This Prescott

July/August 2016

Cats & Horses Too!

A Quad-Cities publication dedicated to promoting the human/animal bond

COVER STORY

Much Ado About Diminutive Dogs Pg. 9

FEATURED

Special Story : Military Working Dog Chrach Retires Pg. 14

> Woofstock 2016 Recap Pg. 22

Rescue News: United Animal Friends & The Courage to Wish Pg. 38



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"Best Care for your Best Friend"



"I have enjoyed being a veterinarian for 20 years now, because I get to work with people who **love** their pets and do my best to help their "babies" live long and happy lives. " - Dr. Dana Frank



"I became a veterinarian to give a voice to the voiceless and to help give our pets a **happy** healthy life. They are family and they help make our lives complete."-Dr. Sarah Glenn

"I wanted to be able to help my sick cat when I was in 6th Grade so I decided that I would become a Veterinarian.(I wasn't aware at that time that there was a Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.... I suspect my letter to attend must have been lost by an unreliable owl.) I do wish I had a magic wand some days, but seeing pets recover from injuries and illness is about as MAGICAL as it gets."—Dr. Sandra Rogers



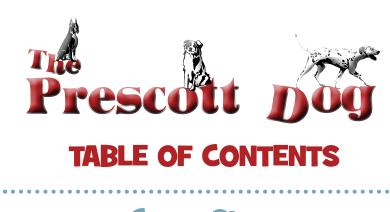


"It was a lifelong **dream** to become a veterinarian, so as I approach my 20 year anniversary I am happy that I get to treat your 4-legged friends like they are my own each and every day." - Dr. Kate Rusch

"After 15 years as a small animal veterinarian, what I enjoy the most is providing the **BEST CARE** for all the puppies and kittens, watching them grow through their lives and having the life long relationship with their owners. A close second is helping the owners to understand the medical issues of their pets as they age and what we can do to help them."—Dr. Dawn Hunsberger







Cover Story

9 Much Ado About Diminutive Dogs

Regular Features

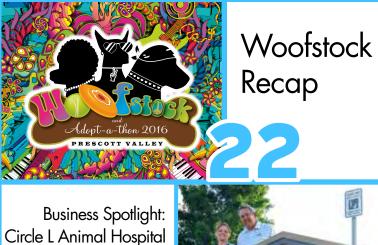
- 6 The Leader of the Pack
- 9 Cover Story: Much Ado About Diminutive Dogs
- 10 A Visit to the Doghouse: Dogs for Adoption
- 12 Horsin' Around: The Courage to Wish
- 14 Special Story: Military Working Dog Chrach Retires
- 16 On the Trail: Yankee Doodle Trail #284 and Dandrea Trail #285 to Mount Union
- 18 Business Spotlight: Courtesy Auto
- 20 The K-9 Beat: Herding Dogs
- 21 Book Review: Dog Bless America
- 22 Woofstock Recap
- 24 Business Spotlight: Circle L & Hassayampa Canine Resort & Spa
- 26 Shelter Dog Challenge
- 28 K-9 Service Corner: Service Dogs for PTSD
- 30 The Scratching Post: Cats for Adoption
- 32 Seniors and Their Pets
- 34 Rescue News
- 36 Pet Health Tips: Firework Safety
- 38 Celebration of Life

Important Information

- 8 Area Dog Park Listings
- 8 Important Contact Info: Pet Phone Numbers You Should Have
- 8 Calendar of Events
- 40 Animal Rescue & Adoption Groups
- 41 Pet Directory: Pet Related Services
- 42 Pet Friendly Establishments
- 43 Prescott Dog Advertisers Index



COVER STORY: Much Ado About Diminutive Dogs



Business Spotlight: Circle L Animal Hospital & Hassayampa Canine Resort & Spa

Pet Health Tips:



Pet Health Tips: Firework Safety



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Allie Werhan - Cover Story, Business Spotlight, Book Review, Kitty Korner, Seniors & Their Pets

Cheryl Hartz - On the Trail

Kim Posser - Celebration of Life

Ann Herrington - Cover Story

Gary DeGeronimo - K-9 Service Corner

Heidi Dahms Foster - The K-9 Beat

Briana Lonas - Pet Health Tips



If you have a story idea, please send it to info@prescottdog.com

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

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The Prescott Dog Staff & Writers



Cherie L. Dreves - Publisher/Owner Cherie has had her share of furries "follow her home" (a few times on the end of a rope). Her public relations career probably started back then; lobbying her mom, "can we keep 'em? Cherie has worked to increase community awareness for several rescue groups around the southwest. She is a writer, speaker and idea generator; with a passion for puppies, of all ages.



Ann Herrington - Founder/Editor At Large Ann began working in animal welfare in 1997 when she adopted a shelter dog named Harley who changed the direction of her life. She utilized her experience working in the media and advertising for many years to help shelter animals through education and off-site adoption events. In 2008, after Harley passed, Ann met a new "friend" named Bernie who healed her heart and after that, she founded The Prescott Dog and two annual adoption events. She continues to dedicate her life to helping rescue and shelter animals through awareness, education, and adoptions.



Allie Werhan - Staff Writer Allie was born loving animals and trying to rescue them. (Can we keep him? He followed me home.) After several careers including teaching and retail management, she is now a part-time writer. Allie coordinated the cat program for United Animal Friends for years. Some of her best friends are dogs. The cat is her boy, Scamper, who is a Maine Coon mix, about 7 years old, and a love.



Mary Beal - Staff Photographer For Mary, photography has always been FUN! She got a Brownie for her birthday when she was 7 years old. Hettie, her cocker spaniel was her only willing model so she has many black and white memories of her safely stored in a wooden box even now. Through the years, she photo'd kids, vacations, and the milestones of life, but now concentrates on her true love — taking photos of animals. Hettie would be pleased.



Heidi Dahms Foster - Dogs in Blue: The K-9 Beat Heidi has lived in the greater Prescott/Prescott Valley area since fourth grade. She has been involved with dogs her entire life, and shares her home with husband Randy and a houseful of critters. She recently changed careers after 27 years with Prescott Newspapers, Inc. and now works as Communications Relations Coordinator for the Town of Prescott Valley. She enjoys keeping her hand in writing about and photographing dog activities and events.



Gary DeGeronimo - K-9 Service Corner and Training Gary has been a Canine Behavior Specialist for close to 30 years and has been involved with many aspects of the canine world from training to shelter administration. He is currently the Founder/Director of Training for Gentle Hearts Service Dogs, a non-profit charitable organization providing trained and qualified service dogs for those in need, with a particular focus on children with autism.



Cheryl Hartz - Photographer Cheryl Hartz is a tree and animal hugger, an award-winning writer and photographer and a 30-year resident of Prescott Valley. She has hiked extensively with only minor bumps, bruises and sunburns. She was the Arizona Game & Fish Outdoor Writer of the Year for 2014.



Briana Lonas - Pet Health Tips Briana Lonas lives with her husband John and two dogs – a Labrador/hound mix and a Border Collie/Pembroke Corgi mix. Aside from also raising a horse and chickens, she enjoys researching animal safety issues and natural remedies in tandem with traditional medicine. She feels that our furry family members are happiest when they are healthy.

Leader of the Pack

The 5th annual WOOFStock and Adopt-a-thon was held June 11th, 2016. The day couldn't have been more beautiful; even the wind cooperated. It must have known that we are collectively on a mission to help find forever homes for as many loving, loyal dogs as possible. The reports are still coming in but at last count more than 20 dogs have found their forever homes. I for one am very honored to have played a role in that. There is a host of people who played huge roles in making this year's WOOFStock the largest, most attended WOOFStock yet, creating the largest celebration of "all things dog", in Prescott Valley.

Our Thank You List

To The Town of Prescott Valley- Thank you for creating and maintaining such a beautiful space. The cool grass and rolling landscape of the amphitheater made the perfect backdrop for the day. My personal thanks go out to Jason, Debbie, Kevin and June. The 4 of you really helped this event take shape and run smoothlv.

To our sponsors- Thank you for your willingness to participate in WOOFStock 2016. Many of you gave more than what was asked. I was continually humbled by your passion and generosity. Prescott Valley Pet Clinic, Little Dealer/ Little Prices, The Pet Club, Courtesy Auto Sales, Prescott Animal Hospital, Blue Buffalo, Prescott Area Pet Emergency Hospital, Windermere Real Estate, Yavapai Broadcasting, Olsen's for Healthy Pets, Big Dog Charitable, Chino Valley Animal Hospital, Costco, Holistic Veterinary Care, Farbenholt Dog Training, Furever Happy Pets, Jade's Pet Grooming, Kachina Animal Hospital, Mandalay Homes, Paul's Pet Food Delivery, Pet Headquarters, Pet Health America, Phoenix Dog Magazine, Prescott Valley Chamber of Commerce, Sam's Club, Solar City, Style by Night, The Happy Parrot, Union Home Mortgage and Valley Newspapers of Phoenix

To our vendors- Thank you for all of your hard work and expertise. Beautiful trophies from Raskin's Jewelers. Perfect show set up by Just Ask Rentals/Prescott True Value. The hottest t-shirts in town by Blind Dog Apparel. The best media support by Yavapai Broadcasting Corporation- KKLD, KVRD and The Q 102.9, our media partners. The clearest arena sound by Steven. The best food by The Cheezy Javalina and Smokin' Delicious. Arizona Ranch and Resort Cars kept things moving, EMI Printworks created fabulous marketing materials and Best Pick Disposal kept it clean.

To the rescues, shelters and non-profit organizations. Thank you for your hard work, perseverance and willingness to get up at the crack of dawn and heft those heavy crates. All for the love of Dog. Your passion is an inspiration to the rest of us. Thanks go to: Amazing Aussies, Arizona Mastiff's, Bradshaw Mountain Wildlife Rescue, Circle L Ranch, Dane Haven, Gentle Hearts Service Dogs, Greyhound Pets of AZ, Holistic Animal Care, No Longer Astray, Pet's Return Home, Pound Puppyz, Prescott Area Shelter Services, Rescue a Golden of AZ, St. Bernard's of AZ, The Fetch Foundation, United Animal Friends, White German Shepherds of AZ, Wildhorse Ranch Rescue, Yavapai Food Bank, Yavapai Humane Society, Yavapai Regional Medical Center - PAWS Program and the YSCRT- K-9 unit.

