

Winter 2016

**FREE!**

# Döög 'Cruces

Information for the Las Cruces Dog Lover!



## BOMB DOGS

NMSU's K9 Explosive Detection Team has its paws full keeping Las Cruceans safe at major events in the Mesilla Valley.

Page 15

## Scout Master?

It's a Jamboree of Chaos at the Mayor's Mansion with a brand new 80-pound bundle of energy to acclimate and train.

Page 23

## Examining "The Link"

What connections exist between human and animal abuse—and what can we do to sever them?

Page 20



**PLUS...** First Aid Basics for Your Dog... A Summer Trip... "Pops" Williams... The Return of Cat-Pocalypse Now... and More!

# BETTER LIFE

NATURAL PET FOODS



*Celebrate Oktoberfest ANY Month*

**FREE BAG**

of FROMM Cookies with any size of Hasen Duckenpfeffer with this ad.

(While supplies last.)



365 Avenida de Mesilla • Las Cruces, NM

**575.527.9265**

315 Telshor Ste. C • Las Cruces, NM

**575.556.9117**



**SUNSPOT**<sup>®</sup>  
solar energy



**NO ELECTRIC BILL...  
MORE TREATS & TOYS  
FOR ME!...WOOHOO!**

**575-541-3533**  
**SunspotSolar.com**



# The New Year Awakens

**S**o much has happened since our last issue! We enjoyed all the end-of-year holiday festivities, the long-awaited new Star Wars movie was released, and my wife and I welcomed a new addition to our family—an 82-pound bouncing baby boy named Scout. (“Scout...I am your father!”) I would love to be able to say “We’re soooo proud of him,” but we’re not. Not yet. You can read about the new boy in my column on page 23.

For our cover story, Phyllis Wright and I had the opportunity to spend some time with NMSU’s K9 Explosive Detection Team (the bomb dogs) as well as the Doña Ana County Sheriff’s Office Bomb Squad. Let’s just say we had a blast!! (Sorry.) These folks, like all local and federal law enforcement we’ve featured in the past, do an outstanding job—and the dogs love their work. It’s a high-stress, high-alert work environment—especially since last summer’s church bombings—and we’re very lucky to have these specialists working 24/7 to keep us safe.

Following a similar theme, our “Workin’ Like a Dog” section features Greg Whited and his Accelerant Detection Canine (arson dog) Brisa. Greg and Brisa were the only such team in New Mexico assisting area Fire Departments with their arson investigations. Sadly, as we were going to press, we learned that Brisa had passed away as a result of an accident. We are so sorry that Greg and his family are having to deal with this! We hope everyone gets a sense of the magnitude of this loss when you read about Greg and Brisa’s partnership in his article.

Dr. Gaylene Fassenko has written another powerful article for us, this one about “The Link”—how different types of abuse, including animal abuse, are potential predictors of future abusive relationships. It may not be much fun to think about, but it’s an important subject our entire community needs to be aware of.

One of the issues Dr. Fassenko raises is that victims of domestic abuse will often remain in the abusive environment because they fear the violence will be re-directed at the family pet if they leave. And if they do leave with their pets, they find their companion animals cannot stay with them at the shelters. The Pet and Women Safety (PAWS) Act of 2015 has been introduced in both the US House and Senate to address these issues. Check it out at [nmcadv.org/2015/10/the-pet-and-women-safety-act-of-2015](http://nmcadv.org/2015/10/the-pet-and-women-safety-act-of-2015), and maybe contact your Representatives and Senators to let them know you support the bill’s passage.

And, while we’re on the subject of laws and consequences, the Doña Ana County Board of Commissioners is meeting on Tuesday, January 26th at the County Building on Motel Blvd. The meeting starts at 9:00am, and members of the public are encouraged to attend. The Board will be addressing a horrific recent animal neglect case, and if enough Dog’Cruces join the discussion, maybe together we can begin to figure out some way to prevent future instances of neglect and abuse—while making sure those who commit these crimes are unable to become repeat offenders.

Although it may sound like I aspire to higher office, I would also like to take this opportunity to squash any rumors that I will be running for President in the upcoming election under the Puppytarian party. As much as I might like to be the all-powerful POTUS, I’m totally committed to fulfilling my role as Mayor of Dog’Cruces. Besides, I don’t think the nation is ready for me!

I know we’re probably all off to a great start keeping our New Year’s Resolutions (!), but if it’s not too late, I’d like to suggest one more that I, personally, intend to keep all year long—to do even more of my shopping at local businesses. Community is as community does, and supporting one another is the best way I can think of to keep our area strong and prosperous throughout 2016 and beyond.

I hope there’s a tremendously happy and healthy year awaiting everyone—full of achievement and adventure... and totally devoid of the Dark Side!

## Vic Villalobos

Mayor of Dog’Cruces

Write to us at:

**Dog’Cruces Magazine**  
151 S. Solano, Suite E  
Las Cruces, NM 88001

or email us at:  
[Vic@DogCruces.com](mailto:Vic@DogCruces.com)

Local Resources for:  
**Health, Nutrition, Adoption,  
Lost & Found, Events  
& Furry Fun!**

Log on & join  
the community today!

### Dog’Cruces Magazine

151 S. Solano • Suite E • Las Cruces, NM 88001  
575-528-8505

#### Publisher

Marla Honeycutt

#### Managing Editor/Mayor of Dog’Cruces

Vic Villalobos

#### Senior Editors

Charissa Paskowski, Jenifer Woods

#### Contributing Editor

Phyllis Wright

#### Graphic Artists

John Connell, Andie Fierro, Jenifer Woods

#### Advertising

Larry Lytle, Charissa Paskowski, Wayne Sinclair,  
Michelle Sullivan, Vic Villalobos

#### Contributors

Ruff Barkhard, Margaret Dubbin, Dr. Gaylene Fassenko,  
Kat Lacy, Charissa Paskowski, Dr. Scott Pirtle, Vic Villalobos,  
Greg Whited, Jess Williams, Phyllis Wright, Jenifer Woods





# MESILLA VALLEY

Resort for the rest of your family.

5

Mon.-Sat. 7am-6pm  
Sunday 2pm-5pm  
(Pick up & drop off only)

## Pet Resort, LLC

[www.mvpetresort.com](http://www.mvpetresort.com)

- Grooming
- Climate Controlled Facility
- Obedience, Rally, Agility Classes
- All Companion Pet Boarding

Bring in this ad for

# 10% OFF

any retail purchase

575.523.8853  
2500 W. Amador · Las Cruces, NM

like us on facebook

## Fido Friendly RESTAURANTS



Bring your favorite pet with you & enjoy a burger & a cold beer on our outside patio on Main Street. We have the best burgers in town, plus salads, dinner specials, sandwiches, housemade brats & desserts. 18 NM Craft Beers on tap!! Only Southern NM Wines!! Now serving breakfast on Saturdays starting at 10am. We can accommodate large parties in our banquet room!

Tue. - Fri. • 11am - 9pm  
Sat. 10am - 9pm  
Sun. 12pm - 4pm

[www.lcmainstreetbistro.com](http://www.lcmainstreetbistro.com)

**575-524-5977**  
139 N. Main Street • Las Cruces, NM



Come try the Gizmo, Mango Dango and Strawana. Free Poochie Cone with Purchase.

[www.caliches.com](http://www.caliches.com)

**11AM - 10PM EVERY DAY!**  
*Dogs Must Be Leashed. Thank You.*

**575-647-5066**    **575-521-1161**  
590 S. Valley Dr    131 Roadrunner Pkwy  
Las Cruces    Las Cruces



27 Handcrafted Ales & Lagers, Produced on Premises. Also, Awesome Nachos, Burgers, Sandwiches & Homemade Root Beer Floats.

Mon-Sat: 11am - Midnight • Sunday: Noon - 11pm  
Live Music Thur & Sat 8pm - 11pm

[www.highdesertbrewingco.com](http://www.highdesertbrewingco.com)

**575-525-6752**  
1201 W. Hadley Ave • Las Cruces, NM



- Mexican Hot Dogs, Burgers & Top-Dog Mexican Food.
- Big Selection of Draft & Bottled Beer.
- Well-Behaved Pets on Leash Always Welcome on Patio.

[www.andelerestaurante.com](http://www.andelerestaurante.com)  
Open Daily • 11am-9pm

**575-526-1271**  
1983 Calle Del Norte • Mesilla, NM



**Barnett's  
Las Cruces  
Harley-Davidson®**

**STOP IN AND  
PICK UP SOME  
HARLEY GEAR FOR  
YOUR BEST FRIEND!**

- Harley-Davidson® Clothing
- Pet Items
- Sunglasses
- Luggage
- Jewelry
- T-Shirts
- Riding Gear
- Housewares
- Flags

**AND MUCH MORE**

**#barnettslascruceshd**

**I-10 @ AVE de MESILLA  
LAS CRUCES, NM**

**www.barnettslascruceshd.com • 575.541.1440 or 866.789.7077**

*We the People*

**Custom Cartridge**

**575-523-7900 COMPANY**

**3225 S. MAIN**

**LAS CRUCES, NM 88005**

- Buy • Sell • Trade
- Customer Service
- Quality Products
- Reloading Supplies
- Ammunition
- Military Supplies
- Shooting Supplies
- Layaway Available

Stop by and meet  
Cano's new buddy Kelba,  
adopted from the Animal  
Services Center

University Ave.  
Bell St.  
Union Ave.

S. Main St.  
N





**RECURRING & ONGOING EVENTS WINTER 2016**

*APA Adoption Events*

**Every Sunday (except last of each month)**  
PetSmart, 2200 E. Lohman (next to Old Navy), from 10am-3pm.

**Every Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday**  
ACTion Programs for Animals, 800 West Picacho Ave, from 12pm-5pm. Also by appointment. Call 575-644-0505.

*Spay/Neuter Clinics with SNAP of New Mexico*

**Monday, January 18th**

**Monday, February 22nd**

**Monday, March 21st**

Call SNAP at 575-524-9265 for details.

*Red Brick Pizza Monthly Fundraiser for HSSNM*

**Thursday, January 28th**

**Thursday, February 25th**

**Thursday, March 31st**

Red Brick Pizza, 2808 N. Telshor, from 11am-9pm. Social hour at 6pm. Mention "HSSNM" when placing your take-out or dine-in order, and 15% of the proceeds will be donated to

HSSNM. Contact Jean@hssnm.org or call 575-522-2529 for more information.

*Low-Cost Microchipping from HSSNM*

**Every Other Tuesday, Starting January 7th**  
PetSmart, 2200 E. Lohman (next to Old Navy), from 6pm to 8pm. Cost is \$6.35 per chip.

**JANUARY**

*National Train Your Dog Month*

*Walk Your Pet Month*

*Unchain a Dog Month*

Chaining your dog is inhumane and dangerous for the dog. It's also hazardous to anyone (usually a child) who ventures into the dog's confined area. Las Cruces/Doña Ana County restraint requirements are available for review at [donaanacounty.org/animal/](http://donaanacounty.org/animal/) or visit [nmdog.org/unchain-nm.html](http://nmdog.org/unchain-nm.html).

**Sunday, January 17th**

**OFF THE CHAIN!**

New Las Cruces/Doña Ana County Restraint Requirements go into effect.

**Saturday, January 23rd**

*Safe Haven Special Adoption Event*

First NM Bank, 3000 E. Lohman, from 11am-3pm. More information call 575-805-5338.

**Sunday, January 24th**

*Change a Pet's Life Day*

Adopt a dog or cat, donate your time to a shelter/rescue or donate funds. Help educate. Step up and be their voice!

