



The Prescott Dog

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

 Cats &  Horses Too!

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016

PLEASE HELP ME WITH MY PETS!



- + Maggie and the Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters pg 14
- Rescue News pg 18
- Dogs for Adoption pg 26
- Cats for Adoption pg 28
- Please Don't Pet Me...I'm Working pg 34
- Jarrold and Gemma, K9 Officer of the Year Honors pg 36

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The Prescott Dog

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Story

10 Please Help Me with My Pets!

Regular Features

- 6 The Leader of the Pack
- 10 Cover Story: Please Help Me with My Pets!
- 12 Fetch Foundation: Air Scent Search and Rescue Dogs
- 14 Special Story: Maggie and the Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters
- 16 A Walk with Wolf Dogs
- 18 Rescue News
- 20 Dogtoberfest Story
- 25 Business Spotlight: Little Dealer Little Prices
- 26 Dogs for Adoption
- 28 Cats for Adoption
- 29 Horsin' Around: A Young Man and His Love of Horses
- 30 Pet Health Tips: Choosing the Right Crate for Your Dog
- 32 On the Trail: Driving and Hiking Groom Creek Loop is a Cool Fall Adventure
- 34 K-9 Service Corner: Please Don't Pet Me...I'm Working
- 36 The K-9 Beat: Jarrod and Gemma, K9 Officer of the Year Honors
- 38 Train Your Dog
- 40 Horsin' Around Too: The Working Horse
- 42 Celebration of Life: Welcome at Rainbow Bridge

Important Information

- 8 Calendar of Events
- 9 Area Dog Park Listings
- 31 Important Contact Info: Pet Phone Numbers You Should Have
- 44 Animal Rescue & Adoption Groups
- 45 Pet Directory: Pet Related Services
- 46 Pet Friendly Establishments



COVER STORY: Please Help Me with My Pets



Maggie and the
Eric Marsh
Foundation for
Wildland Firefighters

14

Business Spotlight:
Little Dealer
Little Prices



25



Jarrod and Gemma,
K9 Officer of
the Year Honors

36

THE PRESCOTT DOG

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Briana Lonas - Pet Health Tips

Rita Thompson-Tinsley - Horsin' Around Too

Jenet Tambellini - Pet Health Tips

Allie Werhan - Cover Story, Fetch Foundation, Eric Marsh Foundation, Business Spotlight, Walk with Wolfdogs, Rescue News, Dogtoberfest 2016

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



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The Prescott Dog Staff & Writers



Cherie L. Dreves - Publisher/Editor 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 has been working in Animal Welfare since 1997. She created The Prescott Dog magazine in 2008 with her beloved dog Bernie to help rescue and shelter animals in the Quad Cities along with two adoption events, Woofstock and Dogtoberfest. She remains committed to the cause and continues to promote and write for the publication and help with the events in any way she can.



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 - On The Trail 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.



Rita Thompson-Tinsley - Equine Contributor After a career in broadcast advertising and production, Rita and family moved from a ranch in Texas where she raised Nubian goats, retired show lambs, miniature donkeys, llamas and horses, to Arizona. She currently resides in Dewey with her husband, three horses and two rescue labs. Her equestrian and western writing has been featured in Arizona publications as well as an international magazine for cowgirls.

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Leader of the Pack

Dear Readers,

Please accept my personal invitation to join Prescott Dog Magazine and Big Dog Charitable Foundation, Sunday, October 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. when the Courthouse Square will go to the dogs, for the largest pet adoption and celebration of "all things dog" of the year, DOGtoberfest 2016.

Family friendly, furry fun is in store for all. Bring your well behaved, furry family members, and enjoy the contests, demonstrations and our community of "dog people". If you have been considering adding a new furry member of the family, now's the time to act. With so many possibilities all in one place, you are sure to get Lucky, or maybe Bella or maybe Rex or go for the trifecta and take all three. You get the idea. More than 25 area rescues will have lovable dogs looking for their forever home during DOGtoberfest 2016. Will one of them go home with you?

I would like to thank our major sponsors; Olsen's for Healthy Animals, celebrating its 10th year as a major sponsor, Farbenholt Dog Training, Windermere Real Estate and Prescott Area Pet Emergency Hospital. Thanks to all for your continued support. Prescott Dog Magazine is grateful to our sponsors, because without them, this event would not be possible.

See you in October!

Peace, Love, Dogs

Cherie





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OBESITY AND PETS

Will a few extra pounds really harm my pet?

According to the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention, **over 50% of cats and dogs in the USA are obese**. Most pet owners still feel their pet is at an acceptable weight though. This is why it is important to consult with your family veterinarian on a routine basis regarding your pet's weight.

Obesity has many long-term risks, including decreased life-span, but there also some pet emergencies that can be associated with obesity.

Intervertebral disk disease - the extra weight itself does not cause disks to degenerate, but the weight does create a greater force and could worsen a secondary condition, which could result in an emergency. If your pet is having trouble walking or seems to be in pain, seek immediate veterinary care.

Hepatic lipidosis in cats (fatty liver) - if an obese cat goes off food for any reason, the body fat is mobilized and may enter the liver. If this happens it can result in organ failure. You should never withhold food from your cat and if you notice a change in your cat's appetite, seek immediate veterinary care.

Respiratory trouble - extra fat makes it harder for pets to take deep breaths. For small dogs, obesity is a risk factor in tracheal collapse. If your pet is ever having trouble breathing, seek immediate veterinary care.

Weight management varies between dogs and cats. It important to keep an on-going relationship with your family veterinarian to help keep your pet in optimal health.

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

Ongoing Adoptions

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Horses – Cheryl Caldararo
(928) 925-1926
www.circlel.org
Offsite, Whiskers Barkery Every 3rd,
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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,
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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

Special Events OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

Holistic Workshop

September 15th 6pm - 7pm
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From The Prescott Dog

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1605 Sundog Ranch Road, Prescott, AZ

Prescott Dog Licensing
(928) 777-1291
201 Cortez St., Prescott, AZ

Prescott Valley Animal Control
(928) 772-9267
7601 E Civic Cir, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Chino Valley Animal Control
(928) 636-4223
1020 West Palomino Rd., Chino Valley, AZ

Animal Disaster Services
(928) 925-7990
(Shelter for animals in the event of a disaster)

Save the Date Friday October 28th



Join Whiskers Barkery for the annual K9 Tricks for Treats

Start & End at Whiskers Barkery
Tricks for Treats sign-up start at 3:45pm - \$10 Donation Benefits Yavapai Search & Rescue K9 Unit

Tricks for Treats throughout Downtown Prescott Shops • 4 – 6pm
Halloween Photos • 4 – 7pm
\$10.00 Donation to United Animal Friends
Costume Prizes & Raffle Prize Drawing • 6:30pm at Whiskers Barkery
Yappy Hour with Free People & Pet Treats • 4 – 7pm at Whiskers Barkery
Tricks for Treats Limited to first 100 Participants

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Put YOUR DOG on a Cover of Prescott Dog Magazine!



Be at Dogtoberfest on October 2nd where, for a **\$10 DONATION TO BIG DOG CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**, we'll take your dog's picture and print it on the cover! All for a great cause—helping local pet families in need.



Big Dog Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2013 and dedicated to providing local animals in need with emergency funds. This includes animals that are privately owned and/or animals in transition that are being helped by non-profit rescue or shelter groups.

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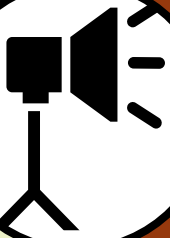
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After the showing of "The Champions" meet the Pit Bull Ambassadors!

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- championsdocumentary.com



Please Help Me with My Pets!

Story By Allie Werhan

One of the most beautiful relationships in the world is that between a pet guardian and his or her pet. Love, acceptance, fun, tears, adventure, peace and serenity...this special relationship encompasses every emotion, situation and surprise you can imagine. The strong bonds form family, some two legged and some four legged, which can last a lifetime.

While none of us want to think about that part of the future, we all know that life keeps happening, and sometimes it means the pet/owner bond must be broken. Sometimes it is the pet who passes. But what if it is the owner who can no longer care for this beloved pet? The dog you raised from a puppy is getting older, having medical problems, slowing down. Owners do that too. We will all reach a place where we can no longer care for our family of dogs or cats. That is a very difficult place indeed.

The rescue group gets a frantic call from the concerned relative of a pet owner. "My grandmother has to go into the hospital for 5 weeks, and there is no one who can take her two little dogs. What am I going to do?" Variations of this call come in weekly to rescues and the Humane Society.

One woman in Yarnell Arizona has given this situation considerable thought. Meet Kim Lytle, founder and director of Petey's Playground. Her rescue group is unique in this part of Arizona, if not the state. Kim's mission statement reads: To establish, improve, and preserve the relationships between seniors and their pets by locating a compatible pet, providing short term care while the owner takes care of personal matters, or by finding a loving home when they can no longer care for their pet.

The first part of this statement means that Petey's will help a senior find a suitable pet for a companion, and help the person and the pet get settled into a new relationship. The second part means that Petey's will care for the pet in a short-term crisis. Sometimes that may be in the owner's home, or perhaps in a loving foster home



Establishing, improving, and preserving the relationships between seniors and their pets.



Kim Lytle—Director
928-713-1375

Website:

Petey'sPlayground.org

Email:

Petey'sPlayground@gmail.com

until the owner returns. If the owner can no longer keep the pet, then Petey's tries to find a new home for the pet.

It is a lot easier to provide care if the owner has planned ahead, notifying Kim that she will need short-term care for her animals during surgery recovery, for example. In many cases the dog doesn't go back to the owner. The owner may be physically or emotionally unable to care for the pet.

Kim has a contract with the clients regarding the dog, terms of service, and services provided. The client relinquishes the dog to Kim, which gives her the authority to make medical decisions for the dog. She requires current vaccination

records, and if the dog is not up to date, she takes care of it at the owner's expense.

The surrender is for a specific period of time. If the owner, for whatever reason, doesn't or won't take the dog back during that period of time, Kim will surrender the dog to a no-kill humane society or try to find an adopter.

