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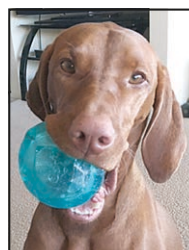


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## PUBLISHER/OWNER

Cherie L Dreves

## ADVERTISING

Call (928) 445-4811

Cherie@reddogpublishing.net

## CONTRIBUTORS

### Front Cover Photo – A Portrait Park By J



Heidi Dahms Foster  
Editor/Writer

Cheryl Hartz  
On The Trail



Ginny Jablonski  
Contributor

Skye Lyons  
Rescue Editor



Rita Thompson-Tinsley  
Equine Contributor



## PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

Cherie L. Dreves – Publisher/Owner

PO Box 11868, Prescott AZ 86304 • (928) 445-4811

info@reddogpublishing.net

Website: PrescottDog.com • Facebook: ThePrescottDog

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## Our Cover Dog: Poppy



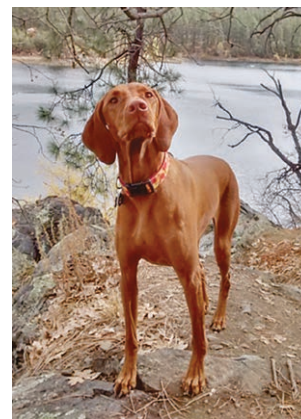
**Name:** Poppy

**Age:** 5 years old

**Hometown:** Chicago area. I moved to Prescott when I was eight months old. It was a long drive, but worth it!

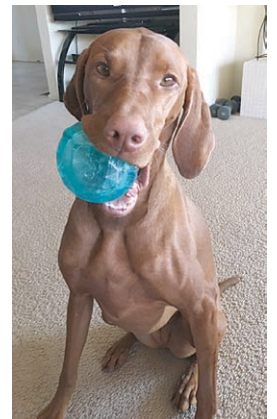
**Favorite Brand of Kibble:** I'm currently eating Instinct Natural Real Salmon and Brown Rice dry kibble. I like it. I like pretty much everything.

**Favorite Toy:** I enjoy tennis balls and every kind of squeaky ball.



### Favorite Outdoor Activity:

I love hiking the great trails of Prescott. I've met so many nice dogs and people out there too.



**Favorite Indoor Activity:** Looking out the window for lizards so I can go back outside and chase them. It's an obsession.

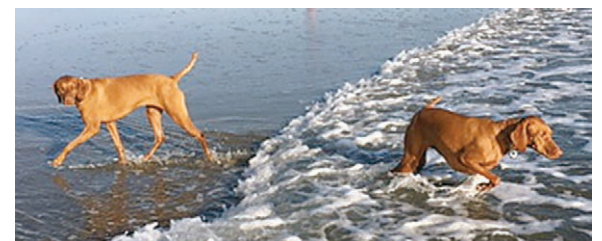
**Favorite Nap Spot:** I usually nap in my bed which is on my mom's bed. She thinks there needs to be limits. Lol. It's the same bed I've had since I was a puppy. And, yes, I can still fit in it.

### Perfect Canine

**Pet:** Scarlett is my BFF. She's a vizsla too and also five years old. (I'm older by a few days.)

We're like sis-

ters and even go on vacation together. I also like to be a foster sister to the nice dogs that United Animal Friends rescues.



**Perfect Day:** My perfect day is every day. Sleep in. Cuddle with my mom while she drinks her coffee. Breakfast. Two-hour hike. Return home for some lizard hunting (I switch to chipmunks in the winter). A light lunch. Nap. Playtime. Dinner. Snuggles with my mom. Bed. Repeat. Every. Single. Day. Hey, I'm not complaining.





# HAZEL HOWLS

## Seasonal Musings

I got this question awhile ago and wanted to save it for this time of year.

Dear Hazel Bazel Rocket Dog,

*I was wondering, how do you know when your birthday is if you were a stray rescue dog from the Rez? And, do you wear costumes and dress up like my puppy Wiggles does?*

Barbara Millicent Breedlove (Age 10)

Well Babs, (if I may call you that), I will answer your queries in reverse order. The only "dress up" I've encountered being pulled uncomfortably over my head were sweaters or t-shirts to ward off the cold when I was on the road with Dad.

I did have a really swank red and black felt-like cape wrap thingy that made me look like a superhero dog. Unfortunately, my middle kind of outgrew it, and it was given to one of the foster dogs that have passed through here. Now that I think about it, Babs, I think I know what I want for my birthday.

As far as all-out costume wearing, it just doesn't seem appropriate for a dog of my stature and responsibilities to be covered in bling while I use my vocal skills to enforce the boundaries of my backyard.

Now Tucker, on the other hand, has occasionally been bedecked with wigs, sunglasses, and a babushka. He didn't appear to enjoy it very much, but he is so devoted to Mom he endured it. He didn't have to wear that stuff in public (which is where I believe he would have drawn the line), but he was patient enough to have some photographs taken. If I remember right, Tucker made extended appeals to Mom to never use the babushka picture in any of the magazines.

As to the birthday question (one of my favorite subjects), I have to give credit where credit is due.

The day after my rescue, and the journey to my new home, I was taken by my new Mom to what I felt was a very scary place.

We entered a funny smelling building where I could sense anxious animals hidden away in other rooms. We went from a large room with a smiling lady to a small cubicle of a room and I really didn't like it in there. A door opened, and in walked a man in a white coat. He scooped me up and sat on the floor with me, and I felt very loved and valued in his hands. He thoroughly checked me over and declared me



healthy, with the exception of being fairly malnourished, but that was resolved quickly.

After all the poking and prodding that ensued, Mom asked the man in the white coat how old he thought I was, and he gave me a very long look. He handed me back to Mom and said, "She's about nine weeks old, which would put her birth around December 27th." I didn't know it at the time, but the man in the white coat did me a great favor by not putting my birthday on the 25th.

A fair amount of time went by before I realized the significance of Christmas and my birthday. I hadn't experienced autumn yet and its holiday season. It had been my first in a series of long hot summers, and when the cool breezes came, I felt energized. The two-legged food smells were more varied, and their clothing became softer and fluffier and that made everything a bit more cozy. Back then, Dad got a swath of time off in December after our mad dash to deliver all the Christmas goodies to the Reservations in the southwest. I fell in love with this holiday season.

One day, an odorless tree was dragged out of its box, and Mom and Dad hung a bunch of little things on it. I was admonished very sternly to leave the tree alone. I could tell that the tree meant a lot to Dad, and you can really see that when Mom declares it's time to take it down.

Back then, my packmate was Bella the bulldog. She was an old hand at all this holiday stuff, and she was the one that let me know we were going to get "stuff" on Christmas day. I liked wondering what that might mean.

When that day arrived, I can't even describe all the wonder and amazement I felt. The two-leggeds were tearing open boxes covered in paper and ribbons, and piles of paper were all

over the floor for me to run through. I thought my life could never get any better.

Then Bella and I got our own boxes. I could smell the chew stick's scent through the wrapping, but Dad had also put a toy in with it. A stuffed shark! He remembered! Dad had accidentally left my original one in a hotel in Gallup, and I knew it was lost forever. Now I had a new one, and this one had all its fins and still had its nose. How awesome is that!

For dinner that night I learned how to take bites of pumpkin pie off of a fork and whipped cream off of a spoon. Bella missed her first try at the cream and got it above her nose and between her eyes. Try as she might to "mlerm, mlerm" it off her nose with her short tongue, she couldn't quite reach it. Mom had to chase her around the kitchen island while Bella's tongue mlermed in every direction, missing its mark.

If all that festivity wasn't enough, two days later and out of nowhere, Mom and Dad called me into the kitchen and sang a short song to me while I devoured a cupcake they gave me. They gave a cupcake to Bella too, but they didn't sing to her. What was this all about? Then Mom reached into a colorful bag and gave me more new toys.

"Congratulations Hazel, you're a year old," she said, patting me on the head and giving me a light squeeze.

I looked over at Bella trying to figure out what all this meant.

"It's your birthday, goofy," she muttered, scooping up one of my toys and trotting to the bedroom. Well, I guess birthdays are for sharing.

That first Holiday season was very special and magical for me. Having a birthday two days later makes it double-good. When we were still on the road, I thought about that first Christmas season now and then when Dad and I were enduring the high-elevation bleak and windy winter months. Having my shark was a comfort, too.

Now looking back and being seven years older, I know it's not all about getting stuff. It's about the love that's shared in the pack. We are loyal and patient with each other, quick to encourage, ready to forgive...those are the lasting gifts. That's how we wag in tough seasons that don't feel like Christmas.

Happy (and Healing) Holidays, Goodwill and Peace to All with Child-Like Hearts,

~Hazel Bazel Rocket Dog

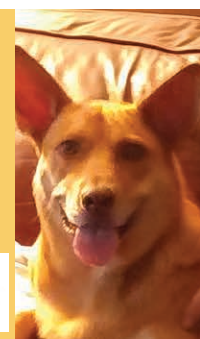


# HAZEL HOWLS

FROM REZ DOG TO SPOKES DOG READ HAZEL'S LIFE ADVENTURES  
A COMPILATION OF HER FIRST 5 YEARS CONTRIBUTING  
TO THE PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

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# We Need You



# Yavapai COUNTY Food Bank

Help **REPLENISH OUR SHELVES** For (and **AFTER**) the Holidays!