To our volunteers- Thank you for your passion to help others. We had a fantastic troop of volunteers that assisted the rescue groups, helped set up the event, helped with the demos and contests, and helped restore the venue to the way we found it. I would like to thank Allie, Mary, Vicki, Karen, David, Lauren, Marita, Terry, Barbara, Heide, Jan, Jade, Haylee, Bri, Kayla, Sami, Terry, Edisa, Keith, Rhonda, Trenda, Brandon, Chuck and Robert,

And last but not least, we would like to thank: YOU. Thank you for coming out in your psychedelic costumes, dressing up your dogs and showing them off, visiting with vendors, above all, deciding to open your home to a loving, homeless pet. We look forward to WOOFStock 2017.

Peace, Love, Dog,

Cherie

6

Join us for the 10th Annual



Sunday, October 2nd • 10am - 3pm **Prescott Downtown Courthouse Square**

Demonstrations, Exhibits, Vendors, Canine Good Citizenship Testing, Caricature Drawings, Contests, Prizes, Food, Free Samples, and a lot of Doggone Fun!

> Volunteers please call (928) 445-4811 or email info@prescottdog.com

Lovable dogs

available

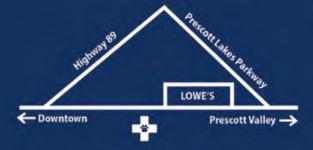
for adoption!

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prescottpetemergency.com

info@prescottpetemergency.com



SELF MEDICATING YOUR PETS Can I just give my pet half a dose of Tylenol or Ibuprofen?

We all hate seeing our pets uncomfortable and want to help them right away. A common way for pet owners to come to their pet's aid is with OTC human medications (Tylenol, Ibuprofen, etc.).

We do not suggest giving pets any medication without the direction of a veterinarian. At first glance you may think one thing is wrong with your pet, but the veterinarian may find another, and the medication administered at home may do more harm than good.

Simply put, Tylenol (acetaminophen) is a definite NO. This medication can cause pets to become anemic or even cause liver damage, which may lead to death if untreated.

You may have heard of Ibuprofen being used for treatment in dogs, but this is something that should only occur if directed by a veterinarian. Ibuprofen is not used to treat pain or arthritis in dogs like you would assume due to human use. This medication can cause an allergic reaction and it can also be linked with kidney failure or gastric ulcers. Ibuprofen is a NO when it comes to self medicating pets, especially cats. Cats are never to receive Ibuprofen.

While it is tempting to do anything to help our pets when they are suffering, it is best to not self medicate at home. If you are concerned about your pet please contact a veterinarian immediately before reaching for the medicine cabinet.

PAPEH is open 24/7 - we can be reached at (928) 778-1990. If you are concerned, we are concerned.

Calendar

Ongoing Adoptions

Catty Shack – Cat Adoptions Onsite- Wed, Fri, Sat From 10am-2p 609 S. Granite St., Prescott ssnsmart@yahoo.com

Circle L Ranch Adoptions

Onsite – by appointment Dogs – Liz Steigmeir (928) 273-7005 Horses – Cheryl Caldararo (928) 925-1926 www.circlel.org Offsite, Petco Every Sat., 11a-2:30p Pet Headquarters, Every Sat., 11a-2:30p

Greyhound Pets of AZ Petsmart 4th Sat of mo. 1:30p

Miss Kitty's Cat House Onsite – Open House Fri, Sat. 11a-3p 302 W. Alarcon, Prescott

Offsite – Petsmart Sat/Sun 11a-3p

United Animal Friends

Cat Adoptions – Petco, Saturdays from 10:30a to 1:30p or by appointment by calling Ruthie at (928) 379-1088

Dog Adoptions – Petco on Saturdays from 11a-2p. Sunday 12p-3p. at Whiskers Barkery the 1st two Saturdays of every month, 11a-2p or by appointment by notification, to our website at unitedanimalfriends.org

Yavapai Humane Society –

Onsite – Daily from 11a-6p, 7 Days a week. 1625 Sundog Ranch Rd., Prescott (928) 445-2666 Yavapai Humane Society **Offsite** – Petsmart Adoptions **Cat Adoptions** – 11a-4p Mon-Sat, 11a-2p Sun

Special Events

The Beastro – Every 4th Friday Art Walk. 117 N. McCormick St., Prescott Starts at 5p. Help feed a beast in need Art Gallery/Retail Animal Items More info, (928) 227-2796

United Animal Friends

Monthly Meetings – 1st Thursday of each month at Red Arrow Real Estate 1107 E. Gurley St., Prescott



PRESCOTT

Willow Creek Dog Park New Beneful Dream Dog Park is now open. Grass, agility field, water features, separate small and large dog parks Prescott Parks & Rec. (928) 777-1122

PRESCOTT VALLEY

Mountain Valley Park, just off of Nace Lane Almost 2 acres of open space. Fenced, handicap accessible. Agility equipment, benched, shade, parking and water. Dogs must be vaccinated. PV Parks and Rec (928) 772-9207

CHINO VALLEY

Community Dog Park and Training Field Road 1 East & Perkinsville 1.25 Acres, Future site-Work in Progress

Whiskers Barkery Yappy Hour

Every 4th Friday 5-8p 225 W. Gurley St., Prescott (928) 776-8700. Free treats for you and your four-legged friends and store specials

Low-Cost Walk-in Vaccination Clinic Every Friday, 8-11a & 1-4:30p Yavapai Humane Society Wellness Clinic 2989 Centerpointe E., Suite B., Prescott More info, (928) 771-0547

Special Events

JULY July 23, 11am-6pm

Clear the Shelters Adoptathon Yavapai Humane Society, 1625 Sundog Ranch Road, Prescott. Help us clear the shelter during this special pick your price adoption event. Offer does not include purebreds and animals under 6 months of age. Adoptions include spay/neuter, microchip, vaccinations, and behavior and medical assessment. Standard processes apply. To see adoptable pets visit yavapaihumane. org. Call 928-445-2666.

AUGUST

August 1 – Yavapai Humane Society's Birthday Paw-ty to celebrate the Universal Birthday of All Rescue Pets! The Paw-ty will take place at Yavapai Humane Society

located at 1625 Sundog Ranch Road in Prescott. We will have a bounce house for the kids, give-a-ways, special adoption prices and more!

August 20 – Yavapai Humane Society Thrift Store located at 1601 Iron Springs Road will be having a 50% off sale in honor of National Homeless Pet Day. This Sale excludes items marked firm.

August 31: Mah Jongg for Mutts

Talking Rock Ranch Club House 15075 N Talking Rock Ranch Road, Prescott. Mah Jongg for Mutts is a fun afternoon benefiting the homeless pets at Yavapai Humane Society. Come play for just \$10 entry fee/donation. Games range from \$0-1.50 mix/hand.

SAVE THE DATE

October 2nd, 10am - 3pm Dogtoberfest & Adopt-a-thon 2016 Prescott Downtown Courthouse Square Demonstrations, Exhibits, Vendors, Canine Good Citizenship Testing, Caricature Drawings, Contests, Prizes, Food, Free Samples, and a lot of Doggone Fun! info@prescottdog.com (928) 445-4811

Prescott Animal Control (928) 777-1135 1605 Sundog Ranch Road, Prescott, AZ **Chino Valley Animal Control** (928) 636-4223 1020 West Palomino Rd., Chino Valley, AZ Dog Licensing - City of Prescott (928) 777-1291 201 Cortez St., Prescott, AZ **Animal Disaster Services** (928) 925-7990 (Shelter for animals in the event of a disaster) **Gabriel's Angels** (866) 785-9010 Pet Therapy for children in crisis; serving Arizona www.gabrielsangels.org Luv Mutts Therapy Dog Team (928) 778-2033 Therapy Dogs For Children, Adults, Hospice, Assisted Living & More

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1.) The gang enjoying a ride

When Melissa Archuleta went to the airport to pick up her husband, David, on his return from deployment by the Air Force, she brought Jack, his special little brown Chihuahua dressed in an outfit appropriate for the season. Jack, who is eight years old, weighs in at around two to three pounds. A group of tourists from Japan became like paparazzi, taking photos and talking excitedly because they had never seen such a small dog. Melissa, focused on searching for David, suddenly became aware of the "click, click, click" of the flashing cameras. "Wow," Melissa thought, "this must be what it feels like to be a movie star!"

Melissa couldn't understand the Japanese language, but the people measured a space with a thumb and forefinger and said in English, "So tiny! Full-grown? How old?" She would nod yes, and show eight fingers. Everyone was amazed because they thought Jack was a puppy.

No doubt about it, having little dogs is fun. Melissa and David have thirteen right now, all rescues and many who have suffered mistreatment whom she has been able to save and protect. They are family now. Even after all they have been through, most of these little dogs are eventempered and friendly. "They are food hoarders, which I can understand," Melissa observes. She feeds them separately in different parts of the room. The pack helps teach other how to adapt and share in their family life.

Melissa was born and raised in California. Her childhood was rough, her dog, Buttons, a shepherd mix, was the only one who loved her. She could love him back and feel his love and run to him when she was scared. She sometimes hid in the chicken coop, and to this day has a fondness for chickens, even the way they smell.

Once she was looking at Craigslist and saw a request for transport by a rescue group in Ventura, CA. There was a rescue in Sacramento that would take twenty dogs if the dogs could be transported. Since she was not working at the time, waiting for her college classes to start, she decided to sign up. She became friends with Raffa Levey of the Ventura group, and transported dogs regularly, in a van she rented, to Oregon and Washington, where there was a shortage of small dogs.

Raffa finds some of the little dogs she rescues.



Story By Allie Werhan Photos by Mary Beal





Lucky was found as a stray in San Diego, and at 10 years old, his nails were so long they curled under, he was emaciated, grimy, and weighed only four pounds. The family just wanted rid of him. Melissa wanted him and took him.

Jack was found on the street so emaciated you could see his little ribs. His weight was down to one pound. "You have to feed a dog like that carefully and gradually because some of its systems may have shut down and a big meal can kill the animal," Melissa notes.

The greatest miracle about rescued dogs is that dogs who have been neglected or abused respond with love and tail wags when a kind person helps them.

The Morkie is little Dudley, who wears a green bow on his head. He is a Maltese/Yorkie mix with Yorkie color and the tail of a Maltese. He came from Tijuana from a puppy mill type set-up where he was a stud, discarded after he got too old. His friends are Molly, a purebred Yorkie, who was kicked by the owner's boyfriend and suffered a hematoma, so the dog was given away, and Bubba, another Yorkie.

In California, after her classes started, Melissa had to stop transporting, so became a foster instead...a failed foster as it turned out. It is a lot more difficult to adopt out a dog than it is to keep it!