Many of the dogs are not highly adoptable; they're older dogs with medical or behavior issues. These dogs are put in forever fosters, in Avondale, Glendale, Phoenix, or wherever Kim can find someone who is willing to take one of the dogs. She offers help with food, medical issues and other expenses, but often the foster wants to take care of those because he/she has bonded emotionally with the dog.

Kim has no facilities for taking in cats, so Dr. Kate McCollough at Muleshoe Vet in Peoples Valley takes the cats as she has room to kennel them. She tries to find homes for as many as she can. She also needs forever fosters or shorter term fosters.

Rescue groups get requests for short-term fostering but are not set up to accommodate such requests. Some communities have tried various solutions.

A rescue group established in its mission could work with its Board to create protocols for paperwork and procedures. Surrender of the dog, medical attention, reimbursements, and getting everything properly documented are areas of focus. Several groups might dedicate a boarding kennel for temporary fosters, and share this responsibility. Partially subsidizing boarding fees for some clients is another possibility.

What can an individual do to ensure that in the case of need for a temporary foster, his wishes will be followed?

The biggest part of a temporary care plan is... the plan. "It is the same with fire evacuations and other emergencies," Kim points out. "You can't wait until the last minute. You have to plan ahead." That

could involve getting people you know, friends or family, committed to taking care of your animals if something happens. In the case of multiple pets, assign out each animal to a friend for a certain length of time. People need to do basic training so their dogs will be able to walk on a leash or other activities. No one will want to take care of an untrained dog. Get people on board, but prepare your dog, too.

A good plan includes a complete profile of your pet(s), including name, age, health, medications, eating habits, training, behavior, vaccination records, and temperament. Records should be updated regularly. Include a good photo of your pet...a description is not enough. Talk to friends and relatives, and discuss with them taking one or more of your pets if you cannot care for the animals, and check periodically to make sure the arrangements will still work. Talk to your veterinarian, and make sure that contact information is in your pet file and that your pet is up to date on vaccinations. It is important to sign a form releasing veterinary/medical records for the caregiver of your pet because veterinarians will not treat your pet without consent from the owner.

As you can see, most of these components don't involve spending money. They may be time-consuming, but your fur family is worth it.

A "Go Box" is another recommendation, a box which would include all the records mentioned plus food, treats, leashes, toys, and medications so if you have to leave in a hurry for an emergency of any sort, every thing is right there. In an emergency situation, you will be under stress, you may not be able to remember everything you need, or know where to find it or know who to call.

Keep your pet files in an easy-to-find location in case you are not there to take it with you. The result of not planning is that your pet may not be cared for according to your

wishes, and may go to a shelter. Shelters are not the bad guys, but it would be better to have your pet with family or friends.

The following is from Elisabeth Haugen, Marketing and Development Director of Yavapai Humane Society, for your information.

"Yavapai Humane Society has a Safety Net program for families or individuals involved in temporary displacement due to financial hardship, hospitalization, domestic violence and other circumstances. Through the program, we provide foster care or boarding for the pet so that the family can be reunited.

The animal must also meet basic health/temperament criteria; they can't be vicious or feral. A YHS veterinarian examines the animals, and minor medical conditions may be treated during the foster placement period. If extensive veterinary care is required, efforts are made to contact the owner for discussion. YHS Low Cost Spay Neuter staff will spay/neuter and vaccinate animals in need of such services with owner consent. Owners who do not give consent will forfeit participation in the program and will need to make other arrangements for their pets.

People can use this program by first completing the Safety Net application, available in hard copy at the shelter or on our website. A maximum of two animals per client is available and boarding/foster placement is not to exceed 30 days (exceptions may be made on a case by case basis)."

A card in your purse or wallet telling first responders that you have pets at home alone is a good idea in case you are in an accident and can't speak. Key chain alerts are also available to purchase.

Many people include pets in their wills or make financial arrangements for their care. A codicil will provide immediate funds for your pets.

The desired outcome is that your pets will continue their lives as you wish them to do, loved and cared for forever. Whether you give them up because of your own health or theirs or for other reasons, their well-being and happiness is the goal. Preparing for this eventuality will give you peace of mind.



Air Scent Search and Rescue Dogs

Story By Allie Werhan • Photos Courtesy of Carol and Alan White



1.) Yavapai County Sheriff's Office (YCSO) Canine Search and Rescue team



2) Carol and Nala



3) Alan with Gracie

They found the woman safe and well. She was the 13th "live find" the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office (YCSO) Canine Search and Rescue team has achieved in the last 5 years.

The searches and finds are all team efforts with dogs and handler(s) who get assigned to work part of an area when someone has gone missing. In some cases, the team is assigned part of a search area to make sure there is nobody there. They may not all get their pictures in the paper, but all are an important part of the team.

Carol and Alan White have been doing this work for about 5 years. When they first moved to Prescott, they met two people in front of the Wal-Mart on Hwy 69 selling Yavapai County Sheriff's Response Teams calendars. Talking to Tony and Leslie Turek aroused their interest and inspired them to take their dogs to training. Carol and Alan realized that this group would fill a lot of their wishes to get involved with the community, to meet people and to have an opportunity to train and work with their dogs.

Carol and Alan are connected with Fetch Foundation, a group which rescues dogs and places them in Search and Rescue or as therapy dogs. One of the group's main goals is to provide Fido Bags® to firefighters to use to resuscitate animals that they encounter in emergency situations. Marie Peek, who heads Fetch Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 is based in Cave Creek and raises money to fund the Fido Bags®. There are 3 Fetch Foundation rescue dogs working with the YCSRT.

Human handlers dress in bright orange and wear helmets. Dogs wear vests and bells, so the handlers can keep track of them. When the vest and bells go on, Nala is ready and eager to go to work. Both Nala, Carol's yellow Lab,

and Gracie, Alan's silver Lab, are rescue dogs.

Humans are constantly shedding millions of skin cells. When we breathe out, the moisture in our breath carries a scent the dog can easily distinguish. Air scent dogs rely on real time shedding of skin cells or breath expulsion. Once the dog finds the scent, it starts to work back and forth over the assigned search area. Air scent dogs never use their eyes to search, just their noses. Once they find something, they run back to the handler. Nala alerts by jumping up. Carol says, "Show me," and Nala takes Carol to what she found.

The air scent dogs are unleashed and range about 30 feet ahead of the handlers. For them, time is very important. When they are ready to search, Carol White removes Nala's leash and says, "Go, find!" and Nala takes off. Carol and the other handlers use a wilderness GPS on which they put the 4 compass points of their search grid. They have a plan about how the dog is going to search. The dog must be walking into the wind so the scent is coming toward it, moving back and forth across the area.

The teams participate in ongoing training. The YCSO search and rescue dogs train to the National Association of Search and Rescue Standards. They are attached to the County Sheriff's office and go out only when the YCSO asks.

For the handlers, training covers information about the dogs and equipment, and about studies of lost persons, with search efforts developed for behavior based on a fixed number of variables: age, physical and mental health, and activity level. An experienced hiker would behave differently than a senior with dementia. With these models, possible

behavior can be predicted which helps searchers allocate resources, starting with the "point last known," and helps the sheriff's office have the best chance of quickly finding the lost person.

The search they were on in June started in a neighborhood and moved to an area where there was a lake and a lot of thick brush. An 86-year-old woman with dementia, Gerry, had wandered away from her home, but Carol and Alan knew she wouldn't travel far. After 2 ½ hours, Nala, ranging ahead, climbed a ten-foot berm that had been placed on a road to prevent vehicle traffic. On top Nala alerted by barking, her choice at night. She kept coming back and forth to Carol and Alan, so they climbed the berm and with their flashlights, found the woman.

Carol sat with Gerry and comforted her while Alan called the S & R coordinator. The Back Country EMTs came with a stretcher, fire engine and ambulance "We have the best paramedics and firemen in Arizona," Carol says. The firemen gave Carol and Alan a ride back on the fire engine, while the subject was treated for minor injuries. Nala, who usually eats healthy, got 2 cheeseburgers as a reward.

The YCSO Canine Search and Rescue teams have been from Utah to Tucson lately, helping other agencies search for lost persons. They are versatile units, and are always looking for more members. Members provide all their own equipment. Search and Rescue teams get some funding through calendar sales, grants, and donations from the public and sponsors.

Look Carol and Alan up at Dogtoberfest and learn more!

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Maggie and the Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters

Story By Allie Werhan • Photos by Allie Werhan and Courtesy of Amanda Marsh



1.) Print available for purchase to support the Eric Marsh Foundation 2) Amanda and Maggie 3) Eric Marsh Foundation logo 4) Eric and Amanda

Maggie, a black and white Australian shepherd, is the spokesdog for the Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters. She is a rescue dog, and although she will be nine in October, she is a puppy at heart. When she came home with Eric and Amanda Marsh, they also had Bodie, a great Pyrenees who is charming and friendly, but not too bright. Maggie has become his guide dog, and Amanda says, the two of them "...were Eric's everything."

When he came home from a fire, Amanda, both dogs and his horse were the ones Eric wanted to see. Eric was often gone two or three weeks at a time in the summer, in his work as a wildland firefighter, as the leader of the Granite Mountain Hotshots team. After the Yarnell fire, when Eric and 18 of his team perished on June 30, 2013, the dogs seemed to sense that something was different. Amanda believes that Eric somehow came to visit them, and still does, because they meant so much to him.

Amanda says, "Eric was always trying to give money away...he had a real giving spirit, and was really affected by wildland fire tragedies. When you're a wildland firefighter, it doesn't matter if you are seasonal or all-year, it is a fraternity." The Storm King/South Canyon fire in Colorado highly affected Eric, and he honored and respected the sacrifices those firefighters made.

About a year after the Yarnell Hill fire, Amanda started thinking about how much she wanted Eric's name to be honored with something positive and giving, to show him as a human being and what he made of his life.

The Foundation, a 501 c 3, was started for that reason. Amanda points out that the community of families of the wildland firefighters lost at Yarnell Hill had been given so much by the outpouring of love and help from the people of Prescott and Arizona, that they wanted to help other wildland firefighter families in similar situations. The 100 Club is an Arizona organization which aids first responder families in cases of injuries and death. The goal of the Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters

is to raise as much money as possible and give all of it away to families of the wildland firefighters who lost their husband/son/father/brother. She says they don't want to amass a core amount of money, but to distribute all the money they raise directly to those who need it.

