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Two Yavapai County 4-H Teens Excell at Local & State Dog Competitions

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K9 Officers – A Different Kind of Retirement Challenge On the Trail: Take a Winter Hike Uphill in the Snow Military K9 Handler Shares Her Story Equine Maintenance from Head to Hoof







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Two Yavapai County 4-H Teens Excell at Local & State Dog Competitions



K9 Officers – A Different Kind of Retirement Challenge





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Equine Maintenance from Head to Hoof

CORRECTION

Regrettably, an error occurred on our November/December 2019 issue of Prescott Dog Magazine, on the DOGtoberfest winners recognition page where a few contestants were not shown in the correct order. We apologize for this error.

THE PRESCOTT DOG

PO Box 11868, Prescott AZ 86304 Cherie L. Dreves - Publisher/Owner info@reddogpublishing.net

FEATURED CONTRIBUTORS

Heidi Dahms Foster, Editor/Writer –

Two Yavapai County 4-H Teens Excel at Local & State Dog Competiions; Law Enforcement K9s Offer a Different Kind of Retirement Challenge; Book Review: Whole Day Journal Offers Invaluable Resource for Dog Lovers

- A Portrait Park by J Cover Photo
- **Gary Gromer** Photographer: Scenes from the Dog Park
- **Cheryl Hartz** On the Trail: Take a Winter Hike Uphill in the Snow–Yeager Canyon Trails No. 28 & No. 533

Skye Lyons – Rescue Tales; Dog Adoptions; Cat Adoptions; Horse Adoptions

Rita Thompson-Tinsley – Equine Maintenance from Head to Hoof

Sue Tone – Military K9 Handler Shares Her Story



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The Prescott Dog Staff & Writers



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



Heidi Dahms Foster – Editor/Writer, 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 works as Communications Relations Coordinator for the Town of Prescott Valley, and enjoys writing about and photographing dog activities and events.



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.



Robin Layton – Writer. Robin is a Maryland native who moved to Prescott Valley with her husband Chuck nearly five years ago. She was a journalist for 28 years and is currently the marketing director for Yavapai Big Brothers Big Sisters. She and Chuck have two Australian Cattle dogs who treat the family cat as their little sister. Hiking and exploring are among the favorite hobbies for the couple and their furry kids.



Skye Lyons – Rescue Editor. Skye has been a lifelong magnet for lost creatures. Her passion for observing animals has gained her a few strange interactions and conversations – from a cat asking her to be a midwife, to owls perching on the hood of her car. Every creature has a story, and she loves finding out what it might be.

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



Sue Tone - Writer. Sue is 'without dog' at the moment, and lives with Sadie, her 13-year-old cat, in Prescott. Most recently, she has retired following 15 years as a reporter/photographer for area publications. She keeps busy playing in two ukulele groups, taking cello lessons, studying art, traveling, and catching up on yard work.

Ed Wisneski – Writer. A native of Massachusetts, Ed, his wife Susan, and two greyhounds moved to Prescott in 2013. A freelance travel writer for 29 years, Ed was named an Outstanding Voices Columnist by the Dallas Morning News. He was an athletic administrator for Yale, Dartmouth, SMU, New York Jets, and the Philadelphia Eagles. Ed teaches in the OLLI program at Yavapai College, coaches YMCA basketball teams, and volunteers for Meals on Wheels.

HAZEL HOWLS

Kiera was having trouble finding her place today. Hazel was ignoring her completely. Tucker had snapped at her twice when she tried to approach him at full puppy speed. Kiera didn't take it personally, after all; if she came near him slowly and laid down in front of him, he would lower his head, toss her ear flap over with his snout and give her a thorough cleaning with his purple tongue. This reminded her of her mom, and a less complicated life. Kiera especially like the gentle face wash. How odd that the family "peace officer," who carried a such a stoic and regal bearing, could show such tenderness.

As for Elle, she relentlessly bugged Kiera all day. Dad finally intervened by taking Hazel, Elle, and a tennis ball outside to give those still inside a break.

Tucker immediately headed for the master bedroom. Kiera quietly followed. Tucker took his position to watch the hallway, while Kiera opted for the second level where the pillows were. After a weary yawn, Kiera asked Tucker if he would tell her a story. "Only if you wait till the end to ask all your questions."

Kiera thought for a second, "Can I ask just one little one now?"

Tucker adjusted his haunches and with a short snort replied, "One little one..." Kiera

pressed into

a little deeper, "Where did you learn about your ancestors...I mean all I know is my mom and my siblings, but you know so much more?"

Tucker took a deep breath. "My litter mom. Being the runt of the litter, she was concerned for me. She would keep me under her muzzle, hidden in her mane when we slept. She would tell me these stories to settle me down." Kiera raised her head to ask another question but thought better of it.

With a thorough stretch Tucker began, "A long time ago in a country called England, a man purchased a puppy for very practical reasons. The day before, he had returned to his boat and found someone had stolen some tools and fuel. He owned a boat that he lived on, and he navigated various canals delivering coal to homes and businesses along those

is to

quickly and became a proper deckhand. He love to stand on the bow to take in scents and scenery as the boat went up and down the canals.

water-

ways. The

puppy was

a white re-

triever mix

like myself.

He was

named

Thaddeus.

"He grew

"One spring day, when he was full grown, Thaddeus sat on the deck safe-guarding his home. A young boy appeared on the opposite bank scrambling down toward the canal calling, "Hey boy...over here...hey boy."

Thaddeus turned to greet the boy with a bark and a wag, but no one was there. Forgetting for a second he was alone, he turned to gauge his owner's disposition on the matter.

"That's when he heard the thrashing in the water and a desperate boy's cry. Thaddeus had been in the water before but had never jumped from the deck. The boy's head appeared in the water but slipped back under. Thaddeus ran and leaped with all he had. Having retrieved tools accidentally dropped in the water, he knew to drop his muzzle and push himself under. In no time he had a mouthful of shirt-collar and was scrambling backwards onto the muddy bank with the young boy in tow.

"Thaddeus's owner arrived back to the boat and saw the commotion across the canal. Stripping off his coat and shirt, he jumped into the water to get to the boy and Thaddeus. Locals later recounted that with his red cap, white undershirt, and poor swimming skills, he rather looked like a large fishing bobber. He made it to the other side to find the boy safe and sound, but a bit chilled.

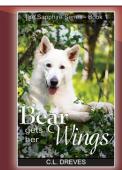
"So Kiera, that's how my great, great, grandfather became a local hero. Kiera...?"

Kiera, now on her back, all fours in the air, fast asleep dreaming of rescuing a chicken breast from the kitchen counter. Tucker settled in for a nap when he heard Dad trip over something playing ball outside.

"Good thing there isn't a canal out there...."

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Bear Gets Her Wings by C.L. Dreves

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January/February 2020



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- Tammy Pauletto, DVM
- Delia Macdonald, DVM
- Ayse Washington, DVM, CCRP
- Roxanne Batt, DVM





ONGOING EVENTS

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YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY (YHS)

- 50% Off 1st Sat of every month at the YHS Thrift Store, 1601 Iron Springs Road, Prescott. Open Mon - Sat, 9a-5p.
- Walk-In Vaccine Clinic every Sat, 8a-4p at YHS Spay/Neuter & Wellness Clinic, 2889 Centerpointe East, Prescott. No appointment necessary. First come, first serve for low-cost vaccinations. More info: yavapaihumane.org.
- Low-Cost Feral Fixes Wed, Thu, Fri 7:15a - 5p at YHS Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic, 2889 Centerpointe East, Prescott by appt. only. 928-771-0547 to schedule appt.

ONGOING ADOPTIONS

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- Info: unitedanimalfriends.org
- Cat Adoptions Petco (Hwy 69, Prescott), Daily 9a-10:30a & 4p-5:30p.
- Dog Adoptions Petco (Hwy 69): Saturday 11a-2p; Sunday 12p-3p; Whiskers Barkery (225 W Gurley St, Prescott) 1st two Saturdays of every month, 11a-2p.

YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY

- Onsite Adoptions Mon-Sat 11a-6p; Sun 12p-4p, 1625 Sundog Ranch Rd., Prescott, (928) 445-2666
- Offsite Adoptions Petsmart Mon-Sat 2p-4pm; Sun 11a - 2pm. Petco Fri & Sat 11a - 2p
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SKIPPER is a tlashy 13-year-old registered Quarter Horse gelding. He is a big guy who would excel in ranch work. Needs an experienced handler/rider. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



PERCY is a sweet 20-year-old Arabian/Saddlebred gelding, 16h. He enjoys being groomed and loves his carrots. Percy is broke to ride. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



COMMANCHE is a very flashy, 11-year-old Appaloosa gelding. Picks up feet, stands to be groomed and tacked up. Broke to ride. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

Prescott Dog



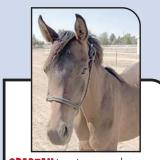
BELMONT is a sweet 2-year-old Arabian gelding. He is easy to catch, leads, picks up his feet, stands for grooming. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



BAILEY is a flashy 17-year-old registered Paint mare. Not certain if she is broke to ride, but would make a perfect pasture buddy. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



SUNDAY is a sweet 17-year-old Mule. Easy to catch, very in your pocket. Picks up her feet, stands to be tacked up. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



SPARTAN is an in your pocket, 2-year-old Arabian gelding. Easy to catch, leads, picks up his feet, stands for grooming. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



HAPPY is a pretty 15-year-old registered Thoroughbred mare. She leads, picks up her feet, stands for grooming, and is broke to ride. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



TIPPY is a cute 12-year-old grade pony gelding. He is broke to ride, however he will need a tune up. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



SKY is a beautiful mustang mare with a lot of potential. Currently learning to be comfortable around people and will take treats. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



GUCCI is a 9-year-old Arabian/ Saddlebred gelding. Stands for the farrier and tacking up, ties, easy to catch. He is broke to ride. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



SHORTY is an adorable 4-year-old grade pony mare. She is green, but with more training Shorty will be a great kid's pony. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666







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Two Yavapai County 4-H Teens Excel at Local and State Dog Competitions

By Heidi Dahms Foster

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Left to Right: Winner Addie Kennedy, Dog Trainer Jeri Holton, and Winner Ellyn Peterson Two Yavapai County teens took the state, at least the canine part of it, by storm this past year with their accomplishments in 4-H dog sports and showmanship. A little more seasoned this year, Addie Kennedy, 17, and Ellyn Peterson, 13, are looking to again represent their club, the Lonesome Valley 4-H Wranglers.

The Dewey club has helped to develop youngsters for 26 years. Mayer resident and dog trainer Molly Wisecarver and Dewey resident/ trainer Jeri Holton have headed up the dog portion of the club for the past 18 years. The club focuses on dog sports and livestock, though the members also participate in everything from cake decorating to sewing, shooting to leatherwork, and cooking.

The club's livestock projects include beef, swine, dairy cow, goat, rabbit, pigeon, duck and horse, while dog projects include obedience, agility, showmanship, rally obedience and brace obedience.

After doing well at the 2018 Yavapai County EXPO Show and Sale, and the Yavapai County Fair, Addie and Ellyn had the opportunity to enter the State 4-H Dog Show in February 2019. The two would compete with much more seasoned competitors, but they both had the attitude that even if they didn't win, they could learn from their experiences.

"The State was my chance to go against tougher competition, to get out of my comfort zone," Addie said.



Addie and Ellyn and dogs at State

Jeri said she emphasizes that her 4-H students focus on doing the best they can, rather than winning. "If they do that, I'm proud," she said.

Addie and Ellyn began practicing in earnest for the State event – they met twice a week with Jeri, who worked to fine tune them on the rules and the finer points of obedience competition and agility. They also met with Molly to practice showmanship, and made time to practice together and by themselves.

Ellyn said she was nervous about the competition, but excited. Addie was prepared for a tough contest, but found it wasn't as hard as she thought because Jeri and Molly had prepared them so well.

Addie and Ellyn placed in the top four at State in all classes they entered – obedience, showmanship, agility, and rally obedience. Addie placed first in her age group in rally, showmanship and obedience, and then won Obedience High Point Overall. Jeri was beyond proud of her students. "My head was so big!" she said. Ellyn had another personal best, which she shared with a grin. "I finally beat Addie at something!" It's all friendly competition, though, because the two share a special bond. Addie remembers babysitting Ellyn as a young child. The two prod each other to be better, while enjoying their sport and their friendship. At this point, both girls said, it's whose dog decides to "be good" that day!

Ellyn's win came in agility, where Addie placed second. It was Addie's dog's slight tick in performance that made the difference, something Addie recognizes can happen on any day. Dogs are like people, she said, they have great days and off days.

Addie's canine partner is the three-year-old Fetti, an Australian Shepherd mix that she received for her birthday. She had competed with various family dogs, but wanted to have her very own dog to train from a pup. She fell in love the moment puppy Fetti was placed in her arms. Of her State win, Addie said, "Fetti did her best obedience ever! She never took her eyes off me. She was on fire that day."

Holly, a red Australian Shepherd, now 8, is aptly named as she was a Christmas gift to Ellyn. She



Addie Kennedy and Fetti with their State Obedience Award



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Ellyn and Holly at State Show

has been Ellyn's partner in competition since she was a puppy. Ellyn has worked hard on the partnership with her best friend, and it's paying off in competition.

Ellyn is in her last year of competition as a junior, and Addie will age out of senior competition at 19. Addie already is looking toward a career doing something with animals, especially with livestock. Currently, she works as kennel help for PSR Stockdogs in Dewey, a job that allows her to be responsible for full care of a diverse group of dogs. She's soaking up all the knowledge she can – basic care, nutrition, "reading" the dogs, dog behavior, training, and basic needs of each dog.

Ellyn said she'd like to learn more about livestock in the future, and continue her work with the dogs.

Jeri and Molly's friendship was a bit of serendipity. Molly met Angela Teskey, Ellyn's mother,



Ellyn and Holly with State ribbons

who told her how wonderful 4-H was for the youngsters. Molly immediately signed up her 7-year-old daughter Mary Alice, who excelled in numerous 4-H projects until she aged out at 19, including dog, horse, goat, lamb, swine, beef, chickens, and many non-animal projects as well.

"We got sucked into 4-H and loved it, and I'm still doing it today, even though my daughter has aged out!" Molly said.

Jeri and Molly met when Molly was looking for someone involved in herding sports. Someone at Olsen's Grain told her about Jeri. They have been friends ever since. Both expressed to each other the desire to give back to their community. As dog trainers with a wide array of knowledge, they decided to start a 4-H project focused on dogs.

Jeri helps the youngsters with the basics of obedience, and has one basic requirement to begin. Each dog that enters the club's program must first complete the AKC Canine Good Citizen test. The CGC requires that a dog is well behaved around other people and dogs, and can obey basic obedience commands. This eliminates dogs that are aggressive to other dogs or people, and youngsters that are not motivated enough to earn that basic title. Once she finds a young person willing to learn, Jeri is ready to offer the wealth of experience she's gained in her lifetime career in dogs.



Lonesome Valley 4-H Wranglers also work together on community service along with their individual projects. Here, they serve Thanksgiving dinner this year at the Mayer Senior Center

"It's great to see the motivation to learn and compete, to gain what it takes to succeed in life and in business," she said. "Those kids who want to excel, do."

The club is a local family affair – Jeri and Molly had Addie's sister and brother in 4-H, along with many other local kids who grew up in the area from Dewey to Mayer and Cordes Lakes. Two of those youngsters, Homer Kennedy and Megan Sims, met in 4-H and are now married, still sharing a mutual love of dogs.

The benefits of 4-H are myriad, Jeri said. The youths learn to get along with other people of all ages, and to accept success and failure with a good attitude. They learn etiquette, such as thanking judges and writing letters to those who help them or purchase their projects. It's preparation for life, she added.

Molly agrees that 4-H teaches important life skills. "4-H in general I think holds them accountable for their projects. They have record books, and no matter the project, they track their expenses and goals. It's like running a little business. We talk about their goals through the year and at the end of the year. It prepares them for the future, shows them how to start a mini business and what to expect," she said.

There's another future aspect for this dog lover. "Without the kids, dogs are a dying sport. They learn about showmanship, grooming, respect for animals, care and feeding, animal parts, and patience. All of these can lead to a number of careers. Mostly for me, it's seeing kids happy and treating animals with respect and patience," she said.

Another benefit, Molly said, is the unique friendships the young people forge in 4-H. The parents are not supposed to help their kids with 4-H projects. The other kids help, and that's an amazing thing. They rely on each other for information and friendship and expertise, and it brings the kids together on a different level.

Ellyn said 4-H has taught her that winning is great, but losing teaches her how to improve. "We 'learn by doing," she said. That's the club motto. Addie agreed, "The worst you can do is lose, but at least you tried!"

In 2020, the girls will be joined at State by another club member, Lilia Johnson, with her shepherd. The three are sure to make some great accomplishments.

