

PetGazette

INFORMATION THAT NURTURES THE PET-PEOPLE BOND

Western North Carolina

September - October 2021

Volume 10 - Issue 5



Events

BRHS Barkyard Parties
Foothills Animal Fair
Howl-O-Ween Parade
Rockin' for Rescue
WCDFA Agility Trials

Health

Dinah's Doggles
FHS Spay/Neuter
Kitten Panleukopenia

And furthermore...

Adventures in Pet Sitting
What's in a Name?
Wonder Weeks



Calendar of Events September - October 2021

September

Sat. 9/11 – 11am-2pm. FHS Adoption Event, Iron Key Brewing Company, 135 Locust St., Columbus, NC. Adoptable dogs on site, plus Iron Key will donate \$1 to FHS for every Dawg House Brown sold.

Sun. 9/12 – 8:30am-12pm. Mills River 5K, 10K and 1 Mile Doggie Dash to benefit BRHS. More at blueridgehumane.org

Fri. 9/17-Sun. 9/19. Barkyard Parties fundraisers for BRHS. Individualized parties that raise awareness and funds. Learn how to host your own at blueridgehumane.org

Sat. 9/18 – 10am. 13th Annual Blessing of the Pets at Mills River Presbyterian Church, 10 Presbyterian Church Road, Mills River. All pets welcome. More at 828-891-7101 or millsriverpresbyterian.org.

Fri. 9/24 - Sun.9/26 – 8am-5pm. WCDFA All Breed Agility Trial, Smoky Mountain Event Center (formerly Haywood County Fairgrounds) 758 Crabtree Rd., Waynesville. Dog-handler teams compete for best times over courses with jumps, tunnels, weave poles, teeter-totters and

other obstacles. Vendors of food, pet supplies. Free parking. More at wcdfa.org

Sat. 9/25 – 12-5pm. Paw Pride Market, Trade St., Landrum, SC, presented by P3 Consignments. Crafts, shopping plus three local rescues will have spay-neuter info, adoption info and adoptable dogs.

Sat. 9/25 – 10am-1pm. BRHS Free Pet Food Giveaway at Boys and Girls Club, 1304 Ashe St., Hendersonville. blueridgehumane.org

October

Sun. 10/3 – 1-4pm. Foothills Animal Fair at The Sanctuary at Red Bell Run, 385 Blackwood Rd., Columbus, NC. Champagne brunch, hay rides, silent auction. Tickets \$100. 828 863-4444, foothillshumanesociety.org

Tu. 10/5 – 3-6pm. BRHS Free Pet Food Giveaway at BRHS Warehouse, 802 S. Grove St., Hendersonville. blueridgehumane.org

Sat. 10/23 - 10am-1pm. BRHS Free Pet Food Giveaway at Boys and Girls Club, 1304 Ashe St., Hendersonville. blueridgehumane.org

Coming in November

Sat. 11/13 – 10am-4pm. Tails in Town, Main Street, Hendersonville. 40+ pet friendly vendors. Something for kids of all ages. Save the date.

Ongoing Events

Ongoing events at area rescue organizations follow. Please be sure to confirm events since schedules often change due to pandemic restrictions.

Every Saturday – 12-4pm. Cats and Kittens for adoption from MPR at Petsmart, 150 Bleachery Rd., Asheville. 828 298-5670

Every Saturday morning – 10-11am. BRHS Yoga with Cats! Venues change. Details at blueridgehumane.org 828 885-3647

Every third Mon. of the month – 1-5pm. Low-cost vaccines at BRHS, Hendersonville. blueridgehumane.org, 828 685-7107

Every second Tu. of the month – Hendersonville Paws for Love tests potential therapy dogs. Sign up, get directions at 828 692-5641

Every second Tu. of the month – 10am-1pm. ACW Cat Pantry distributes food at the Thrift Hound, 234 New Leicester Hwy., Asheville. pantry@ashevillecatweirdos.org

Every Wed., Sat., Sun. – 10am. BWAR Outward Hounds Hiking Club meets at shelter to take dogs on hikes. volunteer@bwar.org. 828 505-3440

Every Sat. & Sun. – 10am-5pm. Furever Friends Cat Adoptions. Petco, 825 Brevard Road, Asheville. fureverfriends@att.net; 828 398-4943

Every Sun. – 10am-2pm. AHS Hiking Hounds. Take shelter dogs for hikes. ashevillehumane.org, 828 761-2001

Every First Sat. of the month – 11:30am-1pm. Volunteer orientation at AHS, 14Forever Friends Lane. volunteer@ashevillehumane.org, 828 761-2001

Every Fourth Sat. of the month – 10am-4pm. ACW Cat Pantry distributes food at the Thrift Hound, 234 New Leicester Hwy., Asheville. pantry@ashevillecatweirdos.org

ACW=Asheville Cat Weirdos AHS=Asheville Humane Society BRAC=Blue Ridge Agility Club BRHS=Blue Ridge Humane Society CAAR=Charlie's Angels Animal Rescue FF=Forever Friends Cat Adoptions FHS=Foothills Humane Society MPR=Mountain Pet Rescue

PetGazette

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FHS Animal Fair

The Foothills Humane Society (FHS) will have its 2021 Foothills Animal Fair at The Sanctuary at Red Bell Run on Sunday, October 3 from 1-4pm. As in the past, the Animal Fair will be the organization's biggest fundraiser of the year.

