

Scrapbook

2016-2015

DECEMBER



Annual Christmas Luncheon

We sime for the DRI Christmas luncheon Christmas luncheon

Kathi Schumann and Dogs For Life invite you to join us at

Ocean Grill 1050 Beachland Boulevard in Vero Beach

December 13th, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

for a luncheon to celebrate the holiday season

> Please RSVP as soon as possible (772) 567-8969





SOMETIMES THE SIMPLEST THINGS MEAN THE MOST."



Dear Mrs. Schuman

Thank you very much ber our gorgeous Christmas gifts and the delicous luncheon. We thuly appreciate it.

and we beek very blessed to have you in our lives. Thank you so much !!

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness. We truly appreciate it.

We wish you a Happy, Bright and Prosperous 2017!!

Sincerely, Pia Pia, Jim and Dawn Taylor

P.S. The second book is at the editors

> Extra Postage Required





Rehome From Vet to Vet



Pups in the Lobby



Veterans Partnership





FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Capt. Doy Demsick, Program Manager Veterans Council of Indian River County 772-410-5820 info@veteranscouncilirc.org



Dogs For Life partners with Veterans Council for Veterans Training Veterans Program

Vero Beach, FL – Dec 30th, 2016 – Dogs For Life, Inc. and the Veterans Council of Indian River County formalized their relationship Tuesday Dec. 28 with a partnership program called Veterans Training Veterans.

The program, which recruits veteran volunteer instructors to train local veterans and their service dogs, has already been implemented by DFL, but the growing need in the community caused them to reach out to the VCIRC.

"The recent surge of veterans needing the life-changing assistance dog programs offered by Dogs For Life led their Board of Directors to commit resources to help local service men and women," said DFL CEO Shelly Ferger. "It was a natural progression to then join forces with the Veterans Council of Indian River County in expanding DFL's Veterans Training Veterans Program."

The partnership was the idea of Ferger and DFL Board President and philanthropist Kathi G. Schumann, who has contributed significantly to both organizations.

"It's encouraging to see people like Mrs. Schumann who give so much of themselves to their communities," said VCIRC Program Manager Doy Demsick. "We could not exist without their support."

According to Demsick, pulling from the veterans in the community will be a success for everyone. "Veterans trust other veterans, so not only is it a win for the veteran service dog teams, but also it allows our volunteers the opportunity to help our brothers and sisters who are suffering. Knowing you're making a difference in someone else's life can make a big difference in your own."

From: Sent: To: Subject: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Saturday, December 31, 2016 12:14 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign All AOK with Dog Park Member Carol (Baxter's Mom) has been sent

Constant Contact' A

Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'All AOK with Dog Park Member Carol (Baxter's Mom)' was sent on 12/31/2016 around 12:13 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: All AOK with Dog Park Member Carol (Baxter's Mom)



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Capt. Doy Demsick, Program Manager Veterans Council of Indian River County 772-410-5820 info@veteranscouncilirc.org



The partnership between the two organizations has been a long time coming, with both previously working together on events and making referrals.

"It's amazing to see all that Dogs For Life can do for our veterans," said Demsick. "They train veteran service dog teams tackling physical disabilities as well as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Now we can be a part of that effort by providing our veterans as volunteers."

The mission of the Veterans Council of Indian River County is to support all Indian River County veterans through a collective effort of veteran's organizations, civic associations and the local community, thereby raising awareness of veterans' needs and of their contributions to society.

Photos Attached:

161228 DFL - VCIRC: Taken at Dogs For Life Dec 28, from left to right: Capt. Doy Demsick, VCIRC Program Manager; Col. Sam Kouns, VCIRC President; Kathi G. Schumann, DFL Board President; Shelly Ferger, DFL CEO (holding dog Daisy); Linda Liss, DFL Treasurer

Vets Training Vets 1 - Veterans Mark with Shadow

Vets Training Vets 2 - Veteran Bob with Bodacious

She has allowed me to share her phone



Dogs For Life Dog Park Member Carol Hartwig AOK!

Dog Park Members who were here Thursday when our beloved Carol Hartwig (Baxter's mom) fell and was taken to the ER via ambulance.

I've spoken with her this morning, she's home and AOK.

number if you want to call her and find out how her fall saved her life 569-5833.

Happy New Year to all.



our copy should address 3 key questions: Who arn I writing for? (Audience) Why hould they care? (Benefil) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to Action).

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complementary" or 'customized," A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about meeting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining/" 18 | Wednesday, December 14, 2016 | Your Newsweekly | Indian River County | Treasure Coast Newspapers

Community News

Dogs For Life training center hosts ceremony for three new service dogs

SHELLY FERGER

YOUR NEWSWEEKLY CONTRIBUTOR

Dogs For Life staff and the graduates, along with friends and family, gathered for a graduation ceremony for Bill (Navy) with service his dog Freyja, Bob (Navy, ret.) with his service dog Bodacious and Harmony (Army) with her service dog Gunny.

After committing to a full year of obedience, public access and task training, exceptional results were achieved. Dogs For Life trained and certified the veterans and their service dogs. With the graduation they will be better able to go out in public feeling safe and secure with their canine companions at their sides.

Devon Williams and Tina Casro with Quilts of Valor offered, for the third year, to make quilts for the graduating veterans and their

service dogs.

Dogs For Life welcomes the public for tours of its training center and to learn about our programs. Call 772-567-8969 to arrange an appointment. You can also visit www.dogsforlifevb.org and see our activities on Facebook for additional information.



Freyja admires one of the beautiful quilts from Quilts of Valor.



Bill and Freyja, Harmony and Gunny, and Bob and Bodacious.







Doy Demsick, Veterans Council program manager; Shelly Ferger, CEO; and Bob and Bodacious

Bill, Freyja and Lisa Syncerski, training coordinator





Help Us Empower Local Veterans and Their Families!

Thank you for your support!





We are grateful for your support. Should you have any questions, please call our office at (772) 567-8969. * A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800) 435-7352. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. Registration # CH15831. Your donation helps us train dogs to assist:

Veterans with PTSD **Healing Families Those Battling Mobility Limitations** Individuals with Hearing Loss





Assistance Dogs, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960 772.567.8969 dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org





Sip and Shop with local merchants! Monograms of Vero Premier Jewelry Ishkabibbles Essential Oils Dogs for Life DIY by Tati salt scrub

Metamorphosis Ponderous Whimsy Jewelry Lu la Rue Stop by and check out our beautiful studio filled with holiday cheet. Paradise Ice Cream

Sailfish

Thornton's Cleaning Company

Join us Dec. 8th 5 to 7:30

Raffle prizes all evening.

To Advertise (772-559-4187)

ST. LUCIE VOICE | ST. LUCIE WEST AND TRADITION | PETS

December 2, 2016

Bonz laps up Sunny, a snuggler extraordinaire

Hí Dog Buddies!

This week I met The Ultimate Lap Dog, a Maltese who looks like a total Fluff Muffin, but has a Really Important Job and is one cool poocheroo.

A nice lady ushered us into the office at Dogs For Life, a dog training facility and off-leash park. Then we heard this little volce: "Welcome! Please have a seat. I'm Sir Georgia Sunshine Ferger, but everyone calls me Sunny. This is my Mom, Shelly. She's the Founder and I'm her Execu-Pup Assistant."

Under a long desk was a comfy-looking alcove, with a sign – "A Spoiled Rotten Maltese Lives Here." Sitting on a fluffy pillow inside the alcove was a little pooch, paws crossed, big smile.

"Great to meet you, Sunny!" I replied. "I spotted you at the Howl-O-Ween Parade, but you were busy! Thanks for fitting me in."

"No problemo," Sunny said. "I've got a coupla hours before I have to be at the Senior Center, so we're good."

