

Lucky dog magazine

Lucky Cat
rescue in Every Issue!
adopt love forever

tikki:
one lucky mutt

Loews Loves Pets

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enthusiasm

noah's animal house:
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editor's letter



Happy Howlidays! Welcome to our 12th edition of Lucky Dog Magazine! It's been absolutely amazing to see how fast we've grown in just two short years. We're very fortunate to have such wonderful advertisers that make this magazine possible and of course our loyal readers. To all of you: Thank you for all the support and dedication.

Looking for something fabulous for your pooch or the dog lover in your life? Look no further because this issue is packed with fun gift ideas in our annual Howliday Gift Guide section. Also, don't forget the gift certificates! They are always great to give to family and friends and are available for dog training, boarding, grooming, daycare, self-service dog washes, pet-sitting, bakeries and boutiques. Be sure to visit our website to order an official "One Lucky Dog" tee for your pooch this holiday too!

Don't forget the family portraits! Lucky Dog Magazine and C. Renee Photography have teamed up to offer Special Holiday Portrait Packages inside our new offices located at 241 W. Charleston, Suite 135 (Inside the Holsum Lofts). Visit our website for details: www.luckydogmag.com.

Want to get someone a pet for Christmas? Visit your local animal shelter or sanctuary instead and purchase a gift certificate so your loved one can adopt an animal that's right for him or her. Don't miss the article on page 12 about puppy stores and why you should never buy a puppy as a Christmas present.

Speaking of adoption, be sure to come out to the Petco True Love Adoption Day on Saturday, November 10th from 10am to 4pm at the Petco store in North Scottsdale. Lucky Dog Magazine will be out there along with numerous animal rescue organizations. Don't miss the fun and maybe you'll find your newest true love!

We wish you and your four-legged friends a happy, healthy and fulfilled Holiday Season!

Woofs & Wags!

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on the cover: Tikki
Photo by Debbie Trevizo

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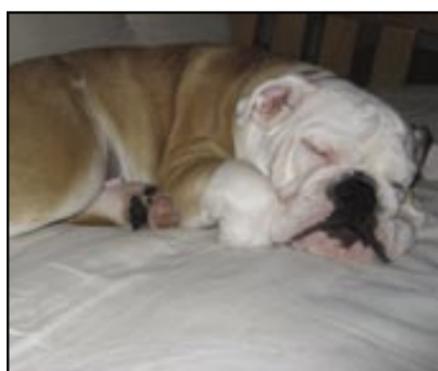
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True Love Adoption Day to Find Homes For Hundreds of Pets Event at PETCO to Raise Awareness for Local Groups

PHOENIX (Nov. 1, 2007) – Hundreds of adoptable pets will be looking for lifelong homes during the True Love Adoption Day to be held at the North Scottsdale PETCO, located at 7000 Mayo Blvd, on Saturday, Nov. 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event, sponsored by PETCO, will feature 38 local animal rescue organizations with pets available for adoption.

“With our True Love adoption event we are trying to assist orphaned animals, find them lifelong homes, support the heroic animal welfare organizations that make it their mission to save their lives and have a great time with our customers and their pets,” said PETCO Local Marketing Coordinator Janelle Watts. “We encourage customers to consider adoption before the purchase of any companion animal – even if it’s one of the birds, reptiles or small animals currently offered at PETCO.”

All types of animals will be featured at the event and all adopting pet parents will receive a free Adoption Gift Booklet with up to \$160 in savings on pet supplies.

More than 150 pet-loving volunteers will help make this event a success with additional support from the local Chipotle Mexican Grill.

To locate the North Scottsdale PETCO, visit www.petco.com.

To get the latest news on anything and everything PETCO – from updates about the company to incredible acts of animal kindness, visit the company’s blog at www.petconews.com.

PETCO is a privately held specialty retailer that provides products, services and advice that make it easier for our customers to be great pet parents. We operate more than 850 stores in 49 states and the District of Columbia, as well as a leading pet products and information destination at www.petco.com. Our nonprofit organization, The PETCO Foundation, has raised more than \$36 million since its inception in 1999 to help promote and improve the welfare of companion animals. In conjunction with the foundation, we work with and support more than 4,600 local animal welfare groups across the country to help find homes for more than 200,000 adoptable animals every year. 🐾

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At PETCO, We Think Adoption First.

Tikki - A Best Friends Mission

By Michelle Danks-Costello

Cute face. Soft hair. Big kisser. No, this is not a classified for a single guy, but the words that come to mind when you meet Tikki, a mutt who was recently adopted by my brother-in-law Tim. I guess you could say the same about Tim if you met him, though I personally can't attest to the latter part of the description.

There is something about a single guy and his dog that can't be explained. There seems to be a mutual bond that is consistent with every guy I've met or interviewed who has a canine best friend. The bond tends to be even stronger when the canine is a male too.

Tim has bonded with dogs before and most recently he and his 17-year-old daughter, Caitlin and his 20-year-old son Jordan, lost Heidi, their 13-year-old Heeler mix back in August. Heidi was an awesome dog, smart as can be and so loving. It was hard on the entire family when she passed away. Tim was heartbroken. He and Heidi were pretty much inseparable.

It was less than a month later when my sister-in-law Amy, who happens to work at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah, called Tim and told him about this great dog named Tikki that was coming down to Vegas for an adoption event. Tim and the kids weren't really looking to get a new dog since Heidi had just passed away, but decided to go to the adoption event where he ended up adopting Tikki. Everyone has adjusted pretty well to their new life with Tikki and he has stolen all of their hearts the way Heidi did when she came into their lives those many years ago.

Tikki's life of love with The Costello Family is a far cry from his harsh beginnings. Tikki was rescued through the Best Friends Gap program, a three-year partnership with the Fredonia Humane Society, to provide free spay/neuter services to residents of The Gap, an impoverished area within the Navajo Reservation in northern Arizona. Each month, Best Friends staff volunteer to help FHS president Tom Corrigan pick up family pets to take back to the sanctuary where medical staff will perform the spay/neuter operations. For the past two and a half years, Tom Corrigan has taken it upon himself to help the people and animals living in The Gap. Once a month, he and volunteers make the four-hour roundtrip trip from the FHS - which is located about 20 miles south of Best Friends - to pick up family dogs and cats to be spayed and neutered. They also stop to pick up stray and abandoned animals in Coconino County. Tom returns the companion animals to their humans the following week; the strays stay at FHS until they find forever homes.

Tom never shows up to The Gap empty-handed. He brings food and supplies for residents and their pets, and offers medical assistance when he can. It's an ongoing project and sometimes, he says, it really does feel like the work is never done. But now, he's got a little help.

During each trip out to The Gap, Tom and the Best Friends staff who are volunteering their time visit a dump area outside of the reservation boundaries. This is a fairly common animal dump site as well. Tom and the gang leave food and water for the animals around there and do a search of the giant pile of tires, appliances that have been dumped and in and around the dumpsters.

"You never know how many you're going to find out there," Tom says. "But it's rare we leave this site without at least one animal in tow." One day in July - Elissa Jones, Guardian Angel Program Manager with Best Friends, and a small crew from National Geographic made a trip down to the Gap. (National Geographic was following stories at Best Friends Dogtown - filming pilot episodes for a possible program - the pilot episodes will air on the National Geographic Channel early next year at a schedule that has not been set.)

"We had just pulled a little black puppy, kicking and screaming out of the pile of tires and then trapped a gray cat that streaked out from under the appliances," said Elissa. "I was looking under an abandoned couch and found what I thought was another cat - I could only see a little spotted back and the animal was lying very still. One of the Best Friends volunteers gingerly lifted the couch and another pulled out - not a cat - but another puppy - that would later be named Tikki."

Unlike the other puppy, Tikki was very quiet and still. He was dehydrated and very frightened. The temperatures were well over 100 degrees with very little shade and no food or water. Best Friends had room in their puppy department and Tom of Fredonia Human Society asked if Best Friends would be able to take the two puppies - they did.

Once back at the sanctuary, they were named Tikki and Hemi by the puppy caregiver. National Geographic followed their story and their rescue which may be seen in the pilot program early next year.

Tikki turned out to be covered in about a hundred ticks and his skin was itchy and raw. He was given plenty of medical care and TLC from the head puppy caregiver, Analia, who made Tikki her special project; helping him to get used to life and people in general. Once he was feeling better, a bold personality emerged and he turned into the Tikki that Tim and his kids know now.

Looking at Tikki now, it's hard to imagine this sweetie pie was once a frightened little puppy living in a dumpster in the hot desert, but thanks to Best Friends and Tom Corrigan of the Fredonia Humane Society he's living a great life now.

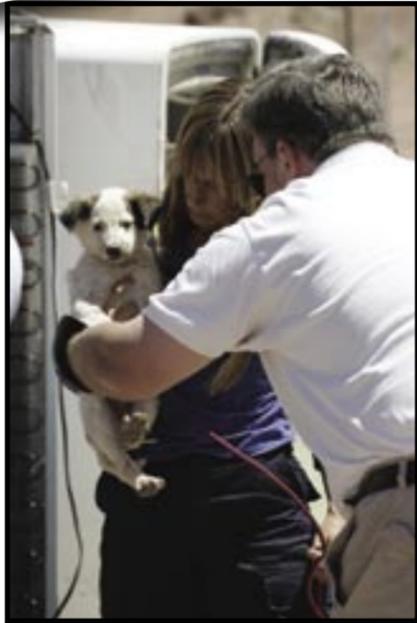
Some Fun Facts about Tikki and his new life with The Costello's:

Tikki is pretty clumsy, very cuddly, likes to burry his nose under the cushions and blankets, loves to CHEW on just about anything, loves to eat and nap (don't we all!), loves to play fetch and loves to sleep in his special dog bed.

