

Spring 2018

FREE!

Dög Cruces

Information for the Las Cruces Dog Lover!



FIT & Fabulous

Meet the New Boss

ASCMV's new Director, Clint Thacker, brings a solid background and achievable goals to our local shelter.

Page 19

Ensuring Excellent Service

With more and different kinds of service animals out and about, NMSU's Aggie PAWS makes sure people know how to interact with on-the-job dogs.

Page 21

A healthy *Fido* is a happy companion! Canine Conditioning and Veterinary Rehab programs are growing by leaps and bounds. Get your dog leaping and bounding with a structured fitness program led by certified professionals.

Page 15

There'd Better Be Biscuits in Heaven

Wingman Walter fights The Big C with characteristic grace and humor.

Page 28

PLUS . . . Just Another Shell Game for Jess . . . Chilly Dogs on a Road Trip Up North . . . Keeping it Local . . . and More!!

BETTER LIFE

NATURAL PET FOODS

REWARDS

SAVE BIG with the best loyalty programs and customer discounts in town!



315 Telshor Blvd, Suite C
(575) 522-0115

365 Avenida de Mesilla
(575) 527-9265



Spring into Fitness!

Spring has sprung here in the Mesilla Valley! And this means warmer days and evenings that beckon to us and our dogs to end our winter hibernation and head into the great outdoors.

Keep in mind that it's *also* time for our slithery friends to do the same. We've already seen many reports of snakes out and about in our area—they might not all be poisonous, but even a non-poisonous bite can get infected if it's not treated immediately. Please seek medical attention—for your humans or your dogs—after any type of snake bite. Talk to your veterinarian about possibly using the rattlesnake vaccine if you and your dogs spend a lot of time outdoors.

Of course, spending active time with your pups doesn't just help you stay fit and shed any lingering winter weight; it also helps Fido maintain a healthy lifestyle. Our cover story is about the growing field of Canine Conditioning, Fitness Training, and Veterinary Rehabilitation. Kim Fuqua of Las Cruces Dog Sports and Kyle Schumacher, DVM tell us how all dogs—not just canine athletes and working dogs—can benefit from fitness training. And can have a ball doing so!

My wife and I recently took **all four dogs** on a trip to the Grand Canyon and were reminded that not everyone feels the same way we do about dogs. That's easy to forget here in Dog'Cruces. While exploring the Park, we came across visitors from

other countries, as well as from other parts of our own country. Many stared at us as if I had Sasquatch on a leash (*Scout* does love the woods), while others gave us a wide berth as though they feared being attacked by a herd of fluffy Golden Retrievers. But for the most part, folks just wanted to give our girls a hug or a quick scratch behind the ears and tell us about their pets back home. Not everyone is comfortable around dogs, so always be considerate of other people's fears and feelings when you are out in public. But it's a universal truth that a friendly, well-behaved pooch is probably the best ice-breaker there is for meeting new people...wherever you are! You can read about our chilly trip up north in my *Traveling With Your Best Friends* column on page 23.

This issue of the magazine is chock-full, as always...New ASCMV Director Clint Thacker introduces himself and outlines his vision for our shelter in our *Working Like a Dog* section. Dr Pirtle focuses on eye health and ocular diseases that can afflict our canine friends. The student members of Aggie PAW are on a mission to educate people about proper—and improper—ways to interact with on-the-job service animals. Kat keeps up the drumbeat on a cause near-and-dear to our hearts—choosing to shop at local, independent businesses in our community rather than giant on-line companies.

And Jess...well...Jess takes another step

further away from *DOG'Cruces* by taking on the turtle world in his column this time. Seems it took him an entire geologic epoch to do so, but he finally created the Tortuga Island of his dreams. And Casa de Jess is better for it.

Finally, please join me and our *Dog'Cruces* family in sending positive thoughts and doggie prayers to our good buddy *Walter*, of *Walter's Lunchbox*, who is currently fighting cancer. His mom and dad, Margaret and Mark, are dedicated to our local animal community, and we send them and their furry family love and support from the bottom of our collective heart.

Hug your doggies and kitties (if they'll let you) as often as you can. Appreciate their unconditional love, and make every moment you have with them count.

Dog years go by so fast.

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

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

facebook
Log on & join
the community today!

Dog'Cruces Magazine

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

Publishers

Sonya Ruiz, Vic Villalobos

Managing Editor/Mayor of Dog'Cruces

Vic Villalobos

Senior Editors

Charissa Paskowski, Jenifer Woods

Contributing Editor

Phyllis Wright

Graphic Artists

John Connell, Jenifer Woods

Advertising

Charissa Paskowski, Wayne Sinclair,
Michelle Sullivan, Vic Villalobos

Contributors

Margaret Dubbin, Cheyenne Eldridge, Kim Fuqua, Kat Lacy,
Charissa Paskowski, Dr. Scott Pirtle, Kyle Schumacher, DVM,
Clint Thacker, Vic Villalobos, Jess Williams, Phyllis Wright





READ BEFORE YOU FEED
ANIMAL FEED LABELING MATTERS

What does the label of your pet food product tell you?

The basic information required on labels includes product name, product purpose statement, a guaranteed analysis, ingredient statement, manufacturer name and address, net weight statement, and feeding directions.

Charlie's DOG TREATS

Lists the percentage of nutrients

● GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

Crude Protein (min).....14%
Crude Fat (min).....4%
Crude Fiber (max).....2%
Moisture (max).....10%

Product name and purpose statement

Company responsible for the product

● INGREDIENTS

Wheat Flour, Peanut Butter, Oats, Honey, Egg, Vegetable Oil, Natural and Artificial Flavors

Lists the name of each ingredient

● FEEDING DIRECTIONS

Feed as treat or reward.

Indicates how the product is to be fed to produce the desired results

Net weight

● ACME PETS
Regulatory Building
123 Main Street
Here Street, NM 01234

● Net Weight 8oz (226.8g)

To learn more about the New Mexico Department of Agriculture Feed, Seed and Fertilizer Section, visit our website at www.nmda.nmsu.edu
To contact us, call (575) 646-3107.



WE ARE ALL PACK ANIMALS COME JOIN OUR PACK

SHELBY AND SUNNY
APPROVE



MOTORCLOTHES • BOOTS • JACKETS • HELMETS
MOTORCYCLES • SERVICE • PARTS • ACCESSORIES
PET ACCESSORIES • HOME DECOR • AND MUCH MORE
ITEMS FOR EVERY FAMILY MEMBER (2 OR 4 LEGS)

NICE
BIKES!

YES,
THEY ARE.

575.541.1440
110 @ AVE DE MESILLA
WWW.BARNETTSLASCRCESHD.COM

YOUR SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO HARLEY-DAVIDSON® HEADQUARTERS

NEW & USED FIREARMS!

BUY! • SELL! • TRADE!

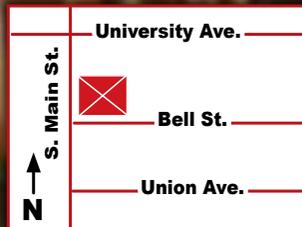
WOOF!

Dad and Mom have the
BEST DEALS
in Town!

Please come
Love on us...
and, oh yeah,
buy something for
yourself too.



- AMMUNITION
- RELOADING SUPPLIES
- SHOOTING SUPPLIES
- MILITARY SURPLUS
- LAYAWAY AVAILABLE
- SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME



Stop by and meet Kelba and her buddy Cano!

Custom Cartridge
575-523-7900 COMPANY

3225 S. MAIN
LAS CRUCES, NM 88005





Doggie

RECURRING & ONGOING EVENTS

SPRING 2018

Cherished K-9 All Breed Rescue Adoption Events

- Saturday, May 5th**
- Saturday, May 19th**
- Saturday, June 2nd**
- Saturday, June 16th**
- Saturday, July 7th**
- Saturday, July 21st**

Pet's Barn, 1600 S. Valley Dr., from 11am-3pm. Come meet your furry new friend!

SHAS Adoption Events

- Saturday, April 28th**
- Saturday, May 26th**
- Saturday, June 20th**

PetSmart, 2200 E. Lohman (next to Old Navy), from 10:30am-2:30pm.

APRIL

Saturday, April 21st

Paws 'n' Claws 5th Annual Road Rally

Barnett's Las Cruces Harley-Davidson, registration from 10am-12noon. \$20 per rider, \$5 per passenger. Riders can visit four

stops around town and in Radium Springs, take pictures of themselves at each one, and redeem the photos for free raffle tickets at the after-party, 4pm at The Game 2. Entry fee entitles participants to free food and a drink. Hosted by owner, Marci Dickerson. Live auction, raffle and game prizes, with music by Triple Jack. Register day of event or pre-register at holdmyticket.com/event//307748. Call 575-642-2648 for information.

Saturday, April 21st

Las Cruces Dog Park Coalition Annual Membership Meeting

Recreation Center of the Encantado Mobile Home Park on Solano, from 2pm-4pm. Will include an Ice Cream Social! Contact Kevin at 575-520-4382 for more information.

Saturday, April 21st

Fundraiser Rummage Sale

2025 N. Valley Dr. in Las Cruces, from 8am-12noon. Benefits Cherished K-9 All Breed Rescue.

MAY

Chip Your Pet or Check the Chip Month

Thursday, May 3rd

8th Annual Wineing for the Animals

Grapevine Plaza, 3900 W. Picacho Ave., from 5:30-8:30pm. This is Safe Haven's signature fundraiser to benefit the cats and dogs

of the sanctuary. Tickets are \$30/ticket or \$55/couple and include complimentary hors d'oeuvres, a glass of wine or beer, live music by Alison Reynolds on the outdoor stage, and a vast array of more than 150 silent auction items. Tickets may be purchased online at shaspets.networkforgood.com, Safe Haven Thrift Store, Grapevine Plaza, or at the door. All two-legged guests must be 21 or over.

Wednesday, May 16th

Yappy Hour

St. Clair Winery & Bistro, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla, from 6pm-8pm. Well-behaved, leashed dogs welcome. Seating on lawn and outside patio, with outside bar and table service. Music, silent auction, door prizes, free Caliche's sundaes and poochie cones, and a "Star Wars" themed doggie costume contest! Life-sized replicas of R2D2 and Luke's Land Speeder will be there. \$5 at the door, benefits the Doña Ana County Humane Society and the Spay and Neuter Action Program. Call 575-642-2648 for information.