After next year's State 4-H dog show on February 8 in Tucson, the girls will prepare for the annual Yavapai County Expo at the Prescott Rodeo grounds from April 22-25, 2020. They'll be ready with their dogs, but also with the amazing number of other projects they're involved in.

Young people who would like to be involved in 4-H dog sports can contact Jeri Holton at 928-632-7557 or email farbenholt@bullerinetworks.net; Angela Teskey Peterson at 928-925-7472 or email angelateskey@aol.com; Molly Wisecarver at 928- 499-9263 or visit Lonesome Valley 4-H Wranglers on Facebook.

LAW ENFORCEMENT K9s OFFER A DIFFERENT KIND OF **RETIREMENT CHALLENGE**

By Heidi Dahms Foster

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The law enforcement K9s' public persona is one of highly trained individuals that can detect just about any stash of drugs no matter how well concealed, and strike fear into the criminal that dares to flee from officers. But what happens when it's time for these highdrive dogs to retire?

K9s represent a select number of breeds that are bred for their "off the charts" energy and drive, which makes them perfect patrol and narcotics dogs, but less perfect pets. Generally, Belgian Malinois, Dutch Shepherds and German Shepherds fit the bill, with a smattering of Labrador

Retrievers, which make outstanding narcotics detection dogs.

In law enforcement today, agencies generally look for especially social dogs that enjoy interacting with the public. The secret in their ability to be social and kind and still fearlessly apprehend a criminal lies in their play drive patrol, apprehension and narcotics detection is all a big game to these dogs. They do their job and they get their reward, usually a favorite toy, with which they are obsessed!

The K9s are always alert and ready for a game. They are so over the top energetic that it's hard to imagine them settling down enough to fit into an average family's home. But at about age eight or nine, the demands of the job - climbing walls, jumping in and out of patrol cars, rummaging through vehicles, clearing buildings and apprehending the bad guys begin to take a toll on their bodies.

When retired, the K9s still possess a heart for the job, and most retire with their handlers, both because of the strong bond officers have with the dogs, and because the officers are experienced in making sure the dogs navigate the transition into retirement.

Prescott Valley Police K9 Officer Paul Hines is a certified NPCA (National Police Canine Association) trainer whose first K9, Joey, was the Prescott Valley department's second ever dog. A Belgian Malinois, Joey retired in January 2011, and lived for five more years at

home with the Hines family. Joey started working for the PVPD in 2004. According to Prescott Valley Police records, throughout his career, Joey located 1,300 pounds of marijuana, 26 pounds of methamphetamine, 10 pounds of cocaine and 50 grams of heroin with a combined street value of more than \$1.7 million. He assisted in the seizure of 683 vehicles involved in criminal activity and more than 1,000 arrests. He had several criminal apprehensions to his credit, including catching a felon in 2010 in Chino Valley for

the Yavapai County Sheriff's

Two Prescott Valley retired K9s: Matt Williams and Turco; Peyton Hines and Kio

Office.

Paul and Joey were a capable team of drug recognition experts, and became a part of callouts for PVPD's Special Response Team, PANT, and many neighboring agencies, as well as visiting schools and community events to educate the public on the role of the Police K-9 team. It's no wonder Paul holds his first K9 up as the gold standard.

As Joey reached eight and nine years old, he began to slow down. In a police situation, that could have jeopardized his safety and that of his handler. That's when the tough decision to retire the dog came about.

Joey and Paul, along with Paul's wife and sons and a host of admirers, attended a retirement ceremony on Jan. 27, 2011. During the ceremony, Paul paid \$1 to the town to officially purchase Joey and take responsibility for his care.

Usually, patrol dogs do not live in the house, Paul said. They have comfortable kennels and shelter either in a garage or outside. They go with their handlers every day, and they know when they get out, they are on the job. "Their whole life has to be about work," Paul said. "But as the years went by, and Joey began to slow down, I began looking toward his retirement."

After he was retired, Joey would not be going with Paul every day to work. So he had to

transition to a different life. Paul purchased a mesh bed, and taught Joey to stay there during short times in the house. As he got used to being in the house, Joey learned to relax and enjoy being a house



Kio and Paul Hines

dog. It wasn't easy, Paul said. "When I'd get ready to leave the house, Joey would freak out like 'I'm supposed to be going with you!' You don't turn that off. He'd bark and bark and bark. He was my retirement learning curve."

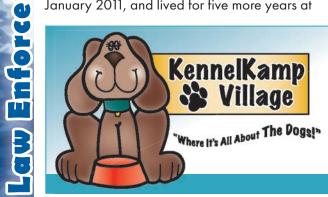
A "rock star" at work, Paul said acclimating Joey to retirement was a hard thing for him.

Paul had an easier transition with his next dog, a black German Shepherd named Kio. "I started the transition earlier with Kio, so it made his retirement super simple."

Joey passed away at the ripe old age of 14. Kio, at 12, has mostly lost his eyesight, but he still gets around well and is the undisputed owner of all the dog beds (four in the house and two in the yard, Paul asserts). He made an appearance recently at the retirement



Turco retires at Prescott Valley council



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We Proudly Sponsor the Dogs In Blue: Our Local Police K-9s



ceremony for another Prescott Valley K9, German Shepherd Turco.

In early December, the Prescott Valley Police Department retired Turco with his former handler and PV Officer Matt Williams. Williams was Turco's second handler. Officer Luke Williams originally handled the dog before moving on to work as an officer with another agency. After three years Matt transitioned to other duties in the Prescott Valley Department, and Turco filled in the gap as Paul trained and certified a new pup, Belgian Malinois Groot.

During his time handling Turco, Matt furthered the dog's training in tracking, article searches and improved his obedience, narcotics and patrol work. Notable achievements in Turco's career include locating quantities of marijuana, methamphetamines, cocaine, and heroin, along with hundreds of pieces of drug paraphernalia. But he especially excelled at tracking.

Turco assisted with apprehending two subjects who had stolen a vehicle and assaulted officers. He tracked the two suspects for about two miles before pushing them out and into assisting officers.

After a delayed alarm for a break-in at a business in Prescott Valley, Turco searched the building and then tracked and located a cash drawer that had been stolen from the property. He was able to locate the drawer 12 hours after the business was broken into.

Turco found a 12-year-old autistic child who had run away from his care home at 10 p.m. in December. The child was wearing only jeans and a t-shirt. Turco located the child in a timely manner, enabling officers to get him to safety. Turco also located and apprehended a domestic violence suspect who had assaulted his girlfriend and fled prior to officers' arrival.

Additionally, Turco assisted the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office in the arrest of a man who was acting violent toward his family and others and also had a warrant for his arrest. The man was in front of a residence and yelling and screaming at his family. When the deputy first made contact the man was still aggressive until Turco started barking. The man quickly complied and stopped his aggression. He was taken into custody without incident.

Paul commended Matt for the time and effort he had put into Turco's training. After retiring Turco in April 2019 from the Town of Prescott Valley, Paul gave the dog to Matt and his family.

Matt said Turco's transition into retirement took some time, and he's still "not quite there." The biggest challenge, Matt said, was when he put on his uniform to go to work and Turco did not understand why he wasn't going along.

"The biggest help was that I didn't have a patrol car at the house like I did when I was a K9 officer. When Turco was working, we had a specific routine, so I had to break that. As he came in the house, he would slowly wind down, but he would try to go back to his kennel in the garage, where he lived while he was working. He now has a new routine – he eats in the kitchen, and he either sleeps in a kennel with shelter in the back yard, or in the house when the weather is bad," Matt said.

Matt said Turco is still not even close to a couch potato. "He's big and strong and really fast. In the house, he's like a bull in a china closet. The hardest thing was that while he was working, everything was a game. So when he'd come in the house, he thought 'Oh, great, there's dad, I'm playing!' We have him in, in small increments, and give him a bone or chew to help settle him down. When he's busy, then he's relaxed."

Matt's wife found a used couch and placed it on their patio, and that's now Turco's bed. It appears he'll be a retirement challenge for some time to come. "He invades personal space," Matt said.



K9 lke in retirement

Chino Valley K9 Officer Dave McNally handled K9 Ike, the Prescott Valley Police Department's third K9, until Ike's retirement after an outstanding career. Ike retired about the same time as Paul's Joey. "Ike took about three weeks to become an indoor house dog. We actually put dog boots on his back feet, because it kept him from slipping on the tile." Much loved Ike passed away at age 10-1/2.

