

# Scrapbook 2022

# DECEMBER



# Annual Christmas Luncheon







# Wreaths Across America- Indian River County

Thank you once again for your support!!

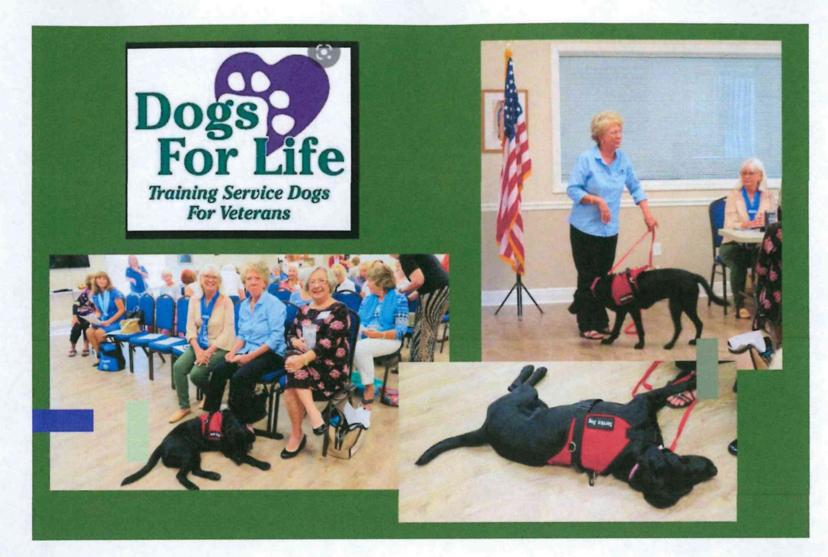


I was lucky enough today to get to attend the 75th anniversary of Vero Beach Veterans, where I had the pleasure to meet Kathi Schumann. For the second year in a row Kathi Schumann became the largest donor to Wreaths Across America in Indian River County.

Thank you Mrs Schumann for all you do for Wreaths Across America, the Veterans of our county and the community as a whole. With your help we will remember, Honor every veteran and Teach another generation of the sacrifice mabe.

NOVEMBER





# St. Helen CCW News

### November 2022

### **November 1st Meeting**

As you can tell, the star of our meeting was "Rosie!" Shelly Ferger, the founder of this wonderful program, was our speaker and explained how hearing and service dogs can improve the quality of life for people with disabilities. It is only one of five Florida organizations accredited to certify service dogs for veterans.

On February 4th, 2023, <u>Patriots for Puppies</u> at Pointe West Country Club will benefit the Dogs for Life programs. Dancing, live music featuring "Jerry and the Dolls."

Dogs for Life also maintains the off-leash dog park at 1230 16th Ave. Applications are available to all

dogs that are inoculated, neutered, and social.

Eddie Boatwright, husband of CCW Sister Gail Boatwright, is president of Dogs for Life.



### Presented by American Gold Star Mothers of Indian River County, Inc.

# 4th ANNUAL 1 WALK-A-THON

# FOR MILITARY/VETERAN SUICIDE AWARENESS

Sunday, November 6, 2022 Registration at 9:00am - Walk starts at 10:00am

# 2.2 MILE WALK & VETERANS EXPO

Join American Gold Star Mothers of Indian River County for a walk thru Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary

**Register online at www.ircgoldstarmoms.org** 

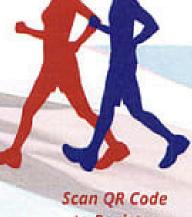
\$35 / person online \$40 / person - day of walk

**Riverside Park** Walkers start & finish at the Grand Pavilion

> Coffee & Donuts provided by The Salvation Army

> > DJ • Raffles • 50/50

T-SHIRTS: First 300 online registrants will recieve a Walk T-shirt. Early pick up (on Fri. 11/4) at Marine Bank & Trust • 1450 US1 "Day of" T-shirts: 1st come, 1st serve!







michdaleircgoldstarmoms@gmail.com
@ircgoldstarmoms
www.ircgoldstarmoms.org
570-885-2811

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. Registration #DTN3348471. American Gold Star Mothers of Indian River County, Inc. is a non-profit tax-exempt organization as described under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)3. Federal ID #85-0621175.







