

The Tucson

May/June 2026

DOG

Cover Story:

Animal Empathy
Laws and
Education,
Change is
in the Wind

Features:

Celebration of Life:
Marley, A Small Dog With
A Big Personality

Adventure Awaits:
Discover 5 Arizona
Pet-Friendly
Hotspots

Cats &
Horses Too!



thetucsondog.com

This magazine is
FREE
to a good home.

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





Find Your Forever Friend
at The Animal League of Green Valley today!

Delilah

Snooky

Rella



Dolly



Nala

1600 W Duval Mine Road
Green Valley, AZ

www.talgv.org

520-625-3170

Facebook/talgv



Cage-Free Boarding & Daycare

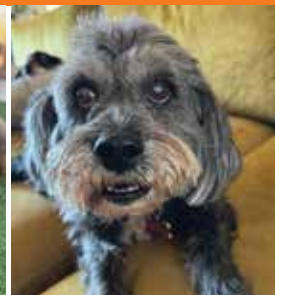
Your dog's home away from home
TUCSON • VAIL



Home Environment.
Never Crowded.
24-hour Care.
RUN • RELAX • PLAY!

CampJimmyDog.com

Call today to set up
a meet & greet!
520-710-6667



Our Leadership-based techniques will enable you to be the Pack Leader!

Leadership Dog Training – Real Results, No Gimmicks®

- ★ Private In-Home Training
- ★ No Shock Collars
- ★ Pulling, Reactivity, Aggression, Anxiety
- ★ Puppies to Seniors, Dogs of All Ages



ALWAYS FAITHFUL

DOG TRAINING

Call Today!

520-524-6986



www.alwaysfaithfuldogs.com/south-tucson

PET ODORS?
Yes, It works on urine!

Any Odor, Any Place



All Gone
ODOR ELIMINATOR

- Potty training?
- Carpet & Rugs
- Furniture
- Bedding
- Clothing



AllGoneOdorEliminator.com



A night out for dogs & their people

FAR FETCHED
FLICKS

Sit. Stay. Watch.



GET TICKETS

SATURDAY
MAY 9TH

5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MSA ANNEX - MERCADO
267 SOUTH AVENIDA DEL CONVENTO



Shop
dog-centric
vendors
before the
movie starts

Event made possible by our generous sponsors.



Far Fetched Charities
farfetchedcharities.org

The Tucson DAG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

.....

Cover Story

- 16 Animal Empathy Laws and Education: Change is in the Wind

Regular Features

- 5 The Leader of the Pack Speaks
- 19 A Visit to The Dog House: Dogs for Adoption
- 21 The Scratching Post: Cats for Adoption
- 23 From the Director's Desk: Parvovirus in Shelter Dogs: A Persistent and Preventable Threat
- 25 Training: Up, Up, and Away! Flying with Your Dog

Special Features

- 7 Tucson Action Team's Spay & Neuter Initiative: Where Creativity Pays Off
- 8 Peace, Love & Dogs: A Woofstock- Celebration!
- 10 5 Nearby Pet-Friendly Getaways in Southern Arizona
- 12 Pets Follow the Yellow Brick Road at the 5th Annual Tucson Subaru Pets of Pima Parade & Friends of PACC Festival
- 15 Celebration of Life: Marley, A Small Dog With A Big Personality
- 18 The Great Cattle Intervention
- 20 Freestyle Dance with Dogs? It Just Might Be Your New Favorite Pastime!
- 24 Camp Bow Wow: Why Bathing is Important
- 27 Tribute: Kimberly Walker, A Life Too Short

Important Information

- 13 Calendar of Events
- 26 Pet Friendly Patios
- 28 Pet Directory: Pet Related Services
- 30 Animal Resource Guide



Animal Empathy Laws and Education, Change is in the Wind

16



11

Adventure Awaits: Discover 5 Nearby Pet-Friendly Hotspot



Celebration of Life: Marley, A Small Dog With A Big Personality

15



IN THIS ISSUE



COMING SOON!

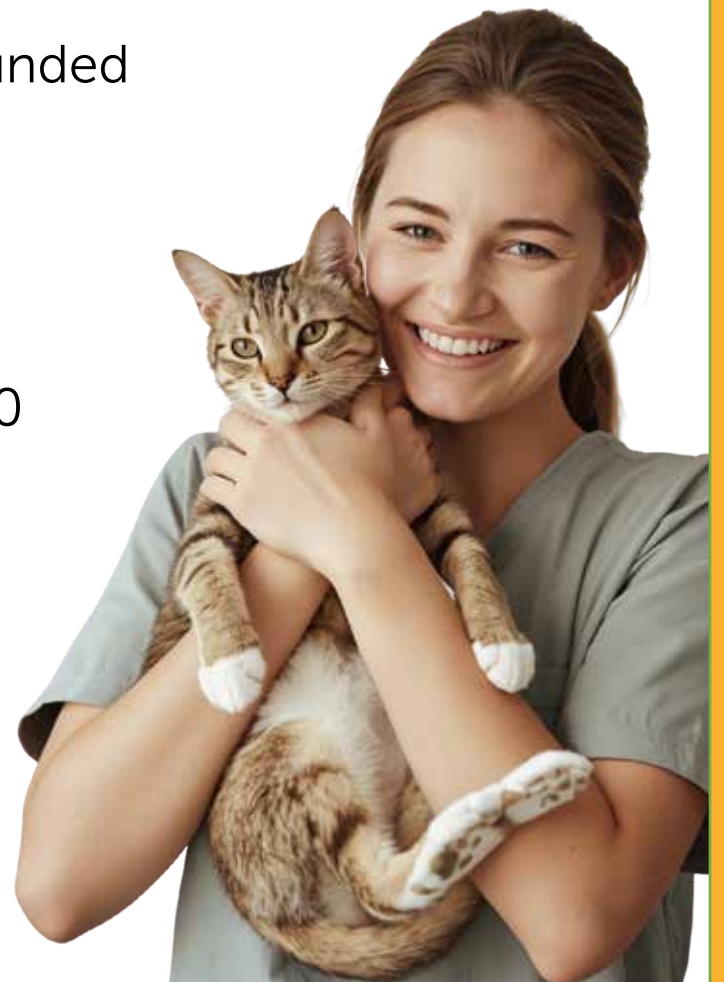
Adopt a PACC pet on Pima County's east side!

The Eastside PACC Adoption Center, funded by Friends of Pima Animal Care Center, will soon open its doors.

The 5,300-square-foot space will accommodate up to 50 pets at a time and is expected to support 2,000-2,400 adoptions each year.



520-724-5900 • pima.gov/animalcare



The Leader of the Pack Speaks

Dear Friends and Animal Lovers,



As we step into May and June here in Southern Arizona, we're reminded that this time of year is all about transition - longer days and rising temperatures. It's also a season filled with meaningful reminders of why we do what we do.

This time of year brings several important pet-focused observances, including Dog Mom Day, National Pet Month, National Rescue Dog Day, in June, Dog Dad Day, National Pet Preparedness Month and several more. Each one, in its own way, encourages us to reflect on the bond we share with our animals and the responsibility we have to care for them, protect them, and advocate for their well-being, not just locally, but globally.

That spirit of advocacy is at the heart of our Cover Story, "A Global Call for Compassion: Educating Youth and Shaping Laws." This piece explores how empathy education for younger generations, combined with evolving national and international laws, is shaping the future of animal welfare. It's a powerful reminder that real change begins with awareness, and that the next generation has the potential to lead with both knowledge and compassion.

On a more personal note, this issue also features a Celebration of Life for my beloved Marley, who is gracing our cover. Writing this was both difficult and healing. Marley was a small dog with a lot of personality, and like so many of you who have loved and lost a pet, I feel his absence daily and deeply. This piece is not just about saying goodbye, but about honoring the joy, lessons, and unconditional love he brought into my life. The sadness of loss is the price I gladly pay for 17 years of unconditional love.

As many of you begin planning summer travel, our Training feature, Up, Up, and Away, offers helpful preparation tips to ensure a safe and smooth flight. Whether it's your first time or you're a seasoned traveler, a little planning can make all the difference for both you and your dog.

And for those looking a bit closer to home, or perhaps a road trip adventure, be sure to check out our feature on 5 Nearby Pet-Friendly Hotspots, perfect for creating new memories with your furry family.

Of course, living in Arizona means we also need to be especially mindful of the heat this time of year. Rising temperatures can pose serious risks for our pets. Please remember to avoid walking dogs on hot pavement or invest in a good set of dog boots. Ensure your pet always has access to fresh water, and never leave them in a parked car, even for a moment. When in doubt, err on the side of caution. Their safety depends on us.

As always, this issue is a reflection of our shared love for dogs and the community that surrounds them. Whether you're learning something new, finding inspiration, or simply enjoying the stories, I hope these pages bring you both information and connection.

Thank you for being part of **The Tucson Dog** family.



With gratitude,
~ **Heather McShea**
Publisher & Editor-In-Chief

*"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."
~ Mahatma Gandhi*

THANK YOU

WITH A GRATEFUL HEART ...

Thank you to our advertisers, vendors, and donors for believing in **The Tucson Dog** and helping us create awareness, inspire change, and build a more compassionate future.

To Rebecca West, Christine Scheer, Candice Eaton, Cindy Lee and Susan Stolar, your talent and dedication are the heart behind each issue and I am so grateful to have you on this journey. And to my family Francine, Jim, and Jessica, thank you for your unwavering love and for being by my side through every stage of our events, from start to finish.
I couldn't do this without you.

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:
heather@thetucsondog.com or call 520-345-2801.



Professor Alfred Von Barkington III AKA Alfie, Cover Dog Entry 2024

The Tucson Dog Staff & Writers



Heather McShea - Publisher/Editor - Heather is the former owner of a Home Health Care company, where she often helped hospice patients find loving homes for their beloved pets. She's worked with The Tucson Dog since 2017 and became its owner in 2022. A lifelong love for her own pets, Heather's home is frequently filled with visiting neighborhood dogs, earning it the nickname "the neighborhood dog park.. Email: heather@thetucsondog.com



Candice Eaton - Cover Photographer - The award-winning photographer behind C. Eaton Photography, captures the heart and soul of every pet and their owner's unique story so that they can keep them forever. With a deep passion for storytelling, Candice ensures that each portrait is a heartfelt tribute to the special bond between pets and humans. When she's not behind the lens, you'll find her soaking up Arizona's 300 days of sunshine or gearing up for her next big adventure.



Susan Stolar - Account Executive Susan has built an accomplished career in marketing communications & media relations. She started her career in New York City, her hometown. In 2000, she relocated to Tucson and established a consulting business. Susan now serves on the Board of the Father's Day Council, is a member of the Blues Music Foundation, and volunteers for animal rights organizations. After moving here, her first stop was the Humane Society, where she adopted two rescue dogs. While volunteering at Pawsitively Cats, she added a cat to her family. Susan's fur family now includes Homer, her senior cat, and her recently rescued senior poodle, Lucky.



Cindy Lee - Staff Writer/Account Executive Cindy Lee, Account Executive for The Tucson Dog magazine, where she brings more than 20 years of experience in marketing, advertising, and sales to the team. A native Tucsonan with a deep love for pets—especially her beloved Poodle/Bichon mix, Chole—Cindy has dedicated her career to helping businesses grow through creative advertising solutions. She has worked in print, television, and online media, and now combines her expertise with her passion for dogs to support The Tucson Dog magazine and its community events.



A happy Woofstock attendee



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



Bonnie Craig - Staff Writer - Bonnie works as an educator and artist. She lives with her family which consists of 3 dogs, 3 cats, and lots of plants and chickens. They control her life, and she wouldn't have it any other way. As well as writing, she enjoys painting and playing music. She is passionate about the natural world and loves gardening, botanizing, hiking, and camping. Most evenings she can be found in the garden listening to the chickens and playing endless games of fetch with a certain ball-obsessed border collie.



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



THE TUCSON DOG

TheTucsonDog.com

(520) 345-2801

Publisher/Editor Heather McShea

Want to share your story and comments with the Publisher?

Contact: heather@thetucsondog.com

Cover Photography

Candice Eaton

Contributing Writers

Meganne Carpenter, Kari Cleland, Kim Eisele

Layout & Graphics

Christine Scheer

All stories and articles in this publication are written and reviewed by real humans.

The Tucson Dog reserves the right to editorial control of all articles, stories and Letters to the Editor. *The Tucson Dog* assumes no responsibility for errors within its publication. The views herein do not necessarily represent the policies of *The Tucson Dog* and should not be construed as endorsements.

The Tucson Dog was established in June 2017 and is a nonpartisan publication that is published bi-monthly by Heather McShea, Publisher/Editor. Entire contents copyright 2026 by *The Tucson Dog*. Layout and pre-press services: Christine Scheer (*Visit xscheer.com or email x.scheer@gmail.com*)

Tucson Action Team's Spay & Neuter Initiative: Where Creativity Pays Off



Story by Rebecca West | Images courtesy of TAT



Match-making pup

Over the last year and a half, the Tucson Action Team (TAT) has managed to get 720 dogs surgically altered via its “Hip to Snip” spay and neuter program. We asked founder Lara Iacobucci Paris about the remarkable success of TAT’s efforts to expand the initiative here in southern Arizona. She told us that coming up with creative ways to treat people with respect, regardless of their ability to pay, has gone a long way towards making that happen.

Another angle that many in the animal welfare and rescue community agree on is educating the public about not only getting their pets fixed, but the fact that there are already homeless animals out there of the age and breed potential pet owners might be looking for waiting to be loved. In the long run, adopting rather than shopping could ultimately reduce the incidence of medical maladies that are so often the result of overbreeding.



TAT S&N Dog

Aiding TAT’s successful approach of using kindness and respect is the group’s habit of going above and beyond with steps like providing transportation to individuals scheduling spay and neuter procedures, as well as an affordable fee of only \$55, which includes a post-surgical cone and pain meds for the animal to go home with, as well as a follow-up appointment.

