

# American Pet

Magazine™

2016  
v5i2

**MEET** *Charlie Bear*  
the Rescue Dog

ONE PET AT A TIME..  
ONE DAY AT A TIME..  
ONE LIFE AT A TIME..  
YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

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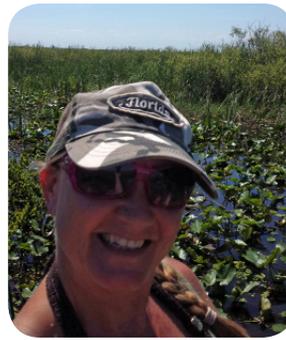
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## The Publisher's Note

From The Desk of the Editor

This issue is *Dedicated to our Charlie Bear (& his mommy, B.J. Taylor)*. They have been faithfully helping AmericanPet Magazine™ Be a Voice for the Voiceless since our first year of publication.

Hello Fellow FurBaby Lovers! We have another great issue for you with a lot of great information and stories pertaining to *Pet Celebrations*:

- National Pet Month**
- Animal Disaster Preparedness Day**
- National Pet Preparedness Month**
- World Pet Memorial Day**
- I Love Horses Day**
- Spoil Your Dog Day**
- National Dog Day**

We will be Celebrating *PercyPrince's 2nd Birthday* Thursday, August 18th. He is such a loving kitten furbaby! PeanutButter's BestFriend

PeanutButter is always Purring about something (*page 25*). He is on a mission to help Heidi find her Forever Home. He has lived with her now for many months and knows how great she is.

One Pet at a Time..One Day at a Time..

One Life at a Time..YourVoice Matters!

### **Have an AmericanPet Day!!**

Thank you again and HAPPY READING! #Meow #Woof  
#Rescue #Adopt #Foster #NoKill

*SUZIN KARP*

*We encourage you to support our Sponsors and Contributors (page 5) by passing along this copy of AmericanPet Magazine™. A percentage from every paid advertiser will be donated to no-kill shelters, rescues and events.*

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CHARLIE BEAR  
Photo by:  
BJ Taylor



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**HEIDI NEEDS  
A FOREVER HOME**

PLEASE EMAIL [AMERICANPET@USA.COM](mailto:AMERICANPET@USA.COM) IF YOU CAN HELP

# Mollycoddle

Written by Christina Bournias

I'm busy writing, so I hardly notice my dog Azella in the room.



I finally stop my computer frenzy, and give her a “doggy” yogurt cup. She worships the humble gift in sheer glee. I wish I could bottle her bliss as she cherishes the moment. She holds the cup tightly in her paws, and kisses her treasure again and again. I smile and call her name. She looks up briefly, licks her lips, then goes right back at it.

As I ponder all the days that my dogs have spoiled me rotten with unconditional love, I believe it's only right to commemorate ‘National Spoil Your Dog Day.’

Even us, the most devoted pet parents, often take our animals for granted. Think about it, we have other things besides them (well, sometimes) to keep us occupied. We work. We have families. We have friends. We have smart phones. We Tweet. We Google. We Facebook. But, we are all our pets have to stay connected. According to them, we are everything.

And I act as if Azella will be on Earth forever.

So, on Friday, August 26, follow me as I make a concentrated effort to love on my dog(s), just a little bit more. Here are some ideas of how we can all pamper our pooches:

## **11 WAYS TO SPOIL YOUR DOG:**

### Spend Time

Stop what you're doing, and kiss them. Just because.

### Sing A Song

Our dogs love when we sing to them, even if we can't carry a tune. It's not just the pitch, but the flow of tones that captivate a dog's attention. Try it!

### Snuggle Up

Wrap your dog in a soft, warm blanket fresh from the dryer. Then, tuck them in at night.

### Play Together

What the hay? Get on the floor with your bum in the air, and share a game of tug.

### Massage Moments

Have you ever considered Reiki for your dog? Reiki is an ancient eastern technique that relaxes the body and balances its functions. It enhances the lymph system's ability to detox the body, clears the sinuses of solidified mucus, and improves muscle function. Your dogs will breath better and feel better with energy work and concentrated touch. Keep your favorite friend nimble and nurtured.

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### Go On A Date

Invite your dog out on the town. Allow them to experience something new, other than just the inside of their crate. Car rides, friend visits, nature parks, and dog bakeries are perfect escapes.

### Attend Class

Pledge to learn dog behavior. Sign up for a fun, specialty training course. Even senior dogs benefit from positive reinforcement influence and time spent together.

### Solve A Puzzle

Dogs like to think. They need an outlet for their natural active (physical and mental) tendencies. Favorable activity contributes to your dog's overall behavior development. Invest in plenty of exciting interactive puzzles and hardy dog toys on the market.

### Throw A Party!

Why not host a puppy party with other responsible pet parents? Trendy dog showers, where pet parents donate essential items to a shelter instead of bringing a gift, are all the rave.

### Dog Therapy

Want to volunteer with your dog? Commit to a cause and enroll in Therapy Dog Preparation courses. Visiting hospitals, nursing homes, or libraries where children can read to your (mild tempered) dog are all rewarding ways to spend quality time. What a meaningful contribution you and your best buddy will make to the community.

### Move More

Exercise with your dog! Take a stroll, join "Doga" (Dog Yoga), or build agility equipment to keep your dog active and mentally fit. Dogs have worked alongside us for thousands of years, and most are bred for a particular purpose, like hunting, herding livestock, or providing protection. We make the mistake of assuming that if our dog has access to a yard, they're getting enough exercise. Our dogs don't (typically) run laps by themselves. They wait for us to come outside with them.

Photograph by Robert Stewart Photography  
| www.rstewartphoto.com |  
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A cold, wet nose nudges my elbow, abruptly breaking me free from my thoughts. I turn my attention to my dog. I kneel beside her, our eyes meet, and I kiss my "Husky Mama" on the nose—

Azella is in Heaven, on Earth.

***\*Celebrate 'National Spoil Your Dog Day' on August 26, 2016.***

***What will you do to spoil your dog?***

*Christina Bournias resides in Michigan with her 3-pack; three new beautiful adopted miracles. As her "Angelwriter", Nicodemus (1997-2010) is the wisdom behind the stories Christina shares. (#nica\_knows) As an Accredited Pet Trainer, Christina champions the magnitude of building the bond between a dog and their person(s) by means of respectful communication and enduring admiration.*

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# DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:

## *Do You Have a Plan for Your Pets?*

Written by  
©Dorothy Wills-Rafertry

The emergency news alert flashes across your TV screen, interrupts your radio program, or sounds on your cell phone...there is a disaster and you need to evacuate, or you cannot get back home. In either case, you have pets you need to help. *Do you have a plan?*

No one wants to think about something as horrific and scary as a disaster, ranging from fires to floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes, tropical storms, lightning storms, explosions, and other incidents that may involve your pets. If a disaster strikes, do you have an exit strategy for your pets? What if something happens and you cannot get home to your pet, do you have a designated caregiver? Do you have an emergency evacuation plan in place? Do you have a list of pet-friendly shelters you and your family can go to? Do you have a water and food supply? Are your pets' collars with tags and leashes ready to go? What about if your pet has special needs and medications? *Do you have a Pet Emergency Kit?*

While we hope we never have to initiate a Pet Disaster Preparedness Plan or ever use a Pet Emergency Kit, but in case of an emergency, never leave your pets behind. Since May 14 is *National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day* (every second Saturday of May) and the month of June is *National Pet Preparedness Month*, it's the perfect time to review an Emergency Plan for both you and your pets.