Dave recently retired K9 Gus, a longtime favorite at Chino Valley Police Department. Gus, said Dave, gets along great with the family's Rhodesian Ridgeback, but can't stand Dave's new K9 partner Lisko. "I think he's jealous," Dave said. "I bought Gus a nice indoor kennel, which I think he's starting to enjoy. He hated being inside, but after six months, he's finally starting to chill out with us!"

All of the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office dogs are single purpose narcotics dogs, which makes the agency's training philosophy a little different



Gus at 9 relaxing in his kennel



than that of area police departments. The dogs are allowed to live in their handlers' homes, even while working. Sgt. Jarrod Winfrey handled and retired K9 Tjando at age 10. Tjando passed away in 2018 at Used to living

Remembered – in 2018 at Ike's badge collar and paw print age 13 ½.

in the house, Tjando's transition to retirement was uneventful, Jarrod said.

Jarrod this year retired Gemma, a Belgian Malinois that he got at age 10 weeks, and trained exclusively. He patrolled with Gemma for six years, when a knee defect caused her to begin to have trouble with the rigors of the job. After successful surgery she gets around fine, but cannot return to patrol. Gemma had an amazing record as a narcotics dog, credited in her career with detecting 1,177 lbs. of marijuana, 80 lbs. of cocaine, 61 lbs. of meth, 14 lbs. of fentanyl, 8.7 lbs. of heroin and 79 lbs. of hashish. Gemma won the 2016 National Police Canine Association Detection Case of the Year after locating 15 lbs. of cocaine and heroin during a traffic stop in Yavapai County.

Gemma is Jarrod's last K9 as he recently transferred to PANT as a supervisor.

Prescott Police K9 Officer Kayla Reynolds recently said, "There's no k9 handler who wouldn't give their life for their dog. I'm with (Labrador K9 Benny) more than my family. There is a special bond, a connection. Our bond has been tested in a way that it never was with a pet. He was meant for this (law enforcement), and so was I. We are destined to be together."

With that kind of devotion between handlers and K9s, it's no wonder officers are eager to take the time and effort to make sure their K9 partners retire and live out the rest of their lives in dignity and comfort.



Dave McNally's Gus and Rogue are good buddies



RUMMAGE SADE

Rummage to the Rescue Helps Pets & People

The United Animal Friends 2019 "Rummage to the Rescue" rummage sale was our biggest and best to date, filling more space than ever with treasures galore. Our volunteers worked tirelessly for weeks (ok, maybe they got a little tired) to ensure that the generously donated merchandise was wellorganized and displayed. This year, we added a new twist to the sale by running it for two consecutive weekends, with new donations arriving throughout the week in between.

One donation of hundreds of NASCAR cars and memorabilia

director from Yavapai College.

C

E

was so large that we dedicated an entire room to it. After the regular sale days, we wanted the remaining NASCAR items to be used where they would make others happy, so they were donated to the local Marine Corps Reserves' Toys for Tots program and the Prescott Police Department's Shop with a Cop program.

At the end of the sale, the other unsold items were shared with other local nonprofit groups to help their community programs, including Coalition for Compassion and Justice, Disabled American Vets, Pioneer Home Foundation, N.O.A.H. Thrift Store, Goodwill, St. Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army, Bradshaw Mountain Wildlife, and Baptist Ministries. And finally, we reopened our doors to the public to help themselves to anything remaining for free.

The United Animal Friends annual rummage sale helps so many animals have a better life, and this time it helped less fortunate children have a better Christmas too. Thank you all for your generous support!

\$2,500 Presented to Yavapai College's Veteran's Scholarship Fund



Prescott Long Riders representative Tara Tompkins presented a check for \$2,500 to Patricia Aljets from The Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services and Paul Kirchgraber, the executive

The donation is for the Yavapai College Veteran's Scholarship Fund and was collected during The Day of the Cowboy as a once a year collaborated effort by the Prescott Regulators and the Prescott Long Riders.



Prescott Police Officers Answered Our Prayers

On Wednesday, October 23, 2019, Officer Creager and Officer Novak from the Prescott Police Department answered our call immediately – and our prayers.

We explained to the officers that we'd done everything we could to free Harley our 13-years-young Bichon/ Papillion, who was trapped under our electric recliner with his tail wrapped around the drive shaft. The officers unassembled the whole mechanism and freed our

baby Harley.



Great job, guys! You will always be in our hearts and in our prayers. The police officers, firemen,

and all who serve us deserve more recognition. We thank you, and Harley thanks you! May God bless all the officers of Prescott.

> Trish and Dave Newhard Prescott, Arizona

Dog Shopping in the Adoption Aisles

After a proper amount of time since our elder dog passed, I began looking for adoptible dogs in our area. Initially consulting Prescott Dog, I discovered a host of great dog rescues. I seemed to gravitate toward United Animal Friends where their practice of fostering rescues in individual volunteer homes was a quality I highly admired. These dogs get individual attention and sometimes additional training before landing a forever home.

United Animal Friends offers a Meet & Greet, where the pet is brought to your home to ensure an appropriate fit and to make sure it will get along nicely with your current pet family. They also examine your "set up" for proper safety.

I went to their website, and it didn't take me long to find a candidate, actually several. Due to travels, I wasn't able to adopt right away, and my selections were happily homed by the time I was home.

Finally there was a new posting of a 3-year-old pup that was





perfect for me and my family. We absolutely adore Saki Su, who is a spectacular mix of Great Pyr/ Aussie/Collie. She exudes so much love for us and is fitting right into our lives. She and our elder lab Tahoe became fast friends, and we discovered that the new younger pup brings new life into our home as well as the life of our senior who now sleeps a little less.

Here's wishing you scampering success as you shop to adopt! Rita Thompson-Tinsley

> Happiness lives inside of the smallest moments.

~Christy Ann Martine



What is Rescue? What Does It Mean to You?

Our dogs are real, their stories are very real, and helping them to recover,

trust, and find happy homes is why we are a rescue. "Saving One by One...Until There Are None" is our mission, and we offer a means to get involved and make a difference.

Can you help? The answer is a definite yes on helping. There are so many ways. We keep saying there is a comfort zone in the world of rescue for everyone.

If you are physically able, you can provide walks, transport, help at adoptions, work on our property, build, repair, create a garden or a flowerbed.

If you are not able, do you belong to a group or a club where a fundraiser or a donation drive can be held? Are you part of a larger community where you can write stories about us or promote our dogs? Networking is critical if you are on any social media sites. Have a Birthday or Anniversary Fundraiser. Donate?

We are volunteer-based, and there is always a need. We try to



encourage monthly donations, no matter how small, as these constant dollars provide security in many ways. Come out to visit and tour for a view to help you understand who we are and why everyone can help.

In this New Year, we plan to continue evolving but we will need more help and support. This last amazing donation for our Mom and Puppy Palace came at a very important point when we were asked to take in a mom and her seven-week-old babies. Once completed a very talented artist and volunteer, Christine Larson, felt they needed to be honored as our first residents and painted a terrific replica of Oreo and her kids.

Follow us on aarfanimalrescue.org, or Facebook, or call us at (928) 925-7219.



January is a time for new beginnings and February is a time for celebrating love. Our senior dogs need a new beginning and are willing to give you unconditional love, so it's the perfect time to come find your new furever friend at Yavapai Humane Society.

People often overlook senior dogs, thinking that they don't have much time left or won't be active. Sometimes, that may be the case but why not adopt that dog and let them live out their life knowing love and happiness?

Most of the senior dogs here are still full of life and love... They like to go for walks, play, go for car rides and sit and watch TV with you... and no matter what, they will love you unconditionally.

Just like Azul... she is a 13 year old beautiful American Pit Bull, Terrier/Mastiff mix who is now in her new furever home. Her previous owners had her since she was a



puppy, but unfortunately there were circumstances that they couldn't keep her and they did the right thing and brought Azul to Yavapai Humane Society so that we could find her a home.

Azul was here at the shelter for 2 months getting depressed and overlooked because of it, until an Angel named Lois saw her and fell in love. Azul is now happy as can be in her new home and got to spend her first Christmas with her new furever family.

There are a lot of others here just like Azul who are waiting for their furever home. Is it yours?



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Scue



BAILEY:

Australian Shepherd/ Cattle Dog mix puppy, 10 weeks. Cud-



dly, sweet, loves to play. Bailey is deaf and will need special training. United Animal Friends doxiemama4@gmail.com

GOLDIE: A

very likable 7 month old, 25 pound female Aussie/

terrier mix. Wants to please, very chatty and even yodels. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com

LUCY: A mix

of breeds, around 3 years old and weighs

40 pounds. Very loving, gets along with other dogs. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com

AMY: A gorgeous Cattle Dog mix, 1 year

old, weighs 25 pounds. Super sweet, loves people. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com





calm energy. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com



House trained, knows commands. A wonderful hiking partner, loves cuddles. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com



An adorable Australian Shepherd/ Cattle Dog mix puppy, 10 weeks old.

