

Flagstaff-Sedona Dog magazine

Also Serving Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Jerome, & NAZ

June/July 2023
FlagstaffSedonaDog.com



**Happy
Independence Day
America!**

**Meet the
Real Chase**

**Happy Tails,
Happy Trails**

**You and Your
Veterinarian**

**Wild Herd
Faces Challenges**

TO A GOOD HOME
FREE
ALWAYS

Introducing Our Cover Dog ~ Buddy



Yavapai
Humane
Society

yavapaihumane.org

928-445-2666



**THE SUBARU
LOVE PROMISE**

**Findlay
PRESCOTT**

SUBARU



Giving Back to the Community, and making the world a better place.



3230

FINDLAY

SUBARU

SERVICE

Findlay
PRESCOTT
SUBARU

928-771-6900

3230 Willow Creek Rd., Prescott, AZ, 86301

www.FindlaySubaruPrescott.com

Flagstaff-Sedona Dog

CONTENTS

Buddy, Our Cover Dog	5
Tucker's Take	6
Chase's Corner: Meet the REAL Chase.... <i>Chase & Jan Tomlinson</i>	7
Protect Your Dog with Snake Avoidance Training	8
Rescue Resources	8
Happy Tails, Happy Trails: A Doggie Sidecar Motorcycle Adventure!.....	10
<i>Solana Kline</i>	
Rescue Tales	12
Dogs for Adoption	14
Cats for Adoption	15
You and Your Veterinarian: A Caring Team for Your Pet	16
<i>Dr. Cynde Gardner, DVM, BCH</i>	
Hot Stuff.....	17
<i>Loree Walden</i>	
Salt River Wild-Horse Herd Faces Challenges.....	18
<i>Heidi Dahms Foster</i>	

FLAGSTAFF-SEDONA DOG MAGAZINE

Cherie L. Dreves – Publisher/Owner

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

cherie@reddogpublishing.net

Website: FlagstaffSedonaDog.com • Facebook: [FlagstaffSedonaDog](https://www.facebook.com/FlagstaffSedonaDog)

Flagstaff-Sedona Dog reserves the right to editorial control of all articles, stories and letters to the editor. Flagstaff-Sedona Dog assumes no responsibility for errors within its publication. The views herein do not necessarily represent the policies of Flagstaff-Sedona Dog and should not be construed as endorsements.

Flagstaff-Sedona Dog was established in August of 2011 and is a nonpartisan publication published bimonthly in Feb/Mar; Apr/May; Jun/Jul; Aug/Sep; Oct/Nov; and Dec/Jan by Red Dog Publishing LLC. Entire contents copyright 2023 by Flagstaff-Sedona Dog. Layout and design by Kim Prosser, Graphics Manager.



PUBLISHER

Cherie L Dreves

ADVERTISING

(928) 445-4811

Cherie@reddogpublishing.net

STAFF CONTRIBUTORS

Cover Photo by Portrait Park by J



Heidi Dahms Foster



Skye Lyons



Rita Thompson-Tinsley



Jan Tomlinson





COVER DOG CONTEST

It's easy to enter your furry best friend!

- 1) Take a picture of your canine pal
- 2) Send your picture to info@reddogpublishing.net

Please include your name, dog's name, address and phone with your entry. Entries without owners info will not be accepted.

Winner will receive:

- 1) A photo shoot with A Portrait Park by J in Prescott
- 2) 50 copies of Flagstaff-Sedona Dog
- 3) A personalized social media post congratulating your dog as the winner and an electronic copy of the printed cover

All entries are judged for the edition submitted..
You can enter for EVERY edition! One entry per dog, per edition.

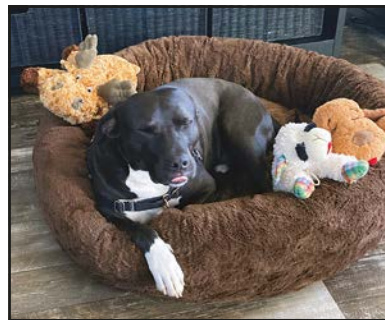
**Deadline Dates - 3/31, 5/31, 7/31,
9/30, 11/30 and 1/31**



Buddy, Our Cover Dog



Name: Buddy
Hometown: Camp Verde, Arizona
Age: 5
Favorite brand of kibble: Purina Moist & Meaty High Protein
Favorite people food: Roasted chicken



Favorite toy: Little lamb. Don't tell my dog park friends.
Favorite outdoor activity: Playing in the dog park with all of my friends.
Favorite indoor activity: Cuddling with Mom and Dad.

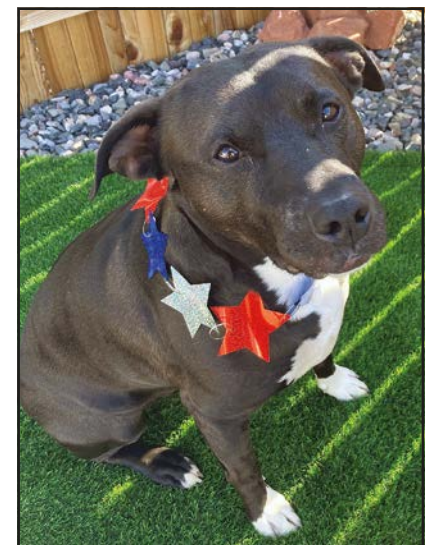
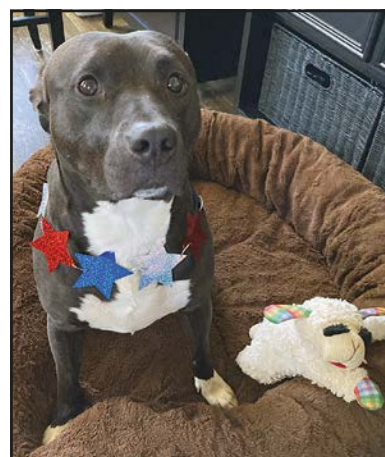


Favorite nap spot: Anywhere in the sun.

Fitness regimen: Running around the dog park three times a day.

Describe your perfect canine pal: Zelda, my girlfriend.

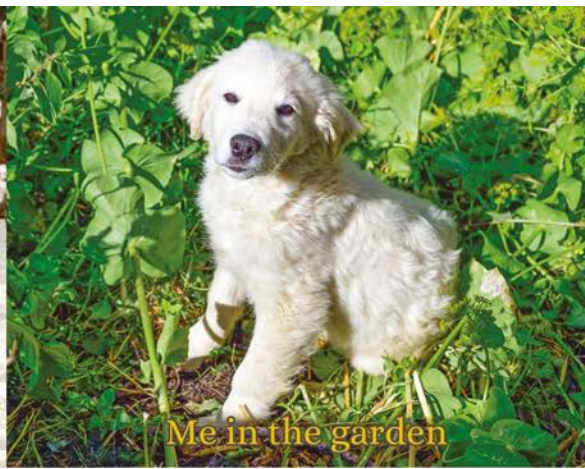
Describe your perfect day: Going for rides in the car. Several trips to the dog park. Sunning in the backyard.



Tucker's Take



My Dad at the treeline



Me in the garden



My Mom with the Rancher's Wife

Arriving

"Sophia, everything's all right...Emma's on her way."

The rancher's wife stroked the white Lab's back and got up to find lanterns. The unfinished room hadn't been wired for lights yet, and night was falling.

Moments later, Emma's pick-up came up the drive. Calli the Heeler greeted Emma at the porch steps but was shewed away from coming into the house. Both women spoke quietly as they knelt by the white Lab under the soft glow of lamplight.

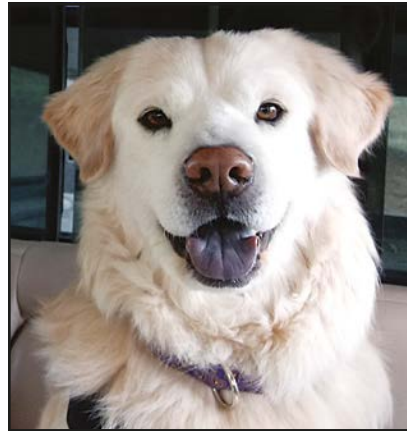
This was the night I was born.

