

Training Service Dogs For Veterans

Scrapbook 2018

DECEMBER

Annual Christmas Luncheon

YOU ARE INVITED Dog's For Life, Inc. Annual Christmas Luncheon



Please join us

Sunday, December 9th, 2018 11:30 am

Pointe West Country Club 7500 14th Lane SR 60 West Vero Beach Vero Beach, FL 32966

Please RSVP to office@dogsforlifevb.org or call (772) 567-8969

No Gifts Please ~ Christmas Cards Appropriate







Veterans Voice

VOL. 7/ISSUE 7 • THURSDAY • DECEMBER 20, 2018

VETERAN VOICE . DECEMBER 20, 2018 . 5

CALENDAR

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Dogs For Life Holiday Schedule

Dec. 25: In observance of Christmas Day our office will be closed Tuesday Jan. 1: In observance of the New Year's Day our office will be closed Tuesday

If you have a dog, bear in mind that the holidays can be stressful on everyone, including our dogs. Be aware of how much activity your dog is being exposed to and the differences in his or her environment if you will be having guests. Make sure your dog has a way to get away from the holiday "fun" in your home.

The DFL Off-Leash Dog Park will remain open as usual. Enjoy the holidays and stay safe

President Bush Tribute

Getting Social

Even In Passing, George W. H. Bush's Service Dog Sully Stays By His Side



"Mission Accomplished," Bush Spokesperson Jim McGrath said when he posted the photo to Twitter.

Dogs For Life Celebrates Veterans Day At Memorial Island

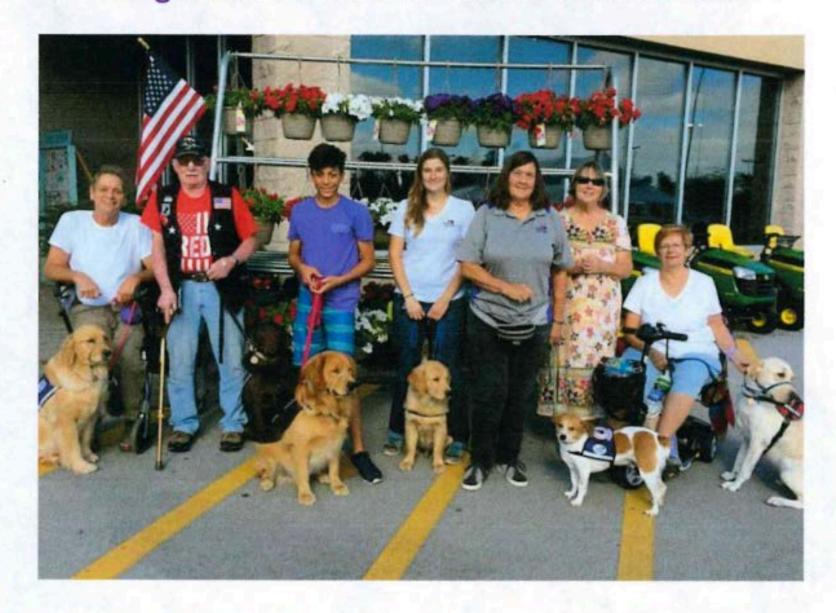


USMC Veteran Richie Keller Represents Dogs For Life At Marine's Ball



Veteran Marine Richie Keller, along with his amazing service dog Gigi, represented Dogs For Life at the Marine's Ball Last month.

Dogs For Life Service Teams Visit Lowe's



Each month, Dogs For Life service teams take the show on the road, practicing their training in a public environment.

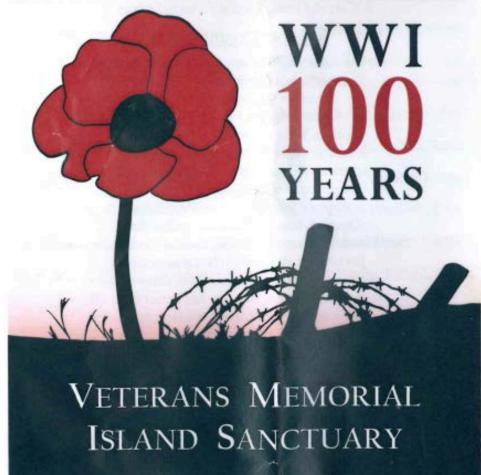


Dogs For Life is feeling grateful for our Foster Dog Families. Thank you Tyler. We see St. Cloud is in good company!

NOVEMBER



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



VERO BEACH, FLORIDA



They were there when WENEEDED THEM. We are here when THEY NEED US.

We thank our community partner



Your donations serve veterans in Indian River County.

WWW.HELPIRCVETS.ORG

Veterans Council of IRC is a non-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(3)(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.





Dogs For Life attended the United States Marine Corps 2018 Birthday Ball this past weekend on Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Vero Beach Elks Lodge, Thank you Richie & Gigi and Bernice Keller for representing DFL.

Visit Our Facebook Page For More

President George H. W. Bush Took His Service Dog "Sully" To The Polls To Vote!

President George H. W. Bush took his service dog "Sully" to the polls with him as he placed his votes.

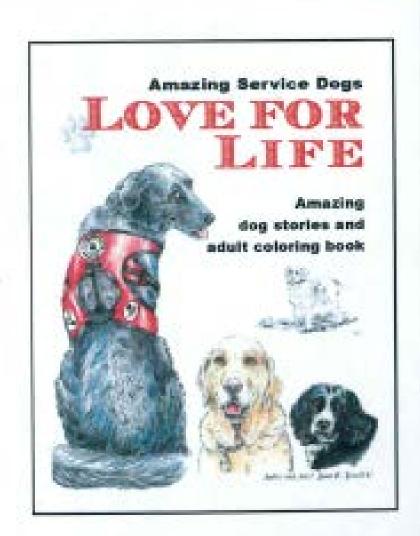
Read More Here



Artist Janet Tyrell Creates Amazing Adult Coloring Book Featuring DFL Service Dogs

Janet Tyrrell, artist and friend to Dogs For Life, created this beautiful adult coloring book, featuring DFL Service Dogs.. Available on AMAZON with proceeds to Dogs For Life, Inc. ~ enjoy.

Read More Here





THANK YOU to everyone who came out in support of Dogs For Life's Howl-O-Ween Pawrade, and to those who sponsored the event as well.

It was such a fantastic event, and we're already looking forward to see what costumes you guys cook up for next year's Pawradel

Getting Social

Dogs For Life Attends United State Marine Corps.2018
Birthday Ball



United States Marine Corps 243rd Birthday Ball



November 3, 2018
Indian River Detachment
Marine Corps League

Dogs For Life Mission

A non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people and veterans, through training hearing/service dogs, and owning an off-leash dog park.









Dogs For Life's Veterans Training Veterans program introduces veterans to what is involved in training service dogs to assist other veterans with hearing, mobility, or psychiatric disabilities. Dogs For Life is preparing the veterans in our program to help pave the way for the next generation as well as past generations that have served our country and are now looking for faithful dogs to fill their needs.

Training Center and Off-Leash Dog Park 1230 16th Avenue - Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 567-8969



December 3, 2018

Dogs for Life 1230 16th Ave Vero Beach FL 32960

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for your donation of \$500.00 for 2018. December 15, 2018 will be our next National Wreaths Across America Day, when we coordinate with groups all over the country to Remember those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom, Honor all who serve, and Teach future generations about their heroism.

This generous contribution will allow us to carry on our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach.

Wreaths Across America is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization tax ID# 20-836-2270. Your charitable deduction can be counted to the full extent allowed by law. Always consult your tax professional. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.

I welcome you to explore our website to learn more about the many ways Wreaths Across America works to fulfill our mission: Remember. Honor. Teach. Find us at www.wreathsacrossamerica.org.

Thank you again for your caring tribute to America's fallen heroes.

Sincerely,

Karen Worcester Executive Director

- Karen Warcester



Dear Mr. & Mrs. Schumens,

Thank you very much for your

generous 200, or shock donation to

Dogo For Life. Shelly in Istantic; &

well as stry and pour members!

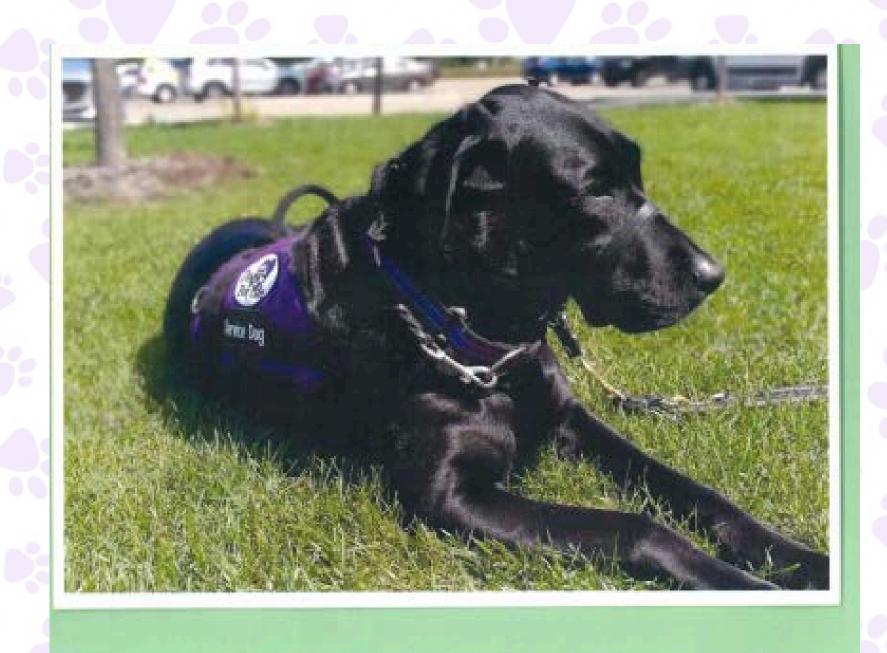
with your generosity and the determination

and drine of Dogo For Life, many

lives will continue to be paned.

Find bless buth of you.

Michelle Dile.



JOHN AND KATHI,

I'M SURE YOU ARE AWARE THAT

DEL COULDN'T CONTINUE ITS ONGOING

MISSION WITHOUT YOUR FINANCIAL

SUPPORT.

T JUST WANTED TO TAKE A MOMENT
TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS

DONATION THIS MONTH AND FOR

EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR D.F.L.

BECAUSE OF YOUTZ SUPPORT, DELCLIEUTS

HAVE A BIGGET WORLD AU ALLABGETO THEM

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AUT RICHARLLIVES. ALL THE BEST TO YOU AND

YOU'R FAMILT! MARK

Treasue Coast Pilots Club

P.O. Box 7280 Vero Beach FL 32961-7280

Dogs for Life 1230 16th Ave. Vero Beach FL 32960

Dear Pilot Friends:

On behalf of the numerous organizations and individuals served by Treasure Coast Pilot Club, I would like to thank you for your recent donation to sponsor Autumn in the Park.

The October 6 - 7, 2018 event at Riverside Park, Vero Beach, will mark the 31th anniversary of this juried arts and crafts show that features jewelry, plants, crafts, pottery and fine art. As one of two major fundraisers for Treasure Coast Pilot Club, the proceeds are used to fund memory care bracelets for the Alzheimer & Parkinson Association, college scholarships, and financial assistance for homeless services, postage to ship homemade cookies to deployed troops, early childhood education, Special Equestrians and others. Your generous donation will touch the lives of many.

Your commitment to helping our local community is sincerely appreciated.

Cordially,

Wendy Freshley, President

In accordance with IRS policy, please note that this correspondence is also to inform you that we have not provided you with any goods or services in exchange for this contribution. The Treasure Coast Pilot Club is a 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Service Code, EIN #51-0242733. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling (800) 435-7352 within the state.

Howl-O-Ween Coverage

60

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly™

PETS



Bonz howls at pooches' priceless Pawrade duds

Hí Dog Buddies!

One of the most Cool Dog Biscuits events on my busy social schedule is the Dogs for Life Howl-O-Ween Pawrade. I look forward to it cuz I get to yap with a buncha you poocheroos, and check out your pawsome costooms. Me, I always attend cleverly disguised as a Springer Spaniel.

This year, like always, you pooches brought your costoom A-game. Dogs for Life is inna shady, leash-free dog park with a special building where humans train rescue dogs for Very Important Jobs: helping humans, 'speshly sol-jures, with Serious Problems, like if they can't hear too well or get around too well, or if they're duh-pressed or sad and need a Faithful Companion. Stuff like that.

Anyway, there were a couple hundred humans, an 45 costoom pawrade entries. First off was a demonstration by a Sheriff's K-9 team, a big, serious pooch officer an his human partner, which aling red antiers was hanging out in the shade with a black Standard Poo. I introduced myself.

