

#### The 4th Annual Dogtoberfest Adopt-A-Thon 2023

Story by Account Executive Elizabeth Bailey The Tucson Dog elizabeth.tucsondog@gmail.com, 785-554-4271

The 4th Annual Dogtoberfest and Adopt-a-Thon hosted by The Tucson Dog, Prime Leaf, and Dogtopia of Tucson, kicked off Sunday, October 22 at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park in Tucson.

Our hardy band of volunteers and staff descended on the event site shortly before dawn to set up the event venue. Nearly 60 dog rescues, shelters, vendors, and food trucks began pouring in an hour later, and by 10 a.m. everyone was in place and ready to welcome Tucson's dog owners and enthusiasts to Dogtoberfest 2023.

Dogs of every shape and size, with their owners safely leashed, began arriving at 10 a.m., eager to see all the adoptable dogs available, the wares offered by the vendors, and of course sample the offerings from the food trucks. The line to sign up for costume contests and the Adoptable Dog Parade formed early, and everyone had a chance to show off their

Halloween costumes.

Dogtoberfest 2023 drew media attention from the local news outlet KGUN-9. Mikenzie Hammel arrived on the grounds broadcasting live from the event, interviewing vendors and attendees, recording live for the Tucson Morning Blend. Matt from KDRI The Drive Tucson and his lovely Wife-to-Be, Randy paid a visit too, after supporting and chatting up the event for 2 weeks prior.

Jacob Acosta, Official Dogtoberfest emcee for 3 years, broadcast throughout the grounds all day. He had a great playlist of recorded tunes, as well as his own original songs he performed for the crowd. He kept the announcements coming throughout the day, and entertained the crowd while the judges were deliberating.

continued on next page

THANK YOU to our **Hosting Sponsors Dogtopia of Tucson** The Prime Leaf







Dogtoberfest 2023 Volunteers





Jacob Acosta



Prime Leaf Dogtoberfest Hosting Sposor



Best Owner Dog Costume Contest The Moon!



ZZ Top Prince Ali





Southern AZ Reptile Resue & Education



Dogtopia Dogtoberfest Hosting Sponsor





Best Costume Contestant

Nationally noted photographer Marilyn Stringer was the Official Dogtoberfest Photographer for the third year in a row, and she was on site taking pictures of the dogs and families in costumes.

As soon as the first costume class began parading in front of the stage at 11 a.m., the crowd gathered to applaud and cheer on their favorites. Costume classes went on throughout the event, with the final costume class taking the field at 3 p.m. Prizes and goody bags

went to all the deserving winners and runner-ups, and many of the foster and rescue dogs present took part in the Parade of Adoptable Dogs.

Throughout the grounds, Tucson dog owners and their dogs were having a great time shopping, eating, socializing, and enjoying the contests. In "Adoption Alley", the area set aside especially for rescues and shelters, many of the adoptable dogs had "I've been adopted!" tags on their kennel cards before the end of the day.









Stay tuned for the upcoming Woofstock 2024 in the spring!

If you want to participate as a sponsor or vendor for Woofstock 2024 contact Publisher/Editor Heather McShea, heather@ thetucsondog.com

Also for more information contact Account Executive Elizabeth Bailey at elizabeth.tucsondog@ gmail.com,

785-554-4271



Costume Contest The Panda



Dogtoberfest Camp Bow Wow Filler



Consume Contest Toy Story



# The Leader of the Pack Speaks

Dear Readers and Friends,

Welcome to the holiday season! Dogtoberfest 2023 was a huge success, thanks to our amazing sponsors, guests, and my invaluable Tucson Dog Volunteers. Special thanks go out to Dogtopia of Tucson and The Prime Leaf, helping to make this happen! Thank you for judging contests, and being the animal lovers and caregiver that you are. Because of all of you, many more dogs are now happily out of the shelters and into their new forever homes. I am very happy to introduce you to Daisy Sonora, the winner of the Holiday Cover Dog Contest! The Holiday season is joyful and busy and sometimes extra stressful. Remember to relax and enjoy the comfort and the love that your furry friends readily share without condition. Unfortunately, many pets are relinquished to shelters often during the holiday season because a new dog or puppy is introduced into the family. Our shelters are again overwhelmed with senior pets who are confused and brokenhearted, so this year please give the gift of a loving home to the most grateful companion you will ever know. All senior pets deserve the last years of their lives to be carefree and secure. As 2023 winds down, 2024 is upon us. I am proud that Tucson is voted #1 as the most pet-friendly city in the US, according to Forbes Magazine conversely, Arizona is ranked 30th in Animal Welfare. Underrepresentation of animals' interests is something that we as a community have the power to change. The Tucson Dog is dedicated to helping make Tucson #1 in Animal Welfare through education, adoptions and helping raise awareness of the need for Spay and Neuter.

Thank you to all of our animal lovers, activists and those who contribute to the cause!

Have a safe and happy holiday season from all of us at The Tucson Dog!

Yours, Heather McShea Publisher & Editor In Chief



"The greatest ethical test that we're ever going to face is how we treat those who are at our mercy." Lyn White

# THANKYOU

#### JEFFREY G.

for your generosity and love for animals

# 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 5151 E Broadway Blvd Ste 1600, Tucson, AZ 85711 Or call 520-345-2801



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Photo by M. Kloth



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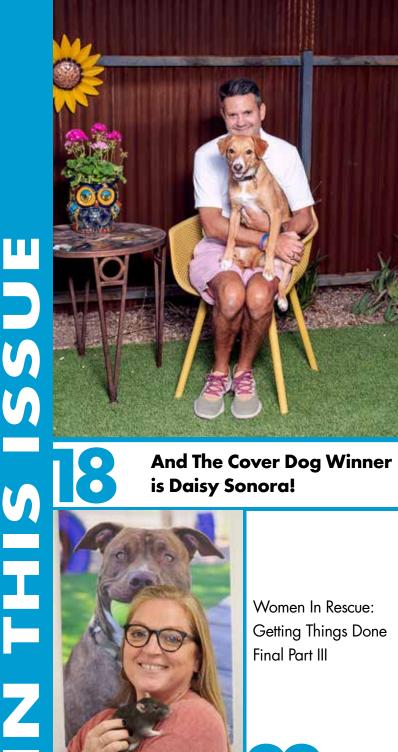
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# The Tucson Dog Staff & Writers



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



**Elizabeth Bailey - Account Executive** - is owned by two rescue dogs and volunteers as a foster for Tucson Cold Wet Noses and PACC. She is a graduate of the University of Kansas William Allen White School of Journalism with a Bachelor of Science in Journalism with an emphasis on Advertising and Marketing. She is a published writer and National Merit Scholar. She is the founder and owner-operator of a 50-employee restaurant, and ran it successfully for 20 years until she sold it in 2013.



#### 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 -** BonBonnie 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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# Calendar OF EVENTS



#### **NOVEMBER**

#### Wed. Nov. 1, (Mon.-Thu. 10-5) Lapan Thanksgiving Food Drive

Help local families in need by donating ham, boxed stuffing, canned yams & cranberry sauce, jarred gravy, 5lb. bags of potatoes, frozen or canned green beans, heat-n-serve rolls, pumpkin pie, & whipped cream. Accepting food & monetary donations at drop-off location: 3407 S. 9th St., 85713 drake@lapancollegeclub.org

#### Wed. Nov. 1 thru Dec. 8 Lapan Sunshine Therapy Animals Holiday Toy Drive

Help us by donating new, unwrapped toys, clothing, home goods, & blankets to support the families & students from 1st grade to college-level of the Lapan Sunshine Foundation this Christmas season. Accepting donations at drop-off location: 3407 S. 9th St., 85713 drake@lapancollegeclub.org

# Sat. Nov. 4, 9am-2pm Rescue Me Tucson's Prance Your Pup Walk & Adoption Event

RMT's inaugural fun walk (9am-12pm) & adoption event (9am-2pm) will be at Ann Day Community Park, 7601 N. Mona Lisa Drive, Tucson. Enjoy vendors, food trucks, music, & family activities including a "Smooch Your Pooch" booth. Rescues/ shelters will be present. rescuemetucson.org

#### Sat. Nov. 4, 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. Nov. 4, 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. Nov. 4, 10am-12pm 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. Nov. 4, 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) 747-6556 or email SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

#### Sun. Nov. 5, 8am-10am 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

#### Wed. Nov. 8, 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

# Wed. Nov. 8 & 22, 4pm-5pm Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru Vaccine & Microchip Clinic

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

#### Sat. Nov. 11, 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. Nov. 11, 11 am-2pm Southern Arizona Cat Rescue PetSmart Adoption Event

On 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.

#### Sun. Nov. 12, 12pm-4pm PACC 2023 Fall Festival

Join the Pima Animal Care Center for a fantastic afternoon that includes FREE adoptions, games, music, doggy playtime, food, and plenty of fun! 4000 N. Silverbell Rd., Tucson More info at Pima.gov/animalcare.

#### Mon. Nov. 13 thru 26, 12pm-6pm PACC's Holiday Staycation Promo

Don't let community shelter pets spend the holidays alone! PACC's looking for adopters & short-term fosters so rescues can spend the holidays in a loving home. Anyone adopting (puppies & kittens included) or fostering an animal during the 2nd week entry period is entered to win a 2-night stay at The Graduate Tucson.

#### Fri. Nov. 17 & 18, 10am-5pm Dogs-n-Donuts 5thAnniversary Event

Come celebrate with Dogs-n-Donuts' to mark the 5th anniversary of being in business on Friday and Saturday (10am-2pm) where you and your pup can enjoy some delicious treats!

#### Sat. Nov. 18, 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. Nov. 18, 10am-2pm AZ. Bilingual's Thanksgiving Festival

PACC staff will be attending Arizona Bilingual's event with adoptable dogs, pet resources, & plenty of information about PACC & how they can help pet owners in Pima County. Location: Tucson Clinica Medica Familiar at 3770 S. 16th Ave.

