

# from the editor



BLIOTO BY KERRY SLIERO

# Whose 'freedom'?

This year's mudslinging campaign season really added to my sense of dismay at democracy in America in 2012. But that changed unexpectedly one night at the very local political forum of Rio Rancho City Hall, where I saw — probably for the first time ever — the noblest aspects of democracy at work.

For those who have not heard about the controversy, Rio Rancho's animal-protection ordinance, the result of 18 months of work by a city-appointed citizen task force, was abruptly challenged in October by four freshmen council members widely perceived to be backed by the Tea Party. Their attempt to repeal this law — praised by animal advocates for banning the sale of puppies and kittens at pet stores, as well as traveling animal acts that have violated cruelty laws — sailed through the first reading on their majority vote.

Protesters packed city hall chambers for the second hearing Oct. 24, where

some 50 people signed up to speak. The second speaker, Tonya Cantu, dropped a procedural bombshell by relating how she had witnessed three councilmen and a Tea Party representative discussing the animal ordinance, an apparent violation of the Open Meetings Act. Many animal advocates had suspected collusion behind the sudden push to reverse a popular law with no prompting from constituents.

I was totally unprepared for what happened next. Scores of citizens, mostly from Rio Rancho, called forth every manner of argument — data, reasoning, attack, even tears — in a passionate defense of creatures who have no voice. Their eloquence was moving, as was their motivation to exercise their democratic freedoms by speaking out against an abuse of political power (tyranny). The flood of testimony lasted several hours, and resulted in a delay of the vote to Nov. 14, when amendments were introduced that delayed the vote again to late December.

A number of people also spoke in defense of the repeal. Their arguments were weakened, however, by the consistent theme of self-interest: *my* rights, *my* freedom, *my* livelihood. There was little mention of responsibility, which we teach children goes hand in hand with "rights." I noticed too that Councilman Mark Scott mentioned "freedom" four times in four minutes in his defense of the repeal, without once mentioning civic *duty*, which any soldier can tell you goes right along with it.

The councilmen object to "trampling civil rights" in the name of animal protection. But the right to pursue profit-making is nowhere mentioned in the Bill of Rights, and to say that democracy protects this "right" is putting lipstick on a pig. (Because if capitalism is inherently right, why does it need to be dressed up as something more noble?)

Animal advocates are fond of quoting Gandhi: "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." Why? Because animals are vulnerable, lowly creatures, easily abused without consequence. To put their interest above our own testifies to the sanctity of something greater than self-interest, like compassion, love, a sense of responsibility to others, and thus to the Creator.

Likewise, welcoming "your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" reflects the true Christian legacy of our nation in the founding impulse toward democracy: the equal holiness of all beings under God.

To equate this noble impulse with the "freedom" to pursue commerce is a blasphemous distortion of the principles that founded our nation. Democracy does not protect the right to pursue one's selfish interests. The freedom that so many have fought and died for is not the freedom to indulge our lowest impulses. It is the freedom — the *duty* — to pursue the highest.

Keiko Ohnuma | Editor & Publisher

# BOSQUE BEAST

The Bosque Beast is published six times a year by Bosque Beast LLC. Bulk postage paid at Corrales, NM 87048. The mailing address is P.O. Box 374, Corrales, NM 87048. For editorial and advertising inquiries, contact Keiko Ohnuma, editor and publisher, at 505-897-3721. We welcome submissions on relevant topics of interest. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like materials returned. Email submissions are preferred at editor@bosquebeast.com.

The Bosque Beast is mailed free to every residence and business in Corrales and delivered free to pickup locations around Albuquerque and Sandoval County, for a total of 8,000 copies. Copyright 2012 by Bosque Beast LLC. All rights reserved. Reproduction is prohibited without permission.

#### **Editor & Publisher**

Keiko Ohnuma (editor@bosquebeast.com)

#### **Art Director**

Rudi Backart (rudi@bosquebeast.com)

## **Contributing Writers**

Kat Brown, Joyce Fay, Ed Goodman, Cricket Mara, Mark Meddleton, Sharman Apt Russell, Kayla Sawyer

# Contributing Artists

Lara Dale, Deborah Wilcox

Printed by The New Mexican, Santa Fe, NM

# We want to hear from you!

The Bosque Beast aims to serve the whole animal-loving community. Send your letters to: Editor, P.O. Box 374, Corrales, NM 87048 or editor@bosquebeast.com. Please include contact information so we can verify your identity. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.





Visit us online at **bosquebeast.com** for additional photos & video clips. **Like us on Facebook** 

**Pin us on Pinterest** 



# beastly blotter

# Winter puts chill on adoptions, dumping

Happily, the summer flood of abandoned cats and dogs slowed in the fall, and Corrales Animal Control was able to see some animals find homes. But an unusual number of puppies have been left in the Village lately, including a heeler mix dubbed Blue, and a Jack Russell terrier called Roxy, both just a few months old. Both eventually found homes.

A lively young dog called Snuggles was initially taken by Animal Humane, but returned for showing aggression toward other dogs. Back at Corrales Kennels, she has never shown aggression and is reported to be excitable but easily calmed.

One dog found in a Corrales yard had a happy ending when its microchip was traced to an Albuquerque family that had lost the dog out of an RV when they stopped for coffee. The family was headed for the East Coast, but turned around in Fort Worth, Texas, to retrieve the dog, and chose to vacation in Silver City instead.

Wildlife activity has also quieted down in the Village, and Animal Control has no recent reports of coyote predation, amid the controversy over the Los Lunas coyote hunt last month. Animal Control officer Catherine Garcia recalls finding one coyote pup last year that appeared to have been shot, with its tail taken as a trophy, but Animal Control has seen no other evidence of coyote hunting in the Village.

Animal Control did find themselves herding sheep on Loma Larga last month when a herd of about ten animals escaped through an open gate and had to be led back to Camino Arco Iris. "That street has the only stop sign on Loma Larga," says officer Garcia, "and everyone definitely stopped."

A number of Corrales rescue groups and fosters have become involved in the fight over repeal of the animal-protection ordinance in Rio Rancho, which will have another hearing at the Dec. 12 City Council meeting. A petition is circulating in defense of the ordinance (at www.rrklaws.org), and organizers are planning a Rio Rancho Holiday Pet Food Drive and Adoptathon to raise awareness of the issue: Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Haynes Park, Rio Rancho.

# letters to the editor

# Not friendly to coyotes

Has coyote-killing craziness invaded our village? After the outcry over Calibers Shooter Sports Center sponsoring a coyote hunt has subsided (with Calibers graciously withdrawing their support), an email from a well-known CHAMP member has made its way around Corrales.

In this email, CHAMP members are invited to the Juan Tomas Hounds Coyote Hunt, whereby using dogs and horses, guests chase wild coyotes with the intent of killing them for fun. Although the email warns that they very rarely have a kill, support of an activity like this by an esteemed Corrales animal-welfare group is appalling.

While I acknowledge that at times coyotes on ranches need to be thinned, making it into a contest or some kind of sick party event is in terribly poor taste. As an "animal-friendly village" that reminds people that "Coyotes live in Corrales," it is unthinkable that the Corrales Horse and Mule People would promote such an event.

Dawn M. Janz, Corrales

# Poor excuse to kill

On November 17 and 18, a Los Lunas business, Gunhawk Firearms, sponsored a coyote hunt to supposedly help protect ranchers from predation of their cattle. Having been raised in southwest New Mexico on ranch land, I can attest to the fact that cattle die for many reasons, but coyote predation is least likely. Lightning strikes, bloat, and various diseases kill cattle and other farm animals. The coyote is an opportunist and certainly will feast on a dead carcass, leaving footprint evidence around the area which leads many a rancher to suspect the coyotes were responsible for the kill.

Coyotes hunt smaller animals, particularly rodents and other critters. Decimating the coyote population will only throw off the already delicate balance of nature. This hunt was nothing more than a group of humans going out and killing for their own entertainment. The gun shop owner stated in one interview that he was donating the pelts to a charity. I hope his offer is refused, since most charities don't condone killing to support their work.

Judy Paulsen, Corrales

# On the Cover

Buttercup's Audition is the work of oil painter Debra Bauer Wilcox, best known in Corrales for her portraits of Village characters, human and equine. Born and raised in New Mexico, she began drawing at a young age and sold her first painting at 13. Through four decades of raising children and running various family businesses,



Wilcox continued to paint and sell her work, locally and internationally. In recent years she has devoted herself to painting, which she also teaches out of her Luna Rosa Studio on Corrales Road. Her realist landscapes, florals, and commissioned portraits are shown at Mountain Trails Gallery in Santa Fe, Gathering Artists Gallery in Corrales, and The Range in Bernalillo. More information: www.deborahwilcox.com.







In the game of "Temptation Alley," teens (whose identity is protected here) practice guiding a therapy horse through a maze of carrots and apples.



Sully the mustang is the newest equine member of Pat DuBois' therapy practice.

# Horse whisperer's mustang finds new job as 'child whisperer'

# Trainer's bad luck is good fortune for at-risk teens

Horses are used as "therapy" animals because they have a special sensitivity, some say, to human emotion. But it doesn't require that for a teenager to identify with a wild mustang, says Pat DuBois. The teens she works with feel like wild animals themselves, torn from their homes and forced into a system of strange rules.

**DuBois started introducing kids to horses** while working as clinic director at New Day Youth & Family Services, a transitional housing program in the South Valley. She found that the animals had a powerful effect on them.

Now in private practice, DuBois continues to host teens from the shelter two mornings a week at her Ranch DuBois in Corrales. Through group exercises and learning to care for the horses, at-risk youth cut through the boredom of counseling and therapy, making it easier to reach the part of them that will open up and be honest.

"I first let them pick a horse," DuBois says of her seven equine staff members. "It's interesting which horse they pick, and why. That already tells me something." Many of her horses have been through tribulations of their own, like being exploited by drug companies, or losing their families. Spending time with them turns out to be a powerful metaphor for the teenagers, who come to understand the importance of building trust and developing sensitivity.

"The horse is often a mirror for us," DuBois says. "As prey animals, they are highly intuitive. Horses hate incongruency and can point it out in people." In other words, unexpressed emotion is often expressed by a horse, which is why a seething cowboy is going to have a time of it when he goes to saddle up.

