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IN EVERY ISSUE



This issue's theme is one that is very dear to my heart as I live with the presence of what one may consider a disability. I, however, see it as a challenge and reason for my existence. My children are my world, and in that world, there are imperfections. But those imperfections make our everyday more meaningful. The cover models are St. George (on left) and Eric Miller (on right). Peggy Miller, Eric's mom, notes, "For people such as Eric, unable to verbally express feelings, pets are great communicators ..." After informing Eric of his grandma's death, Peggy continues, "He loved her so much, asked every day how she was, and when he saw her out on Cape Cod recently, he loved looking after her, pushing her wheelchair, carrying her cane, etc. So he was very quiet upon the hearing the news, and I went back downstairs to prepare his breakfast.

When Eric came down, the first thing he did was sit down at the bottom of the stairs and tell St. George. He gave him a big hug and hung on for a while. It was touching to see. Pets touch our lives in so many ways that another human being may never be able to do. We owe them the world.

Background & Cover Photo By IN-FOCUS Photography

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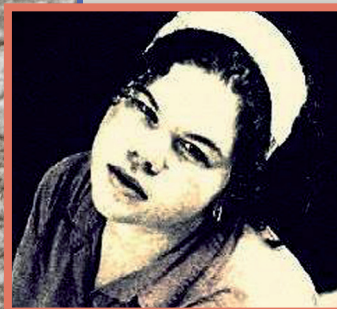
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FETCH XTRAS

In April of 2015, my sister Desaray Juarez Mora kicked at my door while holding a box of 6-week-old kittens. Our landlord had finally decided to let my mother, who has end-stage renal failure, have an emotional support animal. Peeking into the box, a grey tabby with a bobtail caught our eyes. We adopted her and named her Queenie after my grandmother who had just passed away. While incredibly feisty and independent, she spent most of her time with me helping me battle the depression of "career failure" while inspiring me to find a new career in writing. A year later, I decided to start pinning copy for pet magazines. I

found FETCH Magazine on Issuu—a digital publishing platform with thousands of magazines. As one of its freelance writers, I've been able to create artwork of dogs and interview old-world circus actors, underground pop stars, technological developers, etc. Once FETCH publishes my articles, I still follow their stories. As their journeys unfold, I celebrate their victories and mourn their losses. My hope is that I inspire readers to do that too. I'm thankful that I've been able to use the pen to connect people and animals, hopefully making the world a better place for both.



CHERESE COBB, FREELANCE WRITER

MEET ME

EDITOR'S PAW

Love
&
Support

Dear FETCH Friends:

Since my kids were born, I have been told that they will be alright as long as they are loved! And as a mom of two kids with autism spectrum disorder, my automatic response inside my head is, "yeah right." It takes SO MUCH MORE than just loving them to help them succeed. They need therapy, special toys, extra socialization, more routine and structure, etc. Most of all they need a strong and functional mom and dad. There are so many days I just get down on myself wondering what I did wrong. Because yes, I am that powerful to have caused this right? Ehh, wrong!

But aside from all the self-pity and isolation one may feel at times, isn't the bottom line for getting them all of this "extra stuff" they need, love? Yes, it is! Love and support.

As long as most of us receive an adequate amount of love, recognition and support in our daily lives, we will continue to persevere throughout the day. Just knowing we are good at our jobs (even if we don't like them) can be

enough for us to show up. However, to perform above and beyond our own expectations, we need to know others appreciate us as well. We need continued support and recognition to really conquer the unexpected.

Regardless of my childrens' disabilities, they will flourish in life. Why? Because God and other caring individuals (dogs especially) will help them in the darkest of times.

The way my son lights up when he is around our rescue pittie Sophia is just heartwarming. He always makes sure to hug and kiss her goodbye before going to school in the morning. And for that minute, he is present and experiencing joy.

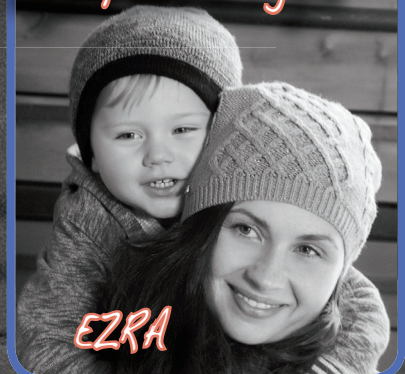
Life is so unexpected. And appreciating those that love and support you in the toughest of times is incredibly important. We need others. We need our canine companions.

To exceeding beyond your own limitations,

N. Perry

Photos By IN-FOCUS Photography

my future paleontologist



EZRA

my future actress



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WINTER 2017

Volume 14, Issue 4

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Circulation: 15,000-20,000 copies quarterly
Distribution: 300+ locations throughout southeastern Wisconsin. Including vets, groomers, pet stores and much more!

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LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs : A Speck of Hope Among the Carnage

Mass shootings are single-handedly one of the most frightening topics heard in the news today. The "Oh my, God, those poor people," followed by the "That could have been me ..." statement are common thoughts in one's head after such a tragedy. Why? Because it's a public place where people innocently gather whether it be work, school, event, concert, etc... By nature, people gather together in groups for support and entertainment—people are pack animals.

The Washington Post describes the inconsistency in mass shooting statistics in the article, "The Math of Mass Shootings" by Bonnie Berkowitz, Lazaro Gamio, Denise Lu, Kevin Uhrmacher and Todd Lindeman. **Each source's stats are solely dependent on how they count, which is first based on how they define the term.** So how does one begin to define a mass shooting? By the number of people killed? Four or more seems to be a commonly-accepted definition. However, there are many definitions one can find in a Google search—each with slightly different details.

Mass Shooting = 4 or more dead in a public arena where gunfire was used by one or two shooters.

Washington Post Stats On People Dead in a Single Shooting: 26 at a church, 26 at an elementary school, 49 in a nightclub, 58 at a country music festival...

The biggest mass shooting to date was at the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017. More than 500 people were injured and 58 killed (59 with the shooter). The Lutheran Church Charities,

which is located in Illinois, started the K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry in August 2008. According to LCC's website, the dog ministry is a national human-care ministry that embraces the unique, calming nature and skills of purebred Golden Retrievers.

These dogs are trained to help people in need regardless of age or circumstance. They are stationed throughout the U.S. at churches, schools and ministries and work in the community daily. In the case of a disaster or crisis, they are brought in to help the survivors, first responders and volunteers.

LCC Stats:

- Over 130 dogs in 20 states.
- Operates 2 training facilities, one in Illinois and the other in Nebraska.
- Present at the following tragedies: Sandy Hook 2012, Boston Marathon 2013, Granite Mountain 2014, Umpqua Community 2015, Pulse Nightclub 2016, Church Shooting in Texas 2017, Route 91 Harvest Festival 2017.



"How does a community
begin **to heal** in the
aftermath of a mass shooting?"

October **2nd**



22 Golden



"...brought solace to victims, their families, first responders and the community at large."
- LCC

BREED PROFILE

At A Glance...

Origin: France

Original Job: Herding large flocks of sheep in wide-grazing and mountain pastures.

Popularity: Not very popular—ranked 132nd by the AKC.

Lifespan: 10-12 years

Health: A fairly healthy breed that has some issues with night blindness and hip dysplasia.

Size: Male: 60-100 lbs, 26 in.,
Female: 50-80 lbs, 24 in.

Trainability: Moderately easy for people with experience.

Intelligence: Very high

Social Needs: Moderate to high

Exercise: Daily, high intensity

Coat: Shaggy, tousled, rustic coat

Colors: Black, shades of gray, shades of tawny

Grooming: Daily



The Briard: A Heart Of Gold Wrapped In Fur

BY CHERESE COBB, FREELANCE WRITER

If you've ever seen Star Wars, you probably remember Chewbacca: Han Solo's loyal friend and first mate—the 200-year-old Wookiee became Solo's companion after he refused an order to kill him, promising to protect the smuggler for the rest of his life. “The Wookiee is your Briard,” says Ellen Meyers, who's bred them for 23 years. A mix of brains and brawn with a protective eye toward family and a wariness towards strangers. Could the Briard be the co-pilot that you've been searching for?

History

Briards are believed to be a cross between the Beauceron and the ancient Water Spaniel. They're believed to have arrived in France during the Middle Ages. Eighth-century tapestries depict the breed with Emperor Charlemagne. An “all around” farm dog, Briards were originally developed to control and protect large flocks from poachers and wolves. “On a rainy day, mud would cake onto the Briard's coat and dry. Because the outer coat was coarse, the mud would fall off as dust,” Meyers says. “Farmers didn't have time after working in the fields all day to groom them out to where their coats were perfect.”

The official dog of the French army and somewhat rare today because so many were killed in both world wars, Briards carried supplies to the front line. Due to their keen hearing and reputed to best of any breed, they were watchmen. The breed also led corpsmen to those soldiers who still had a spark of life in their bodies, saving an estimated 10,000 lives.

Slow To Warm Up

In 2015, Maria DuSoleil discovered the Briard at the American Kennel Club's Meet the Breeds event in New York. Her boyfriend instantly fell in love with the breed: hulking giants that have double hind dewclaws, and a ton of hair making their feet act like floor brushes. After doing additional research, DuSoleil bought their 2-year-old Briard Lucca who was born on her boyfriend's birthday, from Florida Breeder Molly Gardner.

The only Briard in Hoboken, New Jersey, Lucca went through a stage where he'd bark and snap at dogs and people because he was afraid so DuSoleil watched a lot of training videos on YouTube and followed

trainers on Instagram. "After a lot of training, we got to the point where he would look at us for direction," she says. "Now, we don't introduce him to strangers or dogs on the street anymore. When people or dogs come over, we have him wait in place. Once he's calm, we allow them to play." Briards need firm, sensible training and not strict, harsh treatment. They also need supervision because when they play, they play rough, meaning that the breed isn't ideal for toddlers or small children.

While the Briard needs to be brushed 30 minutes every day and is slow to warm up to, it is affectionate and loving toward members of its pack. "Every single morning...when I wake up, I get on the floor, and as I hug Lucca's head, he lifts up his four legs in the air so I can rub his tummy while he's sleeping. That always makes me melt."

Health Issues

Briards are fairly healthy, though they have been known to suffer from hip dysplasia, hypothyroidism, epilepsy, blood-clotting disease, and hernias. "Briards are also known for

developing what's called night blindness, and it's actually an inherited issue," says Jessie Sondel, owner of the Sondel Family Veterinary Clinic. "If Briards are carriers for it, they don't have the clinical signs, but they're usually tested for this gene." Because they're double-coated, Briards have excess hair in their ears and between their toes, which should be trimmed often to prevent ear and skin infections. "In the summer, you'll need to be very careful that your dogs aren't overheating," he adds, "making sure that they're not getting burs, mats, and infections in their hair coats and under them."

Should You Adopt A Briard?

Hearts of gold wrapped in fur, Briards are amazing dogs, but they're not for everyone. The breed isn't a soft-tempered dog. "Either you're going to own the Briard or it's going to own you. You give it an inch and it'll take a mile if it can get it," Meyers says. "It'll work it too. Briards are tireless dogs." They also aren't happy staring at the leaves on the lawn. They need plenty of exercise such as long walks, swimming or running alongside your bicycle. Extremely intelligent, a bored Briard will turn into Dennis the Menace, chewing your favorite high heels and nipping everything that moves. If you're athletic with a strong personality who can provide a lot of toys, attention, and firm training, the Briard will see you as its equal and entertain you with its goofball antics, protect your family from strangers and smother you with kisses.



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Models: St. George & Eric Miller

From Peggy Miller, The Models' Mom:

St. George has stopped traffic since he was a puppy...I think due to the ears that are trained up. People are curious about him and always want to know what breed he is. Most Briards today are going the way of the European Briards in that their ears are no longer snipped and glued together for the first six to nine months. Without exaggeration, people stop me almost every single time I walk SG out on the street. Multiple people really. UPS drivers to lawn crews stop to inquire. This summer out on Cape Cod we stopped taking him to the beach because we could never sit in peace to read, sun, chat, etc. with out person after person coming over to see St. George, pat him and inquire.

WHEELCHAIRS

DOGS in Wheelchairs:

Giving Dogs Their Freedom Back



BY KERRI WIEDMEYER, DVM, WVRC

There is nothing quite like seeing a dog that previously could not walk take off running now that it has the assistance of a doggie wheelchair. Wheelchairs or carts truly can give them a life they would not otherwise be able to have. It is, however, important to understand what all goes into taking care of a dog in a wheelchair.

Dogs can lose the ability to use their hind limbs or forelimbs for numerous reasons including trauma or degenerative disease, but as long as their pain is well controlled, many of these animals can still have very fulfilling lives as long as they can get around and have the proper care.

It used to be very challenging to find doggie wheelchairs, but now they come in all shapes and sizes and can be custom made to fit your animal. They are made for both hind limb and forelimb problems. They come

with proper cushioning, ease in getting in and out of and typically can be easily cleaned. The variety that is now available really makes it easy to customize to each pet and owner.

— || —
Dogs can lose the ability to use
their hind limbs or forelimbs
for numerous reasons ...
— || —

It is very important to consider if a wheelchair would be appropriate for your dog prior to getting one. A dog has to have good strength in either its forelimbs (for hind limb paralysis) or hind limbs (for forelimb abnormalities). It may take some time for a dog to get used to being a dog wheelchair. Some adapt quickly, and others need to be trained to use it.