# **CBS News Coverage**

# Dogs serving as therapeutic outlet for Vero Beach police officers

by Dylan Huberman | Thu, November 3rd 2022, 6:53 PM EDT



Nonprofit organization Dogs for Life brings therapy dogs to Vero Beach police officers twice each week, Nov. 3, 2022. (WPEC)



OCTOBER



4 • OCTOBER 27, 2022 • VETERAN VOICE

# All invited to hear inspirational PTSD speaker at Dogs For Life

lettertothe EDITOR

### To the Editor:

1

-

This is an open invitation to all Veterans, family, friends, supporters and patriots: On Friday, Nov. 4, at 1:30 p.m., Dogs For Life will host Guest Speaker Chris English, at our Training Center, located at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach.

An Army Veteran, he served in Bosnia, Macedonia, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He retired from military service in June of 2014.

A sufferer of PTSD, Chris was able to heal through the help of Veteran friends and loved ones, but he was discouraged not to be able to find assistance through established health agencies.

In his biography, Chris states: "In 2017 I started my nonprofit Texas Hunters for Heroes West Texas and used many of the same techniques that helped me to heal, and to help other Veterans heal. We take a group of Veterans hunting and fishing, and give them the much-needed camaraderie and a safe place to talk about their traumas of war."

In 2018 he received certification to become a PTSD instructor and peer counselor. He then de-



veloped a relationship with PTSD Foundations of America and can provide much needed help to Veteran who suffer from PTSD, such as the ability to get suffering Veterans into a private facility to gain the much-needed help with the struggles involved with mental health and we are able to do this while keeping the Veteran's dignity and self-esteem.

Thanks, and I hope to see you all.

