canadian dog trainer from Alberta, she recognized the need for dog walkers to have a way to communicate from afar.

This led to founding the Yellow Dog Project to raise awareness that not all dogs may be social. It caught on quickly, with her campaign attracting more than 12,000 followers from around the globe in roughly six months. The idea was reportedly inspired by something she saw on a Swedish website. At the time, it was part of a growing movement to get people to use common sense when approaching dogs.

Since then, the practice of attaching a yellow ribbon or bow to dog collars and leashes in North America has taken hold. And it isn't limited to just ribbons and bows anymore. An entire cottage industry has sprung up based on the idea. Now you can get yellow leashes, collars, and harnesses, some with the word "Nervous" appearing on them. Yellow bandanas are also a big seller for getting the message across, and they're easier to detect in many cases.

But it could get confusing because lots of people are naturally drawn to bright sunny colors, and there's the question of how many people have a clue that yellow really is a "thing" nowadays in the canine world. Of course, that's what the nonprofit hopes to change by educating the public on how to greet a dog safely and reduce negative interactions.



Having a yellow ribbon or bandana visible to individuals who might otherwise approach the animal to play or pet it is great, but they have to know what it means. That's where all of us come in, too. If this campaign — which is in its 10th year — is news to you, then talk about it and share it with your friends. The more people that know, all the better.

While we're on the subject, if you've never had a lot of interaction with other people's pets or it's just been a really long time, like maybe you've been on a three-year mission at the space station, there are things everyone should bear in mind when approaching and/or greeting a stranger's pets. The first thing is don't make any sudden moves or appear to lunge at them in an effort to pet them. You should *always* ask before trying to make contact with the animal, regardless of its size, breed, or cuteness level.

#4 Yellow dog project (no credit)

There are so many scenarios when approaching someone's dog and just reaching out towards its head or face could go wrong that we don't have time for all of them here. Just remember, not all dogs are attention hounds, and most are protective to some extent. Secondly, respect what the owner/walker/handler tells you. Don't say, "Oh, all animals love me!" and keep reaching for it.

Besides being super annoying, this one particular animal might *not* like you for whatever reason. It doesn't even have to amount to dislike. It could be out of fear or protectiveness. So, give them a break and a slightly wider berth and help everyone out in the process.

Circling back around before we close, how many of you already knew about the significance of bright yellow on a dog and the need for extra space? Let us know on our social media pages using the hashtag #tdmyellowdog.



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From the Director's Desk

Lindsey Dittmer and the Almost Home Rescue Program at the Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Story by and Photos courtesy of Alexa Stanislav, Marketing Manager & Communications, Humane Society of Southern Arizona and Lindsey Dittmer



Lindsey Dittmer

Animal Shelters in Southern Arizona, like much of the United States, is in crisis. Shelters across the country are working tirelessly to balance the increasing needs of the community with the limitations of their resources. At the forefront of animal welfare work are dedicated shelter and rescue workers mobilizing their passion and industry prowess to make a difference. One of these notable individuals is Lindsey Dittmer, Rescue Programs Manager for the Humane Society of Southern Arizona.

Lindsey has worked with HSSA since 2021. A proud U of A graduate, Lindsey is an integral part of HSSA's off-site rescue programs and overall mission. Before creating and managing the Rescue Programs arm of the organization, she served as Shelter Manager. With a strong background in animal welfare ranging from volunteer-operated rescues in the Midwest to creation of the House Dog program for Ronald McDonald House Charities, Lindsey has over 10 years of dedicated experience in the field. She uses this experience to assess and tailor new programs in

a way that best serves both animals in need and the community surrounding them. In this case, the Tucson community benefits from Lindsey's passion and commitment by way of the new Almost Home program at HSSA.

Through creative and experienced voices like Lindsey's, Animal Welfare organizations are finding new ways to engage with and connect to the communities they serve. This is happening in real time, as HSSA recently launched the Almost Home Rescue Project - an arm of the organization created with the goal of directly interacting with people in the community rather than asking the community to come to them.