According to the ASPCA.org, "Emergencies come in many forms, and they may require anything from a brief absence from your home to permanent evacuation. Each type of disaster requires different measures to keep your pets safe. The best thing you can do for yourself and your pets is to be prepared."

### **THINGS TO DO BEFORE AN EMERGENCY STRIKES:**

-  Be sure your pet is microchipped and that current and updated information is on file with the BOTH the microchip company and your veterinarian office.
-  Have updated pet ID tags on your pet's collar.
-  Consider a GPS tracker for your pet.
-  Have a designated pet-safe/pet friendly go-to place.
-  Have a designated "rescue" person – nearby relative, friend or neighbor—who can get to your pets and bring them to safety in case you cannot get home.
-  Have up-to-date window clings on your house to indicate to emergency responders which rooms your pets are in. (For a FREE ASPCA window cling & Pet Safety Pack, visit the ASPCA website at: <https://secure.aspca.org/form/free-pet-safety-pack>).
-  Keep Poison Control, veterinarian, and emergency vet hospital telephone numbers near your landline phone and programmed in your cell phone.
-  Pack a Pet Emergency Kit for each of your pets according to their needs.



DO YOU  
HAVE A  
PLAN?

FIVESIBES WOLF WANTS TO KNOW  
"DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?"

PHOTO BY  
DOROTHY WILLS-RAFTERY

FiveSibes.blogspot.com

## **PET EMERGENCY KITS**

According to RedRover.org, have each kit should contain the following:

-  A week's supply of food stored in a watertight container. Be sure to change it out every three months to keep the food fresh. For canned food, don't forget a can opener!
-  Enough fresh water for a week. And a reminder that "If officials declare your household water unfit to drink, it's also unsafe for your pets. Follow American Red Cross guidelines for storing emergency water for your family and your pets."
-  Pet's medication.
-  Photocopy of vaccination records. (You can ask your vet to print up a copy).
-  Proof of ownership (i.e. photos with your pet, papers, vet records, etc.)
-  Current photographs of your pets in the event they become lost and you need to create "Lost Pet" flyers or share your pet's pic on social media.
-  Up-to-date Pet First Aid Kit
-  Temporary ID tags. In the event you have been evacuated, these should contain your temporary contact information or that of your "go to" person who is not affected by the disaster.
-  Pet Carriers
-  Leashes

## **ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN THE EMERGENCY PET KIT:**

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|   | Telephone numbers for vet, emergency veterinary hospital, and Pet Poison Control numbers |  |
|  | Pet seat belt/harness  |  Toys               |
|  | Poop bags  |  Paper towels       |
|  | Pet wipes  |  Absorbent towels   |
|  | Plastic re-sealable bags   |  Plastic trash bags |
|  | Flashlight   |  Batteries          |
|  | Cell phone charger/spare battery   |  Disinfectant wipes |
|  | Blankets   |  Travel pet bed     |
|  | Treats   |  Supplements        |
-  In addition to pet's medication, include flea and tick treatments and Heartworm preventative
-  Anti-anxiety jacket, herbal calming collar, herbal anti-anxiety drops, pheromone spray, and/or vet-prescribed medications



FIVESIBES WOLF CHECKING OUT THE EMERGENCY BAG.  
PHOTO BY DOROTHY WILLS-RAFTERY

FIVESIBES.BLOGSPOT.COM

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According to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s "Ready" campaign, folks should, "Feed animals moist or canned food so they will need less water to drink. Animals have instincts about severe weather changes and will often isolate themselves if they are afraid. Bringing them inside early can stop them from running away. Never leave a pet outside or tied up during a storm. Separate dogs and cats. Even if your dogs and cats normally get along, the anxiety of an emergency situation can cause pets to act irrationally. Keep small pets away from cats and dogs."

For more info on disaster preparedness, visit [www.ready.gov/animals](http://www.ready.gov/animals).

## WHAT'S IN YOUR PET'S FIRST AID KIT?



It's good to have a full-size First Aid Kit at home and two portable ones, one for being at the ready to grab-and-go for walks or car trips, and one that can be included in the Pet Emergency Kit. Some essential items to have in a pet's First Aid Kit should include: Antiseptic, antibiotic cream, gauze, bandages, scissors, stethoscope, tick remover tool, ear and eye ointments, First Aid instructions, journal (for special needs and epileptic dogs), Benadryl® (with vet's recommended dosage), oral syringe, pill cutter, ear thermometer, alcohol pads, latex gloves, portable water and food bowls, pet's photo ID, copies of vet records, important contact numbers, Poison Control numbers, instant ice packs, herbal calming collar, Rescue Remedy®, pet cleaning wipes, and list of medications (be sure to toss pets' medication in bag before leaving).

FIVESIBES HARLEY BRUSHES UP ON PET FIRST AID.  
PHOTO BY DOROTHY WILLS-RAFTERY.

**For help obtaining pet-friendly accommodations,  
The Humane Society of the United States recommends these websites:**

-  [Bringfido.com](http://Bringfido.com)
-  [Dogfriendly.com](http://Dogfriendly.com)
-  [Doginmysuitcase.com](http://Doginmysuitcase.com)
-  [Pet-friendly-hotels.net](http://Pet-friendly-hotels.net)
-  [Pets-allowed-hotels.com](http://Pets-allowed-hotels.com)
-  [Petswelcome.com](http://Petswelcome.com)
-  [Tripswithpets.com](http://Tripswithpets.com)

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# THE SIBBE VIBE

ON AIR



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&

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Dorothy Wills-Rafferty is an award-winning photojournalist and the author of *What's Wrong With Gibson? Learning About K-9 Epilepsy*, *Getting Healthy With Harley*, *EPIC Dog Tales: Heartfelt Stories About Dogs Living & Loving Life with Canine Epilepsy*; and *Buddy, the Christmas Husky~ A True Holiday Miracle* (all published through ArcticHouse Publishing). Wills-Rafferty hosts "The Sibe Vibe" radio show that broadcasts online at Dog Works Radio and on iTunes. She authors the globally top-ranked FiveSibes™ blog (<http://FiveSibes.blogspot.com>), and is soon launching the FiveSibes.com website. You can follow her and the lives of her five Siberian Huskies, as well as news and reviews on northern breed dogs and all-things canine on her FiveSibes: Siberian Husky K9 News & Reviews Facebook page and on Twitter and Instagram under @FiveSibesMom.