Sincerely,

### **Shelly Ferger**

Founder/CEO/Director of Training Programs Dogs For Life

# **VETERAN VOICE**

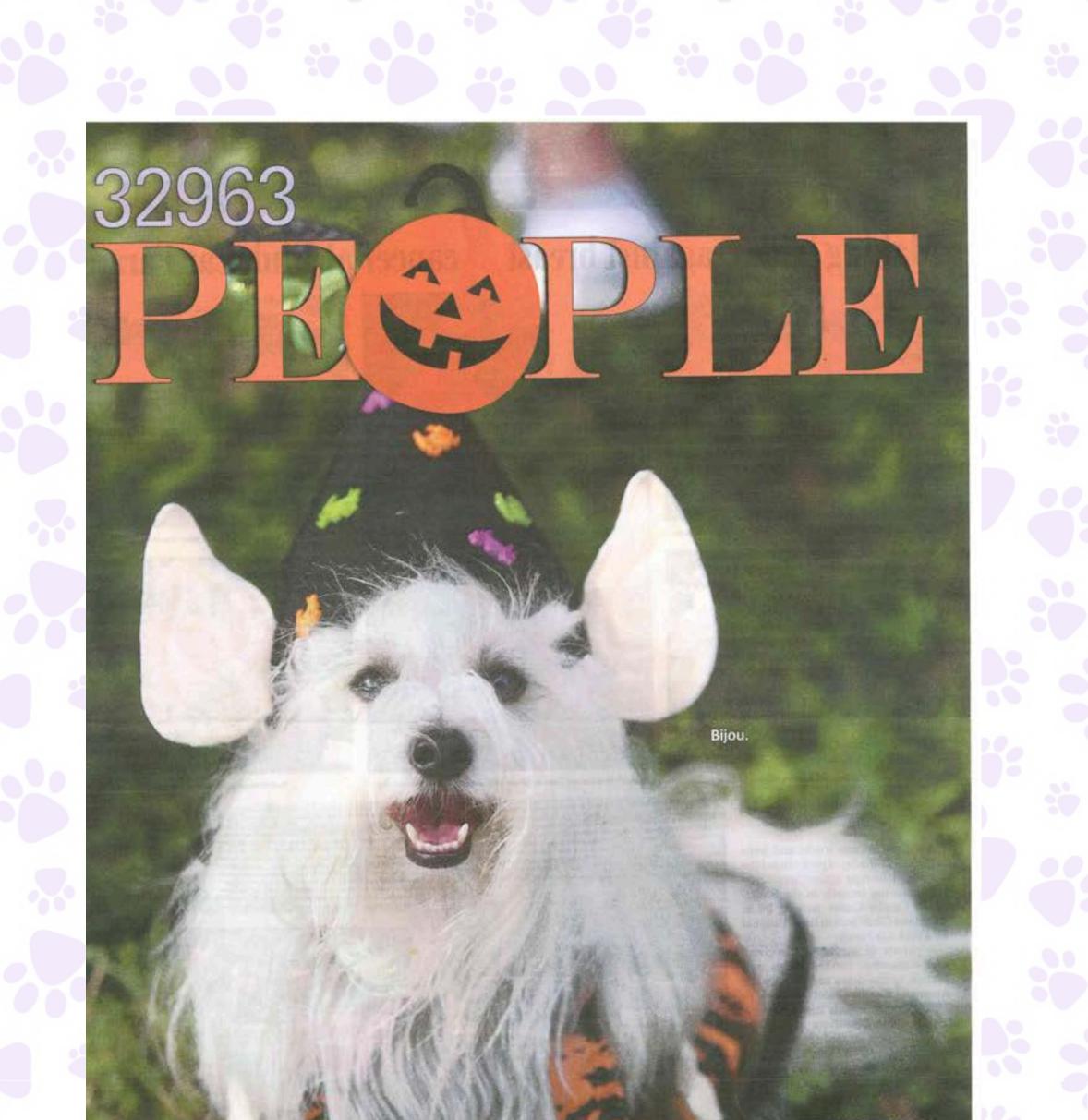


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Phil Galdys Publisher

Manu Vaman



# COSTUMED CANINES FRIGHTFULLY CUTE AT 'HOWL-O-WEEN' P. 15

# VBPD Community Partnership



AUGUST



# **Birthday Tea Party**





JULY



# **Bubbles!**







JUNE



# Vietnam Veterans Golf Luncheon





## **Community Foundation Awards \$100,000 to Four Local Nonprofits**





Indian River Community Foundation awarded grants totaling \$100,000 to four nonprofit charitable organizations serving Indian River County. The grants were awarded from the Community Enrichment Fund, and two of the organizations receiving funds were: \$25,000 to Dogs for Life for Veteran Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Recovery and Support Group Meetings; and 10,000 to Bike Walk Indian River County for The Bike Rehab Project. Indian River Community Foundation was established in 2008 with a mission of building a better community through donordriven philanthropy. Visit **www.ircommunityfoundation.org** to learn more.

### Pictured above:

**Dogs for Life**: Larry Salustro, IRCF Board Member with Rosie; Cynthia Ryan, Executive Director of Dogs for Life; Brooke Sauserman, IRCF Foundation Assistant with Chance; Chiaka Nwosu, IRCF Foundation Coordinator with Swift; Toni Hamner, IRCF Board Member; and Shelley Ferger, CEO of Dogs for Life, with Rufus.

**Bike Walk Indian River County**: IRCF Board Member Larry Salustro; John Crosby, Amy Banov, Bob Auwaerter, and Paul Morris all of Bike Walk; IRCF Board Member Toni Hamner; Dave Hunter, David Cerchie, John Sansburn, Barry Barker, and Larry Luedtke all of Bike Walk.

Visit www.ircommunityfoundation.org to learn more.

# Boozefighters Motorcycle Club Fundraiser



MAY



# Graduation & Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony



APRIL



# **John's Island Grant**

NEWS

### 5 Vero Beach 32963 / April 28, 2022

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly

# John's Island grants

cil has worked with them for years," added Price.

"It does help that it is a public-private partnership. That's the big part," said Wheeler. She added that because of past relationships, they trusted that Price and Hubbard would be good stewards of the funds provided to them.

Among the other 25 agency grants provided this year, the Arc of Indian River County received a larger than usual \$75,000 grant to construct a pavilion at its west campus for its day program.

"I realize it's not housing per se, but COVID exposed all the incredible weaknesses that agencies here have been trying to tread carefully," said Cramb, noting that the pandemic revealed that many agencies had cramped quarters. "Now having an outside pavilion is like a house."

