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# Man Wins!

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Dog's Eye View of Nativity DOGtoberfest Winners Parade Pros



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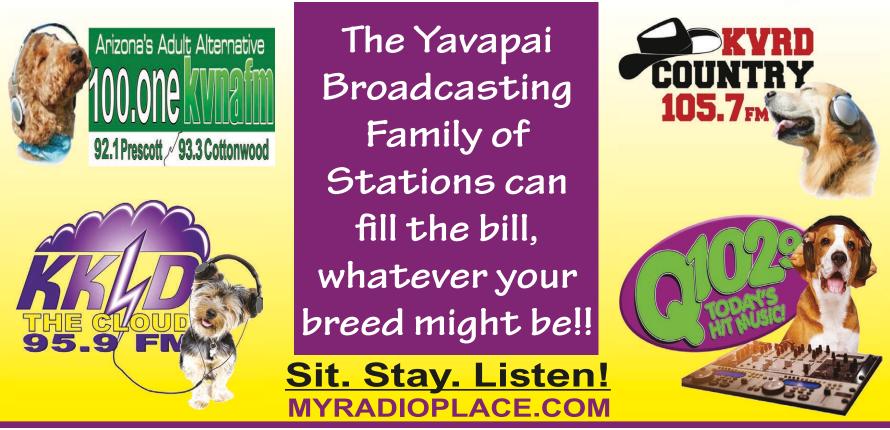
Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>

At Fry's Food Stores in Prescott & Prescott Valley Noon to 6 p.m.

# BURNING DESIRE TO FEED THE HUNGRY

Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

At Safeway Stores in Prescott & Prescott Valley Friday: Noon to 10 p.m. • Saturday: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.





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10 50-Mile Man Against Horse Race is a Supreme Challenge for Runners and Riders

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# Man Wins!

Dog's Eye View of Nativity









### THE PRESCOTT DOG

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

#### FEATURED CONTRIBUTORS

- Heidi Dahms Foster, Editor/Writer 50-Mile Man Against Horse Race is a Supreme Challenge for Runners and Riders; Book Review; Prescott's Newest K9 Officer has a Passion for Taking Drugs Off the Streets
- Katie Cooper Celebration of Life: April 24th, 2019
- **Gary Gromer** Photographer: Scenes from the Dog Park
- **Cheryl Hartz** On the Trail: Get in the Holiday Spirit on Long Canyon Trail
- **Skye Lyons –** Rescue Tales; Dog Adoptions; Cat Adoptions; Horse Adoptions
- **Rita Thompson-Tinsley –** Preened, Proud and On Parade
- Loree Walden Yavapai Humane Society Help a Horse Challenge



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#### The Prescott Dog Staff & Writers

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.

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

**Katie Cooper – Writer.** Katie is currently a freshman at Tri-City College Prep High School in Prescott. She has always loved writing and reading. In fact, she has been writing books and poems since she was 6 years old. Aside from writing, she enjoys rock climbing, hiking and traveling the world with her family, friends, and Champ the dog.



**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 Contribu-

**tor.** 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.



**Ed Wisneski – Writer.** A native of Massa chusetts, 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.

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### A CHRISTMAS STORY: KELEV

The following is written in the timeless spirit of holiday fictional stories.

My name is Kelev. Not a common name for a dog. Around my community it is commonly used as an insult. The young sheep herder Levi named me, or rather called out, "Hey Kelev," the first time we met.

The second time we saw each other was on the street in town. He yelled out to me again. His older brother, some feet away, spun around towards him thinking Levi had just called him a dog in public. Levi innocently pointed in my direction, but his brother's irritation didn't diminish.

Levi chuckled as he knelt down and gave me a bit of cheese and bread, whispering, "You are HaKelev HaYehudi, and I am Levi. I give you permission to aggravate my brother Ze'ev, anytime you see fit."

Levi was the first to speak to me as a friend and give me a gift.

At that time, I lived in a hollow under a stone wall where livestock were kept. It was a secreted place where I was left alone by people, the property master and his family not knowing I was there. When the oxen began stirring in pre-dawn light, I would leave and begin my rounds through the town looking for food and avoiding the shouts and occasional objects being thrown in my direction. My cousins' unruly behavior often accounts for the animosity I encountered.

Lately, the town has been more difficult to navigate. A steady stream of travelers and extended family members have been arriving at all hours. Beasts of burden, children, and armloads of assorted sundries fill the streets, making my rounds difficult. My scouting circles (ever wider) often take me to the hills where the sheep are kept this time of year. That's where I met Levi and old Lev.

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That day they were eating their lunch. Lev, between and during mouthfuls of bread, was dramatically telling stories of young King David. I was intrigued by their conversation and the smell of food.

I quietly climbed a stone pile behind them where a soft wind carried the scent of cheese. The sun on my withers and the cool breeze lightly kissed my muzzle.

I began to drift off when suddenly Levi

shouted, "Hey Kelev!" I looked up to see a ball of cheese and bread flying towards me. It bounced off my ribs and rolled on to the grass. Lev, not understanding why Levi wadded up his lunch and tossed it over his shoulder, stopped talking.

While I was making quick work of my fortuitous gift, Levi stood up and stretched. He turned in my direction and said, "You're welcome to visit, but if you chase the sheep, Lev will catch you and feed you to a bear."

Lev, still sitting, turned toward me, grimaced, and bared what was left of his teeth. They both laughed.

This afternoon however, (thanks to young children who drop food), I headed back to my hiding place with a full belly before dark.

At the lean-to next to the cave where the livestock were kept, a stranger was helping a young woman down from a donkey. Lightly covered in road-dust, she looked as if their journey had taken a toll. She moaned a few times from the movement and effort.

The property master and his wife came out to help the couple carry their things into the cave. When the master noticed me watching, he ran me off.

There was only one place I could think of to go.

Up on the hills, Levi and Lev were lying in the grass, staring at a twilight sky.

"That star looks like it's right over the town." Lev turned to Levi. "It's been in the night sky for two seasons or more."

Levi turned to the sound of my approach. "Kelev, what are you doing out so late?"

He reached in his bag and tossed a bit of cheese to me. I listened to them debate the meaning of the star for a while until their voices faded and sleep overcame me.

A bright flash woke me, woke Levi and Lev. It woke everyone on those hills. The second and third flash were even brighter and coming from above us. I was waiting for the rumble of thunder and thought about finding shelter. Levi and Lev were both standing and scanning the sky.

Lev's voice trailed off, "There are no clouds..."

The next and brightest flash interrupted Lev. Immediately above the hills appeared the largest most powerful being I have ever seen.



Lightning-like shafts emanated from all around him, and I felt weakened by his presence.

We all fell to the ground with our eyes staring up at him. He spoke words that resonated through my body. The echoes of the trumpetsounding words couldn't be made out with dog's ears and had barely faded when suddenly the trees, the rocks, and the air above us were filled with a multitude of glowing beings that resembled men, but larger. They burst into singing with voices raised. Many were dancing.

Lev jumped up with his arms raised and began whirling in circles and proclaiming words about a King of the Universe.

Levi scrambled to grab their robes and shouted above the roar of the aerial celebration, "C'mon, let's go, Lev! C'mon, Kelev!"

We began running into town. Old Lev was having no trouble keeping up.

Levi, as if reading my confusion yelled, "We're looking for a newborn baby in a manger."

I slid to a stop and grabbed a mouthful of Levi's robe, pulling him to a stop also. They were going the wrong way. I gave them both a sharp and scolding bark, then turned to the right and ran with all my might towards my home.

Behind me, Lev, between heaving breaths, shouted, "Keep up with Kelev, Levi. Don't lose sight of him."