The Almost Home Rescue Project integrates the financial, veterinary, and administrative resources of the Humane Society of Southern Arizona with the powerful grassroots foster and volunteer rescue model. Blending these philosophies creates a network of support for foster and shelter animals, with the overall goal of graduating animals out of the restrictive shelter environment and into foster programs - going from kennel to couch.



The Almost Home Rescue project was established in June of 2023 as a response to overcrowding in the HSSA Shelter. Before the inception of Almost Home, HSSA focused most of its resources within the shelter, utilizing foster support mainly for pets in need of medical care or for litters of puppies or kittens. COVID dismantled many offsite adoptions programs for rescue groups across the globe, but the Almost Home Rescue Project symbolizes a renewed investment in Foster Care. Through this program, pets receiving medical care or puppies and kittens under 8 weeks old are placed in trained, supported foster homes until they are ready for adoption, but in addition to medical and newborn pets, any pet available for adoption at HSSA's Main Campus for over 7 days is also eligible to enter the Almost Home Foster Program, allowing the animal to recover from shelter stress and enjoy time outside of the shelter.

The Almost Home Rescue Project supports foster families by providing any needed food, supplies, and medical care. Our Almost Home pets and their foster families are asked to attend HSSA's relevant community events and weekly adoption dates at local PetSmart locations. This increases exposure for the adoptable animal and allows fosters and HSSA

staff to check in with each other. In addition to these outings, foster families can take their pets on in-town adventures, from hiking (weather-permitting) to an evening on one of the many pet-friendly patios in Tucson!

Under Lindsey's guidance, the Almost Home Rescue Team is a tight-knit team of 6 HSSA staff members and a growing volunteer base. Many of the team members, including Lindsey, have backgrounds in non-profit, animal welfare, medical, and education fields— a plethora of life experiences that allow them to connect with the community and serve in unique ways. Many team members foster animals in their own homes frequently, and are able to interact with the growing network of foster participants by sharing resources and knowledge, promoting team adhesion to the overall goal: improving the lives of homeless animals.

Through creative marketing, strong leadership, and a collaborative partnership with local animal welfare organizations and businesses, success for Almost Home is in sight — all based upon the notion that it takes a village to create change. Women like Lindsey are making this change happen. To learn more about the program or to get involved, contact Lindsey at ldittmer@hssaz.org.





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WHO WE ARE:

We recruit, train, & place registered therapy teams, consisting of an owner & their pet in the Tucson Community. We visit various facilities that serve historically underserved or disenfranchised youth:

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- Domestic Violence Shelters
- Group homes
- Residential Treatment Centers
- Schools
- And other Shelter Facilities
- Libraries

We focus on teaching life skills that children may not have learned through traditional channels, such as the humane treatment of animals.



drake@lapancollegeclub.org
4651 N. 1st Ave Ste. 200 Tucson, AZ 85718
lapansunshinefoundation.org/about-sunshine-therapy-animals/



The B.A.A.R.K program aims to improve a child's confidence, trust, empathy, and emotional development by reading to a dog. The program operates in schools that serve at-risk children. Therapy teams visit a school weekly, seeing three to four children individually during a one-hour session - to improve reading skills, comprehension and speed, as well as help develop core social behaviors. The sessions have a 12-16 week duration. Therapy teams receive Sunshine Animal training, materials and support specific to this program.

 @sunnypetstucson  Sunshine Therapy Animals

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 (Baby Animal Rescue Koalition)
PO Box 35804
Tucson 85740
barkntucson@AOL.com
facebook.com/BARKTucson/

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

Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
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Cherishedtails@yahoo.com
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Hard Luck Hounds
(520) 261-7677
hardluckhounds.org
info@hardluckhounds.org

Hope of Deliverance
Hope of Deliverance is dedicated to being
the voice for the voiceless
hopeofdeliverance.org
hopeofdeliverancerescue@gmail.com
330-647-9963

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
missmaggieamay@cox.net

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

Regal Dane Rescue
602-491-7358
www.regaldanerescue.com
www.regaldanerescue@gmail.com
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6401 W. Marana Blvd, Suite 902
Marana 85742
(520) 261-1616
rescuemetucson.org

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

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

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

Southwest Oasis Labrador Rescue (SOLR)
501c3 volunteer organization dedicated
to the rescue and adoption of
homeless Labrador Retrievers.
We are a virtual animal rescue
organization without a physical shelter
(520) 554-0911
SouthwestOasisLabRescue@gmail.com
www.solraz.org

