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January/February 2019

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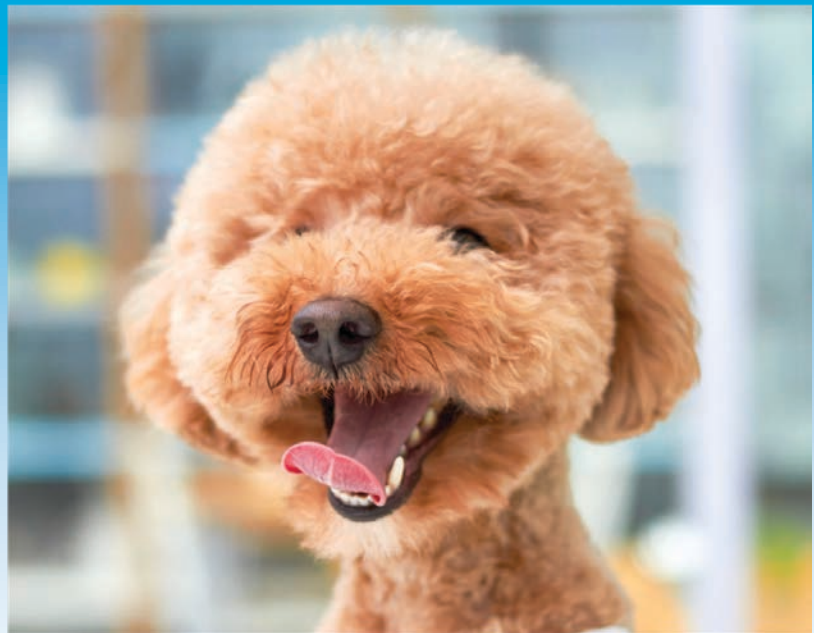
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THE PRESCOTT DOG

PO Box 11868, Prescott AZ 86304

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FEATURED CONTRIBUTORS

Heidi Dahms Foster – Gary DeGeronimo: Kind, Funny, Dedicated to the Dogs; Book Review–*The Underdogs: Children, dogs, and the power of unconditional love*; K9 Beat: Small but Mighty, DPS Officer Dan Burns' Dog Duco Helps to Keep Dangerous Drugs off the Interstates

Cheryl Hartz – On the Trail: 'Set Sail' for the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness

Briana Lonas – Virtual Now, Brick and Mortar Tomorrow: United Animal Friends Seeks Headquarters ; Local Therapy Dog Boosts Morale; Cold Weather Safety Tips for Your Pets

Skye Lyons – Calendar; Livestock Adoptions; Rescue Tales; Dog Adoptions; Cat Adoptions; Pet Directory

Rita Thompson-Tinsley – Making Horse Sense: Big Horses and Bigger Hearts: Something to Salute

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

Find us on 

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The Prescott Dog Staff & Writers



Cherie L. Dreves – Publisher/Owner Cherie has had her share of furies “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.



Briana Lonas – Editor/Writer Briana Lonas lives with her husband John and a Labrador/hound mix. Aside from also raising chickens, she enjoys researching animal safety issues and natural remedies in tandem with traditional medicine. She feels that our furry family members are happiest when they are healthy.



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



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.



Skye Lyons – Rescue Editor Skye has been a life-long magnet for lost creatures; those who need a helping hand, some redirection mentally and physically, and some hugs. Observing animals has always been a passion, gaining her some strange interactions and conversations with anything and everything, 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 from a ranch in Texas where she raised Nubian goats, retired show lambs, miniature donkeys, llamas and horses, to Arizona. She currently resides in Dewey with her husband, 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.

HAZEL HOWLS

Hazel gazed through the windshield out over the red landscape and let out a sigh of relief. The door to her right was already open, and she swiftly trotted out and sat down on the red dirt to begin her routine of sniffing out the air whenever she found herself here.

The air being still, she was going to have to work to find her target. She even raised her head and tried to her left, but she knew it was never out in that direction. As she swung back to the right and raised to all fours, she saw a flash of white against the orange sky.

"Tucker?" she barked, truly startled.

Tucker, being a fair distance away on a hill answered back. What ensued was a lengthy back and forth of barking questions with neither getting an answer. Tucker grew immensely frustrated, and what happened next only added to the confusion.

Tucker, very suddenly and abruptly, appeared next to Hazel, covering a distance of 200 yards in 'the twitch of an ear.'

"How did you do that?" Hazel's eyes were as big as quarters.

Tucker stiffened slightly and lowered his head to let Hazel know he was about to say something very important. Hazel took one step back.

"Hazel, where we are?"

In a rapid-fire delivery, partly because she wanted to continue her quest and partly because Tucker looked very serious, she related, "Tuck, we're on the red planet, the one that Dad says the first red dogs came from, and this is a dream that I have once in a while.

"Off in that direction I sometimes find a crater filled with treats, but the problem is there is also a crater that has a scent like treats but it is really filled with dill pickles, and they taste like dill pickles but they smell like treats—can you figure that, Tuck—and the two craters are always pretty far apart, and sometimes the rabbits come before I can find the treats that taste like treats, and I have to run back to the truck and push the red button on the dash before the rabbits get here, and how did you end up in my dream, Tuck? That's what I was trying to ask you when you were up on the hill. Oh, and Tuck, the planet's name is Mars."

Tucker glanced over his shoulder at the truck parked in the red dirt behind them. It looked like a big delivery truck: white and weather beaten, it had what looked like paper airplane wings—large ones—taped to the sides.

Hazel broke Tucker's train of thought, "Will you help me, Tuck? I mean, since you're here already?"

"Sure, Haze. I guess this will be a good break from Elle's needle teeth and tail pulling."

Elle Rigg-Bear was their very energetic, very young, new sister at home, and both Tucker and Hazel were a bit frazzled adjusting to the new routine. They began paddling in the direction that Hazel had pointed out when Tucker turned suddenly and stopped in front of Hazel who was forced to stop also.

"Hazel...tell me about the rabbits."

Hazel shifted a bit. "Oh yeah. Well, they show up if you make a lot of noise."

Tucker stepped closer. "So, why would rabbits be a problem?"

Hazel shifted around a bit more, "Because there's so many of them." A sudden and sharp thought flashed in Hazel's mind, "Hey Tuck, we kind of made a lot of noise a minute ago, didn't we?"

Tucker didn't answer. He was busy scanning the surroundings, having the same thought as Hazel. He stared at the horizon across from a setting sun, watching as hundreds, no, thousands of pairs of tall pointy ears began appearing, with a cloud of red dust rising above them.

"Would those be your rabbits, Hazel?"

"That would be them alright...
RUNFORTHETRUCK!"

Both ran at breakneck speed as a rumble began to grow. Hazel had to stifle a laugh, hearing Tucker repeat over and over, "Red button, red button."

At the open door, Tucker actually leapt over Hazel as the approaching rumble grew to echoing thunder.

Tucker's outstretched paw missed the button. Hazel, following behind, nailed it, and the harsh sound of air-brakes shook them both.

"You okay, Tuck?"

Tucker answered Hazel in the dark familiar room. "Of course I'm Ok." He checked the bed corner and looked around. "Haze, Mom and Dad aren't in bed."

"Yeah, Elle's not in her bed either," Hazel answered from the chaise lounge across from Tucker. "They must've taken Elle out for a midnight wee."



Left to right: Hazel, L. E. Bear, and Tucker

A puppy's paddling could be heard coming down the hallway, and Hazel and Tucker quickly moved paws, tails, and ears away from the edge of where they were laying and began to settle in for slumber, but the paddling grew louder and louder. Unusually louder.

Hazel and Tucker raised up and looked at each other in the dark. Something was not right. The footfalls really shouldn't be able to shake the bed.

Both heads turned to the doorway. In that moment, what made Hazel and Tucker jump to their feet was the sight of a puppy's giant muzzle, complete with very sharp puppy teeth trying to fit through the doorway.

Tucker blurted out "RED BUTTON!" while Hazel made a dash towards the master bathroom. Tucker had the same trajectory, and they both collided and slid with their limbs akimbo across the floor.

The room was dark and familiar. Mom and Dad's rhythmic sleep-breathing was like a calming song. Tucker looked across to Hazel on the chaise lounge. "Hazel!?"

"Yes Tuck, I know...don't ever let you in my dreams again, right?"

Tucker circled and curled next to Mom's feet. "Correct Haze...ever!"

Hazel stifled another laugh thinking back to Tuck's panicked, "RED BUTTON!" She stretched out her limbs while on her side, careful not to wake the puppy below.

"Haze...is there a planet for white dogs?"

"Not a planet, but you guys have a moon called Sarcasmo. I think it orbits Uranus."

Tucker's last thought before a very deep sleep was something like, "I wonder if there are rabbits on my moon?"

Hazel was heard to chuckle softly, before snoring.

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PET DENTAL HEALTH

Since February is Pet Dental Health month, we wanted to take this time to share with you some pet dental emergencies. It is important to maintain routine dental care with your family veterinarian, but some situations may require immediate care.

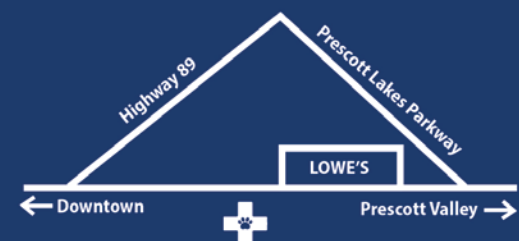
What is a dental emergency?

Dental emergencies may not be the most common type of pet emergencies, but it is important to know what a true pet dental emergency is. Facial or oral swelling, a fractured tooth, oral trauma (bone fractures, lacerations, puncture wounds), bleeding and excessive drooling should always be addressed immediately.

- ▶ Facial or oral swelling could be caused from an abscessed tooth, infection or allergic reaction.
- ▶ Bleeding can be a sign of severe dental disease or even a bleeding disorder.
- ▶ Tooth fractures are not only painful, but they put your pet at risk for an infection.
- ▶ Excessive drooling or unwillingness to chew food or toys could be a sign of an infection and if it is left untreated, it could lead to kidney, liver and heart problems.

Pets are great at hiding their symptoms. Many pets that suffer from severe dental disease will continue eating even though it is painful. While dental disease is very important to address, if your pet stops eating this may be a sign of some other type of illness and should be evaluated right away.

(928) 778-1990
prescottpetemergency.com



2245 Highway 69, Prescott, AZ, 86301



Calendar

ONGOING EVENTS

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

If you want to volunteer or learn more about United Animal Friends, visit unitedanimalfriends.org or call (982) 778-2924.