Fairgoers will get to enjoy a champagne brunch as they take in the sweeping views of the Blue Ridge Mountains that surround the Sanctuary dedicated to rescued and special needs equines. Before or after the brunch, visitors can enjoy a stroll around the grounds, engage in a little horse watching, or go for a hay ride.

Fairgoers might well want to also participate in the silent auction of unique and valuable items or services donated by generous area supporters of FHS. Past auctions included one-of-a-kind hand-sewn wall hangings and other lovingly created works from mountain artists and crafts people among a wide range of auction offerings. A list of 2021 auction items was not available at PetGazette press time.

Foothills Humane Society is a private non-profit, 501c3 no-kill animal welfare organization. It rescues approximately 1600 animals a year while serving all of Polk County, NC. When resources permit, FHS also serves some nearby South Carolina communities.

Tickets for the Foothills Animal Fair are \$100 and include the champagne brunch and other privileges. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the FHS offices by phone at 828 863-4444 or by email at foothillshumanesociety.org. Or ticket buyers can visit the FHS offices at 989 Little Mountain Road in Columbus, NC. 

Upstate Vet Asheville Planned Expansion

Revamping 24-hour Emergency Care

Upstate Vet Asheville will be opening a newly constructed 20,000 square foot clinical space as a renovation extension of the current practice located at 22 Fall Pippin Lane, in mid 2022.

The expansion will provide referring veterinarians support in almost all specialties hitherto unavailable in one place, including the most advanced new equipment technology (cone beam CT, C-arm...) And most importantly, it will offer timely access. 24 hour Emergency and Urgent care will be available to pet lovers in the area, especially those in a shorter driving distance to south Asheville than to other ER's.


Regan Zeller, MBA, Hospital Director of Upstate Vet Asheville and a former Veterinarian Technician herself, said "There are long waits for emergency treatment everywhere, some reporting as long as five hours while the pet is suffering. Our unique Admissions team will provide no waiting. The referred pet is immediately assessed with an Acuity Score, and then quickly connected with the appropriate Care Team."

On-site Care Teams will be available in the specialty called for in the assessment: cardiology, ophthalmology, oncology, neurology, sports medicine (total hip surgery and rehab), dermatology, dentistry and expanded surgery ability. (Referral services currently available at Upstate Vet Asheville are only oncology, internal medicine, ophthalmology, part time dentistry and surgery by referral.) There is a Blood Bank program to which pets can donate – getting snacks afterward!

Zeller went on to give some details about the construction timeline. Construction into the adjacent Sky Zone building starts soon, with the hospital staying in its current location. Then everyone moves into the new facility while the old one is renovated. These renovations include an entire wing for internal medicine and an integrated surgical suite with sterile hallway, and monitors, lights, anesthesia built into the room.

Upstate Vet Asheville has been growing since 2017. "In 2017", Zeller said, "we were here but still just a satellite office of Upstate Vet Greenville, like sisters that hadn't yet branched off from each other. There were no emergency services. In 2018, I was hired as Hospital Director. I had been a vet tech but went on to get my MBA. This year I hired Jessica Rando as Referral Relationship Manager with the job of growing the referral base."

Rando added, "Since I cover the area from Charlotte to East Tennessee, I find many practices in need of Upstate Vet's services. There are three new practices in Buncombe County alone. And during Covid, the University of Tennessee took it hard, and we've been happy to help them. We've grown from 222 to 250 hospitals whose vets refer patients to us."

"We will always be a referral hospital", said Director Zeller. "It is not our wish to take a patient from their referring primary vet. But we do want to revamp the way the industry looks at emergency medicine." 

Resource Guide

Support local pet businesses

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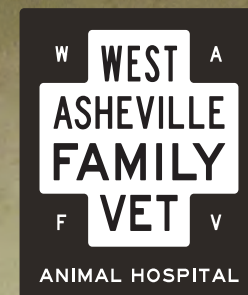
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Down Dog Dog Bar: A Dream Come True

Once upon a time there were two sisters, Sophie and Madelyn. Sadly, they were not yet living in Asheville. They lived in a city not too far away. As cities go, even though it was not Asheville (what city is), it had enough of a vibe to inspire Sophie to ponder her concept for a new kind of place to relax. A dog bar.

Having experienced dog-bar concepts in other cities, and visited Asheville often, the sisters knew Asheville was the perfect place for this kind of opportunity. Sophie says, "Down Dog was an idea that manifested over time after moving to Asheville. We fell in love with the city, the people, and the beer drinking, dog loving culture that surrounded us."

It did take a while for Down Dog to come into being. It was August of 2019 when Sophie and Madelyn decided to take their leap of faith to bring their vision to life. After finding the right building in the right location (51 Sweeten Creek Road), build-out be-

gan. A very plain boxy white industrial stucco building was transformed inside and out.

The yoga component came a little later when the sisters started practicing regularly. Sophie became RYT certified and a Hot Yoga Studio was added to the dog bar.



Down Dog Dog Bar before opening.

Entrance to the Down Dog bar is by Membership – but it's free. There is legal stuff when you enter - a liability waiver, rules, requirements and a profile for doggo. After that the fun begins! You can let your dog off-leash as soon as you walk in the door, to play

in the bar or patio. To keep your dog safe there is a dogtender to make sure everyone plays nice. Or if you'd prefer there's a fenced area right beside the bar for dogs and humans.

Bar hours are M-F 4pm - 9pm, Sat 12pm - 9pm, and Sun. 11am - 7pm. Yoga Studio is open only during class time.

Find more information at Down-DogAvl.com. Contact: 828 505-8618, info@downdogavl.com.