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FOR MORE PET DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND INFORMATION, VISIT:

 American Humane Society  
[www.americanhumane.org/humane-intervention](http://www.americanhumane.org/humane-intervention)

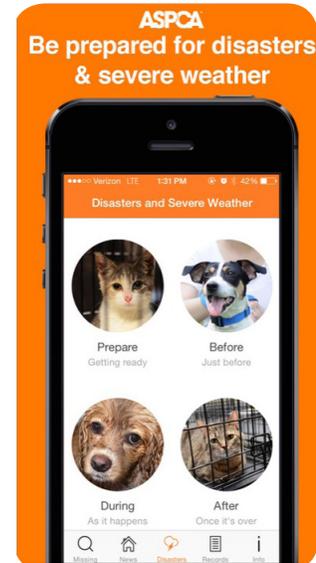
 American Kennel Club  
[www.akcreunite.org/relief/](http://www.akcreunite.org/relief/)

 ASPCA.org  
[www.ASPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness](http://www.ASPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/disaster-preparedness)

 Ready Campaign (DHS & FEMA):  
[www.ready.gov/animals](http://www.ready.gov/animals)

 RedRover.org:  
<https://redrover.org/pet-disaster-preparedness>

 The Human Society of the United States:  
[www.humanesociety.org/about/departments/disaster\\_preparedness.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/about/departments/disaster_preparedness.html)



#### A FEW MOBILE APPS TO CHECK OUT:

 ASPCA Mobile App (or visit [www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/aspca-mobile-app](http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/aspca-mobile-app))

 American Red Cross Pet First Aid App (  
or visit [www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps](http://www.redcross.org/get-help/prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps))

 mobiPET™ App, a photo Pet Amber Alert by American Humane Society & The Weather Channel  
(or visit <https://mobipet.me/Default?ref=AHA>).

 PiP My Pet (facial recognition) App (or visit [www.petrecognition.com/#WhatisPiP?](http://www.petrecognition.com/#WhatisPiP?))

**Also check out apps for shelters, rescues, human societies, and lost and found pet resources in your state and local areas.**

Author's Note: If you have lost or found a pet, or have a resource listing to share, please visit the FiveSibes™ ever-evolving list of links for Lost & Found Pets, Shelters, Rescues, and Transport resources on the FiveSibes: Siberian Husky K9 News & Reviews Facebook Page under "Notes" at: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/fivesibes-siberian-husky-k9-news-reviews/lost-found-siberian-husky-pet-listings/376005799117527>. While we all hope that we are never faced with an emergency or disaster, if we are, it is better to be prepared and have what we need at our fingertips because in an emergency, seconds are vital. As Benjamin Franklin once said, "'An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.'"

About the Author: Dorothy Wills-Raftery is an award-winning author, photographer, journalist, and host of "The Sibe Vibe" Dog Works Radio show (available on iTunes and at [DogWorksRadio.com](http://DogWorksRadio.com)). She is our magazine's "Best in Print" 2015 author, a three-time Dog Writers Association of America "Excellence" award nominee, Hudson Valley Magazine's 2015 "Best Author," and her canine books are available through [www.ArcticHousePublishing.com](http://www.ArcticHousePublishing.com). Her five Siberian Huskies, known as the FiveSibes, are also muses for her globally top-ranked, award-winning FiveSibes™ blog (<http://FiveSibes.blogspot.com>). Dorothy also administers the popular FiveSibes: Siberian Husky K9 News & Reviews community Facebook page, and is on Twitter and Instagram as @FiveSibesMom.

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# Business Marketplace



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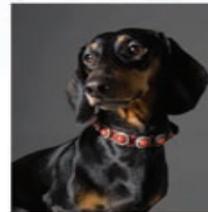
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# OMD... *#TitusBARKS*

## SOO EXCITABULLS!

Hewwo evewyone n Happy Spring! Lots has happened since our last article. Da worst fing dat cood have ever happened did....we losted my big sister, Mercedes on October 26th. She fought lots of healf issues for da last 2 years of her life but she put up a good fight n stayed wif us for as long as she cood. Mercedes was our alpha, our leader, our Big Bubba. Nuffin is da same anymore but we is doin all we can to keep her memory alive n to amemba dat life was better havin been able to know her n love her. #MissYouBubba! Almost 2 monfs to da day, we losted our Gwampa (Daddys Daddy). Da sad just kepted comin n we was still so sad over losin Bubba. Whilst all dis was goin on, we was holdin our I'm Not A Monster, Monster Elf Drive to raise \$ n donations of food n toys n all da good stuff for our local shelter. Packagies was comin in like cwazy n wif da howliday tweek orders..... to say it was cwazy was an undastatement. We was able to raise over \$5000 in donations for da Babylon Town Shelter n we had so much fun dwoppin it all off to dems. Fankie yous to evewyone dat helped us!!!!

It made some sad days a lil happier seein all da shelter animals dat we was helpin.



Flash forward to a monf and a few days later.....Mommy is letted go fwom her not wif us, never home job. I finks dis is where some happy came back into our lives! She can now concentwate on getting da tweek business up n runnin n spend evewy wakin moment wif us!!!! Not sure it gets any better den dat. We is buildin a barkery in da basement n will bees able to get so much more done n be so much more organized. Did I mention dat da taste testin part is pawsome! Check us out at Ambassadors Barkery, Treats by Ty n Hails on da faciebutts.

I is lookin forward to da warmer monfs when we can spend more time outside n hold more kissy booth fundraisers. Boatin dis summer shoood bees fun too considerin dat we can go more often since Mommy will bees home durin da week. It is hard to go out on a weekend cus dare is nowhere for us to run cus it is too crowded. We go durin da week n have da hole beach to ourselves. Of coarse, dat will kinda suckie wifout da Bubba but hopefully she will bees rite dare wif us.

I spent 6 weeks durin da winter monfs, on Saturdays goin to a twainer. I tend to not like udder dogs comin near my territory, includin My Wife. Mommy is not happy wif dat n said dat I needed to change my ways so she hired Uncle Jeff. I feel like I learned lots. I is still not perfect but a little better n I is still workin on myself. We shall see how much I learned at my first kissy booth event.

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Sooooo....dis July 14th will bees mine n Hailey's 3 year Weddin Anniversawy. I still fall in love wif her a lil more as each day passes. Can not wait to celebuate again wif all of our Aunts n Uncles. Our parties is always so much fun n soooo much food! I finks da company is da most important part n I is lookin forward to seein eveyone again dis year!