“We don’t work on a first-come, first-served basis,” Iacobucci Paris explains. “We contact people ahead of time to ensure their dog is ready for surgery, that they have transportation, that the pet parents

are prepared, and that everyone who needs the help is provided the care. We usually have one to two clinics a month where we do 10-15 dogs. Everyone waits in their car, and the vet techs come out to them.

“We also offer single appointments for people who may not be able to attend the clinics. If a pet parent can’t make it—maybe a person works overnight or has to drop their kids off at school and can’t make that clinic, or maybe the dog is more fearful or bitey—we schedule a single appointment for them to go into one of our clinic partners. Then we just pay the clinic for that one single appointment.

“The price changes, but if someone doesn’t have the ability to pay, there is oftentimes funding available based on certain criteria. We do our best to keep costs low, and we try to be accommodating just so everyone’s taken care of.”

She added, “The need is great. Overpopulation is a huge issue. I’ve worked with PACC and other pet partners. Much of what they do is done with volunteers and donations. We kept asking ourselves how can we get more dogs fixed with what we have to work with? What can we do differently?”

The move of making it easier, more respectful, and more affordable is working for them, but it’s a multi-pronged approach. To help stem the tide, they’re in their second year of trying to get a bill passed in the legislature to get dog breeders to register with the state in order to monitor the health of the dogs and to ensure that breeders are paying their fair share of taxes, the lack of which she feels is contributing to the current problem.



Drive-thru S&N clinic pup

But that’s another story for another day. In the meantime, to help combat the dilemma, TAT is working with various rescues to match the right dog with the right home. This includes match-making for people who reach out to them seeking breed-specific canines. Know this: If there’s a breed, there’s a dedicated rescue that caters to them.



Canelo, the 500th S&N pup!

Members of the public can fill out a form online, and TAT will do its best to find animals that fit their particular criteria. This is terrific because so few people seem to realize these rescues exist and are all too ready to buy from a breeder rather than rescue a dog in need of a home. You’d think the savings alone would be enough to sway the public, but no.

In January 2024, TAT became a nonprofit with the aim of giving a voice to dogs so they can have a brighter, safer future. With that comes trying to change laws and ordinances at the local and state

levels, educating the community and children in schools, helping people find resources for food and care when needed, and, of course, aiding in controlling the pet population.

If you’d like to support their important and often life-saving work, go to tucsonactionteam.com/give today. For their match-making service, visit tucsonactionteam.com/matchmaking. To apply for their spay and neuter program, fill out a tucsonactionteam.com/spay-and-neuter-application.



Peace, Love & Dogs: A Woofstock Celebration

Story by Heather McShea, The Tucson Dog Publisher & Editor-In-Chief



Woofstock Adopt-A-Thon 2026 was everything we hoped for and then some. From the early morning setup at dawn to the final exhausted goodbyes at dusk, the day was fueled by the energy of an incredible community united by one purpose: helping dogs find their furever homes, supporting the heroes who save them, and celebrating the furry companions who fill our lives with love.

First and foremost, a heartfelt thank you goes to our amazing sponsors who made this event possible.

We are deeply grateful to our Woofstock partners, The Drive Tucson/Bustos Media, and our title sponsor, Tucson Veterinary Urgent Care, for their unwavering support and belief in what Woofstock represents.



Thank you to our radio sponsors, Trulieve Dispensary, Alignment Health Plan, and Lakefield Veterinary Group for inviting the community to join Woofstock through radio ads in the weeks leading up to the event and continuing through the day, encouraging everyone to come out, connect, and be part of something special.

A very special acknowledgment goes to KGUN 9 Good Morning Tucson anchor, Claire Graham, our Woofstock Host Extraordinaire! With her boundless energy, charisma, and heart, Claire kept the day flowing flawlessly. Already featured on the cover of **The Tucson Dog Magazine** with her beloved pups, Jax and Jersey, she promoted the event in advance and brought the spirit of Woofstock to life, keeping the crowd engaged and entertained from start to finish.



We are especially grateful to Matt and Randi from The Drive Tucson, who partnered with us in a truly meaningful way. Their enthusiastic support included daily promotion in the weeks leading up to the event, helping build the incredible turnout we saw. On event day, they joined Claire on

Top: Woofstock Best Costume; middle left: Matt and Randi from TheDriveTucson.com flanked by friends; and Hope Animal Shelter; Bottom left: groovy costume contest participant; bottom right: Tucson Veterinary Urgent Care volunteers at the booth.



stage to MC, judge contests, and bring infectious energy. Their chemistry set the tone for a fun, engaging experience, while the live music amplified the excitement throughout the park.

Our deepest gratitude goes to the dedicated volunteers who showed up before sunrise and stayed long after the last tail stopped wagging. From 6am to 6pm, they worked tirelessly setting up, organizing, assisting vendors, supporting rescues, and handling every detail with care—because events like this simply don't happen without them.

To our rescue groups and shelters, thank you will never be enough. Your tireless dedication is the heartbeat of Woofstock and this community. Watching adoptable dogs arrive, settle, and await that perfect connection was inspiring and emotional. Because of you, countless lives are changed for the better.

The day itself was a joyful celebration. The park buzzed with vendors offering pet products, treats, and unique goods for dog lovers and more. Crowds arrived in colorful tie-dye, and dogs strutted their stuff in fun contests like Hotdog Bobbing, Most Beautiful Dog, and Best Psychedelic Pair. With warm temperatures, the puppy pools quickly became a favorite, giving dogs a chance to splash, cool off, and enjoy the moment.

Woofstock Adopt-A-Thon 2026 was more than an event; it was a community coming together with heart, purpose, and love. To everyone who sponsored, volunteered, participated, adopted, and attended... Thank you. We couldn't do this without you, and we can't wait to do it again.

See you at Dogtoberfest, October 18th, 2026!



This page, top: Woofstock Twin Peaks Veterinary Center; middle images: Encanto Pet Clinic and Alignment Health Plan; bottom: Trulieve Dispensary; Pantano Animal Clinic; Above: Randi and Heather



Thank you to our valued sponsors: you made Woofstock possible!

5 Nearby Pet-Friendly Getaways in Southern Arizona

Story by Rebecca West

Whether you're looking to get away for the day, overnight, or the weekend, you've got plenty of choices for bringing Fido along for the ride. Check out these five terrific travel opportunities with pet owners in mind.



The Carrick Hotel

1 Bisbee & The Carrick Hotel

A favorite for Arizonans, who doesn't love a quick trip to Bisbee? Set within the Mule Mountains, it's generally cooler and greener, and just a whole lot of fun. It's also considered extremely pet-friendly. While you're there, you and your furry traveling companion(s) can hike the Bisbee 1000 Trail, visit the Old Bisbee Brewing Company for a cold one, or

stop for a bite at one of the many dog-friendly restaurants. Even the local visitor center usually has treats on hand for dogs!

But if you decide you want to zip down and spend the night, then you'll want to stay at the dog-friendly Carrick Hotel on Howell Ave. Constructed in 1903, it underwent extensive renovations after its purchase in July 2022. Furnished throughout with an eclectic mix of period and contemporary pieces, as well as vibrant artwork, this multi-storied boutique hotel has 16 suites.

The Carrick routinely hosts pet-focused events, such as a holiday fashion show in December, a Halloween costume contest with prizes in October, and Easter bunny photo opportunities in the spring. If you're looking for a noise-free zone during the July 4th celebrations, fireworks are banned within city limits. thecarrick.com

2 Tombstone



Tombstone, Arizona

Also offering slightly cooler temps in the high desert is historic Tombstone, with approximately 15 places to stay that accept pets, and that's not including AirBnBs or campgrounds. A popular option just a short walk from Courthouse State Historic Park is the Tombstone Bordello Bed & Breakfast, which allows up to three dogs. Canines are such a common sight in town that many of the shops on Allen Street put out water bowls for visiting pooches.

Debuting in 1879—the same year Boothill Cemetery was established—dogs are welcome in the famous Crystal Palace Saloon, as well as walking and trolley tours,



the 1880s Butterfield Stage Coach, and Good Enough Mine Tours even welcome dogs on their underground excursions.

Concerning food and drinks, the town too tough to die has the dog-friendly OK Café with outdoor seating for breakfast or lunch, the Cowboy Coffee Bar, the Shotgun Café, and the Tombstone Brewing Company, among others. tombstonechamber.com



The Mt. Lemmon Hotel

3 Mount Lemmon

Hands down, Mt. Lemmon is the place to be for beating the heat. Perfect for day trips, overnight stays, or weekend getaways to recharge and refresh, pet-friendly activities here regularly center on outdoor fun. Dogs are permitted on leash in the Coronado National Forest, including popular routes like the Aspen Trail, Marshall Gulch Loop Trail, Butterfly Trail, and Green Mountain Trail.

Dog-friendly establishments are also present. For instance, there's the Mt. Lemmon Coffee and Tea Co., which offers a walk-up window with pup cups and dog treats for visitors traveling with canine pals, and the nearby Sawmill Run Restaurant where you can find The Pack's Snacks.

As for lodging, the Mt. Lemmon Hotel offers pet-friendly accommodations with up to three pets per cabin—including cats—and there's the Mt. Lemmon Lodge. Plus, there's the tiny, unincorporated community of Summerhaven for cabin rentals that throw down the welcome mat to pet owners. Additionally, there are AirBnBs and campgrounds in the area that allow pets, so you've got choices galore if you decide to stay the night.

The great thing about Mt. Lemmon is that this little slice of paradise, acting as an oasis of sorts for desert dwellers, is also popular in the winter months when the road is clear. Go to mtlemmonhotel.com/planning-a-pet-friendly-getaway-on-mt-lemmon for travel tips.

4 Tubac Golf Resort & Spa

Deeded in 1789, the historic 500-acre Otero Ranch has been operating as the Tubac Golf Resort & Spa since 1959. Featuring hacienda-style casitas, a championship 27-hole golf course (*Tin Cup* was filmed there), full-service spa, mission-style chapel, and exceptional dining with three eateries on the premises, it is considered one of southern Arizona’s hidden gems.



Otero Ranch in Tubac

While it’s an award-winning destination in its own right, the best part about this old-world-style getaway is that it’s pet-friendly, offering a dozen rooms for guests with their little nippers in tow. And if you’re concerned that you’ll have to stay closeted in your room for the duration of your stay due to their presence, you’re mistaken.

Instead, explore the adjacent Juan Bautista de Anza Trail connecting Tubac Presidio State Historic Park and Tumacácori National

Historical Park. Perfect for hiking, biking, or a leisurely stroll, this scenic route follows the Santa Cruz River, offering stellar views and glimpses of wildlife throughout the year. For shopping, fooderies, galleries, museums, and other spots that welcome dogs, there’s the colorful village of Tubac.

Another popular idea is investigating the rolling hills of Sonoita Wine Country. For additional information or to book a stay, visit azhideawaycollection.com/tubac-golf-resort-spa.

5 Four Tails Vineyard & Winery

Speaking of Sonoita Wine Country, vino connoisseurs and dog lovers will find this next pet-friendly option perfect for day trips and celebrations. With 10 acres under vine, what started as a labor of love has since grown into a thriving estate. The vineyard, which is located in Pearce, got its name from the owners’ four rescue dogs:



Entrance, Four Tails Vineyard & Winery

“We have always had a deep love for rescue dogs, maintaining a loving pack of four at home. When it came time to name the winery, Four Tails was the natural choice.”

The tasting room in nearby Sonoita is where the majority of the events take place. Open Thursday through Sunday from noon to 6pm, the public is invited to visit and bring their four-legged friends. The same goes for special gatherings, like the Barks & Blossoms Sunday Brunch, where a charcuterie board is available with canines in mind.

Besides incredible scenery in a relaxed atmosphere, tastings frequently include pairings with freshly prepared dishes, as well as their regular menu items, such as bacon-wrapped jalapenos and tomato basil flatbread, to try. In case you’re wondering, yes, there are dog snacks on the menu as well. Check out fourtailsvineyard.com for all the details. They often host animal rescue and welfare-related events.



You're gonna want to catch this deal; get 50% off a custom pet portrait session and \$1200 image credit when you book by Aug 31



www.ceatonphotography.com/capturingeverybuddy



Pets Follow the Yellow Brick Road at the 5th Annual Tucson Subaru Pets of Pima Parade & Friends of PACC Festival

Story by Friends of PACC TUCSON, AZ



Cat Grand Marshall, Gordy

There's no place like Tucson when it comes to celebrating pets and community spirit. The 5th Annual Tucson Subaru Pets of Pima Parade & Friends of PACC Festival returned on Sunday, March 8th, 2026, bringing this year's enchanting theme, Wizard of Paws: There's No Place

Like Home, to life in a colorful, joy-filled community spectacle. Now a beloved annual tradition, the Parade once again transformed Historic 4th Avenue into a vibrant showcase of creativity, compassion, and community pride. From dazzling costumes inspired by Dorothy, Toto, and the Emerald City to lively entertainment and eye-catching floats, the event offered something magical around every corner.

Of course, the true stars of the day were the pets themselves. Animals of all shapes and sizes strutted their stuff, many dressed to match the whimsical theme. Whether walking proudly with their families or riding in style, each pet added to the joyful energy that filled the Parade route. This year's Parade proudly featured a very special Cat Grand Marshal, Gordy. Proving that you don't have to be a dog to lead the pack, Gordy captured hearts with his charm, confidence, and undeniable star power.

Local animal welfare organizations, rescue groups, and community partners once again joined the festivities, reinforcing the Parade's mission as more than just a celebration. It's a reminder that animal welfare is a shared responsibility. After the Parade, the celebration continued at the Friends of PACC Festival, bringing the community together to enjoy local vendors, food trucks, and sponsor booths. Highlights included the HSL Properties There's No Place Like Home Adoption Event at CORBETT'S, featuring adoptable pets from multiple rescues.



The Festival provided opportunities for the community to connect, support local businesses, and meet pets looking for their forever homes. For those who couldn't join us in person, or want to experience it again, the Parade rebroadcast is now available to watch anytime on the Friends of PACC YouTube channel.