Other health problems need to be considered when having a dog in a wheelchair. It is common for dogs

that have lost the ability to use their hind limbs to have problems urinating and defecating normally. In some cases, owners will have to learn how to express the bladder. This will typically have to be done several times a day to allow for proper comfort and decrease the chances of urinary infections. In other cases, dogs just leak urine constantly and a doggie diaper may be warranted. In either scenario, the dogs need to be kept very clean to prevent urine scalding and infections. The same holds true for defecation.

Each day, the dog should be examined for pressure sores and wounds that may be associated with dragging the limbs or from the wheelchair itself. The wheelchair should be well padded, and the dogs should be spending time off of it as well.

In many cases, dogs can thrive in wheelchairs and go back to playing fetch or chasing squirrels. It is a great way to give a dog its freedom back.

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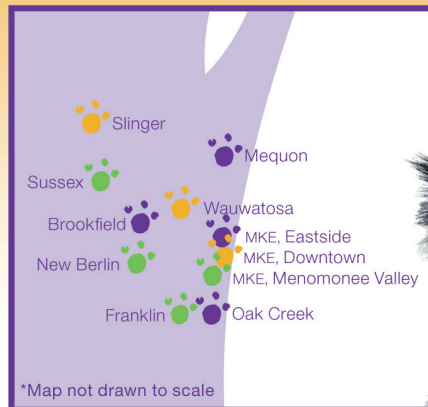
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MEET BITA

This Yorkie is Helping Save Autistic Children's Lives

BY CHERESE COBB, FREELANCE WRITER

Anthony and Nicholas Aurilia were “rambunctious.” The three-year-olds loved to play with each other and their older brother Christian. Born after a long road of troubled pregnancies, these “miracle babies” had autism: a serious neurodevelopmental disorder that affects one in 68 children in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the police, the twins snuck into their backyard pool while their mother Sue slept and their father Patrick traveled to work. Waking around 8:30 a.m., Sue spotted Nicholas, one of the twins, floating face down in the water. Unable to find Anthony, the boy's brother, she frantically dialed 911, dragged Nicholas from the water, and performed CPR. After first responders arrived, they pulled Anthony from the bottom of the pool. Then they rushed the toddlers to Plainview Hospital where they were pronounced dead upon arrival.

“Kids on the autistic spectrum are 160 times more likely to die from drowning,” says Dr. Guohua Li, a professor of epidemiology at Columbia University. “[That's because] children with autism have a natural affinity for bodies of water,” says Libby Delaune, the founder of Safe and Found and Tail Trackers. “They need to touch or feel the water for a calming effect so

they wade into it and they drown.” For more than a decade, Delaune has worked with special needs children. “I started as a paraprofessional in the school system,” she says. “Then I worked my way up, and now I'm the first...board-certified behavior analyst and autism services practitioner in all of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New England.” A 2011 study conducted by the Interactive Autism Network found that nearly 50 percent of children with autism wander—a rate four times higher than their unaf-

use the same technology with autistic children. “We were living in Seattle... and I had just put a new QR code on Bita's collar that day,” she says. “I was sitting at my computer working, and I get this email that says, ‘Your dog has been scanned.’ I thought that she was in the house,” Delaune says. Bita had actually squeezed her tiny body through the fence's bars and ran two blocks away. Luckily, the QR company matched Delaune with the “kind, elderly woman” that found Bita, and she brought her home.



Photo Courtesy of Libby Delaune

affected siblings. A third of these runaways also weren't able to share their phone numbers, their addresses, or even their names. Eloping behaviors are one of the main reasons that people with autism have a life expectancy of less than 40 years.

Delaune wanted to extend autistic children's lifelines, keeping vulnerable families safe, whole and supported, but she wasn't quite sure how. Then in 2011, after her 7-year-old Yorkie Bita, meaning “one of a kind” in Persian, was lost and then found because of a QR tag, she realized that she could

The same year, Delaune co-founded Tail Trackers and Safe and Found. The small businesses offer iron-on patches, rubber bracelets, shoe tags, self-adhesive stickers, and classic tags that have geofencing technology: a virtual safe zone set via GPS. “If you set a predetermined time and that person steps outside of that boundary during the time frame, it sends a message that says, ‘Hey, your kids walked out of the barrier,’” she explains.

“Once you get inside buildings, [however] you lose sight of [children with special needs] because the GPS signals are blocked,” Delaune says. So, the company is working on a school security system that keeps autistic kids safe indoors. While it's a “coding nightmare,” there's nothing on the

market like it. In the future, Safe and Found's indoor tracking might even be used to find nonverbal children after natural or manmade disasters.

“I hope one day to just really help children,” she says. “Bita was my inspiration for all of this. She's lived through two bouts of pancreatitis and a torn ACL. She has progressive liver failure, but she's just a happy puppy. I'm just so fortunate to have her.”

HIP DYSPLASIA

Enduring My Dog's Hip Dysplasia



BY KATHLEEN KREBS, FREELANCE WRITER

What began as a peaceful walk in the park ended up with a hip dysplasia diagnosis for my 5-year-old English Springer Spaniel George. We normally took long walks, but on this day, George seemed to be in distress. That night he couldn't jump up on his favorite spot on the couch. He turned to look at me as if I could read his mind. I immediately knew something was wrong. I examined his legs and didn't find anything; however I did notice that when he stood too long, his back legs quivered. Something was wrong, but I didn't know the severity until the next day at the veterinarian's office.

The veterinarian Dr. Bushard at the Woodview Veterinary Clinic examined his hips. George stopped panting and held his breath. This was a sign he was in pain. In order to take an X-ray, my vet had to give George an anesthetic. I didn't like the fact he had to undergo this procedure, but I knew this would be the only way to get a diagnosis. After a long wait, the doctor brought us back into the room and showed us the test results. George definitely had hip dysplasia. My heart sank.

Tears welled in my eyes as the veterinarian explained how I would need to care for George. After a lengthy discussion, we agreed to treat him with pain medicine and a glucosamine supplement. When I came home, I researched this disease and found out our life would change forever.

According to the American Kennel Club, "Hip dysplasia in dogs is an abnormal formation of the hip socket; it can cause crippling, lameness, and painful arthritis of the joints. It is a hereditary disease that can be prevented by responsible breeding. Dogs are not born with hip dysplasia, but puppies are genetically predisposed to it. The severity of this genetic disease determines how long a dog will live."

The signs of hip dysplasia are exercise intolerance, swaying gait (rear end moves back and forth in a noticeable fashion), bunny hopping (especially going upstairs), difficulty getting up from lying or sitting positions, sitting in 'frog' position (one hip splays out), and reluctance to run, jump and climb stairs. George exhibited most of these symptoms.

English Springer Spaniels are not the only dogs predisposed to hip dysplasia. Other breeds include Boxers, Bulldogs, Mastiffs, Retrievers, German Shepherds, American Staffordshire Terriers, St. Bernards, Rottweilers and some smaller breeds. When choosing a pet, research the breed to see what hereditary conditions may affect them.

During my Internet search I discovered Integrative Veterinary Service in Brookfield, Wis. I made an appointment with Dr. Amanda. She took her time explaining the holistic treatments that were available. There is laser therapy, acupuncture, aromatherapy and diet change. Dr. Amanda suggested that I avoid feeding George a grain-based dog food and start him on a low-carb diet to help him maintain his weight and reduce inflammation. She believes in feeding dogs a high protein diet and low carbohydrate foods with real meat-based treats.

"There are supplements and herbs that will also help with inflammation," she said, "like Grizzly fish oil, Boswellia Complex and joint supplements." (But seek the advice of your veterinarian before giving any supplement or changing your dog's diet.) When the pain

gets worse, laser therapy can be applied. This treatment should reduce pain and inflammation. These treatments won't cure hip dysplasia, but it will help reduce George's pain.

This diagnosis has been a life-changing event. George and I normally walked two miles a day. Now our walks are limited to two 10-minute walks per day. He enjoyed going to the groomer, but now I will have to groom him myself. He can't stand for long periods of time without feeling pain. I will watch his diet, adjust his meds and supplements and continue other treatments as needed. The dog park is out of the question. And there is the expense of pain meds, laser and acupuncture treatments, diet change, and supplements that will have to be factored into our budget. It's not the cost that upsets me; it's being able to recognize when George is in pain.

Before you adopt a dog, ask the breeder if their dogs have been certified by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals health testing and get proof. OFA has a database for hip dysplasia and other databases on genetic disorders. According to the American Animal Hospital Association, there is another test—the Penn HIP X-ray; however, this test requires a dog to be anesthetized. Check with your veterinarian to see which test is best for your dog.

George is an exceptionally smart animal companion, and it breaks my heart to see him suffer, but with good care, I'm hoping we'll have a long life together.



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Time,
Trust
Are Key

BY LUCIE WINBORNE, FREELANCE WRITER

Trauma isn't limited to humans. Whether a result of abuse, abandonment, neglect, an accident or a natural disaster, both physical and mental scars can be visible for years. But do animals also suffer from what we call post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD? "Absolutely," says leading veterinary behaviorist Dr. Nicholas Dodman of Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. "It is a real, now-recognized entity, even by the US Army."

What Is It?

Described as "an anxiety disorder that can develop after exposure to a terrifying event or ordeal in which grave physical harm occurred or was threatened," PTSD has long been documented in professions

such as police work, firefighting and the military. But the underlying factor in all cases is stress. Even events such as a long stay at a kennel or veterinarian's office can produce a lasting negative effect. And as with people, not all dogs will experience or manifest stress in the same way—some are more sensitive than others.

The condition may also be much more common than we'd expect. While it's been estimated that about 5 percent of military dogs will develop the condition, Manhattan dog trainer and novelist Lee Charles Kelley notes on his website, "I think that given the number of pet dogs abandoned or placed in shelters, injured in fights with other dogs, and the number who've been mistreated by their owners or mishandled by their trainers, groomers or vet techs, not to mention those who've been hit by a car, gotten lost, were fought over during a

divorce, etc., I'd be very surprised if the number of dogs who've experienced some type of trauma wasn't at least 70 percent."

The most common form of PTSD seen in canines is acute with symptoms occurring immediately and usually subsiding within several months. Chronic post-traumatic stress disorder also displays within a short time, but symptoms will be present for longer periods, while delayed onset PTSD will show up more than six months after the triggering incident, sometimes as an increase in originally mild symptoms.

What Does It Look Like?

In humans, typical symptoms of PTSD are recurring thoughts and memories of a traumatizing event. The same can be assumed for dogs, but as they are obviously unable to articulate these experiences, cues

to watch for include barking, hiding, hypervigilance, avoidance of familiar areas, trembling, rapid breathing and shying away from people.

John Pietruszka, an English professor at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth who fosters dogs with his wife Julie, describes how one dog “came to us in shell shock.”

“She had spent all her life in neglect outdoors . . . Apparently she had been chained or kept in a kennel, for she actually chewed down her front teeth trying to escape the hell she had been placed in. For three weeks I didn’t hear a bark, and yet once she became comfortable in our home, she took to guarding the place just as our own dogs do.”

Pietruszka adds that even nighttime trips outside were a “revelation,” as the emotionally damaged canine “just stood at the bottom of the stairs, afraid to move because she was unfamiliar with the territory.”

If you suspect your dog suffers from PTSD, start with a thorough checkup to rule out any physical causes. If none are found, your vet should examine your pet’s history for evidence of traumatic events, though these may be difficult to determine. Your vet can recommend additional resources such as diagnostic testing, specialized training with a canine behaviorist or medication.

Can PTSD Be Cured?

Lee Charles Kelley categorizes trauma on three levels: bruised, wounded and injured.

“Emotional bruises often heal on their own,” he says. “Wounds, which may be analogous to a broken bone, take more time and effort. And injuries, which are analogous to a severed limb, are much more difficult to deal with. So in

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the latter case, some dogs are able to function within certain comfortable parameters, but can’t be trusted around other dogs, strangers, etc.”

In combination with retraining, here are some important elements of rehabilitation.

- **A safe haven.** Whether it be a room or crate, give your dog his own private space, making sure to include his favorite toys, food bowl, and other articles (such as an article of your clothing) that will provide comfortable familiarity.

- **Routine.** Order is the rule here. Feeding and walking should be done on a consistent schedule.

- **Play and exercise.** Like mentally healthy animals, traumatized dogs need fun! Plus, they have been shown to recover more quickly when this need is satisfied. But be sure they remain aware it’s just a game, since if things start getting too serious, your dog’s behavioral switch will flip from play to aggression.

- **A quality diet.** Though of course any loving owner will want to feed their pet the best-quality food possible, a supplement of Omega 3

fatty acids will boost depression-fighting hormones.

- **Medicine.** On the holistic front, Chinese herbs and even acupuncture have been successfully used in the treatment of anxiety and aggression. Other options include pheromone collars and flower essence products like Bach’s Rescue Remedy. More traditional methods include alprazolam (Xanax) and fluoxetine (Prozac).

Anyone who has ever loved a dog in distress wants to know—is there hope? Can this pet be saved?

The good news is yes they can be saved, but owners must also understand that the process will take time, in some cases even a lifetime, in which case the process comes down to “management” as these animals won’t have the same ability to learn new behaviors or control their impulses as a normal dog. And since, as Dr. Dodman notes, “there is no cognitive therapy for pets,” more than a good trainer is needed: “A knowledgeable, up-to-date veterinarian who will prescribe palliative medications is pretty much a necessary component of recovery.”

