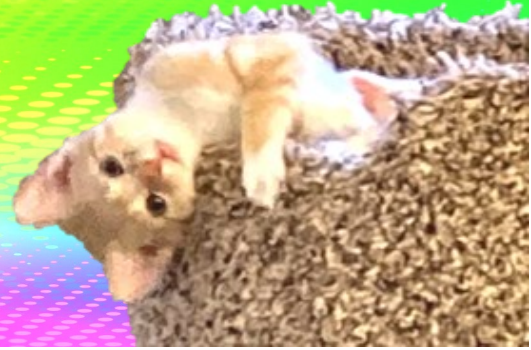


Paw Prints

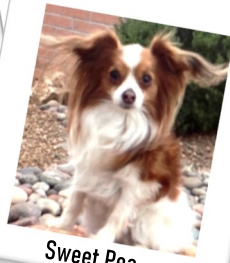
A Newsletter for the
Friends and
Supporters of
The Animal League
of Green Valley
Vol. XXXVII Issue 3
Fall 2022



Cochran Dog Play Yard



Judy and Scott Cochran



Sweet Pea

Volunteers had a long-time dream to create an area where the dogs could be off leash, able to play and socialize with each other. This dream became a reality when Judy Cochran approached The Animal League of Green Valley inquiring if there was a project she could fund in memory of her husband, Scott H. Cochran Sr.

Both Judy and Scott have always been animal lovers and advocates of no-kill shelters, so a gift to TALGV seemed a natural fit. The Cochran Family Charitable Fund provided a grant for the necessary funds, and the Cochran Dog Play Yard was built in honor of Scott and Sweet Pea, his much-loved Papillon.

The 55'x 37' fenced-in play yard is located in a gravel area formerly used for parking and has running water available to fill dog bowls and wading pools. Four large sun shades protect the dogs and make it possible to use the yard the majority of the day. A 2½-foot high snake fence also surrounds the area to help keep out unwanted critters.



It is a joy to watch the dogs romp and play, barking at each other and then racing full speed across the yard. Wrestling is a frequent activity—first the play bow, then some playful

growling, grabbing, and mock fighting—until finally they are worn out and flop down next to each other, panting and taking a quick break before the game resumes. Some dogs love the wading pool—splashing and dunking their heads under water—then splattering volunteers and other dogs alike as they climb out and give a mighty shake. Others are quieter—occupied with sniffing every part of the fence and each piece of gravel—and happy for the freedom to manage their own wanderings.



TALGV volunteers always supervise the dogs, and there is a standard protocol to introduce new dogs into the yard. The dog handlers stand ready to intervene with water-filled spray bottles when the action gets too rowdy—"You kids play nice now!" So far, no significant altercations have been reported.

The memorial service for Scott Cochran and blessing of the Cochran Dog Play Yard will be on Nov. 11 at 1:00 pm. Already, the play yard has become a TALGV favorite for dogs, volunteers, and visitors alike. It is such a wonderful addition, one that will provide the dogs with exercise and enjoyment for years to come. Surely, Scott Cochran and Sweet Pea are watching with delight. Thank you, Judy!



It's All Happening At TALGV



The Animal League
of Green Valley

37th Annual Meeting For Members

Thurs, Dec 1 @ 2:30
TALGV's Multipurpose
Room

The public is invited

JOIN US DAILY ON FACEBOOK

Our Vision: A Home for Every Pet



<https://www.facebook.com/TALGV>

Please join us daily - just for a few minutes - to see multiple pictures of some of our TALGV residents - both new & existing critters.

The Attic Thrift Store



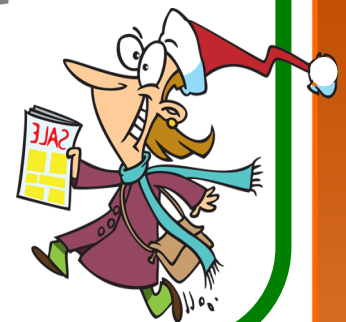
Christmas Sale

Dec 10 thru Dec 31

1/2 Price For EVERYTHING!

FALL/WINTER HOURS:
10 AM TO 2 PM

Mon, Thurs,
Sat & Sun



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NEW 2022 FORD MAVERICK LARIAT HYBRID,
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GET your tickets

BY
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2022 Car Raffle Tickets:

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Mail a check payable to TALGV.