His Mom picked him up and deposited



 him on the couch next to my assistant. " love being right up next to humans. Now we can have a nice chat. Hope you don' mind."

"Not at all." Sunny was white, with wavy hair and a beautiful, flowing tail. He had bangs, his fluffy ears were trimmed into a short bob, and, above one ear, two purple feathers were woven into his hair He was, well, cute. ficial Greeter and a Pet Therapy Dog. Id ended up in Vero Beach by the time the Howi-O-Ween parade came around. That's where Mom found me. And here I am."

"Wooff" I said. "And you learned to do all that stuff?"

"Yep. But at first I was an emotional wreck. Not mean, or anything. Just anxious. I thought I'd be abandoned again. But Mom's a Super Good Dog Teacher, and she helped me get in a routine. It took me a long time to learn where to Do My Duty and where not to. I still only poop in dirt, not grass. The backyard in Atlanta didn't have any grass.

"My breed's Very Old, from the Island of Malta. We were owned by royalty. We were fabulous lapdogs cuz we're great at lounging, napping and being carried. Plus, we looked adorable. Ladies useta carry us in their big poofy sleeves! No Woof! We were so popular we were traded for goods! So ping and being carried. Of course, I take my duties as an ambassador and greeter very seriously.

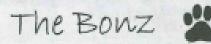
"But I am First and Foremost a Pet Therapy Dog, which means I know how to visit nursing homes and sit in people's laps and let 'em pat me. I am a terrific snuggler. I am snuggly with everyone! I'm happy to sit next to 'em or on their lap for HOURS. And I have a whole drawerful of costumes and bandanas. People LOVE that! And, Mr. Bonzo, when a human is all alone, or sad, or in a nursing home, do you KNOW how imPORt-

veterans who need dogs, so we're workin' really hard."

I especially liked the big room where pooches learn how to be service dogs. There's a whole bedroom set up, doors to practice with, and a special phone with a big button to call for help. And lots more, I wanted to stay, but duty called.

Heading home, I was wondering whether I would be Dog enough to wear costumes or feathers in my hair if it was for a Good Cause. I like to think I would.

Till next time,



DON'T BE SHY! We are always looking for pets with interesting stories. To set up an interview, email bonzothecolumnist@gmail.com.





Dogs For Life

1230 16th Avenue

Vero Beach, Fl. 32960

December 7, 2016

Dear Shelly:

Thank you so much for being one of the generous prize donors for our annual December trivia breakfast. The breakfast was held this morning with over 100 Chamber members attending. If you've never attended, it is a lot of fun and thanks to members like you, we have so many terrific door prizes!

The toughest trivia question asked this morning was "What is the name of the horse in Pocahontas Park?" The answer is "Patriot"!

We recognized your business this morning as one of event prize donors on table top donor lists, and in the trivia power point presentation. Your business will also be recognized as a prize donor in the Chamber newsletter the Monday following the event.

Again, thank you for your support of this annual event!

Happy Holidays!

Tenny Chandler

Penny Chandler Chamber President



Open Door. Open Heart.

December 21, 2016

Dogs For Life, Inc. 1230 16th Ave Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Ms. Ferger:

What a pleasure it was to receive your gift of \$50.00 for Bark in the Park 2017. I am equally pleased to thank you for your generosity. Your gift makes an incredible difference in the work we do at the shelter every day, from providing medical care to abandoned or abused animals, to feeding and sheltering every animal in need, to the ultimate blessing of finding them loving homes.

Most importantly, through this gift, you enable us to keep welcoming each and every animal who comes to our door. "Open Door, Open Heart," is not just a tag line. We are the only shelter in the county to accept all animals, regardless of their age, health, behavior or adoptability. With your help, we will continue to work tirelessly to love and care for each of our precious charges. Thanks again for caring enough to open your heart to support us!

Sincerely,

Sara E. Smith Director of Development

P.S. Our newly expanded clinic will be fully operational this fall and bringing your pet to us for needed services is a great way to support the shelter!



VERO BEACH | INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Newsweekly

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2016 TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS + TCPALM.COM

New Veterans Council chief has distinguished record of service

MARY ANN KOENIG THE NEWSWEEKLY

The Veterans Council of Indian River County elected a new president recently, and now Darryle "Sam" Kouns will have an opportunity to steer the council's efforts into a new era

The leadership change came about because of an Election Day victory by Anthony "Tony" Young who left as council president to

join the Vero Beach

City Council. Of Kouns' election Young said, "He sought this duty and it will reflect his steadfast re-

MISTY HARP solve to honor the men Sam Kouns

and women that serve our nation in uniform. Sam brings his passion for veterans to the council. We are very fortunate to have leaders of his stature."

Kouns is a retired Army colonel, an Army Ranger and a West Point graduate who also holds a master's degree in engineering from Purdue University. He attended the Army Command and General Staff College, the Army War Colle re, and served three years on the faculty at West Point.

Kouns' military service took him to hot spots around 'ne world, including three combat to irs in Vietnam, a post defending the last German bor-der during the Co d War, a ceployment in South Korea and the ir vasion of Grenada.

His numerous military decorations include three Bronze Stars, three awards of the Legion of Merit, as well as a Master Parachutist Badge

Kouns

Continued from Page 1

in addressing the issues before the Veterans Council. Like Young, also a retired Army colonel, Kouns wants to maximize the opportunities entrusted to the council's member organizations. Their work, through outreach, financial assistance, transportation and benefits assistance, is the essence of the council's mission.

One of the most valuable initiatives the council has created is Upward American Veterans, a program in which Kouns has had first-hand involvement since its inception. UAV provides shortterm financial relief for Indian River County veterans in need of assistance.

Upward American Veterans has a strong committee and director in Kathy Allston, and I will continue working on that issue," he says.

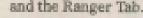
Another responsibility for Kouns is the Veterans Day ceremony held at Memorial Island Sanctuary. He has planned and directed the past four annual events, while also serving as master of ceremonies.

Down to business

Under his leadership, the council will develop a new business plan in 2017. Kouns' knowledge of local demographics has helped him understand the necessity of the council's programs. The Florida State Office of Veterans Affairs reports that 14,812 U.S. military veterans live in Indian River County.

"Not counting the number below the age of 18 indicates that 11 percent of county residents are veterans," says Kouns.

It's a sizable percentage of the population and he intends to ensure the continuing health of existing council programs to aid those individuals.



Connections

The attraction of the Intercoastal Waterway brought Kouns and his wife Linda to Vero Beach 12 years ago. When a West Point colleague suggested Grand Harbor, they settled there.

Kouns' connections to the military and to veterans will be indispensable

See KOUNS, Page 6

The Veterans Council has done exceptionally well securing financial sources to help fund existing programs. Upward American Veterans, Veterans Outreach, Public Affairs and the extremely successful Veterans Transportation bringing 200 veterans and caregivers a month to the VA Hospital in Palm Beach are all effective but costly endeavors. Kouns has asked Young to lead a team to develop the council's three-year business plan.



New Veterans Council President Sam Kouns (far right) at this year's Veterans Day ceremony with keynote speaker General Clay Buckingham (center) and Alma Lee Loy (in red) among other Vero guests.

"He has a strong business mind and can give us administrative support, research and advice," Kouns said.

"Developing a consistent revenue stream is an on-going concern."

Future strategies

Currently, among other financial support, the Council receives two restricted "With the money from the one last year, we renovated veterans' homes in Gifford."

DARRYLE "SAM" KOUNS

MISTY HARF

grants from Grand Harbor.