**Saturday, January 30th**

*Canine First Aid & CPR Certification Classes Provided by IBPSA*

Your Pet Space, 3920 W. Picacho Ave, from 8am to 5pm. Class is limited to 15 people. Cost is \$100 per person, (\$25, non-refundable, up-front to reserve your seat). Call 575-652-4404. Register at [ibpsa.com/las-cruces-pet-cpr/](http://ibpsa.com/las-cruces-pet-cpr/)

**FEBRUARY**

*Responsible Pet Owner Month*

*Pet Dental Health Month*

Brush your pet's teeth often, and provide healthy treats to prevent periodontal disease.

*Spay/Neuter Awareness Month*

Call your veterinarian, ASCMV (575-382-0018) or SNAP (575-524-9265).

**Friday, February 5th**

*Book Signing: Tuesday Tucks Me In*

Fountains at Farah Barnes & Noble, 8889 Gateway Blvd West, El Paso, from 4pm-7pm.

# BE A SMOOTH PUPPY!

Beg Your Parents to Buy Your Furry Face a Bow Wow Blends Power Fruit Dog Smoothie Today!

- No Preservatives, Only Healthy Ingredients
- Supports Digestion & Urinary Tract
- USA-Made, BPA-FREE Bottle with Easy-Pour Lid
- Pour Over Food or Freeze for a Tasty Treat

**ALBUQUERQUE:** Clark's Pet Emporium **LAS CRUCES:** Andele's Dog House  
 Better Life Pet Foods locations Horse N' Hound Feed N' Supply - Karen's Animal House  
 Mountain View Market • Toucan Market • The Mesilla Valley Store on the Mesilla Plaza  
 Your Pet Space **RUIDOSO:** No Bones About It **SANTA FE:** Santa Fe Paws • Prosperous Pets  
**MONTANA:** Yellow Stone Dog Sports & Classi Pet Center

[www.BowWowBlends.com](http://www.BowWowBlends.com)





# Dates

Join Purple Heart recipient Captain Luis Carlos Montalván and his service dog, *Tuesday*, for a reading from their new children's book.

## Saturday, February 6th

### *The Golden Hearts Benefit Banquet*

El Paso Marriot, 1600 Airway Blvd, El Paso.

**VIP Mixer/Meet and Greet** from 6pm-7pm, with author and Purple Heart recipient Captain Luis Carlos Montalván and his service dog, *Tuesday*. Tickets \$75 (includes VIP Mixer, Golden Gala and a signed book).

**Golden Gala** from 7pm-10pm, features dinner, live and silent auctions, and a heartfelt discussion on living with disabilities, PTSD, trauma, and recovery by guest speaker Captain Montalván. Tickets \$65. Contact Staci at 575-522-1232 or Connie 915-920-0958. Tickets and information available at [holdmyticket.com](http://holdmyticket.com).

Proceeds benefit Golden Retriever Rescue of El Paso. See ad on page 31 of *DogCruces*.

## Saturday, February 13th

### *Valentine Pet Photos*

SHAS Thrift Store, 840 El Paseo Rd., Las Cruces 10am-2pm for Valentine Pet Photos.

## Tuesday, February 23rd

*National Dog Biscuit Day*  
*World Spay Day*

## MARCH

### Saturday, March 12th

#### *Safe Haven Special Adoption Event*

Ashley Furniture Home Store, 3299 Del Rey Blvd., from 11am-3pm.

### Sunday, March 13th

#### *K9 Veterans Day*

Honoring all military and working dogs for their service and sacrifice for our nation. Thank you for your service!

### Wednesday, March 16th

#### *Yappy Hour is BACK!*

St. Clair Winery & Bistro, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, from 6pm to 8pm. Door prizes, fun, games, costume contests, music and more, with free treats for the pooches. Food/drink (including beer and wine), available from the menu. \$5 at the door, benefits DACHS and SNAP. Well-behaved, leashed dogs welcome. Call 575-642-2648 for information.

## APRIL

### *Prevention of Animal Cruelty Month*

Report animal abuse! Call Dispatch at 575-526-0795 (choose option 6). You can remain anonymous or provide your name if you would like the officer to contact you.

*National Heartworm Awareness and Lyme Disease Prevention Month*

### *Pet First Aid Awareness Month*

First aid tips available at [redcross.org/news/article/April-Is-Pet-First-Aid-Awareness-Month](http://redcross.org/news/article/April-Is-Pet-First-Aid-Awareness-Month).

### April 10 through April 16

#### *National Volunteer Week*

A week recognizing, encouraging and thanking people who volunteer to make the Mesilla Valley a better place for companion animals. We at *DogCruces* would like to thank every one of you!

### Wednesday, April 20th

#### *Yappy Hour*

St. Clair Winery & Bistro, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, from 6pm to 8pm. Door prizes, fun, games, costume contests, music and more, with free treats for the pooches. Food/drink (including beer and wine), available from the menu. \$5 at the door, benefits DACHS and SNAP. Well-behaved, leashed dogs welcome. Call 575-642-2648 for information.

For a complete calendar of events, visit

**DogCruces.com**

List is updated as events are announced



## Your Best Friends' Best Friend!

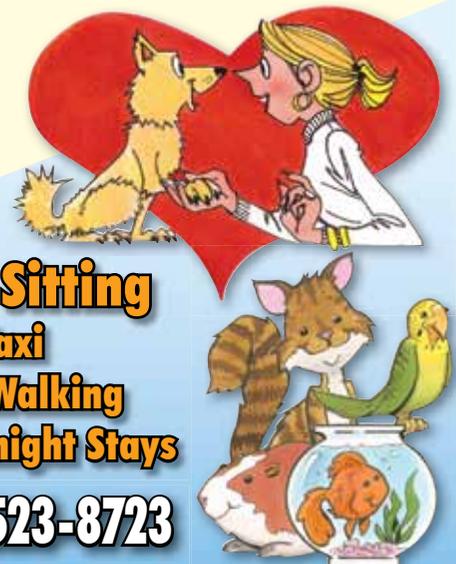
Quality Pet Care  
IN YOUR OWN HOME

In Business Since 2004

Fully Licensed, Insured & Bonded



Proud Member of:



**Pet Sitting**  
**Pet Taxi**  
**Dog Walking**  
**Overnight Stays**

Visit Us Online

**[blueribbonpetsitting.biz](http://blueribbonpetsitting.biz) • [petstr4u@aol.com](mailto:petstr4u@aol.com) • 575-523-8723**



Find your **HAPPY PAGE.**

**DOG FRIENDLY!**

**2016 NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS BEGIN HERE!**

**10% DISCOUNT!**  
For Handlers With Well-Behaved Dogs!

*Las Cruces'*  
**FIRST & ONLY WALKING & RUNNING Specialty Store**

**575 • 526 • 6767**  
runculture@yahoo.com  
221 N. Main St. • Ste. E  
Las Cruces, NM 88005

**phoD Paw Graphy**

BY: *John Connell*  
PHOTOGRAPHY

**575.312.3717**  
**WWW.JOHNCPHOTOS.COM**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY! NACHO!**

Love, Mom, Dad and

**Dog'Crucos**  
Information for the Las Cruces Dog Lovers!

**Save a Life, Adopt a Pet.**

**Cat's Meow**  
adoption center

ACTION Programs for Animals (APA)

**From...**  
**Cat's Meow:**  
2211 N. Mesquite • Wed.-Sun. • 10am-4pm  
**APA Furrever Home Adoption Center:**  
800 W. Picacho • Tues., Thurs., & Sat. • 12pm-5pm  
Wed. & Fri. 5pm-8pm

*This ad made possible by the Coalition for Pets and People.*

**FREE INITIAL ESTIMATE**



**WEEKLY, BI-WEEKLY,  
MONTHLY OR  
ONE-TIME SERVICE**



- **Indoor Pet Service**
- **Disinfecting Lawn**
- **Livestock Waste Removal**

**575.405.2155**

# PETS of Dog Cruces

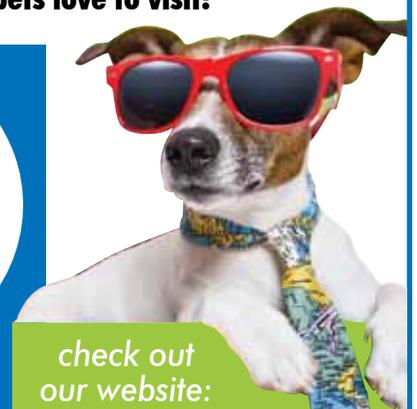
Please send your photos of your favorite pets to: [photos@dogcruces.com](mailto:photos@dogcruces.com)

**BOARDING IS OUT  
STAYCATION IS IN!!!**

Our facility ensures the highest level of safety and comfort. Your pets will have constant love, care and attention. The suites are equipped with flat screen TV, web cam, therapeutic beds, and elevated bowls. It's simply a planet pets love to visit!



MAKE 'EM  
**HAPPY**



check out our website:  
[www.petplanetcomplex.com](http://www.petplanetcomplex.com)

971 Sand Castle Ave. • Las Cruces, NM 88012  
**(575) 528-8180**



# Brrr... It Is TOO COLD Outside For Domestic Animals!

## **PET GUARDIANS ARE URGED TO BRING PETS INDOORS OR PROVIDE BETTER PROTECTION ON NIGHTS WHEN THE TEMPERATURES ARE AT OR BELOW FREEZING.**

Domestic mammals left to fend for themselves in these low temperatures suffer miserably and could even die. It's a common misconception that dogs and cats won't get cold because of their fur. However, if you are cold, then your companion animal is cold, too. Most domestic animals are not well-equipped for cold weather and can easily be susceptible to frost bite and hypothermia. Signs of hypothermia include shivering followed by stillness, slow heart beat, lack of coordination, and pale or blue gums.

*You can create a better winter shelter if it's not possible to bring your pet indoors. Here's some tips:*

- The shelter should be tall enough for your pet to sit upright and turn around. If it's much bigger, the animal cannot retain body heat.
- Straw makes good insulation. Blankets or fabric are not good if they get damp because they freeze over.
- Face the shelter's entrance to face away from the wind's predominant direction and to maximize sun exposure.
- Attach a thick piece of rubber at the shelter's entrance—a doormat or carpet scrap might work—to safeguard from rain/snow.
- Caulk any cracks in the roof and walls.
- Make sure the shelter is elevated a bit off the ground so it doesn't get waterlogged.
- Don't forget to provide fresh water each morning after the freezing temps subside.

If you see an animal left outside without proper protection, report the situation to the Animal Control departments at **575-526-0795** (central dispatch). You can also call Animal Protection of New Mexico's statewide animal cruelty hotline at **1-877-5-HUMANE (1-877-548-6243)** or the NM Attorney General's Animal Cruelty Task Force at **505-506-4000**.

Information provided by **ACTion Programs for Animals**  
[www.actionprogramsforanimals.org](http://www.actionprogramsforanimals.org)



# Doggone "Putting on the Dog"

or A Doggie-Bag of Dog-Tired Phrases

by **Ruff Barkhard**

Smart humans pine for the species canine  
And invent clever pooch-infused praises.  
As a brief demonstration for your contemplation,  
Consider these dog-tired phrases.

Let's begin with the trend to esteem man's best friend,  
Which bespeaks a robust correlation.  
Indeed, ma'm or sir, there are those who aver  
That bow-wows are God's best creation.

We have heard others say every dog has his day  
In what's known as a dog-eat-dog world.  
But if, with your spouse, you are in the dog house,  
From it, dawg, you soon may be hurled.

The dog days of summer can be a real bummer;  
When it rains cats and dogs, you can't play.  
You're encouraged to try to let sleeping dogs lie,  
Even though every dog has his day.

You will be in a fix teaching old dogs new tricks,  
'Cause you're just barking up the wrong tree.  
On a cold three-dog night, his bark's worse than his bite,  
And if the tail wags the dog, better flee.

On the day dog bites man, just as hard as he can,  
It's no shaggy dog story nor news;  
But when man bites dog, we are rendered agog,  
And get sick as a dog from the chews.

