

Prescott Dog

magazine

November/December 2021 • PrescottDog.com



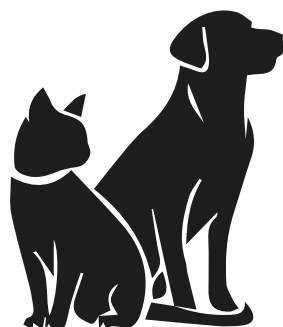
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PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

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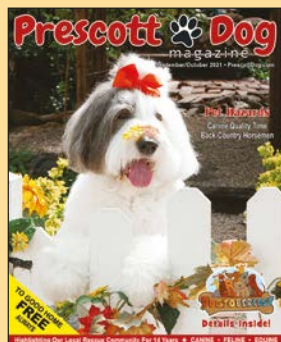
COVER DOG CONTEST

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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 2022 edition of Prescott Dog Magazine, we need to receive your entry by 11:59 pm on November 30, 2021.



Petey, Our Cover Dog

Name: Petey, a.k.a. Personality Pete, Sweetie Petey, Pirate Petey.

Hometown: I live in Dewey, but I've only been here since May 2021. I also have relatives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where my Mom's from.

Age: I've been nine years old for three years now. My Mom lies about my age, but not her own.

My rescue story: I spent the first five years of my life mostly as a stray on the streets of Phoenix. I was adopted twice and then returned to the animal shelter by both of those owners. My eye became infected when I was four, and that owner returned me to the shelter, too. A short time after, that my mommy found me and I found my forever home.

What makes me cool! I'm not your typical Chihuahua. I don't bark too often, and I'm very friendly. I'm known for my lovable personality! I love people, and I secretly like the extra attention that I get due to my pirate eye!

Favorite brand of kibble: Hills Science Diet, Weight Control formula. That way I can have extra treats!

Favorite people food: Culver's pup cups. I love them, and am happy when I see my Culver's friends who love me, too!

Favorite toy: My stuffed Opossum. He is even bigger than me, and I love to swing him by his long tail.

Favorite outdoor activity: I love to travel and ride in my very own captain's chair in my mommy's truck. I don't even mind that the chair is pink. I'm very secure in my masculinity!

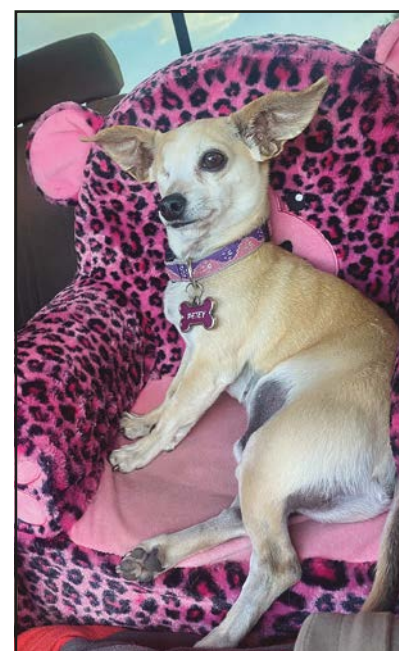
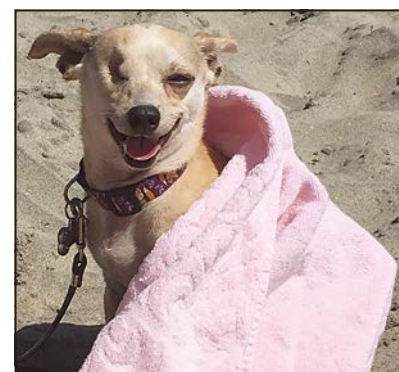
Favorite indoor activity: Trying on doggie clothes. Oh, wait, that's my Mom's favorite activity. Mine is playing with my toy Opossum and watching Bonanza.

Favorite nap spot: Laying in the sun in my very own yard, either on my rug on in my doggie cabana.

Fitness regimen: I like to hike, but I also like to play golf. Or at least that's what everyone here at the Prescott Country Club thinks due to the multiple times I've escaped my yard and walked up to the seventh green to hang out with the golfers. I'm becoming a celebrity here.

Describe your perfect canine pal: I really like playing with other dogs that are small, as long as there are not too many of them around me at one time. My peripheral vision is limited due to my disability, and too many dogs or large dogs scare me because I can't see them too well.

Describe your perfect day: I love to sleep in, so my day doesn't really get started until 10:30 a.m. In my perfect world, we'd be at the dog beach every day in San Diego. I'd play with all my friends and then get tired and lay on the beach. Then we'd go to a dog-friendly restaurant and later watch Snoopy on TV at the hotel.



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HAZEL HOWLS

The Sound of a Friend's Name

He didn't come Monday. He was supposed to... but something came up.

How did I even know to await his now deferred arrival? Even from the other end of the house, my acute sonic reception abilities can catch the mere mention of a name.

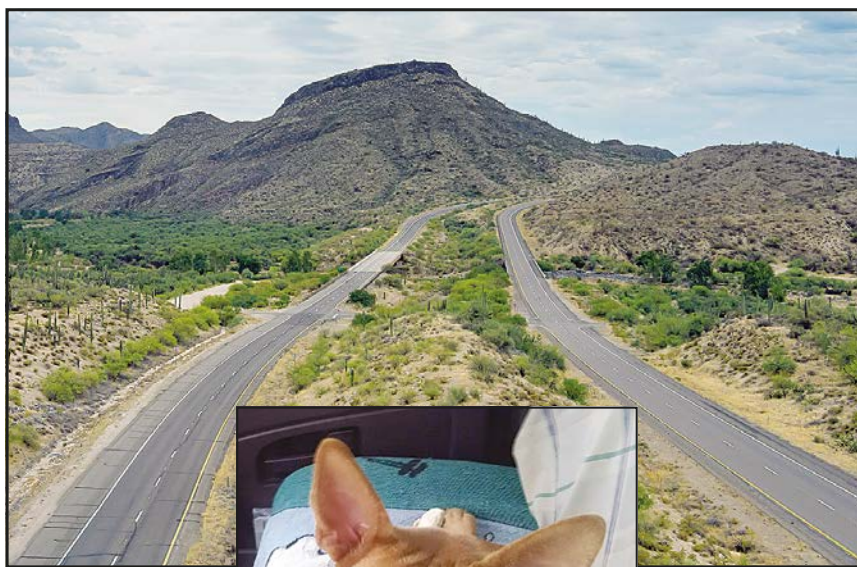
Mom and Dad were conversing and going over the details of the upcoming week which, to us on four legs, contains a lot – and I mean a LOT of boring details. As soothing as their voices can be (mostly), I usually drift off during these conversations. Unless I hear the pack's names, or the names of our friends. Or...words like treat, ride, scrubbies (bath), or outside – which will cause my upright ears to tilt towards a more favorable direction while my brain engages two-legged translation mode.

In the exact circumstance I just described (while I was laying on the big bed alone, curled in a ball with my back against our pack-leader's pillow), I heard *his* name. My alert, pricked ears caught his name a second time, and I was compelled to draw near.

Filtering out the "blah blah blahs", and "yada-yadas", my superior rez-dog brain deciphered the word Monday. If I understood correctly, Tony was supposed to come over on Monday.

That's how I knew, and to explain why his name is at the top of my tail-waggers contact list, I have to go back to my days as a young co-pilot in Dad's big truck.

Dad had already worked with Tony for a couple years before I was



inducted to life on the road. On my first trip to the warehouse (after my new Mom gave me a thorough cleaning and going over), Dad and I had the place to ourselves because the other drivers were off on different schedules. It was just me and Dad.

Running free through the long aisles while Dad loaded the truck was a great thrill. Being hoisted up into the cab with all our gear made me anxious to see what the open road held for us.

Eventually, on one of our returns to Phoenix to reload, we caught up with another driver named Tony. He was in the dock loading his semi-trailer.

I liked Tony right away. He wore black shorts and a black shirt, which makes it easier for other two-leggeds to see that he is a friend of dogs. My fur really showed up on him even after the slightest hug and pats. Tony has a keen sense of humor and likes to give Dad a hard time, which really

endeared me to him.

On the road, driving around various reservations and their various grades of remote

and rough byways, Dad and Tony rarely landed in the same town at the end of their workday. When Dad and I finally got our truck unloaded and made the long return trip back to the warehouse, I always hoped we'd find Tony had returned also.