# Sat. Nov. 18, 11am-2pm Bookman's Adoption Event with S. Arizona Reptile Rescue & Education

Come view adoptable reptiles in the Kids' Books section on Speedway & Wilmot & talk with our adoption team member to see how to get your new scaly friend. Call or text (808) 747-6556 or email SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

# Sat. Nov. 18, 11am-3pm Pathways for Paws K9 Adoption Event at Bookman's East

Every 3rd Saturday the public is invited to come find their next furry friend at Bookman's East located in Tucson at 6230 E. Speedway Blvd.

#### Tues., Nov. 28, 10am-2pm Giving Tuesday with Friends of PACC at the Downtown Ice Rink

Get into the holiday spirit at the downtown ice rink by visiting with Friends of Pima Animal Care Center & help support their fundraising for Giving Tuesday to assist PACC's lifesaving programs. Adoptable animals will be there as well! 260 S. Church Ave., Tucson

#### **DECEMBER**

#### Sat. Dec. 2, 11 am-2pm Humane Society of S. Arizona Pups in the Plaza Adoption Event

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

# Sat. Dec. 2, 12pm-3pm PACC Adoption Event at Oro Valley Festival of the Arts & Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration

Shelter dogs will be available for adoption aboard the PACC-Mobile at the Oro Valley Festival of the Arts & Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration. Location: Ft. Lowell Arts & Crafts Fair

12155 N. Oracle Rd, Oro Valley, AZ

#### Sat. Dec. 2, 11 am-2pm Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary Petco Adoption Event

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Text or call (808) 747-6556 or email SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

#### Sun. Dec. 3, 8am-10am 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

# Sun. Dec 3, 10am-1pm Pinal County Animal Care & Control Holiday Hangout Event

Come walk or adopt some sweet Pinal County shelter dogs at Boyce Thompson Arboretum & improve the life of a pup in the process. 37615 E. Arboretum Way, Superior, AZ 85173

#### Wed. Dec. 6, 6pm-9pm Reid Park Zoo Holiday Lights Display

Visit the zoo during the month of December for a fun-filled evening of dazzling lights, hot cocoa for kids & adults, cookies, snow, & a visit with Santa in his workshop. Photos: \$5 (supports conservation projects)

#### Sat. Dec. 9, 11am-2pm Southern Arizona Cat Rescue Cat & Kitten Adoption Event at PetSmart

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.

# Sat. Dec. 9, 11am-2pm Bark in the Barrio – Pima Countywide Adoption Event

PACC's inviting the community to come out for an afternoon of food, games, music, & dog adoptions! Its partner rescues will bring along adoptable dogs of all sizes, too. KHIT 107.5 FM & 97.5 The Vibe FM will be on site playing music alongside a variety of food & business vendors! Armory Park at 220 S. 5th Ave.



#### Wed. Dec. 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

#### Wed. Dec. 13 & 27, 4pm-5pm Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru Vaccine & Microchip Clinic

Low-cost dog/cat vaxes available (distemper/parvo, Bordetella/fvrcp) & 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. Dec. 16, 10am-3pm PACC's Doggie's Day Out Event!

Brighten up your holidays with a PACC pup & make a shelter dog's day! Did you know you can foster a dog for just a day or a weekend? Swing by PACC to choose a dog off the PACC-Mobile to take out for a Day Trip or overnight Pawjama Party. 4000 N. Silverbell Rd.

#### Sat. Dec. 16, 11am-3pm Pathways for Paws K9 Adoption Event at Bookman's East

Every 3rd Saturday the public is invited to come find their next furry friend at Bookman's East in Tucson located at 6230 E. Speedway Blvd.



Pumpkin!

#### Sat. Dec. 16, 5pm-9pm Southern Arizona Cat Rescue 2nd Annual Pasta Benefit Dinner

Held at Armory Park Center Sahuaro Culinary Club, we will be serving guests pasta bar style with a Silent

Auction, 50/50 raffle, live music, cookie decorating, & Santa will be there! Tickets \$20/each, kids 10 and under \$10. Visit sacatrescue.org/or our social media to purchase tickets.

#### Sat. Dec. 16, 11 am-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

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Come view adoptable reptiles in the Kids' Books section on Speedway & Wilmot & talk with our adoption team member to see how to get your new scaly friend. Call or text (808) 747-6556 or email SoAZReptileRescue@yahoo.com.

#### Sun. Dec. 17, 2pm-4pm Pathways for Paws K9 Adoption Event at The **Boxyard Restaurant**

Come join our dog adoption event the 3rd Sunday of every month and meet your next best friend at The Boxyard located at 238 N. 4th Ave., Tucson 85705

#### Fri. Dec. 22-23, 11am-3pm Peanut's Clawset Holiday Clothing Sale **Benefitting Tucson Rescue Now**

Holiday shopping for your K9 friends just got easier with cute dog togs on sale Friday, Saturday, & Sunday at Tucson Rescue Now at 6468 N. Oracle Rd. Each purchase supports TRN, plus an array of PACC pups will be on hand for adoption.









# The Hidden Dangers of Feeding Holiday Foods to Pets: Keep Your Furry Friends Safe

#### Story by Alison Martin, Animal Soul Connection

During the holiday season, it's crucial to prioritize the safety and well-being of our pets by avoiding the temptation to share holiday foods that can harm them. Toxic ingredients, high-fat foods, and other hazards pose real risks to our furry companions. Instead, opt for safe and tasty homemade treats like sweet potato bites and cranberry oatmeal dog cookies that allow you to include your pets in the holiday festivities without putting their health at risk. By being mindful of what we feed our pets, we can ensure they have a happy and healthy holiday season alongside our families.



#### The Dangers of Holiday Foods for Pets

**Toxic Ingredients:** Many holiday foods contain ingredients that are toxic to pets. Some common holiday ingredients that can be harmful to dogs and cats include:

- Onions and Garlic: These aromatic ingredients, often used in stuffing, gravy, and casseroles, can cause gastrointestinal upset, damage to red blood cells, and even lead to anemia in pets.
- Chocolate: Chocolate contains theobromine and caffeine, which can be deadly to dogs and cats. Dark chocolate and cocoa powder have higher concentrations of these toxic substances.
- Grapes and Raisins: These seemingly innocuous snacks can cause kidney failure in pets.
- Xylitol: Often found in sugar-free desserts and candies, xylitol is highly toxic to dogs and can lead to rapid insulin release, causing hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) and liver failure.

**High-Fat Foods:** Holiday feasts are often laden with high-fat foods like turkey skin, ham, and gravy. These fatty indulgences can lead to pancreatitis in pets, a painful and potentially life-threatening condition characterized by inflammation of the pancreas.

- Bones: While it's a common belief that giving dogs bones is a treat, it's essential to avoid cooked bones altogether. Cooked bones can splinter and cause choking hazards or perforate a pet's gastrointestinal tract.
- Alcohol: Alcoholic beverages, a common feature of holiday celebrations, should never be given to pets. Even a small amount of alcohol can lead to intoxication, depression, and, in severe cases, coma or death.
- Overeating: Just like humans, pets can suffer from overeating during the holidays. Consuming large quantities of food, especially highfat or unfamiliar foods, can lead to digestive issues like vomiting, diarrhea, and gastritis.

#### **Safe Holiday Treats for Dogs**

While it's essential to avoid sharing your holiday feast with your pets, you can still include them in the festivities with these safe and delicious holiday-inspired dog treat recipes.

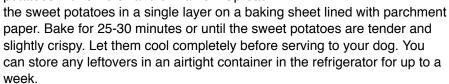


#### **Sweet Potato Bites**

Ingredients:

- 2 medium-sized sweet potatoes, peeled and diced
- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon of cinnamon

Instructions: a. Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C) In a bowl, toss the diced sweet potatoes with olive oil and cinnamon. Spread



Sweet potatoes are a nutritious option for dogs, packed with vitamins and fiber. The touch of cinnamon adds a festive flavor without any harmful ingredients.

#### **Cranberry Oatmeal Dog Cookies Ingredients**:

- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1/2 cup whole wheat flour
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries (unsweetened)
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 1 egg

Instructions: a. Preheat your oven to 350°F (175°C) and line a baking sheet with parchment paper. In a large bowl, combine the rolled oats, whole wheat flour, and dried cranberries. In a separate bowl, whisk together the applesauce and egg until well combined. Pour the wet mixture into the dry ingredients and stir until a dough forms. e. Roll out the dough on a floured surface to about 1/4-inch thickness and cut out shapes with cookie cutters. Place the cookies on the prepared baking sheet and bake for 20-25 minutes or until they are golden brown. Allow the cookies to cool completely before sharing them with your pup. Store in an airtight container.

These cranberry oatmeal dog cookies are a wholesome and festive treat for your furry friend. Cranberries are safe for dogs in moderation and add a touch of holiday cheer to their snack.

Alison Martin is the Founder of Animal Soul Connection. Email, alison@ animalsoulconnection.com or visit www.animalsoulconnection.com









Archie

Many people make additions to the family around the holidays with adopting a new dog or puppy. Thinking ahead can make this process much easier on both sides of the equation. Since the holidays typically make our lives less likely for consistency, planning ahead can do wonders in many ways. Here, we will look at ways to set the new family and current family up for success and to also understand some of the dangers surrounding the holidays.



Louis

#### **Setting Boundaries and Training**

I typically like to use a kennel with my own dogs and advise clients to do the same. Puppies and newly adopted dogs will do better with a consistent schedule and expectations. When the time of year keeps us busier, the kennel can help teach them to hold it and to not eliminate where they sleep and or eat. This also makes for less accidents in the home, no matter the age of the dog because they have less freedom to do so. Kennels are never used for punishment but more of a place keeper when you cannot watch over them. Rules are important to consider, so I typically ask new clients what their expectations are. Teaching a few basic commands to help control negative and excitement behaviors can be vital. I like to teach stay, leave it and watch me to help with impulse control and ways to redirect them when things get tricky. Also remember the kennel keeps them from getting in trouble, so when it's not a time

to train, like when we are opening presents or eating with the family, have them in a safe space where they cannot harm anything or themselves. Management is an enormous part of behavior modification and the clients that I have that are more proactive have less issues.



