

PRESCOTT DOG

March/April 2021 • PrescottDog.com

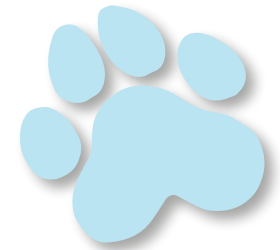
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PRESCOTT DOG

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PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

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Remi & Chesty, Our Cover Dogs

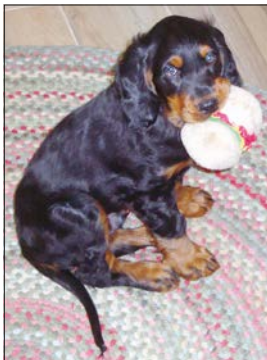


Name: Hi, my name is Remi, short for Remington.
Age: My birthday is August 5th, 2019 which makes me 1-1/2 years old – or 10-1/2 in dog years.
Hometown: I was born in Lexington, Kentucky and traveled to Arizona when I was 10 weeks old.
Favorite brand of kibble: I love Dr. Marty's Freeze-dried Kibble. It's my favorite.
Favorite toy: If I had to choose, my favorite toy is a basketball.
Favorite outdoor activity: The dog park is the best place to be, especially when I get to go with Chesty.
Favorite indoor activity: Watching Channel 8 on TV is one of my favorites.
Favorite nap spot: Napping on my owner's bed is absolutely my most favorite place.
Perfect canine pal: Chesty and I are the best of friends!

Perfect day: The perfect day is when I get to go fishing. I love it!
How did your hoomans find you? My hoomans found me through the Welsh Springer Spaniel website, and I am just so happy they choose me to come and live with them.



Name: My name is Chesty. I'm a male Gordon Setter.
Age: When my cover picture was taken (last year), I think I was about 1-1/2 years old.
Hometown: I live in Prescott, Arizona – a great town with a great dog park.
Favorite brand of kibble: I really enjoy my Science Diet Chicken & Barley Recipe. It's even better if sprinkled with some chicken or beef from Mom and Dad's dinner.



Favorite toy: I'm very fond of any ball or chew toy, and don't get me started on a good rawhide bone. I'm a determined chewer.
Favorite outdoor activity: Paws-down, I like to run. Let's just say I run with a lot of enthusiasm. I need to burn off some energy, so that means visiting the Prescott Dog Park or Run-A-Muk.
Favorite indoor activity: I do not consider a day complete if I haven't chased a tennis ball down the hall till I drop.

Favorite nap spot: Same place the rest of the family sleeps, of course. Our bed.
Perfect canine pal: My two best friends. I love playing with Remi (the Welsh Springer Spaniel in the cover photo) and Fletcher (our neighbor's English Springer Spaniel).
Perfect day: I can hardly contain the pure joy I feel when I get to visit the Prescott Dog Park or Run-A-Muk. Plus, anywhere I can meet other dogs and people.
How did your hoomans find you? I was born in California, and my hoomans looked for me a long time when they wanted to have a Gordon Setter as a family member again. I think I'm pretty important to them.

We Want to Hear From YOU!



- Your Story Ideas
- Your Adorable Photos
- Your Feedback

Submit your item to:
info@reddogpublishing.net

Rescue Organizations, please submit:

- Calendar Items
- Pets Available for Adoption
- Rescue News

to submit@reddogpublishing.net

The Prescott Dog Magazine is dedicated to promoting the human-animal bond.

Find us on at [ThePrescottDog](https://www.facebook.com/ThePrescottDog)

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EDITIONS & DEADLINES

May/June	April 1
July/August	June 1
September/October	August 1
November/December	October 1
January/February	December 1
March/April	February 1

COVER DOG CONTEST

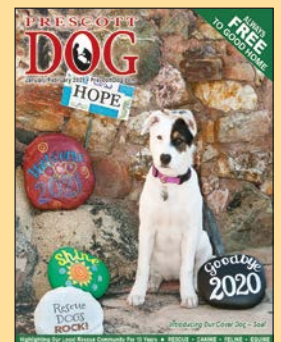


Do You Have a Beautiful Dog?

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 May/June 2021 edition of Prescott Dog Magazine, we need to receive your entry by 11:59 pm on March 31, 2021.



HAZEL HOWLS

Musical Musings

I've wondered how dogs that lived in the past endured the era of 78rpm records. You know, those wind-up record players with the big horn sticking out the top. Dad has some digital recordings of some of that music, and let me tell you, whoever recorded that music had it in for dogs. It's not the songs themselves, (mostly), it's the plethora of strident high frequencies that accompany those songs.

One time, in the big truck heading east on I-40, Dad played something called the Bristol Sessions, and I thought I was going to have to break the window and leap out to get some relief.

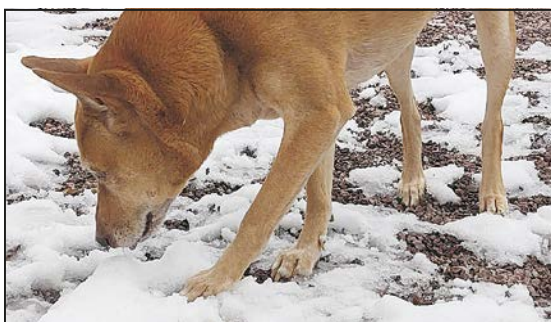
He went on and on about the historical significance of this collection of songs, and how it was the first recordings of the Carter Family. I nearly snatch his mp3 player to give it an untimely death.

How my four-legged brethren of the past put up with endless hours, (if they were like my Dad), of that cacophony, I'll never know. Maybe most of them lived outside in the 1920's. That thought gives me a bit of comfort.

Speaking of music, Dad has expounded at length on musical scales during our time in the big truck. Like, "Duane (Allman), he's using the blues pentatonic scale here, and listen to Dickey (Betts) answer back with a modified major scale to answer Duane's phrasing". Of course I pretended to absorb all this -us four-leggeds do enjoy extended conversations even though they tend to be one-sided. What I remember, and what is obvious to my upright ears, is the difference between major and minor scales.

The birds that live near us that possess the ability to sing and not just "bleat", they tend to sing in minor keys. I have wondered about that. The songs that hoomans listen to that are built with major scales seem to be sunny and happy even if the lyrics aren't. T

he songs in minor keys seem to carry a sadness and introspection that doesn't escape our notice. Compare Joe Walsh's "Happy Ways" to Peter Gabriel's "Waiting for the Big One", both of which I've heard numerous times with Dad. I like both of them (if Dad doesn't sing along too much), but Happy Ways (major key) really sounds like it was written by a "tail-wagger" and makes my heart feel light and free. The other song (minor) makes me feel like I need to be on alert for a storm. (I don't like thunder, if you must know.)



Where did that snowball go?

So, why is it birds seem to sing in minor keys I wonder?

The other morning, I went into the master bathroom and stopped by the full-length mirror for no particular reason. Gosh, my face has gotten a lot more white on it.

Aging is a strange thing. It almost feels unnatural, but I guess it's inevitable. I don't feel that much older, but I guess all these white hairs is why Dad refers to Tucker and me as "the seniors" sometimes. Tuck takes exception to that and will mutter something about the "black kettle calling the pot" or something like that. I can't remember exactly. If you heard Tuck's tone when he says it, you would know he isn't pleased with Dad's comment.

Tucker's an all-white retriever mix with apricot highlights, so he doesn't have to watch his color change over the years. I don't mind my changing that much, I still feel like a red dog through and through, and my "rocket-engines" still fire up when called upon. Ask the lizards.

Frozen Goodness During Frozen Times

I believe freeze-pops should be a regular part of a canine diet. We only got a bite maybe two or three times last summer after a long string of hot days. I have no way to describe to you the way those frozen delights tickle our tastebuds.

Dad's careful about sugar with us, but appears to throw caution to the wind for himself. If dill pickles are on the most disdainful side of the food scale, freeze-pops are on the very opposite end. Someone should invent dog-safe freeze-pops.

As you probably remember, last summer was loooooong and hot. Add to the fact that both Mom and Dad were home almost all the time. That should have been a recipe for quite a bit of tension, yet somehow we got through it unscathed. Love and patience seemed to have won the day (days).

I'm really grateful and proud of them. Tucker

even held in there, and we all grew closer through it. Of course, having Mom and Dad both home more often meant more belly-rubbins and ear scratches, which always helps.

