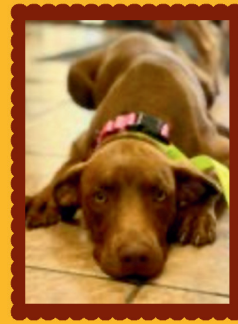




Paw Prints

A Newsletter for the Friends
and Supporters of
The Animal League
of Green Valley
Vol. XXXIX Issue 3 Fall 2025



Let's Read to the Dogs!

The kids are expectant, excited, maybe even a little nervous. The Pet Therapy Team from The Animal League of Green Valley (TALGV) is coming for the first visit of the 2025 school year. Continental School third graders can hardly wait. It's time to Read to the Dogs!

Brenda Kreitzberg leads her Golden Labrador Brook and other team members with their "good citizen" dogs into the designated reading area. Each student arrives, pre-selected book in hand, and starts reading. The dogs listen intently, tails wagging. The reader may be a little shy at first but soon, with doggie encouragement and attention (and humans too), the room begins to fill with kids' voices—sounding out the hard words—relaxing and enjoying reading! Dog pats and petting, with the occasional lick, add to the fun.

Time is up (10 to 15 minutes per child), and the next groups rotate in. It's an hour or so later, and it's all over too soon. But there's next time to look forward to. TALGV's Pet Therapy team, begun about 25 years ago, focuses on third and fourth grade. This seems a particularly absorbent time in a child's education, a time when most kids are ready, inquisitive, and open to learning. A good time to make readers for life.

The program relies on trained volunteers and their dogs who have the right temperament—easy-going, laid back, empathetic. Any dog is potentially a good listener. Labradors and Golden Retrievers are standard but the team currently includes Yorkshire and Cairn Terriers, Spaniels and a German Short-haired Pointer. Dogs are trained by their owners, then Roger Nelson, a certified AKC trainer, awards "good citizen" status to those ready for classroom interaction. Training is rigorous and parents, teachers, and kids can rest assured they are in safe "paws."

As the year goes on, kids develop confidence in reading as well as other social skills that come from performing tasks out loud. Teachers and parents note marked improvement in participants' enthusiasm and reading skills.

Perhaps, most important, the students come out of the program more confident, relaxed and adept about reading and more. Hooray for Reading to the Dogs!

By Ann Euston



From the Desk of the President

By Kim Eisele

What a wonderful community we live in!



In September, The Animal League of Green Valley reached out to local residents for foster homes for our dogs during a two-week shut down while our parking lots received a major overhaul.

The response was astounding! Almost 60 people responded with a resounding "yes!" They would take one (or two) of our dogs into their homes.

All but four of our 50 dogs were placed into foster homes where they received an abundance of love and affection in residents' homes. Every canine had a trainer assigned to them so that the foster parents had someone to reach out to for assistance, if needed.

While the dogs enjoyed home life, our volunteers worked on deep cleaning and painting the empty kennels.

At the end of the two-week shutdown, we were pleased that a couple of very lucky dogs were foster failures. For those of you not familiar with the term, it means that the foster parents adopted their fostered dogs.

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your incredible compassion and dedication in fostering dogs during the two-week shutdown. Your selfless efforts provided comfort, safety, and love to our furry friends during a challenging time. Because of your kindness, many dogs experienced warmth and care when they needed it most. Thank you for being such a caring and supportive community. Your generosity truly makes a difference!

As of September 30, we have brought in a total of 837 cats and dogs. We have adopted out 703 animals, 438 cats and 265 dogs. This is 140 more than last year.

On behalf of all of us at TALGV, thank you for your generous support. Because of your kindness, homeless cats and dogs are finding safe shelter, medical care, and—most importantly—loving forever homes.

Kim

Each year the Green Valley News/Sahuarita Sun sponsor AZ19 Most Influential People Awards which recognize and honor folks in the I-19 region who have supported their communities and neighbors through ongoing volunteer efforts. Kim Eisele, our President, was chosen this year to receive a 2025 award.

We know how tirelessly Kim has dedicated herself to animal rescue. Starting in 2010, she has served as a dog care cleaner and walker, adoption counselor, volunteer coordinator and board vice-president. She became The Animal League's President in January 2020. Still a volunteer, she puts in seven days a week, steering an organization with over 500 volunteer employees and a million-dollar budget. Kudos to you, Kim!

2 Happy Tails



A True Shaggy Dog Story *By Ann Euston*

In late August, The Animal League received this dog. Well, TALGV volunteers were pretty sure it was a dog. But we really couldn't be absolutely positive until a shave (which required sedation) revealed the little terrier mix living inside that huge coat. He was named TaterTots. The story was that he had been the last of a litter abandoned in a vacant nearby backyard. Lucky for him the neighbors fed and watered him and looked out for his welfare. Finally after two+ years he was caught and brought to The Animal League.

Julia Parlin took TaterTots home a few days later. She had another dog, Sugar, who loved the TaterTots from the get-go. They play together wonderfully and because TaterTots took over the barking dog role, Sugar stopped. They sleep together too, sometimes on Julia's bed.