But it's not just the kids who star in this comeback story. It's also the horse. Sully the mustang was the horse assigned to Corrales trainer Susan Palmer when she was selected to compete in *Extreme Mustang Makeover* last summer. He had been rounded up by the BLM in Idaho, and Palmer had 90 days to show TV audiences how tame and trained he could become.

Extreme Mustang Makeover is both a challenge for trainers and a vehicle to get more wild mustangs adopted. Sully turned out to be a poster child in this respect. Completely new to human contact, he was docile and curious from the start—a wild piece of luck for Palmer, who had never trained a mustang before. After two months, she could lie on him, stand on him, ride him with a dog on her lap, and twirl a lariat. Sully had even learned to smile and bow.

But then Palmer's luck ran out. The morning of the contest, she accidentally locked herself in her trailer and had to crawl through the window, falling and shattering her foot in five places. Sully never made it to the show or the auction block.

That turned out to be a wild piece of luck for Pat DuBois, who was looking for a calm riding horse for her therapy program. "I would never have thought of a 4-year-old mustang," she admits. A friend told her about a mustang for sale right nearby in Corrales, and she watched his online video. Intrigued, she went to ride Sully, whom she found highly unusual.

One exercise that Sully loves in his new role — since he is hugely motivated by food — is the game known as Temptation Alley. The teens create an obstacle course in the pen, placing carrots and apples where a determined horse could snatch them. Then they assign their own temptations to the obstacles, such as "partying," "fighting with my dad," "skipping school," and take turns leading their horse through without letting it give in to temptation.

"It's the *process* that's important to me," DuBois explains, when the group talks later about what happened. She asks the kids, "Who holds your lead lines?" Often it turns out they let the horse grab the very temptation that they struggle with most.

"It stays with them," she says of the experience. "I think the visual image of what happens when your support lets go is powerful." Identifying with the horse, the teens can start caring more for the wild part of themselves.

Just grooming the animals is therapeutic for many of the kids, who may have been hyper-vigilant their whole lives, says DuBois. Coming from an environment of violence, conflict, and substance abuse, they are unaccustomed to the peaceful high of spending time alone with a responsive animal.

"For the kids, the focus is learning to ride," DuBois notes. "For me and my staff, it's seeing them smile, the honesty that comes out. *Then* we can start to do some therapy."

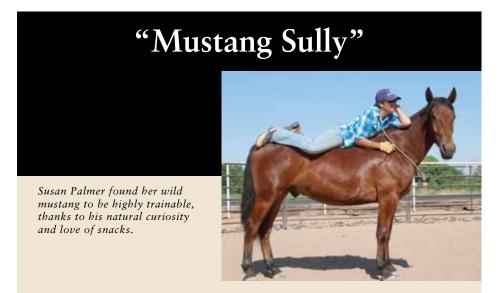
DuBois uses as her model for therapy a program known as EAGALA,

or Equine Assisted Growth and Learning. EAGALA was pioneered in the late 1990s by social workers at a residential treatment facility in Utah, together with a local rancher. DuBois trained in both this technique and Epona, a program taught by *Tao of Equus* author Linda Kohanov.

A lifelong equestrian, DuBois finds horses to be valuable partners in her work with families, Vietnam vets, and women in transition. Her six working horses include a miniature and a Tennessee Walker, plus a "rez" dog named Charlie. But "the kids all talk about Sully the mustang," she says.

When she was training Sully in July 2011, Susan Palmer told the *Corrales Comment*, "He's going to be a really good trail horse for someone who just wants to ride, or turn their grandkids loose with him all day." The casual remark turned out to predict his fate.

Unflappably gentle, wild but wise, Sully makes an unusually appropriate role model — large enough to demand respect, but captive enough to sympathize with. "They identify with the fact that he's not with his family," DuBois says of the homeless teens. "Sully is learning how to be in the world. And so are they."



# It must be the wild horse inside Susan Palmer that tipped her off on how to train one.

With little in her bio to suggest a "horse whisperer" – the retired social worker and mother of two from Washington doesn't even own a horse these days – she took refuge in horses as a child to escape the frustrations of being an Indian adopted into a white family.

"Horses saved me," she says.

She remembers jumping on her horse and galloping bareback into the woods in Montana or Oregon, where her adoptive father worked for the Forest Service. Eventually she connected with other Indians and started spending time on the Flathead reservation in Montana. She married a Native man, and has spent her career working with Native populations.

When they moved to Corrales a decade or more ago, the family had two horses. Now divorced, with grown children, Palmer finds it easier to train horses without owning any.

She was drawn to the *Extreme Mustang Makeover* initially as a spectator. "But I'm not a good watcher," she laughs. "I never go to [horse] clinics or anything." She learned to ride from old-school horsemen in Montana, unheralded Buck Brannaman types, "people who just had

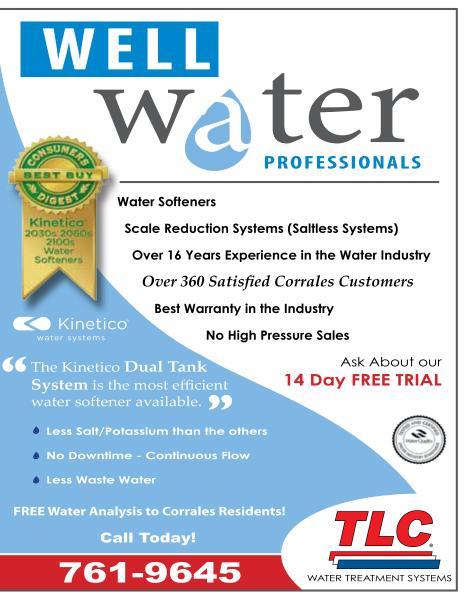
When she found out the show was going to be filmed on the Navajo reservation in Arizona, Palmer decided to apply. "A horse is a horse is a horse," she says. "Some of the worst horses I've been around are domestics that have been babied."

The mustang she was given, which she named Sully because "he couldn't be Mustang Sally," turned out to be a dream to train. He was "naturally smart and nosy." Even after the injury that shattered her chances, Palmer was still thinking about how he might show his stuff.

"But they were gracious," she says of the Mustang Heritage Foundation, which put her in a training program that would reimburse her for any horse she could train and get adopted. Sully became the first candidate, and she found the "absolutely perfect" home for him at Ranch DuBois, where he didn't have to leave the state.

Now Palmer is preparing for her next challenge: *Mustang Million*, a multi-event show that will place 1,000 wild horses and award \$1 million in prize money next year. The commitment is a little greater this time, since contestants have to first adopt the horses they will train. But Palmer is ready. She has even chosen her event: bareback jumping. The trainer is apparently still as wild as any horse she's planning to train.





# Meet your new pet mayor



#### A horse of course!

It should come as no surprise to anyone in "the Horse Capital of New Mexico" that Corrales' top elected animal is once again equine. In fact, Elektra, a 7-yearold quarter horse, is the only horse that ran for top dog (so to speak) — against six dogs and a goat. Her campaign slogan? "Don't let Corrales go to the dogs."

The fact that one of the canine candidates died after a rough weekend of campaigning testifies to the rigors of the pet mayor race.

"We went to the Grower's Market three times, Dan's Boots, Paul's Vet, the Village Merc — all on horseback," said the mayor's spokeswoman, Kathryn Sikorski. Between appearances and fundraising, Elektra and her campaign staff found the race to be a big commitment, as it also meant updating social media sites, crafting campaign materials, and hitting up fans in the American Competitive Trail Horse Association (ACTHA), where Elektra has competed nationally.

Their efforts proved worthwhile, however, when Elektra alone accounted for more than half the \$2,646 raised for nonprofit groups in Corrales. Last year, too, the two horses competing in the Kiwanis Club fundraiser raised the lion's share of money — \$2,200 of the \$7,879 total — in dollar-donation "votes."

"Maybe horse owners are more generous," Sikorski ventured. "They tend to give \$10 or \$20 instead of \$1 or \$5." The runner-up goat raised only \$268.

Through her spokeswoman, the pet mayor graciously gave her first press conference in office.

## How did the campaigning go?

She held up well. It was five weekends, and we did something every weekend, sometimes both days. She would meet-and-greet people going in and out of the stores, sometimes let them feed her treats. (She got spoiled.) The thing that was most appealing was the children and old people. All the kids wanted to pet her.

She raised the most money! She had a Facebook account, Twitter (though only four followers), and had a lot of friends contribute from ACTHA. So it was not necessarily just Corrales. But as the one horse, the dog votes were divided. And going to the feed stores, we campaigned hard.

We also went to Corrales Elementary on fair day with two of the dogs, and she did good. It was unnerving for me to see that many kids, like 12 classes. But she got to learn that kids mean petting. I like being an ambassador. And she is happy to stand there.

# Did (former pet mayor) Aspen leave big horseshoes to fill?

Yes, because Aspen did so many things. She was involved in so many events, and wrote a column in the Corrales Main Street News.

#### What are Elektra's goals?

The main thing is to promote the horse culture of Corrales — getting people who are not horse people to see the value of horses. Because it is the Horse Capital of

# Does she have any other races coming up?

On the competitive side, we will continue to do trail rides and cow-pushing. We got to ride with (vaquero horseman) Martin Black, that was a big deal — got to back a cow into a bulls-eye. I want to make her a bridle horse. That's where you're using a spade bit, and you don't use your hands. The process takes five to seven years, and we're just starting. It's more like a skill, or a spiritual thing.

And she is continuing to mature. She has been in parades before, but being in the Pet Parade with the band — things like that improve her skills. It tends to make a horse more confident.

Whatever we do, pet mayor or trail riding, we like to win!

# The nose knows

ASK A

**DOG TRAINER** 

A dog's sense of smell is at least 200 times stronger than a human's. Is it any wonder that they give us the once-over when we arrive home? Like private detectives, their noses tell them where we've been and who we've seen. Law enforcement has long taken advantage of a dog's keen sense of smell by training dogs to find produce, drugs, explosives, and even bodies. Today doctors are using dogs to help detect cancer cells and alert diabetics to dropping blood sugar. These jobs require some special talent and training, but most pet dogs excel at finding food with little or no training.

**CRICKET MARA** 

You can put your dog's sense of smell to work by teaching the "Find it" game. Put your dog in a bathroom or crate where he can't see you. Then get several pieces of a treat with a strong smell; small cubes of cheese work well. Place the treats around the room at floor level, but not out in the middle. Dogs don't distinguish color well, so don't worry about concealing them — you want the first

Bring your dog to the doorway, and cheefully tell her to "find it" and let her start searching. Brightly praise each successful find. Be patient, but if she is really struggling, walk near the missing treat to encourage her to locate it. Make the game easier next time.

