

Prescott Dog

magazine

January/February 2022 • PrescottDog.com

Thinking of Fostering?

Winter Hiking Options
Granite Mountain Riders



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FREE
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PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE
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Serving Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley,
Dewey-Humboldt, and The Highway 69 Corridor for 14 Years

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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 March/April 2022 edition of Prescott Dog Magazine, we need to receive your entry by 11:59 pm on January 31, 2022.



Chooli, Our Cover Dog

Name: Hi! My name is Chooli, the Navajo name for mountain. My humans wanted me to have a Navajo name because I'm from the Reservation. I've grown up to be a very large dog, like a mountain!

Hometown: I was born on August 19, 2020, five days after my mother was rescued from a very rural area of the Navajo reservation. I was one of nine puppies born that day in the loving care of a rescue in Cottonwood, AZ called the Big Luck Club.

Age: I'm sixteen months old. I was adopted at four months old from another rescue in Clarkdale called Pets Return Home. A year ago, my human parents adopted both me and my dog mother. They named her Ama, which is a Native American word for water.

Favorite brand of kibble: I love my Victor Yukon River Canine Kibble! I also enjoy my FreshPet and any treats I can get!

Favorite people food: My humans don't want me to beg at the table, but they often save a little steak, fish, or chicken to give me as a treat after dinner.

Favorite toy: I have to admit that I tend to chew up any toy made of fabric. I just love to pull out the stuffing! Consequently, my Mom gives me marrow bones, which I dearly love to chew on all day long! I also love a good tug-of-war game and will chase balls and squeaky toys with my people.

Favorite outdoor activity: This is a no-brainer! Every single day of the year, my humans take Ama and me on a long walk in the neighborhood or a hike in the forest. It is the very best part of the day!

Favorite indoor activity: Eating my breakfast and dinner and practicing my good manners! I get a treat every time I do what I'm told! I also love a good nap.

Favorite nap spot: My favorite place to sleep is in my Dad's chair next to the fireplace. I also have a comfy bed.

Fitness regimen: I love my daily walks and hikes, playing with Ama in my yard, and playing fetch with my people.

Describe your perfect canine pal: Without a doubt, I love to play with my sister Soaf. I try to wrestle, chase, and play with my doggie mom, but she is often disinterested! I look forward to my monthly playdate with sister Soaf where we can indulge in a serious game of chase and do other doggie stuff!

Describe your perfect day: I would like to play with Soaf, take a nap, and then play in my yard with my whole family, have a yummy dinner, and sleep with Ama by the fire!



Silly Chooli!



Hiking fun!



Chooli and his mama.



Chooli playing with his sister, Soaf.



Chooli and Ama when we first adopted them.

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HAZEL HOWLS

Don Coyote and His Beloved Dulcimer

After a brief morning talk with Tucker (Keira close behind him, listening intently with ever widening wags), I reluctantly padded down the hall alone to Dad's studio to negotiate a resolution to a couple of problems that didn't even involve me directly.

The pack's main concern (me included) was that Dad would want to get personally involved with Tucker and Keira's project, and that would kind of ruin their "creative independence," as Tucker put it.

I found Dad intently scanning through the pages of a book. He reflexively patted my head and rubbed my ears without looking.

Me: Dad, can I pull on your ear about something?

Dad: Haze, I'm trying to transpose on the fly here?

Me: Does it hurt when you do that?

Dad: Does what hurt when I do what?

Me: Flying transposed.

Dad: (rather pronounced sigh) I'm trying to transpose an intricate movement of music into another key without writing it down, so let's get back to the question of what is it that Hazel would like to talk about BRIEFLY with me this morning?

Me: Do you know where my shark toy is?

Dad: (back to squinting at his book) Your plush shark toy is on the floor next to Mom's side of the bed. Anything else?

Me: ...and a t-shirt or bandana or towel?

For some reason, that second request made Dad peer up from his book with a look of deep suspicion – to which I responded to with my (perfected after years of practice) blankest look.

When Dad set down his book and leaned towards me, I knew, I just knew, that I was about to lose the battle of keeping Dad from getting too involved.

Dad: Ok Hazel, who wants this t-shirt bandana towel and for what purpose, and how exactly is your shark toy involved?

I decided to pull the band-aid (so to speak) in one quick effort that went something like this:



The Not Ready for Prime Rib Players

Me: Tucker needs my plush shark to use as a sword so he can till up the windmill in the garden as a knight currant like that guy in the musical you watched last night. Tuck wants to play Don Coyote, and Keira needs a skirt so she can do Dulcimer's speech when she says all that gushy stuff about Don Coyote Man of La Munchausen, hence my request for something to use as a skirt because she feels she can really get into character if she wears a skirt and the shark is the longest toy and would be most like a sword but still safe to use while Tuck does his stomp dance to intimidate the windmill and if you could just get those for us you could get back to your book.

Dad kind of blinked a couple times. While looking up at the ceiling and speaking to no one in particular, he said, "I'm so glad I didn't watch *West Side Story* last night."

He jumped up, leaving me with a quick pat, and returned in a minute with both the shark and a green bandana. He then told me to go round up the cast while he waited.

Moments later Dad gently and quietly wrapped Keira in her skirt and gave Tucker tips on holding the sword... uh shark... to look imposing to any foe.

As Tuck and Keira made a beeline to the back door, Dad insisted I watch from the door and help Keira deliver her final line by calling her Aldonza at the end of her speech.

Hazel: Why is the name thing so important that I have to get involved?

Dad: Aldonza led a very rough life and saw herself through the lens of the circumstances of her low station and believed in only mea-

ger possibilities. In the original book, and in the musical, Don Quixote sees her in a different light. He addresses her as a woman of regal bearing, worthy of his adoration and attempts at bravery and failed heroism. She thinks so little of herself and her future that she angrily rebuffs his tenderness and the term of endearment he calls her – Dulcinea. Your part, Haze, is to call her by her old name one more time as she is realizing that somewhere deep, deep, inside her...there is a Dulcinea waiting to come alive.

I trundled out to the back door while practicing my line Alpaca, Alpaca...only to find Keira had swiped the sword and was effectively keeping it away from Tucker as he chased her back and forth across the back yard.

Tucker, exasperated, deftly caught Keira's skirt and swung her in a half circle arc. That caused her to lose her hold on the shark, sending it over my head through the open door and into the living room.

Tucker then decided to read Keira the riot act, to which she replied, repeatedly, "I AM DULCIMER."

Deciding that perhaps chivalry was indeed dead, I returned to Dad in the studio.

Dad: How'd it go, Haze?

I explained what I had just witnessed and narrated the play-by-play.

Dad: Not quite the author's original intent, but I do see some parallels....

Hazel: I think they're writing a sequel.

Dad: Man of La Mancha: Part Duel

Hazel: Dulcinea vs. Zombies

Dad: Quixote's Revenge

Hazel: Windmills of Terror

We had fun making up COMING SOON TO A CINEPLEX ODEON THEATER NEAR YOU! titles until the *Not Ready for Prime Rib Players* barged, all panting and hot, into the studio.

Later that night, I thought about that woman's story in the play. I was happy that she met someone who was kind to her and helped her find a way to wag through life.

I wish now I had watched the musical with Dad.



HAZEL HOWLS

FROM REZ DOG TO SPOKESDOG: READ HAZEL'S LIFE ADVENTURES

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amazon

A COMPILATION OF HER FIRST 5 YEARS CONTRIBUTING
TO THE PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

amazonkindle



CHASE'S CORNER: THE CHASE PROJECT

By Chase and Jan Tomlinson

I always thought my mom was really busy teaching dog training and doing other things, but no, she always has time to come up with these ideas that involve me!

Since we have had such a tough year and we have not been able to do our therapy dog visits to the hospital, she decided to do something about it and give back to the community in a different way. I saw her looking on the computer at little stuffed dogs that looked just like me. Why would she be doing that when she has me?!

Pretty soon, one of these little dogs arrived in the mail. When she put it down on the floor, I barked at it and sniffed it all over to see if it would move. Nope! Just stood there like a rock. So, I decided that it wasn't alive and was no threat to me. Then I heard her say, "This is going to be called the CHASE Project and this is Chase Jr." Then she was putting one of my old therapy vests on it and decided to give it to her eye doctor who had helped save her eyesight.

So, Chase Jr. went to live at Sedona Eye Care and everyone loved him so much, my mom decided to find people to donate money and get a bunch more to give to the hospital for sick kids and other patients. Pretty soon, people started sending money to help buy more Chase Jr's.

I know the sound of the UPS truck, and one day it stopped in front of our house and delivered FOUR boxes to the door. When my mom opened



the boxes, they were filled with Chase Jr's. Oh, No! What did that mean? Was I going to have to live with 41 little Shelties? I just want to be an only child and have a nice, relaxed life. Then the truck came again and delivered 41 therapy vests.

I guess I was going to have to supervise and train all of these therapy dogs! So, our job began to brush each one and put the vests on them. Whew! That was a big job for me since I don't have any thumbs to adjust the straps to make the vests fit on the dogs.