Dad and Tony regularly rang each other up and checked in with each other while zooming around in different directions. They compared notes on different delivery points, alerted each other about weather, told bad jokes, offered to drop what they were doing to help when the other's truck broke down... and with Tony's multi-decade experience on the road, he always gave Dad good advice.

On several occasions, Tony helped Dad get out of some tight spots.

One time, Dad had to go to Illinois for some family matters, and on

his return trip while driving through Oklahoma, he found himself heading towards two super cell thunderstorms that had tornadoes.

Dad pulled over his pickup to the side of the road and called Tony. Once he gave Tony the current radar conditions, location, speed, and direction of the storms, Tony gave Dad the best way to go around the storms, guiding him safely north and west, up and around the storms – all by memory.

Of course their friendship grew over time, as did mine with Tony. Even after the three of us left behind the big bouncy road food-enhanced truck driving life, we're still close, even though Tony lives in the big metropolis ninety minutes away. When he comes up to our elevation on occasion, Tony sometimes brings a bag of doggie-bagels from Chompy's as a treat just for me (though I do share with the rest of the pack).

When Dad and Tony are together, after the initial excitement of seeing him again, I like to lay down near them and listen to them talk and laugh. Sometimes they take me for a long scenic drive, which is the closest thing to heaven on earth for me.

So, even though Tony didn't make it up here Monday, and I'm a bit disappointed, I know I'll see him sometime soon. How can I be so sure? Well, my two-legged friend is made of special stuff: he's a Semper Fi guy. Like me, he knows loyalty and persistence in difficult circumstances.

Dad says if you have the friendship and respect of a Semper Fi guy, you have something very valuable. I agree.

~Hazel Bazel Rocket Dog



HAZEL HOWLS

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CALENDAR

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

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• Cat Adoptions: Mon-Fri: 9a-10:30a & 4p-5:30p; Sat: 9a-11:30a & 4p-5:30p; Sun: 10a-11:30a & 4p-5:30p

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- 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 by appt only: M, T, TH, F 12p-5:30 by appt. only. Sat-Sun 11:30-4:30pm

YAVAPAI HUMANE TRAPPERS

Most Sat. at Prescott Petco. Contact YavapaiHumaneTrappers.org to request mtg or complete preadoption form.

ONGOING EVENTS

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Want to volunteer or learn more about United Animal Friends? Info: unitedanimalfriends.org or (928) 778-2924

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- 50% Off: 1st Sat of every month at the YHS Thrift Store, 1601 Iron Springs Road, Prescott. Open Mon - Sat, 9a-5p.
- Walk In Vaccination Clinic every Friday between 8a -4p. No appointment necessary; first come, first served. Wellness Clinic, 2989 Centerpointe E Dr, Prescott.

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS

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Nov 11, Veterans FREE Day
Nov 13, Behind the Scenes Photo Tour
Nov 20, Members ONLY WildLights Preview
Nov 25, Thanksgiving with the Lemurs
Nov 26 & 27, Opening WildLights
Dec 3,4,10,11,17,18,24,25,31 & Jan 1: WildLights
Dec 5, Santa with the Animals
Dec 20-24, Kids Week FREE

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS RUMMAGE SALE

Prescott Gateway Mall, across from Dillard's & Famous Footwear, 10a-3p. Donations accepted Nov 1,2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23 & 24. Regular Price Sale Days Nov 11, 12, 13. Half Price Sale Days Nov 26, 27. Make an Offer Day Nov 28.

HORSES WITH HEART ANNUAL SEQUINS & SADDLES FUNDRAISER

Nov 13, Phippen Museum. BBQ from Big Daddy E's & music from the Rusty Pistols Reloaded. Proceeds benefit Horses With Heart Therapeutic Riding. Info: horseswithheartaz.org

WILD ROSE RANCHO RIO BONITA RANCH HORSE OBSTACLE CONTESTS

Nov 19-21 in Morristown. Proceeds benefit Bethany's Gate vet heroes & horses. Register: bethanysgait.org/wild-rose/ or call Carole at 602.686.2435.

UNITED ANIMAL FRIEND SANTA PHOTOS

Nov 27, 11a-3a, Whiskers Barkery, 225 W Gurley Street, Prescott. \$10 multi-photo disk or 5"x7" print.



Rescue Resources

For an expanded view of Rescue Resources, visit PrescottDog.com



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<p>CATTY SHACK RESCUE 609 S. Granite Street, Prescott (928) 778-6951 cattyshackrescue.org</p>	<p>CHINO VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER 1950 Voss Drive, Chino Valley (928) 636-4223 Facebook: cvanimalsshelter</p>	<p>CIRCLE L RANCH ANIMAL RESCUE 8550 E Smitty's Place, Prescott Valley 7680 N Coyote Springs, Prescott Valley (928) 273-7005, circlel.org</p>	<p>DESERT LABRADOR RETRIEVER RESCUE Sedona, Arizona (928) 554-4127, DLRRAZ.org</p>
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<p>VERDE VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY 1520 W. Mingus Ave, Cottonwood (928) 634-7387 VerdeValleyHumaneSociety.org</p>	<p>HUMANE SOCIETY OF WICKENBURG 4000 Industrial Rd, Wickenburg (928) 684-8801, wickenburghumane.com</p>	<p>YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY Multiple locations. Please visit website for info. (928) 445-2666, yavapaihumane.org</p>	<p>YAVAPAI HUMANE TRAPPERS ANIMAL SEARCH & RESCUE Prescott, Arizona Facebook: Yavapai Humane Trappers Animal Search and Rescue</p>



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HORSE BESTS MAN IN ANNUAL 50-MILE CONTEST, BUT NOT BY MUCH!

By Heidi Dahms Foster

The annual Dewey Man Against Horse Race may be a bit obscure locally, but it's legendary among long distance runners and endurance horse riders. The race, in which runners and riders have challenged themselves and each other for 35 of the past 37 years, took place on October 9.

While the weather cooperated beautifully this year, past years have served up heat, freezing cold, rain, sleet and hail, gale force winds, and sometimes snow, washed out trails and most anything else that can be imagined.

The 50-mile portion of this tough race begins just off Highway 89A and old Fain Road at the base of Mingus Mountain.

Horses and riders start just before sunrise, making their way through a rocky wash to head toward the mountain. The trail is rough, rocky, and in places, straight-up steep to an elevation of 7,600 feet. The views and terrain are epic.

This year, Susan Kramer, riding her Arabian horse Steel, bested first-place runner Nick Coury by an astonishingly slim margin of 2 minutes and 38 seconds, for a time of 6:49:54. Coury came in at 6:52:32.

Kramer also won one of the most coveted awards among endurance riders – the Best Condition award – given to the top ten horse that veterinarians judge to be in the best physical shape at the end of the race.

Coury and Kramer are friends, and both have had a couple of great years at the race. In 2019, Kramer won second place rider and Best Condition on Steel. Coury won the race overall.



Susan Kramer and Steel cross the finish line to win the 2021 Man Against Horse Race by 2 minutes and 38 seconds over the 50-mile course.

Last year, Kramer kicked it up a notch and was the first rider in, again winning the Best Condition award, with Coury winning the race overall for a second time. This year Kramer took the top spot, with Coury coming in second.

The two laughed and hugged at the finish line, which is typical for this race that draws people from all over the country and cements long-term friendships.

Kramer, a long-distance runner herself, said she spent some years "catch riding," or riding other people's horses in long distance rides. She was casually looking for a horse of her own when a friend recommended Steel, whose registered name is "A Ali Aseel."

He is a straight Egyptian Arabian, a breed known for their amazing endurance. She didn't know all of that when she brought Steel home in 2016, but Kramer soon found she had an amazing partner for her long-distance adventures. He is currently ranked number three in the country for Best Condition awards in the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC), the sanctioning body for endurance riders.

Two years ago, Kramer and Steel took on the Tevis Cup Ride, 100 miles in the Sierra High Country from Lake Tahoe, Nevada to Auburn, California in 24 hours. The two completed the ride, and this past July, competed again and came in fourth in a contest that only about 50 percent of entrants finish.

The month prior to the 2021 Tevis Cup, Kramer ran the trail in the Western States Endurance Run. She is only one of four women to complete the run and the ride in the same year.

Kramer said Steel, along with being uncommonly talented, is her "heart horse," and a lot of fun. "He's special," she said. "He's always been there for me – that constant in my life. I adore him."