"With the money from the one last year, we renovated veterans' homes in Gifford," Kouns said. The council has applied to Grand Harbor for a third grant, for \$10,000, that will support UAV and other initiatives. Further funding comes from Graves Injury Law Firm, Velde Ford and annual allocations from a \$100,000 grant given by the Jorgensen family. But by fiscal year 2019, that fund will have been spent.

"We will need a fundraising committee," Kouns says, "to identify future financial strategies."

Kouns and his wife Linda have a long history of community involvement. They both volunteered at Meals on Wheels when they moved to Vero. She has also worked as a volunteer at the Indian River Medical Center and is currently active at the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store on U.S. 1.

"He and Linda make a wonderful team," said Young.



VOL. 5/ISSUE 8

Veteran rep looks to **PAWS next Congress** and reform VA

Patrick McCallister FOR VETERAN VOICE pmccallister@veteranvolceweekly.com

U.S. Rep. Ron DeSantis is a Navy veteran, and a veteran congressman. With his third election behind him, DeSantis is heading into the upcoming Congress with high hopes for



This might be the only opportunity we've had in a gener-ation to really reform

the (Department of Veteran Affairs)," he told Veteran Voice in a recent telephone interview However, DeSantis said the 115° Congress will have nu-merous issues facing

it with an incoming presidential administration promising

a lot. He said veterans issues must get and stay at the forefront of President-elect Donald Frump's mind

Trump's mind. "My only fear is there's going to be so much other stuff going on," DeSantis said. He added, "You're going to have all these things going on, I hop this is a front-burner issue." DeSantis said in the coming Congress he'd like to see legis ation debated and passed expanding the opportunities for veterans to seek care from private providers outside the Veterane Healt's Administration Veterans Health Administration. "The ultimate goal is — the veteran who

See DESANTIS page 10

10 • DECEMBER 22, 2016 • VETERAN VOICE • SPONSOR A VETERAN TODAY!



serves, we have to take care of him," DeSantis said. "If the VA is not performing, then we have to give the veteran an opportunity to go get private care.'

DeSantis represents the 6th Congressional District, which includes much of Volusia County. The district reaches north through Flagler County into St. Johns almost to Jacksonville. It has a western jut into Putnam County.

Along with expanded access to

scription pill abuse. The organization seeks to pair veterans with mood and anxiety disorders, such as PTSD, with trained assistance animals.

That's the idea behind the act, too. If Congress passes PAWS, and the president signs it into law, it would create a pilot program in the VA to provide service dogs to post-9/11 veterans with severe mood and anxiety disorders.

Pairing veterans with mood and anxiety disorders with dogs is already happening at the Orlando VA Medical Center, which covers Volusia, Brevard and Seminole counties. The William V. Chappell Jr. Satellite Outpatient Clinic in Daytona Beach has Paws of Freedom, a joint venture with the West Volusia Kennel Club and Halifax Humane Society's Prison Pups N Paws program at the Tomoka Correctional Institution. While the animals through that program aren't legally service animals, recipient veterans have reported great success with them even with just basic obedience training.

match veterans with service dogs in a nationally certified training regime.

Dogs have been accidently and deliberately genetically engineered during their 40,000-yearold relationship with humans to detect and respond to our emotional states. Humans produce cortisol, a hormone dogs can smell, when stressed. Dogs can be trained to respond in specific, helpful ways.

The PAWS act would allow VA mental-health providers to refer qualifying veterans to Assistance Dog International accredited organizations and other providers for trained service animals. The VA would provide the organizations with about \$27,000 each for trained animals. In its present form the act would budget \$10 million for the program.

named a nominee for Secretary of Veteran Affairs. DeSantis said he's heard two names bandied about that he'd like to see nominated.

One is Peter Brian "Pete" Hegseth, former executive director of Vets For Freedom and former CEO of Concerned Veterans for America.

"I think he's a reformer," DeSantis said. "He's a veteran with a lot of great experience."

The other name getting a lot of mention in Washington D.C. is U.S. Rep. Jeff Miller, who's been the chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. Representative Phil Roe is replacing

private healthcare, DeSantis said post-9/11 veterans need - expanded access to puppies. Puppies?

In May DeSantis introduced the Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers Act, or PAWS. He was inspired by the efforts of Marine Corps veteran Cole Thomas Lyle, who started a service-animal organization - also called Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers - after struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder, suicidal ideations and pre-

Additionally, programs such as Dogs For Life in Vero Beach

DeSantis, a Republican, is an Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran. He joined the Judge Advocate General Corps back in 2004. In addition to serving an assignment with SEAL Team One to be a legal advisor at the Special Operations Task Force-West, he did a stint at Guantanamo Bay.

At press time, Trump hasn't

ABLER. in the coming Congress. Miller is not a veteran, but DeSantis said his experience on the committee prepares him to lead the VA.

"Jeff (Miller) has been dealing with these issues for years and years," he said.

Either, DeSantis said, could help make big changes for America's veterans.

"Assuming we do get a reform-minded (Secretary of Veteran Affairs), I think we can work on some far reaching reforms," he said.

4-H Dog Masters Club











NOVEMBER



Paws and Stripes Visit







Veterans Day at Memorial Island



November 25, 2016

VeroNews/Sebastian River News | PETS

Bonz laps up Sunny, a snuggler extraordinaire

Hí Dog Buddies!

This week I met The Ultimate Lap Dog, a Maltese who looks like a total Fluff Muffin, but has a Really Important Job and is one cool poocheroo.

A nice lady ushered us into the office at Dogs For Life, a dog training facility and offleash park. Then we heard this little voice: "Welcome! Please have a seat. I'm Sir Georgia Sunshine Ferger, but everyone calls me Sunny. This is my Mom, Shelly. She's the Founder and I'm her Execu-Pup Assistant."

Under a long desk was a comfy-looking alcove, with a sign – "A Spoiled Rotten Maltese Lives Here." Sitting on a fluffy pillow inside the alcove was a little pooch, paws crossed, big smile.

"Great to meet you, Sunny!" I replied. "I spotted you at the Howl-O-Ween Parade, but you were busy! Thanks for fitting me in." "No problemo," Sunny said. "I've got a

coupla hours before I have to be at the Senior Center, so we're good."

His Mom picked him up and deposited "I like that feather thing you got going," I

commented. "Thank you. I do stay in touch with my

feminine side. I usta wish I was more of a big of hound dog with one of those deep voices, but now I see how being fluffy and small really helps in my work."

"Please tell me about yourself," I said, opening my notebook.

"I don't really know how old I am. Several years ago, me and a girl Maltese were rescued from a backyard in Atlanta. We'd been abandoned. We think we'd been used as breeders, that's when you have to keep making puppies all the time but you never get to be an ackshull FAM-ly. We ended up at a Maltese rescue place in Florida.

"Anyway, when my Forever Mom's Rat Terrier, Sabrina, went to Dog Heaven, Mom really needed another dog. It hadda be snuggly, and work as Ambassador for Dogs For Life, and be the Dog Park's Official Greeter and a Pet Therapy Dog. I'd ended up in Vero Beach by the time the Howl-O-Ween parade came around. That's where Mom found me. And here I am."

"Woof!" I said. "And you learned to do all that stuff?"

"Yep. But at first I was an emotional wreck. Not mean, or anything. Just anxious. I thought I'd be abandoned again. But Mom's a Super Good Dog Teacher, and she helped me get in a routine. It took me a long time to learn where to Do My Duty and where not to. I still only poop in dirt, not grass. The backyard in Atlanta dtdock here any correct of the start of the s

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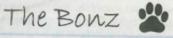
an bes when

somebody who's sad or stressed out relaxes and starts to pat me and talk to me, that is the BEST feeling EVER. So it doesn't bother me one little bit that people ushully think I'm a.pirl.cuz.being little and fluffy.and talkin' the whole time.