Include your name, address,
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We'll mail back your ticket stubs.

Last year's 2nd place winning ticket sold at TALGV.



A Chihuahua in Wolf's Clothing

By: Angela Ahearn

even better, a Chihuahua in a tutu—would it recognize it as another wolf? First let's back track before we break that down.

This line of inquiry usually manifests in my mind this time of year. The days are noticeably shorter as the weather begins to cool. We begin to focus on the fall and winter holidays. Our big dress-up holiday, of course, is Halloween. Many of us extend that fun to our pets. And we don't stop there, we dress them throughout the holiday season. Put it on your calendar—January 14, 2023, is National Dress Up Your Pet Day!

To be or not to be a pumpkin?

But why do we do this? If you think of companion animals as the evolutionary partners of humans, dressing them as hotdogs seems like a stretch. I asked the kids next door this question. One agreed that it is kind of a strange thing to do, but ultimately believed we do it because it's funny. His older sister's theory was intriguing. She suggested that it bothers us to see them naked so we want to clothe them.

What she hit upon is the idea of anthropomorphism. That's the projection of human traits and emotions onto animals. This may include believing animals think and feel the way we do. It also includes blurring the lines between our needs and those of animals. I've never heard of an animal conveying that they actually wanted to be dressed as a pumpkin.

A wolf by any other name. . .

Let's get back to the matter at hand. The domesticated dog was given the taxonomical name *Canis familiaris* way back in 1758. But in 1993, the dog was reclassified. It's still in the

genus *Canis*, along with other canids such as wolves, jackals, and coyotes. Its new scientific name became *Canis lupus familiaris*.

The addition of the term "*lupus*" denotes a substantial shift in our understanding of the biology of the dog. The dog isn't just a cousin of the gray wolf, *Canis lupus*, it is a subspecies. Therefore all dogs, regardless of breed, are actually wolves! In reality it's much more complicated than that, but the essence of it is true.



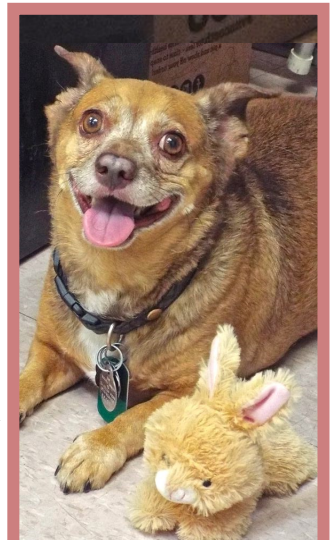
Back to where we started

So would a wolf recognize a Chihuahua in a tutu as another wolf? Wolves will occasionally mate with other canids of similar sizes such as coyotes and large dogs. These unions can create hybrids that produce fertile offspring. But this is uncommon because wolves are highly territorial and extremely aggressive to outsiders.

Smell is the wolf's greatest asset in interpreting the world. I think a wolf would probably recognize the scent trail of a Chihuahua as that as a canid. But

how would a wolf's brain visually interpret a canid as small as a Chihuahua, particularly wrapped in some weird fabric? It's not just size, the facial structure of a Chihuahua is so different. They look more like rabbits. I wonder if a wolf might perceive a Chihuahua as some kind of pup.

This is my final verdict: under the right circumstances, at least some part of the wolf's brain would recognize a Chihuahua in a tutu as some kind of freakish canid. So the next time you look into the beautiful face of a dog, just remember you're looking into the eyes of a wolf!



Mr. Buddy & Buddy Rabbit

SALLY CAROLINE 14-year volunteer



"I'm motivated by my love for animals and my belief in TALGV's mission. Also by my belief that I'm very fortunate to be in Green Valley and should show my thanks by giving back to the community."

ALICE O'CONNOR 2-year volunteer



"I like taking care of the cats, seeing them get adopted and trying to help run a tight ship."

LESLYE HUGHES 6-year volunteer



"I feel a civic responsibility to care for the abused or unwanted animals."

SUE NICHOLSON 12-year volunteer



SUZANNE SCHAUER 3-year volunteer

"I love working with such great people."

PAULA FLORES 3-year volunteer



"Although I have quite a commute to Green Valley from Vail, I volunteer here because I'm so impressed with the kindness and loving environment offered to all the rescue animals."