Wonder Weeks Puppy Training

by Kathryn R. Gubista

If you adopted an 8-week-old puppy today, would you know what to teach your new puppy so she/he grows up to become the dog of your dreams? Not to complicate matters, but did you know that what pups experience when very young will permanently shape their lives?

Thus, puppy training needs to start right away.

What puppies experience before they are four months old shapes their personalities for their lifetime. Wonder Weeks Puppies are younger than four months, with the peak socialization period ending at approximately 12 weeks. Because most puppies arrive in their forever homes at approximately eight weeks, new puppy "pawrents" have about one month to train the essential/core puppy skills.

Training Tip: Start with the essential/core puppy skills the second you get your pup. If you snooze on the training skills, your puppy will lose.

ESSENTIAL/CORE PUPPY SKILLS

There are four essential/core skills all puppies should learn to happily coexist with their human companions: (1) House Training, (2) Socialization, (3) Manners and (4) Foundation Obedience. The categories are listed in order of importance, with house training skills potentially a deal-breaker that can send poorly trained pups to the shelter. Although the categories are listed in order of importance, start working on all the skills as soon as possible, with house training as the top priority.

#1 - PUPPY HOUSE TRAINING

Puppy house training includes potty training and crate training. To live happily ever after inside homes with their humans, dogs need to learn to potty outside and not chew on or destroy anything in the home. Along with teaching puppies to potty outside, you should also teach puppies to "potty on command" to simplify your busy life. The younger puppies are taught house training skills, the faster they master both potty and crate training. In addition to protecting your house from damage, crate training your pup will reduce the chances of future anxiety issues because the crate is the puppy's comfy place.

Training Tip: Have a house training plan and obtain all your potty training equipment BEFORE

you get your puppy so you can start on day #1.

#2 - PUPPY MANNERS

All puppy pawrents should recognize that just because dogs are domestic animals, puppies are NOT born tame. Puppies must be tamed through extensive handling so they learn to always be well-mannered towards humans. Poor manners include jumping, barking, whining, mouthing, nipping, biting, growling, snarling, humping others, etc. Through extensive handling and petting, puppies learn to be friendly with humans.

Training Tip: Pet and handle your new puppy as much as possible.

#3 - PUPPY SOCIALIZATION

Puppies must be socialized with others when very young to ensure they are friendly with humans and other animals, especially other dogs. The critical puppy socialization window is from 4-12 weeks old. Most reputable breeders keep puppies seven weeks to let them learn bite inhibition from mom and litter mates. Separating puppies too early (six weeks or younger) or waiting too long (past 12 weeks) can cause poor socialization issues.

Training Tip: Have friends and family handle your pup. If you don't have access to friendly dogs for socialization, please check out our Wonder Weeks Puppy Program featuring the Muttley Crew.

#4 - FOUNDATION OBEDIENCE

Teaching puppies to focus on you (LOOK) and come when called (COME) are the two foundation obedience skills that all dogs should master .companions. The goal is to teach puppies to look to their humans for guidance and recognize that "the safest place to be is next to us". **Training Tip:** Teach puppies to COME during the potty training process; thus, you are teaching COME from day one and practice multiple times throughout each and every day.

Kathryn R. Gubista, PhD is an evolutionary biologist, college biology instructor, former zookeeper, author and certified professional dog trainer with Lucky Dog Training Asheville. Please follow us on Instagram @LuckyDogTrainingAVL and @TheDogsPerspective. Please contact us for more information at TrainingLuckyDogs@gmail.com or call us at 828-423-9635.



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The DOG'S PERSPECTIVE



Kathryn R. Gubista, PhD
CPDT-KA



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Howl-O-Ween Pet Parade returns to Black Mountain

Although complete official plans have not been officially announced as of PetGazette press time, PetGazette can report, based on reliable anonymous sources deep within the planning organization, that the 2021 Black Mountain Howl-O-Ween Pet Parade will begin at 3pm on Saturday, October 30.

The 2021 edition of the popular annual event (pandemic years excepted) will step off from the Black Mountain Town Square. Based on reliable anonymous sources and past practices, the parade will then make a loop along State Street, going to Cherry Street and then returning to the starting point.

Kim Weeks, owner of the Bone-A-Fide Pet Boutique and the parade's lead sponsor, once again pointed out that "The parade is a great local community event that brings pets and people together."

The parade is open to children of all ages, and is not limited to Black Mountain residents. Participants who want to enter the costume


contest must pay a fee for the pet only category, or a slightly higher fee for the pet/person(s) combo contest. (The exact fees had not been set as of PetGazette press time, but in 2019 the fees had been \$5 and \$8 respectively. It was also not known whether the fees would be raised to cover the high inflation occurring in 2021). Whatever the final fees, a portion of them will be donated to area pet rescue groups.



Contest registration will be held from 1-2:30pm at the Town Square. Based on past practices, first, second and third prize winners will receive gift certificates from local businesses,

and the grand prize winner will receive a cash prize.

"The support we receive from Black Mountain businesses is overwhelming," Weeks said, as she had in the past. "But most importantly, it's really just a lot of fun."

For up-to-date information not visit from an anonymous source, boneafidepetboutique@gmail.com. 


FHS low-cost spay-neuter vouchers

Foothills Humane Society (FHS) has a limited number of vouchers to help pet owners in Polk County get low-cost spay or neuter services for their pets. The vouchers are offered with the assistance of Polk County Government.