If your dog is having fun and succeeding, you can make the game a little harder by:

- Making the treats smaller or less smelly
- Hiding the treats more behind a door or on the rung of a chair
- Spreading the treats over a wider area, from two rooms to the whole house
- Using more treats to prolong the search

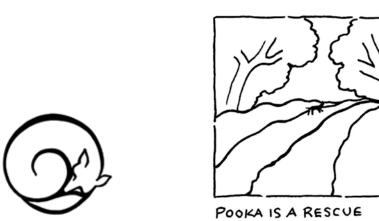
For outdoor fun, you can scatter treats on an untreated lawn, or divide the dog's meal into several small bowls (or Kong toys) and hide them around the yard. Don't try to trick your dog by making the game too hard or playing for too long. Don't hide treats above nose height. Keep it fun and leave him

If you find your dog really excels at this game, you may want to seek out a "Fun Nosework for Dogs" class. At home, try this: Gather several containers for food, choose one as the "bait drop" and mark it. You will only ever put food in that container. This means he has to use his nose and not rely upon what the container looks like. Spread the containers on the floor with a treat in the "bait drop," then ask your dog to "find it." As he gets better at this game, you can spread the containers farther apart and use less smelly food. This is a great way to play the "find it" game without overfeeding a dog that is chubby.

If your dog is nervous, reactive, or distracted in certain situations, a quick game of "find it" can get you out of trouble. To diffuse her stress and move her safely away from a trouble spot, cue "find it" and toss treats ahead of you as you make your way back to safety. This keeps the dog's head down, focused on something pleasant, and allows you to move away from the problem.

The "find it" game is sure to become a fast favorite with your dog (and you). It is suitable for young and old dogs alike and provides mental stimulation without being physically taxing. It provides indoor exercise when you can't or don't want to walk. It can help a high-energy dog gain focus, and build confidence in a shy dog. And it allows them to use their natural talents in a fun, acceptable way.

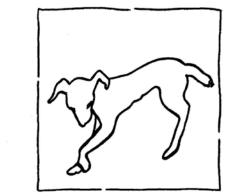
Cricket Mara operates a dog behavior consulting practice in Corrales called Pawsitive Dog (www.pawsitivedog.com). Send comments and questions to cricket@pawsitivedog.com.



FROM THE DITCHBANKS IN CORRALES.



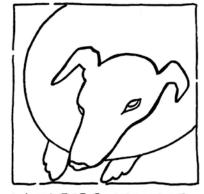
WE GET SO CAUGHT UP IN OUR OWN STORIES,



A SCRAWNY SHADOW WHOSE TAIL HAD BEEN CUT IN HALF & INFECTED.



WE FORGET THAT ONE OF OUR GIFTS IS HELPING OTHERS.



WITH THE SUPPORT OF SECOND CHANCE RESCUE I HAVE FOSTERED HER.



THAT IS WHAT RESCUE ANIMALS ARE HERE TO TEACH US.







mundi

Lara Dale



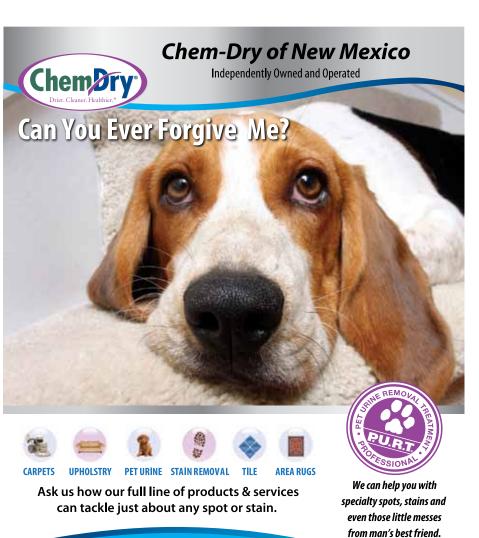
# Now is time to plan for fires

We are excited about bringing you this new column about local equine activities and current issues.

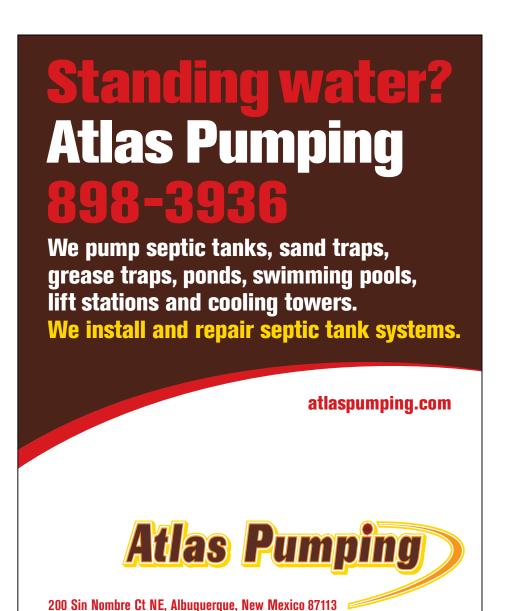
The Romero fire this summer and subsequent disasters in the news have brought to light the need for equine owners to create evacuation plans for their animals. At our September monthly meeting, architect and disaster-planning expert Terry Brown of CHAMP spoke about the Village of Corrales animalevacuation plan he created, Saving Animals From Emergencies (SAFE), and the importance of each owner creating a plan for moving horses and other equines to safety in case of disaster.

A successful evacuation plan requires that large-animal owners prepare in advance. This includes ensuring that your horse can reliably load in a trailer, keeping this vehicle in good working order, having your animal's registration and health papers handy, preparing an equine emergency kit, and tagging your halters with name and phone number. Taking these simple steps can make the process smoother at a time of high stress for both owner and animal. Winter offers a good opportunity to make preparations and create a plan.

You can find more information at the CHAMP website: www.champnm. com. We invite you to attend one of our meetings, held the last Wednesday of every month, and to consider joining CHAMP. Our January meeting will look at the problem of unwanted horses and what to do with them. Guest speakers will attend from the New Mexico Livestock Board and the New Mexico Board of Veterinary Medicine.



www.cleanercarpet.net





# ASK A **AWYER**



# **Owner not liable for** dog bite injury

**Dear Attorney.** 

My Rottweiler can become aggressive if she feels threatened, so I am very careful to leash her when I walk her and whenever she is outside. A new neighbor recently moved in who walks the same street with his unleashed dog. This dog inevitably runs to my dog, barking and snarling, resulting in my dog trying to fight back. I have asked the neighbor repeatedly to please leash his dog because my dog may bite. He ignores me. Yesterday, his dog ran up to mine and there was a fight. The neighbor tried to break it up and was bitten by my dog. He has threatened to sue me and has demanded my dog be euthanized and I pay for his medical bills. What does the law say about this?

It is unfortunate that you were saddled with such a clueless and irresponsible dog-owning neighbor. All dogs should be leashed in public areas, including paths, roads, and parks, for the safety of dogs and people. If an unleashed dog approaches, a leashed dog will often feel trapped, terrified, and ready to defend itself. A serious dogfight could result. The significant facts in your situation regarding liability are that you acted responsibly by leashing your dog and by warning the other dog owner of your dog's propensity for aggression when cornered.

According to New Mexico case law (our state does not have a dog-bite statute), a dog owner can be liable for injuries if the owner knows the dog to be vicious toward people. In your case, your dog was known to be dangerous only to dogs in certain circumstances. And it seems that your dog was not trying to bite your neighbor, he simply got bit in the canine crossfire.

Even if you did know, or should have known, that your dog could be dangerous to people, you still are not liable. According to the New Mexico "dog bite provocation" defense, your neighbor essentially provoked your dog by refusing to leash his dog, as it was reasonably foreseeable that his dog might be aggressive and that a fight could ensue. He should also have been aware that breaking up a dogfight is almost always dangerous to the people involved. In other words, he knowingly put himself and his dog in harm's way. As long as you can show your dog has been vaccinated for rabies, she will not be at risk of being confined for observation.

One should keep in mind that if a dog, leashed or not, bites without provocation (say, a passing jogger), the dog owner likely will be liable for any injuries. Owners of nervous or aggressive dogs should be aware that their dogs could bite where people and dogs mix. So if you bring your dog into a store and, with no warning from you, the dog bites someone trying to pet it, you could be liable because you were reasonably aware of the risks of bringing a snappish dog into a crowded place. It is even possible to be charged with a criminal offense, from a misdemeanor to a felony, if your clear negligence or intentionality results in a serious dog bite. Extra efforts should be made to keep unpredictable dogs away from children, since it is natural for young children to be interested in dogs, but they are not always aware of the risks.

In your particular case, the law is on your side, and you can breathe a sigh of relief. Maybe this will be a lesson to your neighbor to either leash his dog or move to another state.

Ed Goodman worked for more than two decades as a trial lawyer in Massachusetts. A painter, screenwriter, and novelist, he lives in Corrales with his partner, Ennio Garcia-Miera, and their six dogs, four turkeys, four chickens, and a parrot



Visit our beautiful showroom 5504 Menaul NE Monday-Saturday 10 to 6 | Sun 12-5 248-2021



Call Today to Schedule Your Professional Cleaning

505-883-1133





# 'Going deep with the sheep'



# A modern-day shepherdess and her flock defy stereotypes

It's like a charming scene from an old engraving, a storybook illustration of Little Bo Peep: Amata Bocella is herding her flock across a field at El Rancho de las Golondrinas in Cienaga. Her long skirts trailing over fast-striding boots, she holds large wooden staffs and sings to the sheep, who all come running after her.

This being Santa Fe in 2012, however, Bocella turns out to be no blushing damsel. A whip-smart college girl and latter-day hippie from Pittsburgh, she is passionate in defense of her ruminants, relaying the story of how she came to save them and, more to the point, how they came to save her.

El Rancho de las Golondrinas is a "living history" museum dating from the early 1700s, where costumed villagers grind flour, shoe horses, and weave with fleece from on-site Navajo-churro sheep. In keeping with its traditional workings, the ranch each spring used to cull the male lambs and gift them to villagers as Easter dinner entrees.