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"This is my pooch pop, Roger. We're
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players, Anglique Kerber an Roger Federer. We don't play tennis ourselves,
though. We just chase TENus balls."

"Cool Kibbles," I replied, making a mental note to get her number.

"Guess what, Mr. Bonzo," a teeny Chiweenie piped up. (That's what a Chihuahua-Dachshund's called. Who knew?) "I'm Isabella Chapman. I'm a PIErat. See? My Mom, Sunny, made our costooms. Aren't they Crispy Dog Biscuits?"

"The crispiest!" I said. Isabella was head to toe pie-rat, with red headscarf, pie-rat hat, gold hoop earring, cutlass at her side, a peg leg, and her "signature" sunglasses.

I was happy to see several rescue pooches an service dogs in the bunch. One of 'em, a brindle greyhound rescue named Lacy Reynolds, was all decked out in red, white an blue. Golden Retriever GeeGee was trained as service



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"Keepin' that pooch culture," I replied, with a Paws-Up.

Another Yellow Lab, Good Girl, managed to look totally graceful in a white tulle skirt. "I'm a princess," she told me.

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"Sure thing, Oscar." I noticed Oscar was dressed as an elephant. Big ears, trunk an all, It was adorable an hilarious.

"Well, since I look like an elephant," he said seriously, "I'm afraid I might accidently scare somebody. I don't want anybody to think I'm gonna squash 'em or anything."

"That is very conscientious of you, Oscar, but, honestly, I wouldn't worry," I assured him. "I think your friendly, nonthreatening doganality definitely shines through. Just resist the urge to trumpet and you'll be fine."

The costume that made me laugh most was Woody the dashchund, dressed up like a Tootsie Roll. He was the perfect shape, an he was Totally Workin' It, havin' a ball, summoning up his Inner Tootsie Roll.

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I even had a brief yap with K-9 Officer Falko, a German Shepherd/Malinois mix an, guess what? He says we can schedule an INNERview. I'm stoked!

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"Pawsome!" I said.

Roxie Fermato, a Golden Retriever, also wore a cowdog costoom, an also looked Super Adorable.

A pretty, white Standard Poodle wear-

dog right there at Paws For Life. She was wearin' a hot dog costoom, complete with bun, mustard an relish! It ackshully made me a liddle hungry.

Another cool kibbles Golden was JACC, who was dressed as a lifeguard. I asked about his inner-sting name.

"You say it like 'Jack,'" he explained. "I'm named for a big sports center at a school in Indiana called No-der Dame. The center's named for a human called Mr. Joyce. One of the sports there is swimming."

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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.

ONE have ON arm Flearts for Cold Of loses! ● Dr. Randy Divine ● Dr. Patty Shockency ● Dr. Robert Alonso ●

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Multiple Pet Discounts



Vero Beach 32963 / October 25, 2018

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly

PEOPLE

Costumed canines charm at Howl-O-Ween Pawrade

BY SAMANTHA ROHLFING BAITA Staff Writer

Cool water was the beverage of choice among participants in the 17th annual Dogs for Life Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade and Pet Expo last Saturday afternoon at the fouracre DFL Off-Leash Dog Park and Training Facility. Human volunteers kept the many water bowls continually





PHOTOS: DENISE RITCHIE





WE'VE GONE SOUTH

JUST FOUR BLOCKS • 2905 CARDINAL DRIVE

NEW SPACE AND NEW ARTISTS

filled during the popular, free event; the nonprofit's signature fundraiser, which draws hundreds of humans and their pets.

For 364 days a year, the facility serves a serious, important purpose - training certified service dogs for the hearing- and mobility-impaired, including veterans with PTSD and other challenges. Instructors also teach veterans how to train other service dog

But Saturday it was all about fun and a whole lot of creativity.

Pawrade participants ranged from retrievers and greyhounds to handy,



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Dogs For Life Administration, Training Center and Off-Leash Dog Park 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960-3769 (772) 567-8969 • www.dogsforlifevb.org



Thank you for your membership!



Place Stamp Here



1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960-3769

OFF-LEASH DOG PARK

Bonz howls at pooches' priceless Pawrade duds

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Heading home, I was thinkin' about how fun the Pawrade had been, an how much Dogs for Life helps pooches AN humans. An picturin' a coupla juicy hot dogs. An droolin' on my notebook again. Rats!

Till next time

The Bonz



OCTOBER



17TH ANNUAL HOWL-O-WEEN-DOG COSTUME PAWRADE & PET EXPO

DFL Off-Leash Dog Park • 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach
October 20, 2018 • Registration 2PM - Pawrade 4PM • FREE & Open to the Public

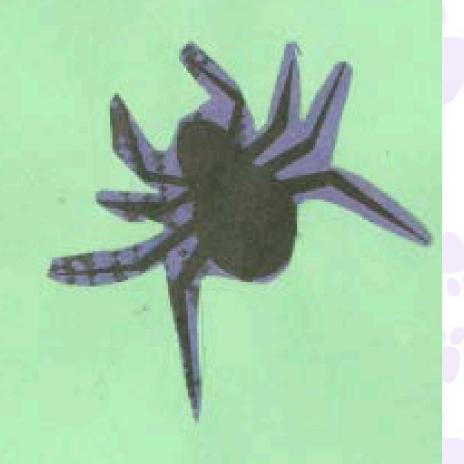


INDIAN RIVER COUNTY I YOUR NEWSWEEKLY I WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018 I 11Y



COMMUNITY EVENTS

■ Dogs for Life presents its 17th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade on Saturday, October 20 at 4 pm at the Off-Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. Over 100 dogs will be dressed in all kinds of fun costumes and everyone will get a prize! This year's raffle items will be better than ever! Hobo Jim will provide live entertainment, and the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration. Bring your dog, lawn chairs and be prepared to have FUN! For information call Shelly Ferger at Dogs For Life (772) 567-8969.



Howl-O-Ween





SEPTEMBER

Get Fido's glad rags on for 17th Howl-O-Ween Pawrade to help match vets with service dogs

Mary Kemper

mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

You will not want to miss the chance to have your pampered pooch strut their stuff at the 17th Howl-O-Ween Pawrade fundraiser at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, Oct. 20.

Held from 2-5 p.m., with the Pawrade held at 4 p.m., it's a chance to dress up your dog and have an afternoon of fun to help DFL team up service dogs with deserving veterans, and train them at no cost to the veteran.

CEO and Founder Shelly Ferger said in her announcement email:

"Come and celebrate our 17th year!

"Over 100 dogs will be dressed in all kinds of fun costumes and everyone will get a prize! This year's raffle items will be better than ever!

"Hobo Jim will provide live entertainment, and the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration.

This event is FREE to the public. Bring your dog, lawn chairs and be prepared to



have FUN!"

Dogs For Life is a certified facility for conventional dog training, as well as service-dog training for the sight, hearing and mobility impaired.

But its veteran service dog program not only trains for conventional disabilities, but also for PTSD. The training is extensive and personalized to each veteran.

There have already been so many grateful veterans who have graduated the program, many have chosen to volunteer at DFL, and some have even become employed.

But the program can't be done for free, and fundraisers like the Pawrade help enormously. If you can't make it, consider making a donation – any amount is appreciated.

The fun-filled afternoon will be held at the DFL compound located at 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, in the Off-Leash Heidi, whose owner is Corina Turner of Vero Beach, came to the 16th Dogs For Life 'Howl-O-Ween' fundraiser Oct. 21, 2017, at the DFL complex in Vero Beach. The 17th annual fundraiser will be held Oct. 20 this year to help the DFL match up service dogs with

veterans at no cost.

File photo by Mary Kemper

Dog Park also maintained by DFL. And what the heck dress up yourself, or come in matching outfits with your

if you have any questions or would like additional information please call Shelly Ferger at Dogs For Life at (772) 567-8969, or email office@dogsforlife.

wh.org. or visit www.dogsforlifevb.





Training Assistance Dogs For Veterans

17TH ANNUAL HOWE DOG COSTUME PAWRADE

DFL Off-Leash Dog Park • 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach October 20, 2018 • Registration 2PM - Pawrade 4PM • FREE & Open to the Public

2R I MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 I LUMINARIES + IR I TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

Indian River County

Dogs for Life's 'Pawrade' to include K-9 demonstration

pecial to Treasure Coast Newspa SA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

For 17 years, Dogs For Life has hosted a Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade on its four-acre off-leash dog park at 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach.

On the cover

Lynn Porter and her rescue dog, Baby, at the 2016 Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade in Vero Beach, Photo by Brenda Sposato/For Luminaries

This year's event, which is free and open to the public, is Oct. 20. Registration will start at 2 p.m. with the pawrade at 4 p.m.

The Indian River County Sheriff's Office

conducting a K-9 demonstration, and there will be live entertainment by Hobo Jim and raffle prize drawings

The mission of Dogs For Life is to improve the quality of life for veterans and non-veterans through the training of

hearing and service dogs. Dogs For Life was founded in 2002 by Shelly Ferger and has since been assisting clients with disabilities and managing its off-leash dog park. Programs take place at a 2,400-squarefoot training center adjacent to the park, available by membership to the public for \$100 annually. Dogs must be



Retired U.S. Army Staff Sgt. James Taylor, left, and his PTSD service dog Pla-Pla, with Dogs for Life supporter Kathi Schumann and Dogs For Life CEO/Founder Shelly Ferger holding her dog, Sunny, at the 2016 Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade in Vero Beach. FILE PHOTO BY BRENDA SPOSATO

Dogs For Life turns lives around by providing independence and self-reliance for people who need task-trained service and hearing dogs.

Dogs For Life is certified by Assisbody for organizations training by Assistance Dogs International and edges and is one of five service artifying organizations in Florida lized by the U.S. Department of the Veterans Affairs.

According to the Veterans Affairs, there are more than 1.8 million veterans affairs, and the veterans affairs, to feel nopertal again.

For more information, contact Shelly Ferger, founder/CEO and direction of training programs, at 772-567-there are more than 1.8 million veterans. tance Dogs International, the accreditation body for organizations training service dogs and is one of five service dog certifying organizations in Florida

Veterans Affairs.

Dogs For Life began its first formal veteran dog training program in 2014, when there was a 50 percent jump in inquiries for the program. Many of those inquiring were veterans referred

living in Florida with 415,000 under the age of 65. Over 880,000 live with a disability, and 65 percent are dealing with mental health issues.

In Indian River County, where Dogs For Life is located, there are over 15,000 veterans of whom 2,600 have a service-related disability.

The dogs are trained to assist their owners with challenges such as hearing deficits by alerting to a door knock, a ringing telephone, a smoke alarm, or an alarm clock. Mobility service dogs are task trained to provide stability to a erson who has trouble balancing, rising from a chair, picking up a phone, or retrieving a fallen object.

Service dogs transform the lives of their veteran partners by performing specialized tasks their owners cannot perform without assistance, such as e night terrors and providing comfort; helping a veteran acclimate to crowds and other social situations by creating a "buffer" between the veteran and other people; alerting to panic and anxiety attacks and promoting a sense of calm; and easing safety concerns.

Veterans say their dog helps them to reduce or eliminate medications, abandon suicidal thoughts and, most importantly, to feel hopeful again.







Join us for a "howling" good time!

In the VIP Tent

17th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade

> October 20, 2018 2:00 p.m. Pawrade at 4:00 p.m.

> > Dogs For Life, Inc. Off-Leash Dog Park 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

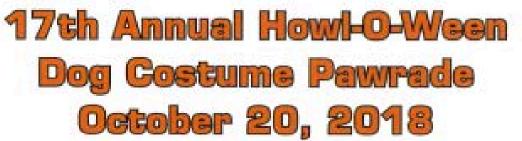
RSVP to 567-8969 or email: office@dogsforlifevb.org

A Special Thank You to this Year's Event Underwriter Sassy Martin





Training Service Dogs For Veterans





Perry J. Martin and Kathi's Golden Girl Sassy

Hobo Jim

Indian River County
Sheriff's Office
K-9 Unit Demonstration

Indian River County
Sheriff's Office
Color Guard

Fabulous Raffle Drawings

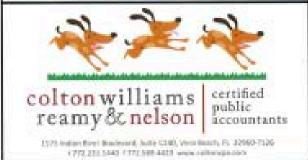


Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park
1230 16th Avenue • Vero Beach, FL 32960 • 772-567-8969 • www.dogsforlifevb.org

\$2,500 and over













VCA Florida Veterinary League



4-H Dog Masters Club



SPONSORS \$500 and over

Clark Computer Services LLC
Golf Carts of Vero Beach
Hobo Jim
I.R. County Sheriff's Office
Image 360
Mark's Painting
Sassy Tetley & Rusty

Mr. Hamilton Indian River Woodcarvers Marine Bank & Trust

Vero Beach Elementary

School

SPECIAL THANK YOU

DFL Volunteers

Boy Scout Troup 513

Vero Beach Veterans

Next Generation









Ocean FM WPSN 97.1 News Radio













Thank You!