Louis as a puppy

#### **Dangers Around the Holidays**

The food we give our dogs for treats are very important to consider and limit the amounts to ensure safety. Check out the information provided below regarding poisonous foods for dogs. Most people know that chocolate and raisins are typical things to avoid giving to our canine family, but there are so many other items that you may not be aware of. It is also imperative to think about moderation of certain foods. Often too much of something like salt, fat or sugar, can be more of a problem than many of the items listed. One of the main issues with the holidays is the fact that your dog's are not used to these special treats. We often tend to give them too much. This can lead to blockages, vomiting and or diarrhea, as well as expensive vet visits. Spoiling our fur family is absolutely ok, just be aware of what you're giving and the amounts you give. If they ever get something they should not have or you are concerned

# Training

# Adopting A New Puppy or Dog Around the Holidays?

#### Story and Photos by Jeremy Brown - The Complete Canine



about, refer to our list below of emergency vet practices in Tucson as well as poison control.

Decorations are another thing that I consider as I bring a new canine into my home. Many of these things could injure our fur family, as well as break, ruin or chew up valuable things that are not replaceable. Puppy proof your area and think of where you place these new items that our fur family will surely be curious about. Bitter sprays can prevent things like cords and other holiday items from being chewed on. I always test the product on each canine family member to make sure it works first and then I apply it to things that are valuable to myself and things that could be dangerous to them.

Holiday times are busy and stressful for many reasons, but it is also a time when many people add new canines and other pets to the family. Planning ahead and doing a little training can ensure a less stressful time for all. Consider your desires in the long run and set them up for success by setting guidelines and rules to ensure safety and less stress. Crate training and basic commands can really help when things get a little more stressful or busy around the home. Being a proactive handler during the holidays can save their lives in certain situations and alleviate stress, so plan ahead and ensure the holidays are one to enjoy with your new family friends!

#### Happy Holidays!



Lacey

#### **Poisonous Foods to Dogs**

- Garlic
- Onions
- Grapes
- Raisins
- Avocado seeds and skin
- Macadamia nuts
- Cinnamon
- Nutmeg
- Chocolate
- Sugar free (sugar substitutes) foods and candy

#### Things to Reconsider and/or Give in Moderation

- Salt
- Sugar
- Cooked bones
- · High fat content

#### **Emergency Information in Southern Arizona**

Having a veterinarian and emergency veterinarian to reach out to can be a great thing.

#### Here is a list of emergency vets in the Tucson area

- Southern Arizona Veterinary Specialty Center - 520-888-3177 (Broadway/Pantano) & (Ft Lowell and Stone)
- VCA Valley Animal Hospital -520-748-0331 (22nd and Swan)
- Civano Animal Hospital and Emergency - 520-600-7100 (Houghton/Drexel)

#### **Poison Control**

1-800-222-1222

For more more information contact The Complete Canine, http://www. completecaninetucson.com 4767 N. 1st Ave

# 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



#### **ALDER** ID#A819830

I'm Alder. I have stunning blue eyes & I love to snuggle! I'm a 2 y/o boy, the perfect age for an energetic family. I've had a blast playing with other dogs at PACC, & I'm sweet with people, too! Just be sure to put your vacuum cleaner away when I'm around, because I'm scared of it.

Please consider adopting me!



#### PINOCCHIO ID#A813268

My name is Pinocchio! I've never actually told a lie, but they named me that because of my long snoot! I'm a 1 y/o boy with a happy, bubbly personality. I'm energetic & curious, but I'm also easy to train. I'd love to be adopted soon. Can you help me?



#### **LUKE** ID#A885868

My name's Luke, & I'm a friendly 5 y/o boy that loves going on fun adventures. I'm smart, affectionate, & fun to take on walks. I know how to sit & shake, & I love getting pets & giving kisses to my human friends.

Won't you please come & meet me?



#### **SANDY** ID#A797396

Hi, I'm Sandy Olsson! If you adopt me, I'll be hopelessly devoted to you! I can be a little shy sometimes, but everyone I meet thinks I'm a smart, curious, & silly girl. I am housetrained, crate-trained, dog-friendly, & I can't wait to find my forever family. Ask about me.



#### **ROCKY** ID#A406077

I'm Rocky! I'm a big, fluffy 11 y/o. I love car rides & the outdoors, especially when it involves finding some water to cool off in. I have arthritis & possibly lupus, but that doesn't stop me from being the sweetest boy ever. I'm great with cats & dogs, but I'd like to meet any male members of your household before you take me home.



Main Campus: 520-327-6088 ext. 173 Meet: 635 West Roger Rd., Tucson, AZ 85705

MAC ID#930369

If you're looking for an active, playful Husky to bring joy into your life, look no further. I'm 2 y/o Mac, & I'm eager to be a part of your forever home, where we can embark on adventures together & create lasting memories. Whether it's chasing a frisbee, going for long runs, or just playing fetch, this boy thrives on staying active & having a blast.



#### **HOBIE** ID#930383

I'm Hobie, an enthusiastic 4 m/o Shepherd mix boy on a quest to find my forever home! My tail wags at the speed of light when I see friendly faces, & I'm always up for a good cuddle session. Whether it's chasing after a ball, going on exciting walks, or just bounding around the yard, I'm always eager for adventure.



#### **BIG BOY** ID#929000

I'm a 1 y/o Husky boy with a heart full of love & a longing for my forever home. I have medium energy – I love a good romp in the yard or a long walk, but I also know when it's time to relax. I'm a social butterfly, especially when it comes to my fellow doggy pals, but I'm not so great with cats, if I'm honest.



#### **ARTURO** ID#933248

I'm Arturo, a 1 y/o mastiff! I'm a sociable & joyful fella who readily befriends everyone I meet. I have a knack for swiftly picking up new skills, especially if tasty incentives are involved. My enthusiasm knows no bounds, particularly when there's a tennis ball in play. I'm also a fan of chew toys & transforming leisurely walks into spirited runs.



#### **ESTEBAN** ID#913810

I'm a sweet 1 y/o pibble boy with an abundance of energy & a love for downtime. Whether it's chasing a ball, engaging in a game of tug-of-war, or exploring the great outdoors, I'm always up for a good time. What I'd really like most is a forever home to share without cats. Could I be the right fit for you?



#### The Animal League of Green Valley

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



I'm a 5 y/o, 40 lb., Shepherd mix male that is smart, picks up on commands quickly, & walks well on a leash. It takes me a while to make friends, but once I like & trust you, we'll be companions forever. I would absolutely love a doggie companion, too. If you have a quiet home, please call about meeting me PDQ!

#### MAX

I'm a 6 y/o Hound mix boy that is selective about my friends & would prefer a quiet/simple life without too many changes. I walk well on a leash & know "sit," "down," & "shake." If you are a patient person (preferably a woman) who wants a loyal companion, please call about me today so we can be a family.





# New "Tucson Action Team" on the Frontlines for Animal Advocacy

#### Story by Rebecca West, Photos by Lara Iacobucci

are not only misrepresented as to their health and backgrounds, but come with exorbitant price tags. Predatory lending is described as imposing unfair, deceptive, or abusive loan terms on borrowers. In most cases, they carry high fees and interest rates that strip borrowers of equity, all to the lender's benefit.

The lenders frequently use aggressive sales tactics, exploiting naive borrowers' lack of understanding concerning financial matters. "Through deceptive or fraudulent actions and a lack of transparency, they entice, induce, and assist a borrower in taking out a loan they will not reasonably be able to pay back."

That's been the accusation leveled against at least two individuals behind mall pet shops in the Tucson area, one of whom has skipped from state to state as they've been investigated and exposed. Arizona law requires pet stores to publicly disclose the sources for their puppies, which they failed to do for several weeks. While the City Council got involved at the time, more than warnings are needed.

In the other case, the Arizona Attorney General's Office got involved, and it was announced that they'd agreed to an out-of-court settlement that included a \$120,000 compensation fund for customers who could show they had suffered a loss due to the business's alleged malfeasance.

Many of the animals for sale are priced in the thousands, and the prospective pet owners are maneuvered into sketchy loans they can't afford nor entirely understand. It's estimated that 80 percent of dogs are financed through these loans, with Lara pointing out there's a shady underworld in the pet industry.

newly formed group working to better the lives of animals while putting an end to misleading animal histories, deceptive loan practices, and overbreeding. And that's just the tip of the iceberg.

Predatory lending, puppy mills, misrepresented animals, a lack of enforcement — these issues and more are at the heart of Tucson Action Team (TAT), a

Speaking with Lara Iacobucci, a board member for Friends of PACC, she explained how she was stirred to action in May due to a frightened rescue poodle named Enzo to organize what would end up being the Tucson Action Team. Ultimately, their mission is to hold people in the puppy mill trade accountable and to change breeding laws, among other crucial goals.

#### **Untenable Breeding Practices**

Canines sold in pet stores are typically supplied by puppy mills, large-scale commercial breeders keeping animals caged in inhumane conditions until their usefulness is over. As TAT points out, "In most states, these commercial breeding kennels can legally keep hundreds of dogs in cages their entire lives, for the sole purpose of continuously churning out puppies. The animals produced range from purebreds to any number of the latest "designer" mixed breeds and are treated like cash crops."

And then there are the backyard breeders who are also incentivized by cash. Most have no background in veterinary medicine or the reproductive health of animals. They sell their dogs on platforms such as Craigslist and others to an uneducated public, often passing the animals off as something they aren't, as well as having zero knowledge or interest in screening for potential genetic defects.

These issues aren't exactly breaking news, but many years later, they're still a problem in the country, with laws to address them progressing at a snail's pace.

#### **Predatory Lending Practices**

One practice that has flown in under the radar until recently is the issue of predatory loans in connection to overpriced pets and companion animals who





TAT is currently fighting, and Lara is super passionate about the work. "Thanks to District 1 Supervisor Rex Scott's efforts, we've got two items on the state agenda being reviewed right now in connection to puppy mills that need looking into and predatory lending practices," she noted. Another issue is the problem of not having enough resources for available officers to monitor these businesses, and more reinforcement is needed.