"Years ago, Mom was teaching 4-H kids all about pooches and they wanted a special place to do it. It took a long time, but they finally got this place. Now Dogs For Life officially owns it, 4 acres, our spiffy office and training center. We're a non-profit. We've got PAPERS. And the BEST human supporters and volunteers EVER! Now we're training LOTSA dogs for veterans coming home from Iraq and other scary places. Mom says, in the past coupla years, there we been many more veterans who need dogs, so we're workin' really hard."

I especially liked the big room where pooches learn how to be service dogs.

Till next time,



Don't Be Shy We are always looking for pets with interesting stories. To set up an interview, email bonzothecolumnist@gmail.com.

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YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

tcpalm.com Your Newsweekly vero beach, indian river county

Pets on Pawrade help raise funds for Dogs for Life

SHELLY FERGER

It was a spectacular day at Dogs For Life for the 15th annual Howl-O-Ween Unit presented an exciting and educational demonstration with four highlytrained dogs. Hobo Jim sang his heart out and played some golden oldies for the crowd. And, we were once again very

of physical and psychological challenges.

DFL specializes in training assistance dogs to be the ears that hear smoke alarms; paws that tap a 911 emergency phone; legs that provide stability and a life-long partner to recognize and ease the effects of post-traumatic stress. All service dog training programs adhere to the guidelines and requirements of Assistance Dogs International and we have been re-accredited for an additional five years.



Dog Costume Pawrade that was sponsored by several community businesses and underwritten by Kathi and Prinz Schumann.

A special thank you to these companies for sponsoring this event and who continue to support Dogs for Life: Coast to Coast Landscaping; Treasure Coast Animal Emergency & Specialty Hospital; Windsor, Colton, Williams, Reamy & Nelson; John Michael Matthews; Beech Annuals; LEB Printing; and Ocean FM & WTTB Treasure Coast Broadcasters. The Indian River Sheriff's Office K-9

proud to have the American Legion open the Pawrade for us this year.

The Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade is DFL's signature event and helps continue training assistance dogs to help people in our community who are disabled, hearing impaired and/or suffering with the effects of post-traumatic stress.

DFL has experienced a significant increase in the number of dogs trained for veterans and that amount has more than tripled in the last two years. Dogs can be life-changers for people with a variety Individuals or groups are welcome for tours 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at the DFL Training Center, 1230 16th Ave. in Vero Beach.

For information, call 772-567-8969, email dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net HAZEL LACKS

A contestant in the 15th annual Howi-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade

16 NOV 16 SHELLY MISS You ALL MUCH. LOVE BEING KETT INFORMED VIA NEWSLETTER AND E-MAIL, MIS JUST AS NOT THE SAME BEING THERE IN PERSON,

> LEARNED SO MUCH - AND MET SO MANY NEAT

PEORLE.

To Advertise (772-559-4187)

TRYING TO GET TRAFFIC, STERES , FASTER PACE. SURE PINT VERO, PLEASE PUT THE ENCLOSED CHECK TO GOOD USE.

PENNY COKE

friend wants it when Im thed of it says to put her it if my LESED TO THIS AREA family doesn't want it. Mad Dor has all the pictures, my daughters coouldn't want them, so I'm so glad key found a home it decided to burden myself with a day up! The Sheriff (50) is raising Shelley- Sof your cute card with the cate in the basket. Gail and I made it to Capt Hiran's last week. Thought The nice day we have down

> to see you , Sthink I told you my ladies loned the chair, when one got act of it, another popped in it

ST. LUCIE VOICE | ST. LUCIE WEST AND TRADITION | PETS



November 25, 2016

Bonz has Springer in his step after meeting Mitzi

Hi Dog Buddies!

This week I interviewed Mitzi Bengyak, a little pooch who found her Forever Family because of a hurry-cane. She's one of the sweetest little pooch gals I've ever met AND - she's a Springer Spaniel, like ME! Wooff

She was very polite, came right up for the Wag-and-Sniff, then gave my Assistant some friendly nosebumps. Then she gave me a Really Big Smile, and I noticed her sparkly brown eyes, the shiny black curls on her long, floppy ears, and the fashion-forward, black-and-white polka dots on her right front leg. (Hey, I read the magazines.)

"Welcome Mr. Bonzol This is my Mom, Eleanor. We can sit right here by the kitchen table. So, what would you like to know?"

Reminding myself that I was On The Job, I opened my notebook. "Please, call me Bonz! I hear you found your Mom and Dad because of a hurry-cane." "That's true! Back in 2005, there was

er Spaniels and Dachshunds. There were so many pooches it had got way outta hand. There were, like, 50 of us, all sorta crammed together. Me and my littermates were just pupsters when we had this hurry-cane called Wilma. The kennel people went Elsewhere, and all us pooches hadda be rescued by a bunch of nice humans from the Humane Society.

"Meanwhile, my Mom and Dad's Golden Retriever, Taffy, had gone to Dog Heaven, and they said they NEVER, EVER wanted another dog. After the hurry-cane, Mom and Dad went down to the Humane Society to help out with all the rescued dogs just when another helper was bringing in a load of puppies, including ME. I was the smallest. We were all sorta huddled together, and then - you know how you just have a FEEL-

ing? - I spotted Mom and Dad and something told me I should make a move.



there's Rufus, a Golden Retriever. He's a Service Dog, too. And a big ol' German Shepherd. I can't pronounce his name. Didja know we have scholarships at the Dog Park in case some pooches can't afford the membership fee. That was my idea."

"That's Totally Cool Dog Biscuits!" I told her.

"I also enjoy playing on the beach.

his chair I'd go lift up his arm so he wouldn't tip over. And I learned how to hit the button on his special phone to call for help, if he told me to. We were best buddies. My Dad's in Heaven now, and me and Mom are still sad. But we have each other, and now I'm HER Service Dog and I get to take care of her. Right now, I'm studying for my annual re-certification. I thank Lassie that I could help Mom and Dad, you know, show 'em I love 'em, cuz they saved me and gave me a Forever Family."

Mitzi had gotten real serious, but then she bounced up. "Oh.

She smiled. "I know you have to get back to the office, but maybe you could come over sometime and we could play in the park. I'll introduce you to all my pooch pals."

"That'd be great," I said, sincerely. As we drove off, I could see her still standing in her big, fenced yard, waving her paw." Sigh.

So I smiled really big and came over to this kennel in Schastian that bred Spring- 'em. And we all knew they were gonna get I LOVE water. Well, you know, you're a Spaniel, too! And the rain! That's way fun! Cuz of the puddles! Do you like puddles?" "I do!"

"But I also do Important Stuff: When my Dad, Victor, got sick, I took special classes at Dogs for Life. After I passed the Canine Good Citizen class, and the Pet sisted Therapy Dog class, I took other classes so I could be an Official Service Dog for Dad. Like when he fell asleep in 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.



It's Okay to Get Help!

2016 Annual Campaign

November 28, 2016

Board of Directors

Barbara Home Vice Chairman

Richard Yarborough Treasurer

Dogs For Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960 Atten: Shelly Ferger

Dear Ms. Ferger,

Thank you for your contribution to the Mental Health Association's (MHA) Annual Fund. Your continued support of the MHA and the services we provide is having a daily impact on the lives of those in need of mental health services in our community.

Because of you, anyone struggling with emotional, behavioral, or mental health concerns, can come to the MHA Walk-In Center, and receive immediate access with no barriers to mental health care. We are the only mental health care agency in Indian River County that provides an immediate face to face visit with a dedicated, compassionate mental health professional, to determine treatment needs and to create a care plan for any follow-up care if needed. A sliding fee scale (beginning at \$0) is available for those who qualify, for continuing treatment services if necessary. Those services may include: diagnostic assessment with a therapist, individual therapy, treatment planning, case management, and psychiatrist evaluation/medication management.