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

**FLYING HIGH TURKEY DRIVE**

At **Fry's Food Stores in Prescott & Prescott Valley**

**Monday: Noon to 6 p.m.**



More people than ever before are turning to the food bank for help because everyone needs to eat all year long. We serve approximately 650 families a week, who depend on the food bank for a weekly food box. Thanksgiving is when we all look around and count our blessings. Help those in need to be extra thankful this year with a wonderful table set with all the trimmings.

For more information, or to volunteer, please contact Lynn at (928) 499-8857.

**THANK YOU!**

**EVEN ONE ITEM OFF THIS LIST CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE — IT ALL ADDS UP!**

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY FOOD  
ITEMS STILL NEEDED**

1. Turkeys
2. Hams
3. Whole Chickens
4. Stuffing
5. Potatoes (Boxed or Fresh)
6. Cranberries
7. Fresh or Frozen Pies
8. Yams or Sweet Potatoes
9. Brown Sugar
10. White Sugar
11. Jello
12. Margarine
13. Eggs
14. Black Olives
15. Pickles
16. Broth

17. Gravy
18. Dessert Boxed Mixes
19. Marshmallows
20. Milk (Canned & Powder)

**YEAR 'ROUND FOOD ITEMS  
ALWAYS NEEDED**

1. Canned Vegetables
  - a. Corn
  - b. Green Beans
  - c. Peas
  - d. Mixed Vegetables
  - e. Pork & Beans or Other
2. Canned Fruit
  - a. Peaches
  - b. Pears
  - c. Apricots
  - d. Pineapple
  - e. Fruit Cocktail

3. Fruit Juice
4. Soups & Stews
5. Dried Pasta or Canned
  - a. Plain
  - b. Mac 'n Cheese
  - c. Canned Spaghetti O's or Similar
  - d. Canned Ravioli & Meat or Similar
6. Spaghetti & Sauce
7. Rice
8. Beans
9. Cold Cereals
10. Crackers (All Kinds)
11. Boxed Meals
12. Canned Tuna
13. Canned Meat
14. Peanut Butter



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*Events are subject to change. Please contact the event sponsor to confirm date and details.*

**ONGOING EVENTS**

**UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS**

If you want to volunteer or learn more about United Animal Friends, visit [unitedanimalfriends.org](http://unitedanimalfriends.org) or call (928) 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 Sat of every month at the YHS Thrift Store, 1601 Iron Springs Road, Prescott. Open Mon - Sat, 9a-5p.
- Walk-In Vaccine Clinic every Sat, 8a-4p at YHS Spay/Neuter & Wellness Clinic, 2889 Centerpointe East, Prescott. No appointment necessary. First come, first serve for low-cost vaccinations. Info: [yavapaihumane.org](http://yavapaihumane.org)

- Low-Cost Feral Fixes: Wed, Thu, Fri 7:15a - 5p at YHS Spay/Neuter and Wellness Clinic, 2889 Centerpointe East, Prescott by appt. only. (928) 771-0547 for appt.

**ONGOING ADOPTIONS**

**AARF ANIMAL RESCUE & SANCTUARY**

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

**CATTY SHACK - CAT ADOPTIONS**

Onsite: Tues thru Sat 10am-2p, 609 S. Granite St., Prescott. [ssnsmart@yahoo.com](mailto:ssnsmart@yahoo.com)

**CIRCLE L RANCH ADOPTIONS**

On-site by appt. Please check website for off-site info. (928) 273-7005, [CircleL.org](http://CircleL.org)

**GREYHOUND PETS OF ARIZONA**

Petsmart, 4th Sat of each month 1:30p

**MISS KITTY'S CAT HOUSE**

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

**UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS**

- Info: [unitedanimalfriends.org](http://unitedanimalfriends.org)
- Cat Adoptions: Petco (Hwy 69, Prescott), Daily 9a-10:30a & 4p-5:30p.
  - Dog Adoptions: Petco (Hwy 69): Sat 11a-2p; Sun 12p-3p; Whiskers Barkery (225 W Gurley St, Prescott) 1st two Sat 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: Mon-Sat 11a-6p; Sun 12p-4pm

**NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS**

**HERITAGE PARK ZOO - WILDLIGHTS AND ANIMAL SIGHTS: HOLIDAY LIGHT DISPLAY**

Every Fri & Sat from Nov 27, 2020 to Jan 2, 2021, 6pm-9pm. Holiday decorations, music, light displays. Light concessions including hot cocoa & coffee. Admission: \$5 HPZS Members; \$8 Non-Members.

**PETEY'S PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISER:**

**HOLIDAY IN-HOME TRIVIA GAME**

Extended thru end of 2020. Door prizes delivered, Prescott to Wickenburg. DVDs & answer sheets: Muleshoe Animal Clinic; Kim (918)713-1375; Donna at [donnaerwinscott@gmail.com](mailto:donnaerwinscott@gmail.com).

**PETEY'S PLAYGROUND FISH DINNER**

Nov 7, Yarnell Regional Community Center. Shrimp pickup only. \$20 per person. Tickets: Kim (918) 713-1375; Jane (928) 671-0110. Info: [peteysplayground.org](http://peteysplayground.org)

**WILD ROSE HORSE OBSTACLE CONTESTS**

Nov 20-22. Benefits Bethany's Gait. Rancho Rio Bonita Ranch, Morristown, Info: Gary (928) 595-0428.

**Rescue Resources**

For an expanded view of Rescue Resources, visit [PrescottDog.com](http://PrescottDog.com)

**AARF ANIMAL RESCUE AND SANCTUARY**

6639 S. Country Road, Mayer  
(928) 925-7219, [aarfrescue.org](http://aarfrescue.org)

**CHINO VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER**

1950 Voss Drive, Chino Valley  
(928) 636-4223, Facebook: [cvalanimalshelter](https://www.facebook.com/cvanimalshelter)

**UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS**

Prescott, Arizona  
(928) 778-2924, [UnitedAnimalFriends.org](http://UnitedAnimalFriends.org)

**ARK CAT SANCTUARY**

Parks, Arizona  
(928) 635-5909, [arkcatsanctuary.org](http://arkcatsanctuary.org)

**CIRCLE L RANCH ANIMAL RESCUE**

8550 E Smitty's Place, Prescott Valley  
7680 N Coyote Springs, Prescott Valley  
(928) 273-7005, [circlel.org](http://circlel.org)

**VERDE VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY**

1520 W. Mingus Ave, Cottonwood  
(928) 634-7387, [VerdeValleyHumaneSociety.org](http://VerdeValleyHumaneSociety.org)

**BETHANY'S GAIT RANCH**

Prescott, Arizona  
(928) 499-9442, [bethanysgait.org](http://bethanysgait.org)

**MISS KITTY'S CAT HOUSE**

302 N Alarcon St, Prescott  
(928) 445-5411, Facebook: [Miss-Kittys-Cat-House](https://www.facebook.com/Miss-Kittys-Cat-House)

**HUMANE SOCIETY OF WICKENBURG**

4000 Industrial Rd, Wickenburg  
(928) 684-8801, [wickenburghumane.com](http://wickenburghumane.com)

**BLUE MOON RESCUE AND SANCTUARY**

1851 E Perkinsville Rd, Chino Valley  
(928) 925-7724, [bluemoonrescue.org](http://bluemoonrescue.org)

**NOW THAT I'M SAFE EQUINE RESCUE**

Chino Valley, Arizona, (951) 233-1318  
[nowthatimsafe.org](http://nowthatimsafe.org), Facebook: [nowthatimsafeequinerescue](https://www.facebook.com/nowthatimsafeequinerescue)

**YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY**

Multiple locations. Please visit website for info.  
(928) 445-2666, [yavapaihumane.org](http://yavapaihumane.org)

**CATTY SHACK RESCUE**

609 S. Granite Street, Prescott  
(928) 778-6951, [cattyshackrescue.org](http://cattyshackrescue.org)

**PETEY'S PLAYGROUND**

Yarnell, Arizona  
(928) 713-1375, [peteysplayground.org](http://peteysplayground.org)

**YAVAPAI HUMANE TRAPPERS ANIMAL SEARCH & RESCUE**

Prescott, Arizona  
Facebook: [YavapaiHumaneTrappersAnimalSearchandRescue](https://www.facebook.com/YavapaiHumaneTrappersAnimalSearchandRescue)



**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

**ANIMAL DISASTER SERVICES**  
Shelter for animals in the event of a disaster.  
(928) 925-7990 • [animaldisasterservices.com](http://animaldisasterservices.com)

**EQUINE EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF YAVAPAI COUNTY**

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DOG  
MAGAZINE**



**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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**The Pet Chapel**

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*A place of healing, love, and remembrance*

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION**

Please join us for The Pet Chapel's first annual

*Remembrance Celebration*

Sunday January 24th from 4 to 6pm at Healing River Ranch in Camp Verde, AZ.

Through a candlelight ceremony and blessing we will pay tribute to all the animal family members of our attendees that have passed away.

We will also share in a special acknowledgement to those who have passed anonymously or unloved.

The ceremony will be officiated by Song Bird Grand Mother. Song Bird is a Medicine Woman, Shaman, Medium and Keeper of the ancient flame. With over 20 years in the healing arts, she has traveled the world sharing sacred messages and transformational healing.

Refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Please RSVP by Saturday January 16th to [carrie@animalguardiannetwork.org](mailto:carrie@animalguardiannetwork.org). Due to limited space, event information and address will be provided at time of RSVP.