Now we're looking at a string of cold gray days of late winter which is why I'm thinking about summer, I guess. One thing I greatly miss from summer are the limo rides and exploring new places. Lately, it's just the same old neighborhood for us. The only rides we've gotten were to the vet for checkups. I'm hoping for a couple of semi-warm sunny days when Dad will fire up the F-350 and let the wind blow through our coats with the windows down.

Hope is important to me. Dad says I have the most hopeful eyes he has ever seen, and that it's very hard to deny me something when hope burns bright in my eyes. He resists fairly well where freeze-pops are concerned, but does give in on most occasions. I always feel valued and an important member of the pack when he does. I am grateful for those moments.

I hope you have good things to hope for this winter. I myself am waiting for some snowball action. I hope you have someone to pack snowballs for you and toss them across the yard so you can chase them at lightning speed.

I Paddle Into Mom's Office

Me: Mom, can you send a file to our illustrious graphics two-legged?

Mom: What is it?

Me: It *might* be Tucker's story for Flagstaff.

Mom: I thought Dad sent that already.

[cue my blank look]

Mom: Hang on, I'll send it. Did you write your story with Dad yet?

[cue my extended blank look]

Mom: You both know it's due, you better get started today.

[cue my big wide wet compliant look]

Mom: Oh Hazel, you're such a trooper, thanks for letting me know a file has to be sent. Hey, why don't you and I pretend it's summer and let's go get a secret freeze-pop. Promise not to tell Dad.

[cue my rocket engine dash to the kitchen]

Me: Long, gray and cold days aren't all that bad, if you keep the hope of spring and summer in your heart. [slurp slurp, mlerm mlerm]

~Hazel Bazel Rocket Dog



HAZEL HOWLS

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TO THE PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

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BOOK REVIEW: No Ordinary Dog

An extraordinary read about Navy SEALs and the dog that helped them take down Osama Bin Laden

By Heidi Dahms Foster

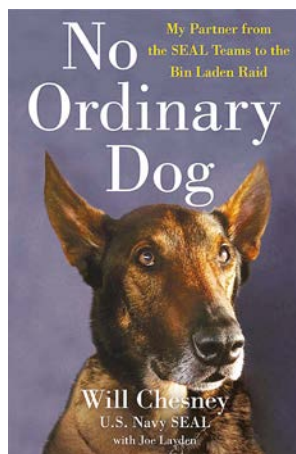
If you love reading about top-notch military teams, you'll immediately have an interest in *No Ordinary Dog*, by Will Chesney with Joe Layden. Add in the story of an incredible dog and his part in taking out 9/11 mastermind Osama Bin Laden, and this is a riveting read.

Will Chesney was an ordinary kid who had a dream of being a Navy SEAL. He had no military background, no athletic prowess to speak of, and no outstanding physical traits. But he did have an aversion to self-pity, and generally took life as it came. He credits that trait with making it through the absolute hell of SEALs training.

"There is no 'typical' SEAL," he writes. "We come from all walks of life and from all parts of the country. You're going to get your ass kicked; in all likelihood, you'll find the experience so miserable that you'll give up."

Chesney survived the training crafted to weed out all but the most determined and strong. The account of training is fascinating, and so is the account of his 13 years as a SEAL, in which he made it onto one of the most elite teams – the one that brought down Osama Bin Laden.

While a SEAL, Chesney was exposed to the dogs that had begun to make their way into military operations. While working with SEAL



Team 4 in 2008, he was invited to view a short demonstration of military dogs and the work they do. "I was open to the idea of using any tool that could make my job easier and safer," he wrote. He learned about the favored Belgian Malinois dog's incredible sense of smell, which could detect roadside bombs and other explosives better than any technology; their light and agile yet tough physique that was less than half the size of a man but could bring one down with little effort; and their amazing intelligence and beauty. He began to pursue becoming a dog handler, and was paired with a beautiful and talented Malinois named Cairo.

Chesney and Cairo worked side by side, depending on each other for survival on hundreds of critical operations in the war on terrorism. Finally, it was time to move on to other assignments, and because Cairo was still judged to have great value in the war on

terror, Chesney could not take him along as a retired K9. But in 2011, Chesney was ordered back to the kennels to pick up Cairo and report to Virginia. What followed were several weeks of training for a secret mission.

Cairo and Chesney were among the first members of the U.S. military on the ground in Pakistan as part of Operation Neptune Spear, which resulted in the successful elimination of Bin Laden. After that mission, Cairo returned to the kennels and was used when his outstanding skills were needed.

Chesney continued with the job he loved, until in 2013 a grenade explosion during an operation left him with a brain injury and PTSD. He suffered from migraines, chronic pain, memory loss and depression.

He tried to continue his military service as a trainer, but finally realized he had to move on. He would be able to continue to visit with Cairo at the kennels, and that seemed to be the only thing that would bring him peace.

Would Cairo eventually be able to retire with Chesney full time and help his recovery? That's part of this great read.

Find *No Ordinary Dog* on Amazon.com in Kindle, paperback, hardcover and audio.

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CANINE DEMOS
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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING EVENTS

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

Want to volunteer or learn more about United Animal Friends? visit 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: vapaihumane.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

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

Onsite adoptions by appt. 302 N Alarcon, Prescott, (928) 445-5411. Offsite: Petsmart, Sat / Sun 11a-3p

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS

Info: unitedanimalfriends.org

- Cat Adoptions: Petco (Hwy 69, Prescott), Daily 9a-10:30a & 4p-5:30p.
- Dog Adoptions: Petco (Hwy 69): 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: M, T, TH, F noon-5:30 by appt. only. Sat-Sun 11:30-4:30pm by appt. only. 1625 Sundog Ranch Rd., Prescott, (928) 445-2666

- Offsite Adoptions: PetSmart & PetCo adoptions are temporarily suspended. Call for more info.
- Lost Pet Center: M, T, TH, F 12p-5:30 by appt. only. Sat-Sun 11:30-4:30pm by appt. only.

MARCH & APRIL EVENTS

HERITAGE PARK ZOO

- Mar 15-19, Spring Zoo Camp
- Apr 4, Easter Eggstravaganza
- Apr 10, Breakfast with Lynx
- Apr 22, Earth Day Celebration

- Apr 24, Behind the Scenes Photo Tour
- #### WILD ROSE HORSE OBSTACLE CONTESTS BUCKLE SERIES
- Mar 26-28. Benefits Bethany's Gait. Mar 26: Intermediate Level Obstacle Clinic w/Mary Rose Anderson. Bumble Bee Ranch, Bumble Bee, AZ. Info: Gary (928) 595-0428
 - Apr 23-25. Benefits Bethany's Gait. Mar 23: Cowboy Dressage Clinic. Patterson Ranch, Star Valley, AZ. Info: Gary (928) 595-0428

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: CYPRESS 1988 (OR ABOUTS) TO 2021

Originally purchased as a "Husband Horse", Cypress quickly became "Everybody's Horse", "America's Horse" (and our last Texas horse). This big gentle giant toted more tushes across terrain, up and down the trails, through the parade routes carrying whatever flag was issued.

He was thoroughly bombproof and totally huggable. He was ridden by tiny ones to elders, cousins, nephews, nieces, buddies without a mount, with a saddle or without. Cypress was built like a Mac truck, healthy as a horse, never lame or plagued by colic.

Cypress had previously served as a lesson horse, well trained and well mannered. But as gentle and kind as he was, he could lope like a rodeo steed under saddle and afterwards found tremendous joy in every buck 'n snort out of the saddle, even at 33.

Rainbow Bridge? My bohunkus! This boy is busting open the Giddyup Gate to Rocky Road, and I guarantee he will be bucking and snorting all the way.

Here's to greener pastures.



David Tinsley riding Cypress in 2011 Parada del Sol.

~Rita Thompson-Tinsley

TEACH YOUR DOG TO SIT

By Holly Hill, Owner of True Harmony Dog Training



Teaching a dog to sit is not just an essential basic behavior that every dog should know, it's also an easy behavior to teach. You'll need to gather a few things before you teach sit.

- Small size treats
- A leash and collar on your dog
- A treat bag to hold your treats
- And of course, your dog

Remember to keep training short: 10-15 minutes at a time, two to three times a day is all you need.

Before you start, find a quiet place in your home. Attach a leash to your dog's collar.

Have the dog in front of you and grab a treat from your bag. Let him smell the treat and slowly bring it up towards the back of his head. His nose should follow the treat, bringing his head along with it. If he tries to move back just hold steady pressure on the leash so he can't do so.