That didn't quite cut it with their modern-day shepherdess, who arrived at las Golondrinas in 2000 as an animal rescuer and vegan. A psychology major from Carnegie-Mellon University, Bocella had met her destiny when a car crash left her with a traumatic brain injury. She came to New Mexico to pursue an interest in natural healing. While rehabilitating and working as a massage therapist and veterinary assistant, she decided to volunteer at El Rancho de las Golondrinas.

"The first month I was here, someone ran in and said a lamb had been born sick and the mother ditched it," she recalls. "Before I knew what I was doing, I put it in my car and took it to the vet." She named the babe Lambina, and everywhere she went, the lamb was sure to go. "She would ride shotgun in my Isuzu Sidekick. It was quite a sight. Lambina thought she was a dog, because she was raised by dogs" — including Bocella's black Lab, Stella. But when the time came to reintroduce the sheep to her flock, the fleecy family would have none of it.

"They were terrified of humans," Bocella says. "They had never left the corral." For days and months on end, she would bring Lambina and just sit in a corner, waiting for a female to approach. Finally, after nearly a year, one came and took a carrot from her hand. And that was the start.

Bocella convinced the ranch to let her take the sheep out to pasture occasionally. Then she worked on getting them to give her the "culls," animals whose fleece was no longer useful and were destined for slaughter. In 2003 she created Sheep Sanctuary Inc. to care for those unwanted sheep (and now goats and horses too), as a kind of retirement home for ruminants that now numbers 53 animals.

Meanwhile, the flock at las Golondrinas imprinted mightily on its beloved shepherdess. As soon as she slams the door of her Prius, their bleating can be heard from the corral where they once lived out their whole lives. Following her to the fields like newborn chicks, the sheep serve as Bocella's vindication, proof of how enlightened animals can be in their natural state.

"They are naturally intelligent, but they act 'like sheep' because they've been frightened their whole lives," she explains. "Most farm animals live in a state of PTSD."

Like the celebrated animal advocate Temple Grandin, whose autism gave her a special sensitivity to cattle, Bocella seems to empathize deeply with the sheep's vulnerability and trauma. For years she has battled an acute chemical sensitivity brought on by her injury and a toxic apartment building. A few years ago she got a service dog through Assistance Dogs of the West, for days when a whiff of laundry detergent sends her staggering from toxic encephelopathy.

Living in a modern minefield of airborne poisons, Bocella takes solace with her flock toward dusk, after the ranch has closed. She leads them across the fields, singing. "I just kind of go deep with the sheep," she says. "They communicate a lot with me. I've been documenting it with video because people never see what happens when it's just me and them. When they're in public, they 'play sheep' and keep their heads down."

Not today, however, when several animals approach with an expectant attention one associates with dogs.

Bocella reads them, too, as most humans cannot. "Did you see that?" she'll blurt out. "Did you see what Miss June just did?" Within their family groups, certain sheep have jobs, she says — like the one who makes sure the whole group is together. Sure enough, as we follow the flock across a bridge, a lone sheep looks back and bleats to indicate the loner lagging behind us.

A braying in the distance sends the shepherdess running up the path with her staff. "I'm coming! What is it? Where's your mom?" Her ears tuned in, Bocella seems to know which bleats signify nervousness or impatience, who's saying what to whom.

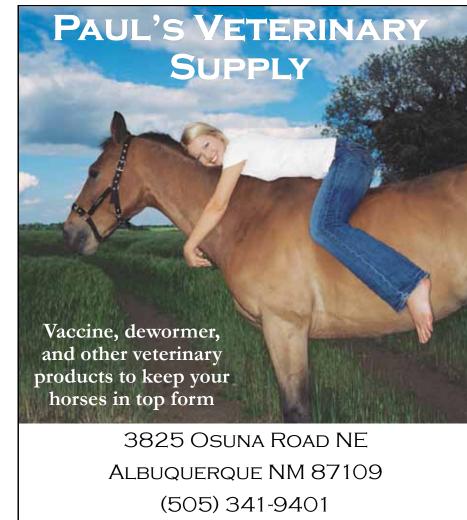
Sheep have feelings, memories, and grieve deeply when their lambs are taken away, Bocella says. They can learn commands. "The biblical metaphor of the good shepherd is true — I reflect on it often," she says. "A good shepherd knows them by name, and the sheep know him. But not all have been good shepherds." Her flock became socialized "only after several generations of seeing that their babies were not being taken away, their siblings not being slaughtered in front of them. They're in a safe environment."

Now proud to be known as "no-kill," El Rancho de las Golondrinas has embraced Bocella's role, a far cry from the days when she fought to turn back centuries-old tradition. Though she can't stop the horrors of factory farming, or the slaughter of millions of sheep in the name of religion, in this corner of the world at least, the ranch gives her a vehicle to teach children awareness and respect for animals.

She sees it as a return to tradition, not a departure. "It was actually the women — Diné slaves — who were the *pastoras*" in colonial New Spain, she says.

To volunteer or help the Sheep Sanctuary: 505.424.4290 or sheepsanctuary@msn.com





Online pricing with one-on-one customer service

Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 9am-3pm







Rebirth by David Cramer, taken at Bosque del Apache, won First Place in the 2009 Festival of the Cranes Photography Contest, Professional Color Division.

## Their appearance heralds

**the arrival of winter** along the bosque of the Rio Grande — impossible to miss their gawky, graceful flight, loud warbling, Big Bird storming the neighborhood by the dozens. Every nature-lover stops to admire the sandhill cranes in their annual migration from Canada.

But for some people, the love of cranes goes far, far beyond that.

They're called "craniacs," a term coined at the annual Festival of the Cranes at Bosque del Apache wildlife refuge, south of Socorro. Each November some 6,000 visitors flock to this weeklong gathering of birders, eager to capture on film or through binoculars one of the most spectacular avian gatherings in the Lower 48: tens of thousands of snow geese and sandhill cranes feeding among the fields and wetlands created to attract migrating birds.

A true craniac is hardly content with one week, though. Their crane obsession lasts all winter, if not all year. Of course, some of them are just birdwatchers who got stuck on one bird. But since cranes are not very typical birds, craniacs are not your typical birders.

"I don't keep lists," Mary Pat Day says definitively, distinguishing herself from her birdwatching friends. "For me it's more the quality of the experience than the quantity." Rather than checklist a warbled-this or speckled-that, Day likes to plant herself in the Corrales bosque every single afternoon in winter, admiring the sandhill cranes for hours. She never tires of it.

"They're so graceful, so beautiful. And to watch them interact and display! What an incredible creature, to be able to come from southern Canada to our backyard!" Every week, Day makes the 107-mile drive down to Bosque del Apache to indulge the passion further.

A naturalist from Washington state, she first noticed on safari in Africa that she was more interested in watching birds than lion kills. "It's then that I realized, wherever I go, I can see a bird."

And the birds she saw when they moved to Corrales in 1990 were pretty hard to miss.

"It did change my life," Day muses. Now retired, she serves on the board of the Lannan Foundation, a cultural grant-making organization in Santa Fe, which built an education annex at Bosque del Apache in 2006. Since then, the refuge has been a second home to her in winter — no small flight considering that her other roosts are in Corrales and Santa Fe.

But Day cannot imagine living in the bosque and ignoring the miraculous daily display. "Since time immemorial, people have seen them," she marvels. "It's just a gift of living on the Rio Grande. You don't have to see it on TV! It must be the artist in me."

# Indeed, artists have always

**been fascinated with cranes,** especially in Asia. Chinese and Japanese art is full of cranes on scrolls, paintings, vases, as well as in poetry, myth, and legend. Admired for their longevity and lifelong attachment to one mate, cranes symbolize happiness, prosperity, good fortune, and peace. In ancient Greece and Rome, their dance signified a love of joy and a celebration of life.

"There's something about a bird that's human-sized," says Judith Roderick, a fiber artist who had abandoned the art world until cranes brought her

back in the late 1990s. Roderick has traveled to see cranes at wildlife refuges in Wisconsin, Texas, and Colorado, but she says nothing parallels Bosque del Apache.

"At the B&B I stay at in Socorro, I hear them all night — the warbling sound. That's my favorite, to see them at dawn and watch them. It's the closest that you can get anywhere in the U.S." In Monte Vista, Colorado, she saw cranes dancing right near the road, and just set herself down and took photos for hours. "I'm always trying to get better aspects of them," she says, flipping the pages of a thick photo album.

Roderick's home is full of crane quilts, crane banners, crane paintings. She has written and illustrated two books of poetry on cranes, and is known as "the crane lady" for the hand-painted silk scarves she sells at the Festival of the Cranes.

A fiber artist who introduced batik and silk-painting to New Mexico in the late 1970s, Roderick co-founded Village Wools yarn shop and did a thriving business selling her hand-dyed silk clothing out of Mariposa Gallery — so successful, in fact, that she got disgusted with the art world and walked away from it.

For several years, she spent time visiting pyramids, studying shamanism, and just sitting in a lot she bought in Placitas and watching the birds — as she puts it, "clearing karma."

When it came time to return to earth, cranes helped her land. Volunteering at the Nature Center, Roderick decided to make silk scarves for their shop. In the 15 years since, she has not stopped painting the birds or watching them.

"You can watch them all day. First one group, then another. They just make such a statement!"

In fact, Roderick's crane-mania proved quite contagious among her crowd of artists and poets. Recently a dozen of them did a yearlong project writing *renga*, Japanese call-and-response poetry, on the subject of cranes. "When the cranes left, and then longing for the cranes, the returning of cranes," Roderick intones with a smile.

The resulting bounty of verse went on display as "Book of Cranes," a collaborative exhibit of poetry, painting, book arts, and sculpture that just closed at DSG Fine Art in downtown Albuquerque. "It turned out we were all into cranes, separately," laughs Margy O'Brien, a painter who showed ethereal watercolors, some of which she cut and folded into handmade books.

Poet Dale Harris birthed the idea for the exhibit, and crafted the nearly 2-by-3-foot accordion-style book that anchored the show, each page carrying a crane verse and an artist's accompanying illustration. Artist Vicki Bolen folded 1,000 origami cranes, a Japanese talisman, while musician Bonnie Schnader accompanied her crane recordings on the harp. The beverage of choice at the

opening reception? Cranberry spiked with vodka, since the German origin of the word is "crane berry."