With the sound of singing in the distance and the slap of shepherds' sandals on dirt behind me, I wondered. What would we find? More importantly, what does it mean?

For more on the hillside events and what followed, see Luke's letter to his friend Theophilus.



Bear Gets Her Wings

by C.L. Dreves

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#### ONGOING EVENTS

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS If you want to volunteer or learn more about United Animal Friends, visit unitedanimalfriends.org or call (928) 778-2924.

#### YAVAPAI HUMANE EQUINE

<u>CENTER</u> If you would like to schedule a tour of our center, please call: (928) 515-4947.

#### 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 an appt.

#### ONGOING ADOPTIONS

AARF ANIMAL RESCUE & SANCTUARY Adoption days: Eveny Satur

Adoption days: Every Saturday at Petco (Hwy 69); 3rd, 4th, 5th Saturday of every month at Whiskers Barkery, 225 W Gurley St, Prescott. aarfanimalrescue.org

<u>CATTY SHACK – CAT ADOPTIONS</u> Onsite – Tues thru Sat 10am-2p, 609 S. Granite St., Prescott ssnsmart@yahoo.com

#### CIRCLE L RANCH ADOPTIONS

On-site by appt. Please check website for off-site info. (928) 273-7005, CircleL.org GREYHOUND PETS OF ARIZONA Petsmart 4th Sat of each month 1:30p

#### MISS KITTY'S CAT HOUSE

Onsite – Open House, Fri, Sat. 11a-3p 302 W. Alarcon, Prescott. Offsite – Petsmart, Saturday / Sunday 11a-3p

#### UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

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
- Lost Pet Center Hrs: Mon-Sat 11a-6p; Sun 12p-4pm

#### **NOVEMBER EVENTS**

HERITAGE PARK ZOO November 2 & 3 - Dollar Days November 11 - Veteran's Day (Veterans Get In Free) November 16 - Behind-the-Scenes Photo Tour November 28 - Thanksgiving with the Lemurs November 29 & 30 - Wildlights (Opening Weekend)

OPEN BREED HORSE SHOW November 2, Chino Valley Equestrian Park, Chino Valley. Info: cvequestrianpark.com or call (928) 636-3242.

#### WILD ROSE HORSE OBSTACLE CONTESTS

November 16-17. Proceeds Benefitting Bethany's Gait & Boyd Ranch. At Boyd Ranch in Wickenburg. Register at bethanysgait.org. Info: Gary at (928) 595-0428

#### DECEMBER EVENTS

HERITAGE PARK ZOO December 6 & 7, 13 & 14 - Wildlights December 8 - Santa with the Animals December 20 & 21, 28 & 29 - Wildlights December 23-27 - Kids Free Week



## (HRISTMAS PHOTOS



#### December 7th 9:00 to noon December 8th noon to 3:00 Starkery 225 w Gurley St 928.776.8700 December 7th 9:00 to noon framed 5x7 Photo or Multi-Photo CD All proceeds benefit UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS Www.United Animal Friends.org 928.778.2924 Dets and people welcome! Maximum two groupings per sitting.

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\*Reservation required and \$40 entry fee at door for Pre-Sale event. *Pre-Sale limited to 40 customers*. Call (602) 909-9016 for reservation. \*\*Nonprofits by appointment only. Call (602) 909-9016 for reservation.

### **50-MILE MAN AGAINST HORSE RACE IS A** Supreme Challenge for Runners and Riders

Story and photos by Heidi Dahms Foster

Horses and riders, along with runners, took on the challenge of Mingus Mountain Saturday in the 35th annual Man Against Horse race. The winning runners set records on the beautiful fall day, and despite not winning, the horses were spectacular.

Champion endurance runner Nick Coury of Scottsdale came into the 50-mile race determined to break the record. He smoked the grueling course in six hours, 14 minutes, shaving nearly 15 minutes off the previous record set by six-time winner, the late Dennis Poolheco. Coury also is the first runner to best the horse outright over the trail.

Horses must clear two veterinary checkpoints during the 50-mile race. As they enter the checkpoint, they are monitored until they "pulse down," or reach required heart and respiration rates. Then, they must take two rests, one 30 minutes and one 45

minutes. The quicker a horse reaches the required vital signs, the quicker it can rest and return to the trail. Veterinarians also can pull horses from the race that are judged not fit to continue. Rest times are deducted from the horses' final times, so while runners can cross the finish line ahead of the horse, the adjusted times until now have always favored the horses.

Tammy Gagnon of Phoenix on her horse Crixus was the first horse/rider team across the finish line this year with a time of 8:45. Her adjusted time was right at seven and a half hours. Gagnon has a history on the mountain, including winning the race in 2011

Man Against Horse R

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Rider Susie Kramer, who came across the 50-mile finish line in second place, won the Best Condition Award, given to the horse that finishes in the top 10 and is judged by veterinarians to be in the best shape at the end of the ride.

Winning rider of the 25-mile race was Laura Domin of Prescott on her mount Lizzie.

James Bonnett of Phoenix also was ahead of the horse this year in the 25-mile portion of the race, setting a 25-mile record of 3:24. Bonnett previously won the 50-mile race in 2015. Paul Bonnett, James' father, was the first runner ever to cross the finish line before



Ready, Set, GO!



Winner Nick Coury

the horse, in 1995. He also ran the 25-mile this year. "It's my favorite race. All the horse people are so nice, and it's really low key," he said.

The 50-mile run female winner was Abigail Swift in a time of 8:22, and the first female across the finish line in the 25-mile run was Bria Arnold in 4:49. Brian Hall won the 12-mile run in 1:24. The 12mile horse course is a trail ride and not timed.

Managainsthorse.net describes the Mingus Mountain course in a few succinct words: "Twenty-five and 50-mile distances should not be undertaken without significant preparation. Runners should be in shape for travel over rough country, including steep and rocky terrain. Most of the course is on mountainous trails and back roads through the tall pines of Mingus Mountain. Elevation at base camp is approximately 5,000 feet

with the 50-mile course climbing to an approximate elevation of 7,600 feet."

That description is a bare minimum of what runners and riders must face. Longtime race director Ron Barrett, the first person to both run and ride the race, said the trail starts at base of the mountain on Fain Ranch and works its way up the mountain to Mingus Springs, where the 25 and 50-mile trails break off. The 50-mile course winds its way around to the east side of the mountain, where runners and riders then will endure a three-mile climb of 1,500 feet in elevation on rocky and narrow trail.

This legendary climb is the ultimate test for runners and riders. Runner Coury, even in his record time this year, said he hiked a good deal of the climb. "It's so steep and rocky, you would destroy yourself if you ran it," he said. The runners work hard to make time on the mountain because once the horses get on the flat, they quickly gain time.

The best riders are as fit as runners, and the savviest know how to assist their horses. On the 1,500 foot climb up the back of the mountain, riders often will "tail" their mounts, walking behind holding on to their horses' tails. They also often run beside their



Longtime race director and past winner Ron Barrett directs "traffic" at the start before dawn

horses to make the trail easier on the animals.

Before they can enter the race, horse/rider teams must undergo a pre-race vet check, be properly shod or wear hoof boots, and be saddled. Horses must be at least five years old to enter the 50-mile race, and four for the 25. Riders and horses train together as a team for years before tackling a race of this difficulty.

This year, heavy rains in September exposed a lot of rocks on the trail, causing riders and runners to adjust their strategy. The trail requires nimble people and agile animals. Despite all the preparation and training, mishaps are possible. Multiple 50-mile winner and rider Troy Eckard's mount took a fall on a rocky portion of the trail this year, spilling him as well. The team was able to continue, but the fall cost Eckard's place at the front of the pack. He still finished in fifth place.