As the head goes up, his natural response is to sit. Once your dog sits, say, "Yes," and reward him with the treat.

To repeat the steps, walk off and let the dog follow you. Then start over from step 2 again. Once the dog is following your hand and putting his rear end on the ground every time, you can start adding in your

cue word. Say, "Sit," and repeat the steps 2-3.

Repeat "sit" while luring your dog's head for a few days, keeping the training short and repeating the lessons a few times a day.

When you feel your dog understands "Sit," start phasing out the treats. Repeat the steps with no treat in your hand. Over a few weeks, phase out the treat completely by giving just hints to what you are looking for and rewarding after with a treat.

Troubleshooting

Dog nibbles at my hand for the treat. Just hold the treat a little snugger in your hand, he will soon figure out that nibbling does not reward with a treat.

Dog moves around while I try to lure his head up. Hold the leash a little shorter so he can't move around so much. Many dogs will go through



behaviors when learning something new.

Dog won't follow treat, is jumping all around and being silly. A few things could be going on with this one. Trying going for a walk first, or play ball to release some pent-up energy.

Dog will not follow treat or lower his rear end. If you find the dog is stuck and not understanding what you are looking for, you might need to help him. As you lure the dogs head up, use your other hand to put some light pressure on his rear end. Most dogs will sit with a little help from you showing them what you are looking for.



Celebrate



TODAY WE HONOR



THOSE WHO TRULY KNOW & LIVE THE VERY MEANING OF **SELFLESS SERVICE**

NATIONAL K9 VETERANS DAY
MARCH 13

Happy National Napping Day



March 15

Happy St. Pitty's Day!



MARCH 17



HAPPY NATIONAL PUPPY DAY!
MARCH 23



Respect Your Cat Day

28 March

National Hug Your Dog Day

April 10



BULLDOGS ARE BEAUTIFUL DAY

April 21



National Lost Dog Awareness Day

Not all stray dogs are homeless

April 23



NATIONAL PET PARENTS DAY

April 25



National Kids & Pets Day

April 26



HAPPY NATIONAL ADOPT A SHELTER PET DAY!

April 30



YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY

yavapaihumane.org

MEN OF RESCUE

Three men who love animals have found ways to make a big difference in the lives of homeless and lost pets

By Heidi Dahms Foster



Eric Neitzel, back right, of Fireground Drone Works, with a group of volunteers who recently rescued a dog at the Grand Canyon.

Eric Neitzel

Eric Neitzel found out early in his life what it means to lose a beloved dog and find it again. Now, through his company, Fire Ground Drone Works, he is adding his skills to helping others know that relief.

"I had a husky malamute mix as a kid. We went to Des Moines, Iowa for the 4th of July fireworks, and she took off. I searched and searched, and camped in the yard waiting for her to come home. Finally, we found her two days later," he said.

On his own at age 14, Eric needed all his resources to survive, so he actually hasn't had a dog since. He realized his long-term dream of becoming a firefighter and emergency manager in Northern California. He came to Arizona to assist with an Incident Management team during the Rodeo Chediski Fire in 2002. He loved the work and the area, and relocated to Show Low.

As a Public Information Officer, he served with the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest and on the FEMA Southwest Incident Management Team. Then he became a single dad of a three-year-old, and began to look for a business of his own. He crafted digital signage ads and then earned his FAA drone license. He started working as an aerial photographer for insurance companies, utilities, news and weather agencies and even finding cattle lost on large ranches.

Always one to look for purpose in his life, Eric found himself using his drone skills to help wherever he could. One of his first searches was in December for a lost three-year-old child that was swept away in Tonto Creek after the family tried to cross the flooded waterway. The child, along with two others, perished, but the family had closure after finding her body.

As a part of several lost animal groups on Facebook, Eric found that people often were asking for a drone to help search. "I had nothing going on, so I volunteered," he said.

He helps out with Northern Arizona Animal Search and Rescue and Yavapai Humane



Eric Neitzel

Trappers a couple of times each week, as he has time. He also recently assisted to help trap and bring up a husky lost at the Grand Canyon, even though he couldn't use his drone because the area is restricted air space.

With increasing technical improvements Eric is finding that he can use his skills to improve chances of locating lost pets. He can now do an aerial search and record the video, then later go back and search for dogs he may not have seen while flying.

In one search, he later spotted a dog laying in shadows that was hidden during his flight search. He is now testing software that will scan for a certain colored dog, or a person wearing colored clothing.

Two of his most memorable searches were for a German Shepherd lost after a rollover accident in Badger Springs. The Shepherd was found after many days, but unfortunately later succumbed to its injuries. Again, though, Konshu's family had closure.

Most recently, Eric assisted in the search for a deaf sheepdog near Sedona that was lost for five days in the wilderness. The dog was happily returned safely to his owner.

Eric keeps busy assisting with his drone, but he said he feels really good about his volunteer work. "It gives me a purpose. After the fire service, I get antsy to go do something. It provides a good outlet."

Find Fireground Drone Works and 3D on Facebook at:
facebook.com/Fireground/

Milan Norum

Milan Norum, retired with his wife Kathy, thought it was a good thing when his wife began volunteering in 2018 to walk dogs at Yavapai Humane Society. Soon, Milan thought, "Heck, it's time to do something. I had always liked dogs."

Little did he know that he and Kathy's "couple of times a week" volunteer service would expand to nearly every day as Covid-19 stopped many volunteers from being able to come in.

Now, Kathy works at the shelter, and Milan has virtually adopted all the dogs at YHS.

"They are all mine a little bit," he said. "I look at it as 'these guys are homeless. So you try to do the best you can for an animal – they don't know why they are there, and it has to be so scary for them at first.'"



Milan Norum

Milan has found great satisfaction in beginning to work with a frightened, untrained animal that comes around and then gets adopted. "You can't put a price on a good success story!" he said.

He finds himself spending more and more time at YHS, working with the dogs and doing needed odd jobs such as making signs, fixing doors and putting beds together. "It's a commitment until Covid is over with. It's the right thing to do."

While they get a bad rap at times, Milan finds that he loves the pit bulls at the shelter.

"I get so much back from the pit bulls. They are so fun and misunderstood. I've never had a problem with a single one of them. They are so lovable, they just want to play and be touched. If you rub their head and shoulders, they are so happy," he said.

Right now the couple has a 14-year-old Aussie mix that they adopted when she was 12.

Milan was helping at an adoption event, and assisting a woman who wanted to adopt her. But then she decided the dog was too big for her apartment, and Milan returned the dog to the shelter. As he was putting her inside, his eyes met hers, and he thought, "Uh oh, that's it, we've bonded."

He and Kathy fostered the dog for three months but he admits he had no intention of ever letting her go and now she is a permanent member of their household.

Milan has a message for those who think they'd like to volunteer at the shelter. "Unless you are committed, I wouldn't do it. These dogs need to have some kind of structure. Find out what it takes to get these dogs back

in shape to be adopted," he said.

He encourages people to realize that dogs that come to YHS have a shot at making it into a loving home. He also is amazed at all of the outreach the shelter does. "YHS reaches out to all the other shelters, just to help. The dogs don't care – they don't know who is taking care of them, they are just being taken care of. I love it, it's a good thing."

Volunteer or donate to Yavapai Humane Society at: yavapaihumane.org

Jerry Harding

Jerry Harding had animals as a child and never outgrew his love for them. He got involved in rescue in 2017 when he noticed on Facebook that someone posted about two huskies running around Prescott Valley.

"I thought, well, I'm not doing anything, so I took a drive to look for them. I saw them and opened my truck door and said, 'who wants to go for a ride?' They jumped right in and after contacting the owner, they came and got them."