We is getting close to 200,000 fwiends on da faciebutts n we honestly never cood have dweamed when we started our page dat it wood bees where it is today. We only have all of yous to fankie for dat. Wifout all da sharin n likes n comments we wood not bees able to show more of da world how pawsome us pit bulls are. I just feel like evey time we get a lil closer to provin our breed to bees loyal, lovin companions, anoder news story sets us back. Pwease, just keep helpin us share n prove to da world how good we really is.

If yous is not already, please become our fwiend at Titus and His Girl Hailey on Facebook! See you there!



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OUR FACIEBUTTS LINKS OR  
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**JUNE 10TH IS  
WORLD PET MEMORIAL DAY**



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# COUCHES AND BEDS

Ok, so many people know that I recommend hand feeding so that you can train your dog via resource control... If you control all the good things in your dogs you are the leader, that way you don't have to resort to being a butt head! But several of you have asked if there are other ways to work on resource control? Well sure there are and today we are going to talk about two great ways we can accomplish this! Beds and Furniture....

Ok so to be a resource the dog simply has to enjoy the object or item... Trust me beds and furniture both fall into this category. Control is just as simple, it means that we the humans control the item or object... So really even those of you that do not allow your dog on furniture or beds are using some sense of resource control.

So how do you control this resource if you let your pooch sleep with you or get on the couch? Well it is simple you require permission to gain access! I know many trainers say that dogs should never be allowed on furniture or beds but I don't really agree (there are some cases in which I will remove this privilege but they are few and far between and not the norm) I figure that if my dog understands that I own and control these resources that it does not affect my role as the leader... The basic idea is that of "Sit Say Please" where the dog must patiently give the behavior sit while asking permission to get up... Then and only then will the human allow or ask the dog to come up with them.

Now don't expect this to be an overnight training session this is something that will take a consistent routine to achieve but trust me the time you invest here will come back with dividends in a dog with manners and impulse control! A simple word of caution, though... If you allow your dog permission to get up on beds and couches (even with your permission) you should realize that the permission idea will only happen when you are around or using the resource... When you are not around you must realize that the dog is probably on the couch or the bed... So before making the decision make sure you and everyone else in the family is on board.

***But wouldn't it be nice to have a dog who said please before getting up on the couch or bed???***

## MAY IS NATIONAL PET MONTH

*Mike Deathe is a stay-at-home dad who found his passion as a dog trainer in 2008. He is the author of Keep It Simple Stupid (K.I.S.S.) Pet Blog. In 2009, he and his wife Kate founded Muttz "R" Us, a t-shirt and pet product company with the motto of "Saving Pets...One T-Shirt at a Time" In 2010 KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID (KISS) DOG TRAINING was born and since then has been teaching dogs and owners at Broadmore Kennels, located in western Shawnee, Ks.*



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For more information, images or product samples contact **Dianne Howles at Poochie-Pets, LLC** 860-408-9003 or [dhowles@poochie-pets.net](mailto:dhowles@poochie-pets.net)



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a 100% NO-Kill! 100% of the proceeds from every monthly social event they host is for the tender loving care of at-risk, unwanted dogs and cats from Broward, Miami-Dade, and Palm Beach Counties benefiting Tri-County Humane Society.

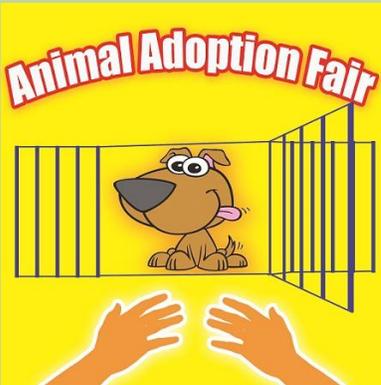
**6th Annual Animal Adoption Fair**  
[www.AnimalAdoptionFair.com](http://www.AnimalAdoptionFair.com)  
Sunday, August 14, 2016 10am-5pm  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida  
954-971-4432

Our Animal Adoption Fair is the War Memorial Auditorium at 800 N.E. 8th St, Fort Lauderdale. All indoors and air conditioned. Animal Friendly. Veterinary Care, Live Music, Raffles. Food. Fun!

# 6th Annual Animal Adoption Fair

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

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 <p>Bring your well behaved animals on a leash or in a buggie “Animal Friendly”</p>		<p><b>Veterinary Care</b> Vaccinations Micro-chipping Hospice Ear Cleaning Nail Clipping Teeth cleanings</p>

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**Sunday, August 14th, from 10-5pm**

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Go to: [www.animaladoptionfair.com](http://www.animaladoptionfair.com)

# PET CELEBRATIONS

## MAY

- Microchip your Pet Month
- National Pet Month**
- National Duckling Month
- International Respect for Chickens Month
- 4 International Respect for Chickens Day
- 3 National Disabled Pets Day
- 5-11 Be Kind to Animals Week  
([www.americanhumane.org](http://www.americanhumane.org))
- 5-11 National Pet Week ([www.petweek.org](http://www.petweek.org))
- 6-12 Puppy Mill Action Week
- 11 Animal Disaster Preparedness Day**
- 19-25 National Dog Bite Prevention Week
- 23 World Turtle Day
- 30 Hug your cat day (I do it EVERYDAY!)

## JUNE

- Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month
- National Pet Preparedness Month**
- Pet Appreciation Month
- 4 Hug your cat day (I do it EVERYDAY!)
- 10 World Pet Memorial Day**
- 17-21 Take Your Pet to Work Week
- 21 Take Your Dog To Work Day

May 11th is Animal Disaster Preparedness Day

# JULY

- 1 American Zoo Day
- 4 JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>
- 10 Don't Step on a Bee Day
- 11 All American Pet Photo Day
- 15 **I Love Horses Day**
- 18 Cow Appreciation Day
- 21 Monkey Day

# AUGUST

- 7-13 Int'l Assistance Dog Week  
([www.assistedogweek.org](http://www.assistedogweek.org))
- 10 **Spoil Your Dog Day**
- 18-21 National & International Homeless Pets  
([www.isaronline.org](http://www.isaronline.org))
- 26 **National Dog Day**  
([www.nationaldogday.org](http://www.nationaldogday.org))

August 10th is Spoil Your Dog Day

## a Haiku for You

無条件愛



**Cross the Rainbow Bridge  
Cherish Unconditional Love  
Memories Live on**

**~SuziK**



**National Dog Day** occurs on August 26 of every year. This year, that falls on a Friday.

National Dog Day even has its own website: [www.nationaldogday.com](http://www.nationaldogday.com)

### *And what's it all about?*

Celebrating dogs, of course! The idea is to get people to recognize how many dogs need to be rescued every year, but more than that it's all about getting everyone to acknowledge how much dogs mean to them.