*This is a very special and sacred event you won't want to miss.  
Hosted by Animal Guardian Network.*



Founded in 2009, Animal Guardian Network is a 501(c)(3) non-profit animal sanctuary that provides skilled life-long care for senior, special needs and hospice animals.

501(c)(3) charitable organization TIN 26-3216234  
Direct: 602-568-5636 [www.animalguardiannetwork.org](http://www.animalguardiannetwork.org)



# ANIMAL RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS: PASSIONATE, CREATIVE, AND DEDICATED

By Heidi Dahms Foster

Yavapai County rescue organizations meet specific needs, but they also know how to work together to help the animals that cannot help themselves.

## Petey's Playground



Kim Lytle of Petey's Playground.

When Kim Lytle moved to the outskirts of Yarnell in 2010, she soon became aware that some seniors in the remote, rural area would refuse to go to the hospital rather than leave their pets without care. The need for a solution was evident, with volunteer firefighters out of compassion sometimes bringing the pets to the fire station. That's how Petey's Playground was born. The rescue provides peace of mind to many seniors, some whose pets are their only companions.

"Basically our mission is to provide free temporary foster care for animals while seniors address their own medical needs," Lytle said. "But I found interacting with clients that there was so much more to helping preserve their relationship with their pet than just temporary foster care. Many were not computer savvy and couldn't get their pets licensed, and many could not afford basic medical care."

Especially in the current Covid crisis, some seniors' only companion is their pet. "Some would like to have a pet, but cannot go to shelters, or figure out how to navigate the adoption process. A lot of people would get the wrong kind of pet because it's the only one they could get, or they went without," she said.

"Now we have four or five different focuses related to seniors and pets in remote areas," Lytle

said. Petey's Playground serves the Congress and Wickenburg areas up to Skull Valley and Wilhoit and everything in between in a 50-mile radius.

Lytle has a heart for seniors who are alone. She gets many calls from those who have been denied to adopt a pet because they are older. "That relationship with a pet is most important for people who live by themselves. People's lives change because they have a pet to share their home with, to pay attention to and care for."

When Lytle is able to place a dog, or she meets a senior who needs help with their pet, the group's volunteers will step in to help meet the needs of vet visits, licensing and more. Elderly people can enjoy the companionship of the animals without worrying that they won't be able to care for them, especially if they need to stay in the hospital, or if they leave a pet behind.

Petey's Playground has been successful in taking in and rehoming pets that seniors can no longer care for because they have to go into assisted living or move in with family. They know their beloved pet will be cared for.

"It's so rewarding just seeing these seniors' lives brightened, and to provide that relationship especially when the person thought they were too old for it or would never have another pet. The oldest person I placed a dog with was my 95-year-old mom. An owner had given up a little 7-year-old poodle and I placed it with her. It was incredible. She talked about the dog all the time. When my mom died, the poodle did not leave her bed until she was gone. It reinforced all I knew. It's based on ability – we don't eliminate you being able to care for an animal because of age," Lytle said.

Petey's Playground uses senior hospice fosters who are physically capable of caring for an animal but who can't afford costs for medications. These animals have specific needs, and the rescue helps with those. "They can give a healthy home to a dog or cat who would otherwise die in a shelter," Lytle said.

Two years ago, Petey's Playground purchased a rundown building in downtown Yarnell to centralize operations in the far-flung area. "I'm operating out of my home in the sticks, and it's difficult for people to be able to visit. It's time to move into a commercial building. We've used volunteer labor to renovate, and we're almost

to the point where we can get a matching grant to finish the building. We figure we need \$30,000 to finish, and half of that is the matching grant. Then we can begin to serve clients from a central location," Lytle said.

For more information about Petey's Playground, visit [peteysplayground.org](http://peteysplayground.org), or email [peteysplayground@gmail.com](mailto:peteysplayground@gmail.com).

## Yavapai Humane Trappers

Yavapai Humane Trappers has a reputation in the greater Yavapai County area for being able to do the impossible to trap lost, abandoned and hurt animals and either return them to grateful owners or get them to rehabilitative care and find good homes for them. The stories are heartwarming – dogs who ran scared from car accidents or who got loose when fences came down returned home, and recently, an injured horse abandoned in the Mayer area that was corralled and is now in rehabilitative care.

The organization has expanded to meet needs that have become apparent during trapping activities – adding adoptions and foster care to its services. Founder Katrina Karr now handles most of the trapping side of the rescue, traveling throughout the county day and night to help lost and injured animals. Dawn Gonzales handles fosters and adoptions. YHT has a board and an army of willing volunteers, said board advisor Toby Frost.

During the Covid pandemic, the all-volunteer group collected more than 4,000 lbs. of dog and cat food through individuals and businesses such as Tractor Supply, Home Depot and Olsen's Grain. Penske Truck Rental in Prescott Valley donated a truck to deliver the supplies to the hard-hit Navajo reservation. Other organizations – Yavapai and High Country Humane Societies, helped to support a number of dogs and puppies that were brought back from a reservation trip.

When two men in early October found an injured, unbranded horse outside of Mayer, they called for help. Karr and her volunteers went to investigate, and found the horse was thin, had a hoof disease called founder, and could barely walk. Kind people volunteered a trailer, but the horse, in pain, wanted no part of loading. It took several hours and a lot of patient volunteers, but they finally got "Flapjack," as he was later named, into the trailer and delivered to Melanie Underwood's home,



where the founder of the Lost Pets of Northern Arizona Facebook page is already fostering a foal that was abandoned on the Navajo reservation some months ago. Flapjack was found to be a young horse, and while needing continued hoof and vet care, now has the opportunity for a healthy life.



Robert Moya and Nathan Infurna found an injured, abandoned horse and knew he needed help. They assisted in getting Yavapai Humane Trappers involved and 'Flapjack' is now being cared for.

One of the most heartwarming rescues YHT did in the past year was to help an ailing veteran place 40 puppies and a large number of adult dogs from his property near Peach Springs. The grateful man had used his military pension to feed and water the animals on his 40-acre property, putting off his own care to put the animals first. YHT, with the help of others such as the Yavapai Humane Society, worked to get the dogs and puppies into care, spay and neuter them and find homes. Such stories are endless with YHT.

Yavapai Humane Trappers' service area is primarily Yavapai County, with similar groups functioning in the Phoenix, Verde Valley and Flagstaff. Frost said YHT is a truly foster based rescue. Puppies stay with foster volunteers until they have had two vaccines, and are adopted on a mandatory spay/neuter contract. The group carefully tracks the pups to make sure their new owners follow through.

The group always needs financial support for equipment, supplies and especially vet bills. "We take the animals others hesitate to take. The vets give us a discount, and we have someone working on grants. We always can use collars and leashes," Frost said. More foster homes are always needed.

To read more about Yavapai Humane Trappers and their miraculous rescue of Titan, logon to [prescottdog.com](http://prescottdog.com).

Find more information on Yavapai Humane Trappers on their Facebook page. Donate at:

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
Animal Search and Rescue  
PO Box 12184  
Prescott, AZ 86304

Their PayPal link is at [paypal.me/YHTASR](http://paypal.me/YHTASR).

### Big Luck Club



Tanell Lee and friend, from Big Luck Club.

About a year ago, Tanell Lee picked up a copy of Flagstaff/Sedona dog, and read articles by Jacqueline Vaughn about the overwhelming problems with stray dogs and cats on the Navajo reservation.

"It was an eye opener for me, and from those articles and doing more digging, I found that a number of small groups are in the ball game trying to deal with the problem. I decided to jump in the game to educate people more about what's going on there," Lee said.

The problem on the reservation is huge, Lee said, and it has been going on for many years. "The reservation covers 27,000 square miles,

the per capita income is \$7,800 annually, and the poverty rate is 38 percent. Many homes have no running water, and it takes an average of 24 miles travel one way to get food. It's hard for people get care for their animals, to get them spayed and neutered."

Because people cannot get their animals altered, they end up wandering and keep reproducing, becoming a public health hazard. Animal Control on the Navajo Nation consists of five officers who spend more than 80 percent of their time dealing with bites. "It's not true animal control, it's having to investigate packs of dogs or bites. These are ugly situations, and hazardous to people," Lee said.

Big Luck Club's focus is to help move animals off the reservation to better situations. Lee arranges for transport, puts together events where people can bring the unwanted puppies and dogs for adoption, and educates rescue groups about the need. Covid-19, which hit the reservation inordinately hard, has made the situation worse. "Since Covid, I've focused on pulling dogs out of the animal control facilities on the reservation. They are rounded up and put all together at the shelter, and then euthanized. That's how the name came about, when someone commented that the dogs I pulled from the shelter were the lucky ones."

Lee works with other rescues to find creative ways to help solve the dilemma. "There's lots of opportunity," she said. "The dogs are everywhere."

She doesn't keep a large number of dogs herself, but she always has one or two that are with her for long term rehabilitation, socialization, obedience and learning to live in a home. Mostly, she works to shed light on how big the need is on the reservation. "My genuine focus is to put together a plan that makes sense and convinces big donors to get into the game. Like everyone else, I'm self-funding and relying on friends and family for vet bills, because the dogs I keep tend to be medical issues."

Contact Big Luck Club through email at [bigluckclub@gmail.com](mailto:bigluckclub@gmail.com). Visit their Facebook page and check out the website at: [bigluckclub.org](http://bigluckclub.org).

Their website has a link to donate.