Now my mom started to contact the places where I and my other doggie friends used to do therapy visits. That included the hospital, The Haven, Austin House Assisted Living, and Gracious Granies Assisted Living in Cottonwood. Meanwhile, I'm trying to herd all of these little things back into

their boxes to be delivered to those places.

We also decided to take one to Northern Arizona Dermatology, Jochim Family Practice, and Airpark Animal Hospital (my doctor!). When the patients or doggies get nervous, then they can just hold and hug a Chase Jr. therapy dog to make them feel better!

After hearing about this project, Donna Michaels, Yavapai County Supervisor for District 3, decided she needed a Chase Jr. in her office. Now we were going big time! So, my mom and I took a Chase Jr. to her office to give to her. There was another lady there, Elaine Bremner, Director of Meals on Wheels for the Verde Valley Senior Center in Cottonwood. She and Donna thought it would be a great idea to give a Chase Jr. to people who would like one and deliver it with their Meals on Wheels.

Now that I'm famous and the star of the Verde Valley, I really think my mom should buy me an RV with my name in big letters and lots of stars painted on the side of it! Then we could deliver Chase Jr's to all the people. I thought my job was over and I could relax, but it looks like I'll be busy training and supervising many more Chase Jr's for their therapy work. You never know when you might run into a therapy Chase Jr.!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE

From Sir Chase!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE: SEDONA

By Ruthann Steffes



Sedona came into my life in 2008 at age 17 months – a rescue. Sweet Sunny (another of my Golden Retrievers who had also been a therapy dog at VAMC) had recently passed when I was told by our Animal Communicator, Ann Marie Hoff, that she would come back to me. Sedona was born the same month Sweet Sunny died; Sweet Sunny came back to me in the form of Sedona.



Sedona was naturally trained for Pet therapy, registered with Therapy Dogs International and as an AKC Therapy dog. She visited the same two nursing homes for more than a decade and was retired at the beginning of Covid.

Everyone knew Sedona: walking down the street or in a store or restaurant, they'd all stop and greet her. If I didn't take her with me, people would ask, "Where's Sedona?"

She loved to hike, and we visited the dog park every day. She could jump really high when catching her Frisbee.



She visited many places around town, including my church and our parish priest.

Shortly after her retirement, Sedona contracted cancer, and then a large inoperable tumor was discovered. We chose Naturopathic treatment and medications as they were less invasive. It was working until a few months ago when she lost her appetite.



I hand-fed her anything I thought she would eat. When she would no longer eat, we knew it was time to say goodbye. She had lost six pounds and was suffering. She died peacefully November 8, 2021. She was the love of my life. I am sure she will be missed by many.



CALENDAR

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

ONGOING ADOPTIONS

AARF ANIMAL RESCUE & SANCTUARY
Onsite adoptions by appt. in Mayer. Info 928-925-7219 or email at aarfanimalrescue@gmail.com. See pets available for adoption at 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

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
At Petco, Frontier Village, 1931 E Hwy 69, Prescott:
• Dog Adoptions: Most Saturdays 11a-2p.
• Cat Adoptions: Mon-Fri: 9a-10:30a & 4p-5:30p; Sat: 9a-11:30a & 4p-5:30p; Sun: 10a-11:30a & 4p-5:30p

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 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

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS
Want to volunteer or learn more about United Animal Friends? Info: unitedanimalfriends.org or (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 Vaccination Clinic every Friday between 8a -4p. No appointment necessary; first come, first served. Wellness Clinic, 2989 Centerpointe E Dr, Prescott.

JANUARY & FEBRUARY EVENTS

HERITAGE PARK ZOO
Jan 17, MLK 1/2 Price Admission
Feb 14, Valentine's Day, BOGO Admission

PAWZ-N-CLAWZ 911 IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANIMAL DISASTER SERVICES: 1ST AID CLASSES
• Pet First Aid & CPR: 5-hour class Jan 7 or Feb 6.
• Pet First Aid, CPR & Wellness: 8-hour class Jan 9 or Feb 18.
• Hiking and Dog Walking Safety: Feb 12
More info: Lynn 928-499-8857 or lynn@animaldisasterservices.com

MASTERTON METHOD OF INTEGRATED EQUINE PERFORMANCE BODYWORK DEMONSTRATION
Presented by Raelene Paris, MMCP. Jan 22, 10a-1p, Chino Valley Equestrian Park. Info: cvequestrianpark.org

HORSELORDS SELF DEFENSE ON HORSEBACK CLINIC
Jan 29, 10a-2p, Chino Valley Equestrian Park. Info: cvequestrianpark.org

WILD ROSE OBSTACLE CONTESTS BUCKLE SERIES #1 & #2
Competition with poker ride, Jan 30-31, Estrella Mountain Park, Goodyear, AZ. Proceeds benefit vet heroes and horses at Bethany's Gait. Register: bethanysgait.org/wild-rose/ or info: Carole Wilder 602-686-2435.

WORKING EQUITATION CLINIC
With Tessa Nicolet. Feb 5, 8a-4p, Chino Valley Equestrian Park. Info: cvequestrianpark.org

HORSEMANSHIP WITH OBSTACLES WITH FOUR CLINICIANS
Feb 20-21, Estrella Mountain Park, Goodyear, AZ. Register: bethanysgait.org/wild-rose/ or info: Carole Wilder 602-686-2435.

Rescue Resources

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

<p>AARF ANIMAL RESCUE AND SANCTUARY 6639 S. Country Road, Mayer (928) 925-7219, aarfrescue.org</p>	<p>ARK CAT SANCTUARY Parks, Arizona (928) 635-5909 arkcatsanctuary.org</p>	<p>BETHANY'S GAIT RANCH Prescott, Arizona (928) 499-9442 bethanysgait.org</p>	<p>BLUE MOON RESCUE AND SANCTUARY 1851 E Perkinsville Rd, Chino Valley (928) 925-7724, bluemoonrescue.org</p>
<p>CATTY SHACK RESCUE 609 S. Granite Street, Prescott (928) 778-6951 cattysackrescue.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>
<p>MISS KITTY'S CAT HOUSE 302 N Alarcon St, Prescott (928) 445-5411 Facebook: Miss-Kittys-Cat-House</p>	<p>NOW THAT I'M SAFE EQUINE RESCUE Chino Valley, Arizona, (951) 233-1318 nowthatimsafe.org Facebook: nowthatimsafeequinerescue</p>	<p>PETEY'S PLAYGROUND Yarnell, Arizona (928) 713-1375 peteysplayground.org</p>	<p>UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS Prescott, Arizona (928) 778-2924 UnitedAnimalFriends.org</p>
<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>

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

ANIMAL DISASTER SERVICES
Shelter for animals in the event of a disaster.
(928) 925-7990 • animaldisasterservices.com

EQUINE EMERGENCY EVACUATION OF YAVAPAI COUNTY
Assistance for equine owners in the event of wildfire and other emergency situations.
Emergency Hotline: (833) 922-9333 • eeeyc.org

Dr. Azul Answers



Today's column is a collection of questions asked of Dr. Azul regarding the laws, privileges and responsibilities of having an Emotional Support, or Psychiatric Service Animal. Dr. Azul worked with Dr. Jack Clarizio in formulating all responses.

What is an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) and how does an ESA benefit me?

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognizes the benefits of emotional support animals and provides regulations allowing them to live with an owner in designated non-pet housing (with a few exceptions) without requiring a separate pet deposit or monthly pet fee.

Exercising this right does not require that an animal be certified or registered (actually there is no such thing as a National registry.)

What it does require is documentation that an individual has a legitimate need (qualifying diagnosis) for an emotional support animal. The responsibility of providing this documentation lies with professional counselors and other mental health providers.

In 2008, HUD stipulated that "persons who are seeking a reasonable accommodation for an emotional support animal may be required to provide documentation from a physician, psychiatrist, social worker or other mental health professional that the animal provides support that alleviates at least one of the identified symptoms or effects of the existing disability."

What is a Psychiatric Service Animal (PSD)?

Psychiatric service dogs (PSDs) are a type of service animal that performs tasks for individuals that have disabilities (diagnoses) that are not obvious.

PSD's have the same legal rights as service dogs that help with physical disabilities. PSDs may be trained by their owners, or through a third party, to perform tasks that alleviate the symptoms or effects of a diagnosed emotional, psychiatric or learning disability.

Psychiatric service dogs are also different from emotional support animals (ESAs), even though people frequently think they're the same. PSDs have the same broad public access rights as other types of service dogs.

You may never be charged to live, travel or fly with your PSD per HUD, The ADA, Fair Housing or the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) new rules, which went into effect on January 11th, 2021.



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THINKING OF FOSTERING?

What you need to know to help animals in need

By Heidi Dahms Foster



Toby Frost,
Yavapai Humane Trappers

Not all area rescues have shelters, but both those with shelters and without save hundreds of animals every year by supporting a large network of foster volunteers.

Toby Frost is a rescue founder and foster volunteer of 20 years. She now volunteers with Yavapai Humane Trappers, an organization that both searches for and traps lost and injured pets, successfully returning most to their grateful owners, and that rescues animals in need.