In 2015, they raised \$29,000 and gave \$29,000 away. They sell t-shirts and accept donations

The Foundation also does work with PTSD, and is working to locate one therapist in every state who deals with PTSD who can offer pro bono work for wildland firefighters and family members who are affected by this burdensome condition.

Amy Armenta is the assistant who runs the office and day-to-day operations of the Foundation. Her salary is paid entirely by a private special donor. She previously worked for both the Prescott Fire Fighter Charities and the 100 Club of Arizona. Her husband, Tim, is an alumnus of the Granite Mountain Hotshots and served under Eric Marsh for three seasons. Both Amy and Tim have a heart for serving the fire community.

The Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters will have a booth out in front of Whiskers Barkery, 225 W. Gurley St. in Prescott, during Labor Day Weekend. Be sure to stop by and buy a t-shirt or hat, or donate if you are moved to do so.

Amanda's goals for the Foundation are to grow slowly, working with volunteers who want to help families of wildland firefighters, and help those families cope with the tragedies of their lives. "The money we initially received from the 100 Club helped so much with the mundane activities of life, at a time when it was difficult to

function at all."

The Foundation will help those in need in Arizona, but wants to reach out to other states, to the BIA wildland firefighters, and to inmates who are brought in to help fight the fires.

Amanda wants to thank Donna at Whiskers Barkery who funded a series of photos and created postcards and prints with all proceeds benefiting the Eric Marsh Foundation. Thanks also to Dale Maas for donating his photography skills. Items start at just \$2.00.

The Eric Marsh Foundation for Wildland Firefighters fills a real need. Understanding and accepting such tragedy is so difficult but the funds provided by the Foundation will clear a little space from which to begin.

Through the years, relearning who she is and how she feels, Amanda says, "Maggie is a real blessing to me."

www.ericmarshfoundation.org

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A Walk with the Wolfdogs

Story by Allie Werhan • Photos by Karen Yeager



1.) Paula, Steve, Taboo



2) Loki and Thor



3) Kona, Loki, and Thor playing



4) The Wolf Dog Crew

In the spring of this year, Karen Yeager and her friend, Don Russell, of Prescott Valley, took a couple of days off to travel to Sedona to meet with California friends of Karen, Paula and Steve Wastell, who have a group called Apex Protection Project. They raise wolf-dogs and work to publicize the need for protection of wolves in the wild. One of their projects reaches out to inner city kids and others to make visitations and educate them about these animals.

Karen wanted to spend time with her friends, but they were very busy, making school presentations in Sedona and attending screenings of a documentary advocating for the protection of wolves called "Medicine of the Wolf." The two Wastells had brought four of their wolfdogs to Sedona at the urging of the documentary producer, Julia Huffman, in conjunction with the screenings.

Through a stroke of good luck, Karen and Don won a hike with the wolfdogs and their entourage along Oak Creek out of Red Rock Crossing, to a place where the wolfdogs could play in the water. Two of the wolfdogs were only 7 1/2 months old at the time and went crazy about the water. They played until they were exhausted, just the way dogs do.

There were other hikers across the creek who gathered to watch the wolfdogs romp in the water. They play with the same joy as any dog, and their people, who were tired from the heavy schedule, played with them and each other and just enjoyed relaxing.

Traveling with the wolfdogs is a lot of work. Each wolfdog they brought had to have its own handler, with extra handlers to take turns. Handlers must keep alert and watch the wolfdogs carefully because they stay very aware of their surroundings every minute. You can see it in their faces, especially their eyes, no matter what dog breed they are mixed with.

Wolfdogs are hybrids of domestic dogs and one of four wolf subspecies. According to experts, "...gray wolves and dogs are considered the same species, because they have bred in the wild for thousands of years." It can be difficult to identify wolfdogs because both gray wolves and dogs come in so many breeds. Some modern dog breeds were created in cross-breeding programs with wolves, including the German Shepherd.

Some people consider wolfdogs dangerous, and in many states there are restrictions and regulations on ownership. Most wolfdogs are naturally healthy, with hybrid vigor, and are a mixture of traits of wolves and dogs, which may make an individual animal less predictable. Wolfdogs with high wolf content may retain more wolf-like behavior, but the high dog content wolfdogs "...rarely have problems with human association and training, and can become good companions."

When they returned from their hike along Oak Creek, the Sedona group headed to Poco Diablo for lunch. The wolfdogs ate first, ordering from the special canine menu. During the human lunch, other diners came to the table to ask about the wolfdogs, and

the owners spent time to satisfy the questions, something they enjoy.

Paula and Steve Wastell were very pleased with the welcome from Sedona of the wolfdogs, and appreciated their time in the Canyon. Their documentary is available on DVD. Want to know more? Check out the website, www.apexprotectionproject.org/.

Since the Sedona adventure, Karen has visited the wolfdogs and the Wastells in California and contributed supplies. She says that is why she goes, but when she sends back photos of the wolfdogs giving her kisses, you have to wonder. She also loves to take photographs and is planning on making some postcards for a fundraiser.

Wolves are in the news these days as conservationists attempt to restore the animals in the wild. Showing wolfdogs helps educate the public about wolves and to understand the importance of wolves in our wilderness areas.

Over the years, there have been many scary stories written about wolves, as well as delightful natural history books that show that wolves have family values humans can recognize and appreciate. The wolfdogs can be very affectionate as well.

Kona, a two-year-old wolfdog, spontaneously gave Karen a wolfy kiss and put her teeth gently on Karen's nose...no fear, and an excellent memory from a day with the wolfdogs.



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UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

Dr. Amie Dow is currently serving on the United Animal Friends Board of Directors. United Animal Friends (UAF) is a local, non-profit rescue group in Prescott. UAF is an all volunteer organization supported by donations, grants and fundraisers.

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Dr. Caroline O'Sullivan, DVM , of Prescott Valley visits Best Friends Animal Society in Kanab, Utah.

Story by Allie Werhan

In an effort to better serve the communities of both two-legged and four, Dr. O'Sullivan decided to expand. Holistic Animal Care 501 (C) 3 was created to provide educational opportunities and a strong rescue focus. It has always proven true that learning from the best and being prepared favors success, so at Best Friends, we attended a one week intensive workshop called "How to Start and Run an Animal Sanctuary." All I can say is "WOW!" and thank you to everyone at Best Friends. The kindness for all things, collaboration, and

the willingness to share everything about their success was heart-warming. The reality of the long hard road ahead in service to others was made stunningly clear but the fact is that we are not alone in this mission. It will take a village to help the animals and educate animal advocates. We hope to join the Best Friends Network Partners and will focus on seminars and the rescue of dogs, especially mommies and puppies. Although we are just beginning, I can confidently say that we will need help of all types and that we will "Never Give Up Hope." Dr. O.



Woofstock Adoption from No Longer Astray

Story by Janet Tambellini

In browsing through the long list of dogs to be euthanized and agonizing over which ones we could help, my eyes landed on a sweet-faced black and white little girl who was due to be put down the next morning due to extreme fear issues. My heart sank as I looked at those sweet eyes. I saw something very special behind the sadness and fear. I knew she was the one so I immediately started the process to save her life. Upon meeting her, I came to see just how deep her fear was. She wouldn't walk, her skin would crawl when you touched her and she looked for anywhere she could escape and hide from the world. I carried her to the car, into the house, and to the secluded

room I had set up for her. I let her settle in for a few hours and came back to check on her. For weeks, I would just sit by her, reading, or would stroke her gently, and eventually after time, she began to trust me. I could finally pet her, and she eventually started taking treats from me and after about a month of working with her, I finally got her to walk outside on a leash with one of my other dogs. Once she gained the confidence to walk on the leash, her whole world opened up. She started playing with the other dogs and eventually came to be part of the pack. I knew then it was time to find her that perfect forever home.

We brought her to the Woofstock adoption event and there we met the most amazing family. They spent about half an hour with this special girl whom we named Gracie, and decided they wanted her to be a forever part of their family. I was excited beyond words for them and especially for Gracie. We did the home check the next day and Gracie was a little tentative, but after a few follow-up walks together with one of her best friends from the rescue, she started blossoming and coming out of her shell, and is now going to the dog park and for car rides and has the best life ever!

Chino Valley Animal Partners

Story by Allie Werhan

Aleshia Dafoe of Chino Valley has announced that a group of Chino Valley Animal Shelter volunteers and employees have formed a new organization as a support group for the shelter. There is a core group of 10 who meet on the first Monday of the month at Memory Park in Chino Valley, at 6:15 p.m. Their goal is to assist CVAS with building and facilities up grades, extra surgeries they may need to do, and to help repair the aging kennels in the shelter. Future plans include additional space to house more animals including cats. The members see the needs of the shelter on a daily basis and work with Shelter

Manager Bethany Sullivan on their plans. They hope to refurbish the yard with play equipment for the dogs.

The group has filed paperwork to become a 501 (c) 3, so people may make tax-deductible donations to help the Animal Shelter. Meet the new group at Dogtoberfest in October.



United Animal Friends Rescue News

Story by Allie Werhan

In June, UAF rescued 10 dogs living in deplorable conditions, although they are all social and friendly. The owner's wife, a hoarder and collector of dogs died, leaving these dogs in need of care. All are seniors, 8 years and older, needing groomed and vaccinated. We didn't know where to put them, but we knew we had to take them, and it is working out, with some already placed.

Carolyn Layton, manager of Tuff Sheds, 7563 E. Hwy 69, Suite C, Prescott Valley, announced they are sponsoring an adoption event with United Animal Friends which will include adoptable dogs, outside if the weather is good, and adoptable cats, which will be inside. The cost is \$5.00

per family, and will include a free lunch of hot dogs, or burgers and fixings. Two beautiful custom-made dog houses will be raffled off as well as a cat condo for your kitty. Tickets are \$1.00 each. All proceeds will go to the rescue work of United Animal Friends.

Anyone who adopts a dog or cat can get 10% off the cost of a new Tuff Shed for this day only.