# PREMIER PET HOSPITAL

"Your other family doctor"

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Dr. Gordon Vergason, DVM  
Owner



## AARF Celebrating Our Moms & Families



When an anonymous donor requested AARF build a house specifically for moms and their puppies, we were thrilled and grateful. It had been in our master plan but we thought it would have to take a back seat to other projects.

Our amazing staff and volunteers quickly developed a design, and early one morning on August 15, 2019 concrete was poured and this dream soon became a reality. Two private rooms, each with large exercise yards, and a private "get away" break area for moms.

Known as "Big Sandy's Puppy Palace," our first residents arrived rather unexpectedly in August when AARF got a call from a family desperate to find a safe place for one of their dogs and her puppies. The Palace was not quite ready, but of course we took in Oreo and her seven-week-old babies). Oreo was a very friendly, devoted mom with happy energy.

Christine, one of our talented volunteers, thought the house needed a better identity so she painted a beautiful mural depicting Oreo and our first actual family. This house has rarely



been empty!

Soon after, we took in six puppies with no mom. All our moms have been super-sweet, and all have found well-deserved wonderful forever-homes. Each came with their own story, but life began here: Past lives, past moms and now, someone's special friend. Makes us all so happy.

Rescuing is incredibly satisfying, but the miracle of nurturing, socializing and finding wonderful homes is the ultimate outcome. As hard as it often is to let go, we've been blessed to share them with folks who love them.

We regret that we're unable to meet some of the moms and offer spay assistance. It is so important to spay and neuter your pets because as adorable as puppies are, there are far too many to guarantee safety and loving homes.

Please find the rest of the story on the web at [PrescottDog.com](http://PrescottDog.com).

## Animal Disaster Services

We are an emergency/disaster shelter for pets (excluding horses) during an emergency or disaster. During an emergency, we set up next to American Red Cross Shelter so you can bring you pet with you should you have to evacuate your home.

Hopefully, you will not need to ever evacuate. However, are you prepared if you do need to? Arizona's fire season can be volatile and destructive moving so fast leaving little time to escape.

We are always looking for volunteers that want to help our fur-babies keep safe during evacuations. If you are interested, please call Lynn at 928-499-8857.

We try to educate pet owners on how to put together an emergency bag for their pets, so they can grab & go. It should include:

- Leash & collar
- Cage or carrier
- Food for a minimum of 3 days
- Feeding/watering bowls
- Any medications
- Toy or blanket

## Petey's Playground

### Trivia 2020 Extended

I know we originally published a September 30th end date for Trivia, but then we decided WHY END IT? People are getting together for the holidays or just for any reason at all. Why not have a raucous in-home TRIVIA game available for those events.

So if you thought you have missed your opportunity to play Trivia, your day just got better.

DVDs and answer sheets are still available at Muleshoe Animal Clinic, or by contacting Kim at 918-713-1375 or Donna at [donnaerwinscott@gmail.com](mailto:donnaerwinscott@gmail.com). Out-of-area people, we will mail your stuff to you.

The Door Prize closet is still full, and we will bring yours to you if you are anywhere from Prescott to Wickenburg. I know this is not quite the same, but this fundraiser is very important to us, so thanks for your support.

### Halloween Pet Parade & A Fish Dinner

Two other events planned for October and November. We have added a Halloween Pet Parade on October 31st. People and pets, in costume or not, will meet at the Petey's Playground Resource Center and parade along Highway 89 to Shrine Drive and then end up at Lohrwood. Prizes will be awarded, and everyone will get a pet gift bag for participating. Entry fee is \$10 per pet.

Lastly, the Fish Dinner is scheduled for November 7th and just like everything else will look a little different this year. It will be the same wonderful menu as last year (skillfully prepared fresh shrimp), but it will be take-out only and available for pick up at the Yarnell Regional Community Center.

Tickets are \$20 per person, available through Kim at 918-713-1375 or Jane Meyers 928-671-0110. For more information on any of this stuff, please visit our website [www.peteyisplayground.org](http://www.peteyisplayground.org).

We have received a very generous offer to match \$15,000 raised in donations to finish our new building by the end of the year. We are a little over halfway there. The exterior is finished and the big stuff on the inside is almost done but not paid for. Next step is drywall and then painting and decorating. I am confident that, with your help, we can reach our goal.

## UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS ON A RESCUE MISSION

### Extreme Makeover - UAF Style

Current events got you down? Maybe you're feeling a bit isolated? Well, we've got a cure! Fostering a dog or cat can transform your life and the life of a homeless pet. It's easy to forget the difficulties of the world when you're focused on making the world a better place for one who needs it most.

Take this dog, for example. The first photo shows how she looked when she first arrived at UAF. She ended up in a shelter after being used as a breeding dog and having multiple litters. Sadly, the people who used her for breeding had never even given her a name. We named her Paige.

Although she had been horribly neglected and had an extremely itchy



skin infection, she somehow managed to be happy and affectionate. Maybe she knew that being named Paige was the start of a new page in her life.

Paige was fostered by UAF volunteer Anita, who groomed her, got her on a nutritious diet, and, most importantly, gave her a safe and loving home where she could recover. And recover, she did! The second photo (yes, that's really the same dog) shows what loving care and a good diet can do.

Once she was healthy, Anita posted her in the Adoptable Dogs page on the UAF website, and within five minutes she received an inquiry from a family who had adopted from her several years ago. They hopped in their car and drove from Sedona to meet her, and a few hours later, Paige went home with her new family. No longer a beast of burden to be used for profit, she now has the beautiful life she

deserves. As Anita says, "She is now so happy and free - the best part of fostering!"

Wouldn't you like to be the hero responsible for an extreme makeover like this? You may not be able to solve the whole world's problems, but giving a dog or cat a new chance at life will change their whole world. And you'll feel so good, you might even forget your troubles. If you're hesitant to foster because you think it would be too hard to adopt them out after getting attached, well, that's really the best part. Seeing that pet go to their perfect forever family is so rewarding, you'll be ready for your next makeover. Just ask Anita - she's fostered and found forever homes for 140 dogs... so far!

Are you afraid you wouldn't know what to do as a foster? You can set those fears to rest because each new foster is assigned a mentor who works with them and answers any questions they may have. If you'd like to learn more about fostering, please go to [UnitedAnimalFriends.org/volunteers/foster](http://UnitedAnimalFriends.org/volunteers/foster). We may not be able to solve all the troubles in the world, but we can make the world a better place for animals - and by doing so, they make our world better too.







It's November, and I'm sure a lot of you are going to start decorating for Thanksgiving and then for Christmas! There are a lot of different things to be aware of for pet safety with your decorations and especially your Christmas tree.

Keeping your furry family members safe during the holidays can be a difficult task. There are a lot of different foods around that could be harmful to your pets. There are breakable ornaments, potentially dangerous plants, presents with bows and ribbons, lights that can be chewed, and who could forget the Christmas tree?

Thanksgiving and Christmas are full of treats for our tummies, how-

ever, a lot of those foods are unsafe for our fur kids.

Place your Christmas tree in a corner. Securely anchor your tree so it doesn't tip and fall over causing possible injury to you, your pet, or your home. We've all seen the scene in the movie, Christmas Vacation, where the cat jumps into the tree, shorts out the lights, and causes the tree to fall over and catch fire. While that's funny in a movie, no one wants it in real life.

If you put some aluminum foil or cellophane sheets under your tree skirt, when you hear the crinkling sound you'll get a little warning that Fluffy might possibly be getting too close to the tree.

You can also get creative with your ingenuity on the cat / Christmas tree combination... I've got two cats, and my choice of ornaments on my tree has had gotten rather creative. Be especially careful of glass or breakable ornaments, which could damage paws and can also damage your pet's mouth and digestive track!

Tinsel-town is a big no-no! While it can add a nice touch to the tree, to your kitty it's a sparkly, light-catching, shiny toy that they want to bat and play with, carry around in their mouth, and possibly ingest. That could lead to an obstructed digestive track, severe vomiting, dehydration, and

even possibly surgery to remove clumped-up tinsel.

I'm a freak when it comes to lights, and in my world, there is no such thing as too many. However, they can be very dangerous to our four-legged family members. It's best to not put lights on lower branches where pets can potentially get tangled in the lights, which can also cause burns. Additionally, your pet may get shocked if they bite through the wire. It's safer to have pre-lit trees, where the lights are secured to the tree branches and there's less space for them to get tangled. But be careful with all the wires, as they're just something else for them to look at and see as a toy!

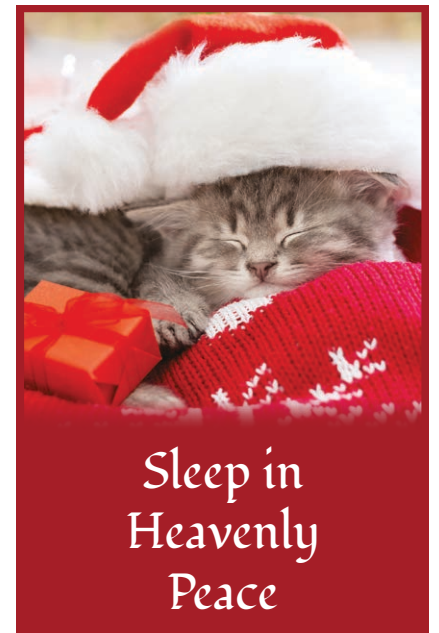
When it comes to holiday plants such as mistletoe, holly, and poinsettia, it's best to keep these out of reach of your four-legged kids. Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to have nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems.