It seems the neighbors took good care of TaterTots (grooming notwithstanding)...his lab work was "suitable for framing." The vet speculated that he is a mix of Shitzu, poodle and terrier. He's house trained. (Guess someone trained him about that!) Julia takes Tater and Sugar to the dog park daily where he has become quite the ladies man, with many a girlfriend in tow.

Julia comments that he is such a lover and smiles all the time. And as she says: "He's always so glad for anything I give him. He's teaching me gratitude."



Before & After

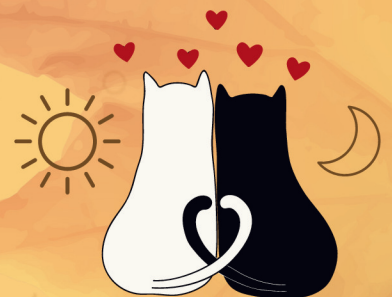


Opposites Attract *By Kailey Bonillas-Tracy*

As a kid, whenever I saw a stray animal, I'd look to the adults for help. The answers were always the same: "They're fine," or "They like being outside." But as the desert heat rose and the monsoons rolled in, I couldn't stop worrying about them.

Now, as an adult in Tucson, I faced the same concern—but this time, I could act. Stray cats started showing up in our backyard as if they had received invitations. I quietly began caring for a small colony because we didn't live in the most cat-friendly area. Over time, I helped most of the cats find homes, even taking one, Raja, into our family. Benny and Sid, however, remained, and I wasn't sure how to handle them. Benny is all white with striking eyes, and Sid—short for Black Obsidian—is sleek and dark as night. At first, they didn't get along, each convinced he was king of the colony. Catching them for neutering was tricky—they had just started to trust me, and I didn't want to break that fragile bond. Once they were fixed individually, their trust in me grew, and theirs with each other blossomed. They became inseparable, sharing meals, playing side by side, and rubbing faces until Benny bore a smudge of black fur on his forehead and Sid a patch of white fur—a charming salt-and-pepper signature of their friendship.

When we were moving to another city, I searched far and wide for a rescue that would keep them together. Most were overwhelmed or couldn't guarantee it. Finally, Pam at The Animal League of Green Valley welcomed them both, understanding they'd need time to adjust from outdoor life. Somehow, I think they understood when I explained the plan. Now Benny and Sid are ready for a patient, loving adopter who will take them as the bonded pair they are—opposites in color, but perfectly matched in heart.



Adopted is My Favorite Breed



MEOW



Coors

Coors' name was this kitten's key to adoption. His adoptive family was looking at TALGV's website and spotted him. The family's dad had died during COVID. Guess what his favorite beer was? The family just had to have little Coors. Recently Coors was brought to TALGV for follow up shots. He's become a calm, loving family member who sleeps on mom's pillow every night.



Frankie

Frankie's settling in nicely with his new owner, Mark, in Tucson. Mark says: "He is a sweet and calm boy who is a nice addition to our home."



Big Dipper (aka Merlin) and Big Shot (aka Cleopatra)

These are a 2-for-1 pair, now called Merlin and Cleopatra. New mom Ashlyn reports they are best buddies who love to play—especially at 3:00 am! Having had cats growing up, these two kittens remind her of how amusing they can be.

2 for 1!

TALGV has had a bumper crop of kittens this year. As of September 2025 we've received 90 litters totaling 294 kittens! Many kittens have been adopted. But still we have a bursting cat wing. So come get 'em while you can at \$75/pair.



Dusk (aka Nova) and Moonlight (aka Bam)

This 2-for-1 pair of kittens were re-named Nova and Bam. They joined a Vail family, who already included three kids and two dogs. Dad Calvin reports that they are doing well, fitting right in and gaining weight.



McMuffin (aka Espurr)

Espurr is happily ensconced in her new Tucson home with owner Madeline N. Espurr is often a little engine purring and kneading and Madeline is excited to see how she grows.



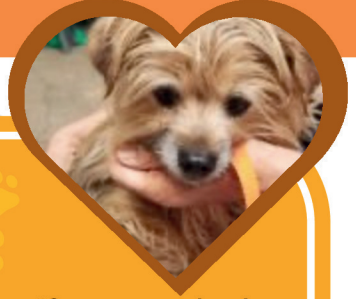
News From Our Readers

By Susan Rowen



POPEYE

My new home is great! I go for walks, hang out on the back porch and watch hummingbirds at the feeders. I also see deer drinking out of the big bucket in the yard. I love playing and have a lot of toys. No accidents in the house and I never bark. My mom says I'm a very good boy.



LEROY

Leroy's owner reports: "Our sweet dog is enjoying us as much as we are him." He especially loves to walk on his leash. They can't wait for cooler weather so they can walk during daylight too. He also adores his 15-year-old dachshund cousin.



YOGI



Yogi is doing great, and has started training. She is settled in and loves her car rides. She also loves running laps in the backyard and jumping in her kiddie pool.