This year also marks the 10th anniversary of Friends of Pima Animal Care Center, celebrating a decade of caring, paw by paw. Proceeds from the Tucson Subaru Pets of Pima Parade and Friends of PACC Festival support lifesaving programs at Pima Animal Care Center and help fund critical initiatives that serve pets and the people who love them.

Donations still accepted at petsofpimaparade.com and at friendsofpacc.org

Calendar of Events



MAY EVENTS

**Every Day from 10am-2pm
Moon & Stars Animal Rescue
Feline Adoption Events**
Sweet adoptable cats at the Grant & Swan PetSmart location waiting for forever homes! (520) 322-5080
4740 E. Grant Rd., Tucson 85712
moonandstarsanimalrescue.org

**Sat. May 2, 11am-2pm
Southern Arizona Cat Rescue
PetSmart Adoption Event**
Most Saturdays you'll find us at PetSmart located at 4374 N. Oracle Rd. with adoptable kitties! Visit sacatrescue.org or FB/IG @sacatrescue for more info.

**Sat. May 2, 16, 23, 30, 9-10am
Goat Yoga in the Park**
Join us Saturdays for an a.m. goat yoga session at Udall Park at 7290 E. Tanque Verde Rd., 85715. Sign up at goatsoftucsonyoga.com or call (503) 507-8639 for more details.

**Sat. May 2, 10:30am-2pm
Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
Adoption Event at PetSmart**
The 1st Saturday of each month we will be at the PetSmart at Orange Grove & River with adoptable pets. 3850 W. River Rd., Tucson 85741

**Sat. May 2, 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. May 2, 11am-2pm
S. Arizona Reptile Rescue Adoption
Event at Park Place Mall**
Adoptable reptiles & ambassadors on hand for photo ops & meet & greets at Old Navy. Contact Cressi Brown at (808) 747-6445 for info.

**Sat. May 2 & 3, 10am-5pm
Casa Grande Big House Reptile Expo**
Adoptable reptiles & ambassadors on hand for photo ops & meet & greets. Contact Cressi Brown at (808)747-6445

**Sun. May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31, 9-10am
Goat Yoga in the Park**
Join us Sundays for an a.m. goat yoga session at Denny Dunn Park at 4400 W. Massingale Rd., 85741. Sign up at goatsoftucsonyoga.com or call (503) 507-8639 for more details.

**Sun. May 3, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Sessions**
Sol Dog Lodge & Training Center partners with Animal Experts to offer Rattlesnake Avoidance Sessions. 11862 N. Tangerine Business Loop, Marana. Call Lee at 520-591-2829 to get scheduled.

**Sun. May 3 – June 14, 1pm-2:30pm
Animal Communication
Fundamentals Six-Week Course**
Through guided practice, calm presence & intuitive listening you'll learn to quiet mental noise, recognize how animals communicate & build trust in your natural abilities. Led by Genie Joseph, go to thehumananimalconnection.org/product-page/animal-communication-fundamentals.

**Wed. May 6 & 20, 5pm-6pm
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru
Community Outreach Clinic**
at 2035 E. 17th St. offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. More info at pathwaysforpaws.com.

**Wed. May 6
Canine Massage Course**
at A Loyal Companion in Tucson
A 4-week, hands-on course teaching simple, safe massage techniques designed specifically for dogs with mobility challenges, including arthritis, weakness, IVDD, neurologic conditions, & changes that come with aging. Only 6 students per course, so register now at: aloyalcompanion.com/events

**Sat. May 9, 10am-1pm
Arrow's Landing Animal Rescue
Adoption Event at Cal Ranch Tucson**
Meet adoptable dogs the 2nd Saturday of each month. All animals are spayed/neutered, microchipped & vaccinated. 6363 E. 22 St., Tucson

**Sat. May 9, 10:30am-2pm
Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
Adoption Event at PetSmart**
Every 2nd Saturday of the month we will be at the PetSmart at Grant & Swan with adoptable pets. 4740 E. Grant Rd., Tucson 85712

**Sat. May 9, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Training for
Dogs with Sonoran Wildlife Services**
Warming temps means snake season. A quick 1-on-1 training session with us at Bark Avenue Dog Wash is the best first defense! Call (520) 909-1420 to reserve a spot.

**Sat. May 9, 10am-4pm
Los Milics Vineyards May Market**
Join us at our May Market for a day of shopping, wine, & fun. Get the perfect gift for moms, dads, & grads from a variety of local vendors as well as The Pack's Snacks, then stop by our wine garden for a delicious glass of Los Milics wine. 423 Upper Elgin Rd., Elgin, 85611.

**Sat. May 9, 9am-10am
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru
Community Outreach Clinic at 2812 W. Alvaro Rd. (Lazy V) offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. Info at pathwaysforpaws.com.**

**Sat. May 9, 8am-1pm
Land Between the Tracks Arts &
Crafts Fair in Vail**
Join us the 2nd Saturdays of the month with more than 20 local vendors, food truck, live music, & a raffle. Homemade Happiness Dog Treats will be there!

**Sat. May 9, 5pm-10pm
Dog-Friendly Movie Night**
at MSA Annex – Mercado
Watch "Arthur the King" with your well-behaved k9 to help benefit Far Fetched Charities. Dog-centric vendors & fun for the entire family. Bring chairs or blankets. 267 S. Avenida del Convento, Tucson, 85745 Cost: Donations
Register at <https://tinyurl.com/Dog-Friendly-Movie-Night>

**Sat. May 16, 10am-11am
Sun. Jun. 14, 5pm-6pm
Kitty Yoga with Melissa**
Join Melissa (Life Connection Yoga) for an hour-long yoga class for all levels with the cats of Hunter's Kitten Lounge! Yogis must be 10+ years of age. Bring your own mat or we have a few to borrow. Spots limited, so book today! Tickets: \$20

**Sat. May 16, 8am-12pm
1st Annual Sahuarita Pet-Palooza**
Visit Sahuarita Lake Park & meet adoptable reptiles & ambassadors on hand for photo ops & meet & greets with Southern Arizona Reptile Rescue. For info, contact Cressi Brown at (808) 747-6445.

**Sat. May 16, 10am-1pm
Food for People's Pets Pantry**
The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Sanctuary's Food for People's Pets Program at the Michael Cannon Community Pet Food Pantry collects donations of dog & cat food all year long & distributes it to organizations & people/pets in need. 5278 E. 21st St., Tucson 85711, (520) 571-7839

**Sat. May 16, 10:30am-2pm
Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary
Adoption Event at PetSmart**
Every 3rd Saturday of the month we will be at the PetSmart at Wetmore & Oracle with adoptable pets. 4374 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson 85705

**Sat. May 16, 9am-10am
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru
Community Outreach Clinic**
at 7400 N. Oracle Rd. (Post Workspaces) offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. More info at pathwaysforpaws.com.

**Sun. May 17, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Sessions**
Sol Dog Lodge & Training Center partners with Animal Experts to offer Rattlesnake Avoidance Sessions. 11862 N. Tangerine Business Loop, Marana. Call Lee at 520-591-2829 to get scheduled.

**Thur. May 21, 10am-2pm
Food for People's Pets Pantry**
The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Sanctuary's Food for People's Pets Program at the Michael Cannon Community Pet Food Pantry collects donations of dog & cat food all year long & distributes it to organizations & people/pets in need. 5278 E. 21st St., Tucson 85711, (520) 571-7839

**Sat. May 23, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Bingo at Hunter's Kitten Lounge**
Grab your family & friends & come by for an evening of fun! Tickets are \$25 each & include 5 bingo cards, one for each round. More cards available for purchase at the door for \$2 each. Max 4 cards per round. Awesome prizes!

**Sat. May 23, 12pm-4pm
Paws & Pours: Dog Rescue Afternoon**
at Four Tails Winery featuring Arrow's Landing
Visit our Four Tails Tasting Room in Sonoita & enjoy great wine, food, & live music while helping dogs find their forever place in a story worth telling. Info: (520) 386-2878

**Sat. May 30, 6pm-8pm
Movie Night with Cats at Hunter's**
We have lots of kitties who'd love to snuggle up & watch with you while you hang out at the kitten lounge. *Free drink & snack with entry fee for this 2-hour cat lounge session. For movie info, email lounge@sacatrescue.org.

Calendar of Events



Sun. May 31, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Training for Dogs with Sonoran Wildlife Services
Warming temps means snake season. A quick 1-on-1 training session with us at Ranch Property is the best first defense! Call (520) 909-1420 to reserve a spot.

JUNE EVENTS

Every Day from 10am-2pm
Moon & Stars Animal Rescue Feline Adoption Events
Sweet adoptable cats at the Grant & Swan PetSmart location waiting for forever homes! (520) 322-5080
4740 E. Grant Rd., Tucson 85712
moonandstarsanimalrescue.org

Mon. June 1 – Sep. 30
Dog Days of Summer at the Tucson Botanical Gardens
The TBG invites you to bring along your well-behaved, on-leash canine companion. Fido can enjoy good smells, lots of shady pathways, & a stop at an outdoor table at the café to sample the special dog chow menu. Water stations, poop bags, & dog treats available.
TucsonBotanical.org

Wed. June 3 & 17, 5pm-6pm
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru Community Outreach Clinic
at 2035 E. 17th St. offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. More info at pathwaysforpaws.com.

Thur. June 4, 5pm-6pm
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru Community Outreach Clinic
at 8796 E. Broadway Blvd. (Taylor Tack & Feed) offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. More info at pathwaysforpaws.com.

Sat. June 6, 10am-2pm
Dogs-n-Donuts Adoption Events
In conjunction with various local rescues, we now have adoption events most Saturdays at our bakery. Details available on our website. dogsndonutstucson.com

Sat. June 6, 11am-2pm
Southern Arizona Cat Rescue PetSmart Adoption Event
Most Saturdays you'll find us at PetSmart located at 4374 N. Oracle Rd. with adoptable kitties! Visit sacatrescue.org or FB/IG @sacatrescue for more info.

Sat. June 6, 6pm-9pm
Brunch N' Booze Beginner Paint-Your-Pet Party at DiBella's
Join us for cocktails, dinner & pet art. Sign-ups close June 3. For tickets, go to paintingandvino.com. (520) 222-9373, Age range 10+
9630 N. Oracle Rd. Ste. 110
Oro Valley, 85704

Sat. June 6, 13, 20, 27, 9-10am
Goat Yoga in the Park
Join us Saturdays for an a.m. goat yoga session at Udall Park at 7290 E. Tanque Verde Rd., 85715. Sign up at goatsoftucsonyoga.com or call (503) 507-8639 for more details.

Sat. June 6, 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. June 6, 9am-11am
Southern Arizona Beagle Rescue Playdate in the Park
We have a 'beagle play date' the 1st Saturday of each month at the small dog park inside of Reid Park. Bring your beagles & have some fun in the sun beagle style! Info at (520) 247-7720 or soazbeaglerescue.com.

Sat. June 6, 8am
Puppy Yoga at Sol Dog Lodge
The most joyful way to start your day. Adoptable puppies from Oracle Animal Rescue & Rehab. Advanced registration required. \$30. Call (520) 886-7411 to register. 11862 N. Tangerine Business Loop, Marana.

Sat. June 6, 10am-11am
Donuts, Donations, & Dogs
Join Sol Dog Lodge for free donuts & coffee when you stop by & bring pet food donations benefiting the Marana Food Bank. Opened bags are fine. 11862 N. Tangerine Business Loop, Marana.

Sat. June 6, 9am-10am
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru Community Outreach Clinic at 2812 W. Alvaro Rd. (Lazy V) offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. Info at pathwaysforpaws.com.

Sat. June 6, 6pm-7:30pm
Water Color Pet Portrait Class
Join us for a super fun, hands-on watercolor paint class in support of SACR & create a 5x8 cat-themed masterpiece while hanging out with adoptable kitties at Hunter's Kitten Lounge. No experience needed. Tickets limited, so don't miss out!

Sun. June 7, 14, 21 & 28, 9-10am
Goat Yoga in the Park
Join us Sundays for an a.m. goat yoga session at Denny Dunn Park at 4400 W. Massingale Rd., 85741. Sign up at goatsoftucsonyoga.com or call (503) 507-8639 for more details.

Thurs. June 11, 3:30pm-4:30pm
Read to a Dog Kids Literacy Program
Read to a Dog gives kids the chance to read to a non-judgmental listener, one who will accept the story exactly as it's read. For many kids, this allows them a rare opportunity to experience stress-free reading. Venue: Miller-Golf Links Library (520) 594-5355

Sat. June 13, 10am-1pm
Arrow's Landing Animal Rescue Adoption Event at Cal Ranch Tucson
Meet adoptable dogs the 2nd Saturday of each month. All animals are spayed/neutered, microchipped & vaccinated. 6363 E. 22 St., Tucson

Sat. June 13, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Training for Dogs with Sonoran Wildlife Services
Warming temps means snake season. A quick 1-on-1 training session with us at Bark Avenue Dog Wash is the best first defense! Call (520) 909-1420 to reserve a spot.

Sat. June 13, 8am-1pm
Land Between the Tracks Arts & Crafts Fair in Vail
Join us the 2nd Saturdays of the month with more than 20 local vendors, food truck, live music, & a raffle. Homemade Happiness Dog Treats will be there!

Sat. June 13, 10:30am-2pm
Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary Adoption Event at PetSmart
Every 2nd Saturday of the month we will be at the PetSmart at Grant & Swan with adoptable pets. 4740 E. Grant Rd., Tucson 85712

Sat. June 13, 9am-10am
Pathways for Paws Drive-Thru Community Outreach Clinic
at 7400 N. Oracle Rd. (Post Workspaces) offers vaccines, microchips & nail trims for a small donation via cash, Venmo, Zelle & Apple Pay. No debit/credit cards. More info at pathwaysforpaws.com.

Sun. June 14, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Sessions
Sol Dog Lodge & Training Center partners with Animal Experts to offer Rattlesnake Avoidance Sessions. 11862 N. Tangerine Business Loop, Marana. Call Lee at (520) 591-2829 to get scheduled.