During the holidays, poinsettias are a popular Christmas plant. Though they have a bad rap, poinsettia plants are only mildly toxic to cats and dogs. The milky white sap found in poinsettias contains certain chemicals that, when ingested, causes mild

signs of vomiting, drooling and, rarely, diarrhea. If the milky sap gets on your pet's skin, irritation (including redness, swelling, and itchiness) may develop. Rarely, eye exposure can result in mild irritation.

Common signs to watch for include drooling, licking lips, vomiting, diarrhea, skin & eye irritations. There is no antidote for poinsettia poisoning. That said, due to the low level of poinsettia toxicity, medical treatment is rarely necessary unless clinical signs are severe.

My whole feeling on the Christmas plants, is keep them at the office and keep it safe and pet friendly at home!



*Sleep in  
Heavenly  
Peace*

### **Our Own Scottie McGowan Wins National Starfish Award**

At Rescue A Golden of Arizona (RAGofAZ), we have some exciting news to share!

Our Director of Golden Rescue, Scottie McGowan, was selected by the GRCA (Golden Retriever Club of America) and the NRC (National Rescue Committee) as this year's Starfish Award winner! This is the highest honor within the NRC and she was selected among several other nominees.

#### **Here's Why**

Scottie oversees teams of 81



volunteers handling Home Visits, Intake, Transport, and International Rescue. To standardize statewide operations, she developed six comprehensive team manuals (with quick reference guides) to improve the collection of crucial intake information.

Almost single-handedly, she rebuilt RAGofAZ's presence in southern Arizona raising funds, recruiting volunteers, members, and delivering first-class events.

Scottie has been hooked on rescue since her first adoption in 2003 and election to the Executive Board in 2011. Not satisfied with her long list of accomplishments, Scottie decided to change the world.

In 2017, she spearheaded an expansion of RAGofAZ's mission to include international dogs. A champion of tyrannized Golden Retrievers, Scottie has overseen the rescue of 86 dogs from China, Korea, Turkey, and Mexico.

Using social media, Scottie sought out flight volunteers traveling between Arizona and Mexico, and recruited long-distance transporters for the 1,000-

mile overnight trip from Asia/Turkey to LAX. She trained most of RAG's transporters herself, but often this "road warrior" loaded up her own dog-mobile and headed to LA herself.

In all, Scottie has touched the lives of over 1,040 dogs. When money was needed to rescue desperate Golden Retrievers abandoned on the streets of Turkey, she raised the funds. When an anonymous breeder wanted to surrender sick and vision-impaired puppies, Scottie said, "Tell me where, and I will be there."

When she felt tired and overwhelmed, she would remind herself that to those desperate animals waiting for rescue and reprieve...*Hunger, illness, and despair know no language, no culture, and no boundary.*



# ADOPT -A-DOG

## ARCHER:

A 2-year-old male Boxer mix. Loves to play and explore. Loves attention.

Yavapai Humane Society  
928-445-2666



## DELISH:

A 1-year-old Husky mix, she's a high energy dog eager to get out of kennels. Very sweet. Will need an active adopter.

Yavapai Humane Society  
928-445-2666



## MILO:

Friendly little dog who will make a good lap dog and companion.

Enjoys attention.  
Yavapai Humane Society  
928-445-2666



## LOOPER:

An 8-year-old Dachshund/min Pin mix. Very cute, friendly and loves attention.

Yavapai Humane Society  
(928)-445-2666



## SOMBRA:

A 4-year-old male Blue Heeler. Loves the tennis ball and chase lights. Sweet, smart boy who will need a breed savvy adopter.

Yavapai Humane Society  
928-445-2666



## MOGLI:

An energetic shepherd cross male. Sweet, loves people, and loves to play.

Yavapai Humane Society  
928-445-2666



## ZIGGY:

A 1-year-old Bull terrier male. a very energetic and spunky guy. Still acts puppy-like. Is sweet-natured, and playful with people.

Yavapai Humane Society  
928-445-2666



## KYLIE:

A 9-month old cattle dog mix with striking eyes. She has come a long way in trusting people. Loves cuddles and toys.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



## GYPSY

**ROSE:** Beautiful 5-year-old Labrador mix. Bonds & is the sweetest dog ever. Loves hugs, walks, even having her teeth brushed.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



## JAMIE:

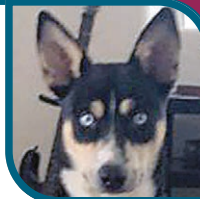
What a sweetheart. A happy affectionate companion. Plays with dogs and cats, and loves lap time.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



**LEXI:** She is a happy, friendly 6-month-old cattle dog/husky pup with lots of energy and enthusiasm. Smart and affectionate.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net.



## SHILOH:

A 9-month-old Border Collie. He loves to be around his people, likes to snuggle. Plays respectfully with dogs and kids.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
dawnlg39@yahoo.com



## BADGER:

An amazing little 3+ month old dynamo, all sugar and spice but they are active and precocious and need good pet parents.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



## BUCKY:

An amazing little 3+month old dynamo, all sugar and spice but they are active and precocious and need good pet parents.

Yavapai Humane Trappers  
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



**KATIE:** A Lab/Cattle Dog mix, approximately 2 years old. has a sweet disposition and will be your forever friend.

United Animal Friends  
uafdogs20@gmail.com



## IVY:

A beautiful Red Merle Heeler (Australian Cattle Dog) mix with a tail. She is about 1 year old and is very sweet.

United Animal Friends  
uafdogs20@gmail.com



## COVER DOG CONTEST

Do You Have a Beautiful Dog? Share a photo of them for their chance to be Prescott Dog's next Cover Dog! Win a professional portrait package at Portrait Park by J. (courtesy of My Health Etc. - a \$300 value), and have their picture on the cover of 10,000 Prescott Dog Magazines.

### HERE'S HOW TO ENTER

1. Email your entry (1 photo only, please) to: info@reddogpublishing.net (don't forget to attach your photo) and use the subject line: "Prescott Dog Cover Dog".
2. In the body of your email, include your dog's name and current age; your address, phone number, and preferred email address.
3. For your entry to be considered for the January/February 2021 edition of Prescott Dog Magazine, we need to receive your entry by 11:59 pm on November 30, 2020.





# ADOPT -A-DOG

**CHAMP:** A 3-year-old Boxer mix and weighs about 40 lbs. He is shy with new people, but he's very sweet. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



**CEDRIC:** A 2-year-old Lab mix. Cedric is a very sweet, happy boy who loves people and gets along great with everybody. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



**BUSTER:** A 1-year-old yellow Lab mix. He is sweet and gentle, has had some training. Loves walks, cars, and water. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



**SASHA:** A gorgeous 3-year-old Shepherd mix. She is very sweet and affectionate and loves everyone she meets. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



**MASON:** A super cute 1-year-old mix of maybe Aussie and Shiba Inu. Loves people and other dogs, just really wants to play. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



**TULIP:** A 5-year-old female Chihuahua mix. She loves her human more than anything and just wants to be close and cuddle. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



**BRODIE:** A 6-year-old retriever mix, he has been in rescue most of his life along with sister Katie. Sweet, shy, and bonded with Katie. AARF 928-925-7219



**KATIE:** A 6-year-old retriever mix, she has been in rescue most of her life along with brother Brodie. Sweet, shy, and bonded with Brodie. AARF 928-925-7219



**POPCORN:** A 3-year-old female terrier mix. Very sweet, loves walks and playing with people. Loves, loves toys! AARF 928-925-7219



**SABLE:** A 5-month old puppy cattle dog mix, still learning manners, but very sweet and smart. AARF 928-925-7219



**SULLY:** A 5-month old puppy cattle dog mix, still learning manners, but very sweet and smart. AARF 928-925-7219



**LACIE:** This cattle dog mix was turned in with her sister Kimmy. They are shy and need lots of love, and would like to be adopted together. AARF 928-925-7219



**KIMMY:** This cattle dog mix was turned in with her sister Lacie. They are shy and need lots of love, and would like to be adopted together. AARF 928-925-7219



**OSCAR:** A sweet 4-year-old male Chihuahua. If you sit down I will jump on your lap and smother you with kisses. AARF 928-925-7219



**COOKIE:** A 4-year-old blue tick hound mix. He is full of energy and enjoys being with his people. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**BARLEY:** A 6-year-old female pit bull mix. A high energy girl, she's very sweet and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**NILLY:** A 6-year-old female chihuahua. Loves to be held & snuggle. Shy with strangers. Good with other dogs and older children. Circle L Ranch 928-273-7005



**MINGO:** Adult male chihuahua mix, incredibly silly boy & great with other dogs. Good companion for someone who'll give him time, as he can be a little shy. Circle L Ranch 928-273-7005



**CHUCK:** Adult male chihuahua mix, makes goofy faces & wants to be the only dog. Very active a great companion, would make a great sport dog. Circle L Ranch 928-273-7005



**DAISY:** 4-year-old female, good with other dogs but not children. Spunky & energetic, would make an awesome hiking partner. Circle L Ranch 928-273-7005