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 • 382-0018



Dates



Thursday, May 17th

SNAP's 20th Anniversary Gala

Las Cruces Convention Center, from 6pm-9pm. Come have fun with entertainment by Jamie L'Hara, "The Magic Guy," a silent auction, buffet (including vegan choices) and music. Well-behaved, leashed dogs are welcome! NO flexi-leashes, please. Doggie Buffet provided by Better Life Pet Foods. Tickets are \$50 each and are available at Better Life Pet Foods (both locations), DogCruces/American Classified office, 151 S. Solano, Suite E., and the SNAP office. Call 575-525-9265 for more information.

Saturday, May 19th

LC Dog Park Coalition 9th Anniversary Celebration

The Coalition will celebrate the 9th Anniversary of the opening of the only leash-free dog park in Doña Ana County, starting at 4:00 p.m. There will be a celebration of winter and spring canine birthdays, with minor gifts and treat bags. There will also be a human pot luck, featuring a 9th Anniversary Cake just outside of the park, as well as some canine activities. Contact Kevin at 575-520-4382 for more information.

JUNE

Thursday, June 7th

Rudy's to the Rescue Adoption Promotion

Rudy's Bar-B-Q, 1020 N. Telshor Blvd., from 4pm-7pm (on the side patio). Call for information 575-805-5338.

Wednesday, June 20th

Yappy Hour

St. Clair Winery & Bistro, 1720 Avenida de Mesilla from 6pm-8pm. Well-behaved, leashed dogs welcome. Seating on lawn and outside patio, with outside bar and table service. Music, silent auction, door prizes, and free Caliche's sundaes and poochie cones. New ASCMV Director Clint Thacker will be there to meet the public. \$5 at the door, benefits the Doña Ana County Humane Society and the Spay and Neuter Action Program. Call 575-642-2648 for information.

Friday, June 22nd

Take Your Dog to Work Day

Encourage your employers and co-workers to experience the joys of pets in the workplace for a better atmosphere!



JULY

Thursday, July 5th

Rudy's to the Rescue Adoption Promotion

Rudy's Bar-B-Q, 1020 N. Telshor Blvd., from 4pm-7pm (on the side patio). Call for information 575-805-5338.

Sunday, July 15th

National Pet Fire Safety Day

Your pets need to be included when preparing for fire emergencies. Extinguish any open flames, remove knobs from the stove, consider flameless candles, replace glass water bowls with metal or plastic, have leashes and collars stored near the entrance of your home, secure young pets when you are away from home, display fire alert window clings to identify the number of pets in your home, and have a plan when you are home!



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

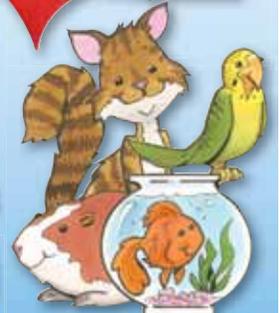
In Business Since 2004

Fully Licensed, Insured & Bonded

Proud Member of:



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



Visit Us Online

blueribbonpetsitting.biz • petstr4u@aol.com • 575-523-8723



www.LasCrucesDOGSPORTS.com



FOR ALL AGES & EXPERIENCE LEVELS



FITNESS CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE!

**OBEDIENCE & AGILITY • K-9 CONDITIONING
RALLY OBEDIENCE • PUPPY PERFORMANCE
MESSAGE THERAPY**

CALL OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR CLASS SCHEDULES

575.202.6037



PET INSURANCE FROM FARMERS IS A SMART WAY TO LOVE YOUR PET.

Pet Insurance provides coverage when your pet needs medical care for unexpected accidents, illnesses, emergency care and every day conditions as well as provides optional coverage for routine and preventative care. Protect your pet with insurance for unexpected accidents and illnesses. Farmers has chosen customer and veterinarian recommended Pets Best, a trusted leader in Pet Insurance to offer the following coverages:

- Injuries
- Illnesses such as allergies and diabetes
- Surgeries
- Hereditary and congenital conditions
- Prescription medications
- Cancer treatments
- Acupuncture & chiropractic care
- Physical rehabilitation



Discounts for Pets

Coverage for about the cost of pet food. 5% discount on Pet Insurance for Farmers customers.

Pet insurance coverage offered and administered by Pets Best Insurance Services, LLC is underwritten by Independence American Insurance Company

Call me and I can help walk you through your options!



522.1111
Bruce Buchman
Your Local Agent

1698 S TELSHOR BLVD STE B
LAS CRUCES, NM 88011
BBUCHMAN@FARMERSAGENT.COM
<https://agents.farmers.com/bbuchman>



PETS of Dog 'Cruces



Dog Cruces
Monterey Peninsula



Please send photos of your favorite pets to:
photos@dogcruces.com

Your **PET SPACE**



OUT of this WORLD
in Las Cruces and Surrounding Area
Pet Services

**CAGE-FREE
BOARDING
& DAY CARE!**

FREE FIRST DAY
***INCLUDING ASSESSMENT**
(\$20 Value *New Clients Only)



DAYCARE • DOG WALKING • GROOMING
IN-HOME PET SITTING • PET TRANSPORTATION
STAFF CERTIFIED IN CANINE/FELINE CPR & FIRST AID

575.652.4404
www.YourPetSpace.com

3920 W. Picacho Ave
at Dickerson's

Gift of Goodbye

In-Home Pet
Hospice & Euthanasia



*Share the final moments with
your beloved pet in the
comfort and privacy of
your own home*

(575) 312-0679 8 am - 7 pm, 7 days a week
www.giftofgoodbyevet.com



JOIN US FOR THE
Paws & claws



5th ANNUAL ROAD RALLY RIDE FOR THE PAWS!

BENEFITTING THE DOÑA ANA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
APRIL 21ST, 2018
 Registration: 10am - Noon
 at Barnett's Las Cruces
 Harley-Davidson

\$20/Rider
\$5/Passenger

Includes food and 1 drink on Marci at the after party being held at
THE GAME II
PARTY STARTS AT 4 P.M.
MUSIC, GAMES, PRIZES, LIVE AUCTION & MORE!



Register Online @
holdmyticket.com/event//307748
 Call (575) 642-2648 For Information



The EYES Have It...Some

One of the most common issues we see every day in veterinary practice is a variety of eye conditions ranging from minor to extremely serious. I've always felt that eye conditions warrant a cautious approach since vision could be threatened. If your dog shows any symptoms of an eye problem, please see your veterinarian as soon as possible. Eye problems are sometimes complex and difficult to treat, and they remain one of the most common reasons for veterinarians to refer their patients to an eye specialist. Veterinary ophthalmologists have several years of advanced training, along with an array of sophisticated diagnostic and surgical equipment to allow better treatment of these more severe eye diseases.

Injuries/corneal abrasions and ulcers
 Dogs are prone to injuries to the eye, specifically to the clear outer surface, the cornea. Injuries to the cornea can be difficult to see, but their symptoms typically include sudden squinting, excessive tearing, and rubbing at the eye. Certain breeds of dogs are more prone to corneal injuries, particularly the groups of dogs with short muzzles and bulging eyes—Pugs, Boston Terriers, Shih Tzus, Lhasas, etc... The vast majority of these injuries can be treated easily and will heal quickly with appropriate treatment; however, 5-10% of corneal ulcers become refractory to treatment and prove difficult to resolve. Corneal injuries warrant immediate veterinary attention.

Prolapsed Third Eyelid Glands
 Dogs have a third eyelid that is hidden down in the corner of their eye and most people don't realize it is there. It blinks behind the outer eyelids and is generally not apparent. On the back side of this third eyelid is a large gland that produces the majority of the tears. Irritation of this gland from allergies, dust, infections, injuries and often genetics cause this gland to swell and pop up from behind the third eyelid. This appears as a rounded, red "ball" in the medial corner of the eye and causes most owners to be significantly alarmed. The common term for this condition is "cherry eye," due to the appearance. Some of these can be managed with medications to decrease swelling and infection, but many of these prolapsed glands will persist and will require surgical intervention. While not typically an emergency, prolapsed third eyelids should be addressed as quickly as possible—especially if the dog is in pain or is rubbing the eye. Certain

breeds are more prone to this condition than others, with Cocker Spaniels being notorious for the problem.

Epiphora
 Epiphora is a very common condition in poodles and several other small breeds of dogs. It is a spilling of tears from the corner of the eye down onto the face. Oxidation of these tears cause a stain to develop, sometimes accompanied by debris, crusts, and even rash or infection on the face. Most of the time this condition is simply cosmetic, but the stain can be very frustrating for owners of white or light-colored dogs, since it stands out against the lighter coat. Most cases of epiphora are not serious health problems and can be discussed with your veterinarian during a routine visit. Treatment options are varied and of somewhat limited success.

Dry Eye (Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca or KCS)
 Eyes must be moist to be happy. That's why we blink—to protect the eye, but also to distribute tears across the surface of the cornea. Similar to the engine in your car, if you do not have motor oil—or if that oil is old and does not function like it should—friction will cause damage to the engine. Tears function in the same way, and if there are insufficient tears or their constituents are not adequate the cornea will suffer damage. Squinting, discharge, accumulation of greenish material and pain are symptoms you may see. KCS can be genetic or may be caused by the immune system attacking the tear producing tissue of the eye. Treatment works best when implemented early and may include artificial tears, steroid drops, antibiotic drops, and immune-suppressive preparations.

Eyelid growths
 Middle-aged and older dogs are prone to developing growths on the edge of the eyelid. In most cases these growths are benign and develop from the sebaceous glands (oil glands) that produce oil onto the eyelashes. Occasionally these growths can be malignant. Regardless, they warrant attention because they often rub the eye and cause some level of irritation. In addition, removal is generally much easier while the growths are small. Once growths become significant in size, it can be difficult to remove them and attain cosmetic repair of the eyelid.

Conjunctivitis
 This refers to redness and irritation of the mem-

The Vet's View

by
Dr. Scott Pirtle, DVM

Common Eye Diseases in Dogs

branes and tissues surrounding the eye. Causes are quite varied but can include viruses, bacteria (pink eye), allergies, irritants, etc... Symptoms include an increase in tears, redness, and discharge that can be clear to thick mucous—or even green in color. Prompt attention is warranted for any eye that is red and irritated.