Around the house, Kramer said, Steel is the "man in charge," the boss even though he's the smallest of her three horses. She said he's friendly and "smart as a whip."

While the human runners in the Man Against Horse race are solely responsible for their own training, hydration, rest, pacing and safety, just the opposite is true for the horses.

Twenty-five and 50-mile horses must first qualify for the race, then pass a number of veterinarian checks, where their heart rate, hydration, soundness and general condition are recorded.

If a veterinarian deems a horse unfit to continue at any point along the trail, that horse is pulled from the race. At the finish line, the horse must stand for and pass a final check. Then, the 75 required minutes of vet and rest checks are deducted from the total time.



Susan Kramer trots out Steel so the vet can check him for soundness after the 2021 Man Against Horse Race.

This year, Nick Coury crossed the finish line well ahead of other runners and horses. Kramer's boyfriend texted her when she was seven miles from the finish line, telling her that she and Steel had 30 minutes if they wanted to win. "I thought, seven miles in 30 minutes? No way!"

Kramer knows she has an amazing equine partner, and she doesn't push him.

"He pushes himself," she said. "He knows if he's in second place. He knows when he crosses the finish line that he's won – and he loves to win." He was eager to forge to the finish line, but Kramer still had to pay attention to the balancing act that is the horse's condition and comfort versus the time to win.



Susan Kramer and Nick Coury hug each other after the two came in first and second in the 2021 Man Against Horse Race.



Susan Kramer and her boyfriend Brad care for Steel after he wins the 2021 Man Against Horse Race.

The two loped across the finish line – Steel looking like he could easily go another 50 and Kramer with a huge grin. And the condition? That Best Condition award told Kramer that she balanced speed and care of her horse just right.

A great horse is just the start of a successful endurance team. The rest is just plain work.

Care includes the best food and supplements and constant conditioning, and the secret ingredient – the relationship of horse and rider. At this level, Kramer has to enjoy her horse – she spends a lot of time with Steel. She rides out for 17-25 miles three days a week, and throws in a shorter “leisure” ride on a fourth day. She’s careful that Steel doesn’t get burned out or bored, and he can surely sense if the same happens to her.

The Man Against Horse Race can have its challenges, which Kramer and Steel have had to overcome each time.

The first time she ran the race, someone moved marker ribbons and she went off course, riding an extra seven miles. Steel was still the first horse across the finish line. Now, GPS solves the issue of moving markers.

This year, Kramer said Steel’s protective hoof boots (an alternative to shoes) came off some 20 times, forcing her to stop and put them back on.

“It was kind of a zoo!” she said. “At one point, all four came off! By then, I had no thought of winning.”

What’s ahead for this competitive duo for the rest of the AERC year? Just three more rides of 50-75 miles. “I might jump to a 100, or drop to a 50,” Kramer said. “Then December starts a new season,” Kramer said.

In the 25-mile race this year, John Simpson and his mount TWC Rock My World won the horse contest in 3:52, and also took home the Best Condition award for their distance. Neil Truckenbrod was the first 25-mile runner across the finish line in 4 hours. Amy Hobson was the first woman across the line in 4:20.

In the 12-mile (horses do not compete in this one, it’s considered a trail ride), Thomas Koska in 1:26 and Schanda Demoust at 1:59 were the winners.



Susan Kramer and her boyfriend Brad care for Steel after he wins the 2021 Man Against Horse Race.

Race director Ron Barrett thanked all of the volunteers who made this year’s race a success. The Yavapai County Jeep Posse put 50 people on the trail from base camp to the top of the mountain, manning checkpoints, relaying information, and making sure everyone was safely off the trail at the end of the day.

“The Jeep Posse is so important. They put out 50 people on the mountain. All of the competitors were so impressed with them,” he said.

Other volunteers worked hard on all of the other aspects of this well-run event.

For final results and photos of this year’s race as they become available, visit ManAgainstHorse.net.

BOOK REVIEW: FINDING HOME

By Heidi Dahms Foster

A Glimpse of the Emotional, Physical, & Worthwhile Commitment of Adopting a Shelter Dog

One of the ways people have found to help rescue dogs find their forever homes is to publish endearing photos that capture their unique personalities. Many times the person who highlights these distinctive canines is a volunteer photographer who has a heart for the animals that need a permanent, loving home.

The concept has found great success in helping to place rescue pups, and some of these wonderful photos have found their way into coffee table books. Gazing at these quirky canines is a fun way to pass

some time, and the books make great gifts!

One of these artists is Traer Scott, who began photographing shelter dogs in 2005 as a volunteer. Her first book, *Shelter Dogs*, was a huge success, and now she has followed up with a new batch of distinctive dogs in her book entitled, *Finding Home: Shelter Dogs and Their Stories*.

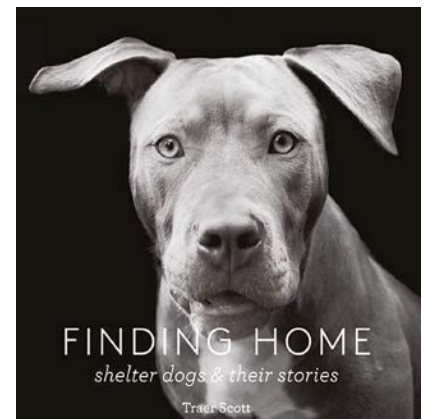
Her stories and photos include Morrissey, a pit bull, who suffered from anxiety-related behaviors brought on by shelter life until adopted by a family with four children; Chloe, a young chocolate Lab mix, surrendered to a shelter by a family with allergies; Gabriel and Cody, retired

racing greyhounds; and Bingley, a dog who lost his hearing during a drug bust but was brought home by a loving family that has risen to the challenge of living with a deaf dog.

Because Scott has included the stories with her photos, readers can learn about each dog and see how they experience their way into new and loving homes.

Perhaps one of the best things about this book and others like it is that people who are thinking of adopting a shelter dog can get a little taste of the emotional and physical investment of that commitment.

Traer Scott and Princeton Architectural Press are donating a portion



of the proceeds from *Finding Home* to two dog rescue organizations: Providence Animal Rescue League and Handsome Dan’s Rescue.

Finding Home is available at Amazon in both Kindle and hardcover.



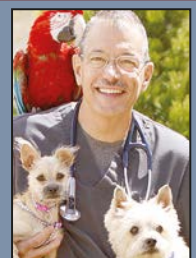
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We have a new helper for our visits to Juvenile Detention! James Schattauer as been cleared as a Gabriel's Angels Helping Hand, which means he's able to support us with our visits with the youngsters at Detention.

It's really sweet to share this therapy work together. Not only do we pass out tools like stethoscopes, toys, treats, and Reggae's baseball card stats, the kids also get to experience an adult male who is kind, loving, and knows how to care for animals.

On one of our visits, we worked together to help the kids learn how to not only check their own heartbeat, but to also find out where Reggae's heartbeat is. It might seem like a simple feat, but not everyone has heard their own heartbeat or even knows where to find it. And then, to



be able to find a dog's heartbeat as well? Baboom!

We do simple things together, yet they make a huge impact. On one of our visits, we talked about life and french fries. During another visit, the kids learned how to use the Half Body Wrap with Reggae to help him with anxiety, storm and noise sensitivity, and better body awareness. The kids enjoyed trying the Body Wrap on themselves, too.

Every visit makes a huge difference to all of us, no matter how simple it might seem. Sometimes just a smile, a laugh, or a wag is enough to remember that kindness and love are what matter most. Woof!

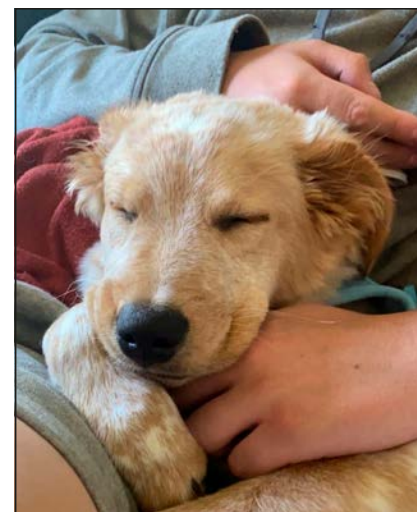


It's near the end of the year, the holidays are soon approaching, and we ponder... how does a rescue judge success?

When our turnaround is short, and our dogs leave us with a paw hug for those who saved them, and a tail wave on their way to home with their special person or family. That vacant space will be filled when another rescue enters after being deemed unwanted, ignored, or inconvenient, not to mention too old.