Come and meet your new best friend, have lunch with your friends and family, and enjoy a day with the animals. 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924 Tuff Sheds (928) 772-4017

Halloween Photos with Your Pets

Story by Allie Werhan

Animal rescue is serious business, but when it comes to fundraising, United Animal Friends likes to make it as fun as possible. And what could be more fun than dressing your pup in a Halloween costume for a family portrait? This is the one time of the year when you can dress yourself and your pooch in matching outfits and not have people look at you funny.

Put on your best costumes and head to Whiskers Barkery at 225 W. Gurley Street in Downtown Prescott on Friday, October 28th between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. to get a lasting memento of the fun you and your pet have together. A framed 5" x 7" print or a CD with multiple photos is only \$10. All proceeds benefit animals in need and no appointment is necessary.

Whiskers Barkery will also be hosting their annual K9 Tricks for Treats throughout Downtown Prescott and their Yappy Hour party with prizes for best costumes. Tricks for Treats will take place from 4:00 to 6:00 with signups at 3:45. Yappy Hour is from 4:00 to 7:00 with costume prizes and raffle prize drawing at 6:30. Tricks for Treats proceeds will benefit Yavapai Search & Rescue K9 Unit. For more information, contact Whiskers Barkery at 928.776.8700.

It will be a fun-filled evening

for you and your dog, and the funds raised with the United Animal Friends Halloween photos will benefit pets who aren't as lucky as yours.



Raven Pines Dog Rescue and Rehabilitation in Cordes Lakes, AZ

Story by Allie Werhan

Raven Pines Dog Rescue and Rehabilitation in Cordes Lakes, AZ

During the Bug Fire in Cordes Lakes, the Raven Pines rescue needed to be evacuated. Ellen Paquin, manager, was home alone and tried to manage the 17 dogs by herself when she was put on notice to evacuate. Fortunately, the fire didn't reach their sanctuary, thanks to a wind shift. That was a close call.

There are still some wonderful adoptable dogs available at Raven Pines. We work with all our dogs on training, agility, and good manners. When you find the dog you love, we will let you take it home for a sleepover to see how things progress. After you have adopted the dog, we will work with you for follow-up training, and to make sure everything is working for both you and your new best friend.

Raven Pines would like to recruit a few volunteers who like to work with the bigger dogs. Training and agility are important work, and help with the rehabilitation of injured or abused dogs. Visit their website at spiritpromises@commspeed.net.



Woofstock 2016

Story by Shirley Culliney

WOOFSTOCK 2016, a busy, happy place for Circle L Ranch's dogs!

We brought 7 puppies and a few older citizens. After enjoying a day playing (or in the case of our senior, sleeping) on the cool grass and offering greetings, there were "interested party" forms. After the home visits, 6 were adopted, ready to continue their journey to become loved pets. Reports from new owners

confirm ... "He is definitely a sweetheart!" "We've been really enjoying this addition to our family" "We love them, they are great and will be with us forever" "Doing great, has his forever home and a best friend".

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Dogtoberfest! Tenth Annual Adoptathon and Associated Fun and Hoopla!

Story By Allie Werhan • Photos By Mary Beal

Here it comes, the biggest dog adoption event of the year, with dogs of every description for adoption as well as the giant assemblage of dogs of all breeds, colors, and sizes, more wagging tails than you can count, and dog lovers grinning from ear to ear as they breathe in the heady ambiance of dogs, dogs, dogs.

Save the date, Sunday, October 2nd, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Courthouse Square in downtown Prescott. What's going on? Demonstrations! Exhibits! Vendors! Canine Good Citizenship Testing! Contests! Food! Kid's Activities! Free Samples! Yes, and More!

Prescott, a great dog-friendly city, loves Dogtoberfest because this event brings together dog lovers from all over, as well as businesses, both pet related and community-aware. Prescott Dog Magazine loves our sponsors because without them, this event would not be possible. We are extremely grateful to them for their enthusiasm which adds to the atmosphere of excitement. There will be over 80 vendor booths offering lots of great merchandise, supplies for pets and good eats for the humans.

Major sponsors are Olsen's for Healthy Animals, celebrating its 10th year as a sponsor! Our other valued major sponsors are Farbenholt Dog Training, Windermere Real Estate and Prescott Area Pet Emergency Hospital. Thanks to all for your continued support.

Hundreds of dogs have been adopted in the past 9 years of Dogtoberfest, and we expect this year to continue that wonderful and awesome tradition. At the time of print, we are expecting the following shelter and rescue groups: United Animal Friends, Yavapai Humane Society, Chino Valley Animal Shelter, Arizona Puggle Rescue, Amazing Aussie Lethal White Rescue, Min Pin Haven Rescue, Wildhorse Ranch Rescue, Akita Advocates Relocation Team AZ, Greyhound Pets of AZ, Rescue a Golden of AZ Circle L Ranch Rescue and Sanctuary, AZ Border Collie Rescue, Dane Haven, Inc., No Longer Astray, Pound Puppyz, Help a Dog Smile, and Aussie and Friends. In addition there are several new rescues here this year.

Fees and adoption requirements vary from group to group for the dogs on show, and are set by each group.

Yavapai County Search and Rescue will have a booth where you can learn what they do and maybe sign up to help.

Demonstrations will be going on all day from Farbenholt Dog Training, Behavior and Training. Learn what Canine Freestyle is from Arizona Canine Musical Freestylers and how you and your furry friend can pick up a new hobby.

You can enter your dog in a contest to try to win a trophy and nifty prizes. Favorite competitions are for best looking dog, owner-dog look-alikes, best trick and more.

Yavapai Broadcasting's Brad Roberts keeps the crowd laughing and makes sure everyone knows what is going on and where. He also has games and prizes, and a terrific chatter to keep you entertained.

Yavapai Humane Society will bring its canine vaccination clinic to Dogtoberfest again. Canine vaccines will be available for \$12.00 per dog for rabies, DA2PPV, and Bordatella. The Canine Rattlesnake vaccine will be available for \$16.00 per dog, and Microchips for your dog will be \$10.00 each.

A couple of reminders about good doggy etiquette and stress...there are a lot of people

and dogs, so keep your dog on a 6 foot leash or less. If your dogs are timid or unfriendly, we ask that you leave them home and bring them some great goodies you will pick up. Don't forget to "scoop the poop" and keep the Courthouse Square beautiful.

Wear your comfy shoes because this is going to be a busy day. To see all the contests demonstrations, to visit all the vendors and participate in the activities, will fill your 5 hours at Dogtoberfest, so that when you trot home at 4 p.m., your paws may be draggin' but your tail will still be waggin'. You will be tired and happy, and asking each other, "Okay, what





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- 10:30am Arizona Canine Musical Freestylers (Arena)
- 11:00am Farbenholt Dog Training, Behavior & Training (Arena)
- 11:30am Pet/Owner Look-A-Like Contest (Stage)
- 12:00noon Shelter Dog Challenge (Stage)
- 12:30am Best Overall Costume Contest (Stage)
- 1:00pm Arizona Canine Musical Freestylers (Arena)
- 1:30pm Best Trick or Talent Contest (Stage)
- 2:00pm Farbenholt Dog Training, Behavior & Training (Arena)
- 2:30pm Best-Looking Dog Contest (Stage)
- 3:00pm The Dog Races – (Arena)

For more information and pre-entry form for contests go to www.prescottdog.com. Contest & demo times subject to change.

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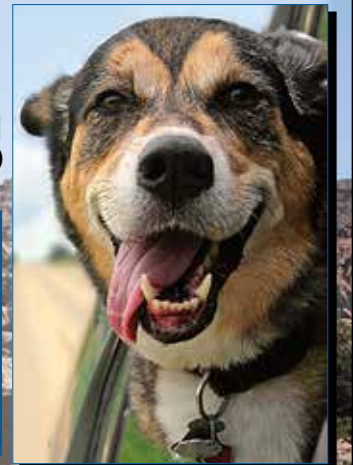
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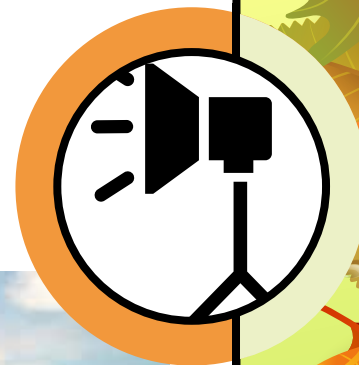
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Business Spotlight: Little Dealer, Little Prices

Story & Photos by Allie Werhan

Additional Photo Courtesy Danny Sampson



1.) Little Dealer, Little Prices Family

2.) Outdoor Camping at Little Dealer, Little Prices

3.) Aerial View of Little Dealer, Little Prices

In April 2015, Little Dealer, Little Prices opened a store in Prescott Valley and did business from a small modular office for almost a year. In February of this year, the business moved into its new building, and what a building! The contractor, Jebco Construction, won first prize in the competition in the United States for the quality of the building in a category that includes auto dealerships, marine dealerships, and RV dealerships.

The large building houses a series of sales offices, each designed like a company in the Old West...an assay office, a doctor's office, a bank, and of course the sheriff's office. An outdoor theme prevails throughout, with bark-covered trees and forest animals. There is an indoor campground, with open RVs surrounded by camp tables, sleeping bags and fires (artfully artificial). There is also an 1800 square foot conference room upstairs, and that meeting room is available to the public for meetings at no charge. Some groups meet quarterly, or weekly, or a group could have a one-time special meeting there.

On the front door is the most delightful sign, "Dogs, Kids, Food & Drink Welcome!"

Danny Sampson, the manager, says that is because you see so many negative signs everywhere, no this, no that. The company, which is family owned and in business for 50 years, is a very positive, happy place to visit and to work.

Besides the building, which includes a store for every kind of RV-related item you can think of, there is a 8 indoor-bay repair shop, where they can do mechanical and body work, fix new and used RVs, paint, or whatever is necessary. There are also 16 outdoor bays for the big RVs' service. The company is looking for RV technicians, has a training facility on site, and will pay for the training. Every technician is a

Master Technician, or working on certification. Employees are treated with respect, and are friendly and easy to talk to. They also wear sharp-looking forest ranger shirts to emphasize the difference in their dealerships and any others.

Danny Sampson is the "7th youngest kid" in his family. Three family members are retired, and the other 4 still work in the business. His mother, who is in her 80's, still works in the Mesa store, not interested in retiring. His dad passed away in 2012.