The vouchers are only for those needing financial assistance to get their pet spayed or neutered. They are free for Polk County residents on government assistance or limited income. A free rabies vaccine and microchip is included with each spay or neuter procedure. With a voucher, the out-of-pocket costs are: Dog spay, \$70; dog neuter, \$60; cat spay or neuter, \$55.

Polk County residents can provide many health benefits for their pets by using the vouchers. Animal Health Foundation veterinarians Charlie Meynier and Jim Stortz state that spaying female dogs and cats reduces the incidence of mammary cancer, eliminates uterine and ovarian cancer risk. Neutering male animals protects them from prostatic hypertrophy and infections, as well as testicular cancer and certain types of hemias. Drs. Meynier and Stortz also note many less desirable animal behaviors, including roaming and territorial aggression, are usually reduced by spaying or neutering.

Spaying and neutering pets also helps fight shelter overpopulation. With shelters across the country currently facing an overcrowding crisis, spaying and neutering is more important than ever.

Qualified Polk County residents can get a spay/neuter voucher at Foothills Humane Society Monday-Saturday from 11am-5pm and Tuesdays until 6pm. No appointment is necessary. For more, contact Foothills Humane Society, 828-863-4444, ext.1 or info@foothillshumanesociety.org 


Grant From Grey Muzzle Foundation

Old dogs have something to wag about this summer, as The Grey Muzzle Organization announces the recipients of its annual grants. Dogs at Asheville Humane Society and Brother Wolf Animal Rescue are among the 77 national winners!

Animal welfare groups who received grants to help senior dogs were chosen from 266 applicants. The winning groups received more than \$616,000 total in grants to help save or improve the lives of at-risk old dogs in their communities.

"No one is more grateful or loving than an old dog, and we're all looking forward to helping more senior dogs get the second chance they all deserve," said Leah Craig Fieser, Executive Director of Brother Wolf Animal Rescue. "It's wonderful that both of our lifesaving organizations have received these grant funds so that even more senior dogs in our region can be healed and adopted into loving homes," said John Hass, Interim Executive Director at Asheville Humane Society.

Over the past 13 years, the national nonprofit Grey Muzzle Organization has provided more than \$3.1 million in grants to support its vision of "a world where no old dog dies alone and afraid."

"Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we're delighted to help deserving organizations like Asheville Humane Society and Brother Wolf Animal Rescue make a difference in the lives of dogs and people in their communities," Grey Muzzle's Executive Director Lisa Lunghofer said. "Many senior dogs in the Asheville area are enjoying their golden years in loving homes thanks to these organizations' wonderful work." 


West Asheville Family Vet Grand Opening being planned

Those who want to know what the new vet on Haywood Road in West Asheville is like, are invited to see for themselves. The Grand Opening celebration will be taking place soon.

"Among many other happenings that day, we know everyone will want a tour of the clinic", said Butch Bassett, the clinic's practice manager. "There have been admiring comments about the building's retro charm. But within that charm is modern equipment with the latest veterinary technologies so we can offer the best compassionate care of our furry friends".

In addition to tours of the hospital, folks will have the opportunity to meet the clinic's Chief of Staff, Dr. Cindy Exelby. "I'm excited to embrace the families of the West Asheville area", she said recently, "and am looking forward to meeting a lot of you at the Grand Opening Celebration."

The Grand Opening celebration will kick off with the official "Ribbon Cutting". Enjoyment will continue during the afternoon with the fun parts, including food, drink, pet related items, etc.

West Asheville Family Vet is located at 547 Haywood Road, between Tastee Diner and Zia Taqueria. Reach them at 828-202-5038. PetGazette's press time was too early to obtain the finalization of the date. As soon as we know it we'll link a web article to our Facebook page, emailing the blog notification to subscribers. 

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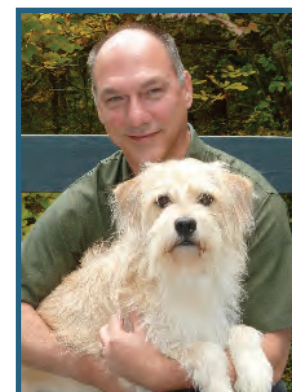
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Adventures in pet sitting

by Julie Davis

I have had some memorable experiences while pet sitting. Here are a couple more of my experiences.

Scared Cat Chased Up a Tree

I was walking a dog at lunchtime while her person was at work. We were heading back to their house when I saw someone walking two big dogs stop to talk to some neighborhood kids. The dogs saw the neighbor's cat and suddenly lunged toward it, pulling the leashes out of the person's hand. The cat was scared and ran, with the dogs chasing her and gaining ground.

In fear, the cat darted up a tree in their yard. When the homeowner and the kids tried to coax the cat down after the dogs left, the terrified cat climbed even higher. Luckily, with the help of a neighbor with a tall ladder, they were eventually able to get the scared cat safely down from the tree.

Because of the nature of cats' claws, they can easily climb up a tree, but climbing down is more difficult. In the Asheville Area, a local cat lover named Spence Cacanour started Asheville Tree-Top Cat Rescue and will rescue cats from trees for free. His number is (978) 985-0955.

Healthy Snacks

There are some healthy snacks that people commonly give to their dogs or cats,

including carrots and pumpkin puree. However, I have seen pets that I've cared for eat other, less common, sometimes surprising, healthy snacks.