With her husband Ray, Frost has lost count of the numbers of animals the couple has fostered. "When a foster gets into a solid home, we're right there to save another. Fostering just perpetuates saving lives."

Leanne Mayotte, with her daughter Shannon, has been fostering cats and kittens, and the occasional dog, with the Yavapai Humane Society since 2015.

"We're doing what's best for them," she said, "then finding the perfect home. Most of our fosters are strays and our job is to make them fat, happy, and adoptable."

YHT, incorporated in 2017, is totally dependent on its network of foster volunteers. Katrina Karr and Frost divide the duties, with Karr handling the search and rescue and trapping, and Frost the foster care.

The Yavapai Humane Society

does have a shelter, but some animals don't do well in that environment, and foster care is the best scenario for them. Mayotte urges people who are thinking about fostering to take the plunge.

"It's the most rewarding thing to see a kitten that is completely helpless, that can't even go to the bathroom by itself, grow and thrive, and the joy it brings to the family who adopts it," she said.

Both YHT and the Humane Society take in every age group from bottle fed puppies and kittens to adult dogs and cats. Some of the fosters have special medical needs because of injuries or treatable diseases. The need is great and animal lovers are often drawn to help, but are perhaps not sure for a number of reasons if they can handle fostering.

The two organizations work to fit the animal in need to the foster volunteer. Both ask those who are interested to go their websites and fill out a volunteer application. Then, potential fosters can find the answers to their biggest questions. Here are some of the most common concerns:

"I could never foster because I would want to keep them all."

Frost admits that most fosters probably do end up with what is fondly termed a "foster failure." But it's really a foster win, because a deserving pet has found a forever home.

There is no obligation, and in fact, in a multiple foster situation, YHT does not allow for adoption of two dogs from the same litter. The foster gets first dibs on a pup, and YHT assists in getting the other(s) rehomed.

Mayotte said her daughter Shannon did adopt one cat. Fergus joined the family

permanently. But she and her family were aware from the beginning that fostering is temporary.

"We both love cats, and we can't have all we want, so it's nice to take care of a cat or kittens that need to be taken care of, find good homes, take a break and start all over again."

The Mayotte's first foster situation started with a family in Phoenix that had to move and didn't know their cat was pregnant. As the family was loading up, the mother cat escaped, leaving two one-week old kittens. The family stayed three days looking for the mother, and then asked for help from someone who could take the two bottle babies.



Leanne Mayotte,
Yavapai Humane Society

"It was a first everything for us," Mayotte said. "We were rookies. But we fell in love with fostering. That's when we contacted the Humane Society, and became a part of this amazing community."

"Fostering will be tough on my kids."

Kids learn quickly to love and let go, a lesson that Frost feels helps them in all relationships throughout their lives. "What an amazing lesson to teach kids, that you don't have to keep every one. You love them, nurture them, build up their confidence and training, and then let

go." Children and adult foster volunteers have the satisfaction that they helped nurture a pet into a successful relationship with another person.

Frost adds that YHT carefully chooses the permanent homes for its foster pets, and has a firm policy that if a placement does not work out, the animal is returned to YHT. "This gives the foster volunteer some confidence in letting go and knowing that their foster pet will be OK. Then they can go out and save another."

Mayotte said her children never struggled with seeing fosters leave when they were ready for adoption, beyond a little sadness.

"They knew we weren't keeping the kittens. I would take the kids to the Humane Society to pick litters to foster, or bring them home and they'd be there after school. The kids knew we weren't keeping the kittens, but they loved them just as much. They knew the kittens were going to go to a good home. They understand the responsibility of an animal, they see the work involved, and they know it isn't to be taken lightly."

"I don't have the time."

Both Frost and Mayotte are honest that fostering requires a time commitment, but some animals need more time than others. That's why fitting the foster animals to the right volunteers is so important.

"We all have busy lives, and people wonder where they can fit a foster in," Frost said.

Those with an extremely busy work or child care schedule may find fostering is an overwhelming commitment. Frost said fosters can be placed in homes with those who work full time if a couple's work shifts are different, or older kids get off school early and can help.

Bottle babies are the most labor intensive, Mayotte said, because they must be fed and cared for every two to three hours around



for fosters with medical needs, and others are willing to learn, Frost said. "We had a kitten that a newer volunteer had picked up. She was mortified at the condition of the animal, thinking it might not survive the night. I went to her house and set her up to give fluids, and medications. She called later that day in tears to say the kitten had made great improvement and had turned into a different cat. It was a win-win for everyone, an opportunity to save a precious little life."

What if my injured or sick foster doesn't recover?

"There are risks," Frost said. "Sometimes we do get an animal so close to the edge – emaciated or with injuries. It's kind of a microcosm of life, there are disappointments and deaths. But not trying is far worse. You're



Shannon Mayotte,
Yavapai Humane Society

A batch of kittens the clock. But there are less intensive foster opportunities. "The easiest cat to foster is a mom with kittens. She does all the work – you feed and change the litter box. Even someone with a full-time job could easily do that," she said.

Frost suggests that animal lovers who don't have the time to foster a pet may still enjoy volunteering by handling dogs at adoption events, or working with the search and rescue arm of YHT. Rescues have a vast number of volunteer needs, in which volunteers can enjoy caring for animals without the extensive time commitment.

"I'm not sure I could afford to foster a pet."

Both YHT and Yavapai Humane Society cover medical costs for their fosters, unless the foster volunteer has the means and the desire to donate some or all of the cost. They will assist with food although foster volunteers generally provide that. Medical needs for fosters that come in with injuries or treatable diseases are covered, as is spay and neuter before the foster is adopted.

Some volunteers are able to care

hooked after a few successful fosters, like seeing that little kitten go from night to day, eating and turning into a lively little furball."

"Do I have all the skills and the home I need?"

Fostering depends on the animal and its needs. Rescues hope for fosters to teach a pup to walk on a leash, help them become more social and at ease in public, learn to be around older children, ride in a car, and get used to household noises such as vacuums, dishwashers, radios, other pets and general household routines.

A fenced yard is a must and cats must be kept indoors. Cats need to experience the home routine, learn household manners, and often, getting along with safe dogs is a big bonus.

Frost is careful to note that while YHT is always looking for more good foster volunteers, isn't the

only rescue with foster needs. "Pick a group that models your idea of a good rescue and help that group," she said.

Mayotte is exceptionally happy with her experience at Yavapai Humane Society. "They take amazing care of their volunteers," she said.

CONTACTS

Yavapai Humane Trappers

yavapaihumanetrappers.org
Foster coordinator
Toby Frost, 928-899-3942

Yavapai Humane Society

yavapahumane.org
928-445-2666

Find a list of other available foster and volunteer opportunities in the Rescue Resource in this magazine, or at prescotttdog.com.

To My Foster Cat

I am the bridge between what was and what can be.
I am the pathway to a new life.
I am made of mush because my heart melted when I saw you;
matted and sore, limping, lonely, unwanted, and afraid to love.
For this moment, you are mine.
I will feed you with my own hand, love you with my whole heart,
and make you whole.
I am made of steel, because
when the time comes, when you are well,
when your eyes shine and you purr with joy,
Then comes the hard part.
I have to let you go
Not without tears, but without regrets, for I know you are safe
in your forever home.
A new cat needs me now.

~Unknown





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Dr. Gordon Vergason, DVM
Owner

Thinking of Fostering? What You Need to Know



Patience With Your New Pets

There is nothing more disheartening than seeing a dog or cat that has been at the shelter for a long time get adopted only to be returned within a couple of days. "Unrealistic expectations" is the most common reason stated by those returning the pet.

Many adopters have visions of bringing home a new animal and having everything perfect from the minute they walk in the door, and when it isn't they end up returning the animal. One dog was returned within 24 hours for urinating in the house.

One dog was returned the same day it was adopted for "escaping" their home. For the life of me, I cannot fathom this. They've been in a kennel for a long time, and many newly adopted animals are dealing with the stress of being in a new environment with new people, routines, and smells. They're also trying to figure out if they're really "home" or if there's another change coming.

They need time to adjust! They need to learn where to go to the bathroom. They need patience and love from you. If a dog tried to escape the first day it was home, it's probably because he didn't know where he was,

and he's confused about the situation. They need time!!

Some newly adopted animals may settle right in and feel at home, but some might not. You may not see your new pet's true personality for several weeks or even up to three months. Be patient, loving, and understanding. Stay on a regular schedule of feeding, playing, and walking at the same time every day so they can get settled into their new routine with you. Create an area in a spare bedroom, laundry room, etc. that is only for them (no kids or other pets). Set up a crate with the door open and blankets inside and set your dog's water and food bowls next to the crate so it's close for them.

Check out the 3/3/3 rule. It describes what it could possibly be like for the first 3 days, 3 weeks, and maybe even 3 months, after you bring home a new pet. It will help give you an idea of what to expect so you can understand what is going on with your new family member.