You are making a difference in the quality of life for people and dogs right here in Indian River county!



AUGUST



Assistance Dogs International, Inc.

A non-profit coalition of programs training Assistance Dogs

August 30, 2018

INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RICHARD LORD
SHEILA O'BRIEN
DANNY VANCOPPERINOLLE
CABELL YOU'LL

ADI OFFICERS

Richard Lord, President Assistance Dogs Australia PO Box 455 Engadine NSW Australia (Phone) 61 295483355

Danny Vancoppemole, Vice President DYADIS asbl rue Konkel 87/89 BE-1150 Bruxelles Belgium (Phone) 32 2 772 3012.

Peter Gorbing, Secretary
Dogs for Good
The Francis Hay Centre
Blacklocks Hill
Banbury
Oxforshire
OX16 08E
United Kingdom
(Phone) +44 1295 252600

Cabeli Youell, Treasurer Saint Francis Service Dogs 8232 Enon Drive Roanoke VA 24019 (540) 342-3647

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Administrator
chris@assistancedogsintemational.org

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Lynn Hoekstra
Accreditation Coordinator
accreditation@assistancedogsinternatio
nal.org

CONTACT

info@assistanced.cosinternational.org

Dogs for Life, Inc. Shelly Ferger, Executive Director 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Shelly,

On behalf of the Assistance Dogs International Board of Directors, ADI would like to extend our deepest appreciation and thank you to you, your donor, and your board of directors who enabled Dogs for Life to be one of the Title Presenting Sponsors to the 2018 ADI Conference. As you know, the conference was a huge success with over 280 attendees from 13 countries. This conference was the largest in attendance in ADI history!

The education sessions offered were outstanding. ADI was fortunate to have eight guest speakers and 49 ADI members sharing their best practices and experience. The number of ADI members participating demonstrates the commitment to help all our programs provide the best possible service to our clients by providing high quality assistance dogs to give them the independence they deserve.

The enthusiasm and energy generated at the conference has motivated our members to be more engaged and involved with the issues that affect the assistance dog industry around the world. Three work groups have been formed that follow the pillars of our organization: Education, Standards and Awareness. These work groups will continue to work throughout the year to develop action plans with the priorities set by the members.

ADI could not have done this without your support.

Thank you!

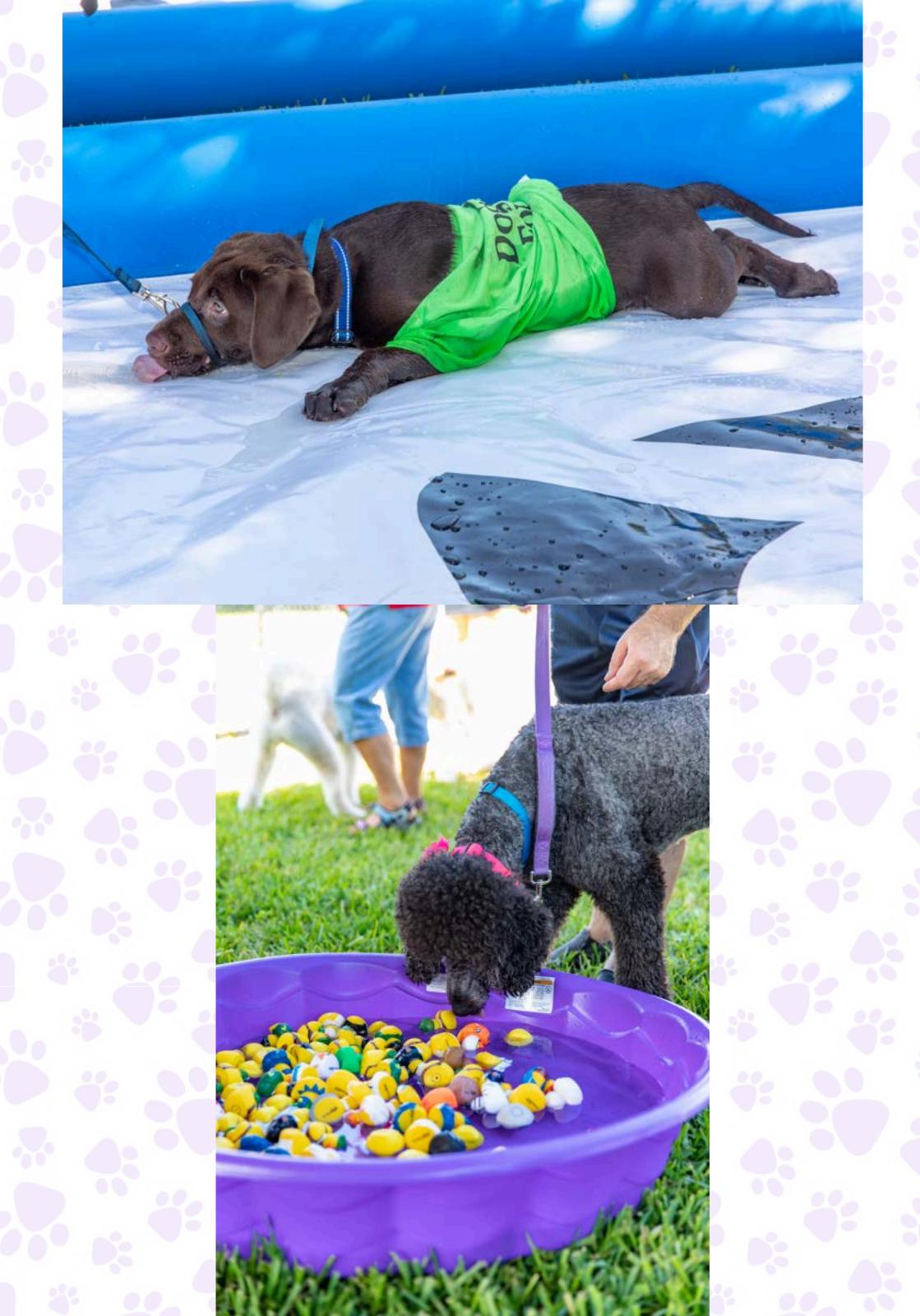
Best regards,

Chris Diefenthaler Administrator RECEIVED

SEP 4 2018

Dog Days of Summer





Mulligans









July 10, 2018

Dogs For Life, Inc. Attn. Ms. Shelly Ferger 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, Fl. 32960

Dear Shelly,

Thank you for your very generous contribution of \$5,000.00 on March 9, 2018 for sponsorship in our annual Veterans Outreach Golf Tournament which raised over \$27,000.00. Sponsorships such as yours enable this success! You stepped up in a meaningful way to assist those who have answered our Nation's call. For that we are truly grateful.

The Veterans Council exists to serve the 15,000 veterans living in Indian River County. Our very first mission was to provide medical transportation to the Veterans Administration Medical Hospital in West Palm Beach. 31 years later we now serve 2,300 riders annually. With such daily use we are reaching the end of life for our two 25 passenger buses with wheel chair access.

All this we can do only because of the excellent support from people like you.

On behalf of the Veterans and the families we serve, thank you for your generosity.

Singerely

Curtis Paulisin, Tournament Chair

First Vice President

Veterans Council of Indian River County, Inc.

Info@Veterans CouncilIRC.org

Office: 772-410-5820

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Disclosure: A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling troll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. Call1-800-HELP-FLA (435-7352) or go to www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com for more information. Our registration number is CH12904.

Tax Exempt EIN: 59-2970832 PO Box 1354, Vero Beach, FL 32961 www.VeteransCouncillRC.org www.facebook.com/VeteransCouncillRC

772-410-5820

JUNE



Join us for a Jubilee in June!

"A No Gift Birthday Lunch"

(Donations to DFL Veteran Dog Training Program)

Celebrating the Birthdays of ...

DFL Founder Shelly Ferger

DFL Director Mark Poziomek & Service Dog Ranger

DFL Assistant Trainer Tracey Higginbotham USMC Retired & Service Dog Tucker

Service Dog Demonstration

Pet a Service Dog Puppy

Good Boy & Good Girl (Golden Retriever Puppies)

Dogs For Life, Inc. Training Center

1230 16th Avenue

June 21, 2018

Noon - 1:30 pm

Please RSVP 772-567-8969 or office@dogsforlifevb.org









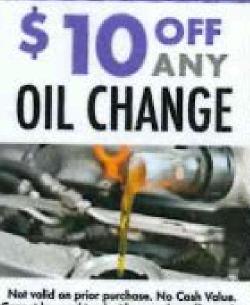


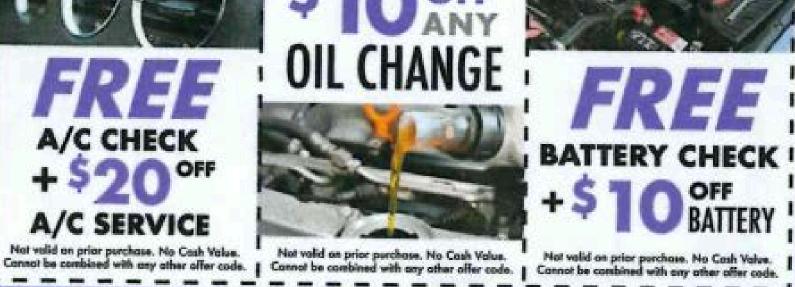
ST. LUCIE BATTERY & TIRE SUPPORTS: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.

Dogs For Life, Inc. was founded to improve the quality of life for people and dogs through the training of service dogs and operating an off-leash dog park.









Call (800) 432-1064 or visit SLBT.com to find the nearest location.



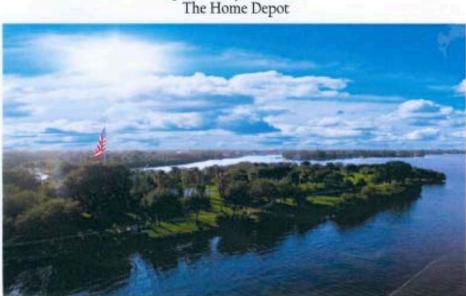
Woman of the Year



Acknowledgements

Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Committee
John Michael Matthews, Chair Joel Herman, Vice-Chair
Barbara Fallon Curtis Paulisin Don Wickstrand
Sylvester McIntosh, Alternate Peggy Lyon McCoy, Alternate

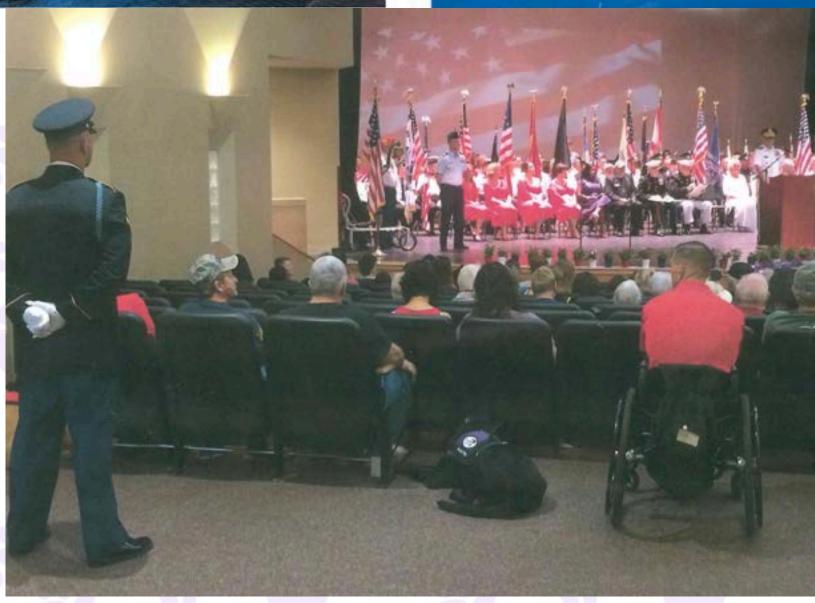
Boy Scouts of America, Troops 513 and 551
Brisance Content Capture
City of Vero Beach City Council
City of Vero Beach Police Department
City of Vero Beach Public Works Department
City of Vero Beach Recreation Department
Civil Air Patrol, Squad Flight 257
Daughters of the American Revolution
Gold Star Mothers, Indian River & St. Lucie Counties
Indian River County Commission
Indian River County Fire Rescue
Indian River County Sheriff's Office
Indian River County Veterans Service Office
International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 2201
Lowes
Masters Academy Fife & Drum Corps
Mike's Garage & Wrecker Service
Military Moms Prayer Group
Palm Garden of Vero Beach
Quail Valley Golf Club



MEMORIAL DAY



May 28, 2018 9:00 AM Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary Vero Beach, Florida



SUNDAY, MAY 27, 2018 I TCPALM, COM

Dealing with PTSD

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, post-traumatic stress disorder can develop after traumatic events, including but not limited to sexual assault, natural disasters, accidents, combat or witnessing death or injury.