Dogs are in law enforcement, sniffing out bombs, drugs, and other dangers. They help in search and rescue operations.

Dogs are in service to help people, whether they are guide dogs for the blind or deaf or those with other physical disabilities, or there for psychological assistance to those who need special help, or sniffing out seizures before they occur.

And, most important to the greatest number of people, dogs are our family members, giving us unconditional love.

According to its website, National Dog Day was founded in 2004 by Colleen Paige, a pet lifestyle expert and author. Its website also lists fifty ways to celebrate National Dog Day--everything from adopting a dog from a shelter, to buying your dog a new collar or toy or cute new outfit, to taking your dog to the beach or getting him training, to having a party or walking your senior human neighbor's dog, to pledging not to yell at or hit your dog.

But who the heck hits their dog??? Yelling's a different story. Okay, I grumble at mine now and then when they bark too long, but on National Dog Day I'll pledge to try to improve. Plus, maybe it's time for my Mystie to get another new ball and for Lexie to try another kind of healthy treat.

I'll ask my dogs how they'd like to celebrate. A special walk around the neighborhood? More outdoor time in our backyard so they can sniff and Mystie can chase birds? Even more lap time than they usually get? Or maybe all of the above... and more.

### *What will you do?*

**August 26th is  
National Dog Day**

*Linda O. Johnston is the author of 33 published novels, including the Pet Rescue Mysteries from Berkley Prime Crime. Beaglemania was a March 2011 release, The More the Terrier was published in October 2011, Hounds Abound came out in April 2012, and Oodles of Poodles in February 2013. Both Beaglemania and Hounds Abound were reprinted with a special symbol to celebrate the Penguin Group's Read Humane program helping to support the Humane Association of the United States' Animal Rescue Team. The Pet Rescue Mysteries are a spinoff from Linda's Kendra Ballantyne, Pet-Sitter Mysteries. Linda also writes for Harlequin Nocturne and Harlequin Romantic Suspense. Visit Linda at [www.LindaOJohnston.com](http://www.LindaOJohnston.com) or friend her on Facebook. She also blogs each Wednesday at [KillerHobbies.blogspot.com](http://KillerHobbies.blogspot.com).  
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When I was a pup just one year old, I was found roaming the streets in Los Angeles. The lady who rescued me discovered my issues: I threw temper tantrums, guarded my food and toys, and was sensitive to touch. She took me to a foster home and that nice lady helped me get adopted. I'm one of the lucky ones.

## MEET *Charlie Bear* the Rescue Dog



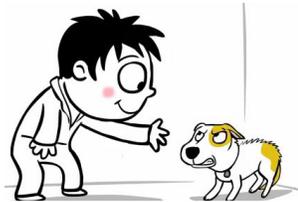
Written by B.J. Taylor

Charlie Bear is a 5-year-old muttiegree who believes he won the lottery. No way could life have been predicted to turn out this good. In fact, his Mom Peep, B.J. Taylor, wrote the story of Charlie Bear's first year in their lives. It's an emotional, heart-tugging story that includes the big dog, Rex (Mom Peep's forever love):

*Charlie Bear: What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me about Life, Love, and Second Chances*

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

In May they have something called National Dog Bite Prevention Week. There are things you can do to protect your dog from bites from other dogs, and also to protect your family and friends from bites from your dog. Now we know I wouldn't do that, right? Guess again. Any dog can have a short fuse. Heck, you do sometimes, right? So here's what you can do:



### HUMAN INTERACTION:

 Monitor the situation. Having friends or family over? Don't put me in a situation where I might be backed into a corner by a well-meaning someone who wants to pet me.

 Set me apart from the crowd. It's best to put me in a bedroom when company comes over. There might be children who scream which hurts my sensitive ears, plus I often think of shrieking as prey and could attack and bite without meaning to.

 Throw me a treat or a kind word. While I'm in my time out (and it's okay...better for all of us that way), give me a Kong toy filled with peanut butter or kibble, or a treat that tells me I'm a good boy. It's not punishment, it's love.

 Watch closely if you do allow petting. Is the person uncomfortable? Do they pull away or back up from me? I can feel and sense hesitation, even fear, on humans. It might raise my fur or make me bare my teeth. Both bad signs. Get me out of that situation immediately. (See #2 and #3)

### DOG-ON-DOG INTERACTION:

 Watch my body language. Am I standing stiff? Is my fur raised on my neck or back? I'm a small dog, but I bark at ALL dogs, big and little. It's a fear thing.

 Listen to my voice. Do I have a low rumbling growl? Is my bark really loud? The growl is to scare the other guy off, but if he doesn't back up, then I bark real loud. It's my defenses kicking in. I bark first to protect myself from an attack.

 Am I lunging and pulling on leash? I never pull AWAY from the other dog, always toward it. Go figure, huh? Again, it's a defense thing. It's my nature to go for the attack instead of run away. Your job? Get me out of there. I'm small, so Mom picks me up and carries me off.

 Is the other dog off leash? If a dog runs at me and I'm on leash, I can't defend myself and I feel trapped. In that case, I'm super hyper and bark like crazy. Be mindful of dogs that run out of garages or houses. Get me out of the situation as fast as you can. Pick me up, turn me away from the other dog, yell for the dog's owner. Whatever it takes. If a dog comes at me, I'm going to defend myself. I can't help it.



Your job is to help me, protect me, do everything you can to prevent dog bites. I look to you as my human shield. Do all you can and I'll do my best, too. Deal?

*Note: I had a lot of issues. I also had a big dog mentor. It's all in here from Mom Peep's point of view (and a little of mine): CHARLIE BEAR: What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me about Life, Love and Second Chances.*

## Woofs and Wiggles!



*PeanutButter*  
**PURRS**

**'PEANUTBUTTER'**

Photo by: SuziK©

Hi Everyone! As always, I do not know where to start. I am not sure if you read that our Foster Furbaby, Heidi is still in need of a Forever Home. When she came to stay with us, Mommy & I were not too sure how things would work out. She doesn't seem to care for the kitten ways of Percy but she & I get along pretty good for the most part. We have all discussed the matter-at-hand & think she will be best in a home with no young babies. She does fine whenever we have human company over. Mommy even took the 3 of us on a 3-hour car trip more than once so we know Heidi is much better than I am when it comes to traveling.

Heidi is a very loving cat that has the personality of a kitten when Mommy plays with her. She is fine with her alone time & sleeps close with Me & Mommy some nights. OH! And a talker, she is! Purrs! Mommy nicknamed her Flump-A-Lump because she has these cute short legs & it is funny to watch her jump & run.

I can tell you Heidi is not into being an outdoor cat. She never runs for the door & will actually find comfort within the home if she is lying near the door when Mommy comes home. Please, if you know anyone that would love to give Heidi a Forever Home, contact us. She is such a precious soul!