My Mom had settled into the routine of the ranch through the summer and had pretty much got Calli to stay out of trouble when she was off-duty and around the house.¹

The rancher's wife had come to depend on Soph, for company and light conversation over shortbread cookies. Late-winter storms brought a few surprises of which one of those surprises was Dusty, a lost Golden who happened to appear out of a winter's fog.

Sophie had been in the backyard and had finished her morning routine when she heard the subtle rhythm of pads on snow. She whipped around to face whatever was approaching, knowing it wasn't Calli who was in the barn. She listened and waited,

¹ [EDITOR'S NOTE: See tinyurl.com/mr3usz4v for more]



when out of winter's misty veil, came the golden form of the most handsome dog my Mom had ever seen.

Dusty, upon seeing the white Lab just ahead, was about to ask his two standard questions whenever he was lost. But the questions (have you seen my Dad, and is there any thing to eat around here) no longer seemed important at the moment. A slight breeze had crossed over Soph and found its way to Dusty. Sophie was in season. Questions could wait, and nature took its course.

At the first break of warm weather, and on a bright day full of the promise of spring, my Mom went to the unfinished room, laid down and wouldn't leave. It was time.

Sophie endured her first birthing without trouble, and inherited memory guided her in caring for her new charges: seven puppies came, in various shades from cream to ripe apricot.

The rancher's wife was relieved, believing that all was well, but Emma seemed concerned. She could see Soph was exhausted, but still making the effort to nose and lick each of her pups to keep them stimulated. Soph's head dropped suddenly with a slight whimper onto the blanket.

"That's what I thought," Emma said quietly to herself. She felt along Soph's abdomen and concluded, "She's not done."

An hour passed, with Soph showing distress at times. Just as the rancher's wife's concern grew for Sophie, and the wife couldn't take the waiting anymore and stood up to call for a Vet to come...my head appeared.

Emma gently helped my tiny frame come the rest of the way. My Mom, in telling the story to me (several times), said that saw Emma was going to take me away. Mom said she felt a momma-bear spirit rise inside her, and she did something she had never done before to a two-legged: she barred her teeth and low-growled a warning at Emma.

Emma cautiously laid me down, and my Mom got to work.

I remember this part because I got so mad. I had gone from a warm and dark waterworld—where the rhythm of breath and heartbeat were our comfort and safety—into a jarring transition I didn't want any part of.

I just wanted to go back to my warm mystery world and sleep, yet some-

thing kept rubbing up along my side from tail to ear. Then it would go over my muzzle and nose. I just wanted it to stop. I got so angry at this constant assault...

I took my first breath and made a squeak of hot displeasure. I heard a two-legged sigh of relief in the room as Mom guided me to nourishment, and I stubbornly resisted until a new kind of warmth filled me.

Funny how anger and discomfort veiled what the room was actually filled with. Something so powerful, it has carried me through difficult circumstances (if I let it).

As I suckled, Mom nuzzled, siblings jostled, hoomans whispered, emotions faded, and I became aware of that powerful and subtle force that filled the room...love.

I have been tossed into four major transitions in my life. None were of my own choosing. Those circumstances, however difficult, have brought me to this time in my life when I am loved and valued in my pack.

My Mom was ready to fight to give the runt of the litter a chance, even though she was exhausted and others might interfere. She believed I would make it. All these years later, because of her, I believe, too. In life, and love.

So...please take care of each other...even when it's hard

~Tucker Oso (Sophie's Son)

TUCKER'S TAKE



available at
amazon

HAZEL HOWLS

FROM REZ DOG TO SPOKESDOG:
A COMPILATION OF HER FIRST 5 YEARS CONTRIBUTING
TO THE PRESCOTT DOG MAGAZINE

ALL SALES GO TO THE HAZEL FOUNDATION. A FUND TO HELP DEFER FUEL COSTS FOR RESCUES

Now available
in paperback!



Chase's Corner: Meet the REAL Chase

By Chase & Jan Tomlinson

Several years ago, my mom had me in a cognition study at Duke University while she was taking an online class there in dog cognition. I got to do all of the fun tests and did all of the work, but SHE got the diploma! I thought you might like to see the results of my tests and who I really was.

The overall evaluation showed me as a charmer! A smooth operator, the charmer relies on his secret weapon—his mom. I could work a problem out on my own as well as anybody, but I preferred to rely on MY secret weapon, my mom.

As a charmer, I had exceptional social skills, which meant I could read your body language like a book. I was not above using this information to get my own way. I was no fool when it came to independent problem solving, and my scores reflected a keen understanding of the physical world. However, my real genius was that I saw my mom as an ally and partner, and I would visually turn to her for help before trying to figure out a problem on my own.

Now, on to my Dognition Profile. This identified my cognitive style and the strengths I relied on to solve a variety of problems. The profile gave a window into the workings of my mind and would reveal my particular genius. My empathy scores were off the charts! This meant that I had the ability to feel what someone else was feeling. Humans are extremely empathic and it is one of our best qualities. I was totally bonded to my mom.

The tests that I took for this were the yawn game and the eye contact game. If my mom yawned, then I would also usually yawn. Now, that is empa-



thy! The eye contact game was really easy for me as I was really focused on my mom most of the time we were together.

The next was communication. My performance in this was highly collaborative. I paid close attention to my mom's gestures and what she was trying to communicate to me. Communication is the basis of many relationships including relationships with dogs. Dog and human relationships are very special.

The test I did for this was the arm-pointing game and the foot-pointing game. She pointed to something with her arm and hand, and I knew right away what she wanted. Then she would point to something with her foot and that was just as easy.

If she opened the door to my outside kennel and I just stood there, she would point toward the door with her hand and I knew I would better get out the door fast!

The next thing was cunning. I scored as trustworthy in this game. I was trustworthy because I didn't eat the treat when my mom's back was turned. I didn't use her social information to deceive her.

The game for this one was to put a treat down, have her watch me first, then cover her eyes so she couldn't see me and then turn her back to me. I never did eat that treat!

The next test was the memory test. It seems that I had an amazing working memory. My mom tried to trick me by putting the treat under one cup and then pointed to the wrong cup. I remembered and got it the very first time! I used my memory again rather than my smell, to find the treat a second time. This type of memory is a working memory. A working memory is crucial for any kind of problem solving.

For the reasoning part of my profile, it seemed that I liked to see the pieces before solving the puzzle. This became very important in my obedience and agility training. Because my mom learned all of this about me, it made her a better trainer in how to teach me those things.

I hope some day, your human gets to take a class like this to learn all about you and how you learn!

Signing off for now,
~Sir Chase

CHASE'S CORNER: MEET THE REAL CHASE



Highland Dr W McConnell Dr

S Woodlands Village Blvd

800 W. Highland Ave.
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

928-779-0148

WESTSIDE VETERINARY CLINIC

WHERE EVERYONE IS FAMILY

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm



Jenny Siess,
DVM



Chelsea Rae
Calhoun,
DVM, CVA



Amanda Gordon,
DVM



Ariel Maltese,
DVM

Surgery, radiology, exotics, dentistry,
ultrasound, laser therapy, orthopedics,
acupuncture and more!

www.westsideveterinaryclinic.com



HOW HOT IS YOUR CAR?



VEHICLE TEMPERATURE	INSIDE TEMP (F)	
	after 10 mins	after 30 mins
70°	89°	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Source: veterinariacolorado.com

WHEN IN DOUBT, LEAVE THEM HOME - THEY'LL THANK YOU FOR IT!



PROTECT YOUR DOG WITH SNAKE AVOIDANCE TRAINING

What is Snake Avoidance Training?

As the weather gets warmer here in Arizona, more and more dog owners are venturing outside to enjoy the great outdoors.

Keep in mind, as you're taking your dog out hiking or playing for hours in the backyard, that another creature has come out to enjoy the warmth, too: rattlesnakes.

Rattlesnakes are venomous reptiles that are fairly abundant in the Arizona landscape. Named for the distinct warning rattle they emit from the tip of their tail, rattlesnakes have a venom that is extremely potent, and their bites require immediate medical attention.

Although fatalities in humans are rare, according to LiveScience reports, this isn't the case for our furry friends.