The Man Against Horse is historic to Northern Arizona. Longtime runner Gheral Brownlow started the race in 1983, near White Horse Lake. In the first year, it was a two-day contest of 30 miles a day. Ron Barrett got involved in 1985, he said, and helped transition the race to a one-day 50-miler.

Prescott Dog writer Rita Thompson-Tinsley took on the 25-mile trail for the first time this year on her Rocky Mountain Horse, Oakley. It was



Nick Coury, overall race winner, works his way up the 1500-ft climb on the back of Mingus Mountain



The 50-mile trail is so rough in places, riders get off and lead their horses

her first competitive long-distance ride, and she was thrilled to finish the course and successfully clear the vet check. She credited experienced endurance riding friends who mentored her to her first race.

"Oakley tries hard. She did the first half beautifully, and then after the fifteenth mile, she kind of slowed down. It was harder than I thought, but that fact made it more important to me. At the end, I couldn't believe I did it!" she said. "I'm lucky, I have friends that invited me to come train with them. I had to amp my game for that; I didn't want let them down!"

Her friends also brought her up to speed on what to wear, and what to bring for her horse's comfort. Unlike most runners who might not eat during a race, the horses are encouraged to eat and drink as much as they like in checkpoints to keep their systems healthy as they expend the energy needed to complete the course.

Thompson-Tinsley said one of the most enjoyable parts of the ride was meeting and riding with different people along the trail, because as the horses' paces change, so does the ride lineup.

One of the great things about the Man Against Horse is the people, both riders and runners, who love the race and return year after year. Kim Abbott of Phoenix, a three-time 50-mile ride winner, was back this year and finished in the top 10 on a young horse she is training. Longtime riders Bruce and Dana Weary of Prescott rode the 25, and finished in the middle of the pack. Dana is a multiple past winner of the 50. Scott Modchleski, who won the 50-



Winner Tammy Gagnon and Crixus



Whether they ride the 50-mile, the 25-mile or the trail ride, Man Against Horse is a wonderful place for friends to gather and share their love of horses and the outdoors

mile run in 1994, was back to run the 25 this year.

Another item of note this year was the three Tevis Ride-finishing horses in the race. The Tevis is a 24-hour, 100-mile ride in the Sierra Mountains from Lake Tahoe to Auburn, California. In any given year, only about 50 percent of the riders finish. Susie Kramer, Troy Eckhard, and MJ Fridley were among the Tevis finishers this year, and Tammy Gagnon covered most of the trail before pulling.

Barrett said the volunteers and crew, including the Yavapai County Jeep Posse and the Yavapai Radio Club, are invaluable to the race. Posse members man the trail and checkpoints, direct racers, and make sure everyone gets off the mountain safely.

For more information about Man Against Horse, see the website at www.managainsthorse.net



Winner Tammy Gagnon and Crixus

### DOGTOBERFEST 2019!







The 13th Annual DOGtoberfest took place on Sunday October 6 at Watson Lake Park in Prescott. The celebration of "All Things Dog" included just short of a few thousand people and more dogs than one could ever throw balls for.

Speaking of throwing, the Prescott Valley Disc Golf club assisted in creating the first ever Charity Disc Golf Tournament as part of DOGtoberfest. Our special thanks to Dylan and Vince for organizing the tournament. We had a dozen players and their dogs play a nine-hole disc golf round on the beautiful Watson Lake Course.

The tournament was a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society's Bark for a Cure and the Prescott Valley Disc Golf Club. For the third donation from the tournament, a drawing was conducted among the rescues in attendance that day. We are pleased to announce that the donation went to Petey's Playground.

Golfers and the rest of the day's attendees were treated to some of the best food truck cuisine around. Thank you very much to Iron Horse Grille, Outlaw Donuts and Penny's Place for keeping the lines short and the food hot.

There is always so much to see and do at DOGtoberfest; from finding that new fur-ever friend for your family, to meeting vendors, watching demonstrations or entering contests, there is truly something for everyone. This year Farbenholt Dog Training and Phoenix area Disc Dogs kept the crowds entertained with several high energy demonstrations. Thank you to both organizations for sharing your talents.

DOG toberfest is made possible by the generosity of our sponsors. Presenting sponsors for 2019 were Findlay Subaru, Prescott Area Pet Emergency Hospital, Farbenholt Dog Training, Prescott Dog Magazine and Yavapai Broadcasting Corporation – KVNA-FM 100.1 and 92.1, KVRD 105.7, KQST 102.9 and KKLD 95.9. Our major sponsors for 2019 were Olsen's for Healthy Pets, One AZ Credit Union, Arizona Downs, Signals AZ, Prescott Animal Hospital, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Tractor Supply, and Premier Pet Hospital. We appreciate your support in this community celebration.

If the sponsors make the event possible, our event volunteers make it happen. Each year as the event has grown so has our loyal volunteer corps. Thank you to: Marita, Vicki, Patti, Kristi, Deborah, Jackie, Dori, Heidi H, Jessica, Peyton, Judy, James, Liam and Michael.

The hardest working people at DOGtoberfest have to be the rescue group volunteers. To all of you, from all of us - thank you for giving of yourself and your time to save lives. We would like to thank: AARF Animal Rescue, The Amazing Aussies, The Arizona Chihuahua Rescue, The Arizona Border Collie Rescue, The Arizona Boston Terrier Rescue, Chino Valley Animal Shelter, Circle L Ranch Rescue, The Min Pin Rescue, Petey's Playground, Pet's Return Home, Regal Great Danes, The Springer Spaniel Rescue, United Animal Friends, Wickenburg Humane Society and Yavapai Humane Society.

Some other hardworking people at DOGtoberfest include the Yavapai County Jeep Posse, which ensures everyone's safety at the event. Parking fees collected during DOGtoberfest are a donation to the Posse for their extraordinary service. Thank you to Pat, Bill, John J, Carmella, Marion, Gene, Joe, John W, Augie and Joan. Thank you to the Yavapai County Sheriff's VIP's Robert, Steve, Homer and Gary.

Thank you to Bobby and Sam from Just Ask Rentals for doing such a bang-up job getting the event equipment set-up.

Thank you to Danny Sampson and Steve Emery from Little Dealer/Little Prices RV for providing the event transportation.

From the City of Prescott we would like to thank the Parks and Rec department; Michelle, Kim, and Margorie. Many Thanks Ladies! From Prescott Fire, thanks to Sparky and Fire Marshall Don Devendorf.

From Yavapai Broadcasting, thanks to the perennially wonderful Sheryl Duke, Juli Page and John Stabe; and our Emcee Bryan James from KQST The Q 102.9 FM.

And to all that came and enjoyed a day in the park. Thank you for coming.

To those of you that gained a new furry family member at DOGtoberfest. Thank you for opening your hearts and your homes, to save a life.

See all of you Sunday October 4th 2020, for the 14th Annual DOGtoberfest and Adopt-A-Thon.







It has been awhile since we could update any progress made on the Resource Center building that we purchased in Yarnell last February.

I am happy to announce that the roof has been replaced just in time for the heavy rain period we had this summer. We have also finished completely stripping the old wiring and plumbing. Plans for the new look inside are being developed. Once the plans are completed and approved, our contractors for the electrical, plumbing, and HVAC will spring into action.

We don't know when the building will be completed. We are just going with the flow and lining up the workers and money. Every little step forward is a gift.

On November 2nd we will be holding our 7th annual Elegant Dining Fish Bake at the Model Creek School. It is one of only two signature fundraising events, so it is very important.