Sun. June 14, 1pm
Pet Nutrition with Tazz Latifi
Hosted by A Loyal Companion
Join Tazz Latifi, the founder of Petropolist Pet Nutrition Center, for a discussion on pet nutrition & how it impacts your pet's mobility. Registration required for this free virtual event. Go to: aloyalcompanion.com/events

Thur. June 18, 10am-2pm
Food for People's Pets Pantry
The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Sanctuary's Food for People's Pets Program at the Michael Cannon Community Pet Food Pantry collects donations of dog & cat food all year long & distributes it to organizations & people/pets in need. 5278 E. 21st St., Tucson 85711, (520) 571-7839

Sat. June 20, 11am-2pm
Southern Arizona Reptile Rescue Adoption Event at Bookman's
Visit Bookman's on Speedway & Wilmot to meet adoptable reptiles! Contact Cressi Brown at (808) 747-6445 for more info.

Sat. June 20, 10:30am-2pm
Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary Adoption Event at PetSmart
Every 3rd Saturday of the month we will be at the PetSmart at Wetmore & Oracle with adoptable pets. 4374 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson 85705

Sat. June 20, 10am-1pm
Food for People's Pets Pantry
The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Sanctuary's Food for People's Pets Program at the Michael Cannon Community Pet Food Pantry collects donations of dog & cat food all year long & distributes it to organizations & people/pets in need. 5278 E. 21st St., Tucson 85711, (520) 571-7839

Sat. June 20, 12pm-8pm
Sip into Summer: A Kickoff Celebration at 4 Tails Tasting Room
Join us in Sonoita for an afternoon that turns into an unforgettable evening. Grab your friends—including your four-legged ones— & enjoy wine, delicious bites, live music, & a sunset toast to kick off summer. Info: (520) 386-2878

Sat. June 27th, 6-8pm
Movie Night with Cats at Hunter's
We have lots of kitties who'd love to snuggle up & watch with you while you hang out at the kitten lounge. *Free drink & snack with entry fee for this 2-hour cat lounge session. Info: email lounge@sacatrescue.org.

Sun. June 28, 7am-10am
Rattlesnake Avoidance Training for Dogs with Sonoran Wildlife Services
Warming temps means snake season. A quick 1-on-1 training session with us at Ranch Property is the best first defense! Call (520) 909-1420 to reserve a spot.

Celebration of Life: Marley, A Small Dog With A Big Personality

Story by Heather McShea, Publisher & Editor-In-Chief of The Tucson Dog



Marley in his happy place!

Marley - technically named Bob Marley, came into our lives the way some of the best things do: unexpectedly, a little scruffy, and in need of a bath.



As a baby!

Roughly 17 years ago, in late February, I took a day trip to Nogales for my son's dental appointment. We were strolling along, enjoying the usual flurry of people buying, selling, and bargaining, when we came across a parking lot where we saw what I initially thought was an especially grimy rodent. My son, who saw it for what it was, picked up the grubby little creature and said, "I want this puppy!" And so began the start of our nearly two-decade adventure.

A typical cold February evening (unlike the sweltering February's of today), I tucked this tiny flea-ridden furball inside my coat (dirt, poop, and all) where he instantly rolled onto his back for belly

scratches and warmth. The drive home was about an hour long, not including the walk across the border and a stop for food and water for the minuscule package now nestled in my jacket.

Upon arriving home, my mother's eyes lit up, and her first words were, "I can't believe it's so tiny," the very same words most everyone uttered after seeing him. It's what we're all so familiar with at first thought of a new puppy, like we can't afford a dog right now. Who's going to take responsibility for caring for a puppy? What will vet bills cost? This is a lifetime responsibility! BUT this little 1.5-lb, dirty white ragamuffin stuffed with personality melted all that away at first sight.

He didn't come quietly. The next day at the vet, we were told there was a high probability that he was a full-bred Bichon Frise, not that this was the problem. Unfortunately, given his small size and being underweight, he received his vaccinations earlier than ideal. I spent roughly 48 hours of fear and no sleep thinking I'd just "saved" a dog to deliver him to his doom! By the next day, he was a normal, happy puppy running, rolling, tugging on shoe laces, and surprisingly knew how to fetch with the only thing that would fit in his mouth - A gaming DIE!

We also learned pretty quickly that he loved to roll and dig in mud. If there was a puddle of anything, he was in it. He loved it with the enthusiasm of a dog who had decided early on that life should be lived fully and FILTHILY. Later in life, he discovered ice patches on an icy walk in Mt. Lemmon. Sliding was a new fun favorite! With a good run, he made it more of a four-legged Speed Skating Olympic event.

For his first six months, Marley enjoyed being a purse dog. He was so petite he could slip right in and curl up like a little burrito for a nap. I carried him everywhere like the world's most adorable secret contraband. If there was a large purse or travel bag sitting around, he jumped in, ready to roll! A fun surprise party favorite for friends who set their purses on my floor.

Some dogs learn their names. Marley learned the specific names of his toys, not just "ball" or "toy." If you asked for any of his five favorites by name, he would automatically retrieve them. He also learned several tricks. As he grew, he'd launch himself into my arms like a fluffy gymnast nailing their landing, which made it only too easy for him to counter surf when stools were left too close.

My bed became our bed, which he considered the only reasonable arrangement. This didn't make my son very happy, but we both realized that Marley chose "Mom" to be his person. He loved Christian equally, but I was his choice "parent".

While my shoulder was his favorite place to hang, I assume because of the view, for years, I carried him in a backpack with his little legs dangling out

the back, completely floppy and relaxed. It was so irresistible that a simple grocery run often required an extra 20 minutes due to people stopping us. They'd ask questions, take photos, and inevitably show me pictures of their own dogs. He became The Tucson Dog Mascot, and he never minded the attention. In fact, I suspect he assumed that was the whole point.

During walks, he developed a special talent for walking close to me without a leash, obeying every command with precision, either leading the pack of the big dogs or perfectly in step like a fluffy 15-lb escort who seemed to have very important places to be. Truth be told, he was a Velcro dog. In his last year, his walks became mostly rides on my shoulder. Then, the wagon rides, elegantly



Backpack!

pulled by the neighbor dog, Koko. A sight to see, people again stopped to laugh and chat, and even drivers slowed to take photos.

Marley developed a few unique quirks that made him entirely his own. My favorite was the little skip or giddy-up in his walk with his back legs lifting into a gentle hop every few steps. When he was excited, he would snap his teeth together, "fly-biting," as if he were trying to talk, which earned him the nicknames Chomper and Snapper. And perhaps most telling of his personality, Marley would pick up his own leash and head for the door when he was ready to go... which was particularly funny at the vet's office.



Koko pulling Marley in his wagon

Marley loved everyone. Whether you were a visitor - a stranger, or not, he begged to be held or planted himself next to you on the couch, expecting love, scratches, and snuggles. Even in his final moments, he snuggled with the veterinarian who came to our home and accepted her treats - the first in days. He genuinely loved Dr. Lisa's presence.

My deepest appreciation goes out to Dr. Lisa Shriver of Lap of Love Veterinary Hospice. She came to my home and guided me through my grief with compassion, kindness, and grace, gently explaining

each step along the way. As difficult as this decision was, it allowed Marley to leave this world the same way he lived it, surrounded by love, comfort, and kindness.

On December 15, 2025, while I held him in my arms, Marley peacefully left us. For nearly 17 years, this little pup with the big jump, the muddy paws, and the purse-sized beginnings skipped beside me through life. And while Marley may have started out as a miniature flea motel from Nogales, he somehow grew into something much bigger: A constant companion. A conversation starter. A mini legend with a backpack and a fan club.

And most importantly - My dog.

My sincere thanks to Francine, Marilyn, and David for being present with me during his last moments and of course, Trixie and Koko, Marley's best dog friends, helping him feel at home and loved as he passed over the rainbow bridge.

We're on a global roll, humankind! As of November 2019, at least 33 countries have formally recognized non-human animal sentience. In alphabetical order, they are Austria, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

In 2022, when Spain legally recognized animals as "sentient beings" with emotions rather than as "property," it went so far as classifying them as family members whose well-being would be considered above all else in legal matters, including custody cases.



In early January of this year, we posted on our social media pages about the fact that in October 2025, Colombia passed a new law requiring schools to teach animal care, respect, and protection to children. Teaching kids early is key to societal change, no matter where you live or what the subject matter.

The Congress of Colombia gave the green light to the "Empathy Law," an initiative that marks a milestone in environmental education and

animal welfare. The measure incorporates respect and care for animals and nature at all levels of the educational system, from preschool to secondary education.

The Empathy Law stipulates that content on animal welfare be incorporated transversally into the School Environmental Projects, the Citizen Environmental Education Projects, and the Inter-institutional Environmental Education Committees.

This integration will allow topics of animal protection, responsible ownership, and biodiversity conservation to be present in everyday school subjects and activities. Teaching children to be kind to pets from a very early age is something we routinely remind people about.

To learn more about Colombia's efforts to bring about change, follow this link: <https://noticiasambientales.com/animals/colombia-approved-a-law-for-teaching-about-animal-and-nature-care-in-schools/>



Halfway across the globe, Denmark is the frontrunner, having instituted similar measures nearly 30 years ago, with mandatory weekly empathy classes as a regular part of the curriculum for schoolchildren aged 6 to 16. These frequently include lessons on kindness toward animals. The sessions focus predominantly on emotional intelligence and compassion to ensure students better understand what animals are capable of feeling.

In January, it was noted that France had updated its moral and civic education (EMC) program so that children start learning respect for pets and basic animal care from as early as CP, the first year of primary school. The curriculum now includes "respect due to companion animals," alongside lessons about respecting living things and the environment. The goal is to help children see animals as sensitive, living beings, not disposable toys, and to build empathy early to prevent mistreatment later on in life. This aligns with strict laws that treat animal abandonment as a significant crime there.

And these are just a few examples of the rapid changes that have come about in recent decades regarding how we, as a society, should treat and view animals. While it's sad that it's come down to legislation forcing the change, the changes are welcome nonetheless.

The influence has spurred meaningful welfare efforts for both domestic pets and wildlife. For instance, green bridges and eco-ducts seem to have exploded around the world. Commonly known as wildlife crossings, the concept is said to have originated in France in the 1950s.



Oracle wildlife underpass via ADOT

According to estimates cited in a *Nat Geo* piece, "automobile collisions kill more than a million animals every day, making them the leading cause of death for many vertebrate species." It goes on to discuss how major thoroughfares and other forms of development can subdivide animal populations and splinter their habitats, making it

difficult for them to forage for food and locate potential mates for furthering vital species populations.

Here in Arizona, at least 20 wildlife travel corridors—including 17 underpasses—using funnel fencing have been constructed since 2000. Their use has reportedly brought about a 90 percent reduction in wildlife-related highway accidents along I-17 south of Flagstaff and on SR 260 east of Payson, lowering elk-vehicle collisions by 98 percent over six years. Just north of Tucson, a wildlife bridge and underpass along Oracle Road between the Santa Catalina and Tortolita Mountains has significantly reduced collisions, according to ADOT.

In a further show of conscience regarding vehicle strikes, England has a law making it mandatory to report accidents involving dogs and work animals. A proposal there known as Athena's Law aimed to make it a legal requirement to stop and seek veterinary care, with potential fines for failing to do so, but it's not yet passed.

Turkey has one of the most innovative and forward-thinking programs we've heard of to date, and it's not new. Istanbul, known as the city of cats and for its care of street animals, has a vast number of strays, most of which have no reliable source of fresh food or water. This knowledge led one individual to design vending machines for feeding strays while encouraging recycling. The incredibly successful plan utilizes large box-like structures that contain pet food and potable water.



Engin Girgin and sons

Produced through the family-run business Puggedon, the eco-friendly vending machines deliver meal-sized portions of cat or dog food in exchange for empty drinking bottles. The machines ultimately pay for themselves, as profits made from the recycled bottles cover the cost of the pet food, and the vending machines are solar powered, making the entire project a win-win for everyone involved.

In an interview with Der Spiegel, the inventor of the machine and Puggedon founder, Engin Girgin, stated, “My primary goal was to make people see that they don’t have to spend any money to help stray dogs. And I also wanted to show that people can do good deeds with things they would normally throw away.”

When we contacted him about using some images, he added, “To date, our machines are present in 37 countries worldwide, including Puerto Rico, Colombia, Greece, Bulgaria, Israel, Russia, Azerbaijan, Italy, Cyprus, Romania, Lebanon, Jordan, Iran, and many more.” We live for stories like this, proving that one person can make a difference in the lives of many!



Puggedon vending machine

As an example of how seriously we’re taking our pets’ health and welfare to heart, Sweden’s Animal Welfare Act of 2008 notes that “dogs must have their social contact satisfied.” It adds that “dogs should be walked at least every six hours during the day, and more often for puppies and older dogs. It is not advisable for dogs to be left alone for an entire day without being walked until the owner comes home

at the end of the day. It is important for dog owners to solve the walking issue in a satisfactory manner.” That rule later became part of the Swedish Agriculture Board’s code of statute, known as SJVFS 2019: 28.

To take it a step further, another rule included in the guidelines of SJVFS 2020: 8 states that pet parents need to check in on their dogs at least twice a day and that puppies under the age of four months should only be left alone for short periods. According to kinship.com, while the Swedish Board of Agriculture expects all Swedes to follow the guidelines, you won’t be hauled off to jail if you have to work late a few times.

When the war between Russia and Ukraine broke out, Ukrainian citizens went into overdrive trying to rescue stranded, injured, lost, and frightened animals. They even did what they could to relocate zoo animals from the war-torn country. Animals, like humans, suffer from fear, shock, and stress just as we do. It all boils down to the fact that we, as humans, love our animals and only want the best for them, no matter where we live or what’s going on.

Here in the U.S., changes are happening quickly as well. In 2021, a Cleveland man caused chemical burns to a stray kitten’s paws and was convicted of felony cruelty under Ohio’s Goddard’s Law. However, an appeals court overturned the ruling, claiming strays didn’t count as “companion animals.” On October 23, 2024, the Ohio Supreme Court (OSC) said a big hell no to that by unanimously ruling in a 7-0 decision that the law protects any dog or cat, whether they’re owned or stray.