YAVAPAI HUMANE EQUINE CENTER

If you would like to schedule a tour of our center, please call (928) 515-4947.

YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY (YHS)

- 50% Off - 1st Saturday of every month at the YHS Thrift Store, 1601 Iron Springs Road, Prescott. Open Monday - Saturday, 9a-5p.
- Walk-In Vaccine Clinic every Friday & Saturday

at YHS Spay/Neuter & Wellness Clinic, 2889 Centerpointe East, Prescott. No appointment fee. First come-first serve for low cost vaccinations. More info: yavapaihumane.org.

- Free Feral Fixes every 3rd Thursday at YHS Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic, 2889 Centerpointe East, Prescott. Call 918-771-0547 to schedule an appt.

ONGOING ADOPTIONS

CATTY SHACK – CAT ADOPTIONS

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

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Prescott. Offsite – Petsmart, Saturday / Sunday 11a-3p

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

Info: unitedanimalfriends.org

- Cat Adoptions – Petco, Saturdays & Sundays (Hwy 69, Prescott), 11:00a-2:00p or by appointment by calling Ruthie at (928) 379-1088.
- Dog Adoptions – Petco (Hwy 69, 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

FEBRUARY EVENTS

VALENTINE'S PHOTOS

Feb 2, 11:00a-3p., Whiskers Barkery, 225 W Gurley St (Downtown Prescott). 100% benefits Unived Animal

Friends. \$10 for a framed 5"x7" print or a CD with multiple photos. No appt. necessary. More info: 776-8700.

RESCUE A GOLDEN OF ARIZONA FUNDRAISER

Feb. 10, 10a-1p. Top Golf, Scottsdale. Celebrating 20 yrs of rescuing Golden Retrievers. Open to the public; \$55/person & \$25 for lunch only. More info: www.golden-retriever.org



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Sunday, October 6, 2019
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SALSA: A smart mare with room to grow in her training. She would make the perfect project horse. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



BABE: A gorgeous 22-year-old registered Quarter horse mare. She is easy to catch, loves to be groomed, and is broke to ride. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



SMOKIE: A 16-year-old mustang mare. She is not broke to ride, but is halter broke and a great companion to other horses. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666.



MR. COFFEE: An 8-month-old mini pig. He is neutered and housebroken. Loves people and being indoors. Circle L Ranch (928) 273-7005



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VIRTUAL NOW, BRICK AND MORTAR TOMORROW: UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS SEEKS FUTURE SITE FOR ITS HEADQUARTERS

Story by Briana Lonas. Photos courtesy of Mike Branigan.



UAF Rummage Sale

The non-profit United Animal Friends rescue organization recently wrapped up its largest rummage sale fundraiser that benefits all animals in need.

UAF Boardmember Mike Branigan explained that this year's venue filled 25,000 square-feet of space (at the former Barnes and Noble store at the mall), and proceeds went towards the organization's spay and neuter programs, food bank, and medicals bills just to name a few. It bears mentioning that 70 volunteers worked the rummage sale, and a total of 140 men and women donate their time to the animals in need year-round. The sale usually takes place for five days with any remaining items on the final days being sold at reduced prices.

The annual rummage sale is UAF's biggest income generator besides donations and grants. Other events such as Woof Down Lunch and Barks and Beers also bring in much needed revenues. Whisker's Barkery hosts several events throughout the year benefitting the organization.

"We're a 100 percent volunteer

group; no one is paid. Our greatest asset on the books is the van," Branigan said.

At this point, UAF does not own or operate out of a building. Rather it's a virtual operation, but the board is working on a plan to change that.

"We're looking for the right property," he said. "We're ready to build our own facility. We first need to find the land, then go through the processes of licensing and permits...all the necessary requirements." He added that he'd love to one day incorporate full-service grooming stations and on-staff veterinarians for the new headquarters.

The lifelong animal lover jumped at the chance to serve on the UAF board and explained that a large part of what the organizations does as a rescue is rehabilitate dogs and cats as well as find them homes.

He explained that UAF works with a team of local veterinarians as many of the rescue animals suffer from highly sensitive medical issues, including broken hips and jaws.

UAF also receives dogs from the reservations in northern Arizona and New Mexico. "They go to Chino Valley Animal Hospital and stay there until they are ready to come here," Branigan said.

At his Run-A-Muk Resort and Lodge facility, the rescued dogs



UAF rescues dogs such as this one!

benefit from socialization before they are ready for adoption. Run-A-Muk features outdoor pools, gym equipment, and plenty of space with 24-hour on-site management as Branigan lives on the premises.

"We don't euthanize. We fix them and take care of them. The medical bills are enormous."

The dogs and cats reside with foster families until they find good homes, and UAF volunteers make several home visits to prospective pet owners to ensure a good fit for the animal.

"Everything we do is in the best interest for the animal," Branigan said.

In October, in partnership with Petco, UAF saw 18 dog and 38 cat adoptions. "The people that are involved is the reason

it works," Branigan said, and added that the food bills for the animals eats up a lot of money.

"It's phenomenal to see the number of dogs we feed." Every

month Branigan drives to where the food is housed in Conex boxes and picks up bags of dog and cat food. He then brings the food to Catholic Charities for pet food distribution the last Sunday of each month.

Jennifer Casey serves as the secretary of UAF and found out about the organization while searching for a rescue dog to adopt in 2009. She said that having an actual facility would benefit the community by having extra space to save more animals.

"Space can be dedicated for the overflow of foster animals when their foster families' homes are full. It would give us a centralized location for adopters to come and meet animals and for people to drop off donations. Right now, we have people contact us asking where they can drop off items... we're lucky enough to have a couple of businesses that will allow us to let people drop off things for us," she said.

UAF PARTNERS

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Arizona Community Foundation,
Yavapai County
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Whiskers Barkery
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"Wet Nose" Wednesdays

Animal Hospitals

Mile Hi Animal Hospital
Harmony Veterinary Clinic
Prescott Animal Hospital
Kachina Animal Hospital
Chino Valley Animal Hospital

Thanks to Cherie Dreves and the Prescott Dog Magazine for posting UAF adoptions.



UAF volunteer photo

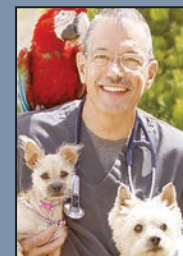


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Dr. Gordon Vergason, DVM
Owner



A building also would provide a neutral meet and greet area for people considering adoption. "It gives us more of a public presence."

She added that UAF currently operates a lot of programs that take up a considerable part of their budget; more than 40 percent of expenses are dedicated to community programs such as the low cost spay and neuter, community pet food bank, community cat program, emergency medical, and the rescue/foster/adopt programs. A new building wouldn't necessitate the addition of new programs, "But if we saw a need, we would consider new ones," she said.

"We would love to find someplace that is centrally located so that our volunteers

and the public would have a place." Casey explained that finding a place within city limits would be difficult because of the proper zoning and permits involved for an animal facility.

"We haven't started a capital campaign yet. We're just starting to look at the ins and outs of starting one. We're keeping our eyes open for opportunities."

Jann Kemp is the UAF Pet Food Bank and volunteer coordinator and admitted that an actual facility would be helpful.

"We have so much food to distribute, and it would be awesome to have a building where we could store it. People could come to the building once a month to pick up their food." Kemp noted that for the month of October, the Pet Food Bank

distributed 2,100 pound of dog food and 1,100 pounds of cat food.

"We're always in need of more food. We do have a lot of low income individuals, those on disability and social security... it really is a benefit to them. We get so many pet food recipients who are so grateful because they would have to give up their pet if they didn't have access to food. It's such a blessing to be able to help the community," she said.

One of the requirements for the UAF Community Pet Food Bank is to make sure pets are spayed or neutered, and recipients with unaltered animals may seek assistance through the Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Certificate Program.

Kemp also oversees the volunteers and said a new facility would offer the more than 100 men and women a place to meet and train. Kemp meets with every prospective volunteer either in their homes, a restaurant, or Petco, and having a main building would make coordinating visits much easier.

For more information about United Animal Friends, call 928-778-2924. To learn about volunteer opportunities, adoptions, or to make a donation, visit the UAF Website at unitedanimalfriends.org and click on the links.

UAF hosts dog adoption events at Petco almost every Saturday and Sunday and at Whiskers Barkery the first and second Saturdays of each month. The UAF Kitty City offers feline adoptions at Petco.

THE FOLLOWING UAF PROGRAMS HELP IMPROVE THE LIVES OF DOGS & CATS

Rescue/Foster/Adopt Program

UAF rescues a large number of its animals from euthanasia at high-kill shelters and works with local veterinarians to ensure each animal is vaccinated, spayed or neutered and given any other necessary medical treatment.

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Certificate Program

The Spay/Neuter Certificate Program helps low-income individuals have their companion animals altered at a low cost.

Community Pet Food Bank

The Community Pet Food Bank feeds hundreds of animals each month.

Courtesy Listing Program

UAF helps people find new homes for their companion animals in the event that they can no longer care for them. The animals are sponsored on the UAF website as Courtesy Listings, and the families are welcome to bring the pet to adoption events as long as they are current on vaccines.

Community Cat Program

Through the Community Cat Program, UAF provides no-cost spay/neuter certificates so that colony caretakers can trap feral cats and take them to local vets for alteration and ear-tipping, which identifies the cat as having been altered.

Emergency Medical Program

This program helps those who need emergency medical care for their companion animal but cannot afford the cost. The pet must be spayed or neutered to qualify for assistance. This program is partially funded by the Arizona Community Foundation.

Barn Cat Program

Some feral cats that are sterilized through the TNRM program are adopted as barn cats, providing a natural means of controlling rodents. UAF volunteers help the cats acclimate to their new environment, and the adopters agree to provide food, water, and shelter from weather and predators.

Events

Woof Down Lunch

Woof Down Lunch is one of UAF's biggest events each year, in May or June, on the beautiful Courthouse Square in Prescott. It is a day where people can bring their dogs for a day of food, activities, demonstrations, music, shopping, and fun!

Rummage for the Rescues

UAF hosts a rummage sale each fall for avid bargain hunters who like to shop for a cause. The sale usually takes place for five days with

any remaining items on the final day being sold for half price.

Dog Washes

The Laundromutt is open for one day each May and August at Whiskers Barkery on Gurley Street where volunteers will wash and towel dry your dog for the low price of \$10, or provide the 'spa' treatment, including a wash, creme rinse, blueberry facial, and nail trim for just \$20!