Although 7 to 8 percent of the general population will have PTSD in their lifetime, combat veterans are more susceptible, with an estimated 11 to 20 percent of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom veterans, 12 percent of Gulf War veterans and 30 percent of Vietnam War veterans developing PTSD.

Common symptoms of include reliving the event, avoiding situations that remind you of the event, having more negative beliefs and feelings, and feeling keyed up.

For more information and treatment options, visit the following websites:

American Psychiatric Association: www.psychiatry.org

National Alliance on Mental Iliness: www.nami.org

PTSD Alliance: www.ptsdalliance.org

The VA's National Center for PTSD: www.ptsd.va.gov

Wounded Warrior Project: www.woundedwarriorproject.org

Service dogs for veterans

LOCAL

Avatar K-9 Training: www.avatark9.com

Canines 4 Hope Dog Training: www.canines4hope.com

Dogs for Life: https://dogsforlifevb.org

NATIONAL

America's Vet Dogs: www.vetdogs.org

Assistance Dogs International: www.assistancedogsinternational.org

Canine Companions for Independence: www.cci.org

Canines for Service: www.caninesforservice.org

Freedom Service Dogs of America: https://freedomservicedogs.org

Patriot Paws Service Dogs: http://patriotpaws.org

Power Paws Assistance Dogs: https://azpowerpaws.org

Warrior Canine Connection: https://warriorcanineconnection.org

About this story

In February 2016, photojournalist Leah Voss met Marine Lahce Cpl. David Merrill on the day he rescued his service dog, Recon.

Over the next two years, as Voss followed along with a camera, David opened up about his life in the Marines and the challenges of marriage, fatherhood and living with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Semper Fi means "always faithful." For David, finding the constant support from a friendly PTSD service dog was what he needed to achieve peace.

VETS AND PETS

Indian River Community Foundation Grants Awarded

Both Dogs for Life and the Humane Society of Vero Beach & Indian River County were awarded \$50,000 grants from the Indian River Community Foundation's Community Enrichment Fund in February. Dogs for Life provides assistance dog training and certification and also pairs rescued dogs with local veterans suffering from one or more disabling conditions. Since 2015, the organization has served approximately 150 veterans and rescued more than 75 dogs. The Humane Society will use its grant money to purchase and operate a mobile trailer to be used in its efforts to extend its Pet Spot mobile adoption unit and clinic to underserved areas of the community.



Indian River Community
Foundation
5070 N. A1A, Suite 200
772-492-1407
ircommunityfoundation.org

Shelly Ferger of Dogs for Life holding Good Girl, Jeff Pickering of Indian River Community Foundation, U.S. Marine veteran Richie Keller and GiGi VERO BEACH MAGAZINE

> MAY 2018

44

Shelly Ferger

From: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 1:45 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

Subject: Your campaign Rabies alert issued in I.R. Co. has been sent



Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'Rables alert issued in I.R. Co.' was sent on 5/17/2018 around 1:45 PM EDT.

Below is a copy of the message your subscribers received. See how your campaign is doing by visiting Reports in your account to get real-time results and stats.

Subject: Rabies alert Issued in I.R. Co.



Rabies Alert Issued in Indian River County

TC Newspapers reports in today's paper that the Fl. Dept. of Health in I.R. County has issued a rabies alert.

Not to cause unnecessary panic, but a member suggested we notify our members in the event they do not receive the newspaper.

As long as your dog (pets), are up to date on their rabies vaccination; you should not have a concern.

However, if you notice an animal, domestic or wild behaving strangely, or if you are attacked or come in contact with fluids of a potentially rabid animal, you should seek help immediately and contact the Health Department at 772-794-7440.

Do Harry march)! Thank your Kathie, Thank you for you generous gift to allow this gift. Sensper Figureun Want May Jan Walan Short you & Media Schundur Kathi, Thank you so very ventruch much for your dedication to, Veterand and their courses. Thank you for your gentreity to help us surprise Estres and to help start up our new Thank Gan 50 much for elly ands Betty Surfrene

Dearest Kathi,

Thank you from the bottom of our "Gold Star Hearts" for your generosity in sponsoring the cherished "Honor and Remember Flag" for our beloved friend and fellow Gold Star Mother, Esther Wolfer. Esther selflessly serves countless active duty military members, veterans, and fellow Gold Star families. This flag, honoring her fallen son, United States Army Major Stuart Adam Wolfer, who was killed in action in 2008, will have unfathomable meaning in her heart of hearts. Thank you, Kathi, for recognizing the need for this sweet mother to have the "one" flag that honors her son's ultimate sacrifice to our United States of America.

Kathi, please accept our deepest thanks, as well, for the additional funds you gifted to our new chapter! We were all truly touched by your kind and generous thoughtfulness! You have given us a foothold as we begin moving forward in our service to our nation's servants - her veterans, her active duty military, and to our fellow Gold Star Families. Thank you, Kathi, for believing in the efforts of our newly formed "American Gold Star Mothers, Inc., Indian River – St. Lucie County Chapter"!

You, Kathi, have our utmost sincere and deepest gratitude!

Respectfully, together, in service,

Linda Schumann, President – Mother of SPC Jordan C. Schumann, USA, KIA Afghanistan - 07/05/2011

Michelle Dale, Vice President - Mother of CPL Dale J. Kridlo, USA, KIA Afghanistan - 11/07/2010

Pam McNair, Secretary - Mother of SPC Andre' D. McNair, USA, KIA Afghanistan - 06/05/2008

Karen Zook, Treasurer - Mother of Cpl Ian T. Zook, USMC, KIA Iraq - 10/12/2004

Esther Wolfer, Historian - Mother of MAJ Stuart A. Wolfer, USA, KIA Iraq - 04/06/2008

Roma Anderson, Member - Mother of Lt. Col. Joseph T. McCloud, USMC, KIA Iraq - 12/04/2006

Mary Salerno, Member - Mother of LCpl Anthony Salerno, USMC, KIA Vietnam - 05/26/1967

Betty Soufrine, Assoc. Member – Grandmother of PFC Eric Soufrine, USA, KIA Afghanistan – 06/11/2011



A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER ABOUT VETERANS ISSUES, ORGANIZATIONS, EVENTS AND OUR MILITARY HEROES

VETERAN VOICE



Seven service dog teams graduate at DFL's Dogs, Donors and Awards Ceremony Seven dog teams graduate at ceremony

Shelly Ferger

USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

More than 100 friends and guests gathered April 7 at the Dogs For Life Training Center to attend the annual Dogs, Donors & Awards Ceremony.

Richard and Jane Manoogian and Kathi G. Schumann, Dogs For Life board president, received Individual Philanthropist Awards. Corporate Philanthropist of the Year was presented to Jeff and Suzy Gomez of Coast to Coast Landscaping and the Media & Marketing Award was presented to Citrus Three Social Media Marking and Consulting.

Assistance Dog Team of Year went to Jessica Jacobs, Veteran Dog Team of the Year award was presented to Richie Keller and Perry J. Martin. The 2017 Volunteer of the Year award was presented to service dog foster family, Chris, Sheri, Sofie, Joe, Harry and Liberty Taylor.



Devon Williams with Quilts of Valor presents hand crafted, personalized Valor Quilts to each graduating veteran and their dogs. SHELLY FERGER/FOR LUMINARIES

Graduates: Jessica Jacobs and henring dog, River; Army veterans: Al Cabral, and Coco; Joe Sperry and Chlowie; Marine Corps: Mark Eaker and Shadow; Tracey Higginbotham and Tucker; Richie Keller and GiGi; Air Force: Perry J. Martin and Sassy.

Dogs for Live FOR VETERAN VOICE

On April 7, more than 100 friends and guests accompanied seven service dog teams who graduated at the DFL Training Center. This was the largest graduating class ever, and it included six veterans and their service dogs.

Receiving the Individual Philanthropist Awards were Richard and Jane Manoogian and Board President Kathi G. Schumann The Cornorate Philanthropist award was presented to Jeff and Suzy Gomes of Coast to Coast Landscaping.

The Media and Marketing award was presented to Citrus Three Social Media Marketing and Consulting.

Assistance Dog Team of the year award was presented to Jessica Jacobs and River. The Veteran Dog Team of the year award was presented to Richie Keller with Gigi, and Perry J. Martin with Sassy. The 2017 Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Chris, Sheri, Sofie, Joe, Harry and Liberty Taylor for their role

in fostering DFL service dog puppies in

In addition to DFL's mission of providing service dog training to the whole community, it offers specialized training to provide service dogs to veterans free of charge.

DFL's latest program is Veterans Training Veterans, which pairs up veterans with mobility, hearing or PTSD issue with veterans learning how to work with their new service dogs.

To learn more about DFL's missions, or to volunteer or donate, visit dogsforlifevb.org.

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly **

Vero Beach 32963 / April 12, 2018

PEOPLE





Jessica Jacobs with River, Mark Poplomek, Kathi Schumann and Shelly Ferger.



Sheri and Chris Taylor with son Harry.



Col. (Ret.) Derryle "Sorn" Kours, Linda Liex and City Councilman Tony Young.



Kyndell and Kynlee with Good Girl.



Photo courtesy of Dogs For Life

At the recent Dogs For Life Service Training and Awards ceremony, from left, are DFL CEO Shelly Ferger with Richie Keller, USMC veteran and Golden Retriever Gigi, Al Cabral, USA veteran and chocolate Labrador Retriever Coco, Mark Eaker, USMC veteran, Jessica Jacobs and Papillion River, Perry J. Martin, USAF veteran with Golden Retriever Sassy, Tracey Higginbotham, USMC veteran and yellow Labrador Retriever Tucker and DFL Assistant Trainer Cassie Ford.

Your Vere Beach Newsweekly "

Veno Beach 32963 / April 12, 2018

- 3

PEOPLE



Larry Ingham and Lole, Turous Higginkesham and Tasker, Al Cabral and Coop, Perry Martin and Seesp, and Harry Taylor and Cook End Julia will get her real name when the gets a partner).



Japanes, Jacobs with Pilese, Mark Pratierals, Kallid Schamons and Shelly Freger.



She'l and Chris Teylor with oon Harry.



Col. (Ser.) Decyle "Sers" Kours, Linde Lies and City Soundinan Yery Years.



Rysshall and Rysshau with Good Girl.

PEOPLE

Paws-ing to honor many at 'Dogs for Life' awards fete



Mark and Unitary Bakes.

HOUSE MANY SOMEWILL

BIY MARRY SCHROOSE. Blog Tribates

"Taday is a very special day for us at Dogs for Life," said Shelly Ferger, DFL founder. "It's a special day to recognice the denoted dogs, the dedicated donors, the valued volunteers and our special veterana, men and women who have given a part of themselves away fighting for our freedom."

Ferger said that the number of Indion River County veterons applying for service dags has increased from 19 in 2015 to 59 in 2017. Since 2002 DFL has trained 133 service dogs; 44 of those for veterans. They are currently supporting 34 reams, 10 more than last year, and have a wait-list of 18; 18 who are

one year, applicants learn to commumicate with their dog, they learn how to obedience-train and to task-train their dog," said Ferger.

The dogs are eventually certified to perform an extensive variety of tasks, all guared arward belging people live independently. Examples Include: alerting to a door knock, smoke alarm, alansu clock or velephone ringing; helping people balance on their feet or pulling them from a chair; tapping 911 emergency canine phones and handicap door buttons; helping owners suffering from anxiety, depression or panic attacks to feel safe in unpredictable environments; and waking owners from nightmanes.

"Because of you there has never been a charge to our clients," Ferger told "Over a period from six mostles to the reconful of donors and supporters

packing the organization's Training Censer, noting that the estimated cost vuries but averages \$18,000 for one year of unining.

Service team graduates were presented with ID cards, certificates of training and Service Dog vests, which were swapped out for the dogs' previges in-tenining vests.

"I want to assure you that everything

we're doing here is 100 percent by the book. We would not be accredited by Assistance Dogs International if we did not do it right," said Feeger. "When you have a dedicated person and you have the right dog, it works out to be a beau-

At the conclusion of the graduation ceremony. Devon Williams and CONTINUED ON PAGE 36





Dear Graduates; Sorry I can't be You've proven there to Congratulate you've got what it takes you all in person. to meet challenges, overcome abstacles. I am wishing all my and pursue excellence 2 legged and 4 legged to fulfill a dream. friends all the Best of everything. Congratulations on your well-deserved success. Happy Days to all with affection Thanks for the invite

Quilts of Valor

Vero Beach 32963 / April 12, 2018



Richie Keller and GiGi with Casey Taksa and daughter Lilly.



Devon Williams and Christal Dedmon.