Best Friends Animal Society is funded entirely by donations. To contribute to the good work; visit www.bestfriends.org or call (345)-644-2001. 🐾



Tim, his daughter Caitlin, and Tikki. Photo by Debbie Trevizo



Best Friends staff member Sherry Woodard (holding Tikki) and Fredonia Humane Society president Tom Corrigan. Photo by Clay Myers



Settling into life at Best Friends a few weeks after his rescue. Photo by Molly Wald



Welcome Home

The First of Its Kind in the Western United States, Noah's Animal House Opens Its Doors With Tails Wagging

By Heather Turk
Photos by Debbie Trevizo

People always say that there's nothing more important in life than family, and Shade Tree, the Southern Nevada shelter for homeless and abused woman and children, knows that families come in all shapes, sizes...and species.

After almost two years of planning, Shade Tree's latest addition--Noah's Animal House--has finally opened its doggy doors. Named after Shade Tree trustee (and vice president of marketing and advertising for Station Casinos) Staci Columbo's son, Noah's Animal House gives Shade Tree residents a safe and secure place to house their four-legged family members.



Staci + Noah Columbo at the dedication of Noah's Animal House.

"I would see [Shade Tree residents] leaving their pets in the car, leashing them to trees outside...all these situations that made me realize that I'm not the only one who treats their pets like family," Columbo, founder of Noah's Animal House, told *Lucky Dog*. "They just wouldn't leave their pets behind."

"It would break our hearts," added Brenda Dizon, executive

director of Shade Tree. "I remember one summer I looked outside and saw this black-and-white puppy tied to a tree. It was hot, so I paged for the owner of the dog to come forward, and this senior lady who was just scared to death she was going to get in trouble admitted it was her dog. This dog was all she had, and she had no one to take care of it. We eventually had to call animal control, and she was bawling, we were bawling... people just have such an emotional bond with their pets."

That bond, both Columbo and Dizon knew, was costing Shade Tree several residents over the years; women who wouldn't leave their furry family members behind to get help. And even though Shade Tree implemented a foster family program while Noah's was under construction for those beloved four-legged family members (as well as feathered, scaled and hooved family members), some women still refused to stay at the shelter for fear of leaving their pets with strangers.

"That's been the biggest challenge--knowing we lost some women and children in the period it took to build Noah's," Columbo said. "As soon as we started advertising fundraising [for Noah's], clients instantly came in with their pets. I think we fostered about 125 animals during that time frame."

"It's hard to ask these people to trust again," Dizon added. "They don't know us or the foster families."

Trust will hardly seem like an issue, though, when Shade Tree residents get a look at Noah's. The 1,480-square-foot animal sanctuary--the first of its kind in the western United States--is located adjacent to the main shelter and accommodates up to 14 dogs and 15 cats at any given time. Pets are permitted to stay so long as their owners are residing at Shade Tree, and Noah's provides boarding, food and water, as well as an outside dog run and optional veterinary care for immunizations and spaying/neutering, free of charge. Foster families remain on-call for those pets who require more living space, such as farm animals, and a guard remains on-site for security. The most important thing Noah's offers Shade Tree residents, though, is a chance for them to remain an active part of their pets' daily lives.

"We have a full-time staff as well as volunteers who work with the pets, but we want the owners to remain involved caring for the animals," Dizon said. "Yes, there is a structured visitation schedule in place, but we'll accommodate an owner's work or school schedule so that they can still be a part of their pets' lives."

"One thing we really stayed committed to [when building Noah's

Animal House] was having two cuddle rooms--or two living rooms--to give Shade Tree residents some 'home time' to take their pets out of their cages," Columbo added. "We really prioritized the need for quality time in a comfortable environment."

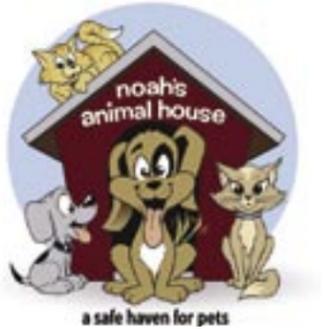
Of course, that comfortable environment extends past visitation hours. One of the more unique amenities that Noah's Animal House offers is its kitty room, which features 15 cat condos complete with natural sunlight that comes through the back side of the condos so that cats can bask in the warm Southern Nevada sun. As an added bonus, the walls or "sliders" can be removed to enlarge a cat's living quarters if Noah's kitty room isn't filled to capacity on any given day--not that Columbo expects it to remain empty.

"I think Noah's will run with an occupancy average similar to the hotels on the Strip," she stated. "It's sort of a double-edged sword, though. On one hand, if Noah's is booked that means the maximum number of people are getting help, but you'd like to think that many women and children don't need our assistance." With operational costs coming in at \$98,000 annually, Noah's Animal House has definitely been a labor of love. Completely funded by private donations, everyone from Station Casino employees to the Nevada Community Foundation has donated to the project to help make Columbo's dream

become a reality. Dizon hopes that generosity continues at community events such as Pet-a-Palooza and through the revenue earned from a line of Noah's Animal House stuffed animals Shade Tree will soon be selling. In the meantime, Columbo has posted a "wish list" of items at noahsanimalhouse.org for those in the giving spirit of the holiday season, and cash donations can be mailed to Shade Tree at P.O. Box 669, Las Vegas, NV 89125. "The stars just lined up for us," Columbo stated. "Shade Tree was given some land to work with and expand its projects, and the timing was just right. There are already five states seeking Noah's as a model."

"We're truly humbled by this accomplishment," Dizon concluded. "Noah's is finally here, and it's a reality. One more barrier has been eliminated."

Noah's Animal House is located at 1 West Owens Ave. in North Las Vegas. For more information or to find out how you can get involved, visit noahsanimalhouse.org.



THE FACTS

- At least 20% of domestic violence survivors have stayed in an abusive relationship, rather than abandon their family pets.
- Over 85% of women and children in shelters have experienced abuse to a pet.
- Local shelters do not have facilities to care for domestic animals.
- In one year, Noah's Animal House has fostered over 75 pets for the clients of Shade Tree.

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Bone ribbon cutting ceremony.

Pet Store Puppies: Buyer Beware!

by Lisa Plummer



Thinking about surprising a loved one this holiday season with a cute little puppy? Even better, while you're shopping at the mall for gifts, how convenient to find that furry bundle of joy at the local pet store!

Stop. Think again. Not only should a puppy never be given as a surprise gift, it should never be purchased from a pet store. By giving into impulse, you could be making an expensive and heartbreaking mistake with far-reaching consequences.

A pet store is a business that stays profitable through the high markup of its "inventory," its puppies. Pet stores especially cater to holiday impulse purchases made by unwitting customers looking for the perfect gift. The customer may not know anything about the breed of the dog he's buying, not having taken time to consider whether acquiring a dog is a good idea, but the pet store doesn't care. It just wants to make a sale. Smitten with an adorable puppy, the unknowing customer can end up paying a high price in more ways than one.

According to the Humane Society of the United States, the majority of pet store puppies come from puppy mills, commercial dog-breeding operations that churn out mass numbers of dogs and sell them to pet store chains or over the internet. The HSUS estimates that between 2 and 4 million puppy mill puppies are sold in the U.S. each year. There are thousands of these kennels currently in operation across the country, facilities that put monetary gain above the health and welfare of their animals.

Commonly, mills keep puppies in overcrowded cages, feed them poor quality food, rarely socialize them, and give them

minimal veterinary care. Many are ill and possess long-term behavioral and genetic problems due to inbreeding, poor nutrition, and the stress of their environment. Yet once these animals are shipped across the country, bathed, groomed, and placed in a pet store window, their cute and cuddly appearance can be deceiving.

"The percentages are higher that you're going to have dogs with problems," said Las Vegas veterinarian Dr. Scott Warner of Sun City Animal Hospital. (With pet store dogs) "you see a lot more developmental issues, probably from the bad gene pool, low quality nutrition and poor holding conditions. You see more joint problems in the larger breeds, (including) dogs that need major reconstructive surgery. Also, a lot of these dogs just don't seem right."

A pet store will typically not admit to patronizing puppy mills. If you ask where it gets its dogs, a common response is "from USDA-approved breeders." This doesn't mean the puppies come from good breeders. According to the HSUS, the US Department of Agriculture is only able to enforce minimum-care standards, such as food, water, and shelter, at the wholesale breeding facilities it inspects. There is no law to enforce compassion, socialization or affection.

Some pet stores will claim they get their dogs from local breeders. Good, reputable breeders do not sell their dogs to pet stores, but so-called "backyard breeders" will. Merely commercial breeders on a much smaller scale, backyard breeders typically do not care about the quality of their animals, nor where they end up. These profiteers are looking to make money. Often, living conditions at a backyard kennel are just as poor as in a puppy mill.

A pet store typically will also tout the fact that its pups have American Kennel Club registration papers. This does not certify that a puppy is healthy or well bred. "Papers" only state the recorded lineage of a dog, certify that it is of a certain breed, and that it came from registered parents. By its own admission, "the AKC cannot guarantee the quality or health of dogs in its registry."

Frequently, an unsuspecting consumer will purchase a sickly puppy, only to spend hundreds, even thousands of dollars in vet bills. To the heartbreak of the new owner, sometimes these puppies die. Though the pet store will supply a puppy guarantee that entitles the customer to return a sick dog within a limited amount of time, this warranty merely protects the pet store's interests. Instead of paying for medical costs incurred by the sick puppy, the store will either give a refund or a "replacement puppy," all the while counting on the fact that the customer has bonded with the dog and won't want to return it.

Returned pups often meet an uncertain fate. According to the HSUS, sick puppies that are returned to pet stores are either resold or shipped back to a puppy mill. If they survive the trip, they are either killed or kept for breeding. Either way, the sick puppy goes without veterinary attention.