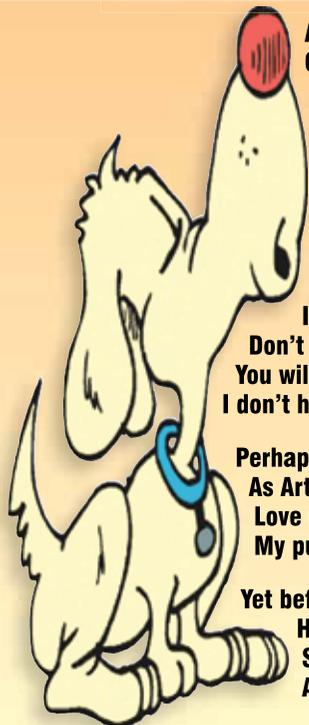
Avoid murky bogs when you run with the big dogs;  
Going to the dogs is passé.  
But if you chase your tail, I can say without fail  
Your dogs will be barking all day.

If you fancy a critter, grab the pick of the litter;  
But don't bite the hands that feed.  
Only a jerk says the dog ate my homework –  
That dog just won't hunt – not that breed.

If this poem's a real dog, and you found it a slog,  
Don't yap about who's wrong or right.  
You will have no success dogging me in this mess –  
I don't have a dog in the fight!

Perhaps we should hark to the dog that didn't bark,  
As Arthur C. Doyle suggests.  
Love me, love my dog – or a tasty hot dog.  
My puppy love argument rests.

Yet before you expire to howl with the choir,  
Have a hair of the dog that bit you.  
Single, husband or wife, may you lead a dog's life,  
And then die like a dog – adieu.



# The Vet's View

by  
Dr. Scott Pirtle, DVM



## Basic First Aid for Dogs

**M**y daughter recently acquired a new Labrador Retriever puppy, *Archer*, now 5 months old. We are somewhat in awe of the fact that he has lived to this ripe old age. He's the dog equivalent of a sugar-buzzed toddler in overdrive. We are convinced he thinks his name is "NO!"—or some variation thereof. It's amazing how many things he can find to get into, how quickly he can do so, and how often my daughter has called me for advice on what to do about it. Puppies may be the worst when it comes to eating things they shouldn't or injuring themselves; but at some point, most of us will probably face some sort of medical crisis with our adult dogs that requires us to administer some basic first aid.

Due to the extensive amount of information on this subject, I will refer you to the American Veterinary Medical Association's website for detailed information. We don't have time or room to discuss all aspects of first aid here, so I'll just touch on some highlights. You can refer to the website for details on each separate section. The website can be searched under "AVMA pet first aid" or here at:

[www.avma.org/public/EmergencyCare/Pages/First-Aid-Tips-for-Pet-Owners.aspx](http://www.avma.org/public/EmergencyCare/Pages/First-Aid-Tips-for-Pet-Owners.aspx)

First, be prepared. It is wise to have some items on hand before a crisis occurs. Keeping a pet first aid kit somewhere handy is a great idea. People that hike or camp with their dogs may want to have a kit in their vehicles or backpacks. Basic items will include bandage materials, antibiotic ointments, and maybe a few medications. The AVMA website has a nice list of supplies to keep on hand in case of an emergency. Having these items available and easy to find will make handling a crisis much less stressful. It may be a good idea to have phone numbers with the first aid kit—numbers for your veterinarian, veterinary



emergency services, state poison control, or even an animal-specific poison control center (fees may be charged). Next time you visit your veterinarian, ask if he or she has any specific advice for items or medications to have in your dog's first aid kit.

Once you have a basic first aid kit compiled, familiarize yourself with some first aid procedures. Basic principles of first aid are similar for people and dogs—for example, applying pressure to control bleeding. But many emergencies are unique to dogs, and it's a good idea to know how to handle them ahead of time. Of particular importance are things like knowing how to restrain an injured pet, or how to induce vomiting if necessary. Injured animals will frequently behave differently than under normal circumstances. It isn't unusual for a dog to bite its own owner when frightened and in pain. Taking precautions to prevent human injury is an important aspect of tending to a pet emergency. Again, the AVMA page has links to basic first aid procedures, from how to handle a poisoning to basic canine CPR. Reviewing some basic procedures and keeping a printout with your

first aid kit can save time in the event of an emergency.

While preparation and planning for an emergency won't turn you into a veterinarian overnight, it *could* possibly save your pet's life. Having the items you need and knowing how and when to use them can make all the difference in the world. First aid isn't a substitute for veterinary care. First aid is designed to control a crisis and give you time to seek medical care—so always follow up any crisis with a visit to your veterinarian. Hopefully you will never need to administer first aid to your dog, but being prepared ahead of time can reduce stress for you and your dog and eliminate wasted time should an emergency ever arise.

# FRAME

the  
**Special Moments**



and **Time Stands Still**

**PICTURE FRAME**

**OUTLET** →

and **GALLERY**

382 S. Walnut  
Las Cruces, NM 88007

575.526.4048

[www.organmountainphotos.com](http://www.organmountainphotos.com)

# JESS' GIRL



by Jess Williams



When Charissa told me that the focus for this issue was bomb-sniffing dogs, I consulted with Toby to determine if we knew one damn thing about this topic.

It was a short consultation, because we know doodly-squat—other than the fact that we are very grateful for the existence of these wonderful creatures and their remarkable trainers and handlers. That, then, is the extent of our contribution to this theme.

I dutifully turned in the above paragraph to Charissa, confident she would be effusively thankful. My confidence was misplaced. She told me I needed—at minimum—700 more words.

I consulted with Toby again, and he said I should write about him. I asked if I could throw in a few paragraphs about my new granddaughter. After some negotiation (OK, a rawhide bribe), he agreed. Yorkshire Terriers are known to be tough at the bargaining table.

Toby is very proud of the role he played as Nurse Toby while I recuperated from some minor surgery that neither of us saw coming. One day I went to see my doctor, and 48 hours later, I was on a table at Memorial Medical, where a team of highly trained professional medical personnel were carving on me and stuffing gauze into my insides. I'm told this was very good for my overall health.

Advances in medical care since the days of the leeches made it possible for me to go home within hours of the completion of the surgery, despite the fact that I had been put completely out for the procedure and the recovery-room professionals all agreed that—in terms of emerging from general anesthesia—I was “loopy as hell.”

Billy St. Roommate drove me home, where I was reunited with Toby, who was clearly concerned about my well-being, inasmuch as he barked somewhat less frantically than usual to demand his morning treat, which was about four hours overdue.



Sidelined from work for a week, Toby and I got to know our home a lot better than I ever had before. I used to decry these liberal judges who sentence minor offenders to house arrest. I now feel there should be a whole new judicial commission devoted to determining whether it's cruel and unusual punishment. Because face it, there's only so much TV a sane soul can watch, and books mixed with pain meds are just brain mush. Toby got me through it by demanding frequent and lengthy naps, which he allowed me to join.

My favorite Toby moment of the whole week was the time early on when he refused to bug me to go outside. I think he sensed I was wildly uncomfortable (and the airing episode of Family Feud was actually kind of funny). So rather than bother me, he very considerably emptied his bowels on the floor about halfway between the couch and the TV. In this way, he alerted me to the issue at hand while sending a silent message: “Nothing to worry about just now! I just didn't want you to step in it if I hid it somewhere!”

I failed to be grateful. “What the hell are you doing?” I attempted to scream, but what came out were squeaky little bursts of syllabic nonsense. Judging from the way he wagged his tail when he hopped back up on the couch, I think he took the outburst to mean, “How thoughtful of you!” Either that, or he knew instinctively that I could not catch him if he ran as far as the coffee table.

This is a story I will look back on and laugh at someday, and I will doubtless recount it to my new granddaughter, Penelope Rose, who was born two weeks before her grandfather (who shall be called ‘Pops’) was carved upon without her knowledge or permission. I'm almost certain she would have demanded a second opinion, or, barring that, tickets to watch the operation. You can just tell she will be a curious child.

Penelope Rose—who will be called Penni, unless she's in trouble—represents my first experience with some level of expected ability to care for an actual human baby. Her father, Daniel, came into my life and home at age 15, so I never navigated the baby/toddler/terrible twos/etc. stages

of parenthood. I went from zero to adolescence, which can prepare a fellow for quite a lot, but diapers are not in the mix.

(By now, Charissa is clearly wondering how I will make this content appropriate for *DogCruces*.) Well, here's the thing: If the actuarial and family-history indicators are even close to accurate, little Penni will not yet be driving (at least not legally!) when her father inherits Casa Jess and the attendant zoo. While I'm still around, she'll be exposed to companion animals as a given part of visiting her Pops, and when I'm gone, I expect she'll inherit chores centered around the care of dogs, parrots, turtles, fish and God-alone-knows whatever else I'll have taken in by then.

It is entirely possible—based on her future experiences with Toby and interactions with his colleagues and peers—that she will make career choices based on an ingrained love of animals. It's impossible to predict (though fun to think about), but perhaps she'll want to be a zookeeper, or a veterinarian. Or—and it makes me positively giddy to type this sentence—perhaps she will want to be a trainer or handler of bomb-sniffing dogs! It's possible; her boom-booms are already epic.

Jess Williams is chairman of the board of directors of the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley. Toby is spoiled beyond belief. And if you think Toby is spoiled, just wait to see what spoilage awaits Penelope Rose!

# PETS of Dog Cruces

Please send your photos of your favorite pets to: [photos@dogcruces.com](mailto:photos@dogcruces.com)

**FOR ALL AGES & EXPERIENCE LEVELS**

- **OBEDIENCE & AGILITY**
- **K-9 CONDITIONING • RALLY OBEDIENCE**

CALL OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR CLASS SCHEDULES

## 575.202.6037

[www.lascrucesdogsports.com](http://www.lascrucesdogsports.com)

# Hoop-T-Dudes

## Custom Embroidery

FINE EMBROIDERY OF  
CAPS, JACKETS, & SHIRTS

**BUSINESS • CLUBS  
SCHOOLS**

## 575.524.2590

440 E. FOSTER • LAS CRUCES, NM  
VISIT US AT: [WWW.HOOPDUDESINC.COM](http://WWW.HOOPDUDESINC.COM)

**NMSU's K9 Explosive Detection Team braves the unknown each time they're called upon to "sweep the scene" before a major event.**

**Sergeant Ryan Beck  
and his K9 partner, Ray.**

**Officer Sakarius Ottersland  
and his K9 partner, Quinty.**

**Officer Joe Cortez  
and his K9 partner, Roxy**

**PHOTOS BY JOHN CONNELL PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIC VILLALOBOS**

# SNIFFING OUT DANGER

**A**s Vic and I were about to meet *Quinty*, one of three K9 members of the NMSU K9 Explosive Detection Team, I steeled myself against an agitated response from the *bomb dog*. We always appreciate and value our interviews with law enforcement K9s, and we've learned along the way that they are often trained to respond aggressively to threatening situations. So, we're always respectfully cautious, and I didn't want to inadvertently make a move that might ID me as the bad *guy* girl. I said, tentatively, "Hi, *Quinty*," and she rushed right at me, closing the distance between us, leash slack, stride confident and strong—GASP—and then she was on me . . . really on me—

paws on my tummy, tail wagging happily, wanting to be petted, and scratched, and loved. Her friendly demeanor was a revelation: explosive detection K9s don't have to be aggressive. Their training is focused on reacting to dangerous materials, not necessarily on dangerous people—though I'm sure if I'd been dangerous, this story would have had a different focus.

*Quinty's* team, the NMSU K9 Explosive Detection Team, consists of New Mexico State University's Police Department K9 Trainer, Officer Sakarius Ottersland and his K9 partner, *Quinty*, Sergeant Ryan Beck and his K9 partner, *Ray*, and Officer Joe Cortez and his K9 partner, *Roxy*. We might think these officers' main job is to prevent drinking and campus high jinx, but the other reality is that they are the region's *only* explosive detection K9 team.