# ADOPT-A-CAT

**NICO:** An 8-year-old red and white male with big, expressive green-gold eyes. He is very sweet and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**BOHDI:** A 4-year-old brown tabby male with big green eyes and elegant whiskers. He is a small fellow and very people oriented. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**WILLIE:** A beautiful 8-year-old calico lady with big green eyes. She is hoping for a family with welcoming laps for cuddles. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**DUKE:** A distinguished long-haired tuxedo gentleman who is 20 years old. He is hoping to find a quiet, loving home again. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**MUFFIN MAN:** He is just as charming as his name. He's a small fellow, white with brown tabby spots, and very cuddly. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**HEIDI:** A 9-month-old lady, white with black spots and the most unique face! She is active, fun, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**GRACIE:** An 8-year-old long-haired tortie-tabby female with beautiful green eyes and expressive long white whiskers. She is quiet, small, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**MAMA:** A 1-year-old tuxedo female. She is small and dainty, with unique off-the-shoulder markings and bright green eyes. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**BUNNY:** A 2-year-old Siamese-Snowshoe mix, SO CUTE and so sweet. She came in with her sister, would like to be adopted together. Miss Kitty's 928-445-5411



**MONET:** A 2-year-old, medium-hair Snowshoe/Siamese Mix. She came in with her sister, Bunny. They would like to be adopted together. Miss Kitty's 928-445-5411



**SIMBA:** A 2-year-old orange and white medium-hair tabby male. He is very sweet, laid back, and affectionate. Miss Kitty's 928-445-5411



**SASSY:** A 5-year-old long-haired Calico. She is calm, laid back, and peaceful. Independent, playful, adventurous, and curious. Likes quiet talk and petting. Miss Kitty's 928-445-5411



**MELODY:** A 2-year-old light silver classic tabby with beautiful green eyes. She is dainty, feminine, and very affectionate. Loves cuddles. Miss Kitty's at 928-445-5411



**HAZEL:** A 2-year-old silver classic tabby female. Very friendly, loves people, gives lots of snuggles and head butts, always asking for attention. Miss Kitty's 928-445-5411



**CUTIE-PIE:** A 3-year-old Calico, small and brightly colored orange and black. She's quite friendly and just loves to play, play, play!! Miss Kitty's 928-445-5411



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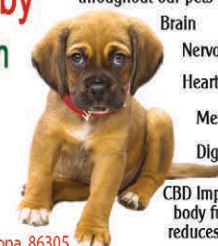
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**JUSTICE:** A handsome grey tabby, he is 1-1/2 yrs. is VERY laid back. Gets along with the other cats. Playful and easygoing. Community Cats eajoannes@gmail.com



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**BEAU:** A 12-year-old grade Quarter horse. He is extremely sweet. Best suited as a companion for an experienced horse person. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



**BULL:** A 20-year-old Thoroughbred, registered as "American Bull." He is pretty level-headed and easy to do most things with. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666





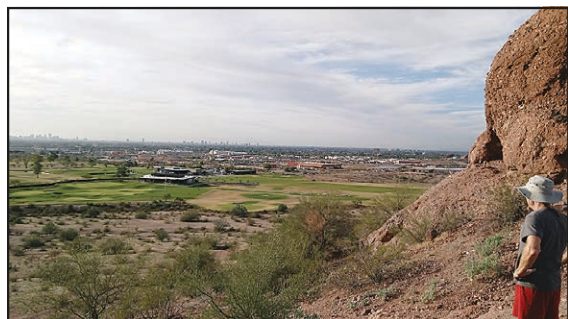
# HIKE PAPAGO PARK BY DAY, MARVEL AT ZOOLIGHTS BY NIGHT

Story and photos by Cheryl Hartz

For a wonder-filled holiday experience, Tempe's Papago Park by day and Zoolights right across the street by night, more than delivers.

In December 2019, my husband and I parked our small camper – decorated outside with a wreath and light string and inside with holiday linens, rugs, mugs, and a miniature poinsettia – at a nearby RV park for a couple of nights so we wouldn't have to drive the two hours home late at night after each outing. We visited snowbird relatives in Mesa, hit up the local REI store, and spent some time in the hot tub.

The short trip's highlight was an afternoon at Papago Park and the evening at the Phoenix Zoo's Zoolights. It was a no-brainer to hike the park, because we wouldn't have to face Phoenix rush hour traffic to drive across to the Zoo's parking lot for the 5 p.m. opening. Also, because the Zoo closed early and you needed a separate admission to Zoolights anyway, it made sense to hike rather than spend the afternoon with the animals. But you can opt to wait in the parking lot an hour (it might be two this year) if you'd rather see the animals first. Most are not on display in the dark.



The Phoenix skyline is visible from Little Butte at Papago Park.

We parked at the west side of Papago Park and hiked the Butte Loop Trail. It's a moderate 2.3 miles, with some ups and downs and begins by skirting the Phoenix Municipal Golf Course. It circles the Big Butte and passes an off-shoot around Little Butte. The Phoenix skyline is visible at many points, and the Eliot Ramada offered a rest area, along with a loop of the same name, around the far side of the golf course. (Ramadas are closed temporarily, due to the pandemic.)

Hiking around on the buttes, we had to watch our step, but the sandstone rock formations

were interesting and worth a closer look.

Bicyclists and runners took full advantage of the paved sections and mild temperatures the afternoon we spent at Papago Park.

The park has no entrance fee, but also no restrooms, and possibly no water this year.

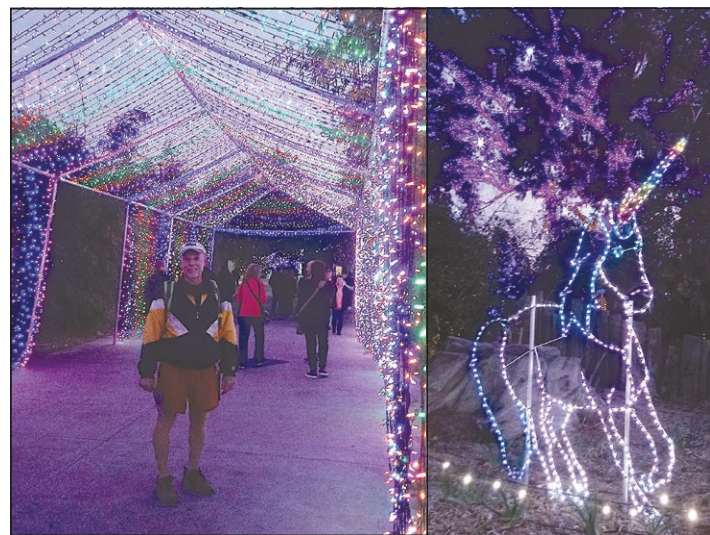
The east side of Papago Park, on the opposite side of Galvin Parkway and next to the Desert Botanical Garden, features Hole-in-the-Rock. That might be this year's trip for us, along with another visit to Zoolights. I genuinely was surprised at how much I enjoyed that and really want to share it with my adult offspring.

A call in September to the Phoenix Zoo confirmed that the organization will once again offer the magnificent, magical Zoolights display, with tickets going on sale Oct.1. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, expect some restrictions, and call the zoo or go online to double check how they're handling it when you get ready to go. At the time of this writing, Phoenix required face coverings, with some exemptions. Go online to check and make reservations. You also may call 602-914-4333 for information on reservations.



Critters on the Wildlife Lantern Safari are larger than life.

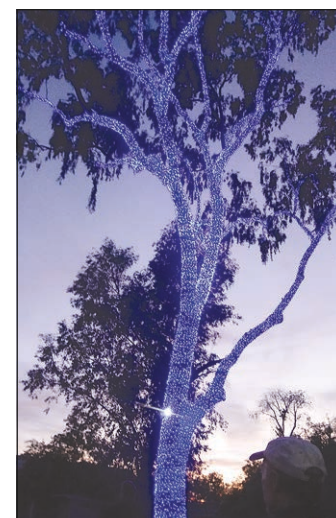
Even having heard about the annual Zoolights holiday tradition, the millions of rainbow-colored lights and animal sculpture displays were dazzling when I saw them for the first time.



After visitors walk through a lighted tunnel, a magical unicorn greets them near the entrance to Zoolights.

With a light tunnel as you enter, and net lighting around many shrubs and towering trees, the magic is everywhere you cast your eyes. For the ears, familiar secular holiday music plays.

The Wildlife Lantern Safari features 66 larger-than-life-size creatures aglow from within. They run the gamut from birds and reptiles to hippos, lions and tigers and bears. Even a woolly mammoth stands guard.



Music-in-Motion happens around the lake every half hour and you'll want to watch it more than once to take in the dancing lights synchronized to lively music. We actually circled the whole zoo twice, with a break for dinner at the café.

It takes a four-person crew about 20 weeks to install the massive display, beginning in June and wrapping at the end of October. They use only LED lights on all of these amazing 2-D and 3-D features.

For more information on Papago Park, call the Ranger office at 602-495-5458. Or visit online at: [phoenix.gov/parks/trails](http://phoenix.gov/parks/trails).

Happy holiday hiking!



# BOOK REVIEW: 'PLAY YOUR WAY TO GOOD MANNERS' – THE FUN JOURNEY TO A WELL-BEHAVED DOG

By Heidi Dahms Foster

Dog training has come a long way from the days of boring, rote repetition. Today, there are many varied, fun activities to build a relationship with your pet and help him to become a well-behaved, pleasant member of your home. *Play Your Way to Good Manners* by Kate Naito and Sarah Westcott offers a great selection of sports, games and tricks you can do with your dog.

It's a proven fact that the more time you spend with your pet in engaging, fun activities, the more the two of you will bond. Conversely, constant repetition will bore both of you and likely cause you to quit before you reach your goals.