The law was unfortunately inspired by actual cases where abused animals were adopted out again to the same offenders because of a lack of shared information. Depending on the severity of the offense and conviction, offenders can potentially be barred from owning pets for years or even permanently. Animal welfare groups were obviously overjoyed and praised the move as a long-overdue safeguard. Supporters of the OSC’s action fervently hope it sets a precedent for other states to follow as well.



In January, Florida created a law that blocks convicted animal abusers from adopting or buying cats and dogs by checking a public abuse registry first. The law, referred to as “Dexter’s Law,” creates a statewide, publicly accessible registry of people who have been convicted of serious animal abuse. Before a cat or dog can be adopted or sold, shelters, rescues, and sellers can check the database to make sure the animal is not being placed back into the hands of someone with a history of cruelty.

While the goal is to stop repeat abuse before it happens and to protect animals who aren’t able to fend for themselves, it can’t stop private transactions such as animals posted for free, or neighbors looking for homes for unexpected litters. But it’s a huge start and could cause those trying to find homes for an animal(s) or rehome one to check the database and explore the backgrounds of the individuals they’re considering giving or selling an animal to.

In case you’re wondering who’s at the top of the heap when it comes to protecting animals, Austria, Sweden, and Switzerland are routinely ranked as having the strictest animal abuse laws anywhere in the world, often receiving A grades on the Animal Protection Index. These three countries have strict laws prohibiting suffering and neglect, with Switzerland including the concept of “dignity of the animal” into its legislation.

Here in the U.S., Oregon is consistently ranked as the most proactive state for animal welfare in the country. In fact, they’ve earned the top spot for four consecutive years, including 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026, according to the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF). The state’s No. 1 status is said to be attributed to its comprehensive and frequently strengthened animal protection statutes.

While we still have a long way to go toward respecting our planet and creatures other than ourselves, we’re definitely making incremental progress, even if it doesn’t seem like it at times. If you’d like to learn more about global animal laws or where a particular country stands on the issue, you can visit:

<https://www.globalanimallaw.org>



The Great Cattle Intervention

Story by Leo: Alpha of Anecdotes



Jax, always on top of the action

Morning on the ranch was unfolding exactly the way I prefer: quiet, predictable, and largely horizontal.

I was loosely conducting my daily supervisory duties from the porch. The goats were holding what appeared to be a strategy meeting about fence weaknesses, Jax was chasing a leaf, and the chickens were staring at each other like tiny, judgmental accountants.

Then the ground started to rumble. Not like an earthquake. More like the unmistakable thunder of several thousand tons of livestock pursuing independent recreational decisions.

I opened one eye. This didn't feel like a two-eye situation yet, then down the road came a herd of cattle decidedly on a self-guided tour of the neighborhood, jogging along with the loose organization of a middle-school field trip. Behind them was a ranch hand on horseback in what I can only describe as advanced cowboy panic - hat crooked, reins flapping, arms waving in the universal human signal for "This situation has left my control." The wild eyed horse was impressively keeping up with his desultory commands.

Naturally, Jax came to immediate attention. "LEO! LEO! THE COWS ARE FREE-RANGING IT AND HEADING FOR THE SUBURBS!"

Now technically speaking, our job description is fairly limited. We guard the chickens, keep the goats from joining a cult, and occasionally remind the coyotes that this property comes with a large white security system with teeth. Cattle management is not listed in my job description.

But as the herd jogged past our fence line and the ranch hand continued his increasingly creative attempts at turning them around, something happened. Jax began vibrating. You know the look. That full-body tremor Aussies get when their brain screams, THIS IS MY MOMENT!

He gave me an intense stare like we were under attack, and I could feel my legs preparing to respond against my better judgment. Jax's instincts suddenly kicked in - "Running cattle!" he yipped. I took a deep breath and sighed the sigh of a dog who knows his afternoon nap has just been rescheduled. Jax launched through the gate (which I thought was impenetrable) like a furry scud missile.

Personally, my preferred conflict resolution methods include diplomatic barking, strategic positioning, and occasionally staring at problems until they resolve themselves out of sheer laziness. That said... I'm not above a good old-fashioned dog fight, even to the death if the situation calls for it. This situation had Jax in the middle of, and briefly on top of forty moving cattle. So I followed my adrenaline-fueled yet hyper focused second in command into the fray.

Jax hit the herd like a caffeinated pinball, darting left and right, barking instructions with the confidence of someone who had just promoted himself. The cattle slowed. Mostly because they had no idea what this yelping, nipping dog was attempting to organize. That's when I positioned myself ahead of them. Calm. Large. Immovable. Faced off with one large white mass planted firmly in their path and a frantic Jax conducting the world's most chaotic staff meeting all around them, the herd, brought on by sheer confusion, hesitated again. Then slowly... They turned back toward the ranch.

The cowboy finally caught up, looking like a man who had just witnessed two dogs outperform his entire operational plan in minutes. He tipped his hat, translation for: "Thank you," I assume, toward what I can only describe as a highly effective, unsanctioned livestock management operation.

Back at the house, our humans ran outside after hearing the commotion. They started calling us back until they slowly realized what was happening. Their chicken-guarding, goat-communicating, couch-supervising dogs had just intercepted a rogue herd of cattle. So they stopped yelling and noted aloud, "another fence down".

Once the herd was safely headed home, Jax performed three victory laps and began announcing his heroism to the surrounding wildlife.

I simply turned and moseyed back toward the house like a professional who had just wrapped up a brief freelance agricultural crisis response.

By the time we returned to the yard, everything was back to normal. Goats plotting. Chickens gossiping. And Jax explaining the entire operation to the flock while Marge the lame-legged chicken hopped on his back for her daily ride as she's wont to do. The amazing part? He still hasn't noticed. I think I'll let the chauffeur service continue.

Leo, (Still the alpha. Barely.)
Loosely based on some true working-canine events, filtered through Leo's "couch-potato" lens.



Desert Pet
Your Neighborhood Pet Store
Committed to Helping You and Your Pets.

facebook.com/desertpet

SHOP LOCAL
4810 E 22nd St, Tucson, AZ 85711
520.745.5158
NOW CARRYING EARTHBORN



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.

Paws Without Borders (PWB)

pawswithoutborders@gmail.com
(520) 289-0529

FAWN

I'm a 1 y/o, 52-lb. Pibble who is dog & kid friendly, potty trained, affectionate, & loves car rides. I survived being hit by a car & am healing beautifully after surgery. I'm strong on a leash but improving. Spay pending, vaccinated, chipped, & ready for a cat-free home.



HONEY

I'm a sweet, loving, cuddly companion who enjoys walks & car rides. I adore both little dogs & playful larger dogs. I'm OK with older kids but unsure about cats. I'm 2 y/o, spayed, chipped, vaccinated, heartworm negative, & professionally trained. Ask for me!



ROMEO

Hi, I'm 3-4 y/o & 67-lbs of muscle, goofiness, & devotion. I love fetch, road trips, & cuddling. I'm crate & potty trained, know basic commands, & LOVE women! No cats, small animals, puppies, or kids, please. I offer loyalty, protection, laughs, & top-tier snuggles.



Hope of Deliverance

hopeofdeliverancerescue@gmail.com,
hopeofdeliverance.org/adoption-application
(330) 647-9963

LYDIA ROSE

Hi! I'm a 2 y/o, 45lb Staffie girl! I had a great family but they moved & left me in the yard. I called next door for a family to help me. Now I'm in a great foster home & I LOVE all of my Fur-siblings, but I'm not so crazy about cats. But KIDS ARE COOL!



BUDDY

I'm Little Buddy, but my pals call me LB! I'm just under 40lbs & still a teen at only 1 y/o. I went to a home without other dogs, & we thought I'd be spoiled, but little did any of us know, I NEED doggy friends in my life! Does your dog need a buddy?



NUTELLA

Hello, my name's Nutella. I was surrendered to PetSmart with a leg sarcoma so large I could barely walk. I had to lose my leg, but I feel so much better now! My fosters call me a Nanny Dog; I'm not sure what that means, but I enjoy a comfy couch plus dogs, kids, & cats!



Cherished Tails Senior Sanctuary

Main Campus: 520.616.0171 cherishedtails@yahoo.com
http://form.jotform.com/cherishedtails/dog-application

SOCRATES

I'm a happy, friendly gal who gets along with people & other dogs of all ages & could fit into lots of different types of family situations. About 7 y/o, I'm healthy with good teeth, spayed, & current on vaxes. I'm also leash trained, crate trained & housebroken with excellent house manners. .



PRINCESS

About 8 y/o, I'm a mild tempered girl who's a tad shy & uncertain in new situations, but I warm up quickly. Good with adults & other dogs (children unknown), but I'd prefer to be your only k9. I walk well on a leash, use the dog door, do ok in a crate, & have nice house manners.



BENJAMIN

A 10 y/o boy weighing 9 lbs., I'm good on a leash, housebroken & do well in a crate or an xpen, but I also have very nice manners & am enjoying the indoor life! Friendly & sweet with everyone I meet, I love to cuddle & am good with other dogs, cats, kids & adults.

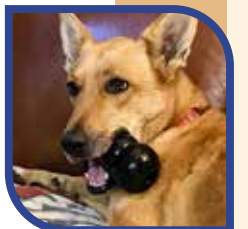


The Animal League of Green Valley (TALGV)

Adoption fee: \$125 · TALGV (Appointments 10-2 daily)
520-625-3170

SURPRISE

I'm a charming 5 y/o shepherd-mix lady who enjoys quiet evenings & snacks that "accidentally" fall on the floor. I'm a medium-energy gal – up for a walk, down for a nap, repeat. If you're kind & calm & have a spot on the couch for a sweet surprise, please call about me soon.



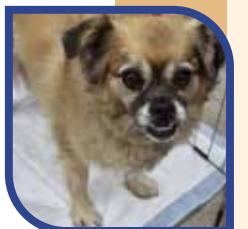
DELILAH

I'm a gentle, affectionate 3 y/o Staffie-mix girl who wants to be your walking companion to explore with. I know commands like sit, down, & place, plus I'm fully house & potty trained. I thrive with kind guidance, routine, & love. I'd be grateful for a home to help me shine.



KATIE

I'm a petite Tibetan Spaniel mix whos' about 4 y/o. Your future best friend & professional treat connoisseur, I'm an outgoing, tail-wagging social butterfly who loves people. A polite little lady, I know commands like sit, especially if snacks are involved. I'm spunky, silly, & proudly rocking an underbite that could melt the iciest heart.



Freestyle Dance with Dogs? It Just Might Be Your New Favorite Pastime!

Story by Rebecca West | Images courtesy of TMCFC



Freestyle Dance Group

It's quite popular and allows for the most creativity in all the dog sports, with the performances illustrating the long hours of training the animals have undergone. You might liken it to the human-animal bond set to music with a desire on both sides to perform.



Janet Bain and Cee Cee

include charity events at places like the Veterans Administration, Fort Huachuca, the Make-a-Wish Foundation, the United Way, Tucson Medical Center, the Boys and Girls Clubs, senior facilities, and trauma centers, among others. "We perform wherever we're needed to promote charitable causes," Bain added.

Asked about the impetus for her involvement in the activity, Bain said that in 1989, she saw a video of a dancing Doberman that captured her imagination. Then, in 2004, she and a group of six or seven other dog training enthusiasts came together and decided to learn the sport. "The training is fun, and the dogs seem to enjoy it as much as their handlers," she noted.

In addition to weekly training sessions to hone their craft for live and virtual performances, they host workshops and seminars for continued education, as well as Rally-FrEe instruction and competition, which combines the structure of rally-obedience with the novel trick behaviors of musical freestyle.

"I think Canine Freestyle provides a great opportunity for the dog and handler to experience much joy and camaraderie. There is never a dull moment! While we don't change the course of history, our performances

Founded in 2004, the Tucson Musical Canine Freestyle Club (TMCFC) is a nonprofit consisting of members who love dogs and training, with a mission to do community service featuring their dogs. If you're unfamiliar with the concept, Canine Freestyle is a form of dog obedience that combines tricks, behaviors, and obedience skills to create a musical performance. It showcases the relationship between the dog and handler while evoking a positive response from the audience.

"Our dogs are superstars," member Janet Bain declared. "Most of them have had experience with training in numerous dog sports, such as rally, obedience, tricks, agility, scent work, barn hunt, dock diving, fly ball, and other disciplines. Many of the dogs that participate in the group have titles in those sports."

While any age dog or breed can participate, one of the requirements for joining is that dogs must get along with other dogs and people and must be non-reactive. That means they can't be easily distracted, frightened by sounds or movement, or become aggressive.

They perform at many different venues. Those



Diane Dance and Flour

never fail to put a smile on the faces of those in our audience," Bain shared.

The TMCFC recently agreed to teach at the Sol Dog Lodge summer camp for kids in June. They also did a mini workshop this spring entitled "Getting Started in Freestyle" that attracted several good prospects to the club. They plan to teach a five-session class in the near future to get those teams dancing.

Speaking of instruction, the group has hosted such innovators in the sport as Carolyn Scott, Sandra Davis, Julie Flanery, and Michele Pouliot. Here's what other members have to say about their experiences with the group...

"When I'm involved with our club, I like being with friends and helping each other, bonding with my dog, watching him grow in our understanding of each other, and competing. But nothing compares to the joy and excitement that I see in people's eyes when we do our meet and greets after our dance and tricks demonstrations." Jane and Tristan

"The major attraction for us is the opportunity to interact with our community through performances. The Boys love music and tricks, so performing is a fun outlet for their creative sides. It's also a great experience working off-leash in unfamiliar venues. We especially enjoy the opportunity to meet the audience and see their smiles." Pam, Wylie, and Buzz

"Musical freestyle is a unique dog sport in that it encourages creativity and incorporates behaviors that each dog finds most enjoyable. When those factors are added to volunteerism in bringing smiles and enjoyment to senior citizens and others, it's a win-win all around!" Diane and Flour

"I started attending practices with the club. I'm learning and getting better, but so far, I enjoy the Rally-FrEe exercises more, as they are more

like the AKC Rally exercises I was already familiar with. I'm having a lot of fun there while I work to get over my shyness so I can really enjoy the dance side as well." Beth and Sammi

TMCFC is seeking new teams to join them as current members age out or move from the area, and they're willing to mentor new folks. For more information, contact Janet at either shunka415@aol.com or (520) 241-0293.