She still takes in little dogs, like a Pug she fostered. She found a good home for it with a woman who had other Pugs.

Melissa has figured out a way around her problem, if that is what it is. She can be a temporary foster for tiny dogs, while other people take on the job of getting the dogs adopted. She keeps any who are not really adoptable, like the aforementioned Dudley, who is a smart little guy but nips when he gets fearful.

As part of her plan to keep the little dogs healthy and happy, Melissa makes her own dog food with vegetables, turkey, chicken, bran rice, carrots and zucchini. She cooks the meat and rice together to make a broth. Good quality frozen vegetables are barely warmed and then ground up, since raw vegetables are better for the dogs than cooked ones. Melissa adds coconut oil for their skins and coats. This food is supplemented with



3.) Melissa kissing Chloe

Blue Buffalo kibble. She tries to make sure they get their necessary nutrients every day.

Most of the dogs were emaciated and starving when Melissa rescued them. One, Apple, a little Chihuahua was close to death, but now she is healthy and a good size for her.

David and Melissa enjoy camping and always take some of the little dogs with them. "We take some of the kids camping one time and others the next. The older ones have a doggy sitter so they can stay home, as well as the ones who get car sick," Melissa says.

They have a system for taking care of the dogs, so it isn't as much work as you might think. She and David are adding a dog room onto their house. They've looked for another house, but couldn't find one with the right yard and the tall pines they have at their present one. Part of her strategy, Melissa says, "is so I don't have to use my bathroom as a kennel."

The back yard is fixed up especially for the dogs. A large part of it below and surrounding their deck is covered with artificial turf. There are cushions, water dishes and food bowls scattered around as well as shelter and many, many toys. The dogs can stay down there or go up a ramp built for them to the upper deck and into the house by the sliding door. The door isn't left open for them; they have to ask, but who could resist the plea of a 4-pound doglet?

There have been a few sad times. Melissa cared for a thin sad pit bull for 2-3 years. A rescue asked her to foster temporarily and never picked him up or helped her with him. She kept Charley until he passed. She also had a little dog, Zoe, who was a special dog, "the loveliest dog ever." She died of cancer after being with Melissa only a few weeks.

Melissa has the little dogs who pass cremated and when she goes, she plans to have her ashes mixed with all the little dogs' ashes. When she sees the little unwanted abused "kids"-the little dogs-she thinks of them as angels sent to make her home into Heaven and bring her little beings to love and care for. "They are my children."

> Continued on Page 21 www.prescottdog.com 9

COVER STORY

A VISIT TO THE Doghouse All the Dogs on this page are available for adoption now. If you are interested in meeting any of these adorable friends, please call the rescue group listed with the picture.

KEITH

I'm a 10 y.o. Shibu Inu mix who enjoys lounging around the house w/my person. I'm a 1-person kind of guy who can be aloof to new people. I'm a loyal, affectionate boy who will do best as your one and only companion. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



RUGER

I'm a handsome 2 y.o. who enjoys going for hikes, and playing in the water. My perfect person would share my love of the outdoors. I will be my person's best friend because I am a good boy and show lots of loyalty. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



MOLLY

I'm a 4 y.o. shepherd mix girl whose main goal in life is to please my people. I know several commands, am very smart, and willing to learn. I have lived w/all kinds of barnyard animals and get alone well w/all except chickens. I'm looking for an active family to share my love and attention. YHS (928) 445-2666.



BRUTUS

I'm a year old attention-loving Lab/Corgi mix w/cute stubby legs and weigh @ 30#. I am fun loving, love to play w/other dogs, would need a dog companion. I'm very smart, treat motivated, and would benefit from some training for manners. I would be a great hiking partner. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924.



JAMIE

I'm a cattle dog mix girl, 30#, about 2 y.o., sweet, walk well on a leash, and get along with other dogs. I have a wonderful personality. I had some adorable puppies and am now ready for my new life and family. UAF (928) 778-2924.

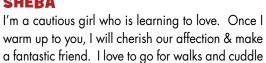
WESLEV

I'm a terrier mix, 1 y.o, 35#, and have a unique look and fun personality. I'm puppy-like and need lots of activity and some training. I love people, other dogs, but no cats please. I need a secure fenced yard since I like to explore. Adults and older children only, because of my exuberance! UAF (928) 778-2924.

TINKERBELLE

I'm a Lab/border collie mix girl, large and gorgeous, born in 2015, and I know basic commands...and to stay out of the kitchen. I am sweet, smart, athletic, a great running or hiking partner, and would be excellent at agility and other doggy sports. I need an active dog companion, and I love to ride in the car. UAF (928) 778-2924.







J.J.

445-2666...

SHEBA

I'm 3 y.o. excitable & playful, and will thrive w/ an experienced owner. I prefer to be the only pet in an adult household where I can soak up lots of attention. I love saueaky toys and tennis balls and am very smart. YHS (928) 445-2666.

with my people. Yavapai Humane Society (928)

JAZZY

I'm a sociable 10 y.o. girl, prefer to be the only dog. I know basic commands, and I can shake your paw. As part of the Seniors for Seniors program, a senior person who adopts me won't pay a fee. How great is that? YHS (928) 445-2666.

DAISY

I'm an 8 y.o. Boxer mix, and I'm great with little dogs but timid with big dogs. I'm sweet to people. I'm gold with big brown eyes. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005

RICO

I'm a Chihuahua mix, senior, male, small and 8 y.o. I'm good with dogs. I'm black w/fawn colored markings and I like to play and know what is going on. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.













DIESEL

I'm a boy, one of 7 puppies ready to go. We are Newfoundland/Lab/retriever mix. That makes us Newfoxerlabraterrierador, huh? I'm a cute baby. Call for an appointment. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.



Elvis

I'm a boxer and Australian shepherd mix. I'm only 4 mos old and I'm going to be a big boy. I was saved from a hoarding situation. I have beautiful face markings. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.



Redd

I'm a 6 mo. old retriever mix, very playful & smart, and I have a sweet face and a soft red coat with white trim. Call and come on out to meet me. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.



Maya

I'm a female Vizsla mix, 45#, born in 2008, with a shiny copper coat and nice white teeth. I like to play w/toys or especially in the water. I love to race. I need a person to love who'll love me, and another doggy for a playful companion. Circle L Ranch Rescue. (928) 273-7005.



Briggs

I'm a boxer/hound mix and I'm good with kids, dogs, & cats. I'm about 6-7 y.o., a quiet patient boy. I love food & treats, I like other dogs, cats are okay, and I would love to find a forever family who will take care of me and give me a soft place to sleep. Chino Valley Animal Shelter. (928) 636-4223 X7.

Dozer

I'm housetrained, but not good with cats, and I'm 8 mo.old pit mix, raised with another dog & get along well w/her. I want to play w/other dogs. I'm such a cute fella and would benefit from basic training & lots of exercise. Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 X7.



Jack Sparrow

I'm good w/kids & cats, but NOT with dogs. I'm a lovely dog, 1 y.o. and a mix of Lab/ Border collie/shepherd. I have silky soft fur and super ball fetching skills. I will do best as an only dog, because I'm very protective of my person. I need lots of exercise. Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 X7

Oscar

I'm a pit/terrier mix boy, 2 y.o., and a little timid but I will be a love bug when I get to know you I love walks, chasing balls and playing with dogs, but don't know about cats. I will be a good companion. Come and meet me. Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 X7.









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Brayden, who is 15, has cystic fibrosis. She is a young woman with a passion which is saving her life.

Since she was very young, Brayden has loved to ride, and has persisted in spite of fear that dust kicked up from the activity would harm her lungs. A lung scope by her doctor showed that the percussive effect from riding was actually helping to clear her lungs. Her mother, Hannah, says, "It's amazing to know that something she loves so much also is benefiting her health."

Recently, Brayden started barrel racing with her horse, Magic, but the traveling involved from her home in Prescott Valley made her feel that she was creating a hardship for the people who helped her transport Magic to events. When she found out she was eligible for a Make-A-Wish Arizona project, a horse trailer was on the top of her wish list.

Although she would have been happy with a used trailer, on her 15th birthday, when Brayden looked out the window, there was a brand shiny new horse trailer, especially built for barrel racers, complete with a steel-reinforced floor to rest Magic's legs on long trips.



July/August 2016

2.) Brayden and her wish granters

12



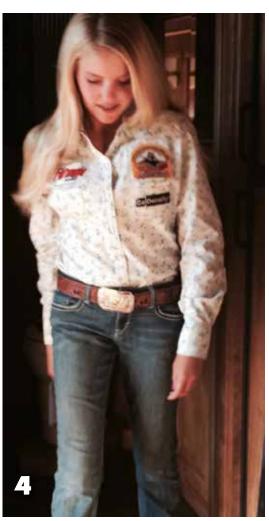
1.) Brayden and Magic barrel racing

Although Brayden must take daily medications and get 2 breathing treatments a day, she says that riding makes her feel "like a normal kid." With the trailer, she has gained independence. "My wish is the most positive experience that's ever happened to me! I will have this trailer forever and I couldn't think of a better wish." Even Magic has begun to race better!

This summer, with her doctor's approval and that newfound independence, Brayden is competing in Las Vegas, with the help of a little Magic and a special wish.



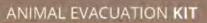
3.) Brayden and her horse Magic



4.) Brayden



Disaster Plan for Pets



Assemble a portable emergency kit with enough supplies to last 7 days.

It should include:

- > Food and water & the ability to store & transport
- > Food and water bowels, which are easy to clean
- > Toys and bedding to minimize stress
- > Kennel or housing appropriate for size & species
- > Identification tags & microchip
- > Animal First Aid kit:

............

To include any medical needs & medications

> Sanitation tools like bags, buckets & kitty litter

ANIMAL EVACUATION PLAN

Assemble a portable emergency kit with enough supplies to last 7 days.

It should include:

- > A well-trained & socialized pet will help with stress reduction while evacuated
- > Knowledge of local sheltering group or places to stay with your pet
- > Phone numbers & a professional relationship with a Veterinarian to help
- > Keep vaccinations up to date & paperwork retrievable

BE PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY

PERMANENT

Permanent ID may be need if your pet is lost or gets stressed and runs away and loses their collar.

MAKE AN

EMERGENCY KIT Prepare your kit ahead of time and keep it near your front door for easy

access.

ARRANGE SHELTER

Arrange a place for pets to stay if you evacuate. Do not leave your pets. If it isn't safe for you, it isn't safe for them!