They are the team we seldom see, don't know too much about, and cannot take for granted. As we confidently attend events at the Pan American Center, the Las Cruces Convention Center, and even the Downtown Mall, among many other venues, we can thank the NMSU Police Department K9 Team for our sense of security. They will have already inspected the area for explosives before we arrived and probably without our having been aware it even happened. Officer Ottersland

says his team "sweeps any major events that are happening in the city," as well as on campus and in Mesilla.

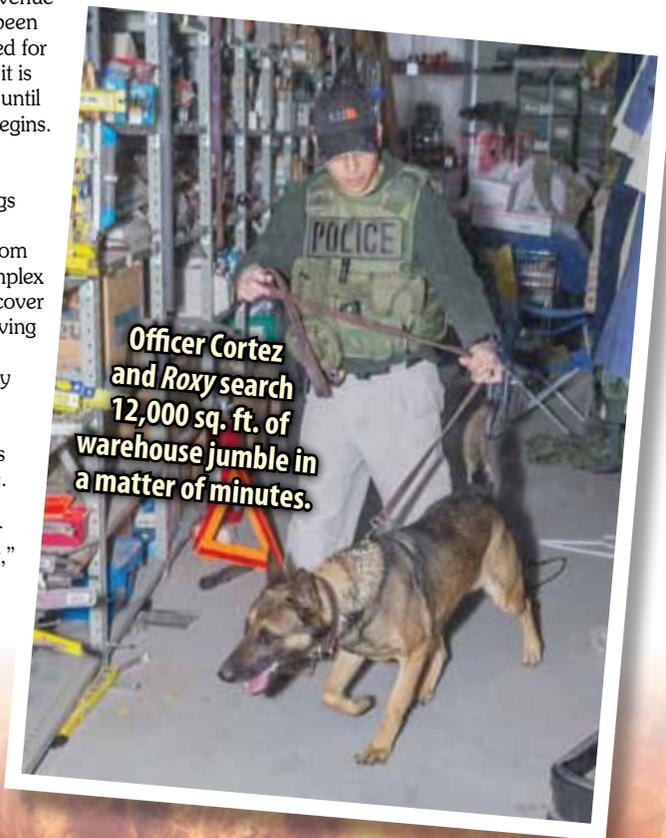
Once a venue has been cleared for an event, it is locked down until the event begins.

**There's an obvious logic in headquartering the K9 Explosive Detection Team on the NMSU main campus, because "the majority of large events happen on campus...."**

"Sweeping" means that the dogs are sniffing for any of a multiplicity of devices, from simple gunpowder to complex explosives. This allows a team "to cover a large area quickly, rather than having an officer dig through it all." Odor wafts away from a source in roughly the shape of an expanding cone. Air scent dogs, like NMSU's, work their 300 million olfactory receptors through the cone to find the source. Humidity, temperature, elevation, and wind "can all play into how far [away] the dog can sniff something," says Officer Ottersland. He recalls times when he and *Quinty* have been in the field and "she smelled something from 30 or 40 yards away. The wind was blowing hard

enough that she was able to get in the scent cone and basically track it right down."

There's an obvious logic in headquartering the K9 Explosive Detection Team on the NMSU main campus, because "the majority of large events happen on campus," according to Officer Ottersland. NMSU hosts an enormous number of sports events, concerts, and conferences, and is home to 15,490 students, 1,115 faculty, and 2,642 staff. Campus events draw local, regional, national, and international participants and observers—and the weighty responsibility for keeping everyone safe falls to *Ray*, *Roxy*, *Quinty* and their law enforcement handlers.



**Officer Cortez and Roxy search 12,000 sq. ft. of warehouse jumble in a matter of minutes.**

**BY PHYLLIS WRIGHT, WITH VIC VILLALOBOS**



The Team is often present and available at events like football games even after the initial sweep of the stadium, though they may or may not be circulating and drawing attention to themselves. I asked Officer Ottersland if the dog's alert constitutes probable cause, and he confirmed that "Our dogs will key onto the odor and track it down to the general vicinity of that odor." If one of their dogs alerts on a bag, for instance, the NMSU Police can retain the subject in "investigative custody" until a search warrant is in place. They train for detection, and it works.

Officer Ottersland described how the dogs "go out through campus [and] . . . train in a lot of the buildings" and also perform area search work, "on the side of the road" all over campus, including the NMSU ranch north of town. Their regimen may also take them a myriad of other places. Once, while training in the desert, K9 Ray even found a homemade explosive device by hitting on the residual odor. Though often behind the scenes, they are on-call 24/7 and always ready to deploy.

Committed not only to NMSU's main campus and Las Cruces, the NMSU K9 Explosive Detection Team will "respond anywhere in the county where they have bomb threats," and because both Quinty and Ray are federally-funded and the Team is "cross-commissioned," they "can respond anywhere in a two to three hour radius." The Team sees as many as 100 assignments in a year, including pre-event sweeps, and they are a rare resource. El Paso has one Homeland Security explosives detection K9, the Arizona Field Office (ATF) in Tucson has one, and the next closest team is in Albuquerque.

Vic and I asked Officer Ottersland about the risks of being on an explosive detection team, and he admitted "It does put us at higher risk, especially because we're the only ones in the area," but he added quickly "It's something I enjoy, as far as working with the dog, and it gives us an opportunity to help people, [though] nobody really knows." The majority of their work is "preventative . . . and under wraps." These three members of the 22-member NMSU Police Department are fully certified by the New Mexico Law Enforcement Academy, chose to apply for their K9 handler positions, have attended K9 Handler Training School, and work their dogs as a collateral assignment, in addition to their full-time shifts—and

they don't even expect us to know how hard they're working.

The dogs don't do any "bite work," no patrol work, nothing in addition to explosives training, because "it's such high risk when you're going out finding suspects or tracking people, it takes a lot more training and effort," and patrol work would be additional training on top of that, which could potentially dilute both efforts. As it is, each dog trains a minimum of 20 hours a month, on the handler's own time. That can make for a long work week for everyone—not including deployments.

**Though often behind the scenes, they are on-call 24/7 and always ready to deploy.**

Deployments can differ dramatically. Officer Ottersland says "It kind of depends, basically, on the handler," but in many of their venues, there are "a lot of people around," so much of their work is on-leash. Quinty can search large areas, like the Mesilla Valley Mall, off-leash, but in government buildings and spaces that require clearing office after office, Quinty is back on-leash so that she's "not knocking into computers and breaking things." One constant is that all of the NMSU bomb dogs are trained "on a passive alert," meaning that they'll sit or lie down when they find an explosive device. As Officer Ottersland puts it, because they're working with explosives, "the last thing you want them to do is scratch at the device" or bump the bomb!

Quinty and her fellow K9 officer, Ray, are Belgian Malinois, born in the Netherlands and acquired from Tri-State K9. The NMSU PD purchased and supports them with a grant they received from the Department of Homeland Security. While we may have come to expect that many of our law enforcement K9s are bred abroad, NMSU's third K9 specialist, Roxy, a Belgian Malinois and German Shepherd mix, was adopted from a classified ad. One of the NMSU officer's wives saw the ad, a plea from a family who described their dog as out of control and tearing up the house. The NMSU team recognized that that kind of energy needs an outlet, so they picked her up, and Officer Ottersland tested her for the traits that suggest potential in a bomb dog.

Roxy, as she was eventually renamed, passed with "flying colors." Sure enough, she had energy to spare. She had a strong prey drive. She showed confidence and courage, two vital attributes. She was smart. She had no fear, not of the dark, nor of tile—not even of mesh stairs, a frequent K9 nemesis. The team began her training; she was assigned to Officer Joe Cortez, and she's now a valuable member of the NMSU K9 Explosive Detection Team.

**Officer Ottersland and Quinty work side-by-side sweeping event venues.**

Bomb dogs can begin their careers as early as two years of age and generally work until they're nine or ten years old. Their jobs are demanding, but there are great perks! *Quinty* and *Ray* and *Roxy* go home with their human handlers after a hard day's work, and they lead idyllic dog lives with their humans —lots of exercise, K9 company, healthy food, families, happy homes, and what most dogs might envy—jobs! Important jobs! They put themselves in harm's way—risk their own lives on every deployment—so that harm doesn't come to our community.

The NMSU K9 Explosive Detection Team trains and works hand-in-hand with other agencies, including Homeland Security in El Paso and most frequently with the Doña Ana Sheriffs' Office (DASO) and their Bomb Squad. DASO's Bomb Squad, headed by Commander Garth Pirtle, recently earned first-place honors in the 2015 Western National Robot Rodeo—for the second time. This time, they competed against nine other teams, including the Albuquerque Police Department, two U.S. Army teams, and a team from the British Army. DASO's squad not only wins competitions, but they respond to about 30 deployments a year. The six man squad uses five robots, or robotic platforms, each of which serves a distinctive purpose, potentially associated with its size. Their largest "ROM" platform weighs 800 pounds, and their smallest "HD1" weighs in at 250 pounds. The robots are deployed remotely to clear or disrupt an explosive device. Eventually, though, Commander Pirtle says, "someone has to examine it," meaning that a member of Bomb Squad gets into an 80-pound bomb suit and renders the device safe. As with NMSU's K9 Explosive Detection Team, the DASO Bomb Squad duty is collateral, meaning that each member of the Squad holds another full-time position in the Sheriff's Office.

There are various permutations of inter-agency cooperation. For instance, NMSU K9s might track the scent and locate an explosive device. When the dogs find it, the DASO squad might take over from there and deploy one of its robots to assess the situation and one of its technicians to inspect the suspicious device. It's brave work, from the first call-out to the succeeding investigations, and we're fortunate to have these highly-trained K9s and law enforcement personnel working together for all of us.

These agencies' training and expertise were in evidence in the wake of recent local crises. Just days before DASO disabled the explosive device discovered on the grounds of the First Presbyterian Church, Las Cruces had been shocked by the bombings at Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church and Calvary Baptist Church. Officer Ottersland was on scene at Holy Cross ten to fifteen minutes after the explosion, along with other law enforcement agencies, and just a few minutes later, Officer Ryan Beck was on his way to Calvary Baptist with *Ray*. Both *Quinty* and *Ray* searched the respective post-blast areas, sifting through the debris for clues and secondary devices, and no doubt reassuring parishioners with their presence.

Vic invited the K9 Explosive Detection Team to practice at the Military Surplus Outpost (MSO) warehouse—12,000 square feet of stuff, packed from floor to ceiling. Cardboard boxes filled with who-knows-what, unidentifiable objects wrapped and piled and stacked everywhere. Old tires and cloaked shapes could be concealing anything, and the odors are as crazy as the mysterious assortment of bundles. The NMSU

K9 Team hid a short cylindrical pipe filled with explosive powder deep in the recesses of the cavernous chamber. It was the proverbial needle in a huge, labyrinthine haystack. It would have taken days upon days for an individual to have located the training device. Sniff, sniff, sniff! *Roxy*, *Ray*, and *Quinty* took rapid turns, and each was rewarded with his or her favorite toy, as well as what the team describes as "high happy" praise—high-pitched, enthusiastic, verbal kudos for a job well done. Each dog was methodical, but fast, moving as if he or she recognized the possibility of an emergency, ignoring all of us who were watching, talking, and looking curiously under tarps.

Florence Nightingale wrote that she was "convinced that the greatest heroes are those who do their duty in the daily grind of domestic affairs whilst the world whirls." I don't think she was talking about dogs, but since the paw fits...

We may never have seen them as our own busy worlds whirl around us, but NMSU's K9 Explosive Detection Team help ensure our safety at every major event we've attended in the Mesilla Valley—and we thank them!