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

Tucson2Tails
(520) 812-5682
Tucson2Tails@Gmail.com

Tucson's Cause For Canines
(520) 283-3423
TucsonCFC@gmail.com
facebook.com/TucsonsCFC/
www.tucsoncauseforcanines.org

Tucson Rescue Now Adoption Store
La Encantada Shopping Center
2905 E Skyline Dr. suite 28
Tucson AZ 85718
(520) 490-7508

Bird 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

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

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

Southern Arizona Cat Rescue
"Our rescue is dedicated to saving
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We're a foster based rescue
located in Tucson Az
www.sacatrescue.org
www.facebook.com/sacatrescue

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

Whisper's Sanctuary
Whisper's Ranch Bed & Breakfast
A Place of Peace and Healing
for Horses & Other Animals
www.whispersranch.com
toni@rrheartranch.com
520-455-5424

The Wild Horse Haven Rescue
"Saving horses and healing souls
through wild horse connections"
Safford, AZ
wildhorsehavenrescue@gmail.com
http://www.wildhorsehaven.com/

Wild Hearts Rescue Ranch
(520) 661-4522
wildheartsforcrow@gmail.com
www.wildheartsrescue.org

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

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

Pig Sanctuary

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

Reptile Rescue & Sanctuary

Southern Arizona Reptile Rescue & Educa-
tion cressi.ueniweb.com
(808) 747-6445
We are based in Tucson, AZ but we serve
the entire state of Arizona



Rescue Me Tucson is excited to announce their inaugural Prance Your Pup Fun Walk and Adoption Event

Story and Photos by Deb Ramsey

Rescue Me Tucson operates Rescue Me Marana, an all-volunteer-run, collaborative-based pet adoption center that aids several Southern Arizona shelters. Since opening in September 2021, RMT has facilitated adoptions of more than 850 dogs and cats and has helped connect hundreds of people to community resources for affordable spay/neuter, vaccines, and training needs. RMT helps people who are looking for a specific breed, learn how to search shelters and rescues. Their goal is to help the public connect with the right rescue animal for their family.

In addition to adoptable dogs and cats, RMT features cat and dog toys, supplies, and locally made pet treat by Dogs-n-Donuts.

Learn about the volunteer opportunities RMT has to offer: walk dogs,

cuddle kitties, assist with retail and be a part of community events. It's fun and very rewarding! For more information, contact teresa@rescuemetucson.org.

RMT has limited sponsorship opportunities remaining for Prance Your Pup (PYP). As a sponsor, your organization will be actively promoted to more than 7,000 social media followers as well as in advertising, news media, and event signage. It's a great opportunity to increase awareness of your organization, support rescue dogs and cats, and help families who are looking for that perfect pet.

RMT is excited to announce their inaugural "Prance Your Pup" Fun Walk (9am-12pm) and Adoption Event on Saturday, November 4, 2023 at Ann Day Community Park, 7601 North Mona Lisa Dr. Tucson,

AZ from 9 AM until 2 PM. The event features local vendors, food trucks, music, and family activities including a "Smooch Your Pooch" booth. Kids of all ages can meet "Dusty" from the Tucson Roadrunners between 9:30 AM and 10 AM. Multiple area rescues and shelters will be present with a wide selection of dogs and puppies to adopt. You might even spot McGruff the Crime Dog doing some detective work at the park.

Team and individual registration is open! Grab your pup and some friends and join the fun! Register- <https://www.rescuemetucson.org/PYP>

When and Where?