Dogs generally don't instinctively know to avoid rattlesnakes, and as such, they can easily become victims of their bites. Although the snakes do not bite unprovoked, a dog nose invading their space is enough to send the reptile into defense mode and you to an emergency animal hospital. That's why snake avoidance training is so important: it was developed as a preventive measure to help keep your dog safe from snake bites.

As the name suggests, snake avoidance training is a regimen intended to teach your dog to avoid snakes at all costs. Dogs are taught how to avoid being bitten by conditioning the pups to the sight, sound, and smell of all snakes, both harmless and life-threatening venomous species.



EVERYONE LOVES ICE CREAM

TAIL WAGGIN' GOOD CHOMPS!

INGREDIENTS

Peanut Butter Banana Cooler

- 1 1/2 cups plain yogurt
- 3/4 cup peanut butter
- 1 ripe banana

Pumpkinsicle

- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 1 cup non-fat plain yogurt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Line a standard or mini muffin tin with liners. Ice cube trays work great too.
2. Place the ingredients in a bowl. Blend until very smooth and creamy.
3. Pour into the prepared muffin tin, or molds
4. Transfer the tin/mold to the freezer and freeze until solid, around three hours.
5. When frozen, transfer to a large freezer bag or other freezer-safe storage container.

NOTES: PLEASE CHECK THE PEANUT BUTTER FOR XYLITOL, WHICH IS POISONOUS TO DOGS. THESE TREATS CAN GET VERY HARD ONCE COMPLETELY FROZEN, ALLOW THEM TO SOFTEN FOR ABOUT 10 MINUTES BEFORE GIVING THEM TO YOUR DOG.



Rescue Resources

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



AARF ANIMAL RESCUE 6639 S. Country Rd., Mayer aarfanimalrescue@gmail.com (928) 925-7219	BLUE MOON RESCUE & SANCTUARY 1851 E Perkinsville Rd, Chino Valley (928) 925-7724, bluemoonrescue.org	HIGH COUNTRY HUMANE 11665 N, US-89, Flagstaff (928) 526-0742 highcountryhumane.org	TUBA CITY HUMANE SOCIETY (928) 793-2364, tubacityhumanesociety.org
ANIMAL GUARDIAN NETWORK HEALING RIVER RANCH 2564 N Arena Del Loma, Camp Verde (623) 780-1604, animalguardiannetwork.org	BRADSHAW MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION 18200 S Wolf Run Trail, Mayer (928) 632-9559, bradshawmountainwildlife.com	HUMANE SOCIETY OF CENTRAL ARIZONA 605 W. Wilson Ct, Payson (928) 474-5590 humanesocietycentralAZ.org	UNITED ANIMAL FRIENDS Prescott, (928) 778-2924 unitedanimalfriends.org
ARK CAT SANCTUARY (928) 635-5909, Parks arkcatsanctuary.org	CENTRAL ARIZONA ANIMAL SEARCH & RESCUE Camp Verde, (520) 921-9974 centralarizonaanimalsearchandrescueilc.com	HUMANE SOCIETY OF SEDONA 2115 Shelby Dr (928) 282-4679 humanesocietyofsedona.org	VERDE VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY 1520 W. Mingus Ave, Cottonwood (928) 634-7387 VerdeValleyHumaneSociety.org
BETHANY'S GAIT RANCH (928) 499-9442, Prescott	CIRCLE L RANCH ANIMAL RESCUE & SANCTUARY Daytime (928) 925-1926, Prescott Valley	NOW THAT I'M SAFE EQUINE RESCUE Facebook: Now That I'm Safe Equine Rescue nowthatimsafe.org	YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY 1625 Sundog Ranch Rd, Prescott (928) 445-2666 yavapaihumane.org
BIG LUCK CLUB Navajo Reservation Dog Rescue bigluckclub.org , bigluckclub@gmail.com	COCONINO HUMANE ASSOCIATION 3501 E Butler Ave, Flagstaff (928) 526-1076, coconinohumane.org	PETS RETURN HOME petsreturnhome.org (928) 793-2013 info@petsreturnhome.org	YAVAPAI HUMANE SOCIETY EQUINE CENTER (928) 515-4947, Chino Valley yavapaihumane.org
BLACKHAT HUMANE SOCIETY Native American Reservation Animals (928) 245-3890 blackhathumane@gmail.com	HEELING HEELERS HEARTS Surprise, (623) 226-2749 azblueheeler.com	SAVING PAWS RESCUE SHEPHERDS & MALINOIS Glendale, (480) 737-6089 savingpawsrescueaz.org	YAVAPAI HUMANE TRAPPERS ANIMAL RESCUE Chino Valley yavapaihumanetrappers.org
 AREA DOG PARKS	FLAGSTAFF DOG PARKS Thorpe Park – 788 N Thorpe Road, Flagstaff Bushmaster Park – 3150 N Alta Vista Dr, Flagstaff	SEDONA DOG PARK April 1 thru Oct 1: 6am-8pm • Oct. 1 thru April 1: 7am- 7pm Turn north on Soldier's Pass Road off State Route 89A, Sedona.	COTTONWOOD DOG PARK AT RIVERFRONT PARK Dawn to Dusk Riverfront Park Drive & N 10th St, Cottonwood



Flagstaff-Sedona Dog
magazine

WHAT WE DO

We educate, inform and delight our audience with heartwarming stories of "Life with Pets" -highlighting those who are saving lives in our community.

We are the voice of homeless pets in Northern Arizona.

In each edition we print an average of 1,000" -Rescue Tales, Adoptables, Calendar of Events and more. ALL FREE to the Rescue Community

How We Do It

- ✓ Loyal Sponsors
- ✓ World Class Writers
- ✓ Community Focused
- ✓ Cover what matters

JOIN THE PACK

(928) 445-4811

www.flagstaffsedonadog.com

Flagstaffsedonadog





Healthy Hemp CBD for the whole family.

Anxiety, Stress, Arthritis, Epileptic Seizures, Digestion, Nausea, Chronic Inflammation, Pain, Skin Issues, Rashes, Damaged Foot Pads.

US Hemp Authority Certified
Tested ~ Pure ~ Organic ~ Safe



Pet Releaf Edibites
Soft Chews Now More Potent

- * Organic
- * Grain, Soy, and Dairy Free
- * Full Spectrum Hemp CBD Oil
- * (3) Flavors (Peanut Butter Carob, Sweet Potato Pie or Peanut Butter Banana.)



Pet Releaf Liposomes

- * Professional (Veterinarian grade.)
- * Wild Alaskan Red Pollock Oil
- * More Bio-Available
- * Full Spectrum Hemp CBD Oil

Drive Through, Local Delivery or Ship to your door Your Choice!

10% OFF
Your First Purchase!
Online, use code "HEALTHD1"
Or bring this ad to the store.



Canna Salve 100mg, 200mg & 500mg Oil Tinctures

MyHealth Etc.
www.myhealthetc.com

1515 Thumb Butte Rd. Prescott, Arizona 86305 Store Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 - 4:30
Toll Free 844-779-2200 Or order online at www.myhealthetc.com Cash, Checks, Credit Cards accepted DD21



OAK CREEK SMALL ANIMAL CLINIC

DR. KINNEY, DVM | DR. BLASKO, DVM

**A FULL SERVICE ANIMAL CLINIC
PROUD TO SERVE SEDONA
& THE VERDE VALLEY SINCE 2003**






© OAKCREEKCLINIC.COM 5 PINON DR. & HWY 89A, WEST SEDONA 928-282-1195

Happy Tails, Happy Trails: A Doggie Sidecar Motorcycle Adventure!

By Solana Kline—A lifelong dog-rescue advocate and avid motorcycle adventure rider.



There's a freedom and deep joy we see and feel in our dogs— a presence, a passion for each little sniffer, seemingly boundless energy and the intelligence to take naps as often as possible and to NEVER pass up a delicious snackie. They are gurus to life (except when they eat impossibly disgusting things). Their spirits are wild and their hearts kind. Our own wild spirits and kind hearts are set on fire when we adventure with our pups, when we see them at full speed and agility, connecting with our own need to be free wild animals, longing for the adventures and sniffers ahead on the trail!

The wild and free doggie spirit is what brought me and my dog pack here: somewhere in Flaming Gorge, I am soaked to the bone from the last six hours in forty-degree, driving Utah rain, outrunning the blizzard coming in from Idaho. There's a sunhole in the storm so I pull us over at a little creek—the purple sky and peeking sun exploding the burnt orange cliffsides above.