*Phyllis Wright teaches AP English at Alma d'Arte Charter High School, and is a Contributing Editor for DogCruces Magazine.*

**Both *Quinty* and *Ray* searched the respective post-blast areas [immediately following last summer's bombings at Holy Cross and Calvary Baptist churches], sifting through the debris for clues and secondary devices...**



**NMSU's K9 Explosive Detection Team and the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad often work and train together.**



**Sergeant Beck and *Ray* search for hidden explosives in this training exercise with DASO.**



***Ray's* "passive alert" indicates he has detected the scent...**



**...after which he's rewarded with "high happy" praise—and his favorite Kong—for a job well done!**

**ALL *BYTE* AND NO BARK!**

**NOW WITH** Windows 10

**DESKTOPS STARTING AT \$495**

**LAPTOPS STARTING AT \$495**

**MOOKIE AND BELLA APPROVED!**

Mookie Bella

**Lightning Computer Systems**  
1067 N. Valley Dr. ■ 575-527-5048



**Big or Small, We Love Them All!!**

*Cherished K-9 rescues and re-homes neglected, abused and abandoned dogs.*

If you are interested in fostering or adopting, please email us at [Cherishedk-9s@hotmail.com](mailto:Cherishedk-9s@hotmail.com) 575-496-6085

**CHERISHED K-9 VINEYARDS**



[BenefitWines.com/CHERISHED](http://BenefitWines.com/CHERISHED) Presented by America's Charity Wine Shop BenefitWines

To make a tax deductible donation by mail, send checks to "Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico" or "CFSNM," 301 Church St., Suite H, Las Cruces, NM 88001, and annotate *Cherished K-9 All Breed Rescue* in the memo section. We will mail receipts for tax purposes. To donate online, go to [www.cfsnm.org](http://www.cfsnm.org), click on Donors, then click on Donate Online and enter *Cherished K-9 All Breed Rescue* in the Designation section. Receipts will be emailed.

**PETS of Dog Cruces**

Please send your photos of your favorite pets to: [photos@dogcruces.com](mailto:photos@dogcruces.com)

# Workin' Like a Dog

*At the beginning of what would certainly have been an exciting and productive new year for the FireTrackers team of Greg Whited and his canine partner Brisa, the five-year old Belgian Malinois met with an accident she did not survive.*

*We cannot express how sad we are that this beautiful and talented dog was taken from the Whited family. It's a loss not only for them, but for our whole community, as well. Greg was kind enough to have written this article for DogCruces before the holidays . . .*

## A Nose for Trouble

**M**et K9 Brisa, a five-year-old Belgian Malinois. She is certified by the American Working Dog Association as an Accelerant Detection Canine (ADC)—you may know them as “Arson Dogs,” but the terminology has changed. There are hundreds of ADCs working across the country, but Brisa has the distinction of being the only one in the state of New Mexico. In addition to being a hard working dog, she is a beloved member of our family—and an avid camper.

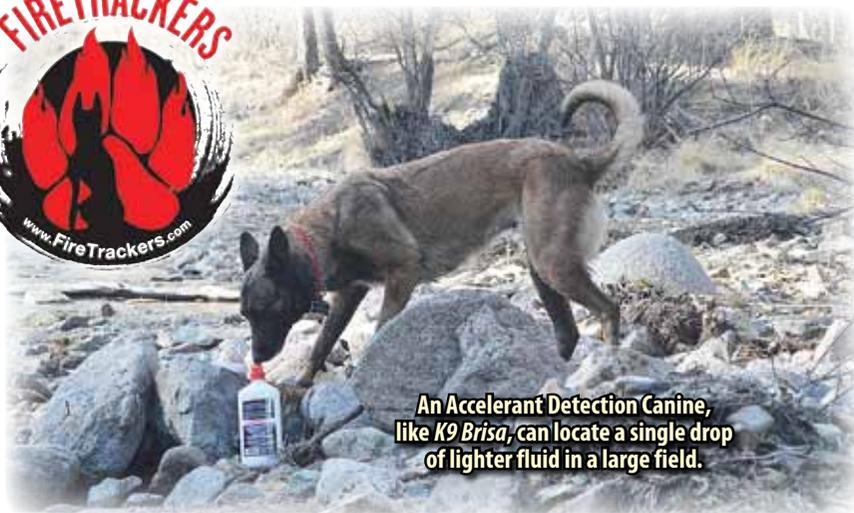
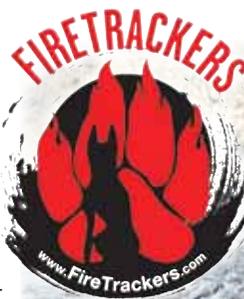
Not many people have seen an Accelerant Detection Canine in action, so let me explain what they do. Dogs, because of their high level of trainability and their unique talent for discriminating between different scents, often use their noses to help humans. From hunting, to bomb and narcotics detection, cancer detection, and even surveying wildlife populations by locating scat, working dogs perform many valuable services. K9 Brisa performs *her* job at fire scenes.

Brisa is trained to recognize nineteen different ignitable liquids—such as gasoline, diesel fuel, paint thinner, and lighter fluid—and can detect and locate a training “find” at amounts as small as one drop from a diabetic syringe. Many of the ignitable liquids cannot be detected by a person at these small amounts unless held right up to the nose; yet, a trained

ADC can locate one drop in a large field with relative ease.

An ADC is used by fire investigators to assist in locating any residual ignitable liquids that remain in a fire scene. They do not determine whether a fire was set intentionally or not, or even if the ignitable liquid they found is part of the fire investigation. That determination is up to the investigator. There are all kinds of scenarios where an ignitable liquid such as gasoline might be found at an accidental fire scene, so a positive indication by the dog is not a determination of arson. At the same time, a dog that clears a scene can help exonerate someone from a potential crime.

I got started in this field



**An Accelerant Detection Canine, like K9 Brisa, can locate a single drop of lighter fluid in a large field.**

a two-year-old German Shepherd, and we began the long, arduous training to become ADC certified. We completed the training in 2006 and worked for three more years for

EPFD. We investigated hundreds of fires, and Ben's work assisted in the arrest and prosecution of many arsonists.

In 2009 I retired from the EPFD, and Ben got to come home with me be-

**There are hundreds of ADCs working across the country, but Brisa has the distinction of being the only one in the state of New Mexico.**

cause the department was ending its K9 program. We worked scenes afterward as private fire investigators at my company, FireTrackers, LLC, until K9 Ben's passing in August of 2012. His loss was devastating. But I firmly believe in the importance of an Accelerant Detection Canine as a tool for fire investigation, so I started looking for another dog to continue Ben's good work. After a lot of research and searching, Brisa came into my life in 2012. Since we are the only ADC team in the area, we have assisted at fire scenes across the state of New Mexico and in El Paso, TX.

Watching K9 Brisa “work” is a joy. To these special dogs, this is all just a game, and K9 Brisa lives to chase her Mini Kong—her reward for a job well done. It's her favorite thing in the world to do—except, maybe, for cuddling up next to the couch with the family.

Greg Whited (IAAI-CFI, NAFI-CFEI) is President of FireTrackers, LLC  
[www.FireTrackers.com](http://www.FireTrackers.com)

**Greg Whited and K9 Brisa combined family camping trips with accelerant detection training.**



At that time, El Paso Fire had two ADCs—K9 Barry and K9 Spider—and I loved watching them work. When those dogs retired and an opening in the K9 division became available in 2005, I applied. Shortly thereafter, I was introduced to my new partner K9 Ben,

# BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER FOR THE ANIMALS



Humane Society  
of  
Southern New Mexico



- Pet Help Line / Caller Assistance
- Lost / Found Animals & Re-Home Website Posting
- Website Posting for Animals in Need
- Adoption & Fostering Program
- Spay Assistance
- Volunteer Program
- Critter Clubs / Humane Education
- Volunteer Program
- And MORE!

Support HSSNM by  
becoming a MEMBER

**575-523-8020**  
P.O. Box 13826,  
Las Cruces, NM 88013  
**www.hssnm.org**

# Connecting

## The Link Between Human

Another year has come and gone, and many people celebrated the holidays by giving gifts to loved ones—including, perhaps, their furry four-legged family members. There are many health and wellness benefits of having companion animals in our lives. But, there can also be heartache associated with these relationships.

For the past 30 years the scientific community has been researching the relationship between animal abuse and human abuse. One of the pioneers to first look at this relationship is Dr. Frank Ascione, who is a child psychologist and a Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Denver's Graduate School of Social Work. While this research has exposed aspects of human behavior that are extremely disturbing, the work is very important to understanding and addressing the problem of interpersonal (or intimate partner) violence (IPV) and animal abuse.

### What is "The Link?"

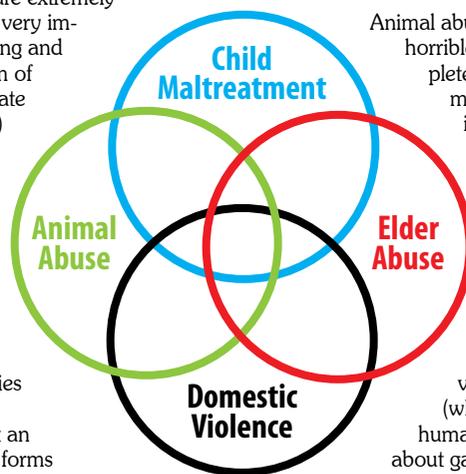
In households where sexual, physical, and/or emotional violence occurs, the violence is rarely limited to *only* people or *only* animals. Families that experience one form of violence are at an increased risk of other forms of violence occurring in the home. This relationship is so strong that researchers working in this field have actually called it "The Link." A model has been developed to demonstrate how these different forms of violence overlap (see diagram). The model originally included domestic violence, child abuse, and animal abuse, but was recently expanded to include elder abuse.

### Patterns of Perpetrators of Animal Abuse

Research has revealed that animal abuse of offenders are also more likely to commit violence against people. A Massachusetts SPCA study looked at animal cruelty cases prosecuted between 1975-1996 and determined that people who were prosecuted for animal abuse were **five times more likely** to commit violence against others.

*DogCruces* readers may recall a Fall 2013 article about Rick Hahn and his rescued terrier *Thor*. As a puppy, *Thor* had to have his hind leg amputated after being thrown across a room and slammed to the floor by his former owner's roommate, Cody Carmack. Carmack was arrested and charged with extreme cruelty to animals, but the case was dismissed by Las Cruces Judge Fernando Macias in June 2013.

On December 4, 2015 Cody Carmack (now an Albuquerque resident) was again arrested for alleged abuse—this time as a consequence of multiple injuries to his seven-month-old son. The injuries to the baby included (but were not limited to) three broken ribs and a shoeprint-shaped bruise on the child's chest.



Animal abuse in-and-of-itself is a horrible crime and is completely unacceptable in modern day society—but it might also be a red flag that a perpetrator could extend his abusive behavior to people.

### Perpetrators, Power, and the Effect on Victims

The use of psychological abuse or physical violence by a perpetrator (whether directed against humans or animals or both) is about gaining a feeling of power or control over the victim(s). In a home where people are experiencing interpersonal violence, the companion animal(s) may be one of the only sources of affection that the victim(s) have. A perpetrator of violence will often exploit this close human/animal relationship to control or intimidate the victims. Research studies have shown that victims of domestic violence will often delay leaving their abuser because they fear the abuser will harm an animal in the home.

Domestic violence shelters run on limited budgets and very often do not have the money or space to provide for the victim's companion animals. Society as a whole needs to recognize that to help human victims of interpersonal violence, we need to protect their animals, as well. Many shelters have implemented procedures



# the Dots... and Animal Abuse



so that victims do not feel they need to stay in a violent home to protect their companion animals. Some shelters are able to provide space for the victim's animals or make arrangements for temporary foster care.

Dr. Frank Ascione has written a book that provides guidelines for establishing programs to help provide shelter for companion animals whose owners are victims of domestic violence. (See the resources section at the end of this article.) The

criminal justice system is making strides, as well, to protect human and companion animal victims of violence. Many states now allow animals to be included on civil protection (temporary restraining) orders. Unfortunately, according to information posted on The National District Attorneys Association website, New Mexico is not one of the states that specifically addresses inclusion of pets in protection orders.