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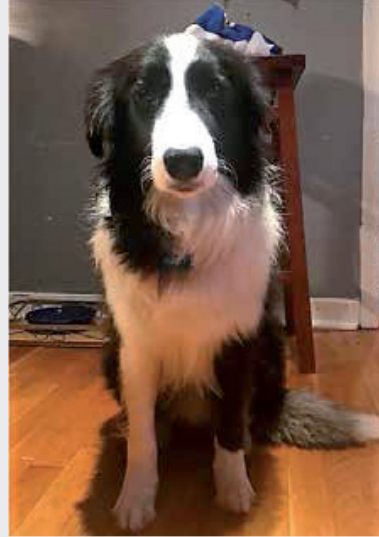
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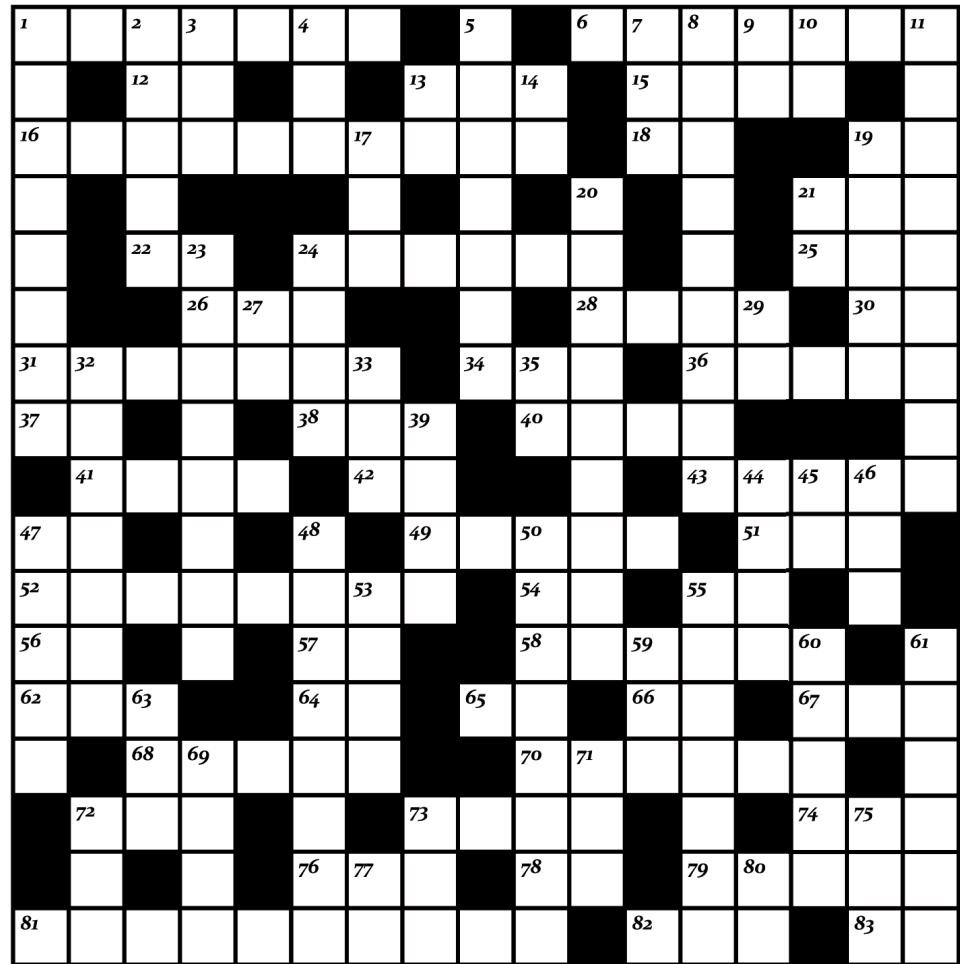
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6. _____ dogs can pull lightweight wheelchairs, if needed
12. Officer of the Day, shortened
13. It's in the eye of the beholder
15. They will often wear a _____ with a pocket for instructions
16. A 50 down can let you know when you need to eat something to raise this (2 wds)
19. Short for box office
21. Arthur, to his friends
22. Scandium symbol
24. Those with _____ cord injuries can benefit from a service dog
25. Precedes chi
26. School's website ending
28. Reduces the swelling, for example
30. Short for company
31. This type of dog is trained to offer comfort, affection and love to those in need
34. Hibernation place
36. Female fox
37. Archaic you
38. Small drink
40. Garfield's bud
41. Singing group that's a palindrome
42. Physical training, shortened
43. Outside the city
47. Symbol for argon
49. Edges
52. Certain command
52. Most _____ individuals qualify for a service dog
54. Short for island
55. Physical education, for short
56. Atop
57. Some are as strong as an _____
58. Aide; help
62. Certain golf club?
64. Between la and do
65. First two of twenty-six
66. Short for remote control
67. Precedes pressure or puncture
68. They can turn off or on the _____ switch
70. Elicits; draws forth
72. Paw part
73. Follows first or running
74. Colorful carp
76. Hoop gp.
78. That thing
79. They smell good, usually
81. Did you know poodles and some of their mixes are hypo - _____?
82. Dog years, for instance
83. Short for ream or room



down

1. The quality of being able to move
2. They can open these for you
3. Single person's last words
4. Lou Gehrig's disease (abbr)
5. Some dogs are _____ to detect a severe allergic reaction
7. Night before
8. Golden follower
9. Competition word (abbr)
10. Certain geek; _____ Guy (abbr)
11. Some are _____ Support dogs
13. Silver symbol
14. Short for train or trial
17. Ref cousin
19. A dog can act as a _____, or support, to help someone get up and down
20. Seeing-eye dogs can be used for even partial _____
21. Already there
23. _____ Palsy
24. Dines; enjoys an evening meal
27. Department of Agriculture, shortened
29. Yes, to Jose
32. They can be of aide to the _____ - impaired as well
33. Shrill bark
35. Short for equal opportunity
39. Veteran's often experience this (abbr)
44. Utilizes
45. Providence state (abbr)
46. Devoured
47. Take home as your own
48. They can help with _____ and shoes
50. (see 16 across) _____ Alert dog
53. Way out
55. Some help by _____ up objects
59. It's a full house! (init)
60. Everyday duties or pieces of work
61. Disorder causing impaired communication and extreme detachment
63. Words with mode or king
69. Run in neutral
71. Pet doc
72. Companion; buddy
73. _____'s Best Friend
75. Poetic contraction
77. Exist
80. Short for Old English

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ARE MUZZLES A NECESSARY TOOL?

BY MEGAN TREMELLING, DVM, LVS

Like most veterinarians, I genuinely love animals, but the sad fact is that not all of my patients love me back. For every pet that greets me with a wagging tail and happy kisses, I get at least one who gives me side-eye and a stony expression. I can't blame them, of course. I invade the personal space of every one of my patients when I do a physical exam, and further indignities and discomforts come with almost everything I do. Some patients take it all cheerfully, others tolerate it, and then there are those who put a furry foot down and say, "No way."

This is where muzzles come in. Some dog owners find muzzles scary. They can look like torture devices, although they don't actually hurt the dog, and it is possible to buy cute ones. Dogs dislike the muzzle, and owners find this upsetting. "Why do you need to muzzle my dog?" they sometimes ask. "He's not going to bite you! What kind of veterinarian is afraid of dogs?"

Well, it's like this. I'm not afraid of dogs; if I were, I couldn't do my job. I do, however, have a certain respect for

what their teeth can do. It's born of seeing many a dog bite injury in my career: many of them on my patients, some on my co-workers, and a few on myself. Our furry best friends come with teeth that were designed to cut and crush flesh, and they're pretty good at it. Big dogs of course can be more dangerous, but size doesn't always matter. Almost any dog can, if motivated, give me an injury that will put me out of work for months.

What are the odds that any particular dog will bite? Unfortunately, that dog's owner isn't always the best person to make that prediction. Dogs that are angels at home with their people sometimes make bad choices when they're in a strange place, surrounded by strangers, feeling threatened, or cornered or in pain. Some dogs will even bite their owners when they're at the vet's office. In this game, there are no bonus points for doing things the reckless way so I prefer to err on the side of safety.

Placing a muzzle on an uncooperative dog can actually make the process of providing veterinary care easier on the patient. It isn't immediately obvious that this would be true, but it is true.

Some dogs, when muzzled, just freeze. You have seen this phenomenon in action if you have ever seen a rowdy puppy annoying an older dog until the adult has to give the pup a correction; they do this by taking hold of the pup's muzzle to make it stop misbehaving. In the same way, some dogs, when muzzled, seem to get the message that it's time to stop snapping and struggling. That means I can do my job quickly and thoroughly rather than having a prolonged wrestling match that's far more upsetting to the patient than whatever it was I was trying to do in the first place. Of course, the process works best if the dog is muzzle-trained, and I encourage every dog owner to do so.

But even or especially in patients that won't give up resisting, a muzzle ultimately reduces the risk of anyone getting bitten. And while I selfishly want to keep my skin intact, I also want to avoid bites for the dog's and the owner's sake. Wisconsin state law is quite strict on the subject of dog bites. Any medical care provider who treats a person that was bitten by a dog is legally required to report the bite to the authorities, and the dog is then subject to rabies quarantine. This is expensive for the dog's owner and means extra visits to the veterinarian's office for the dog that didn't enjoy going in the first place. If the dog dies or is euthanized for any reason before the end of the quarantine period, its body must be tested for rabies, a process that can also be expensive for the owner.

Of course muzzles aren't the only tool I have to keep teeth off skin. I rely on my expert staff to distract and safely restrain pets, and I use all my training and experience to make veterinary care as painless and reassuring as possible for the patients. But there are times when a muzzle is the right choice, and then I don't hesitate. It's for everybody's protection.

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IVDD Do You Know This Disease?

BY MARYSSA BECKMAN, DVM, MECA

The alluring cuteness of Dachshunds and Corgis most likely stems from their disproportionate body composition: long bodies, tiny legs! While absolutely adorable, their layout does not come without added risks. Their tiny spines carry a lot of joint stress that predisposes them to a condition called intervertebral disc disease (IVDD). This disease is common and can result in complete hind end paralysis for life if not recognized and treated quickly. So let's examine the common signs, why it happens, and what to do if you suspect this disease in your furry friend.

The vertebrae of the spine have small discs between each segment that serve as shock absorbers and keep the vertebrae from suffering trauma when your dog's body is active. These discs prevent your dog's spine from being damaged doing simple things like going up stairs or playing catch, but over time these discs undergo degeneration. This results in the hardening of the disc, which ultimately leads to loss of function. When this happens, the disc is at risk of extruding or moving out of its normal position when a compressive force is applied. This is because the normal squishy shock absorber is now a spring-loaded projectile. In small breed dogs, this compacted disc material is extruded upwards when a force is applied to it, and as a result, the spinal cord that lives above it becomes compressed. If this sounds like a bad thing, you're right! Depending on where this occurs in the spinal cord, signals from the brain may not be able to be transmitted effectively, which can lead to your dog not being able to walk appropriately, control their bladder, and may also cause them a lot of pain. This pro-

cess can happen in a matter of minutes and will need medical attention fast.

Okay, so I have a large-breed dog. I am safe, right?

Unfortunately, they get their own type of IVDD. Breeds like German Shepherds, Labradors, Dobermans, and really any larger dog that is active can have this occur. The good news is that these types of dogs get a protrusion of the disc instead of an extrusion that comes on slow and can usually be medically managed.

All right, it's happened! Now how do I treat it?

As you can imagine, nerves are very delicate and require fast action to ensure appropriate recovery. IVDD can range from a small amount of spinal pain to complete hind limb paralysis, and it can progress to an irreversible disease in a matter of hours depending on severity. If your dog is lucky, a small amount of back pain that is often recognizable by your dog crying out going up stairs, reluctance to jump may be as far as it progresses. In this case, strict cage rest and some anti-inflammatory medications can have your pooch back to normal in no time. If, however, your dog is one that has problems placing their feet, cannot stand up, and does not seem to have voluntary bladder control, you may be looking at a surgery to fix your pet. During this surgery, the

veterinarian will go into the spine and remove the disc material compressing the spinal cord. This is a costly surgery, and only certain veterinarians will be able to preform it. Before doing so, the exact location of the disc rupture will need to be determined by using X-rays, CT, or potentially an MRI. Once performed, the recovery period is variable with some dogs walking in days, while some may need rehabilitation and may not walk normally for months. Recovery rate is about 70 to 100 percent with dogs that don't have complete loss of deep pain in their hind limbs before the surgery. If this procedure is not performed quickly, the nerves will lose blood supply and the situation may be irreparable. So if you suspect this is happening to your pet, act fast.

So what signs can you look for, and how can you prevent this?

Dogs usually show a wobbly hind end, reluctance to climb stairs, or may cry out in pain with early onset of the disease. With more progressive disease, dogs will be unable to rise or stand on their own and will be incapable of placing their feet, especially in the hind limbs. Preventing high-impact activity such as jumping, quick turns, or fast stops can limit stress put on the spine. Ultimately though, this can happen to any breed at any time, so knowing what to look for and when to seek veterinary care can save your pet's life.



DIABETIC ALERT DOG

The Benefits of a Diabetic Alert Dog

BY PATTI MURACZEWSKI, BS, CPDT-KA, ABCDT

My niece Karisa, who was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes as an adult almost 10 years ago, has had several instances over the years where her blood sugar was dangerously low or dangerously high while she slept. Though she can usually feel the symptoms when they occur, if she is in a deep sleep it could be difficult to wake up before the situation becomes dangerous. The physical symptoms themselves can also make it difficult to think clearly and process what is happening. Despite wearing a pump and being an otherwise healthy individual, Karisa has woken up with blood sugars in the mid 20s—this puts her at serious risk of going into a seizure or coma. Also, waking up with very high blood sugars (400+) due to a pump malfunction or kinked tubing or experiencing other possible medical complications while asleep can lead to a serious problem for her.