Like I said, some dogs (and cats) settle in right away, and it's like they've always been there, but some will just need time to decompress and figure it all out. Allow your dog to do what makes them feel safe, and if they want to stay in their crate or hide in a corner, that's ok. Speak softly and let them decide when they're ready to be together and join in with the family.

With some patience and love, you can enjoy "happily ever after" with your new furry family member!



Due to a local surge in Covid cases, Petey's Playground had to postpone the Annual Fishbake that was scheduled for November 6th. We have rescheduled it for January 29th. All other details remain the same. Place is Model Creek School in Peeples Valley. Doors open at 5pm, dinner is served at 6pm.

We have some really fabulous, unique donations for our silent auction table again this year and are hopeful this event will resemble the ones we had before the pandemic. If we have to make some adjustments, we will. The fish is fresh and frozen, but we do not want to delay enjoying this great menu anymore than we have already.

We've been busy assisting in several Trap Neuter and Release projects in Congress. With the funding support of Humane Society Wickenburg, United Animal Friends, and the Muleshoe Feral Cat Fund, four different colonies are now manageable with all cats being spayed and neutered. This isn't part of our mission but if neighbors ask us for help, we will do our best to find it for them.

From those projects came five kitties that were young enough to be socialized. Two of them have been adopted and three more are waiting for their forever homes at the Resource Center



in Yarnell. Stop by and meet them or see them on [petfinder.com](https://www.petsfinder.com).

We have a lot planned for 2022 and can't believe we've been operating for ten years already. We hope to combine our Grand Opening of the Resource Center and our ten-year anniversary into one big gala event sometime in May. We haven't had our Trivia Night for two years, but are hopeful of resuming that great event sometime in March or April.

One of the many services we offer our Senior Clients is financial support for medical costs for their pets. Last year we spent more than \$15,000 for this item alone. Some of the pets require ongoing medicine in order to maintain quality of life. Insulin, thyroid medication, and organ-support special diet food are just a few things we help pay for and continue to help pay for as long as the senior owner needs us to.

We have two small dogs and three very sweet larger dogs looking for homes. Their information is on [petfinder.com](https://www.petsfinder.com) or stop by the resource center at 22448 State Route 89 in Yarnell for more information. Our hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9am to 2pm.

A Dog Called CALL

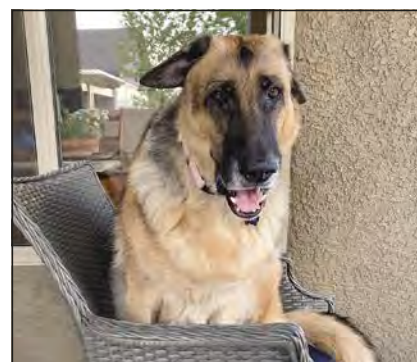
By Joseph Wilson

I love dogs. Always have. But I walk with a cane and thought my dog days were long gone. I went to Woodstock in Prescott Valley figuring I could get a dog fix with no commitment. Sort of like "It's Just Lunch". I had no idea what I was in for.

I stopped by the tent staffed by Saving Paws AZ. They described their fostering program called Seniors for Seniors. I qualified for one half. Not long afterwards they called with the canine half – a female German Shepherd. Off I went to Glendale and, with the staff's help, got the big dog up and into the backseat. Just in case she got away from me the first day, I had an ID tag made up that said: CALL with my phone number.

This dog had a rough beginning. She toiled in a Phoenix puppy mill until she could no longer breed. She was then dumped in a remote area and fended off attacks by feral dogs and coyotes.

When Maricopa Animal Care and Control got her, she was covered with



bite wounds. I can feel the scars. She also had an ear infection that was so severe that both ear canals were removed. Skin was harvested from each of her ears and sutured over the holes where her ear canals had been. Consequently, her ears droop and she's stone deaf.

We had a rough beginning. She would wake up at 1a.m. and bark until dawn. This went on for three weeks, I was so sleep deprived the bags under my eyes looked like carry on. Then she started at 2a.m. Then 3, then 4 and then stopped.

With the barking, another issue was eating. She hated commercial dog



food, kibble or canned. I experimented with all types of inducements. Then discovered she liked what I eat. So, mornings we have poached eggs on toast together – hers in a bowl on a bed of fancy trout kibble. Evenings she cleans her bowl of chicken vegetable stew made in a crockpot.

We have made fair accommodation of each other's frailties and idiosyncrasies. I don't walk well. She doesn't like going for walks. I can drive. She LOVES going for drives. She can't hear but can read my hand commands, lips and mind.

Hands down the smartest dog I've ever known. This dog is thriving. It makes me so happy to see her trot across the backyard dragging her extra large dog bed. Chase her tail.



I have a lot of mismatched socks because she has taken to burying them in the backyard. And, best of all, we are each other's biggest fans!

When she wakes from a nap I can hear her barreling around the house crashing into door jambs, walls, furniture and appliances hell bent on finding me. I get her. She gets this three legged man. The initial aggravation pales against the dividend of unconditional love and friendship. I love this dog to smithereens.

When I picked her up at Saving Paws I learned her name was Mary Anne. But she's deaf. No point in getting a new ID tag. She's CALL. Warrior dog.



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Yavapai Humane Trappers Animal Search and Rescue was part of an amazing rescue effort that put animals before politics. It's always exciting to pool resources and successfully bring in a large number of animals in one rescue effort.

On Thanksgiving eve, Katie Harris – Mountain Girl Rescue in Flagstaff – got wind that over 60 animals were out of time in a couple of reservation shelters deep in Northern Arizona, and that started a multi-group effort to change their destinies. That evening, when all we wanted was to get ready for the holiday, 5 rescue groups came together to focus on saving lives: Arf Anage, Saving Paws, Valley Humane, Mountain Girl from the Valley and Flagstaff, and Yavapai Humane Trappers Animal Search and Rescue (YHT) from Prescott stopped their holiday plans to make this happen instead.

In total, 12 cats (a mom with 8 babies, a mom with 6 babies, and 2 extremely pregnant cats, one giving birth that night!), 25 puppies, 2 chihuahuas, 2 dachshund mixes, a mom with 4 pups, 3 hounds, 2 heelers, a pregnant dog that gave birth in the van, 3 other pups, and YHT's 2 border collie mixes, 2 husky mixes, 4 lab pups, and an older lab with an injured leg, were all offered a better future. Some of our fosters and transporters changed their plans to see that all these dogs were brought to safety.



It takes all kinds of rescue approaches to respond to the huge need to assist homeless companion animals, but the "raw" rescue (where little to nothing is known about the animals being received) can be the most emotional. With this effort, we discovered that 4 puppies were very sick with an intestinal infection – one requiring 3 days of emergency care, and another puppy sadly passing before the first night was over. Two other dogs had an easily resolved parasite, and the sweet older lab will need surgery to repair his leg.

Rescue work can tax the soul and be emotionally draining but knowing that most of the animals have been offered a better chance, keeps us going. Saving most and losing a few precious lives is far better than not trying at all.

YHT is committed to the raw rescue work when needed, and we feel our niche is critical to blend with the demands that all rescue work brings. We're grateful to our volunteers and our contributors, without whom we would not be able to do what we do. We have hopes that 2022 will bring together more rescue groups to work in tandem and make the success stories bigger and better with both the hands on and financial support we desperately need.



Here we are In a New Year, always full of promise and hope. First, I would like to say how much we appreciate our volunteers and supporters who stepped up time and again during last year's difficulties to keep us moving forward. Many thanks!

For AARF Animal Rescue, last year was mixed (welcome to rescue!). We saw the passing of two of our sweet dogs. Buddy, one of our senior residents, came to us from another rescue and lived in rescue for six of his fifteen years. Here he was a happy boy who loved to take volunteers on his walks, where he went where he wanted, and they let him! He was loved until the end.

Zoey was a young pup adopted at Dogtoberfest. She went to a loving home with her mom and another young pup to play with. She passed unexpectedly in November. Both will truly be missed but we are so glad we had our time with them.

On a good note, we took in about eighty dogs last year. Our Puppy Palace became home to six moms with 33 puppies. Two arrived pregnant and gave birth at AARF. We also found homes for eighty dogs. So, a great end to a great year!

We have been blessed with the support of so many people and have received many donations. One large donation came from a previous



adopter. She has earmarked it for new construction. This spring, we will be adding at least two more bunkhouses to our Out of the Shelters Ranch. These new additions will give us even more options to save lives.

Another donation was given to add a pergola to our off leash/agility park as well as a bigger meet and greet fenced in area for potential adopters to bring their dogs. Our park was dedicated to Gary DeGeronimo, and it has been such a blessing for our dogs.

None of this could ever be possible without the continued support and generosity of those who believe in us. Whether it's monetary, food, blankets, supplies, or any type of volunteering, it all means so much to us and the dogs we are all helping to have better lives. So, thank you for three great years of support, and we are looking forward to many more!

We invite anyone to come take a tour of our rescue to see first-hand who we are, what we do and give our pups a treat or two. Just call 928-925-7219 for an appointment. Happy New Year from AARF!



Some people might disagree with me. But I swear that rescue animals know they were saved and will always remember that. They repay you with so much love.