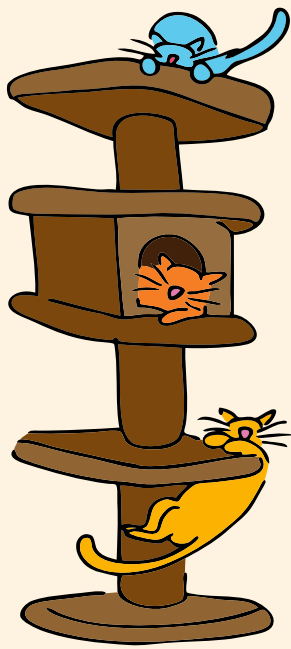
You can also visit: [Facebook.com/p/Tucson-Canine-Freestyle-100032452705992/](https://www.facebook.com/p/Tucson-Canine-Freestyle-100032452705992/)



Jane Nichols and Tristan

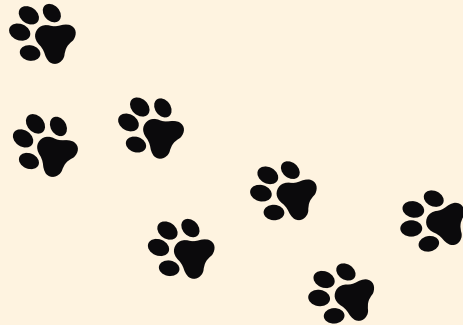


Beth Mills and Sammi



The Scratching Post: Cats for Adoption

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



Southern Arizona Cat Rescue

Website: sacatrescue.org, sacatrescue.org/contact-us, sacatrescue.org/adoption-application



ROSEMARY

I'm a 1 y/o girl who's the total package. A social butterfly, I confidently greet new friends & immediately ask for pets & chin scratches. The ultimate Velcro kitty, I'll follow you everywhere. UTD on vaxes, I'm Fiv- & Felv+, but can live with other cats with the Felv vax.



LEO

I'm a sweet, chatty, 4 y/o boy with a playful spirit & loving heart who'll happily keep you company all day. I enjoy interactive toys, chasing lasers, & climbing to the top of my cat tree to observe my realm below like the little king I am. After playtime I'm all about cuddles & relaxing near you. UTD on vaxes, I'm Felv- & Fiv+.



CLEOPATRA

I'm a 6.5 y/o girl who enjoys wand toys, catnip, & basking in sunny spots while bird-watching from a window. I prefer being near humans rather than on top of them but warm up beautifully with patience. I love attention once I feel secure. Best as an only cat, no small kids, please.

SOS Cat Rescue AZ

info@SOScatrescueAZ.org,
soscaterescueaz.org/adoption-application
(520) 445-3889



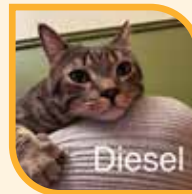
MERLIN

A snuggly 3 y/o boy with a great personality, I initially needed a little extra care due to a diabetes diagnosis but I've handled my twice-daily insulin like a pro. Full of love, charm & resilience, I'm looking for a home experienced with diabetic cats or excited to learn how to care for me & help me thrive!



SILVER

I'm an affectionate 3 y/o girl with a big voice, an even bigger heart, & a knack for charming everyone I meet. I'm pre-diabetic but do great on my special diet with no insulin needed! I'd love a home that understands my needs & that would welcome my brother Merlin—we balance each other out & make a wonderful pair!



DIESEL

A 3 y/o guy with a shy streak, I like to watch the world from a cozy hiding spot, taking my time to feel safe. Once I trust you, I transform into a playful, chatty, & affectionate companion who loves a good window view & a warm spot on the bed. I'm happiest in a patient home giving me the space to bloom.

Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter & Sanctuary

5278 E. 21st St., Tucson 85711 www.hermitagecatshelter.org
Adoption application: shelterluv.com/matchme/adopt/HERM/Cat
(App) hermitagecatshelter.org



JACKIE CHAN

Hi! I'm Jackie Chan, & I'm 4 y/o. I would love to be your action hero! Sliding in for snuggles, eating heroic treats, & being a best friend with humor! I'm sweet, snuggly & best of all, adorable! If you have sunny snoozing spots, I'll bring the jumps & purrs! Come meet me today!



NASTAR

I'm Nastar, & I just turned 3. I was recently returned when my human moved, but I'm ready to find a forever person now. I'm a sweet boy, occasionally known to enjoy conversation, who would love to cuddle & adores treats! Do you have any to share?



QUEENIE

I'm Queenie, & I would love to celebrate my 3rd birthday with a family! Not for the faint of heart, I'm a Calico Queen! I love laps & cuddles but I don't want to share my human with other felines. Come meet me & see if I'm not just perfect! (I am!)

The Animal League of Green Valley (TALGV)

Adoption fee: \$75 • TALGV (Appointments 10-2 daily) • 520-625-3170



HENRY

I'm a 1 y/o gray & white fella who came to the shelter when my family decided they had too many pets. I enjoy petting, head scratches, & being brushed. What would suit me best is a regular home with a person who'll help me continue to let my better nature shine through!



BRUCE

I'm a friendly 1 y/o boy with a handsome orange tabby coat. When dad moved to a place that didn't allow pets, I came to the shelter. I can be shy at first, so I'm looking for a special person who needs a cuddly feline to share their bed with. Hint!



ANDREW

I'm a handsome 13 y/o declawed Seal Point Siamese gentleman who's sometimes independent & prefers being an only pet. I don't get along with other cats & never been around dogs or kids. If you're looking for a senior kitty with Vet Care Support for Life, please call about meeting me.

Professional Dog Trainer & Doggie Day Care



Our mission is to support and help you better understand, train, and communicate with your pets.



(520) 403-1401
Hours: 7am-7pm
4767 N. First Ave
CompleteCanineTucson.com

GROOMINGDALES *Pet Salon* Celebrating 25 Years!

Doggie Day Care • Gentle Expert Handling • Nail Clipping

DOGS & CATS - ALL BREEDS
The Professional Pet Salon • Veterinarian Recommended

520-292-9436 | 4759 N. First Ave
Tues - Sat: 8am - 4pm (Appointment Requested)

www.groomingdalestucson.com



KINDRED SPIRITS Pet Services

Compassionate, Gentle & Respectful

- ♥ Home Euthanasia with Dr. Kellie Barrett
- ♥ Office Comfort Room Euthanasia
- ♥ Quality of Life Consultations
- ♥ Aquamation Aftercare & Memorials
- ♥ Grief Support Groups & Individual Companionship



Learn more: www.kindredspirits.pet

(520) 367-5222



FOR WHEN THE UNEXPECTED HAPPENS



Tucson Veterinary **URGENT CARE**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 10A-10P
365 DAYS A YEAR

520.327.5624

info@tucsonveturgentcare.com



Got Tough Pet Stains?

P.U.R.T.®
Pet Urine Removal
Treatment



Don't just treat urine, remove it!

ChemDry®
Junior's Chem-Dry

Call today!
Free Consultations

520-420-4429



Parvovirus in Shelter Dogs: A Persistent and Preventable Threat

Story by Kim Eisele

Canine parvovirus, commonly known as parvo, remains one of the most dangerous diseases faced by animal shelters. Highly contagious and often fatal without prompt treatment, it spreads easily in environments where dogs are housed closely together and often arrive with unknown medical histories. Despite these challenges, strong prevention and response protocols can significantly reduce its impact.



A recent case illustrates both the severity of parvo and the hope that can come with swift intervention. On March 7, 2026, an elderly woman while out for a walk in Green Valley discovered a box on the side of the road containing six abandoned puppies. She immediately brought them to The Animal League of Green Valley. Initially stable, the puppies quickly declined. Within two days, they developed bloody, foul-smelling, mucous-filled diarrhea—classic signs of parvo.



Staff immediately tested the puppies, confirming a strong positive result. They were rushed to an emergency veterinary hospital for intensive care. Despite the best efforts of both shelter staff and veterinarians, two of the puppies did not survive. However, the remaining four responded to treatment, regained strength, and are now healthy, energetic puppies.

Compounding the situation, cross contamination occurred within the shelter, and another litter tested positive for parvo. This underscored how easily the virus can spread, even with precautions in place. The affected puppies were quickly transported for treatment, and thanks to early intervention, all of them survived and recovered.

Parvo, caused by canine parvovirus type 2 (CPV-2), attacks rapidly dividing cells, particularly in the intestinal tract.

Symptoms include vomiting, severe diarrhea, lethargy, and dehydration. Puppies are especially vulnerable, and without treatment, the disease can be fatal. The virus also suppresses the immune system, making infected dogs more susceptible to secondary infections, which can further complicate recovery and increase the need for intensive medical care.



Shelters face unique challenges in controlling parvo. The virus can survive in the environment for long periods and spreads through both direct and indirect contact, including contaminated surfaces like kennels, bowls, and clothing. Stress, overcrowding, and limited vaccination history further increase susceptibility. Even well-managed shelters can experience outbreaks, which is why constant vigilance and strict adherence to protocols are necessary.

Prevention remains the most effective defense. Immediate vaccination upon intake is critical, along with booster schedules for puppies. Rigorous sanitation using disinfectants proven to kill parvo, such as properly diluted bleach, is essential. Staff training also plays a key role, ensuring that everyone handling animals understands how to prevent transmission. Early detection, rapid testing, and isolation of infected dogs help prevent widespread outbreaks.

Community awareness is another important factor. Many cases of parvo originate outside the shelter system, particularly in unvaccinated populations. Educating the public about the importance of routine vaccinations and responsible pet care can help reduce the number of cases entering shelters in the first place. Outreach programs, low-cost vaccine clinics, and partnerships with local veterinarians can make preventative care more accessible to underserved communities.

The story of these puppies highlights both the devastating nature of parvo and the importance of vigilance and rapid response. While the loss of two puppies is heartbreaking, the recovery of the others—including an entire second litter—demonstrates what is possible with dedicated care. It also reinforces the need for ongoing support for shelters, including funding, volunteers, and community involvement, to ensure they can continue this lifesaving work.

Through continued education, prevention, and strong protocols, shelters can protect vulnerable dogs and improve outcomes, giving even the most at-risk animals a chance at a healthy future.

Why Bathing Matters in Hot Weather

Story by Meganne Carpenter,
Regional Scout for Camp Bow Wow Tucson and Tucson East

When you think about summer activities, what comes to mind? Days at the beach, lounging by the pool, or getting outside with friends?

Nothing beats a cool shower after a hot day, and the same goes for your dog. A bath leaves them feeling lighter, cooler, and more comfortable. It's their version of a summer reset, and it's why routine bathing is especially important during the warmer months.

1. Removes dirt, allergens, and oils. In the summer, dogs pick up more dust, pollen, sweat, and grime from increased outdoor play. This buildup can cause itchiness and skin irritation, especially in the heat. A good bath helps wash it all away and keeps their skin comfortable.

2. Helps regulate body temperature. A clean coat allows for better airflow, helping your dog stay cooler. Dirt, mats, and excess oils can trap heat against their skin, making it harder for them to regulate their temperature. Regular bathing removes that buildup so they can stay comfortable and enjoy their time outside.

3. Supports coat health and prevents odor. Humidity and natural oils can quickly lead to that "wet dog" smell. Regular bathing helps keep your pup fresh, whether they've been at the dog park or spending the day at Camp. Keep in mind that how often you bathe your dog depends on their breed, coat type, and lifestyle. Your vet or groomer can help you find the right schedule.

4. Reduces the risk of skin issues. Moisture from swimming or sweating can get trapped under your dog's fur, leading to irritation or hot spots.

Bathing, along with proper drying, helps prevent these issues. It also gives you a chance to spot pests like ticks and fleas early, helping protect both your dog and your home.

5. It just feels better! Just like us, dogs feel better after rinsing off a long day of summer fun. Their coats can trap dirt, debris, and even small bugs, so regular baths help keep them clean and comfortable.

Make sure bath time is a positive experience by watching for signs of stress, like yawning, lip licking, or trying to escape. Take breaks and offer reassurance as needed.

Grooming tools and extra services like nail trimming or coat care can be a lot to manage at home. If you want to keep your dog clean, comfortable, and on a consistent routine this summer, working with a trusted groomer can make all the difference.

For more information visit campbowwow.com/tucson-east or call (520) 655-3647



FIRST DAY **free!***

- ALL-DAY PLAY
- LIVE WEBCAMS
- CPR & FIRST AID CERTIFIED TEAM
- LARGE INDOOR & TURF OUTDOOR PLAY YARDS
- FLEXIBLE CHECK-IN/OUT
- NO SUBSCRIPTIONS OR HIDDEN FEES



CAMP BOWWOW
dog daycare | boarding | grooming

2 convenient locations!

campbowwow.com/tucson
campbowwow.com/tucson-east

*Offer valid only at mentioned locations. Camper must meet entrance requirements. New customers only. Free first day valid only for interview day. Other restrictions apply.

Training Up, Up, and Away: Flying with Your Dog

Story by Kari Cleland, The Complete Canine

Summer is right around the corner. Many of us will be planning our vacations, camping, visiting family, or traveling. Have you ever wondered how you can fly with your pet?

Flying with Your Dog

Start by checking with the airline you plan to fly, as each carrier has its own rules and regulations. In general, pets must be at least 8 weeks old for domestic travel and 6 months old for international flights. Space for pets is limited, so it's important to book early to ensure availability on your desired travel dates. Most airlines also charge a pet travel fee, typically ranging from \$75 to \$150, depending on the carrier.