A new agency funded this year was the Economic Opportunities Council, which received a grant to build a playground at its Douglas Head Start Center in Wabasso. After the site team visited, members were so impressed, said Wheeler, that they wanted to give them the full amount requested.

Dogs for Life received a grant for the

### first time in a long time, to cover a generator for the building.

"These service dogs help veterans and women first responders suffering from PTSD. This has turned into a real critical need," said Cramb. "They have weekly meetings for veterans with PTSD and weekly meetings for the female first responders. I had not appreciated all the different benefits these dogs can provide. So, we're learning a lot."

Youth Sailing Foundation received a first-time grant to fund catamarans for special needs sailors, ages 16 to 60, as well as beginner elementary sailors.

"This is certainly a very varied list; we're trying to work on all sorts of needs in Indian River County. We are trying harder to make sure that people are aware of the Johns Island Foundation," said Cramb. "We are a more quiet group, but that's part of who we are. And people are very generous."

The John's Island Foundation, which has provided more than \$14 million in grants pertaining to capital projects and improvements since 1999, solicits donations from residents through a seasonal campaign letter. Wheeler credits Emily Sherwood for establishing a Foundation Leadership Circle, whose members donate \$5,000 or more, and who now account for well over half the money they raise.

# COVID-19 infections rising sharply again here, but hospitalizations remain relatively low

BY LISA ZAHNER StaffWriter

New COVID-19 infections here reported to the Florida Department of Health more than doubled over the past week, going from 90 cases to 186 cases, and the countywide case positivity rate rose 61 percent in a single week, with 7.9 percent of people being tested now being found positive.

In the past four weeks, the average number of new daily infections reported here has more than tripled from 8.5 to 26.5 cases, thanks to the spread of the BA.2 or "stealth Omicron" variant that's taken hold in the Northeastern United States and is spreading to Florida.

Statewide, Florida is still in the green zone for low community transmission, according to the CDC's criteria, but cases rose 32 percent in a single week, from 15,623 to 20,680 as of Friday's report. In mid-March, the whole state reported between 8,000 and 9,000 new cases per week.

Increasingly popular in-home rapid

tests are the big unknown factor in the official case numbers, as people whetest positive on DIY test kits typically of not report these results to the Florid Department of Health. These cases is unrecorded unless the individuals see medical attention, or must report the illness due to their job or school attention.

In-home tests kits can be obtain free of charge through a U.S. Postal Se vice website, plus most private insu ance carriers cover or reimburse mer bers for the purchase of these kits.

The CDC reports four hospitaliz tions of COVID-positive patients he over the past week, and eight COVII positive people were hospitalized Cleveland Clinic Indian River Hospit as of Monday, up from seven.

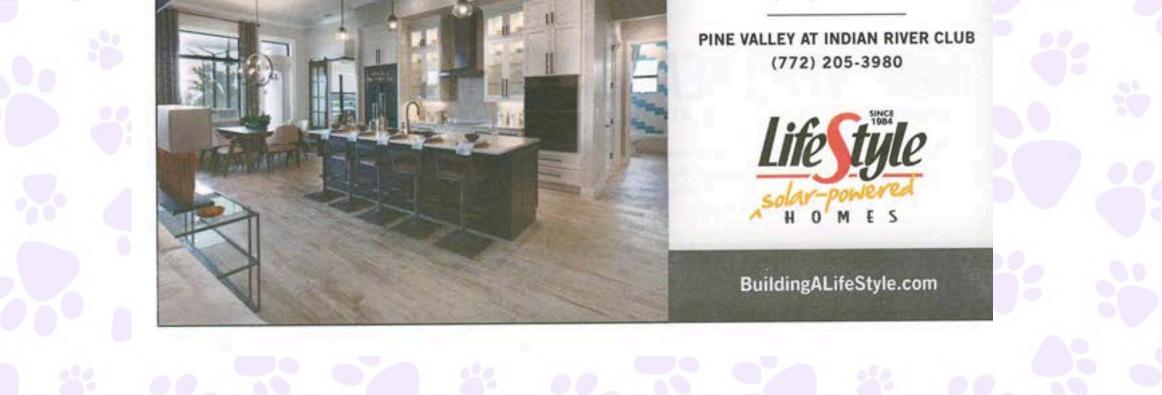
The School District of Indian Riv County reported 13 new COVID-19 i fections last week, all of among pub school students. Private and chart school case data is no longer availab to the general public.