ABIGAIL:





low energy, loves to cuddle. Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com

SOCKS: Beagle/ Lab mix. Has

learned to use a dog door to go out and potty. AARF Animal Rescue

928-925-7219



months old. AARF Animal Rescue 928-925-7219

DIGBY: A congenial 4-month-old puppy. Loves attention, is

housebroken. Smart and eager to please. AARF/Toby at 4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



GINGER: A sweet Cattle Dog/Terrier mix, 5 years old and 20



lbs. Very gentle spirit, loves being with her human. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com

LIZZIE: A sweet Cattle Dog mix, around 1 year old and



40 pounds. Very friendly with people and other dogs. United Animal Friends at uafdogs@gmail.com

LOGAN: He is a pit bull mix. He is about 3 months old.



AARF Animal Rescue 928-925-7219

JAKE: A 9-year-old Cattle Dog/ Red Heeler/ Aussie mix. Good with



other dogs, uses a doggie door, walks well on leash, well-behaved. AARF/Cindy or Bill at cdavid431@gmail.com

BRUNO:





nered. He has lost his brother and is lonely. AARF Animal Rescue 928-925-7219

BROOKE

About a 9-month-old Catahoula mix female

with beautiful blue eyes. She is deaf and needs an experienced person. AARF Animal Rescue 928-925-7219

SPOT: An

American Bulldog/terrier mix. Spot is 7 years



Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

JASON:

A 1-yearold male long-haired Chihuahua.



Affectionate, cuddly, wants his own person. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

BEAR: A

3-year-old pit bull/Boxer mix. He is large, digni-

fied, and very loving. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

SALLY: A

2-year-old pit bull mix female, Sally is gentle,



affectionate and very smart as well as quite pretty. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

ALLIE: A 2-year-old medium-sized female. She is

housebroken and loves walks. **AARF** Animal Rescue 928-925-7219



energetic, and very smart! Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



handsome, highly intelligent and loves to please his people. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

KIWI: A 3-year-old pit bull mix with most unique

markings! Gentle, affectionate, and fun, she wants a new family for Christmas. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



lovely, active, and affectionate with a beautiful hound voice. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

LOKI: A 4-year-old Alaskan Malamute, black and

silver with beautiful blue eyes. A most handsome gentleman, very gentle. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

STARK: A Siberian Husky mix. He is 2 years



handsome! He is also smart and very energetic. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

BRUNO: A small 4-year-old



male. He is a shorthaired fellow who loves snuggles and to have his own person. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

ARYA: A

female Labrador retriever/ Boxer mix, 1 vear old. She affectionate.



is energetic, intelligent, and Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

CHARLIE: A funny-faced male terrier mix. Charlie is 5 years old



and loves people. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

ELFIE: A 4-year-old female pit bull mix. She is quiet, affec-



tionate, and gentle. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

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PYPER: A

sweet mostly black tortoiseshell female with a white spot by her



nose. A real purr machine who loves people. Catty Shack/ Elizabeth 928-848-9509

VALEN-TINO: Sil-

ver-gray male, has the look and color of a Russian Blue,

and the same sweet, calm disposition. Medium length coat. Catty Shack 928-778-6951

TANGEE: A

pretty 1-yearold orange female (unusual) and a longhair as well.

Sweet, loving, and beautiful, Tangee has it all. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

SAVANNAH: A beautiful

ticked tabby female with tummy spots. Sociable,

loves people. Would love to be adopted with her sister. Catty Shack/Nancy or Denis 520-247-3181



months old. Very affectionate. love toys. Would love to be adopted together. Catty Shack/ Elizabeth 928-848-9509

DODGE: A

5-year-old brown tabby male. Very friendly with a laid-back

Garfield-type personality. Loves giving head bumps, likes tummy rubs. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



SUMMER: A sweet 2-year-old calico. Beautiful, affec-

tionate, and overall a charming little girl. Catty Shack 928-778-6951



you, greets you at the door. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

BANJO: A 4-month-old male, white with brown tabby spots.

Banjo is playful, cuddly, active, and super sweet. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

CYCLONE:

He is white with black patches. Loves laps, very kind. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

PEGASUS:

A small 4-month-old male who is orange and white, and

very handsome. He is fun and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

DOLCE: An

8-month-old female, a medium-hair brown tabby with big green



eyes. Affectionate and playful.. Catty Shack 928-778-6951

BABY CAT: A 3-year-old Abyssinian mix. A spunky girl who is affectionate,



inquisitive, energetic, and lots of fun. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

GEORGE: A

12-year-old Point longhaired Flame-Point Siamese special needs



senior tripod. Affectionate lap cat who loves being brushed. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

JAZZ: An 8-year-old female Manx mix, Jazz is a lovely dilute tortoiseshell



kitty, gray and gold. Very sweet, loves people. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

TIOUA: A 5-year-old **Russian Blue** mix female, silvery-gray with huge



gold eyes. She is lovely, very gentle and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666







SLOTH: A

charming 8-month-old bright orange tabby with huge green/

gold eyes. He is going to be a small cat, but very sweet and playful. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

TASHA: A

6-year-old longhaired lady, white with brown tabby spots.

She is gentle, sweet, and big cat! Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

PATTI: A

2-year-old black and white female. Loves to be around peo-

ple. She loves to be brushed and petted. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

ALI: A lovely

tortoiseshell and white female. She has a big purr and is a talker. Loves people. Catty Shack/Elizabeth 928-848-9509



SPAZ: A 5-year-old white with black spots. Despite his name, Spaz

is a gentleman and very affectionate. He is also really big! Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

ELENA: A 2-year-old

with a big and gentle heart. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

LILLY: A 7-yearold Tuxedo female. very friendly, very



likes brushing, petting, and is a talker. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

SCOOTER: A handsome silver tabby male. Very sweet, loves

to purr in your ear and play with you. Catty Shack/Elizabeth 928-848-9509

MINXY: A 2-year-old

CHONK: An

8-month-old

orange and

white male,

orange eyes

928-445-2666

PUMPKIN:

tortoiseshell

kin is affec-

tionate and

MIDNIGHT:

A beautiful,

shiny black

house panther with big gold

eves. Sweet,

A 1-year-old

female. Pump-

with deep



in appearance and charming in personality. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

to match his coat. Shorthaired,

smallish in size, and charming.

a talker. Gives new meaning

to ACTIVE! Miss Kitty's Cat

affectionate, and fun! Catty

Shack 928-778-6951

House 928-445-5411

Yavapai Humane Society

OZZY: A

glossy black house panther with big gold eyes. Four years old



with a short, sleek coat. Lovely personality. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

MANGO: A

very sweet, loving lady. She is white with black patches and



big golden eyes. Six years old. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

SOLARA: A beautiful 2-year-old



928-445-5411

females¬) with green-gold eyes. Loves being petted, super sweet gal. Miss Kitty's Cat House

NADIA:

Beautiful, petite gray tabby female. She'll lay in your lap and



purr up a storm, maybe ask for a belly rub. Catty Shack 928-778-6951

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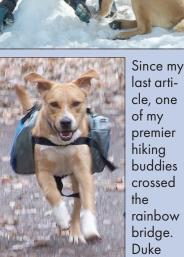




TAKE A WINTER HIKE UPHILL IN THE SNOW: YEAGER CANYON TRAILS NO. 28 & NO. 533

Story and Photos by Cheryl Hartz





cle, one of my premier hiking buddies crossed the rainbow bridge. Duke and his

brother, Jack, were strays we adopted from the humane society nine years ago, when they were about 10 months old. Duke was the calmer sibling, but he always followed Jack on forays to look out for him, and frequently snuggled up to his flightier brother.

Jack has adjusted to being an "only dog," but occasionally shows signs of awareness that his brother is gone. We miss Duke greatly and pour the extra love out on Jack now.

Duke, never again must you be constrained by a leash. Enjoy your eternal romp. You've earned it.

One of the hikes Duke loved was on the west slope of Mingus Mountain in the Prescott National Forest. Yeager Canyon Trail No. 28 is listed as a difficult level hike on the PNF page of the National Forest Service website. That's because of a 1,400foot elevation change over 2.4 miles – a rigorous climb.