Your support also helps the MHA to operate our peer-run Drop-In Center, which provides a safe haven for adults with severe and persistent mental illness. This center provides support, education, socialization, and constructive activities that help its members remain or become productive members of our community.

Whether our clients are facing an urgent need, a devastating life event, or seeking to improve their quality of life, the MHA is there for them, because of your continued support.

Thank you for partnering with us to make our community healthier.

Sincerely, Robert J. Brugnoli, Ph.D. Executive Director

Shelly-We approvate your support of the MHA and our events. Thank you so Much



#Giving Tuesday begins November 29th, 2016

In the same way that Black Friday and Cyber Monday kick off the holiday shopping season, #Giving Tuesday kicks off the giving season.

Do You See What I See?

Meet Bodacious! She's always there, ready and able to help Bob.

Bob (US Navy, Ret.) didn't have to bend down to pick up that package that Bo has in her mouth. He doesn't have to bend down to pick up his keys or cell phone or even his cane.

Veteran service dog team Bob and Bo were trained and recently certified by Dogs For Life.

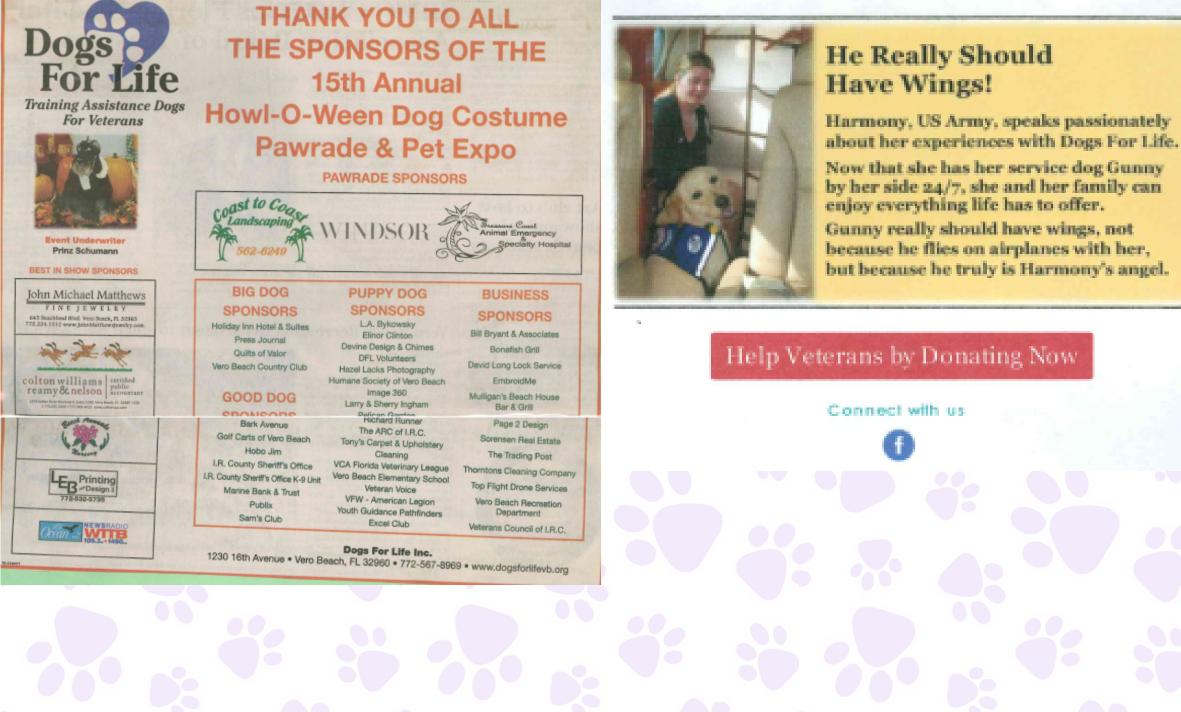


Give Today and help us match our \$100,000 Challenge Grant

Because of the generosity of donors like you, Dogs For Life, Inc. is able to train veteran service dog teams at no cost to them.

We currently have 20 service dog teams in training. Your gift doubles the impact toward the \$7,500 annual cost to train each team.

It's not just the veterans who benefit, but family members too. They are more confident knowing that their loved ones are safe and under thewatchful eye of a most loyal partner...their service dog.

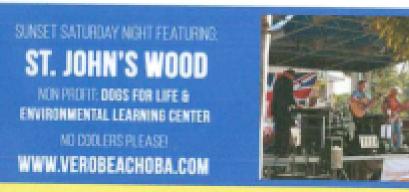








12TH 12TH 2016 AT HUMISTON PARK 5:30PM ON OCEAN DRIVE IN VERO BEACH



Join us at Sunset Saturday Beachside Concert Series

> November 12th 5:30 - 8:30

Humiston Park 3000 Ocean Dr., Vero Beach, FL 32963

Dogs For Life, Inc. Trains assistance dogs for veterans and individuals to be the ears that hear smoke alarms; paws that tap a 911 phone; legs that provide stability and a life-long partner to recognize and ease the effects of post-traumatic stress.



www.dogsforlifevb.org

dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

772 567-8969 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960

Presented by the Oceanside Business Association

Graduation



SHELLY FERGER

Oh how proud Dogs For Life is to have celebrated the commencement of another group of veteran service dog teams!

Last Saturday the Dogs For Life staff and the graduates, along with friends and family gathered for the graduation ceremony for Bill (US Navy) with service his dog Freyja, Bob (US Navy, Ret.) with his service dog Bodacious and Harmony (US Army) with her service dog Gunny.

After committing to a full year of obedience, public access and task training, exceptional results were achieved. DFL can't express how proud we are to have trained and certified these three fine veterans and their service dogs. Now they are able to go out in public feeling safe and secure with their canine companions at their sides.

We were so pleased when Devon Williams and Tina Casro with Quilts of Valor offered, for the third year, to make quilts for the graduating veterans and their service dogs! These quilts are lovingly made and more lovingly presented, without a dry eye in the house!

Dogs For Life welcomes the public for tours of the Training Center and learn about our programs. Please call (772) 567-8969 to arrange an appointment. You can also visit our website – www.dogsforlifevb.org and see our activities on Facebook for additional information.

Inside Vero, com - there was a side show of photos

iovember 16, 2016

Dogs For Life celebrates the graduation of three veteran service dogs Reply

by Mark Schumann • Community News, Vero Beach



DOGS FOR LIFE $\textcircled{1} \oslash \textcircled{2} @ \textcircled{3}$ GRADUATES 3 VETERAN SERVICE DOGS





Oh how proud Dogs For Life (DFL) is to have celebrated the commencement of another group of veteran service dog teams! Last Saturday, November 12th, the Dogs For Life staff and the graduates, along with friends and family gathered for the graduation ceremony for Bill (US Navy) with his service dog Freyja, Bob (US Navy, Ret.) with his service dog Bodacious and Harmony (US Army) with her service dog Gunny.

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Dogs For Life celebrates the graduation of three veteran service dogs Repty

by Mark Schumann + Community News, Vero Beach

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Online w/slide show of 3 pictures



for all the sacrifices you have my family in so many ways. You have give me hope + my fomily To Advertise (772-559-4187)

ST. LUCIE VOICE | ST. LUCIE WEST AND TRADITION | PETS

November 18, 2016 15

Bonzo says Daisy the Papillon is tout sweet!

Hí Dog Buddies!

This week I made the acquaintance of an elegant little European named Daisy Wood. Akshully I had met her briefly at the Dogs for Life Howl-O-Ween parade and (clever me) I got her number.