That's who AARF is and why we do what we do and love doing it! We just wish the parade of dogs needing us would lessen, and their families could stay together. There is no such thing as a perfect pet, only love for an imperfect pet.

If you or someone you know is looking for a pet, check our residents on Petfinder or come to meet them in person (the best way). Did you know that you can increase your heart



A happy pup settling into their new life.
rate and your view of the world by rescuing and walking a dog?

Join our family by volunteering in many ways, donating to help us achieve our goals, fostering or networking, sharing our story and our dogs. There is so much you can do if you love animals and respect our work. Our success depends on you!

To-date this year, AARF has welcomed 76 dogs and adopted over 50.

We have watched six moms/moms-to-be raise 33 puppies (three actual births witnessed)! We judge our success by those numbers!

Happy holidays to everyone from all of us at AARF!



Yavapai
Humane
Society

It just takes the right one!

When an animal comes to Yavapai Humane Society, we never really know how long they will be here. Sometimes a dog or cat comes onto the adoption floor, and they are adopted within a day or two. Sometimes they are here for much longer. There's no rhyme or reason as to why, and our goal is to take care of – and love – each and every animal until they find the right home!

Just because an animal has been with us for a long time doesn't mean that there is something wrong with them, it just means that perhaps they are overlooked because of their age or breed, or they just weren't given a chance to show their true personalities.

Shelter environment doesn't always allow an animal to show you all they can be, which is why we encourage you to take the dogs out to the bark parks and spend some time with them where you can see the possibilities and all the love they have to give.

That's exactly what has happened with some of our long-term dogs. Someone came to the shelter, saw a possibility, and took that dog out for a meet and greet. All it takes is the right one!

Take George, for example, he's a 3½-year-old Rottweiler/Australian Cattle Dog mix who had been at the shelter for 5 months. He didn't have a great kennel presence, but the minute he got outside he became an absolute lovebug who would lay his head on your legs, love up on you, give you kisses, and play like a puppy.

One day, Rebecca came in and saw George and gave him a chance and they are now living that happily ever after that each animal here wants! George found the right one!

Odin is a 5-year-old Terrier/American Pit Bull Mix who was here for 5 months, and no one could understand why he wasn't getting adopted. He loved to play, wanted to love on everyone, and was absolutely beautiful. Enter Emerson, who came in one day, met Odin, and it was instant love! Em-



Bonnie

erson and Odin are now a happy family; again, Odin found the right one!

Zeus is an absolutely beautiful 8½-year-old Golden Retriever/Pit Bull mix who was here for 6 months. Volunteers and staff alike were completely confused as to why no one was taking this boy home.

He knew sit, stay, roll over, shake, fetch and more. He loved to go for walks, hang out, and love on everyone. Along comes Barbara, who met Zeus and an instant family was formed. Barbara and Zeus knew immediately that they had each found the right one!

We encourage you to call and make an appointment to meet our precious animals who are looking for a forever home. Come meet Prince, who has been here since February. He's a 10½-year-old Dutch Shepherd mix who's ready to go home! He's super smart, knows sit, stay, and even shake!

He loves being outside and going for walks and hikes. He's got a lot of life and love in him, so don't let his age deter you from giving him a home. He

does need to be your one and only as he is not a fan of other dogs, but that just gives you more time together.

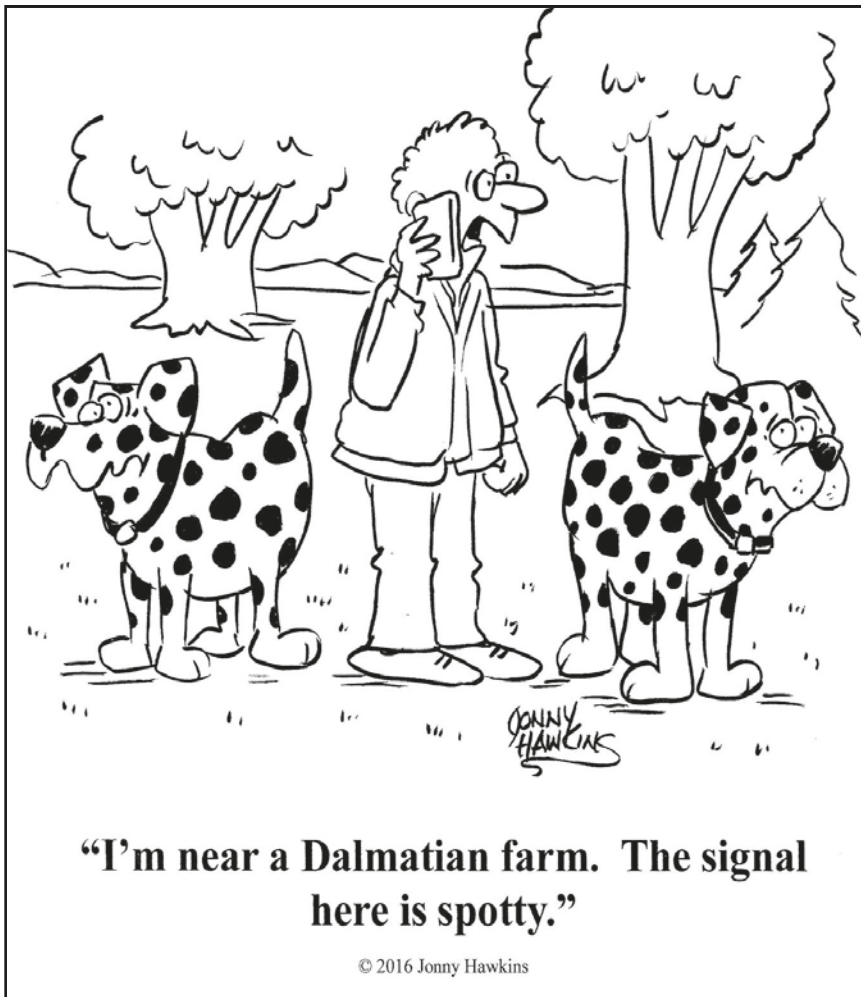
Then there's Bonnie, a beautiful 3½-year-old Pit Bull/Terrier Mix who's been here since May. She's super sweet and friendly, loves getting attention and getting out, and playing and running around the bark park here with staff and volunteers.

She needs some work on her leash skills, but she's improving every day. She knows sit and is eager to learn more, especially if treats are involved. With her size and energy level she should probably not be around smaller children.

She does seem to do good with other dogs, but we'd want a positive dog to dog meet and greet before Bonnie goes to a home with another dog.

Make an appointment to come see Prince, Bonnie, or any of the other amazing animals just waiting to meet you! Check out our website at YavapaiHumane.org for pictures and info on every available animal.

Take them out for a meet and greet, and see their true personalities shine through. Who knows? You might just be the right one!



UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS ON A RESCUE MISSION

For many people, gratitude is a sentiment most keenly felt in fall and winter. The air blows colder, days are shorter, and the lucky among us can rest easily, knowing shelter and a meal regularly await us. But for too many animals, including those here in our own community, this is a comfort that is anything but certain.

Basic necessities for homeless animals remain in constant demand for United Animal Friends. While our volunteers work tirelessly to rescue struggling animals and find them new homes, we continue to depend on you – our friends, neighbors, and fellow animal lovers – to support our mission.

We realize that challenges continue for many in our community, and we know that living in such uncertain times can make it difficult to find gratitude for those basic necessities. But that is one way our



animals remind us of what is truly important. In return, we can honor that reminder by doing our part to care for them, knowing no donation is too small, no effort too little.

As your year comes to a close, please remember that your support of United Animal Friends' programs makes a real, tangible difference in the lives of animals.

From foster care placement to regular meals, warm beds, medical care, and caring companionship as they prepare for adoption, every dollar ultimately goes toward the rescue of an animal who desperately needs it.

Please consider giving what you can to support our animals and their basic needs and read more about donation options at: UnitedAnimalFriends.org.



spin. We're still spinning trying to keep up with the need.

At the same time, we are immensely grateful for our successes. It's been a time of tremendous growth for YHT as we've gained a solid standing in the community. We are uniquely positioned with both our strong trapping/searching/capture team that tenaciously tackles each requested lost, stray, or auto-accident animal needing help, and our foster-adopt team which gets homeless animals into secure homes.

We've broken up hoarding situations where humans and animals were in distress. Focusing on Arizona animals, we've traveled across the state from

near the Mexico border to the far north reservation, where animals were severely injured or extremely sick.