At a typical mill, "breeding stock" live their lives confined to cramped cages where they are bred repeatedly for years, never knowing human companionship or the experience of being a family pet. Once they've outlived their usefulness, breeding dogs are often abandoned, auctioned off to another mill or killed. The only way to stop these cruel practices is to stop patronizing pet stores, as purchasing a pet store puppy only creates more demand.

There are many other options when thinking of bringing a new dog into your family. Think adoption first! By adopting from a local shelter or a rescue organization, not only are you saving a life, you're helping your community by reducing the homeless pet population. Shelters euthanize about 2 million dogs every year in this country because less people choose adoption over purchasing a dog, says the HSUS.

Mixed-breed dogs make wonderful pets, but if you have your heart set on a certain breed, remember that one in every four dogs in an animal shelter is purebred. If adopting from a shelter isn't an option, a breed-specific rescue organization can help match you with the perfect purebred companion. Also, make sure you do your homework first and consider which breed would fit best into your lifestyle. The decision to bring a dog into your home should come after careful consideration and research.

Though the vision of a cute little puppy in a big red bow may be a sweet holiday fantasy, the reality is that a dog is a long-term commitment, not a trivial purchase to be checked off a Christmas list. Since the holidays are often busy and hectic, it can be an unfavorable time to bring home a new pet. Instead, think of giving a special gift certificate from a local shelter or rescue, wrapped up with a new food bowl or toy. That way, after the holidays are over and the tree has been taken down, you and your family will have something to plan and look forward to - bringing home a new four-legged friend! 🐾



For more information on puppy mills, go to: <http://www.stoppuppymills.org>.

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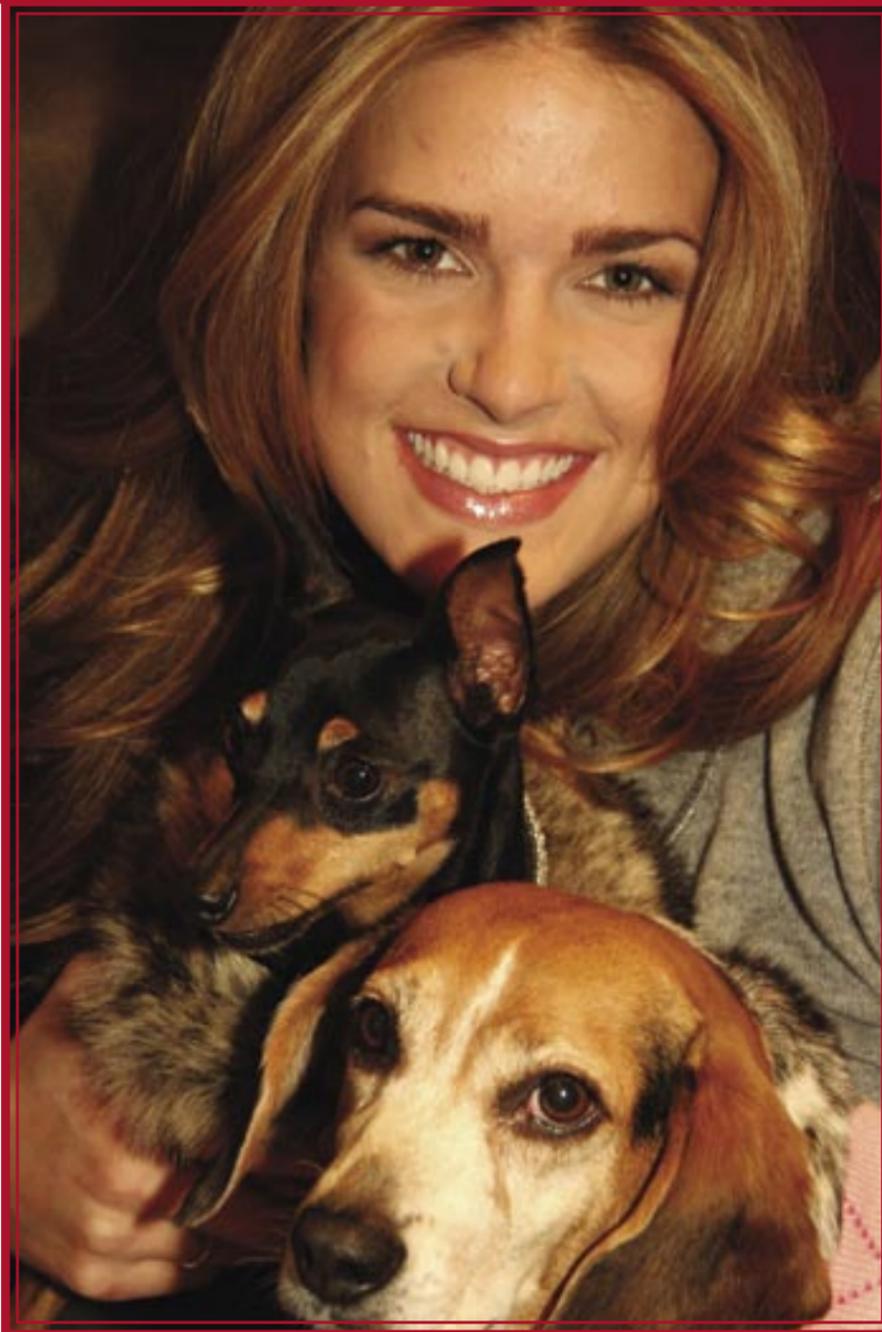
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Picture Perfect

Laine Schleibaum's Pampered Pooches Prove Beauty's Only Paw Deep



dancing in one of Las Vegas' longest running shows, Bally's "Jubilee!" Currently the general manager of MGM Grand's Tabu Ultra Lounge, Schleibaum definitely appreciates her "Nearly Famous" lifestyle, but nothing makes her feel more special than coming home to her two pooches, Tabitha and Cricket.

"Tabitha gets so excited whenever I come home--she sounds like a wounded seal," the former E! reality TV star said with a laugh. "My neighbors probably think I'm hurting her."

A self-proclaimed dog person since birth, Schleibaum got Tabitha (a Beagle) and Cricket (a Miniature Pinscher) within a couple months of each other to keep one another company while she was at work. And even though the two dogs are the best of friends (although Cricket's the boss!), Schleibaum admitted she tries to keep them around people whenever she can.

"I'm lucky because my boyfriend's home at night while I'm at work, and even though we don't live together, he takes them to his house a lot so they have a lot of affection," she said. "I don't like leaving them home alone."

Being constantly petted and played with aren't the only ways these two pooches are pampered. Schleibaum admitted that, even though they're five years old, Tabitha and Cricket are her babies--and she makes sure that's something they never forget!

"Tabitha has this Coach collar and Cricket has this bumblebee Halloween costume that I got in Newport Beach," Schleibaum replied when asked what some of her pets' more lavish accessories were. "Tabitha has a lion costume, too; Cricket won't keep a collar on, even though I've gotten her some nice ones!"

While Schleibaum has learned not to purchase Cricket any more collars over the years, she is planning on seeing if

Cricket will keep on a set of booties this holiday season. The booties will be just one of the many gifts Schleibaum plans on showering her dogs with: clothes, treats...just like their owner, Tabitha and Cricket are used to enjoying life's little luxuries. But nothing Schleibaum buys her dogs compares to what they give her in return--their unconditional love.

"Tabitha's a big cuddler, even though she's slightly bigger than a lap dog," Schleibaum said. "They both sleep in my bed with me...and they both make me laugh! Tabitha with her seal noise and Cricket with her bucking bronco act--randomly, she'll just act like there's a monkey on her back. It's so funny!"

While Tabitha and Cricket may be the apple of Schleibaum's eye, the former model knows that they're probably not going to win any casting calls anytime soon. When asked if she ever thought about getting her dogs an agent to follow in her modeling footsteps, Schleibaum just laughed.

"Unfortunately, Tabitha's not quite the model Beagle," she replied. "She's a bit overweight and has these deformed toes--but Cricket may have a chance."

For now, though, Schleibaum said Tabitha and Cricket are perfectly content following her through the nearby dog park

or for walks around the neighborhood. In fact, beyond that and the occasional trip to Flea Bag's Barkery & Bow-tique for some baked peanut butter treats (their favorite!), that's really all the excitement the two dogs can handle.

"Tabitha gets tired quick since she's overweight, and although Cricket likes to think she's a hundred-pound Doberman Pinscher, she gets tired quick as well since she's so small [six pounds]," Schleibaum said.

While Tabitha and Cricket may not share the same perfect genes that got their owner past Tabu's exclusive velvet rope, when it comes to her dogs, it's the one time in Schleibaum's life that looks don't matter.

"My dogs are my life," she concluded. "And nothing will ever change that." 🐾



By Heather Turk
Photos by C. Renee Photography

Laine Schleibaum is used to the finer things in life. The one-time model and Las Vegas performer has lived a lifestyle most of us can only dream about--from appearing in a British magazine layout alongside Elizabeth Hurley to

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Life Lesson from Leroy + Lucy

by Annie Wood



Enthusiasm

My dogs are brilliant. I became aware of their brilliance this past weekend as we prepared to go to the park. No sooner did I reach for their leash did they start jumping up and down, swirling around, barking wildly, doing their familiar happy dance. I realize that such typical dog-behavior is not inherently brilliant and that it would certainly not make The Dog Whisperer proud, but with Caesar's disappointment notwithstanding, Leroy and Lucy's enthusiasm at the mere thought of going to the park, fills me with pride and astonishment. The things is, they never seem to grow tired of this routine. They can't believe their luck! They are going out! In the car! To the park! What joy! What sweet bliss this is! It's nothing new, no peanut butter cookies are involved, yet, they are com-pletely and totally ...overjoyed.

They calm down enough to get allow me to get their leashes on and get in the car. They promptly hop in the back-seat and stick their smiling faces out the window to breathe in the world. They can smell the park long before I can see it...