One Pet at a Time..One Day at a Time..

One Life at a Time..Your Voice Matters!

PURRS & MEOWS, PeanutButter

THANK YOU AGAIN AND  
HAPPY READING!

#RESCUE #ADOPT #FOSTER #NOKILL



**HEIDI**

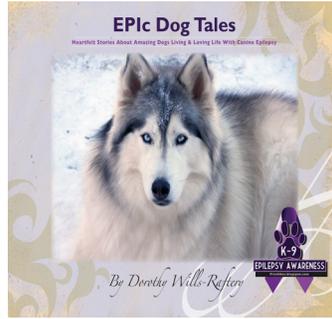
**NEEDS A  
FOREVER  
HOME**

**Have an  
AmericanPet  
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# BEST 2016 in print

## Epic Dog Tales

Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafertry **EPic Dog Tales : Heartfelt Stories About Amazing Dogs Living & Loving Life With Canine Epilepsy** by Dorothy Wills-Rafertry, is a beautiful, coffee table book that is a collection of more than 120 truly inspiring and heartfelt stories about dogs who have lived/are living with Canine Epilepsy and how they do not let seizures get in their way of living life to the fullest.



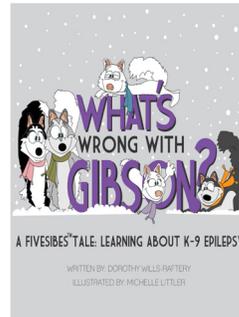
The book also contains a valuable library of online resources and information available to help navigate the sometimes stormy waters of Canine Epilepsy. A portion of proceeds from the book will benefit the Canine Epilepsy Resources Epil-K9 Foundation's "Emma's Seizure Fund" through the North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine Neurology Department.

All books are available online from [www.ArcticHousePublishing.com](http://www.ArcticHousePublishing.com)

## What's Wrong with Gibson?

Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafertry  
Illustrated by Michelle Littler

Welcome to the world of the FiveSibes™! They are five energetic Siberian Huskies who spend all of their days playing and learning together. Their stories are ones that children and adults of all ages will enjoy reading. The first book of the series, What's Wrong With Gibson?



Learning About K-9 Epilepsy, is based on one of the author's Huskies, Gibson, having a seizure, which is translated into a short tale that makes it easy for children (who may have Epilepsy themselves, know someone who does, or have a pet that has it) to understand. As the short story unfolds in easy-to-understand rhymes accompanied by colorfully adorable illustrations, the three young pups discover that their big brother has Canine Epilepsy and they get a hands-on lesson about care and first aid from the pack's alpha leader, Harley. A percentage of proceeds from the book will be donated to the non-profit Canine Epilepsy Resources center.

## Buddy, the Christmas Husky

Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafertry  
Illustrated by Barbara K. Slocum

Buddy, the Christmas Husky~Based on a True Holiday Miracle, is a book for all seasons bringing awareness to abused and abandoned dogs. This story is about an injured, starving, and homeless Siberian Husky who is rescued by a Good Samaritan one snowy Christmas Day.



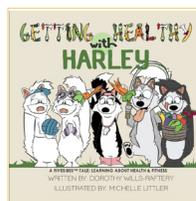
Through a network of caring people across thousands of miles, the Husky, who becomes known as "Buddy, the Christmas Husky," discovers that not all humans are mean and uncaring. His long journey brings him to find compassion, friendship, and a loving mom to call his own. A percent of the book's proceeds will benefit Buddy and "Buddy's Buddies" through the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine.



## A Musher's Dream: Team Ineka

Written by Robert & Michelle Forto  
Illustrated by Barbara K. Slocum

Team Ineka: A Musher's Dream is based on a true story of how the Iditarod-bound racing Husky dogs of Team Ineka came to be.



## Getting Healthy With Harley

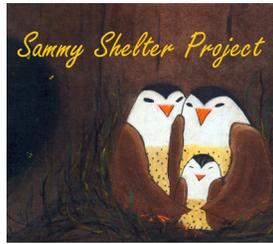
Written by Dorothy Wills-Rafertry  
Illustrated by Michelle Littler

Welcome back to the world of the FiveSibes; five energetic Siberian Huskies who spend all of their days playing and learning together. Their stories are ones that children and adults of all ages will enjoy reading. The second book in the FiveSibes™ Tales series, Getting Healthy With Harley is based on one of the author's Huskies, the pack's alpha queen, Harley, as she has her annual vet visit and afterwards decides to help all of the FiveSibes adopt a healthier lifestyle through nutrition and exercise. The story unfolds through easy-to-read rhyming text and adorable colorful illustrations. A portion of proceeds from the book will be donated to the Save Our Siberians Siberspace Rescue Fund.

## Sammy Sparrow's First Flight

Written by Rebecca Sanchez

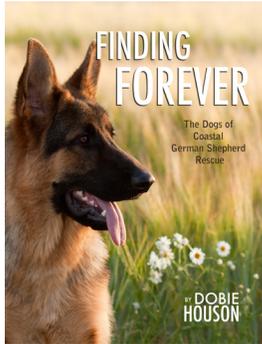
In "Sammy Sparrow's First Flight," a young sparrow named Sammy quickly learns why parents set rules. He was told not to fly alone at night. His wings are weak and Sammy falls into a bush below. The world looks scary from the ground. A friendly owl flies Sammy back home to sleep under his parents' wings. The story is



based on my childhood years of rescuing baby sparrows that fell out of a multi-room birdhouse high up on a pole in a neighbor's backyard.

The book sales help 9 humane organizations in the Chicago southland. All proceeds per book sold by use of a form provided through the website are donated to the organization selected by purchaser.

<http://tracyahrens.weebly.com/sammy-shelter-project.html>



### Finding Forever: The Dogs of Coastal German Shepherd

Written by Dobie Houson

Finding Forever: The Dogs of Coastal German Shepherd Rescue, is a heartwarming, profound, and joyful book about 26 amazing dogs and

their search for a forever home. Anyone who has ever gazed into the soulful eyes of their animal companion and wondered what they were thinking will fall in love with these German Shepherds and their beautiful stories.