At the conclusion of the graduation ceremony, Devon Williams and

Christal Dedmon of the nationwide Quilts of Valor Foundation, which has donated close to 184,000 quilts to active service members and veterans since its 2003 founding, presented hand-made quilts to the veteran graduates and their dogs.

2017 DFL Awards were presented to: Richard and Jane Manoogian – Kathi G. Schumann Award; Kathi Schumann – Individual Philanthropist Award; Jeff and Suzi Gomez – Corporate Philanthropist Award; Curtis Carpenter & Dustin Tackett – Media Marketing Award; Jessica Jacobs and River - Service/Hearing Dog Team Award; Richie Keller and GiGi and Perry Martin and Sassy -Veterans Dog Team Awards; and the Chris Taylor Family - Volunteer of the Year Award.

The 2018 Team Graduates were:
Al Cabral, U.S. Army and Coco; Mark
Eaker, U.S. Marine Corps and Shadow; Tracey Higginbotham, U.S. Marine Corps and Tucker; Jessica Jacobs
and River; Richie Keller, U.S. Marine
Corps and GiGi; Perry Martin, U.S.
Air Force and Sassy; and Joe Sperry,
U.S. Army and Chlowie.

Graduation Ceremony









Clay Shooting Tournament

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY # YOUR NEWSWEEKLY # WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018 # 13Y

Foundation holds clay shooting tournament

John McIntosh YourNews contributor

VERO BEACH -- The American Security Council Foundation recently held its first Sporting Clays Tournament at Blackwater Creek Ranch.

Sponsors of the event included MBV Engineering, Boston Private, Dogs For Life, George E. Warren Corporation, Linus Cadillac, Dill & Evans, P.L. Wilke's 14 Bones, Einstein Bagels, Donut Circus, and James W. Betancourt DMD PA.

Funds raised will benefit the educational program "Step Up America: A



Some of the winners at the American Security Council Foundation Sporting Clays Tournament. PROVIDED BY JOHN MCINTOSH

Call To Good Citizenship" which was created by the ASCF.

Shelly Ferger

Adrian Garcia <agarcia@ascfusa.org> From: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 9:47 AM Sent:

Shelly Ferger To:

RE: SHOOTING FOR AMERICA Subject:

The date and time is perfect. We will see you then!

Best regards,

-Adrian

Adrian Garcia **Engagement Coordinator** (Office) 772-388-2490 (Cell) 772-777-9726



American Security Council Foundation Promoting Peace Through Strength* www.stepupamericaprogram.com facebook.com/StepUpUSA

From: Shelly Ferger [mailto:office@dogsforlifevb.org]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 9:44 AM

To: Adrian Garcia

Cc: Shelly Ferger Subject: RE: SHOOTING FOR AMERICA

Hi Adrian,

The President of our Board Mrs. Kathi Schumann is pleased to accept your plaque of appreciation at 2:00 on Tuesday March 20.

Please confirm this date and time is agreeable to you.

If you need directions or additional information, please do not hesitate to let me know.

MARCH

Indian River County

Indian River Community Foundation celebrates 10 years

Jeff Pickering
For Luminaries
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Indian River Community Foundation is 10 years old.

The organization celebrated this milestone with a 10th Birthday Luncheon at the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

Highlights of the luncheon included testimonials from Gifford Youth Achievement Center and St. Francis Manor, a Spirit of Philanthropy award presented to John and Kathi Schumann; keynote remarks from wealth legacy coach and author Kristen Heaney; birthday cake and some "school spirit" courtesy of the Vero Beach High School Band's drumline, also known as the "Pride of the Treasure Coast."

Since its establishment in 2008, the foundation has consistently ranked among the fastest growing new community foundations in the country. By the end of 2018, it will have recorded more than \$100 million in philanthropic contributions.

"While this may not be a surprise given the generosity of our community's residents, it is an impressive total for such a young community foundation that began with \$1 million in start-up capital from 52 founders," said Jeff Pick-



Indian River Community Foundation
President Jeff Pickering, left, with
John and Kathi Schumann, recipients
of the Spirit of Philanthropy award.
PHOTOS BY MAUREEN NICOLACE/FOR LUMINARIES



Pat Hemingway Hall, left, and Sandy Rolf.

ering, president and CEO.

Beyond growing, the Community Foundation has done a lot of good for the local community and beyond. In recent years, the organization has topped



Mary Graves, left, Kerry Bartlett and Shotsi Lajoie.

the list of the most active grant-makers among all U.S. community foundations. By the end of 2018, the Community Foundation will have awarded more than \$50 million in grants, 80 percent of which support Indian River County charities.

"Since most of the Community Foundation's grants are awarded from donor advised funds, these statistics really demonstrate the generosity of our clients," said Pickering.

"I consider the Community Foundation as a valuable resource to living donors," said Neill Currie, the foundation's board chair. "We help our clients find comfort that they are making the wisest choices with their charitable dollars."

As a testament to how comfortable clients are with its mission and ser-



Bob Puff, left, and Rick McDermott.

vices, more than 40 individuals and families have already chosen to entrust Indian River Community Foundation with their charitable legacy by making a planned gift from their estates. The Community Foundation's Alma Lee Loy Legacy Society honors these generous commitments, and represents a sacred obligation to use this philanthropic capital for good, forever.

"As for the future, Indian River Community Foundation will continue to grow by helping generous people to simplify their donations and give to the causes they love through donor advised funds, "said Pickering." If we do this job well, more people will be inspired to work with us to create and leave a charitable legacy to support the causes they care about forever through permanent endowments. We are off to a good start, and believe it can only get better."

Shelly, we are in owe of your commitment to helping our new Indian River-St. Lucie County Chapter of american. Hold Star mothers, for with your help ine are able to fulfill the wish of our member, Ester Wolfer, to receive an Honor and Remember of her son, Mag I thank a. Wolfer's, ultimate sacrifice to our country; as well as, be able

Start our newly formed Clapter.

Thirt you from the bottom of our hearts.

Michelle Dale (Love four! XX00)

Karen Zook - Thank you so much!

Ohank You! Pan Market

Linda Schumann Hank You!

Roma lenderson Many Charles & Blining of

Missing cat reunited with owner after 14 years

Maureen Kenyon Treasure Coast Newspapers USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Have you ever wondered what 14 years equals in cat years?

(Hint: It's a really long time.)

For an orange tabby named Thomas Jr. — T2 for short — it's about 72 years, the time it's been since he last saw his owner, Perry Martin, of Fort Pierce.

But because of a microchip, T2 was reunited with Martin last week at the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast.

"When I got the call and someone said, 'What if we told you T2 was alive?' I figured it was a mistake," Martin said. "It was too crazy to believe."

That phone call was from Martin's veterinarian, who, in 2002, had implanted T2 with a microchip. If T2 ever went missing, it would make him easier to identify once he'd been found.

Two years later, after Hurricane Jeanne hit the Treasure Coast, Martin, 60, moved in with a friend in Stuart.

Just a few days after settling there, T2 escaped.

"I looked for him, the neighbors looked for him, but no one could find him," he said.

Martin filed a missing-cat report with the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast.

"With him being microchippped, I figured someone would find him and call me," he said.

But that didn't happen and Martin assumed the worst: T2 had mot his fate on Kanner Highway.

"I got done grieving and moved back home," Martin said.

Since T2's escape, Martin had moved twice, once to Ohio and then back to Fort Pierce.

"I just went on about my life," he said. "I guess T2 did, too, because who would have thought that after 14 years, you'd find your lost cat?"

But that's what happened March 9.

A Martin County Animal Services officer found the orange tabby as a stray and took him to the nonprofit shelter in Palm City. A six ple wave of a wand near T2's shoulder lades quickly identified the microchly a unique ID, giving the shelter all the information it



Thomas Jr., or T2, sits with his owner, Perry Martin, of Fort Pierce, after being reunited after 14 years at the Humane Society of the Treasure Coast. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO FROM DOREEN PORESA

needed to find the cat's owner.

Deidre Huffman, shelter adoption manager, said staff was shocked when it found out T2 had been missing for 14 years.

"It's a crazy amount of time for a cat to be gone," she said. "No one took him to a vet to be scanned and no one reported that they had found him.

"Thankfully, he finally was found and brought to us. He was chipped and his owner's information was up to date."

That's the best — and most important — part about T2's adventure.

"Having a collar with a tag is a great first line of defense, but they come off," Huffman said. "Chips do not. It links you to the animal for the pet's life."

For Martin, a retired canine officer with the Fort Pierce Police Department, making sure his animals working and personal — had microchips was second nature.

See CAT, Page 27A

Cat

Continued from Page 26A

"If you care about your pet, chip 'em," he added. "Update your phone number and address, because if you don't, it's all a waste."

Each microchip, typically implanted between an animal's shoulder blades, is embedded with a unique identification number, said Janet Winikoff, director of education at the Humane Society of Vero Beach & Indian River County.

When a chipped animal is scanned with a wand, the wand beeps and the ID number is displayed, she said.

The microchips are passive transponders.

"We can tell from the ID number who the manufacturer is and if the microchip is registered," she said.

If the microchlp isn't registered, the manufacturer still can find out who purchased it, such as a veterinarian or an animal shelter.

Microchip's are inexpensive, usually \$15-\$40, and are implanted quickly, Winikoff said.

"To have that insurance that your pet will always be able to be ID'd is so important," she said.

Statistics prove microchlps work,

The chances of a microchipped dog being found and returned to its owner rise from 25 percent to 50 percent, said David Lynch, Port St. Lucie shelter manager with the Humane Society of St. Lucie County. For cats, it's 2 percent without a chip vs. 25 percent with one.

"Pets are our family," he said.

"People sometimes spend months looking for their lost animal. Microchips make it so much easier for everyone."

The humane societies in Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin counties implant microchips and register them, but some shelters and veterinarians leave it up to pet owners.

That's why it's critical to register a microchip with its manufacturer and update personal information such as a new phone number or home address, Winikoff said.

Contacting the pet's veterinarian and local humane societies and shelters with updated information is a good idea, too.

It's also important that if someone finds a stray animal to take it to a lo-



T2 in 2002, the year Perry Martin, of Fort Pierce, found him as a stray in his neighborhood. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO BY PERRY MARTIN

cal shelter that has a universal scanner. Universal scanners have the most up-to-date technology to find and scan most microchips, Winikoff added.

"Pets don't carry wallets with ID, so anything you can do to get your pet home, you want to try everything possible," she said.

Martin is happy T2 is home, but wonders how the cat spent the last 14 years.

"Could you imagine if he could talk for just 15 minutes to tell us what he's been through?" Martin asked. "He'd probably say, "Why did you keep the door shut, Dad?"

Martin said he would like to think T2 lived with a family.

"I just can't imagine him living in the wild," he said. "But I guess it's possible."

T2 is still in rough shape.

At first, the cat wouldn't eat or drink and slept most of the day. But over the past few days, Martin said, T2 finishes his food and drinks water and is beginning to remember him.

"I will make sure he's comfortable for the rest of his time here," he said. "He's still skin-and-bones and he's 18 years old, but he's still T2."

Maureen Kenyon is TCPalm's trends reporter, keeping Treasure Coast residents updated on hot topics and happenings. Do you have a story to tell? Want to start a conversation? Send an email

maureen.ksnyon@tcpalm.com, cull 772-221-4249 or follow her on Twitter @_MaureenKenyon_.

Shelly Ferger

From:

Shelly Ferger

Sent:

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 2:39 PM

To:

chaplain@legionmail.org

Cc:

Shelly Ferger

Subject:

Hi Barry

Hi Barry,

Just wanted to say how happy we were with the turnout last night at the American Legion.

And, I hope we find some kind of opportunity to partner in the future. As I said, currently we only operate inside IR Co., but several Veterans come to us from St. Lucie county for training which can take up to a year. So it's a commitment.

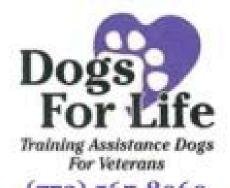
Perhaps in the future as we grow we'll head north. We currently Partner with Brevard Co. Sheriff's Office paws & strips so there is hope.

Warmly,

P.S. I was very impressed with your presentation at Veterans Memorial Island. Very moving and inspirational.

Shelly

Shelly Ferger, Founder/CEO & Director of Training Programs



(772) 567-8969 www.office@dogsforlifevb.org

Training Center • 1230 16th Avenue • Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Please consider including Dogs For Life, Inc. in your will, trust or other estate plans



March 13, 2018

Kathi Schumann 8225 5th Street SW Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Kathi:

Please accept my personal appreciation and collective thanks of the 15,000 military veterans of Indian River County for your very generous donation toward the future construction of a local monument honoring all those who have served in the ongoing Iraq & Afghanistan conflicts. It is long past due to make that project a reality. Our goal is to dedicate the monument on Veterans Day, November 11, 2019, and we hope you will be our honored guest at the ceremony.