If Karisa had a diabetic alert dog (D.A.D.) while experiencing these medical situations when she was asleep, the dog would have nudged her, pawed at her or bark or give other alerting signals that D.A.D. dogs are trained to do before the blood glucose level drops too low or rises too high.

Those of us involved in the world of dogs are aware of the wide array of services dogs can provide.

A D.A.D. is just one type of service dog. They are trained to alert the diabetic person if their blood sugar is dropping too low or rising too high, and the dog has a different alert for low and high readings.

Normally it is a nudge to the person's hand, but other alerts can be foot touches, barks, or jumping on the owner, etc. Even in this day of Continuous Glucose Meters (CGM), dogs have proven to recognize blood sugar changes faster than the time it takes to do a finger stick and check with the meter.

More people are training their own pets as a diabetic alert dog or as another type of service dog for a number of reasons. Seventy-five percent of the individuals needing a service dog can't afford the cost of a pre-trained dog, which ranges from \$8,000 to \$20,000, and the wait list can be two to five years. Also, pet owners may have already established a strong bond with their own dog, which is needed for a service dog, and some people don't want multiple dogs. Organizations that pre-train a D.A.D. make selections through a screening process with only one out of eight dogs obtaining D.A.D. certification.

Personally, I would not recommend taking this challenge on without a D.A.D. certified trainer or an experienced dog behavior consultant's help as the training is complicated. The dog must be well mannered in public, be obedient and also be a reliable indicator with a good nose. A service dog needs

to be friendly with everyone yet be able to focus out in public and not be environmentally sensitive. A young dog is preferred as well since the training can take six months to two years. An older dog may not be able to service the diabetic for as many years as a younger dog.

I have been studying through books, online classes, DVDs and through attending an intensive D.A.D. workshop put on by the Diabetic Alert Dog University. Two books I found helpful were "Training Your Diabetic Alert Dog" by Susan Barns PhD and "The Ping Project" by Shari Finger. I have been working for the last year with a client and her Australian Labradoodle, "Mei Mei."

In the beginning, we started out teaching the cue of having the dog put her dominant paw on the diabetic's foot. We then moved the dog on to odor by having the owner Renee collect her low samples and store them. A diabetic should not be engaged in training when their blood sugar is actually low. We then had Mei Mei find the odor and touch the container. We later moved to the owner having the container on her and the dog using the trained indicator.

This process isn't as easy as it sounds. I found two major struggles. Unlike, bomb detection, drug detection or most sports that have the dog cued up to start working, the D.A.D. is working twenty-four hours a day as many diabetics find they suffer their worst drops in blood sugar when they are sleeping. The other stumbling block is at the final stages when the dog is alerting on their own to an actual low or high. The person must test their blood sugar before rewarding, or in the case of a mis-alert, ignoring the dog's alert. So the dog learns the "let's check" cue as it indicates a delayed response.

In "Plos"—a peer-reviewed open access journal—an investigation study was done on the value of trained diabetic alert dogs. The majority of clients in the study agreed that they were more independent after getting a trained dog. The diabetic owners have had less paramedic calls and a reduction in unconscious episodes.

The bottom line is a diabetic alert dog has the potential of giving the person who is diabetic a higher quality of life and may even reduce the costs of long-term health care.



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ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE & SUPPORT

Your Quick Reference Guide to Service, Therapy & Emotional Support Dogs

BY NASTASSIA PUTZ & PAULA MACIOLEK,
FREELANCE WRITERS

What do service dogs, therapy dogs and emotional support dogs all have in common besides being... well...dogs? The innate desire to please. Whether dogs are specifically trained (or not), they have a natural desire to make their human happy. This establishes a bond that later evolves into a loving relationship between the dog and the person. The dog also provides some form of support (physical, emotional or therapeutic). But there are many distinctions between these three categories that may or may not make them appropriate for a certain individual or situation.

SERVICE DOGS An Individual's Right Hand Man

"A service dog is protected by federal law under the American's with Disabilities Act," says Sarah Sirios, program director for WAGS—Wisconsin Academy for Graduate Service Dogs—located in Madison. Sirios says, "Wisconsin has a special piece of legislation—a state statute that protects service dogs in training with a professional organization." This statute allows the dog to go anywhere with the trainer that a full service dog can go. Of the three different categories, service dogs have the most rights and are specifically trained to help a person with a specific disability. They are often distinguishable from a typical dog and sport a colored vest that is labeled accordingly. In this case, the public is to refrain from personal contact with the dog.

"It's very complicated," says Sirios. "Lots of people are very confused about the different types of dogs and the le-

gality involved." And figuring out the difference between them is actually the easy part. Acquiring one is a whole different story.

WAGS has been placing dogs in and all around Dane County for roughly 30 years. "We have over 125 placements to date," notes Sirios. "Our mission is to increase independence and quality of life for people with physical disabilities through our highly-trained service dogs."

There is also a high monetary and long time investment with these dogs. Karen Shirk, founder of 4 Paws for Ability, Inc.—located in Ohio—estimates between \$40,000 and \$60,000 to train and place one dog. However, the price for families is \$17,000 and 4 Paws helps with the fundraising efforts. Then there is the wait.

It takes approximately 24 to 28 months to receive a service dog. Shirk currently has 17 dogs placed in Wisconsin. Though a service dog may not be for just anyone, Shirk says, "Having a service dog makes you 'whole,' I believe and makes the disability invisible. People used to stare at me because of my disability. Now they see only the dog—taking the 'dis' out of disability."

Shirk was diagnosed with Myasthenia Gravis, a rare neuromuscular disease which led her to start 4 Paws. "I started the organization because I was turned

down for a service dog due to the severity of my disability."

So after a diagnosis, how does one train and obtain a service dog? WAGS goes to reputable breeders for dogs and they begin a training program when the puppy is 8 weeks old. The puppies must be able to pass a temperament test.

4 Paws for Ability started out using dogs from shelters, but now 98 percent are bred in-house for temperament, health reasons, skill set, etc. These dogs are trained from birth until they are placed with a family—a 12 to 18 month process.

The person or parents of the child with a disability must first start an application process so funds can be raised in order to obtain a service dog. Funds are often raised through one's local community or with online fundraising pages. Money is sent directly to organization, and three to nine months is standard time for raising the fee. However, there is no end time to raising the funds according to 4 Paws. A 12-day training program is also required in which the individual must go to Ohio and train with the dog prior to the dog being placed in their home. In the case of a child, two people should accompany him or her.

What is it like to have a service dog? Well, Rose Fortney a Milwaukeean and second-time service dog user explains the pros and cons.

Pros: "Vega knows if you need love,

Ben diagnosed with Degenerative Myopathy



After almost eight years, my Ben was diagnosed with Degenerative Myopathy, a neurological condition that causes progressive paralysis in the back legs. There is no real treatment and no cure. We spent a horrid week at Ohio State University only to walk away with the words, "There is nothing we can do. Retire him."

Holding to the hope that it would slow the progression, I followed their advice and retired him. When he walked he dragged his feet and the toenails were ripped open. I saw no alternative. Ben, stepped up to the plate. He had walked beside me as I fought my

disease and the lessons he has taught were not to end there.

In April of 2002 I took Ben on a week vacation to experience his final moments of life with joy, and then, with a final walk through the 40 acres of woods which had been his kingdom for most all of his life, I helped Ben return to a place where all dogs run and play, where there are bones growing on trees, and treats fall from the sky.

Ben lives on in the hearts of everyone who met him, yet none so strongly as mine. While other dogs have come to walk beside me, none will ever quite be able to walk in his pawprints, and none will ever fill the gap in my heart waiting to be filled once more when I join him at the "rainbow bridge."

4pawsforability.org

he's always a snuggler, and he just bonds. And if you sigh, he'll sigh with you...he's become a family member." Fortney also says he's good with her husband and daughter.

Cons: "Right off it's constant education and having the patience to educate people." Not everyone will know the legalities of having a seeing eye dog for instance and their lack of knowledge may deter you from going to a certain establishment.

Also, people may try to sneak the dog treats or try to pet your dog in public. "When I let people pet my dog, I take his harness off so that the dog knows he is not working and we're flexible. Some people will whistle and try to get my dog's attention and that's dangerous if I'm crossing the street."

Lynda Ruchti, WAGS volunteer/trainer, is well-rehearsed in the ups and downs of a service dog. Ruchti took a huge leap from only knowing how to care for hamsters to learning how to train service dogs and really has come to appreciate being a trainer. "Some people think of service dogs as military robots...some of our training includes being a doggie." Ruchti also says its remarkable to see the kinds of things the dog can do in less than a year of training. "She puts her toys away at night, opens and shuts doors and refrigerators...it feels really significant...it feels like important work."

Therapy Dogs Everyone Needs Support

Therapy dogs are not service dogs. Repeat...not service dogs. Kathy Klotz, executive director of Intermountain Therapy Animals hopes to get the message across that therapy dogs aren't service dogs or emotional support dogs. There is a difference. There is also the issue of faking credentials. Klotz says, "It's becoming a serious problem with those who are faking the credentials and the needs, putting the people who really need the legitimate help at risk..."

So what's a therapy dog? "Therapy animals are incomparable sources of motivation, hope, comfort, fun and joy...they provide physiological benefits like lowered heart rate and respiration, destressing and relaxation, in addition to the fun of being with an animal," stresses Klotz.

The most important aspect of choosing a therapy dog is temperament. Then it's time to begin the basic training. The dog must be "responsive to requests and inspire confidence in onlookers—thus, things like sit, down, stay, come, walking nicely on a loose leash, behaving well around other animals, etc.," says Klotz. They need to be tested by a legitimate agency and qualify for liability insurance, Klotz confirms. Steer clear of certificates off the Internet. And workshop training for the handler and team is essential.

Now what do therapy dogs actually do? Well, there are currently 80 registered R.E.A.D. teams in Wisconsin. These dogs provide many benefits to children in the public arena. They help kids relax. "Dogs don't judge, criticize, laugh or make fun, or go tell their friends when they make mistakes," says Klotz "So kids can learn and practice [reading] with all the scary parts removed."

Therapy dogs visit schools, nursing homes, libraries, etc. Basically, any place they are allowed to visit and mingle. They are not performing specific tasks for people with disabilities and are not given the same legal rights.

However they do provide a therapeutic visit to people with disabilities. And by all means, the handler wants you to pet them!

Emotional Support Dogs Your Personal Support Friend

Emotional Support Dogs help ease an individual's depression, anxiety or aid in combating other phobias. They are not trained like a service dog. They are more like the average family pet except they offer a bit more to an individual that struggles with life. They do have some rights when it comes to housing and air travel, but they cannot just go anywhere in public.

They also need to be prescribed by a licensed mental health professional to a person with a disabling mental illness in order to qualify as an Emotional Support Animal. Their number one job is companionship.

You may benefit from an emotional support dog if you have any of the following:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Fear/Phobias
- PTSD
- Generalized Anxiety Disorder
- Panic Disorder
- Separation Anxiety
- Mood Disorders
- Stress
- Social Anxiety Disorder
- And more...

This is just a quick reference guide to the three types of dogs, please do your own research when investing your money and time in one of these dogs.

The information in the chart to the left was provided by Intermountain Therapy Animals.

Comparative Descriptions	Service	Therapy	Emotional
Provides therapeutic comfort to many people	No	Yes	No
Primary job is to emotionally support owner through companionship	No	No	Yes
Trained to assist an individual for specific health need	Yes	No	No
Must behave in & tolerate many environments	Yes	Yes	No
Rights of access to public places such as restaurants & stores	Yes	No	No
Housing rights even if "No Pets" Policy	Yes	No	Yes
Travel rights in the cabin of an airplane with owner	Yes	No	Yes
Okay to approach & pet in public	No	Yes	No

An Emotional Plight

BY PAULA B. MACIOLEK, FREELANCE WRITER

It is not known who first said that a veteran is someone who, at one point in their life wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount up to and including their life. What is known for certain is there are many people grateful for the sacrifices veterans have made on our behalf. Pets for Vets is a non-profit national organization that has a unique way to thank these men and women. They train shelter and rescue dogs to be placed with veterans as companion animals at no charge to the veteran.

To be paired with a specially-chosen and trained companion dog, veterans who live in an area that is served by a Pets for Vets chapter can apply online. They also must submit documentation from a health care provider describing their need and a copy of their DD-214 to establish veteran status. A meeting and a home visit is also required.

The first interview with a member of the Pets for Vets team may be done by a volunteer trainer such as Sarah Miller, CPDT-KA. "We train companion dogs," Miller says. "We do not train service dogs, but we can refer someone if what they need is a service dog. The veteran tells me what they're looking for and what kind of dog personality." She asks about the reasons for getting a dog. "Some veterans have PTSD, are anxious about being alone or are looking for a companion because they have depression or anxiety. They're looking for unconditional love."

The dogs that enter the program are carefully selected by a trainer such as Miller. She searches for the right dog that matches the veteran's preference for factors such as gender, size and coat length. She scours 501(c)(3) shelters and rescues looking for available dogs that could be the perfect match and show high potential for successful training. Miller is looking for "people-centric dogs who are going to pay attention to the vet while other things are going on." She observes if the dog is "asking for pets or does the dog want to do its own thing? If I stop petting the dog, what does it do? Ask for more? Go do its own thing?" She also gathers data to make her selection using a 24-point behavior evaluation.