BE PREPARED WITH RESOURCES

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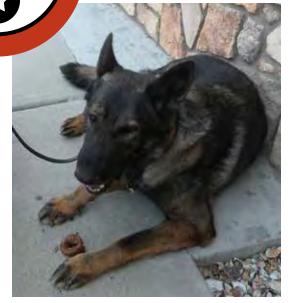
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Military Working Dog Chrach Retires

Story by Allie Werhan Photos by T. Sgt. Jessica Keller





Chrach (pronounced "crash") is an 8-year old German shepherd from the Netherlands who has had a fuller, more active life than most people, has saved hundreds of lives, traveled the world, and yet can sit quietly on the patio of a coffee shop and schmooze the other customers with his warm friendly demeanor like he is an ordinary dog.

As a puppy, Chrach joined the Air Force and began his training at Lackland Air Force He learned basic obedience and Base. began learning bomb detection. In 2008, when Chrach arrived at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona, he met his first handler, Kyle Alltop, whose job it was to make Chrach ready for deployment. Chrach's first assignment was to work at a checkpoint in New York for a United Nations General Assembly, checking all the cars going into the area. Chrach proved himself immediately by finding two bombs. He also worked at the World Trade Center, and the Statue of Liberty, with over 100 other dog teams, including a second one from Luke.

During his career, Chrach has had 4 handlers, but Kyle was his first; they deployed to Kuwait for two years. Besides his regular duties, Chrach boosted the morale of the soldiers. "On deployment, people (soldiers) would just come up and lay with him, or pet him. When my child was born, I was with him. When my dad passed, (Jessica) Keller brought him to my dad's funeral. He's the best therapy dog you could as for. But at the end of the day, he's there to find bombs and get the bad guys."

Since the beginning, Kyle made it clear that Chrach was his dog, that anyone else he worked with was just "borrowing" the dog. His friends took good care of Chrach and Chrach took good care of his friends. All his military life, Chrach was attached to Luke A. F. B., but he was sent all over. Besides the Middle East, Chrach went to Mexico with the Secret Service and the Vice President, and to Chicago to provide security for the President, among other assignments.

There is a law now that all dogs who work with the American military will come back to the United States with their handler, not just military dogs. That wasn't the case during the Vietnam War. Those dogs often were left behind, given to locals or otherwise given up, and the Vietnam veterans are a driving force in getting the "no dog left behind" law passed.

Dog handlers are a fraternity of men and women with a strong bond because of their experiences. When a handler and dog team is deployed, experienced handlers will meet with them to share information about what to expect. The Vietnam Dog Handlers Association is involved with this. Vietnam handlers had the same issues as handlers do today. When they get in a room together, the age and the war don't matter; they are all dog handlers, a fraternity, with an unbreakable bond.

Dogs are still classified as equipment, but they are treated like dogs, with respect and admiration. They are tools to use in war, but they also provide a friendly tail wag to someone having a bad day. Even colonels and generals would stop by just to pat Chrach.

Kyle separated from the Air Force after 11 years, and waited for Chrach to retire. Chrach was given to Kyle when he retired because the other handlers recognized the special bond between Kyle and Chrach, and valued that bond.

Kyle says, "No training is ever complete, there is always more to learn. Terrorists can't deal with the dogs, because in spite of the things they try, the dogs are not machines, and don't fall for the tricks like putting toys and stuff on the pressure plate (of an IED). If the odor is there, the dog will find it." The dogs are trained to ignore toys, food, or anything the enemy might



try. "The dog is also a good psychological deterrent. No one wants to get bitten."

Even though Chrach is retired, Kyle still trains him everyday, keeping his skills sharp. He also grooms him everyday (his wife, Rachel, is allergic to Chrach's fur, but doesn't object, bless her). Every Wednesday, Kyle and Chrach train with the police department K-9 teams, and Kyle hides things for Chrach to find.

Chrach's favorite hobby is swimming, and that is on the program for his new life. Kyle says now Chrach's life is going to be hanging out with the family, swimming in a lake and "giving him the best life I can."

Chrach takes care of Rachel and the two children when they are out, keeping himself between the kids and other people. He plays gently with the children, although he "goes crazy" when he plays with Kyle. Rachel understands all this because she was also in the Air Force military police and separated at the same time Kyle did.

Chrach was handed over to Kyle in a ceremony held at the recent Western Region K-9 Trials in Goodyear. Decorated with honors, Chrach has been awarded the 12th Annual Animal Hero Award. During his service, he was awarded the bronze star and combat action medal for locating five separate improvised explosive devices among other actions. All the walking over the years has caused medical complications to Chrach's lower back, which is why he retired.

His handlers were Steven Bruner, Scott Emmick, Jessie Keller and Kyle Alltop, who all dedicated hard work to Chrach, helping to make him a memorable military dog.

May Kyle and Chrach have many happy years together.



www.prescottdog.com 15



Yankee Doodle Trail #284 and Dandrea Trail #285 to Mount Union Be a Yankee Doodle Dand(y)rea and reach the highest point in Yavapai County

Story and Photos by Cheryl Hartz



In 1972, the Battle Fire raged through Yavapai County, burning a large portion of an area near Mount Union. The result of that wildland fire is a lesson in ecology: vegetation changed from tall Ponderosa pines to short and prickly scrub oaks and manzanita. But pines still dominate the landscape along the patriotically named Yankee Doodle Trail and the Dandrea Trail – the two main paths to the mountain – providing shade while releasing their refreshing aroma. The forest harbors wildlife species large and small, from rattlesnakes to mountain lions, but songbirds are the most audible and visible.

Mount Union's elevation of 7,974 feet earns it the distinction as the highest point in Yavapai County. The peak is part of the Bradshaw Mountains in the Prescott National Forest. Its 30-foot fire lookout tower, staffed in the summer months, is accessible to visitors, who can climb its steps to an astounding vista of much of the county. The road to the tower once was accessible to vehicles, but now a locked gate about 1.3 miles from the peak prohibits such.

The tower-keeping ranger is able to point out area landmarks and tell of recent fires. Disturbingly, most of those fires have been human-caused, predominately because of unattended campfires. Unless the summer monsoons are in full swing, the area may be under fire restrictions. If in doubt, check with the Bradshaw Ranger District at (928) 443-8000, or on the website listed at the end of this article.

At just over 12 miles, the Yankee Doodle Trail is one of the longest in the Prescott National Forest. From its southern trailhead on Forest Road 82A, the trail ascends Longfellow Ridge and follows that for several miles, gaining elevation as it reaches Yankee Doodle Peak. It rounds the west face of Moscow Peak before, at about the 9-mile mark, a short offshoot continues the climb to Mount Union, with its picnic area and lookout tower. The main trail descends another couple of miles, crossing the Dandrea Trail, past Mount Davis, and ending at FR 940K. Figuring seven hours each way, this hike is better suited to backpacking than a day-hike.

Conversely, taking the two-mile Dandrea Trail #285 from its trailhead at the end of Poacher's Row outside the community of Potato Patch off Walker Road, the hike is only 1.5 hours long each way. It follows, in part, an old road that traverses a historic area rich with abandoned mines and clearings where miners' homes and camps once existed. The Dandrea reaches an open saddle right below Mount Union, where it intersects the Yankee Doodle Trail. From there, it goes down to Old Dandrea Ranch.

The National Forest Service website rates both the Yankee Doodle and Dandrea Trails as light use and difficult. Both trails are open to hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, dirt bikers and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) riders. Motorized vehicles can be 50" wide maximum, and are not allowed to ascend the part of the Yankee Doodle trail up to Mount Union between Forest Road 261 and Dandrea Trail 285.

Be advised that parts of the trails are steep and rocky. You'll need to bring your own water – and lots of it. Be sure to pack out whatever you pack in, and please be courteous to all trail users, whatever their mode of transportation, be it shank's mare (legs and feet, that is), horseback, mountain bike or OHV.

The main trailhead for Yankee Doodle is a 1.5hour drive from Prescott, while Dandrea is about 45 minutes from the city. Four-wheel drive is recommended. Parking is poor. Detailed driving directions to the trailheads are available at the Prescott National Forest website: http://www. fs.usda.gov/recarea/prescott/recreation/ hiking.



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The American Ranch Equestrian Center is a boarding facility in the Prescott, AZ area offering a covered, regulation sized, reining arena, an outdoor jumping arena, a dressage court, a state-of-the-art hot walker and round pen. We also have direct access to the Prescott National Forest and Granite Mountain Trail System, so saddle up and ride from our beautiful facility. You won't have to trailer your horse to enjoy what is considered the best trail system in Arizona!

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Courtesy Auto Sales: We Sell What People Want to Buy

Story and Photos by Allie Werhan



1.) Courtesy Auto Sales 2.) Tim Fleming (Owner) 3.) Dale Alfred (Sales Manager) 4.) Mary Bucher 5.) Matt Kightlinger (Sales) 6.) Joe Maikowski and Justin Zawell

Scotty Fleming, owner and manager of Courtesy Auto Sales in Cottonwood, Prescott, and Prescott Valley, has been interested in cars since he was 3 or 4 years old. His dad owned a body shop in Illinois, and Scotty worked in several places around Chicago before coming out West.

Driving racecars was his passion, and once when he was heading to San Bernardino, California to drive for a lawyer/owner from Los Angeles, Scotty decided to stop in Sedona. His folks, sister and some in-laws had all migrated there and had businesses and property, so he visited there for a month and took some time to look around. He liked the area a lot, and noticed it didn't cost as much to live there as it did in California.

He raced about a year in California, then returned to Arizona. He worked for other people in Cottonwood and Sedona and raced a car in Cottonwood for several years, mostly for fun. He built another little racecar and raced that in Phoenix. He was also selling cars for a living. "It got to a point where you start to believe you know enough and have the background to do the car business better than other people," Scotty said.

Scotty opened a store on Main Street, was there two years, then moved to his present location when it became available, on SR 89A. He has been at this location 10 years, where he has the full-service shop under the same roof as the sales floor, which has worked out well.

After he noticed that about 40% of his customers in Cottonwood were from Prescott, Scotty opened a store at Rush Street and Gurley 2 years ago, and does a good business under its big square awning. It was a natural step to open a small store in Prescott Valley, on SR 69 about a year ago.

Because he studies his customer base and business carefully, Scotty realized how many

Prescott customers were coming in for Toyota products, and discovered that he had the late model clean, quality Toyota trucks and SUVs that people really wanted.