Your actions over the past three years have proven that you have the welfare of our Indian River County Veterans at heart. We do have several ongoing programs to care for those in need, improving their quality of life and helping veterans take care of their families. If you wish to continue your outstanding support, I suggest that a great way to help us would be to host a small gathering of your philanthropic friends in your home. There two or three of our principal officers can present a brief overview on what the Veterans Council does, our future plans and the support we need. If you agree, we will be pleased to arrange for a catering service.

I look forward to our continued relationship; you can reach me reach directly at 772-978-6543.

Very respectfully,

Darryle "Sam" Kouns

Colonel (retired) US Army

President

Veterans Council of Indian River County

Tax Exempt EIN: 59-2970832

PO Box 1354, Vero Besch, FL 32981

772-410-5820

www.VeteransCouncilIRC.org

Indian River County

Community Foundation awards \$50K grants

Jeff Pickering

For Luminaries USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Indian River Community Foundation awarded two competitive grants of \$50,000 each to two animal-related charities serving Indian River County. Both grants were awarded from the Community Enrichment Fund.

The first \$50,000 grant was awarded to Dogs for Life to support the organization's Assistance Dogs for Veterans program. This program rescues dogs from local shelters, pairs them with local veterans suffering from one or more disabling conditions, and provides them with assistance dog certification.

"Since 2015, this program has serviced approximately 150 veterans and has rescued more than 75 dogs from local shelters," said Shelly Ferger, executive director of Dogs for Life. "Something special happens when these animals and veterans come together, and we are grateful for this support."

The second \$50,000 grant was awarded to the Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County to support the organization's Pet Spot Mobile Adoption Unit and Clinic, Grant funding will be used by the organization to pur- dation's grants are awarded by clients



Shelly Ferger, left, with Dogs for Life holding Good Girl, Jeff Pickering of Indian River Community Foundation, with client and U.S. Marine Corps veteran Richie Keller and his dog GiGi. PHOTOS BY MALIREEN NICOLACE/FOR LUMINARIES

chase and operate a mobile trailer, supporting the organization's work in under served areas of Indian River County.

"Last year, we facilitated thousands of pet adoptions in our community," said Michael Mandel, Humane Society executive director, "This mobile outreach program will extend our mission into parts of our community that we have been unable to reach in the past. We are very excited about the potential impact this will make."

While most of the Community Poun-



Humane Society Executive Director Michael Mandel, left, Jeff Pickering of Indian River Community Foundation, **Humane Society Board President Mary** Ryan, and Andy Sowers, board treasurer.

through donor advised funds, Indian River Community Foundation's competitive grant program is made possible through the generosity of anonymous donors to several grant-making funds. These valuable resources support the Community Foundation's mission of building a better community through donor-driven philanthropy.

The Community Foundation was established in 2008 with a mission of building a better community through donor-driven philanthropy. ircommunityfoundation.org for details.



March 1, 2018

Shelly Ferger Dogs For Life, Inc. 1230 16th Ave Vero Beach, FL 32960-3769

Dear Ms. Ferger,

Thank you so much for donating a one-year membership to the off-leash dog park for our 2018 Cause for Paws auction.

Your support of the auction directly affects the animals under our care. The funds raised help us to rescue abused animals, take in abandoned and surrendered animals, and give each one of them the love, care and comfort they so need. Ultimately, after they receive the proper medical treatment and behavioral care, they are ready to be adopted into a loving home. We do this for thousands of animals every year, thanks to friends like you.

On behalf of our entire staff, our Board of Directors, volunteers and especially the animals, thank you for your generous commitment to the welfare of the animals of Indian River County!

Thank you Shelly

Sincerely,

Sara E. Smith

Director of Development

Jan Smot

Shelly Ferger

From: Shelly Ferger

Sent: Thursday, February 22, 2018 9:58 AM

To: Jennifer Downes
Cc: Shelly Ferger

Subject: Gift Certificate & Completed form Attached RE: Cause for Paws

Attachments: HSVB.pdf; gift certificate HSVB 2.18.doc

Hi Jennifer,

I apologize for being tardy. Attached is our Gift Certificate for a 1 year membership to our off-leash dog park and the completed acquisition form.

Please let me know if you need anything else from me.

Warmly,

Shelly

Shelly Ferger, Founder/CEO & Director of Training Programs



(772) 567-8969 www.office@dogsforlifevb.org

Training Center • 1230 16th Avenue • Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Please consider including Dogs For Life, Inc. in your will, trust or other estate plans











Community News

Foundation awards \$100K to animal charities

Jeff Pickering

VERO BEACH -- Indian River Community Foundation awarded two competitive grants of \$50,000 each to two animal-related charities.

Both grants were awarded from the Community Enrichment Fund. The first \$50,000 grant was provided to Dogs for Life to support the organization's Assistance Dogs for Veterans program. This program rescues dogs from local shelters, pairs them with local veterans suffering from one or more disabling conditions, and provides them with assistance dog certifi-

"Since 2015, this program has serviced approximately 150 veterans and has rescued more than 75 dogs from local shelters," said executive director Shelly Ferger. "Something special happens when these animals and veterans come together, and we are grateful for this support."

The second \$50,000 grant was awarded to the Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County to support the organization's Pet Spot Mobile Adoption Unit and Clinic. Grant funding will be used by the or-



Dogs for Life employee/client and Marine veteran Tracey Higginbotham with his dog 'Tucker,' Jeff Pickering of Indian River Community Foundation and Shelly Ferger with Dogs for Life. MAUREEN NICOLACE

ganization to purchase and operate a Indian River County. mobile trailer, supporting the organization's work in under-served areas of of pet adoptions in our community,"

"Last year, we facilitated thousands

said executive director, Michael Mandel. "This mobile outreach program will extend our mission into parts of our community that we have been unable to reach in the past. We are very excited about the potential impact this will make."

While most of the Community Foundation's grants are awarded by clients through donor advised funds, Indian River Community Foundation's competitive grant program is made possible through the generosity of anonymous donors to several grant making funds.

These valuable resources support the Community Foundation's mission of building a better community through donor-driven philanthropy. Indian River Community Foundation was established in 2008 with a mission of building a better community through donor-driven philanthropy.

With assets of more than \$145 million in 160 charitable giving accounts, the Community Foundation and its clients have awarded more than \$47 million in grants, mostly to nonprofit charitable organizations located in Indian River County, Florida.

Visit ircommunityfoundation.org to learn more.

Bridge Tournament











Eleanor Bengyak, Kathi G. Schumann and "Prinz"
Invite You To Support
The 8th DFL "Build A Bridge"
Bridge Tournament
To Help Raise Funds
To Train Service Dogs For Veterans In 2018

Vero Beach Country Club

800 30th St., Vero Beach, FL 32960

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Registration ~ 11:00 A.M. Luncheon ~ 11:30 A.M. Bridge ~ 12:30 P.M.

Masterpoints and Prizes Exciting Silent Auction Items! 50/50 Drawing

SANCTIONED DUPLICATE

Master Points / First Overall Flight A, B & C OR PARTY BRIDGE

> \$85 Bridge/Lunch (\$60 Tax Deductible)

~ Limited Seating ~ Please reply by February 5, 2018

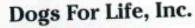
Committee Members:

Eleanor Bengyak Kathi G. Schumann Linda Liss Betty McCalister Sharon McCalister



RSVP MAIL-IN CARD

Please complete and return in enclosed envelope and mail to: Dogs For Life, Inc. 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960



Build A Bridge Bridge Tournament

February 20, 2018

\$85 Per Person (\$60 Tax Deductible)

Please make checks payable to: Dogs For Life, Inc.

Reservations Limited – RSVP by February 5, 2018

Name		
Address	3000	
City	State	Zip
Phone	s Call Eleanor Bengyak: (772) 532-2708
or Doos	For Life at (772) 567-8969	(Continued on back

Dogs For Life, Inc. Bridge Tournament 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

- Duplicate Registration	☐ Party Registration
Ouplicate Partner: Party Partners:	
Amount paid for player(s):	\$
Please consider a donation:	\$
I lead Comment a comment	\$

☐ I am unable to play this year, but want to help Build A Bridge for DFL with the following tax-deductible donation:

Φ_____

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE DETAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-495-755) WITHIN THE STATE, REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, AFFROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE, RECISTRATION FICHIOSSI.

Eleanor Bengyak, Kathi G. Schumann and "Prinz" Invite You To ...

SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, February 12th, 2018 11:00 a.m.





Dogs For Life, Inc.

HAVE A HEART

& Help Build A Bridge

Bridge Tournament

SANCTIONED DUPLICATE OR PARTY BRIDGE

Masterpoints and Prizes Exciting Silent Auction Items 50/50 Drawing

Please mark your calendar for Monday, February 12th, 2018

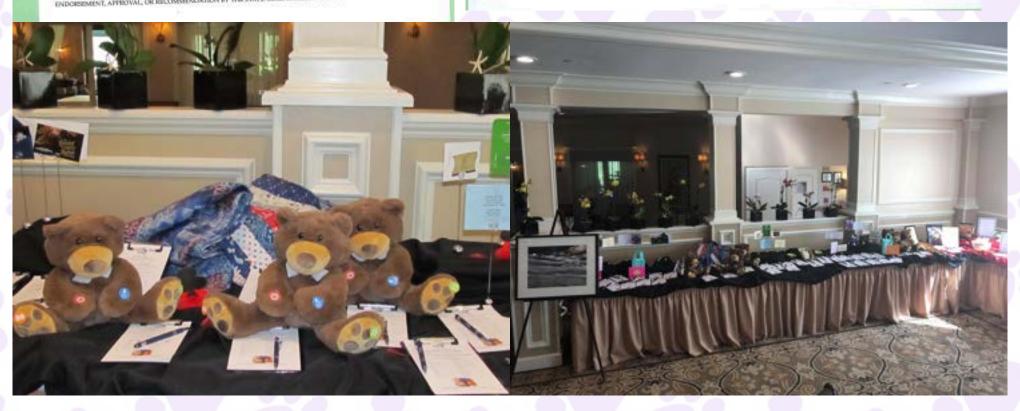
Vero Beach Country Club Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Bridge at 12:30 p.m.

Invite your bridge friends to come help Eleanor Bengyak, Kathi G. Schumann and "Prinz" raise funds to train Assistance Dogs in 2017

For more information call (772) 567-8969



FIRST CLASS US POSTAGE PAID VERO BEACH, FL PERMIT NO. 79



Sheriff Deryl Loar Indian River County Sheriff's Office

February 15, 2018

Dogs for Life, Inc. 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Sponsor:

I would personally like to thank you for being a Helping Hand Sponsor of the 24th Annual Youth Ranches BBQ. Enclosed you will find your tickets to the BBQ. If you haven't done so, I hope you will be able to visit one of the Ranches or visit them on-line at www.youthranches.org to see the wonderful work that is being done with these young people.

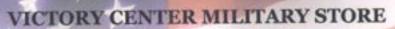
Thank you again for your support and I hope you will come out and enjoy the barbecue on March 7th.

Sincerely,

Deryl Loar, Sheriff

DL/nmj

Enclosures



By Veterans for Veterans











February 17, 2018

The Victory Center Military Store would like to thank Dogs for Life's for your generous financial contribution of \$400.00 in support of our Bowling Event to raise additional monies for our local Veterans. Your gift will be included in our annual distribution of profits to our local Veterans. Again Thank You!

Sincerely

Pete Sayles President

Victory Center Military Store



AMERICAN LEGION- POST 39

1535 OLD DIXIE HIGHWAY, VERO BEACH, FL 32960 Lounge (772) 562-9726 / Office (772) 562-9049

Dogs For Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

RE: 2018 Annual Post 39 Golf Tournament

Dear Sir(s)/Madam(s):

On behalf of the Veterans and members of American Legion Felix Poppell Post 39, I would like to express our gratitude for your support for the 2018 Golf Tournament. The event was very successful, and we expect an even more rewarding one next year.

It is contributions like yours that keep our community strong. With your help, Felix Poppell American Legion Post 39 can continue to provide aid to our Veterans who need assistance and the community programs with which we support.

Once again, thank you very much for supporting The American Legion with your assistance.

Sincerely,

P. Jay Tuller

Commander. Post 39



Certificate of Appreciation

This certificate of appreciation is gratefully presented to Boas For Life

In recognition and sincere appreciation of outstanding service and assistance which contributed to the advancement of The American Legion programs and activities dedicated to God and Country.

Felix Poppell	American Legion Post 39	
Department of	Florida	

Attest:

10 February 2018

Date

Pommande

Community Foundation Awards \$50,000 Grants to Dogs for Life, Humane Society

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

LEAVE A COMMENT





ndian River Community Foundation awarded two competitive grants of \$50,000 each to two animal-related charities serving the Indian River County community. Both grants were awarded from the Community Enrichment Fund.