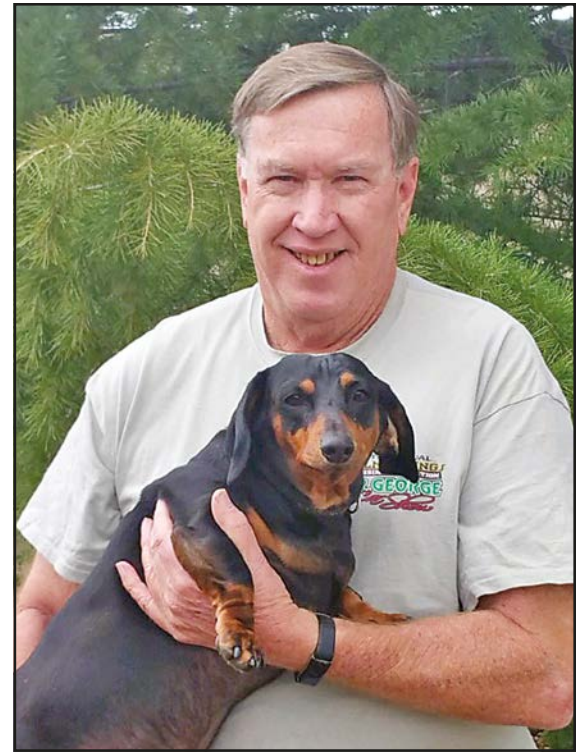
He continued to make himself available to search for lost dogs and then met Katrina Karr of Yavapai Humane Trappers. He eventually learned the ins and outs of rescue and how to use traps to contain frightened and lost pets that wouldn't allow anyone to go near them.

His first trap rescue was at Jacob's Lake above the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. A mini Dachshund named Hazel had escaped and was missing for several days. The owners had to leave without her.

She was spotted a few days later three miles from the lodge. "I grabbed the trap and headed up there. The owner had flown in, and when he spotted Hazel, he hollered to her. She looked at him and took off running. I told him Hazel was in survival mode and wouldn't trust anyone.

"The owner had said Hazel liked beef jerky, so I put that in the traps and got set up. The next morning, I went back and there she was in the trap. The owner texted his wife and they were so excited."

Jerry has since helped find a dog that was lost from an accident on Mingus Mountain. He was able to walk up to the dog and offer



Jerry Harding

her a treat. She allowed him to place a slip lead on her and she jumped into his truck. He also helped in the search for Konshu, the German Shepherd at Badger Springs.

People ask the 69-year-old Jerry why he does rescue. "I was a probably a rotten brat as a kid and this way I get to see people continue to enjoy their animals. They always offer money, but I don't take that. I tell them they can donate to the organization if they like. The hard part is the dogs you don't catch. We do take it hard."

Jerry suggests that those who want to volunteer seriously with search and rescue take a class from Cheryl Naumann at Arizona's Humane Animal Rescue and Trapping Team (HARTT) in Phoenix.

"She teaches classes for people with so many hints, if they are serious about rescue. She helps them know what to do and not to do. In one class I was introduced as being from Yavapai Humane Trappers. Everyone started clapping. That was kind of neat, I have to say," Jerry said.

Find information on Yavapai Humane Trappers on Facebook at Yavapai Humane Trappers Animal Search and Rescue or HARTT at HARTT (AZ trapping) Community Group.



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Dr. Gordon Vergason, DVM
Owner



Subaru's Share the Love Event Truly DOES "SHARE THE LOVE"

Findlay Subaru has been an incredible partner to Yavapai Humane Society, and their annual Share the Love Event just goes to prove it! In October 2020, we held an adoption event there, and because of that there was truly a happily ever after for a beautiful Golden Retriever named Keena!

This sweet, beautiful girl was surrendered to us because her family could not take care of her financially due to the pandemic. Everyone at the shelter immediately



fell in love with her and her sweet disposition. You could tell that she was a little freaked out at her new surroundings, but she just seemed to provide a smile and love when you walked by her kennel. She was such a happy girl looking for her forever!!

Ironically, Findlay Subaru was hosting an adoption event for us that weekend, and we decided that Keena needed to go share her love! THAT is exactly what she did.

Enter Elizabeth, who heard about the event but really had no intention of getting another dog. She came to our tent, saw Keena, and it was absolutely love at first site!

Keena was under the tablecloth and just had her nose sticking out, but she came out to see Liz, and magic happened! Liz has two dogs who are a little bit older, but she felt quite sure that this would be a good fit. So, Liz adopted Keena on the spot!

Liz's two dogs, Lola and Bodie, were both rescues. Keena came into the house and it was as if a family was instantly formed. Lola and Bodie almost became Keena's parents, and the bond was immediate! The snuggling started, the playing together started, and Keena knew she was HOME!

Yes, there were moments of everyone learning their place in the family, but it didn't take long at all!



If not for Subaru's Share the Love Event, Keena and Liz might have never met and had this "happily ever after". Keena is now thriving in her new home, with a big yard and brothers and sisters who love her. She's a big ole' cuddle bug to everyone in the house, and has truly settled in.

She probably has no recollection of her life before Liz, and it doesn't matter because she is HOME SWEET HOME thanks to Prescott Subaru and their Share the Love event!



We're Not Just a Zoo!

Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary has had the mission of caring for local wildlife through medical rescue, rehabilitation, and release for 33 years.

When you visit the zoo, you see over 200 animals that needed a permanent, lifetime home due to illness, injury, or some other reason.



Rescue owlets

We do not do this work alone. HPZS works closely with community partners such as Game & Fish, Animal Control, and even local veterinarians like Dr. Skinner at Prescott Animal Hospital.

In 2020 our staff answered over 675 phone calls, traveled over 158 miles to pick-up or release local wildlife and conducted 321 animal rescues.

While animal rescue is important, we need to tell the stories of the animals as well. A great example is our new striped skunk.

In 2020 we had over 30 skunks come in for various health reasons. One skunk had no health issues at all but had been hand raised to the point that it was habituated to humans. While well-meaning, this made the animal non-releasable.

Educating the public to the hazards of picking up wildlife is one



Steven Skunk with a pumpkin

of our priorities, and this new collection animal will now have a key part in sharing that story. Meet our new program skunk Steven!

We invite everyone to learn more about HPZS by visiting our website or better yet visiting the zoo! If you have an animal question or concern you can call the zoo at (928) 778-4242 during zoo hours, or call the Rescue phone at (928) 890-9018.



Steven Skunk



Rachel & Dyann in the Med Room

Second Chances for Hector, Scarlett, & Little Puff Puff

With the challenges of 2020 (mostly) behind us, United Animal Friends optimistically looks to the year ahead as one of fresh opportunities. As always, that means we are gearing up to rescue as many animals as we can in the months to come.

To celebrate the theme of new beginnings, we have a few recent examples that reveal how, for some animals, the rescue is truly just the start of the story.

First up is Hector, a black kitten who suffered a tragic, frightening start to life.

Soon after UAF rescued Hector from a high-kill shelter in Gallup, New Mexico, a medical evaluation revealed that the six-month-old had not one, but two broken front legs as well as an injured ear.



Hector

Sadly, one of Hector's legs could not be saved. The wonderful news, though, is that because of your generosity and our team of fantastic volunteers, this little fellow can now recover peacefully in a safe, loving foster home; it is also because of your contributions that we can be sure Hector's difficult beginning will be a distant memory when he finds a forever home to call his own.

Both 5-month-old Scarlett and 7-year-old Puff were surrendered when their owners could no longer care for them, and both faced dire medical issues immediately thereafter.

Kitten Scarlett had what was thought to be an obstruction and needed intravenous fluids, as well as surgery, while blue-eyed Persian Puff suffered

from a mysterious digestive ailment that ultimately landed her in emergency surgery.

Luckily, UAF was able to save both girls, who most definitely would not have survived without such quick, life-saving interventions. Like Hector, they are now safely recovering while they await placement with loving forever homes.

These are just a few examples of the power of your support, which continues to be the driving force behind many of our efforts. We encourage you to read more about UAF by visiting us online at UnitedAnimalFriends.org and on Facebook at [UnitedAnimalFriends](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedAnimalFriends).

Be it strays or surrenders, injuries or hunger, meows or woofs, our commitment persists. And in these early months of 2021, please remember there is no donation too small for the animals who depend on that commitment.

As the stories of Hector, Scarlett, and Puff so powerfully remind us, the mere chance to begin anew can make all the difference in the world.



Catty Shack Rescue

One of the important parts of Rescue is SHELTER. Yes we can bring kitties in from the street, feed them, vet them, socialize them, and care for them but where do we put them while we are waiting for them

to find that perfect home that will take over the care and nurturing from the rescue?

That question has been answered for Community Cats@the Catty Shack by a kind benefactor who has generously donated a house to us for sanctuary and adoption headquarters! We've been renting our little place on Granite Street since 2014, knowing we could be asked to leave at any time. Now we will have the luxury of owning our Shelter and operating with a sense of security.

We have rescued over 1,600 cats from the streets of the tri city area since our incorporation as a nonprofit in 2011. Now we are looking forward to having twice the amount of space to work with as well as the space in the homes of all our precious fosters. These fosters have been willingly opening their homes to orphans, pregnant moms, and cases unable to be incorporated into the Shack at time of rescue because of space issues.