I dismount Darlin, the 2018 Ural offroad motorcycle-sidecar rig, peel off the way too large, recent (and godsent) purchase of the bright yellow boat captain's slicker, and make it over to the sidecar (also called sidehack). Unsnapping the waterproof tonneau cover, the first black nose pokes out: Betty, the terrier terror (aka Dr. Sausage, Falkor, Little Baby Mountain Goat); followed by a bigger black nose: Mickey, the pittie/boxer loverboy (aka. Dr. Wiggles, Señor Lioness, Wiggu-Beef)—my doggie comrades.

They are bone dry and groggy, lulled to sleep by the pitter-patters of rain on their sidecar roof, the warmth of their sardine-sleeping situation, and the hot-water bottle sandwiched between them. This was old hat for them by now after almost three weeks on the road. They yawn and sit up, assess if the weather is to their liking enough to get out and sniff around. They agree it is



and hop out, start down the trail, looking for fish off the bridge and galloping around the fresh tall grasses.

But the black clouds amassing behind the mountains are our cue to hit the road, and fast. The pups sense it too—the way the air's energy shifts when lightning is coming—the ominous and regenerative processes of high elevation Spring-time. Snow and lightning ahead, and we have no choice but to move through it. It's in these moments where one reflects on the life choices that brought them to this moment and why I'm not instead in a sun-filled chaise lounge reading Edward Abbey and sipping hot coffee, with the pups sound asleep in pillowy goodness. This was not the first or last time I would contemplate this along this adventure....

"Load up!" I shout through the wind.

Mickey lofts up into the sidecar first, then Betts follows—their self-organized protocol since the start of the trip. As I tuck them back in under the tonneau, I'm overwhelmed with amazement and gratitude, knowing all that brought us here and how far these pups and me have come to be on this incredible adventure.

Every time I see them in the hack together I can't help but smile, they are incredible. I'd dreamt of this trip my entire life—ever since seeing Harrison Ford and Sean Connery on the big screen outrunning Nazis on a BMW sidecar-rig back in the '80s. But with a sidecar filled with pups grinning ear to ear and donning dog goggles. And here we are, living the dream, literally.

A few years ago I made a deal with the dogs: as soon as I (or more appropriately, we—they earned their honorary doctorates for putting up with me for five years as a crazed PhD student) finished the PhD, we were venturing on our own moto-sidecar, exploring the backcountry of the West from Arizona through Utah, into Idaho and Wyoming, and back home through Colorado. We would be on dirt roads and camping, exploring new trails the whole way, and—most importantly—visiting local no-kill doggie rescues along the route to raise funds and awareness!

I found our first sidecar rig in 2021 just outside of Skull Valley, Arizona. This led us to the kind



folks at Kalaber Creations, the Ural dealer in Prescott, Arizona who helped me learn some Ural mechanic skills and get a newer fuel-injected Ural that would be more reliable for the high altitudes of this trip. And boy, are we grateful for this new rig and our sure and fast exit right about now!

In the sidecar, I pull Betty's crocheted ear cover/gator up to her eyebrows. Looking into her golden lemur eyes brings me back to the first day I saw her at her foster home in Oregon on a Christmas tree farm seven years ago—her terrier mustache growling at me from under a pine tree. She was an ex-street dog from Sacramento, nabbed by the puppy police right after having a litter in the streets and rescued from the gas chamber of Sacramento high-kill shelters by the angels of Oregon Friends of Shelter Animals (ofosa.org).

I move over to Micks and tuck the sleeping bag back in around him best I can, his heavy gentle head not protesting the cozy pillow laid under it. I hold his head in my hands for a minute, amazed at how different this boy is since we freed him from his two-year stint at the Nevada Humane Society in Reno (nevadahumanesociety.org). An ex-junkyard and

fighting dog, he went from fearing and attacking other dogs to snuggling and playing with them in just a couple of years.

The healing powers of love and nature-time together as a pack are absolutely undeniable. So here we all are, together, midway into our two month backcountry motorcycle sidecar adventure.

Just over this snow-packed mountain is Vernal, Utah, where our second of two hotel-stays of the trip awaits: hot showers, hot chocolate, crisp white linen, a king-sized bed, all you can eat cereal, and HGTV!

I breathe deep, smile, and pat the tonneau cover. As I swing my leg over Darlin, the weeks passed and the weeks to come on the road flash through my brain—adventures of a lifetime, pup-centered adventures of a lifetime....

Until next time, happy trails and happy tails!

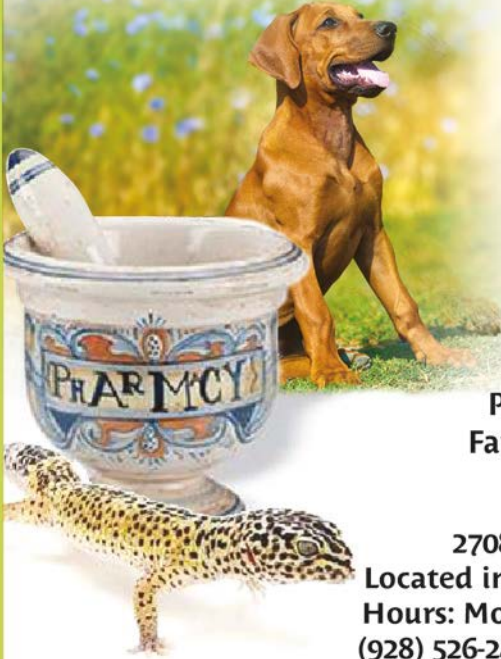
~Solana, Dr. Sausage, & Dr. Wiggles



Making Medicines Right for You!

Mortar & Pestle

Professional Compounding Pharmacy



Our customers come in all shapes and sizes ~ so do our delivery systems. We customize medicines to fit your needs.

People • Pets • Horses
Farm and Exotic Animals

2708 N. 4th Street, Suite C2
Located in Knoles Village Square
Hours: Mon-Fri, 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
(928) 526-2446 • Fax (928) 526-2245
www.mortarpestleflagstaff.com



Bring Love Home

from the Coconino Humane Association

A Voice for Dogs, Cats & Domesticated Animals

- Adoption Services
- Lost & Found
- Humane Education
- Animal Shelter
- Spay/Neuter Program
- 24-hour Ambulance Service



928-526-1076

3501 E. Butler • Flagstaff, AZ

DONATION FORM

Spay, Neuter & Emergency Medical Fund

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Visa Master Card Exp. Date /

Your Donation is greatly appreciated.

P.O. Box 66 • Flagstaff, AZ 86002 • (928) 526-1076

GOLDEN BONE PET PRODUCTS

Healthy fun stuff for your pets



928-567-5555

Eco Friendly,
Socially Conscious,
Environmentally Aware,
Healthy and just
plain Fun.
Pet Products and
Pet Supplies.

COME IN AND SEE WHAT EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT!

3080 W. State Route 89A, Suite A • Sedona, AZ 86336

goldenbone4pets.com



Golden Bone
WELLNESS CENTER

CINDA RAJKOVIC, DVM

(928) 567-7387

GBWC4PETS@GMAIL.COM



Serving Local
and Visiting Pets
and their People.

Ask us about
Stem Cell and PRP
Therapies for your Pets.



Exciting News

We are extremely excited to announce the opening of our Public Low-Cost Veterinary Clinic. This program aims to assist families in our community with low-cost vet care for their beloved furry family members! Dr. Katy Green has jumped into the position of Public Veterinarian for High Country Humane and we hope you'll join us in welcoming her.

"Thank you for welcoming me to the High Country Humane Team. My name is Dr. Katy Green. I have been a veterinarian for eighteen years and love this career.

"After moving to Flagstaff almost two years ago, I've begun to recognize the need within our community for low cost veterinary care. I am passionate about caring for animals and helping people. The opportunity to help people and their pets through this low cost public clinic is exceptional.