Entropion

Eyelids that are rolled in will rub the surface of the cornea and cause mild to severe irritation. This condition is often genetic and is most often seen in Shar Peis, Chows, Akitas, Labs, and Dalmatians, to name a few. In some cases it develops secondary to another eye problem that induces chronic squinting, thereby leading to the affected lid developing a fold or rolling inward and rubbing the eye. Entropion often requires surgical correction.

Cataracts

Deposits in the lens of the eye cause mild to severe clouding of the lens and partial-to-complete blindness. It is most commonly caused secondarily to diabetes, but it can be genetic, or as the result of an injury. A more benign condition commonly seen in older dogs is lenticular sclerosis, or a "hardening" of the lens. Lenticular sclerosis is often mistaken for a true cataract. Treatment of cataracts varies, but effective surgical options exist for dogs if medical management is not effective. Veterinary Ophthalmologists are able to perform several different surgical treatments for cataracts which can significantly improve your dog's vision. Any cloudiness or change in the color or the inside of your dog's eye should receive prompt attention by your veterinarian.

Glaucoma

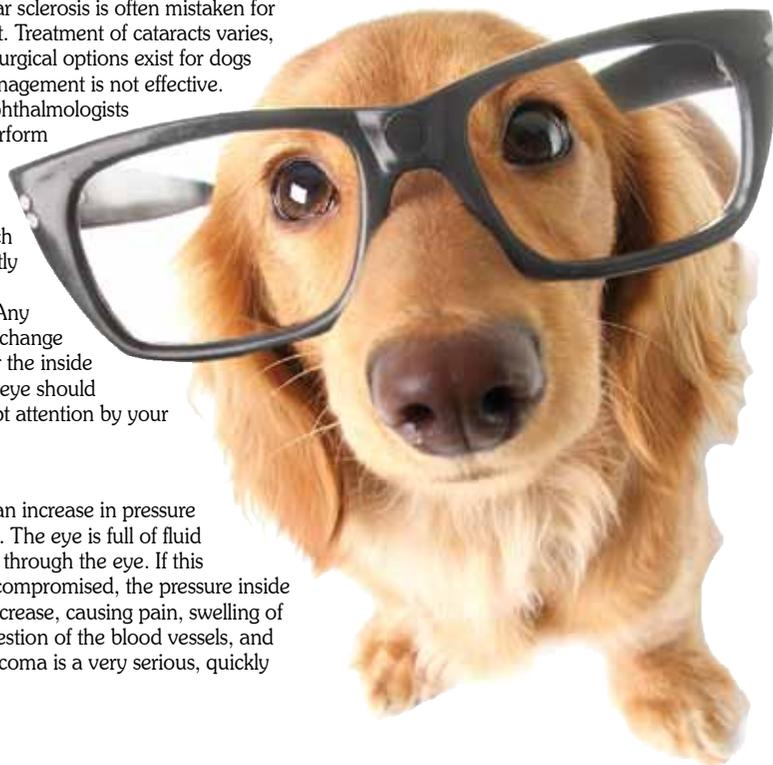
Glaucoma is an increase in pressure inside the eye. The eye is full of fluid that circulates through the eye. If this circulation is compromised, the pressure inside the eye will increase, causing pain, swelling of the eye, congestion of the blood vessels, and redness. Glaucoma is a very serious, quickly

progressive condition in dogs. It requires early intervention and is often referred to an ophthalmologist for advanced treatment. Unfortunately, glaucoma frequently progresses in spite of aggressive treatment. Glaucoma in dogs is often genetic, although some cases are a result of trauma or injury.

Proptosis/Prolapse

This frightening condition is seen with remarkable frequency in veterinary medicine and constitutes an emergency. In this condition the eye is squeezed out of the eye socket. Most cases of ocular prolapse result from a combination of genetics and trauma. Short-faced breeds with bulging eyes are more prone to this condition than other breeds. The condition is most commonly seen after an altercation between one of these smaller breed dogs with a larger dog. This condition is obvious and requires immediate veterinary attention!

Although far from being an all-inclusive list, these are some of the frequent ocular disorders seen in dogs. Any eye disorder is of concern, so don't delay in seeking veterinary care for any eye condition you might see in your pet.



Surround Yourself With Beauty

We offer a large selection of mat options, glass options, original Organ Mountain photographs, and fine art.

EXPERT CUSTOM FRAMING

Many Unique Styles!
Come in now for best selection!



WE CAN FRAME ANYTHING!

**PICTURE FRAME
OUTLET**

and **GALLERY**

**382 S. Walnut St.
Las Cruces, NM**

575-526-4048

M-F 9-5:30 • Sat 10-3

www.organmountainphotos.com

slow & steady wins the race

by
Jess Williams

Several years ago, I was drive-by turtled. This, then, is a cautionary tale.

Back in 1997, the fine folks at Pioneer Bank decided to partner with me on a housing proposition. There are nine years left in the partnership before I get to call it MY house and they have no further claim to ownership. Despite the lack of clear title, I've made what I would call improvements to the property during the intervening years.

One of the first improvements has been an evolving endeavor that some would call a "water feature." I call it a pond, although it only holds about 1,600 gallons. Whatever it is, it's been through five distinct incarnations since its debut in the spring of 1998.

Version 1 of the pond came about when I was sitting out front one day surveying the rose garden that clung to the side of the house outside one of the bedroom windows. It took me less than one beer to remember that I dislike rose bushes. And so—risking thorn wounds and the odd glances of curious neighbors—I parked my Jeep facing the rose bushes and, using the winch feature, yanked them one by one out of the earth. Jeep landscaping is the best.

Then I dug a small hole. Then I bought a plastic tub and a plastic waterfall-thingy and a little pump and various other do-it-yourself pond supplies. Sure, it was pathetic, but it was better than rose bushes.

As the subsequent years rolled by, I invented updates designed for bug fixes long before the computer industry stole my idea. Versions 2 through 5 of the pond constituted fewer and fewer pre-made components, a LOT of digging and a Phoenix University equivalent of a degree in pond building. It finally reached the point that I could say—without crossing my fingers—that I was happy with it.

That's when I got drive-by turtled.

One evening, I fed my goldfish and said good-night. The next morning, a red-eared slider about the size of a dessert plate was swimming around and mouthing, "Can you direct me to a place where I might stop swimming and sun myself?"

"Where did you come from," I asked him. But he was a one-track turtle, and the alarming lack of a proper sunning spot was the only topic he wished to discuss. Given his snapping capability, I went to work building an island for him. Mid-construction, I named him *Ike*. Post-construction, Ike signaled his approval by sunning for several hours a day.

This situation met everyone's approval for approximately seven years. And then—as abruptly as he'd arrived—*Ike* was gone. There was no ransom note, so I'm left to assume he was stolen rather than kidnapped. The entire neighborhood grieved his absence.

In the intervening years, I was drive-by gold-fished a few times, too. I have to assume that

observant passersby with burgeoning home aquariums rubbed their chins and contemplated the relative ease by which they could offload the larger of their colorful carp. And so, in the dead of night: BLOOP! And my pond population was instantly enhanced.

Fast forward to the fall of 2015, and a dear friend asked whether I would consider adopting his two red-eared sliders—*Socrates* and *Aristotle*—who were outgrowing aquarium after ever-larger aquarium. I conferred with Toby about the proposal, and he agreed on two conditions: 1) He got to be the head turtle herder; and 2) The patio area around the pond had to be enclosed to prevent any future *Ike*-like thefts from occurring.

Construction commenced within the week, and the resulting enclosure features a nice skylight that allows the turtles plenty of sun on what is now their private Greek island.

It's become one of the most popular rooms in the house, despite the lack of a beer fridge or climate control. Despite those should-be deal breakers, it compensates with the constant, calming sound of the waterfall and the sparkly reflection of light off the surface of the water. And, of course, the antics of the resident fish and turtles, none of whom need fear *Ike*'s dastardly fate at the hands of the ninja turtle thieves.

There are a few lessons for you in this story. 1) Learn to love roses. 2) If you can't learn to love roses, you definitely need a Jeep with a winch feature, for landscaping. 3) If you commit to having a pond, construct it right the first time for the best results. 4) Drive-by turtlers and drive-by goldfishers are a real issue in this community, as are turtle thieves. We probably need a committee to study these pressing issues. I'm way too busy to participate. 5) For best results in all home construction projects, first consult your dog, then your contractor—always in that order.

If you need a consultant, you can find me and *Toby* out by the pond.



Socrates and Aristotle ponder the meaning of life in JessPond#5



PETS of Dog Cruces



Please send photos of your favorite pets to:
photos@dogcruces.com

Fido Friendly RESTAURANTS

Caliche's
FROZEN CUSTARD

Come try the Gizmo, Mango Dango and Strawana.
Free Poochie Cone with Purchase.
Mon - Thu 11am - 9pm • Fri - Sat 11am - 10pm
Sun Noon - 9pm
Dogs Must Be Leashed. Thank You.

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

**HIGH-DESERT
BREWING CO.**

27 Handcrafted Ales & Lagers, Produced on Premises. Also, Burgers, Awesome Nachos, Sandwiches & Homemade Root Beer Floats.
Mon-Sat: 11am - Midnight • Sunday: Noon - 10pm
Live Music Thur & Sat 8pm - 11pm
www.highdesertbrewingco.com

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

**ANDELE'S DOG
HOUSE**

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

Open Daily • 11am-9pm

575-526-1271
1983 Calle Del Norte • Mesilla, NM
www.andelerestaurante.com



Zola is a competitive agility dog. She is working on rear end awareness and shoulder strength.

Mishka performs a balancing exercise to strengthen his core. The Samoyed received therapy for hip dysplasia at Dr. Kyle Schumacher's veterinary clinic before beginning canine conditioning at Las Cruces Dog Sports.



Photos courtesy of Las Cruces Dog Sports, Kyle Schumacher, DVM, CCRT, and Charissa Paskowski

A **Balanced** APPROACH

Dogs, and all companion animals, are progressively being treated more and more like human members of the family. Veterinary care, training and education, behavioral enrichment, and nutrition have all evolved rapidly to mirror in many respects what we experience and expect for ourselves and our human children. Many of us think about going to the gym and some us even actually GO to the gym and hire personal trainers. But have you ever thought about hiring a personal trainer for your dog? Your own doctor would almost *always* prescribe some form of physical therapy or exercise following surgery or injury. Does your dog need this, as well? Welcome to the ideas of Canine Conditioning, Fitness Training, and Veterinary Rehabilitation.