The first \$50,000 grant was awarded to Dogs for Life to support the organization's Assistance Dogs for Veterans program. This program rescues dogs from local shelters, pairs them with local veterans suffering from one or more disabling conditions, and provides them with assistance dog certification. "Since 2015, this program has serviced approximately 150 veterans and has rescued more than 75 dogs from local shelters," said executive director Shelly Ferger. "Something special happens when these animals and veterans come cogether, and we are grateful for this support."

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nttps://ircommunityfoundation.org/community-foundation-awards-50000-grants-dogs-life-humane-society/

3/2/2018



February 12, 2018

Dogs For Life Attn: Shelly Ferger 1230 16th Ave Vero Beach, FL 32960

To Shelly,

Thank you for your generous support of Indian River County veterans for 70's Prom Night at Walking Tree Brewery. You have stepped up in a meaningful way to assist those who have answered our Nation's call. For that we are truly grateful.

The event was a great success for us as we were able to engage with our community in a positive and fun way, while still raising funds for local veteran support. We filled Walking Tree with participants in costume and the music and events went extremely well.

Your donation of \$500.00 on 1/22/2018 will be used to support the mission of the Veterans Council of Indian River County, a registered 501(c)(3). Our Upward American Veterans Program provides veterans with emergency basic living expenses, often keeping veterans from getting evicted or having the lights shut off. Our Transportation Program gets them to and from medical appointments locally and at the V.A. Medical Center in West Palm Beach. Additionally, our Veterans Outreach Program utilizes a wide network of veterans' organizations and auxiliary members allowing us to connect veterans to resources throughout the county. All this we can do only because of the excellent support from people like you.

We are proud of our county and all that our community does for our local veterans and we are proud to be in contact with you. On behalf of the veterans and the families we serve, thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely.

Capt. Doy Demsick Program Manager

Veterans Council of Indian River County, Inc.

Info@Veterans CouncilIRC.org

Office: 772-410-5820





Training Assistance Dogs For Veterans

Dogs For Life, Inc. was founded to improve the quality of life for people and dogs through the training of service dogs and operating an off-leash dog park.

(772) 567-8969

1230 16TH Avenue | Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Gigi & Sassy Birthday





JANUARY

Purple Heart Canes

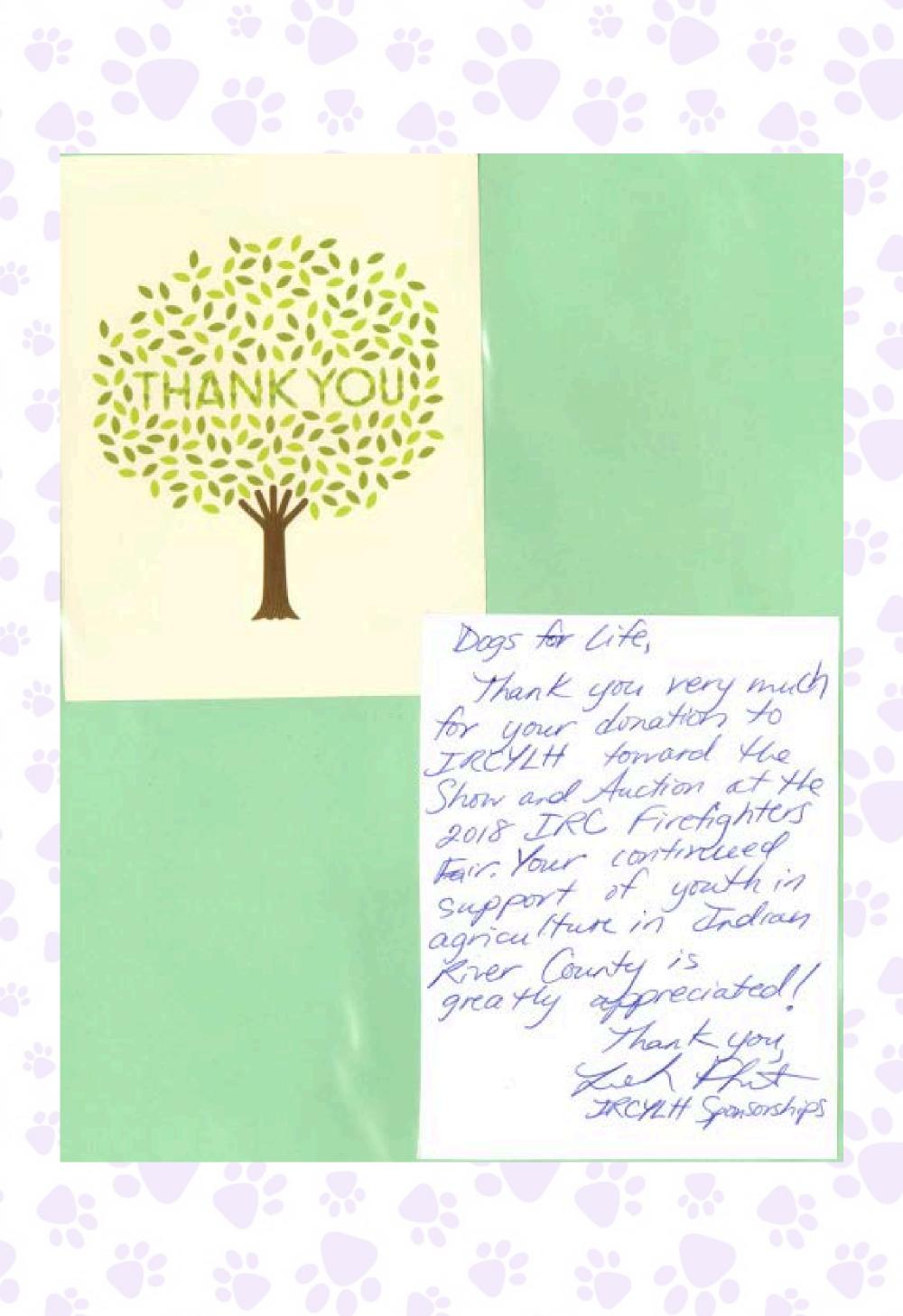


Navy Seal Museum











772.589.7297 710 Jackson Street, Sebastian, FL 32958 www.HaloRescueFLorg

January 11, 2018

Dogs For Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Angels,

HALO's 1st Chase Your Tail 5K was a huge victory!

First thank you to our runners and walkers who braved a cold and early morning and came out to support no kill rescuel.

A special thank you to the City of Sebastian and the County for allowing this event to have its own, new track along Sebastian's beautiful Indian River. Thank you to our law enforcement officers who came out, showed their support, and did a great job at keeping the roads clear and everyone safe. Thank you to our incredible volunteers that woke up bright and early and pitched in wherever it was needed... stuffing bags, putting out tsigns, picking up food, being directional guides and more! Thank you to Bruce McCullers with Reliable Septic for providing the Porta Potties for additional bathroom breaks. Thank you to ABC Printing for designing our logo and thank you to Jim Vanveen with Run Vero for being so helpful our first time around and facilitating such a wonderful event!

And... we could not have done any of it without our incredible sponsors: Ryan A. Jones & Associates, Page 2 Design, Backwoods Farm, Dogs For Life, Cielo Blu Barn, Trusted Insurance Professionals, Bayfront 5K9, Intercoastal Interiors, The M&M Group, Keller Williams Realty, Indian River Exchange Packers, Sylvan Learning Center, Re/Max Crown Realty Ronnie Preuss, Re/Max Crown Realty, Carla Klein Insurance Services, Arnold Air Conditioning, Collins Brown Barkett Garavaglia & Lawn Attorneys At Law, Maxwell & Son Plumbing, White Glove, Yoga Barre, Rodan & Fields, Pets & Pans, Orchid Island Dog Spa, Mulligans, Orange Theory, Countryside Citrus, Earls Hideaway, Crab-E-Bills, Einstein Bagels, Panera Bread, Winn Dixie, OTG Liquidation, & TD Bank!

Thank you for continuing to support our dreams with your sponsorships, donations, and attendance.

Please save the date for next year January 2019 and follow our FB page at https://www.facebook.com/HALOchaseyourtail5k/

Believing in Miracles,

acque

Jacque Petrone, Director & the animals!

HALO is a 501c3 and all donations are tax deductible under

id # 20-8466866.

TC TCPALM.COM I SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018 I 11A



"It's a great honor. It's a beautiful deal you have down here," said Marine Corps Master Sgt. Dennis Lee of Texas, a Vietnam veteran, after receiving his hand-carved wooden cane Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, made by the Indian River Woodcarvers Club during the Purple Heart Cane Ceremony at the National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce. To see more photos, go to TCPalm.com. JEREMIAH WILSON/TCPALM

Spear Shellery,

Heark you so much for

taking your time to give a

great talk and demonstration

great talk from the Life Long

for the folks from the Life Long

Learning at Indian River State

College. Much appreciated!!

Shelly Ferger

From: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com>

Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 4:03 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

Subject: Your campaign DFL PAT Re-Certifications On-Hold has been sent



Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'DFL PAT Re-Certifications On-Hold' was sent on 1/15/2018 around 4:02 PM EST.

Below is a copy of the message your subscribers received. See how your campaign is doing by visiting Reports in your account to get real-time results and stats.

Subject: DFL PAT Re-Certifications On-Hold



Dogs For Life, Inc.
Pet-Assisted Therapy Program
On-Hold
January 31, 2018

Dogs For Life, Inc., would like to thank our Pet Assisted Therapy (PAT) Teams from the bottom of our hearts for you and your dogs service to our community.

Due to the time and resources needed to train, monitor and re-certify teams and facilities we have made the decision as of February 1, 2018 to put our PAT Program on hold.

If you are receiving this email Dogs For Life (DFL) has you listed as an active PAT Volunteer. Although we may not have received a PAT Facility Report from you in some time, to avoid confusion, you are being included in this email.

If you wish to seek certification through another program, we will be happy to give you a referral as long as you and your dog are currently a DFL team in good standing.

If/when DFL decides to re-start this program you will be notified. We will notify all of the facilities in our program that certification for our teams will end January 31, 2018.

Again, we thank you for your selfless service, and are happy we were able to offer this program since 2002.

In appreciation of your service, you and your dogs names will be added to our Pet Assisted Therapy Volunteer recognition donor bone in the off-leash dog park.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Shelly at DFL (772) 567-8969 or Email office@dogsforlifevb.org

DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. | 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960

Unsubscribe dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

Update Profile | About our service provider

Sent by office@dogsforlifevb.org in collaboration with



CUSTOM CANES FOR AMERICAN HEROES

5th annual ceremony honors Purple Heart recipients courtesy of dedicated woodcarvers

Mary Kemper

mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

Army veteran Lloyd Lasenby made no bones about it.

"Every veteran writes a blank check to our country up to and including their life," he said to a crowd of hundreds Jan. 20 at the National Navy UDT SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce.

It was a day to honor those whose "checks" included receiving the Purple Heart Medal for combat wounds. For the fifth year, the Indian River Woodcarvers Club awarded 60 heroes with their own custom-made, handcarved wooden canes to recognize their

Lasenby, who enjoys cracking a joke or two, stepped in as master of ceremonies when the original nominee was hospitalized. Lasenby himself has recently battled a serious health issue, but he braved through the ceremony

with no one the wiser.

Announcing a Marine recipient, he said, "Well, he's a Marine, and he's late." Everyone recognized the joke, as Marines are always first. It was this spirit that gave the ceremony a unique flavor, not to be duplicated.

Each recipient was called to the lectern to receive his or her cane. Each cane gave the individual details of the Purple Heart recipient who was awarded a cane.

Many recipients were Vietnam veterans. Others were Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. Each received enthusiastic applause, and some - a Gold Star father, and a Medal of Honor recipient — got standing ovations. Two veterans fought at the Battle of the Bulge in World War II.

Retired Army Maj. Gen. Wayne Jackson was the keynote speaker, and he gave a brief history of the Purple Heart Medal.

SEAL Museum executive director Rick Kaiser also gave remarks, saying how honored he and his team were to host the annual

Several members of the Indian River Woodcarvers Club were there as well, both civilians and veterans. Club members craft a variety of items in addition to the Purple Heart canes. To learn more about the club, which is located in Vero Beach, visit indianriverwoodcarvers.weebly.com.

Vietnam Veterans of America Michael Bradley Chapter 566, Port St. Lucie, provided the Color Guard.

JROTC cadets from Westwood High School, Fort Pierce, and Lecanto High School, Vero Beach, served as ushers.

U.S. Rep. Brian Mast was scheduled to give remarks, but had to stay in Washington, D.C., due to the government shutdown.