# It should come as no surprise

**that wildlife biologists** study cranes, since they are among the oldest birds on the planet — at least 9 million years old, according to fossils found in Nebraska. But it wasn't the scientist in him that drew Paul Tebbel to start studying the creatures back in the 1970s. Or that has made him one of the nation's foremost experts on cranes in the nearly four decades since.

No, Tebbel has not tired of cranes either. A wildlife manager who was director of the Rowe Sanctuary on the Platte River in Nebraska — the nation's largest gathering site of sandhill cranes — he moved to Sacramento last year to be near his aging parents and serve as executive director of the Effie Yeaw Nature Center. He leads field trips each year at Festival of the Cranes.

"My interest is in using cranes to connect people to nature," he explains. "Because I can take them out and show them this amazing huge bird, and they don't just say, 'There's a crane,' but 'Look — it's dancing! And you can tell which one is the mom and the dad!' And they're big, loud, and quite fun to watch."

Tebbel wants to connect people to nature so they will understand the importance of habitat, and preserving habitat in its natural state. Of the 15 crane species remaining in the world, all but a few are threatened or endangered. Lesser sandhill cranes are actually increasing in numbers — a case study of successful wildlife management, and a useful barometer of how well it is working.

"If we don't watch them," says Tebbel, "the ever-growing human population will impact them. Cranes are a really powerful indicator species for the health of wetlands in a particular area. Cranes need wetlands almost nightly, and it's easy for them to disappear to development. If you do have wetlands, they're bound to be there — which adds to the power of the crane."

Tebbel admits that, over the years, cranes have softened his perspective and encouraged a useful anthropomorphism — useful because it helps people identify with the wild birds. "What other species dance?" he offers. "Cranes do this remarkable thing: They have a lifelong mate, and they'll dance year round. Sometimes they dance just for the fun of it. Just the fascination of watching a bird that seems to be truly enjoying itself — and they do it with their mates."

Last year a pair of cranes was spotted in California, he says, that had leg bands traced back to 1987. They had been named Sweetie and Softie, and they were still together, 24 years later.

continued next page

# HOW TO SEE THEM

Sandhill cranes roost in wetlands overnight and fly out to fields during the day. To see them at fly-in and fly-out (dusk and dawn), park at the ponds along Highway 1 leading into the Bosque del Apache wildlife refuge-you will likely see photographers ready with their long lenses. Within the refuge, various fields along the North Loop have cranes feeding during the day, which you can observe with good binoculars. Look for parked cars or ask at the Visitor Center, 575.835.1828, for current information.

December and January are among the best months to visit, as cranes are plentiful and visitors are not.

In Corrales, corn and fruit fields along the north end of the Village often host large groups of cranes, which can be seen by walking the ditch banks on the west side of Corrales Road, north of the commercial area. Or head to the end of Dixon Road (by Wagner's farm store) and walk across the bridge into the bosque preserve and just follow the warbling.



The Naturalist: Mary Pat Day



The Artist: Judith Roderick



The Conservationist: Paul Tebbel

"So there's this amazing ability to have and hold on to relationships," Tebbel says, "which is a remarkable thing in the bird world. It's just a cool thing to know that birds, which we think of as a lower form of life, have a lot of things they could teach us! I mean they've been around for, what, nine million years?"

# Perhaps one of the most

endearing traits of "craniacs" is when they evolve from admiring the big birds to actually emulating them. If cranes can cross continents and last for millennia, maybe they do have something to teach us.

Erv Nichols was a retired photographer from California, divorced, who had taken to his RV full-time in 2002, and was open to any interesting prospect — like the ad he saw for a temporary volunteer at Bosque del Apache who had experience in desktop publishing. He signed right up.

When he arrived, people advised him that a photographer should definitely check out the morning fly-in. He shrugged. "I could come and go on birds," he recalls. "I was like, yeah, yeah, I'm from California, we're hard to impress," he laughs. "I went out that first morning and never got a single picture. I spent the whole time just watching them."

Needless to say, he was hooked. After a few years of coming and going, Nichols started volunteering at the refuge full-time. On a bus tour he was leading during festival week, a perky birder kept asking him questions that he couldn't answer. Sandra Noll had returned to her native New Mexico after 40 years away, and enjoyed coming to the refuge to de-stress from her nursing job in Socorro.

"I had never heard of this lifestyle," she said of Nichols' itinerant volunteering, "but it seemed pretty interesting." Before long, Nichols and Noll had joined forces as "professional volunteers," as he calls it, to answer the question, "what did we miss in life?"

The cranes were there to help the retired couple find out. They followed an invitation to the Platte River to see Nebraska's 600,000-strong gathering of cranes, and then just kept following the birds up to Alaska, where they spent the summer working at a wildlife refuge and watching and photographing them.

Since then, Erv and Sandra have become a bit like cranes themselves, migrating from park to refuge to sanctuary, and becoming expert birders qualified to design and lead interpretive programs. "We've discovered how intelligent they are," Nichols says of the birds, "how family-oriented, and how ancient." Still an avid birder, Noll follows crane research as much as she can. She says studies have looked into whether their flight patterns are a form of communication, and whether they have extended-family flight routes.

The pair have also gained insight into how to warble above their flock. "We're both ham-ish, and like to talk," smiles Noll. "So we became certified interpretive guides to compete better" for the plum volunteer assignments. "We can pick and choose at this point," says Nichols, "so if it's to do with birds, we do it." From the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge down to the World Birding Center on South Padre Island, Texas, the lovebirds stay a while, then migrate on. One perch they return to every year, however, is Bosque del Apache. "Because that's our route," Noll says with a nod, "and it's how we met."

Just like Sweetie and Softie.



The Pilgrims: Erv Nichols and Sandra Noll

# VITAL GRANE-FORMATION

Fifteen species exist worldwide, on all continents but Antarctica and South America, Not all migrate, but species that do form large, sociable flocks at their feeding grounds. The rest of the year, cranes stick to mated pairs.

All species but two depend on wetlands for roosting and nesting. Habitat loss and hunting nearly exterminated the whooping crane, one of two North American species. Fewer than 400 birds remain. Most crane species are endangered or threatened.

Sandhill cranes have made a comeback since the 1940s, thanks to restoration of wetlands and farmlands to mimic traditional habitat. Each fall, sandhills migrate from Alaska, Canada, and Siberia to winter feeding grounds in the Lower 48 and Mexico. Important stopovers include the Platte River Valley and Bosque del Apache, where many now stay the winter.

Because their numbers have rebounded, sandhill cranes can be hunted in more than a dozen states, mostly in the West (including New Mexico, by permit). Hunters claim to prize the meat.

Sandhill cranes stand 3 to 4 feet tall and weigh about 9 pounds. They live about 25 years, up to 60 in captivity. They usually lay two eggs a year, and chicks are cared for by both parents until the next breeding season. Young birds join in flocks before breeding at 2 to 7 years old. While early relationships don't always last, mates tend to stay together once breeding is successful.

Cranes can cruise at 45 mph on a good tail wind, riding columns of warm air (thermals). They sometimes cross 500 miles a day traveling in V formation.

Communication relies on facial muscles and head feathers, as well as by dancing and calling. Mated pairs make complex calls in unison.



your upholstery fabric and keep the ornament

VISA 6001 San Mateo Blvd NE, Suite C3 (Osuna & San Mateo in The Fiesta Del Norte Center) Make your furniture more inviting

- Reupholster sofa and chairs
- Add decorative pillows to couches
- Recover dining room chairs
- Redo ottomans in the family room
- Pump up cushions with foam replacement

30% OFF

**FOAM REPLACEMENT** 24-HOUR TURNAROUND

With this coupon only. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 1/31/13.

# Cushion Comfort

SERVING NEW MEXICO FOR OVER 30 YEARS

Sittin and a grinnin

Call Michael at **505.379.9887** 





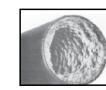




Larry Brown drains hard wate sediment from a water heatei

To schedule your **FREE HOME ANALYSIS** or for a complete info-pak by mail, call 1-800-406-0469

GMX



This photo shows the effect of magnetically treated water on the same section of pipe a short

- Preserves your fixtures ■Preserves Water Heater ■Softens skin & hair
- ■No costly salts or tanks ■No maintenance ■No wasted water

Does Your Water Heate Need Flushing? •Exchange the existing valve

with a new "flushing" valve •Flush out deposits & sedimen Provide complete instructions for the "10-minute D-I-Y regular flushing \$20 only for the 1st 25 callers



prevented as long as the system

# **GMX Water Conditioning Solving Hard Water Problems**

NO SALT = NO MAINTENANCE = NO WASTED WATER Serving New Mexico since 1993 INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTORS

14 BOSQUE BEAST DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013 DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013 BOSQUE BEAST 15



Violet Gray, Tickled Pink Weimaraner Rescue

# A fully balanced life on three legs

Kayla Sawyer

# Medical and cultural shifts are making 'tripawd' pets more common

**In January,** Violet Gray was viciously mauled by a fellow dog and left for dead. The 4-year-old Weimaraner spent two days alone outside with a fractured right humerus before being picked up by Albuquerque Animal Control.

Tickled Pink Weimaraner Rescue took her to the emergency room at VCA Montgomery Road Animal Hospital, where she spent five days clinging to life. After a series of blood transfusions and medications, she was strong enough for a leg amputation. Violet was able to make a full recovery, and eventually was adopted by a veterinary nursing couple.

It may surprise you to learn that dogs and cats are better at coping with limb amputation than are humans. Animals lack the psychological stress that comes with losing a limb in a culture that places high value on physical perfection. They also have fewer fine motor skills involved in limb movement.

However, front leg amputation can present a challenge to dogs, since they place 70 percent of their body weight on their front legs. The term "tripawd" (tripod) reflects the front-legged amputee's natural shifting of body weight onto the remaining leg. Front-legged tripawds move with a pogo-stick hop, propelling themselves forward on one leg placed in the middle of the chest. Since the center of gravity at the front of the body falls right behind the shoulders, removing one limb forces a significant shift. These tripawds may need to lean against things and may tire easily.

The challenges for rear-legged tripawds vary among breeds. German Shepherds, for example, tend to dip down low when walking, so they take longer to rebuild strength than breeds with more table-like body structures.

Pets can lose a limb because of trauma, disease, or birth defect. It may be an old fracture that didn't repair well, or bone cancer, or a nonfunctioning limb at birth. Amputation is the most common cause among dogs, affecting maybe 1 to 5 percent of the population, said Laura Hady, a doctor of veterinary medicine and canine rehabilitation at Albuquerque's Veterinary Emergency and Specialty Center.