Daisy is a Papillon, but you say it without the L's - Paa-Pee-On (why are the L's even there?). Anyway, it's French for "butterfly," and when you see her you know why.

Daisy's a tiny Spaniel, very delicate, with a silky black and white coat with brown trim. The butterfly part is her EARS. I don't know who her stylist is but, WOOF! those ears are PAWsome! They stand straight up, wide at the bottom, pointy at the top, with long, feathery hair, which kinda curls out - totally looks like butterfly wings, like she could fly away any minute.

Soon as we knocked, we heard lotsa woofing and the clicky sound of little toenails on the floor. Daisy was SO excited, she bounced and twirled and woofed 'til her Mom picked her up.

"Bonjour, Monsieur Bonzo. Bienvenu! We are tres, tres excited you have come! This is my Mommy, Katie, and my Dad, Roger."

"It's a great pleasure to see you and your parents again, Mademoiselle!" I said, with sincerity, noting her sparkly dark eyes and happy smile. "I'm eager to hear your story."

"Tres Bien, Monsieur Bonzo. I am descended from European aristocracy. There's even a Paa-Pee-On in a family portrait of Louis XIV! It is said my ancestor was brought to France from Spain and adopted by the French queen, Marie Antoinette, who had Big Hair, like me. But one day she went to get a haircut and took her Paa-Pee-On with her, but something happened. I'm not sure exactly what. But my ancestor hadda get another family.

"About my own early puppyhood, je ne me souviens pas beaucoup, I don't remember much. I was adopted from the animal shelter two times, and returned both times because I was too bouncy. But, Monsieur

Bonzo, I was only a petite puppy. Puppies are 'spose to be bouncy, N'est-ce pas? But it was Meant To Be: My Mommy and Dad were 'yard sale-ing' one Saturday. They were gonna go to lunch, but Mommy wanted to go to the shelter and look at dogs. So they did. Just as Dad spotted a black dog he liked, a shelter human walked by with me, wrapped in a blanket. I'd just been returned - again. I was so scared I was shaking. Well, Mom wanted to grab me right away and I got Tres Excited! Then they walked out and my ears totally flopped. But they were just Officially Signing In, and they CAME BACK and GOT ME. There was NO WAY Mommy was gonna let me go. If they'd gone to lunch they never wudda seen me. C'est le destin! So now I have the Best Family Ever!

"Then one day I was playin' and suddenly I felt weak. I couldn't even stand up. We were all scared. Mommy and Dad took me to the doctor and found out I had heartworms."



a lot. But my cat stepsister Tabby is my bon ami. We play chase, and snooze together in our Special Chair." Daisy leaned closer and whispered, "Dad thinks it's HIS chair and we let him use it, so don't tell him it's ackshully ours, d'accord?"

'Your secret's safe with me," I assured her. "I can dance, tool Regardez!"

Her Mom held a treat way up high, and Daisy hopped over to her on her back feet, and did several pirouettes, waving her front paws gracefully. Then her Dad threw a squishy ball and Daisy fetched a few times. Then she jumped onto the couch an attempted to bury the ball in a pile of pillows. It was charming and hilarious

"I also love camping with Mommy and Dad in our Fifth Wheel! Do you recall that big hurry-cane? "I sure do!"

Well, we invited two neighbors and their pooches - Brodie, a Lab, and Annie, a Yorkie (she's smaller than a pint of peanuts), to go camping with us Somewhere Else, so we wouldn't get blown away. We all piled into our Fifth Wheel for a road trip. We had a BALL. When me and Dad go to Home Depot, we're always stopping to yap. I sit politely in the cart, and every body says, 'Look at those EARS' I'm in sistible to Humans, I guess." "Also to pooches," I thought to myself. "I always let Mommy and Dad know when I have to Do My Duty. When I'm done, I race to my special rug in the kitchen, put on my Most Adorable Face and await my Treat. Mommy and Dad bought me my very own big fancy bed once, when I was little(er). I chewed a hole in it and pulled out all the stuffings. Now I get to sleep with them." I couldn't believe it was time to go. "It has been a pleasure, Mademoiselle Daisy. "Merci beaucoup, Monsieur Bonzo," she said, flashing a big smile. Heading home, I was thinking about butterflies and clicky-toe pirouettes.

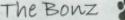
"Oh, Woof!" I exclaimed. "You coulda Bought the Kennel!" (Every dog knows heartworms can send you straight to Dog Heaven.)

"Mais oul! " Daisy agreed." But I took Special Pills an now I'm all better."

"Thank Lassie!" I said. "So, whaddya do for fun?"

"I have so many friends: humans, dogs and cats! I play on my lanai and I love the dog park. I appear delicate, but I can keep up with the Big Dogs. I am tres rapide! My Yorkie friend BooBoo has a pool. We lounge on this floaty thing. She jumps in, but not me. I don't like swimming. My cat stepbrother Harley is kinda old and naps

Till next time,





Vero Flash Magazine

Vero Flash 11/3/16



It was a spectacular day at Dogs For Life, Inc. (DFL) for our 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade that was sponsored by several community businesses and underwritten by Kathi and Prinz Schumann. The event was filled with blue skies, creativity, wagging' tails, raffle tickets and prizes.

The Indian River Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit presented an exciting and educational demonstration with 4 highly-trained dogs. Hobo Jim sang his heart out and played

demonstration with 4 highly-trained dogs. Hobo Jim sang his heart out and played some golden oldies for the crowd. Dogs for Life was quite proud to have the American Legion open the Pawrade again this year.

DFL, Under the dynamic leadership of founder and CEO Shelly Ferger, specializes in training assistance dogs to be the ears that hear smoke alarms; paws that tap a 911 emergency phone; legs that provide stability and a life-long partner to recognize and ease the effects of post-traumatic stress. Their service dog training programs adhere to the guidelines and requirements of Assistance Dogs International and they have been reaccredited for an additional 5 years.

Individuals or groups are welcome to join tours Monday through Friday 9:00-5:00 at the DFL Training Center, 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. For information, call (772) 567-8969, email dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

OCTOBER



15th Annual Howl-O-Ween



15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo October 22, 2016

Registration - 2 pm • Pawrade - 4 pm



Event Underwriter Prinz Schumann Fabulous Raffle Drawings

Hobo Jim

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

VFW - American Legion

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade

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Howl-O-Ween Dog Pawrade & Pet Expo

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

> Starts: Saturday 10/22/2016 2:00pm Ends: Saturday 10/22/2016 4:00pm

Dress your dog and come on out to compete in the 15th Annual DFL Howl-O-Ween Dog Pawrade & Pet Expo. Remember not to dress your dog in any way that might cause harm. It may take some time to get them used to their outfit ... so plan ahead. Do this by giving your dog lots of treats while they are starting to get used to their costume, reducing the treats a little at a time, each time you put their costumes on them. Lots of vendors too!

Employee of the Month !!