The family is originally from Flagstaff, where they were in the motel business. Fifty years ago, the family opened the RV dealership. His granddad owned a mobile home park in the Phoenix area, and his grandmother would sell the homes after they fixed one up. She was turned in for selling them without a license, so she said, "Okay, how do I get a license?" Her nickname was "little dealer, little prices" because she was a small woman, and that name stuck. Other companies were bragging about their enormous size, so the Sampsons decided to go the other direction.

There was a second location, at I-17 and Indian School, which Danny managed for 30 years. That property was sold to Bill Luke Chrysler for car storage, and Danny and the family opened the store in Prescott Valley.

Danny loves this location, and is getting settled into the community with his family, wife, Tamara, daughter, Hannah, 15, and sons Luke, 10, and Joshua, 8. They bought a house in Prescott Valley in July, and moved from New River. They loved New River, with easy access to 4-wheeling and other outdoor activities. The children are home-schooled, which gives them a flexible schedule to do things with their family.

"There are campers for virtually every vehicle," says Danny. "We have trailers that weigh 600# that you could pull with a Prius." They carry the biggest ones on the market as well, with something for everybody.

"Camping is good for the family, good for the marriage," Danny points out. "It is a less expensive type of vacation, you can go many places you might not otherwise be able to afford, and you give your kids some historical and scenic adventures they will always remember." Additional, your money is staying in the United States.

People don't need a high income to afford a travel trailer. The payments may be \$100 a month or less for a used camper. Little Dealer, Little Prices sells reconditioned used trailers, and also trailers and RVs on consignment. Many of these are fully contained mini-homes, with stoves, refrigerators, sleeping arrangements, air conditioning and the all-important bathroom and shower.

Outside at Little Dealer, Little Prices, the yard is huge. It is ¼ mile from the office to the far end of the lot, which is much farther in the heat and humidity when you forget your master key in your desk! For this reason, the dealership acquired some golf carts to get around. There is also enough room to manipulate the largest vehicle without having to back up, a very important feature.

Hundreds of RVs are in stock, and if Danny doesn't have what you want, the company has 2 other dealerships where he can acquire what you need without having to order.

Danny's office continues the Western theme, with an old wood-burning stove from the 1800's and pieces of art from C.M. Russell and Frederic Remington. His dad was a collector and would have loved the Western theme of the dealership. You will too.



DOGS FOR ADOPTION

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Orleana

I am a 7-y.o. choc. Pit/Lab mix, a beauty, and a perfect age. I have lots of energy to play and go for walks, but I can also be a mellow girl, enjoying belly rubs and relaxing with you. I'm okay with dogs, haven't been around cats lately. Come meet me! Fee \$25. Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 X7.

Toes

Cute name, huh? I'm a 2.5 y.o. boxer mix, an energetic boy who loves to run & explore. I'm eager to learn, ready to bond. I will be a perfect companion for an active outdoor enthusiast, and do best w/an adult and no other dogs until my manners improve. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.

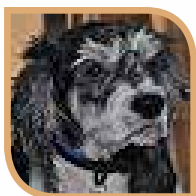


Bud

I'm a 4 y.o. pit/border collie mix, a sweet boy who loves walks, squeaky toys and treats. I haven't been around cats. I am shy with dogs. I'd like an active family, a forever home and a safe place to live. Stop by! Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 X7.

Raymie

I'm 'bout 1 y.o., Aussie mix at 35#, and I'm a beautiful girl. I am friendly, love everybody and playful with friendly dogs. I need lots of exercise, and am loving...and have beautiful eyes and a big smile! United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924.



Baxter

I'm a Havanese mix, 10 y.o and 35 #. I am a friendly, outgoing boy, great w/other dogs. I've had a tough past and am looking for a better life. My fee is \$75. Call United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924.

Barnaby

I'm a 6 mo. old puppy boy. I had a foot injury, but it is all better, and I am ready for a forever home. I am sweet, like dogs and people, and need some puppy training, but I already am great on my leash! Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.

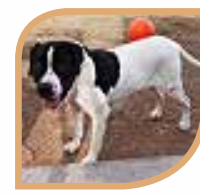


Gezelle

I am a senior rescue girl, a light tan Shi Tzu mix of 7 yrs. I need to lose a couple pounds! I'm okay with dogs, but don't know about kids or cats. I want to be in the same room w/you and be your couch buddy. I had a rough past but am gaining strength every day. Please, give me a call! United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924.

Big Sandi

I'm a mastiff mix, @ 100#, and I'm a beautiful girl. I'm good with mellow dogs, or I can be an only dog...there is enough of me! I am 4 y.o. and ready for my special home with you. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.



Blue

I am a purebred Great Dane girl, 3.5 y.o., sweet gentle and very big! I love being w/people, getting scratches and rubs. I need an owner familiar with my breed, to help me build confidence. Meet me-you'll fall in love! Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.

Pockets

I'm a 2 y.o. Chihuahua mix, a boy, and a little clingy with people. I may bark at men. I do well on my leash and enjoy walks. I was in a bad situation, but now I'm rescued, and ready for a happy new start. Circle L Ranch Rescue (928) 273-7005.



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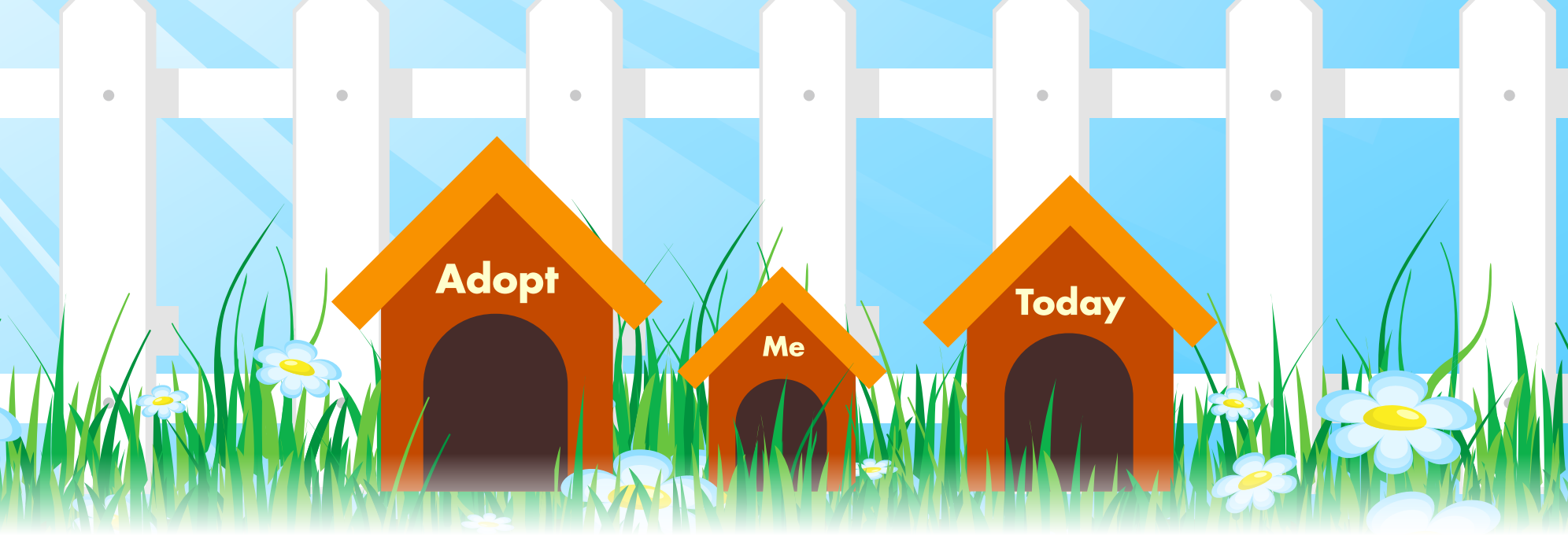


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George

I'm just plain adorable. I a 1-y.o. stocky build boy who is a great brindle color, and I have a cute wiggly butt. I'm happy go lucky with a sunny personality. United Animal Friends. 928-778-2924.



Bella

I am a black pit mix, 6 y.o., crate trained, micro-chipped, spayed, just the perfect girl. If you need advice on training me, that's available too. Ravenpines 602-339-1797.



Billy

I'm a shepherd mix, devilishly handsome boy, and all my sibs have been adopted, so it's time for ME! I've been at Circle L since I was a pup, and now I'm 8 y.o. I would love my very own home and family. Circle L Ranch Rescue 928-273-7005.



Loretta

I'm a sweet young thing of 10 months, a good dog, and a shepherd and hound mix. I have beautiful markings. I need surgery on my back leg. I came with 3 girls from Rocky Point and we had a bit of a rough life. Circle L Ranch Rescue 928-273-7005.



Kassy

I'm a Lab/American pit mix girl, 7 y.o., and have a very happy face. Orlena may be my sister and is my BFF. I'm mellow, have lots of energy to play, easy going, and good with dogs. Don't know about cats. Chino Valley Animal Shelter 928-636-4223 X7.

Thor

I'm a 3 y.o. German shepherd/Bluetick Coonhound mix. How's that for special? I am a bundle of energy, I love to play, go for walks, and I love kids and treats. I would like an active household, a big yard for romping and a loving family. But no cats! Chino Valley Animal Shelter 928-635-4223 X7.



Little Man

I am not your typical Chihuahua guy...I am laid back, not a big barker, and I love the ladies. I like being held and have a sweet friendly personality. I am 6# and 4 y.o. You need to meet me! United Animal Friends 928-778-2924.



Scout

I'm a Collie Aussie mix, 2 y.o., a little thin, but you can fix that. I am laid back and get along with cats and dogs. I am very smart and love attention. I am a beautiful, exceptional boy. United Animal Friends. 928-778-2924.



Mr. Pickle

a 3.5 y.o. blk/wte retriever mix, a very good looking dog, with dogs, cats, kids, but prefer to be the only pet because I'm seen too many changes in my life lately. I want to love my human and learn new things and be active. Yavapai Humane Society. 928-445-2666.



Jumping Jack

I'm a sweet fella who loves to play. How about a belly rub? I like sitting in your lap, spending time with people, and I want to learn things. I am an Australian Cattle Dog mix, red and white, and am 2.5 y.o. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666.