These are the types of behaviors and practices that

Many U.S. cities have banned the sale of commercially bred canines. In 2016, the Tucson City Council voted to pass a similar ban. Par for the course, the ordinance became a moot point when the Legislature passed a law that allowed the practice to continue unabated. Arizona is one of only two states that preempt municipalities from adopting local restrictions on the sale of puppies.

A National Puppy Protection Act is being worked on right now, and blessedly, people across both sides of the political aisle are working with her. Lara is also grateful for the help of her two Facebook admins, Becca Ann Cotton and Ana-Alicia Gomez, who assist her with the TAT group page. Slammed for time since she dove into all of this, she admitted, "If I had to run that myself, I would go crazy! They are a huge part of the team!!!"

To learn more or to find out how you can help, visit tucsonactionteam.com or check them out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/984265879681026.



# 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



#### CUTIE PIE ID#933447

As my name says, I'm a cute 7 y/o calico girl with medium hair who's good with dogs & other cats but not kids. I'm fixed, current on all of my shots, & I like to play with my mouse toys when I'm not napping or lounging about being the queen of my castle. Please ask about me!



#### **LUCKY** ID#933448

At 15, I'm a sweet senior girl with plenty of life left in her to share in my new golden years home. Good with dogs & other cats, I found myself in the shelter when my loving owner passed away. My new friends there have described me as a gentle & happy old soul. I enjoy being brushed & playing with crinkle balls!



#### GEORGIE ID#756873

I'm a 12 y/o tabby boy who's neutered, current on all of my vaccinations & good with other cats & dogs, but not a whole lot more is known about me other than I really, really want to find a forever home to feel safe & loved in where maybe I can return the affection.

#### The Animal League of Green Valley Adoption fee: \$45, TALGV (Appts 10-2 daily) 520-625-3170



#### **DOVIE**

My bonded sister Lovie & I are 3 y/o Torti girls who were adopted as kittens, but mom became ill & can no longer care for us. I am shy & quiet & enjoy daily brushing, dangly toys, tummy rubs, & watching bird shows on nature TV. If you have a quiet home, please call to arrange a meeting with me & my sweet sister.



My bonded sister Dovie & I are 3 y/o Torti girls. I am a shy & quiet girl who likes brushings & playing with dangly toys. Just so you know, my sister & I have never been around dogs or children. We would be happy with a patient person who will make us feel safe. Please call to arrange a meeting with me & my sister.

#### **Pima Animal Care Center**

PACC \$0 adoption fee. 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



#### CAMELOT ID#A815489

My name is Camelot, & I'm a favorite in PACC's admin office. I'm a handsome 2 y/o who helps the staff there by walking over keyboards & sending emails before they've been completed. I also enjoy making biscuits, purring & seeking affection.



#### **RED ROO** ID#A818672

I'm Red Roo, & I'm a 7 y/o tabby boy looking for a safe space. I've been at PACC since August, & I still feel nervous here. I've spent most of my time lately curled up in bed with another kitty friend. Hopefully, I can find a nice, loving home where I can decompress soon.



#### MR. EARTH ID#A814483

Hi, I'm Mr. Earth, a 1 y/o boy. I get seizures & need to be monitored, but I'm very good company. If you're looking for a lovable lap cat, I'm your guy! My human friends at PACC say I'm very active & playful. I'm also good with kids, dogs of all sizes, & other cats.



#### FREYA ID#A818216

I'm Freya, & I want to get to know you! I am 3 y/o, came to the shelter in August, & am still warming up to humans. I was named after the Norse goddess of love. In Norse mythology, Freya actually rode a chariot pulled by cats! I can't pull any chariots, but if you give me plenty of time & patience, I can give you lots & lots of love.



#### O'LANTERN ID#A822049

I'm O'Lantern, a 7 m/o boy. I came in with another orange cat, Jack, who got named first. Even though I'm still a little nervous around humans, I'm very sweet once I get to know you. Lately, I've been spending a lot of time chillin' in my box. I'm hoping to find a safe, loving home to adopt or foster me. The more boxes you have, the better!



#### Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary 5278 E 21st St., Tucson, 85711; hermitagecatshelter.org Adoption app: https://bit.ly/2Ws7HCG



Hi, I'm Abacus, & I'm an older kitty (16) looking for a loving family to share my golden years with. I haven't had very much luck finding my own person because I'm a bit of a solitary kitty & tend to not share my snuggles. I'm sweet & kind to humans, though, & I love treats! Wanna scratch my fuzzy chin?



#### MOO

I'm Moo, & I'm almost 2 y/o! I'm a feisty girl because I had to fend for myself before I was rescued. I love humans but get salty "putting up with" other cats. I like humans (especially humans I can snuggle with), scritchies, and treats. Do you like kitties with strong personalities? Come meet me!

# Western Adventure Crack Marin on calendar cover

# RELESALOON V. B.

lorge

Finding ways to support homeless animals is a never-ending challenge for rescues and shelters. Most are nonprofit and struggle year to year to meet the demands of taking care of countless lost, abandoned, or surrendered animals. These creatures, who are viewed as some of the most vulnerable members of our society, often require medical attention in addition to the basics

such as food, bedding, and other miscellaneous sundries. Obviously, those costs can add up quickly.

If you're not familiar, Friends of Pima Animal Care Center (Friends of PACC or FoP) is the nonprofit partner of our county animal shelter here in Tucson. Always on the lookout for ways to support PACC and the important work they do as stewards to hundreds of homeless critters, they were thrilled to join forces with local photog Candice Eaton of Capturing EveryBuddy Pet Photography when she contacted them with an offer they couldn't refuse. ceatonphotography.com/capturingeverybuddy

Candice, who is no stranger to fundraising, reached out to FoP's executive director, Torre Chisholm, back in 2021 after watching a master class on creating a calendar contest for marketing projects. After explaining her thoughts and asking if they wanted to get on board, she recalled they loved the idea and eagerly jumped in.

For her part, Candice had done other calendars but never a calendar contest. She knew she needed to hustle to get them out by October in order to sell them, as most people purchase calendars between late fall and early January. To bone up on the topic, she ended up taking an additional class for setting up contests and learned everything she needed to know to hit the ground running.

The first event brought in \$22,000, with Tucson Electric Power graciously sponsoring the printing end of the costs for the last three years. Not a bad haul for a first effort. "On top of the contest funds, we received around \$2,000 in total donations from TEP between the printing of the calendar and cash donations," Candice shared.



Teton

TEP has a longstanding relationship with PACC and Friends of PACC. "Animal welfare is a priority for our community, and we're impressed with

# Friends of PACC Calendar Contest: Getting Creative Pays Off When it Comes to Fundraising

#### Story by Rebecca West, Photos by Candice Eaton

Pima County's commitment to pets and the truly innovative approaches PACC is taking to place pets into safe, loving homes," Wendy Erica Werden, TEP's Manager of Community Investment, stated. "We are happy to do our part to support their work."

To break it down, the contest — which took place between August and September — encourages pet owners to submit pictures of their furry, feathered, or scaley pets as potential calendar candidates for a \$5 entry fee. During the event, they can enlist the help of friends and family to vote for their love nugget, which costs a dollar for each vote. Individuals can vote as many times as they want, with each vote generating more money to support PACC.

Candice referenced one clever woman who printed out a QR code to scan that she handed out to everyone she met, asking them to vote for her dog. While her pet was cut from the final round at the 11th hour, she still managed



Chester

to raise a tidy little sum for the cause, which is really what it's all about. We touched base with pet parent Rhonda Bodfield, whose rescue dog Chester is featured as May 2024's calendar winner, and she spoke of how it was important to her and her husband to help PACC, where all three of their rescue dogs once resided.

This year, Candice guestimates a figure of \$35,000 with the potential

to raise \$40,000. A one-woman show doing pretty much everything herself, she makes nothing off the contests. Yet, of the 13 pets (one for the cover) selected, winners are offered a free portrait session in addition to the calendar shoot. Between the entry fees, the voting, donations, and whatever FoP pulls in from sales, the end result is nothing to sneeze at.

"In three years, the contests have almost single-handedly raised \$75,371 just in contest donations, not counting additional sponsorships and calendar

sales, which go directly to FoP. I am unaware of the amount raised in total, but it's been really successful to date."

She added that the competition has ranked in the top 6 percent among all the contests ever run on the hosting platform gogophotocontest.com, and they run over 4,000 of them!



Molly

To view this year's event, you can visit www.gogophotocontest.com/fopcalendar, where you'll see all of the entries, vote totals, and fundraising totals for the 2024 calendar. They had 639 participants that either entered or voted, with 136 total entries this year that received a combined 80,590 votes.

If you're interested in ordering a 2024 calendar, visit https://forms.donorsnap.com/form?id=2ED6DF30-34C5-4961-BEC5-B67A5753BDC2. For those that would like to donate to PACC, the best way to go about it is to donate directly through FoP.



#### COME JOIN THE SUNSHINE THERAPY ANIMALS TEAM!



Have a great pet who loves people? Want to make our community better? Let us help YOU become a therapy team!





#### 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:

- After School Programs Domestics 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. drakeelapancollegeclub.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.





ogennyspetstucson 🕈 Sunshine Therapy Animals

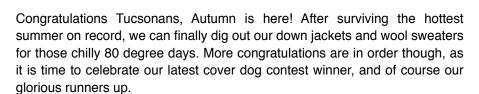


#### Daisy Sonora!

# Cover Story

Introducing Cover Dog,
Daisy Sonora and Friends!!

**Story by Bonnie Craig** 



Everyone put your hands together for the dainty yet mighty, goofy yet graceful, fantastic and phenomenal Daisy Sonora! We'll get to know her more soon, but first, let's learn about our runners up. As always there was some stiff competition, every contestant as wonderful and deserving as the next. There

were even a few duos so perfect we couldn't resist the package deals.