In 2021 so far, YHT has helped 247 dogs and cats (and a few fowl, horses, and pigs). We've tracked over 30 animals this year, with most having a happy outcome by either their being returned to their owner or fostered and adopted. We've assisted over 20 owners with pet medical needs that they could not cover, and saved lives in the process. Our foster-adopt team have taken in puppies/kittens and adult dogs/cats providing the needed spay/neuter and medical services and located loving homes for them. Our outreach partners across Northern Arizona have allowed us to transfer many more for whom we had no room, which shows the strength of those relationships.

Many generous supporters have made so much possible for the animals we've taken in, and we could

never have achieved the successes without their critical donations to cover medical and supply costs. Our amazing veterinary clinics have been essential to our life saving efforts as well.

So while we're in disbelief at all the animals needing help, we're also thankful for the friends – including hardworking volunteers, medical supporters, and loyal contributors – who make our life-giving rescue work a success.

As a 501c3, and an all-volunteer charity, the donations we receive always make a direct positive effect on the animals we help. Follow us on Facebook to watch our pace and determination, and the little faces uplifted by our work.

Thank you for your support, and may 2022 bring more peace and cooperation as we all strive to respect the diversity of our world today. Helping those in need always elevates us all.

What a year it has been for animal rescue. We've seen more highs, with the rapid spike in pet adoptions during the pandemic isolations, to the plummeting lows of hearing that shelters were beyond capacity due to the economic downturns. We've heard numbers of 15% to 20% higher adoptions in 2020, and Yavapai Humane Trappers Animal Search and Rescue (YHT) was scrambling along with everyone else to be responsive to that interest. Then, in a blink of an eye, we encountered so many homeless, sick, injured, or stray animals that it made our heads



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KENT: A big yellow retriever mix, 7 years old. He is gentle, affectionate, and loves attention.
Yavapai Humane Society
928-445-2666



GRAVY: A 2-month-old brindle and white male pit bull mix. He is a super-sweet puppy who is a blank slate for training and socialization.
Yavapai Humane Society
928-445-2666



ZEKE: A 2-year-old black-and-white Australian Cattle dog mix. He is active, energetic, and extremely smart. He loves people and activities outside.
Yavapai Humane Society
928-445-2666



MAEVE: A 10-year-old long-haired Chihuahua female, black and white. She is very affectionate and loves to cuddle.
Yavapai Humane Society
928-445-2666



SCOOBY: A 6-month-old red cattle dog mix, male. He is affectionate, loves people and interaction, and is so very smart!
Yavapai Humane Trappers
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



RUSTY: A 2-month-old male red maybe cattle dog/pointer mix. He is a curious happy fellow who will follow you around looking for fun. He is close to housebroken.
Yavapai Humane Trappers
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



SALLY: A classic black and white border collie mix female, 5 months old. She is super smart, energetic, and very affectionate. Loves belly rubs and lap naps.
Yavapai Humane Trappers
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



BABY: A beautiful 2-year-old yellow lab female. She is affectionate and happy, with puppy exuberance. Loves people, especially children. Gets along well with other dogs.
Yavapai Humane Trappers
4lvdch@bullerinetworks.net



DUKE: A stunning blue merle Australian Shepherd male with striking blue eyes. He is 2 years old and has an affectionate, happy-go-lucky personality. Good with other dogs.
United Animal Friends
uafdogs@gmail.com



LOGAN: A 10-week-old white and brown puppy, a mix of hound and lab. He is sweet and cuddly, full of puppy energy, smart, and fun.
United Animal Friends
Doxiemama4@gmail.com



RUDY: A handsome 1-year-old sable male purebred Shih Tzu. Rudy is very sweet and affectionate and loves to cuddle with his human.
United Animal Friends
uafdogs@gmail.com



AMETHYST: A beautiful female who looks to be a German Shepherd cross about 3 years old. She is a bit shy, but gentle and affectionate.
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- Tammy Pauletto, DVM
- Joy Fuhrman, DVM
- Emily Roth, DVM



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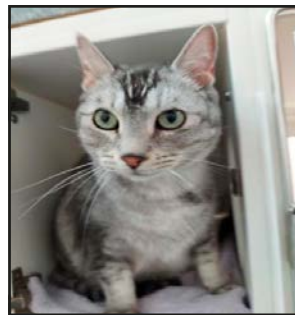
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JOEY (Left) & RAINBOW (Right). Joey is a handsome senior gentleman of 14 years; he's friendly, gentle, and affectionate. He'd be very grateful for one more loving home with his bonded friend, Rainbow. Rainbow is a sweet 9-year-old orange female. She loves people and is quiet, affectionate, and gentle. Loves pets and laps. She is bonded with Joey, her housemate. Catty Shack 928-778-6951



TRIXIE: A 9-year-old longhaired silver tabby female. She is a fluffy cat and as sweet as can be. She loves curling up with people or in a warm blanket. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



MAX: A most elegant silver tabby male, 8 years old. He is quiet, affectionate, and would love another home with loving people. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



KENDRA: A 5-month-old little girl who is a House Panther, blacker than black with huge golden eyes. She is quiet, thoughtful, and affectionate. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



CENA: A lovely 1-year-old golden shorthair Torbie (tortoiseshell and tabby) female with beautiful coloring and markings. She's very sweet and affectionate. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



LOLA: A beautifully colored 1-year-old tortoiseshell lady with big green eyes. She loves people and wants to be involved in everything you do. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



SWEETIE: A beautiful black and tan Tabby, 5-6 yo. Owner had to move. Super affectionate, will climb into you lap for loving. Loves to play with wand toys & cat tunnels. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



SCOUT: A 1-year-old dilute Tortoiseshell female. She's quite talkative and very affectionate. Scout is a lap cat at heart. Miss Kitty's Cat House 928-445-5411



SAVANNAH: A beautiful brown tabby female with big golden eyes, and the most adorable tufted ears. She is affectionate, quiet, curious, and loves to play! Catty Shack 927-778-6951



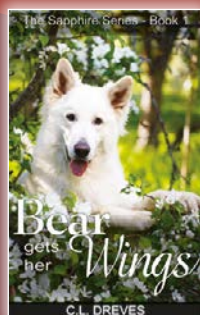
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by C.L. Dreves

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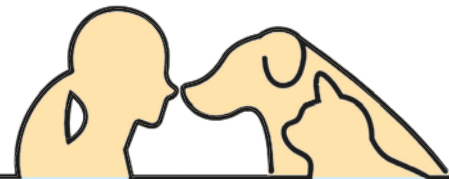
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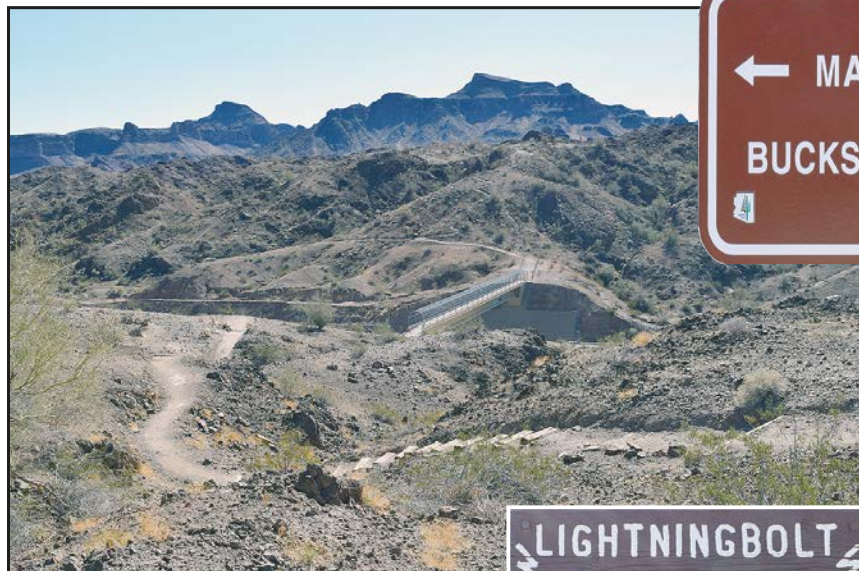
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TAKE AN IDEAL WINTER HIKE ON ROCKY BUCKSKIN MOUNTAIN LOOP TRAIL

Story and photos by Cheryl Hartz



Peak season for water play and families at Buckskin Mountain State Park is May through October. That means the winter and early spring months are ideal for those hoping for a more relaxed – and cooler – experience on the surrounding trails. Lower temperatures also mean you won't mind a bit that those unforgiving trails provide no shade.