The actual training program includes the "basics of obedience training: sit, stay, down, come when called, leash skills. Most trainers have [them] live in house. I have foster homes 5 to 10 minutes away, and I go train the dogs 4 to 5 days per week."

When the dog and the veteran finally meet, Miller admits, "I'm always really happy, and I'm also a little sad because I get attached to the dog after 6 to 8 weeks of training." She does follow up a couple days after the match day as well as a few weeks later and remains available as a resource over time if needed. Pets for Vets can also advocate on behalf of a veteran who receives one of their dogs if obstacles come up such as with a landlord or property owner.

Miller describes the match day as being "as big or as small as a vet wants." She continues, "Sometimes friends or family are there, and sometimes the vet prefers to meet the dog alone. We take pictures if the veteran is comfy." Medical information about the dog is shared, and a placement package is given that includes everything a dog could need for the first three to six months in the dog's new home." It can be an emotional meeting or a quiet one. Either way, veterans go home with a dog selected and trained especially for them, and a shelter/rescue dog gets a second chance at finding love with a veteran.

If you're looking for a service dog, here are some organizations in Wisconsin you might want to check out. Be sure to do your homework and interview the people in the organizations. As in any business, there are pitfalls in choosing a service dog organization. Look at Service Dog Central (servicedogcentral.org) to learn about red flags and to empower yourself to make a good decision before you sign on the dotted line to get a service dog or receive training for one.

Local organizations that offer service dogs and/or training:

Wisconsin Academy for Graduate Service Dogs (WAGS) wags.net

Trains dogs to assist persons with physical disabilities.

Sunshine Service Dogs

sunshineservicedogs.net

Trains dogs for mobility, sensitive detection, hearing, emotional support and therapy dogs.

Occupaws Guide Dog Association

Occupaws.org

Trains dogs to alert for allergy, diabetic, hearing and assist with autism, mobility, psychological issues and visual needs.

Capable canines of Wisconsin

capablecanineswi.com

Trains service dogs to serve people with seizures, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, diabetes, physical disabilities and autism.

Custom Canines Service Dog Academy, Sun Prairie

Customcanines.org

Trains service dogs to assist with PTSD, autism, mobility, visual companion needs.

Service Dogs of Wisconsin, Verona

servicedogswi.org

Trains dogs to assist persons with limited mobility.

Pets for Vets—Madison Chapter

petsforvets.com/madison-wi

Trains companion dogs to service as emotional support dogs for veterans (also matches cats).

DEAF DOGS

Deaf Dogs Hear with Their Hearts

BY CHERESE COBB, FREELANCE WRITER

On November 20, 2010, Christina Lee grabs her camera and heads to her local shelter. She plans on capturing a new litter of puppies' tail-wagging, tongue-hanging, drool-dripping charms. Then Rebecca Custer, the Director of the Salem Animal Shelter in Salem, Virginia, takes her back into the isolation wing of the shelter and shows her an 8-week-old, snow-white Boxer. Odd-eyed, the puppy is "deaf in both ears," and was dumped by the river on Front Street. "She had been out to my farm [Bluebird] and knew I had secure, 6-foot-tall dog fencing and a big yard in the back of my house," says Lee. "She asks me if there was any way my husband Chris and I could adopt this dog."

However, Lee already has three dogs and three horses, and she doesn't know anything about training a special needs dog. "I went home that evening and told my husband Chris the story of the skinny, white, deaf Boxer," ex-

plains Lee. As a huge dog lover, Chris tells her to immediately call the shelter. "All you could hear on the other end of the phone was all the girls who work at the shelter screaming with joy," Lee laughs. Afterwards, the couple goes to

"It was almost like I didn't have a purpose before Nitro came along"

PetSmart. They buy a cart full of dog supplies and a dog tag engraved with the name Nitro. [Fifteen years earlier, the couple decided if they ever had a boy dog, they'd name him Nitro after Nitro, West Virginia.]

When Christina brings Nitro home, she doesn't know any sign language. So, she watches a video on YouTube by American Sign Language interpreter Alisha McGraw who demonstrated all the ASL signs she uses with her deaf Boston Terriers and deaf Boxer. "With Nitro, the biggest challenge I faced was his detachment, even as a 10-week-old puppy. He would not look at me and didn't seek attention when we first adopted him," says Lee. "My husband talked me off the ledge and suggested we find a good training facility so we could take him to puppy classes."

They enroll Nitro at the Field of Dreams training center in Roanoke, Virginia. People think deaf dogs are harder to train or are more aggressive than hearing dogs when they're startled. "In reality, they are 20 percent less likely to be aggressive," Lee says. "They are not distracted

by noises or barking [so] they are way more focused on their handler in a dog training class environment." As a result, Nitro skyrockets to the top of his class. The local news station WDBJ covers him, and he quickly becomes a national ambassador for deaf dogs.

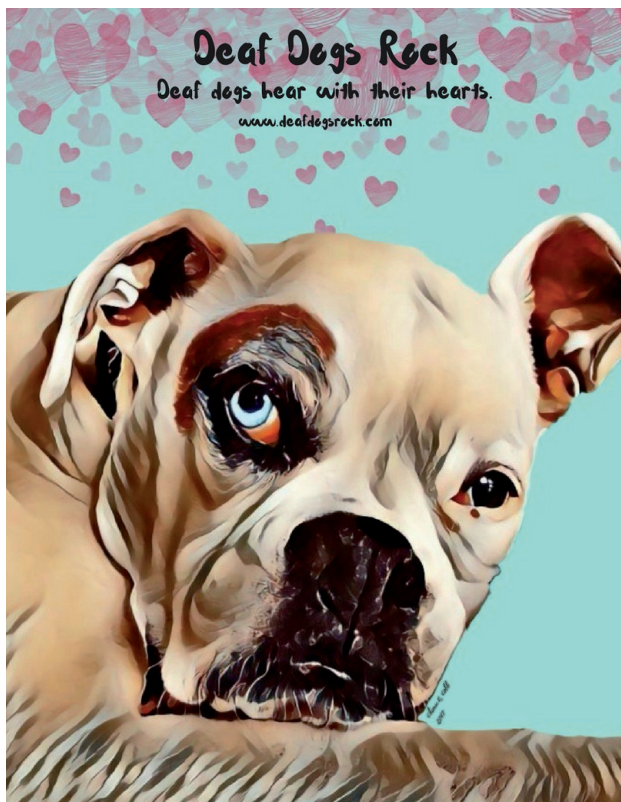
"We start hearing from people all over the country that have questions about living with a deaf dog and training a deaf dog," Lee says. After learning breeders automatically put 3-to 4-week-old puppies to sleep just because they're deaf, she asks her husband, if, for her birthday present, they can launch Deaf Dogs Rock, a nonprofit that advocates for deaf dogs in the U.S. and Canada, providing education, transportation, medical care and sponsorships.

For the past six years, Lee has put in 60 to 70 hour weeks. She has a one-acre deaf dog park that's "specially fenced in for dog owners if they don't feel comfortable going to a normal dog park." And she has adopted three more deaf dogs: Bowie, after David Bowie; Bud, after Buddy Holly; and Chris, after Chris Cornell. She also completed a full, immersive semester of ASL at a local community college.

Then after building a Facebook community with roughly 53,000 followers, she was able to find homes for more than 2,000 deaf dogs—they're also called velcro dogs because they not only stick to their humans, but they cling to the other dogs in the family.

"Deaf dogs don't just hear with their hearts, they'll change every aspect of your life," says Lee.

"It was almost like I didn't have a purpose before Nitro came along."



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OFF-THE-LEASH

"Dogs don't care what titles they carry—they are vastly more concerned in spending time with us, their human partners."

Q & A with Trainer Judith Fischer, APDT, IAABC

Regardless of your past, you are still a Rockstar—or at least that is the mantra of Judith Fischer, dog trainer and owner of Agility Possibilities, LLC. Fischer went from showing and titling several breeds to finding her true life's purpose in agility training. She has lived and breathed dogs for 45 years and upon rescuing a Bloodhound girl named Sarah, Fischer was able to develop a fondness for special needs training.

"Sarah Louise opened my eyes and heart to working with dogs with special needs. While we recently lost our Sarah ... it was through watching her reconnect with life and enjoy being with other dogs and people that I am now able to better teach others how their dogs best learn regardless of what their past held," Fischer emphasizes.

1.) How do you train a dog with special needs?

All our training classes are designed with the dogs best interest in mind. I incorporate fun obstacles so every dog or owner, despite limited ability, is still able to take to the course and enjoy learning together.

Agility as a competition sport is awesome to watch! Often we watch these dogs, muttering under our breath, 'my dog, or I, could never do that!' Yet, all dogs can train and benefit from the sport of agility. The challenge is not if our special needs dogs can navigate the obstacles but how we are going to train them to do so. In training with handicaps, ours or theirs, we need to focus on what we can do, rather than what we can't. Sometimes the criteria we deem as insurmountable needn't even be part of the equation. Dogs are very resilient and receptive to trying and learning new things. They aren't worried about what others will think or say they just go about enjoying life and trying to get the most out of each day. We could learn A LOT from our canine counterparts.

All dogs' first language is scent; depending on their breed-inherent traits, they may carry a double major in scent (as my Hounds did) or be more visually acute. Perhaps they were originally bred to work following hand cues or subtle body cues. All this comes into play when training dogs. A special needs dog may just have a shorter list from which to choose. That just means you both have less to learn! Less is more. Less distraction or involvement can equal greater attention and focus to the task at hand (or paw). I have seen and worked with deaf dogs that blow the others away on course since

they are not distracted by sounds, having been taught to follow visual cues. I have also worked with blind dogs that did extremely well in having specific scents to direct or redirect during training. I see these as all positive training behaviors not just for agility but in life. In working with how we each learn best, together we receive greater results in establishing a bond built on trust, respect and love.

2. Benefits?

Agility is an all-encompassing training medium for dogs and their owners that exercises the mind and body. It teaches or helps redirect the dog's impulse control while being off leash. I have worked with many a dog that is more receptive to learning basic obedience or manners skills if they get to burn off some pent up frustration by going over a jump or racing through a tunnel as part of training.

A few of my students refer to agility class as 'fun school.' I like that! Most dogs already know how to run and jump. Incorporating what you and your dog enjoy doing together at home in a structured class format is a great way to work on their social skills. Many owners have made great human friendships as well and attending class is a great social outing for them. Through my decades of working with people training their dogs, I have been fortunate to work with and learn from those with what we call handicaps. In treating them with the respect they deserve, at times modifying my approach or set-up, I have found through acceptance, there are no real handicaps, just obstacles we all encounter and have to learn from.

3. Why do you do it?

In agility training, we are able to release our inner puppy—enjoy life and laugh at ourselves since our dogs do humble us. We learn to connect with others not based on social status but through our common interest—dogs. I love being able to provide safe, fun, educational and recreational training for dogs and owners. I enjoy watching owners learn from their dogs and work towards a mutually beneficial goal. That's what it is all about to me: watching dogs teach their owners that while life presents many challenges, they can be overcome by working and learning together.

Banana Mutt Cookies

A Diabetic Dog Treat

My Papillon Mix Paisley has been diagnosed with diabetes. So we now share a health problem; we both have to watch what we eat. So in this issue I have included a recipe for making treats for the diabetic dog.

1 ½ bananas ½ tsp vanilla
3 cups oatmeal ¼ cup unsweetened applesauce
½ cup unsalted peanuts

Preheat to 350 degrees. Mix all together. Spoon onto ungreased cookie sheet and press flat. Bake for 15 minutes.

Especially with a diabetic dog, the treats should only be 10 percent of the dog's daily intake. So even if your dog is crazy about your treats, **DON'T** over-indulge your pet. Here's a list of healthy dog treat ingredients for your diabetic dog treat recipes:

- Whole grain flours
- Eggs
- Chicken broth
- Buttermilk
- Bran for roughage – oat or whole wheat
- Brewer's yeast
- Brown rice
- Carrots
- Apples
- Cinnamon
- Meat and fish
- Oatmeal or oat flour
- Cornmeal
- Raw seeds like sesame seeds or sunflower seeds
- Beans
- Pumpkin
- Unsweetened applesauce
- Flaxseeds

When making treats for your diabetic dog, beware of the ingredients. In addition to the standard "NO!" list, diabetic dogs should **NOT** have the following:

- White sugar, brown sugar, cane sugar, etc.
- Syrup - corn, malt, maple, etc.
- Molasses
- Honey
- Fructose, dextrose, maltose, etc.
- Sweetened peanut butter, applesauce, etc.

TABLE SCRAPS



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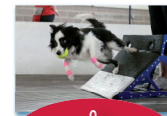
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414-750-0152
www.bichonrescues.com



CELEB PAW PROFILE

MILLIE the Canine Concierge

BY MANETTE KOHLER, DVM

Word is out around Milwaukee. There's a cute new gal with blonde, curly hair working at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center. It's Millie, the canine concierge. At just one year of age, Millie, a mini Goldendoodle, is very popular and regularly receives emails and comments via the hotel website, great Trip Advisor reviews, and dog treats, sweaters and toys from adoring fans (aka hotel guests). Her proud owner, Rusty Dahler, the human concierge at the hotel, was thrilled to share Millie's story with FETCH readers.