Saturday, November 4
from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Ann Day Community Park,
7601 N. Mone Lisa Drive, Tucson

For more information:

Contact Deb Ramsey,
PYP Chair, deb@rescuemetucson.org.
RMT is open Sunday-Friday 12-5 PM;
Saturdays 11 AM–5 PM
at the Tucson Premium Outlets, 6401 W. Marana Center Blvd., in Marana.
[rescuemetucson.org](https://www.rescuemetucson.org)



**PRANCE
your PUP**

PRANCE YOUR PUP Fun Walk & Adoption Event Saturday, November 4th, 2023

Ann Day Community Park
7601 N Mona Lisa Drive, Tucson, AZ
Fun walk: 9:00am-12:00pm
Adoption event: 9:00am-2:00pm

**Adopt your new best friend
Enjoy music and family-fun events**

**Meet Dusty from the Tucson Roadrunners
Visit the Smooch your Pooch booth**

**Create a team with your friends
Registration is open now**

For more information or to sign-up visit: www.rescuemetucson.org/PYP

For vendor or sponsorship information contact
deb@rescuemetucson.org

Visit our RESCUE ME MARANA Pet Adoption Center
6401 W. Marana Center Blvd, Suite 902, Tucson, AZ 85742
Sun-Fri: Noon-5pm; Sat: 11am-5pm
520.261.1616 www.rescuemetucson.org



Rescue Me Tucson, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, EIN 83-1488062
RMT has received the GuideStar Gold Rating



Dog Gone — How Far Back Does the History of Pet Cemeteries Date?

Story by Rebecca West



A couple of issues back, we wrote about the incredible true story concerning the far-reaching journey of the *Rainbow Bridge* poem and one writer's quest to track down the person who penned the touching ode. That was Tucson resident Dr. Paul Koudounaris, author, art historian, cat owner, and PACC foster caregiver, who was working on a book chronicling bereavement when he ran across it.

This got us thinking about an archeological dig we'd read about some five years ago and the practice of burying pets. In the late Victorian era — where it wasn't unusual to see art depicting large dogs lovingly embraced as a part of the family unit hanging in homes — pet cemeteries began popping up in Europe and America.

London's Hyde Park was the site of an informal pet cemetery between 1881 and 1903 in the gatekeeper's garden. One headstone there reads, "In memory of our darling little Bobbit. When our lonely lives are over and our spirits from this Earth shall roam, we hope he'll be there waiting to give us a welcome home."

Cimetière des Chiens in Asnières-sur-Seine in Paris, which dates from 1899, is an elaborate pet cemetery touted as being the first public zoological necropolis in the modern world. Hollywood's Rin Tin Tin is buried there.



Here in America, the largest and oldest pet cemetery sits on a hillside in Hartsdale, New York. Dating from 1896, a Manhattan veterinarian is said to have allowed a grieving pet owner the ability to bury their dog in his apple orchard. Today, it's the

final resting place for more than 70,000 animals! In 2012, the Hartsdale Pet Cemetery was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

But dogs have been companions to humans for tens of thousands of years now. They are loyal creatures that have left indelible marks on our lives in so many ways. Archeologists have found them buried alongside their masters or laid at their feet in ancient tombs and burial plots around the world, demonstrating the special place they've held in our hearts for millennia.

In July of this year, a dig in Oxfordshire uncovered the 1,800-year-old remains of a tiny pooch buried at a villa believed to have been owned by a wealthy Roman family. Described as a lapdog, researchers say it is one of the smallest found in the U.K. and was likely a "much-loved pet" possibly interred with its people.



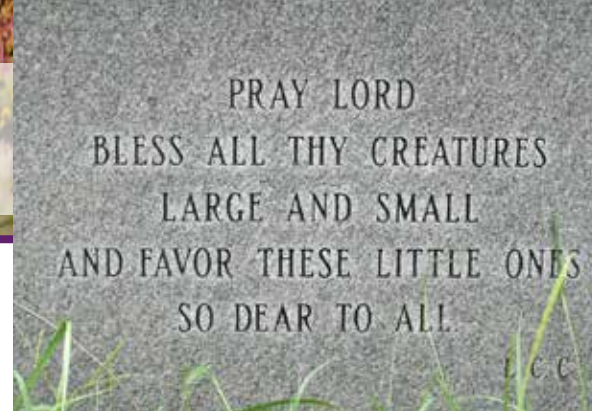
Another example is Scotland's Peel Castle on the Isle of Man. Originally constructed in the 11th century by the Norse, it wasn't until 1871 that it was excavated. During the work, they reportedly uncovered the remains of Simon, Bishop of Sodor and Man, who died between 1247 and 1249 A.D. At his feet was the skeleton of a very large dog.