**Society as a whole needs to recognize that to help human victims of interpersonal violence, we need to protect their animals, as well.**

Animal control officers, veterinarians, social and child welfare workers, domestic violence shelter staff, police, district attorneys, and judges need to be trained to recognize the link between human and animal abuse—and encouraged to communicate with each other—in order to stop the cycle of animal and human abuse.

**Effects on Children Directly Experiencing and/or Witnessing Violence**

People who commit violence towards others very often have a history of having been victims of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse as children. Even when children are not physically abused, just witnessing abuse in the home leads to the child becoming desensitized to violence and reduces their ability to empathize with victims. Research has shown that children who are exposed to interpersonal violence are three times more likely to be cruel to animals than kids who have not been exposed to IPV. If children are both physically and sexually abused, they are even more likely to abuse animals. In homes where violence occurs, children may feel powerless when they are abused and might find

their own weaker victims to control and gain a sense of power over. Most often these weaker victims are the companion animals in the home. Society should no longer dismiss any form of animal abuse conducted by children as simply “a normal part of kids experimenting,” but instead should treat these behaviors as symptoms of more serious issues.

### What You Can Do

This topic—the link between human and animal abuse—is not easy to write about or discuss. But with research and open discussion that helps people recognize the seriousness of both human and animal abuse, there is opportunity to make positive change. It takes a village to raise a child. It takes a caring community to stand together and stop violence. People need to know that animal abuse is an early and reliable predictor of other crimes—particularly domestic violence. By intervening and reporting animal abuse we can help disrupt the cycle of violence. If you suspect or have witnessed abuse towards animals or people—REPORT IT. We all share the responsibility to work towards creating a society that values and demands humane treatment of all living beings.

### Resources

#### Local Resources

*La Casa, Las Cruces Domestic Violence Hotline*  
1-800-376-2272  
[lacasainc.org/how\\_you\\_can\\_help\\_us.php](http://lacasainc.org/how_you_can_help_us.php)

*Las Cruces Animal Care & Control*  
575-528-4100  
[las-cruces.org/en/departments/police-department/codes-enforcement/animal-control](http://las-cruces.org/en/departments/police-department/codes-enforcement/animal-control)

*Doña Ana County Animal Control*  
575-647-7715 • [donaanacounty.org/animal](http://donaanacounty.org/animal)

*La Piñon*  
24-Hour Crisis Hotlines 575-526-3437  
[lapinon.org/](http://lapinon.org/)

*Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch*  
575-526-0795

#### Website Resources on the Link

*National Link Coalition*  
Sign up to receive free monthly newsletter via email.  
[nationallinkcoalition.org](http://nationallinkcoalition.org)

*Safe Havens for Pets: Guidelines for Programs Sheltering Pets for Women who are Battered*  
[vachss.com/guest\\_dispatches/ascione\\_safe\\_havens.pdf](http://vachss.com/guest_dispatches/ascione_safe_havens.pdf)

*National District Attorneys Association*  
[ndaa.org/animal\\_abuse\\_resources.html](http://ndaa.org/animal_abuse_resources.html)

*Animals & Society Institute*  
[animalsandsociety.org/helping-animals-and-people/link-and-violence-resources/](http://animalsandsociety.org/helping-animals-and-people/link-and-violence-resources/)

#### Books Summarizing Research on The Link

Ascione, F. R. (2005).  
*Children and Animals: Exploring the Roots of Kindness and Cruelty.*  
West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press.

Ascione F. R. and Arkow, P. (Eds) (1999).  
*Child Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Animal Abuse: Linking the Circles of Compassion for Prevention and Intervention.*  
West Lafayette, IN: Purdue University Press.

*Dr. Gaylene Fasenko, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Companion Animals Department of Animal and Range Sciences, New Mexico State University*  
[gfasenko@nmsu.edu](mailto:gfasenko@nmsu.edu)

**can be judged by the way its animals are treated.” — Mahatma Gandhi**

Skin-Friendly • Non-Toxic • Washable  
Materials • Birthdays • Special Events  
Family Reunions • Theme Parties • & More!  
**BOOK NOW LIMITED DATES AVAILABLE!**  
[www.facebook.com/FacePaintbyAndie](http://www.facebook.com/FacePaintbyAndie)

  
**Face Painting**  
by Andie  
**575.496.4233**



DOÑA ANA COUNTY  
*Humane Society, Inc.*

Dona Ana County Humane Society • P.O. Box 1176 • Las Cruces, NM 88004

**575-647-4808**

E-mail: [dachslc@hotmail.com](mailto:dachslc@hotmail.com)

[www.dachslc.org](http://www.dachslc.org)



The **Original Yappy Hour**,  
the third Wednesday of each  
month starting in March. 6 - 8 p.m.  
at St. Clair Winery & Bistro.

**SERVICES PROVIDED by DACHS:**

- Low-Income Emergency Veterinary Aid
- Low-Income Vaccination Aid
- Shelter Dog Training
- Senior Citizen Pet Adoption Aid

**THE ANIMAL SERVICE CENTER OF THE MESILLA VALLEY (ASCMV)**

**SAVE A LIFE!**

ASCMV offers many services  
to citizens of Doña Ana County:

- Adopt a pet
- Look for a lost pet
- Volunteer
- Foster
- Microchipping
- Pet licensing
- Affordable spay/neuter program



Open: 12-6 p.m. Mon-Fri and 12-5 p.m. Sat-Sun  
3551 Bataan Memorial West • [www.ascmv.org](http://www.ascmv.org) • 382-0018

 **City of Las Cruces®**  
PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

# Traveling With Your Best Friends

by Vic Villalobos

## Scouting Ahead!

Not all of life's journeys begin when we think they should. As some of you know, my wife and I occasionally pick up unwanted Golden Retrievers that have been left at ASCMV, and we hold them or deliver them to foster homes so they don't have to spend much (if any) time at the shelter. Sometimes, Golden Retriever Rescue will call with a dog that has been surrendered directly to them, for various reasons. In early October we got one of these calls about a family who couldn't keep their Golden boy *Scout*. The family had contacted Golden Rescue, and requested to relinquish *Scout* to the rescue group because it was the right thing to do under extenuating family circumstances.

We answered the call and went to pick up *Scout*. There, before us, stood an 82-pound male Golden. Our girls are all a mere 55-60 pounds—you know, *normal* size. We were looking at the Saint Bernard of Golden Retrievers! We talked with the family and assured them *Scout* would go immediately to a foster home and then be placed in a loving forever home once one was found for him. We took the gigantic boy back to our house with the intention of heading to a foster home in El Paso the next morning.

When morning came, we loaded *Scout* in the car and headed east. But as we were driving, we received a call informing us the intended foster mom had a sick dog and didn't want to bring *Scout* into her home because she was afraid he might also get sick. "Can you watch him for a week—just one week?" we were asked. My wife and I looked at each other and said, "I guess so."

One week went by. Then two. It was strange having another boy in the house. Suddenly, I wasn't alone—I had a buddy who knew what it was like to live in a house full of girls! *Scout* and I began to bond. We humans had planned a family trip to Albuquerque and decided to take *Scout* along with us in the RV. It turns out he is a good traveler and enjoys the RV—we had a great time.

I should mention that my wife and I had recently begun thinking about the *future possibility* of adding one more dog to our pack. *Ruby* is getting older and her Search and Rescue career is approaching retirement. So—just for fun—I started testing *Scout* to

see if he would be a good SAR candidate. Wouldn't you know—he tested very well, is a "high drive" dog, and is a *great* candidate for Search and Rescue work. Plus, he already has the perfect name! Hmmmm...maybe that "possibility" of getting a fourth dog wasn't so far away after all.

Our Golden Girls are all seniors, ranging from eight to ten years old. So I had completely forgotten what its like to have a one-year-old in the mix. And have I mentioned he's enormous? Imagine an 80-something-pound *puppy* running wild through our house with three established females (four,

if you count my wife) who aren't so keen on it. It has definitely been an adjustment for all of us, and there have been some confrontations between the girls and *Scout*. More than once we've wondered if this really was the right time—and the right dog—to add to our pack. But making a family work is always worth the effort, and the dogs (with our help, of course) are figuring out how to deal with the change.

Naturally, with an extra dog on board, I've had to make some changes to both the Suburban and the RV. *Lucy*, our oldest, has had the most trouble accepting *Scout*, and this has made travelling with the whole crew difficult. We had to completely reconfigure our Suburban with partitions to keep *Scout* somewhat separated from his new sisters, which meant removing seats and adding dividers. Our seven-human-passenger Suburban now seats three humans and four (and a half) Golden Retrievers. We're making space in the RV for a crate so *Scout* can have his own area while the girls maintain their turf. We've never crated our dogs before, but different dogs like and require different things—so we're adapting. *Lucy* is adapting, too. She now lets *Scout* come within two feet of her before beginning to growl. Hey, it's a start.

The next few years will be a fun and exciting journey for us—one that I'm not sure we were quite ready to start, but sometimes those are the best kind! *Scout's* training as a Search and Rescue dog has begun. He is also going to get certified as a therapy dog, and we start obedience classes next week—boy, does he need it! I'm already collecting "*Scout's* Puppy Days" stories—like when he ate a small bag of coffee, then jumped onto and slid across our conference table at work—so you can count on reading about some of these in future issues.

I'm pretty sure *Scout's* previous owners read *DogCruces*. I'd like them to know they can rest assured that *Scout* now has his forever home (we officially signed his adoption papers on January 4th), that he will be loved and well-cared-for, and that he will go on to do great things with his life.

Life is short, keep an open mind and keep looking forward—you never know what you might scout out ahead!



# Your **PET** SPACE



## Now Offering *Pet Services* **OUT of this WORLD**

in Las Cruces & Surrounding Area

*FIRST & ONLY in Las Cruces to be part of International Boarding & Pet Services Association that provides certification upon approval in Animal Care & Safety.*

- Daycare
- **CAGE-FREE BOARDING**
- Dog Walking
- In-Home Pet Sitting
- Pet Transportation
- Extras

**575.652.4404**

[www.YourPetSpace.com](http://www.YourPetSpace.com)

**3920 W. Picacho Ave  
Las Cruces**

## SAVE LIVES, FIX YOUR PETS!



**\$25  
for Cats**  
**\$35  
for Dogs\***

The percentage animals put to death in 2014 decreased but we still need community support to keep the momentum going! Help us with the over population in Doña Ana County by spaying and neutering your pets and put a stop to unwanted litters!



Saving Lives is a  
**SNAP!**  
SPAY NEUTER ACTION PROGRAM

**575-524-9265**  
[www.snapnewmexico.org](http://www.snapnewmexico.org)

2405 W. Picacho (across from Peddler's Pavillion)

\*For lower income families in Doña Ana County.



Please send your photos  
of your favorite pets to:  
[photos@dogcruces.com](mailto:photos@dogcruces.com)





**Penny** for your  
**Thoughts**

by **Jennifer Woods**

## A Painful Reminder

**O**ften, the dogs and I are the last souls out of the office at night. (We're also usually the last ones *into* the office in the morning—so, no Hero Points.) One evening, not too long ago, I shouldered my backpack, picked up a totebag full of dirty tupperware and sundry items, and grabbed a bundle of *DogCruces* magazines to take home. *Penny* and *Summer* can sense when I'm getting ready to leave, and they start dancing in happy anticipation when the time has come. Usually, I wait 'til we're all at the front door before I put their leashes on, but this night, since I was loaded down, the girls were already hooked up and ready to go. At the last minute, I realized the light in the kitchen was still on, so I hurried back through the storage room, flipped the kitchen switch with my elbow and started back through in total darkness.