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BILLY

I'm a long sleek black oriental boy, w/ amazing green eyes. I'm friendly, calm, outgoing and playful, and I like to be petted. I'm 1 year old, good with cats and friendly dogs. United Animal Friends, Allie (928) 632-5144.



JOSEPHINE

I a med. hair girl, white w/butterscotch and I'm small, playful and have big gold eyes. Pay one adoption fee for 2 cats. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



SAMMI-H

I'm a flame point Siamese mix with powder-blue eyes. I'm easy going, a quiet guy, who enjoys petting and grooming. I'm 3 y.o. Come meet me. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



CATSBY

I'm a female gray tabby baby who is engaging, happy and cheerful. I have 2 brothers who need homes, and I'm okay with cats and friendly dogs. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



TINA

I'm 1.5 y.o., and had kittens who are ready to be adopted, so I'm ready for my forever home. I am spirited, have a playful personality, and want to meet you! Catty Shack. (928) 778-6951.



DEMETRI

I'm Tina's boy, and have 3 sibs also ready for forever homes. We're all active and full of energy and know lots of kitten games. We need a special person ... you! Catty Shack. (928) 778-6951.



BUFFY

I'm one of the Kitten Kaboodle, a girl, and one of a group of kittens from 3 different litters, about 3 months old. We are bouncy, happy kids and include buff, black, tortie, and tabbies. Come in and see for yourself! United Animal Friends (928) 379-1088 Ruthie.



ALEXANDRIA

I'm an elegant longhaired lady of 4 years, and I love being loved and brushed and petted. I'm quiet and mellow, and would prefer a quiet household, without young children or dogs. United Animal Friends Charlotte at charlotte_junge@yahoo.com or 605-484-4619.



TENNESSEE

I'm a torti girl with a little bit of tortitude, which is the way people like me. I am 6 y.o., pretty and sweet, and a little shy because of recent changes in my life. I like petting, purring, and am okay with other cats, adults and older kids. One adoption fee for 2 cats! Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



JASPER

I'm a young adult and with my brother Einstein, have been waiting a year for a forever home. We are handsome, soft, sleek boys, would love to be adopted together. We are cuddlers, and play lots of fun kitten games. Come visit us and you will see! Catty Shack (928) 778-6951.

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A Young Man and His Love of Horses

Story By Ann Herrington

When you meet Sam Sharp, you are taken back by his quiet, soft-spoken and humble demeanor. At 16 years old, he is so mature and grounded and while talking to him, you get the feeling he is going to be the next Horse Whisperer.

Sam started riding horses at about 10 years old. Sam says, "There was a class in Dewey that I went out to twice a week pleasure riding. I thought it would be fun to start jumping." At the same time, his mom Michelle, started Endurance riding. He started showing about 4 years ago. He wanted to jump and do shows. He started taking jump lessons and began showing after that. He competed in about 15 shows and did well. "I wanted to show and just have fun. It was really nice just to be able to work together as a team." Sam said it was great to win but it was also nice to just be able to have a great ride.

The horse he had was limited in what she could do so he just got a higher level horse about a month ago. She is a Warmblood named Onika who is 10 years old. She has shown before so Sam is now training with her to get ready for some shows. Sam and mom, Michelle have mapped out some shows from September to November of this year. Sam says, "I think the first couple of shows, we will just be figuring things out with each other."

Sam heard about a high-energy Arabian gelding that was bred for Endurance riding but was bucking everyone off him. That was about 2 years ago. He took the horse on a 30-day trial and felt a deep connection with him so he adopted him. He gave the horse some time to settle in and then began riding him and it went very well. He did not buck Sam off! So, that's what got Sam interested in endurance riding.

"Endurance is different" says Sam, "you just follow the trail. Shows are more technical."

In July of this year, both Sam and his mom Michelle, entered one of the biggest Endurance races around called, Tevis in California. It is the world's hardest endurance ride and people come from all over the world with many countries being represented to compete.



1.) Michelle on Rue at Mt. Carmel 25 mile Endurance race. Photo courtesy of Steve Bradley Photography.
2.) Sam aboard his new horse, Onika
3.) Sam on Dream in the 50 mile Endurance Race

"You start near Truckee near Tahoe" explains Michelle at 5:15am and you have 24 hours to complete the ride. You have a crew with a truck and trailer that follows you from one point to the other. They end at the fairgrounds where the horses are stalled and get to stay overnight to rest." Michelle continues, "You ride most of the time with two one-hour stops. They have check points along the way where the horses grab a bite of hay and get some water but if you don't get to the checkpoint in time, you get disqualified because you would not be able to make the time in 24 hours. You're up against the clock, accidents or injuries to your horse and other riders," says Michelle. "Only 40% of the people finish."

When asked what made them want to do this, Sam said, "It's like something you would have on your bucket list and you'd just want to cross it off. When I started Endurance, I thought a 50-mile ride was crazy 'cause they had 25 mile rides. Then I did a 50 and thought, that was fun so I did another one, then I did a 100-mile ride." Michelle says that the 100-mile ride was easier than Tevis which was less technical and didn't have as many climbs and elevation changes. When asked why Michelle wanted to do this, she said, "I like Endurance 'cause I get to go with my kid and we get to go to places that I wouldn't ordinarily go to and I live a very safe life every day so this challenges me. Michelle will be riding her Arab mare,

Rue, and Sam will be riding Dream, a 14 -old gelding that he won 1st place with earlier this year.

How did they do at Tevis? Michelle said, "160 people started and only 80 finished." Michelle was thrilled because she finished the race with 17 minutes to spare. However, at beginning of the race, there was a Vet Check and Sam's horse had a sore hock and did not pass the examination so he could not ride in the event. In usual Sam spirit, he took it with a positive attitude and just joined the crew and followed his mom along the way. Michelle said they will both be going back next year!

Sam says he wants to take his love of horses all the way. His biggest dream would be to compete in the Olympics.

When asked what advice Sam would give to other young people who are interested in horses, he said, "Just go for it! It's always a fun time and you're always learning and challenging yourself."

Sam is an incredible young man and role model and I think we will be reading about him for a long time to come as he continues to challenge himself and live his dream with horses!



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Choosing the Right Crate for Your Dog

By Briana Lonas



Choosing the best crate for your dog can be a daunting task.

If you think about the reasons why you might need a crate for your dog, then choosing the best model becomes a little easier. Whether it's for home use only, traveling, the dog show circuit or simply to take your pet to the veterinarian or boarding facility, it's not too difficult to choose what's right for your needs.

There are three basic types of crates—wire, soft-sided fabric, and solid plastic.

With that said, it's also important to take the size of your dog into consideration.

First, decide on the type of crate. Most wire crates can fold down flat and store easily. The only downfall may be that it takes a little work assembling, but once you get the hang of it, it's not that difficult.

Wire mesh crates allow your dog to look around and see the family or their surroundings – especially when traveling. These types of containers also provide plenty of ventilation. Wire kennels can be sized to your growing dog with removable divider panels that expand living space.

Wire kennels are easier to clean and the floor pans can be removed and washed.

give owners something easier to carry and manipulate and they store easily. Remember, though, that fabric crates are ideal for smaller dog breeds. Puppies placed in a fabric crate could turn their little den into a big chew toy!

The much heavier metal, or heavy-duty dog crate could be a good choice for the very large breeds or those dogs bent on destruction. Check the manufacturer recommendations because some of these types of crates are approved for airline travel.

After considering which type of crate to purchase, then it's time to think about size.

For housebreaking purposes, if an owner chooses a crate that is too large, the puppy or grown dog may opt to choose a corner to eliminate in, simply because the kennel space allows for "extra room" for other activities besides sleeping or eating.

Think about how big your puppy will grow and make sure your crate will accommodate your fully grown dog.

According to many dog training experts, the right size crate allows your dog to lie down, turn around, and have several inches of extra head space when standing or sitting. Ideally, your dog also can wag his tail without feeling too cramped.

When shopping for that first crate, be sure to measure your dog's height and length. Measure from her nose to the end of her tail. Then add four to six inches to each measurement. Again, take into consideration the full growth potential of your dog if she is still a puppy. It's not a bad idea to purchase a cheaper, smaller crate for your growing dog and later buy the adult-size model for traveling to shows, the kennel or anywhere else.

Plastic crates are good for owners who plan to travel by airplane. These types provide durability but it's important to note that many do not offer a glimpse of the outside world. Some dogs may enjoy the security and privacy of a plastic crate. The plastic crates may create a safer, quieter atmosphere for your dog, especially in loud households.

Some plastic models can be taken apart from the top and stored with the top half stacked into the bottom half.

Solid fabric crates are good for calmer dog breeds without the Houdini escape tricks. These types of crates are lightweight and easier to carry. The benefits of fabric



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Driving and Hiking Groom Creek Loop is a Cool Fall Adventure

Story and Photos by Cheryl Hartz



Start with a drive and turn it into an autumn hike just about anywhere along an 18-mile loop through Groom Creek in the Prescott National Forest. The Groom Creek Day Use Area boasts 16 trails and most are open to hikers, equestrians, ATVs, motorcyclists and mountain bikers.

The PNF's website lists the trails and has printable maps to most, but it's a good idea to pick up a comprehensive map from the Bradshaw Ranger District station in Prescott (344 S. Cortez Street). Then head down Gurley Street onto Mt. Vernon (also called the Senator Highway) for about seven miles, which takes you past Goldwater Lake and several camps, until you come to T-intersection with Groom Creek Road. Six miles on this decent dirt road takes you to Ponderosa, which eventually hooks up with Highway 89 and completes the loop into Prescott when you take Goodwin back to Mt. Vernon.

All along the way, those trails wait to be explored and bursts of predominately golden yellow fall color wait to dazzle the eyes. What follows is a sampling.

The well-used Wolf Creek Loop Trail #384 is listed as easy, but it is five-and-a-half miles long and shared with motorized vehicles. It is part of the upper basin of the Hassayampa River, so the riparian area includes plenty of vegetation,

along with views of Maverick Mountain and Mount Tritle.