Your dog must fit comfortably in a soft-sided carrier no larger than 18 x 11 x 11 inches, allowing them to sit up and turn around easily. The combined weight of your pet and the carrier cannot exceed 20–25 pounds. While on the plane, your dog must remain fully secured inside the carrier, though they may be taken out within the airport. Dogs over 20 pounds can travel as cargo in temperature-controlled, pressurized, and monitored compartments. Be sure to check with your airline for their specific policies.

Make sure to train your dog to be comfortable in their carrier well before your trip. Desensitize your dog by placing treats inside the carrier so your dog associates it with positive experiences. Once they are comfortable going in and out for treats, try closing the carrier briefly before letting them out. Next, practice short car rides in the carrier, gradually increasing the ride until it approaches the length of your flight.

Traveling with a pet can be stressful, so have your veterinarian check that your dog is healthy enough to fly. If your pet tends to get anxious, your vet may recommend medication. Airlines suggest you do not feed your pet 4 to 5 hours prior to boarding.



Cam, a service dog, is tucked under the seat in front of his handler

Buying a Seat for your Dog

You cannot buy a regular seat for your dog on a U.S. commercial airline. Service dogs are allowed to travel in the cabin with their handler, and some airlines may provide extra floor space for them, but even service dogs typically do not sit in a passenger seat.

Several airlines cater to both humans and pets, including Bark Air, K9 Jet, RetrievalAir, and JSX. You will need to purchase separate

tickets for yourself and your dog. Prices and airports they serve vary, and many of these airlines fly into smaller regional airports rather than major hubs. This may require additional travel to reach your final destination, adding both time and cost to your trip, so be sure to plan ahead.

Flying with a Service Dog

Fully trained service dogs that have been taught a task relating to a disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, can fly in the cabin. Some of the rules stated above may not apply to them, for example, size and weight restrictions. Service dogs must be able to tuck under the seat in front of you or between your legs. They cannot encroach on the passenger next to you, and so an extra seat may need to be purchased for a large service dog for extra floor space.

Emotional support animals and therapy dogs do not qualify as service animals and therefore must fly as pets under the restrictions outlined above.

Packing Your Dog's Luggage

In addition to their carrier, make sure you pack some food, a water bowl, poop bags and pee pads, and their favorite toy. The change in pressure on take off affects your dog just like it does you, so bring a small toy or treat, like a collagen stick or bully treat, for them to chew on. Most importantly, make sure to have a luggage tag with your name, phone number, and address on the carrier. Have copies of your dog's health record with your own documents, and check to see if the airline requires a health certificate.

Where Can My Dog Go Potty?

Most airports have pet relief stations. You can ask the airline representative where they are located. It goes without saying that no dog can relieve themselves anywhere in the plane, and you don't want your dog relieving itself in their carrier. Make sure you give your dog a chance to potty in the pet relief stations in the airport before and after your flight.

From Tucson to Beyond!

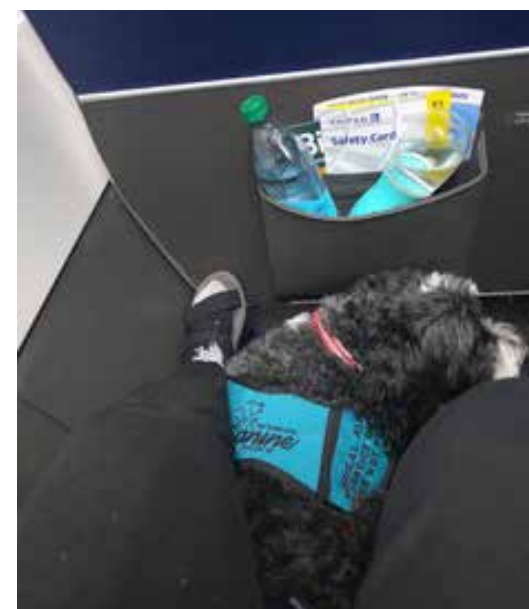
To make your summer vacation more pleasant for you and your fur baby, it's best to plan ahead and keep their comfort in mind. Have a great vacation!

For more information contact:

The Complete Canine completecaninetucson@gmail.com



Mocha fits perfectly in her airline-approved carrier



Porter, an Aussiedoodle, lays comfortably between his owners' feet

Pet Friendly Patios

Serving Tucson for 37 Years.



Eclectic
cafe

Fresh. Food. Fast.

7053 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

885-2842

www.eclecticcafetucson.com

Mon - Fri: 11 am-9 pm

Sat: 8 am-9 pm • Sun: 8 am-8 pm

Shaded, Dog Friendly Patio

Weekend Breakfast • Lunch • Nightly Specials • Reservations for +5



BELLA'S GELATO SHOPPE

Your pup deserves

a

PUPPACHINO!

We've got that

Tue - Thur

1 pm - 9 pm

Fri - Sat

1 pm - 10 pm

Sunday 1 pm - 9 pm

Closed Monday



(520) 954-2843

2648 E Speedway Blvd Tucson AZ

Baja
cafe



THE ULTIMATE DOG LOVERS CAFE

Please join us for breakfast, brunch or lunch at Baja Cafe!

We love having your furry friends join us on our pet friendly patios! We are a scratch kitchen locally owned & operated. Cheers!

Check out our website: www.bajacafetucson.com

Open Daily 6am-2 pm

7002 E Broadway & 2970 N Campbell

BOTTLE SHOP | WINE | BEER | CHARCUTERIE

WAGS, WINE,
& A GOOD TIME!

TINAJAS
— Wine & Beer —

TUESDAY - THURSDAY 4-9PM

FRIDAY - SATURDAY 4-11PM

SUNDAY 4-9PM



6960 E SUNRISE DR | TINAJASWINE.COM | FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK @TINAJASWINE

Tribute Kimberly Walker, A Life Too Short

Story by Rebecca West

Tucson animal rescue and welfare advocates were saddened in late February to learn that one of their own had passed unexpectedly. That stalwart of the community was Kimberly Walker, founder of Pima Paws for Life. Her unexpected death has left a hole in the fabric of the rescue/welfare community for many and led to an outpouring of shared remembrances, one of which we wanted to include here. Our thoughts go out to her family and close friends...

~ Nancy Young Wright

Director, Rescue Me Tucson/Rescue Me Marana Pet Adoption Center

I was fortunate to know and work with Kimberly Walker for the past 12 years and to call her my friend. Kim opened her heart, her home, and the Pima Paws for Life (PPFL) shelter space when it mattered the most. We first worked together at PACC, then PPFL, and last at the Rescue Me Marana Pet Adoption Center, where we partnered to help PPFL animals be seen more easily and adopted. Her passing is a huge loss—and one we've only begun to measure.

Kimberly gave refuge to the community's battered, starving, abused, lost, abandoned, or just plain unwanted animals. She and her staff found dozens of animals left in boxes or tied to the gate of the PPFL shelter over the years. They never turned them away. They just brought them in, assessed them, provided love, good food, enrichment, and veterinary care.

She helped the scared, the starving, the injured, the discarded. She was careful to provide all she could for an animal, even if it took away attention from her own needs. She was a creative thinker and problem-solver, so I wasn't surprised to hear, after she passed, that she had a hidden artistic side I never had a chance to see.

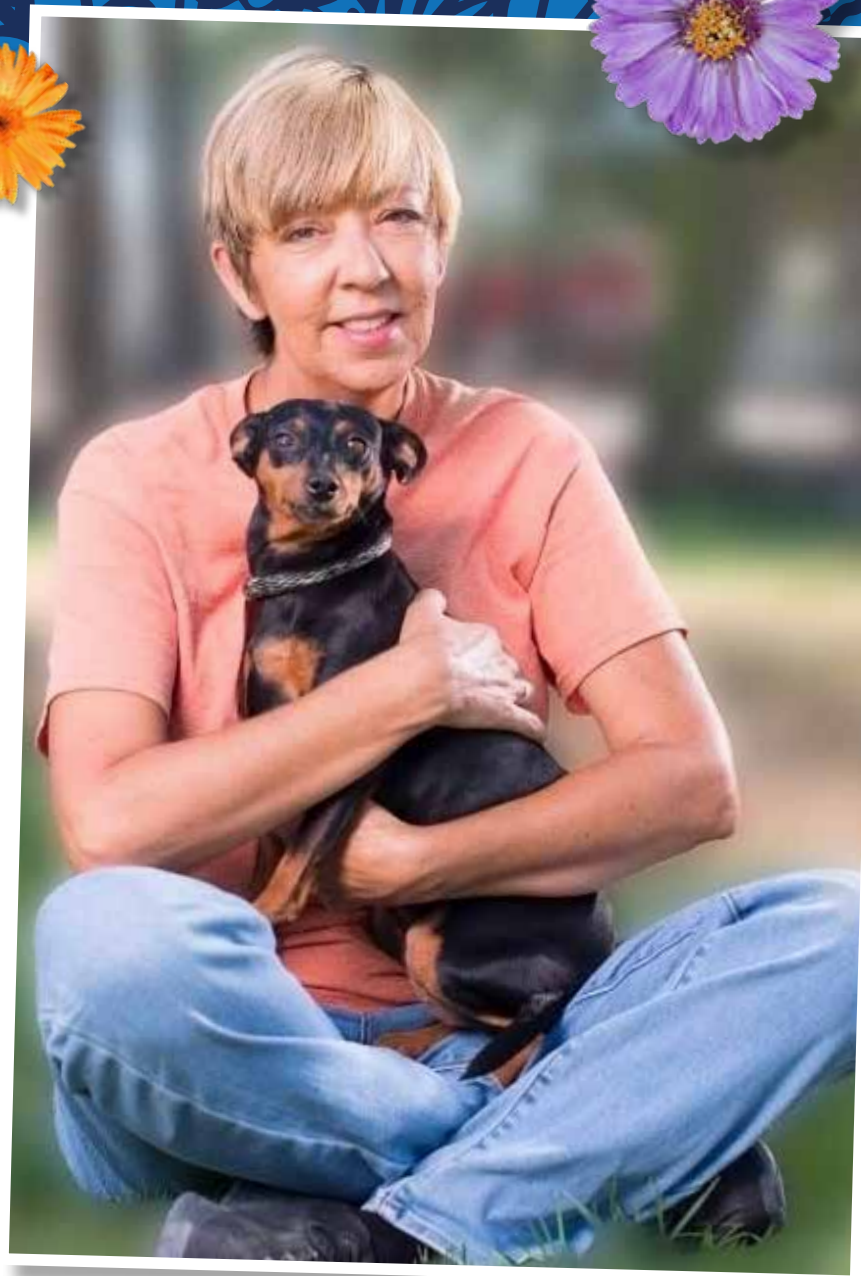
Kim specialized in medical cases. In the animals coming in on a wing and a prayer, their bodies injured from fights, human harm, vehicle strikes, or disease. She took chances others didn't want to take, and she fought hard for every animal in her care. Kim said "Yes" when others said "No." She took cases sight unseen from rural areas and took the last ones on a transport after others had taken their first choice.

Saying "Yes" to any rescue animal, but especially to the most vulnerable ones that Kim accepted, carries an inherent risk. There is no way of knowing what you might be taking on—what the medical costs might be, or if the animal might ultimately be adoptable. Mostly, as she said, it was more about the time involved with a particular case than anything else.

Kim and I would meet up at the PPFL shelter off Ruthrauff and I-10—often after hours in the dark—where she received the broken, the bleeding, and the scared ones, and get to work. Kim was fun to be with even when the hour was late and the work was dirty, dangerous, and hard. She had a clever, understated sense of humor and could defuse tension and frustration with her wry observations.

Kim kept PPFL going through sheer will, grit, and determination. I doubt she ever took a real vacation since the doors to PPFL first opened. This kind of devotion comes with not only a financial price but an emotional and physical price as well. If you are in this business, you know the work can absolutely shred your soul, and it can also lift it up, sometimes within mere minutes.

When Kim and I last spoke, we talked about how we might rescue more cats. I had called her for advice about a cat colony that was losing its caretaker. She shared



Kimberly Walker; Photo provided by Alicia Carrizoza

a dream she had to create a larger space for community cats. I offered to do some research and told her to count me in on the plans. We discussed other people to call for help for the colony, and then she rang off. We promised to get back in touch soon. It was mere days later that the call came in that Kim had been airlifted to Banner ER after a brain aneurysm, where she fought for almost three weeks to survive.

There will be more cases to be handled. More stories that are familiar yet different. More sweet but confused faces to meet. Those of us who knew and worked with Kimberly can take solace in knowing she did what she was born to do. When the hour grows late and we are weary, we can gain inspiration from Kim's example and make it a few more miles until daybreak to finish the journey.

Kim, until we meet again, thank you. Thank you for being my friend and for being a constant presence that your friends, the community, and, most of all, the animals could count on. For mentoring. For teaching. For your strength. For saying "Yes" when others said "No" and for the constant love and courage you poured out on so many. We will miss you.