In one instance, I noticed partially eaten celery sticks in a client's backyard when I let their dogs out. I asked her about it, and she said that one of her dogs loves chewing on celery, and that it's good for his teeth. I had never seen a dog eat celery, but I gave this dog one more piece and watched him happily eat it. When I looked it up, I discovered that celery is good for dogs' teeth.

Another client left out a package of dried banana slices as treats for her two dogs when we finished their walks. They loved these treats and really looked forward to them. So I bought them for my dog, and he loved them too!

One of the most surprising incidents occurred when I was sitting for a beagle and a cat. The beagle loves his treats and had gained weight from eating too many. So my client started giving the beagle sweet peas as a treat. He usually gobbled them down, but occasionally turned up his nose at them. Once, when he didn't eat the peas, I looked shortly after he walked away from the bowl and was surprised to see the cat eating the peas. When I checked to be sure peas are healthy for cats as well as dogs, I learned that they are.

Julie Davis is a pet sitter/dog walker with Family Pet Care of Asheville.



Claymore and handler win national Agility award

Bearded Collier Claymore and handler Joe Root, both of Clyde, NC, recently won the overall title of High Combined Champion in the Agility portion of the 2020 Bearded Collie National Specialty competition, recently held in the Purina Farms facility, near St. Louis.

The event had been scheduled for 2020, but Covid intervened. However, all the planning and preparation were put to good use in the vent rescheduled to 2021.

The National Specialty is an occasion for Bearded Collie Club of America members to meet one another and to compete in a wide range of events, including Conformation (the traditional "dog show") as well as Agility, Obedience, Herding, Rally Obedience, and a new sport, Fast CAT (Coursing Ability Test) – a timed 100-yard dash in which dogs run one at a time, chasing a lure.

The overall competitions stretched over a week, and the Agility events followed the familiar format of a typical 2-day Agility trial, with Standard Agility and Jumpers With Weaves classes running on both days.

Most Agility trials focus entirely on individual events, with no scores compiled across events. Here, however, the club used an algorithm that combined scores from different classes, which allowed the computation of overall scores for each dog/handler team.

Root is a member of both the Blue Ridge Agility Club and the Western Carolina Dog Fanciers Association. He and Claymore compete together frequently and were in sync both days at the National Specialty. Root delivered clear and timely instructions and Claymore responded correctly. (In Agility, the dog almost always

responds correctly to its handler.) Root sadly admits that Claymore invariably does exactly what he signals – thus, imperfect runs come from imperfect signals. But at the Purina Farms events, Root's signals were mostly on target and on time, as the team achieved qualification in five of six runs.

Those results earned the team the overall title and the huge ribbon befitting a national title that goes with it.



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WCDFA Agility Trial in Haywood last weekend in September

The Western Carolina Dog Fanciers Association's (WCDFA) Dog Agility Trial will be held at the Smoky Mountain Event Center (formerly Haywood County Fairgrounds) September 24-26, 2021.

Events will start at approximately 8am each morning, and end about 5pm Friday and Saturday, and about 3pm Sunday. Spectators will be welcome, but asked to observe then-current COVID-19 protocols. Parking will be free. Vendors of dog related merchandise will be on site, as well as food concessions to keep human competitors and visitors well fed.

Dog Agility requires dog/handler teams to navigate a course that can include a variety of Jumps as well as Weave Poles, Tunnels,

the course and the team is judged on total time, with time added for faults assessed due to missed or improperly completed obstacles. Best time wins in each size category.

Dogs of all sizes and breeds, including mixed breeds, are welcome in agility. Size divisions are determined by the dog's height at the withers (shoulders). There are six height divisions, starting at 4" and increasing

to 24" in 4" increments. The jump height for each division is the same as its height division. Dogs can be entered in more than one class if they meet the qualifications. As of mid-August, Trial Secretary Robin Early expects 475-700 class runs a day.

One of the competing dog/handler teams at the September Agility Trial will consist of Bearded Collie

Claymore and his owner/handler Joe Root. The team is based in Clyde but competes often in both regional and national events. A few months ago, it won the title of High Combined Champion at the Bearded Collie National Specialty at the Purina Farms facility in the St. Louis, Missouri area. (See article page 6.)

For safety, security and sanity reasons, canine non-competitors will not be welcomed to the Trial unless they are there for the Companion Animal Eye Registry (CAER). This clinic provides concerned owners and breeders information about canine eye diseases so that they may make informed breeding decisions and treatment plans as needed. The clinic will run from 9am to 3pm on Friday, 9/24 and Saturday, 9/25 at the Arena. Signage will direct individuals to the testing area. Cost is \$40 and tests will be completed by Amy Knollinger, Veterinary Ophthalmologist from Utah. Amy has family in Waynesville and will be visiting during the trial. She has been a veterinarian for 21 years, in veterinary ophthalmology since 2004, and has earned Eye Clinic Certification.

As of PetGazette press time, the vendors already committed for the WCDFA Agility Trials included The Dog House professional grooming and pet supplies, Beverly



Collie goes airborne.



Claymore shows how tire jump is done.



Trial Chair Anne Bello cheers toy poodle Lacie over teeter-totter.

Dog Walks, Teeter Totters and other obstacles. Each course has 14-20 obstacles as set up by the judge for each event. The dogs must not only complete each obstacle, but must do



Belgian Shepherd Rain clears 20" jump.

it going in the prescribed direction. Entering and exiting a tunnel from the wrong end, or taking a jump in the wrong direction, will lead to faults being assessed.