(cue heavenly harp music) There it is! Could it be? So soon? Yes, yes, I'm sure of it! It's none other than...the amazing, the magical, the astonishing, the spectacular... dog-park!

Leroy frantically tumbles out of the car and leaps to his feet just in time to chase a per-fectly groomed poodle around a maple tree. Lucy shadows her big bro the whole time. Later, they sloppily share a big bowl of water with a Spaniel named Spunky. After that they proceeded to sniff a pug for a bit. After several laps around a couple of Huskies, a Black Lab mix and a French Bull dog..Leroy and Lucy are positively pooped.

On the ride back, Leroy sleepily enjoyed the fresh air blowing on his cold nose as he held his head out the window, while Lucy slept and snored, loudly, in the passenger seat.

Okay, so, here's where the above mentioned brilliance comes in.... before we even pull up the driveway, they go nuts again! Leroy jumps up and down in the back seat, he barks, he is overwhelmed with excitement! Lucy wakes up and mimics Leroy's delight. It's the same kind of elation they had when we were getting ready to leave the house. That's the thing. The thing is...they get it. I think they know the secret to being happy in life. Enthusiasm. To be equally as excited about your comings as you are your goings. Leroy and Lucy looked forward to leaving the house for another adventure filled day of life just as much as they looked forward to coming home. No time to worry, doubt or fear anything...they were too busy being excited about everything - the entire journey.

Enthusiasm for it all. Leroy and Lucy taught me that.

Well, that.. and the importance of naps. 

Enjoy yourselves.

Love and Peace,

Annie Wood

Annie Wood is an actress/writer and founder of DoGoodStuff.org. She appears in the Dane Cook/Jessica Alba film "Good Luck Chuck." Annie lives in Los Angeles with her canine teachers, Leroy and Lucy. www.anniewood.com www.myspace.com/actingannie



Hunter + Kiana

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Nico

Sin City Saint Rescue | www.sincitysaintrescue.org

This cutie pie is a 3 yr. old male St. Bernard with a bald face (no mask) and hospice ears (spotted). He may not look like a traditional "Beethoven" dog, but Nico is purebred St., for sure! Nico is a wonderful companion dog who would do best in an adult home or with older children because of his size.

Hunter + Kiana

Nevada SPCA | www.nevadaspca.org | 702-873-SPCA

5 yr. old brother and sister Australian Shepherd mixes, housetrained, good with kids and cats and other dogs. Hunter and Kiana are a strongly bonded pair who want and need to stay together.

Nancy + Tina

Las Vegas Weimaraner Rescue Club | 702.280.6946 | www.vegasweimaranerclub.org

These cutie pies were born on 6/6/07 and are looking for a new home with lots of room to play. They would like a family that is willing to treat me like family. They need a family that will take them to training so we can learn and bond together.

Kipper

Nevada SPCA | www.nevadaspca.org | 702-873-SPCA

This cute 3 yr. old Corgi mix is chock full of great qualities, including being housetrained, good with children, and good with other dogs. Kipper is very smart and so cute.

Jasmine

Las Vegas Wrinkle Rescue | 702-595-8009 | www.lvwrinklerescue.com

This 3 yr. old girl is very large, 100 lb. American Bulldog. She just LOVES people of all ages. Housetrained, loves riding in the car, loves attention and having her ears rubbed. Gets very excited, but calms down once she's gotten her burst of energy out. She is very smart! She deserves a forever home with a yard and a loving family.

Beau

Golden Retriever Rescue of So. NV | www.grrsn.org

11 yr. old Beau is the cutest, the cuddliest, and the sweetest gold even, not to mention photogenic! He is very good with children and other dogs. He likes to get into mischief like a puppy. He loves to un-stuff toys and pop tennis balls. He is very gentle and loves treats!

Chip*

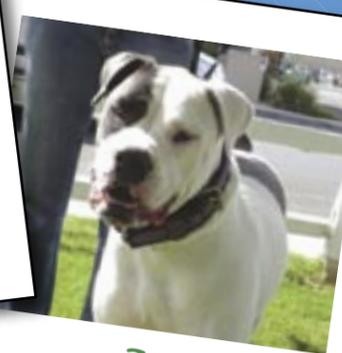
AZ Humane Society Nina Mason Pulliam Campus | www.azhumane.org | 602-997-7586

This handsome Queensland heeler/Labrador/shepherd mix is 5 yrs. old. He is neutered and housetrained. Sadly, Chip has been overlooked since September 16th, and now, he's in the AHS Lonely Hearts Club. His adoption fee is reduced. He's kind, quiet and eager for attention. He's kind, quiet and eager for attention. "Chip" enjoys going for walks and can "sit" on command. He would do best by himself (no cats).

Although his fee is reduced, it still includes his neuter surgery; vaccinations; a leash, collar and I.D. tag; and a follow-up veterinary examinations. INFO: (602) 997-7586 Ext. 1045 (please refer to animal code A198395).



Nico



Jasmine



Beau



Kipper



Tina + Nancy



Chip

To sponsor an adoption page, please e-mail Michelle-Danks at editor@luckydogmag.com.

**Please note that this pet might have been adopted by the time you visit our shelter; however, we have many more wonderful animals who also need loving homes. To see all of our adoptable animals right now, visit www.azhumane.org. Click on Adopt A Pet, then select Search for Pets.*



artist: **Renee Berglund**

MonkaPaws Vintage Typewriter Key Jewelry

If you are anything like me – your life revolves around your four legged friend! So therefore I couldn't resist naming my business "MonkaPaws" in honor of my incredible Bernese Mountain dog, Guinness, for the joy he has given me in my life. Many pet owners may relate to the numerous pet names that one can develop out of the tender devotion for our furry babies. The name developed because Guinness is just that in every sense – a crazy monkey and always bouncing around on his back paws – if one can imagine that image.

MonkaPaws was developed with the desire to create and offer an alternative edgy style and retro flair to typewriter key jewelry and whimsical collage altered art style jewelry. The end product is chic and quite a conversation starter. Each piece created is an individual work of art and seems to tell its own personal story (boy, if only they could talk).

Each piece of jewelry I personally handcraft from vintage typewriter keys is original, one of a kind, and quite unusual. I have become somewhat of a typewriter nerd – if one should exist. It is always exciting to get my next typewriter. I never know what I will find and I rarely seem to come across the same type of model twice. I always seem to find something uniquely special with each one I get.

I only use recycled vintage manual typewriter keys from the early to mid 1900's. Most are nearly 100 years old!!!! It is true they don't make things like they used to. The keys themselves are quite stable and robust and sometimes it is quite challenging to remove the keys. Each key is

painstakingly cleaned and matched for size, style and font. Every key is 100% AUTHENTIC, unique and original.

Our designs include everything from dog charms, cuff-links, bracelets, rings, necklaces, tie tacks, brooch style pins and earrings. I also design and create custom pieces with names, birthdates, initials and words on them. In addition, Monkapaws offers a line of Vintage Button dog collars along with typewriter key charms for my love of vintage embellishments for our furry friends. Why should they be left out of adornments?

Why not wear your beloved close to your heart with our custom collage altered art jewelry? These miniature works of art are of our own designs and creations and are mounted between two pieces of glass. These whimsical creations are handcrafted from our personal collection of vintage text, photos, old fashioned illustrations, old letter scraps, recycled books and more. The unique design pieces are created by me and fellow co-Artist Tina Pricolo.

I have a passion for recycling materials into my work. It is at times quite challenging and time consuming but the end result is quite impressive and thought provoking. Who knows where the next discarded find will take me next....

For more information visit www.monkapaws.com. The latest enhancement to their web-site allows customers to create a personal collage piece from their own personal photos and text. Customers get to tell their story along with their photos. 



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 [NW] Aliante Pkwy at 215 | Boutique and Grooming | 643-3644 *Opening 3/15*

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2008 Lucky Dog Calendar Winners!

Lucky Dog Magazine hosted its 2008 Lucky Dog Calendar Casting Call and we received over 150 entries! Thank you to everyone who entered. It was difficult choosing the winners as all of these gorgeous canines deserve to represent one of the calendar months in 2008. No one was a loser though, because every dog that was entered will be featured in a special section within the calendar. The winners received a professional photo shoot with C. Renee Photography (www.creneephoto.com) and as you can see they are beautiful! All of these Lucky Dogs will be featured in the 2008 calendar which is available on our website at www.luckydogmag.com.

Calendars are \$20 plus S+H. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to various animal rescue organizations.



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** This offer is only valid through 12/2/07.*

Professional portrait sessions will be held at the new Lucky Dog Magazine offices located at 241 W. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 135 Las Vegas, NV 89102 (at the Holsum Lofts just east of 1-15).

"I photograph animals to portray and promote the absolute promise of companionship, in which exists unconditional love." —C. Renee



Small Paws Rescue Raises \$1,400

at 3rd Annual Bichon Bash on October 13, 2007

A good time was had by all who attended the annual Bichon bash on Saturday October 13th at the Gardens Park in Summerlin. Mayor Oscar Goodman even made a special appearance and was on hand to judge the costume contest. The organization was able to raise \$1,400 from the raffle and auction items to help their rescue efforts. 🐾



Costume Contest Judge, Mayor Oscar Goodman, Winner Snow "Convict" Stochel with her Mom, Alesia Stochel. Mayor Goodman said that Convict Snow was the winner and that he would be her lawyer when she went to court and he would make sure that she was cleared of all charges. Seems she borrowed a bone from the next door doggie and was accused of stealing. Snow insists she was only keeping it safe until neighbor doggie returned to the yard.



Poucho "Captian Jack" Shay with his Mom, April Shay. Poucho and his family had a great day playing and visiting with all the other doggies and people.

Hot Diggity Dog!