Canine Conditioning was originally designed for active dogs in sports such as agility, but has now expanded to benefit all manner of canine competitors—and even just active pets and geriatric patients. Bobbie Lyons, one of the pioneers of canine conditioning, helped develop the FitPAWS Master Trainer Program over 15 years ago after realizing that her own dog faced significant structural challenges which eventually led to injury and Bobbie's personal quest to develop Canine Conditioning as a structured program with an emphasis on proper execution—just like a human trainer or therapist would emphasize for us.

Veterinary Rehabilitation also had very basic roots beginning many years ago, but recent emphasis in sports medicine, pain management, and geriatric care has led to more formalized training and certifications in these fields, as well. There are many programs available to both veterinary and dog-training professionals and some that are appropriate for pet owners, too. The authors of this *DogCruces* article are both active participants in agility and dog-training, and have also completed separate certification programs which emphasize distinct goals and skills, all aimed at helping your pet become active, stronger, and overall more comfortable with a better quality of life.

The FitPAWS Master Trainer Certification

(CCFT—Certified Canine Fitness Trainer) educates **pet trainers** about proper technique and form. CCFTs are able to customize programs for dogs to get the maximal benefit out of a workout. This can help to keep an active dog mentally and physically fit, enhance performance in a competitive athlete, and simply build on positive training principles to further the bond and relationship between you and your dog. However, in case of injury or illness, please remember that CCFTs are not legally allowed to diagnose or treat your dog if they are unwell. They are, however, often able to make good recommendations for veterinarians who may be familiar with your dog's problems and are usually great resources for training techniques and advice.

There are multiple canine-focused certification programs open to **health care professionals**, too. These are available to veterinarians, veterinary assistants, and even human physical therapists who are interested not just in overall conditioning, but also in the diagnosis, correction, prevention, and recovery from specific injuries. A Certified Canine Rehabilitation Therapist (CCRT) is a licensed veterinarian or physical therapist who has completed additional training in these areas. CCRTs may also be able to perform advanced diagnostics and imaging, prescribe medication, and perform other treatments such as cold laser, electrical stimulation, or hydrotherapy in certain cases. There are also other training courses available to health care professionals.

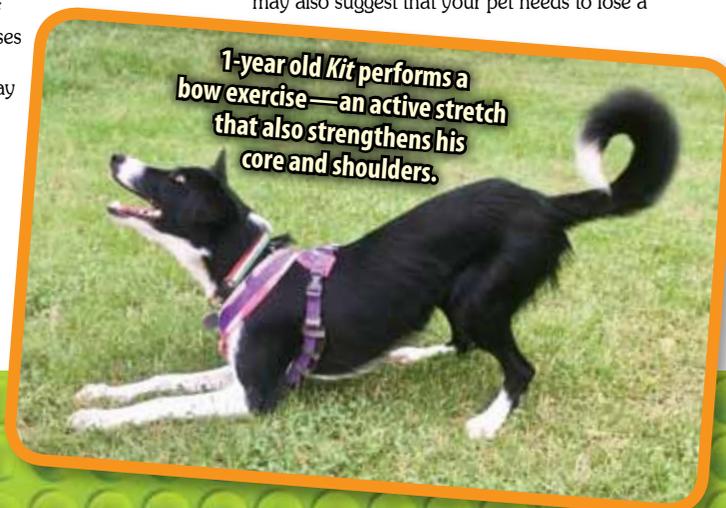
You can find do-it-yourself fitness tips and online classes available through multiple venues, many of which may provide valuable information. But remember that CCFTs and CCRTs have completed additional formalized training and passed examinations in order to hold these credentials.

It is always important

that pet owners, CCFTs, trainers, and veterinarians—including all general practitioners, specialists, and CCRTs, should work in concert with each other and communicate clearly in order to achieve the best possible results for you and your dog.

Fitness and conditioning are mentally and physically beneficial to your pet and are appropriate for all ages and fitness levels. Please check with your veterinarian and always ensure that both you and your pet are healthy enough to participate. A CCFT or CCRT can design a fitness plan based on your dog's age and needs, your access to equipment, and the time you have available to commit to training. Puppies and young dogs will need lower impact activities with fewer repetitions and a greater emphasis on developing balance, coordination, basic life skills, and an overall positive relationship with their owners. Training sessions should always be short and fun with a high rate of reinforcement. Senior pets need to maintain a baseline level of fitness with good muscle tone and the ability to keep participating in everyday activities with the rest of the family.

The majority of dogs will fall somewhere in the timeline between puppies and seniors. Pet dogs, performance/working dogs, and dogs with special conditions can all benefit from a structured fitness and conditioning program. Some dogs may be classified in more than one of these groups. Your veterinarian or trainer may also suggest that your pet needs to lose a



1-year old Kit performs a bow exercise—an active stretch that also strengthens his core and shoulders.

**By Kim Fuqua, CCFT, and
Kyle Schumacher, DVM, CCRT**

In working with a professional or joining a Canine Conditioning class, you will gain the knowledge and benefits of proper warm-ups and cool downs, learn about flexibility, cardiovascular and endurance exercise, and the benefits of strength training, balance and stability, and mental stimulation for your pet.



Active Senior Nacho knows his hard work on the water treadmill will help him recover strength and range of motion after recent back and knee surgeries.

little bit of weight to improve overall health. All pets should have a baseline assessment prior to beginning an exercise regimen, and a fitness plan should always take into consideration the owner's lifestyle and goals for his or her pet.

With Performance/Working dogs the main goal is to keep exercises challenging. Comprehensive fitness training, cross training, sports-specific exercises, and flexibility are all important components when working with canine athletes. Many high-drive dogs will have difficulty in slowing down and taking the time to perform a movement precisely



Nacho also receives Cold Laser therapy as part of his rehab at Dr. Schumacher's clinic. (And looks soooo very cool in his protective shades).

and correctly. Slow and controlled movements require that the dog has time to activate more muscular units rather than powering through the exercise based on momentum alone. With performance/working dogs, trainers work hard to create purposeful movement that benefits the dog and their sport/job.

Special Conditions dogs may have chronic medical conditions, past injuries and/or have had surgical procedures. A veterinarian should always give consent for these dogs to participate in a fitness program. Your veterinarian may ask that certain movements or exercises be avoided for your dog's own well-being.

For special conditions dogs, CCFTs and CCRTs set goals and try to design a plan to improve functional abilities and daily life. Often these pets will have difficulties accomplishing basic everyday tasks. They may have problems in navigating the doggie door, getting to their food and water, or going up and down stairs. A targeted conditioning plan can help to break these tasks down into smaller, more achievable steps so these dogs might maintain a better quality of life and more independence.

In working with a professional or joining a Canine Conditioning class, you will gain the knowledge and benefits of proper warm-ups and cool downs, learn about flexibility, cardiovascular and endurance exercise, and the benefits of strength training, balance and stability, and mental stimulation for your pet. A basic assessment will help to determine your overall goals and your dog's baseline level of fitness. Your dog's medical history and any pre-existing conditions should always be considered. Measurements, gait analysis, and body condition scoring are all important components of this initial evaluation. These tools may often reveal subtle injuries or lameness that the owner was not even aware of.

Dogs who have prior experience with basic training and obedience can often perform many foundation behaviors that aid in fitness assessment. These can include moving from the down position to a sit or a stand, walking backwards or sideways, placing front feet or rear feet up on a stable object, shaking or waving with a front paw, lifting an individual hind leg, spinning in either direction, and climbing into or onto boxes or other low objects. These basic skills, along with a good working relationship will aid you and your dog greatly as you begin to train with more advanced exercises.

Fitness and home exercise programs are designed based on the dog's needs and the owner's time and goals. Fitness training should ultimately be both fun and easy for you and your dog. It should also fit well into your lifestyle—for instance, if an owner is an avid hiker, a fitness plan for your dog might help establish proper warm up and cool down routines and schedule cardio and strength training work into your hiking routine. Other exercises can be incorporated into non-hiking days.

There are a few basic tenants which apply to any fitness, rehabilitation, or home exercise program. Nearly all of our dogs can benefit from a fitness program—conditioning is not just for athletes. Dogs recovering from surgery or injury often have very targeted exercise programs designed to rebuild and strengthen damaged tissues and prevent compensatory injuries. Puppies will work more to develop increased confidence, coordination, and body awareness. Geriatric dogs can also experience great improvements in comfort and mobility with just a few simple techniques. Even pet dogs may have unusual or abnormal body structure that can predispose to certain soft tissue and orthopedic problems. Detecting these challenges early on can sometimes help in long-term prevention.

Canine athletes include not just the traditional agility and Frisbee dogs and working/law enforcement canines. Any activity that involves impact, exertion, or any repetitive motion has the potential to result in both acute and chronic injury. This encompasses obedience and herding training, personal protection, flyball, and even just the average, active, happy pet dog. Many service animals also engage in repetitive behaviors that can result in abnormal physical stresses and injury.

Exercises should always be fun! Most fitness and rehabilitation techniques are actually just tricks that you can later use to amaze your family and friends. Both you and your dog need to enjoy the training in order to not only optimize results, but also to increase compliance and strengthen the bonds and relationship between dog and human. Your dog will require reinforcement throughout the training process. Treats (be sure to deduct treats from his daily food allowance), toys (remember to always emphasize slow and controlled movements), and even verbal and physical affection can help to motivate your pet.

Fitness should never be painful. If your dog's condition suddenly worsens, if he limps, vocalizes, or suddenly refuses to do a particular exercise,

Exercise enhances your dog's overall wellness on many levels, as fitness will help to engage your dog both mentally and physically. The quality of your relationship with your dog will also evolve—dogs who are active and engaged tend to experience fewer behavioral problems and live overall happier lifestyles.

please stop exercising right away! Do not resume rehabilitation or fitness activities until your dog has been reassessed by a professional.