After the ceremony, attendees flocked to congratulate the cane recipients, and visit sponsors like Vero Beach's Dogs For Life, Nino's Italian Restaurant (which provided lunch for the cane recipients), Road Runner Travel Resort, Florida Eye Institute, Trusted Insurance Professionals, AMVET Riders Post 92, and DAV Chapter 113.

www.VeteranVoiceWeekly.com

VETERAN VOICE • JANUARY 25, 2018 • 5



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

Two Army World War II Battle of the Bulge veterans, who were award of the Purple Heart for their combat wounds in service, received custom-made canes crafted by the Indian River Woodcarvers' Club Jan. 20 in a ceremony at the National Navy UDT SEAL Museum, including, pictured, former Army tank crewman George Fisher, who is shown heading back to his seat after receiving his cane.



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

A veteran examines a rack of custom-made canes crafted for Purple Heart recipients by the Indian River Woodcarvers' Club at a presentation ceremony Jan. 20 at the National Navy UDT SEAL Museum.



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

At the Indian River Woodcarvers' Club presentation of custom-made canes for Purple Heart recipients Jan. 20 at the National Navy UDT SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, a father — former Navy Cmdr. Michael Suldo — and a son - Army veteran Jonathan Suldo - both received Purple Heart medals for combat wounds, and both received his own cane in recognition of their service.



INDIAN RIVER WOODCARVERS

PURPLE HEART CANE PROJECT

DOGS FOR LIFE 1230 16TH AVE VERO BEACH, FL 32960

We at the Indian River Woodcarvers, Purple heart cane project would like to thank you for your generous donation of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). It will help us to continue making hand carved canes and giving them to wounded veterans who are so deserving. These individuals have answered their nations call in times of strife, to preserve our way of life, and we are greatly appreciative.

Indian River Wood Carvers

Purple Heart Cane Project

Craig Holtermann President

C/2/502 101st Abn 70/71

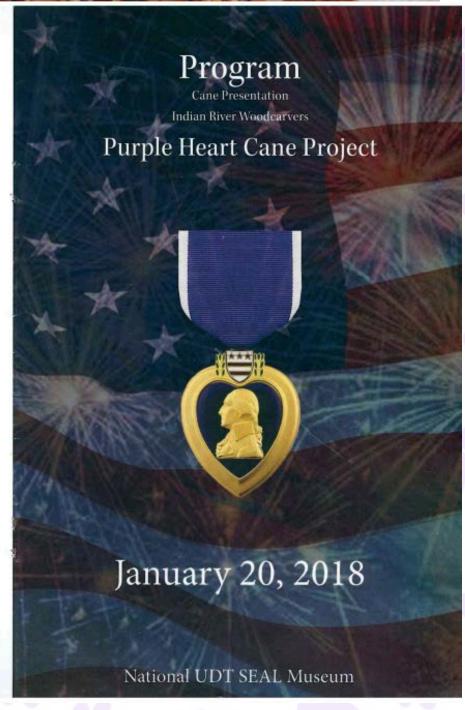


Indian River Woodcarvers Club indianriverwoodcarvers.weebly.com

Purple Heart Cane Project 2018



National UDT/SEAL Museum 3300 North A1A Ft Pierce, FL 34949 (772) 595-5845





A veteran - Whether active duty, retired, discharged, national guard or reserve, man or woman - is someone who at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to the "United States of American" for an amount "up to and including their life"

PRESENTATION OF CANES

Hagen, M. H	Ashford, T. T.	Gonzales, F. G.
Maxwell, R. E.	Sanders, F. R.	Dadabo, Michael
Hudson, B.D.	Lencioni, R. M.	Geisler, D. J.
Langley, W. L.	Shaffer, D. G.	Roberts, M. W.
Lee, D. R.	Votrobek, D. C.	Rood, G. W.
Toma, M. L	Martin, R. L.	Billings, R. H.
Fisher, George	Pack, R. A.	Hart, R. L.
Flores, Jonathon	Birmingham, J. J.	Zackman, L. H.
Dottin, F. O	Cindric, C. A.	Kruspe, M. T.
Brophy, J. J.	Ahronheim, Eric	McCaw, W. R.
Pacowski, R.	Mitchell, G. G.	Suldo, M. R.
Bircher, J. E. III	Cunningham, S. J.	Suldo, J. P.
Hacman, Ruben	Toomey, G. W.	Schmidt, J. D.
Davis, H. L.	Wynn, P. C.	Grappe, B. I.
Labbe, P. L.	Norris, C. L.	Vera, M. A.
Millstein, A. S.	Caballero, C. A.	Kost, P. F.
Holtz, J. F.	Ryan, R. T.	Granitur, H. L.
Rice, M. H.	Gasche, R. T.	Nicholson, J. W.
McCleery, D. E.	Schaller, Jim	Hillegas, W. F.
100		

Taylor, D. W

Rasnake, R. H.

SPONSORS

Diamond Donor

Dogs for Life

1230 16th Ave Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 567-8969

Nino's Italian Restaurant

5018 Turnpike Feeder Rd., Ft Pierce, FL 34951 (772) 466-7644

Gold Donor

Road Runner Travel Resort

5500 St. Lucie BLVD, Ft Pierce, FL 34946 (800) 833-7108

Silver Donor

Florida Eye Institute

Trusted Insurance Professionals

Bronze Donor

AMVET Riders #92

Disabled American Veterans - Chapter #113









11:30 - 1:00 Luncheon for recipients 1:00 Opening Ceremonies

Posting of colors---Vietnam Veterans of St. Lucie County

National Anthem---Tom Patrick

Invocation-----Chaplain Steve Trinkle

Indian River Woodcarvers President--Craig Holterman

SEAL Museum Director--Master Chief Rick Kaiser (ret)

History of the Purple Heart--Major General Wayne Jackson (ret)

Presenting of canes

Congressman Brian Mast

Closing statement

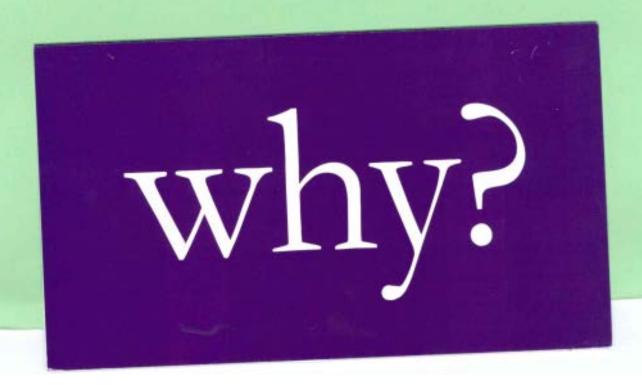
Retiring of colors

MUSIC PROVIDED BY THE 13TH ARMY BAND



May God bless America and all those who have served her!





because

There are more than $1.8~\mathrm{million}$ veterans living in the State of Florida, with 415,000 under the age of 65. Over 880,000 live with a disability and 65% are dealing with mental health issues.

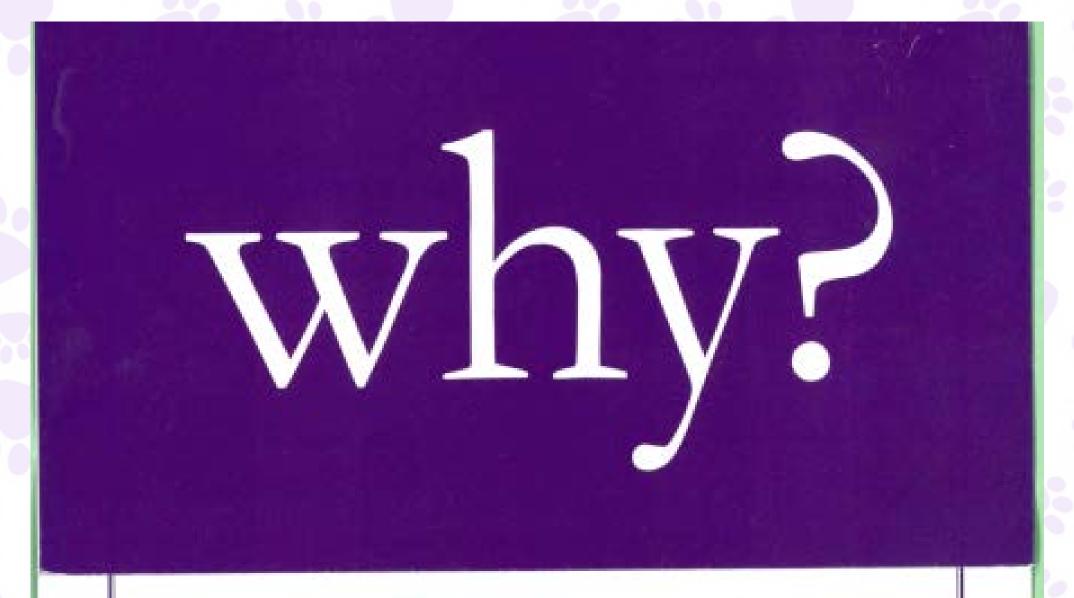
Indian River County has over 15,000 resident veterans, of whom 2,600 have a service-related disability.

95% of veterans who have a DFL certified service dog will report having greater choices and opportunities in social and recreational activities in our community.

According to the VA Mental Health 2018 Updated Suicide Prevention Report, Florida lost 530 veterans to suicide, the most in the country.

Dogs For Life, Inc. has a proven record of helping over 443 people with disabilities including over 100 veterans and train over 20 dogs per year.

Florida is home to the highest number of amputees from the Gulf War-Era. Three in ten will have service-related disabilities. $20\pm\%$ will suffer from the effects of post-traumatic stress. 50% of those with post-traumatic stress will not seek treatment. 19% will report post-traumatic stress symptoms classified as "serious functional impairment".



Treatment via medication is 50% effective. Talk Therapy is 50% effective.

Service Dogs are 84.5% effective.

Our dogs provide emotional stability that veterans and first responders, suffering from post-traumatic stress, need to restore peace in their everyday lives.

Service and hearing dogs instill the confidence necessary for owners to leave the house or enter a confined space, such as an elevator.

This critical help enables veterans to lead a life of self-reliance and independence.

Your gift will save lives.





2018 ADI International Conference Sponsorship Pledge Form

V Tid- 0 010 000	
X Title Sponsor: \$10,000	Audiovisual Sponsor: \$5,000
Platinum Sponsor: \$7,500	Conference Bag & Program: \$3,000
Gold Sponsor: \$5,000	Lunch Sponsor: \$2,500
Silver Sponsor: \$2,500	Speaker Sponsorship: \$2,000
Bronze Sponsor: \$1,000	Welcome Reception Sponsor: \$1,000
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Organization: Doss Fo	or lite, Inc.
Phone: 7725678969	Email: office a dossfor lilite
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fease email logo in EPS and JPEG format to chris@lassistancedogsinternational.org no later than June 1, 2018 for inclusion in promotional materials. Assistance Dogs International tax ID# 93-0993471

For any questions, please contact Chris Diefenthaler, ADI Operations Administrator at (419) 350-5788

In an effort to continue partnerships with other organizations that support likeminded organizations, veterans, first responders, and law enforcement Dogs For Life, Inc. was awarded a grant to sponsor the following fundraising events.

\$1,000 January 20, 2018	Indian River Woodcarvers - Purple Heart Cane Ceremony
\$100 February 10, 2018	American Legion Golf Tournament
\$500 February 10, 2018	Vero Beach Veterans Next Generation - 70's Prom Night
\$400 February 17, 2017	Victory Center Military Store - Bowling Tournament
\$500 February 24, 2018	American Security Council Found - Meat, eat & skeet Tournament
\$250 March 7, 2018	I.R. Co. Sheriff's Office - Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch
\$1,000 March 10, 2018	Vero Beach Veterans Next Generation - Ruck March
\$250 April 12, 2018	Vero Beach Dog Park - Cocktails at Costa
May 20, 2018	Humane Society Vero Beach & I.R. Co. Cause For Paws
\$500 April 12, 2018	Indian River Co. 4-H Foundation –
\$350 March IRCo Fair	Indian River Co. Youth Livestock
\$5,000 June 16, 2018	Veterans Council of Indian River County - Golf Tournament
\$1,000 -	IRC & SLC Gold Star Mothers Honor & Remembrance Flag \$350

Dear Shelly,

On Ibshalf of the Mental Arabth

Association is Board of Directors, I

want to thank you for your
generous gift to the MHA.

Your support enables us to

provide valuable services to those

with mental treatth issues in

our community.

Thank you for halping us

enhance and saws lives.

Sincerety,

Anne Janes.



2017 - 2018 PROGRAM OFFERINGS

Interesting People of Vero Beach
January 24, 2018
8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Field Trip)
Meet in the Richardson Center, Strategic
Planning Center (C-103)
Member: \$25 | Non-Member: \$50
Peer Leader: Joan Edwards

Join us for a fun-filled day visiting with some of the interesting people of Vero Beach. Our group will meet at the Richardson Center and spend the day traveling to locations including Dogs for Life, Vero Beach City Hall, Young Park, and a private home to view an art collection which highlights Florida Women Artists. Participants should bring a packed lunch. Car-pooling is encouraged.