UAF Reunion Picnic

In August UAF hosts a Reunion Picnic in the Ramada near the dog park on Willow Creek Road. All adopters may come and bring their adopted pets or photos to share. UAF foster parents just love having the chance to reconnect with the animals that they have helped place in their forever homes.

Pet Photos

Professional-quality photos in our 'studio' at Whiskers Barkery on Gurley Street for Valentine's Photos, Easter Photos, Halloween Photos, and Photos with Santa each year.

Last Minute Stocking Stuffer

Each December, United Animal Friends participates in the Last Minute Stocking Stuffer at the Prescott Activity Center ("The Old Armory") on Gurley Street.



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GARY DEGERONIMO: KIND, FUNNY, DEDICATED TO THE DOGS

By Heidi Dahms Foster. Photos courtesy of the DeGeronimo Family.

He was a lot of things. Husband, father, military man, friend, motorcycle enthusiast. But for Gary DeGeronimo, there were always dogs.

In mid-June, Gary, the longtime dog behaviorist and trainer who founded Gentle Hearts Service Dogs, was returning a dog in training to a Prescott Valley doctor's office. As he pulled into the parking lot, he began to experience the symptoms of what would later be diagnosed as glioblastoma, stage 4 brain cancer.

Sora, the young Golden Retriever he was training, guided him across the parking lot, into the office, across the waiting room full of people, and into an exam room. She then continued to place her paws on the table and check on him.

Gary was air-evaced to Phoenix that day and underwent emergency surgery. He fought hard against the disease until Saturday, Nov. 24, when surrounded by family, he passed away.

A US Army veteran, Gary served as a court reporter at the Pentagon. He continued that career in Maricopa Superior Court. His real passion, however, was dogs, and for the past 20 years he worked with shelters in Sedona and Prescott to evaluate



and adopt rescue animals. He later founded Gentle Hearts, the non-profit agency that has changed the lives of so many who desperately needed the comfort and assistance of a trained dog.

Luke Haddad, the recipient of a Gentle Hearts dog, a Queensland Heeler mix named Banjo, tells his experience with Gary that could be the story, with variations, of the hundreds of people and dogs he has helped. Luke suffered from PTSD and mental illness.

"When my family first contacted Gary," Luke said, "It was because we were stuck. I had mental struggles that I didn't know how to deal with. Every day felt impossible. I kept losing jobs, failing classes, and coping in unhealthy ways. I was attending university in Idaho, and each day, I was missing classes trying to find relief. I would drink just to sleep."

Finally, Luke received an email telling him Gentle Hearts may have found a service dog for him. "I know it's corny, but I specifically remember smiling when I first saw a picture of Banjo, and I noticed I was smiling because it was so rare at the time," Luke said.

Not only has Banjo become Luke's best friend and comfort, but his experience with Gary is a fond memory. "Gary was an excellent communicator. He truly loved dogs and believed they were capable of helping humans with things that science couldn't. Banjo was uncontrollably excited to see Gary every single time."

Banjo seemed to be well aware the day his trainer passed away. He was acting strangely, and Luke stayed home from a family outing to keep an eye on him. "That night, Banjo curled up next to me. His eyes were open the whole time, but he didn't get up. Shortly after 5 p.m., Banjo started whimpering, and I couldn't get him to stop. I read the next day that Gary had passed at 5:14 pm, Saturday evening. Banjo knew. That Sunday, Banjo was much happier. I will never forget the kindness that Gary showed me, and the wonderful friend he introduced me to in Banjo."

Jean DeGeronimo, Gary's wife of 25 years, said Gary had been involved with dogs since she met him. "He had a million books of information about dogs, and he was researching constantly."

While he pursued his many dog activities, Jean took care of the



couples' succession of five dogs. "He couldn't wait to get home and put his photos on the computer. He wanted to show me what he did that day, what the dogs were like," she said. "He had such a relationship with the dogs and the people he worked with. He made a huge impact."

For Jean, who supported his passion for dogs, there's a big void. "I miss him so much."

Gary's daughter Michele Verdone said she cannot remember a day spent with her father that was not good.

"He was always the jokester, but then always there to help with homework. He taught me how to shoot guns at a young age. We rode motorcycles, he always had a passion for that. He was an Army veteran, and I went into the Army. I was born on his birthday, and we always had that bond."

The family moved to the Phoenix area in 1975, when Michele was a year old and her brother, Gary Jr., was four. Gary worked for the Superior Court, and started his first therapy dog program at the Arizona Heart Institute, where he would visit patients with his Golden Retrievers.

(Continued on page 23)



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Focus On Peripheral Vascular Disease

Leg Pain is a Warning Sign for Vascular Disease

Peripheral vascular disease (PVD) is a common condition affecting 12 to 20 percent of Americans 65 and older. It most commonly develops as a result of atherosclerosis, or “hardening of the arteries;” and restricts the flow of blood to the legs.

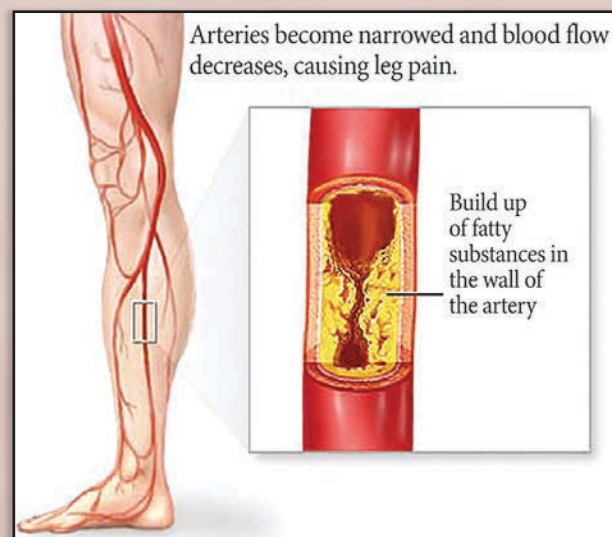
The most common symptom of PVD is called **intermittent claudication**, which is leg pain that occurs when walking or exercising and disappears when the activity stops. The pain can feel like cramps in the legs, including the hips, thighs or calves. Often the pain is severe enough to limit walking.

Other symptoms include:

- Numbness and tingling in the legs and feet
- Coldness in the legs and feet
- Ulcers or sores on the legs and feet that don't heal
- Dry, fragile, shiny-looking skin

A variety of treatments are available for PVD, including lifestyle changes, medication and minimally invasive procedures used to unblock clogged arteries.

Information Source: HeartCenter Online



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www.CardiacCare.info



*Home of Sora,
The Wonder Dog*

LOCAL THERAPY DOG BOOSTS MORALE

Story and photos by Briana Lonas

There are places designated as homes where the elderly and infirm live. Most of these places are nice and well-staffed. Meals get served in dining rooms or delivered bed-side. Still, the residents at many nursing homes often yearn for something more, and that's where therapy dogs step into the picture.

The Pioneer Home is one such place, and its residents benefit from many activities, but on the days that Pogo visits it seems the extra stimulation from the friendly, ever-engaging dog boosts the spirits tenfold.

During a recent visit the residents became animated and engaged when Pogo entered the room. Those in wheelchairs rolled over to Pogo and enjoyed a face full of doggie kisses as they pet their furry friend. Pogo demonstrated the unique ability to understand when certain residents needed an extra 'hug' or nuzzle. She gladly followed her owner through the hallways, entering the various rooms where the residents sleep. During her visits people smile, laugh, and talk about the things they used to do, or the pets they've owned throughout their lives.

Pogo didn't start out as a therapy dog. One might say the medium-sized dynamo could have been labeled a problem child, because before she was adopted she would

jump and attempt multiple escapes for hours. Linda Lutes adopted the high-spirited pup at seven months. "I got her from the pound. She might be a Shepherd and boxer mix. She's very loyal," Lutes said. One can see how she got her name from the Pogo comic strip. Besides her high energy, she also enjoys watching television.

Lutes' story is probably similar to most in that she visited the local animal shelter hoping to find the perfect companion to fill a void in her life. As she wrote in her book, "Pogo's Tale: The Life of a Therapy Dog," she had been grieving after the passing of their family pet. "My eyes landed on a hyperactive, eager brown puppy...the kind warden informed me, 'This was the wild one.'"

Lutes signed Pogo up for obedience classes. Next, she trained Pogo to not startle at abrupt, loud noises or moving objects such as wheelchairs. Pogo then received her training through the licensing agency Therapy Dog International.

"She always been sweet; Pogo takes her job very seriously," Lutes said. "When I say we're going to the Pioneer Home, she jumps up in the air and barks, waiting for her harness and leash."

Lutes' first job out of nursing school was at the Pioneer Home, so everything has come full circle, and now Pogo has the job of caring for the residents in her own way.

"Her interaction helps them. She just brings a lot of joy and happiness." Lutes added that several of the residents were isolated and didn't want to be around anyone. By bringing Pogo around them their personalities changed,

and they became happier and lighter.

She began taking Pogo to the Pioneer Home, a place dedicated to caring for the original Arizona natives who have lived in the state at least 50 years. Pogo also visits some of the residents at the Veteran's Administration Hospital, where Lutes worked as a nurse for 30 years.

Studies of geriatric Americans show that many older Americans eventually come to live in some type of long-term care facility, and these care homes often restrict the resident's ability to own a pet. Inevitably, loneliness settles in, but animal-assisted therapy helps alleviate loneliness and boredom among the elderly.

How do you know if your pet might have the potential to become a therapy animal? According to the non-profit Love on a Leash, if an animal is even-tempered, friendly, and enjoys being handled by strangers, they might be a good fit. Dogs, for example, would benefit from obedience classes first before stepping out to provide comfort at nursing homes and hospitals.



Pogo visits with a 105-year-old resident at the Pioneer Home

GENTLE PET BENEFITS

According to pawsforpeople.org, it's well-known (and scientifically proven) that interaction with a gentle, friendly pet has significant benefits:

FOR PHYSICAL HEALTH

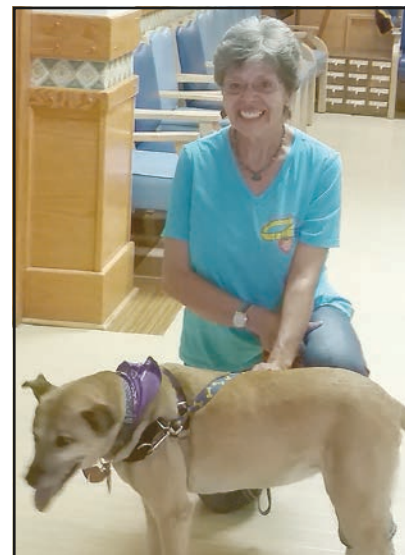
- Lowers blood pressure
- Improves cardiovascular health
- Releases endorphins (oxytocin) that have a calming effect
- Diminishes overall physical pain
- For Mental Health
- Lifts spirits and lessens depression
- Decreases feelings of isolation and alienation
- Encourages communication
- Increases socialization and sense of community
- Reduces boredom
- Decreases anxiety
- Helps children overcome speech and emotional disorders
- Creates motivation for the client to recover faster

IN PHYSICAL THERAPY

- Increases joint movement
- Improves recovery time
- Maintains or increases motor skills
- Provides motivation to move more, stretch farther, exercise longer



Pioneer Home resident Frank Kelly pets Pogo



Linda Lutes and her therapy dog, Pogo

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Life is hard when you rescue animals. Sure, there is great joy, and lots of it, but we can't do this alone. It takes many committed volunteers to run any type of rescue.