High Country Humane Events

- **Paws for the Perfect Taste Event**, June 25th 5-8pm. Tickets on sale NOW! More info on our website: highcountryhumane.org
- **Public Low Cost Vaccination Clinics** on 6/3/23 and 7/1/23 from 8-10am, no appointments necessary! Most vaccines are just \$25 apiece. All info can be found on our website.
- **Adoption Event** at Babbitt's Backcountry: June 3rd, 11am-2pm AND July 8th, 11-2.
- **Pet Food Bank** on 6/24/23 and 7/22/23 from 12-3pm; we are ALWAYS accepting donations of pet food to give out to community members in need!
- **Wags, Wine, and Workouts** is a summer-long event. Buy a ticket and get a month of free classes at participating local Flagstaff fitness studios PLUS two free glasses of wine at a monthly wine party hosted by Oeno Wine Lounge. More info and tickets at WagsWineWorkouts.com.

HAPPY TAILS FOR RED!



"Thanks to donors, grants and the facility at High Country Humane, we hope to improve the lives of many within our wonderful community."

Success Stories

Red is a VERY special girl that came to our shelter back in January. She was found in Leupp, Arizona at the recycling center there. We don't know if she was lost or abandoned, but she was already spayed, potty trained, and knew many commands.

Our hearts broke for Red because she really struggled in the shelter environment. She was so stressed that she would pace and whine constantly. It felt as though nothing we could do would help her settle into the routine.

Two months went by, and she still had no interested adopters or fosters. She stopped eating, her immune system was down, and she eventually caught kennel cough. We were getting desperate for Red, we knew we needed to find her a home as soon as possible.

Immediately after we sent out a plea to our community, a wonderful family came to the shelter to meet her. They adopted her that day and sent us this update two weeks later:

"Red (now renamed Scarlett) is a love. She has become the surrogate mother for my almost three-month-old pup. She and the pup play until he falls asleep, and then she goes to her new bed. She is fabulous with those she has met and is getting acclimated to her chihuahua brothers and sisters. As soon as the chihuahuas calm down, she will be a wonderful asset to our household."

Stories like Red's keep us motivated to continue on this mission of saving lives! One dog, one adoption, one home at a time.

Shelter Needs

Kitten/puppy season brings with it the most at-risk babies—neonates who haven't been weaned but arrive at our shelter without a mom. This is when we need to step in and act as mom: feeding & stimulating every few hours to help these babies thrive.

High Country Humane is always in search of experienced (or willing to learn) foster families for bottle babies. If you have experience and live within an hour of our shelter, please sign up to foster with us! Signing up is easy, and all the information is on our website. You can also email us at foster@highcountryhumane.org.

It's important to mention that we supply everything you could need, including formula, bottles, nipples, heating disks, soft fleeces and more! We are so grateful to anyone willing to step up and care for these itty-bitty babies in need.

After this intense winter, we are so thrilled that the weather is finally warming up here in Flagstaff! If you're looking for a way to get outside this summer and make a difference in a shelter animal's day,

please think about signing up to volunteer with us!

Our shelter is bustling with activity and our staff always appreciates the extra help. Most importantly, the animals we care for love to have visitors give them one-on-one attention.

Our shelter dogs are the ones that struggle the most in this type of environment. The longer they stay, the harder it gets for them to stay upbeat. Taking a dog on a 30-minute, or even an hour walk makes such a positive impact on their day.

The dogs love the time away from the kennel, the sunshine, the fresh air, and the quality time with YOU! One hour of your time could be the best part of their day! You can find all information about becoming a dog-walking volunteer with us on our website.

Donations, both in kind and monetary, are always welcomed and accepted. With the high volume of animals we care for (over 3,500 intakes a year), we are always running low on supplies like food, potty pads, etc.

If you are reading this and are unable to foster or adopt, donating is an incredible way to help our animals! You can donate online using our website OR you can send items straight from our Amazon Wishlist. Whether it's \$5 or a bag of kibble, it means the world to us that you support our mission of saving animals!

Please consider following us on social media to see everything we have planned. We post adoptable animals, heart-warming success stories, future events, and more! This year, we made a Tik-Tok account to add some FUN; follow us to see our videos!



Mocha's Story

Mocha is an incredible dog who is loved by so many people at the Humane Society of Sedona. She has spent the past eight months in the shelter and is ready to find her forever family.

Mocha came into HSS as a stray and was extremely emaciated upon



her arrival. She was also almost completely bald. Slowly but surely, with the nurturing care of the staff and volunteers, M o c h a has gained weight, grown most of her fur back, and has blossomed into a sweet and gentle companion.

Even though Mocha is seven years old, she absolutely loves adventures! She makes a great hiking buddy and has even gone camping

with an HSS volunteer. It's reported that she loves chasing bugs—specifically grasshoppers—and is a major snuggle bug! She loves to lie next to her person and give kisses to people she knows best.

Mocha is smart, highly trainable, and follows commands very well. She does great on a leash and is trained to use a doggy door. She doesn't like having other dogs in her space, so she would do best in a home where she is the only animal. Mocha is very mild mannered and doesn't beg... Well, not for food, but maybe for belly rubs—her kryptonite!

(Mocha's story continued on next page)



Fairwell, My Friends and Family

Yesterday, I was lovingly released from my failing body while in the arms of my Mom, Cindy, who lived with me and loved me at the amazing senior sanctuary where I spent my final months.

My passing came just two days after my former foster Mom, Sarah, came to visit; I knew she loved me too and that it would be okay for me to conclude my time here soon.

And although yesterday I transitioned from my earthly body, I plan to reside firmly in your hearts and memories, where I hope I will continue to make a positive impact in your lives by my example and the example of those who cared for me.

Fairwell, my friends and family. My rescue journey is complete, but the journey of many other animals continues or is just beginning; they need the support, dedication and love you showed me, as do those who volunteer in rescue day in and day out.

Please be inspired by how my life



was transformed at the moment some good Samaritans found me wandering in a park, and Katrina with Yavapai Humane Trappers stepped up to take me into rescue and get the vet care that I needed.

Be inspired by the fosters that offered to make their home mine, teach me what it means to be a loved family dog, and helped me on my weight loss plan through healthy meals

Be inspired by the leaders and volunteers at Dogtree Pines Senior Dog Sanctuary where I found companionship, love, and expert care among more than a dozen others close to my age and condition.

Be inspired by those who donated as they were able to support these rescues in their critical work. And know that you are loved and appreciated for joining me on my rescue journey as well as the journeys of other animals that find themselves lost, homeless or unwanted.

Take good care, my friends and family. I am with you.

~Yours forever, Emma (aka Emma-Bear)



It was an exciting day for two Blackhat pups, Taylor and Mongo, who were fostered in Gallup, New Mexico and adopted in Boulder, Colorado.

Mongo had been in foster for over two years and thanks to his diligent foster, they never gave up hope! And the pups got to travel to their new home in style going first class to their respective meet-and-greets thanks to volunteer-pilot David and his wife Nancy!

David didn't waste space on the plane on the way to pick up his passengers and carried donated dog food procured by Cat Roberts to our most prolific foster parents Pete and Susan Mayne.

We hear both pups are settling in nicely and are thrilled to be in their forever. Taylor is still trying to figure out his new world but loves his new cat sibling and is venturing outside to potty and happily taking tasty treats.



Mongo is a star! His new owners say he's perfect.

On to another happy note. We are proud to announce we now have platinum status on GuideStar! Thanks to our giving coordinator Cat Roberts for applying on our behalf.

Blackhat is proud to be making a difference where that difference is so crucial to dogs and cats. So many animals are roaming free on the Navajo Nation scavenging for food, at risk of diseases, dealing with uncontrolled population problems, being hit by cars and having shortened lives without ever knowing the security and care in a loving home.

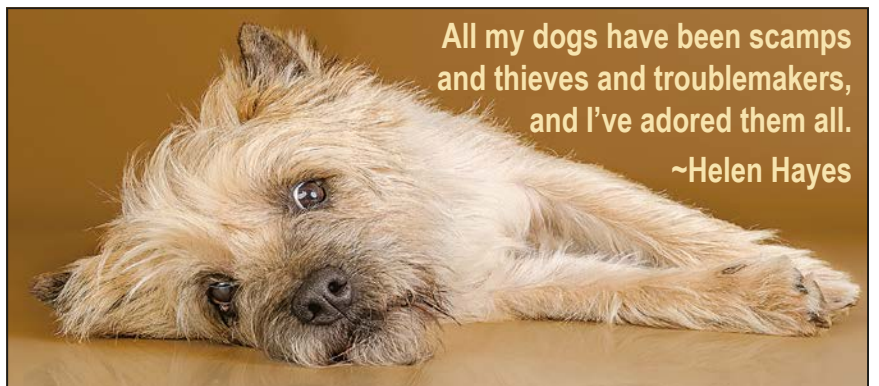
Please join Blackhat Humane Society in changing destinies with donating, fostering or volunteering by visiting blackhathumanesociety.org or visit us on Facebook. You'll be glad you did.