Another wonderful factor in this donation is that it is only three doors down from the original Catty Shack!

We hope you come to visit us at our new location, 627 S. Granite Street beginning in March 2021. If you feel inclined to support us, we can always use volunteers, fosters and, of course, donations! Or just come by for a tour and see what it feels like to be home at last!

AARF We Love Our Puppies and Cherish Our Seniors!



How many years does it take to be a senior? Some say seven, but we think the new seven is ten. Adopt? There is that fear they will pass soon, and you will be sad.

We say that dogs don't know when their time is near; they just want to spend it close to someone, to feel safe. Those last moments, which they will remember, are treasures.



It is harder to make a decision for a younger dog knowing they had a full life yet ahead. Being a caregiver, you can make that magical difference for an older dog and we – and they – will appreciate it.

Last year, through our newest program, Golden Paws (adopt a senior), we were able to find wonderful homes for seven seniors that came to us from shelters where they often don't thrive.

Some have passed, but in their last weeks or months they knew constant love and attention.

We often get updates from their adopters showing happy dogs doing happy doggie things! We are so grateful to Sunstate Equipment Foundation for the grant that allowed us to create this special program for these special dogs.

Currently, we have another mom about to give birth at AARF, so by the time you read this article we hopefully will have a new story to share (keep checking Facebook).

Our Puppy Palace continues to be a blessing. Our plan for this year is to build two more houses so we have more options for intake and quarantine. We would appreciate any donations; just specify "2021 Building Fund" or call 928-925-7219.



Local VA Hospital Receives \$2,000 Donation From The Prescott Long Riders

On Thursday, January 7th, the Prescott Long Riders presented a donation of \$2,000. to the Prescott VA Hospital to be distributed between the Homeless Veterans Program and The Native American Navajo Veterans.

Mike Tickle, President of Prescott Long Riders, Inc., says, "We want to thank all of our riders, our members and our forty-plus sponsors for making this donation possible."

The Prescott Long Riders are planning their annual trail ride and all-horse parade for Saturday, October 2, 2021.



L-R: Mary Pittman Mach, VA Nurse Executive; Mary Dillinger, VA Public Affairs Officer; Jean Gurga, VA Medical Center Director; Michael Tickle, Long Riders (LR) President; Jessica Pulido, LR Vice President; Shelly Murphy, LR Treasurer; Jason Ramos, VA Homeless Program Chief.

When life gives you lemons, adopt a little sugar.

~Unknown





DOVE: A 6-year-old female blue Doberman Pinscher mix. She is energetic, eager to please and always looking for affection. Loves sitting in laps. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



LELAND: A 3-year-old black-and-white pit bull male. A high energy dog who is sweet and confident. Would be best with a breed savvy adopter. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



BANDIT: A 4-year-old male bluetick hound mix with that distinctive hound voice. He is full of energy and enjoys being with his people. Humane Society 928-445-2666



REDFERN: A 2-year-old red pit bull. He is a big boy, affectionate, high energy, and loves to play! He'd be a great jogging buddy. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



BELLA: A 2-year-old black lab/pit bull mix. Truly a sweetheart with an easygoing, quiet demeanor. Loves people, listens well, awesome with dogs and cats. Yavapai Humane Trappers dawnlg39@yahoo.com



BEAR: A 4-month-old cattledog. A fun-loving guy who delights in tug-of-war and learning new tricks. Learning house rules and is crate trained. Yavapai Humane Trappers 4lvdch@bullerinetWORKS.net



PUMPKIN: A charming shepherd mix, 5 months old. Will be large. Loves people, games, and other dogs. She's learning Cat 101. Yavapai Humane Trappers 4lvdch@bullerinetWORKS.net



RONIN: A 2-year-old Australian Shepherd mix, 45 pounds. He is friendly with people and seems to be good with other dogs. United Animal Friends uafdogs@gmail.com



SPUD: A happy and fun-loving 2-year-old Heeler mix, compact at only 20 pounds. Friendly with people and other dogs. United Animal Friends uafdogs@gmail.com



IVAN: A 7-month-old Lab/Heeler mix. He is a big, sweet, dopey puppy that loves attention. Very friendly, loving, active, good with other dogs. United Animal Friends uafdogs@gmail.com

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GIVE THEM TIME TO ADJUST

Newly adopted dogs need time to adjust to their new homes, and it's important to be prepared for what can sometimes be a time-consuming and stressful process.

Many newly adopted animals are dealing with the stress of being in a new environment with new people, routines, and smells. They are also trying to figure out if they are really "home" or if there is another change coming.

It's important to start training your dog right away by taking them out to where they will be going potty immediately upon coming home.

Spend a good amount of time there with them. Let them roam around and get used to the area. Even if they "do their business" there, be prepared for accidents to happen as they adjust to the new surroundings.

If you will be crating your new dog, show him where the crate is and leave it open so that he can freely go inside if he needs some

alone time or to decompress.

For the first couple of days, give your new friend a good amount of one-on-one time so that he can learn your voice, your movements, and can settle in easier. Avoid large crowds or the dog park until they have settled in.

Do some research on different ways to help them adjust and don't expect a dog to immediately feel at home. Some may, but many won't.

You might not see your new pet's true personality for several weeks or even up to three months. Be patient and understanding and stay on a schedule of feeding, playing, and walking at the same time every day so that they can get in the right routine with you.

You can almost compare this process to starting over at a new school. You need to learn your way around, meet new people, and adjust to new schedules and routines.

By being patient and letting them surely help with their happily ever after in their new forever home!

IT DOESN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT

THE 3/3/3 RULE IS A GENERAL GUIDELINE FOR THE ADJUSTMENT PERIOD OF A DOG AFTER ADOPTION. EVERY DOG IS UNIQUE AND WILL ADJUST DIFFERENTLY.



3 DAYS

TO DECOMPRESS

- FEELING OVERWHELMED
- MAY FEEL SCARED/UNSURE OF WHAT'S GOING ON
- NOT COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO BE "HIMSELF"
- MAY NOT WANT TO EAT OR DRINK
- SHUTS DOWN AND/OR HIDES UNDER FURNITURE
- TESTS THE BOUNDARIES



3 WEEKS

TO LEARN YOUR ROUTINE

- STARTS SETTLING IN
- FEELS MORE COMFORTABLE
- REALIZES THIS COULD BE HIS FOREVER HOME
- FIGURES OUT HIS ENVIRONMENT
- GETS INTO A ROUTINE
- LETS HIS GUARD DOWN. MAY BEGIN TO SHOW HIS TRUE PERSONALITY
- BEHAVIOR ISSUES MAY START TO APPEAR



3 MONTHS

TO START TO FEEL AT HOME

- FINALLY FEELS COMPLETELY COMFORTABLE IN HIS HOME
- BEGINS TO BUILD TRUST AND A TRUE BOND
- GAINS A COMPLETE SENSE OF SECURITY WITH HIS NEW FAMILY
- SETS INTO A ROUTINE

GIVE THEM A CHANCE



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Wednesdays - Dentistry services provided by *Arizona Veterinary Dental Specialists*

Thursdays - Ophthalmology services provided by *Eye Care for Animals*

Fridays - Ophthalmology services provided by *Eye Care for Animals*

*Subject to change without notice. Please call for an appointment

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OLIVIA: A 2-year-old calico mist - beautiful, sweet, and affectionate. Playful like a kitten. Getting under the bed covers intrigues her. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



RAYNA: A beautiful medium-haired black lady with the biggest golden eyes! She is 4 years old, sweet, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



ZULA: A 2-year-old strikingly sleek silver tabby female with big green eyes. Zula likes being petted and is quite social. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



CERANO: A charming little man of 10 months, white with red-frosted ears and a red striped tail. He is handsome, playful, funny, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



SPOCK: A 2-1/2-year-old pure white male with gorgeous green eyes. Spock loves back rubs, is very friendly, and loves everyone. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



ANGIE: A 3-year-old medium hair Calico with the loveliest green eyes. She is remarkably friendly and loves lap time. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



THISTLE: A 2-year-old grey ticked tabby male with vivid green eyes. He is a good companion cat and gets along well with other cats. Catty Shack 928-778-6951



MADISON THE FAIR: A 3-year-old dark tortoiseshell lady who loves to play and hog the toys. She is affectionate and loves attention. Catty Shack 928-778-6951



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CHICO BLANCO

A 15-year-old white mule gelding. We were told he is brave under-saddle and he has done some trail riding.