Goldwater Lake trail #396 is in the Granite Creek watershed. If you crave a deeply forested trail, you can't go wrong through ponderosa pine and alligator juniper. The trail affords wonderful vistas of Upper and Lower Goldwater Lakes. Expect to climb hills and to twice cross Bannon Creek (which may be dry), along the 4.7-mile route. You'll spot Gambel oak and possibly Gambel quail on a fall hike, along with a wide variety of birds that may not yet have flown south for the winter.

Goldwater Trail is listed as moderate difficulty, and likely will take a couple hours to hike one way, so figure a four-to-five-hour roundtrip. Look for milepost 4 on the Senator Highway and park in the open area to the east. The trail starts across the road.

Horseback riders and hikers alike might try the Groom Creek Loop Trail #307, with a trailhead across from the Groom Creek Horse Camp. It's a popular trail that climbs to Spruce Mountain, and you'll need to keep your dogs leashed, so as not to spook the horses. (Actually, dogs must by law be leashed at all times on Arizona's public lands.)

This trail, classified intermediate to difficult, is more than eight miles long with an average

roundtrip hike time of five hours, and climbs to an elevation of 7,651 feet. One trade-off of using a busier trail is the restrooms at the trailhead and the Spruce Mountain lookout.

Driving 4.1 miles on the Senator Highway after its intersection with Gurley takes you to the trailhead of the 3.1-mile-long Watershed Trail #299. The trail involves a climb of several hundred feet through scrub oak and takes you to Deer Lick Spring. Pinyon pine and juniper cover the area. Equestrians, look for a concrete trough. It might contain water for your horses.

From the spring, the trail winds south through ponderosa pine and Gambel oak and rises to Spruce Ridge. This ridge denotes the dividing line between the Bannon Creek and Lynx Creek watersheds. Vistas to the north include Bill Williams Mountain and the San Francisco Peaks. To the south lie Maverick Mountain and Mount Tritle.

Watershed Trail connects with Seven-Mile Gulch Trail #9854, if one desires a longer trek.

So many trails, so little time. But start now and who knows how many you can traverse over the years? As always, be sure to wear appropriate clothing and footwear, take plenty of water and snacks, and plan for unexpected events. Pack out what you pack in and Hike Smart!

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Please Don't Pet Me . . . I'm Working

By Gary DeGeronimo



1.) "Banjo" monitoring his partner Luke
3.) "Ben" keeping a close eye on his partner Kelly



2.) "Gemma" in-training having to multi-task keeping an eye on her partner Charyn
4.) Service Dog "Zoey" allowing his boy Justin to have a calming moment in public.



It is 'common' human behavior that when you see a well-behaved, well-trained animal, you want to go to it, you want to talk to it, you want to pet it. And of course, that's the joy and pride of having a well-mannered pet, one who is social and friendly to all.

But when it comes to Service Animals in public environments, 'proper' human behavior is in order. When you meet a person with a Service Dog, please remember that the dog is working and is not considered a 'pet.' You should not do anything to interrupt the Service Dog while it is performing its tasks for that individual. And although it may not be obvious that the animal is working, it is best to assume that the focus of the Service Dog is definitely on its handler. We train Service Dogs to constantly 'check in' with their partners. So, they, in fact, are always in a working mode and monitoring their partner.

Also, you may see someone who looks fine, someone who does not appear to have a need for a Service Animal. Keep in mind that some people have what is known as a "hidden disability" and their dog is performing some service for them or some task if needed, whether you could see it or not.

A good example of someone with a hidden disability would be the person suffering from a seizure disorder. By all appearances, the person is walking around in public and looks just fine, and at that moment that person is just fine. But that Service Dog is there to alert him or her that they detect something about to occur, perhaps a chemical imbalance that the Service Dog picks up, and will signal to that person of a seizure about to happen. That Service Dog should not be interrupted from monitoring its partner as they walk around together.

Most, but not all, Service Dogs wear vests with special patches that identify them as working animals. And although it is a good practice that

Service Dogs wear some form of identification, the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) does not require that.

And remember, there are only two types of animals that qualify, according to the ADA, as Service Animals, a canine and a mini-horse. Now, you will probably not see too many mini-horses acting as Service Animals, but you will see many canines.

Another change made to the ADA, as of 2011, pertains to ESA's or Emotional Support Animals. Basically, ESA's do not qualify as Service Animals but rather provide comfort or companionship. A Service Dog performs certain tasks that qualify them as legitimate Service Dogs.

Here are some basic rules to remember when interacting with people who are in public with a Service Dog:

1. Speak to the person first. Do not aim distracting or rude noises at the dog.
2. Do not touch the Service Dog without asking for, and receiving, permission.
3. Do not offer food to the Service Dog.
4. Do not ask personal questions about the handler's disability, or otherwise intrude on his or her privacy.
5. Don't be offended if the handler does not wish to chat about the Service Dog. (It could be that one of the issues that person is dealing with has to do with talking to people, as in the case of agoraphobia).

Now, what if you don't like dogs or are afraid of dogs? You should place yourself away from the Service Dog. If you are a business person, discreetly arrange for someone else to wait on the person. You may ask the person to have the Service Dog lie

down if it does not interfere with its work.

What if the Service Dog barks, growls, or otherwise forgets its manners? First, find out what happened before taking action. Was the Service Dog stepped on, poked, asleep and dreaming, performing its job (Some alert their owners to oncoming seizures by barking once or twice). If the dog's behavior is disruptive or destructive, you may ask the person to remove it from the premises.

Businesses have the right to conduct their business in a calm and peaceful environment. A properly trained Service Dog will present itself as a legitimate Service Dog by the way it behaves. Even though a Service Dog In-Training may not be perfect (yet), they should not be out of control. It is especially important that Service Dogs In-Training not be disturbed in any way as they usually are having to deal with many other training situations.

What if other people complain about the dog being present? Explain that the Service Dog is medically necessary and that federal law protects the right of the person to be accompanied by the Service Dog in public places.

And for my motorcycle friends, as we all know "Loud Pipes Saves Lives" but throttle down a bit around Service Dogs, or for that matter, dogs in general.

Finally, parents with children who see a Service Dog in a public setting should consider making that experience a 'teachable moment' by explaining to the children the proper etiquette around Service Dogs.

So, the next time you are walking through Wal-Mart or at the Mall, and you see someone with a Service Dog, give them a smile and a nod, and know that the dog is 'on the job.' It will be very much appreciated.

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Jarrood and Gemma, K9 Officer of the Year Honors

Story and Photos Heidi Dahms Foster



Yavapai County Sheriff's Deputy Jarrod Winfrey, on July 18 received K9 Officer of the Year honors from the Arizona Narcotics Officers Association. He credits his success to his partner, a Belgian Malinois named Gemma that came to the Yavapai County Sheriff's Department three years ago as a three-month-old puppy.

Deputy Winfrey is noted as an outstanding member of the Partners Against Narcotics Trafficking (PANT) task force and the YCSO K9 team. YCSO Public Information Officer Dwight D'Evelyn said Winfrey's prior experience as a narcotics detective and his work ethic and motivation make him a highly valued and productive K9 and PANT team member.

"Deputy Winfrey is always willing to assist whenever needed and routinely shares knowledge and expertise with new and veteran deputies and PANT detectives. He is active in teaching at the Northern Arizona Training Academy (NARTA) as well as doing educational presentations on drug trends and use in and around Yavapai County," D'Evelyn said in a news release announcing the award.

Gemma is one of three Belgian Malinois pups that Sheriff Scott Mascher obtained in a trade with Navajo County three years ago. Winfrey, already an experienced K9 handler with his dog

Tjando, was one of the deputies chosen to go to Navajo County and evaluate the dogs. He came home with Gemma.

Since her certification in December 2014, Gemma has sniffed out a cache of marijuana bricks during a traffic stop with a street value of \$50,000. In October 2015, during a traffic stop on I40, Gemma alerted to several pounds of heroin and cocaine and 14 pounds of pure powdered Fentanyl, a potent, controlled opioid. The Fentanyl seizure was one of the largest of the year in the U.S.

This year, Winfrey said, officers are finding a lot of drugs in hidden compartments. Gemma recently alerted to one and half pounds of heroin inside the seam of a car's trunk.

The unassuming Winfrey had no idea he was being nominated for the K9 Officer of the Year award. He said he was completely surprised, but is quick to give credit to Gemma. "She has done pretty good!" he said in an understatement.

Winfrey said Gemma's sense of smell is extraordinary. The YCSO K9s train daily, throwing the most difficult scenarios at their dogs.

"We use a lot of 'proofing' odors - pizza, burritos, dog treats - so we are confident the

dogs will alert just to drugs 100 percent," he said. "Gemma has found drugs in a bag of dog food, and I was confident she was alerting on the drugs, not the dog food."

How does Winfrey know when Gemma has made a find?

"Three things. Her breathing slows down, and she stays with the odor. Finally, she'll paw at the source."

He credits his success with Gemma in part to having the opportunity to train her from puppyhood. She had no bad habits to correct. Although she loves to play, she doesn't necessarily have a favorite toy as a reward. "Since she was a pup, her reward has been working. It's fun for her," Winfrey said.

Winfrey also greatly appreciates the support the K9 program receives from YCSO.

"We are doing big cases, with big liability, and the Sheriff has backed us," he said.

He asserts he also has "the best job ever."

"I get to play with my dog every day!"




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Training your Dog

Story By Andy Lloyd • Canine Trainer and Yavapai College Canine Program Instructor



So you brought a new puppy into your home or maybe a several month old rescue or maybe a several year old rescue. Maybe the wonderful pal you have had for some time just needs some training! What do you do now?

After you love and smooch on your pal you will want to introduce simple training behaviors right away. The first skill to train Fido is the WATCH ME or NAME GAME. Of all the skills your dog will learn that is the most valuable.

It teaches Fido that when you say his name or 'watch me' wonderful things happen. You train Fido that your face, YOU are the best show in town, the most wonderful place on earth, indeed your dog's happy place!

We all want our dogs to return immediately when we call them. The desire to do so must be conditioned in their impulse inclinations. They see a rabbit and hear you call; they have to believe it is better to come to you than go for the rabbit or snake or chicken or car. You get the idea.

We want to begin teaching that notion the very moment you share space with our canine friend. Watch Me is the foundational request that transfers into all other requests including the all-important COME! For starters you simply use yummy and preferably nutritious soft treats; you can use dinner kibble if your dog will respond consistently to that.