We have been very blessed over the years to have some who willingly cleaned kennels and walked dogs, others who helped pick up puppies in need, some who came faithfully to assist at adoption events, and those who just came to play with the pups. We have faithful supporters who may not be able to help us physically but are willing to help us financially.

We appreciate and love you all; you have helped us achieve amazing and wonderful things for the sake of the many dogs we have rescued.



Joe & Jeanette

We would like to recognize two of our recent volunteers for the countless hours, tireless and selfless effort, and giving of their time and energy for one especially deserving pup.

Josiah was rescued from the kill list at a shelter in Phoenix due to his extreme fear issues. He was the most difficult case we had worked with, and it eventually became obvious to us that Josiah was not going to be a candidate for adoption

anytime soon, and that's where Joe and Jeanette came into the picture.

We met them at an adoption event over a year ago where they met their forever pup whose name at the time was Blanche. She was just a tiny little bundle of white fluff. She stole their hearts, and little Blanche (whose name is now Gracie) found her forever home that day.

Joe and Jeanette followed our rescue on Facebook, and when we posted our plan for Josiah's House they quickly volunteered to help.

I don't know if they had any idea of the number of hours involved in this project, but they continued to come out several times a week. Some days it was too hot, others it was too cold, but they persevered.

They took our design and made great improvements. They insulated walls, hung the drywall, and even painted the inside. They put in a doggie door and installed and painted the siding. They put in a

window and hung shutters, which made his house look even more like a home for our sweet boy!

Joe and Jeanette have such loving hearts for animals—and people, too.

They are a wonderful, caring, giving, kind, and adventurous couple who make this word a better place by being in it! We are deeply grateful to them for giving Josiah a place of his own.



Josiah's House

We Finally Have Our Paws on the Ground!



AARF rescued three dogs from Kayenta, our first residents!

The girls, Bayley and Nala, whose good looks and friendliness shone through, soon got them adopted. The boy, sweet Flynn, came to us very thin with a low platelet count and tick fever. Happily, with the help of our vet, some generous donations and puppy prayers, Flynn's blood work is normal; he is neutered and ready for his new home!

With several more in foster and at the property, we are truly achieving our mission. As soon as we can build more of the three-unit bunkhouses, we will be able to save more.

AARF is still in the building phase so any donations of materials, equipment, gift cards or donations directly to High Country Veterinary or Pet Headquarters for our account will be appreciated; so much more to look



Luann & Flynn

forward to in the New Year, a year of promise. Sincere appreciation to ALL our volunteers and supporters who have made this possible and continue to share our journey for the critters!

We need Fosters! To volunteer or foster or just come see our progress and vision for yourself, call 928-925-7219. Check our Facebook for updates and stories.



We welcome 2019—Circle L Ranch's 12th year of operation!

We operate on 20 acres in Prescott Valley with over 200 animals in our care. Everything from ducks and chickens, rabbits, goats and sheep, horses, and many beautiful dogs. We offer adoptions and sanctuary along with working with authorities on special rescue situations.

We are always accepting new volunteers. Should your interest be mucking stalls, filling water tanks,

brushing goats, or even quietly sitting and maybe reading to our critters, we are happy to have you. Our dogs look forward to their regular visits from our dedicated volunteers. Join us today! Find our volunteer page on Facebook Circle L Volunteers, or contact us on our website CircleL.org .

We would love to highlight one of our wonderful volunteers, Tony. This dedicated individual is in his fourth year volunteering for us, doing morning feeding, fence repairs, tire changing, horse sponsorship, ranch improvements, and of course he is a great friend and emotional support for all of us!

We greatly appreciate you, Tony!



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Pets Return Home is a non-profit animal rescue in Clarkdale, Arizona. We firmly believe that it is "Never too late to rehabilitate" any animal. Our mission is to save lives, enrich welfare, and build adoptability of homeless animals. We work as a team to make an impact in our community by taking unadoptable animals from shelters and rescues and rehabilitating them.

In many cases, we are the last hope that these animals have. Without rescues like Pets Return Home, these dogs would be labeled unadoptable and later euthanized.



Recently, Pets Return Home worked with Plan B To Save Wolves and APEX Protection Project to save the lives of 179 wolf-content dogs from Lassen County, California. This was a tragic hoarding situation, where a court ordered the execution of 179 innocent lives. Mark Happe, the director of Pets Return Home, and his amazing volunteers managed to build housing and a parvovirus ward in one week for 8 moms and 42 low content wolf-dogs.

Our goal is to reach out to our community to educate, offer resources, and solutions concerning their animals. The statistics are staggering: In seven years, one unsprayed female dog and her offspring can produce 97,000 puppies. In one year in the United States over 6 million dogs will end up in a shelter. Half of those will be euthanized. If we save just one life, we are making a difference. The public can help by volunteering, donating, and spreading the word about Pets Return Home. For more information please visit our website at PetsReturnHome.org.



Lucky Moose

When we saw Moose at the Winslow Animal Shelter, we couldn't resist the big goofball. I mean, just look at him! Who could resist this charmer?

Once he arrived here, we got two surprises. Instead of being the big baby we thought he was, he's actually around seven to nine years old. Then we found that he had a growth on his ... well, let's just say it was a part of him that would have been removed if he'd been neutered.

A biopsy indicated Grade III cancer. So here we were with a senior-ish dog diagnosed with an aggressive type of cancer. If he'd wound up anywhere else he might have been

euthanized, but he was lucky enough to land with us. We don't give up on animals, and because of your support, we don't have to.

The vet was able to get clean margins when he removed the tumor, and also said that Moose's lungs, which can be a concern with this type of cancer, were clear. Moose's good luck continued when his foster, Jen, took him home. Jen has the active lifestyle Moose loves, and he flourished under her care, with frequent hikes through the woods and around lakes.

After four months with us, Moose found his perfect match and was adopted. His good fortune keeps getting better and better because his new mom loves him so much, she created an Instagram account for him. If you're on Instagram, follow Moose's excellent new life at [iammrmoose!](https://www.instagram.com/iammrmoose/)



One small cat changes coming home to an empty house to "Coming Home."



~Pam Brown



We have two of our signature events scheduled for 2019. Our annual Treasure Sale is scheduled for March 1st and 2nd.

When we developed our mission statement, we were not aware of what role outdoor cat colonies play in the lives of some seniors in these rural and remote areas.

Many people have genuine concern for their quality of life and are more than willing to manage, feed, and care for the cats if somebody would control the size of the colony through spay and neuter.

We stepped up for that and have a separate fundraising event for

that effort. Our Treasure Sale is a 2-day event held at Muleshoe Animal Clinic, 19225 Highway 89 in Peeples Valley.

The money raised at this event funds the outdoor cat project for the whole year. If you would like to donate gently used items or help with set up and/or tear down contact Kim at (928) 713-1375.

April 6th is our Trivia Night. This fun, high energy game has taken on a life of its own with teams of people, complete with their own team name t-shirts and costumes, competing for prizes. Some type of evening snack or meal is usually served, and there are lots and lots of door prizes.

Trivia Night is held at the Yarnell Fire Station in Yarnell, and doors open at 5 pm.

Stay tuned for further details.



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780 Cats Rescued... and Counting

The Catty Shack (our nonprofit name is Community Cats Inc) has had our biggest year yet in 2018. We have never had under 100 cats and kittens since April of this year. We have taken in kittens with no moms, moms and kittens, neonates, lost or abandoned kitties and have 'trap-neuter-released' countless moms. And dads too! We have been rescuing hard!

It's now late December, and we just took in a mom and 2 week old kittens. Please spay and neuter your pets!

Also, just this morning we took in a lovely and friendly male kitty who had probably been hit by a

car. The muscles and nerves in his damaged leg were severed and as I write this he is in surgery undergoing an amputation. Please keep your kitties indoors!

We are, as always, completely community supported and look to you for funding, fostering, volunteering and adopting.

We have rescued over 780 cats since our incorporation in 2011. With your help, we look forward to growing our number of rescues in 2019. Thank you!



Willie is available for adoption. See him at our Adoption Center at 302 S Alarcon St in Prescott.



"That's what happens when you put a wet nose on a cold fire hydrant."

© 2009 Jonny Hawkins

MISS KITTY'S ADOPTION CENTER

Miracle Cat at Miss Kitty's Cat House

When I first met Oliver, at Miss Kitty's, a line from Kipling's short story popped into my mind: "I am the cat who walks by himself, all the places are alike to me".

Kipling's short story was strange, but sweet. Not so for Oliver. He had no "place" for a long time.

He arrived at Miss Kitty's so malnourished and with no muscle mass; I thought he would be "Crossing over the Rainbow Bridge".

At five pounds, with a dirty, matted coat, we had Oliver shaved and discovered that someone had shot him with a pellet gun.

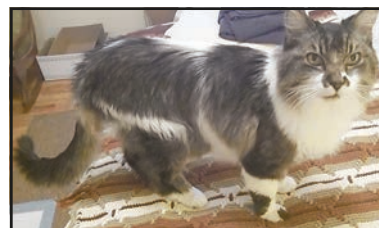


Oliver Clipped

Oliver immediately went into a foster home. He had the will to live and is now doing well.

This cat that "Walked Alone" deserves a loving, permanent home. He needs "A Place" at long last.

Oliver is a 9- to 10-year-old Maine Coon Mix. He is on maintenance medication for hyperthyroid and renal food.



Oliver Now

What Breed of Dog Was That?