Even though the cold Colorado River runs beside it, this is a harsh environment, with little vegetation anywhere. Even the cactus varieties are sparse. Yet the austere beauty of the extensive views from the top of the Buckskin Mountain Loop Trail is beyond compare.

Begin on the Lightning Bolt Trail. It's a half mile and straight up to start, with sweet views of the Colorado River and California on the river's far side. This leads to a concrete footbridge that spans Highway 95. Once across, you can choose the Loop Trail or the Market Trail.

The Loop Trail is a mile long with occasional challengingly steep areas. Benches are spaced along the way for your viewing or resting pleasure.

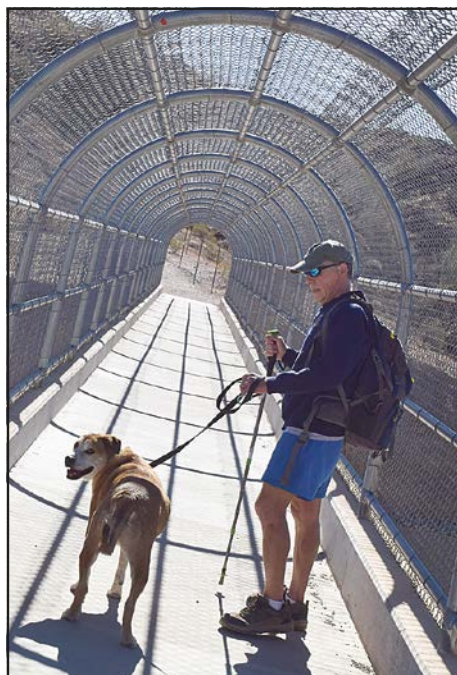
Market Trail is 0.9 mile starts along the highway

2.3-mile hike that's adjacent to a wilderness area.

Copper Mines Trail is 0.6 mile and has a series of fenced-off abandoned copper mines.

For any of these hikes, take plenty of water. Wear sunblock and sturdy shoes. Adding padded insoles or thicker socks wouldn't hurt hiking over all those rocks. Layered clothing is a good plan.

Beware of rattlesnakes. They sometimes take advantage of warmer winter days. The rugged terrain is good for hiding both snakes and larger wildlife. That includes bighorn sheep, bobcats, cougars, skunks, coyotes, badgers, ringtails, and gray fox, if you're lucky enough to spot any of them.



A sturdy footbridge spans the highway for access to the Market and Buckskin Loop trails.

before heading into the mountains. There's an old copper mine a ways in.

Lamb Spring Trail connects to River Island State Park (Jan./Feb. 2021 Prescott Dog Magazine) via a



Jack takes advantage of sparse shade.



Vegetation is scant on the rock-covered mountains.



Our A-frame looks tiny next to other massive campers and the Colorado River.

Watching birds along the river flyway you might spy osprey, eagles, egrets, herons, pelicans, hawks, and seagulls. Parker Dam and the Bill Williams National Wildlife Refuge are nearby, to see more of these avians up close.

The park resurfaced roads and campsites this fall, so expect a smooth experience if you're camping. Do not expect good Wifi or cell phone service. You are in between mountains here.

Happy rocky hiking!

The Colorado River remains unchanging, so boating and fishing opportunities always are available. Polar bear types might enjoy a winter swim, but I'll pass, thank you very much. I do enjoy sitting with a cup of coffee and Watching the River Run. I capitalized that because it happens to be a catchy Loggins and Messina song. "And it goes on and on..."

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8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19,
20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27

November 1, 2, 3, 5,
6, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17,
19, 20, 22, 23, 24

Due to limited space,
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No mattresses or large
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October
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28 - make an offer

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ROSIE WARMS HEARTS AT ALTA VISTA SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

By Heidi Dahms Foster



Rosie's sweet face is much loved at Alta Vista.

On the staff page of the Alta Vista Senior Living Community in Prescott, you'll find one smiling face connected to four legs and a wagging tail. That would be Rosie, the Community Canine!

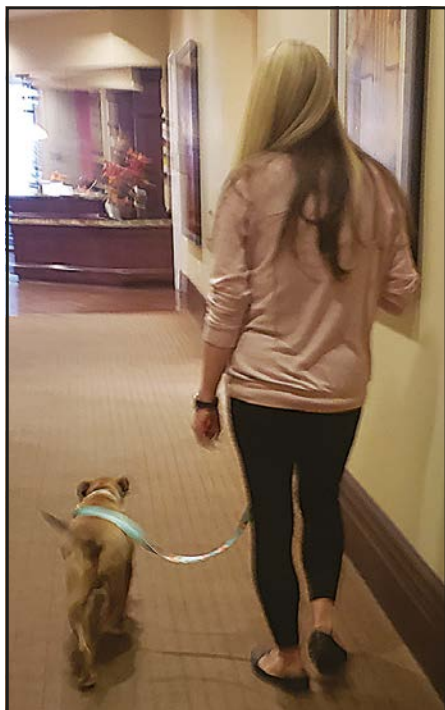
Rosie was found around New Year's Day 2021 in Colorado with an eight-week-old litter of puppies. She had some issues with joint and muscle swelling, so she was transferred to Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah, where the veterinarian team put all of their skills to work to care for her. For six weeks, the veterinarians at Best Friends worked on different therapies and medications to take away some of Rosie's pain.

With all of that attention and her loving demeanor, the three-year-old Rosie turned into a staff and volunteer favorite. She stayed at "Dog Town" headquarters, hanging out with staff and greeting volunteers coming to sign in for their shifts.

That's where Maggie Greenwood, Executive Director of Alta Vista, came in. Greenwood visits Best Friends to volunteer several times each year. Volunteers stay in cabins, and Best Friends often sends them home at night with a dog to "sleep over." The volunteers can then give feedback on how the dog does in a home environment, and the dog gets a taste of home living and a lot of hugs.

During one visit, Rosie spent the night with Greenwood, who was so impressed with the dog's demeanor that she immediately fell in love.

"The sleepover went great," Greenwood said. "Turns out Rosie was potty trained, and did not bark, jump up, or dart through an open door. She took treats nicely, got along with other dogs - the list goes on and on. But I was not there to adopt another dog, so Rosie went back to headquarters in the morning. I finished my volunteer shifts and headed back to Prescott.



She may not have much to say, but Rosie shows up everywhere at Alta Vista, even in morning meetings.

"The next day all I could think about was Rosie and how perfect for the residents at Alta Vista she would be. I had heard there was a family looking at adopting her, but what would it hurt to call and see if she had been adopted. Rosie was still at Best Friends and looking for her forever home."

Greenwood met with staff, caregivers, and managers to get input about adding a dog to the community. "I asked, does anyone not like dogs, are they allergic, scared of dogs, or have concerns on having a dog at Alta Vista? Every single employee, manager and resident was excited and thrilled," Greenwood said.



Rosie spends her nights with residents in Alta Vista's memory care facility, and her days enjoying all of the other residents.

Afterward, everything soon came together for Rosie to travel to her new home. "A worker was leaving Kanab, Utah for Flagstaff in the next hour. If I could meet them in Flagstaff in three hours, we could have Rosie. A co-worker and I jumped in the car and headed for Flagstaff. It was like Rosie remembered me, she came right up and started giving me kisses. We put her in the car and headed home."

Rosie has indeed brought another dimension to Alta Vista. She is a great favorite of residents and staff alike. At night, she stays with a caregiver in Canterbury Village, the community's memory care wing that houses seven residents. She knows to head over there at about 4:45 each afternoon. At six a.m. each morning when Greenwood comes in, she collects Rosie to take her to the front office. The memory care residents are reluctant to let her go each morning, but they can look forward to her return each afternoon.

Each day, Alta Vista residents come and get Rosie to take



Rosie and Phyllis enjoy a morning walk.

for walks around the community or to the small dog park or to their apartments to "hang out" for an hour or so. Many residents have brought their own dogs to the pet-friendly Alta Vista, and Rosie gets along with them all.

"She has given so much to the residents," said Shannon Vialpando, Alta Vista Director of Community Relations. "We've had some residents who are not very social, but who will interact with Rosie. She has brought them out of their shell, and you can see their sense of pride as they take her for a walk or go to the dog park. It's healing for them."