(Mocha's story continued)

Mocha is a 47 lb. mixed breed dog, is microchipped and up to date on all her vaccines. Her adoption fee has even been sponsored! And, as with all of our adopted animals, HSS will provide post-adoption support to her new family.

Mocha would also do well in a foster home until she finds her forever family. HSS provides all supplies as well as 24-hour support to her fosters.

If you are interested in Mocha - either to foster or to adopt her - please call the Humane Society of Sedona (HSS) at 928-282-4679. If you aren't able to foster or adopt Mocha, you can still help her by sharing her story with your friends and family. The more people that know about Mocha, the better chance she has of finding her forever family!



All my dogs have been scamps and thieves and troublemakers, and I've adored them all.

~Helen Hayes

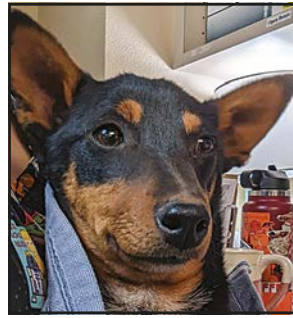
Airpark Animal Hospital



Dr. Celeste Flannery
515 Airpark Rd., Suite #103
Cottonwood, AZ 86326
(928) 649-8387 • www.AirparkAnimalHospital.com



RINGO: A golden Chihuahua mix about 10 years old. He is a sweet boy, looking for love, a new family, and a quiet home to settle down in. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679.



BUFORD: A male black and tan Miniature Pinscher mix, 8 months old. He weighs 14 pounds. He is affectionate, very smart, and looking forward to a fresh start with a new family. High Country Humane 928-526-0742



KIKI: A 1-year-old mixed breed female with a sleek black coat. She weighs 36 pounds. She loves being with people. She walks well on a leash and loves treats. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



BRINDIE: An adult female mixed breed beauty, 53 pounds. She is very athletic and is looking for a home that will provide plenty of attention and exercise. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



TEDDY: A 1-year-old female mixed breed, looking for a loving home. She is excited to learn new things and go on adventures with her new family. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



SQUIGGY: An adult male pug cross who weighs 25 pounds. He is an energetic and affectionate good boy, and he is waiting for a new start and someone to love him. Verde Valley Humane Society 928-634-7387



COCOA PUFF: A 2-year-old black and tan female hound mix. She is fun, affectionate, active, and is waiting for a new family to love her and take her on adventures. Humane Society of Sedona 928-282-4679



DIESEL: A 2-year-old male Pit Bull. For more information, please contact Coconino Humane Association. 928-526-1076



BANDIT: A red and white mixed breed male, about 1 year old and 30 pounds. He is sweet, very smart, goofy, and handsome. He knows some commands. His adoption is fully sponsored. High Country Humane/foster 602-826-9649



HEIDI: A 2-year-old female Australian Cattle Dog mix. For more information, please contact the Coconino Humane Association. 928-526-1076



BEAVER: A sable shepherd-mix puppy, 3 months old. He is just a baby and has everything to learn, but he is smart, adventurous, and snuggly. Foster mom says he is the perfect puppy. High Country Humane/foster. Text 928-853-9579



HAYDEN: An 8-month-old Australian Shepherd mix. For more information, please contact the Coconino Humane Association. 928-526-1076



SATURN: A female black shepherd/cattle dog mix, 1 year old. She is a classy lady looking for a new start and new family, hoping for adventures, playtime, and naps. High Country Humane/foster. Text 650-521-4969



BOBBIE: A 3-month-old white male Shepherd mix. For more information, please contact the Coconino Humane Association. 928-526-1076



PHOENIX: A 2-year-old orange male cat. He is fun, playful, and affectionate. He would love a new family and someone to play and cuddle with.
Humane Society of Sedona
928-282-4679



GALA: A young female brown tabby with vivid green eyes. She is very sweet and friendly, loves people and playing. She loves attention, loves laps and cuddles.
Verde Valley Humane Society
928-634-7387



THEO: A gorgeous blue point gentleman with wonderful blue eyes. He is very loving and an absolute purr machine. He is waiting for a new family to love and cuddle.
Humane Society of Sedona
928-282-4679



MONET: A female orange adult (rare). This petit beauty is gentle, quiet, affectionate, and looking for someone to love her and shower her with attention.
Verde Valley Humane Society
928-634-7387



VALENTINA: A most elegant silver tabby lady with lovely green eyes. She is very sweet, loves to play and do zoomies.
Humane Society of Sedona
928-282-4679



HANUKAH: A striking adult brown tabby with golden eyes. This gorgeous guy is a little shy at first. He likes to settle in slowly, but he is affectionate. He is not a fan of dogs.
Verde Valley Humane Society
928-634-7387

MORE DOGS LOST ON JULY 4TH THAN ANY OTHER DAY!



I'm an All-American Dog but Fireworks Scare Me....

Please consider the measures below to protect your family

Walk your dog during daylight hours, before the fireworks begin

Make your dog a safe haven, use a closet or quiet room they like, add toys and treats.

Leave the door open so they can come and go.

Close windows/curtains to muffle the sound

Put on some music or the TV to mask the sounds

Ignore the noise yourself.

Create a distraction for your dog; play with toys or sit together for pets.

Flagstaff-Sedona Dog magazine

Publishers Note: Personal Fireworks are ILLEGAL in Arizona and more dangerous to our pet community. Please let the professionals handle the fireworks.

You and Your Veterinarian: A Caring Team for Your Pet

By Dr. Cynde Gardner, DVM, BCH

Why does a celebration of life have to occur after death?

I read an article this morning that really gave me pause.

In Quebec, Canada, a lovely veterinarian committed suicide recently. The article talked about the long, hard, stressful hours she spent taking care of the local horses. The demands on her because of the shortage of veterinarians in her area. How she gave so much of herself so that the animals could be cared for, and the owners didn't have to worry that their pets wouldn't receive the care they needed.

She gave and gave until there was no more of her left to give.

Something that really struck me was how many people stepped up after her passing to say what an impact she had on them, their animals, and the community. They praised her for her dedication, hard work, caring and compassion. They spoke about how wonderful she was.

They were left in shock. Surprised that she, of all people, would feel so lost that she would take her own life. They said how much she would be missed.

The article was a beautiful tribute to a caring, compassionate person.

But the tribute came after she was gone. How many of those people who said they would miss her told her she was appreciated while she was alive and giving her all for them and their animals?

How many told her she was valued and an important part of their lives?

Far more demanded care for their pets on their own terms without

consideration for her and her personal life, because it was her "job?"

How many complained about the bill after the care was given, without consideration of what it cost her in schooling, continuing education, personal expertise, time, energy, supplies, overhead costs, etc. that she provided for them without complaint?

How many asked her if there was any way they could make things easier for her? To support her as she continually gave everything she had?

Why wasn't she celebrated during her life instead of waiting until she was gone? What if she had been told how much she meant to her clients during her life? Would she still be alive to serve them?

Veterinarians are perfectly imperfect human beings with feelings, families, foibles, emotions, and lives of their own. Yet, they are treated like machines who must be perfect in every way, always. And they are expected to provide their services at no or low-cost, or they are accused of not caring for animals and being money-grabbers.

Veterinarians and their support staff deserve to make a reasonable living.

Veterinarians are all-too-frequently attacked for every imperfection, *real or imagined*. Often, when the public or client doesn't understand the full the situation involving their pet, they assume the veterinarian must have been wrong.

When the client doesn't follow the directions given by their

veterinarian and the pet fails to improve, somehow it becomes the veterinarian's fault.