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CINCH

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A close-up photograph of a dog's face, showing its eyes and fur.A close-up photograph of a cat's face, showing its eyes and fur.The logo for Prescott Animal Hospital (PAH), featuring a silhouette of a horse and a dog, and the letters "PAH" in a stylized font.

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Icons for Facebook and Instagram.The logo for AAHA Accredited, featuring the text "AAHA ACCREDITED" and "The Standard of Veterinary Excellence".Logos for the App Store and Google Play, indicating that the hospital's services are available on mobile devices.



SIPHON DRAW TRAIL IS A WORKOUT AT LOST DUTCHMAN STATE PARK

Story and photos by Cheryl Hartz

Before the hot weather hits Arizona's Sonoran Desert, check out Lost Dutchman State Park in the Tonto National Forest. Within the Superstition Mountains and Wilderness, this gem sits 40 miles east of the Phoenix metro area and just north of Apache Junction. After Winter Storm Nathaniel's wet offerings in January, spring flowers could carpet the park in March.

The park, now totaling 320 acres, was developed in 1972 as a day-use area and designated a State Park in 1977. But travelers have come from all over the world seeking the fabled Lost Dutchman Gold Mine since the legend began in the 19th century.

The Superstitions were thus named by early white settlers because they considered Native American beliefs just that – superstition. The Apaches believed the Thunder God lived in the mountains, while the Pimas believe their ancestors are entombed there. It is sacred ground to many Native Americans.

The "Dutchman," German immigrant Jacob Waltz, came to the area during the 1850s gold rush. The true story is unknown, but gold seekers have been looking for his alleged hidden cache since he supposedly escaped an attack by Apaches and narrowly escaped with his life, a few gold samples and some maps of the Superstition Mountains. Some \$3 million worth of gold came out of the Superstition Mining District in the early 1900s, but the streak evidently played out. If anyone else ever found gold, they aren't telling.

We weren't looking for the Dutchman's lost gold mine, probably because the scenery is spectacular and we just wanted a December campsite where it would be warm. And we definitely were glad we packed shorts and T-shirts.

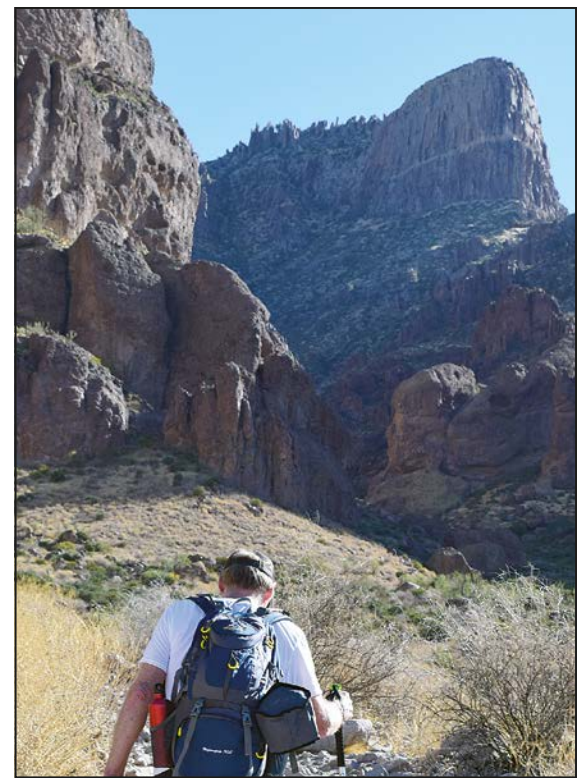
Choose your level of exercise and expertise, starting with an easy hike on the



Metal coyote sundial tells the time.

Discovery or Native Plant trails, a moderate one like Treasure Loop or Prospector's View, or an advanced one, including Siphon Draw or Flatiron trails. A 4-mile mountain bike loop trail is a recent addition. Take a map (provided with entrance fee) wherever you decide to go, because unmarked social trails crisscross the park. Motorized vehicles are not allowed, but horses are.

We packed a lunch and plenty of water to tackle the challenging Siphon Draw Trail. We knew we wouldn't try for the top of Flatiron, because of the stress it would put on our 11-year-old dog, Jack. Well, let's face it, rock scrambling straight up over unmarked territory during a nearly 6-mile roundtrip hike is a bit much for me, too. Siphon Draw, a well-marked 4-mile round trip, was plenty of exercise, with a lunch stop in the shade. It's a popular trail, but not overcrowded. You won't hit shade, basically, until you've ascended for awhile, and approach the draw, where we turned around.



Shaped like a flatiron, the jutting mesa far above the hiker is not on a marked trail, but is off of Siphon Draw.

We explored most of the lower trails during our weeklong campout. It was fun to see small water features for the birds and mammals, and a coyote-themed sundial. A dog park with a nearby water pump is a nice feature, as well.

Area wildlife includes desert mule deer, bobcats, coyotes (we heard them every night), jackrabbits, desert cottontails, hawks, quail, roadrunners and songbirds, javelina, Gila monsters, and of course, Arizona's ever-present Diamondback rattlesnakes. Reptiles weren't active in December, but might start to emerge in the spring, depending upon how warm it gets.

Park elevation is 2,000 feet. Moderate daytime temperatures occur from October to April, with extreme heat in the summer (over 100) and a winter average near 60 degrees.

Happy Spring Hiking!



Make sure your dog gets a good slurp before starting a long hike, and make frequent stops to rehydrate him, especially when high above your campsite.

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From left to right:

- Ayse Washington, DVM
- Delia Macdonald, DVM
- Roxanne Batt, DVM
- Tammy Pauletto, DVM
- Joy Fuhrman, DVM
- Emily Roth, DVM

- Wellness Visits
- Sick Visits
- Same-Day Appointments
- Dentals
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YAVAPAI HUMANE TRAPPERS: RESCUE ADVENTURES

By Toby Frost

As we are prone to saying in the rescue world, never a dull moment, and these last few months were no exception. Yavapai Humane Trappers Animal Search and Rescue (YHT) has a search and capture side, and a foster/adopt side which gives us a lot of challenges to tackle.

There were a number of search projects recently, including tragic auto accidents with dogs ejected from cars. But one recent story has the heartwarming ending we all love and shows the level of persistence and endurance and "out-smarting a pup" that is part of a trapping project.



Ginger was adopted recently from Chino Valley Animal Shelter. Once home, Cyle, her new owner, opened the car door and she bolted out. The new owner looked for her all evening with no success. When CVAS workers heard his voice message, Supervisor Debby Randall Korell immediately went to work posting and contacted us.

Our team made plans to go along with Mary Lightfield from CVAC to help find Ginger. After driving around the area for a couple of hours, they spotted an off color in the field about 75 yards away. Their trusty binoculars confirmed, and behold, it was her.

Mary got out and called her. Ginger came, ran around Mary barking, but then ran off again, showing she was not hand catchable; we were going to have to trap her. Cyle went to the side and pushed Ginger toward us, but she ran into a field between Cyle's house and a big canyon.

We set the trap and waited. The next day we rebaited it. Debby and Mary went field-walking and called. They heard one bark, and it was close.

We made a wide loop to come in at the back of the canyon and sited Ginger trotting straight for the trap. She found the trap, but would only go a quarter of the way in. Rather than reinforce her behavior, we closed the trap and left food and water – which she devoured.

Our new game plan was to bring out our XLarge trap made for a Great Dane or Mastiff. Ginger wasn't around when YHT arrived but our team waited around looking for her. We decided to check the trap

again when her lone bark went off at the bottom of the canyon. We called for her, and the barks were ongoing and coming closer. We then went silent and sure enough, just like before, she trotted by without seeing the searchers.

We set the XLarge trap up with three bowls: the first one was halfway in, the second was three-quarters of the way in with only a bite of rotisserie chicken, and there was a mega bowl in the back behind the trip plate.

An hour later she made it to the trap site and went to the first and second bowl, then backed out. We rebaited and reset the trap with the first bowl closer in, the second bowl right before the trip plate and the mega bowl in the back.

Ginger visited her new dad at night and ran around the property. She stuck close, thank goodness, and Cyle was dedicated to bringing her to safety. He never gave up on her and was totally committed to building a bond.