"Last fall the idea for a 'hotel dog' began to circulate," says Dahler. "A great idea never happens easily," he adds. "It takes a lot of determination and hard work." He set to work finding just the right dog for the job, researching breeds and talking to breeders and decided on a smaller, non-shedding dog with a phenomenal temperament. Millie, whose name represents Milwaukee (first and third syllables), fit the bill perfectly. Born September 13, 2016, Millie went home with Dahler at eight weeks of age and by ten weeks was spending a few hours at a time at the hotel. She now spends 40 hours a week in the lobby and hotel, brightening the day for guests and employees alike.

As one would guess, training has been and continues to be a focal point for Millie. Dahler explains that it's been a lot of work to train a puppy in such a large hotel and to teach her all the things she'll need to learn including not jumping on guests and coming when called. Holly Lewis, a Certified Professional Dog Trainer and owner of Cold Nose Canine, has worked one-on-one with Millie as well as in group classes. "Millie's private lessons are focused on specific skills that Millie utilizes at the hotel," says Lewis. "Millie learned to stay out of specific areas of the hotel as well as showing guests where the restroom is from the concierge desk." The "say hello" cue directs Millie to the check-in line where she greets guests. She may even bring along her favorite ball for someone to throw.

Other important tasks include riding luggage carts up to the rooms for deliveries and standing proudly on the podium at the front door, smiling and wagging her tail as guests arrive. "On the flip side," adds Lewis, "it is really important for her to remain in tune with Rusty so she does not wander off and get distracted with a guest. Recall and focus are important points of Millie's training." The need to be able to easily adapt to the fast pace and changing environment of the hotel lobby is the biggest goal, according to Lewis. "There are always people and animals breezing through the lobby and it takes a special dog to be able to handle the activity," says Lewis.



"Millie has changed the environment in our lobby by 100 percent," shares Dahler. He knew she'd have an impact on the guests, but he never guessed the impact she'd have on the employees. They stop by the desk to share phone pics of their dogs and love on Millie as if she were their own. Fellow co-worker, bellman Jack Wood says, "Being able to experience Millie's friendly and playful personality is the reason both myself and the guests keep coming back to see her every day." Millie takes all the attention from guests and employees in stride, and that's part of what makes her so special. "She gives a lot to her work," says Dahler. She's petted hundreds of times per day, often awakening from a nap because an eager guest really wants to say hello.

Like any hard working employee, Millie deserves and enjoys her time off. "Home is her restful space where she can do what she wants to do when she wants to do it," says Dahler. "She enjoys walks on Brady Street, playing with dog friends at Pulaski Park and dog training classes at Cold Nose Canine," he adds. She also enjoys the company of Oliver and Rose, Dahler's two cats. "Oliver and Millie love to

hang out and tussle together while Rose enters in only when she thinks it appropriate." As for toy preferences, the more squeakers the better, but long toys she can play tug with are also preferred.

Dahler explains how rewarding it's been to see her progress and to hear guests comment on how well-behaved she is. "She has brought smiles, laughter, and even tears to many within her short time here and we can't wait for more of this to come as she grows older with the Hilton Milwaukee," shares Dahler.

For more info check out "Millie At The Hilton" on YouTube; on Instagram at "hiltonmilwaukee" and on Facebook at Hilton Milwaukee City Center.

Photo By Jen O'Hara/dogsofmke

Whole-istic Healing

FETCH MAGAZINE

ALL SPIRIT HEELING

Animals are like us in so many ways that sometimes we forget or don't realize that what we do for ourselves we can also do for them. For instance your dog may benefit from the following: massages, chiropractic, acupuncture, crystals, hydrotherapy, laser therapy, Reiki and more.

Animal communication is a great "tool" to use to find out if your animal is happy, sad, in pain, etc. But it's also important to use other tools. It is necessary to take your animals to the vet for health checks and various treatments. Or for example, dog trainers for proper training. And it is also important to see practitioners who specialize in holistic animal care—Chinese and western medicines are a great combination.

For example, if your animal doesn't feel well, is lethargic or not eating and looks like it is suffering, then a vet would be your first call. Your second call should perhaps be an animal communicator.

Animal communication can definitely improve behavioral issues, walking on a leash, and other issues. However, training is still necessary to build ones confidence with their dog so they learn to speak the same language and not send mixed messages. As humans we tend to send mixed messages to our animals, telepathically and verbally. In our minds we say, "don't bite, don't bark, don't jump" but in our minds we're showing them barking, biting and jumping. Training is a great way to send the right signals, deepening the bond and strengthening our confidence.

A few tools:

Chiropractic/Spinal Manipulation. Animals get thrown out of whack all the time, just like humans do, and strongly benefit from adjustments to realign their body which also affects their health, energy and emotions.

Essential Oils. Get ones that are all-natural (not chemical or fragrance grade) and good quality to diffuse in your room or car, especially after a stressful event like surgery. This can aid in calming your furry friend.

Massage. Getting your animal massaged will keep your animals limber, energetic and bring relief especially if there is already an issue at hand.

Reiki. A form of energy work done in person or from a distance can help heal the animal emotionally, mentally, physically and spiritually. Reiki has been an amazing part of my healing journey personally and professionally with hundreds of animals.

Food. Raw food, high-quality canned or dry food, grain-free, etc., can also assist your animals in healing and reducing ear infections, UTIs, yeast, diabetes and other illnesses or diseases. I've personally witnessed miraculous transformations with changing of the diet alone. Contact your local pet food store for holistic options.

Cold Laser Therapy. This is done by certified professionals to accelerate healing safely and effectively.

Pain Medicine. Whether it is holistic, natural, Chinese herbs and/or western meds...it is VERY important to help maintain your animal's pain in old age, as well as his diseases or illnesses. One of the main complaints from animals is their pain level. Remember, it is an animal's instinct and nature to hide or disguise his pain. If they were in the wild, they may be killed or forced out of their pack so they tend to hide their discomfort until it becomes so unbearable they begin to show signs like not eating, limping, excessive licking or sudden behavioral changes like aggressiveness, not sleeping well, pacing and digging at the carpet. Please talk to your vet about pain medicine and/or natural remedies from holistic pet food stores.

Sleep. This is important to people for recharging and healing their bodies and is the same for animals. It is challenging for animals to heal and recharge if they're in pain. A lot of animals have shared in animal communication sessions that they would like some pain management around breakfast, dinner and most importantly, bedtime. Our animal friends will sleep better and so will their humans.

There are many avenues you can explore to help heal your animals emotionally and physically. You may need to use several different healing modalities continually until the pain begins to diminish or is at least under control.

Talk to your vet about some of these options and if your vet doesn't know about these, then do your own research. Go in chat rooms, Facebook groups, and on other websites to find the right answers for your animals. The Internet is awesome for finding out information.



BY STACY KRAFCZYK, ANIMAL COMMUNICATOR

A DOG'S LIFE

Camps/Classes/Seminars

Friends of HAWS Monthly Meeting
2nd Wed. each month: 7-8pm
Waukesha, hawspets.org, 262-542-8851

Kids 'N Critters Winter Day Camp HAWS
Dec. 26-29
Waukesha, hawspets.org, 262-542-8851

Pet Loss Support Seminar
Jan. 3: 7-8pm
Wisconsin Humane Society
Milwaukee Campus
Wihumane.org, 414-264-6257

Fundraisers/Gatherings

Saving Sadie
Dec. 2: 2-4pm
Mayfair Mall, Barnes & Noble

Holiday Photo Fun
Dec. 9: 10am to 3pm
Bentley's Pet Stuff, Brookfield
Caninecupids.org

Photos With Santa WHS
Dec. 10: 1-4pm
Ozaukee Campus, Wihumane.org
262-377-7580

Holiday Fun In Packerland
Dec. 10: 11:30am to 6pm
O'Brien's Pub, Milwaukee
Caninecupids.org

Breakfast With Santa
Dec. 10: 9am to 3pm
Root River Center, Franklin
Woofgangrescue.org

Jingle Paws Frolic Shelter From The Storm
Dec. 10: 11am to 3pm
SpayMe Clinic, Madison
Sftsrescue.org, 608-284-7447

Mutts & Martinis for Humane Society Of Southern Wisconsin
Dec. 14: 6pm
Beloit Club, Beloit
Petsgohome.org, 608-752-5622

Free S.P.I.R.I.T. Riders Holiday Event
Dec. 17: 2-6pm
W3950 State Rd 23, Fond Du Lac

Trivia Night
Jan. 13: 6-9pm
Humane Society of Jefferson County
Jefferson, Hsjc-wis.com, 920-674-2048

HAWS Jan-boree Party!
Jan. 20
Waukesha, hawspets.org, 262-542-8851

Wag & Bowl 9 Pin Tournament
Jan. 28: 11:30am to 5pm

Castle Lanes, Racine
Woofgangrescue.org

Spayghetti Dinner For Safe Harbor HS
Jan. 29: 11am to 6pm
Moose Club Lodge, Kenosha
Safeharborhumanesociety.org
262-694-4047

Great Lakes Pet Expo
Feb. 3: 10am to 5pm
State Fair Park, Milwaukee
petexpomilwaukee.com

Spay-ghetti Dinner
Feb. 23: Time TBA
Waukesha, hawspets.org, 262-542-8851

BCBC 10th Anniversary Ball
Feb. 24: 6-11pm
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee West

There's No Place Like Home EBHS
Mar. 10: 5pm
Milwaukee Marriot West, Waukesha
Registration Deadline: Feb. 28
Ebhs.org

Adoption Events

Shelter from the Storm
Every Saturday, 10am-2pm
PetSmart Madison East
Sftsrescue.org, 608-284-7447

Greyhound Meet 'n' Greet
4th Saturday of each month 1-3pm
HAWS, hawspet.org, 262-542-8851

Woofgang Rescue
Dec. 10: 11am to 1pm
Pet World Warehouse Outlet,
Menomonee Falls, Woofgangrescue.org
See website for more adoption events.

Services 4 Dogs

Animal Control
MADACC 414-649-8640, madacc.org

BRATS (rescue animal transportation)
BRATStranport.org, BRATStranport@
gmail.com, 414-322-1085

Community Support
Friends of MADACC
friends@madacc.org, madaccfriends.org

Department of Neighborhood Services
414-286-2268 (report abuse)
or call local police department

Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinics
Baraboo, 608-356-2520, Sauk Humane
Kenosha, 262-694-4047, Safe Harbor
Milwaukee, 414-649-8640, MADACC
Madison, 608-224-1400, Spay Me Clinic

Lost Dogs of Wisconsin
(assists you with finding your lost dog)
lostdogsofwisconsin.org

Lost and Stolen Pet Recovery Assistance
(assists you with free/low-cost microchips)
lspra.org, info@lspra.org

Milwaukee Animal Alliance
(local advocacy group for shelter animals)
milwaukeeanimalalliance.org

Pet Parties/Play Groups

Pooch Playtime
Dec. 10: 1:30 to 2:15pm
Wisconsin Humane Society
Milwaukee Campus, Wihumane.org
414-264-6257

Puppy & Small Dog Party
Saturdays 11:30am-12:30pm
For Pet's Sake, Mukwonago
800-581-9070, forpetssake.cc

Puppy Social
Sundays: 5:15-5:45pm, Hartland
Half-pint Social
1st & 3rd Fridays: 6:30-7:30pm,
Pewaukee 262-369-3935
Best Paw Forward, bestpawforward.net

Puppy Parties (HAWS)
Sundays: 4:45-5:15pm
HAWS, 262-542-8851, hawspets.org

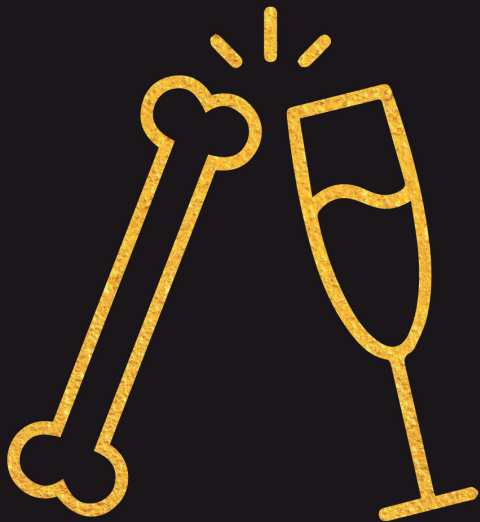
Playgroups At Tabby & Jacks
Small Dogs Saturdays 9am
Mixed Size Dogs Saturdays 10am
Fitchburg 608-277-5900
Middleton locations 608-841-1133
Tabbyandjacks.com

Puppy Playgroups
Saturdays 10-11am
Puppy Den, Madisonpuppyden.com
608-665-3375



IN THE PAWLIGHT: **"Pitunia"**
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TO THE RESCUE

ALL BREEDS

Bichons & Little Buddies Rescue
414-750-0152, bichonrescues.com,
bichonandlittlebuddies@gmail.com,

Canine Cupids
caninecupids.org, caninecupids@live.com

Fetch Wisconsin Rescue
fetchwi.org, fetchwirecue@gmail.com

H.O.P.E. Safehouse
262-634-4571, hopesafehouse.org
hopesafehouse@gmail.com

Hoping Fur a Home
hopingfurahome.com

JR's Pups-N-Stuff Dog Rescue
414-640-8473, jrpsnstuff.org,
jrpsnstuff@yahoo.com

Milwaukee Pets Alive
milwaukeekeepsalive.org,
adopt@milwaukeekeepsalive.org

Paddy's Paws
920-723-5389, paddyspaws.blogspot.com

Patches Animal Rescue
920-344-6637, patchesanimalrescue.org,
patchesanimalrescue@yahoo.com