The first of these dynamic duos is Duke and Lilly. The mini Schnauzer and the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel mix came into rescue as a bonded pair in June 2023 after sadly, their person passed away. Respectively 9 and 15 years old, they looked to each other for security in what must have been a very traumatic time for



Lilly

them. While in foster, it became clear that the chances of the seniors being adopted together were slim, especially considering Lilly's disability and need for a specialized mobility aid. Unable to stand the thought of separating them,

the family decided to adopt the two. Lilly passed away in September of 2023, which was of course, heartbreaking, but also bitter sweet. She lived to the ripe old age of 15 and a half, playing ball and lounging around in a comfortable home with her new family and best friend Duke. He will live out his golden years in comfort and love as well, and who knows, maybe they will meet again as spry puppies on their next go around. Good on you Lilly and Duke!

Next up we have Layla. Somewhat chuggish in appearance, this cute little gal is a real brainiac! Originally

Duke





a Mexican street dog, the celestial bodies aligned just right, allowing her to be swooped up by local nonprofit Moon & Stars Rescue. In 2022, her lucky number came up again, and she was Adopted by Stacie LaBorde, who's lucky number had apparently been drawn at the same time. Their home is now filled with love and energy thanks to the serendipitous events that brought them together. Many accolades to you, Layla!

Another of our amazing contestants is She-ra. This regal beauty brings a classic rags to riches tale. Found by her person on

a lone dirt road, bailing twine around her neck, she came right up to their truck when they pulled over. Wanting to be sure someone wasn't looking for her, despite the less than ideal conditions she had been found under, her would-be person took her to PACC to check for a chip. The wait period to see if anyone would come forward to claim her seemed interminable, but after seven days on pins and needles, they made the adoption official. Four years into their life together, She-ra and her forever person are best friends and adventure companions, and despite her flinty exterior, Shera dotes on her kitties and hamster, her own foster babies. You are a true princess of power, She-ra!



She-ra

Pepper, a nine year old Chihuahua mix and Benji, a six year old terrier mix, are our second bonded pair. Pepper was adopted in Washington state. A few years later when the family moved to Tucson and Covid hit, they decided it was a good time to adopt a friend for Pepper. When they found Benji, then age three, he had already been rehomed several times. The only possible



Benji and Pepper

explanation for this was that the lovely little pup was destined to be Pepper's BFF. The two hit it off right away, and are spoiled rotten every day. Keep enjoying that high life, Pepper and Benji!

Milo was surrendered to Southwest Oasis Labrador Rescue after a nasty run in with fox tail grass led to some serious vet bills. He was adopted, then returned to his foster, who took it as a sign he was meant to be with her and made it official. He went on to earn his AKC Canine Good Citizen Certificate and now enjoys parks, live music, hiking, and people watching.

Have fun out there, Milo, but stay away from that pesky grass!



Linda Burr with Declan "Best Friends"

Frankie is another of our handsome rags to riches pups. Although he didn't have the best start in life, he's making up for lost time. He is now a well-behaved, adventure taking, trick performing, all around happy and loving guy. Props to you, Frankie!

After these fantastic opening acts, we're finally ready to meet our headliner, cover dog winner, Daisy Sonora! Her brother Winston, a doodle, and sister Matilda, a bull terrier, would describe her as "...a goofy clown who runs like a gazelle." When she first joined the family at six months old, they were a little continued on next page



Frankie



Jeffery and Andrew with Winston and sister Matilda

cautious, but soon came to realize what a fun loving and playful new family member they had gained in her. In addition to her two dog siblings, Daisy has two kitties, Greyson and August, and two doting dads, Jeffery, a nurse, and Andrew, who much to everyone's delight, works from home.

As with most rescue pups, Daisy didn't always have it this good. She was living on the streets of Hermosillo in Sonora, Mexico when local non-profit, Rescue Me Tucson took her in. Her dads then adopted her through Valley Humane Society in July 2022. The fact that she came from the state of Sonora accounts for the second part of her name, but why Daisy? Well, the Spanish word for Daisy is Margarita, something her dads enjoy almost as much as they enjoy her (and rightfully so)! As for her breed, the DNA test came back mostly cattle dog and supermutt, the result of so many different breeds coming together over time that they are just one wonderful and genetically diverse group, with

no recognizable individual breeds left. DNA results aside, Jeffrey and Andrew are convinced she has some greyhound in her lineage, due to her graceful yet breakneck speed when racing around the yard. She certainly does have a bit of that willowy look to her.

In addition to her good looks, Daisy seems to know that variety is the spice of life; she loves to sit down to a meal at the same time as the rest of the family, but she doesn't like to eat the same thing twice in a row. Her dads attribute this trait to the less than routine life she lived as a street dog. While she loves belly rubs, she doesn't like tight hugs, still being wild at heart. She is always looking up, tracking anything that flies free in the sky, that is, when she isn't busy provoking her siblings for playtime. If Daisy could give some advice to other pups on the come up, she would probably tell them, "If you can, get you a parent that works



Daisy chillin' poolside

from home and some super fun siblings." Great advice, Daisy Sonora. Thanks for being our cover girl, and cheers to many long and happy years ahead for you and your fabulous family!



# Celebrating inspiring pet moms in 2023

Celebrate the love you share and be featured in the exclusive 2023

Pet Tales magazine

Book now only to spots left!

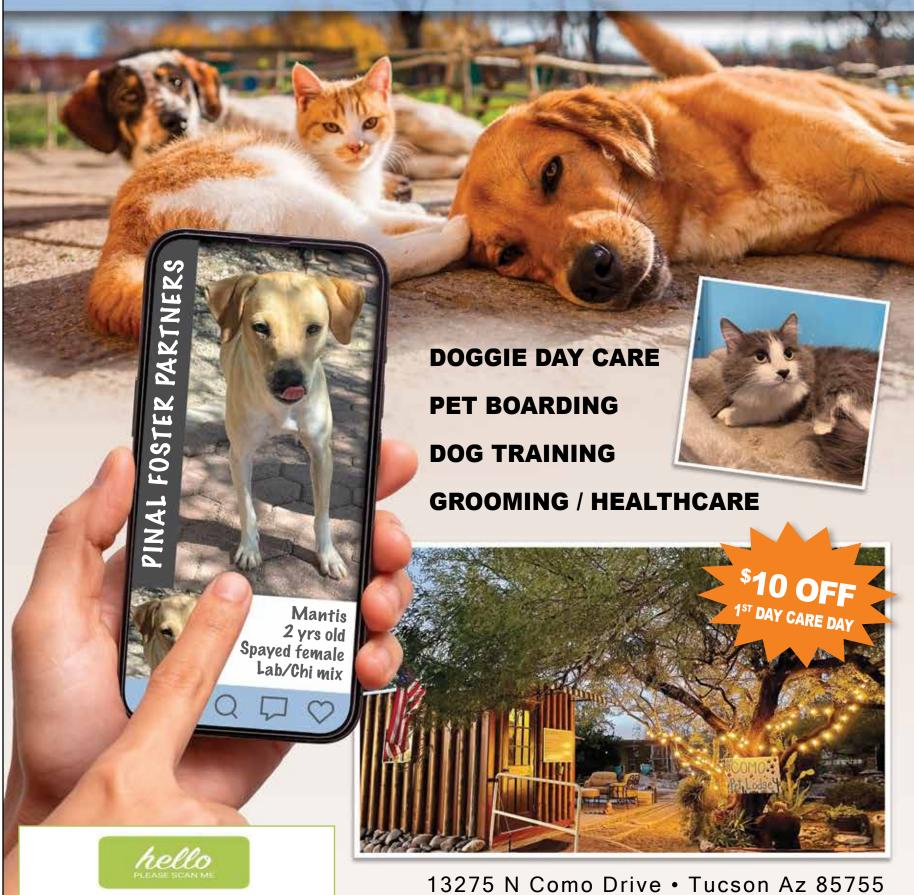
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Dogs Rehabilitating Dogs

#### **Women of Rescue: Getting Things Done Final Part III**

#### Story by Rebecca West

If you're just joining us, this is the third and final installment of our 2023 Women of Rescue series, where we have been highlighting as many of the inspiring females here in Arizona — particularly in Pima County — who have dedicated much of their own lives to improving the lives of animals and promoting the human-animal bond.

Raising awareness of shelter and rescue animals is at the heart of everything we do, so we're excited to share these ladies with our readers to give credit where credit is due. In the first installment, we predominantly covered women who have founded rescues, sanctuaries, and other institutions benefitting animals in need.

In the last issue, we focused primarily on benefactors and the countless women who work in large municipal or community shelters, as well as one who works in the sciences behind the scenes. We were able to focus on several of the gals from PACC, and this time around, we'll be covering some of the hardworking ladies of the Humane Society of Southern Arizona.

But before we do that, we want to highlight two more groups with histories of women at the helm...

#### The Ladies of The Animal League of Green Valley



Kim Eisele (L) & Jean Davis (R)

During the 1980s, Margaret Roesch recognized the need for an animal rescue in Green Valley. She had worked with hospice patients whose primary concerns were for the future of the pets they'd soon leave behind. Inspired by their selfless love, Roesch founded The Animal League of Green Valley and incorporated it in 1984.

While she has long since passed, her legacy has been lovingly tended to by the women who have followed in her inspirational footsteps. Described as "fiercely committed," Jean Davis retired in 2020 as board president, 17 years after falling in love with the organization. But she was by no means through with it. Now, she is part of the next chapter

of TALGV's mission and once again working as a volunteer after passing the baton to Kim Eisele.

Eisele moved to Green Valley in 2002. A foster caregiver for furry friends, in 2009, she began volunteering as a dog handler with TALGV and soon after became a Dog Coordinator. Over the years, her duties expanded to include being the Volunteer Coordinator, an Adoption Counselor, the Coordinator for the Dog Vet Care for Life Program, and serving on TALGV's Board of Directors in 2012 before becoming president in 2020.