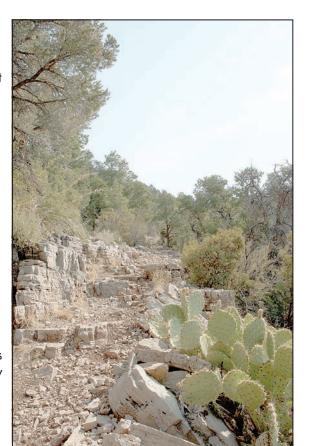
But along with the aerobic benefit of the hike is the bonus of incredible views of the Prescott Valley and Dewey-Humboldt areas as well as the Bradshaw Mountains.

Trail No. 28 connects with Yeager Cabin Trail No. 111 and Little Yeager Canyon Trail No.

533 for a round trip loop, and you can start from the top of Mingus when Forest Road 104 isn't closed for the winter. For our purposes, the west trailhead, at an elevation of 6,000 feet, is off State Route 89A, just within the PNF boundary.

Flora is heavy on deciduous hardwoods - mainly oak - as the trail parallels the highway, with much undergrowth of manzanita and a variety of spiky vegetation such as the century plant and prickly pear cactus. Depending upon recent temperatures, you could encounter snow on the lower portions of the trail. As you ascend to 7,400 feet, ponderosa pine and alligator juniper become more prevalent. And you will need your snow boots.

Although the area is home to many small bird and reptile species, they aren't out in the cold weather. If



you're lucky, you might catch a glimpse of a large mammal - a javelina, coyote, mountain lion, mule deer, perhaps even a black bear.

The west trailhead begins on the south side of State Route 89A about 1.8 miles east of the double power lines, just past a lengthy guard rail. On the south side of the road, park at the extended turnout. If that's full, a large parking area exists a few feet farther on



the opposite side of the road. Walk downhill on a road blocked by boulders, with the trail sign next to them, across a cattle guard, and you'll see two trail signs: No. 28 to the left and No. 533 to the right. The latter does not parallel the highway, but it is popular with mountain bikers who have, on occasion at the lower levels, developed "jumps" that can make the trail treacherous. It becomes steep and heads up its mountain faster than No. 28, which starts out more level before a long climb towards Mingus.

Wear layers and take plenty of water and snacks. No man-made amenities are available. Happy winter hiking!





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MILITARY K9 HANDLER SHARES HER STORY

By Sue Tone

To train as a U.S. Air Force airman is a demanding experience. Being one of the few females working in the K9 program is even more challenging. And serving in the Middle East can be a heartbreaking endeavor.

Tech. Sgt. Jessie Keller, U.S. Air Force, planned to go to college after high school graduation and then find work with animals. Instead, she entered the Air Force with a goal of working in the K9 program.

Keller served 13 years on active duty before going into the Reserves, where she is today. She has been deployed seven times to Afghanistan.

Entering Military Service

Keller found challenges along the way – being female in a traditionally male field had its struggles.

"There wasn't a lot of females to talk to, and I was kind of an outcast. So immediately coming into any kind of unit with all men, they kind of

looked at me as a weakness. I had to prove myself, and I had to really dig deep for them to understand I was there to be a good teammate," she said. "At the same time, they put me through challenges that really shaped my strength as a female, and I was accepted as one of their brothers. So I wouldn't take any of that away."

Knowing that it would take five years to get into the K9 program, Keller explored other jobs within the Air Force such as field radio telephone operator, driver, and shooting the big "fun guns," the 240 Bravos.

Working with animals is probably the most rewarding job a person can have, she said. Being a dog handler in the military has been the best career and the most dearest to her heart.

"It's a job that many people can't understand unless you've had a dog actually save your life," she said.

All About the Dogs

A lot of people look at dogs as cute, cuddly things that greet its owner at the door, Keller continued.

"My dog wasn't a dog," she said about her military work dog or MWD. "We really don't like to use that term or the word animal. We say it's our partner. These four-legged partners were there to save us. They went in day in and day out when we were exhausted as humans. But the dogs will go in. They were so excited for life

This image of Sqt. Jessie Keller and times - five times to Iraq and two her military working dog, Chrach, will transform into a short 2.5-minute video by using a free app from Live Portrait downloaded to a smart device. Point the smart device at the portrait and watch Sgt. Keller "come to life" and talk about her experiences MWD Chrach (pronounced as a military combat K9 handler. For more images and videos of veterans, visit visionofvets.org. Photo courtesy Bruce Roscoe, Vision of Vets.

responsible for the deaths.

"I worked with this team numerous times, and it was heartbreaking for this camp. It was probably one of the most heart-wrenching times I've ever been out with combat. As soon as we landed I saw my team just standing there waiting. They were so excited to see the dog. I don't know if it was because they were excited the dog was there or if it was because of what we were going to do and that we were there to try to help them out," she said.

Ultimately, they found the bodies, and some weapons and bomb-making materials that day. "We paid our respect, we feel, to the team we lost," Keller said. "And working with that team and having Chrach greet them right away was probably one of my most memorable moments."

> The K9 partners often have more than one handler who all work together and gain knowledge from each other.

and to work, all for a toy, really,

and for the interaction between

their handler. They just wanted

While deployed, Keller worked

where she was typically the only

was "very tricky." She learned to

watching the way her K9 looked

"No matter what type of training

you had, no matter how many

skills you had, it was kind of the

luck of the draw. Are you going

to step on a pressure plate that

it?" This is what Keller lived with

had an explosive attached to

during her deployments.

One mission took her and

"crash") into an area where

a four-person unit had been

sent in to help find the bodies

and also search for the people

blown up. She and Chrach were

MWD Chrach

recognize when something was

wrong in her environment by

on missions "outside the wire"

female. In the midst of terrorist

activity, everything going on

to play."

or reacted.

Chrach received many awards, among them the Bronze Star and a Combat Action medal. He also earned the 12th Annual Animal Hero Award, "a huge deal," Keller acknowledged. She has a Joint Service Award with him as well as a Combat Action medal.

One of Chrach's biggest accomplishments was when he was assigned with Special Forces and went out on combat patrols. He located about five IEDs improvised explosive devices that weighed out to be about 170 pounds, Keller said.

"This dog not only saved a good friend of ours, he also saved the teams behind him and the teams behind that. He found explosives that were ready to detonate if they were to step by. If the team did not have the dog, they would have died," she said.

Keller worked with another MWD partner, Oscar, who was badly injured by an explosion. Although Oscar performed his duty immediately after the device went off, he was soon retired. Keller credits both Oscar and Chrach for saving her life.

Honoring Their Partners

"You go out every day, and you're worried you might step on something. No matter how good the dog is or how good your team is, you could have been chosen that day where you set that device off. That was probably the hardest part," she said. "Sometimes it's just the luck of the draw. So every day I knew that I might not come home. That makes you think a little differently, and you take things a little bit lighter in life."

Chrach retired and lived with former Air Force airman Kyle Alltop; he died June 30, 2018. When K9 partners retire or pass away, their handlers and fellow comrades give them a full ceremony as they would a human soldier.

"They mean so much to us that they're not animals, that they're soldiers, and that we try to give them as much of a full retirement as a human would. We will do everything, from the flag folding, we come in our dress blues - it is an official ceremony where we have protocol. We have base commanders come in," Keller said. "We make sure we pay the respects to them that they gave to us for all their service."

Keller currently is going through firefighter training in the Air Force Reserves. This might develop into search-and-rescue work, she said.

"I really like having a partner with four legs. There's just something about it."



Terrie Frankel, former USO performer as one of the Doublemint Twins, left, presented Sgt. Jessie Keller with a framed image of her portrait during an assembly in May 2018 at Glassford Hill Middle School in Prescott Valley. From left are Frankel; U.S. Air Force Sgt. Kyle Quigg with his military working dog, Tessa; Lisa Pasalich; U.S. Air Force Sgt. Jessie Keller; Vision of Vets founder Bruce Roscoe with Chrach; and Prescott Police Officer Kyle Alltop. Quigg and Keller were K9 handlers who both worked with Chrach. Chrach lived with Alltop after retiring from military work. Photo courtesy Vision of Vets.

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BOOK REVIEW: WHOLE DOG JOURNAL OFFERS INVALUABLE RESOURCE FOR DOG LOVERS

By Heidi Dahms Foster

If you have a dog, it's a good bet you are always looking for ways to help your pet stay healthy, happy, and free of behavior problems. You might not have time to read a library of books on all things dog, but there is one excellent publication that offers shorter but meaty reads on a number of canine subjects.