TOTO of <i>The Wizard of Oz</i>	Cairn Terrier
LASSIE of <i>Lassie Come Home & the Lassie TV Series</i>	Rough Collie
RIN TIN TIN of <i>Rin Tin Tin; Pax of Longstreet</i>	German Shepherd
PETEY of <i>The Little Rascals & Our Gang</i>	American Pit Bull
WILBY (in dog form) of <i>The Shaggy Dog</i>	Old English Sheepdog
TRAMP of <i>My Three Sons</i> ; RENO of <i>Top Dog</i>	Briard
DUKE of <i>The Beverly Hillbillies</i>	Bloodhound
MIGNON of <i>Green Acres</i>	Yorkshire Terrier
SCRUFFY of <i>The Ghost & Mrs. Muir</i>	Fox Terrier
CHANCE & SHADOW of <i>Homeward Bound: the Incredible Journey</i>	American Bulldog & Golden Retriever
ZEUS & APOLLO of <i>Magnum PI</i>	Doberman Pinschers
MILO of <i>The Mask; Eddie of Frasier</i>	Jack Russell Terrier
CUJO of <i>Cujo</i> ; BEETHOVEN of <i>Beethoven</i>	Saint Bernard

For many more famous dogs and their breeds, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/ydymqbn9>

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BOOK REVIEW—*THE UNDERDOGS: CHILDREN, DOGS, AND THE POWER OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE*, WRITTEN BY MELISSA FAYE GREEN

Review by Heidi Dahms Foster

If you appreciate reading about dogs and their incredible power to bring love, joy, and yes, unconditional love to our lives, you'll enjoy the heartwarming stories in *The Underdogs*. These are not all sweet, vacuous stories about wagging puppies. Melissa Faye Green takes us into the stories of dogs who attach themselves to the neediest of children and make a significant difference in their lives, and the lives of those who love and are desperate to care for them. While her stories are about children, Green expresses the effect dogs have on us throughout our lives.

"Our bond with dogs," she writes, "is an ancient facet of our humanity; among the first passionate lifetime interests to be revealed, among the few identifiable features still intact where there is cognitive disarray, and among the last of our personality traits to deteriorate as we near the end."

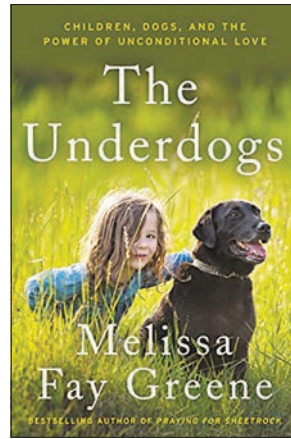
Green tells the stories of the children and the families whose lives are changed by the amazing service dogs, thousands of them now, that have come from 4 Paws for Ability in Zenia, Ohio.

"Children and teens with physical or cognitive impairments, birth defects, or behavior disorders can seem unreachable – unable to communicate, to learn, to master toilet training, to eat with silverware, to respond without unpredictable violence, to make friends or show love," Green

writes. "Sometimes as a last resort, a Hail Mary pass, their weary parents bring home a 4 Paws dog.

"The 4 Paws for Ability dogs are trained service animals, of course, but a friendship kindled between one of them (who has no clue he or she is a 'service dog') and one of these children (who may not know that he or she is 'disabled' or 'differently-abled') can be as timeless, deep, and joyful as the bond between any other human/dog pair. ...every youngster setting forth from Zenia, Ohio today is newly accompanied by a dog who offers balance, friendship, and courage in the dark."

Green's introduction is fascinating in its facts about our bonds with dogs. Then she captures our emotions with her heartfelt stories about these dogs and their kids. She tells the story of severely autistic Logan, who lives in an Alaskan Eskimo village on the Bering sea with his family. His dog Juke can sense when Logan is about to have a one of his periodic episodes of rage or anguish, which results in violent behavior so severe that he injures himself. Juke will alert Logan's parents to the onset of an episode, and then lay on top of the child until it passes, sometimes for hours on end.



Logan, at the time of the book's writing, was in school. Juke attended with him, and during class, began to alert on another little girl. Teachers know to watch these dogs, Green writes, as they often will alert to other children in trouble. When teachers made inquiries, they discovered turmoil at home with a marriage breaking up. The child was experiencing deep emotions, and Juke picked up on it and

offered comfort the way he knew how. He laid next to her and put his head in her lap, or lingered near her for a time each day. Teachers were able to send a social worker to offer help to the family.

Connor Millard was born with severe disabilities. After several months in hospital, he was sent home with a roomful of medical apparatus and a live-in nurse. His dedicated parents readjusted their lives and committed themselves to helping Connor be all that he could be, not knowing what that was. He learned to walk and speak, with difficulty. He breathed with a tracheotomy tube. He made progress. But finally all of the doctor visits, the medical procedures, and the difficulties of life overwhelmed him like a wave. At age five, he began to have seizure-like rages triggered by ambulances, fire trucks, kids

yelling, dogs barking, or even the texture or taste of food that he was not used to. He began to withdraw and deteriorate emotionally. His parents were desperate to help him truly live, if even a little.

Coming across an article about service dogs one night, Connor's father thought that may be the key to helping his son. But because of the tracheotomy, he received rejection after rejection, until he contacted 4 Paws for Ability. The founder and director, Karen Shirk, told him her agency could help. When Connor's father expressed his surprise, she explained that she herself had a tracheotomy. Connor was matched with a large, energetic mix named Casey. And he did learn to truly live, more than just a little.

Filled with fascinating stories and facts, *The Underdogs* is a wonderful read that will have you admiring the children, their parents, the dogs, and the people who train them to offer so much to these families.

In this issue of Prescott Dog, you'll read about Gary DeGeronimo, a local trainer who dedicated himself to training dogs for those who needed their special brand of unconditional love. *The Underdogs* will give insight into why Gary was so passionate about what he did.

The Underdogs is available in Kindle, paperback or hardback at Amazon.com. Find more information on 4 Paws for Ability at: <https://4pawsforability.org/>

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Fitbit
Fitbark

www.prescottdog.com 19

ADOPT -A-DOG

BANJO:

A Border Collie mix that adores people but can be a bit timid.

The 1-year-old fellow weighs about 35 lbs.

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BISCUIT:

A high-energy Cattle Dog/Yellow Labrador mix who needs

an active household. Biscuit is 2-1/2 years old and weighs about 50 lbs. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



DIXIE:

Adorable 5 pound, 6-month-old Chihuahua mix who is very sweet. She likes everyone she meets and loves to snuggle. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



LIAM:

A big, playful, affectionate boy. Liam is a very handsome, 3-year-old Shar Pei/Great Dane mix weighing 83 pounds. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



MATEO:

Mateo is a 1-year-old Lab/Shepherd mix weighing in at 100 pounds.

Loves humans, cats, playing ball, and anything to do with water.

United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



MISTY:

Misty is an energetic 1-year-old Terrier mix who

has fun playing and is very affectionate. Loves attention, likes everyone. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



MITZI:

Bouncy 1-year-old Mitzi is full of energy and spirit. She is a great candidate for agility. Mitzi weighs 15 pounds.

United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



OAKLEY:

A 2-year-old shepherd mix. He is sweet and gentle, and is very smart.

United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



ROCKY:

A 3-year-old American Staffordshire Terrier. Rocky is good with men, women and older children. United Animal Friends

(928) 778-2924



ROSIE:

A 3-year-old Miniature Pinscher who is very affectionate and loves curling up on an empty lap. She is energetic and enjoys her toys. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



TINKER:

A 6 pound, 5-yr-old Chihuahua mix. She loves to cuddle and be near her human! United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



PANU:

An 8-year-old Chihuahua mix. A very personable guy. Circle L Ranch (928) 273-7005



TRUDY:

A stunning 2-year-old red head. Trudy is independent but craves attention. She likes friendly dogs and respects cats. United Animal Friends (928) 778-2924



RAMBO:

Rambo is a sweet and gentle boy about 12 years old. Clearly he would like people of his own. Petey's Playground (928) 713-1375



PRECIOUS:

Precious was born with one deformed leg. Precious likes all other animals that just want to hang out. She also loves cats. Petey's Playground (928) 713-1375



JOEY:

A great dog that is sweet and devoted when he gets to know you. Walks well on a leash. Very eager to please. Petey's Playground (928) 713-1375



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MOCHA:

Medium sized, about 2 years old. Very sweet, loves people. Super smart and eager to learn. Chino Valley Animal Shelter (928) 636-4223 x7



DRAKE:

A lively but easy-going character who fancies himself a lapdog. Smart, obedience trained, very loving. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



CASSY:

A happy, friendly girl, active and curious. Knows basic commands, ready to learn more. Will make a great family companion. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



LEILA: A strong, good girl who loves cuddles and playing ball. Easy on the leash, housetrained, knows commands. Very loving. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



PRECIOUS:

Queen of the wagging tail, friend to everyone and everything! Fun, affectionate, loves pets. Knows commands, trained for crate and dog door. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



VALOR:

A big love bug! Smart, handsome, playful, and adores spending time with people. Pit bull mix, 6 years old. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



COLUMBUS:

A sweet, handsome, 1-year-old male pit bull cross. Loves people, looking for a forever home. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



MAPLE: This is a sweet, cuddly little Chihuahua mix. She is 9 years old and looking for someone to love her in her senior years. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



SAKI: A

lovely Shar Pei mix, this is a statley lady who loves people, walking, and being petted. She is very well trained. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



CHOCO: This is a classy Shar Pei fellow who is 5 years old. He is big, independent but affectionate, and looking for someone to love. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



SHATZI: This is a 3-year-old pit bull female, with a coat color known as blue. She is sweet and loves attention. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



LORETTA: This is a large American Bulldog mix. She is 2 years old with a beautiful white coat. She is bold, affectionate, and loves to play. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



CHAOS: A handsome youngster looking for a steady home. He is a 2-year-old shepherd mix who is affectionate, smart, and loves people. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



ODIN: A handsome fellow who is smart, housetrained, and obedience trained. He walks like a prince on the leash, loves meeting new people, and playing! Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



KELLY: A shepherd mix, so friendly and sweet. Knows commands. Enjoys attention, grooming, and walks just perfectly on the leash. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



DONALD: I'm a pit bull mix, only a year old. I'm smart and sweet, but a bit shy yet. Good with petting and leash skills. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



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ADOPT -A-CAT



ELI: A handsome tiger and white boy. Bottle fed, loves to cuddle with people, gives kisses, and hardly ever stops purring. Catty Shack/Ellen (928) 778-9724



GYPSY LUNA: An orange tabby female, approximately 1 year old.