From 2009 through 2022, the nonprofit found homes for more than 11,593 pets. They work with more than 400 volunteers who contributed more than 128,868 hours of their time in

2022, the equivalent of 67 full-time staff members! talgv.org

#### Pathways for Paws, Animal Rescue & Welfare Advocates



Ashley Herrick (L) & Stefanie Seitz (R)

Launched in 2019 by animal advocates Stefanie Seitz and Ashley Herrick, Pathways for Paws' mission is to make responsible pet ownership easier and more affordable via their "Join the Cause" clinics offering low-cost vaccines and microchipping to the community to encourage pet owners to keep their pets protected from deadly viruses and help reunite them if they ever go missing.

The hope is that by accomplishing this goal, the nonprofit will be better able to help prevent the neglect and abuse of canines. Also acting as a vital resource to assist in the placement of adoptable rescue dogs, all animals in their care are spayed or neutered, given age-appropriate vaccinations, and microchipped before finding their furever families.

Pathways works with rescues and fellow animal advocates to continue growing a network of volunteers and supporters to meet these objectives. Their drive-thru, no-appointment-necessary clinics

continue to provide southern Arizona residents with a convenient way to proactively keep up on their pets' health. pathwaysforpaws.com

#### The Humane Society of Southern Arizona

And now for a look at just some of the outstanding women who work for or with HSSA. In the last installment, we touched on the work of Diana Cannon, HSSA's Chief Development Officer and a force to be reckoned with when it comes to fundraising. Here are three more influential women in rescue to familiarize yourself with.

#### Inge Koopman-Leyva, Director of Education and Community Outreach at HSSA

In 2003, Inge Koopman-Leyva moved from Brooklyn, NY, to Tucson to begin her official career in animal welfare as the Children's **Programs** Specialist at the **Humane Society** of Southern Arizona. Prior to relocating, she'd received her BS degree from



Inge Koopman-Leyva

Hunter College in Anthropology while working as a veterinary assistant, professional dog walker, and pet sitter in New York City.

Inge's an active member of the Animal Cruelty Taskforce of Southern Arizona and the Association of Professional Humane Educators, where she's worked at various levels of the field. Her career has focused on working within diverse communities to encourage and instill humane philosophies and care of animals and people.

"So much of the work we do in Animal Welfare helps resolve an immediate problem or need. In Humane Education, we are working towards the longer-term solution of changing and reshaping how people view and treat animals and, ultimately, each other. In order to create this positive and lasting impact, education, prevention, and shelter and placement must be mutually supportive."

In September, Inge and her team moved into the Freeman Education and Behavioral Center, designed for greater community services and opportunities in youth programming, canine, and

feline behavior, as well as collaborative research in dog cognition and psychology with the University of Arizona in order to enhance and support the human-animal bond.

#### Lindsey Dittmer, **Rescue Programs Manager for HSSA**



Lindsey Dittmer (Photo by Alexa Stanislav)

Working with HSSA since 2021, Dittmer soon became an integral part of its off-site rescue programs and overall mission of improving the lives of animals. Before developing and managing the Rescue Programs arm of HSSA, Dittmer first served as the Shelter Manager.

With a background in animal welfare, ranging from volunteer-operated rescues in the Midwest to the creation of the House Dog program for Ronald McDonald House Charities, she has more than 10 years of involvement in the field.

Her experiences — including working with nonprofits — have been invaluable for assessing and tailoring new programs that best serve vulnerable animals and the southern Arizona community. Established in June 2023 in response to overcrowding at HSSA, the Almost Home

Rescue Project supports foster families by providing pet food, needed supplies, and medical

Under her direction, the program — staffed by six dedicated HSSA members and a growing volunteer base — is helping to improve the lives of homeless animals in Pima County. A proud graduate of the University of Arizona, Dittmer's latest project symbolizes a renewed investment in foster care versus shelter life.

#### Linda Grissom; Volunteer, Animal Advocate, Donor, & Program Director for the Humane Society of Southern Arizona

A volunteer for the Humane Society of Southern Arizona for more than six vears. Grissom and her husband Tom introduced the New Beginnings Canine Program at HSSA while providing support. The program includes enlisting vetted males from the state prison to help train shelter dogs with behavioral issues.

Inspired by a visit to a prison canine program called Paws for Life in Lancaster, CA, the program changes the lives of the participants by



Linda Grissom

giving them a purpose and a job skill while making the dogs much more adoptable as a result, allowing HSSA to match qualified adopters with terrific dogs.

Grissom previously volunteered transporting HSSA dogs to Tucson Rescue Now. During that time, 93 dogs were adopted. As a volunteer, she also supervises the all-volunteer program called Special Dogs of Tucson, which is an offsite adoption program at the HSSA thrift store. In just over a year, SDOT has adopted out 60 senior dogs or dogs who have been in the shelter for extended periods of time.

In September, during the HSSA Impact Luncheon, Linda and Tom received the Grissom Volunteer Impact Award. Linda stated that while she's been involved in many activities — both onsite and off her most joyful time and feeling of accomplishment is walking the rescue dogs most mornings with the many dedicated volunteers at the shelter.

#### **Volunteers & Other Unsung Heroes**

We want to take a moment to echo a sentiment heard throughout the assemblage of this story, and that is that none of what gets done when it comes to helping homeless or injured creatures would be possible without the aid of vast numbers of volunteers - who are also, as it turns out, primarily made up of women. If you've already found a way to make their lives better and ease their suffering, our hat's off to you.

If you've been considering it but haven't made a move on it yet, think about how you could best assist, taking into account your time constraints and circumstances, and reach out to a shelter, rescue, or sanctuary that's best suited for you. It could be fostering, dog walking, help with cleaning kennels or enclosures, feeding, or any number of vital tasks to ensure operations run smoothly and the health of the animals is being met.

Finally, if you're aware of someone or some group we have inadvertently missed that you feel deserves recognition, reach out to us at the Tucson Dog and share their stories.







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#### AT HOME EUTHANASIA

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Shielded by the cover of darkness, he was dressed in black as he stood quietly listening. Intent on his purpose, the only sound he could hear was that of his own heart beating loudly in his chest. As he inched toward the wall, the steady rhythm was now thundering in his ears as he crept onward with the stealth of a cat.

The first time he dared risk it, he had paced for hours before finally making his move toward freedom. He'd made quite a bit of noise in the process, which may have been his undoing in the end. He still wasn't sure how they'd managed to catch on to him so quickly, but he was determined not to make the same mistake twice. Since that brief taste of autonomy before being hauled back by the local sheriff, all he could think about was making his way back.

This time, the Traverse City, Michigan, escape artist knew precisely where he was going, so he should be able to shave time off his journey — as long as the harrowing maze of traffic held off at this time of night. There was no reason to think it wouldn't, which gave him a small measure of comfort, but it was a terrifying gauntlet of light and sound nonetheless.

With the strength of an athlete and the heart of a lion, he threw himself at the first hurdle to begin the long, arduous journey up and hopefully over. Gripping his toes with all of his might, he could feel himself slipping at times,



#### The Great Escape

Story by Rebecca West
Photos by Meadow Brook Care Facility

and the strain in his muscles burning stronger with every forced movement surged through his body, but he would not give up. It was only 7-10 feet, by his guesstimation, and the first leap allowed him to clear at least 3 to 4 feet of it.

Washing .

Getting down the other side without seriously injuring himself was where the real challenge lie. He'd have to rest for a few moments before attempting the next obstacle, a 6-foot privacy fence with a smooth surface that allowed no purchase. The thought was not nearly as daunting as the highway ahead, but he wouldn't worry about that bridge until he had to cross it.

As he leapt off the top of the lower wall and landed soundlessly on the ground below, he wasted no time and began to weave silently through the neighborhood. He'd pause occasionally to test the winds for familiar smells in addition to the external cues, but he was confident in his movements. It was only a few miles, and he'd be there. As he approached the normally busy road, he was grateful for the lack of traffic and moved briskly across the lanes.

Nearing his destination, he instinctively picked up the pace before the outline of the automatic doors came into view off in the distance. Once his weight activated the sensors, he slipped inside noiselessly, making his way to the comfort of the sofa he'd been dreaming of all day. Home at last! That is until morning, when he was once again discovered and reported to the authorities.

This was Scout's second offense, and there was no telling what lengths they'd go to to ensure it never happened again. When it did just two nights later, everyone knew what had to be done, and it needed to be swift and permanent — adoption was the only answer.

continued on next page



Confused? Don't be. Scout's a handsome stray who managed to escape from Antrim County Animal Control in northern Michigan not once, not twice, but three times, each and every one of which he ended up at Meadow Brook, a long-term care residence about an hour northeast of Traverse City.

While we ordinarily concentrate on events central to Arizona, this is a story that is so heartwarming it just had to be shared. Scout, who came to the shelter with little to no background info, was an enigma. One thing that was obvious, however, was that Scout behaved in a manner that suggested an abused life prior to ending up at Antrim.

"I'm a person who looks at outward signs, and if it's meant to be, it's meant to be," Marna Robertson, the nursing home's administrator, told the *Detroit Free Press*. "He did that one time, two times, three times, and obviously, that's something that you should pay attention to. And I asked the staff, 'Well, he wants to be here. Would anybody like to have a dog?"

As it turned out, pretty much the entire community in residence at Meadow Brook wanted a dog, and Scout wanted them. Since his adoption in 2017, it's been reported that he is a gentle soul who enjoys his daily visits to the residents' rooms (he even knows how to open closed doors) and spends the final hours with those nearing the end of their journey by staying firmly by their side until they pass.

Basically, he brings joy to everyone he comes into contact with and is protective of his housemates. For instance, when residents decide to take some fresh air, Scout accompanies them and keeps a close eye on the surroundings to ensure their safety. Thought to be about 9 years old, a recent DNA test concluded he's a Heinz 57 made up of 23 breeds, with the top 5 being Labrador retriever, chow, rottweiler, English shepherd, and greyhound.

For their part, the staff and residents love him and likely can't imagine life without him now. According to worker Stephanie Elsey, "Scout being here makes it feel much less like an institution and more like a loving family home."