~Unknown



Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary had an eventful 2021. This past year HPZS responded to a record number of animals in medical need. We have taken in 425 + animals and responded to over 750 phone calls. Here are two memorable stories from this past year.

Blossom the Opossum

Educating the public about wildlife is a big part of our mission. Animals have distinct habitats and can be found more readily in some parts of the country and not others. That was the case with a baby opossum that arrived at the zoo. Opossum are not native to Northern Arizona so we knew this Opossum had most likely traveled from out of state, making her non-releasable. We'd like to introduce Blossom, our new program marsupial!



Housecat or Bobcat?

Caring individuals contact us when they find an animal in need. This past July a woman saw an injured cat limping across the road. She thought it was a house cat until she saw a Bobcat mom and second kitten on the other side of the road. Most likely this little kitten was hit by a car while crossing with mom. We were grateful to step in and provide the poor animal the necessary surgery to relieve its pain and give her a second chance in the wild!

Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary is a non-profit with the mission to: Give refuge to non-releasable, rescued wildlife while providing conservation through exhibition and public education. Thank you to the local community for all their support. Visit our website to learn more.



Team Sunshine: Touching Hearts

By Sage Lewis and Reggae

Happy New Year from Team Sunshine! It's hard to imagine, but Reggae and I have been a certified therapy team at the Juvenile Justice Center for over three years so far. What a gift it is to our hearts to be able to not only make a difference with the kids in detention, but to have them make a difference in our lives as well.

What I've learned from the juveniles is that acceptance and being in the moment are gifts that are available to us all the time. Recently, there was a young man who wasn't sure if he was going to the visitation room to see "a Doc" or "a Dog" because he wasn't sure what he had heard. He told me at the end of our time together that he didn't know why or who he was seeing, but that he was just grateful to see someone new. And he was really grateful it was a dog and not a doctor.



On another visit, the kids wanted to teach Reggae a new trick – how to head bump so that the juveniles could rest their forehead against Reggae's. In an environment where physical contact is limited, having physical contact with a dog can be the best part of their day. So after many, many tries and lots of laughs, the kids (and Reggae) figured out a way to break down the trick into tiny little parts so that they could eventually rest their forehead peacefully against another being.

And, then there's always the watermelon toothpaste that everyone loves...especially Reggae!

UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS ON A RESCUE MISSION



Jordan's Way

United Animal Friends (UAF) was thrilled to have been chosen as a featured organization in the Jordan's Way National Tour, and the event was a blast! Jordan's Way was founded by Kris Rotunda in honor of his dog, Jordan, who had lived in a shelter for three years before being adopted by Kris in 2008. The two were inseparable until Jordan died of cancer in 2018. It was then that Kris made a promise to honor her life by helping as many shelters in need as possible.

Jordan's Way is on a mission to visit shelters in all 50 states in an effort to "fund the underfunded" and help the "unnoticed become noticed."

A ball of infectious energy, Kris hosted a 4-hour Facebook Live event at the UAF Rescue Ranch to highlight

the organization's adoptable dogs and cats, and to raise funds for animals in need.

Throughout the event, he issued challenges to UAF volunteers to see who could bring in the highest donations in a set period of time, with the winners getting to hit the losers with a pie in the face. In other challenges, volunteers got to experience what Kris called "Puppy Love," in which their faces were smeared with peanut butter or whipped cream and the pups were called in to lick it off.

Kris took the time to highlight every cat and dog at the ranch to increase their chances of being adopted. He devoted "Camera Time," during which each donation received while he was in a kennel with a dog prolonged their time on camera and earned them treats.

During a tour of the cattery at the Rescue Ranch, UAF volunteers introduced each adoptable cat and provided information on their backgrounds. When donation goals were reached, the cats were treated with catnip and dogs received hot dogs and pupachinos.

By the end of the event, Kris and the UAF volunteers had raised over \$9,000 to help animals in need,



while letting viewers get to know the wonderful animals who are awaiting adoption. Best of all, Kris said he'll be back again next year to do it again and we can't wait!

End of the Year

For United Animal Friends, the end of the year provides the perfect opportunity to reflect on past achievements and plan for future successes. Thankfully, our mission has not faltered in 2021, and the impacts of our work and community support are truly worth celebration.

One example is our newly completed Cattery at our Rescue Ranch. Earlier this fall, our first kitty residents arrived – the reviews are excellent! As they settle in, we continue our work transforming the barn into a shelter for dogs.

Donations will be crucial as we tackle property improvements. People power is also in high demand as we prepare for doggy residents, and we are looking for new volunteers to spend time with the dogs at our amazing new site! If you're able to support this wonderful endeavor via donations or volunteering, please read more at UnitedAnimalFriends.org.

In addition to the progress at our Rescue Ranch, we are proud to share that 400 dogs and cats were saved in 2021, and 341 were rehomed with loving forever families. Additionally, 45,149 pounds of food were distributed to the community through the Community Food Bank Program during the year, and 283 animals were supported by our Emergency Medical Program.

We also supported 887 spay and neuter appointments. These outstanding totals reflect the hard work of our volunteers, the compassion and support of our community, and the spirit of goodness that continues to drive us to do more.

As always, thank you for your kindness, which is the driving force behind all we do. Happy Holidays from United Animal Friends!

**Letter of Thanks for
United Animal Friends**

When my neighbors sold their Skull Valley home earlier this year, they left the new owners with a family of feral cats.

Though I had tried to convince the previous owners, over several years, to have them sterilized, offering them my help to trap and transport them, they declined. Instead, they continued to feed these wild critters, perpetuating the vicious cycle of too many cats being in too limited an area to successfully hunt and survive. Many litters over those years came and went. Most kittens disappeared, most likely becoming snacks for the local wildlife. Many were found hit by cars on our dirt road.

When the new neighbors moved in and approached me about the problem they had unsuspectingly inherited, I was happy to offer my help. After a little research I found that United Animal Friends (UAF) provides Feral Cat Certificates to help those



dealing with this exact sort of situation.

Through their program, and with the help of Petey's Playground in Yarnell (who thankfully loaned us a larger trap to catch both the tom and the mama-cat), the flexibility and dedication of Dr. McCullough of Muleshoe Animal Clinic in Peeples Valley, and the availability of Prescott Animal Hospital, we were able to get the entire family sterilized and to return to live and work in the barns in our neighborhood within less than a month.

My hat's off to ALL of these wonderful organizations for their commitment to both animal welfare and the betterment of our local communities. We couldn't have done it without all of your help.

My sincerest thanks,
Marie C., Skull Valley

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In our 5-hour class, Learn Skills That Could Save Your Pets Life! This hands-on class includes: Basic Restraint & Muzzling, what is Normal for Your Cat or Dog, How to Identify an Emergency, Rescue Breathing & CPR for Dogs & Cats, What is Shock? Choking Issues, Splinting & Bandaging Insect & Snake Bites, Hypothermia & Heat Stroke.

In our 8-hour class learn the above, plus: Importance of Dental Care, Supporting Your Senior Pet.

For those who love hiking, we have a special 2-hour class that goes over: Opening & Walk Criteria, Essential Gear, Pet First Aid Situations on the Trail, and Snout-to-tail assessment, Vitals and much more.

For more information and a schedule of classes, please contact Lynn at (928) 499-8857 or email at: lynn@animaldisasterservices.com



Moose, AKA Power Pup, is an essential member of the staff at MATFORCE. MATFORCE is a non-profit organization working together with the community reducing substance abuse in Yavapai County.

Much of MATFORCE's educational programs are done in the schools serving Kindergarten through high school. Power Pup is a character in the K-3 curriculum that is used by the health educators that Moose helps bring to life for the kids. With his mask and cape, the children crowd around to pet and dote on him. Power Pup often wanders through class during presentations prompting bursts of giggling, hand licking, and plenty of belly rubs for himself.

Power Pup is usually a surprise to the students and their faces show it when they first see him. He basks in the glow of attention, but his humbleness always shines through showing his true self.

We were lucky enough to sit down with Moose recently for a quick interview before one of his performances.

PD: Thanks so much for joining us today, Power Pup.



PP: Anything I can do to help.

PD: Let's start with where were you born?

PP: Right here in AZ.

PD: And how old are you, if that's not too personal?

PP: It's fine. I am five years old, about 35 human years.

PD: What is your favorite snack?

PP: Homemade biscuits. My human makes my favorite.

PD: What do you like to do for fun?

PP: I love going on adventures in the car with my humans. Sometimes they will take me for rides just around the yard with my fur siblings.

PD: Siblings, how many?

PP: Five, there are six of us total.

PD: Oh my, that's a full house. Are you a Red Heeler Corgi mini?

PP: Wow, great guess. Not many people know that.

PD: We are kind of the experts in Canines around here. Do you work in the MATFORCE office?

PP: I sometimes go in with my human to help boost morale and pose for pictures. There are times I also help with healthy choice options which is what we teach our younger students.

PD: When did you realize you had superpowers?

PP: I was pretty young when I realized I was different.

PD: Different how?