Our menu is fresh caught fish out of the Sea of Cortez and expertly baked, along with rice medley, and a family recipe for the best coleslaw ever made. Dessert is individually made and home baked pupcakes. Tickets are \$20 each.

We also hold a silent auction during the dinner with all kinds of local treasures. Doors open at 5 pm with dinner served promptly at 6. Tickets can be purchased by calling Kim at (928) 713-1375.



#### Arizona Chihuahua Rescue at DOGtoberfest

Arizona Chihuahua Rescue had a very successful Dogtoberfest. We had two adoptions right after the event, and one on the Tuesday following.

The girls that got adopted after the event went to the same home in Prescott Valley. They have amazing new parents who were only going to adopt one of our dogs but fell in love with two. Turkey and Mollie are happy in their new home with their parents and new dog sibling.

Brownie Girl's new owners fell in love with her at the event but lived in the valley. We set up a time on Tuesday to do a meet and greet and a home visit. During the visit, Brownie Girl's new dog sister was showing her around and playing. Brownie is happy that she has a playmate and a comfy new bed to sleep in.

We have had a successful two years at Dogtoberfest with adoptions. This year we were able to catch up with some of the dogs adopted last year. It's wonderful to see how well they are doing in their forever homes.



### UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

#### Standing Up for Veterans

When United Animal Friends was contacted to see if we could provide pet food at the Yavapai County Stand Down Event organized by U.S. VETS, the first thing we did was say "Yes!" The event was organized to support home-less veterans, and we were happy to be of service to those who have served for us.

Since the cupboard in our Community Pet Food Bank was bare, the second thing we did was to contact our friends at Olsen's for Healthy Animals to see if they could help. In no time, Steve Sischka had arranged for a donation of 1.5-pound bags of food and treats from Nutri-Source, and let us purchase additional 5-pound bags at cost. Now that the food was arranged, the next thing we did was to think about how else we could help. One of our most important programs is the Spay/Neuter Certificate Program, but we knew that these veterans wouldn't be able to pay even the small copay amount and wouldn't have an address to mail the certificate to. We solved that by making special certificates stating that UAF would pay 100% of the cost for companion animals of vet-erans, and we had plenty on hand for the event.

Several UAF volunteers who are also U.S. veterans were on hand for the two-day event to give out the food, treats, spay/neuter certificates, and information on our Community Pet Food Bank to very appreciative veterans. We hope to be invited again next year.

Amazing Aussies Lethal White Rescue of Arizona

We want to announce that we had one adoption during DOGtoberfest which is VERY sweet. Our girl Lena has been waiting a long time. Her

people actually met her at last years Dogtoberfest, but they were not ready to adopt. Fortunately, they reached out before this year's event to ask if Lena was still available, and if she would be there. We are so happy for this girl.

#### We Want to Hear From Y Your Story Ideas Your Adorable Photos Your Feedback **EDITIONS &** Submit your item to: **DEADLINES** info@reddogpublishing.net January/February December 1 **Rescue Organizations, please submit:** March/April Calendar Items February 1 Pets Available for Adoption Rescue News May/June to submit@reddogpublishing.net April 1 July/August The Prescott Dog Magazine is June 1 dedicated to promotina September/October the human-animal bond. August 1 Find us on for ThePrescottDog November/December Website: www.prescottdog.com Email: Info@reddogpublishing.com October 1 Phone: (928) 445-4811

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Rese



#### **Dogtoberfest Adopted Puppy** Banjo

This now bigger little guy

was one of the 10 pups that foster Dawn Gonzales took care of when Molly came to her pregnant. It was a lot of work, but her pups are amazing and have great personalities. AARF had five at Dogtoberfest, and they attracted lots of interest. Luckily, Banjo found his forever home. They are keeping his name, and he will thrive as an only (spoiled maybe?) pet. He

AARF passed an official 1 year on August 7, 2019. To date over 120 dogs have come to us and most adopted. This is the season for giving thanks, although we do that every day, for our dedicated



is complete. During building, a situation came up and a decision had to be made. A mom with 7 puppies only a week old needed a safe place and that was AARF! She arrived and was moved into the new house, and within a couple of weeks, our first residents!

volunteers who all

and donors who

are here.

work so hard, to our

generous supporters

partner with us, and

especially for those

dogs in our care given

new lives because we

Our newest project, the

"Mom & Puppy" house

Our Open House on October 19 was a big success. We dedicated another project, The Park, to honor Gary DeGeronimo Sr., a beloved trainer (Gentle Hearts Service Dogs) in Dewey. It will be used for exercise and training, and there will be agility equipment to challenge the dogs' minds and focus.

We would like to thank Liz at Arizona Downs for giving AARF the opportunity to be their Charity Partner at several events this year; it was fun and very rewarding!

Come visit us at our lastminute stocking stuffer bazaar on December 21. Find us on our website at aarfanimalrescue.org and sign up for our enewsletter or call us at (928) 925-7219 to take a tour. We'd love to show you around!

> TEVIS CUP MAGIC aking on the world's toughes

> > Merri Melde

### **BOOK REVIEW: AUTHOR MELDE TAKES READERS INSIDE THE TOUGHEST EQUINE ENDURANCE RACE IN THE WORLD**

#### **By Heidi Dahms Foster**

loves to be held and cuddled.

In this issue of Prescott Dog, we've gone to the horses. In our Man Against Horse cover story we mentioned that the 50-mile race included three horses that completed the Tevis Cup 100-mile race in the Sierra Nevada mountains this past summer. An additional horse made it to mile 92 before having to pull.

The historic Tevis Cup is considered the race by which all top equine endurance races are measured. Riders and horses in 24 hours navigate some of the roughest trails and toughest conditions imaginable. This requires starting in the dark and ending in the dark.

Only slightly over 50 percent of entrants complete the race each year - some of the horses are deemed unfit to continue by careful race veterinarians, and sometimes the riders are unable to continue due to injury, sickness, or just plain fatigue.

Tevis Cup Magic: Taking on the world's toughest 100 mile endurance ride is a short story about one rider's 2009 effort that gives the reader an excellent glimpse of what it's like to conquer this amazing challenge. Author Merri Melde is an experienced endurance rider who before her Tevis ride had actually finished a couple of 100-mile rides. She never thought she would have the opportunity to ride Tevis

until a friend offered the loan of a wonderful horse and promised to ride with her.

Merri gives an honest portrayal of the Tevis trail. Horse lovers will "get" her fears, her appreciation of the amazing horse that took her the 100 miles to the finish line, and her pure exhilaration at completing the ride. Non-riders who are just plain horse lovers might determine that some folks just live on another plane.

A few of the impressions the readers will come away with are that the Tevis Cup ride, despite taking place in some truly remote country, is sometimes a bit crowded. Some parts of the trail are so narrow that there is no place for horses to pass, and a good deal of the time is spent eating the dust (Melde describes the dust as one of the true trials of the ride throughout) of the horses in front. Parts of the ride, ascending and descending thousands of feet on rocky and narrow trails, often in the dark, through rivers and at one point over a swinging bridge, are downright hair-raising.

Melde's mount for the trail was Quinn, a seasoned endurance horse that was in top condition for such a challenge. Quinn, despite his penchant for stumbling on rocks when he wasn't paying attention, gained her utmost admiration as he seemed to become more animated and powerful

through the hours rather than getting tired and lagging.

"There are no words to aptly describe him," Melde said. "He was never not energetic.

Amazingly, he got stronger as the day went on. The power that was coming up those legs, pounding over mile after mile after mile of challenging and demanding trail, was simply astounding."