With the snowbird migration north



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TOUR ONE OF OUR Vero Beach Model Homes Today.



# - THE SCENE

# Cause & Effect

# FUNDRAISERS & CULTURAL EVENTS ADVANCE THE WORK OF LOCAL NONPROFITS

# GOLD STAR WALK-A-THON

### AMERICAN GOLD STAR MOTHERS OF IRC

The American Gold Star Mothers of Indian River County held their third annual Walk-A-Thon for Military Suicide Awareness at Riverside Park in November. The 2.2-mile event, which passes through Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary, calls to mind the heartbreaking statistic of 22 veterans and active service members who die by suicide each day. Proceeds from the Walk-A-Thon help fund PTSD groups at Dogs for Life and the Mental Health Association in Indian River County and support the work of Next Generation Veterans of Indian River County.







Michael Wright, a veteran facilitator at Dogs for Life and MHAIRC, addresses the assembly.



Roma Anderson, Tammy Thurber, Michelle Dale, Kathi Schumann, and Diana D'Angelo



The walk gets underway.





The Wall of Valor represents local Gold Star Mothers' sons and daughters who died while serving in the U.S. armed forces.

Doug Klock, Chuck Gerrald, Amy Wagner, Angela Guzenski, Michelle Dale, Shelly Ferger, and Cynthia Ryan attend the check presentation.

MARCH





PETS

# Oh 'MyMy,' is Bonz ever a fan of this Malti-Poo

# Hí Dog Buddies!

It's always fun doin' an innerview at the Dogs for Life dog park – kinda brings me back to my puppyhood, you know? Miss Maya Sussman and her Mom, Susan, were already hangin' out in the Little Dog Section when me an my assistant arrived.

Maya – a Malti-Poo – was busy flyin' back an forth along the fenceline between the Liddle Dog an the Big Dog Sections: a puh-teet, black, 7.8-pound tornado totally keepin' up with a pooch running along the fence on the other side – Scout – who was at least 4 times her size.

As my assistant and Maya's Mom got comftubble under the shady tree canopy, Maya, not the teeniest bit shy or aapree-HEN-sive, trotted up for the Wagan-Sniff. She was perky an frenly, with a confident, bouncy prance. An she wasn't even out of breath, far as I could tell.

"Ah, youth," I thought to myself, a liddle wistfully. "Good morning, Miss Maya. You we're sure givin' that big pooch a run for his Pupperoni!"

She laughed. "Hello, Mr. Bonzo! I LOVE runnin' with the Big Dogs! Keeps me on my game. One time I squiggled through the gate into the Big Dog section. So they hadda make the gap smaller. Oh, an you can call me MyMy like Mommy does. An I'll call you Bonz, if that's OK."

"Totally," I replied. "Absolutely! We can sit here in the shade while you tell me your tail, how 'bout?"

ZERVED, if you can buh-leeve it. I didn't bark for the longest time. I mean, I didn't have anything to bark about. Everything was grrreat. Mommy was grrreat. I was just checkin' stuff out. I was so teeny, Mommy fed me By Hand. I slept with her right away, of course, an she was always afraid she was gonna smush me or step on me.

"I learned about Doing my Duty very quickly. Mommy got me those PP pads. (But sometimes at first, I used a spot that only looked like one but wasn't.) PLUS, I'm very fass-TIDDY-us so now, when I hafta do No. 1, I stand on my front paws only, so I don't get my back paws all, you know, damp. It's like what humans call a handstand, Mommy says."

I was speechless.

"Anyway, one morning, I was snuggled under the covers still, dreamin' about bunnies or something, an there was this Big Noise. It startled me. Then I ree-lized it was ME. I had barked. I tried it a few more times. I'm not barky like some of those annoyin' liddle pooches who yap from dawn to dust. I only perform on request. So, wanna hear me sing?"

"Sure," I replied. "Whaddya sing?"