Loves pets and love, and sitting on the next to her people. Catty Shack/Tara (520) 349-3232



LEYLA: A beautiful 1-year-old dilute tortoiseshell with a very sweet disposition. Loves toys and people. Catty Shack/Elizabeth (928) 848-9509



EARL GREY: A handsome dark grey boy with white trim and his own mustache! Six months old, loves people, and wants to be held and cuddled. Catty Shack (928) 778-6951



PATSY: Another beautiful dilute tortoiseshell female, sister to Leyla. Very sweet, gets along with everyone. She will make a wonderful companion. Catty Shack/Elizabeth (928) 848-9509



ISABELLE: Shiny black girl who was bottle fed as a baby. She is playful, cuddly, and affectionate, and will keep you laughing. Catty Shack/Ellen (928) 778-9724



TABIGAIL: A 6-month-old golden mackerel tabby with stylish white feet. Very sweet kitty, would love to be adopted with her sister Dixie. Catty Shack/Elizabeth (928) 848-9509



MEREDITH: A delightful dilute tortoiseshell lady, approximately 10 months old. She is very friendly and wants lots of love and attention. Catty Shack (928) 778-6951



BRUCE: An orange-and-white tabby who is so sweet and affectionate. CHECK OUT THOSE EARS!!! All the better to "hear" you my dear! Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



WILLIE: A sweet orange 5-year-old male tabby with short hair. Very affectionate and friendly. Loves sitting on your lap. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



CLAUDIA: An 8-month-old dilute tortoiseshell. She's very curious, playful, and has endless energy. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



ANGEL: A 14-month-old silver classic tabby, beautiful and sweet, but a bit shy at first. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411



KY: This is a true Parlor Panther! A sleek 3-year-old, all black fellow of 16 pounds! Very affectionate and loves laps. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411



CYRUS: An 8-month-old dark silver tabby. A super sweet lap cat and total sweetheart. You can even hear him purring. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



BABY CAT: Beautifully marked Abyssinian mix, 3 years old. She's very curious and playful, friendly and outgoing with everyone. Quite affectionate. Miss Kitty's Cat House (928) 445-5411.



MR. MUFFIN: A handsome tabby fellow, only 1 year old. He loves attention and would love to be part of a family. Yavapai Humane Society (928) 445-2666



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(Continued from page 12)



As so many others have expressed since Gary's passing, Michele remembers her father as an incredibly giving man. "He had a heart of gold. He would give you the shirt off his back without even questioning. He was absolutely wonderful. I can't think of one bad thing, in turmoil or whatever, about him as a kid growing up."

Michele's daughter Jordyn is Gary's only granddaughter. "They had a special bond. She would volunteer at the Humane Society with him and be there almost every weekend. She loved being around him. He was the silly grandpa, so lighthearted."

Michele remembers that life always had dogs in it. "His love for animals was through the roof. My brother is a dog lover as well, and we grew up caring for animals."

Gary's impact was evident, Michele said, when as he lay in Hospice care; so many people he had provided with service dogs and training visited.

"The hardest part was seeing the relationships. The dogs hopped on the bed, and they would lick or nudge his hand or face, trying to get him to wake up. In a four-day period, 15 people with their service dogs came to visit," she said.

Loni Hunt, an American Kennel Club Breeder of Merit, bred and raised Golden Retrievers



for more than 40 years, most specifically for service dogs. She started working with Gary and Gentle Hearts 11 years ago.

"I was sitting at the Dewey post office in my van that has my kennel information on it. He came roaring up on his motorcycle, came over and tapped on my window. He gave me a card and said if I ever wanted to donate a puppy or get hooked up with service dogs to give him a call. I told him I had worked with Helping Paws of the Desert for years, and we were up and running," Loni said.



Local families raised puppies, much like guide dogs, and when they were old enough they entered training with Gary, who carefully matched them with their "person."

"It would be difficult to put into words what he meant to me," Loni said. "He could be the hardest person to get along with and turn around and be the most gentle, loving, compassionate person with dogs and with me that you'd ever want to be around. It tore him apart to see dogs being mishandled or mistreated. Everything he did and said and lived and breathed was dogs."

When Loni found herself in need of a service dog, it was Gary who took on Loni's rambunctious Billy, who was notoriously naughty. In a short time with Gary, Billy became a model service dog.

Don Packard, a fellow veteran whose two therapy dogs, Jake and Sailor, were recruited and evaluated by Gary, enjoyed joking with him about the Army vs. the Air Force, and whether Australian Shepherds could measure up to Golden Retrievers. "He was a super guy. If you loved dogs,

you had a friend for life."

Prescott Dog Publisher Cherie Dreves raised three of Loni's pups for Gentle Hearts, and the two were friends for many years. She remembers him as being full of life, with boundless energy.

"I was always amazed at how Gary could take any dog he came across and have it acting exceptional within a short time," she said.

Cherie and her husband teased Gary about his relationship to Hazel, the Prescott Dog's "spokesdog." "Hazel was a reservation rescue, and Gary was her boyfriend! When he came to see the other puppies, he had to see Hazel. That was really his whole goal when he came."

That was essentially the reaction most dogs had with Gary, along with most dog lovers.

Toni Tennille, half of the famous 70s singing duo Captain and Tennille, became involved with the Pets Are Warm Support (PAWS) therapy dog program, which Gary helped to found, at Yavapai Regional Medical Center after she moved to Prescott in 2008. Gary evaluated Toni and her Australian Shepherd Smoky for the program.

Gary later headed up the Sedona Humane Society, and Toni and two friends, also PAWS teams, were demonstration duos for a children's day camp there.

"Gary was an angel on this earth," Toni said. "He was a man who cared very much about other people. He was generous, and funny, and I can't say enough about how wonderful he was and how much we all loved him."

Lynnel Walters, with whom Gary and Jean Wu founded the PAWS



program at YRMC, said Gary came along just at the right time.

"I was looking into doing something like that in 2003, and he and Jean Wu put the program together and presented it to the board. Today, we have dogs even into the Intensive Care Unit, and pretty much anywhere the department director will allow," she said.

The program has had up to 25 teams, and currently is at 15-20. Now retired, Lynnel said Gary became a dear friend.

"I think what made him so special and set him apart is that he genuinely loved all animals, and it showed in the way he did his evaluations. He was just so good with people and with the animals. He put them at ease. I had more than one person tell me they had been in various competitions, but they were more nervous about passing the therapy dog evaluation than any other program. Gary was really good at assuring them their dogs would be wonderful and in fact, they would, too."

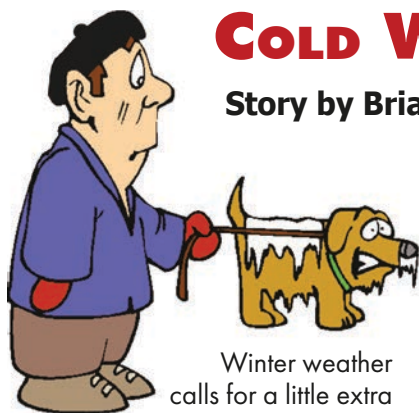
His ability to assess and assist therapy teams was critical as the new program got off the ground.

"Gary did a good job conveying the benefits we could provide to patients, and what a difference the program would make," Lynnel said. "He was able to share and make other people feel that as well. He had an immeasurable impact on thousands of lives."

Michele Verdone said that for now she is trying to keep busy and work through her grief. "I feel some comfort in knowing that my dad is at peace and surrounded by all who have gone before him," she said. "I just wonder as he made his final journey into God's arms, how long it took him to get past the Rainbow Bridge."

COLD WEATHER SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR PETS

Story by Briana Lonas



Winter weather calls for a little extra care for our pets, particularly those that go outside several times a day.

Just like people, our elderly and infirm companions shouldn't stay outdoors too long. Cats should stay inside, but if your indoor/outdoor cat must get out for awhile make sure the temperature isn't freezing, and try and limit his area of exploration if possible.

To prevent kitty (or doggie) from drinking any antifreeze spills, mop the garage floor and clean up beneath all vehicles, including those parked outside. Even a small amount of antifreeze can be deadly.

The Humane Society of the United States reports that rock salts used for melting ice can burn a cat's paws and in some cases cause bacterial infection. When a cat comes inside after walking in rock salt she'll want to lick her paws, and rock salt ingestion could lead to gastrointestinal distress and death, so emergency medical attention is vital.

If your cat does get outside and finds rock salt, wash her paws. Carefully hold your cat against you while dipping each paw in warm water, and dry each paw with a separate dry towel. If your cat is the type that could murder you during a bath, ask someone to help you by gently wrapping your pet in a blanket or towel while you wash the paws.

It's a sad fact that feral or other neighborhood cats will seek warmth during the night, and a car's engine compartment makes for an ideal arrangement. Before starting your car in the morning, make noise around the hood of the car. Honk the horn, lift the hood, and check

beneath the car for any critters that might be hiding.

Dogs can suffer from rock salt exposure as well. During walks, your dog's feet, legs, and belly may pick up antifreeze or other toxic chemicals. After a walk, wipe down (or wash) your pet's feet, legs, and belly to remove these chemicals and reduce the risk of poisoning.

Check your dog's paws for signs of cold-weather injury such as cracked paw pads or bleeding. Apply a coat of Vaseline on your dog's pads after a walk and if possible clip the hair between your dog's toes to prevent ice drops forming when they are outside.

For dogs that sleep outdoors, make sure they have a shelter and clean, dry bedding. If you provide dog houses, situate the openings so that cold, night air isn't blowing directly inside the house. Ideally, dogs and cats should remain indoors in cold weather, especially if the temperature drops to below freezing.

Make sure your pet has unlimited access to fresh, non-frozen water by changing the water frequently or using a pet-safe, heated water bowl. Space heaters and heat lamps could cause serious burns and should not be used for dogs.

If your dog has a short coat or seems bothered by the cold weather, consider a sweater or dog coat. Small dog breeds might feel the cold more than the larger ones, and they're closer to the snow! Try and have more than one sweater on hand in case your pet gets wet outside.

If your pet is whining, shivering, seems anxious, slows down or stops moving, hypothermia might be the cause. Frostbite is harder to detect, and may not be fully recognized until a few days after the damage is done. If you suspect your pet has hypothermia or frostbite, consult your veterinarian immediately.

Dog walks might not be as long as you'd like since dogs with arthritis are

prone to slipping and falling on icy sidewalks. Try and schedule a visit with your veterinarian if your animals show signs of arthritic joints, slow movements, and obvious pain when walking.

Space heaters inside the home can burn your pet, so consider installing safety gates around each one and also enclosing a wood burning stove or fireplace with a gate if your pets won't leave those areas alone.

In case of a power outage, make sure you have your pet's medications on hand—enough to last several days—and fill an ice chest with ice cubes for insulin and other medications that require refrigeration.