Scotty's office is the kind with piles of materials and paper on many surfaces, but he knows what is in the piles, so don't start rearranging them! Some of his shelves hold detailed models of vehicles, including racecars. He has photographs of some of the cars he raced, and his centerpiece is a photo of champion Formula One race driver, Dan Gurney in Belgium with his racecar from 40 years ago. With that car, Gurney won the Belgium Grand Prix, the first and only American ever to win in a car he built and drove. The photo is autographed by Dan Gurney, whom Scotty met in 1986 in California.

The office is personalized with photos of Scotty and his wife, Shelby, and their family. Between them, they have 4 daughters and 5 grandchildren. They love spending time with their grandchildren in Clarkdale, but don't get to visit the others often because they are in Coral Gables, FL, Las Vegas and Seattle.

With three stores, Scotty doesn't have a lot of time for other activities. He has been a "sports nut" and coached softball in Cottonwood for the City League; winning trophies are displayed in his office. He enjoys watching baseball and gets to the Diamondbacks games sometimes on the weekend. Car racing is another activity that is limited to watching or attending.

Scotty sold Toyotas for several years, and was one of the top 50 salesmen in the nation. He won 3rd place nationally in a Toyota "walk around" contest and was awarded with a Toyota 4-Runner and a trip to Toyota City, Japan, to learn about their products. He toured the plant, learned how the cars and trucks were manufactured and why their quality was so high. The jobs are handed down through families, so that honoring your family is to do the best job you can.

Toyota owners really want to purchase another Toyota because of the quality. He has learned that Toyota will begin to sell their diesel trucks in the United States in 2017.

The used cars Scotty buys are all serviced in the shop, with new fluids, filters, and whatever the car needs to make it road-ready when it is driven away by the customer. Justin Zawell is the shop manager and does it all. He has been with Scotty since the beginning. "He is a fantastic mechanic," Scotty notes.

Courtesy Auto Sales has 12 full time employees in the 3 stores. The sales people are with a customer from the time they walk into the sales room, through discussion of the car, negotiating, financing and delivery. Working with customers on every aspect of the transaction makes it a satisfying experience for both salesperson and buyer.

Courtesy Auto Sales maintains an inventory of about 130 cars, and you can see them all on the website. The turnover each month is about 50%, so give them a call if you see something you like. They will treat you right, and remember, as Scotty says, "Four out of 5 dogs prefer trucks!"

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Many dog lovers know about herding because of movies such as Babe, in which a pig bonds with a border collie and discovers that he too can herd sheep, or YouTube clips that make the moves of those talented collies look nearly magical.

A well executed competition herding run or a true working dog on a ranch is a wonder to behold, but what about "regular" dog/ handler teams? Dogs.about.com now lists herding trials among one of the top 10 popular sports to do with your dog. An increasing number of herding dog breed owners are finding this sport a challenging, fascinating way to build relationship with their pets.

"Herding is an instinct for dogs in the herding group - it is the way they were bred," dogs. about.com states. "Because many dogs live in urban or suburban areas rather than farms, the opportunity to herd is not presented. Enter herding competition. Most dogs that possess the instinct to herd absolutely love it. Training and trials are great ways to let them act out on instinct and have the time of their lives."

The sport is so entertaining and beneficial to dogs and owners that Dewey's Megan Sims of PSR Stockdogs said she's even found a few breeds that do surprisingly well despite not being bred for herding.

"We work with some non-herding breeds that love to herd! I have worked with a Dalmatian, boxers, and Cane Corsos, to name a few," she said. Once, her mother, Dawna, conducted an instinct test on a French Bulldog that would put a few border collies to shame.

Megan and Dawna Sims are nationally acclaimed stock dog trainers who have won multiple national awards with a number of herding breeds. Another acclaimed area

Herding Dogs

Story and Photos by Heidi Dahms Foster



stockdog trainer and competitor is Molly Wisecarver of Double M Stockdogs in Mayer.

Dogs that compete in herding trials do so in organizations such as the American Herding Breed Association, the American Kennel Club, or the Australian Shepherd Club of America. While trials are commonly for purebred herding breeds, owners of rescues and other non-registered purebreds can obtain tracking numbers and compete in their trials. Each organization allows a specific list of herding and non-herding breeds, such as working dogs, to enter, so it's best to check on requirements.

Whether you progress to trialing with your dog, or just learn to move a group of ducks, sheep or cattle through a pattern in an arena or ranch setting, there is nothing quite like observing an animal that has never viewed livestock begin to exhibit the behavior that is instinctual in herding breeds.

"Nothing satisfies herding breeds more than working stock," Sims said. "Herding builds a stronger relationship between you and your dog. In regular dogs with a lot of energy, herding releases that energy. For the herding breeds, it satisfies something in them that nothing else does, because it satisfies those instincts," Sims said.

Another benefit of herding training is that as a dog and handler build trust and skills, behavior issues often go by the wayside.

"We've seen a lot of benefits for dogs with behavior issues – fearful dogs, aggressive dogs - by giving them that outlet and building relationships with the owner, it builds a lot of trust and helps with reactivity," she said.

Handlers care well for the stock that is used in herding training and trialing. Dogs that are out of control during a herding trial are immediately excused.

"Our job as the handler is to protect the stock. We don't let the dogs harass them. We have our stock that's older and really reliable, and we start the new dogs on those sheep because they know if there is a problem to run to the person," Sims said.

To get started in herding, dog owners can schedule an instinct test with a qualified trainer. The trainer and sometimes the owner will go into the arena with the stock, and the trainer gauges the amount of interest the dog has in herding.

"Some dogs have zero desire to herd stock, and in some dogs you see it right away. Some take a few times coming back for that instinct to really click in and the light bulb to switch on. A lot of times you can see the thought there," Sims said.

A dog does not have to have a lot of skills to start herding – it should be able to walk on a leash without pulling, come when called, and know how to sit and stay.

Perhaps one of the best things about this dog sport is the benefits to the handler are as rich as those to the dog.

"Ninety-nine percent of the people in my life, my close friends – I would not know them without the dogs. It gives a lot of great relationships with people that have the same interests. It changes your relationship with your dog completely. Your dog trusts you more, and you trust your dog. And it's great to see your dog that happy," Sims said.

Contact Megan or Dawna Sims at www. psrstockdogs.com, or Molly Wisecarver at Double M Stockdogs, www. doublemstockdogs.biz



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"Where It's All About

Prescott Dog July/August 2016

Much Ado About Diminutive Dogs (Continued from Page 9)

Her husband, David, has two jobs, one of which is the Air Force. He deploys part of the year, and they sometimes travel because of that. They have a trusted dog-sitter to take over. The last time, David was in Mississippi, and took 3 dogs with him. They love going with him, but integrate well when they come home. David grew up with dogs, and is in this rescue completely. A family dog named Puddles had about 20 puppies...they kept some and gave others to good families, so it is natural to him to have a lot of dogs around.

Melissa and David have lived in Prescott about two years. She has an adult son living in California.

Lest you think Melissa has only dogs, let me tell you about their other animals. They have a cat, rescued from under a bush in a business park. They were going to call her George, then found out she was a girl. (Get it?) She tolerates the dogs and they don't bother her. She's bigger than all the dogs except Abby. She is not above teasing them. "You don't bug me, I won't scratch your face off," David thinks she is saying.

Abby is the only "big" dog, about five years old, a white poodle/Bichon mix who weighs about 20 pounds. She was found as a stray, adopted, then dumped because the owner decided he no longer wanted her. She had a hip problem, and being overweight aggravated it. Melissa has gotten her down to a good weight and she doesn't limp any more. She tries to stay glued to Melissa, her love shining out of her eyes. Emma and Mynie came together to Melissa. Emma was never socialized and was afraid of her own shadow, so she couldn't be rehomed. Her sister/ brother (no one knows which) is a cockatiel who is a very happy bird. The owner moved and left both to Melissa.

Chloe is a white umbrella cockatoo who had an injured wing. She has a lot of cute tricks, and will give you a hug if prompted. She is a bit of a chatterbox... and very beautiful, which I think she knows.

Freddie the African gray parrot is also a chatterbox... with a potty mouth. He is a rescue, and is a charming boy in spite of his vocabulary.

The big beautiful blue Macaw is Lucy. She was not well cared for. Her owner used the bird to scare his autistic child, which was not so good for the poor child or for Lucy either. Lucy is 15 years old now, and Melissa has had her eight years.

Their house is dog-proofed as far as possible, so Melissa and David don't worry about chewed pillows or other little mishaps. Periodically throughout the day, and before they go to bed, the two do a doggy head count, making sure no one got left out in the back yard, and all of them are okay.

Melissa has a sling to carry Bubba in, at 14 years, the oldest of the dogs. Giving each dog some personal attention every day is important, and they switch off playing with the boys one day and the girls the next, in addition to any one-on-one time. The dogs take turns sleeping on Melissa's bed, something they seem to have worked out.

You can usually find Melissa and David with some of the dogs at adoption events like Woofdown, Woofstock and Dogtoberfest. Pixie, one of the Chihuahuas, got the Best Wigglebutt prize at Dogtoberfest three years ago and her trophy is displayed on the mantel. They have a trophy for Scruffy too, who two years ago won Ugliest Dog. How he did it is difficult to understand, because he is very cute.

Emma and Jack are David's special dogs, but all the dogs follow Melissa everywhere, and come to her the second she calls. They are a very bonded family.

Melissa is in the last semester of finishing her nursing degree. With thirteen dogs, a cat, and 4 birds, that keeps her busy. Her heart goes out to the little dogs who have so often been mistreated, and also to the senior animals who have lost their homes at the end stage of their lives and need someone to love and care for them. She says she has no plans to add any more dogs to her family, just to foster temporarily, but there may be a little dog out there somewhere who has plans to add Melissa to its family. A little dog could not make a better choice.

Book Review: Dog Bless America Tails from the Road

Written by Jeff Selis Reviewed by Allie Werhan



What is just as American as the flag, mom, and apple pie? A dog! Dogs are popular in every state, from Alaska to Wyoming, and such a common sight that we often don't even notice them, they are such a part of the American scene. Every one of those dogs has a story; in this book are fifty-two of those special tails...er, tales.