Typically, artificial limbs are used only where a limb was needed for mobility or support, and where enough remains of the limb to serve as a brace. Artificial limbs are rare among animals, because it is difficult to make a prosthesis of a whole limb. X-rays must be examined to ensure the prosthesis will line up correctly, and it may not fit because of a rough amputation. In these cases, a wheelcart is often used instead.

Canine limb amputation is growing more common, thanks to advancements in veterinary medicine and because dogs have evolved from

working animals to family companions. Owners are more willing to spend on pets as veterinary medicine has improved.

"I think most dogs and cats used to be euthanized, because their owners would no longer see them as able to fully serve their purpose as a working animal," says Keri Pink, director of Tickled Pink Weimaraner Rescue. "Whereas today, they are treated very much as valued members of the family whose lives are worthy of many things, whether they have four legs or not. There are even some dogs living full lives with two legs."

Growing cancer rates are another culprit. Osteosarcoma, an aggressive, malignant tumor that is the most common type of bone cancer, is the reason for many limb amputations.

The day after Violet underwent surgery, a 10-year-old male named Eeyore had his front right leg amputated because of a hemangiosarcoma, a rare, rapidly growing, highly invasive cancer in the lining of the blood vessels. The tumor was pushing on his shoulder and growing into surrounding tissue, making isolated removal difficult. Eeyore survived the surgery and lived several months in a rescue shelter before he died.

"The decision to have surgery performed on him is one that will never be regretted," said Pink, "for Eeyore was given a chance to run and play like he had years before."

With the cultural shift toward adopting shelter dogs, many more are being chosen that may have needed a limb amputation. "Many people are passionate about the welfare of animals, and some people are particularly concerned with the welfare of special-needs animals, such as amputees," said Pink.

The biggest challenge owners face immediately after surgery is pain management — not only post-surgical pain, but the stress on remaining limbs to take on added work. The spine, wrist, and shoulder must now bear more weight.

Depending on the type of amputation and the overall health of an animal, accommodating changes at home might be minimal. Smaller furniture is removed initially to prevent pets from bumping into it while learning to adjust to a new center of gravity. Hardwood and tile flooring may need rugs added for traction, to prevent slipping or tripping. Smaller area rugs will have to be removed, as they can cause slipping. Some pets may need a sling, harness, or wheelcart for support. They can make use of ramps to navigate furniture and stairways.

Several types of therapy are available for dogs and cats with limb amputations, depending on the type, at different stages of recovery. Physical therapy typically incorporates Pilates-type exercises that focus on strengthening core muscles. Balls are used to strengthen abdominal and spinal muscles, and ramps, blocks, support straps, harnesses, slings, and wheeled carts aid in rehabilitation and mobility. Pets can also learn to use balance boards and ramps. Some owners turn to acupuncture and homeopathic therapies to aid rehabilitation.

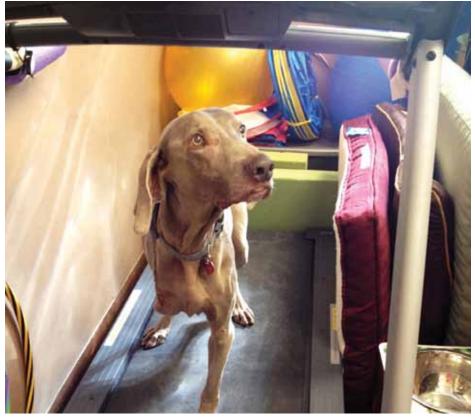
"We used to think that because they got on with their life, they weren't having issues with the remaining limbs," Hady says of amputees. "But we're wiser now. Pets are living longer, so people are saying, OK, how's my dog going to be in the long run, and what can I do to help him out?"

Therapies might also include physical stimulation, such as laser treatment to help with muscle pain, a fully submerged pool, or partially submerged treadmill.

The latter was of great benefit to Bogart, a Saint Bernard and mascot for the Oscar Foundation, a nonprofit that helps cover surgery and rehab so pets don't have to be euthanized. Bogart had bone cancer, hip dysplasia, and elbow dysplasia, which resulted in amputation. Therapy consisted of placing him in a box with a treadmill in it. Water would fill from beneath, lifting the dog and creating resistance while helping provide balance. Through stem cell therapy and weekly sessions on an underwater treadmill, Bogart was able to adjust to his new equilibrium and live a full life.



Violet and Eeyore relearn how to walk as "tripawds."



Eeyore works out on a treadmill during rehabilitation.



Rescued off a New Jersey beach with paralyzed back flippers, the grey seal known as Ziggy swims fast enough for the zoo seal tank.

# **Mobility problems no danger at the zoo**

Paraplegic pets aren't the only animals being rehabilitated more than in decades past. In August, the Albuquerque zoo acquired a baby seal that had lost the use of his back flippers.

The grey seal was found beached in New Jersey with a wound to his head and partially paralyzed rear flippers. No one knows what happened to him — possibly collision with a boat propeller — since he wouldn't have lived long if he'd been born that way. Seals' rear flippers serve as propellers, so without them "he would be shark bait," said Ralph Zimmerman, Albuquerque Biopark head veterinarian.

Ziggy – the name eventually chosen for him by Facebook fans – was cared for at the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, New Jersey, but his disability meant he could not be released into the ocean. When Biopark staff saw him listed for adoption, "we were just talking about the fact that our old girl was 44, and it may be time to look for a new seal," Zimmerman says of the zoo's other grey seal.

Biopark staff flew to New Jersey to accompany Ziggy to Albuquerque in a cargo plane. He was estimated to be 6 to 8 months old at that point. "Because they did so little to socialize him, we were afraid he would freak out in the airport," Zimmerman said. "But he was fine."

After a month in his own tank, Ziggy joined the three sea lions, three harbor seals, and old grey seal in the zoo's Seal and Sea Lion Pool. He had been visible to the others the whole time, but when he first ventured to join them, "the big sea lion would come bark at him, and he'd go back in his tank," Zimmerman said. Another time he encountered a group of schoolchildren, and went right back to the security of his pool.

But since early October, Ziggy has joined the others in the big tank. "He's doing great out there," says Zimmerman. He appears quite curious, peering at zoo visitors through the window. "He uses his front flippers well," the veterinarian said. "He has pretty decent control, but no speed."

Most zoos these days choose rescue animals for their marine mammal collections, Zimmerman said. "There is a more organized effort to get non-releasable animals into a permanent home." The zoo's bull sea lion had been found beached in California. Rather than be euthanized, in other words, marine mammals also are living full lives with fewer flippers.

# 'Friending' nature

Sharman Apt Russell

**High Country News service** 

As someone who writes about nature and the West, I've been urged to get more involved with social media. "Search out your readers" I am told; don't just sit back like a wallflower. But as a writer in rural Silver City, I have to wonder: Who wants to dance with me, posting photos of the charismatic western red-bellied tiger beetle? Who wants to twitter the nesting habits of a willow flycatcher, or talk about the role of fire in the Gila National Forest?

When I plug key words into Facebook's search engine, I get 7.8 million "likes" for the show *Animal Planet* and 5 million for a photo of a waterfall. When I type in "birds," I end up briefly at Angry Bird Friends, with 14.2 million monthly users, though "ornithology" takes me to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, with 96,447 "likes." Clearly, nature and Facebook mix just fine because people love animals, as well as waterfalls, beauty, diversity and "otherness."

What I'm drawn to write about these days is a field called "citizen science," which has experienced a renaissance thanks to the Internet. Just as amateur naturalists once used the penny post to mail their insights to men like Charles Darwin, citizen scientists join online programs that track the natural history of

My own citizen-science project is the study of a tiger beetle found in the United States only in New Mexico and Arizona, and I'm guided by the emails of two kindly entomologists, Barry Knisley and David Pearson, world experts on tiger beetles. I'm also in contact with a high school biology teacher, Kristi Ellingsen, who first discovered that tiger beetles lived in Tasmania.

Kristi began by using the photo-sharing site Flickr to post detailed shots of insects she found. At night, she'd post a photo of some obscure fly, and the next morning wake to an Internet conversation that had narrowed down its identity by focusing on the insect's wings. But when she photographed a large beetle with intimidating jaws on a sand dune in Tasmania, she didn't bother with Flickr, because her new friends had already given her the conventional wisdom: Tiger beetles don't exist in Tasmania. Through a Web search, she found David Pearson, and the next morning she had a reply.

"Now we have a living Tasmanian Tiger," Kristi marveled — courtesy of one person who ventured outside, took some photos, and was aided by far-off experts in front of computers.

At the small New Mexico university where I have taught for 30 years, I work online with students from Maine to California, and nature writing has become one of my most popular classes. I add my name to email petitions about environmental concerns. I marvel at how convenient it is to use Smartphone apps — just Google "the Noah Project"— to help track global warming and catalog biological diversity.

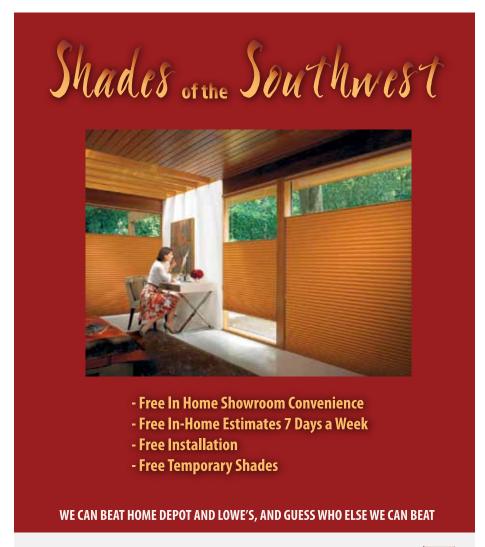
It is true that going online has environmental costs. Everything we do consumes the world.

Today, I'm going to step away from the computer and "like" nature by walking down to the Gila River, looking for the larval burrow holes of tiger beetles and probably startling a raft of green-headed mallards. I feel a giggle, like the small child never getting tired of the joke: Ducks actually quack, complaining and petulant. Nature, of course, doesn't count her "friends." But we can now explore the natural world virtually — monitor climate change, educate ourselves and others, or rally political will — all by using the new mediums of social connection. Can Web-centered technology help us sustain the original web of life? As someone relatively new to this dance, I'm saying yes.