4th Annual Hallo-wiener Picnic

4th Annual Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club Hallo-Wiener Picnic Held on Sunday, October 21 Attracted nearly 250 people and their Dachshunds! This year's event was held to raise money for the Dachshund Rescue in Las Vegas and turned out to be the biggest and best event ever! It was also the first time the group had vendors on hand during the Picnic. John Fredericks from Channel 3 announced the event and FOX 5 News came out and showed a clip of our races on television! Thanks to both!



Winners of the Costume Contest at the Howloweener Picnic.

Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club works closely with the only legitimate dachshund rescue in Las Vegas, Doberman & Dachshund Rescue. They have helped find permanent, loving homes for numerous dachshunds within the last few months. The club and rescue are constantly receiving unwanted dachshunds into their care to they wish to "Thank" all of those who supported their rescue efforts. 🐾

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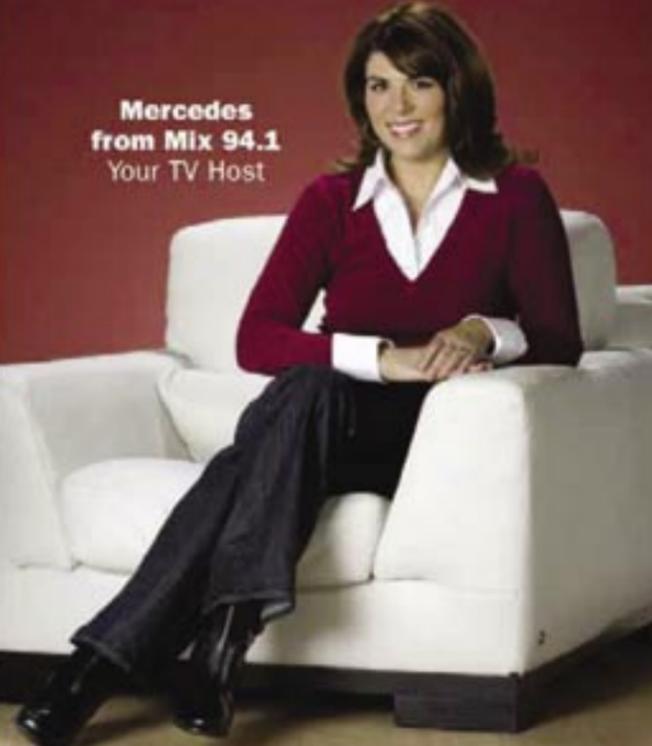
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30-Minute TV Tour of New Homes



Dog Adoption Internet Site Takes 'In-Your-Face' Approach:
DogsInDanger.com posts dogs' pictures, names and times until these adoptable dogs are euthanized.

(New York) – Hoping to decrease the number of dogs euthanized in shelters each year in the United States, a new web site working with shelters across the country is posting pictures of adoptable dogs along with a countdown clock for each dog showing days and hours until that dog is destroyed.

DogsInDanger.com is a free service both for participating shelters and people looking for pets, allowing users to search for dogs slated for euthanasia by location, breed, or time until death.

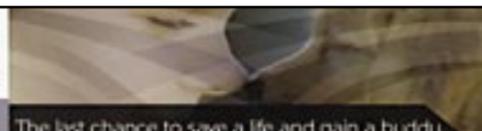
The site is operated by The Buddy Fund, Inc., a non-profit organization founded by dog lover and pet adoption advocate, Alex Aliksanyan.

"We're a nation of dog lovers, but the sad fact is that shelters are forced to destroy more than four million dogs each year," explains Mr. Aliksanyan, president of The Buddy Fund. "Shelters do the best they can and manage to find homes for many dogs. Millions however, never leave."

Hoping to prove there is a better way, The Buddy Fund has established relationships with public and private shelters across the country. These shelters will post pictures, descriptions, and euthanasia dates for dogs in their care. The site is designed to make it easy for shelters to upload pictures and keep their list of dogs current.

The DogsInDanger.com site has been designed to provide maximum help to shelters with little effort by already overburdened shelter staff. Once registered, shelters will be given any software they need to upload pictures and other information to the site. Shelters that do not own a digital camera will be furnished with one at no cost. In addition, The Buddy Fund will allow shelters to decide how they wish to be contacted by people seeking to adopt a dog.

Dogs in danger!



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Inaugural Family, Fur & Fun Festival a Huge Success



More than 1,500 Southern Nevada adults, children and pets attended the first Family, Fur & Fun Festival on October 13 at the Willows Park in Summerlin. The event was the first of its kind with a focus on humane education and was a groundbreaking festival to encourage kind minds. The festival

included special guests speakers, a micro-chipping clinic where 135 animals were micro chipped, over 85 vendors and educational booths, 201 Animal Hero Badges were awarded, and 15 animals found forever homes including dogs, guinea pigs, water turtles and gerbils). In addition, the festival raised \$13,000 for the Nevada Society For the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) humane education programs including the development of a humane education DVD and workbook for students and teachers in Clark County.

The 2nd Annual Family, Fur & Fun Festival is already set for Saturday, October 11, 2008 at the Summerlin Centre Community Park. Sponsorship opportunities are available now, so sign up early! Visit www.familyfurandfun.com for details. 🐾



Vegas Weim & Wine 2007 Raises \$6,500 for the Las Vegas Weimaraner Club & Rescue & the Nevada SPCA

This inaugural event was a huge success and a ton of fun! The event was held at the Kennedy Estate (www.kennedyestate.com) and boasted a fabulous silent auction, wonderful food, vendors, and much more. In addition, the first ever Weimy Awards were presented to the following:



- Picture Perfect Award: Arica Dorff
- Donator of the Year: Gena Bunim of Nevada Pet Product Distributors
- Volunteer of the Year: Christy Adams
- Forever Family of the Year: Glen "Junior" Toner
- Foster Family of the Year: Carl & Liane Medley
- Veterinarian of the Year: Dr. Brooks, Dr. Beerentrauch, Dr. Tunnard, & the entire staff at Tropicana Animal Hospital
- The Weimar Knight Award: Lindy Hardy & Michael Singer
- The Grey Ghost Award: Ronna and Michael Katzin

visit www.vegasweimrescueclub.org for photos and more information. 🐾

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LJ paints to raise \$5 for the NSPCA for the Family, Fur & Fun Festival

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Help Bring Holiday Joy to Local Shelter Animals

Lucky Dog Magazine + the Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club are coordinating Operation Santa Paws, a city-wide pet supply drive December 1-17th for local shelter animals in Las Vegas + Phoenix

Operation Santa Paws is seeking the following items:

- Toys * Pet Treats * Collars * Leashes * Pet Food for Dogs, Cats, Birds, Turtles, Pigs, Hamsters, Rabbits + Guinea Pigs * Cat Litter * Hay * Towels * Cleaning Supplies * Pet Shampoo * Pet Dishes * Blankets * Pet Beds * Crates/Cages



Donated items will be delivered to the following organizations in Las Vegas + Phoenix:

- Adopt-A-Rescue Pet
- Nevada SPCA
- Lied Animal Shelter
- Noah's Animal House
- Heaven Can Wait Sanctuary
- Arizona Humane Society

Please visit www.luckydogmag.com for a complete list of drop off locations

If your business would like to be a donation drop off location, please contact Lucky Dog Magazine at 702.437.4873 or the Las Vegas Hot-Diggity Dachshund Club at lelanig@hiddachshundclub.com. Operation Santa Paws created by Justin Ruff - www.hatedogs.org

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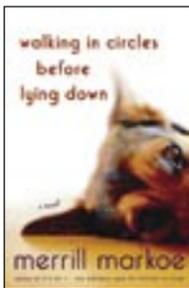
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Walking in Circles Before Lying Down

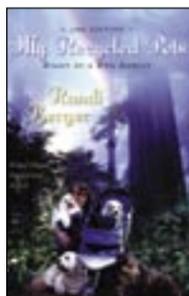
By Merrill Markoe
A Villard Paperback
August 2007, 288 pages, \$13.95 ISBN: 978-0-8129-7546-8
www.randomhouse.com

From Merrill Markoe, the Emmy Award winning writer and the author of It's My F---ing Birthday and The Psycho Ex-Game, comes WALKING IN CIRCLES BEFORE LYING DOWN (A Villard Paperback; August 28, 2007), the hilarious and quirky novel about a woman who has to put her life back together after a string of romantic disappointments.

Filled with sharp wit, inventive imagination, and a shrewd understanding of human (and canine) nature that has won Merrill Markoe legions of fans, WALKING IN CIRCLES BEFORE LYING DOWN is an unusual story of the search for love and is for anyone who has always longed for a chance to talk with their pets.

About the Author

Emmy Award-winning writer Merrill Markoe has authored three books of humorous essays and the novel It's My F---ing Birthday, as well as co-authoring with Andy Prieboy the novel The Psycho Ex Game. She has worked as a TV correspondent, and written for television (Late Night with David Letterman, Newhart, Mary Tyler Moore Show, Moonlighting, Sex in the City), movies, and numerous publications. She lives in Los Angeles.



My Recycled Pets: Diary of a Dog Addict

(2nd edition)
By Randi Berger
Book Publishers Network 2007; 228pp.
paperback, \$17.95

What Can an Injured Stray Dog Teach You? Rescuer Reveals the Life Lessons 10,000 Unwanted Dogs Taught Her

They were the dogs no one else wanted. The dogs with under bites and knock-kneed hind legs. The dogs who were old or sickly. The injured or abused dogs that some vets said were simply beyond help. They were the dogs that taught a high-energy, Type-A personality how to tame her simmering impatience-- along with a few other crucial lessons about success, attitude and the overall belief that there's a greater power at work in the universe.

Meet Randi Berger. Her fiery red hair, headstrong determination and precocious nature set her apart from the crowd when she was a kid. She picked her first puppy from an animal shelter when she was just 7 years old. Little did Berger know how she would later look back on that day as a pivotal event in her life, fueling what would later develop into a full-blown addiction to soulful eyes, scruffy fur and canine kisses.