Remember Me Ranch
remembermeranch.org,
remembermeranch@gmail.com

Rescue Gang
rescuegang.org, info@rescuegang.org

Tailwaggers 911 Dog Rescue
262-617-8052, tailwaggers911.com,
rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com

Underdog Pet Rescue of Wisconsin
608-224-0018, underdogpetrescue.org,
info@underdogpetrescue.org

Woof Gang Rescue of Wisconsin
woofgangrescue.com,
Woofgangrescue@gmail.com

Yellow Brick Road Rescue & Sanctuary
414-758-6626, yellowbrickroadrescue.com,
loveqmoment@wi.rr.com

BASSET HOUND
Basset Buddies Rescue, Inc.
262-347-8823, bbrescue.org
info@bbrescue.org

BORDER COLLIE
Wisconsin Border Collie Rescue
WIBorderCollieRescue.org

BOSTON TERRIER
WI Boston Terrier Rescue
414-534-2996, wisconsinbostonterrierrescue.com,
Ollie1022@sbcglobal.net

BOXER
Green Acres Boxer Rescue of WI
greenacresboxerrescue.com,
info@greenacresboxerrescue.com

CATS
Happy Endings No Kill Cat Shelter
414-744-3287, HappyEndings.us
info@HappyEndings.us

Little Orphan's Animal Rescue
608-556-6130, littleorphansanimalrescue.org
cdcpumpkin@yahoo.com

CHESAPEAKE BAY RETRIEVER
Chessie Rescue of Wisconsin
920-954-0796, crrrow.org

CHIHUAHUA
Wisconsin Chihuahua Rescue, Inc.
608-219-4044, wischirescue.org
chigirl1983@gmail.com

COCKER SPANIEL
Wisconsin Cocker Rescue
wicockerrescue.com
262-271-6014

Shorewood Cocker Rescue
262-877-3294, cockerrescue.net,
elaine@cockerrescue

COONHOUND
Coonhound & Foxhound Companions
coonhoundcompanions.com

DACHSHUND
Oolong Dachshund Rescue
oolongdachshundrescue.org,
sarahdermody@oolongdachshundrescue.org

DALMATIAN
Dal-Savers Dalmatian Rescue Inc.
414-297-9210, dalrescue.us,
loveadal@yahoo.com

GERMAN SHEPHERD
German Shepherd Rescue Alliance of WI
414-461-9720, gsraw.com, yur_rltr@execpc.com or
gsdrsq@hotmail.com

Good Shepherd K-9 Rescue
608-868-2050, gsk9r.org,
pawmeadows@hughes.net

ARF's German Shepherd Rescue Inc.
arfrescue.com, gsd@arfrescue.com

White Paws German Shepherd Rescue
920-606-2597, whitepawsgsr.com,
calspence@aol.com

Wisconsin German Shepherd Rescue
920-731-1690, CFilz@aol.com

Mit Liebe German Shepherd Rescue
920-639-4274, mlgsdr.com
ccgsds@aol.com

GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER
Wisconsin German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue Inc.
920-522-3131, wgspr.com, wgspr.petfinder.com,
wgsprinfo@gmail.com

GOLDEN RETRIEVER
Golden Rule Rescue & Rehabilitation (GRRR)
608-490-GRRR (4777), goldenrulerescue.org,
info@goldenrulerescue.org

GRRoW
888-655-4753, GRRoW.org,
president@grrrow.org

WAAGR
414-517-7725, waagr.org, president@waagr.org

GREAT DANE
Great Dane Rescue of Minnesota & Wisconsin
gdromn.org, gdromn@gmail.com

GREAT PYRENEES
Great Pyrenees Rescue of Wisconsin, Inc.
920-293-8885, greatpyrescuewi.com,
wooflodge@yahoo.com

GREYHOUND
Greyhound Pets of America-Wisconsin
gpawisconsin.org
Webmaster@gpawisconsin.org

LABRADOR
Labrador Education and Rescue Network
847-289-PETS (7387), labadoption.org,
learn dogs@labadoption.org

Labs N More
414-571-0777, LabsNMoreRescue.petfinder.com,
LabsnMoreRescue@yahoo.com

MALTESE
Northcentral Maltese Rescue Inc.
262-800-3323, malteserescue.homestead.com, malte-
serescue@hotmail.com

PIT BULL TERRIER
Helping Pitties in the City (Remember Me Ranch)
remembermeranch.org/pittiesinthecity,
pittiesinthecitymke@gmail.com

Brew City Bully Club
Adopt@brewcitybullies.org

PUG
Pug Hugs, Inc.
414-764-0795, milwaukeepugfest.com,
milwaukeepugfest@yahoo.com

SHIBA INU
Midwest Shiba Inu Rescue
630-225-5046, shibarescue.org

SHIH TZU
New Beginnings Shih Tzu Rescue
nbstr.org, nbstr2.board@yahoo.com

Shih Tzu Rescue of Central Wisconsin
shihtzurescueofcentralwi.org

VIZSLA
Central Wisconsin Vizsla Rescue Club (CWVC)
608-279-4141, WiVizslaRescue@gmail.com

WESTIE
Wisconsin Westie Rescue, Inc.
920-882-0382, wisconsinwestierescue.com,
westies@new.rr.com



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MARCUS

This handsome boy is a Korean Jindo Mix who was saved from a Korean dog meat farm. Marcus is incredibly intelligent, loves the outdoors and because of this, he will need a home with a fenced-in yard. He enjoys his daily walks and all the volunteers and staff who have become his friends. He is an awesome dog in search of an awesome home!



QUINN

Quinn is an awesome young man! He is active and as such he is seeking a family that loves to get out and about. He loves being around and meeting new people—he can never have enough human friends! One thing that is an absolute requirement for Quinn are lots of tennis balls because he enjoys them more than most anything else in life.



MAMA KITTY

Laid back, sweet, affectionate are perfect words to describe Mama Kitty. This love bug enjoys cuddling up in a comfy, warm blanket and is content taking in her surroundings. She is extra content if her surroundings include a window to lounge in while taking in the happenings of the great outdoors.

HAWS

hawspets.org



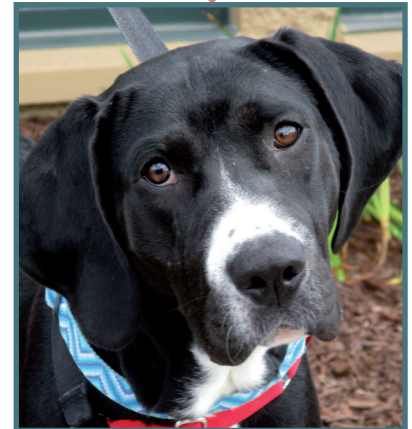
GLADYS

Gladys will win your heart over with her mellow, sweet personality and her gentle nature. She would love to go on walks with you or just hang outside and relax! She is a quieter girl who loves scratches behind her ears. This 9-years-young Blue Tick Coonhound is fine with other dogs but probably not with cats and will do best in a home with children 13 years and older.



PRIMROSE

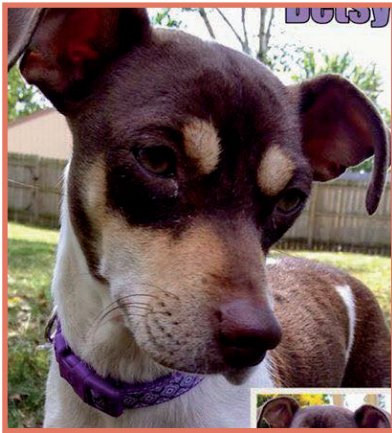
Primrose is a sweet, energetic 3-year-old Pittie who keeps her foster family smiling and laughing! She is good on walks and will only really pull hard if she sees a squirrel! She loves car rides, is crate trained and knows “sit” and “shake.” Primrose would do best as the only pet but is fine with older teens and adult humans.



ROSIE

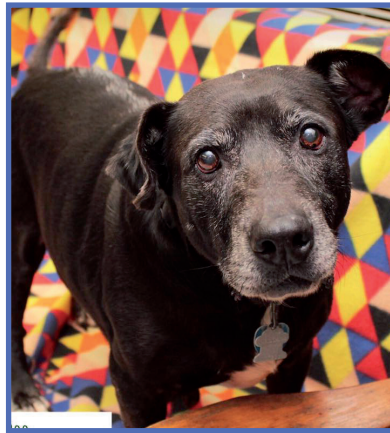
Rosie is an amazing young girl who is both gorgeous and great on the agility course! This 2-year-old Lab Mix loves to explore and makes a wonderful walking companion. Currently in foster care, she loves to learn and especially loves the reward for her efforts. Rosie will do best in a home with older teens and adults.

***If You Adopt Your Next Dog From Our Guide, Please Tell Us. We Want To Feature You & Your New Friend!**



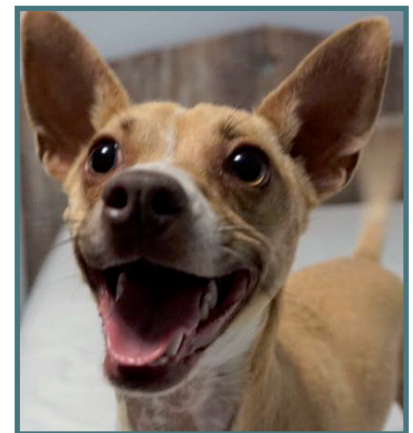
BETSY

Hi there, my name is Betsy. I am a spayed 2-year-old Jack Russell Terrier Mix and about 15 pounds. I'm a little shy around people, but if you are patient with me, I will let my true colors shine. I do well with kids and other dogs. I'm a silly, goofy girl that loves to run and play with my four-legged foster siblings.



BOO

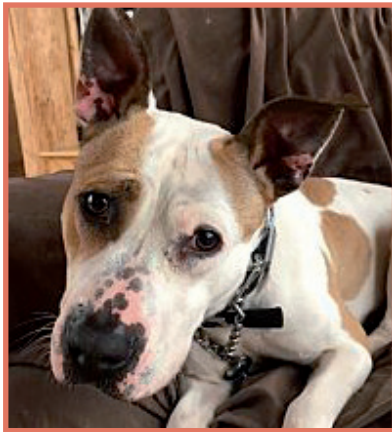
Boo is a senior, 10-plus years old Lab Mix with some short stumpy legs and a sausage-like body. Boo is just looking for a loving home to retire in for his golden years however much time that might be. Boo needs a home without younger kids and/or dogs that are calmer. Can someone open please open their hearts to this amazing guy? His adoption fee is only \$100.



SAMMY

Sammy is a 1-year-old neutered Chihuahua Mix and weighs in at about 12 lbs. He is great with dogs and cats. You know those people who have one or two best friends? It's not like they don't like other people; they just really like their best friend. Same with Sammy. He really likes his one person. He wants someone with whom he can snuggle under the blankets, play fetch and go on long walks.

HOPING FUR A HOME Hopingfurahome.com



RYELEE

Hello, my name is Ryelee! I am about 1 year old and very active! My foster mom says I'm super-smart. Are you an active family always on the go? Then I'm your girl! I love to play ball and run. I even share them nicely with my foster sisters. And we go for long walks and play with my other doggie friends.



TWIGGY

Thanks to a generous grant from Maddie's Fund, Twiggy's adoption fee is WAIVED! Twiggy is a fun-loving, 3-year-old sweetheart of a dog. This girl wants nothing more in life than to please her people. She is very motivated to please and LOVES training. Twiggy needs to be an only dog.



LAKELAND ANIMAL SHELTER

lakelandanimalshelter.org



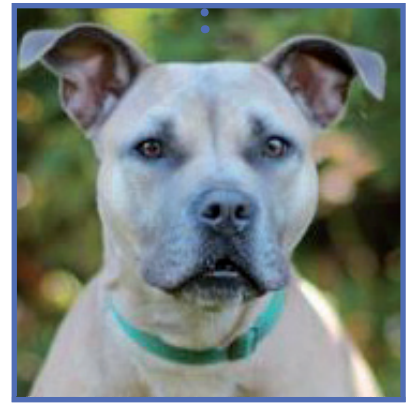
JAYJAY

Jay Jay is a very handsome Boxer Beagle Mix who is on the smaller side. He is enrolled in our obedience/socialization class and doing well! He loves to work for treats and go on nice long walks! He can be picky about his canine friends so advanced meetings are a must, but he is a sweet people-pleaser and would love nothing more than a family of his very own!



MOE

Moe is an adorable 5-year-old Jack Russell Mix who is very energetic and spunky! He knows many commands but is looking for a calm, experienced family who can help him develop to his full potential by offering exercise outlets, rules, patience, and love!



WREN

Wren is a beautiful 3-year-old Pit Mix who has been waiting for her experienced, active family to give her the chance that she needs! She has somewhat of a rough exterior and tends to be very defensive when she meets new people! She can get along with dogs if she is introduced at a slow pace, and she tends to prefer male dogs. She would do better in a slow traffic household and without children but with an active environment and many toys!

MADACC

madacc.com



RICHIE

Richie is a 2-year-old boy who is doing great in foster care. He loves to cuddle and be with you. He's playful, loyal and housebroken. He likes ice cubes and carrots and lives for treats, head scratches and belly rubs. He's good with new people and is kennel trained. He's a great dog for someone who would love a constant companion.