We want to give a big shout-out to Chino Valley Animal Shelter, which is a great rescue partner. They're passionate about all their dogs and always ready to bring them to safety when they run away. It was great to work with them, and it took a village of animal-loving people, but what a great conclusion for Clyde and Ginger who are now the best of buds.

On our foster-adopt side, we have a double story. One of our trapping team, who is also a foster, is Alyssa Upton. Her level of persistent care shows that success is built one step at a time for some dogs.

When Shannan Rundquist, a satellite YHT partner in Winslow, found an abandoned dog needing help last September, Alyssa assisted him.

Several weeks earlier a friend had discovered a sick dog in their front yard. The dog was housed at Animal Control for the 72-hour hold, and then Shannan picked him up. He was emaciated, covered in ticks and had terrible healing bite wounds all over his body. His left hip was dislocated, and a local vet determined that he had a very old injury and that the ball of his femur was completely decalcified.



Even with all his problems at only a year old, he fell right in with her four other dogs. He had no food aggression, and he loved her cats. After getting him neutered and vaccinated, Shannan reached out to YHT for further medical



support, a foster and eventual adoption. That's when Alyssa got involved.

One of our partner vets, Prescott Animal Hospital (PAH) scheduled major hip repair surgery, followed by water therapy. This young dog blossomed after discovering walking no longer meant constant pain. Alyssa is training him so he'll be a model of good behavior when he hits the adoption circuit.

YHT recently got a call about a hoarding situation in Ash Fork, where the owner passed away and a neighbor was reaching out for help. A middle-aged healthy poodle mix was among the dogs needing help. Alyssa recruited her parents to foster sweet and gentle Gracie (now Snowball), thinking she would be an easy keeper, which wasn't precisely accurate.

Snowball had been living on tuna and potato chips for most of her life, and was unable to walk due to extremely matted fur. PAH's vet placed her at over ten years old. She had ear infections, cataracts in both eyes, a lipoma on her leg, and a skin fungus causing hair loss. She also had two infected teeth that needed to come out, but because she was having seizures the vet wanted to do more lab work before removing her teeth.

She also had a strange tar over her body and in her ears. The vet cleaned it out, so Snowball could hear and bark occasionally with her cute little boof bark. Her toenails had grown around her toes, and she could not walk well due to a condition in her back paws called musculoskeletal plantigrade which caused her muscles to be severely atrophied.

None of this deterred Alyssa's parents. They just rolled up their shirt sleeves, and YHT donors stepped up to help, too.

Snowball is now a Hospice Foster at YHT, and her new foster parents have been taking great care of her. Her ear infections are gone, and she now has special booties that allow her to walk better without pain.

Snowball loves going for little walks outside wearing her sweaters and booties, and she's getting a balanced diet with special kibble. She is getting regular grooming and tons of love, and especially enjoys sleeping on her pillow-bed between her new mom and dad.

Bear Gets Her Wings

by C.L. Dreves

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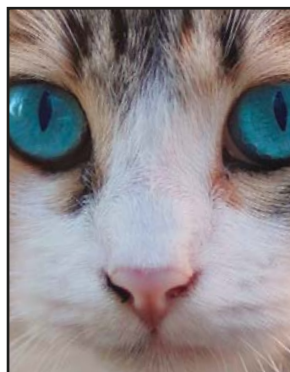
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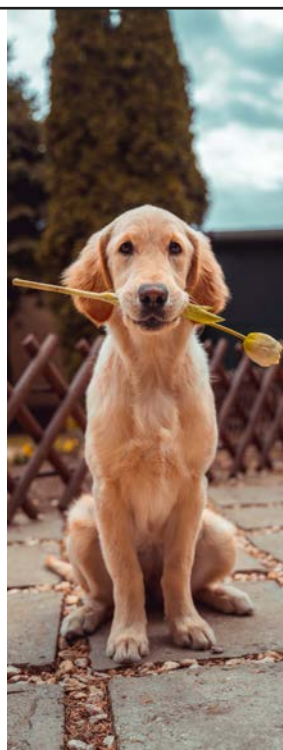


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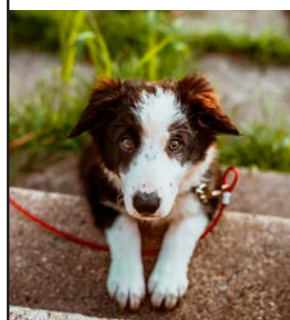


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HORSE TAKES WOMAN TO THE "TOP OF THE WORLD"

By Heidi Dahms Foster

Virginia Kilduff of Prescott Valley grew up with horses, and learned from every one she rode. But it was in the past couple of years that she worked her way through some truly hard times with the help of her world champion cutting horse, Izzy.

Virginia got her first horse, a cantankerous Welsh pony, when she was 9. A less determined child might have been convinced to give up on horses. "I would pretty much work an hour to get her saddled, then ride a bit. Then she'd lay down and roll me off."

Her next horse unwittingly set the stage for Virginia's future sport. "He was much older, and a full-sized Quarter Horse. He was a "cattle bred" horse, a working ranch horse. She shadowed the trainer down the road, and began to compete in horse shows, gymkhanas, 4H and junior rodeo.

Virginia married her husband Tom, and the couple had two children, Justin and Sammie. They had purchased property in Prescott Valley, and in 1994, made the move north. By then, with raising two kids and having to haul water to their new property, Virginia had sold all but one of her horses. "We just wanted to move up north and raise the kids in a better place, so you put your dreams on hold," she said.

In 2005, Virginia again began looking for another horse. At the same time, neighbors, cutting horse trainers, had moved in down the road and began to host "club cuttings." "I was interested so we'd go over," she said.

The sport of cutting was birthed in the real ranching West of the 1800s, where cowboys on their horses had to drift into a herd of cattle and "cut" out single animals for doctoring or branding, without upsetting the whole herd. It took an agile, cattle savvy horse that could move in calmly and yet turn on the speed when it was necessary to



Virginia Kilduff cuts in a competition with her world champion horse, Izzy.

keep a cow from returning to the herd.

Today, cutting is a wildly popular sport among horse lovers, and an exciting one to watch. It's also a beautiful picture of what a partnership between a rider and horse can look like.

In today's cutting contests, each contestant enters the arena with a small herd of cattle and four helpers on horseback – two at the back of the herd to hold them in a group, and two in the front to turn back and help contain the herd.

The rider has two and a half minutes to move into the herd, decide on a cow that he or she believes will work best with the horse. The rider then moves the cow out to the center of the pen and controls it with the horse to keep it from returning to the herd. The rider can cut out and work with two or three cows within the time limit.

After watching her neighbors' club cuttings, Virginia had her first chance to ride a turn back horse, and she was hooked. She bought her first real cutting horse in 2005. "I had a lot of fun with him, winning a bronze award at our year end club show."

Over the next several years Virginia showed with several different horses, always improving in her sport. She soon moved to the larger National Cutting Horse Association shows.

"The competition there is as tough as it's going to get," she said, noting that because the sport is a partnership between horse and rider, and dealing with other live animals (the cattle), anything can and will happen on any given day.

"So many things can be out of your control," she said. "You can be the best rider or trainer with the best horse, but that doesn't mean you'll win every time. It's based on so many variables. You also have to have some luck.

No run is ever the same – stay centered in the saddle, and ALWAYS keep your eye on the cow or you might end up on the ground, always exciting!"

She describes what it's like to ride a good cutting horse. "Cutting pits a horse against a cow in a battle of wills. Horse and rider must move quietly into a herd of cattle, cut a cow from the herd, drive it to the center of the arena then 'hold' it away from the herd using only your legs and seat.

"The horse is scored on its ability to keep the cow from returning to the herd, cow sense, attentiveness and courage. The ideal picture of a cutting horse is one of polished concentration and split-second response to the action of the cow.

"Once the rider's hand is lowered the rider's role seems diminished, and it can look like the horse is working completely on his own. In reality, that illusion comes from a harmony of movement and a blending of responses between horse and rider," she said.

The best cutting horses are what Virginia calls "cattle savvy." "They have instinct. You can train a horse to work cattle, but the ones that have real cow horse sense enjoy

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Virginia Kilduff and Izzy meet for the first time.

the job. You can't train that into them."

In the past five years, Virginia started training with renowned cutting horse trainer Mike Wood from Rio Verde, Arizona. Wood has a knack, she said, for matching the right horse with the right rider, and she liked the way he and his team members managed the riders and horses they worked with.

She was riding a horse that better suited to another rider, and the two made a trade, in which she acquired her horse Jazzy, with whom she continued to perfect her sport. When it came time to retire the mare, she went to a friend of Virginia's where she knew Jazzy would have a great home.