Sharman Apt Russell is a contributor to Writers on the Range, a service of High Country News (hcn.org). She lives in Silver City, where she is working on a book about citizen science.



Pumpkin Tile



**HunterDouglas** 

(505) 604-2248 www.shadesofsw.com



Tile of Dogs, Cats, **Birds and Wildlife** www.pumpkintile.com

Specializing in

**Custom Portraits on** 

P.O. Box 48 Corrales, NM 87048 (505) 898-9950

For more info contact Pumpkin at: pumpkincary@live.com

# A kitty mom looks back



The trip I made last year to Lubbock, Texas, changed my l ife. Although I am a cat person, I had not had a cat in the house for almost two years. I had a serious illness, and when Clint, my companion of 12 years, passed away unexpectedly, I was just not ready or able to care for another cat.

I missed having one terribly, and it would have been comforting to have a furry friend at my side. For quite a while I lived vicariously through my friends' cats, and thought about what I would do when the time came to get my own.

In the spring of 2011, Tamy and Tim in Houston posted "we have kittens." When I saw the pictures, I knew that time had come, and on July 31 embarked on a road trip to meet two online friends for the first time, and to pick up Yoshi and Oliver.

It was love at first sight. The kittens were part of a feral colony, and Tamy had run out of space for cats in the house. The kittens could be fixed and allowed to stay, or they could go to a shelter and risk not finding a home. I knew how important it was that they stay together when I first saw them.

So I decided kittens would be a fine idea. Besides, I knew the family. But it meant a lot of changes. Breakables had to be stored, curtains had to be rearranged, and furniture had to be striped with double sticky tape. I had a goal, and that started me on a path to recovery. I had babies coming, and I had to be around to take care of them for a long time.

At first glance, they looked very much alike. The only difference between them was that Yoshi had four white feet and Oliver had four black feet. For their first few months, they were named Socks and Shoes, respectively.

As soon as their personalities began to emerge, it became clear that these look-alike brothers were polar opposites. The day they were snatched out of their lives to begin socializing for their new mom sealed the deal. They were halves of a whole.

Tim came out on the deck, and Yoshi ran full tilt into his hands. Yoshi loved people; they gave him good things to eat and lots of love and attention. Despite his mother's constant nagging to steer clear, he never listened.

Oliver, on the other hand, stood firm. He had listened to his mother and was not going to be fooled. As Tim stood holding Yoshi, Oliver had a decision to make. His mother was on the far side of the yard calling to him, but Yoshi was his little brother, his silly little annoying ADHD brother. He looked back at his mother one last time, turned toward Tim, and slowly headed into the house with Yoshi.

A year and a half later, he still has the role of protector. If I have to take Yoshi to the vet and leave Oliver at home, I hear about it. First he makes sure that Yoshi is not hurt—then he gives me heck for taking his brother away. But I don't mind. I know that Oliver is just doing his job. Besides, I know his secret. He tries so hard to be a cool, uninvolved cat. But I know when he meows at me, he wants tummy scratches and kitty treats and loving just like Yoshi.



Oliver, at left, and Yoshi — "the boys.

My boys. I don't know how I lived without them.

Kat Brown of Albuquerque is a lifelong animal-lover, especially of cats. She wears many hats, but animal-lover is perhaps the one that has given her the most pleasure. Share your cat stories or comments at katskorner88@gmail.com.



# Fuzzy Friends Petsitting

Because there's no place like home

- In-home custom care
- Reliable, licensed & insured
- Always in touch
- Exercise ξ play
- On call and overnight care

Rio Rancho Corrales Albuquerque

(505) 933 - 9554 Terri@FuzzyFriendsPS.com



- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Fall & Spring Changeovers
- Maintenance Agreements
- Specializing in Furnace &

A/C Conversions

• Mechanical & Electrical

3200 Northern Blvd. Rio Rancho, NM 87124









18 BOSQUE BEAST DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013



# **Beautiful sights,** or sore eyes?

When I returned from my recent vacation, friends asked if I'd had a "ball" or a "blast." I wouldn't express it that way, and so I had to think about what a vacation is anyway. For me this was about taking a break from the entanglements of everyday life and seeing something new. With my six dogs I traveled to Arizona and Utah, to areas where I have spent a lot of time sightseeing the national parks and back roads. The new sights that I wanted to see were the work being done for animals in some of the really difficult places.

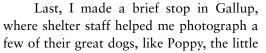
I stopped in the new Kayenta Animal Care Center in the Navajo Nation. Dr. Begave took time from the spay/neuter surgeries she was doing to talk with me. She was open and hopeful that I might be different from other bilagáanas who have passed through, offered help, and then gone away to write totally negative, destructive, discouraging stories about how horrible the situation is. She then asked a volunteer to help me photograph the dogs in the shelter, and she went back to her surgery.



It took many years and the efforts of a lot of people to make this shelter and clinic a reality. Every single dog was a beauty, in apparent good health, very adoptable, and lucky to be in a safe place.

While spending some time at Best Friends, the amazing sanctuary in Kanab, Utah, I had a chance to chat with Jana de Peyer, one of the founders, about the work they are currently doing with Albuquerque on trap, spay/neuter, release, and about their work in Los Angeles, where stores will no longer sell pets. We agreed that, thanks to the work of so many, improvements are happening all over the country.

On my way home to Corrales, I stopped in Chinle, Arizona, by Canyon de Chelly. I met with Cindy Yurth, the president of Blackhat Humane Society, a group of fosters spread through the Navajo reservation. In the last light of day, in the cottonwoods, I made some photos of her foster dogs, and then we spent some time talking about our shared goals in rescue work.



border collie mix (see opposite) and her five adorable pups. These babies have "tickets" to get on the Rescue Waggin'\* to Colorado later this month, where there are more available homes.

As I travel through the Colorado Plateau — a place that always thrills my soul with wonder — what should I look for with my camera? The beauty of the scenery? The ugliness of the neglected animals? We already know about both of those. I found another kind of beauty, in the hearts of people dedicated to helping, and in the souls of the animals. My vacation pictures are at www.broandtracy.org and www.facebook.com/Bro.and.Tracy. Please visit and see all of the beautiful dogs I met in our travels.

\* PetSmart Charities® Rescue Waggin'® is a unique shelter transport program that moves adoptable dogs from shelters in areas of high pet overpopulation to shelters where dogs are more in demand, to increase the chance of permanent placements

Photographer Joyce Fay founded Bro & Tracy Animal Welfare in 2000, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping individual animals find the right homes. The intention of this column is to share some of those stories.



# **ARE YOU PAYING TOO MUCH** FOR POOR-QUALITY PET FOODS?

Many mass-marketed pet foods serve as a dumping ground for leftovers of human food manufacturing. Ingredients such as corn gluten meal, meat by-products, and animal digest are just a few examples of the indigestible wastes and condemned parts that make up low-quality pet foods.

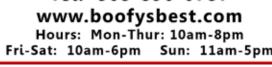
And yet, many of these foods cost just as much as the healthful, all-natural pet foods we carry.

Let the experts at Boofy's help you find better foods and natural supplements that are right for your dog or cat!





8201 Golf Course RD NW, #C2 Albuquerque, NM 87120 Tel: 505-890-0757 www.boofysbest.com





take me home

# Beautiful Beast

# Fate brought these animals to us, and perhaps to you. Each issue, rescue

groups in our community present some of the dogs and cats that have been abandoned or surrendered and need forever homes. In some cases, animals could use a foster home where they can wait for adoption so they don't have to continue living in a kennel. Contact each individual rescue group for more information. Most offer practical and financial support for animals and foster adopters.



### **Boston Terrier Rescue**

Tex is a diamond in the rough to be sure. His owner was a backyard breeder who was disappointed in Tex's production of puppies - hard to figure, as he is such a handsome 5-year-old male, with one blue eye and one brown eye that engage tenderly and sweetly. As his foster, it has been a joy to see him lap up every bit of love that comes his way, and his gratitude at being fed regularly. Tex is a lifelong buddy waiting to be claimed. He is neutered and fully vetted.

Please call Mitzi at 463-8453 or mdhobson@aol.com



# Poppy **Bro & Tracy Animal Welfare**

Poppy is an adorable petite "mini" Border Collie girl who will stay under 30 pounds. She is a recent young mom (the pups went to an adoption shelter in Colorado) who needs her own lifestyle do-over. She is crate- and house-trained, current on basic vaccinations, and scheduled for spay. Poppy is great with other dogs and well-behaved in the house. Eager to interact with humans, she will make a fabulous companion.

Contact Joyce Fay at 463-4553 or joycefay@broandtracy.org



# Lainey

# **CARMA** (Companion Animal Rescue and Medical Assistance)

My name is Lainey and I would love to be your one and only. Don't be fooled by my short tail and short legs — I have a big heart for the right home. Great with adults, no other cats or dogs, please.

Contact Barbara at 321-6275 or harharacarma@msn.com



Licensed - Insured

# **Second Chance Animal Rescue**

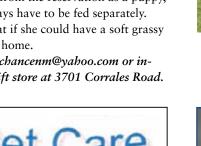
Bella is a beautiful 2 1/2-vear-old border collie cross with a sweet and playful personality. One of her feet is malformed, but that doesn't hold her back at all — in fact she seems to like having one front leg and one "arm." She uses it to wrap around her foster siblings and to club the ones she doesn't like. Bella prefers male dogs to female, and small dogs to big. She was starving when she came from the reservation as a puppy, so she may always have to be fed separately. It would be great if she could have a soft grassy area at her new home.

Contact secondchancenm@yahoo.com or inquire at the thrift store at 3701 Corrales Road.



# **Greyhound Companions of New Mexico**

Bradlev is 2 years old and gets along great with other dogs, but he is probably too frisky for small dogs or cats. He's very affectionate and will make a great companion. Contact Greyhound Companions of New Mexico at info@gcnm.org.



# Pitter Patter Pet Care Professional In-Home Care



Barb Young 459-8809

20+ years experience in keeping your pet happy Serving Corrales, Rio Rancho, Bernalillo, Placitas, and the NW side.