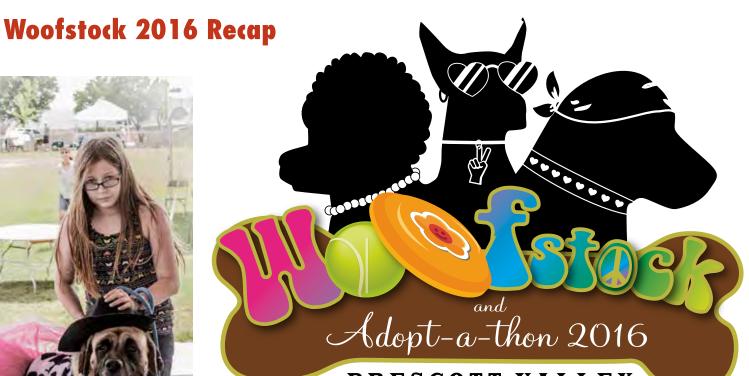
Jeff Selis set out on a journey to "...meet and photograph at least one dog in every state." He wanted to spend time with the dogs and the people he met, and "honor their contribution to our culture." He hit on the idea at a low point in his life, but it turned out to be "the journey of a lifetime." His companions were his friend, Seamus, and his dog, Otis, about whom Jeff says, "At first we thought Otis was becoming more and more like us, but after driving nearly 17,000 miles as a trio, we discovered that the opposite was true; we had become much more like him."

All dog people know that dogs live in the now, looking for fun, for what they love, with people they love. A dog will pursue his ball or his Frisbee with a total focus on what he is doing, just as he does his meal or his nap. Jeff says he discovered how to live that life through Otis (who represents Oregon) and the other dogs in this book.

The states are in alphabetical order in the book, some with little tidbits about Jeff's encounters there, but that is not how the trip unfolded. Every page reveals a dog, or dogs, of different breeds, mixed breeds, and life styles. A team of sled dogs, a pack of hounds, a loyal shepherd that met every train for five years looking for his master who had passed away...you will meet these and many more, rescues and royalty, and shed some tears and laugh out loud.

This is a book you can read straight through, or you can dip into the pages to sample a few dogs at a time. Amazing dogs, working dogs, pets, city or country dogs, they are all presented here in beautiful photographs, all taken by Jeff Selis. You will look at your own awesome dog with a bit more love. You might even start planning your own road trip.





PRESCOTT VALLEY







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Circle L Animal Hospital and Hassayampa Canine Resort and Spa

Story By Allie Werhan Photos Courtesy of Dr. Leonda Armstrong

Circle L Animal Hospital has served pets in Chino Valley for years. Dr. Leonda Armstrong, DMV, CVA, purchased the practice from its former owner, Dr. Terry Miller, in April 2007. Circle L primarily focuses on veterinary care for dogs and cats, though they welcome the occasional alpaca patient, too.

Armstrong and the rest of Circle L's staff practices traditional Western medicine using up-to-date procedures and medications, and their facility is equipped with an on-site lab and diagnostic equipment for digital X-rays and ultrasounds. In addition to this, they offer alternative Eastern medicine. These treatments include acupuncture and massage, which are used often for canine rehabilitation. Depending on a patient's needs and general health status, Circle L's veterinarians may recommend regimens that include both Western and Eastern healing or preventative wellness techniques.

In May 2016, Armstrong and her husband, Jim David, acquired Hassayampa Canine Resort and Spa, which is located within Centerpointe East Commerce Park in Prescott. This five-star canine boarding facility opened in 2007 and features luxury suites—some with TVs that show canine guests the Dog Channel—in-floor heating, dual air conditioners, and an attentive 12-person staff.

Hassayampa Canine Resort and Spa offers overnight stays and even "play days," during which canine family members can come and spend the day with their friends under the supervision of Hassayampa's staff. Armstrong and David are excited about the facility's potential, and they plan to add a full canine rehabilitation center, which will include cold laser therapy, targeted exercise programs, and a water treadmill for



aquatic therapy. They'll also provide Eastern medicine services like they do at Circle L, and these services will include acupuncture, massage, herbal supplements, and aromatherapy. Armstrong and David also look forward to adding canine obedience and agility classes in the near future.

According to Armstrong, Hassayampa Canine Resort and Spa allows her to provide a comfortable, high-quality, local facility for canine rehabilitation. The residents of Prescott and the greater Quad-Cities area will no longer have to make the long trip to Phoenix or elsewhere to obtain quality rehabilitative care for their recovering four-legged family members, she says.

If you would like to tour Hassayampa Canine Resort and Spa or learn more about their services, call 928-776-0932.







24

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The Shelter Dog Challenge

Story by Ann Herrington

Photos courtesy of Mercedes Ogden

There is a famous song that says, "The children are our future" and if that is so, we are in good hands with young people like Mercedes Ogden. Mercedes is an extremely motivated young woman of 17 years old. Wiser than her years and more motivated than most, she is a wonderful example of what a young person is capable of accomplishing.

When asked when animals became such a big part of her life, Mercedes says, "Since I was born, animals have always been a part of my life. Dogs are my favorite." She started riding when she was six years old. She has trained many dogs and horses. She recalls,"My mom was a horse rescue person and we always had animals around. She recently showed me a picture when I was only three years old on a horse." It seems animals were always her destiny.

Mercedes got the idea for The Shelter Dog Challenge after she participated in the ExtremeMustang Makeover Challenge in 2015. She always wanted to compete in the Youth Division until the events came closer to home. The concept was similiar in that she was given a wild Mustang to take home and train and then present showing all that it had learned and then was adopted. With her love for dogs she wanted to do something to help them so she came up with the idea to do a similar program involving young people that would benefit both them and the shelter dogs and The Shelter Dog Challenge was born.

The Challenge: The idea is for young people from the ages of 12 to 18 to rise to the challenge of fostering a shelter dog for 6 weeks under the guidance of a professional trainer once a week. The goal is work with the dog as much as possible making them more adoptable. Each person will be matched by the trainer with their perspective dog at around mid-August. They will have six weeks to train their dog from the time they get them and then present them at this years Dogtoberfest event. Since the dog will be in their home, they have the ability to work with them as much as they can to teach the dog all the basic obedience training as well as some other possible tricks, etc. Parents must be very involved because technically, they would be the Foster Parent of the dogs since the kids are minors.

There will be two teams of students with dogs. The first team will be from Circle L Ranch Rescue & Sanctuary who will be trained by Dandy Dawgs Dog Training led by Andy Lloyd and Jaime Brill. The second team will be from The Yavapai Humane Society who will be trained by behaviorist, Ariel Redd, Kristian Mott and Ryan Elliot.

The teams will be presented at the 10th Annual Dogtoberfest & Adopta-thon on Sunday, October 2nd, 2016. The teams will be asked to demonstrate their dogs abilities and will be judged on their obedience and other criteria. There will be a winner on each team and an overall crowd favorite winner. The winners will receive a trophy from Raskins Jewelers and a prize packet worth over \$150.

Once the judging is over, the young people will present the dogs for adoption. They also have the option to adopt the dog they train if they wish. If not, the goal is to get the dog adopted to a loving family,



Mercedes, Peyton (the blue merle border collie) and Ichabod (the tricolor aussie)

already trained and ready to go. The ages of the dogs will vary but the minimum age will be 6 months old.

How to Participate: If you are from the ages of 12 to 18 years old, you can participate in the Challenge. You must fill out an application which will be online at www.prescottdog.com and mail it to The Prescott Dog, P.O. Box 11868, Prescott, AZ and it will then be reviewed and you will be contacted and interviewed by phone and notified shortly thereafter if you have been accepted into the program. The deadline to have your application in is August 5th. If you want more information or have any questions about participating, you can talk to Mercedes directly by calling her at (928) 848-7424.

When asked why they decided to participate in The Shelter Dog Challenge, Matt Buchholtz, Community Outreach Director from Yavapai Humane Society said, "It was an innovative idea, outside the box and a way to assist animals and young people for the future." Executive Director, Ed Boks, said, "Were not only IN, we are very excited about it!"

Shirley Culliney from Circle L Ranch shared, "We give new life and hope to the animals we save. What better way than to partner young adults with our dogs? The "Challenge" gives them the opportunity to learn together with with the ultimate goal for each dog to be the best pet ever for someone. We are happy to participate and can't wait to see the results!"

Mercedes says, "Kids are the future for the animals and we have to get them involved so the animals have a future." Her goal for this program is to expand it as far as it can go and get as many kids involved as possible.

Mercedes passions in life are dogs, horses and writing. She hopes to have a future that involves all those things. She says she would like to spend her days training dogs and her nights writing books and she says, "Animals will ALWAYS be in my future!" It is clear that this is a dynamic young woman who has some pretty big goals to fulfill and with that attitude will go very far. The animals are lucky to have Mercedes on their side as well as all the other young people she hopes to inspire!



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Service Dogs for PTSD

Story by Gary DeGeronimo



1.) Robert and Max 2.) Luke and Banjo 3.) Courtney and Link 4.) Danielle and Nahla 5.) Kelly and Ben 6.) Robert and Max when Robert was graduating from ASU

In recent times, PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) has been associated with military service men and women returning home from overseas deployment and involved in military combat. And although PTSD began to surface and become a little more understood with military veterans involved with the Viet Nam War, it has a much longer history.

PTSD-like disorders can be traced back through historical medical literature to the American Civil War and what was then known as Da Costa's Syndrome (named after Dr. Jacob Mendez Da Costa) or "Soldier's Heart." Of course, it carried on through World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, and on.

Generally, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder can be caused when someone is exposed to a traumatic event and that experience of terror or threat to life overwhelms their ability to cope. At times this will also limit their ability to function in society or even family life. This malady is not limited to only military situations but also by people who experience some form of trauma in their life.

In a publication from the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, addressing the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requirements for Service Dogs, it states that "Service Animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities." It goes on to describe the type of work or tasks performed by Service Dogs and, in part, states ". . . calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties."

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So, what can a Service Dog do that would assist and benefit someone with a diagnosed PTSD issue? Let's consider what the symptoms can be of PTSD and what a well-trained Service Dog can do to mitigate those symptoms.

One of the most common symptoms of PTSD is something known as "night terrors." This condition can cause an individual to feel fear during sleep or may awaken them in a disoriented state.

Because night terrors can be preceded by movement or vocal sounds, a Service Dog will immediately respond to these signals and either comfort or awaken the individual. The Service Dog will lick the person or cuddle with them to give comfort and interrupt the event. This has assisted many with being able to receive a full night's sleep, something they haven't been able to do in a long time.

Anxieties run high with those suffering from PTSD. A Service Dog, once bonded with its partner, will sense a change in behavior or mood swings and interrupt that behavior. This could be accomplished with something known as "Deep Pressure Therapy." The Service Dog will go to the person, place themselves across the person's lap or press their head against their chest or leg. I have witnessed Service Dogs that become relentless in their efforts to calm their partner down.