About the Author:

Randi Berger is the founder of Recycled Pets Rescue, an all volunteer rescue which has saved the lives of more than 10,000 dogs and is celebrating its 20 year anniversary this year. Determined to save as many unwanted dogs as possible, Berger launched one of the most respected, private, cageless animal rescue organizations in Southern California. While helping abused dogs overcome their fears, Berger fell into a successful career of training dogs and cats for movie work as well as for obedience training. My Recycled Pets: Diary of a Dog Addict received a Writer's Digest Inspirational Award.

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Paper Russells Introduces Holiday Collection

The company just released ten designs of new pet images in limited edition prints, magnets, and individual and boxed note cards perfect for dogs lovers and their friends. The new images feature an English Bulldog (Just so happens this is our baby boy Zeus-how cool is that!), Bichon Frise, Greyhound, Shiba Inu, Boxer, Black Lab, Black Poodle, Wheaten Terrier, Whippet, Basset Hound, Rat Terrier, and West Highland Terrier. In addition, the company has introduced five new designs of Christmas cards. The company's eco-friendly line, Grrreen by Paper Russells uses soy-based ink on 100% post consumer recycled paper. Visit www.paperrussells.com for a retail store near you.



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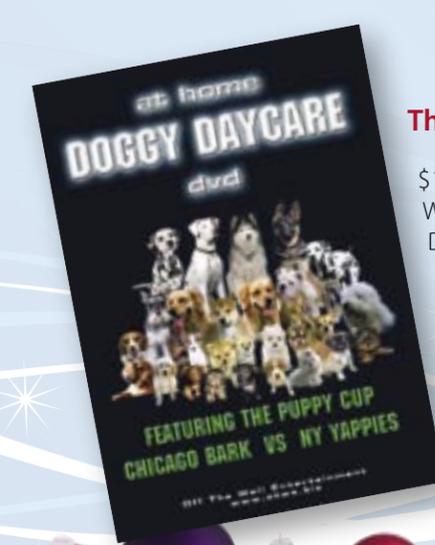
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Do You Know About A Dog Fighting Operation?

Report It For A Reward:

American Pet Cross announces a \$100,000 reward program for dog fighting information

Charlotte, NC – American Pet Cross (APC) announced that it is establishing a reward fund for up to \$100,000 for tips and information leading to the investigation and arrest of individuals involved in dog fighting rings throughout the United States. The reward amounts will be on a case by case basis and paid after successful investigation, indictment, arrest and prosecution by Federal or State Authorities.

APC is a new national organization focused on funding and providing support for animals and owners in the area of disease, abuse, abandonment, and disaster. It's emphasis is on assisting existing animal organizations, including the Humane Society, ASPCA, and Animal Defense League. APC is working to innovate in the pet protection arena by developing such programs as The American Pet Cross Care Center and The American Pet Cross Rescue Camp.

Founder Daniel Taylor, an attorney in Charlotte, NC saw the need for a national organization dedicated to helping animals and their owners. "There is an entire generation that doesn't know about the Humane Society or the ASPCA and who wants to help animals. American Pet Cross creates a forum where all generations can contribute knowing their funds and energy will be directed to worthwhile purposes," said Taylor. "My goal is to have an American Pet Cross Chapter in every state, an American Pet Cross Care Center in every major city, and an American Pet Cross Rescue Camp in every town that has the acreage to support."

In light of recent news involving dog fighting rings, Taylor believes it is the role of the APC and other likeminded organizations to help those victims of violent crime who cannot help themselves.

"We intend to work very closely with Federal and State officials to provide them with bona fide tips and leads for them to pursue. Our feeling is that dog fighting, drugs, and other illegal activities are very closely tied together," asserted Taylor. "You don't find Avon folks delivering lipstick during the day and attending dog fights at night. This culture represents the absolute scum of our society. I don't mind that they are together...I just think they should be in prison together."

Tips involving dog fighting can be sent to Founder@AmericanPetCross.com.

About American Pet Cross

The mission of American Pet Cross is to serve as a national focus and funding organization to support animals in the areas of disaster relief, adoption, advocacy and special projects. Our goal is to supplement and increase the already exemplary efforts by such groups as The Humane Society, The ASPCA, Emergency Vets, the American Veterinarian Medical Association, as well as the thousands of individual efforts already ongoing in these areas



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Survivors of Horrific Houston Puppy-Mill Get Second Chance in Phoenix + Las Vegas

On August 30th 2007, the Houston SPCA raided a so called breeder of American Bulldogs, Pickets Pride an American Bulldog 'puppy-mill'. Humane officers found horrific conditions and extreme neglect like few have ever seen. They seized over 49 dogs, pulling them out of deplorable and inhumane conditions. Dozens were already found dead. Dogs that should weigh 80-100 pounds were carried off the premises at barely half their body weight and near death. Out of the 70 dogs, only 20-30 can be saved and those lucky few will need extensive rehabilitation and veterinary care.

On September 14th, 2007 the 23 surviving American Bulldogs started their journey to Phoenix, where a couple of the dogs were taken into foster care, and then to Las Vegas, Nevada for their second chance at life. The Houston SPCA loaded up the sweet canines and sent them on their way to a 'New Beginning'. The entire Rescue Operation was made possible by the joint efforts of the HSPCA & Las Vegas Wrinkle Rescue the Nevada Chapter of Operation K9 Rescue.

On Wednesday Sept. 19th the Houston Bulldogs FINALLY arrived in Las Vegas thanks to a generous donation from United Nissan, Dodge and Hyundai that helped cover part of their transport costs. Upon their arrival, the magnitude of this situation finally came into focus. The dogs were all massively underweight, with slight fevers, some had eye irritations, and many with strange unexplainable skin lesions. They arrived looking somewhat defeated, broken down shells of the dogs they used to be. Despite the trauma they have been through, they still remained happy, smiling bullies!

Dr Christensen and the staff at Durango Animal Hospital came in early or on their days off to ensure that the absolute best care was available for all the dogs. On arrival, their weights were charted, temps taken, and body condition evaluated. They were fed and given a chance to rest. Previously there were only numbers to associate these dogs with, but upon their arrival we were able to give every number a name. After giving them a chance to settle in, they were individually taken out, walked and given the attention they soooooo craved. We spent more then twelve hours making sure they were bathed, comforted and loved on. Sadly, three of the dogs were too far gone and despite heroic efforts, it was decided the most humane thing to do, was end their suffering.

Although we've had some heartbreak, in less then two weeks things started to come together nicely for the surviving dogs. All of the

dogs are now in foster homes, where they are gaining weight and confidence. For the first time in many of their lives they have food, clean water and TOYS!

They're on a wonderful high quality food, thanks to Blue Buffalo's generous donation, they have a roof over their head and TONS of attention, thanks to our wonderful fosters! They are FINALLY learning what 'love' is, that human hands weren't meant to hurt. We've got them all on Missing Link, Glucosamine, Chondroitin, and Flax Seed, five small feedings a day, and short walks to help re-build their muscle tone. They are all starting to look wonderful! Even the staff at Durango Animal Hospital is amazed at their turn around in such a short time, but their journey is FAR from over!

Their foster parents are doing a wonderful job at nursing them back to health but they will need homes of their own in the very near future. Bryan from Sophisticated Canine www.dogtrainerlasvegas.com and his apprentice Ro have been working with the foster parents to help them bring out the BEST in these dogs and as soon as they're deemed 'healthy' by our Veterinarian, group classes will begin.

We have set up 'Lola's Fund' at Durango Animal Hospital in memory of those we could not save, to care for those we could. This fund will enable us to provide them with the BEST care possible. Donations can also be made through the web site created specifically for these dogs, www.savehoustonbulldogs.com.

Those wishing to follow the progress of these dogs will also be able to do that on the website, as we will have updated photos and stories from our foster families.

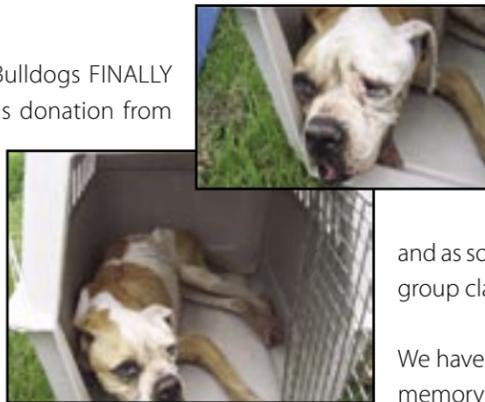
Our Sincerest Thanks to EVERYONE that is making this possible!

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Pets have a passport to travel at Loews Hotels. Since the introduction of the "Loews Loves Pets" program in 2000, many VIPs (Very Important Pet) have made Loews Hotels their home away from home, enjoying the special treatment and privileges that are offered at the chain's 18 properties in the US and Canada including Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort. As part of the Loews Loves Pets program, each visiting VIP can travel in first-class comfort with gourmet room service, specialized bedding, a pet amenity, and guest services designed to make pets and their owners feel right at home.

Pet Purr-ks

As part of the Loews Love Pets program, all animals are Very Important Pets (VIPs) regardless of size or weight. Each pet at Loews Lake Las Vegas is welcomed with a personal note from the hotel's general manager. In the guestroom is a special amenity that includes special pet place mats with food and water bowls, toys and treats, and a "Do Not Disturb" sign that let housekeeping know that a pet is in the room. For the duration of their stay, pet owners are asked for a cell phone number that enables the hotel staff to contact them immediately in case of emergency. At Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort, pets are welcome to go anywhere with the guest with the exception of the restaurants due to health codes.