"Happy Birthday, mostly. Ready? Here goes."

MyMy's Mommy stood in front of her like a cun-DUCK-ter and MyMy began. It was uh-MAY-zing. All the humans in the Dog Park turned to look. Some of the other dogs joined in on the high notes. MyMy had a Very Big Voice, with a truly memorable "ahhh-ROOOOO!"

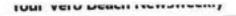
Lucy an Haus at Sunshine Fur-nuh-chur. Hey, there's Muffin now! HI, MUFFIN!!!" "Hi, Maya! 'Sup?"

A black-an-white Australian Shepherd ran over for a Wag-N-Sniff; MyMy introduced us, then Muffin zipped off to play, an MyMy hopped back onto her Mommy's lap.

"I did meet a cat once," she mused. "ME-uh. She buh-longs to my stepdad Daryl. Since my name's MYuh, it got liddle confusing. I was just liddle, an ME-uh was bigger than me, PLUS she had claws. I was scared of her. I guess you could call us Fren-uh-mees."

Suddenly she jumped down again, all alert. "Ooooh. Look!" she pointed across the field. A gold-colored poo-mix-lookin' pooch had grabbed a hat from one of the humans an was racin' all over the place, leapin' around, shakin' the hat, havin' a grreat time. The humans were mostly laffin', even the hatless man. Finally, the hat was retrieved, the excitement subsided, an MyMy returned to her Mommy's lap to continue her tail.

"Where was I? Oh, yes, I love playin' with my frens! Dogs AN humans. 'Specially human kids. My human Besties are Gracyn an Grady; an Callie an Parker. Mommy's their Nanny. An guess what? Me an Gracyn have the Same Birthday





him and one for me one time an, I woo you not, it was the most duh-LISHU: thing I EVER put in my mouth. Now Mommy cooks for me. All in all, I hav The Best Life! Just us grrrls. I'm a luck poocheroo."

The hour had zipped by. I closed m notebook.

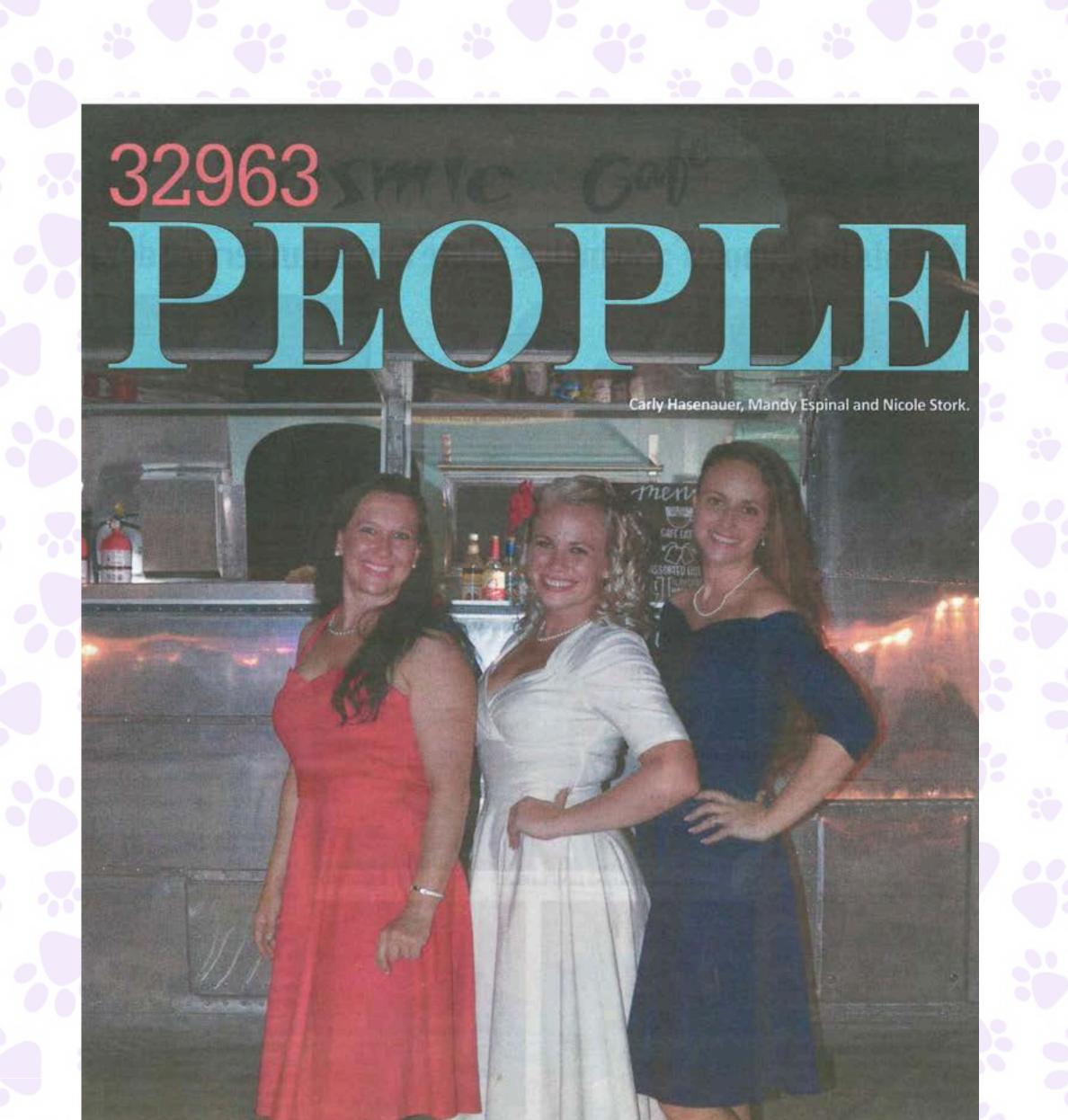
"Come back when you're not workin an we can play!" she called, flyin' off int the field to run with the Big Dogs.