"For the memory care residents, that is key to have a pet there. They may have had a pet before, and to have Rosie there and be able to love on her and she on them, has them smiling. You can see what a tremendous difference she has brought to them," Vialpando said.

Vialpando said Rosie soaks in all of the attention she receives from residents. "She is so mellow, she takes it in like she found her home, too."

Rosie still has some joint pain and swelling, but she receives the best care from Thumb Butte Animal Hospital. Staff at Alta Vista works to keep her svelte, which is a constant challenge with everyone wanting to reward her with treats!

Visitors can't miss Rosie, she has a vest with her name on it. And, she may be seen with her favorite toy, a stuffed Kong.

As Rosie is near to completing her first year as a resident of Alta Vista, there is sure to be a celebration among residents and staff. But for Rosie, each day she receives loving attention from people all around her is a celebration of its own.



Rosie is a champion napper at the Alta Vista Senior Living Community.

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- ✦ Men & Women
- ✦ Perms (yes, they are back in style)
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928-445-2666 yavapaihumane.org

Holiday Pet Safety

Pets should avoid all items listed below

Flowering Plants

- ☘ Amaryllis
- ☘ Andromeda
- ☘ Azalea
- ☘ Buttercup
- ☘ Climbing Lily
- ☘ Crown of Thorns
- ☘ Daffodil Bulbs
- ☘ Saphne
- ☘ Delphinium
- ☘ Fox Glove
- ☘ Heliotrope
- ☘ Hyacinth Bulbs
- ☘ Hydrangea
- ☘ Iris Bulbs
- ☘ Laburnum
- ☘ Lakspur
- ☘ Marigold
- ☘ Monkshood
- ☘ Narcissus Bulbs
- ☘ Nightshade
- ☘ Oleander
- ☘ Rhododendron
- ☘ Tulip Bulbs
- ☘ Wisteria

Shrubs|Weeds|Ivy

- ☘ Arrow Grass
- ☘ Boxwood
- ☘ Caladium
- ☘ Castor Bean
- ☘ Dieffenbachia
- ☘ Dumb Cane
- ☘ Elephant Ear
- ☘ English Ivy
- ☘ Fox Tail
- ☘ Japanese Yew
- ☘ Jimson Weed
- ☘ Laurel
- ☘ Locoweed
- ☘ Marijuana
- ☘ Milkweed
- ☘ Philodendron
- ☘ Poison Ivy
- ☘ Poinsettias
- ☘ Privet
- ☘ Sago Palm
- ☘ Snow on the Mountain
- ☘ Stinging Nettle
- ☘ Tobacco
- ☘ Yew

Berries|Fungus|Nuts

- ☘ Apple Seeds
- ☘ Apricots
- ☘ Avocado
- ☘ Bittersweet Berries
- ☘ Cherry Pits
- ☘ Chokecherry Berries
- ☘ Elderberry
- ☘ Garlic
- ☘ Grapes
- ☘ Holly
- ☘ Hops
- ☘ Jasmine Berries
- ☘ Jerusalem Cherry
- ☘ Macadamia Nuts
- ☘ Mistletoe
- ☘ Mushrooms
- ☘ Nightshade Berry
- ☘ Onions
- ☘ Peaches
- ☘ Potatoes (Green)
- ☘ Raisins
- ☘ Rhubarb
- ☘ Star Fruit
- ☘ Walnut

Foods|Drinks

- ☘ Alcohol
- ☘ Apricots
- ☘ Avocados
- ☘ Bread Dough
- ☘ Caffeine
- ☘ Cherries
- ☘ Chocolate
- ☘ Currants
- ☘ Garlic
- ☘ Hops
- ☘ Macadamia Nuts
- ☘ Moldy Food (Mycotoxins)
- ☘ Mushrooms
- ☘ Onions
- ☘ Peach Pits
- ☘ Raisins
- ☘ Salt
- ☘ Star Fruit

Foods Containing Xylitol

Xylitol can be deadly for dogs. Always check the ingredients before giving something to your dog. Some common items are: Peanut Butter, Candy, Gum, Baking Supplies, Protein Bars/Powders, and Dental Products.

WILD ROSE: THE TRAIL TO GIVING BACK

By Rita Thompson-Tinsley

In the wonderful world of horse adventures, there are trail rides, and then there is WILD ROSE (Horse Obstacle Contests).

Avid trail riders Carole and Gary Wilder became involved in a couple of trail competition programs several years ago. They were a good team and had a knack for the activity. They had accumulated tremendous contacts with trail facilities across the state of Arizona.



Carole and Gary Wilder gifted with belt buckles by grateful participants. Photo courtesy Silver Buckle Photography.

The Wilders had a different concept of what a ride should be like. They took their own trail riding experience, and molded it into their own signature version of what they felt like the program should evoke. They developed this concept for riders committed to improving their horse skills. And the riders were elated.

However, after a time, Team Wilder was finding the former programs to be rigid in their policies and applications, though excellent at their endeavors. So they began to contemplate retirement. Gary recalls that at the time, "My 'mentor coach', someone whose opinion I value greatly, told me that I couldn't retire." The mentor explained, "Gary, you have a ministry. You and Carole have something you are giving these folks that they love." The Wilders were convinced that they indeed had something valuable to offer in the trail riding world.

While conducting rides in the past, they became acquainted with Cristi Rose, founder of the 501(c)3 non-profit ranch Bethany's Gait (BG), which benefits both local veterans and first responders, and their families, and rescue horses. The Wilders began supporting BG regularly in their riding events and decided to partner with them in this new endeavor.

The Wild Rose name was concocted by Carole and Gary: WILD, from Wilder's last name, and ROSE from Cristi's last name: the perfect title for their combination of assets.

The Wilders put together all the ride planning such as dates, locations, agendas and such. Carole, as ever, the impeccable hostess and efficient organizer of events; Gary, ever the mastermind behind the strategic obstacle creations (sometimes referred to as 'Gary-ized obstacles'); and Bethany's Gait providing their internet website for promoting events, registration for participants, providing schedule information and maps, and importantly, providing quality volunteers to help at the events.

Wild Rose Horse Obstacle Contests was designed to encourage the rider and horse to develop a partnership based on trust and to measure horsemanship skills. The overall focus is on safety, fun, confidence building, and challenging the rider and horse to new levels. In addition to those guidelines, they became further focused on the warmth and friendly ambience of the events, the essen-



Wild Rose logo – We Ride to Give Back

tial spirit of good sportsmanship, and of course the icing on the corral cake, phenomenal scenic locations for each ride.

Per Bethany's Gait's mission statement, they are dedicated to 'Rescuing Horses, Restoring Lives'. They've found that bringing rescue horses together with the community of veterans in their programs offers a dynamic situation where horse and human heal through a bond that is developed based on unconditional love, unwavering trust, and a keen understanding of what the other has been through.



Wild Rose trail obstacle in the brush. Photo courtesy Silver Buckle Photography.

The programs offered at Bethany's Gait touch the lives of not only local veterans and first responders, but their entire families. Many of the participants of Wild Rose sign up for events in order to support such an effective and endearing cause. The motto at Wild Rose rides is 'We Ride to Give Back'.

Another of the Wild Rose 'family members' is Jennifer LaBelle of Silver Buckle Photography. She takes all the professional pictures during the obstacle trail rides and came up with the official logo for Wild Rose.

After a little Gary-izing and adjusting, the cross was placed perfectly centered under the horse – another piece of work in what was destined to be a perfect part of the plan. At events, Wild Rose now sells t-shirts, hoodies, sweat shirts, and bumper stickers with their eye-catching logo, all proceeds going to Bethany's Gait.

Wild Rose judge Diane (whose last name happens to be Judge), expresses her opinion from her position. "I love Wild Rose events because of how well they are organized. I love the camaraderie that has developed throughout the years among the contestants as well as the judges."