BLOSSOM

Blossom was a stray. From her looks, she was labeled a terrier mix. Surprise, after DNA Testing, she turned out to be a DoxiPoo, with some chihuahua thrown in for good measure. She always wants to be with her people: snuggling, watching TV and sitting on Dad's chair back while he's at his computer.



MOLLY PARTON AND MASON DIXON (bonded pair)

Says their new owner, "Molly Parton and Mason Dixon are taking over our house and our lives... way beyond our wildest expectations."



WHAT IS A BONDED PAIR?

Sometimes we get bonded pairs, dogs or cats who have been together a long time or perhaps are litter mates. TALGV doesn't want to separate them, so the decision is made that they be adopted together.

Support Local



Support TALGV

ANNOUNCEMENT

40th ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

Thursday, December 4th, at 2:30 pm
TALGV's Multipurpose Room
including Board Members Election

Only Prepaid Members (\$25 annually) can vote.
No membership dues will be accepted at the meeting.



The Attic Christmas Sale

STOREWIDE 50% OFF

except as marked

December 15th - December 29th

There's Something for Everyone!!!

All Proceeds Support the Animals



You can send cat and dog food directly through our Amazon Wishlist. Just aim your phone's camera at the QR code and follow the link.



Join the Global Giving Tuesday movement!

On Tuesday December 2nd

Please donate to The Animal League.



Thinking about Year-End Giving?

Don't forget The Animal League of Green Valley!

Individual Contributions

Anytime is a great time to contribute to TALGV. If you contribute \$25 annually you become a member with the privilege of voting for members of the Board.

Monthly Donors

Set it and forget it! Your monthly contribution helps The Animal League plan ahead—for major improvements as well as daily needs like food and vet care. Steady, reliable income is the backbone that keeps us up and running!

Planned Giving

Please remember TALGV in your will and/or trust. There are often tax advantages...a bequest of certain types of savings is tax-free for us and your estate too. Check with your financial advisor or lawyer to pick the best way for you to remember The Animal League forever!

Qualified Charitable Distributions

This can be a tax-efficient way to make a donation from some retirement accounts. These donations can be applied toward annual Required Minimum Distributions. Again talk to your financial advisor about how this type of donation works.

Stocks or other Securities

Non-cash asset donations can also have greater tax benefits for you. Yet another win/win, for the animals you are helping and you too!

Vehicle Donations

What a wonderful gift! These and other big ticket items can be donated through the Attic. Contact us for more info.

Please
Donate!



We
Thank
you!

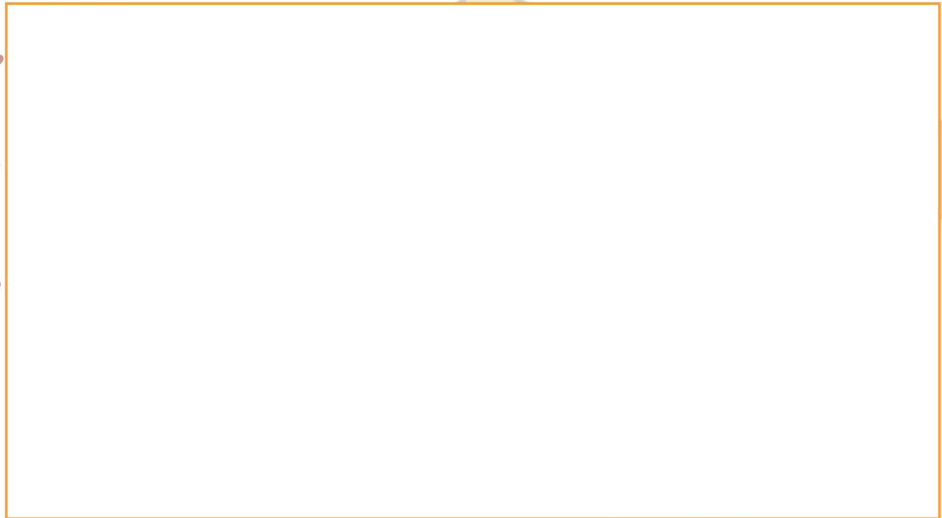


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needed**



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Paw Prints Graphic Designer - Kailey Bonillas-Tracy
Paw Prints Editor Emerita - Mary Ziegelbauer

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OPEN FROM 10AM TO 2PM DAILY
Appointments for adoptions & intake
provide more personalized service.

THE ATTIC THRIFT STORE

Open 5 Days Every Week
THURS, FRI, SAT, SUN & MON

WINTER HOURS (OCT-APRIL 30) ~ 10AM TO 2PM
SUMMER HOURS (MAY-SEPT) ~ 8AM TO NOON

Merchandise donations accepted ONLY
on the 1st Sunday of each month.

TALGV's Kennels & The Attic Thrift Store
1600 W. Duval Mine Rd. Green Valley, AZ 85614
Kennels/Office (520) 625-3170 Attic (520) 625-2189
Email: info@talgv.org Website: www.talgv.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/TALGV

To donate on-line, go to www.talgv.org



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TALGV is a 501(c)(3)
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