When you look at the whole picture of the veterinarian's life, it really isn't surprising that the suicide rate in veterinarians is significantly higher than that of the general public. The suicide rate in veterinarians is, in fact, one of the highest of any profession.

Bullying of veterinarians is all too common. People are quick to share what they perceive as imperfections, yet very reluctant to take a moment to share the good they have experienced from their veterinarian or support staff.

It will take a concerted effort from the public to reverse this trend. We are losing too many veterinarians to suicide or to them simply leaving the field they are passionate about and have spent their lives training for.

Take a moment to thank your veterinarian and their staff for providing their expertise and caring for your precious pets. Let them know they are appreciated. If you don't understand something about your pet's treatment, talk with them about it rather than attacking their integrity.

Let's all step up to reverse the trend of veterinarian and staff attrition by showing them the respect you would like to receive for your own work. Appreciate what they give and that they truly are giving their best to you.

We will all benefit from this by having veterinary care more readily available, happier veterinarians and staff to serve you, less exhaustion, and better overall care for your pets.



Dr. Cynde Gardner is a retired veterinarian who now practices hypnotherapy and life coaching. She is on a mission to transform the lives of veterinarians and other professionals, helping them move their life From Frazzled to Dazzled™.

She focuses on nurturing positive change and helping professionals decrease stress while increasing career and life satisfaction.

International best-selling author of the number one and Pinecone Award-winning book *When Good Enough is Perfect – A Veterinarian's Guide to Change, Acceptance, and Letting Go*, Dr. Gardner has been a featured expert on CBS and NBC.

She is a sought-after speaker, having spoken at the American Veterinary Medical Association and American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association conferences, hypnosis conferences, leadership groups, and at the Business Expert Forum at the Harvard Faculty Club.

BE ON THE SIDE OF GOOD NEWS!

BE ON THE SIDE OF LIFE!

BE ON THE SIDE OF VICTORY!



Support the news of area rescues

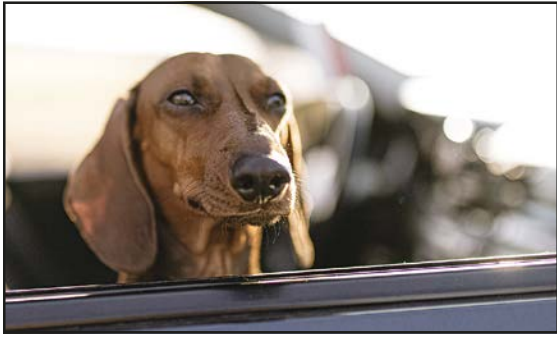
Sponsor a Feature Article!
Reach 23,000 area pet-parents



For More Information Call Cherie 928-445-4811

Hot Stuff

By Loree Walden



It's getting HOT outside... and I know we all want our 4-legged family members to be safe & healthy, so here's a few precautions to help make that happen.

Plain and simple, heat can be a canine killer. As our temperatures soar into the 80s, 90s, and even higher, it's important to remember dogs are susceptible to hot-weather conditions like heatstroke, footpad burns, sunburn, and dehydration. We have to take precautions to help our furry family buddies stay safe—like limiting outside activities and taking walks earlier in the morning or later in the evening. (There have been a number of mountain lion attacks during these hours, so please be careful!)

Don't let your dog spend too much time outside on hot surfaces like cement and asphalt, where they run a high risk of burnt paw pads. Always make sure they have access to fresh cool water, especially when you are on a walk.

Heat safety with summer activity is a serious business for dogs because their body temperature can rise quickly, causing serious injury. Proper care during the

hot summer months should also include grooming and giving them a shorter haircut to help prevent overheating, but never shave to the skin as they need at least one inch of hair to prevent sunburns. Remember dogs with darker fur heat up faster, too!

As I said above, hot asphalt can burn a dog's feet! Asphalt absorbs enough heat to injure the extra-thick flesh on a dog's paw quickly. If the temperature outside is 77 degrees, the asphalt is 125 degrees. If the temperature outside is 87 degrees, the asphalt is 143 degrees! At 125 degrees, skin destruction can occur in sixty seconds.

When going outside, press the back of your hand firmly against the asphalt or cement for seven seconds. If you can keep your hand there the whole time, you're good to go. BUT if it's too hot for you, it's too hot for them!

If you've never seen a picture of what a dog's paws look like when they've been burnt by asphalt, consider yourself lucky because it's awful! It's very painful for them, and no one wants to put their best friend through something like that.

Remember your dog's body is much closer to the ground than yours is, and they're more vulnerable to heat from the ground. Temperatures at two and three feet above the ground can be twenty degrees hotter than at six feet.

Heatstroke is one of summer's most frequent canine illnesses, and one of the most lethal! Pet owners should know the signs of heatstroke and how to treat it. Symptoms might include elevated body temperature (body temps can soar as high as 110, causing irreversible brain damage or death), vigorous panting, unsteady

gait, physical depression or agitation, thick saliva or froth at the mouth, vomiting, bloody diarrhea, collapsing and signs of shock.

If you see any of these signs, get your dog inside immediately and wet them with cool water. Don't use ice or cold water because it's counterproductive, as cooling them too fast can cause other life-threatening conditions. Be sure to take them to your veterinarian as soon as possible.

Lastly, NEVER leave your dog in a hot car. Think about when you get in your car on a hot day and how mind-blowing the heat is. My guess is you're going to turn the AC on as fast as you can to cool yourself down!

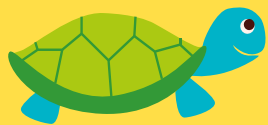
Thousands of dogs die in cars every year because the temperature inside a car can become deadly within **minutes**. If the temperature outside is 80 degrees, within 10 minutes it will reach 99 degrees. Within 30 minutes, it will hit 114 degrees. If it's 90 degrees outside, within 10 minutes it will reach 109 degrees, and within 30 minutes it will be 124 degrees.

How many times have you parked and said, "I'm just going to run in for a second," and there's a long linetech checkout, so suddenly that "just a second" turns into a couple of minutes. What's happening in your car during that time? It's turning into an oven and your dog is in it! Bottom line regarding this: just don't leave your dog in a hot car, even with the windows open, it's not worth the risk!

Here's the reality: we take steps to keep ourselves safe in the great outdoors, so, taking some extra steps to taking care of your four-legged best friend outside will help make this summer one of fun and adventure for both of you.

HOT STUFF

Humane Society of Sedona Kids & Kritters Summer Camp



Summer is right around the corner...Join us at camp!



- Learn About Animal Care
- Animal Behavior Classes
- Special Guest Speakers
- Adopt A Camp Pet
- Outdoor Adventures
- And So Much More!



2023 SESSIONS:


#1: June 12-16

#2: June 26-30

#3: July 10-14



For more information or to register:

- **SCAN THIS QR CODE:** 
- **CALL:** (928) 282-4679
- **GO ONLINE:** www.humanesocietyofsedona.org
- **VISIT THE SHELTER:** 2115 Shelby Drive; West Sedona

Come have a blast!



Salt River Wild-Horse Herd Faces Challenges

By Heidi Dahms Foster

SALT RIVER WILD-HORSE HERD FACES CHALLENGES



In December 2022, Molly Wisecarver was contacted by Circle L, a horse rescue in Prescott Valley. A friend who works there knew the Wisecarvers had just moved to a large property in Williams and might have room for a band of horses in need from the Salt River Wild Horse herd.

Without intervention, the herd would be broken up as there were so many stallions along with the mares. Unlike Bureau of Land Management requirements, the Salt River horses came with no other rules but that the Wisecarvers had secure areas to keep the stallions. The family quickly prepared a large arena area to welcome the herd.

The anticipation wasn't without a few fraught moments, though. Wisecarver received phone calls from friends and others who knew what she was doing, who told her the animals would be dangerous.

"The amount of rancher friends who told me I was crazy for helping the horses was insane," she said. "We even had a good friend come to our place to try to talk us out of it. He said the horses would break out of the arenas, kill my dogs if they got into the pens (which by the way they are very good with my dogs and don't even look at them). I was hurt that so many people tried to talk me out of taking the horses, especially friends. I am really glad I didn't listen. Everything has settled down since nothing happened."