STACEY

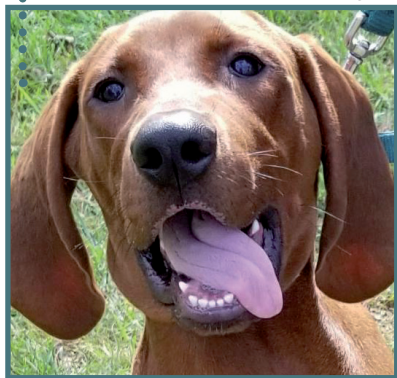
Stacey is a laid back, 3-year-old sweet girl who is looking for a loving home! This wiggly girl is known for always carrying around a stuffed toy. She loves the MADACC volunteers, and they love her. Stacey has a great personality and loves to roll on her back to get tummy rubs!



SUNNY

Sunny is an 8-year-old Shepherd Mix. She loves to go for walks and be outdoors. Sunny loves peanut butter-filled Kongs and is a calm girl that would love a nice bed to lay on and a family to love. If you have a yard for her to lay in the sun and lots of love for an older girl, meet Sunny today!

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BOWSER

A young, active guy, Bowser is looking for an active, dog-experienced family that will be committed to his training and have a fenced-in yard. He enjoys long walks, lots of sniffing and might be a great hiking buddy. He also loves to play fetch! He does play rough with other dogs, and he would do best in a home with older children and without cats!



MILO

Milo was surrendered to the shelter, and he is looking for his forever home. He is a snuggle bug and loves walks, but his favorite activity is to fetch tennis balls! He returns to you with the ball, will respond well to "sit/drop," will trade the ball for treats and allows you to take the ball from him. A possible lap dog, he loves back massages. He is very playful with most other dogs but should not live with cats. He should be ok with children and an experienced owner.

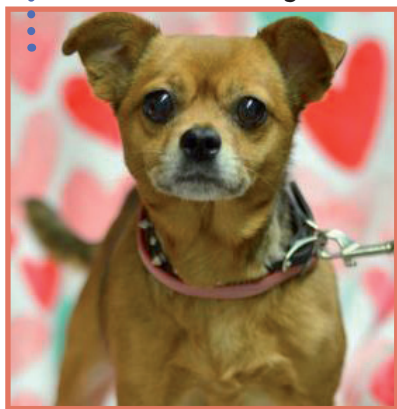


SKY

Once a stray and then surrendered to the shelter, Sky hopes to find an active family that is ready for an active dog. She loves walks and all kinds of new smells on the way. She requires older children in her home who can give her space. She is dominant with other dogs and does not want cats in her home. A great hiking pal, she would also love a fenced-in yard to run and play.

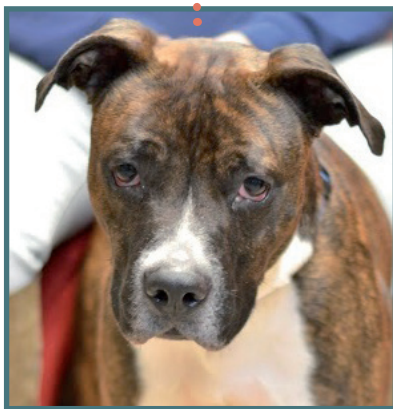
SHELTER FROM THE STORM

sftsrescue.org



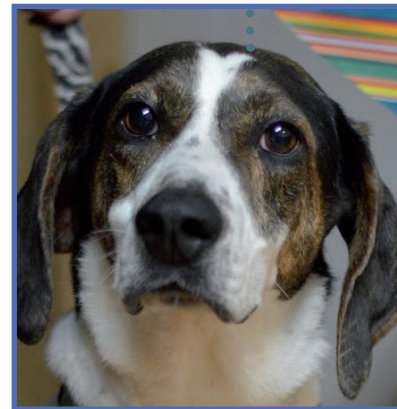
CARLOTTA

Carlotta is a 4-year-old Chihuahua mix who has been looking for a home since last March. She is very social and says hi to everyone she meets! She's very adventurous and energetic and loves to explore her surroundings. Carlotta wants a home without other dogs or small children. An ideal person for her is someone who will take the time to play with her every day.



CHIEF

Chief is a 5-year-old Pit Bull who previously lived with another dog. He is a beautiful guy who has charmed the staff with his good looks. Chief would love to have a forever family that has another dog to keep him company. He keeps his kennel at the shelter clean, and we suspect that he is house-trained



OSCAR

Oscar is a 2-year-old Pointer Mix who is just about as sweet as they come. He would make an awesome family dog as he adores receiving attention and belly rubs from people of all ages. He has a moderate to high energy requirement and loves going for daily walks and or runs. Oscar likes other dogs but cannot go to a home with cats.

SHEBOYGAN CO. HUMANE SOCIETY

myschs.com



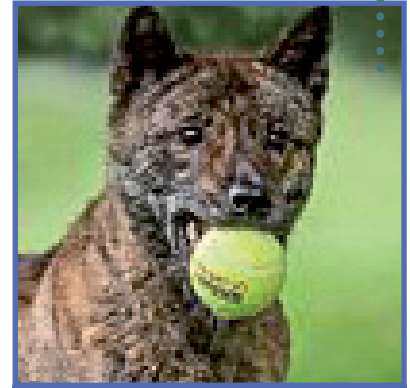
GINGER

Those eyes, that red coat...Ginger is quite the regal cat! She is declawed and ready for her own home, but adults only please and no other pets for this 8-year-old little lady. Her personality makes her a true companion. She will dine with you, roll around on the floor, work at your computer alongside you, and more. She is a spunky and attention-loving gal in addition to being a beauty queen.



RICCO

Ricco is a fun-loving Pit Bull Mix who loves to be by your side and getting your attention by a simple rub on the head or scratch on the back. He knows some basic commands and is eager to please. Ricco enjoys having doggie friends but is selective on who those friend are. Ricco loves going for car ride and taking a walk. He may pull a little at first but will quickly stop with direction. This boy loves to play!

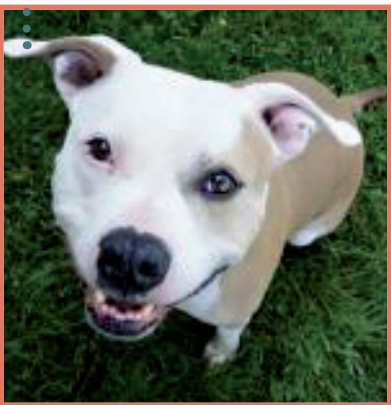


SUMMER

Summer was rescued from a dog meat farm in rural Yesan, South Korea. She is a 35-lb Jindo Mix. She starts off as shy and nervous, but with some time and training her real personality comes through as she prances around your feet the more she grows to know you. After a short time, she will even give you plenty of kisses. Since coming to the shelter Summer has discovered toys—especially squeaky ones! Fetch is fast becoming a favorite. She will need time to adjust to new people and activities.

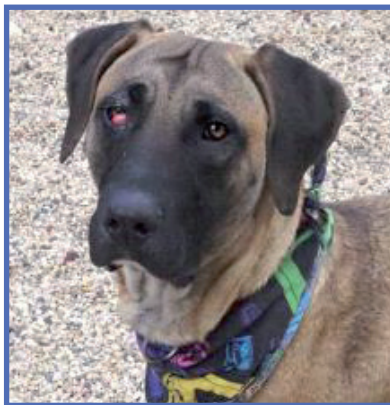
Washington Co. Humane Society

washingtoncountyhumane.org



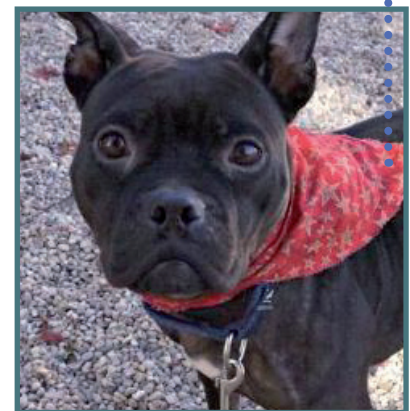
CHEWIE

He would be good in a home with a female dog but no cats for this boy. He gets real excited—so no small children for him. He is such a sweet boy, very tolerant—please come in to see Chewie. He is a real love bug and a favorite of all of staff and volunteers.



LANA

I'm Lana, and I am a gentle soul. I would be good with another large dog in my home because I am very tolerant and enjoy playing. I have a high prey drive so my new home cannot have any small dogs or felines though. Any children in my new home must be 10 years or older.

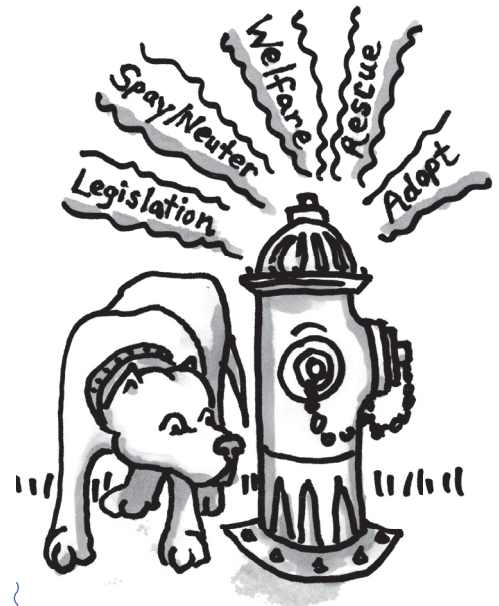
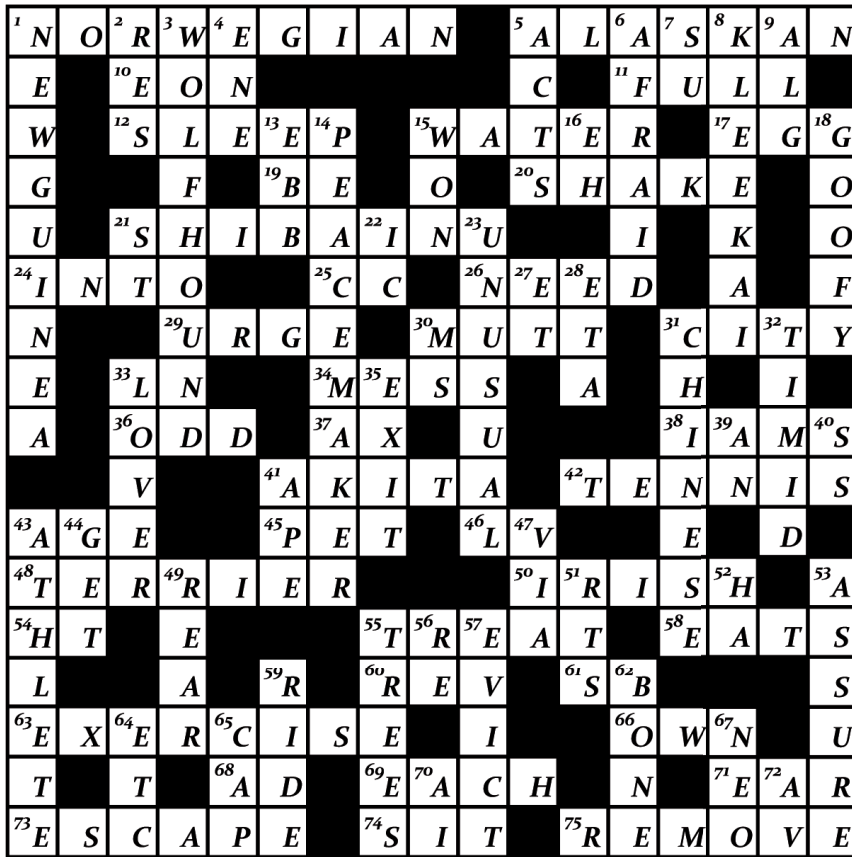


SELMA

I would be good with a dog buddy in my new home as long as they are not the pushy type that gets into your face. I met a cat here at the shelter, and I was a tad bit afraid of her. I would be good with children who are 12 years or older and are calm and gentle. I am shy and need some time to adjust to new environments and people.

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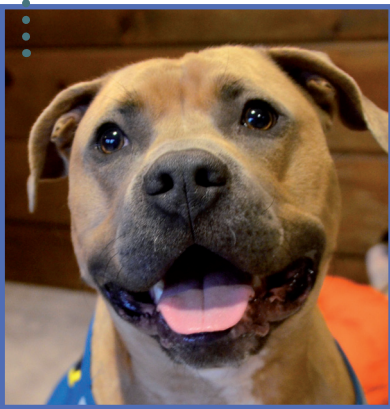
FALL'S ANSWERS



The Hydrant is a page where you can voice your concerns about any dog-related topic. It's your voice for an important cause. So consider sharing your story with us. We would love to hear it!

BCBC

brewcitybullies.org



CASANOVA

Casanova here! I am just over a year old and am a happy, fun loving pup! I enjoy the simple things in life—running, playing fetch, eating more food than I should and playing again! I LOVE kids, and I am working on my manners with other dogs and would do best in a home with no other animals. But don't worry I'm perfectly happy that way! I love everyone I meet and would make a great addition to any family!



HARLEY

I'm Harley! I enjoy spending time with my people outside, or inside, or anywhere, really! I love most things—people, playing, cheese treats and snuggling! I had a very abrupt change in my life that has left me confused so I can be a bit shy at times. Once we make a connection, beware, I've been known to steal hearts with my big beautiful smile, zest for life and happy go lucky nature!

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