And in the Neolithic or late stone-age village of Shillourokambos on Cyprus, the bones of a cat and a human were discovered in a grave dating from 7,000 – 7,500 B.C.

These are nothing compared to the earliest known case of a dog being interred with humans. To date, the record still stands with a grave that was unearthed in 1914 in Oberkassel, a suburb of Bonn in western Germany. Evidence showed that ancient people lovingly cared for a sick puppy for weeks before it died about 14,000 years ago during the Paleolithic era.

After its death, the small canine was buried with the remains of an adult male and female, as well as another dog. This case is said to be not only the oldest burial of a domestic dog on record, but the oldest known grave to include dogs with humans.

So, when did people start creating actual pet cemeteries?



In 2017, a group of Polish archeologists in Egypt working on a site along the Red Sea in the old Roman port town of Berenike (Ptolemaic-period 285-246 B.C.) came across a pet cemetery dating back 1,800 years to the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D. Within it, they located the skeletons of at least 100 pets.

In addition to cats and the skeletal remains of nine dogs, most of the animals were buried separately, but double graves with felines did occur on multiple occasions. In one grave, a vervet monkey and three felines were found buried together, along with their iron collars. While cats and dogs among the graves were to be expected, there were some unusual finds, too.

During the height of the Roman Empire, it was not uncommon for people to keep exotic animals as pets, so it wasn't a complete surprise that at least four monkeys were buried in the cemetery. In addition to the vervet, they included grivets and an olive baboon.



The location of the graveyard came to light as the result of a larger excavation near the town within close proximity to the temple of Serapis. According to the journal *Antiquity*, the dig began in 1994. The site differs in the sense that the animals within its confines were not used as part of any ancient rituals — such as in the southern Levant or possibly Ashkelon — and is instead a strong testament to the lengthy bond between humans and pets.

One of the dig's researchers, Marta Osypinska, wrote, "Egypt was undoubtedly one — and probably the most important — of the places where cats were first domesticated." To honor these treasured pets, wealthy families dressed them in jewels and fed them like royalty. When they died, they were mummified. As a sign of mourning, the cat owners shaved off their eyebrows and continued to mourn them until they grew back.

How's that for showing undying love and adoration?

A Howling Good Time

Story by Meganne Carpenter, Camp Bow Wow Tucson East



Halloween is a howling good time for us humans, but it can be a scary and potentially dangerous time for many of our beloved pups. It's important to be prepared so you and your dog can enjoy the holiday!

Review this list of Halloween hazards and how you can help avoid them.

1. As much as we love our sugar rush of a holiday, the candy that accompanies it can be deadly for your dogs! Make sure all candy is stored away from your dog and wrappers or anything partially eaten is put away or thrown away.
2. Many dogs can react poorly to costumes. The costumes cover up or alter a person's body, making it challenging for a dog to read that person's body language. If you know your dog is nervous with strangers it might be best to keep them away from people in costumes.
3. Decorations for Halloween may move, light up, make weird noises, or have other features that make them scary for a dog. Always be watching your dog's body language and if they become overstimulated or anxious during the Halloween festivities, remove them from that situation.
4. If your dog is nervous around large groups, strangers, or children, it's best to keep them

in a room or crate away from the front door and occupied with a toy or treat.

5. With doors opening and shutting all evening during Halloween, it's a prime time for a dog to escape your home. Again, it's best to keep your dog in a room or crate away from the front door and occupied with a toy or treat, but if your dog is easy-going and not nervous around the Halloween festivities, make sure your dog is leashed and not able to dart out the door to greet trick-or-treaters.



Some additional tips:

- Ensure your dog has his/her collar with identification tags on, and has been microchipped with current information.
- Only take your dog out trick-or-treating if he or she is relaxed and comfortable around the trick-or-treaters and decorations in the neighborhood: even an overly-excited dog can be a problem and risk escape.
- You may also want to enjoy the holiday by dressing up your pup. Make sure your pup can move around comfortably and the costume doesn't have pieces they can reach and chew on while the costume is on. Halloween should be a fun time for everyone involved! We hope you take these tips into consideration when making plans for your family this Halloween.



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Halloween
from the
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