Physical training is not an everyday activity. Dogs, like people, need to rotate through different types and forms of exercise and also need time off for rest and recovery. Your CCFT or CCRT can help advise you in this regard and teach you how to monitor for signs of fatigue. A dog recovering from injury may have a very different exercise regimen than a working dog maintaining peak condition.

Proper warm-ups and cool downs are probably even more important than the exercise program itself. Too many of us forget or skimp on these all-important steps. Having help to design not just the optimal exercise program, but incorporation of good warm-up and cool down routines is imperative.

All exercise plans need to be progressive. As your dog's level of strength and fitness increases, exercises need to advance and become more difficult. Because of this, periodic re-evaluation with the CCFT or CCRT is an absolute necessity. This also helps your team to monitor and chart improvements over time.

Fitness and conditioning doesn't have to be fancy or expensive! Your CCFT or CCRT might recommend a few basic items to purchase, but the majority of exercises can be readily and successfully accomplished using regular household items or common objects in the outdoor environment.

Details matter! Many small factors can influence the safety and effectiveness of your dog's fitness and conditioning program. Training mechanics, footing, even harness and collar selection can have an impact on your results. It is always important to consult with a professional prior to beginning any type of exercise program.

It is important for you to understand what is "normal" for your dog. All owners should be physically checking their dogs over on a minimum monthly basis. Regular examination will allow you to notice any abnormalities as soon as possible so they can be addressed in a timely manner.

Your CCFT/CCRT should be familiar not just with your chosen breed of dog, but also with any athletic endeavors that you choose to pursue. If not, they should always be willing to learn!

Canine athletes and working dogs require the same level of maintenance and investment that human athletes do. We cannot expect them to

be couch potatoes during the week and perform at high levels each weekend. A comprehensive plan should include not only physical conditioning, but (at a minimum) annual sports medicine assessments along with their regular wellness and preventative care. Many of the same modalities and supplements used by humans are also appropriate for our high performance canines, as well. Please consult with your veterinarian for more information.

Positive training techniques and a healthy working relationship with your dog are absolute musts, and this bond will only strengthen as you continue to work together over time.

Canine Conditioning or Canine Fitness is an exciting and evolving facet in dog training. Veterinary Rehabilitation has also greatly improved the ability for dogs to recover from injury or surgery and to return to better function afterwards. Exercise enhances your dog's overall wellness on many levels, as fitness will help to engage your dog both mentally and physically. The quality of your relationship with your dog will also evolve—dogs who are active and engaged tend to experience fewer behavioral problems and live overall happier lifestyles. Fitness is fun and definitely worth the investment—it is good for both you and your dog!

Dogs give us loyalty and companionship during their lives. The least we can do is help them to be as physically and mentally healthy as possible.

Kim Fuqua, CCFT, CCMT, is owner of Las Cruces Dog Sports. She competes and trains at the highest levels of agility—and for fun. She believes in wellness for canines of all ages.

Kyle Schumacher, DVM, CCRT offers physical therapy, cold laser therapy and rehabilitation at her clinic. She also trains and competes in agility.



Stomp "sits pretty," balancing on a tire to strengthen his core and rear end.

Caring For Those Who Have Spent a Lifetime Caring For You

Forever Friends PET SERVICES

LOSING A FAMILY FRIEND IS NEVER EASY.
BURIAL & CREMATION SERVICE

- Pet Cremation
- Private or Communal
- Pick-Up Available
- Urns & Jewelry

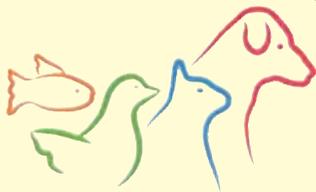


8:00AM
TO
5:00PM

1420 E Bowman Ave
Las Cruces, New Mexico (575) 524-2427

HOME ALONE

Pet & Home Sitting Services LLC



**Pet Sitting, Dog Walking &
Overnight Pet Sitting**
Michelle Archuleta (Owner/Sitter)
Fully Licensed, Insured & Bonded
The Next Best Thing To You
In Business Since 2007

furrball18@msn.com

575-993-3133



Dog Cruces Spring 2018



PETS of Dog 'Cruces

Dog Cruces
Member of the Dog Cruces Network



Please send photos of your favorite pets to:
photos@dogcruces.com

Workin' Like a Dog



“Year of the Dog” Starts with a New Leader for ASCMV

The Animal Service Center of the Mesilla Valley said good-bye to Dr. Beth Vesco-Mock last August. After an exhaustive search for her replacement, ASCMV welcomed Clint Thacker as its new Executive Director in November. DogCruces asked Clint to introduce himself to our readers and outline some of the plans he has for the Center...

As the new Executive Director of the Animal Service Center, I've been asked what drew me to Las Cruces, and what I plan to do to fix the problems here. As I contemplate those questions now, I can't help but look back on my past experiences to see how I got here to the ASCMV.

My animal control career began in 2002 in Sandy City, Utah, where I served as an Animal Control Officer for eight years. One of my greatest pleasures was creating and teaching humane education programs geared toward elementary-aged kids. I loved working with the kids and teaching them what to do around stray animals. With the help of a few coworkers, we also created the Sandy City Animal Disaster Preparedness program. The program's main goal was to educate pet owners about the importance of being prepared to keep themselves and their pets safe in any type of a disaster. The program was such a success that I was recognized in 2009 for my efforts, receiving the Community Service Award from the Sandy City Police Department.

In 2008, after years of working full time during the day and going to school at night, I graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management. The following year, I was hired at Salt Lake County Animal Services as the Shelter Supervisor. There, I successfully helped manage the shelter's transition to a lifesaving program. At that time, approximately 11,000 animals entered their shelter annually. We managed the transition to a lifesaving shelter easily, with forward-thinking supervisors and some great coworkers. In 2010, I was asked by management to be an Animal Control Sergeant and help the Animal Control Officers to implement the same lifesaving transition.

When I was hired as the Director of Davis County Animal Care & Control in 2011,

I was given the challenge of converting Animal Care & Control from a division of the County Sheriff's Office into its own stand-alone department. Davis County Animal Care & Control contracts with 17 cities or entities and has a population of 330,000 people. Over 11,000 animal-related calls and 6,000 animals were handled by a staff of 21 employees each year. It was a difficult transformation that felt like an uphill battle. However, when I left Davis County in 2017, the shelter had increased their live release rate (percentage of the animals that leave the shelter alive) from 72% in 2011 to 95.5%.

Since beginning my work as Executive Director of the Animal Service Center of the Mesilla Valley (ASCMV) on November 27, 2017, I've enjoyed getting to know my coworkers and helping the animals find new forever homes with local citizens.

So why Las Cruces? For one, the climate is a big draw for me and my family, and the change of scenery was welcomed (I love those Organ Mountains). But most of all, I love the challenge I face at the ASCMV. During my first week on the job, the managers

got together and created priorities for the ASCMV. They are:

1. Fill staffing vacancies
2. Understand shelter population
3. Clean up shelter areas
4. Spay & neuter shelter population
5. Review policies
6. Introduce innovative ways to keep animals out of the shelter
7. Train staff

As the ASCMV focuses on these seven priorities, the main issues will be resolved. Many of our solutions are big picture theories that will take time to develop, but with the patience of the citizens—and community involvement—the atmosphere will change, and the ASCMV will be a positive location for all of Doña Ana County to come and visit.

We are continuing to make great strides. Our live release rate for 2017 climbed 7% to 74%, even while our intake stayed in the same area as the previous two years at 9,994 animals. With the help of the community and animal rescue groups, and with continuing support from my coworkers, 2018 looks to be an amazing year!



Jordan Flores, Clint Thacker, Michelle Williams, and Greg Lonzo bid “buen viaje” to another furry little friend about to be transported to a rescue group in Arizona.

Hoop-T-Dudes

Custom Embroidery

FINE EMBROIDERY OF
CAPS, JACKETS,
& SHIRTS



- BUSINESSES
- CLUBS
- SCHOOLS

575-524-2590

440 E. FOSTER • LAS CRUCES, NM
VISIT US AT: WWW.HOOPDUDESINC.COM



Cherished K-9

Big or Small, We Love Them All!!

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

All Breed Rescue #100CK9Heros

We are looking for 100 donors to donate \$25.00 per month to help sustain rescue in the southern New Mexico/El Paso regions. This will help with food and emergency medical care for almost 100 dogs per year. Become a hero today! Thank you!!!



Mail a check to: Cherished K-9 All Breed Rescue
P.O. Box 13385, Las Cruces, NM 88013
or donate online today: www.cherishedk-9.com/donate.html



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

S.N.A.P. IS A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT • EIN # 31-1631899

20th Anniversary Gala

May 17th, 2018

LAS CRUCES CONVENTION CENTER 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Come Have Fun With Entertainment By Jaime O'Hara, **"THE MAGIC GUY"**
Buffet, Including Vegan Choices. Silent Auction and Music .
Dog Treat Buffet Provided By Better Life Pet Foods.

CALL **575.524.9265** FOR INFORMATION
PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT S.N.A.P.

Well-Behaved, Leashed Dogs are Welcome! No Flexi Leashes Please.

TICKETS ARE **\$50⁰⁰** EACH AND ARE AVAILABLE AT:





Aggie PAW:

service dog etiquette education

Aggie PAW (Partners For Assistance Through Work) is an NMSU organization. The club was formed in 2013 to help provide information to the public about appropriate ways to interact with service animals. In 2016 the club expanded its focus to include working dogs. Aggie PAW members volunteer time in the Las Cruces community to educate people about different aspects of the Service and Working Dog Industries. Aggie PAW's home department is in Animal and Range Sciences, but they welcome students from other majors on campus. Club members also assist many of the local animal rescue organizations.

The club's goal is to bring together people who are interested in learning about service and working dogs, as well as to educate the general public and NMSU population about service and working dog etiquette. These categories include, but are not limited to, guide dogs, therapy dogs, diabetic alert dogs, border patrol and police K-9s, and search and rescue dogs. Other jobs for working dogs that many people are unaware of are dogs that search for endangered wildlife, and bed bug detection dogs! Many of these dog jobs are all about taking advantage of a canine's incredible sense of smell.

It is vital for the public to understand how to interact with a service or working dog, because improper contact could put both the dog and the handler at risk. Thus, it is very important that people do not interact with a working dog without permission.