Whole Dog Journal is a longtime magazine publication that for years has offered the latest indepth news on everything from training and behavior to pet food and health care. Great writing and photos offer practical instruction on basic training – sit, stay, down, walking on a leash, proper behavior around people and other dogs, and the one thing that can literally save your dog's life, a failsafe recall on command.

Whole Dog Journal doesn't stop there. It examines in-depth such varied subjects as the best dog toys for every kind of dog, the right dog beds, teaching your dog to relax around bees, children, and dogs, and effective habits for dog owners, to name just a few.

The magazine also delves in depth into subjects that deeply concern dog owners, such as the burgeoning problem of cancer in our dogs, offering information and the latest treatment options. That alone makes the magazine worthwhile, but the thing that makes Whole Dog Journal immensely valuable is its information on feeding, and its annual lists of excellent wet and dry dog foods.

The dog food debate has exploded in the past couple of decades, and that's a good thing. Dog food has improved, and so has the health of our pets. But navigating the possibilities and making sure our pets are getting the best foods can be overwhelming. Do we feed raw, dried, canned, cooked, or dehydrated? If we buy prepared food, which brands are the best, and which ones should we avoid?

Whole Dog Journal does not accept advertising, and has strict criteria to create its list of the healthiest wet and dry foods. Since 1998, Whole Dog Journal has published an annual review and rating of dry and wet dog foods.

The lists include what ingredients should be in your dog's food, what ingredients to avoid, cost, and consideration of special needs such as activity level, growth, age, environment, illness, reproduction, altered dogs, and more. The list is new each year, so newer companies that are working to craft the best dog foods are included.

Additionally, a subscription to Whole Dog Journal includes short tips emailed to your inbox, a digital edition, and access to a wealth of information on its website. Treat yourself to a subscription of this excellent resource for \$20 annually at wholedogjournal.com.





EQUINE MAINTENANCE FROM HEAD TO HOOF

By Rita Thompson-Tinsley



Rich Fisher of Fisher Equine Dentistry Your finest ride doesn't come with a check engine light. It's up to us to know when maintenance is due and to make sure that the head mechanic comes with the right set of tools and the right kind of know-how.

Straight for the horse's mouth: A must do every year is an appointment with an equine dental specialist for your good riding buddy. According to Rich Fisher of Fisher Equine Dental, "More than 5 out of 10 domesticated horses have teeth problems which interfere with riding, training, behavior, feeding, comfort, or health." (That's a mouthful!) The clues range from obvious to subtle to none. The practice of regular dentals assures early recognition and correction of developing problems.

Dr. Fisher travels with a portable stall. A speculum holds the horse's mouth open allowing access to the teeth while attached, a simple boat bumper sufficing as a comfortable chin rest for the patient.

Fisher explains, "Horse teeth continually erupt toward the grinding surface. Unless that growth is removed by constant grazing on harsh habitat, the teeth will develop uneven areas and sharp edges."

Dr. Fisher presented to me a photo of the skull of an adult free range wild mustang from the harsh Colorado Plateau and contrasted it with a skull photo of an adult domesticated horse. The differences are dramatically distinct. The free range horse has superb teeth, no uneven or sharp areas. Yet the domesticated horse shows obvious malocclusions (hooks, ramps, waves) due to his diet of domesticated feeds.

Fisher and other dental specialists use a variety of tools to correct uneven areas and sharp edges. This meticulous process highly improves the efficiency of feeding creates better comfort for the horse as well as adding longevity to the horse's life. It is crucial for a healthier happier horse and a responsible, more



confident rider. Something to smile about.

Also valuable and precious are a horse's feet and legs. In fact, the entire body of a horse is affected if he is not well balanced. A good farrier is essential to your list of specialists. Fortunately, we have a good share of men and women who are skilled regular and barefoot specialists in our area.

Dean Owen has been a professional farrier for 30 years throughout Arizona. In addition to shoeing, he spends an amount of time in the Air National Guard Reserve after being in the US Air Force. Dean's philosophy is straightforward. "You have to have an open mind when you're working on a horse." In order to be effective, he claims, "You have to look through that horse, through the distortion and imperfections and past relying on the over-used everyday angle guide". You may shoe a cow horse differently than you would shoe a dressage horse. A barrel horse needs to turn, stop, run. Roping horses use other kinds of movements.

Hooves grow differently. There are many elements to consider, and an experienced farrier can evaluate their needs accordingly. "Sometimes you are shoe-



Left: Skull of free-range horse. Right: Skull of domestic horse with malocclusions. Photos courtesy Rich Fisher.

ing for soundness. Sometimes you are shoeing for performance, " says Owen. But with integrity built on his passion for the horse, Dean assures that he would walk away from any job if it meant harm to a horse.

During time working for acclaimed horse author Monty Roberts, Jared



Photo courtesy Kristi Huhta.

Huhta has ridden 4000+ horses in 17 countries. Some of the best farriers I know have become this way because they truly understand the way a horse is supposed to move. They get the big picture, and it translates to the shape of the horse hoof. Jared is Certified Farrier Practitioner, Level 3. He enjoys working with nice horses and especially the people who take good care of them.

"It is generally obvious when you get to someone's barn if the horse is cared for properly and has good body condition," states Huhta. "Appropriate trimming/shoeing can prevent problems such as navicular syndrome, for example," he stresses. Jared sometimes works in conjunction with veterinarians on cases to ensure effectiveness for the horse.

I got his take on the use of horse boots, especially in endurance or heavy trail riding. He expliained "We're adding something to the outside of the foot, changing their stride because of weight and other factors," Jared explains. "The boots are adding sometimes unfavorable leverage, and during high activity you don't want the horse's foot to twist while it's in the boot."

It's a good idea to let your farrier assess your horse's boot fit. Huhta is in favor of some brands, though he doesn't recommend them for high mileage endurance. He suggests some Renegades, EasyCare Fury Heart, and some clients do well in Scoot Boots. When asked about regular farrier visits, Jared notes that every horse is unique, and he doesn't necessarily believe in the standard 6-week rule.

If you expect your horse to take care of YOUR SEAT. You'd better be sure to take care of HIS FEET. It will beHOOVE you both. Happy Horse!



Scenes From The Dog Park

☆ is your dog the star of the dog park?

Is their picture on this page?



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REGIONAL ANIMAL SHELTERS

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Blackhat Humane Society, Durango Native American Reservation Animals blackhathumane@gmail.com (928) 245-3890

Chino Valley Animal Shelter 1950 Voss Dr., Chino Valley (928) 636-4223, Ext. 7

Coconino Humane Association 3501 E Butler Ave, Flagstaff (928) 526-1076, coconinohumane.org

HALO (Helping Others Live On) www.halorescue.org (602) 971-9222

Humane Society of Central Arizona 605 W. Wilson Ct, Payson (928) 474-5590, HumaneSocietyCentralAZ.org

Humane Society of Sedona 2115 Shelby Dr., Sedona (928) 282-4679, humanesocietyofsedona.org

Humane Society of the White Mtns. Lakeside (928) 368-5295, hswm.org

Humane Society of Wickenburg 4000 Industrial Rd, Wickenburg (928) 684-8801

Tuba City Humane Society (928) 793-2364, tubacityhumanesociety.org

Verde Valley Humane Society 1520 W. Mingus Ave. Cottonwood (928) 634-7387 VerdeValleyHumaneSociety.org

Yavapai Humane Society 1625 Sundog Ranch Rd., Prescott (928) 445-2666, yavapaihumane.org

CAT RESCUES Ark Cat Sanctuary, Parks AZ (928) 635-5909, arkcatsanctuary.org

Catty Shack Cat Adoptions 609 S. Granite St., Prescott cattyshackrescue.org

Miss Kitty's Cat House 302 N. Alarcon Street, Prescott (928) 445-5411, misskittyscathouse.petfinder.com Petey's Playground Kim Lytle, Director, (928) 713-1375

United Animal Friends, Prescott (928) 778-2924, UnitedAnimalFriends.org

DOG RESCUES

AARF Animal Rescue and Sanctuary 6639 S. Country Road, Mayer (Poland Junction) (928) 925-7219

AZ Happy Tails Animal Rescue Phoenix (480) 363-6963, happytailsaz.org

Lost Our Home Pet Foundation (602) 445-7387, lostourhome.org

Morning Starr Animal Sanctuary and Affordable Spay Neuter Clinic Cornville (928) 821-2420, morningstarr.org