ABOUT Scory VORITE Lambie FAVORITE SNACK. String Cheese FAVORITE TRICK Shake FAVORITE ACTIVITIES Hallway Zoomies and Playing in the Snow! · FUN FACT · During a thunderstorm he will find the biggest male resident on his household and crawl in bed with them for protection.

She added, "The dog is so popular people are resorting to bribery to get his attention."

"I think it reminds them of being home," said Rhonda Thomczak, administrative assistant at the facility, who was kind enough to speak with us and supply photographs. And Scout knows a good thing when he sees it, as some residents keep dog biscuits in their walkers or tucked inside their bedside tables, and he reportedly knows where to find them.

If you'd like to follow Scout and learn more about him and his philanthropy efforts, he has his own Facebook page after going viral this fall for his Houdini-like antics. You can check him out at facebook.com/people/Scouts-House-Paws-for-the-Pantry/61550976931045/.





#### Soldier's Best Friend: Still saving two lives at once in Arizona

Story by Melissa Barrow
Photos and testimonials courtesy of Soldier's Best Friend except where noted



"Rebecca & Toffee" captioned photo design by Melissa Barrow from content provided by SBF

wLast month, The Dog profiled Army veteran Nic Everheart and his pit bull service dog, Bennett, who were paired and trained by a small nonprofit out of state. Nic's tales about the joys and challenges of life with a service dog were a good reminder to check back in with Arizona's own rescue-to-service program, Soldier's Best Friend (SBF), originally profiled in our Sept/Oct 2021 issue. SBF is still going strong, with 56 vets and dogs currently in training, 12 of whom are new to the program. To date, they have graduated 350 vet/dog teams and rescued over 200 homeless dogs!

To recap: SBF's mission is to help vets with PTSD and traumatic

brain injury (TBI) live happier, healthier lives by pairing them with service dogs, a highly successful therapeutic approach not yet widely adopted federally. Their secondary mission is to address the crisis of homeless pets by training dogs rescued from shelters. Though they will train dogs brought in by vets, the difficulty of transitioning from family pet to serious working dog reduces

successful outcomes. The shelter dogs are fostered for 4-6 weeks to allow for observation and early identification of behavioral issues or physical problems like hip dysplasia. 90% of SBF dogs successfully complete the program.

Executive Director Mik Milem attributes their high success rate partly to their unique vet-dog training approach. Most shelter-to-service programs pre-train their dogs, providing veteran applicants with 4-8 weeks of bonding and task-learning once paired. SBF's methodology calls for vets to train their newly paired dogs themselves, alongside a qualified



E.D. Mik Milem

trainer — a process that takes from 6-9 months. This deepens the humananimal bond and increases confidence for transitioning from the program to everyday life. All training and veterinary care during the process is provided at no initial cost to veterans. Applicants are accepted from anywhere in the U.S., but they must temporarily relocate to Arizona, and are responsible



Training Session

for the cost of travel and accommodations for the duration of training.

The three biggest challenges facing SBF right now are 1) Insufficient training staff: All SBF trainers are part-time volunteers with full-time jobs elsewhere, so it's a challenge to offer enough training time. 2) The

constant need for foster families to house dogs during the observation period. 3) Lack of consistent standards and criteria for service dogs, especially those for psychiatric issues — they are a relatively recent category. The American Disabilities Act (ADA) has yet to be updated to provide explicit guidelines for training. The last revision to the ADA's Service Animal Requirements section was in 2010. Though it was updated to include PTSD as a qualifying medical condition and to differentiate between service dogs (considered working dogs not pets) and emotional support or assistance animals, there is no formal certification process.

Standards and training criteria are enormously important to accessibility for veterans with mental health issues, to ensure both the reliability of service dog behavior as well as acceptance and cooperation from the community at large. As it stands, training styles differ drastically in timing and effectiveness, from 2 weeks to 9 months – a guick online search even yields ads promising to certify service dogs in 5 minutes! Also, anyone can buy a service dog vest on the Internet and place it on their dog. There's no formal way to distinguish a pet in a vest from a legitimately trained working dog, and business staff can only ask limited questions to patrons: 1) Is the animal necessary due to a disability? and 2) What work/tasks has the dog been trained to perform? Businesses cannot require any certification/training credentials. The lack of standards has negative consequences for those with legit working dogs. For instance, Nic reports encountering misbehaved dogs in uniform while in a store with Bennett. Such dogs may create noise disturbances, show unwanted attention to customers, or worse, show aggression to vets and their actual service dogs, risking physical or mental trauma. With no formal guidelines, store staff are likely to ask that both dogs be removed.

Under the Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers for Veterans Therapy Act (PAWS) signed into law by President Biden in 2021 the VA was granted funding for a pilot study of service dogs for PTSD/TBI, but implementation has been slow to nonexistent, and was only authorized for 5 participating providers in the US, none in Arizona. Meanwhile, the nonprofit coalition Association of Service Dog Providers for Military Veterans is raising awareness and promoting wider use of service dogs for vets by creating certification standards. To join the coalition nonprofits must apply for membership, a costly, 2-year process that smaller organizations find challenging. SBF is nearly a year into their certification process.

Until there is better federal funding for this proven program for vets with PTSD, these grassroots outfits rely on concerned citizens to operate. Organizations like Soldier's Best Friend are a life-saving gift, helping to prevent veteran suicides and homeless dog euthanasia thanks to the care and generosity of supportive people.

\*\*Reith & Ellie: "...Soldier's Best Friend has been the"

Find out how you can help at https://soldiers bestfriend.org/

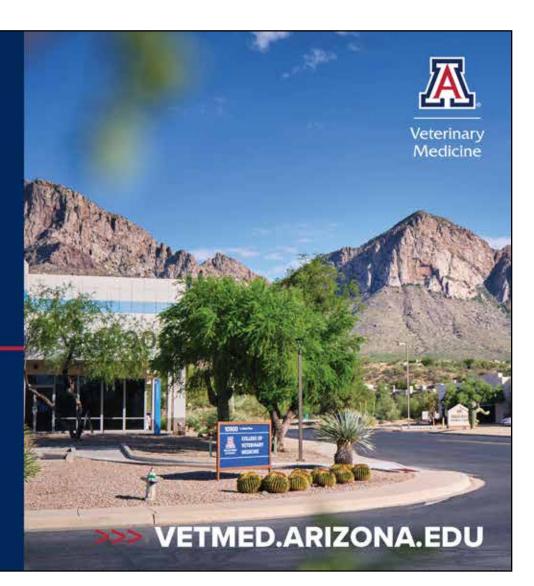


Keith & Ellie captioned photo design by Melissa Barrow from content provided by SBF

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The University of Arizona College of Veterinary Medicine is a new program for the next generation of veterinarians.

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# Business Spotlight

#### **A Home For Every Pet**

### Story by Alison Martin, Animal Soul Connection Photos provided by The Animal League of Green Valley

Founded nearly 40 years ago, The Animal League of Green Valley (TALGV) has been committed to rescuing, rehabilitating, and rehoming animals in need. Their vision is 'A Home for Every Pet', and to provide compassionate care, shelter, training, adoption opportunities, emotional support, and medical care, for needy and homeless cats and dogs in Green Valley & surrounding areas

The shelter is more than just a place for animals to stay; it's a sanctuary filled with love and care where dogs and cats are welcomed with open arms and given the chance to heal, both physically and emotionally, under the dedicated care of the shelter's staff and volunteers.



The unique housing arrangements focus on space and comfort, rather than a kennel environment. Kim Eisele, President of TALGV invites you to come visit and experience the difference. Kim will even give you a private tour of the shelter!

TALGV also conducts community outreach programs, including pet education and "read to a dog" programs at local schools, companion animal visits at assisted living facilities, participation in community events, and pet food and veterinary assistance to families in need. They support, sponsor, and conduct low-cost spay/neuter programs to prevent an increase in the population of unwanted animals.

Their 'Vet Care for Life' program offers adoption medical assistance for any dog over 10 years old, and any cat over 12 years old. This program pays for



Bazooko

the majority of veterinary bills for the rest of the pet's life with a lifetime cap of \$7500.00. This assistance can help with dental care, surgeries and other medical issues but it does not cover routine wellness.

One of the most remarkable aspects of The Animal League of Green Valley Arizona is the incredible team of volunteers who give their time and hearts to the cause. These passionate

individuals work tirelessly to ensure that each animal receives the love and attention they deserve. From cleaning kennels to providing socialization and



training, volunteers play a crucial role in preparing animals for adoption. The shelter's volunteers are not just caregivers; they're matchmakers, helping to connect animals with their forever families. Their commitment to finding the perfect homes for their furry charges is evident in the countless success stories of pets that have found their forever families through the organization.

Are you looking for a new best friend? TALGV has kittens galore and you can adopt two kittens for \$45.00. Adoptable cats are also \$45.00 and dog adoptions are \$85.00. All animals are spayed or neutered and have received the necessary medical care before coming home with you.

Come and find treasures and support the mission at The Attic Thrift Store, open four days a week on Monday, Thursday, Saturday, & Sunday. October through April, the hours are 10 am to 2 pm. From May through September, the hours are

8am to noon. You can also donate items to help. Donations are only taken on the first Sunday of the month, & the limit is 3 bags or 3 boxes. You may contact The Attic Thrift Store at 520-625-2189 for additional information.

The Animal League is a testament to the boundless compassion and dedication of people coming together to make the world a better place for our four-legged friends. They are a beacon of hope, a sanctuary of love, and a symbol of what can be achieved when a community unites to protect and nurture the animals that bring joy,



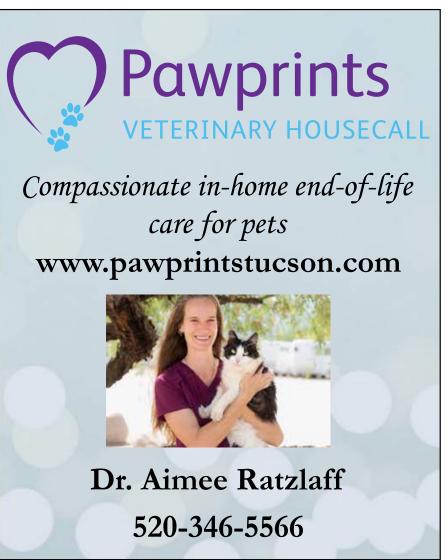
Buddy

comfort, and companionship to our lives. Join their mission, and together, we can make a world of difference for animals in need.