Service dogs are no longer just for the blind or visually impaired. Many people who have service dogs may have disabilities that are not evident (such as a person who has diabetes and has a diabetic alert dog [DAD]). Petting a service dog may be permitted, but only if you ask the handler for permission.

It is important to understand *why* strangers should not interact with service dogs. Service dogs are different from regular family pets in that they are

vital life-assistants as well as companions. For example, if a blind person is being guided by his or her dog and someone interacts with the dog without asking, that person is preventing the dog from doing its job. When the service dog can't do its job, the handler loses a vital connection to the world and becomes vulnerable to obstacles and dangers that the dog is responsible for identifying.

Aggie PAW also educates the public about the importance of not falsely designating one's pet as a service dog—because of the risk and potential danger it brings to legitimate service animals and their handlers. Sadly, there have been many incidents of a legitimate service dog being physically attacked by a poorly trained, unsocialized and illegitimate animal posing as a “service dog.” Again, as an example...the dogs raised and trained by the national organization Guide Dogs for the Blind require approximately two years of training by 251 volunteers per dog! By the time these special dogs are working guides they are worth between \$80,000-\$100,000, and are, of course, *invaluable* to the people whose lives they transform. The training and investment are wasted—and the handler is left without his or her guide dog—if a legitimate service animal is unable to perform its job duties as a result of being attacked by a phony service animal.

Pretending your pet is a service dog is not only morally wrong, it is also a crime. In New Mexico, people who pass off their pet dogs as service dogs can spend time in jail and be fined up to \$1,000. You can read about this at the New Mexico Governor's Commission on Disability (gcd.state.nm.us/) which includes information about the Service Animal Act (NMSA 1978, Section 28-11-6). The NMSA states that in New Mexico service dogs *in training* are afforded the same public access rights as trained service animals.

Aggie PAW provides a monthly nail trimming clinic for dogs and cats on the first Saturday of every month (excluding January, May and December) at Tractor Supply on the corner of Valley

and Picacho in Las Cruces. PAW volunteers are there from 10am-2pm, and only charge \$5 per animal. These funds help support the club at different functions and have also been donated to local rescues and the Companion Animal Program at NMSU.

Aggie PAW is planning a trip to visit Paws and Stripes in Rio Rancho, NM. (pawsandstripes.org). This non-profit organization is one of the few legitimate service dog training organizations in New Mexico. They adopt dogs from local shelters and train them to assist veterans with PTSD.

During the academic year, Aggie PAW holds meetings twice a month in the FIDO LAB on the NMSU campus. These meetings are open to the public, so anyone who is interested can become more familiar with the organization and its purposes. Local organizations such as Mesilla Valley Search and Rescue, Cloud K-9 Dog Training Services, Mesilla Valley Paw Patrol, and an NMSU Police K-9 Unit have all been guest speakers at past meetings.

Anyone interested in Aggie PAW's mission can receive their monthly email newsletter, which includes updates about club events (including meetings), as well as news and volunteer opportunities. Email aggiepaw@nmsu.edu to be added to their list. You can also keep up-to-date on [Facebook.com/NmsuAggiePaw/](https://www.facebook.com/NmsuAggiePaw/) or by following Instagram [aggiepaw_nmsu](https://www.instagram.com/aggiepaw_nmsu).



Let Aggie PAW members trim Fido's nails from 10am - 2pm on the first Saturday of every month (excluding January, May and December) at Tractor Supply in Las Cruces! It's only \$5 per dog, and the proceeds help fund Aggie PAW activities.



MESILLA VALLEY

Resort for the rest of your family.

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

Pet Resort, LLC 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](#)



SNIFF OUT A HEALTHY TREAT!

Give your pup our locally made power fruit smoothie made just for them. Only 5 natural ingredients that helps with digestion & urinary tract.

- PUMPKIN • BLUEBERRY
- BANANA • CARROT • CRANBERRY

Available at your favorite pet food store and specialty store!

NO PRESERVATIVES



BowWowBlends.com



DOÑA ANA COUNTY
Humane Society, Inc.

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



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

575-647-4808
E-mail: dachslc@hotmail.com
www.dachslc.org

Traveling With Your Best Friends

by Vic Villalobos

A Grand Doggie Adventure

Well, our RV held true to its nickname, “the Cramper,” as we embarked on our latest road trip. This was the first time we took *all four* dogs with us for more than just a few days. We knew we wanted to take a trip, but we didn’t want to go too far or be too cold, so we decided we’d head to the Grand Canyon. Neither my wife nor I had been to the Canyon since childhood, and honestly, we didn’t remember much about it. Excited to see one of the natural wonders of the world, we loaded up with supplies and prepared for our trek.

I should mention that when we first started looking at dates and weather it all looked favorable. We had decided to head north through Gallup as our route, and decided that Gallup would be the perfect place to stop for our first night. Over the years, we have determined that five-to-six-hours of driving each day works well for both the humans and the dogs.

Upon arriving in Gallup, we secured an RV space close to the dog park, of course. After hours in “The Cramper,” the girls and Scout needed to run! That night in Gallup seemed a little chillier than expected, and we woke up to a 7° temperature—and snow! The dogs were decidedly more excited about this than the driver was. The start to our day was delayed because of weather, but after a few hours we were on the road again.

Traveling with four large dogs is like playing musical chairs in a moving vehicle with a blindfold on. Scout thinks he should get the entire sofa to himself, Ruby must be the co-pilot (I only saw my wife in the rear view mirror, fighting for room on sofa), Star just wants to be left alone, and Lucy, our oldest (who is losing her hearing), just wants to stay close to the kitchen in case a treat falls on the floor while we are moving.

We made it to the Grand Canyon! Most people may not realize this but, in general, our National Parks are *not* pet-friendly. The Grand Canyon is semi pet-friendly—dogs are allowed on the rim trails but not in the Canyon itself and, sadly, there is not a dog park in the entire National Park. I should mention that it was snowing again—a lot—and that we were really wishing we had brought warmer clothes. We enjoyed the park for a few days and spent a lot of it driving around to the scenic points with the



Sedona, AZ, has one of the most scenic dog parks we have ever visited.

dogs. We never hiked much of the rim trail, because it has no rails and at points was no more than three or four feet wide. Too nerve-racking with four dogs in the snow.

For the second leg of our journey, our friends Liz and Paul (our “go-to” guy whenever we have RV improvement questions—it seems like we “go to” him a lot) had recommended Dead Horse Ranch State Park in Arizona, it’s located just outside the town of Cottonwood, and upon our arrival, the first thing we noticed was ... no more snow! The temps were in the low 60s, and we discovered they have a very large off-leash dog park within a few hundred yards of the State Park! Once settled in we realized that we could have spent an entire week here if time had permitted. Nearby, Old Town Cottonwood has amazing places to eat and great shops that we could walk around with our dogs. Within a 30-minute drive was the town of Sedona, which has what might possibly be the most scenic dog park we have ever visited. In the same direction is the fun little town of Jerome, which is tucked into the side of a mountain.

All two-legged and four-legged travelers had a grand old time on our grand adventure trip, but we learned a few lessons, as well: 1) The Grand Canyon truly is breathtaking—but not really a good place to take pets for more than a day. 2) Traveling with four large dogs is more work than anticipated, which could be eased by a larger RV (not in the cards yet). And 3) We would definitely go back to Cottonwood, AZ for an entire vacation stay.

OLD MESILLA KENNEL

Full Service Precision Grooming & Pet Boarding

Full Service Pet Care

Please ask about our "Season Ticket" Program!

Large Climate Controlled
Indoor / Outdoor Runs
Stop By & Tour Our Facilities!

www.oldmesillakennel.com

Member of National Dog Groomers Association of America



PETS of Dog Cruces

SAVE LIVES, FIX YOUR PETS!



\$30
for Cats
\$40
for Dogs*

2018 marks SNAPs 20th anniversary, "Let's Celebrate and Fix Them All - Big and Small in 2018". Help us with the overpopulation in Doña Ana County by spaying and neutering your pets and putting a stop to unwanted litters!



575-524-9265

www.snapnewmexico.org

2405 W. Picacho, Ste 103 (across from Peddler's Pavillion)

*For lower income families in Doña Ana County.

Please send photos of your favorite pets to:
photos@dogcruces.com



Kat's Korner by Kat Lacy

Location, Location, Location

My article usually focuses on all things feline, but I feel it's important to share some information on the importance of shopping locally—which just might wrap back around to your cat in an unusual, round-about way.

In this age of smart phones, tablets, and laptops it has become increasingly obvious that we are moving towards an era of online shopping the likes of which no one could have fathomed 10 years ago. As a society, we value convenience, and as more big online companies maneuver themselves into our lives as the most convenient way to shop, the more our local businesses—and our community—will suffer.

Perhaps the biggest misconception about shopping on line is that it will save you money. Many products are cheaper online than at your local store—at least initially. Most online companies that are legitimate resellers cannot maintain such low prices for long. Their initial, introductory prices are highly researched and designed to grab new customers. These sellers operate under the assumption that they will be able to keep more than 50% of these new customers out of sheer convenience—not price. So their prices slowly creep up over time. Online companies bank on losing money for several years before reaching a profitable stage.

Another misconception is that you will always get free shipping. "Free shipping" usually comes with a minimum purchase—and be sure to read the fine print! Many companies go through a third party for their shipping, and you have to sign up with them and pay monthly or yearly fees to get that so-called free shipping. Other sites offer free shipping only if you do a monthly reorder sign up. Whether you want it or not, you must sign up to have a minimum shipment sent every four weeks.

A third pervasive misconception is that you will always save on sales taxes. Over the last few years online companies have devastated states' sales tax revenue. States have been unable to meet their budgetary needs as online shopping increases. This means fewer infrastructure projects (resulting in poorer quality roads, for example) and fewer jobs as a result. More and more states are beginning to force online stores to implement sales tax collection. Sooner rather than later, all online companies will be forced to collect sales taxes—but will it be too late to save your local small businesses? The big online companies are betting it will be.

As local Mom and Pop stores disappear, online sellers will begin to raise prices, eliminate free shipping, and collect sales tax. Then where will we be? Our local community will suffer in multiple ways. Once the local Mom and Pops have closed, the online stores—with no more local competition—can raise prices and get their initial losses back. At whose expense?