Additionally, this book talks a bit about competition events such as Rally Obedience and how you can use the instructions in those venues.

Some of the most desired traits to instill in your dog so both of you can have a satisfying relationship include being able to settle, know the basic commands to sit, down and stay, to come when called, and walk calmly on leash.



As a bonus, learn cute and active tricks and other activities to fight boredom.

Dog owners might look at this list and feel it is overwhelming, but the authors give clear descriptions of basic behaviors, how to train them, and ways they will be useful. Each chapter shows how to start small and build on each behavior.

The book includes step-by-step instructions for each skill, with photos to illustrate. Common challenges are also addressed, so you can troubleshoot if you're not successful with a skill.

In *Play Your Way to Good Manners* you'll learn how to train desired behaviors while having fun with your dog. You'll find the instructions easy to follow, the photos helpful, and in the Kindle edition, links take you right to the skill you want to learn.

If you're looking for an exciting new start to your current training or you want to start a new pup, *Play Your Way to Good Manners* is a great resource. Find it on Amazon in paperback or Kindle.



## WE PICKED YOU TAHOE TINSLEY MAY 2006 TO SEPTEMBER 2020



In the spring of 2006 we searched for a black lab puppy who would become sleek, tall and stately. Tahoe was likely not 100% lab, but she was definitely 100% love.

Tall and stately turned into sad and sickly as she was diagnosed with Parvo, a condition she had before arriving at our home. But, she rallied and was robust and spirited enough to run around the stables where she was stepped on by a horse.

Tahoe's right leg was broken and although it healed, she was never without the limp we lovingly referred to as her swagger.

Tahoe was sweet and understated. She was the dog lying quietly in the corner while the other dog was in your face for attention. She was timid, shy and frightened to death of two things: thunder and the vet's office. Oddly enough, on her final visit to the vet's office she was perfectly calm as we said our good-byes.

She lived most of her life in pain without complaint. We wonder if there was a slight swagger on her way over the Rainbow Bridge.

~Rita & David Tinsley

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# CHINO VALLEY'S NEWEST K9 OFFICER REALIZES LONGTIME DREAM WITH NEW PARTNER 'SIRIUS'

By Heidi Dahms Foster

Chino Valley Police Department's newest K9 officer has been working toward his dream for a long time.

A dog lover from his youth, Steven Sellers grew up with Labrador retrievers, cats, chickens and horses. He started his law enforcement career with the Mesa County Sheriff's Office in Grand Junction, Colorado, working as a jail deputy.

After nine years in Grand Junction, Sellers and his wife moved to Chino Valley where they could be closer to her family. "We decided to give Arizona a shot. I'd never been anywhere else besides Colorado in my entire life, but I love the community and the department I work for," he said.

Five years ago when the Sellers' moved to Chino Valley, the department had only one dog. But area K9 handlers all worked and trained together, and Sellers became fascinated with how the animals worked.

"I found it interesting watching the dogs work on traffic stops, finding drugs, or on Interstate 40 on the big drug stops. That's when I began picking handlers' brains about how and why they became K9 officers, and what the pros and cons of the job are. I wanted to try and see what I could do to get my foot in the door."

Sellers continued to prepare, without knowing when his opening would come, but sure that is the path he wanted to take. "Many officers have hopes of being a part of the SWAT team, a motorcycle officer, or involved in some other job that deals with patrol. For me, it was always K9. I wanted to know how to get started and let the other handlers know I wanted to help them make the program successful."

Chino Valley had only one K9 when he joined the department. When Chino Valley PD decided to add another K9 team two years ago, he applied but did not get the position. "That didn't deter me. I really wanted it, and I continued to volunteer time with handlers in our agency and all Yavapai area dogs and trainings to improve myself."

Sellers said he especially enjoyed being the "decoy," wearing the bite suit during training of the K9s. "I don't know why, but I felt protected in that suit." That is, until one multi-agency training practicing for certification, when a K9 hit him in the back at high speed and spun him to the ground,



K9 Officer Steven Sellers and Sirius

tearing his ACL. Such injuries can happen with the enthusiastic K9s in training. Again, Sellers wasn't deterred, though he was in for eight months of recovery until he could return to full duty.

He credits those handlers and especially his fellow K9 officer at Chino Valley, Dave McNally, for teaching him everything he needs to know. "Dave is a good role model for me. He's knowledgeable and educated, and has many years of experience. I've really leaned on him to teach me." Sellers said.

This past year, Chino's second K9 officer moved to a different agency and her K9 retired with her. In August, the K9 position came open, and Sellers was ready. He expressed his interest, and then underwent rigorous written, oral, practical, and scenario testing, part of which included working with Officer McNally's giant, over-the-top energetic K9 Lisko. One part of the scenario included carrying the hefty pup out of a "scene." On August 14 Sellers heard he had won the position, and it remained to find out who his K9 partner would be.



Chino Valley K9 coordinator Sgt. Mike Pereda called Sellers and told him his dog had been selected, and it was time to go meet him.

Sellers went to pick up his dog and from the first was taken with him. His partner is an all-black Belgian Malinois, hailing from the Netherlands, as are many of the local K9s. Most of the dogs are purchased through the truly generous donations of a local couple, which prefers to remain anonymous.

Next, it was time to decide on a name for the dog. When Sellers introduced him to his family, his young children immediately told him the K9 looked like Sirius Black from the Harry Potter characters. So Sirius it was from that time on. It's also ironic that Sirius is the brightest star that can be seen from earth in the Canis Major, or Greater Dog constellation. It's often referred to as the "dog star."

So far, Sirius is living up to his "brightest star" name. He's extremely social, fitting in very well with Sellers' wife and young children. In fact, Sellers said, his wife, who was skeptical at first, adores the dog. Sirius came with some obedience and detection skills, and is now in intensive training with the help of Officer McNally and other local handlers. The team is working toward their certification, hopefully by the end of this year.

"He's up on his drug odors – meth, heroine and cocaine – and he has started his search work. I train every day with him," Sellers said.

Sellers said he and Sirius are continuing to cement their bond, and he's looking forward to educating the community as well as doing his patrol duties. "They are work dogs, but they are also dogs and lovable pets." These lovable pets, however, are as high drive as they come, so they need a lot of daily training and exercise to channel their innate energy. Sellers said Sirius looks a bit intimidating because he's so large and all black, but when approached, the dog will "flop over" and beg for belly rubs. He also likes to launch himself into Sellers' arms, 75 lbs. of "lap dog."

Sellers said Sirius is doing well on patrol, and is really calm in his truck, until it's time to go to work. Sellers is excited to learn all he can as this team begins its quest to fight crime on Chino Valley streets.

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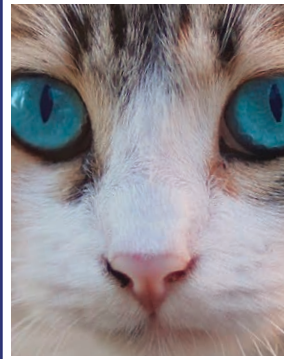
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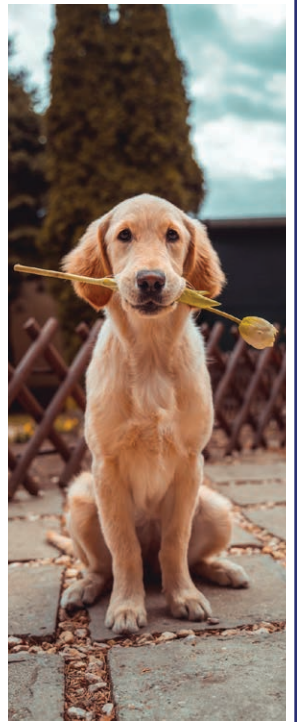
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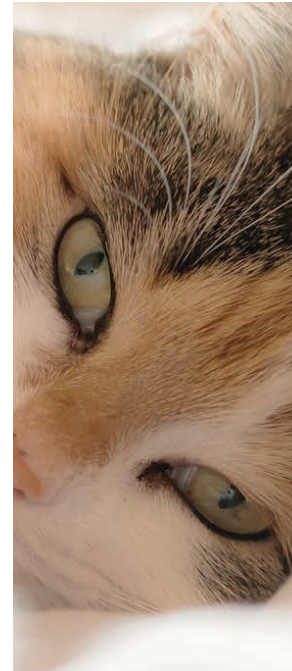


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# THE DRIVING FORCE

By Rita Thompson-Tinsley

From Cinderella's enchanting pumpkin coach to the unforgettable wedding of Lady Di and Prince Charles, we are a world enamored with the stateliness of a horse and carriage.

Seated behind the driving horse Cosmo, a large hackney horse who knows his job well, driver Patricia Demers reminds me, "We are basically riding history when we are driving a horse". This statement proves profoundly true with the study of the advent of driving which began primitively in circa 2000 BC, and dynamically increased throughout Europe with the uptrend of the domestic horse.

Patricia operates Carpe Diem Farm and specializes in training beginner drivers, among other lessons offered. Cosmo was her pack horse leader while Patricia worked as a wrangler in the Sierras. With a hardy build and extraordinary temperament, hackneys are capable of trotting 50 miles a day, which made Cosmo ideal for driving a carriage.

Demers was hired as a professional wagon driver at Knott's Berry Farm where the real adventure began. The circus came into town, and she was hired as a groom to ride along with the driver. Twice a day they did circus parades with horses adorned with plume head dresses.