The Animal League of Green Valley's dog and cat shelter areas are open from 10am to 2pm. Please call 520-625-3170 to make an appointment to meet one of our animals and for relinquishment information. (TALGV) is a no-kill, private, donation-funded, volunteer, not-for-profit, animal shelter.

Alison Martin is the Founder of Animal Soul Connection. You can reach her at 308.391.1540, alison@animalsoulconnection.com, or visit www. animalsoulconnection.com







# **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) 625-3<sup>1</sup>70 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. Aio 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 (520) 616-0171 . Cherishedtails@yahoo.com Visit us on Facebook

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 missmaggiemay@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 Helping Great Danes in Arizona and New Mexico

Rescue Me Marana Tucson Premium Outlets 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 the lives of felines in Southern Arizona" 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



# **MUST LOVE DOGS!**

#### HERE WE GROW AGAIN! MAKE A DIFFERENCE **FOR ANIMALS IN TUCSON!**

The Tucson Dog Magazine is so thrilled and humbled at the support we have received from the Tucson Community and we need more help to keep growing.

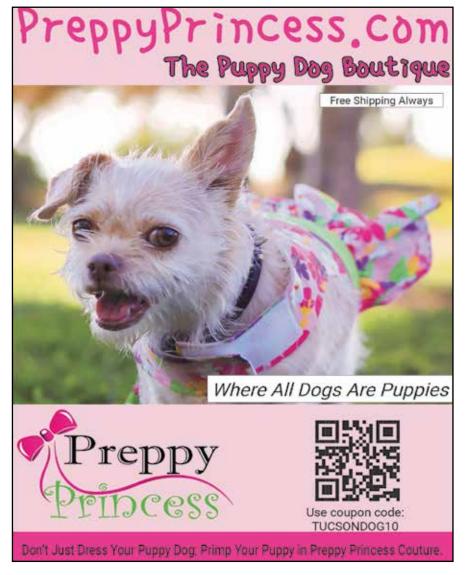
We are looking for two new salespeople to sell advertising and sponsorships in our publication.

Must be neat, friendly, personable and have sales experience. Reliable automobile, computer and phone needed.

For more info or to send your resume, please email: heather@thetucsondog.com











#### Story and photos provided by Karen DeMay



When social media came into play, I got a whole lotta 'likes' one day when I posted about lazy Saturday plans; sit on couch, turn on football, let dog out, let dog in, refill water glass, let dog out, yell at ridiculous football play, let dog in, let dog out, let dog in. Kiyah wanted to lay in the sun on the deck, chase rabbits a'plenty, and do all the outdoor sniffing but she also wanted to hang out with me getting head scratches while I extolled profanities at my teams coaching staff... and players... and TV commentators.

She was the exception when it came to car rides. She hated them. Feared them. She regarded

car rides the same way many pups respond to fireworks, gun shot noise, or backfiring vehicles. In all the years with her, I was continually confounded at her rejection of riding in the car. I'd apologize profusely whenever we had to make a vet trip or if we were taking her to friends for a week-long sleepover while we traveled. The look on her face when she recognized she'd been duped to get near the vicinity of a vehicle; "I-am-SO-sorry, pubby." To add onto that stress, she refused to sit or lay down while inside the confines of the vehicle. She stood and moved around nervously, never gaining the confidence to enjoy the wind from the window or to be lulled to sleep like a child. Every time. I felt so bad during the road trip during the move to Arizona.

Kiyah was the epitome of puppy love and loyalty. She knew how to make us laugh, she knew how to keep us active, she knew how to give unconditional love, and she knew how to protect. The protection, though, was short lived but with the best of intentions. She was a Golden Retriever, after all, so while she barked her "don't mess with my family" bark when the doorbell rang, she almost immediately went into "ooh, do you wanna be my new friend and scratch me for all time" dogsona (persona) when the door opened. She was fierce, alright. Fiercely happy and friendly.

I wasn't home when she died. We'd been two time zones away having the most incredible week; I'd completed my master's degree one day and the following day met my hours-old first grandchild. My husband had flown home to be a pallbearer at his lifelong friend's mother's service only to get back to

the house and have a traveling vet come over to end Kiyah's suffering. She'd had major surgery recently, had a swift onset of arthritis, lost her appetite, and had become more and more sedentary. The vet, commenting to my husband about Kiyah's age, her age was a testament to how much she was loved and how much she loved. With that, Kiyah put her head into my husband's lap and was gone.



In my son's living room, seven states away, I gathered my two kids where we had a family hug and cried. We had a three-day-old beautiful baby girl we were all smitten with and in awe of while simultaneously being overcome with grief. And I wasn't with my four-legged companion who had chosen me to be her person 14.5 years prior. I had been traveling for a full week by the time she died and it was another week until I returned home where there was no happy blonde face jumping to greet me. It was a homecoming I'd never anticipated experiencing when I'd left on the trip.

At the time of this writing, it's been more than four years since her passing. Only now am I open to thinking about bringing a dog into our home. Not actually adopting a dog but thinking about it. We still miss her like it was yesterday and if another pup comes into our lives we want them to have our full attention. I'm sure we'll get there one day. For now, I still love Kiyah the same I did in the prime of her life and while I don't look for her when I enter each room, she's here, fiercely.

Only when I moved into our new house did my heart stop looking for her every time I entered a room. Both my consciousness and subconsciousness knew Kiyah wasn't in this new house and it was only then that my acceptance of her loss was being fully acknowledged. For nearly a year, in the old house, I knew she wasn't around — I'd picked up her ashes and kept them, along with a clay imprint of her paw, lovingly encased in our curio — but I kept expecting/wanting/questioning why she wasn't in the next room when I entered it. The move into the new house helped quell the search.

Kiyah lived to be 15.5 years old and she'd been with me for 14.5 of those years. We were living in Colorado and I was told about a Golden Retriever who'd just had a litter of puppies. The humans she lived with were facing a huge medical challenge and were now rehoming all their animals. Even with the compassionate need the human family had, I wasn't interested in becoming a dog mom. Yet, somehow, I found myself at her house and as soon as I sat down, Kiyah approached, sat, studied and absorbed, and chose me.

The goodest girl with a distinct blonde curl that ran along her spine. She loved all people but she was unmistakably mine. My son, however, might have a different recollection; at night Kiyah would retire with me in the master bedroom, curl up into her sleep ball, wait for me to turn off the lights, and then she'd quietly unfurl and walk sleepily into my son's room, hop onto his bed, and peacefully sleep for the remainder of the night.

# From the Director's Desk

#### Pima Animal Care Center Celebrates Life-Saving Milestone and Looks to Future

#### Story by Kayleigh Murdock, PhD Public Information Officer - Pima Animal Care Center



We're celebrating here at PACC! We recently received recognition from national organization Best Friends Animal Society for "achieving no-kill status during calendar year 2022 by exceeding a 90% save rate for cats and dogs." We are so honored to receive this acknowledgement of our staff, volunteers, fosters, and community's hard work for the pets of Pima County.

Best Friends calculated PACC's live release rate through a new platform called Shelter Pet Data Alliance, which is designed to give shelter professionals insight into local and national trends and compare shelter data. PACC achieved the highest life-saving rate compared to 18 shelters and rescues across the United States that are:

- Government-run or have a municipal contract
- Take in at least 10,000 pets annually
- Are in a high-density urban environment with a high social vulnerability index.

Shelters across the country are currently in crisis, with more pets coming into shelters than leaving for loving homes. The data shows that PACC was second to only one comparable shelter in terms of the number of animals coming into the shelter per 1,000 people.

The Best Friends data also pointed to PACC's 64% adoption rate, which is far higher than the 39% rate for comparable shelters. We credit those numbers in part to the investment the shelter has made through a large private request to increase staffing focused on adoptions, foster, and return-to-home efforts. Of course, this success is also in huge part thanks to the support of our community, who steps up time and time again for pets in need by adopting, fostering, and supporting PACC's nonprofit partner, Friends of PACC.

We also believe that PACC's approach to in-shelter euthanasia contributes heavily to our life-saving rate. While many shelters routinely euthanize animals for space, PACC prioritizes community transparency and first gives

the public and the rescue community an opportunity to adopt or foster.

PACC's greatest opportunities lie in transferring animals to outside organizations. In 2022, just 6% of PACC's pets were transferred to an outside shelter or rescue, compared with a nationwide average of 17%. PACC has seen a significant decrease in rescue partners willing to accept pets in recent years.

One question we get often that's worth addressing here is, "What does 'no-kill' mean, and is PACC a 'no-kill shelter?" It's standard in the shelter world to consider the "no-kill" benchmark to be a 90% live release rate, meaning that a shelter saves 90% of animals that come through the doors. While PACC has consistently reached that benchmark and been recognized by Best Friends and other organizations as a "no-kill" shelter for years, we typically use the word "life-saving." As an open-admissions shelter, PACC takes in all animals regardless of medical or behavioral needs, while limited-admissions shelters can refuse those pets that are "less adoptable" (based on age, behavior, breed, health, size, etc).

PACC's role as municipal life-saving shelter requires the organization to provide a safe and healthy community for all people and animals. We are beyond grateful that we are able to both fulfill our duty to public health and safety and find homes for so many deserving pets each year.

We are in need of fosters and adopters, especially for medium-to-large dogs, to help continue these positive trends. Those interested in fostering or adopting a pet may come to PACC's facility at 4000 N Silverbell Road during operating hours. PACC is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from noon to 7 p.m., on Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All adopted pets come up to date on vaccinations, microchipped, and spayed/neutered.

To see available pets and services, visit pima.gov/animalcare. To donate to help keep more pets with their families across Pima County, please visit https://www.friendsofpacc.org/.





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