Pet Directory

& PET FRIENDLY ESTABLISHMENTS



ANIMAL COMMUNICATION

Animal Soul Connection
Alison Martin
 (308) 391.1540
 alison@animalsoulconnection.com
 www.animalsoulconnection.com
 Animal Communication, Pet Grief
 Support, Energy Therapy

AT HOME EUTHANASIA

Kindred Spirits Pet Services
 3544 N Romero Rd. Ste 112, Tucson
 (520) 367-5222
 www.kindredspirits.pet
 info@kindredspirits.pet
 Compassionate, Gentle & Respectful
 End-of-Life Pet Care. Hospice,
 Home Euthanasia, Aquamation

BOARDING

Camp Bow Wow
East Tucson
 7810 E Broadway Blvd
 520-655-DOGS (3647)
 www.campbowwow.com/tucson-east
Tucson:
 16725 N Oracle Rd.
 Tucson, AZ 85739
 520-742-6476
 www.campbowwow.com/tucson

Plaza Del Oro Shopping Center:
 6468 North Oracle Rd., Tucson
 Premier Doggie Day Care & Boarding
 With Indoor and Outdoor Play yards

Camp JimmyDog
Cage-free Boarding & Daycare
 in a home environment. Locations
 in TUCSON, VAIL & SAHUARITA
 Providing the finest care, a wonderful
 experience for your dogs, and peace
 of mind for you for 20 years! Call today
 to discuss your needs and schedule
 a meet & greet 520-710-6667 or
 Campjimmydog@gmail.com

CARPET & TILE CLEANING

Junior's Chem Dry
 520-420-4429
 We remove those tough pet stains
 that other companies can't!
 PURT (Pet Urine Removal Treatment)

Zerorez Tucson
 520-441-2441
 Tucson's highest rated cleaner
 for over 10 years - 4.9 Rated!
 No residue = cleaner longer

CHARITABLE ANIMAL NON-PROFITS

Cody's Friends Charity
 Donations welcome codysfriends.org
 Supporting people in need with pets,
 human services, animal rescue groups
 & Shelters in AZ since 2011

NON-PROFITS (continued)

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

No Kill Pima County
 P.O.Box 86231, Tucson
 (520) 477-7401
 Nokillpimacounty.org
 Resources for your pets and community cats

DOGGIE DAY CARE

Camp Bow Wow
East Tucson: 7810 E Broadway Blvd
 520-655-DOGS (3647)
 www.campbowwow.com/tucson-east
Tucson: 16725 N Oracle Rd., Tucson,
 AZ 85739 520-742-6476
 www.campbowwow.com/tucson
Plaza Del Oro Shopping Center:
 6468 North Oracle Rd., Tucson
 Premier Doggie Day Care & Boarding
 With Indoor and Outdoor Play yards

END OF LIFE CARE & AFTERLIFE CARE

Kindred Spirits Pet Services
 3544 N Romero Rd. Ste 112, Tucson
 (520) 367-5222
 www.kindredspirits.pet
 info@kindredspirits.pet
 Compassionate, Gentle &
 Respectful End-of-Life Pet Care.
 Hospice, Home Euthanasia, Aquamation

GROOMING

Camp Bow Wow East Tucson
 7810 E Broadway Blvd
 520-655-DOGS (3647)
 www.campbowwow.com/tucson-east
Tucson:
 16725 N Oracle Rd. Tucson, AZ 85739
 520-742-6476
 www.campbowwow.com/tucson
 (Camp Bow Wow continued)
Plaza Del Oro Shopping Center:
 6468 North Oracle Rd., Tucson
 Premier Doggie Day Care & Boarding
 With Indoor and Outdoor Play yards

Groomingdales Pet Salon
 4759 N. 1st. Ave., Tucson
 (520) 292-9436
 groomingdales.tucson.com
 Providing caring, knowledgeable
 grooming And day boarding for over 20
 years

Velvet Bow Pet Grooming
NE Tucson:
 8963 E Tanque Verde Rd Ste 191
 (520) 332-6255
East Tucson:
 2406 S. Harrison Rd
 (520) 999-2887
 www.velvetbowpetgrooming.com

GROOMING - MOBILE

Velvet Bow Pet Grooming
 Tucson, AZ: By Appointment
 (520) 334-8333
 www.velvetbowpetgrooming.com
 Experienced in all breeds of dogs & cats

PET FOOD & SUPPLIES

Desert Pet
 4810 E. 22nd St., Tucson
 (520) 745-5158
 Over 30 years – all your pets needs
 Boarding for birds & small animals.
 Reptile care – Quality food & products

PET-FRIENDLY RESTAURANTS

Baja Cafe
East Tucson:
 7002 E Broadway Blvd
 (520) 495-4772
West Tucson:
 2970 N Campbell Ave
 (520) 344-7369
 Get your Baja on!
 The best meals in Tucson

Bella's Gelato
 2648 E. Speedway, Tucson
 520-954-2843
 www.bellasgelato.com
 We have cool, delicious treats for
 you and free pup cups for your pup!
 Family owned and operated since 2015!

Eclectic Cafe
 For Details See Ad on Page 19
 www.eclecticcafetucson.com
 Serving Tucson for 37 Years

Piazza Gavi
 5415 N. Kolb Rd., Tucson
 (520) 577-1099
 gavicucina.com
 Best Italian Food! Dog-friendly patio,
 though humans must be kept on a leash

Tinajas Wine & Beer
 520-614-8808
 6960 E Sunrise Dr, 160
 Tucson, AZ 85750
 Enjoy wine on our patio
 Dogs Welcome!

PET LOSS GRIEF SUPPORT

Animal Soul Connection
Alison Martin 308.391.1540
 alison@animalsoulconnection.com
 www.animalsoulconnection.com
 Providing compassionate grief support
 before, during and after your loss. You are
 not alone.

PET PHOTOGRAPHY

C. Eaton Photography, LLC
 (520) 440-2167
 Email: ceatonphotography@gmail.com
 ceatonphotography.com
 They are not just pets. They are your
 family! We capture your precious memories.

PET SITTERS / DOG WALKERS

Paws n' Critters
 520-609-7097 Call or Text
 www.pawsnccritters.com
 info@pawsnccritters.com
 Award winning customer service!
 Established in 2009. Lic, Bonded & Ins
 & BBB Accredited

PuraVida
 (520) 954-8896
 www.puravidapetcare.com
 info@puravidapet.com Our culture of
 excellence guarantees professional,
 convenient, reliable, and trustworthy
 pet-sitting and dog-walking services
 that ensure your non-human family
 members stay healthy, happy, and safe
 while you're away. Locally owned and
 operated. Licensed, bonded, insured,
 Pet CPR/First Aid-certified. Ask for
 Christine

Ray's Pet Care
 520-213-0500 Call/Text
 www.rayspetcare.com
 Pet sitting for all species. Dog walking.
 Certified positive dog trainer. Woman
 owned.

SERVICE DOG TRAINING

Ability Dogs
 75 S. Montego Drive Tucson
 (520) 326-3412
 www.handi-dogs.org
 Tucson's only ADI affiliate for
 service dog training

SHELTERS / RESCUES

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

Pima Animal Care Center
Ajo Substation
 1259 Well Rd., Ajo
 (520) 387-7502
 pimaanimalcare.org
 Pima County's only safety net
 shelter for pets In need

**The Animal League
of Green Valley**
 1600 W. Duval Mine Rd., Green Valley
 (520) 625-3170 Visit: talgv.org
 A private, donation funded, all
 volunteer, 501(c)(3) non profit





Pet Directory

& PET FRIENDLY ESTABLISHMENTS



SPECIALTY SHOP

Holistic Animal Care

Proven Results since 1982. Natural, human-grade, local Supplements, Herbal and Homeopathic Remedies to prevent or reverse thousands of issues. Includes unique foods, treats, toys and supplies. Mention you saw us in The Tucson Dog for 25% Off Azmira's YUCCA INTENSIVE!

SPORTS MEDICINE

SPARCC Sports Medicine, Rehabilitation and Concussion Center

5199 E Farness Dr, Tucson 85712 & 1640 E River Rd, Ste. 215, Tucson AZ 85718 (520) 222-8076, www.sparcc.com Helping Tucson's Pets by Healing Their People. Tucson's go-to multidisciplinary clinic for concussion, musculoskeletal, and sports injury care. We believe when people thrive, their four-legged companions thrive too. Whether you're chasing tail-wagging adventures or recovering from life's ruff patches, our expert team blends advanced and comprehensive care with compassion. We're proud to help make active lifestyles paw-sible for you and your best friend.

TRAINING

Always Faithful Dog Training

520-524-6986
Be the leader of your pack and build a relationship based on trust and respect!

The Complete Canine

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

VETERINARY

Tucson Veterinary Urgent Care

4832 E Speedway Blvd Tucson AZ 85712 520-327-5624
No Appointment Necessary! Urgent Care for when the unexpected happens

VETERINARY TECH PROGRAMS

Pima Medical Institute

Start your career in veterinary medicine! Veterinary Assistant & Vet Tech Programs Focusing on in-office procedures, animal nursing, laboratory testing, diagnostic imaging, surgical procedures and many other vital elements to a veterinary assistant's role. (800) 477-7462
<https://www.pmi.edu/on-campus-programs/certificate/veterinary-assistant/>
At Pima Medical Institute, your success is our priority!

The Tucson **DOG**
DIGITAL DOG

Wrigley

Your Rescue Pet Could Be The Face of The Next Digital Dog Ad

Sign Up for the Digital Version of The Tucson Dog and you're automatically entered in the "Digital Dog" drawing (one drawing per issue)

thetucsondog.com/vip-list/

All creatures large and small qualify



The face says angel.
The floors say *call Zerorez.*

CARPET CLEANING

Starts At Just

\$33

Per Room

TILE & GROUT

Cleaning

\$60

Per Room

"As always they did a great job!"

- Cheri I.

zerorez®

zeroreztucson.com | (520) 441-2441

Minimums apply. Call for details.

Animal RESOURCE GUIDE

Area Shelters

Ajo Substation

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

Animal League of Green Valley

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

The Hermitage Cat Rescue & Sanctuary

Onsite Adoptions: Tues-Sat 10a-5p
5278 E. 21st St.
Tucson 85711
(520) 571-7839
www.hermitagecatshelter.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

Pathways For Paws

501c3 Animal welfare advocates dedicated to the rescue and adoption of dogs. Making changes today for a better future for pets.
pathwaysforpaws@yahoo.com
Text: Stefanie Seitz | 520-444-7803
www.pathwaysforpaws.com
www.pathwaysforpaws.com/meet-our-dogs/ Our mission: To offer low-cost vaccines and microchips to our community, while educating and promoting the importance of spaying and neutering.
www.pathwaysforpaws.com/clinics/

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

Pima Animal Care Center

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

Area Shelters (continued)

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

Local Rescues

Animal Rescue Foundation Tucson

ARFTucson@Gmail.com
(520) 319-9292

Arizona Basset Hound Rescue

Non-profit animal welfare organization dedicated to finding permanent homes for Basset Hounds and Bloodhounds
P.O. Box 32594 Phoenix, AZ 85064
602-539-0611

Arizona Boston Terrier Rescue, Inc (AZBTR)

Dedicated to promoting humane treatment through rescue, rehabilitation and re-homing, education of owners on responsible dog ownership, & education of the public on the Boston Terrier breed.
Serving all of AZ azbtrrescue.org
info@azbtrrescue.org

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

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

Local Rescues (continued)

Paws Without Borders (PWB)

Rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome dogs
(520) 289-0549
pawswithoutborders.org/contact-us
pawswithoutbordersus@gmail.com



Marley

Portuguese Water Dog Rescue

pwdcarescue.org
Sharon Rollins 520-603-9345

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 · www.solraz.org
SouthwestOasisLabRescue@gmail.com

Local Rescues (continued)

Tucson's Cause For Canines

(520) 283-3423
TucsonCFC@gmail.com
facebook.com/TucsonCFC/
www.tucsoncauseforcanines.org

Senior Pet Rescue & Hospice

Old Souls Animal Rescue and Retirement Home

501c3 nonprofit organization that takes in geriatric, special needs, and hospice animals: dogs, cats, tortoises, and farm animals. Volunteer, visit, or donate.
Contact www.oldsouls.org, and on social media. You can also visit their Airbnb airbnb.com/h/old-souls-animal-rescue-farm-retreat which includes a one hour hands-on personal tour of the rescue!

Tucson Cold Wet Noses

info@tucsoncoldwetnoses.com
www.tucsoncoldwetnoses.com

Tucson Rescue Now Adoption Store

4752 E Grant Rd Tucson 85712
(520) 965-1911
info@tucsonrescuenow.org

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

Animal RESOURCE GUIDE

Cat Rescues *(continued)*

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

Equine 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

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

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

Wildhorse Ranch Rescue
Gilbert, AZ (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

Farm Animal Rescues

Aimee's Farm Animal Sanctuary
We rescue, rehabilitate, re-home farm
animals in need while creating a healing
environment for differently abled humans.
aimeesfarmanimalsanctuary.org
aimeesanctuary@gmail.com
(480) 539-4245

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

Reptile Rescues

Rex's Neighborhood
501(c)(3) bearded dragon rescue, we
specializing in rehabilitation of special
needs, sick and neglected bearded
dragons. We take surrenders and adopt
out locally. Visit: rexsneighborhood.org
520-990-3532
rexsneighborhood@gmail.com

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

Therapeutic/Service Animals

Gabriel's Angels
www.gabrielsangels.org
520-248-8497
Pet Therapy animal helping children

Sunshine Therapy Animals
4651 N 1st Ave Ste 200, Tucson
jackie@lapancollegeclub.org
www.lapansunshinefoundation.org
520-336-712

Vaccinations/ Microchips

Pathways For Paws
501c3 Animal welfare advocates dedicat-
ed to the rescue and adoption of dogs.
Making changes today for a better future
for pets.
pathwaysforpaws@yahoo.com
Text: Stefanie Seitz | 520-444-7803
www.pathwaysforpaws.com
www.pathwaysforpaws.com/meet-our-dogs/
*Our mission: To offer low-cost vaccines
and microchips to our community, while
educating and promoting the importance of
spaying and neutering.*
www.pathwaysforpaws.com/clinics/

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Pima Animal Care Center
4000 N. Silverbell Rd., Tucson • (520) 724-5900

Pima County Pet Licensing • (520) 724-5969

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

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

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

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



Tell 'em the Tucson Dog sent you!

LET OUR ADVERTISING
PARTNERS KNOW YOU FOUND THEM IN THE
TUCSON DOG MAGAZINE





I NEED BOOTS ON THE GROUND!

Did you know...?



- **Hot summer pavement in Tucson burns my poor paws! So, I need dog boots! Do you have some to spare? We would love small, medium, or large dog booties.**



- **Right now, we also have a call for tick and flea collars or drops. Folks on the reservation and in rural areas are in need, especially this time of year.**



- **Next time you're at your favorite thrifting or dollar store, grab a leash, collar or food bowl to donate!**



- **This is puppy and kitty season ... please think about donating soft food for our hungry little babies.**



- **Businesses: show you care! ... SAAFB can provide a donation box to your store, office or organization's lobby.**

- **Volunteer: we always are looking for good grantwriters!**



Walk-in donations are welcome! And you can mail donations to: SAAFB, 4444 E. Grant Rd, Suite 116, Tucson, AZ, 85712

We thank you for everything you do!