Treat to your nose

Fido looks at you

You say, "Watch me OR Fido"

Fido makes eye contact

Fido immediately gets treat.

Your dog will make eye contact with you often. Reward that! Carry treats with you almost constantly but petting, praise and play will work too. The point is to always pay your dog for a job well done. And the first job you are teaching him to do is to look at you immediately when you ask him to.

The payoff to you for training this is immeasurable. It is bonding and ensures a dog's respect toward you. This is done very often throughout the day, not just at specific times.

The next very important 'trick' to train your dog is to properly walk next to you. It is simply not natural for dogs to walk beside the leg. Yet it is very important to do so in this human made world we have invited them to join into.

There are many methods to teach dogs to walk beside us. One is when the dog pulls, turn around or stop. When the dog returns to your side, move forward. There are shock collars, which I do not suggest in this article. It is better for the dog to make a cognizant choice to choose you because he respects you rather than fears a jolt.

The method I prefer is a long relaxed arm and short leash. Note that the length of the leash includes your arm and it should remain long and relaxed at your side. You want your dog to pay attention to your leg and the direction it is going. Encourage your dog to attend to you with "Here or Watch Me" and a leg tap. You want him to choose you over the competition you have of other dogs, blowing leaves, people, cars, etc.

Your dog can only walk as fast as you do. An extended leash only creates more excitement which inhibits the development of his self-confidence and his confidence in your leadership.

When your dog pulls, practice Crazy Walk - turn away from dog - turn into dog - turn directions sharply - zigzag -OR stop dead until the leash slacks- have fun but keep walking.

Keep him focused on you with a treat or happy reward and Watch Me.

When you turn away from your dog, call him to you with a treat or other happy thing.

This will begin to teach him recall or come.

This very important exercise lets your dog know he doesn't have to be in charge. He will give up and after a while will walk like a dream. Give Fido a long leash at your request, not his and only for pee/poo stops or practicing recall. Ask him to simply sit or look at you before you give him the freedom to explore.

Sit, Down, Stay, Wait, Leave It and all other behavior requests follow after these two. There is another very important piece of early training: finding the proper equipment that suits your dog.

There are many walking leashes, harnesses and collars to choose from. My favorites for walking dogs is the Easy Walk Harness by PetSafe or other such harnesses that place the leash on the chest so when the dog pulls ahead, the front connection directs the dog back to you, the handler. The Easy Walk must have a proper fit to work optimally and it does not give head control should your dog be the extremely distracted sort.

Another favorite of mine is a head collar. The Gentle Leader by PetSafe or a Halti, depending on the breed head shape are excellent. Both of these require a proper fit and need to be used correctly. Your dog will most easily graduate to a regular collar from a head collar in time. Used properly, it will teach your dog where its head needs to be. "Where a dog's head is pointed is where its attention will be focused."

Classes by positive reinforcement reward based trainers are a wonderful gift for both you and your dog. Try not to be too serious while training. Smile, have a soft face. Enjoy training time. Make it fun to learn!



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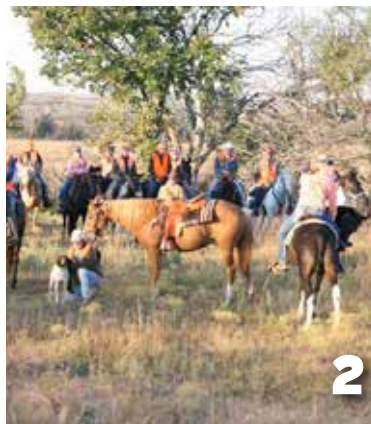


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The Working Horse

Story By Rita Thompson-Tinsley



1) Gary Gang, North American Preliminary Pair Champion, driving his magnificent Morgans 2) 2015 GSPCA Amateur National Championship (Field Trial) 3) Tempe Mounted Unit 4) Field Trial Judge Don Lee on newest Tennessee Walker "Spirit".

Today's equestrian takes great pleasure in their horses: in horse riding, in horse showing, in pretty much all aspects of horse owning.

"Beasts of burden" reflects the purpose of yesterday's horse. But, in retrospect, those tasks, those efforts of the past, served to make what today's horse is all about: useful, reliable, resilient, and a complete joy, once you've figured out what it is your horse was born to do.

Draft horses were in demand for farming and hauling freight or passengers. Ranchers still use horses to work cattle but some opt for ATVs and trucks to do the job. The demand for horses has changed and emphasis is placed on pleasure, athleticism and competition. Yes, the "working horse" is still... "working".

Now-a-days, the driving horse is competing on every level in the arena. From ponies to Percherons, to harnessed Hackneys and Haflingers. They are doing dressage, and clearing cones with the precision and agility of your grandfather's Datson 240Z.

Gary Gang, horse trainer and vice president of the Chino Valley Equestrian Association, is an expert in driving horses. The Combined Driving champion has been training horses for over 30 years.

Gary works with Andalusians, Morgans, Quarter Horses, Thoroughbreds, Standardbreds and Warmbloods, to name a few. Yet, Gang insists that a good driving horse could be whatever is in your backyard. "It's not so much a breed issue, just depends on the horse and individual."

Gang emphasizes the value of a good mind set for horses he trains. "They're not reasoning animals, they're reactive animals", he points out. A willing attitude is also ideal. "We're putting

a 500 lb. carriage behind this horse, with people in it, and driving it through a parade, for example." Physically it's important to have a horse with good confirmation, although this is not always mandatory. Gang gives examples of horses that have been able to drive regardless of physical challenges.

Good training, however, is essential, especially in starting a driving horse.

Field trial competitions are not your average dog and pony show.

A truly unique and realistic event, the field trial is focused on the pointing bird dog and its ability to do as trained in a bird hunting situation.

The events are conducted by horseback. Everyone, including dog handler, judges, field marshalls, bird planters and gallery, is participating in the saddle. And, in some situations, the dog may be a passenger as well.

The horse for field trials is unanimously a gaited horse. Preferably, a Tennessee Walker or Missouri Fox Trotter. You will also see Paso Finos, Rocky Mountain and Spotted Saddle Horses, and an occasional gaited mule.

Riders cover a lot of rough terrain, never mind the inclement weather and are likely to be in the saddle for up to 10 hours each day, so a gaited horse is essential for comfort and efficiency.

Field trial horses are expected to be bomb-proof, road safe, load easily, and be prepared to ride out away from the rest of the herd. Being canine-friendly is a must for this mount, and he is expected to ground tie and be tied on a picket line during off time.

Dog trainer and participant Don Lee has been involved in field trials for decades. While

spending a weekend judging an event on his newest Tennessee Walker Spirit, Don reports, "It was his first field trial and he did a fantastic job. Lots of rocks, steep hills, heavy rain and a hail storm". Sounds like Spirit measures up to his name.

From barnyard to city beat, the police horse bears a noble role.

This particular horse job plays deep within my heart. I and my husband sold a horse to the City of Tempe Mounted Unit and were allowed to observe the training for this special position.

The Tempe Mounted Unit maintains between 6 to 7 police horses. The breeds include Quarter Horses, Drafts and Percheron mixes, a Paint and a Thoroughbred mix. LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) is the newest horse, named by the Tempe community. All are geldings ranging in ages 3 to 12. The mounts undergo a rigorous pre-purchase vet exam, sensory, temperament and riding evaluations.

Training for a police horse is what you might expect: police vehicles' sirens going full blast, lights flashing, flares, and loud scary noises. They do training in the evening, so it's realistic to what the horse might actually face. Although these horses don't work seven days a week, they are exercised regularly to keep them in shape.

The Tempe Mounted Unit patrols ASU's Mill Avenue Friday and Saturday nights where there is an abundance of bars, restaurants and festivals. The unit is available for special presentations and is scheduled for city events where there might be need for crowd control.

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~ Ann Herrington Founder, The Prescott Dog

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Welcome at Rainbow Bridge

Story by Alexander Theodore Bovier

On the morning of September 11, 2001, there was an unprecedented amount of activity at the Rainbow Bridge. Decisions had to be made. They had to be made quickly, and, they were.

An issue, not often addressed here, is the fact that many residents really have no loved one for whom to wait. Think of the pups that lived and died in hideous puppy mills. No one on earth loved or protected them. What about the many who spend unhappy lives tied in backyards? And, ones who were abused. Who are they to wait for?

We don't talk about that much up here. We share our loved ones as they arrive, happy to do so. But we all know there is nothing like having your very own person who thinks you are the most special pup in the Heavens.

Last Tuesday morning a request rang out for pups not waiting for specific persons to volunteer for special assignment... An eager, curious crowd surged excitedly forward, each pup wondering what the assignment would be.

They were told by a solemn voice that unexpectedly, all at once, thousands of loving people had left earth long before they were ready. All the pups, as all pups do, felt the humans' pain deep in their own hearts. Without hearing more, there was a clamoring among them- "May I have one to comfort?" "I'll take two, I have a big heart." "I have been saving kisses forever."

One after another they came forward begging for assignment. One cozy-looking fluffy pup hesitantly asked. "Are there any children coming? I would be very comforting for a child' cause I'm soft and squishy and I always

wanted to be hugged." A group of Dalmatians came forward asking to meet the Firefighters and be their friends. The larger working breeds offered to greet the Police Officers and make them feel at home. Little dogs volunteered to do what they do best, cuddle and kiss. Dogs who on Earth had never had a kind word or a pat on the head, stepped forward and said, "I will love any human who needs love."

Then all the dogs, wherever on Earth they originally came from, rushed to the Rainbow Bridge and stood waiting, overflowing with love to share-each tail wagging an American Flag.

In Memorandum

Many of you have read the story of Rainbow Bridge. It tells the story of where our pets go when they die and how they will be waiting for us to arrive when it is our time. A while ago, we found another version of this story as it relates to the tragedy of September 11th 2001. Welcome at Rainbow Bridge is the true epitome of the loving, forgiving nature of our beloved pets. In Memorandum of all that was lost on 9/11.

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Please note that the word limit is 500-800 words. You may include 1-2 photos of your friend with your submission. Prescott Dog will notify you if your story is selected for future publication. We reserve the right to edit any entry.



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