Even the smallest percentage of customers lost to online shopping affects a Mom and Pop. They hire fewer employees, have less accessibility to products the customer wants, and are able to invest less back into the community. Many Distributors are now being forced to sell products to the online stores *before* fulfilling local stores' orders. This can result in the independent businesses being able to offer fewer product choices as more and more product lines are sold exclusively on line.

Independent, locally-owned businesses contribute to local non profit groups much more frequently—and in a more personal way—than any online company can. At Better Life, we attend and support community events and organizations as often as possible. We also foster kitties for adoption at our store on Avenida de Mesilla. You should come check out Rex and Milo and Sparkles the Tortie. Maybe one of these sweet kitties will make a great fit in your family.

A few final thoughts... Forcing the online companies to collect sales taxes *will* help to put them on a more level playing field, but this is likely years away. Most shoppers really don't consider how their online purchases affect their local community—but every single product you buy online that you can get locally affects our community by a minimum of about 10%. A 10% decline in sales is enough for most independents to reduce payroll—and that's just the minimum effect. If the percentage average is closer to 20 or 30%, this is a game changer which will close down that store in less than a year. Yes, online shopping is convenient and sometimes cheaper—but in the long run may cost all of us a lot more. It's a chain reaction.

So please shop locally, eat at local restaurants, support your local non-profits, buy local products (like Bow Wow Blends and Walter's Lunchbox treats) and adopt your kitties and doggies locally.

Rex and friends thank you for keeping your dollars in Las Cruces, and they cannot wait to meet you!

Kat Lacy is owner of Better Life Natural Pet Foods



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



APA FURREVER HOME ADOPTION AND EDUCATION CENTER

800 West Picacho Ave.
Las Cruces, NM

NEW HOURS

Tues & Thurs 11am to 4pm,
Saturday 11am to 2pm,
and by appointment.

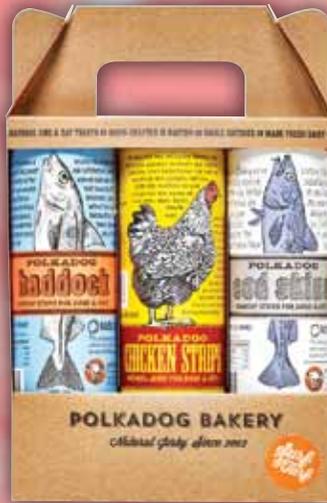
PET FOOD BANK PROGRAM

Every Sunday from 3:30 to 5pm.



www.ActionProgramsForAnimals.org
Contact us: 575-644-0505

PET PRODUCTS



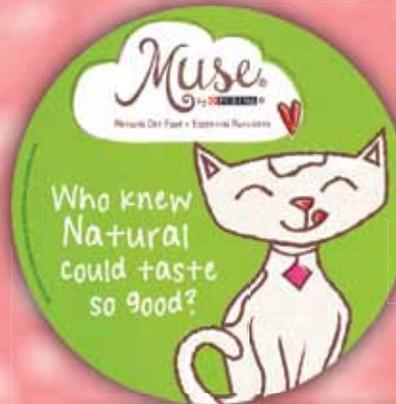
POLKA DOG BAKERY SKINS

Polkadog 3 pack of Haddock, Cod and Chicken, \$39.99. Haddock and Cod also available individually. Available at **Pet Planet**, 971 Sand Castle Ave, Las Cruces. 575-528-8180.
www.petplanetcomplex.com



BOW WOW BLENDS

Bow Wow Blends is an all-natural power fruit smoothie for dogs! It's full of healthy ingredients that support digestion. Available now at your **LOCAL pet store**.
www.bowwowblends.com



MUSE CAT FOOD

Natural meals that are worthy of your cat. Muse® takes mealtime to new, cat-worthy heights by giving your feline the healthy nutrition it needs, plus the delicious taste it loves. With a variety of grain-free options & recipes made with real fish or poultry that include NO artificial flavors, preservatives & colors—even finicky cats can't resist. Muse® Available at **Mesilla Valley Pet Resort**, 2500 W. Amador, Las Cruces, NM. 575-523-8853.
www.mvpetresort.com



HEALTH EXTENSION PET FOODS

Available now at **Better Life Pet Foods** - 2 Locations:
 1) 365 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces, NM. 575-527-9265.
 2) 315 Telshor Ste. C, Las Cruces, NM. 575-556-9117.
www.betterlifepetfoods.com

ANDIS EASY CLIP SELECT CLIPPER

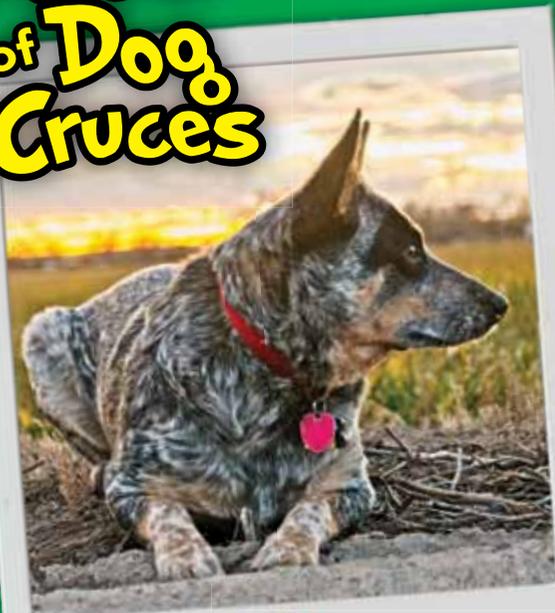
Select

Head
Back
Legs



At Home Pet Grooming Kit . . .
 Powerful compact rotary clipper with adjustable blade for versatile clipping. Includes instructional DVD, Ergonomic shape. Different sizes available for tasks and different critters! Available at **Horse 'N' Hound Feed 'N' Supply**, 991 W. Amador St., Las Cruces, NM. 575-523-8790.
www.horsenhoundfeed.com

PETS of Dog 'Cruces



Dog 'Cruces
In the Las Cruces Dog Lover!



Please send photos of your favorite pets to:
photos@dogcruces.com

WWW.RISINGPHOENIXK9.COM



DIFFICULT DOG? WE CAN HELP!

*Please call us
for your in-home
consultation.*

Private Lesson Programs:

- Puppy Obedience (8 Weeks - 12 Months)
- Adult Dog Obedience
- Behavior Improvement
- And More!



Kyia Lively

575.323.2281
risingphoenixk9@gmail.com

Need an Attorney?

Put our experienced legal team to work for you.

Financing Available!
OAC



Meet
Belle &



Puggy Sue

Office Mascots

- Personal Injury
- DWI-DUI
- Family Law
- Criminal Defense

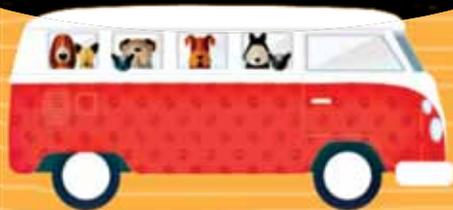


**The Law Office
of Michael E. Cain**

1060 S. Main Street
Las Cruces, New Mexico

575-541-6110 • www.southernmlaw.com

**VOLUNTEER DRIVER
NEEDED**



Special Donation Needed

Small SUV
for transport
(ie. RAV4 size)

PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING
AN ANIMAL FOR TRANSPORT.
MONETARY DONATIONS OR GAS CARDS
ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

donations can be made:

PAYPAL: FOREVERHOMESAR@AOL.COM

MAIL TO: FOREVER HOMES ANIMAL RESCUE (FHAR)
700 1ST Street
ALAMOGORDO, NM 88310

TAX ID # 47-3947873



**FOREVER
HOMES**



ANIMAL RESCUE

find us on facebook! forever homes animal rescue



Hello there, Peeps! It's the Windy Season here in the LC, which means my most favoritist time of the year is just around the corner—SUMMERTIME!

Well, a lot has happened since the Winter issue, and I'm not certain where to begin. Perhaps with a little word of caution. I just mentioned how much I love the summer. My favorite thing to do during the hot LC summer is to lay in grass and sunbathe. Soaking up those summer rays is one of the things I live for most. Well—after food, my cozy bed, my Mom (of course), and did I mention FOOD?!

So anyhoo...sunbathing, I've recently learned, comes at a price even for us doggies, especially us light-skinned ones. Just after Thanksgiving last year Mom and Dad took me, *Butthead*, and *Goober* (that's my pain-in-the-butt baby sister, *Ginger*, who I told you about last time) for a road trip to a fantastic big-dog-friendly resort in Tucson.

The Westward Look Wyndham Grand Resort and Spa in Tucson, Arizona is super PAWsome. They're not only big-dog-friendly, they also don't limit the number of canine guests per room AND don't have the ridiculous fee per dog per day! Our first night there we enjoyed some amazing patio dining at the resort's restaurant. The servers were so friendly and kept sneaking us pups treats—they even made excuses to come out and pet us, give us ear scratchies, and more treats. After dinner, we went for a moonlight stroll (and took care of business) along their beautiful nature trails that connected all the condominium-like guest suites. Each suite had a rear patio door that accessed the nature trails, and we could enjoy Yappy Hour and watch the sunset. Truly, one of the primo big-dog-friendly places I've been in quite some time.

I was in absolute heaven! Vacationing at a warm, sunny place during the middle of a frigid LC winter with my fabulous family—and room service! What more could a spoiled pup possibly ask for? Well, I should have known something was up! That next morning, for some reason, Mom loaded me up in the truck (without my breakfast, mind you), and she and I left Dad, *Butthead*, and *Goober* behind at the resort. We drove for what seemed like an eternity—but Mom says it was only 10 minutes. All the while my tummy was crying "feed me...please, feed me...I'm empty!" When she finally pulled into the parking lot, I realized we were at the Veterinary Specialty Center of Tucson.

I should have known that this "vacation" was suspect for something else! Mom petted me while we sat in the waiting room, and she told me that I was going to have some tests done and surgery

to remove the red blood-blister-looking spots on my belly and next to my boy parts. WHAT?!?! NO! Nope! Absolutely No Way! You are not cutting me anywhere near my Johnson! Mom must have seen the panic in my eyes and tried to comfort me by hugging on me and kissing my nose. But I was too hungry—and now nervous—to put up with any of her cuddles.