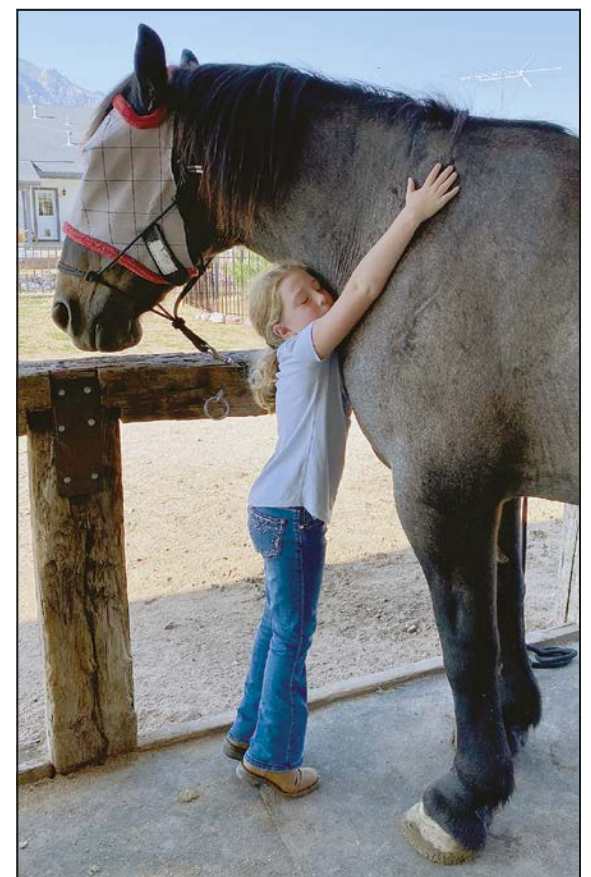
Susan Shuford, an avid competitor, loves the opportunity to assist the mission of Bethany's Gait. "For someone like me, who likes to compete and who is married to an Army Infantryman, Wild Rose is a perfect union."

Since the Wilders have taken the reins at Wild Rose, participation has more than doubled. They have riders coming regularly from not only from throughout Arizona, but from Nevada, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Idaho as well. Together, Gary and Carole have become essential partners in the ideal equestrian weekend that keeps every rider on the edge of their saddle seat waiting for their very next trail adventure.

For more information on Bethany's Gait and Wild Rose Horse Obstacle Contests, go to BethanysGait.org.



Bethany's Gait Ranch – Air Force fighter pilot Jeremy Albright's son Grayson visiting Patron. Photo courtesy of Dad, Jeremy Albright.



Bethany's Gait Ranch – Sister Luci giving Grace a hug. Photo courtesy of Dad, Jeremy Albright.

GIFTS TO HELP DOGS & CATS IN NEED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

By Heidi Dahms Foster

With supply deliveries backed up and ordered items sure to come in less than a timely manner, why not make a difference this holiday season by donating some used but much needed items and a bit of cash to local rescues?

Following are some ways to help pets in need during the holidays:

Towels, blankets and wash cloths:

We all love to refresh our towel and blanket inventory from time to time, and most rescues desperately need your old ones. Rescued animals appreciate a soft bed, and towels and blankets can be easily washed.

Rebecca Horner, operations supervisor at the Yavapai Humane Society, said many people find that fleece blankets are often on sale during the holidays, so they buy extras to donate, particularly for small dog and cat beds.

Leashes and collars: Katrina Karr of Yavapai Humane Trappers said leashes and collars are always appreciated, as newly adopted dogs and fosters are sent home with them. Any rescue can use these items, whether gently used or new.

Dog and cat food: The Yavapai Humane Society has a program through Catholic Charities in which they donate dog and cat food to those who find themselves short of money and need to feed their pets. Other rescues and shelters can use bagged and canned food for dogs and cats at any time.

Check out the list of contacts at the far column of this article, and call ahead to find out what each rescue might need. Kitten and puppy formula is also appreciated – many tiny kittens and puppies come in and must be bottle fed.

Bleach and other cleaning supplies: Any time pets are involved, a lot of cleaning follows close behind, especially to stop the chance of sickness spreading. Shelters and rescues always need supplies such as bleach, hand sanitizer, disinfectant, buckets, mops, brooms and dustpans. Paper towels and toilet tissue are always welcome.

Gift certificates: Most rescues will not adopt out a dog or cat to be given as a gift. For a good fit, it's imperative that the new owner pick out and bond with their new pet in person. If you have a family member or friend you know is looking for a new pet, rescues can provide a gift



certificate that you can present in a nice card, or a gift basket filled with collar, leash, toys, shampoos, treats and bedding.

"Here at AARF Animal Rescue and Sanctuary we believe that no pet should be given as a gift," said the rescue's Liz Stegmeier. "The holidays are an especially busy time, and we don't feel that it's a good idea to bring home a new pet to the chaotic times. We will not adopt out any dog two weeks before Christmas and two weeks after Christmas. If you come out and meet a dog that you would like to have join your family you are welcome to take a picture to place under the tree, put down a holding deposit, and after the waiting period come and take your new forever best friend home."

Pet gift items: Check out rescue websites for any gift items you might be able to purchase to benefit the organization. The Humane Society has a both a thrift store in Prescott full of great items of every kind, and the shelter on Sundog Ranch Road has fun pet-themed t-shirts and hats.

Memorial donations: Want to remember someone in a special way? Give a gift or donation in memory of a beloved friend or family member, or a pet. Perhaps the rescue has a need for a building or pet equipment item.

Monetary donations are always welcome and can be used for needs

as they arise, such as veterinary care.

Building and specific needs: Healing Healers Hearts rescue in Surprise is forced this year to put up a six-foot block wall to satisfy neighborhood requirements, an \$18,000 investment that they'll need help with.

United Animal Friends is outfitting a new property off of Highway 89A, and their wish list includes: a garden shed that could house a riding lawn mower and garden tools, gas weed eater or brush hog, mom and puppy house (like a Tuff Shed) and concrete pad with fencing. Five and six foot no climb fencing to enclose paddocks to make more dog yards, ductless Mini Split for heating/cooling one room, and dog agility equipment.

Consider fostering a dog or cat: Foster parents are desperately needed at all times. Rescues will fit you with an animal you can care for, and you will be giving that pet a chance at a good life. In these cases medical care is taken care of – you provide the love and training to ready a pet for adoption.

Volunteer: Pick a shelter, and you'll find needs. You can make a big difference by offering some time to walk, groom, and play with dogs, and cuddle cats. If you have a special skill, such as construction or mechanical knowledge, that is always welcome, too.



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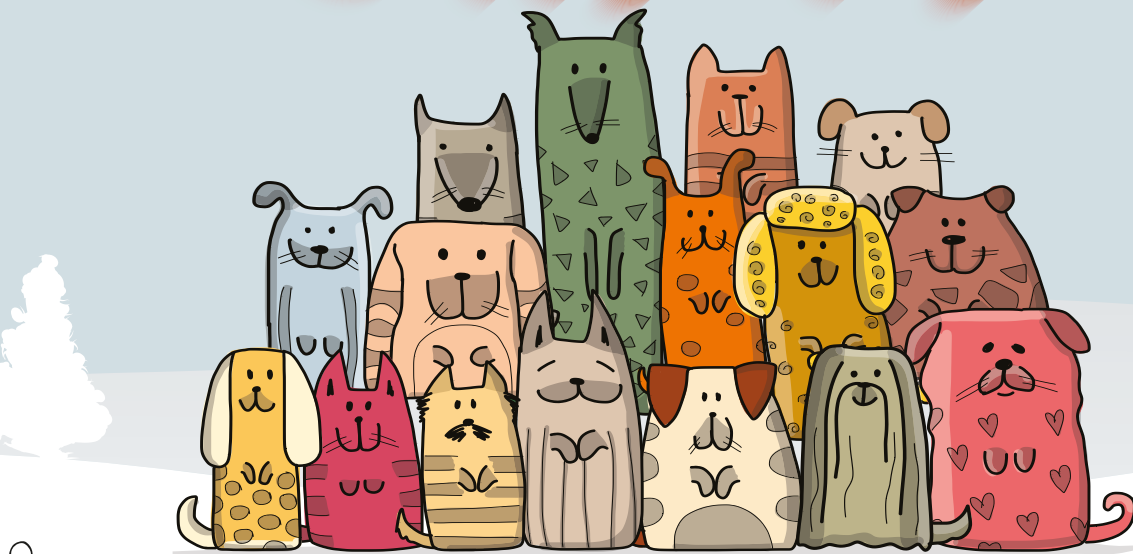
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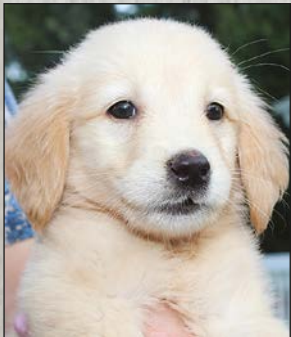
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