Heading home I was thinkin' abou MyMy, the fearless social budderfly. An about fil-LAY min-YON. I wonder wha my chances would be ...

Till next time,

She immed onto her Mom's lan "Per- "Woof. MvMv. that was Totally Crispy - Dec. 6! Isn't that SO Cool Kibbles? I





# PATRIOTS FOR PUPPIES SWINGING SALUTE TO SERVICE DOGS

# FEBRUARY











Your Vero Beach Newsweekiy

Vero Beach 32963 / February 17, 2022 46

> PETS Bonz melts over magnificent Maggie, a Standard Poo

# Hí Dog Buddies!

Occasionally, I haff to sternly remind myself that I'm a Totally Happy Batchler. This was one of those times. This week's innerviewee, Maggie Firth, is a statue-ESK, purebred café latte-colored Standard Poo with legs up to here, a close-cropped haircut which shows off her stellar con-for-MAY-shun, cocoacolored fluffy top-not, ears and tail-pom; the rest, little curls of cream and cocoa. Even though Miss Maggie's a fancy purebred, she's no snobnose.

So, when I learned her Furever Home was her fourth (an she's not even one anna haff), I was like "Wha-at?"

She trotted up with her Mom to greet me an my assistant. Actually, it was a graceful prance, like those white, dancing horses.

"It is SUCH a PLEH-zure to make your uh-QUAIN-tunce, Mr. Bonzo!" she said, gazing at me with her big brown eyes. "I've heard So Much about you. Please, DO come in. Warm your paws. We can sit here by the fireplace."

My paws, as a matter of fact, felt like they were glued to the floor. "I, ummm, errr ..." I mumbled suavely, forcing my gaze away from her long, graceful snout and cocoa-colored nose.

I finally got my paws to move, shook the fluff out of my head, and retrieved my notebook, which had somehow fallen to the floor.

"It's totally my pleasure. Lovely place you have."

"Why thank you," she said sweetly. "This is my Furever Mom, Kerry. Just make yourselves comf-tubble, an let me know when to begin."

"Ready whenever you are, Miss Maggie," I said in my Serious Professional Voice.