Melde's descriptive portrayal includes a heart wrenching incident in 2009 in which a rider's horse slipped off the trail and sustained a fatal head injury, something that is extremely rare despite the ride's difficulty. It was a solemn reminder that even with the utmost preparation, and the best riders and horses, anything can happen.

Melde will take you right into the ride with her account. You'll taste the dust, feel her fatigue and her fears, celebrate every small victory along the way, and above all, appreciate the wonderful bond of rider and horse.

Purchase Tevis Cup Magic: Taking on the world's toughest 100 mile endurance ride on Amazon.com.



928-460-4211

3322 North Glassford Hill Road (In front of Kohl's & Next to Starbucks), Prescott Valley Hours: Monday - Friday 8a-6p; Saturday 8a-4p; Closed Sunday • www.premierpethospital.com



Ownei



WINDY is a 10-year-old Aussie mix. Very sweet girl, active



for her age. Good with dogs, but her best friends are dog friendly cats. Petey's Playground 928-713-1375

#### **RINGO** is



tle dog/Labrador cross. He

is good-natured, energetic, and intelligent. AARF Rescue/ dawnlg39@yahoo.com

#### **BOLT** is an adorable Terrier mix, 7 months

old and 8

pounds. An active puppy who wants to be involved with everything! United Animal Friends 928-778-2924



dog. Good with all dogs, but cannot share his home with cats. Petey's Playground 928-713-1375

JAKE is an 8-year-old cattle dog/ red heeler/ Aussie mix.

Good with other dogs, uses a dog door, and is a very well behaved boy. AARF Rescue 928-925-7219





loves people and gets along well with other dogs. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924



#### MISSY is



all ages. Chino Valley Animal Shelter 928-636-4226 ex. 7

#### CRICKET

is about a 4-year-old chiweenie. She is a bit

shy and desperately wants love, a home, and warm lap to sit on. AARF Rescue 928-925-7219

**INDIE** is an 8-year-old Dachshund/ Chihuahua, a tiny thing at



5 pounds. Indie is housebroken and does pretty well on a leash. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924



ears and the

biggest smile! Reba is 1 year old and 25 pounds.

United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

#### SCARLETT is an 8mo lab/Rhodesian Ridgeback mix, she

is 8 month old and weighs 50 pounds. She is smart and energetic. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

#### **WOOLY** is

a 2-year-old mixed breed with puppy energy and



love. He is a ball of fun and loves people! Chino Valley Animal Shelter 928-636-4226 ex. 7

#### **BROOKE** is a 9-monthold mastiff mix. She is

deaf and



needs someone experienced or is willing to learn how to raise a deaf dog. AARF Rescue 928-925-7219

#### **BERNIE** is

an adorable mixed breed boy, about 1 year old and



20 pounds. Loves attention and cuddles, but is also eneraetic. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

#### SUSANNA

is a Miniature Pinscher/Chihuahua mix, 1 year old



and 15 pounds. She is confident, affectionate, easy going, and friendly. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

### **MURPHY** is

a sweet 7-8 month old, 10 pound Terrier mix,



very playful, affectionate, and loving. Look at that adorable face! United Animal Friends 928-778-2924



#### VALENTINE

is a 3yo, 45 pound pit bull mix. Happy, playful and

energetic, She has good basic obedience skills and is eager to please. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

#### PALPATINE

is a hound/ terrier mix who is 1 year old and



a big boy. He is sweet and energetic. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### **PANCAKE** is

a 9mo Doberman Pincer/ Husky cross, a handsome

fellow with one blue eye. He is smart, sensitive, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### **TUCKER** is

a 4-year-old Boxer/Labrador retriever cross. He



is big, energetic, smart, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

### **KAZAK** is a 4-year-old

4-year-old American Bulldog mix. He's the

strong and sensitive type, affectionate and quiet. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666





is 1 year old. Friendly, sweet, and will make someone a great companion! United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

MIRANDA is an 8-year-old border collie/ blue heeler mix with the

classic black and white coat. She is energetic, smart, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



and has the striking voice and sweet nature of the Coonhound. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



He is charming, super smart, energetic, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



is a senior and is looking for a loving home. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### SQUIRREL



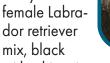
sweet, and very affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

### **PAYSON** is a Shar Pei mix,



with a good and healthy ego, but very affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### **SKIPPY** is a 2-year-old



with white trim, and a sweet nature. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### **RYUU** is eager to please and generally attentive to



obedience cues He also has an effortlessly friendly, very lighthearted attitude! Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### SUMMER is

a 2yo brindle-and-white pit bull mix. Large, gentle and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



#### FLAP-JACK is a Doberman/ Husky cross, he is smart, sensitive, and



sensitive, and loving. He is 9 months old and quite handsome. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666





#### TAZ is a

sweet calico gal, 4 years old. She's friendly and likes sitting next to you. 928-445-5411



Miss Kitty's Cat House

#### **NOELLE** is

a beautiful brown tabby with gold markings. She is petite,

especially her paws, quiet and loving attention. Catty Shack 928-778-6951

#### **CASPER** is

a white male with beautiful blue eyes. He is very outgoing and

wants to play and purr all day. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924





playful, loves being picked up and held. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



a playful, affectionate cat, and a huge cuddler. Catty Shack 928-778-6951



friendly and would like another young playmate. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924



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#### **BABY CAT**

is a 3-yearold tabby. A most vibrant. inquisitive and energetic kitty, never a dull moment with her. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

#### PRECIOUS



sweet, laid back personality, but loves to explore. Catty Shack 928-778-6951

PANDA is a young, beautiful, lynx-point Siamese mix female with the beauti-

ful blue eyes of the Siamese breed. Affectionate and friendly. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

DAKOTA is a small 3-yearold orangeand-white fellow with big orange eyes.

He is handsome, sweet, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

**GEINE** is a beautiful big girl, a brown tabby shorthair with ex-

pressive green eyes. She is very affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

#### TANGEE is

a 1-year-old pretty orange female (an uncommon color for la-



dies). very frisky, feisty, enjoys toys and wands. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411

#### SHY is a sweet and beautiful tortoiseshell lady, she is sometimes



slow to warm up, but wonderful once she chooses you. Catty Shack 928-778-6951

### **SMOKY** is

a 6-year-old gray-andwhite tuxedo lady who enjoys being



petted, & offers purrs and head bumps as thanks. Very sweet. United Animal Friends 928-778-2924

#### **AMAZON** is a small, beautiful long-

haired tortoiseshell lady with big gold



eyes. She is 1 year old, and very cuddly. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666

### ADDISON

is a lovely dainty little lady, she is 4 vears old and would love



someone to pet and cuddle her. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



### HELP A HORSE HOME CHALLENGE

#### by Loree Walden, Yavapai Humane Society Marketing Manager

The exciting news is that the Yavapai Humane Equine Center won the ASPCA Help a Horse Home Challenge grand prize and was awarded \$35,000. This nationwide competition for equine rescues, shelters, and sanctuaries is designed to increase adoptions of equines around the country. Winners were scored based on their increase in adoptions from last year, along with the quality of their promotional content and campaigns on social media. More than 170 groups across the country participated, with 12 groups winning 13 prizes for their efforts during the contest, which ran from April 26th to June 30th.

Dr. Emily Weiss, vice president of ASP-CA Equine Welfare, stated "The ASPCA is committed to supporting the many groups nationwide working tirelessly to find safe, loving homes for the horses in their care, and the ASPCA Help a Horse Home Challenge provides an effective way for these groups to reach potential equine adopters. We are in awe of the innovative and thoughtful ways this year's contestants found more homes for horses, and we are pleased to award this prize to Yavapai Humane Society for their outstanding achievements during the contest, which contributed to more than 1,500 horses being adopted."