When the horses arrived, Wisecarver said, "I was worried they would be crazy at first and run though the panels and escape. But they were very calm when they came out of the trailer. They settled in very fast. I think living in the forest (near the Salt River), they were probably used to seeing campers and vehicles."

Since the horses arrived in December, they have settled in and are thriving. "I have the Eagar Band. They name the main stallions after areas near Alpine. This band consisted of the lead stallion and three mares. Two of the mares had two babies, a yearling and two-year-old. One of the three mares was left in the forest, but found in the second roundup a month later. I drove to Holbrook to transport her and her yearling colt.

During this past winter, the band in the large arena for the winter, so Wisecarver could watch them and feed them since the area experienced record-breaking snowfall.

"They did break out recently and had the whole 150-acre property to run on. It was so beautiful to see them free. Our boundaries are not well fenced at this time but we are working on getting it all fixed," Wisecarver said. "The crazy thing is they never left. They just

hung out in the tree lines and the meadow."

Then they returned to the main ranch area. "One day they came back to the original arena where they were kept during the winter," Wisecarver said. "That made me smile as I felt they figured they were home. Another theory is they came back so one of the mares could have her baby in a safe place. Once we get the property fencing completed, we will let them back out."

Three mares arrived pregnant and one had a colt in late April. "It was so exciting as I was able to watch the whole thing," Wisecarver said. "It is amazing how fast they get up. I was going to name it April but since it is a boy I will have to think of a new name. One more mare is due very soon but it looks like the other will still be a few months out."

When the April foal arrived, the entire band was there," Wisecarver said. "When the foal stood up for the first time, his older siblings and mother surrounded him to protect him. They kept him in the middle of the band for hours."

The three stallions in the band continued to get along, until spring neared. "Then things changed. It was very interesting to watch their behavior," Wisecarver said. "As the mares started to come into heat, things got worse and I had to separate the stallions. This was easier than I thought as the young bachelors were more than happy to get away from Eagar. All of the stallions have now been castrated so things are starting to calm down. At some point I will have to find new homes for the two young bachelors to keep the peace."

One thing Wisecarver finds remarkable is how the wild horses get along with her four horses. "One of my horses was a stallion himself until he was five, so he wasn't so sure about a new band coming to his home. My horse and the Eagar band were introduced through pipe coral panels and shared food for several months and now get along. My small band and the Eagar band when loose stay close to each other but never intermingle."

Wisecarver said her wild horse experience has been a bit of a roller coaster ride. "I think if the winter wasn't so hard, it might have been easier," she said. "I was not prepared for the snow, let alone 11 new horses and only living there a few months before they arrived. I am still learning so much - each day is a new experience. Unfortunately, the winter was too hard on a young foal that was struggling when she arrived. We tried everything but lost her. But on a brighter note, we gained a new baby who is happy and healthy."

She advises anyone who has room and can take on a herd temporarily to be sure they know there will be good days and bad. "Don't be afraid to ask for help and remember you are doing a GREAT thing. This will keep you going. I didn't know what I was getting into, but I would do it again if asked."

"What I have learned more than anything is that if you want to survive you will, and working together



helps. One horse came in with a large knee injury and another with what we thought was a broken leg. Both healed on their own without issues. Since they are wild it is hard to doctor them when needed. Nature has a way of taking care of things."

"At one point," Wisecarver said, "with the crazy weather this year, we couldn't water them because it would just freeze. I was so worried about them. One day when I was feeding, I noticed they were eating the snow. Since our pond was frozen, I figured any pond in the Alpines would also be frozen, too. They were used to eating snow to survive."

The Eagar band will be transported to safety in Colorado sometime in the next few months, but the Wisecarver finds herself passionate about what is happening to the remaining Salt River herds in the Tonto National Forest.

The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is working to make sure these horses can be enjoyed for many years to come as they have been by millions of visitors in the past. According to the Management website, "the Salt River wild horses roam freely in their 20,000-acre habitat along the lower Salt River, protected by A.R.S 3-1491, the State law passed in 2016 for their protection. They are the pride of the community, a favorite subject of photographers and the icon of the wild, free spirit of Arizona and the American West."

The group has instituted a birth control program that has reduced the foaling rate in the herd from 100 foals each year, to just one or two per year, so the herd can stay in balance with its habitat.

However, the Group states, the management program and the necessary intergovernmental agreements between the Tonto National Forest and the Arizona Department of Agriculture, along with the overwhelmingly passed state legislation that enabled them, are under constant attack.

For more information about the Salt River Wild Horses, the challenges they face, and how you can help, visit the website at saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org.



YAVAPAI BROADCASTING

MYRADIOPLACE.COM

Sit. Stay. Listen!



Arizona's Adult Alternative
100.one kvnafm
92.1 Prescott / 93.3 Cottonwood

 **KYRD**
COUNTRY
105.7 FM



ESPN

104.7FM AM600

KVNA FLAGSTAFF

America's Best Music in Yavapai County!

KYBC
AM 1600
96.3 FM

Featuring Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Neil Diamond, and more!

VETERINARY EMERGENCY & SPECIALTY CENTER OF NORTHERN ARIZONA

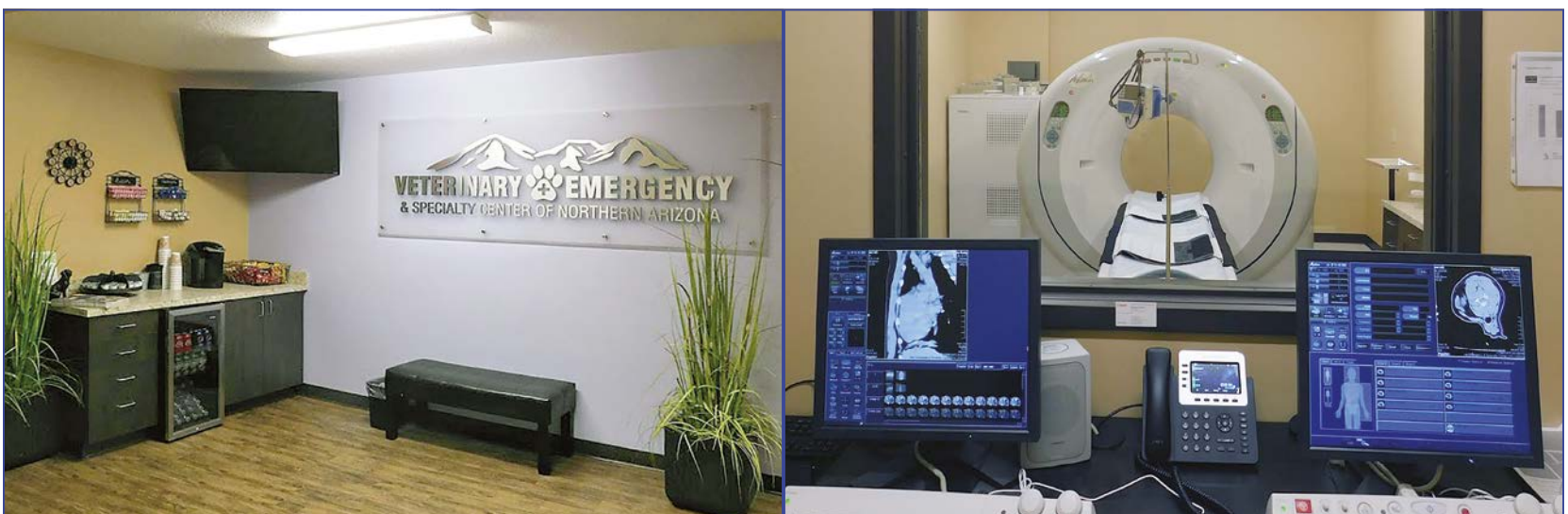
WWW.NAZPETEMERGENCY.COM

We are your Pet's Emergency Headquarters for all issues.
We are OPEN 24 HOURS EVERY WEEKEND, and on ALL HOLIDAYS



*The best team. The best technology. The best medicine.
Here, your pet will receive the best care there is.
Because, sometimes, nothing less will do.*

*Northern Arizona's only CT Scanner directly at your fingertips.
CT Scans are available seven days a week, 365 days a year.*



928.779.5522

1110 E. Route 66, Suite 201
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

NEW HOURS

Friday 5pm to Monday 8am
Open 24 Hours on Holidays