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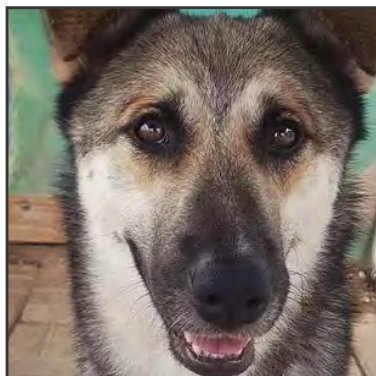



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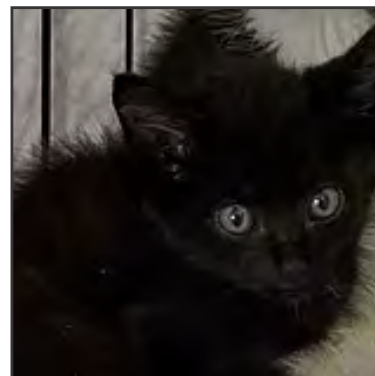
PetGazette will make a donation to that rescue toward the adoption fee. Here are just some of the pets waiting for their forever homes.



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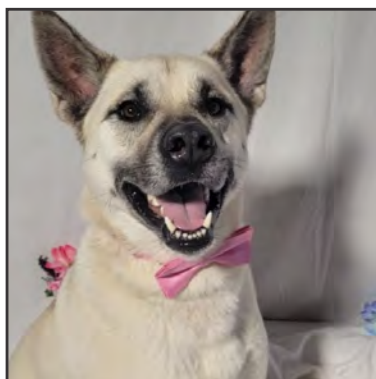
Grizzly
Sister Kitten



Mr Crabs
Mitchell County



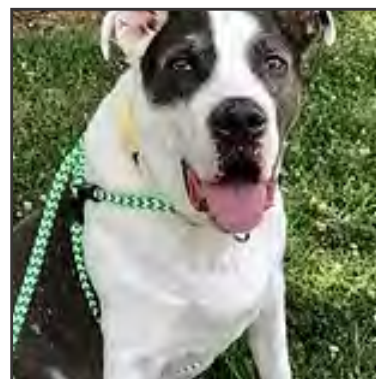
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Phoenix
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Registered dog names say a lot

by Susan Young

What's in a name? If you have watched Westminster or the National Dog Show on TV, you will have seen some pretty bizarre registered names attached to the dogs. You may be surprised to learn that a lot of thought and research often goes into those names.

My Tripp's name is Lyric Blue Highways. His breeder uses Lyric as her Kennel name. This goes first, so every Golden Retriever loving person in the show world now knows that my friend Sue bred my boy. When the pups were ready to go to their new homes, Sue picked a common theme to name the puppies. She picked a pretty easy theme; color. Every pup in the litter was registered with a "color" in their name. I chose "Blue Highways," which means to travel the back roads. My husband wanted to name our new puppy Tripp, so Blue Highways went with his registered name. The everyday name and registered name don't have to go with each other, but it's fun when it does.

Some exceptional examples of fun combinations are Starfire's Again and Again (Ditto), Golden Joy's Holiday Road (Griswold), Wynwood's Mind Your Own Biscuits (Gravy), Faraway's Seventeen Sillybles (Haiku), and Starfire's So The Story Goes (Fable). I could go on! My dog-showing friends get very creative coming up with unique and funny name

combinations.

When we decided to get my new puppy last winter, I asked his breeder if she had a theme. She did not, and this made naming him harder. I could name him ANYTHING! There are too many options, and I work best with parameters! It did become a challenge in one respect; my husband and I have a tradition of giving our dogs names that start with a "T". I wanted my puppies registered name to go with his every day name so for every "T" name that we came up with, I would hit the internet and also play the naming game with my Facebook friends. I was trying to hit on a unique combination.

My husband eventually settled on the name Token. I had told his breeder that I wanted my puppy to be a bit of a bad boy because bad boys are typically intelligent and creative and more fun to train. My husband shortened it to "Toke" when I suggested Lycinan's Smokin' in the Boys Room. I should have been more careful about naming him because dogs tend to live up to their names. Toke is one of the most laid-back puppies I have raised while at the same time being one of the worst puppies for getting into trouble!

You may also see things like CH, G-CH, OTCH, MACH, and so forth before and after the dog's name. These are titles that have been earned, and the more titles there are, the more venues the dog probably competes in. You can

be assured that the dogs do this because they enjoy it. If I even touch my training bag, my dogs about jump out of their skin for joy. They LOVE training because it means one on one time with me, a chance to go out and do things, see their friends (people and canine), and FOOD. Lots of food rewards.

Recently Toke and I began obedience class, starting our journey to competitive obedience. My goal is to add many titles before and after his registered name, but only if he wants to. Judging from his first obedience class, this is something he certainly enjoys, more so than the agility classes that we have also been taking. For that reason, we will put agility on hold for a while and concentrate on what he wants to do. Like all of my friends, I compete because it's a fun thing to do with my dogs, and it's a chance to get out with my friends. When it ceases to be fun, we will either find another sport or start bingeing movies together (Toke loves watching Disney).

Over time I will find out if he will be Smokin' in the show ring or token' while watching cartoons. Either way, I'll love him to the moon and back!

- Susan M. Young is a long standing Asheville, NC Real Estate Broker and has been active in dog sports with her Golden Retrievers for over 20 years. She can be reached through her website at SusanMYoung.com.



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Heart of Horse Sense Awarded Grant

Heart of Horse Sense (HOH) has received a generous \$15,000 2021 grant from Disabled Veterans National (DVNF) that will help fund its life-changing equine assisted therapy programs offered to disabled veterans. It is the fifth year that DVNF has awarded funding to the organization.