PP: One day one of my young humans found a bottle on the floor, and I sensed something wasn't right about it. I went over and nudged him away from the bottle and barked. Mother human came in and picked up the bottle and said, "No, no." to the young human and then patted my belly. That was when I knew I had a gift that I must use for good.

PD: And how do you use it for good?

PP: You can watch.

I observe a class activity called: Are these items safe to touch, taste, and smell?

A health educator calls for a volunteer from the class. Two dozen enthusiastic hands are suddenly waving in the air. A smiling child bounds to the front of

the class to pull a surprise item from the bag that the health educator is holding.

The student, eyes closed, digs deep into the unknown and pops back up with a plastic ice cream cone.

"Hold it up high, so everyone can see it," instructs the health educator.

At their feet are two small baskets, one green, for good items, and one red, for bad items. The activity continues with the health educator asking the class what the item is. The health educator will ask, "Is this item safe to touch, taste, and smell?"

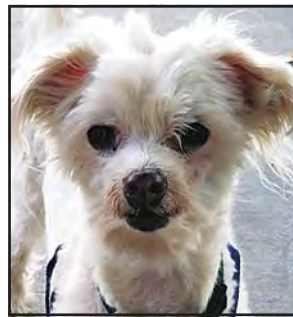
This is where Power Pup's super pooch power kicks into high gear. It's his job to help the child pick the correct basket.

Power Pup sniffs the item, carefully weighing the question, his only job to help the children make a healthy choice. After careful deliberation, skillfully combined with his puppy dog eyes, Power Pup leads the child to the green basket indicating a safe choice.

Power Pup will be ready to assist Yavapai County youth as he is always ready to #StayHealthy. If you would like to schedule a presentation for your school or civic group, please visit us at matforce.org, call 928-708-0100 or email info@matforce.org.



D.J.: A handsome male 3-year-old black and tan shepherd mix. For more information, please contact the Yavapai Humane Society. 928-445-2666



SHAGGY: A 7-year-old male Mal- tipoo, 10 pounds. He is sweet and affectionate and loves his humans most. His favorite activity is laying in his human's lap. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



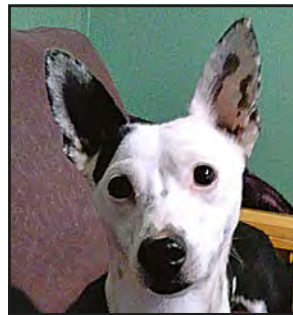
FLAMINGO: A charming 2-year-old, red-and-white short coat Chihuahua. She is a bit shy at first, but she loves laps. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



LUCY: A beautiful female 7-year-old mix of American Staffordshire Terrier, Boxer, and English Springer Spaniel according to her Wisdom Panel DNA test. She is very laid-back, fully housebroken, and absolutely loves people. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



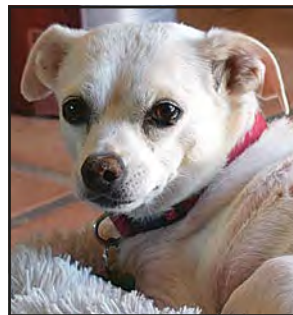
AVA: A 2-year-old female Australian cattle dog mix with the coolest blue eyes. Like all cattle dogs, she is very active and playful. Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



FIDO: Fido is a black and white Feist Terrier who is less than a year old. Good with other dogs, kids and has lived with cats. Petey's Playground peteysplayground@gmail.com



LUGO: A 5-year-old black and white male pit bull. He's big, he's funny, he loves to play, and he loves people! Yavapai Humane Society 928-445-2666



BENJI: A white Chihuahua, 7 years old and just the sweetest thing. Great with other dogs and all people. Petey's Playground peteysplayground@gmail.com



CURLY: A tiny 5 pound, 13-year-old male Poodle. He is well behaved boy and is very quiet. Loves cuddles and laps. Curly is house broken. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



FERN: A playful 1-year-old cattle-dog mix that is happy and confident. She loves playing with other dogs and will make a great exploring companion for walking and hiking. Yavapai Humane Trappers 4lvdch@bullerinetWORKS.net



RYDER: A 7-year-old male Blue Tick Coon Hound. A very sweet boy, loves people, loves the outdoors, loves to run. Excellent hiking and jogging companion. Knows basic commands, listens well off leash. United Animal Friends uafdogs20@gmail.com



HOUDINI: A silly mixed-breed baby that is all wags and wiggles. He will worm his way into your heart in no time. He was born in foster care and is good with other dogs and cats. Yavapai Humane Trappers 4lvdch@bullerinetWORKS.net



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by C.L. Dreves

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- May not feel comfortable enough to be themselves

After 3 weeks:

- They're starting to settle in
- Feeling more comfortable
- Realizing this could possibly be their forever home
- Figured out the environment
- Getting into a routine
- Starting to show true personality

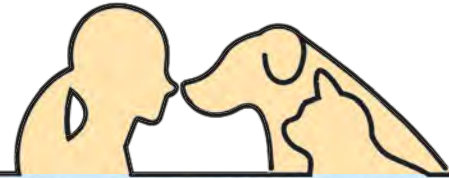


After 3 months:



- Feeling completely comfortable
- Know they're home
- Building trust and a true bond
- Gained a complete sense of security with new family
- Set in a routine

928-445-2666 yavapaihumane.org



ANIMAL COMMUNICATION



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

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

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FERN: A petite 6-year-old blue tabby female. She is quiet, affectionate, and quite the love bug once you get to know her.
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CLARIES: A dashing female tortoiseshell teenager who has tested negative for leukemia. A lively cat who wants attention and love, wants your time to play and chase toys.
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NICKY: A uniquely marked tortoiseshell lady with big golden eyes. She is 8 years old, loves people and warm beds.
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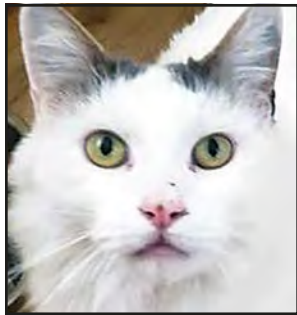
CHEYENNE: A beautiful brown tabby lady, 9 months old. She is a bit shy at first, but she loves to be petted and brushed and will come out to play.
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cattysackrescue.org



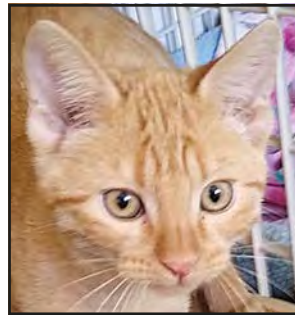
CENA: A 1-year-old beauty – a silver torbie! (tortoiseshell/tabby mixed coat). Her coat is lovely with beautiful coloring and markings. She's very sweet and affectionate.
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QUEENIE: A most elegant long-haired blue lady, approximately 2 years old. She's a gentle and sweet kitty once she knows you. Queenie loves to play with toys, likes brushing and chasing the laser dot. Catty Shack at cattysackrescue.org



SMUDGE: A handsome 2-1/2-year-old longhair Turkish Van mix. He's white with black ears and big green eyes. A very friendly lap cat who gets along with cats, dogs, and kids.
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SKITTLES: A short hair orange tabby male with big green eyes. He's 5 months old and a wonderful, sweet cuddly teddy bear. Loves to chase crinkle toys and balls.
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J.J.: An 11-year-old Arabian gelding. He is gray and stands 15 hands. Yavapai Humane Society 928-515-4947



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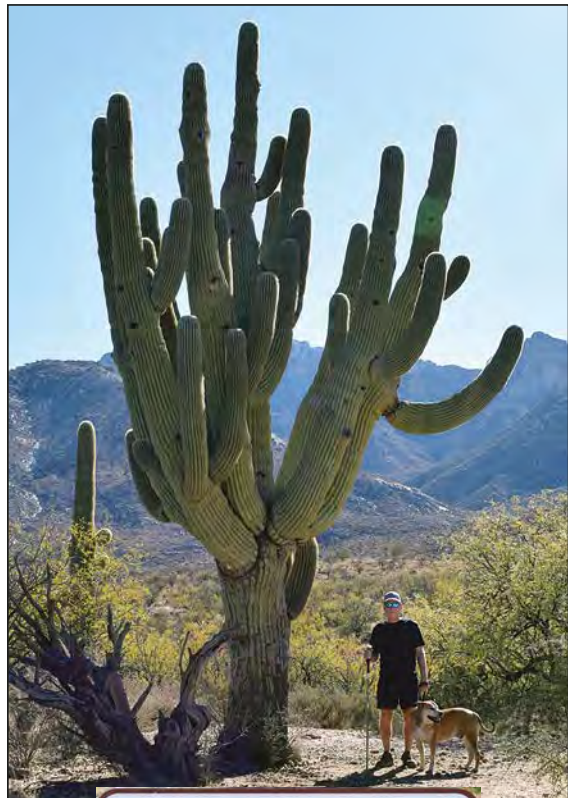


VETERAN OWNED AND OPERATED



PLENTY OF WINTER HIKING OPTIONS AT CATALINA STATE PARK

Story and photos by Cheryl Hartz



Two years after we lost his brother, Duke, we had to say goodbye on November 12 to our loving canine companion, Jack. He began 2021 by camping with us in January at Catalina State Park, so it's fitting that the 2022 issue will be my farewell to him. I wish them and their predecessors, Barney and Mea, much riotous romping over the Rainbow Bridge. All were eager and enthusiastic hikers. Trails are emptier without them.