Find it on Amazon.com at <http://ow.ly/cHA5B>

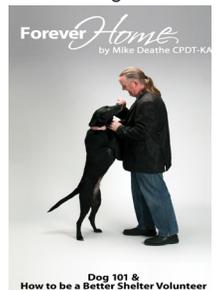
## Forever Home

Written by Mike Deathe

Writing this book has been a challenge and a pleasure all at the same time. As I read and edit it (for what seems the 150th time), I realize it is way more than a book on how to be a great shelter volunteer. It is really a book about dogs, dog training and the ability to relate to your dog without malice, over the top control or even dominance. I am very proud of the ideas here, and really hope that all the people that read this book rush out to their local shelter, sign up as a volunteer and make a difference. I also realize this book has the potential to help people inside their own home with their own dogs, leading to a happier home for everyone involved. Even at the time of writing this last chapter, I have no idea what the title of the book will be. It was originally to be titled "So You Want to Be a Shelter Volunteer", but in looking at the final product I think it covers way more than that. I can only hope that you, the reader, agree. I ask

you to take this information, share it, find someone to help or maybe even decide to go out and join the group of us that are lucky enough to work with dogs and their owners for a living. (Dog Trainer is really not accurate, since we are first and foremost people trainers!) Every author thinks, or at least hopes, that everything they write will be thought of as a "masterpiece"! I hold no such hopes. I know there are as many different ways to train a dog as there are types of dogs in the world. Rather, I hope you found a nugget or two in this book that you cannot wait to try. Thank you for supporting Keep it Simple Stupid (KISS) Dog Training and go out and make a difference with your own dog or others' dogs. In the end, it is all about saving more dogs and finding them their forever homes. I hope you find few ideas to try along the way.

Mike Deathe CPDT-KA [www.KeepItSimpleStupid.com](http://www.KeepItSimpleStupid.com)  
<http://www.kissdogtraining.com/blog/>



## Teacup Turbulence

Written by Linda O. Johnston

Los Angeles animal shelter manager Lauren Vancouver has a soft spot for animals in need—and a keen eye for crime. . . Thanks to a savvy ad campaign featuring teacup pups sporting HotPets Bling—a new line of faux jewelry dog collars—small dog adoptions have skyrocketed across the city. So when Lauren discovers a shelter in the Midwest with more toy dogs than it can handle, she arranges a private plane to swoop in and fly

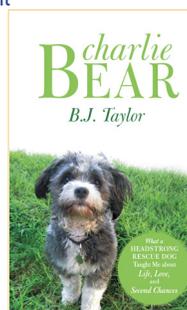


the pups back to LA. But Lauren didn't count on rescue worker Teresa Kantrim coming along for the ride. Teresa has cared for the dogs since they were found and doesn't trust anyone from LaLa Land to take over the job. Her biting comments clearly haven't earned Teresa any new friends, but when she turns up murdered, it's time for Lauren to dig into Teresa's past and find out who wanted her put down.

## CHARLIE BEAR: What a Headstrong Rescue Dog Taught Me about Life, Love, and Second Chances

Written by B.J. Taylor

Everyone deserves a second chance and someone to love them, right? Even a stubborn little dog with behavior problems. The story of CHARLIE BEAR is an intimate look at the first year in the life of a dog nearly labeled "unadoptable" by his foster mother. As he begins his new life, Charlie Bear ferociously guards his food and toys, throws temper tantrums, and is sensitive to touch.



Although B.J. doubts their sanity in adopting Charlie Bear after he repeatedly attacks their other dog, Rex, she is determined to make it work for the sake of her husband, who has fallen in love. But when B.J.'s world begins to fall apart, she shares how time, patience, and faith helped her realize that Charlie Bear was not the only one who needed a second chance—she did, too.

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

July 15th  
I LOVE  
HORSES DAY

# Horse

## keeping 101

**Everyone has dreamed of having a horse. Before you do there are some things you need to consider.**

Written by Kandice Seitz



**H**aving a horse is more than just having a pet. It requires a considerable amount of education to be a good owner. There are many things you must know about the care that will make a difference in the health and happiness of your animal. I prefer to think of my horse as an animal I have been given the honor of caring for, this being said I have had to learn a lot in a small amount of time to be a good and loving caretaker.

The basic care of a horse is very important. When first taking your horse out, an overall inspection of their legs and body is important to make sure they have not injured themselves during turn-out or in their stall. They should be brushed and have their hooves picked daily. You really have to know your horse well, some horses enjoy the time you spend brushing and cleaning and others may find this unpleasant.

Take the time to get to know the animals likes and dislikes and you will have a happy and fulfilling time together. Be careful, horses that are not happy may kick. You build this relationship over time and with many reassuring treats! Horses should only be given horse treats and horse food. They eat twice a day and the water should be checked and kept full especially in warmer climates. They can have some treats such as sugar cubes, mints and carrots but their daily food should be a specialized feed. They do not have the ability to regurgitate if they get

something that is bad so it is very important that their water is changed daily and their food is fresh.

Horses can die if they colic so it is best to have a barn with a well trainer or groom to care for the dietary needs of your horse until you have learned exactly what they need. After riding they love to graze and it can be some of the most rewarding time you spend with your horse and trust me they will love you for it. Too much grazing can upset a horses stomach so I usually only let my horse graze for about a half an hour after a ride.

One of the most important things to do if you are a new caretaker is to have a Trainer that will teach you and give advice along the way. A horse that is in a program will be a happier horse. It gives them a schedule and then they will know what to expect from day-to-day. Whether you are riding English or Western it is important to be paired with the right horse according to your ability. This has been my experience as a new caretaker of my horse and everyone has their own opinion.

Just like people all horses are different so seek out all the information before taking on an animal. It is a very expensive animal to feed and the vet bills can be very expensive if they are injured. That being said I love my horse and she is part of my family. Haley is a Thoroughbred Mare and is super sweet!

# THE SUN SHINES



Handicapped  
Haley

When We're Together

# Trucker's Mysterious, Beautiful Embrace

By Tracy Ahrens

From time to time when I come home from work or shopping, Trucker is so happy to see me that he stops in front of me blocking my way, sits patiently and puts his front paws up like he's begging.

I stop to acknowledge him and he places his front paws on my thighs as I bend down. He leaves them there, demanding what I have learned is a hug.

I have to embrace him, wrap my arms around him and tell him, "I love you." He then bounces on happily fulfilled.

I adopted Trucker at age 5 and between shelter workers and me, we learned tricks and commands that he knows.



This touching act of hugging initially shocked me and brought tears to my eyes. I still wonder if he learned it before he met me, or simply developed the action based on how often I hug him. I hug him when he sleeps, when he stands, when he eats, whenever I get the chance.

The first time I cried in his presence, he trotted to me, put his front paws up on me and sniffed my face wanting to comfort me. I was so touched that I cried harder. I told him, "Thank you. I love you, too."

One evening when I was working at my desk I sniffed a couple of times and Trucker, who was lying on my bed in an adjoining room, quickly raised his head and watched me from a distance. I could tell he was assessing if he should come to comfort me. I waved to him and said, "I love you," and he watched me until he was sure I was okay.

His love and desire to hug doesn't stop with me.

A friend visited our home one evening and started to cry over a family situation. Trucker rushed to her and with his long-legged, long-bodied self, stood on his hind legs and put his front paws on her chest. She embraced him in tears as he embraced her. When he felt she was consoled, he stood beside her.