"DVNF exists to provide critically needed support to disabled and at-risk veterans who leave the military wounded – physically or psychologically – after defending our safety and our freedom. The DVNF mission is perfectly aligned with that of Heart of Horse Sense which makes this grant award even more gratifying," says Shannon Knapp, Founder and Executive Director of Heart of Horse Sense. "We are honored to serve our returning veterans and grateful to be able to do so through the commitment, dedication, and continued generosity of DVNF."

Almost 40% of returning US troops suffer from depression, anxiety, and PTSD – affecting the lives of veterans and their families. The results are an increased likelihood of unemployment, poverty, domestic violence, homelessness, and suicide. As validation for the equine assisted therapy and learning programs offered to these groups through HOH, Knapp points to a pilot study at Fort Carson, Colorado showing that participation in equine therapy reduced the risk of violence by veterans by 24% and the rate of suicide by 62%.

Joseph VanFonda (USMC Sgt. Maj. Ret.), CEO of the DVNF said, "We are proud to support Heart of Horse Sense as they continue to make a positive impact in veterans' lives."

by Andee Bingham

This year has been the hardest year of my animal rescue career. The lack of spay and neuter surgeries in 2020 has caused an avalanche of challenges in 2021. It has been deeply exhausting and heartbreaking, but has also nudged our local rescues to partner with each other much more than in the past, and those partnerships have created a stronger and more effective community for the animals who need us.

We knew from the start of Esther Neonatal Kitten Alliance that partnering with other rescues was a vital part of fulfilling our mission to save orphaned newborn kittens, and this year alone we've partnered with nearly two dozen rescues! These partnerships are so important to the tiny, vulnerable kittens who benefit from them, but I've only recently started to understand how important they are to our small, scrappy team of staff and volunteers.

A couple weeks ago, a litter of kittens in our nursery tested positive for panleukopenia, a highly contagious virus often fatal to unvaccinated kittens. Panleuk has always been one of my greatest fears because of how quickly it can spread throughout a shelter environment and how hard it can be to save an infected kitten. And since we exclusively rescue kittens too young to be vaccinated, we faced a huge test.

We jumped into action to save the infected kittens and protect the others, but it was a grueling process. We started the infected kittens

The Lifesaving Power of Partnerships

on an intense routine of fluids, antibiotics, anti-nausea medications, and appetite stimulants. We developed an intricate plan to ensure all the other kittens in our nursery were safely quarantined



Knox, a survivor

while we monitored them for symptoms. And we deep cleaned every nook and cranny of the nursery with a heavy-duty antiviral disinfectant.

We worked 13+ hour days, lost several kitten friends, and spent many days feeling exhausted and helpless. But in the end, it was largely our partnerships that helped us overcome of the virus.

One partner sent their panleuk treatment and disinfection protocols. Others sent supplies. Another brought lunch and lent a compassionate ear while I sobbed into my sandwich. All of it

added up to helping us feel supported in what easily could have been the most alienating month of our history.

The truth is that no matter how long we've been rescuing animals there will always be diseases, injuries, or other challenges new to us -- but which another rescuer or organization may have the experience or knowledge needed to give



Ludo, a survivor

the animals their best shot. And for that I am incredibly grateful.

For more about the Kitten Alliance's lifesaving work, visit kittenalliance.org.

Andee Bingham is the Executive Director at Esther Neonatal Kitten Alliance.

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Dinah's Doggles: a Solution to Pannus

by James Lyon

If the eyes are the window to the soul, then it is no wonder why we love the look our dogs give us when they are happy and excited to see us!

Through that window their soul sees the world around them, so when that window to the soul is at risk of injury or illness, it is our



Lyon and Dinah share a look.

responsibility as pet parents to be their advocate for their health and wellbeing.

Last month my 4 year-old Greyhound Dinah, a retired racing greyhound, was diagnosed with

a degenerative eye condition called Pannus.

It started out as a bit of discoloration on the side of her right eye, but I became alarmed when I noticed it spreading further into her eye, and then it appeared in her left eye a few weeks later. After doing some research about Pannus, I discovered it is an auto-immune condition and is somewhat common in many breeds, including Dachshunds and German Shepherds. Pannus is exacerbated by exposure to UV rays and if left untreated, could eventually render a dog with severe vision loss and possible blindness.

Like most dogs, Dinah loves spending a lot of time outdoors running, chasing squirrels, and lying in the sun. Her diagnosis was a difficult one as there was a possibility it could greatly affect her vision, the ability to see the world around her and make her favorite activities harder for her to enjoy.

Dinah's veterinarian planned a rather novel way of treatment. In addition to the daily eye drops she will require for the remainder of her life, she told us that physically protecting Dinah's eyes and blocking direct sunlight is extremely important to do on a daily basis. This is how we got introduced to "Doggles!" Very similar in appearance to human goggles, Doggles are protective eyewear that blocks bright light and harmful UV rays. They are shatterproof and very flexible, which was important for Dinah because being a retired racer from Florida, running is second nature to her.

Training took both time and patience- teaching her how to enjoy other experiences while wearing them, while also



Dinah enjoys the beach.

using positive reinforcement training to condition her to be accustomed to daily wear. Starting with just a half hour a day and gradually going up to several hours was important so that she didn't become uncomfortable with them.

Dinah's Doggles became a new way for her to look at the world around her, but sharing that experience together helped us see the world through a lens that neither of us could have imagined!