I know what you're probably thinking—"This sounds like a series of bad decisions!"—and you would be right. With my hands full and two large, leashed dogs weaving around my legs in the dark, I guess disaster was inevitable. I went down hard. **HARD.** On my good knee.

*Penny* ran away, of course. The chaos of flailing arms and flying debris, combined with the outburst of mild profanity and petty blasphemy coming out of my mouth proved more than my delicate little darling could handle. I can't blame her—*Penny's* reaction to everything even remotely out of the ordinary is to flee.

But *Summer* stayed. As I lay sprawled and whimpering on the floor, my Golden Girl crawled up beside me and, very gently and quietly, nuzzled my face and waited with me. Her calm concern was soothing, and it helped me breathe evenly and avoid panic.

I remained face-down in the dark until the initial shock of pain had waned, and *Summer* stayed with me as I gradually determined I wasn't broken. When I finally assumed my upright and locked position, I gathered all far-flung components and staggered back to our room. *Penny* was sitting

at attention in the middle of the hallway. "Thanks, Sweetheart," I said, "I know who *not* to call when Timmy falls down the well."

But I also knew, then, who I *would* call.

When I got *Summer* as a foster, she had a heart-shaped "I Am a Therapy Dog" tag on her collar. She had been a Therapaws dog before her original mom developed Alzheimer's and moved away to be closer to family. I left the tag on *Summer's* collar, because the plan was to send her to Florida once her mom had settled in. When that scenario fell through, and I got to keep *Summer* permanently, I kept the tag in place with every good intention of continuing *Summer's* involvement with the therapy group.

But time passed, and I never followed through. Eventually, I took the heart-shaped tag off *Summer's* collar and replaced it with a sunny custom name tag.

As a happy, outgoing and ridiculously-affectionate office dog, I rationalized, *Summer* provides daily doggie therapy for all my co-workers and any visiting dignitaries. But there is often a tiny, nagging botherance in the back of my brain reminding me that I'm keeping *Summer* from something she does well—providing comfort and joy to those who may not have an abundance of either on a regular basis. She Is A Therapy Dog. It was right there in front of me all along.

I'm not convinced it was just my dogs who tripped me up in the dark that night—it could also have been Karma smacking me around a little for not sharing *Summer's* gift beyond my circle of friends. I needed a reminder of how valuable canine empathy and unconditional love can be to someone in distress—and I got it.

So my resolution for 2016 is to get my Golden Girl back into Therapaws and out into the world again. In this cold and sometimes-dreary season of winter, I can promise senior centers and elementary schools around the Mesilla Valley this:

*Summer's* coming.



ACTION Programs  
for Animals (APA)

HELP US SAVE LIVES BY:  
DONATING, VOLUNTEERING,  
FOSTERING & ADOPTING



**APA FURREVER HOME  
ADOPTION AND  
EDUCATION CENTER**

**800 West Picacho Ave.  
Las Cruces, NM**

**OPEN**

**Tues/Thurs/Most Saturdays 12 to 5 p.m.  
and By Appointment**



**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK:**

<http://www.actionprogramsforanimals.org/>

**Contact us: 575-644-0505  
mail@apalascruces.org**



## BOW WOW BLENDS

Bow Wow Blends is an all-natural power pet smoothie for dogs! It's full of healthy ingredients, that support digestion. Available now at your LOCAL pet store.  
[www.bowwowblends.com](http://www.bowwowblends.com)

## KURGO SURF N TURF LIFEVEST



## HEATED PET BED

Keep your canine comfy and cozy as the weather turns cooler with a heated pet bed by Allied Precision. A toasty dog is a happy dog! Available at Horse N Hound Feed N Supply, 991 W. Amador St., Las Cruces, NM 575-523-8790.  
[www.horsenhoundfeed.com](http://www.horsenhoundfeed.com)

Both a lifevest and a three season shell in one. Intended to comfortably fit your active dog in the water, the flotation layer can easily be removed for a perfect fit waterproof shell. Available now at Better Life Pet Foods, 365 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces, NM. 575-527-9265. 315 Telshor Ste. C, Las Cruces, NM. 575-556-9117.  
[www.betterlifepetfoods.com](http://www.betterlifepetfoods.com)



## OUTWARD HOUND® QUICK RELEASE DOG BACKPACK

Keep your pup equipped for every new adventure. Features detachable saddlebag compartments and a lightweight vest with durable griphandle. Available now at Better Life Pet Foods, 365 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces, NM. 575-527-9265. 315 Telshor Ste. C, Las Cruces, NM. 575-556-9117.  
[www.betterlifepetfoods.com](http://www.betterlifepetfoods.com)



## HARLEY-DAVIDSON® APPAREL

Even pooches want to look cool! Dress them in official Harley-Davidson® Pet Apparel and they will! Available at Barnett's Las Cruces Harley-Davidson®, I-10 @ Avenida de Mesilla. 575-541-1440.  
[www.barnettslascruceshd.com](http://www.barnettslascruceshd.com)



## FROMM FAMILY PET FOODS

Since 1904, The Fromm Family has maintained a tradition of quiet innovation dedicated to the health and nutrition of animals. In 1949, we introduced the concept of premium pet food to the public. As the country's first and oldest premium pet food company, we have earned the reputation as the industry leader, producing only the highest grade pet foods with the finest ingredients. Available at Mesilla Valley Pet Resort, 2500 W. Amador, Las Cruces, NM. 575-523-8853  
[www.mvpetresort.com](http://www.mvpetresort.com)





# RABIES CLINICS IN THE CITY LIMITS OF LAS CRUCES

Anthony Animal Clinic	Sat., Jan. 23	1pm-4pm	Anthony Animal Clinic
Arrey School	Sat., Jan. 30	3:15pm-4pm	Schumacher Veterinary Clinic
Ben Archer Health Clinic (Thorpe Road)	Sat., Jan. 31	10am-3pm	Wolfgang Veterinary Services
Chaparral, Desert Aire Water	Sun., Jan. 24	10am-3pm	Mesquite Animal Vaccination Clinic
Dona Ana Rd Feed Store	Sun., Jan. 23	12pm-2pm	Animal Hospital of Las Cruces
East Picacho Elementary	Sat., Jan. 30	8am-3pm	Schumacher Veterinary Clinic
Garfield Elementary	Sat., Jan. 30	1:30pm-2:45pm	Schumacher Veterinary Clinic
Hatch City Hall	Sat., Jan. 30	10:30am-12:30pm	Schumacher Veterinary Clinic
Mayfield High School	Sat., Jan. 30	10am-3pm	Wolfgang Veterinary Services
Mesquite Fire Department	Sat., Jan. 30	8am-4pm	Mesquite Animal Vaccination Clinic
Moongate Water Co.	Sat., Jan. 23	12pm-3pm	Jornada Veterinary Clinic
Radium Springs Fire Dept.	Sun., Jan. 24	10am-3pm	Wolfgang Veterinary Services
Rincon Water Co.	Sat., Jan. 30	8am-10am	Schumacher Veterinary Clinic
Talavera Fire Department	Sat., Jan. 23	10am-3pm	Wolfgang Veterinary Services



## CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN

Animal Hospital of Las Cruces	575-541-6610	3171 N. Main St., Las Cruces NM
Anthony Animal Clinic	915-886-4558	Anthony, TX
Arroyo Veterinary Clinic	575-524-0900	825 S. Walnut, Las Cruces NM
Calista Animal Hospital	575-525-1000	1889 Calle de Ninos, Las Cruces NM
East Lohman Veterinary Clinic	575-523-5654	1700 E. Lohman, Las Cruces NM
El Abrigado Animal Clinic	575-589-1818	900 Country Club Rd., Santa Teresa NM
Jornada Veterinary Clinic	575-382-1710	2339 Saturn Circle, Las Cruces NM
Mesquite Animal Vaccination Clinic	575-650-2000	575-650-1021 or 575-650-9500
Paisana Mobile Animal Clinic	575-523-7606	565 Carver Rd.
Schumacher Veterinary Clinic	575-524-2894	701 S. Valley, Las Cruces NM
Solano Animal Clinic	575-526-1672	537 N. Solano, Las Cruces NM
Wolfgang Veterinary Clinic	575-647-4900	call for appointment

**HAPPY PAWS  
HAPPY PEOPLE!**

**Up To 20%  
OFF**

**All in Stock Products  
Ceramic Tile**

**Starting at  
69¢ Sq. Ft.**

**Carpet**

**Laminate**

**Hardwood**

**Hacienda  
CARPET & TILE**

**910 E. Paseo Rd • Las Cruces  
575-525-2088**

# Walter's Lunchbox

by Walter Dubbin  
(as told to Margaret Dubbin)



## Revolutionary Eats & Treats

**H**appy New Year Peeps!! I hope you had a fantastic Holiday season and that Santa Paws was good to you pups! *Butthead* and I had a pretty darn good Christmas ourselves, and we're ready to see what 2016 has in store for us.

First of all, I'm happy to announce that Walter's Lunchbox now has *three* products registered with the Dog Treat mafia. In addition to our Pumpkin Flavor Dog Treats and our Liver & Cranberry Treats for Dogs & Cats, we now offer a Sweet Potato Carob Cake for Dogs! These cakes are perfect for celebrating BARKdays, Gotcha-Days, Yappy Hours, and HOWLidays! Go to our website [www.walterslunchbox.com](http://www.walterslunchbox.com) to order yours.

Mom and Dad gorged themselves over the holidays, so Mom's New Year's Resolution is to lose weight with a new diet—and all the rest of us have to suffer along with her! Well, actually just Dad and *Butthead* have to go on the cutting diet with her—luckily (due to superior genetics), I'm on a perpetual *bulking* diet. Mom's spends hours upon hours on Sunday afternoons doing meal prep for the week. I really didn't think she had it in her to stick to this meal prep thing, but so far she's hanging in there and not only is she prepping for her and Dad's meals, she preps for my and *Butthead's* day care lunches and take-to-work snacks too!

If any of you out there are attempting this meal prep fad here's a few tips Mom has learned:

- 1) Don't overwhelm yourself trying to plan an entire seven days of breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Start with a goal to prep for three to five days.
- 2) Pick two or three proteins to cook. Mom usually picks a meat (elk or pork roast), a fish (trout or salmon filets), and a poultry (pheasant or chicken). Crock pot the meat, and bake or grill the fish and poultry. Mom seasons the portions for her and Dad and cooks some extra—unseasoned—for us pups.
- 3) Select three to five veggies to roast. Mom usually roasts 2-3 baking sheets of broccoli, Brussels sprouts, asparagus, sweet potatoes, or winter squashes. She'll cook up extra sweet potato wedges or butternut squash chunks for us pups.
- 4) Pick one or two starches. Make sure you prepare enough for the week! Mom likes brown rice and either baby purple potatoes or quinoa.
- 5) Clean and cut fresh veggies for snacking, juicing, or stir frying. Mom picks bell peppers, carrots, celery and cucumbers. *Butthead* and I love snacking on carrots and cucumbers, and sometimes Mom fills celery sticks with peanut butter and carob

chips for a dog-friendly version of "ants on a log."

6) Choose 3 fruits. Mom always picks fruit that us pups like to eat—like bananas, apples, or berries.

7) Hard boil 6-12 eggs for snacks, salads, or sandwiches. Mom always shares the yolks with us, but *Butthead* is limited to one yolk a day 'coz it tends to give him some awful-smelling farts!

8) Prepare no-cook overnight oatmeal in single serving containers or cook up mini egg fritattas with veggies, cheese, and sausage in individual muffin cups for quick grab-and-go breakfasts. Assemble meals and snacks in individual serving containers and store them in the 'fridge.

These Salmony Egg PUPovers are one of Mom's diet recipes adapted for us doggies, and Blueberry Oatmeal Cookies are perfect for Valentine's Day!