Your pet cared for by the owner, not employees. painthorsegal@hotmail.com

Kay's RV **5th Wheels, Travel Trailers, Motorhomes** Specializing in Consignments-Let us help you sell your RV A family owned business with over 27 years of experience 1/2 Mile West of Moriarty, NM on 1-40 & Route 66 (505) 220-5796 • www.kaysrv.com

20 BOSQUE BEAST DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013 DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013 BOSQUE BEAST 21



board-certified

specialist in anim



- delivery

# 24-hour mobile emergency service

DR. ANDRES ESTRADA, DVM (505) 363-5063 Serving Corrales and Central New Mexico

español

santasofiaequine@yahoo.com

www.santasofiaequine.com



# YOUR ECO-FRIENDLY RENEWAL SOLUTION FOR ALL WOOD SURFACES

- · Renew luster and shine to worn finish on all the wood in your home or office
- · Fill cracks, gaps, and blemishes caused by water and time



NO DUST. NO MESS. NO ODOR.\* MANY JOBS COMPLETE IN ONE DAY!

# STEPPING OUT FARM

Jump on Over and Join Our Team!

- Customized program just for you
- All levels of riders
- Ship ins welcome
- Clinics available

LAUREN STEVENS

We offer the very best in Hunt Seat Instruction and Training

35 Years of Producing **EXCEPTIONAL RIDERS** & HORSES

Large Pony available for full or half lease

32 VICTOR ROAD, CORRALES 505-508-4994

**MARK MEDDLETON, DVM** 



# Could my animal use a chiropractic adjustment?

Our pets are not always well adjusted. While we may think some need an attitude adjustment, many just need a chiropractic adjustment. Animals respond to pain in different ways. They can seem depressed, lose weight, or simply become less active. Some animals may act more aggressive, less cooperative, or fearful. Often such changes become more obvious during times of stress, such as after a move, illness, injury, or surgical procedure.

Chiropractic science focuses on the biomechanical relationships between the vertebrae and surrounding structures. The nerves that supply every organ in the body, every muscle, and every tissue originate in the spinal cord. That's why alignment of the spine is essential for proper functioning of the entire body. A misalignment (subluxation) between two vertebrae can cause irritation. Nerves pass through these inflamed tissues, which can disrupt their signals.

The goal of chiropractic care is to facilitate optimal physical and mental well-being. Therefore, it can be thought of as a form of routine health care, complementing conventional veterinary medicine to prevent mild problems from becoming debilitating.

Athletic horses, like human athletes, put a lot of stress and strain on their bodies, and will be more likely to have spinal misalignments. Whether a working horse, barrel racer, or eventing horse, these animals are asked to give their best performance time and time again. Chiropractic adjustments can help ensure they are performing at their best, with an optimal biomechanical advantage, and

Older horses that have become stiff from arthritis also can benefit from chiropractic. A horse that is arthritic, or that becomes lame for other reasons, will compensate by changing gait, shifting weight, or some other physical adjustment to avoid pain. This puts strain on areas of the body that can become locked up, stiff, or sore.

Conditions such as a subtle lameness or abnormal gait, asymmetrical sweating, immune disorders, and behavioral problems often respond to chiropractic therapy. Young horses in training often have an uncomfortable or asymmetric gait that trainers might assume shows lack of training or discipline, when the root cause is actually vertebral misalignment. If the horse has subluxations that cause discomfort when the spinal column is bent one way, the horse will more easily move in the other direction. I have seen training of young prospects greatly facilitated, with more rapid progress, after just one or two chiropractic adjustments.

For dogs, conditions such as intervertebral disc disease, incontinence, allergies, epilepsy, skin problems, asymmetrical sweating, abnormal gaits, and behavioral problems often respond to chiropractic therapy. Geriatric dogs may initially require more frequent visits, depending on the severity of their condition and how long it has been present. Dogs also make physical compensations to avoid pain when arthritis sets in, or when hip dysplasia has become severe.

Young dogs are not immune to misalignments, either. Between the birthing process and typical puppy rambunctiousness, minor subluxations often develop that can be corrected, averting potentially long-standing problems.

Although chiropractic care is most commonly sought to relieve pain, usually back pain, it can ameliorate a myriad of different conditions. Since the nerves going to every organ in the body can be disrupted by spinal misalignments, chiropractic care may ease pain and greatly improve the quality of life even for horses and dogs with problems that cannot be corrected, just by unlocking compensating areas of the body.

Mark T. Meddleton, DVM, is owner-manager of Meddleton Equine Hospital in Algodones. Contact him at 867-5567 or drmeddleton@meddletonequine.com.

# Happy Holidays from our Advertisers



### **Ann Taylor Co.** (Corrales Realty)

Ann Taylor: 890-2063 corralesrealty.com Ann Taylor of The Ann Taylor Co. has made two great changes in her life. She adopted a new rescue dog named Ranger, and bought Corrales Realty with her husband, A.C., who specializes in horse properties, farms and ranches Both acquisitions show the Taylors' continued support of CARMA, FOCAS, and the Corrales business community. Call Ann or A.C. to help you and your animals relocate. Happy Holidays from the Taylors: A.C., Ann, Luke, Ranger, and Ali!



## **Pumpkin Tile**

# Pumpkin Cary: 898-9950 pumpkintile.com

To my wonderful customers: Julio, Noodles, the Geese and I love this time of year because it is all about celebrating those we love and being festive. In preparation for the holidays, I draw a lot of custom pet portraits for family, friends, and loyal customers. I enjoy the connection my tiles have made, bringing together people and pets from across the United States and beyond, capturing pets' personalities on tile. Thank you for all the beautiful animals you have brought into my life. I look forward to drawing more portraits for you, as well as new clients in the future. My family of pets and I wish you Happy Holidays and joyous times together.



## **Boofy's Best for Pets**

# Lisa and Jeff: 890-0757 boofysbest.com

Happy Holidays from Jeff and Lisa, owners of Boofy's Best for Pets! We opened our store in 2010 with one clear goal: to help improve the health and well-being of the dogs and cats in our community. Good health starts with good nutrition, which is why we carry only products that are made from high-quality, wholesome ingredients from trustworthy manufacturers, and only those which we would be pleased to serve to our own furry family members. Make a New Year's Resolution to visit the experts at Boofy's, who can assist you with finding the foods, treats, and supplements that are right for your companion animals.



# **Atlas Pumping**

# Io Fanelli: 898-3936 atlaspumping.com

Happy Holidays and thank you all for your continued loyalty and support. I wish you and your loved ones a save and happy New Year, I hope to see you on the trail, Remember, eat more fiber — it's good for business!

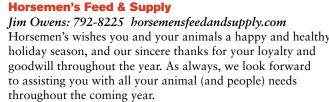
PHOTO BY JUSTUS PHOTOGRAPHY



# **Neighborhood Smiles**

Dr. Tim Rauch: 796-6104 (west side) www.smilesabq.com My lovely wife and I value being near family and raising our two beautiful little girls in the sunny environment of Albuquerque. I am passionate about being a dentist and greatly enjoy my job because I have constant opportunities to serve people. It is rewarding to help patients of all ages overcome their dental fears and obtain the care that they need and deserve in a comfortable and friendly practice setting. I am proud to offer a broad scope of dental services to families in my community with two convenient locations to choose from.







#### **Santa Sofia Equine**Dr. Andres Estrada: 363-5063 santasofiaequine.com Feliz navidad y Feliz año from the team at Santa Sofia Equine. Offering the convenience of a mobile veterinary practice and a wide range of services for our equine patients, including: routine dental care, de-worming, vaccination, preventive medicine, geriatric attention, emergency 24/7 (colics, lacerations, dystocias), health certificates, and Coggins. For the smaller and furrier canines, we offer: vaccination, de-worming semen collection, evaluation, shipping and freezing. For the ladies: vaginal cytology, progesterone evaluation and artificial insemination with fresh, cooled, and frozen semen. As the state's only board-certified specialist in animal reproduction, we offer our clients a variety of services that will help you to

reach your reproductive goals in any animal operation.

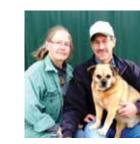


#### Pitter Patter Pet Care

Se Habla Español.

#### Barb Young: 459-8809 painthorsegal@hotmail.com To all my clients and neighbors, my family, both two-legged and four-legged, wish you a very Merry Holiday, and blessings for the New Year. I have been caring for your pets while you are away for over 20 years. Leniov my career and love your pets as I love my own. Each pet I care for is as unique and special as their family. I particularly enjoy making long-term friends, both families and their pets, that I will always remember. In my family are horses, birds, chickens, and my rescued Greyhounds. Over the years, I have cared for horses, rats, mice, goats, sheep, snakes, spiders, and, of course, dogs and

cats. It has truly been a blessing taking care of God's creatures.



### **GMX Hard Water Treatment**

Larry Brown: 1-800-406-0469 larry@gmxinternational.com The Browns own and operate two family businesses. Ruthie operates the Green Spot Garden Center in Alamosa, Colorado, while Larry distributes and installs GMX Hard Water Treatment equipment throughout Colorado and New Mexico. They are animal-lovers and are always rescuing critters. Poncho, now 11 and blind, has been a key member of the family since being rescued as a pup. Larry, a Las Cruces native and former researcher, has been installing GMX to control hard water for homeowners and businesses throughout the greater Albuquerque area for nearly 18 years. Through December 31, if you purchase a basic, whole-house system, you will receive an upgrade free. "From our family to yours, have a joyful and blessed Holiday."



# **Pet Food Gone Wild**

# Susana and Roberto: 994-0101 petfoodgonewild.com

Happy Pawlidays, Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo, Happy Hanukkah & Happy Kwanzaa! Our most humble wishes to all on this holiday season from Pet Food Gone Wild's family, Roberto, Susana, Leo, Lexi, and our fosters who now have found a great home: Henny, Skye, Drake, Libertie & Blue. We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all your support and trusting us with taking care of your furry family members; we hope to continue this for many more years to come. We wish for all that this coming year be filled with warmth, love, and good health for all your loved ones. May your home be filled with the warm pitter patter of children and your furry companions.



# **Lynn Martinez, Marketing Consultant**

Lynn Martinez: 263-6369 lynnm.com Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and very happy New Year. It has been my distinct pleasure to help pets and their people find happy homes for the past 34 years. I welcome the opportunity to help you and yours too. Thanks for your business and continued loyalty and support.

Active Volunteer and Supporter of the Corrales Business Community

22 BOSQUE BEAST DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013 DECEMBER 2012 | JANUARY 2013 BOSQUE BEAST 23