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

IC Treasure Coast Newspapers Saturday, October 22, 2016 11A

SATURDAY'S RECURRING EVENTS

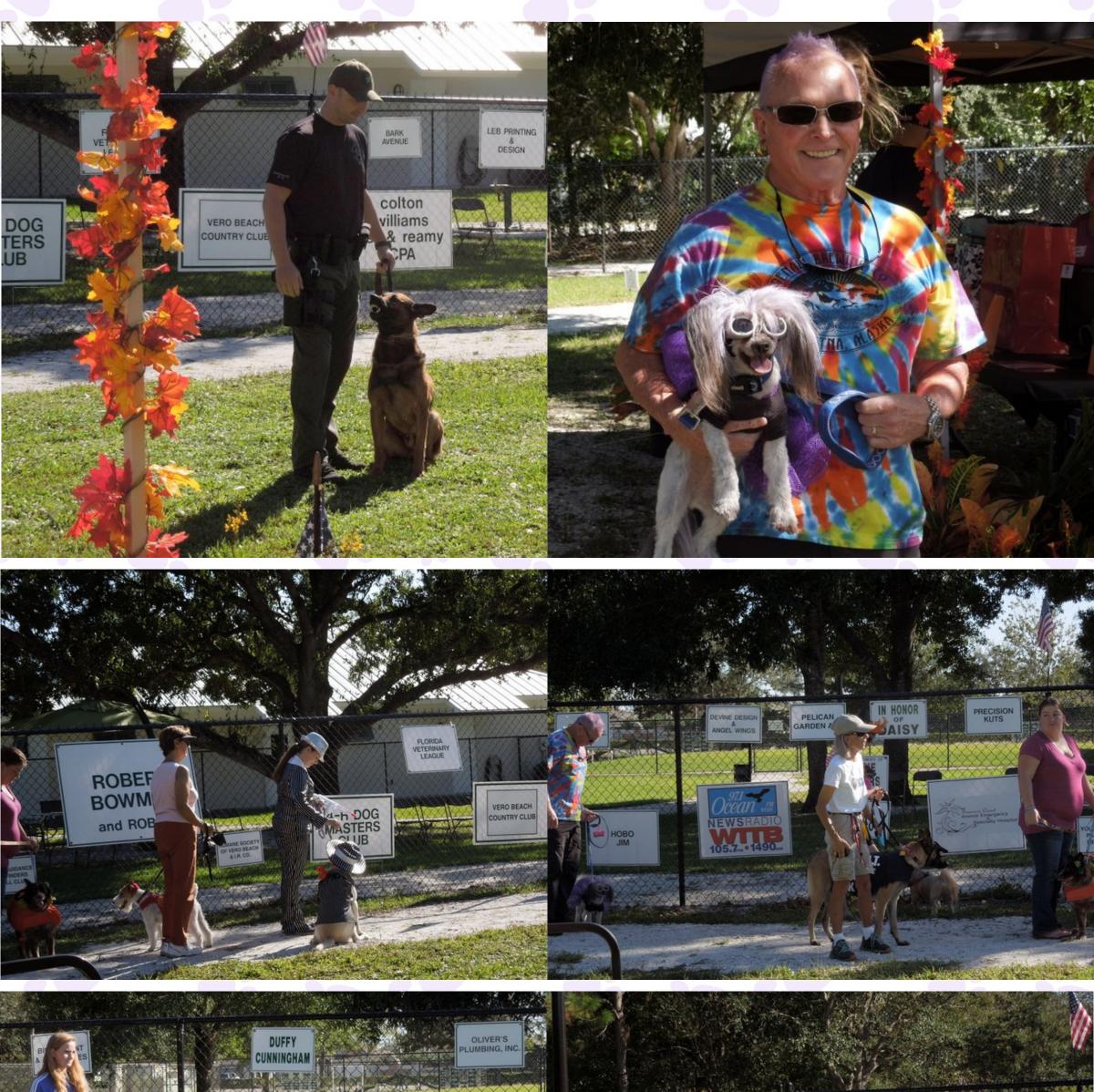
OTHER

Dog Obedience Training: Registration required with instructor Shelly Ferger. 9 a.m. Dogs For Life, Inc. Off-Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach. Ages: 7 months+. \$120. Reservation: 772-567-8969; dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net.











AWWW-SOME! COSTUMED PUPS CHARM AT PAWRADE

PAGE 22

32963



CHARGED VALUE

TC Treasure Coast Newspapers Monday, October 17, 2016 9A



COMMUNITY EVENTS

St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church invites you to start your holiday shopping at their annual Fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 22, from 9 am to 1 pm at 475 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach. Call 772-770-3494.

Dogs for Life presents the 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo on Saturday, October 22 from 2 to 5 pm at the Off Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. See the pups in costume with the "Pawrade" at 4 pm. 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Visit DogsForLifeVB.org.

Join Main Street Vero Beach for a Networking Breakfast on Thursday, October 20 at 8 am at Florida Community Bank, 3900 20th Street in Vero Beach. Free for Main Street members, and \$5 for guests. RSVP to info@ mainstreetverobeach.org.

Christ by the Sea United Methodist Church's Pumpkin Patch continues through the 29th of October. This Saturday, October 22, enjoy "Festival Day" with Bounce House, Face-Painting, Hay rides and Baked Goods.

On Tuesday, October 18, Saint Edward's School will be hosting the annual US-China Town Hall Webcast. This year, the moderator, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, will be addressing over 80 cities nationwide on the status of the US-China relationship beginning at 6 pm. Free.

The Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County, 6230 77th Street, Vero Beach, is offering an adoption promotion through the end of October. The adoption fee for all dogs weighing 40 pounds and over is just \$40, plus the purchase of 6 months of heartworm preventative. Cats over the age of two can be adopted for just \$20. Visit hsvb.org for details.

Instelevero Your Local Online News Magazine

Community News

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

Come and celebrate our 15th year! 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

DATE: October 22, 2016

TIME ? . DM Daymade at 4 Day

TIME: 2 - 5 PM - Pawrade at 4 PM

LOCATION: 1230 16th Avenue - Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo By Brenda Sposato, For Luminaries

For 15 years the Vero Beach Dog's For Life, Inc. has hosted the Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo for dog lovers and their families wanting to dress up and have a little fun this time a year.

It has become one of Vero Beach's favorite Halloween traditions, according to DFL's CEO and Founder Director of Training Programs Shelly Ferger. This year the event took place at the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park on Oct. 22.

There were vendors set up throughout the dog park. Even the Indian River County Sheriff's Department hosted a K-9 Demonstration. "Everyone wins something. We have a prize for every pawrade participant! Little stuffed, skeerdy cats, stuffed pumpkins, and ghosts," said Ferger.

Shelley began the ceremony with a warm welcome followed by a moment of silence in memory of Indian River County Firefighter and Chief David Dangerfield, who recently committed suicide from PTSD.

Retired U.S. Army staff sergeant James Taylor and his PTSD service dog Pia-Pia were both recognized with a special award, presented by DFL's vice president Kathi Schumann.

SWAT Team Member Ron Adamson appeared eager after the k-9 demo. He describes his commitment to the community as one he has fun undertaking, " Every other week we have some kind demonstration. Whether it is for schools, D.A.R.E. programs, or events like these. We have a lot of fun doing it."

It was Susan Micheel and her therapy dog Cody the Land Shark's first time attending the event. She dressed up as a shark victim, wearing a diving mask and snorkel as well as a life-saving float buoy around her waist. Cody wore a shark costume. "We love it! Cody is a Dogs For Life dog so we thought we would come and honor the event by representing the agency and its great work," said Susan with a smile.

Dogs for Life is one of only four training facilities in Florida sanctioned by the Veterans Administration and accredited by Assistance Dogs International. They can cross train animals to serve in different capacities. For Veterans suffering from PTSD, there's help for them at Dogs for Life. For the hearing impaired in need of hope, DFL can offer assistance. Please call 772-567-8969 or visit DogsforLifevb.org to find out how.





GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo coming to Vero Beach

LISA LOPEZ

YOUR NEWSWEEKLY CONTRIBUTOR

Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo is set for Oct. 22 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park at 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach. The Pawrade will start at 4.

Come and celebrate our 15th year! 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

Please call Dogs For Life if you are interested in being a sponsor or having an exhibitor booth. Your support is fully tax-deductible and will help fund DFL's assistance dog, veteran dog and pet-assisted therapy dog training programs and many community outreach programs including our beautiful 4-acre Off-Leash Dog Park.