Coping with emotional overload or melt downs is something that a person with PTSD deals with and is where the Service Dog can provide assistance. Through tactile stimulation to disrupt the overload, again through a Deep Pressure Therapy Technique, the Service Dog keeps his partner centered and can

bring them back on track.

In some cases, Service Dogs can be trained to do "room checks." Someone with PTSD may have a problem coming home to an empty house and walking in the front door. Giving the Service Dog a command to "check rooms" and the Service Dog goes from room to room will give assurance that no one is there. The Service Dog can even learn to jump up and push the light switch on at night.

PTSD can be very debilitating to an individual. A Service Dog can be trained to "Get Help" when needed, such as going to locate another person in the home. A simple command will spring that Service Dog into action.

These are just a few of the tasks that a Service Dog can do for someone dealing with issues of PTSD. But in my experience, over the many years I have been working with Service Dogs, the most significant benefit that can be seen between someone suffering from PTSD issues and their Service Dog is the partnership and close bonding that occurs. It is as if they speak to each other without saying a word.

This type of Service Dog can do so much for persons with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and will allow them to return to the world around them.

Once again, our canine partners prove how important, and amazing, they are in our daily lives, from providing a life-changing service to those in need as well as giving us such unconditional love.

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EOIN







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We are a trio of kittens whose mom is a flame point Siamese. I am Violet, the sister, and my brothers are Zephyr and Xavier. They are look-alike tabbies with white short fur, and I am a lavender girl. Our d.o.b. is 3/20/16, so you see we are still very young. You can adopt us all 3 together or separately as long as we have a companion kitty about our own age to play with. We are cuddly and sweet and love people. Come to Catty Shack and visit us. Call (928) 778-6951.

I am a brown tabby girl, born on 7/6/05,

who loves attention and petting. I need lots of human attention. I am vaccinated,

altered, tested, and ready to go! United

We are 9 month old brothers, bonded

together. It would be great if we could be

adopted together. We will need to have a

companion kitty in our new home, so why

not each other? We are black and white

tabby boys, and a little shy at first with

strangers, but we warm up and are sweet

That's my brother, Cilantro, who is telling you about us. We were born in Aug. 2015,

and are beautiful short hair kitties. Please

visit us at Kitty City in Petco. United Animal

Friends. Ruth (928) 379-1088.

Animal Friends Ruth (928) 379-1088.

CILANTRO AND OREGANO



TINA

Look at me, a lovely longhaired tuxedo girl of tiny proportions. I was a teenage mom, living on the street when Catty Shack took me in. I raised 4 adorable babies and now am ready to begin my life as someone's loving companion. Did I mention I'm sweet? Catty Shack (928) 778-6951.



SPIKEY

I'm a beautiful orange tabby, under a year old, affectionate, agile, and can jump very high for the feather wand. I enjoy snuggling at bed time, and sitting on your chest when you watch TV. I need to be with adults or older children, please. Miss Kitty's Cat House Jessica 623-986-9421.

APACHE

As you know all of us tortoiseshell kitties are girls, and I am the most beautiful tortie of all. I am a playful kitty under 1 year old, a cutie pie, and living at the Cat House on Alarcon. Come visit me. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.

NALA

I'm a little silver tabby girl and I came to Chino Valley when I and my siblings were too young to be adopted. We are all 3 m.o. now and ready for a forever home. I love to play and be cuddled and also like my me time. Won't you come see me? Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 X7.

ALEXANDRIA

I'm a beautiful gray/white longhair girl of 4 years who wants to be loved. I'm okay with petting and enjoy being brushed. I'm pleasantly plump so need a bit of help with my diet. Email: charlotte junge@yahoo. com United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924.

FETTUCCINI

I'm a beautiful white boy who is a friendly, gentle guy who loves attention and will purr to reward you for your affection. I am just 2 y.o. And love toys and hope you have lots of things for me to chase. Yavapai Humane Society. (928) 445-2666.





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JAVA

I'm a soft, beautiful boy with a big plume tail & green eyes. I love petting, attention, talking, lap sitting, and will probably follow you around for your company. I'm smart...I can open doors and drawers. I'm okay with small dogs but try to dominate cats. I'm declawed in front, so indoor only. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



OLIE

I'm a large guy, very active, love to play. I hope you have lots of fun toys and a good scratching post! I need an indoor home, and have lived with other cats. I enjoy being petted, and roll over for a tummy rub. I purr a lot. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



TOO SHAY

I have a fabulous plume tail, lovely green eyes and a wonderful purrsonality. I'm super friendly, and loved to be brushed. I love people, give kisses & purrs. I'm okay with dogs, or a few cats, and am a talkative playful guy. Oh, and I'm fascinated by running water. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



RUDY

I'm an adult tuxedo boy. I was rescued from a condemned building in Prescott with 3 friends. I am getting used to all these new kitties, but I am hoping some loving person will come see me and take me home forever. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.





SUEDE

I'm a beautifully sculptured tortoiseshell girl, with a soft luxurious coat. I was rescued with my friend, Rudy, and I like being with him. I hope and dream of a forever home with a person to love and who loves me. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.

mEU

LEROY JOY

I'm a gray marble tabby girl, and I'm loud and proud. If you like a talker, I'm for you. I would like to be the only kitty. I will steal your heart, cuddling and being adorable. United Animal Friends Susan (928) 443-0547.

LOLA

I was born in Feb of 2016, and was in a foster home and now I'm a big girl and I am ready for a forever home because I'm a healthy playful kitty. I need a kitten playmate and will bring you hours of fun and love. Catty Shack (928) 778-6951.



SNUGGLES I'm 7 y.o., small, black, sleek, shiny,

golden eyed and a girl! I am new to this rescue business and a little nervous, but I trust someone to love me and take me to a forever home. Maybe you? I'm very cuddly. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



SWEET RHONDA

I'm a 1 ½ y.o. girl, a dilute tortoiseshell, and I'm playful, sweet, and fun. Bring some paper bags when you visit, 'cause I love 'em! Let's talk. Miss Kitty's Cat House eajoannes@gmail.com.



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Karen and Her Dogs Story by Allie Werhan Photos by Mary Beal

Karen Perkins has deep roots in Arizona. Her greatgrandfather, M.A. Perkins, came from Texas with his family and a few neighbors in 1900, and purchased a claim to the empty 76 Ranch in Verde Canyon. They brought cattle and started ranching, with M.A. Perkins becoming active in local and state politics. He was in the territorial legislature both before and after Arizona became a state.

In 1911, a railroad was built to transport materials to the mines at Jerome and Clarkdale, and the little station built near the ranch headquarters was named Perkinsville. When the mines played out, the people of the tiny town moved away, but the name Perkinsville survives to this day.

Karen Perkins grew up on the ranch, the P6, and lives there still, even though the property is no longer its former size. She has raised two children, Garrett and Nicole Scott, and over the years has had various livestock. Today, she has a couple of horses and her favorite dogs around her.

Garrett loves the ranch and riding horses. He is said to be a horse whisperer, his understanding of them is so strong.

She was ill for several years and could not manage the property, but has recently made a recovery (we're glad) and enjoys the beautiful surroundings of the ranch. The big trees provide summer shade, and there are abundant wildlife species including hawks.

Buddy is the main dog these days, with little Spooky and Howdy as the backup dogs. Buddy rarely lets Karen out of his sight, and Spooky is a lap dog who enjoys sitting with Karen and getting attention. The dogs like being outside, but seek the shade when summer rolls around.

In May, Karen lost her long-time companion, Zeb, a female in spite of the name. She wrote about her on her Facebook page. While Karen was in a care home in Prescott last summer, Zeb went missing and was found in downtown Prescott, 45 miles away from Perkinsville. She was looking for Karen. She had always been Karen's shadow, and had never wandered off before.

When she died, Karen and her neighbor buried her beneath a big mesquite tree. Just as they finished, two Canadian geese flew over. Karen said that it was too late in the year for the geese, and that she hadn't seen any in 3 or 4 years. It was Zeb, she knows, giving her a sign that she is well and happy in dog Heaven.

Also on her Facebook page, Karen cites a lovely poem by Robinson Jefferson about the loss of a dog.

Karen is an internationally known artist and photographer, as well as a poet herself. She hasn't been able to work much lately, but now that she is back at the ranch, she may begin her art anew. She illustrated a book, Prescott Means... with author Barbara L. Warren, which is called "A personal journal of quotes and pen-and-ink drawings about Prescott, Arizona, the best-kept secret in the Southwest."





Karen's entry in the book: Prescott means a little cow town, where the spirit of the founding fathers, miners, cattlemen and saloon keepers lives on...the spirit that has lived in my family since 1900.

With her closeness to old Arizona, to nature, and to art, it is natural for Karen to be comfortable with animals. Her dogs are an integral part of her life, and she can't even imagine a life without them. A dog is a woman's best friend, too.





ERIC MARSH FOUNDATION FOR WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS

Meet Maggie, she is the inspiration behind our current purpose. She is cuddly, lovely, wiggly and a treat motivated dog. She is the much loved dog of Amanda & Eric Marsh. Eric as you know was the Superintendent of the Granite Mountain Hotshots. He perished along with 18 of his brothers on that fateful day almost 3 years ago. At Whiskers Barkery we wanted to honor their memory but also showcase the Human Animal Bond which is the focus of what we do everyday. So with that Whiskers Barkery funded a series of photos and created postcards and prints with ALL proceeds benefiting the Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters. The Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters honors the fallen by being of service to other families of Wildland Firefighters killed in the line of duty. Amanda Marsh created this foundation to honor Eric and where 100% of ALL donations are given to next of kin. Whiskers Barkery has postcards and prints available starting at just \$2.00. Please stop by when you are in Downtown Prescott and help us honor our beloved Granite Mountain Hotshots. They were 19 hero's in life and legends in our hearts. Thank you to Amanda for believing in our purpose and to Dale Maas for donating your photography skills.



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Let's do some math. Wait! Before you stop reading, thinking "But I don't like math," let us assure you that we'll do all the calculations. You see, with the support of our donors and the help of Chino Valley Animal Hospital, we recently held a free clinic in which 20 cats and dogs were spayed or neutered, and we'd like to use some numbers to illustrate the importance of that.