PAM WHITE 10-year volunteer



"My absolute love for cats motivates me to volunteer."

CCCs Love Their Work

By: Linda Winterland

What are CCCs? Cat Care Coordinators are the seven tireless, dedicated volunteers who are responsible for the health and safety of the resident cats and kittens and of the other volunteers working in the Cat Wing. They ensure that The Animal League's protocols are being observed.

Tyranny of the Urgent

CCCs arrive between 5-6 am and leave when the essential duties are completed at 3-5 pm. There is never a "typical" day. Because there are no appointments and lots of interruptions, it creates a tyranny of the urgent. Specific cats require daily medications or special feedings. People relinquish cats or find strays. Others donate food and toys. Foster kittens require shots, medical exams or nail trims, and their foster parents need supplies. Potential adopters visit many animals and have countless questions. On Clinic Days, CCCs interface with the veterinarians and vet techs regarding the cats to be seen that day; afterwards, CCCs update all medical orders and patient charts. Recently, a record 20 kittens were treated during Clinic Day!

There are always unexpected surprises, like nine kittens covered with ringworm abandoned in a box at the door. Ringworm is a highly contagious fungal skin infection that is spread by touching an infected animal, person, or object. Dealing with ringworm is nasty. Before there is any contact—bathing, feeding, medicating, cleaning the

room—the CCC must be fully gowned, including gloves and booties. Dirty bedding and empty food dishes are bagged, removed and washed separately in Rescue disinfectant.

Everyone Helps

Let's not forget that CCCs oversee the Cat Volunteers as well. Those volunteers clean cat rooms, empty litter boxes and replace kitty litter, socialize and brush cats, and assist CCCs in a myriad of other ways. The Cat Wing could not function without their help! When there is a shortage of volunteers on any given day, the coordinators jump in and complete those jobs, too.

All of the CCCs agree that the most rewarding part of their job is helping a cat acclimate to their new shelter environment until they are adopted into their new home. The worst parts are seeing a cat returned that was not taken care of properly or losing a beloved cat to illness or old age. Their major concern: attracting enough volunteers to provide the best care and socialization for all the cats.

Our hardworking Cat Care Coordinators are an integral part of TALGV. They care for pets and people. They create an atmosphere of helpfulness. And they truly love their work.

Volunteers are needed in the Cat Wing.
Contact Bonnie Myers
for more information:
info@talgv.org
520-223-3955



Photo Shop



I fell in love with an Angel

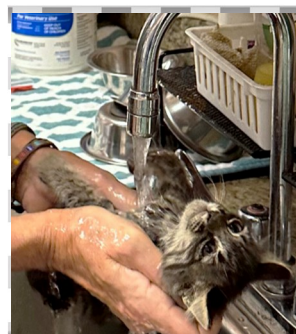


E. T. phone home



Will these kittens *EVER* grow up?

Rub-a-dub-dub...



Kitty gets a scrub

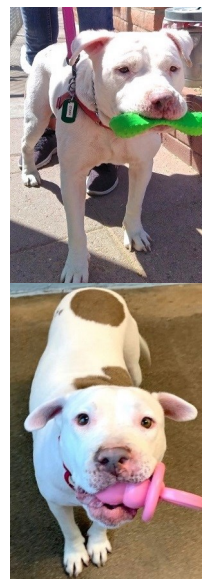
I've got you now, my pretty...



You and your little friends, too.



Play Date



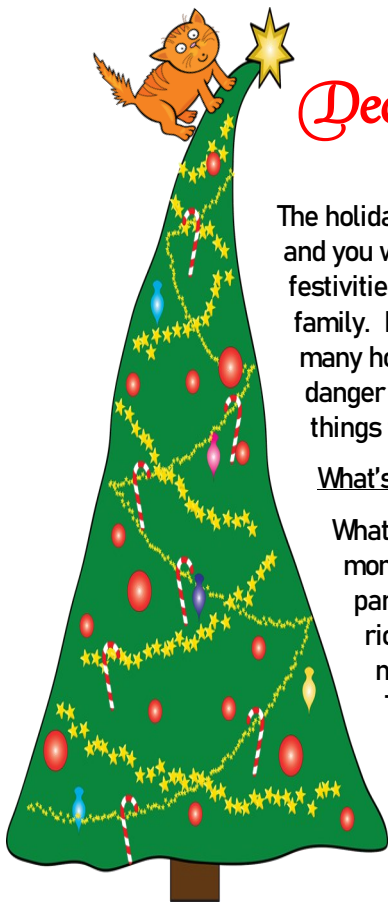
Toy Story



Wonderful Whimsical Mural

The animals welcome you when you enter TALGV's newly-painted reception area. Created by Tucson artist Camila Ibarra, our wonderful, whimsical mural illuminates the whole room. Visitors and volunteers alike can't help but smile at the antics of these delightful fur babies.