Camping immediately outside of Tucson in January you would expect nice mild temperatures, right? Well, that was true during daylight, but not so much at night at the base of the Santa Catalina Mountains in the 5,500-acre Catalina State Park.



Cheryl and the boys soon after she became theirs in December 2010. They were loving right from the beginning.



A brilliant mosaic marks a trailhead.

Evenings, we happily huddled around a gas fire-pit in our screened canopy that held in the heat surprisingly well.

Fortunately, daytime temperatures were near-perfect. Roundtrip times on the park's eight trails vary from 30 minutes to more than 8 hours, so we hiked sections of several. Whichever you choose, know you will be surrounded by nearly 5,000 saguaros and 150 bird species, along with the usual suspects of desert mammals, reptiles and flora.

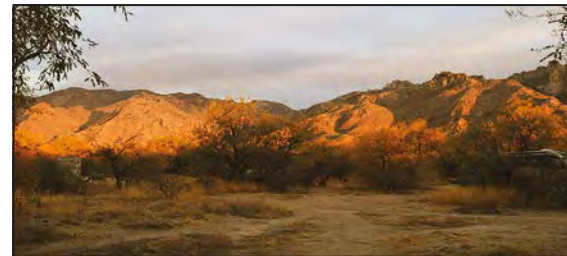
Romero Ruins Interpretive Trail is a short 3/4-mile loop, but will take you deep into history on top of a ridge. It is the site of a prehistoric Hohokam village. (No horses or bikes allowed.) It also boasts two preserved ball courts. Games might have been a way for communities to gather, settle disputes, or just have fun.



Walk through the ruins of a prehistoric Hohokam village.

Remains of a large 5-foot-high enclosing wall were not discovered until 1990. The wall was constructed sometime after AD 1150, possibly for defensive purposes, when about 100 people lived in single rectangular rooms of rock on the hilltop. Up to 300 people were previous residents in an extensive village of pithouses several centuries prior. These residences had perishable pole and brush frames.

Seven large trash mounds and numerous smaller ones around the site have yielded a wealth of information. Their diet seems to have consisted mostly of jackrabbit, along with deer and bighorn sheep, while agave and corn were the most prevalent plant foods. The mounds also revealed distinctive red pottery made in the Tucson area



Sunset over the campground.

around AD 500. Later pottery pieces, higher on the trash heap, likely were traded from the Phoenix area.

More short hiking choices include a 1-mile Nature trail, a 1-mile Birding trail, a 1.4-mile (one way) Bridle trail connecting the Equestrian Center to the trailhead parking lot, and the 2.3-mile Canyon Loop trail.



Catalina State Park offers a large equestrian center.

The Sutherland Trail extends 9 miles (one way) into the Bighorn Sheep Management Areas which is closed to dogs. Do your research before attempting this one. It ends at the Mt. Lemmon trail at 8,600 feet. Popular for horseback and mountain bike riding is the 8.6-mile (one way) 50-year Trail.

Romero Canyon trail is 7.2 miles one way but currently open only 2.8 miles to Romero Pools. This area was completed closed last year, as the Forest Service worked to alleviate fire damage from 2019.

Happy winter hiking!



We at Prescott Dog mourn Duke and Jack's passing. They were valued members of our writing staff.

Our Deepest Condolences, Cheryl. Thank you for sharing your adventures with us.

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GRANITE MOUNTAIN RIDERS

40 years and still going strong for horse lovers

By Heidi Dahms Foster



Deniece McNulty & Fax.

When Deniece McNulty moved to Prescott four decades ago, she most missed her ladies' riding group in Walla Walla, Washington. It didn't take her long to do something about it. In 1981, she gathered eight friends who were interested in horses and founded what can easily be called the area's most successful equine group, the Granite Mountain Riders.

After its founding, GMR sponsored a series of open horse shows and gymkhanas, managed the Mile High Quarter Horse Mini Circuit, and supported many community events, including the Frontier Days Rodeo Queen program, several children's programs, various animal rescue groups and a scholarship for a local student. Most famously, GMR provided seed money to help start the popular Horses with H.E.A.R.T., a local therapeutic riding program, which is still going strong today.

GMR has always been primarily a social club for women who love horses. Members did not need to own a horse, they simply needed to love horses. They rode in parades, rodeo grand entries and trail rides, and enjoyed monthly potlucks and educational gatherings. As time went on, however, McNulty became very busy in her personal life and wasn't as active in GMR. Membership began to dwindle, and finally, in 2010, just eight people were left.

"The group thought it was time to fold, but I said, 'We've been here almost 30 years.'" McNulty said. "I asked them to stick with me and I would be president again. I took the ball and ran with it, with the help of these other ladies who are now called the 'gang of eight.'"

Those determined ladies included McNulty, Sharon Boler, Mary Lynn Doyle, Virginia Dubroy, Debbie Dolson, Sondra Haile, Gayle Higgs, and Memory Wolfe. They began to tack up flyers in feed and western stores, put ads in the newspaper and advertise on Craigslist.

"The first meeting, 50 women appeared at my house," McNulty said. "Ninety percent of those who came, joined. They were all interested in horses. It took off from there and it hasn't stopped."

McNulty, at 82, is still active in the club, which now numbers about 140. "I spent about a year putting the book together (Granite Mountain Riders - Celebrating 40 Years). I still attend meetings and activities," she said, adding that a bout with Covid in January slowed this cowgirl down "a bit!"

While the club still is a social gathering of women who love horses, it is very much modern, with a detailed budget, chaired committees, award programs, website, computerized records, and publicity brochures. But the activities have not slowed a bit.

The 2021 program list included something for virtually any horse lover - a "40 Years of GMR" exhibit at the Phippen Museum in Prescott, monthly trail rides, mounted shooting and carriage driving demos, a Cowgirl Poets open mic, various educational clinics such as saddle and bit fitting, horseshoeing demos, and more, drill team events, barbecues, potlucks, a day at the races at Arizona Downs, camping out with horses, and a retreat at Dead Horse Ranch State Park.

Members ride in a number of parades - Chino Valley Territorial Days, Prescott Frontier Days, the Prescott Christmas Parade, and more, for which GMR has won a number of awards. The GMR Drill Team performs at the popular Olsen's Equifest each year, and this year thrilled attendees at a Chamber mixer at Chino Valley Equestrian Center.

One of McNulty's favorite memories is the year GMR won the trophy for Best Mounted Entry at the Prescott Frontier Days Parade.

"When we started to go out to the staging area for the parade, I turned and looked at 23 members all decked out for the parade and got choked up. They were dressed fit to kill with matching hats, vests, and shirts, and leg wraps and blankets on the horses. They looked like a million dollars. That was a moment for me," she said.

While 23 is only a fraction of GMR's members, that's how many of GMR's events turn out. They



2021 Frontier Days Parade.



2018 Parade.



Granite Mountain Riders Trail Ride.

are virtually all successful because of the large membership from which to draw. "Not everyone does everything, but we have a good turnout for whatever we do," McNulty said.

GMR members come from all walks of life, and from all areas of equine expertise. Longtime member Lynn Valenti, who joined in 2016, said, "We have trail riders, people who enjoy horse camping, those who ride western dressage, who ride cutting horses, those into ranch riding, and speed events such as gymkhanas. We have English riders, those who drive horses, and those who do liberty work."

That comes in handy when a member is looking for someone to go to a horse show, western clothes shopping or another horse-related pursuit, Valenti said, because there is always someone willing.

Dues for all of that fun, education and camaraderie are just \$40 per year, with a portion of dues and money from fundraisers going to support equine-related causes. The club is always ready to support the horse community, whether through donations to such programs as Horses with H.E.A.R.T. or by helping in emergencies. They maintain a list of members' horse and people facilities so they can help out in a fire or other emergency, and they have helped to support the county's Large Animal Shelters and Emergency Readiness (LASER) program.



Granite Mountain Riders Horse Trailing Safety training.

McNulty still has the wry sense of humor that she expressed in 2011. "I love the organization and what it has become. If I kick off I'll expect all of them to be at my funeral with hats and vests and their boots shined," she said, laughing. "I get a lot of credit for bringing this old gal back to life but I couldn't have done it without help from the many dedicated members, including our officers and chairwomen."

For more information on Granite Mountain Riders, visit their website at granitemountainriders.com.