Now in its sixth year, the ASPCA's annual Help a Horse initiative has been a meaningful way for equine rescues, shelters, and sanctuaries to increase awareness for their lifesaving work to help at-risk horses by competing to win valuable grant funding and additional resources. This year, Zoetis US LLC generously donated its new vaccine, CORE EQ Innovator<sup>™</sup>, for every equine adopted during the twomonth challenge period, and Conair<sup>®</sup> provided more than \$300,000 in grooming supplies to be included in prize packages.

Yavapai Humane Society's Equine Program is an adoption-focused program for horses in need of rehabilitation. Every horse receives health care and training prior to being made available for adoption. The Equine Program is unique in that it provides life-saving services for horses with behavioral needs before matching them to their forever home. Our knowledgeable, professional staff ethically re-train horses using Equitation Science principles.

The Equine Center, which is a member of the Equine Welfare Data Collective, is located in Chino Valley. It provides an innovative environment that meets the essential needs of equines, including free movement with choice and variation in the environment, constant access to hay which promotes better digestion, social housing and interaction with other equines, and comfortable resting areas and shelters from sun and inclement weather.



**SKIPPER** is a flashy 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

**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

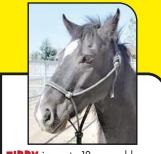


Adopt a Horse from Yavapai Humane Society

**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



#### GET IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT ON LONG CANYON TRAIL Text and photos by Cheryl Hartz

If snow is what you need to need to get you in the holiday mood, there's no guarantee a winter hike into Sedona's Long Canyon will provide the white stuff. But it is a distinct possibility.

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The popular Long Canyon Trail No. 122 starts on an old Jeep trail in the Coconino National Forest along a usually dry streambed and meets up with Deadman's Pass. Continue on the Long Canyon Trail and you'll enter the Red Rock/Secret Mountain Wilderness. Like none other in Arizona, this wilderness is nearly 44,000 acres of spires, buttes, cliffs, arches, and slot canyons in shades of cream and red. Completing the Christmas color scheme, dark green Arizona cypress, alligator juniper, ponderosa and piñon pines cover the slopes. Deep red-brown manzanita branches ending in thick green foliage complement the taller flora.

So uniform are their features, some of the fantastic formations along the route seem to have been turned on a giant's lathe to create legs for a monumental banquet table.

Also along the way you likely will spot a tour helicopter hovering near a cliffside cave – the site of ancient ruins.

Good thing it's an easy hike on mostly red dust, so you can gaze in wonder at these inspiring sights.

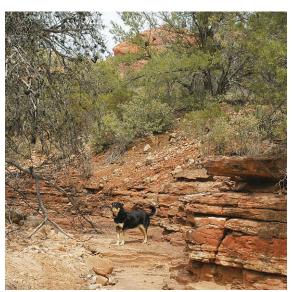
The three-mile-long trail ends at a red sandstone cliff, where you'll see pictographs and sparse ruins from another ancient dwelling. Elevation at the trailhead is just over 4,500 feet. Peak elevation is around 5,000 feet, thus a greater chance of snow.

Game trails lead into a slot canyon. Boulder hopping up a steep slope will reward you with a breathtaking vista of Red Rock Country. Just remember that off-trail hiking can lead to disaster if you are unprepared to find your way back. Don't make Search & Rescue volunteers come after you in the cold and/or dark!

Temperatures can vary drastically in winter, so wear layers of clothing. Take plenty of water and snacks, and pack out what you pack in for minimum impact on this pristine habitat. Wildlife makes itself scarce, but be assured the critters are all around.



Be prepared for cold and maybe snow on the Long Canyon Trail.

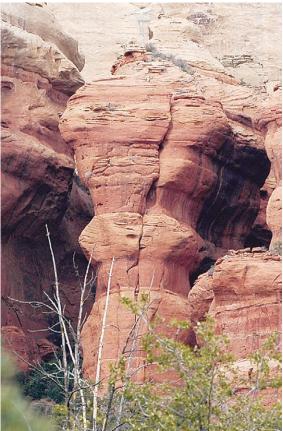


Which way to go from here?

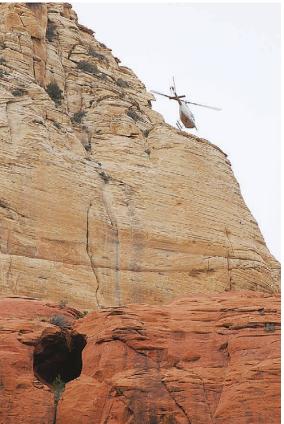
Because it extends into the wilderness area, this is a no bike trail, but horseback riding is allowed.

To get there from State Route 89A in Sedona, drive north on Dry Creek Road about 1.5 miles to Long Canyon Road (Forest Road 152D). At this T intersection, turn right and proceed another halfmile to the Long Canyon trailhead, on your left.

The Boynton Canyon and Fay Canyon trails are nearby and well-used by Sedona residents and visitors alike. All are worth hiking, and all are operated by the Red Rock District of the Coconino National Forest. Call 928-203-2900 for updates or more information.



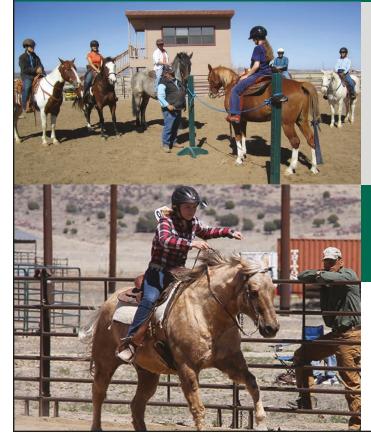
Nature's sculptures include this formation resembling a furniture leg.



A tour helicopter hovers near a cave in the cliff.



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- Improve your equitation skills
- Understand how your horse thinks
- Become a better caregiver, rider, and trainer
- Great for beginner to experienced

**REGISTER NOW!** <u>Classes begin January 13, 2020</u> Enroll today at www.yc.edu or call 928-717-7720 for more information.



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### Prescott's Newest K9 Officer has a Passion for Taking Drugs Off the Streets

#### Story by Heidi Dahms Foster. Photos by Roni Ziemba.

Prescott Police Officer Kayla Reynolds has had a lifelong love for Labrador Retrievers. As the Prescott Police Department's newest K9 officer, she now shares her life and her passion for finding drugs with a beautiful yellow Labrador named Benny.

Kayla worked for the Prescott Regional Public Safety Communication Center as a dispatcher for three and a half years before she tested and was hired as a police officer for Prescott. She trained at the Northern Arizona Regional Training Academy (NARTA) before starting her career as a patrol officer. Now an officer for more than three years, she has taken her service to the next level by testing and training as a K9 officer.

"Every police officer has something they are good at," Kayla said, and hers is narcotics work. She was ready to take the next step to add a K9 to her team.

"When the chief came in (Prescott Police Chief Deborah Black), she always talked about getting a single purpose narcotics dog. She knew we could put a Labrador in a class with kids because they are super friendly, and we could deal with our growing narcotics issue in Prescott," Kayla said. "We got Blue, the other K9 in Prescott, and she's been there for three years with Officer Shawn Bray. Two years later we got Benny, and Benny and I attended the same five-week drug detection/K9 handler course that Officer Bray and Blue attended two years before me."

10 8

OFFICET

Prescott's Newest K9

Before she could get into the K9 program and attend the academy with Benny, Kayla had to keep a



stellar record for two years as a police officer. As she discovered her niche in narcotics detection, she began to realize that she wanted a K9 and set out to prepare.