As a groom, Patricia had to be attentive to every detail. During one parade, the Near Side horse (on left) reached over to the Off Side horse (on right), grabbed his plume and pulled his bridle off. Patricia called for the driver to stop as she jumped down 8-10 feet to resolve the tack trauma. Another time, as they approached the end of their route, a toddler from the crowd broke away chasing a ball and landed flat on his face in front of Patricia's wagon. A step away from disaster, the horse came to an abrupt halt, without que, and waited for the toddler to be removed. This



Riding behind Cosmo. Photo courtesy Rita Thompson-Tinsley.

is the absolute ideal temperament you want in a driving horse. Soon after, Devers became an official wagon driver at Knott's Berry Farm.

Gary Gang, local trainer and vice president of Chino Valley Equestrian Association, knows a lot about the dynamics of driving and refers to it as one of the most dangerous equestrian sports. He is well noted as a Combined Driving champion and enjoys training others. Helmets are worn and safety vests are mandatory for advanced classes.

Though Gary works with Andalusians, Dartmoor ponies, Gypsy Vanners, Morgans and Trakehners, to name a few breeds, he stresses that finding a good driving horse is ".....not so much a breed issue. It

totally depends on the horse and the individual", says Gary. Regarding qualities, he emphasizes the value of a good mind set. "They're not reasoning animals, they're reactive animals", he points out. A willing attitude is ideal. The driving horse has to adapt to wearing blinders (blinkers), and pulling a 500 pound wagon with you in tow.



Gary Gang and Leslie Kennard before training session. Photo courtesy Rita Thompson-Tinsley.

Surprises are not welcome. Gary relays a story about training a client's thoroughbred. During the last lap before concluding the practice, the horse's tongue made its way over the bit, a situation that proved exceptionally traumatic. "The mare literally lost her mind, exploding in a tumultuous bucking exhibition." Gary was catapulted from the wagon, kicked, and injured trying to subdue the animal, and the client's wagon was damaged.

It's absolutely crucial to relay information about horse's 'pet peeves' to your trainer. There are enough terrible things that can happen even when you know everything. If this kind of wreck can happen to an experienced trainer, can you imagine what episodes

are possible in your own backyard? It's so important to have professional help when it comes to horse driving.

Leslie Kennard comes a long way to train with Gary even though she has championed many driving events over the years. She currently drives a pair of Dartmoor ponies, Lou Lou and Duke. Why pairs? "They tend to be team players", Leslie explains. "They have each other and they help each other. They offer more pulling power and stability than just one pony".



Leslie Kennard Pair Driving Dressage. Photo courtesy Leslie Kennard.

Like many of the popular driving horses, the Dartmoor pony comes from England. This hardy breed is centuries old and known for having excellent feet, temperaments, and stamina.

So, what to do with your driving horse?

1. Commercial horse and carriage business, better known as "Wait for the bride". (Your horse must be trained to stand, a lot.)
2. Competition. Combined Driving is the most popular equestrian driving sport designed after the horse rider's 3-Day Eventing.

In Combined Driving competitions you'll see horses pulling appropriately designed light carriages and carts. They perform arena dressage, a cross-country marathon section, and then a cones obstacle course. All three of these portions exhibit the driving horse's precision and control, along with fitness and endurance, a thorough showcasing of the driving horse as the quentessential athlete.

If you and your four-hooved-drive buddy have been looking for a new adventure, Gary Gang recommends Arizona Driving and Carriage Society.

Meanwhile, in the 'Cosmo drawn carriage', I discovering that very same 'rush' being whisked away by Cosmo.

Drive safely.



Patricia Demer driving Mocha and Muffin with passenger Susan Graham. Photo courtesy Born in a Barn Photography.



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## 5 TIPS FOR A PET-SAFE CHRISTMAS TREE

◆ ONE ◆  
Securely anchor your tree to keep curious pets from knocking it over!

◆ TWO ◆  
Sweep up pine needles frequently to avoid ingestion.

◆ THREE ◆  
Keep glass, breakable, or any edible ornaments up high, out of pets' reach!

◆ FOUR ◆  
Keep pets from drinking tree stand water, and don't add toxic tree preservative products to it!

◆ FIVE ◆  
Avoid using tinsel, string, or ribbons. They can cause severe damage if ingested.

Have a PURRRfect holiday season!  
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# KEEPING YOUR PET SAFE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

By Ginny Jablonski

This year, pet adoptions were at an all-time high with many shelters across the country reporting empty kennels. Consequently, this holiday season may be the first for many new pet owners.

Here are several tips from food to decorations and even essential oils, to help you avoid emotional and costly emergency veterinary visits.

Our most obvious safety hazard during the holiday season is our tree. If you have a live tree, be sure to cover the tree stand's water well. Pine sap, as well as pine needles, can be toxic for both dogs and cats.

Additionally, decorations such as lights, electric cords, snow globes, glass ornaments, tinsel, and traditional food items such as candy canes, cranberry or popcorn strands, and even cookies can pose serious health risks. Decorative household plants, such as poinsettias, holly, and mistletoe, are toxic to animals.

Many food staples throughout the year should be avoided, but especially around the holidays when friends and family may wish to slip our beloved animal companions a special treat unaware of the danger they pose.

Most people are aware that chocolate, onions, garlic, grapes, raisins, macadamia nuts, and sweet treats such as cookies are potentially harmful for pets. Further, excess fat, fermenting bread dough, and new ingredients such as the sugar substitute xylitol found in many processed treats, mints, sugar-free gum, and peanut butter pose serious health risks.

To keep your pets totally safe from any of these foods, you may wish to prevent them from accessing the kitchen or areas where food is being served. Special attention should also be given to the trash can, which might contain fat, food scraps, and bones.

Although it may be difficult and sometimes even uncomfortable, you may wish to consider establishing clear boundaries around food and "treats" where your pets are concerned. You may choose to do this as your guests arrive, before to



sitting down for a meal, or by having a phone conversation prior to the event.

Stress is another critical factor for our animals during the holidays. Maintaining their daily routine and taking them for walks, play or exercise is one way to ensure they remain calm during this very exciting time. I often use essential oils for animals either on their body or in a diffuser.

Please be aware there are several essential oils which are toxic to both dogs and cats when ingested or used in excessive amounts such as cinnamon, pine, lavender, citrus, peppermint, and wintergreen, among others.

Use caution when using any oils in your home as certain plants can have detrimental effects on their delicate nervous systems.

Here are some tips for the responsible use of essential oils with animals from a well-known author and certified aromatherapist, Kate Brown. More information can be found in her book, *Essential Oil Recipes from an Animal Lover: Taking Care of our Furry Friends*.

Water based diffusers are a safe, effective way to put a small amount of essential oils into the air and can help start the relaxation response. If you are new to using essential oils for yourself or for your animals, here are 3 tips:

1. Make sure you are using genuine, high quality essential oils - this is the biggest factor for safe use. Essential oils are trendy right now and lots of companies are cashing in on it. Most oils purchased at retail are adulterated which is unhealthy for us and especially our animals.
2. Start with a small amount of essential oil. I recommend starting with 3-5 drops in your water-based diffuser. You can always add more if you want after you and your animals have gotten used to them. Too much at one time can be overwhelming from an olfactory perspective and may detox the toxins from the body. A little essential oil, used more often, is more effective.
3. Make sure your animals and you can leave the room. Don't start out using your diffuser in a small, closed space. Use it in an area that is more spacious. Allow the doors to the room to be open and make sure your animals can leave the space.

Some of my favorite oils to use for reducing stress and are safe for all species of animals when used appropriately include:

Lavender - it is relaxing and calming. It is helpful for emotional stability and reduce tension and anxiety.

Cedarwood - this oil is sedating and calming. It can assist when there is a lot of chaos or changes in the household.

Roman Chamomile - this is mild, gentle oil that is often recommended for children and small animals. It has a relaxing effect on the body and the mind.

Black Spruce - this oil will help get you in the holiday spirit with its pleasant conifer tree scent. It is very grounding and is supportive of healthy adrenal function.

There are many ways to use essential oils and many oils that can create a harmonious and peaceful atmosphere in our homes this holiday.

ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center  
(888) 426-4435  
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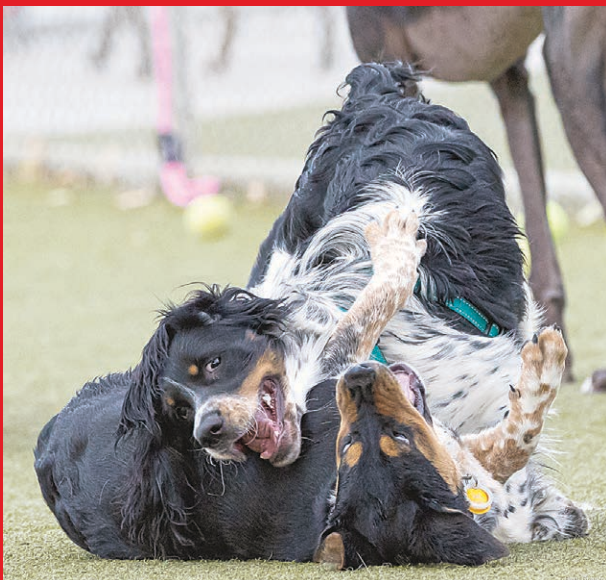
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# Scenes From The Dog Park

Photos by Gary Gromer







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