Petey's Playground Kim Lytle, Director (928) 713-1375

Pets Return Home petsreturnhome.org info@petsreturnhome.org

United Animal Friends, Prescott (928) 778-2924, UnitedAnimalFriends.org

HORSE/LIVESTOCK RESCUES & SANCTUARIES

Arizona Equine Rescue Organization, Inc, New River azequinerescue.org

Bethany's Gait Ranch Prescott (928) 499-9442

Circle L Ranch Animal Rescue & Sanctuary, Prescott Valley, Daytime (928) 925-1926

Respect 4 Horses, Prescott (928) 308-6718 or (928) 925-7212 respect4horses.org

Yavapai Humane Society Equine Center Chino Valley, (928) 515-4947 Call for appt. yavapaihumane.org

WILDLIFE RESCUE & SANCTUARIES

Bradshaw Mountain Wildlife Association (928) 632-9559, bradshawmountainwildlife.com

Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary (928) 778-4242, heritageparkzoo.org

Tranquility Trail Animal Sanctuary Rabbit Rescue, Scottsdale, tranquilitytrail.org

BREED RESCUES

AIREDALE Southwest Airedale Terrier Rescue Tucson (800) 688-1402 or (520) 248-0299, swAiredaleRescue.org

AKITA

Akita Advocates Relocation Team AZ (AARTA) (602) 882-5482

AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG / HEELER

Amazing Aussies Lethal White Rescue Mesa, AmazingAussies.com

Arizona Cattle Dog Rescue Flagstaff (480) 442-2237 ArizonaCattleDogRescue.org

Heeling Heelers Hearts Dog Rescue 623-313-2225, azblueheeler.com heelingheelershearts@yahoo.com

BASSET HOUND

Arizona Basset Hound Rescue Gilbert (866) 882-9247 azbassetrescue.org

BEAGLE

Southern Arizona Beagle Rescue Tucson (520) 247-7720 soazbeaglerescue.com

BELGIAN MALINOIS

Saving Paws Rescue Arizona (German Shepherd & Belgian Malinois Rescue) Phoenix (480) 737-6089 savingpawsrescueaz.com

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG

Arizona Bernese Mountain Dog Rescue (480) 415-5008 arizonabernesemountaindogrescue.com

BORDER COLLIE

Arizona Border Collie Rescue Tempe (480) 422-5366, azbcr.org

BOSTON TERRIER

Arizona Boston Terrier Rescue Scottsdale, azbtrescue.org

BOXER

Boxer Luv Rescue (602) 530-5671, http://www.boxerluv.org/ boxerluvrescue@gmail.com

BRIARD

Briard Rescue and Haven (602) 228-2495, briardrescue.com

BRITTANY SPANIEL

Brittany Rescue Arizona (602) 689-6152 – Mark (602) 501-1844 – Robin brittanyrescueaz.org

BULLDOG

Almost Home Rescue, Tempe (480) 665-9524 almosthomebulldogrescue.org

CAVALIER

AZ Cavalier Rescue Cavaliers & English Toy Spaniels Facebook: AZ Cavalier Rescue (602) 397-4744

CHIHUAHUA

Arizona Chihuahua Rescue Mesa (480) 844-2447 AzChihuahuaRescue.org

Chiquita Chihuahua Rescue - Small breeds & those with Special Needs (480) 299-4349

COLLIE

Southwest Collie Rescue Gilbert (480) 507-7996, nmcollierescue.com

CORGI

Arizona Cactus Corgi Rescue (623) 687-1068, azcactuscorgirescue.com

DACHSHUND

Dachshunds Only Rescue Serving AZ Statewide (602) 550-4088 dachshundsonlyrescue.com

Happy Tails Dachsund Rescue, Inc. www.happytailsdr.org (209) 647-1251

DALMATIAN

Southwest Dalmatian Rescue, Tucson (866) 966-9987, swdalrescue@gmail.com

DOBERMAN Desert Harbor Doberman Rescue (602) 553-8433 azdoberescue.org

GERMAN SHEPHERD Adopt Me German Shepherd Dogs Facebook: adopt me GSD (480) 720-1534

Saving Paws Rescue Arizona (German Shepherd & Belgian Malinois Rescue) Glendale (480) 737-6089 savingpawsrescueaz.com

GIANT SCHNAUZER Valley of the Sun Giant Schnauzer Rescue, Mesa (602) 212-6775 vsgiantschnauzerrescue.org

GOLDEN RETRIEVER

Arizona Golden Rescue Glendale (623) 566-9247 arizonagoldenrescue.org

Rescue a Golden of Arizona Phoenix (602) 494-9663 Golden-Retriever.org

GREAT DANE

Dane Haven Inc. 602-388-4370 danehavenrescue@gmail.com danehaveninc.com

Great Dane Rescue of AZ Alliance (623) 869-0409 greatdanerescueofazalliance.com

GREAT PYRENES Arizona Great Pyrenees Association

(480) 988-4033, azpyrs.com

GREYHOUND Greyhound Pets of Arizona (877) 454-3647, gpa-az.com

IRISH WOLFHOUND

Desert Irish Wolfhound Assn. Rehoming & Rescue (928) 821-6009 - Rehoming desertirishwolfhounds.org

JACK RUSSELL TERRIER

Jack Russell Rescue of Scottsdale Scottsdale, jrtconnection.com

LABRADOR RETRIEVER

Arizona Labrador & Giant Breed Rescue Phoenix (602) 307-LABS, azlabsandgiants.org

MASTIFF

AZ Mastiff Rescue, Canine Rescue Coalition, Inc., Goodyear (602) 281-0901, azmastiffrescue.com

MINIATURE PINSCHER

Min Pin Haven Rescue (602) 402-3273, Pat Daigle, Intake & Adoption Coordinator, Minpinmom@hotmail.com

PIT BULL

Pittie Me Rescue Gilbert, pittiemerescue.org pittiemerescue@gmail.com

POODLE Arizona Poodle Rescue (602) 325-1585, arizonapoodlerescue.org

PUG

Arizona Pug Adoption and Rescue Network (APARN) (480) 964-3126, aparn.org

PUGGLE Arizona Puggle Rescue, Inc. Tucson (520) 250-2034, azpuggle.org

SAINT BERNARD Arizona Saint Bernard Rescue (480) 951-8495, saintrescue.org/arizona.html

SAMOYED AZ Samoyed Rescue azsammyrescue@yahoo.com

SCHNAUZER (GIANT)

Valley of the Sun Giant Schnauzer Rescue Mesa (602) 212-6775 vsgiantschnauzerrescue.org

SHAR PEI

Pei People Shar Pei Rescue, Inc. Lake Forest, CA (AZ) Kim (520) 730-5183 or Trish (480) 390-2208 peipeople.com

SHETLAND SHEEPDOG (SHELTIE)

Arizona Sheltie Rescue Inc., Gilbert (480) 507-7996, azsheltierescue.com

SIBERIAN HUSKY

Arizona Siberian Husky Rescue & Adoption, Inc., Scottsdale, ashra.org

Paw It Forward-AZ, Husky Rescue (480) 498-1155 or 288-1914 pawitforwardaz.weebly.com pawitforwardrescueaz@gmail.com

SMALL BREED DOGS

Mini Mighty Mutts (480) 304-5654 minimightymutts.com

WEIMARANER AZ Weimaraner Rescue arizonaweimaranerrescue.com

WEST HIGHLAND TERRIER

Westie Rescue of Arizona (480) 488-5711, sundustaz.com

YORKSHIRE TERRIER Yorkie Luv Rescue www.yorkieluvrescue.com

Yorkshire Terrier Rescue yorkiefriendsrescue.com

LOCAL DOG PARKS

PRESCOTT Willow Creek Beneful Dream Dog Park 3181 Willow Creek Rd. Grass, agility field, water features, separate small & large dog parks. Prescott Parks & Rec (928) 777-1122

PRESCOTT VALLEY Mountain Valley Park, just off of Nace Lane. Fenced, handicap accessible. Agility equipment, benches, shade, parking & water. Dogs must be vaccinated. PV Parks and Rec (928) 772-5180

IMPORTANT PET CONTACT NUMBERS

ANIMAL DISASTER SERVICES Shelter for animals in the event of a disaster (928) 925-7990

CHINO VALLEY ANIMAL CONTROL (928) 636-4223 x7; Licensing 928-636-4223 x7

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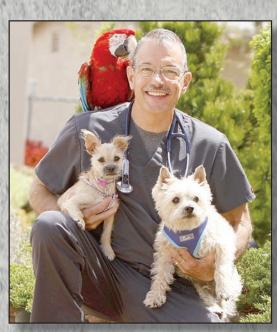




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