### Blueberry Oatmeal Cookies

- 2 C Brown Rice Flour
- 2 1/4 C Flaxseed Meal
- 2 C Rolled Oats
- 2 Tbsp. Vegetable Oil
- 1 C Blueberries
- 2 Tbsp. Honey
- 1/2 C Applesauce
- 1 Egg • 1/4 tsp. Vanilla
- 1 1/4 C Water



Preheat oven to 325°F. Combine dry ingredients in a large mixing bowl. In separate bowl, mix together wet ingredients until thoroughly blended. Add wet ingredients to the dry and mix until it forms a stiff dough. Knead dough until all ingredients are thoroughly distributed. Divide dough and roll out sections to a 1/4" thickness, between pieces of parchment paper or on a floured surface. Using cookie cutter, cut out shapes and place onto parchment-lined cookie sheets. Bake for 30-45 minutes or until center of cookie is firm. Turn off oven but leave cookies in—allowing them to completely cool.

### Salmony Egg PUPovers

- 6 Eggs (or egg whites)
- 2 C Spinach & Kale Blend (chopped)
- 6 Tsp Cottage Cheese
- 4 oz. Smoked Salmon (or leftover grilled salmon)
- 2 Tbsp Water



Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease muffin tin or silicone muffin cups with cooking spray. Whisk together eggs and water in separate bowl. Line bottom of muffin cups with spinach/kale blend, flake salmon over the greens. Place 1 tsp of cottage cheese in the center of each cup. Fill muffin cups with egg mixture (approx. 1 egg per cup). Bake for 30 minutes or until firm. Remove from heat and allow to cool completely before serving.



Dog Cruces ❀ Winter 2016

NOTE: ALWAYS consult with your veterinarian regarding ingredients, serving sizes and special dietary requirements prior to changing your pet's diet.



# Kat's Korner by Kat Lacy



## Cat-Pocalypse Now!

If one of your 2016 resolutions is to be better prepared for emergencies, this Kat's Korner from Spring 2012 will help include Kitty in your plans...

**T**eatwawaki (or 'the end of the world as we know it') is rather an oxymoron for my felines since it implies I'm not providing them the perks-on-demand they are used to. Food-now! Yummys-now! Milk-now! Inside-now! Outside-now! Inside-now! Outside-now!—would undoubtedly still be demanded, as I learned all too well during February 2011's "Snowpocalypse."

Are we in a new era of transition, or is the same primitive fear imbedded in all of us just phasing to the surface again? Whether you believe a doomsday scenario will happen in your lifetime or not at all,

decision about trimming your cat's nails prior to the storm: If you *aren't* going to be in the vicinity, *don't* trim them, so kitty can get a good purchase and not blow away. If you *will* be sharing space with the cat, trimming is recommended since you are most likely what kitty will attach to. If the latter, goggles for you are also recommended.

**Alien Invasion / Martial Law:** Build a special underground shelter in your underground shelter so your kitty has a safe hiding place until the smoke clears. Be sure to install an in/out door so your cat can go in and out and in and out and in and out and in and out...

**EMP (electromagnetic pulse):** In this case, the micro-GPS unit you embedded under your cat's skin will not function, so make sure to get a neon kitty vest with reflectors to help locate your cat from far away. If you have a Geiger counter handy, radioactive reflectors will also help with short distance locating.

**Zombies!:** Kitty needs a mini Boom Stick to blast away undead cats trying to eat his brain.

**Nukes:** See shelter within a shelter above, but add a lead liner. No need for food; cats aren't squeamish about cockroaches, and we know they can survive anything.

**Global Warming / Ice Age:** Stock up on healthy, intact mice. They will reproduce at a sufficient rate to keep your cat well fed during long freezes or dry hot spells. Your dehydrated food scraps will keep the mice well fed.

All kidding aside, when/if "The End of the World as We Know It" occurs, we can rest assured that our cats will probably fare better than we will; when cockroaches rule the world, kitty will have a never-ending food supply! But it always makes sense to make some preparations ahead of time so that all family members—including the furry ones—fare well during a crisis.

Written by Kat Lacy, Owner, Better Life Pet Foods. Edited by her daughter, Shannon Ellison. (FYI: There is a real cat food product which has a very long shelf life for your apocalyptic preparations. B.F.F. Best Feline Friend Tuna & Chicken 4EVA recipe for cats is available at Better Life Pet Foods. Other products mentioned here are most definitely not.

weather the storm. Whether it's as simple as a power outage or as intense as an electromagnetic pulse, you need to think ahead. I'm here to help you focus on one family member in particular: your cat.

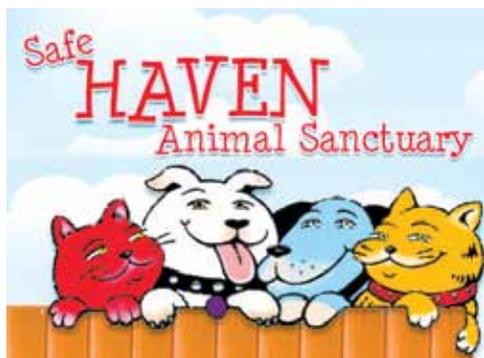
Cats are skilled hunters, so you'd think they'd be capable of providing for themselves post-apocalypse. But they are also masters at training us to do their bidding, and would no doubt prefer we will still be their loyal servants far into the future. We can serve them *now* by taking steps to ensure kitty makes it through doomsday with us. If you're a cat-lover, here are a few scenarios you've almost certainly never thought about. But you *could* put them into action when "it" hits the fan:

**Avalanche or Flood:** The Kitty Hövding Airbag (look this up: [www.hovding.com](http://www.hovding.com)—it's worth it!) inflates instantly for flotation and will keep kitty's head above water or snow until you can reach him.

**Pandemic:** Modified no-bark spritzer collar (obviously for dogs, but no room for pride in a crisis situation), attuned to activate at a human sneeze, filled with garlic, citronella, and colloidal silver.

**"Habooob" or Dust Storm:** Cat goggles are a must for eye protection. You also need to make a

all of us—including our pets—should be prepared to



## Adoption Center for cats & dogs

Home to some 90 adoptable pets, all seeking a new home.

To adopt a pet, or to visit the Sanctuary, call

575 805-5338

6890 Eagle Rd, Las Cruces

email: [safehaven.pets@yahoo.com](mailto:safehaven.pets@yahoo.com)



for more information on Safe Haven, visit the website: [www.shaspets.com](http://www.shaspets.com)



# Make a Difference

## Adopt, Foster, Volunteer, Donate



**GET YOURS  
TODAY  
AT OUR OFFICE!**

**151 S. SOLANO  
SUITE E  
LAS CRUCES,  
NM 88001**

**575.527.3463**

**L**ocal Animal Organizations always need good people to help them meet their goals. Contact the groups below to see which one(s) would be the best fit for you!

**2 Hearts 4 Paws Refuge**  
575-642-9614 or 575-642-6589  
email: twohearts4pawsrefuge@yahoo.com  
www.2hearts4pawsrefuge.com

**ACTION Programs for Animals (APA)/  
Doña Ana Pets Alive! (DAPA)**  
800 West Picacho, Las Cruces, NM  
575-644-0505 or 575-571-4654  
email: mail@apalascruces.org  
www.actionprogramsforanimals.org

**Animal Service Center  
of the Mesilla Valley (ASCMV)**  
3551 Bataan Memorial West, Las Cruces, NM  
575-382-0018  
www.ascmv.org

**Cat's Meow Adoption Center**  
2211 N. Mesquite, Las Cruces  
575-642-5239  
www.catsmeowlascruces.com

**Cherished K9 All Breed Rescue**  
575-496-6085  
email: cherishedk-9s@hotmail.com

**Deming Animal Guardians**  
575-644-2209  
www.deminganimalguardians.org

**Doña Ana County Humane Society  
(DACHS)**  
575-647-4808  
www.Donaanacountyhumanesocietyinc.org

**Coalition for Pets and People  
(Zero in 7)**  
www.zeroin7.org

**Humane Society of Southern NM (HSSNM)  
/PetSmart Cat Adoption Center**  
575-523-8020  
email: mail@hssnm.org  
www.hssnm.org

**Las Cruces Dog Park Coalition**  
PO Box 13345, Las Cruces, NM 88013  
575-520-4382  
www.lcdogparkers.com

**Safe Haven Animal Sanctuary (SHAS)**  
575-527-4544  
email: safehaven@nightfury.com  
www.safehavenanimalsanctuary.net

**Spay/Neuter Action Program  
of Southern NM (SNAP)**  
2405 W. Picacho, Las Cruces, NM 88005  
575-524-9265  
www.snapnewmexico.org

**Therapaws**  
575-524-2026  
email: therapaws@gmail.com  
www.therapydogs.com (parent organization)

### Featured Group

## Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley

The Animal Services Center (ASCMV) provides food, shelter, medical care, love and attention to thousands of lost, stray, abused and unwanted pets. By providing supplies, monetary donations or your time and/or expertise, you can help to better the lives of Las Cruces' sheltered animals. You can help directly with shelter animals by raising public awareness, fundraising, marketing, grooming, dog walking, caretaking, or as an office assistant, offsite adoption assistant or in other areas of need. Your efforts really do make a difference!

**Animal Service Center of the Mesilla Valley**  
Attn: Volunteer Programs  
3551 Bataan Memorial West  
Las Cruces, NM 88012  
Phone (575) 382-0018

# GOLDEN

## Hearts Benefit Banquet

Feb. 6, 2016 ♥ 6-10 PM

El Paso Marriott, 1600 Airway Blvd.

A heartfelt discussion on living with disabilities, PTSD, Trauma & Recovery.

Featuring Purple Heart recipient Captain Luis Carlos Montalván and his service dog, Tuesday.



**FEB. 5 ♥ 4-7PM**  
"TUESDAY TUCKS ME"

Captain Montalván and Tuesday read & sign children's book at the Fountains at Farah Barnes & Noble • FREE TO PUBLIC

**FEB. 6 ♥ 6-7PM**

VIP MEET & GREET with Captain Montalván and Tuesday • \$75/PER.

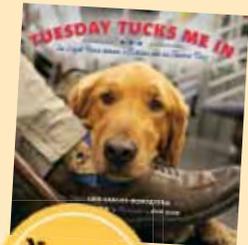
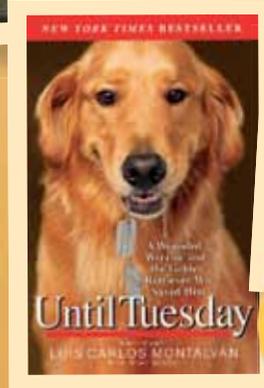
(25 available, includes gala dinner entry and signed book)

**FEB. 6 ♥ 6-10PM**

GALA DINNER, live & silent auction and guest speaker Captain Montalván and Tuesday • \$65/PER.

**Tickets @ HoldMyTicket.com**

**575-522-1232 or 915-920-0958**



"Until Tuesday - A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever that Saved Him" & "Tuesday Tucks Me In", the follow up children's book.

### ♥ Thank You Sponsors



Gordon Environmental, Inc.  
Consulting Engineers  
"engineering a better environment"



# HORSE N HOUND FEED SUPPLY

since 1983



- More than 15 lines of high-quality dog food
- Animal health
- Treats and toys
- Dog accessories
- Collars & leashes

**\$2 OFF**  
ANY 30 LB OR LARGER BAG OF  
**DOG FOOD**

EXCLUDES DEALERS CHOICE AND COUNTRY ACRES.  
LIMIT ONE COUPON PER VISIT.  
SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. EXPIRES 4/30/16



**BUY ONE GET ONE  
FREE**  
**MULTIPET PIG**

(PICTURED) MIX AND MATCH.  
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.  
EXPIRES 4/30/16.



8 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Monday through Saturday

991 W. Amador Ave.  
575-523-8790  
[www.HorseNHoundFeed.com](http://www.HorseNHoundFeed.com)