Finicky felines and hungry canines can choose from their own special room service menu that was designed to provide proper nutrition to help pets deal with travel stress including jet lag and altitude adjustments. The pet room service varies at each hotel and most include items such as roasted salmon and tuna delight for cats and bow wow burgers, chicken and rice and grilled filet for dogs. All menu items and preparations for the room service menu were developed and approved by a licensed veterinarian.

Loews Hotels also loans its guests pet necessities such as dog and cat beds in different sizes, and leashes and collars. Kitty litter boxes and litter, pooper-scoopers, and a selection of pet toys (such as rawhide bones, catnip, and scratch poles) are also available for purchase.

Situated on 21 acres of lakefront property just 17 miles from the Las Vegas Strip, Loews Lake Las Vegas Resort is the centerpiece of the nearly 4,000-acre Lake Las Vegas Resort community in Henderson, Nevada. The hotel's 493 guest rooms and suites feature sweeping views of the lake and surrounding mountains. The resort has four restaurants, a 9,000-square-foot spa, and a children's camp facility. Recreational diversions include two swimming pools and golf on two championship courses. An adventure concierge stands ready to coordinate a range of adrenaline-inducing excursions, including treks to the Grand Canyon, kayaking on the Colorado River and Hummer tours of Nevada's Valley of Fire.

Headquartered in New York City, Loews Hotels owns and/or operates 18 hotels and resorts in the U.S. and Canada. Located in major city centers and resort destinations from coast to coast, the Loews portfolio features one-of-a-kind properties that go beyond Four Diamond standards to delight guests with a supremely comfortable, uniquely local and vibrant travel experience. Loews boasts some of the industry's most innovative and successful travel programs, including Loews Loves Kids for families and Loews Loves Pets for discerning animals on the road. For reservations or more information on Loews Hotels, call 1-800-23-LOEWS or check www.loewshotels.com.




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las vegas

november:

Holiday Craft Auction - "Rudolph and Friends"

Thursday, November 15 | 6pm
Sponsored and hosted by the Evening Mesquite Club, this fun annual event will feature John Fredericks from Channel 3 as auctioneer, and the event includes a holiday buffet, raffle tickets, prizes, and a live auction item. The \$10 entry donation can be applied to any auction and proceeds benefit Nevada SPCA. Mesquite Clubhouse, 702 East St. Louis Street, Mesquite.

Barking Dogs Bakery & Boutique in Las Vegas Celebrates Grand Opening!

Saturday, November 17 | 10am to 6pm
Come out and celebrate the official grand opening celebration for Barking Dogs Bakery with a "Barking Party" with free hot dogs/veggie dogs and drinks with free treats for the dogs. 8060 S. Rainbow Blvd, Suite 135 Las Vegas, NV 89139 (702) 243-BARK | www.barkingdogslv.com

2nd Annual Garage/Rummage Sale to Benefit Rescue

Saturday, November 17 | Time + Location TBA
Join the Las Vegas Weimaraner Rescue, St. Bernard Rescue and others for a fun and fabulous rummage sale to benefit their rescue efforts. Please visit www.vegasweimrescueclub.org

Yappy Hour at Three Dog Bakery

Saturday, November 17 | 3pm - 6pm
Pre-holiday sale - 15% off all merchandise
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december:

Photos with the Grinch at Three Dog Bakery

Sunday, December 2, 9, 16, & 23 | 10am - 4pm
Proceeds from your \$15 donation will benefit the NSPCA. Every customer will receive one 4" x 5" photograph. Additional prints \$5.00 each.
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Three Dog Bakery 2nd Anniversary & Customer Appreciation Party

Saturday, December 8 | 4pm - 6pm
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Pet Friendly's 1st Annual Christmas Party

Sunday, December 16 | 7:00pm
You and your pooch are invited to join us at Pet Friendly to celebrate our 1st annual Christmas party, meet Santa Paws and enjoy a fun filled evening of music, food, refreshments and great prizes for the best dressed dogs at the party. Please RSVP to Pet Friendly at (702) 533-9787
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42 | Lucky Dog Magazine

New Years Bash at Doggie Oasis Day Care

Monday, December 31
Don't leave your dog home alone while you bring in the New Year. Doggie Oasis is having a party just for the dog in your life. We will bring in the New Year with party hats, treats, and special dog movies, all in slumberpartystyle! Dropoff before 3pm on December 31st. Sleep in on January 1st and pick up by 12pm. \$45, reservations are required. Visit www.doggieoasis.com or call 734-DOGS.

phoenix/scottsdale

Second Annual Comedy 4 Canines to benefit Animal Rescue Center & Agnes Fund for Pets

Wednesday, November 14 | 6pm Doors Open
Silent auction will open at 6PM-9PM. Comedy show featuring Mark Cordes and friends will be from 8PM-10PM. All tickets are advance purchase only and are \$35.00. All proceeds benefit Animal Rescue Center and Agnes Fund for Pets, a program of Body Positive. Tempe Improv | 930 E. University Dr. | Tempe AZ 85281
For more info and tickets, please call the Comedy 4 Canines hotline at 602.486.0568 or Karen May at 480.596.1934 or visit www.comedy4canines.com

Santa Paws Pet Photos to Benefit the Arizona Basset Hound Rescue

Saturday, November 17 | 10am to 3pm
Saturday, December 1 | 10am to 3pm
Sunday, December 9 | 11am to 3pm
Pet enthusiasts bring your four legged furry friend to have photos with or without Santa to help save the Basset Hounds. Cost: \$15 for photos and \$5 additional for photos sent via e-mail. Event proceeds raise much-needed funds for Arizona Basset Hound Rescue operating budget to continue the mission of saving the Hounds. By Appointment ONLY call Three Dog Bakery 602-522-2333
Three Dog Bakery @ Biltmore Fashion Park
2442 E. Camelback Rd. | Phoenix, AZ
For detailed information visit www.azbassetrescue.com

ZooLights 2007/2008 | It's Nature All A-Glow at the Phoenix Zoo!

November 22, 2007-January 6, 2008 | 6pm-10pm
For the first time in the event's history, ZooLights will be open every evening including December 24 and December 25, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Jengo the talking giraffe will return to entertain kids, Stingray Bay will be open with some new friends....bamboo sharks and nurse sharks, plus there will be an all new dancing tree show! Don't miss ZooLights 2007/08, one of the largest holiday light shows in the southwest with 2.5 million lights, hundreds of custom lighted animal displays with new ones appearing every year, carousel rides, camel rides, wagon rides and more!
To purchase your tickets www.phoenixzoo.org or call 602.914.4333.

los angeles

Last Chance for Animals Holiday Fundraiser

Sunday, December 2 | 12pm-7pm
Vegetarian buffet, cocktails, silent & live auction, raffle and much more. 100 % of the proceeds goes to help LCA continue their fight for animal rights. Come and purchase your holiday presents. Admission: A kind and generous heart. Thousands of gifts including jewelry, scarves, handbags, facials, massages, yoga, crystal, vacations, and pet items will be sold to raise money for Last Chance For Animals. 1159 South La Jolla Avenue | Los Angeles, CA 90035
Visit www.lcanimal.org or www.kimsill.com for details.



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Why Do Animals Itch?

By Dr. Kimberly Coyner, Diplomate
American College of Veterinary Dermatology

Skin problems are common in dogs and cats, and are one of the most frequent reasons that owners bring their pets to the veterinarian. There are many different reasons why a pet will itch and scratch. Fortunately, we can break most of the causes down into a few categories: allergies, skin parasites, and skin infections.

Allergies

Pollen/environmental allergy (Atopy): Just like people, dogs and cats can be allergic to pollen, dust and molds. But instead of sneezing and hayfever, pets most often show their allergies in their skin. Allergic cats may develop crusty dermatitis or lick their hair so much that they cause bald spots. Allergic dogs may scratch all over, but especially at their armpits, belly and ears. They may also have recurrent skin and ear infections and lick their paws. The signs usually start between 6 months to 5 years of age. Since food allergy and skin parasites or infections also cause itching, these diseases need to be eliminated as possible causes of itching before the diagnosis of atopy can be made.

Some pets with pollen/dust allergies tend to have seasonal (warm weather) symptoms, others may have symptoms year round.

Some pollen-allergic pets can be treated symptomatically during the itchy seasons with soothing shampoos/conditioners and anti-itch medications (antihistamines, fatty acids, occasional steroids). If present, secondary bacterial or yeast infections also need to be treated. Pets with continuous signs or itch that is not well-controlled with symptomatic medications or that need steroids too frequently should be allergy tested to find out what they are allergic to. Allergy testing can be performed with blood tests or skin tests (like scratch testing in people). Blood allergy testing is more convenient and can be performed by most veterinarians, but may be less accurate than skin testing. Skin allergy testing tests the actual organ that is involved in the allergy (the skin), so is more accurate than blood testing, and is typically performed by veterinary dermatologists. Once the allergy test results are known, allergic pets can receive allergy shots (just like people!) to desensitize them to the pollen.



Although not a cure or a quick-fix, allergy hyposensitization injections help 70-75% of allergic pets to decrease symptoms and need for other medications, and address the cause of the allergies, not just the symptoms.

Food allergy: Animals with food allergy can show very similar signs as pets with pollen allergies, but the itching is not seasonal and animals can develop a food allergy at any time in their life—even if they have been eating the same food all along! Cats may develop crusty dermatitis or hair loss similar to pollen allergy.

Besides itchiness, food-allergic dogs may also have ear or skin infections. The symptoms of food allergy usually do not improve much with anti-itch medications, and the diagnosis and treatment is to feed the pet a hypoallergenic diet using a protein source that they have never been exposed to before. Switching to another commercial diet usually does not help, because most of these diets have similar ingredients. A better alternative is a hypoallergenic diet with single unique protein ingredients such as fish, rabbit, duck, or venison, with a single carbohydrate such as potato or rice, and no other treats, table scraps, rawhides, milkbones, chewable supplements or other foods for at least 6-8 weeks. Some food allergic dogs require home cooked hypoallergenic diets. Blood or skin testing for food allergy is unfortunately not accurate in dogs and cats. If present, secondary bacterial or yeast infections also need to be treated. If the itchy symptoms have resolved in 6-8 weeks, new food allergens can be added one at a time every 2-3 weeks (ie. beef, chicken, lamb, wheat, corn, egg, milk etc.) to determine what the pet is allergic to and what other foods they may tolerate.