Animals are like people; they like to eat well during the winter, and extra calories help keep bodies warm. Of course, pets should stay within their ideal weight range. Outdoor pets like horses need more calories to generate heat throughout their bodies. Always consult with your veterinarian to determine what dietary supplements and grains might benefit your equine and keep on hand plenty of first-aid items.

Schedule a veterinary exam for your livestock before the frigid weather hits and plan your winter barn routine. Horses should have access to thawed water, but not everyone wants to use a heater/ice defroster or heater buckets. Be prepared to break up the ice every morning in the water troughs. Remove the ice chunks and add a bucket or two of boiling water to the freezing water as well, to ensure your horses drink and stay hydrated.

Older horses should be blanketed during the cold season, even after their hair grows long and shaggy. Use safe bedding materials for extra warmth. If you don't have a barn or covered lean-to structure, try and have two horse blankets available in case one gets wet from the elements.

WINTER TIPS FROM THE ASPCA

- Keep your home humidified and towel dry your pet as soon as he comes inside from the wet or cold.
- Never shave your dog down to the skin in winter. Consider buying high-collar sweaters that cover your dog's body from the base of the tail to the belly.
- Bring a towel on long walks to dry stinging, irritated paws. After each walk, wash and dry your pet's feet and stomach to remove ice, salt, and chemicals—and check for cracks in paw pads or redness between the toes.
- Bathe your pets as little as possible during cold spells to avoid dry, flaky skin.
- Use pet-friendly ice melts whenever possible.
- Pets burn extra energy by trying to stay warm in wintertime. Feeding your pet a little bit more during the cold weather months can provide much-needed calories; always check with your veterinarian before making dietary changes.
- Make sure your companion animal has a warm place to sleep, off the floor and away from drafts.
- Remember, if it's too cold for you, it's probably too cold for your pet, so keep your animals inside.
- If left outdoors, pets can freeze, become disoriented, lost, stolen, injured, or killed.
- Make sure your pet has a well-fitted collar and identification tags that are up-to-date.
- A pet with a microchip helps ensure a speedy return home.

CERTIFIED SERVICE DOGS WELCOME AT THE CASINOS

While we welcome your service dogs in our facilities, we do ask that pet owners not damage the credibility and need of official service dogs by attempting to sneak pets in under the pretense of an officially certified service animal. Service Dog owners are required to provide proper documentation upon request.





ANIMAL COMMUNICATION



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:

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- 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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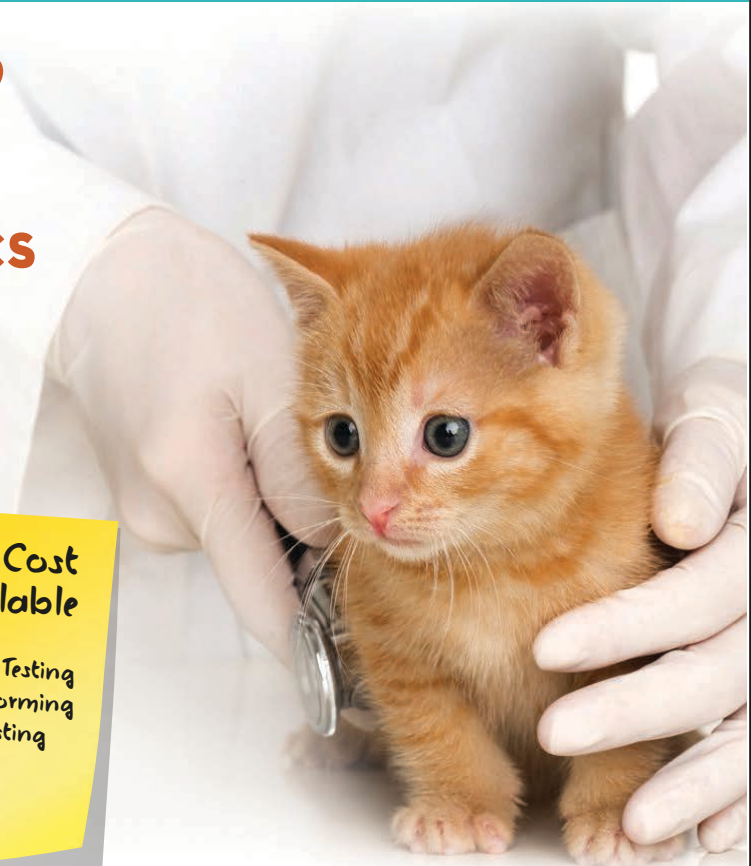


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‘SET SAIL’ FOR THE ARRASTRA MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS

Story and photos by Cheryl Hartz



Joshua trees, unique to the Mohave Desert, form creative shapes in the Arrastra Mountain Wilderness.

You’ve packed away the decorations and exchanged your holiday gifts for things you really want. Now’s the time to exchange cocoa topped with mountains of whipped cream for a ship-shaped mountain, ugly sweaters for a T-shirt, and the yule log for sunblock, because the music in your head is no longer White Christmas—it’s Arizona’s Arrastra Mountain Wilderness singing its siren song.

The Bureau of Land Management administers the 129,800-acre wilderness, established in 1990 in Yavapai, Mohave, and LaPaz counties. In the Mohave Desert bordering the Sonoran Desert, Arrastra’s temperatures are akin to those of Phoenix, making a trip to this wilderness perfect for winter. During a January visit, I rued wearing even a lightweight sweater and jeans.

On maps and during the rainy season, the Santa Maria River runs through Arrastra. But you’re more likely to find a dry and sandy river bed that serves as a wide hiking path through the wilderness along with the many sand washes that cross it. Sans formal trails, the area also abounds with pathways forged by wild burros, cattle, deer and javelina. Without trail markers and signs, just remember to pay close attention to your paths of choice, so you can find your way back. Yavapai Search and Rescue teams keep busy enough rescuing hapless (and clueless) hikers around Sedona!

Some, but not all, entry points into the wilderness require a high-clearance vehicle. Black Canyon Wash is one easy-access point that offers stupendous monumental rock formations. Your objective along

the wash is Shiprock, a monolith that with the tiniest smidgeon of imagination becomes a ghostly galleon that petrified in the middle of the desert. The sheer rock is forbidding, but hikers can reach the “ship’s deck” from the southwest side with determination and without climbing equipment.

Because Shiprock is just beyond the wilderness boundary on state trust land, officially visitors need a permit from the Arizona State Land Department to hike there. Note: a permit isn’t necessary when hunting or fishing on state lands with a valid hunting or fishing license from the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Like as not, you’ll be the only human for miles in this isolated spot.

Cactus varieties here are more numerous – and larger – than what we are used to in most of Yavapai County. Joshua trees, resembling a cross between a palm tree and an agave, twist themselves into serpentine configurations. Giant saguaros tower over yucca, palo verde, cholla, barrel, and prickly pear cactus. Flowers are a nice surprise this time of year.

For your adventure, take State Route 93 to mile marker 163.



A giant saguaro cactus provides nesting opportunities for desert birds.

Pass through the gate and over the cattle guard on a jeep trail and park inside or venture further with a four-wheel drive vehicle. If you stay on the jeep trail, the wilderness boundary is marked just about a mile inside state trust land. From the start of the jeep trail, Shiprock is about a 45-minute hike away, but is visible much sooner. Take plenty of water and pack out what you pack into this pristine wilderness.

Happy balmy winter hiking!



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SMALL BUT MIGHTY, DPS OFFICER DAN BURNS' DOG DUCO HELPS TO KEEP DANGEROUS DRUGS OFF THE INTERSTATES

Story by Heidi Dahms Foster. Photos courtesy Dan Burns.

Department of Public Safety Officer Dan Burns grew up on a ranch in South Dakota, so he has always been familiar with working animals. That familiarity, and his desire to use every tool he can to take dangerous drugs off Arizona's roads, led him to become a DPS K9 officer.

Burns said most DPS K9 officers become handlers for the same reason. They are seasoned troopers who are adept at spotting odd driver behaviors and traffic violations that indicate something is off kilter.

"I started working Interstate 40, and I could find people who were transporting drugs. That got me into wanting a dog. There was a position open in Flagstaff so I interviewed for that," he said.

A DPS officer since 2003, Burns was paired with his first dog, a German Shepherd, in 2010. He worked with that dog for four and a half years before it was retired (and now lives with Burns). He then got Duco, a Belgian Malinois from the Netherlands, from a previous handler who was promoted. Duco is small for a



Duco leaps from his patrol vehicle

Belgian, about 50 lbs., but he makes up in speed and skill what he lacks in size. He's so fast and fierce that one DPS captain dubbed him "Pocket Rocket."

Burns had a little more work to bond with Duco after being so close to his first dog, an outgoing, social animal. Duco is not particularly social, and Burns had to deal with two alpha male dogs, one retired and one working, together in his home. Duco has such a focused work ethic, however, that he won Burns over, and now the two now have a close partnership.

"My first shepherd was social. Duco is not – if another person called him, he probably wouldn't come. But once he's working, he's super. He's controllable, and he's a great drug and patrol dog. He just likes the working atmosphere."

In 2016, Burns said, Duco had two significant finds of half a million dollars in cash when he alerted to drug odor on the money. Currently in tracking training, Duco recently completed a mile-long course in the forest, at which he excelled.

Burns is married with two teen sons at home. The boys have grown up with the dogs and know what behavior is acceptable. "Our retired dog

jumps right in and plays with them. But Duco is focused on working. In a few years when he's retired he'll move in and transition to a pet," Burns said.

Now in the K9 training squad full time, Burns spends most of his time training other handlers' dogs. He spends one day a week in the Phoenix area, training with seven K9/handler teams, some assigned to a gang task force and some to drug interdiction units on Interstate 10. On another day, he works with teams in Northern Arizona, those that work on Interstate 40 and other nearby roadways. A third day is spent working on tracking training with five other teams. On his final workday of the week, he hits the road with Duco – either on Interstate 40 or another area that needs patrol, such as Highway 93 near Wickenburg.

"It depends on where others are working or where I'm asked to go," Burns said.

While most of the current DPS K9s are dual purpose – detecting drugs and serving as patrol dogs, Burns said the agency also is expanding the program to tracking, gang unit, and explosives detection dogs.

"We've been working all the patrol



Duco is fast and fierce

dogs on tracking, and Duco does great at that, too," he said.

As a patrol dog, Duco is trained to find and bite a hiding person who is fleeing from law enforcement. But in his current tracking training, if he's on leash, he can locate and walk up to a person, such as someone who is lost, without biting. Burns said the dog never bites in tracking training, but is rewarded with his toy, like with a narcotics find.