"I studied case law for hours and hours on end. I trained a lot with Officer Bray and Blue to get a feel for it even before testing. I had to be proactive in drug work before I could earn a K9 spot. I talked a lot with our Partners Against Narcotic Trafficking (PANT) and went on search warrants with them, and did ride alongs on interdiction details on Interstate 40 and 17," Kayla said.

After submitting her memo of interest to her command staff, she was approved to go through the testing process, and then faced a verbal response board. The board grilled Kayla on her knowledge of case law, her reasoning for wanting to be a K9 handler, what she had done to prepare for the position, her knowledge of canine first

aid, and how she will interact with the community.

After passing her testing with flying colors, Kayla was paired with Benny, a year and a half old yellow Labrador. She brought Benny home on July 1 this year, and spent several weeks in a bonding process.

"For that time, you are the one who feeds the dog, and all you do is play and interact. He knows he's mine," she said.

In fact, Kayla said she is astonished at the depth of the bond she has with Benny.

"I've never connected to a dog on a level like this," she said. "I'm learning Benny's behaviors – I can tell when he's mad, happy, anxious or 'in odor' (smelling narcotics odors). I can learn when he's 'bs-ing' me, if that's a word! There are handlers who say they are not that connected or that their dog is a tool, but to be honest, there's no K9 handler who wouldn't give their life for their dog. I'm with Benny more than my family. There is a special bond and connection I never had with a pet. I was never tested in this way with a pet. Benny and I went through the academy in Phoenix, in 100-plus temperatures, and at the end of the day we

were exhausted. But we had fun doing

it. That's what he was put here to do, and so was I. We are destined to be together."

While he's highly trained and will continue his training throughout his career, Benny is still a hundred percent puppy, Kayla said. "He'll bite his leash, and he's great at fetch. He's totally spunky and has a ton of energy. He's very intelligent and

tests me to see what he can get away with."

What amazes Kayla is Benny's penchant for sniffing. Everything.

"Every time I take him out of the car he sniffing at every car we walk by, every building the ground. He was made to do what he's doing now. At first he was supposed to be a therapy dog, but the breeder said he was totally meant to be sniffing stuff. He never stops sniffing," she said.

At the end of July, Kayla and Benny were certified at Perryville Prison, and then hit the road as a team. "Since then we've been working with PANT and on patrol. We also do interdic-



tion on the interstates, and help other agencies," she said.

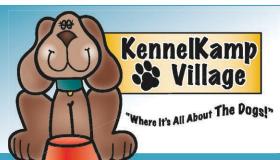
Married to Prescott Valley Police Officer Luke Reynolds, the two share their home with two more Labs, and all get along famously. Luke and Kayla knew they were meant to be together when their first date was at a dog park. They dated before either became police officers, and married just over a year ago.

Kayla is loving every minute of her K9 career. "It's way harder than I thought, and more work, but it's in a field that I'm way more passionate about. I have definitely found where I'm supposed to be," she said.

Benny is already quite famous in his own rite. He has his own Instagram site @k9benny\_ppd, with more than 2,000 followers. The Prescott K9s will soon have their own website as well, Kayla said.

She is adamant that without the support of the community, the K9s of all Yavapai County agencies and the good work they do would not be possible. The county's K9 programs all are funded through grants and donations, both from businesses and individuals. One generous couple, who wishes to remain anonymous, has provided K9s as needed for several county law enforcement agencies. Businesses and individuals meet the K9's needs by donating food, funds for veterinary care and equipment, building supplies for the K9 training site, and more.

People who would like to donate to the Prescott Police K9s may do so by calling the department's non-emergency line at (928) 445-3131 or on Instagram @k9benny\_ppd.



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Animal Communication can improve the relationship between owner and animal by providing insights into behavior due to stress, misunderstanding, unknown injury or illness. Some examples of issues that can be addressed by communicating with an animal are:

- Change of ownership
- Relocation
- Adding a new animal into the household
- End-of-life decisions
- Behavior issues
- (not breed-specific traits)
- Identifying past trauma
- Medical concerns
- Change of diet

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### PREENED, PROUD AND ON PARADE

#### By Rita Thompson-Tinsley

Nothing comes close to the thrill and exuberance of a hometown or big city parade. The sights, the sounds, the sensation. And, hooves down, horse entries are one of the most popular attractions at any parade. There are equestrian riding associations of all kinds plus horses, ponies or burros pulling carts or wagons of every size. No matter big or small, they are very much a feature favorite.

So, what makes a horse suitable for parade participation? What is the reining resume for sure shod safety in the saddle? There are a few elements you need to ponder before you Prada your del Sol.

First off, horses are considered prey animals with a fight-or-flight attitude. Therefore, when they approach scary objects or threatening situations, they are proned to react.

The parade horse is not necessarily a brave horse as much as he is a non-reactive horse. He has learned and is conditioned to not be affected by things that would normally frighten most horses. In parades there are marching bands, clowns on unicycles, big team mascots in costume, the Shriners driving their motorized miniature cars, tractors, wagons and lots of noise. The parade director is responsible for placement of each parade entry and strives to arrange each group appropriately. But essentially, if you're looking for a parade horse, you want a horse that's considered bombproof.

Prescott's own Granite Mountain Riders have the right idea. According to president Karen

Magdaleno, "Our members must attend one out of two parade practices." The practices are held at someone's arena and many of the parade sounds, sights and frights are displayed to see how their horses react. The practice environment includes a running tractor, balloons, a baby stroller, plastic flags blowing in the wind. Volunteers applaud and yell loudly. They play a CD of sound effects with noises one might hear in a parade environment.

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**Proud and** 

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Riding in a parade can be a lot of fun. Now, who do you want to ride with?



Mile High Clydesdales (Kismet & Scotty) representing Hensley Distributing. Seated are Ronni & Sam Kearns. Photo courtesy Karen Moseley.

There are a number of groups and associations that are consistent contenders and of noble or significant qualities.

Local businesses such as Matt's Saloon and Hensley (Budweiser) Distributing are often staples at the equestrian parade scene. Granite Mountain Riders is on board for many Yavapai County area parades along with Starfish Riders and Back Country Horsemen of Central Arizona. The Long Riders do an annual parade down Whiskey Row during National Day of the Cowboy. This year, they included an additional parade through the local Veterans Administration, with veterans leading and carrying flags.

For over 30 years the now-defunct Wild Women of the West group depicted historic women of the 1800s. In order to join the equestrian paraders back in the early days, ladies had to be single

> and able to gallop uphill without spilling the beer she was carrying. The organization became trademarked and treated much like a sorority with rules and regular meetings.

This sisterhood of riders represented such characters as entertainer Lotta Crabtree, rancher Fanny Sperry, trick rider/shooter Lulu Bell Parr, and sharpshooter Annie Oakley. Costumes were either handmade or shopped for and embellished accordingly. Wild Women of the West performed in parades throughout Arizona,



Bill Williams Mountain Men, Prescott Frontier Days Parade, 2019. Photo courtesy Marlowe Woelfl.

including the Fiesta Bowl Parade and Tombstone's Helldorado Days.

The Bill Williams Mountain Men was formed in 1953 to embody the heritage and spirit of the original mountain men and trappers who journeyed to the American West in the 1820s. Their ensembles consist of buckskin outerwear, hats and moccasins. Participants over the years have included doctors, judges, businessmen and ranchers of the community.