BOOK REVIEW: THE BIG BOOK OF TRICKS FOR THE BEST DOG EVER

A Step-By Step Guide to 118 Amazing Tricks and Stunts for a World of Fun and Accomplishment

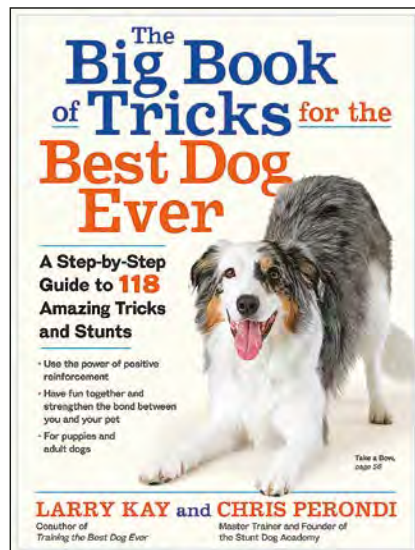
By Heidi Dahms Foster

There's nothing more fun than showing off your smart dog's tricks to family and friends. Teach your pup a few simple tricks and you'll be the life of any gathering. But trick training brings with it a treasure trove of accomplishments that make showing off just the icing on the cake.

The Big Book of Tricks for the Best Dog Ever by Larry Kay and Chris Perondi shows you step-by-step how to train your canine to perform an impressive repertoire of tricks, and committing to the rewarding time spent is a great way to start the New Year.

Now to that treasure trove. If you get a pup or a young rescue, you can start with simple tricks, generally considered good manners, such as down, stay, come, shake, roll over, stand, and wait.

These can all be taught in your living room, and many while doing daily pet chores. Simply teach your dog to wait while you open a door, and you'll never have to deal with the hound that bolts through the door or out of the car.



Teach your dog to stay or wait while you prepare its food, and while you set it on the floor, and you're helping your pooch to learn impulse control. Help your pup learn to walk on a leash as a youngster, and you'll have a lifetime of pleasant strolls.

These simple tricks and the more difficult ones that are built behavior on behavior have you spending quality time with your dog. Teaching your dog tricks will help you discover your pup's real personality, improve

your pet's behavior, reinforce socialization, prevent boredom and restlessness, and instill your pet with greater confidence. This time spent with your dog is the golden key to a great relationship between the two of you. Why wouldn't it be? After all, you'll be the most exciting person around to your dog!

Using the secrets of professional dog trainers, the fully illustrated *Big Book of Tricks for the Best Dog Ever* has hundreds of step-by-step photos that show how to teach your pet 118 tricks and stunts. Organized from beginner level to pro, these tricks include basic manners to stunts such as dance routines and flying disc acrobatics.

Many of the tricks can be stepping stones to such dog sports as rally obedience, disc competitions, flyball, agility, canine freestyle and much more. Additionally, you can earn titles for your trick dog through the American Kennel Club.

Want to train a "show" dog? *Big Book of Tricks for the Best Dog Ever* discusses the tricks behind filmmaking with dogs to create your

own movie magic and performance showstoppers. This will undoubtedly make you a hit on social media!

Co-author Larry Kay is a Los Angeles-based award-winning writer, is Leader of the Pack at Positively Woof, which celebrates the human-animal bond. In addition to co-authoring *Training the Best Dog Ever*, he created the award-winning *Animal Wow* dog care DVD for kids. His website is positivelywoof.com.

Co-author Chris Perondi runs Stunt Dog Productions and the Stunt Dog Academy near Stockton, California with his wife, Suhey, and their team of canine performers. They perform more than 1,000 shows every year across the country in venues like Dollywood, Six Flags, and Silver Dollar City in Branson, MO. Chris Perondi's websites are stuntdogshow.com and stuntdogacademy.com.

Find *The Big Book of Tricks for the Best Dog Ever: A Step-by-Step Guide to 118 Amazing Tricks and Stunts* on Amazon in Kindle, hardcover or paperback.

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WINTERWIZE HORSE & RANCH

By Rita Thompson-Tinsley



Annie in Chino Valley.
Photo by Victoria Starr.

Being wise when cold weather comes, we winterize vehicles, insulate our homes and put on layer upon layer before venturing out. A little known fact is that your horse actually LOVES snowy winter weather, though it can mean more maintenance for us. Although the Prescott area isn't known for its Eskimo climate, it's still very wise to prepare your equines for the big chill.

Winter preparation is determined by the type of horse you have, his age, and his barn/pasture environment. If you have a show horse that is body clipped, you want to invest in a winter blanket and should be using the blanket when temperatures get below 60°F, or anytime it's rainy or windy, according to author Sallie S. Hyman, VMD, DACVIM, CVA, of Equestrian Collections. However, if you have a trail horse or any equine that can develop a nice winter coat, you will probably never need a winter blanket to keep him warm.

Your horse is designed by nature to have his own dynamic cooling/heating system that's controlled by two types of hair and a muscle. According to Dr. Hyman, horses' coats are comprised of longer, stiffer guard hairs and soft, fluffy undercoats.

The guard hairs protect the soft hairs from dirt and rain and collect moisture from sweat that might damage the undercoat. The softer, fluffier undercoat traps warm air functioning as insulation. Natural oils coat the hair to make them water resistant.

Each hair is connected to the pilo-erector muscle, which allows the hair to rise up or lay flat. When they stand up, warm air is trapped between them. When they lie down, warm air is released, cooling the area. A

Canadian study revealed that horses can tolerate temperatures as low as 5°F before they show any drop in body temperature. There are, however, two game changers: rain and wind.

Rain can flatten the hair, which prevents the undercoat from providing the layer of warm air. Wind can blow the warm air from the surface. Snow is less of a problem; according to Hyman's study, snow will collect and act as a layer of insulation. So the only time you should be blanketing a horse is: If he's clipped, sick or injured, underweight, geriatric, recently moved to a colder climate, or if no shelter is available.



Mr. BoJangles and Miss Pickles enjoying the view. Photo by Christina McCarty.

Now that you know what to put ON your horse (or not) for winter, what should you put IN your horse BEFORE winter? Standlee's Beyond the Barn podcast with Dr. Tania Cubitt, and several reliable trainers/ranchers I have interviewed, recommend you FEED THE HORSE!!! Do not let Silver or Buttercup go into winter on zip or zero.

Friend and experienced horse trainer at The Blake Brothers Ranch Gyp-



Western Legend Ranch horses in Williams. Photo by Abby McGill.

sies (Gypsy Vanners) in Bowie, Texas, Dawn Chambers explains, "We evaluate our broodmares for weight regularly, but with all of our horses, we make sure they go into winter a little fat."

Blake Brothers Ranch plans ahead; they feed extra grain ahead of winter and they make sure that everyone has constant access to hay.

Tania Cubitt, PhD, on Beyond The Barn emphasizes increased forage. "Helping horses thrive during the wintertime includes increasing their intake of hay."

She provides a guide for the increase: 1% to 1-1/2%, and up to 2% of their body weight. For example, you need to feed 15-25 lbs. of hay a day to a 1,000-lb. horse.

"Remember, the horse is burning more calories to maintain body heat," says Cubitt. Hay is considered the best fiber and the best source of heat production, above grain or any kind of mash your grandma told you about. Also, make sure your horses are drinking water.

Now for the mammoth shocker. There are herds of horses in really cold regions, unblanketed and out on open land. Montana, Wyoming, the Dakotas are just a few states where you will see this means of winterWIZING. This has been a common practice for centuries.

According to a North Dakota rancher, her horses easily survive by huddling under trees. The horses she keeps in her barn stalls are blanketed because they have no one to huddle with. Creeks or a river with running water ensure refreshment, and horses can sometimes open frozen water with a kick of the hoof. It's not their first rodeo, and whenever you see a dramatic exhibition of frisky dancing and prancing, this is actually a natural way for your horse to initiate heat.



Danny the Dales pony draft frolicking. Photo by Marta Alfred.

Diana Graveley, ranch manager of her family ranch and farm for 45 years, shared with me their horse set up. They didn't have a running creek or river on the property, so they relied on troughs mostly. They didn't have a barn, but relied on lean-tos and one big shed for a windbreak, and put down lots of straw for bedding.

Mrs. Graveley claims to have blanketed a horse just once. Meg Good-year of Chino Valley worked on the Graveley Ranch for just under two years and can tell chilling stories of what it's like to look for newborn calves at 20-30°F below zero, something you and I may never have to do.

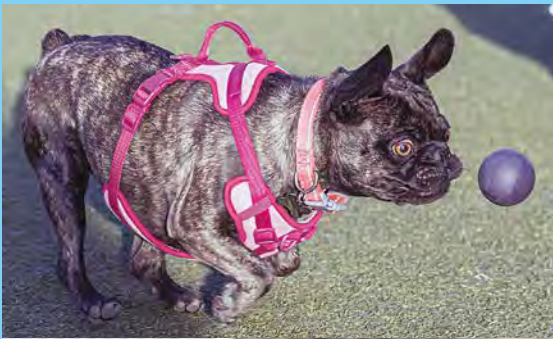
All in all, it's not difficult to be winterWIZE as long as you know your barnyard buddies and some hot tips for the cold season.



Susan Shuford on her Yella Fella, navigating the snow in the Huachuca Mtns. Photo by Christina McCarty.

Scenes From The Dog Park

Photos by Gary Gromer





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