Wouldn't you love to take them all home?



Deck The Halls and Bring Us Some Figgy Pudding

The holiday season is almost upon us, and you want your pet to enjoy the festivities along with the rest of the family. But are you aware of the many holiday hazards that can be a danger to your pet? Here are some things to consider:

What's cooking?

What's cooking? Food, food, and more food. Your pet is willing to partake of all of it, but too much rich and fatty people food will make them very ill indeed. Those pleading eyes watch every forkful of turkey, gravy, and mashed potatoes you place in your mouth. It's hard to resist when you and your guests are in a "giving" mood—just a

little bite can't hurt, can it? And beware of the desserts! Theobromine is an alkaloid found in chocolate and xylitol is a natural sugar substitute used in many baked goods and sweets (gum and toothpaste, too). Since dogs and cats can't metabolize these substances, food items containing them can be toxic.

Boughs of holly

...NOT the best of holiday traditions when it comes to pet safety. Holly and mistletoe are extremely poisonous if ingested, as are other popular holiday plants like amaryllis,

lilies and azaleas. Even poinsettias contain a milky sap that can cause digestive upsets.

That holiday sparkle

Ornaments shimmer and shine, candles give that mellow glow, garlands sway and sparkle. Your cat is fascinated by every item that twinkles, twists and glows—she's never seen anything so magical. Do you think she'll want to play with any of it? Just hope she leaves some decorations still standing and doesn't eat any of them.

Dogs like sparkle, too, and are attracted to round ornaments (*"Let's play fetch"*) and dangling tree lights (*"Come play tug"*). A dog can easily pull down a full-size Christmas tree, swallow small ornaments, and chew through strings of lights. It's a veterinary bill waiting to happen.

Give your pet a gift of love

You can't cancel the holiday activities, but you can be on the lookout for potential problems. Discourage your cats and dogs when they get near those beautiful blooms and shiny decorations. Resist over-feeding—it's probably the most common cause of pet illnesses during the holidays. This is one of the situations you can control by limiting the quantity and restricting the type of food your dog and cat receive during the festivities.

Give your pets the best gift of all by keeping them safe and healthy this holiday season.



Tiny, but tough...

Mighty Mouse

By: Linda Moser



When found, I only weighed 8 oz. and required emergency surgery.

It was tough going for a while, but within a few weeks, my eye was healing, I'd gained weight, and I was venturing out of the safety of my playpen to explore the house (under supervision of course). I still have limited sight in my "good" eye because of a corneal ulcer, so I tend to be a bit wary and feisty when approached--I believe my foster mom called me a "little piranha" with my baby teeth! However, it didn't take long for my foster siblings to put me in my place and teach me some manners, and my interaction with them and the dogs soon had me enjoying the "into everything" life a kitten is meant to have.



Sometimes my foster Dad needed a little TLC.



The bad times are behind me now and I've found my forever home.

Although many young kittens that arrive at TALGV often need some sort of care for diarrhea, respiratory ailments, or bottle-feeding, my plight was an exception. When I was found in the desert, my mom and littermates had already died from exposure and malnutrition. Although they judged my age at about four weeks, I only weighed half a pound, was covered in fleas, and my right eye had a ruptured globe. Fortunately, I arrived on a "clinic day," so after evaluation by the vet, my eye was immediately removed in TALGV's surgical suite. After surgery, I went straight to a foster family to live with two humans, two dogs, and several younger foster kittens.

And to add an even happier ending, the wonderful people who found me in the desert decided that they were meant to adopt me, so after all I'd been through, here I am in my forever home—safe but still scrappy, and loving the people and pets in my new life (yep, other cats and dogs again to keep me on the straight and narrow). I'm also so very thankful to TALGV and my foster parents for all the love and care they gave me!

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