Virginia then found herself ready to hit the road again. Wood called her and told her about a horse that he thought would be a good fit. "JJ" took her to another level, and the pair won a large NCHA amateur show in Las Vegas. "He was a great horse, and a lot of fun. He developed some foot issues, which happens sometimes, and he came home to lounge with me."

After a break in showing and traveling, Wood again called Virginia and told her of a horse that he thought she would enjoy riding. Kisses on My Bottom, or "Izzy," was in Texas, and had been through nine different owners. Virginia trusted Wood's judgment, so she began to look into Izzy. After extensive vet checks and video meetings, Izzy was judged sound and Virginia decided to take a chance on her.

In 2019, a friend of Woods brought Izzy to an Arizona show, and the two met. Virginia rode Izzy at that show, and found she was a sensitive mare and not in the best shape, but the two did well. "She was 10, and she had gone a lot of places. She had had some bad experiences, and horses are like elephants, they don't forget. She had a lot of great owners, but sometimes horses find trouble. She was sweet and a very hard worker."

The two became a team, and it looked as if the sky was the only limit. Izzy and Virginia became Circuit Champs in a five-day contest, then won their first prize saddle in a "shootout" competition.

At the same time she met Izzy, Virginia had a health scare, being diagnosed with a type of breast cancer. She had a biopsy, and thankfully all was fine. But in December 2019 her doctor told her she definitely had the cancer and would need surgery. She continued to compete with Izzy in January and February 2020, and then had surgery in March. By that time, Virginia and Izzy were at the top of the NCHA standings. Then, she said, the Pandemic hit and everything stopped. "It didn't start up again until May 2020, and by that time, I was healed."

Her health scare and her partnership with Izzy had Virginia viewing competition in a different way by then. "There's a different attitude when the opposition is there. I've seen so many great horses and riders, but sometimes it still doesn't work. This was working. We just clicked," she said. "Izzy is special. She had some rough spells in her life, too. She's tough, loves her job, and gives it 100 percent every time."

During 2020, the pair traveled to Wyo-

ming, Nevada, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado and Texas to show. In December 2020, they landed in Las Vegas, Nevada for the NCHA World Finals. Both times in the arena, Virginia and Izzy drew and had to compete first (the luck of the draw). That didn't leave time for Virginia to study the cows and see how they reacted. "I knew to just drive the cow far out into the arena so it would get back to the herd. I believe it is me and my horse against the cow, and I just wanted to get set up correctly," she said.

The pair laid down a really nice first run, and on the second run got a bit out of position for a lower score, but the average was enough to propel Virginia and Izzy into the NCHA World Championship in the Non-Pro \$35,000 class.

This year, Izzy and Virginia have continued to do so well that they are again on the top of the World NCHA standings. Izzy has settled and overcome some of her quirks, and Virginia has found that the mare has an affinity for Oreo cookies.

Virginia said she is at a place where she has realized her dreams in cutting competition, but the decision to retire or sell Izzy and move on is a hard one. Being away from home so much, and being on the road while working to keep her horse healthy and happy is not an easy journey.

"My plan was to meet this goal (the World Championship). Izzy made the dream come true, with a lot of work from a lot of people. You think you're done, but I don't think she's done. She's sound and healthy, and she keeps winning. And there's a financial part to this. I could continue, but then you almost have to say 'OK, let's put all that money toward retirement grownup things.'"

Whatever she decides, Virginia will enjoy the memories of the special white horse that helped her through one of her hardest times. "When I was diagnosed, my parents were moving to Prescott, my son was getting married, and my daughter was graduating. I didn't tell anyone then but Izzy. She was a great distraction!"

SEARCH PARTY IN THE SADDLE

Story by Rita Thompson-Tinsley



Almosta Trail Buckskin Rescue team Lanelle White-Newton, daughters Gaia and Layla and friend Kristen Johnson. Photo courtesy Karen Moseley.

In early February 2016, a buckskin horse was reported missing in the Almosta Trail System. The local Prescott Saddle Club had stopped for lunch, tied their horses and one got loose. The riding group searched for the runaway horse with no sightings.

Almost immediately Karen Moseley of Horning Around put together a mounted search party for the next day. She chose people familiar with this particular area and divided the group into 3 search parties to cover more territory. She brought binoculars so she could 'glass' the area with better visibility.

After the groups rode off, Moseley made her way upward to get a better view. After 45 minutes of thoroughly glassing the area from her heightened position, she began to feel frustrated. After saying a short prayer for better guidance, Karen turned to begin scouring another direction, and there he was.

As she attempted to retrieve the buckskin, she realized there was a barb wire fence between them.



Christina McCarty scouring the area for missing dog Khonsu. Photo courtesy Rita Thompson-Tinsley.

She called for backup and in rode Lanelle White-Newton along with her two young daughters and a friend to halter the horse, still saddled, and pony him back to the trailhead.

According to Moseley, the key to coordinating a search well is assessing the area and providing everyone with a map and cell numbers – not to call, but to text. Phone reception is generally sketchy but a text will eventually get through. Each group should also have a halter and lead rope for the rescue, and horse treats are handy.

Some searches include other modes and methods. There may be hikers, bikers and ATVs, as was in the case of Khonsu, the German Shepherd who was ejected from a vehicle accident. A mounted search was organized by Christina McCarty with expert networking skills. Eight of us met at Big Bug Trailhead and followed a trail which would have access to where the dog might be.

As with horses, water sources play an important part for investigation, so we trailed up to a visible windmill. Days later the family of Khonsu camped out close to the accident sight. They awoke to find the injured dog sleeping on their jackets.

Leaving out 'scent items' is key, especially with dogs. Unfortunately, Khonsu passed away days later due to his serious injuries, but because they didn't give up, Khonsu's family was able to spend those last days with him.

Not every search guarantees a successful finding, but the planning, camaraderie and ingenuity always makes it a successful endeavor. In many search groups you'll find the same enthusiastic participants.

In June of 2013, Linda Corbin arrived late for a group ride at the Granite Mountain Cayuse Trail. She tethered her horse to her trailer to begin tacking up. Her horse managed to get loose and take off. There commenced a three-day search.

June 17th was Amanda Marsh's birthday. Her husband, Granite Mountain Hotshot superintendent Eric Marsh, asked her what she wanted to do? Would she like to spend the day in Sedona or join the others in search for Linda's horse?

Amanda chose to join the search party, so off they went, horses Shorty and Susie in tow. Amanda and Eric were assigned the area around Granite Basin Lake, but continued to search throughout the basin.



Amanda and Hotshot Superintendent Eric Marsh. Photo courtesy of a family member.

The search was called off the next day due to the Doce Fire. Ironically, Eric Marsh ended up on the team in charge of protecting Granite Basin, the area where he and Amanda were searching for the lost horse. Proudly, that area remained green. After the horrible deadly tragedy that took place weeks later in Yarnell, the memorial for Eric Marsh, the first memorial, was held at Granite Basin Lake.

Linda Corbin's horse was never found, but there were unconfirmed rumors of firefighters sighting a lone running horse in the Doce region. It was heading in the direction of what has become the Memorial Grandfather Juniper Tree.

Linda Corbin's horse was never found, but there were unconfirmed rumors of firefighters sighting a lone running horse in the Doce region. It was heading in the direction of what has become the Memorial Grandfather Juniper Tree.



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One day a man was walking along the beach, when he noticed a boy hurriedly picking up and gently throwing things into the ocean.

Approaching the boy, he asked, "Young man, what are you doing?"

The boy replied, "Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back, they'll die."

The man laughed to himself and said, "Don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make any difference!"

After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said, "I made a difference to that one."

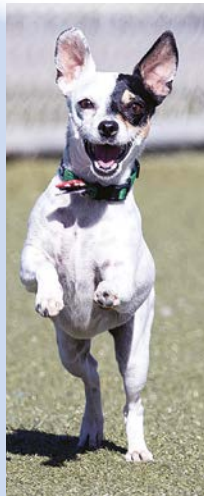


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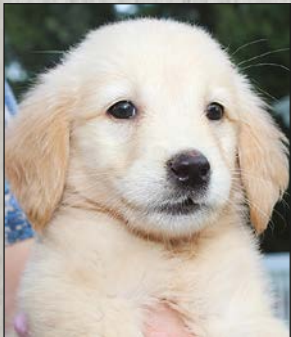
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