After daintily accepting a snack from the depths of my assistant's satchel,

DIVINE ANIMAL HOSPITAL

she sat gracefully and began. "Not long ago, Mom lost her beloved 16-year-old Maltese, Meeka. At the time, Mom's daughter Sheana and her dog Bear were living here with Mom, which helped fill the Loneliness Void. But when they moved elsewhere, Mom began to think about acquiring another dog. She was pic-shuring a pooch that was middle size; not a puppy; didn't shed; an a rescue cuz that's what she's always had. So, as Mom put it, she threw the idea out into the Universe. (I'm not certain,

but I think that's a huge, big, gi-GAN-tic space that can hold everything else in it, like pillows an water an thots, an it's not even crowded. It's a human thing, so ...)" Note to Self: Google Universe. Maggie continued.

"As a just-weaned puppy, I was purchased by a lady on the other side of the state who thought she wanted to raise poodles but, when I was about 9 months old, changed her mind. So she put my pickshur an bio on a Poo Rehoming Website.

"THEN, Mom's Very Good Frens an Nay-bors, Marc an Sue (who already had two Standard Poos: Bo an Sissy), saw my irresistible pickshur an decided to buy me for Marc's Mom, who'd always udd-MY-erred Bo an Sissy.

"It WUDDA been Totally Swell except for one teensy little thing: I am a puppy with Tons of Energy an I LOVE playing outside, speshully where there's lotsa DIRT an, cuzza our pond an stuff, lotsa MUD, which I'd track all over when I came in from playin'. Which was A LOT TO KEEP UP WITH. So, long tail short, I ended up back with Marc, Sue, Bo an Sissy

"We got along Grrreat! However, THREE big inner-JED-ick, playful poo-



dles was ONE TOO MANY POODLES. Next time Mom saw Marc, Sue, Bo an Sissy out walkin', she realized there was an extra poo: ME!

"Here's the Crispy Biscuits part: Altho I'd never seen her before, I was like, 'THAT'S MY FUREVER MOMI' I stuck my nose out so she could pat me. An she DID. We Totally Had A Moment. The very next morning, Marc said to Mom, 'Ummm, I wonder whether you'd like to adopt Maggie?' An Mom said, 'YESSS! Muddy Paws an all!' An just like that I hadda Furever Home."

"What a Wonderful Tail, Miss Maggie!"

"I KNOW! Mom says it's a WinWin-Win: She got a bew-dee-ful new compan-yun (ME); Marc, Sue an my Besties Bo an Sissy can visit any time; an I got my Furever Mom. Full disclosure, I love bein' a (slightly) Spoiled Only Dog.

"An about that Muddy Paws Thing: It still happens, of course, but Mom found this uh-MAY-zing Muddy Dog Feet Cleaner thingy that looks like a toilet bowl brush inna plastic can with water in it.

"Now, whenever I get Muddy Paws, I go right to Mom on the PADio; she holds the thingy an helps me stick one paw

### atta time in it an whoosh it around. It only tickles a liddle bit an WAAA-LAAA, no more Muddy Paws. Here, I'll show you!"

She demonstrated. It worked! An it totally did look like a toilet bowl brush.

"Tell me about your pooch pals. An what you do for fun," I suggested.

"Paws Down, my fave thing's chasin' ducks. I never catch 'em, tho. An playin' ball! An chewin' my stuffy chipmunk an my pink rubber squeaky pig. I have tons of pooch pals at the Dog Park. An I love takin' classes at Elite Training. Even though it's school, it's WAY FUN.

"Bo, Sissy an Bear are my Besties, but, over at Bo an Sissy's house there's also Pickles an Stella. Before them, I didn't know there were pets who weren't dogs. Did you? Pickles is a Cockatoo; that's a fancy bird with feathers instead of fur. Stella's a big cat. First cat I ever knew. Have you ever met a cat? They're miss-TEERY-us. I think she likes me but I'm not totally sure.

"At night, I snuggle in Mom's nice big cozy bed. Mom has a liddle corner an I stretch out in the rest cuzza my long legs. I'm such a fortunate grrrl, Mr. Bonzo."

The hour had raced by. Headin' home, I was thinkin' how Muddy Paws had led Maggie to her Furever Mom. I guess The Universe has a sense of Humor. Till next time,

The BONZ

# Don't Be Shy

We are always looking for pets with interesting stories.

To set up an interview, email bonzothecolumnist@gmail.com.

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