The furbearing fellows can be seen in local parades – especially in Williams and big metrocity Arizona parades. Bill Williams Mountain Men have an annual spring 200-mile Rendezvous Ride which takes place over a sixto seven-day period. They ride, camp under the stars and enjoy chuck wagon meals and night time bonfires. As part of their incredible efforts, this historical group has managed to attend five presidential inaugural parades.

Though fun and exciting, parade horse groups are not all pomp and circumstance. After all, somebody has to bring up the rear. Hence the noble and purposeful Parade Pooper Scoopers. Where would we be without them? They're invaluable to keeping our city streets clean after the party is over.



Pooper Scooper Patrol: Beau Lantrip, helper, and Steve Goodwin. Photo by Denise Goodwin.



Long Rider's VA parade lead by parade

coordinator Tara Tompkins.

Photo courtesy WLR Photography.

### BUDDY 1996-2019

By Diane Judge

BearlyDUltimateDream, "Buddy", 23, my beautiful APHA bay gelding, gave his all at whatever he did. From trail riding, team penning, team sorting, and gymkhanas, to roping, moving cattle, competitive trail, he championed all.

Together we were successful in winning money, buckles, prizes, and state level awards. Buddy brought home lots of ribbons.

He lead many trail rides for Prescott Frontier Days and BCHCAZ (Back Country Horsemen of Central AZ) events. Buddy also performed in the Grand Entry of the World's Oldest Rodeo for many years mostly serving as a coveted pivot.

He was an amazing companion with quite a personality and loved by many. You are so missed, Buddy.

Love, your Mom



Photo courtesy Karen Moseley

### MISS MOON June 14, 2018 – September 25, 2019

Miss Moon was a phenomenal filly who greatly touched the lives of those who knew her and knew her story. Born in June of 2018, Miss Moon, after developing a bad infection on her right foot, became one of the rare equine amputees. Vet tech Katie Longfellow had rescued the filly and began what was to be an adventure not soon forgotten.

Many strides were taken to utilize modern day prosthetics, but as the mare grew, complications developed. Eventually Miss Moon's left leg became weakened due to the added pressure it received as the mare continued to grow and gain weight.

Miss Moon will be remembered as a tough and remarkable spirit. Katie concludes, "She was an amazing soul and teacher."



Photo Courtesy Tanner Photography

A horse doesn't care how much you know until he knows how much you care.

Put your hand on your horse and your heart in your hand.

~Pat Parelli

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### Scenes From The Dog Park Photos by Gary Gromer



























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### CELEBRATION OF LIFE: APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

#### Story and photos by Katie Cooper

Whenever a life changing event is about to happen, we are always oblivious. We're never able to plan these things, they always catch us by surprise. One of the more common lessons that people learn from these events is the importance of life. We each learn this lesson in different ways. For me, it was when my neighbor, Gayle, and I spread the ashes of her deceased dogs.

3:45 p.m., April 22nd, 2019. I have just gotten home from school. After shutting the door to our Ford Focus, I walk up the steps of our house and across the porch. I don't pay attention to anything in particular, except for keeping the wooden screen door from whacking me as I enter the house. I set my backpack down and start to unpack my lunch, munching on what I didn't finish earlier. Around me, my family is chatting about who knows what; I'm not listening. I go into the refrigerator after a bit of ginger beer. Once I sit down at the table with my crackers and ginger beer, my dad comes over.

"Before you start on your homework, can you run up to Gayle's? She wants your help with something," he says.

"Sure. Does she want Ryan too, or just me?"

#### "Just you."

"That's a change." I say, thinking about how often Gayle refers to Ryan as The Rocket Scientist. I clean my dishes and am out the door.

Gayle's and to the left. Her dogs, Maxie, Charlie, and Violet (also known as The Goofballs), are there to meet me at the gate with happy, hyper barks. I consider ringing the doorbell attached to the gate, but decide that The Goofballs are enough of an alarm.

I see Gayle in the window with her professional-looking camera, taking a picture of a squirrel. She lets me in cautiously, careful to keep



Max and me sitting on Gayle's driveway.

The Goofballs from escaping.

"Did I mess up your picture?"

"No, I got a few good ones. There was a squirrel up there eating the corn cob!"

Gayle is a lover of most, if not all, animals. The wild birds and squirrels that call her yard home are fed with care, and much of her yard art is squirrel or rabbit themed.

Gayle leads me across her driveway and into her garage. The Goofballs follow us in, intently watching and wagging. In the very back of her garage is a table with a set of relatively small boxes.

"I wanted your help spreading my dog's ashes. It'll be our little Celebration of Life."

This was not what I was expecting. Usually when Gayle asks for my help, it's to organize dog leashes and collars or letting her pooches outside. Last weekend she had asked me, my brother, and my dad to help her build a circle out of decorative cinder blocks. Inside this circle, she was planning to spread the ashes of all of the dogs that she's had over the years.

"Let me introduce you to them."

On the front of each box is a picture of the dog whose cremated pieces are inside. Gayle points to the first box. "This is Elvis. He was my Golden."

After Elvis, I'm introduced to Sassy, a rescued Basset Hound; Powell, a Yorkshire Terrier; Nate, another rescue Basset; and Bucky, a foster dog with severe medical issues. Elvis and Powell were therapy dogs in Montana. They also did a reading program with children and visited nursing homes.

"Have you ever heard of the Rainbow Bridge story?" Gayle asks. "No."

"The Rainbow Bridge is where dogs go after they pass away. If they died from injury, they are healed here. At Rainbow Bridge, all of the dogs play and are happy while they wait for us to come and join them."

Carefully, Gayle picks up two boxes and carries them down to the rock circle. I follow her with a couple more boxes. After all five boxes are laid out on the edges of the circle, Gayle says "Where did I put Powell?" She rummages through the boxes and finally lifts up a bag of grey ashes. "Here he is! I knew I put him with Elvis!" I



The circle where Gayle's dogs' ashes are buried.

#### couldn't help but laugh.

Gayle picks up a larger bag of ashes, the same shade as before. She pushes some garden soil to the side to make a little hole and empties Elvis' ashes in slowly. The light grey dust contrasts the richness of the soil. "Hey baby!" she says quietly to the ashes of her beloved Elvis and covers the hole with more soil.

We continue on like that for a while, exchanging a few words and laughs in between spreading ashes. After we finish, I pick up the metal tags and twist ties that had previously sealed the bags of ashes. On each tag is a number and some words I can't read; the name of the place where they were cremated, I guess. "Gayle!" I yell out to her. She is across the yard by the garbage can, disposing of the boxes. "Do you want me to save these tags?" I ask, holding up the metal discs.

She walks back over to me and says "No honey, you don't need to save those. My dogs were much more than numbers anyway."

Once I leave Gayle's, my mind is consumed by thoughts of our Celebration of Life. I take a minute to reflect on what happened during the short walk home. It was a celebration of not only the lives of Gayle's deceased dogs, but also a celebration of Gayle's life, of my life, of the lives of everyone around us. Everyone's life is worth celebrating. It doesn't matter if they are alive or not. When I helped Gayle spread the ashes, I felt connected in a way to everyone around me, both on Earth and elsewhere.

We need to learn to appreciate the time that we have, instead of thinking about a future when all of our hourglasses have run out. There are so many things about life that are taken for granted, until life itself disappears. I can't think of any other way of phrasing it; it truly was a Celebration of Life.

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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

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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

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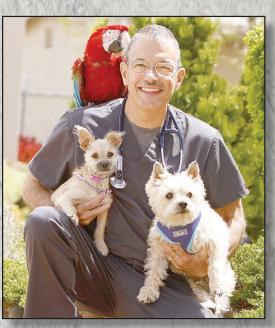
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