While a K9 handler will obviously have to use great care in tracking a person not involved in criminal activity, such as an Alzheimer's victim or a lost child, the ability to control the dog on leash and track such a person is another tool for an officer whose focus is not only to take criminals off the streets, but also to preserve life.

DPS has 26 K9 teams statewide, up from 15 when Burns started as a handler in 2010. "We've grown. I think right now we're seeing the benefits of the dogs on the Interstates. We've been extremely successful the past five or six years."

In a time when the opioid epidemic has seen illicit and deadly drugs flooding into the state, these K9s are a valuable asset in the fight to take the drugs out of circulation and save countless lives in the process.



Dan Burns and Duco



Dan after tracking run with Duco



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BIG HORSES AND BIGGER HEARTS: SOMETHING TO SALUTE

by Rita Thompson-Tinsley

The Prescott area is home to several rescue programs involving humans and horses.

Heroes & Horses is an equine-assisted learning/therapy program that creates a safe physical and emotional environment for partnership with the equine herd. In a nutshell, they make the equine experience available for many in the underserved population. And who would that be? Unfortunately, the underserved includes our military veterans, many of whom continue to struggle with simple day-to-day life. There are issues with post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as alcohol and substance abuse. These heroes in our community sometimes need a place where they can go to feel safe and to become renewed, to decompressed.

Flashback to over a decade ago when Recovery Life Coach, Equine Assisted Facilitator Ann Balowski was searching for a facility for such an operation. Ann became acquainted with Cherie MacKenzie who just happens to be proprietor of Big Horse Ranch.



Recovery Life Coach Ann Balowski

There's a big reason it's called BIG. Many of the rescue horses are drafts or just really big horses. Cherie's rescues all have a story, and they are documented in succinct detail.

The story of Big, the horse (condensed): "When I arrived in Prescott, I was pregnant and huge. I came by semi truck with 23 other pregnant mares. We were all going to slaughter with our babies still inside us. My mom and friends raised over \$20,000. to save us and bring us from the PMU farm in Canada. I was 9 and had already given birth to 7



Big, happy at home

babies who were slaughtered at the age of 3 months. I made it to Prescott and was able to give birth at a nice friendly ranch with people who cared about me. As my mom watched me get off the truck, she instantly fell in love. I have many trust issues, and I am very shy due to my past, but I am so much better since I came to Big Horse Ranch."

PMU is an acronym for Pregnant Mare Urine. The hormones in the urine are used to manufacture Hormone Replacement Therapy products for women. Highly controversial, it is commonly known that the treatment of horses at these PMU farms is indeed less than humane.

So, why horses for heroes? In many cases, the individual can see themselves mirrored in the struggles and fears of the horse that they become acquainted with. Andrea Walker is the Equestrian Specialist for Heroes & Horses and is E.A.G.A.L.A. Certified (Equine Assisted Growth And Learning Association,) plus she's received training with E.A.G.A.L.A. founder Greg Kersten's O.K. Corral Services. Both programs are considered the apex of equine therapies. Andrea explained to me the 'pack-to-herd' mentality. "Understanding and observing the herd dynamic provides our heroes with an intimate look into how a healthy family might operate.

Horses possess herd dynamics such as pushing, kicking, biting, squealing,



Equine Specialist Andrea Walker

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy uses the horse as a tool for the ones needing therapy to gain self-understanding and emotional growth. Generally the horses are not ridden, and not tethered, but allowed to roam free in the area. Learning to trust an animal such as a horse is beneficial in the development of trust for these heroes who may have been violated by difficult life experiences.

Heroes & Horses is highly recommended by a variety of veteran support groups. It is not only recommended, but successfully implemented by our heroes participating in what is called Veterans Court. Realizing the profound issues many of our local veterans are facing, the 12-month Veterans Court program was motivated by a professional that is truly an expert on being able to recognize a true need in our community.

Yavapai County Presiding Judge David Mackey, experiencing the frequency of visits many of our vets were making to his courtroom on serious offenses, fiercely spearheaded this community program that is fundamentally geared to change the lives of those American patriots in need. Not a simple process, it entailed also the leadership of Deputy Adult Probation Officer Allen Morris to do research and pave the way. Walt Lynn of the Prescott Disabled American Veterans

grooming one another, and grazing together. Our heroes can compare these interactions and contrast them with their own family dynamics."

Chapter 16's efforts and endeavors have been invaluable and exceedingly powerful. The integral purpose of Veterans Court is to ensure that each veteran receives the structure, treatment, and compassion needed to get their lives back on track, while maintaining a work schedule to continue providing for their families.

I was honored to be present at a graduation of Heroes & Horses involving a handful of veteran participants. Judge Mackey and Deputy Morris were also in attendance, as well as DAV's Walt Lynn and Equestrian Specialist Andrea Walker who led the event with insightful aplomb. Each participant introduced "their horse" (the horse they have spent time bonding with and taking care of). As participant #1 described his big draft horse, he explained the important revelations that had become ultimately significant. His horse had an issue with biting. Although the horse had never bitten him, he realized and reported just what he had gleaned from this bonding experience. He learned that it is ok to be assertive without being aggressive. This giant horse would rarely relent to letting anyone pick up his foot. But this participant was found to be successful in this challenge. It was a remarkable triumph that all would celebrate.

The incomparable relationship between heroes and horses is certainly something to celebrate, along with the successes that it continues to bring to fruition. Salute.



Draft Horse Peter with his Veterans' Court participant



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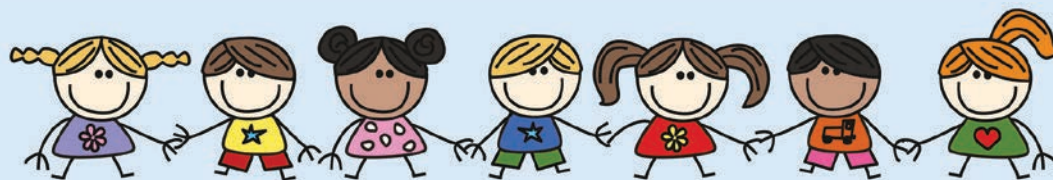
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Prescott - 711 Elrod, (928) 445-1664
Chino Valley - Hwy 89, (928) 636-2321
Dewey - Hwy 69, (928) 632-5233

Tractor Supply Co
TractorSupply.com
Prescott - 3301 Willow Creek Rd
(928) 778-0942
Prescott Valley - 8740 E Eastridge Dr
(928) 772-5579,

Warren's Hay - N - More
2295 S. Hwy 89, Chino Valley
(928) 636-1303

Weather King (928) 636-2506
1962 AZ-89, Chino Valley
aweatherkingonline.com

TRAINING

Piñon Meadows Boarding & Training
5000 West Road 2 South, Prescott
(928) 717-9885 • Cell (928) 821-1453

VETERINARIANS

Prescott Animal Hospital & Equine Ctr
2611 Avenger Rd, Prescott
(928) 776-7669, prescottvets.com

Harmony Holistic Veterinary Care
Delia McDonald, DMV, Tammy Pauletto,
DMV, and Roxanne Batt, DMV
919 12th Place, Suite #6, Prescott
(928) 445-7499 harmonyvetcare.com

Premier Pet Hospital
3322 N Glassford Hill Rd,
Prescott Valley, (928) 460-4211
premierpethospital.com

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(928) 445-7321
1001 White Spar Rd., Prescott

Comfort Inn
(928) 778-5770
1290 White Spar Rd, Prescott

Motel 6 - RV
(928) 776-0160
1111 E. Sheldon St., Prescott

Wyndham Garden Hotel
4499 Highway 69, Prescott
(928) 777-0770

REAL ESTATE

Wendi Roudybush, Associate Broker
Garden Brook Realty, (928) 713-5136
520 W. Sheldon, Prescott
www.Wendi.Realtor

Home Smart
Elizabeth Kennedy, (928) 632-3100
lizkrealstate@gmail.com

RESTAURANTS

Barley Hound (928) 237-4506
234 S. Cortez St., Prescott

Cupper's
226 S. Cortez St., Prescott
(928) 445-1636
258 Lee Blvd., Prescott
(928) 515-2446

Jaime's Waffle Express
3050 Windsong Dr., Prescott Valley
(928) 772-3131

Leff-T's Steakhouse & Grill
150 S. State Route 69 #12, Dewey
(928) 632-1388

Waffles N' More
1365 W. Iron Springs Rd.
Prescott, (928) 778-3039

Wildflower Bread Company
Prescott Gateway Mall
3250 Gateway Blvd., (928) 717-1700

AUTOMOTIVE / RV

Autoworks
8572 E. Eastridge Dr., (928) 775-3332
autoworksserviceandrepair.com

Findlay Subaru Prescott
3230 Willow Creek Rd, Prescott
(928) 771-6900
findlaysubaru Prescott.com

Little Dealer/Little Prices
2757 N Truwood Dr., Prescott Valley
(928) 350-240, littledealer.com

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Holly Lorette
Master Stylist, Master Colorist
537 6th Street, Prescott
(928) 460-3349

Liberty Mutual Insurance
Adam England, Agent, (928) 642-0073
Adam.England@LibertyMutual.com

Seeing Hands Therapeutic Massage
Kevin Rusco, Massage Therapist,
AZ License #MT22788, (928) 301-4309

TriAlpha7 - My Health Etc.
Organic Hemp CBD Products
www.myhealthetc.com
(928) 776-0944 or 1-844-779-2200

SHOPPING

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7211 E 1st St., (928) 772-8111

Clothes Hound
122 S. Montezuma, Prescott
(928) 771-0811

Cortez Street Emporium
113-115 N Cortez Street, Prescott
(928) 541-0077

Home Depot
Prescott Valley - 5500 E. St. Route 69
(928) 771-8467

Prescott - 1941 E. Hwy 69
(928) 777-2400

Lowe's
2300 E. St. Route 69, Prescott
(928) 541-8640

N.O.A.H. Thrift Store
603 S. Granite St, Prescott
(928) 708-0545

Oma's Haven Resale Store
8933 Florentine Rd, Prescott Valley
(928) 632-5638

Prescott Super Pawn
703 E. Gurley St., Prescott,
(928) 776-4653

Prestige Security Doors
600 E. Sheldon St., Prescott
(928) 541-7900,
Prestige Security Doors.com

TimberWoof Pet Boutique
Bashford Courts Atrium
130 W Gurley Street, Prescott
(928) 443-9663

Totally Floored
2710 N. Glassford Hill Rd.,
Prescott Valley 928-445-4650

Yavapai Humane Society Thrift Store
1601 Iron Springs Rd, Prescott
(928) 445-5668

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