There's more to this article!

Visit www.luckydogmag.com/pet-resources.html and click on Healthy Tails to read the entire article by Dr. Coyner.

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after



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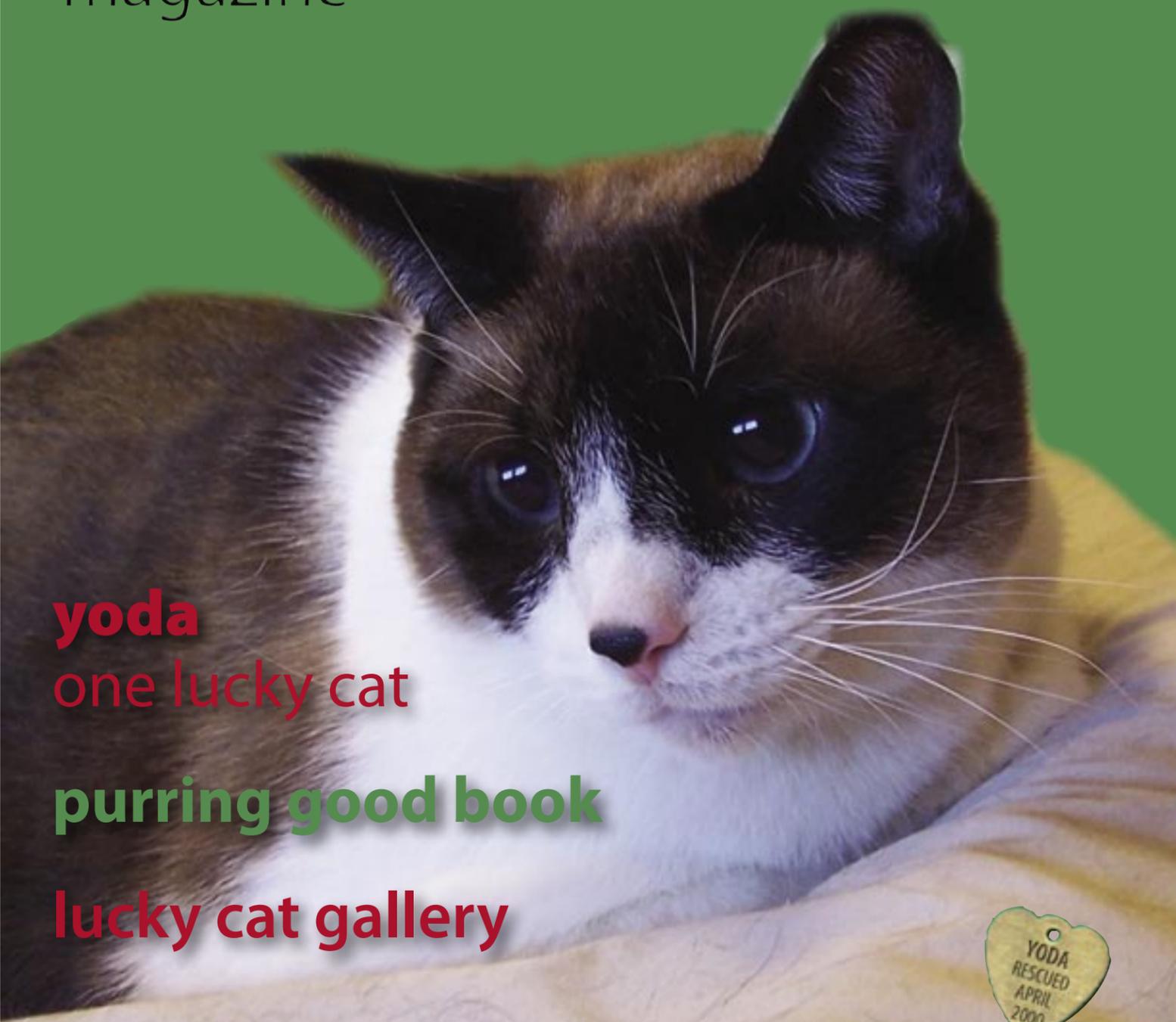
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yoda
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november / december 2007



Yoda: one lucky cat

By Michelle Danks-Costello

Yoda was a little shy when I first met him, but he eventually came around after I snapped a few photos of him while his mom stood patiently behind the camera to get his attention. Yoda only likes certain people. I didn't take offense at all because this guy was so sweet and cute and hearing his story makes him even cuter!

Yoda is a very special cat with two very special pet parents, Donna and Dave Stidham. When Yoda was just a tiny, pure white 6-week old kitten, who was born underneath Dave's race car in the garage, they took the little guy in their home and he stole their hearts like all the other animals they have cared for.

Yoda was the product of one of the many stray and feral cats that used to roam around the Stidhams' neighborhood and in their backyard. The couple would feed them all and try to capture as many as they could to get them spayed or neutered.

"We didn't have a lot of money at the time, but we worked with a local veterinarian that would give us a break to get them spayed or neutered," said Donna. "It was hard to keep up with the cats once they would have a litter of six to eight kittens though."

Yoda was a typical kitten - full of energy and cute as can be. He was perfectly healthy up until he was around two-years-

old when Donna and Dave noticed he was having trouble breathing. They had him checked out and turned out he had upper respiratory infection that would require regular breathing treatments and medication.

"Yoda hated going to the vets' office for his breathing treatments, so we eventually purchased the machine so we could do it ourselves at home," said Donna. "The only challenge is he knows it takes both Dave and I to give him his treatments, so when he sees us together he runs and hides."

When I asked Donna why she loves cats so much, she explained that their personalities mirror hers. "Cats are independent and their personalities are in line with mine," she said. "I will admit that our cats are pretty spoiled though."

Yoda is certainly independent and doesn't like just anyone. "Yoda makes us feel privileged because he shares his love with us. He doesn't give his love to just anyone that comes in our home. He bestowed his love upon us and that is our true reward."

Kibbles & Bits About Yoda:

He was named by his human uncle Michael; He was pure white as a kitten, then later grew into his darker spots; He still loves to play and chase toys; He LOVES his kitty mates; He runs and hides if Donna and Dave are in the same room because he knows it takes two people to give him his medicine; He plays hard to get unless he knows you. 

Baby Bear

Yoda



A Dickens of a Cat

by Callie Smith Grant

Paperback: 192 pages
Publisher: Revell (September 1, 2007)
ISBN-13: 978-0800758462

Introduction:

I was on a mission.

I love cats, always have. I consider them some of God's best engineering. So compiling a book of cat stories sounded like a delightful task for me, and I put out the call for stories.

Anyone who has a cat certainly has a story, and those stories are as varied as the coats on cats. I wanted not only a variety of stories but specifically stories that showed the importance of cats in the grand scheme of one's life. Stories that showed cats being and doing what they were put on earth to be and do. Stories that showed cats showing up when needed. Stories that showed that perhaps the Creator sent just the right beast for the right situation at the right time. I received scores of stories that were testament to these very things.

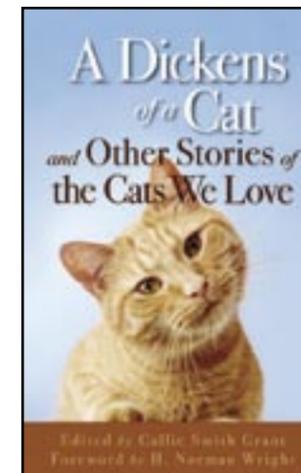
Then I got on a more difficult mission. What if I could find stories that showed cats actually saving lives? I've heard of them waking up people when there's a fire or a gas leak. Those stories must be out there. Certainly dogs save lives. We've all seen footage of dogs pulling people out of fires, swimming them out of floodwaters, or fiercely guarding their beloved humans from harm. Surely there must be a cat out there that saved a life.

There is indeed. There are many, and some of them are in this book. But they didn't haul anyone from a burning building—nothing so overt as that. These lifesaving cats were much more . . . let's say . . . catlike about saving lives of humans.

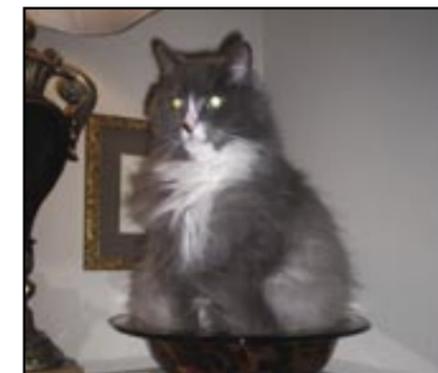
In these pages, you'll meet cats that soothed child-hood hurts, promoted peace in the household, protected children, assured troubled humans, and even, in their own ways, impacted journeys of faith. A God-sent cat did "save" humans in the ways cats operate—quietly, low to the ground, on tiptoe, purring all the way. Joy Davidman, the wife of C. S. Lewis, found great solace in cats. In her writing, she alludes to poet Francis Thompson who suggests in "The Hound of Heaven" that God pursues us like a great hound.

Joy Davidman wrote that with her, "God was more like a cat. He had been stalking me for a very long time, waiting for his moment, he crept nearer so silently that I never knew he was there. Then, all at once, he sprang."

Cats have their ways. Felines are on this earth to be what they are. Sometimes those unique ways of the cat come into our lives and help us. In these pages, you'll meet such marvelous cats and their humans, read their stories, and ponder this amazing beast created on the fifth day. 



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