Mom went on to tell me that they needed to cut out the spots and get them tested, because there is a chance they could be cancerous. She said it was very important that if they do turn out to be cancerous we get them cut away and get all the necessary tests done to see if they are any cancers inside. I wasn't at all happy about this situation!

The vet tech came and had Mom fill out some forms. She was explaining one of the forms to Mom that was about what level of effort Mom wished to authorize the doctors to do if something should go wrong during surgery and I required resuscitation. Agitated with this form, Mom asked "can I add an option that says: 'Do anything you would do for your own human child?'" The vet tech said "sadly, even for a human child that doesn't mean a whole lot to some people." Mom knew she was right and checked the box to authorize heroic efforts.

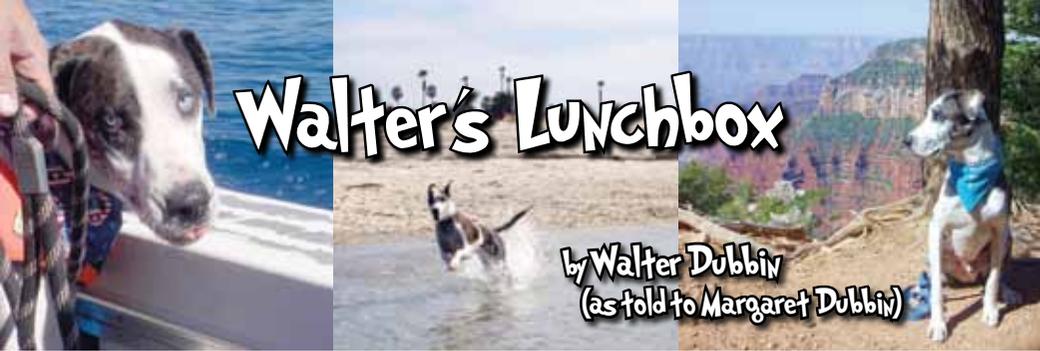
The vet tech took my leash and lead me to the back while Mom gave me the thumbs up letting me know that I am a good boy. I was at VSCOT all day long, scared and hungry, while they poked and prodded at me, drew blood, took my temperature (rectally!), did radiographs and ultrasounds on my chest and belly. VSCOT is a fantastic facility with great doctors, surgeons, and specialists. They have state-of-the-art equipment, emergency care and trained staff on site 24 hours a day. They're super friendly—but I still would have preferred not to have had to be there.

I spent the next 48 hours at VSCOT—tests the first day, surgery and observation the second day. All the while Mom, Dad, *Butthead*, and *Goober* were vacationing at the resort! Mom told me later that waiting around for the doctor to call was so stressful, and all they did was sit around and worry about me. But *Butthead* told me what really went on. They went on some cool hikes, ate at all sorts of fancy, dog-friendly restaurants and breweries, went shopping for toys, and got lots of treats and ear scratchies from new people they met. We spent a total of three nights in Tucson, and I only go to enjoy one evening of it!

The tumors on my skin were, indeed, malignant, and they diagnosed me with Hemangiosarcoma. The doctor said it is a cancer of the blood vessels,



DogCruces Spring 2013



Walter's Lunchbox

by Walter Dubbin
(as told to Margaret Dubbin)

and mine was only showing on my skin from my sunbathing habit. All other X-rays and the ultrasound didn't show any tumors on my insides, which was a very good thing.

Going into the Christmas Holidays we felt we had dodged a bullet, and I was feeling pretty darn good! I was healthy, happy, and I was looking forward to showing off my beach bod to the bitches this summer since the penis lift resulting from my surgery had me looking like quite the stud.

However, the Big Man upstairs had something else in mind for me, his perfect Angel. Mid-January of this year I started having some odd breathing patterns. My doctor here in 'Cruces discovered fluid in my abdomen. Knowing my recent medical history, the doc and Dad determined it best if I go back to VSCOT in case I needed surgery. I think Dad broke every highway speed limit and got me back to VSCOT for more tests in record time.

Hemangiosarcoma is an extremely aggressive cancer, and X-rays this time revealed the cancer had metastasized to my spleen and both lobes of my liver—and they were now bleeding. The surgeons did not recommend surgery to remove the tumors, and chemotherapy was not a viable option. They gave me a prognosis of, maybe, two to four months at best.

Since my prognosis Mom has frantically researched cancer fighting diets and medicines.

My holistic vet here in 'Cruces (Dr. Delores Craig, DVM, of Solano Animal Clinic) put me on Chinese herbal medicines with all sorts of funny names. Mom started making me this green veggie smoothie that is supposed to aid in detoxifying the body, and she's been making me some yummy stews high in iron and Omega 3s to help combat the anemia. I think maybe it's mostly voodoo, but at least it helps Mom feel like she's doing something other than just watching this cancer monster consume me—plus I'm enjoying the extra treats.

Mom's also been actively seeking new experiences to check off my bucket list. Fortunately for me, I've already experienced so much more than any pup I know. I've seen the Grand Canyon, been salmon fishing at Lake Tahoe, run free at Dog Beach, and been on numerous camping and hiking trips with my peeps. I've played in the snow in Durango, explored a ghost town, seen Old Faithful (I was unimpressed), dined at Hotel del Coronado, ridden in a historic stage coach, gone caving in an old mine, earned my Canine Good Citizen certificate, started a dog treat business—and so much more. But as a rescue doggie, the very best thing I've experienced is being a part of a loving family and getting to go to work with Mom every day.

I'm not ready to go just yet, and we're fighting this nasty monster tooth and nail. But should we fail, Mom and *Butthead* have pledged to continue my WAGacy to promote more dog-friendly places here in the LC, share more PAWsome dog treat recipes, and support rescues and pups in need. We're working on a Walter's Lunchbox Cookbook and hope to have it published—with proceeds going to area rescue groups. We have teamed with NMSU and ACES Food Production Co. to expand Walter's Lunchbox treats. ACES hires NMSU students in the food sciences program to purchase ingredients, plan and schedule the baking, and package the finished product. This gives the students actual experience in producing a product for a customer. We're focusing on having local small businesses carry our treats and are working to encourage people to shop at those small businesses. Currently, you can purchase Walter's Lunchbox Dog Treats at Better Life Natural Pet Foods, Carmona's Urban Spa and Salon, Salud de Mesilla, and Toucan Market. I hope to add more local small businesses to this list.

I sincerely hope to see you peeps at the next Yappy Hour! And if I don't happen to make it, not to worry—I'll catch you on the flip side... of the rainbow.

Wags & slobbery kisses,

Wingman Walter



No-kill Nonprofit Pet Adoption Center



To adopt a cat or dog, or to
visit the Sanctuary, call

575-805-5338

*You can't buy love...
but you can adopt it!*



Visit our website:
www.shaspets.com





**GET YOURS
TODAY
AT OUR OFFICE!**

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

575.527.3463



Make a Difference

Adopt, Foster, Volunteer, Donate

Local 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.las-cruces.org/departments/ascmv

Broken Promises SW

575-680-1955 or 575-915-7985
www.facebook.com/HelpKittenArthur

Cat's Meow Adoption Center

2211 N. Mesquite, Las Cruces
640-0011 or 639-3036
www.TheCatsMeowLasCruces.com

Cherished K9 All Breed Rescue

575-496-6085
email: cherishedk-9s@hotmail.com
www.CherishedK-9.com

Coalition for Pets and People (Zero in 7)

575-386-9212
www.ZeroIn7.org

Deming Animal Guardians

575-544-2209
www.DemingAnimalGuardians.org

Deming Animal Guardians Sunshine Haven Intake Project & Rescue

575-545-8862
www.DagShipRescue.com

Doña Ana County Humane Society (DACHS)

575-647-4808
www.DACHSLC.org

Forever Homes Animal Rescue

email: foreverhomesar@aol.com
Facebook: NM Forever Homes Animal Rescue

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)

575-805-5338
email: info@SHASpets.com
www.SHASpets.com

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)

Uncaged Paws, Inc. Tails from the Shelter

575-323-1157
email: SavingLives@UncagedPaws.org
www.TailsFromTheShelter.org (rescue work)
Facebook: Tails from the Shelter, or
Tails to Freedom



DogCruces' own Wayne Sinclair has done, literally, everything asked of him — and more — to help our local animal community. You can see him in action every Yappy Hour, where he serves as emcee extraordinaire (though, sadly, only rarely in the dog suit).

A short list of events and organizations that have been graced by Wayne's presence:

**DACHS
SNAP
Mulligans Fore Mutts
Unchain Your Dog
Criticr Christmas**

Nutrition For Them.



\$5 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 6/30/18

HORSE N HOUND
 FEED N SUPPLY

Buyer's Rewards For You.



991 W. Amador Ave. • 575-523-8790 • horsenhoundfeed.com

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



HELP WANTED!



We're looking for volunteers that want to make a difference for pets in Doña Ana County!

- ♥ DOG WALKERS
- ♥ ANIMAL FOSTERING
- ♥ ADOPTION EVENTS
- ♥ HELP AT THE SHELTER

Contact our volunteer coordinator today!
 575-382-0018 • dclark@las-cruces.org

ASCMV.org

SPAY. NEUTER. LICENSE. MICROCHIP.
 3551 Bataan Memorial West



PET PLANET
 HOTEL & DAY CAMP

**IT'S
 SIMPLY A
 PLANET
 PETS LOVE
 TO VISIT!**

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

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.

www.petplanetcomplex.com



READ BEFORE YOU FEED

ANIMAL FEED LABELING MATTERS



Did you know?

Your pet food, treats and supplements are inspected by the Feed, Seed and Fertilizer Section of the New Mexico Department of Agriculture.

Inspection staff conducts random sampling around the state to ensure not only the safety of products but also that information listed on the label is accurate.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Always Keep Pet Food Packaging Until the Food is Consumed! It has important information that may be needed if your pet becomes sick. *If you suspect your pet is sick because of pet food:*

- Contact a veterinarian!
- Contact New Mexico Department of Agriculture Feed, Seed and Fertilizer Section
- Contact the pet food manufacturer as listed on the package.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

NMDA Feed, Seed and Fertilizer Section is happy to help with any other inquiries you might have. If you have any questions concerning feed or other duties of the program, please visit www.nmda.nmsu.edu or call our friendly staff at 575-646-3107.

NMDA