James Lyon, CPDT-KA, is the owner of Ilio Canine Care. He can be reached at (828) 393-5851. Information on training services and philosophy is available at iliocaninercare@gmail.com



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BRHS Barkyard Party Fundraisers September 17-19

The Blue Ridge Humane Society (BRHS) is once again encouraging Barkyard Parties - individualized celebrations of animal rescue, adoption, and animal welfare programs to raise awareness and funds for BRHS. The events and parties can take place anytime and anywhere over the weekend of September 17-19, 2021.

Each event can be in the format the host(s) desire: a sit-down formal event, potluck, block party, bar, brunch, raffle, pint night, themed event, pet-friendly, kid-free, kid-friendly, etc. Party-throwers can team up with a friend to co-host or use a central location such as a favorite restaurant or community clubhouse. Then they invite friends to join the festivities in honor of Blue Ridge Humane Society and raising funds to continue its work.

Who can host? Anyone can host a Barkyard Party or plan an event to benefit BRHS!

What is expected of Barkyard Party hosts?

Hosts must register their remote Barkyard Party as a BRHS 2021 event to receive their exclusive host treat basket. Then hosts can invite guests to learn more about BRHS and consider a donation to support its life-saving work.

Parties should be held the weekend of September 17-19. Hosts should share the information provided about BRHS and ask guests to consider making a donation. Hosts and co-hosts will be eligible for surprise giveaways and prizes the weekend of the

parties.

What is provided for hosts?

All hosts get a special host basket with treats and local goodies, acknowledgment in the BRHS newsletter and other promotions, and entry into the event prize drawings. Hosts are also given talking points and facts about BRHS, invitation wording templates for optional use, donation collection materials, and help from BRHS staff to answer questions and offer advice and support.

Are hosts responsible for the full cost of their Barkyard Party?

They can be, or they can make their event a potluck, have only dessert and wine or coffee, etc. All options are open, depending on each host's personal preferences.

Can businesses participate? Of course! If a business wants to throw a Barkyard Party in honor of BRHS nothing will get in its way. And businesses, just like individuals, can host however they want! They can have a raffle, donate a percentage of sales, have a theme night or ticketed show, or just help raise awareness among their patrons that evening and collect donations!

The benefits of sponsoring a Barkyard Party. A tax-deductible contribution will not only identify individuals and businesses as community-minded supporters, but will benefit local animals in need. To get started as a Barkyard Party host, call BRHS' Laresa Griffin at 828-692-2639.

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Rockin' for Rescue 2021 benefit concert – eight bands and counting

The 2021 edition of the giant Rockin' for Rescue fundraiser for the Asheville Humane Society (AHS) will be at the Blue Ghost Brewing Company in Fletcher on Saturday, September 18. The free dog and



Craggy Blues will perform at Rockin' for Rescue

family friendly event will run from 2pm to 9pm.

As of PetGazette press time, the concert will feature at least eight musical acts, with perhaps many more added by Rockin' for Rescue day. The acts already committed to Rockin' for Rescue are, in no particular order: F2C, Craggy Blues, The Remainders, My Blue Hoodie Band, Onionfang, John Friday, Kayla Lynn & Melissa McKenney and A.G. Hammond.

But no matter the number of new bands, event-inspiring rescued pit bull Roscoe will again be on hand to meet and greet the crowds of animal and

music lovers. AHS volunteers will also attend on and off during the festivities with adoptable dogs from the shelter.

According to event organizer, rescue activist and Roscoe rescuer Joey Beckham, the fundraising goal for this year's Rockin' for Rescue is the highest it has ever been, but less than she expects to make in donations for the AHS. "It's a lot of money, but we think we can bring it in," she said.



Roscoe, Rockin' for Rescue mascot and some fans

Vendors of pet products and services will be at Rockin' for Rescue, as well as several animal rescue organizations. Event T-shirts will be available, as well as many food and beverage choices, including Roscoe's Own Rockin' Brew created especially

for the Rockin' for Rescue event.

Rockin' for Rescue will be presented by the Fields Auto Group. The event was created by Beckham and Michael Newman, a founding member of the local rock



Kayla Lynn & Melissa McKenney will perform at Rockin' for Rescue

band The Remainders, which will be performing at the concert. Beckham and Newman both work at BMW of Asheville, and Newman met Roscoe when Beckham brought him to work. Roscoe's good looks and sunny disposition endeared him to Newman immediately. The dog's history of rescue and recovery from debilitating congenital deformities only added to his charm.


Unable to even walk when Beckham rescued

him, Roscoe's life was turned around by her friend, veterinary surgeon Dr. David Crouch. Thanks to Crouch's compassion and skill, Roscoe is now fully able to walk after seven complicated surgeries.

Roscoe's story so touched Newman that he shared it with other local musicians and bands. They, in turn, decided to put on a fundraising concert in Roscoe's honor and make Asheville Humane Society the beneficiary. Rockin' for Rescue was born.



A.G. Hammond will perform at Rockin' for Rescue

For more information about the Rockin' for Rescue benefit concert, visit ashevillehumane.org. Or call Joey Beckam at 828 646-8677. And communicate that PetGazette sent you. 

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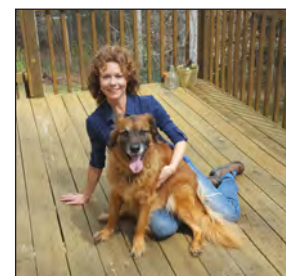


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