Here's where the math comes in. We've read that an unaltered female dog can produce 21 puppies in a year and an unaltered female cat can produce 25 kittens in a year. Another source states that an unspayed dog, her mate, and all of their descendants, if none are spayed or neutered, can multiply to a total of 67,000 dogs in six years. The projected number for unaltered cats is similar, at 66,088 in six years. According to our calculations, the 20 cats and dogs altered at the free clinic could potentially have added approximately 4,427,896,000 puppies and kittens to Yavapai County in the next six years (that's about a bajillion for those of you who get dizzy seeing high numbers).

Does that look like fuzzy math to you? Well, maybe, but let's call it furry math instead because we think that even one unwanted cat or dog is too many. That's why we've sponsored four free clinics so far, resulting in a total of 123 pets being fixed that would not have been, even through our Low-Income Spay/Neuter Certificate Program, because their owners could not afford the co-pay. That's 123 pets who will not be contributing to the number of cats and dogs surrendered to shelters.

We are committed to offering additional free clinics as funds allow. Would you like to help? You can do that by making a donation to our Spay/Neuter Program online at www.unitedanimalfriends.org or by mail to P.O. Box 11133, Prescott, AZ 86304. Then follow us on Facebook for announcements of upcoming clinic dates and the results of those clinics.

Here's one last bit of math: You + UAF + Spay + Neuter = A better world for animals.

Rescue Me

We take chances; we give chances; and, we applaud when we see connections happen, often unexpected. Those of us committed to rescue always put the good before the bad, rewards versus tears, and the very best are adoptions that happen just when you've "given up", thinking "that dog might call the Ranch home" (which is not such a bad deal!). Looking back over our ten years, we have had so many such great pet partnerships take place.

Like Maverick and Mingus, brothers coming to us from the reservation. Tied to a 4' rope outdoors, let in only at night to go into a tiny enclosed area with no windows. Their entire 1-1/2 years were spent like that with Mingus being attacked by 7 dogs. Both were a little timid on arrival with a big learning curve. We are happy to say both found wonderful patient owners and are safe and loved even more now. In fact, they recently had a reunion, watching them play until exhausted was special.

What a road from "before" to their "now" day, with even more experiences to come.

Dogs in our Paws in Progress training program, which are usually more difficult behavorial issues, have found new homes: Marley, Kirby, Gypsy. It takes time but as the Ranch says, "there is some one for every dog" – just have to find that connection. If you are interested in helping our training program and taking a one-on-one approach with one of our dogs, please call the Ranch or Connie at (408) 373-7908.





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NASA Researched Light Therapy Available for your Pets



Having the Chi-Lite in my home is like having a first aid remedy for almost anything including my horse and dog. I had seen a similar lite costing several hundred dollars at an event I went to and could not afford it. I was shocked at how much this lite cost and I use it almost daily. I first used it when my horse had run into something and had a bad cut on her side. After just one use, I could not believe how quickly it healed. I used is as a pain management tool when my Frisbee dog Bernie, tore his ACL. We did not have to have surgery. I also use it on myself for back pain and other injuries. It's amazing! Everyone should have a Chi-lite on hand as part of their first aid kit. It's been invaluable! ~ Ann Herrington Founder, The Prescott Dog

"Light-emitting diodes promote cell growth. Skin, bone and muscle cells grown in cultures are exposed to the same light-emitting diodes used to treat wounds in patients and grow plants in space. Biologists at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee have shown that cells exposed to the near-infrared light grow 150 to 200 percent faster than ground control cells not stimulated by the light. Through a research project funded by NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., scientists are trying to learn more about the way cells convert light to energy and identify the wavelengths of light that are most effective at stimulating growth.



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Fireworks Safety

Story and Photos by Briana Lonas

As we approach the summer season and everything it has to offer, it's important to also think about the Fourth of July holiday right around the corner.

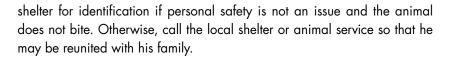
Fireworks and dogs don't mix well, mainly because our furry family members spook easily at the booming noises and lights coming from the sky.

Some dogs will attempt to escape the noises by jumping the backyard fence – even though their home domain provides security and love. Here are some helpful tips to ensure your dogs stay safe which include keeping them indoors during the holiday. According to the national Humane Society, the following could go a long way in preventing your dogs going missing:

- Turn the radio or television on inside the house before you leave the house during the Fourth of July. The familiar sounds may help ease some of the anxiety your dogs feel as the fireworks in the neighborhood begin.
- If your dog must remain outside, make sure he is on a leash or enclosure that prevents escape.
- Ask a veterinarian for assistance with regard to anxiety.
- Exercise your dog before the fireworks begin.
- Feed your dog an hour before the event.
- Be sure to provide plenty of water and food and maybe bones or treats.
- Check that your dogs are wearing their collars with ID tags or microchips.
- Check that all doors and windows leading outside remain shut.
- Remove objects that may cause harm to your pet in case he begins to panic.
- If your dog is crate trained, be sure to place him in his space with plenty of water and toys nearby.

If you are not leaving the house during the Fourth of July, it's important to remain calm while your pet is feeling nervous.

If you find a pet that is wandering around without a collar looking lost after the fireworks have ended, try to bring him to the nearest animal



According to Purina.com, dogs have keen senses that intensify the fireworks experience. During a fireworks event, your dog's heart rate increases thereby releasing a rush of stress hormones throughout their body – resulting in the "fight or flight" response.

This type of response may be similar to a thunderstorm event, but at least with the weather a dog has some time to anticipate the storm because of the outside conditions like wind and barometric pressure.

Remember to keep your dogs safe this summer season so every furry member of the family has a good time!

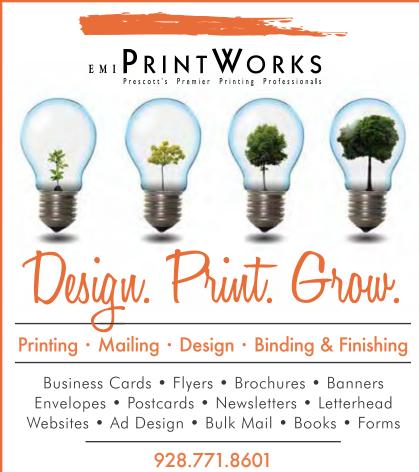


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The Straws of Thorne's Life

Story and Photos Kim Prosser

Years ago, we discovered Thorne had a thing for straws. If we left one unattended in a cup, he'd steal it and chew it flat over a couple of days.

Some straws we brought home were thick and safe for the Thorney treatment. Most were too thin. They shredded between the power of his enthusiastic molars, and we had to watch and soon separate Thorne from his joy to keep him from swallowing a piece of shattered straw.

At the time Thorne came to us, a Korean couple ran an independent Discount Emporium a few blocks from the place I worked. The store was nestled between a wedding rental shop and a check-advance shark. Everything in the store was only \$1, and the store held all sorts of treasures – like wonderful Ceylon teas from Fortunes and Roya's Tea Garden, iron tea-lite holders, and exquisite journals with tissue-thin pages boarded with silk.

Best of all, the Emporium sold straws that were hard enough to stand up to Thorne's enthusiasm.

I bought four bags when I saw them (200-count each) and wondered at the time if the straws would run out before Thorne left us. Each straw gave him multiple sessions of unchaperoned chewing pleasure – easy for us and safe for him. The straws flattened but never shredded, and we'd find mangled plastic worms abandoned throughout the house.

Thorne accepted each straw with open joy, raising up on his hind feet to take the straw between his teeth like a horse takes a bit. Each one seemed to contain a private adventure for him.

Though both are safe for him to gnaw on, Thorne would tell you the white ones are inferior, that they don't hold the same chewing pleasure as the Emporium's. He will always prefer the colorful straws in their crinkly plastic – the sound of which makes him come running – to bigger, boring, dignified straws in a plain white wrapper.

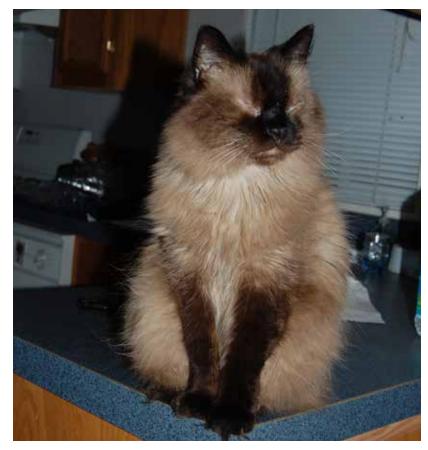
When Thorne died, the straws he left behind made me realize that rather than rationing his joy to make his straws last longer, I should have been offering him chewing adventure after adventure as quickly as I could. As soon as he abandoned a flattened straw because all the goodie had been chewed out of it, I should have gone to the kitchen cupboard (too high for him to steal a straw for himself), crinkled the bag, and watched him come running for another adventure.

Instead, I drizzled out his joy so slowly, he had to leave much of it behind.

Thorne's leaving also made me realize that I'm guilty of drizzling out my own joy. I hesitated and hid and saved my dreams and goals for tomorrow or next year, thinking I'd get to it "someday" when the time is right. But time never makes things right: we do.

Unless I write down my dreams and the steps to get there, and then deliberately do the steps before Death walks up and tells me, "Time to go," my dreams will always be languishing in the crinkly bag of my

July/August 2016



psyche, waiting for the perfect moment I never create.

This straw represents my goal of finishing the paranormal fantasy novel featuring Richard III that I have in progress.

The next straw represents my dream of returning to England to visit Middleham Castle, to stay in the Cotswolds, to have a hundred other adventures that I let myself be talked out of far too many years ago.

The straws Thorne left behind shout that I should grab the goodies in life, not someday when the time is right, but right now, starting this very moment. Pick up a dream, write down the steps it will take to get from here to there, and do them. Because the clock ticks on, today is all any of us have, and Death won't wait.

It's my fault I rationed Thorne's chewing adventures. It's my fault I ration my own dreams. No more.

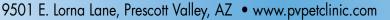
I put the first Thorney straw on the wall next to my computer and sink my creative teeth into the first step to finishing my novel. There's no room in it for an appearance by a furry, opinionated Himalayan, but that doesn't mean he's not there with me, page by page.

STRAW TO DREAM DREAM TO GOAL

GOAL TO CONCRETE STEPS DO THE STEPS TO MAKE THE DREAM REALITY What straws do you dream of chewing on before you die?











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The Lucky Club (800) 364-9454 www.luckyclub.petfinder.com

United Animal Friends P.O. Box 11133, Prescott, AZ 86304 (928)778-2924 www.unitedanimalfriends.org

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41

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