On a visit to a pet-friendly pet supply store, Trucker began pulling me with his leash. I noticed that a young boy was approaching and Trucker wanted to greet him. Trucker abruptly sat in front

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of him, put his front paws up and they rested on the boy's shoulders. The boy laughed as I told him, "He just wants to hug you." They embraced. The boy laughed and then they parted. The scene made me tear up.

A neighbor who babysits Trucker has learned to accept his hugs. She is petite and Trucker's front paws can reach way above her head if he stands on his hind legs in front of her. He's managed to semi-delicately place them on her chest or shoulders as she tells him, "I love you, too." Often he speaks to her over our chain link fence, his paws towering over the fence top and plopping against her shoulders.

Recently another neighbor stopped to visit as Trucker and I were in our front yard. She owns a little terrier named Jack who is the same age as Trucker and came from the same shelter.

As she talked to me about a past dog she owned that died, she started to cry. When her voice faltered, Trucker trotted to her, stood in front of her and raised up on his hind legs to put his front paws on her chest. A petite senior, she was startled, yet laughed and hugged him back. He left dirty paw prints on her white jacket and went back to playing with Jack.

Ironically I came across a story about hugging your dog on a website called Mother Nature Network. In the story, titled "Why dogs don't like to be hugged," a certified applied animal behaviorist noted that dogs in general do not like to be hugged and most assuredly would not hug back.

Hugs, the behaviorist said, show assertion of dominance, go against their social instincts as a species and in general on a "hugging like-dislike scale," it is skewed towards "dislike" when it comes to dogs and hugs.

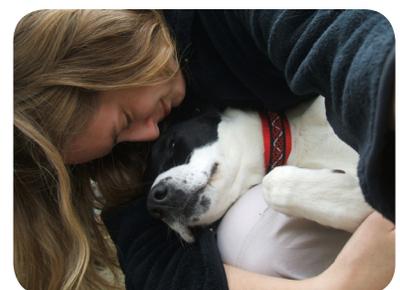
While some dogs may shy away from human hugs, Trucker loves to be embraced. Perhaps it's similar to his love for being wrapped in blankets when he sleeps and sometimes an anti-anxiety wrap shirt when it storms.

After being discarded multiple times in his first five years of life, he seems to show thankfulness by returning hugs to people.

For humans, hugs can be healing when it comes to illness, anxiety, stress, loneliness and depression. The act of hugging builds trust, relaxes muscles and teaches us about love of self and others. Trucker seems to know this. Hugging is another mysterious, beautiful, unique aspect of his personality that makes me, and others, smile.



*Tracy Ahrens is a veteran journalist, author, artist and mom to three rescued cats and one dog. See her web site at [www.tracyahrens.weebly.com](http://www.tracyahrens.weebly.com) and add her children's book, "Sammy Sparrow's First Flight," to your collection. All proceeds help 9 humane organizations.*

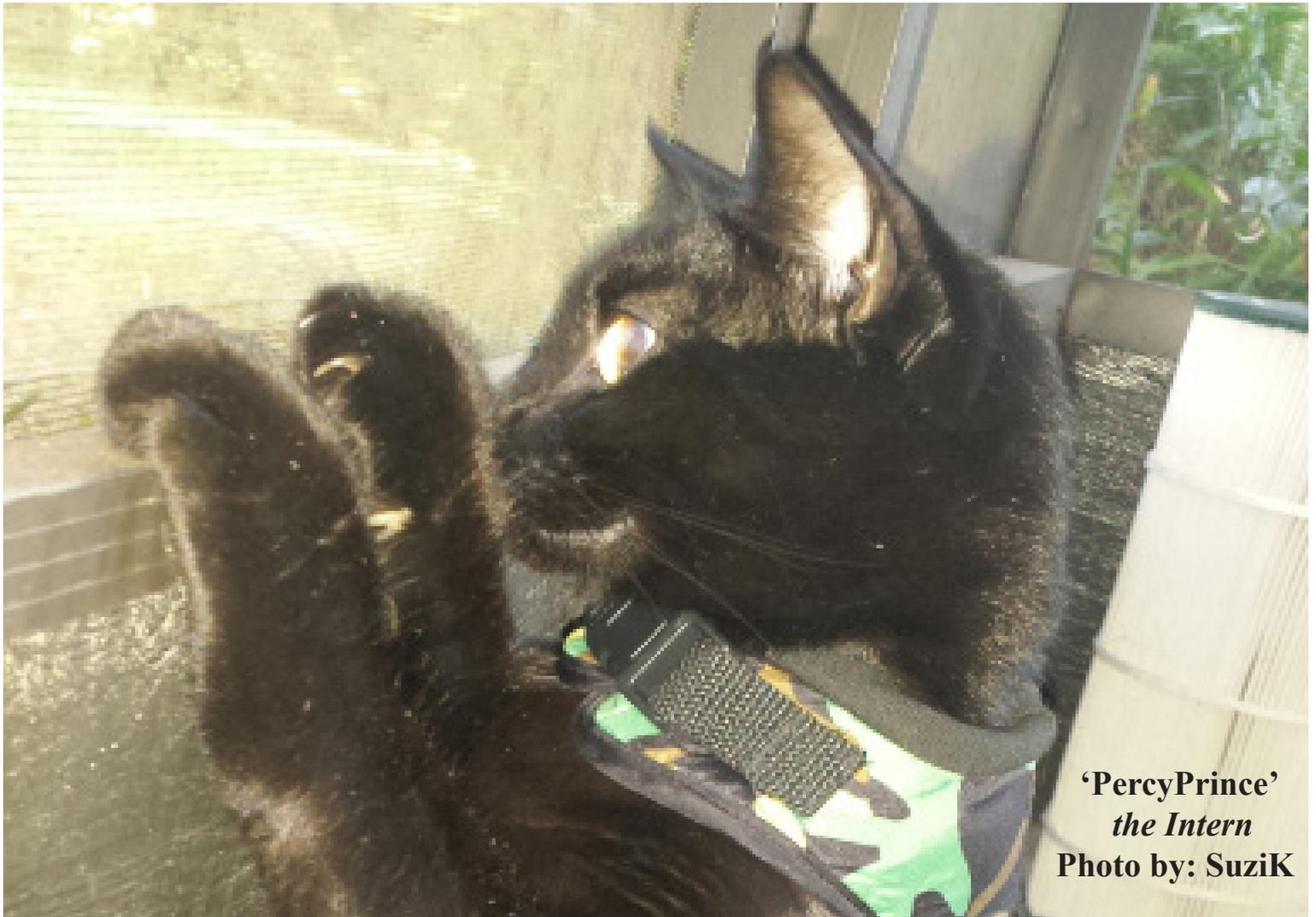


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