As a Pawrade Sponsor, you will receive premiere coverage the day of the event. Sponsors of \$1,000 or more will have their logos displayed on all advertising, DFL's Website, Facebook and Day-of-Event handouts. Nonprofit, military or first responder groups can reserve space at no cost. Don't delay confirm your participation today!

If you have any questions or would like to receive an event packet, please contact Shelly Ferger at Dogs For Life (772) 567-8969.

Saturday, Oct. 22

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume "Pawrade" & Pet Expo, Dogs For Life Dog Park, 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach. Registration begins at 2 p.m. and the Pawrade starts at 4 p.m. Event is free to the public and will also offer raffle items, live entertainment by Hobo Jim, Food and beverages by the Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club, VFW Post 3918 Color Guard and a demonstration by the Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit. Businesses interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the event can call Dogs for Life for more information at (772) 567-8969 or visit the website www. dogsforlifevb.org





15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo "Priaz Schumans" Event Underwriter at the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park—1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach

500+ DOG LOVERS, SPECTATORS & OVER 100 DOGS IN COSTUME!!

SATURDAY October 22, 2016 FREE TO THE PUBLIC Registration starts at 2:00PM Pawrade at 4:00PM

Exhibitors: Demonstrate and sell products, distribute samples and business literate Sponsors: Promore your name, your business name or pet's name with your sponsorship

More exciting raffle items this year!! Hobo Jim will be providing live entertainment

Food & Beverages by the IR County 4-H Dog Masters Club

VFW Post 3918 Color Guard

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

Call (772)567-8969 with any questions Email: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org All donations are fully tax deductible!





Welcome to your Monday Morning Cultural Connection!

THE CULTURAL CONNECTION WITH WILLI MILLER

Every Monday on WAXE 1370 AM or 107.9 FM 5 to 5:30 p.m. To hear the show streaming via your computer, visit www.waxe1370.com at 5 p.m.

Barbara Hoffman, Indian River Restaurant Week: Extended to October 22. Heather Stapleton, Environmental Learning Center

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WPHR 947 HOT COUNTRY, Sun., @ 5 a.m.

MEETINGS, LECTURES & CLASSES



The **City of Vero Beach Recreation Department** will hold Fall 2 Gymnastics registration on Saturday, October 22nd beginning at 8 am at Leisure Square Fitness Center (3705 16th Street). Gymnastics classes are available for beginners through advanced students, toddlers through teens. Weekday and Saturday classes are available to fit every schedule. Fall 2 Gymnastics participants will perform in "Santa Who?, the Recreation Department's Annual Holiday Drama on December 17th at the Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center. For more information, call 770-3775 or visit the recreation page at www.covb.org.

The Laughing Lady, **Nancy Johnson** will present Laugh For The Health Of It at 10:30 am on Thursday, October 20 at the North Indian River County Library. What could be better than laughing your way to wellness?

The Navy League Council of the Treasure Coast presents a talk, "U. S. Navy Missions and Readiness" with RDML Mary Jackson, USN, Commander, Navy Region Southeast on Thursday, October 20 at 11:30 am at Pointe West Country Club. The cost is \$21 per person. Reservations can be made by e-mail to agfornl@yahoo.com.

The **Pelican Island Audubon Society** presents "Bugs, Blooms, Berries, and Birds" with Janice Broda, Volunteer Coordinator, Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory-PIAS Volunteer Nature Stewardship on Monday, October 17 at 7:30 pm at the Vero Beach Community Center, 2266 14th Avenue, Vero Beach. Call 772-567-3520 for more information.

In This Issue

NEW SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR EVENTS! RESTAURANT WEEK RIVERSIDE THEATRE ART EXHIBITS AND OPENINGS ON STAGE & IN CONCERT COMMUNITY EVENTS. LECTURES. MEETINGS & CLASSES MEETINGS. LECTURES & CLASSES MEETINGS. LECTURES & CLASSES MEMBER NEWS NEW OPPORTUNITIES CURRENT EXHIBITS



The **Center for Spiritual Care**, 1550 24th Street is offering two talks this week: On Thursday, October 20, *Caring for the Caregiver* series begins (first & third Thursdays each month) from 4:30 to 6 pm beginning with **Nancy Johnson**, The Laughing Lady, who regularly appears in nursing homes and health care settings to demonstrate the importance of maintaining a sense of humor amidst the gritty work of care giving. *Boost Your Creativity with Energy Healing* with **Gail Lois Jaffe** will be held on Friday, October 21 from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. This is a fascinating and informative talk on how Barbara Brennan Healing Science Energy can help your creative energy to flow again! Please RSVP for this presentation 772-567-1233. Donations are appreciated.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dogs for Life presents the 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo on Saturday, October 22 from 2 to 5 pm at the Off Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. See the pups in costume with the "Pawrade" at 4 pm. 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Visit <u>DogsForLifeVB.org</u>.

Main Street Vero Beach and Oceanside Rotary present Holidays for Heroes on Thursday, October 21 from 5 o 8 pm in front of the Historic Theatre on 14th Avenue in Vero Beach. Bring items to be sent to our troops overseas. Ideas for items to donate: Powdered drink mixes, tea bags, beef jerky, protein bars, instant hot chocolate, nuts, trail mix,non melting candy, peanut butter, microwave popcorn, cookies , crackers, pudding cups, canned fruit, instant soups, DVDs, CDs, small games, wet wipes, q-tips, vaseline, chap stick.



'Touring with the Townies' features reader-submitted photos from travels. Let's see how many places we can go! Send in your picture or questions to newsfp@hometownnewsol.com

TAKE US WITH YOU



events coming up

Looking for some spooky fun? We've got plenty of

ENTERTAINMENT





WE WANT YOU IN OUR PAPER!

Fun for a good cause

while fishing Treasure Coast waters! Email

photos to news@ hometownnewsol.com!

On Saturday, Oct 22. Dogs For Life hosted their 15th annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade and Pet Expo to raise money for training assistance dogs for local veterans. Over 50 pet owners and their pups of all sizes participated in the festive event. To learn more, visit dogsforlifevb.org. Emily Patton, 3, walks her dog Josie and waves to the crowd.

Photo courtesy of Megan Hodges

Friday, October 28, 2016

Hometown News - VERO BEACH - www.HometownNewsOL.com

A truly puptastic Howl-O-Ween







Photo courtesy of Megan Hodges

Above: Isabella Guillen, 6, and Jasmine Santos, 7, with their new friend, Jack. Left: Carson Weir, 6, with his dog, Kelsey, in her butterfly costume. On Saturday, Oct 22, Dogs For Life hosted their 15th annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade and Pet Expo to raise money for training assistance dogs for local veterans. More than 50 pet owners and their pups of all sizes participated in the festive event. To learn more, visit dogsforlifevb.org.

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly **

PEOPLE

Awww-some! Costumed pups charm at Pawrade

BY SAMANTHA ROHLFING BAITA Staff Writer

A love of dogs is a powerful equalizer, bringing together young and old and people from all walks of life. And so it was last Saturday at the Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park, where a hundred or so pooches, their human companions and scores of dog lovers gathered for the 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade and Pet Expo.

The fenced 4-acre park on 16th Avenue is pleasant and tree-shaded, with separate areas for large and small dogs, a Memorial Garden and a section where 4-H Dogmasters Club kids meet and work their dogs. Placed all around are big bowls of fresh wa-





PHOTOS: DENISE RITCHE

American Legion Honor Guard members Hardy Horan, Bob Boob, Richie Adams and Rick with Lippert with Shelly Ferger and Sunny.



Larry Ingham with Lola.

ter and all-important poop bag depositories.

Sporting a sparkly red cowboy hat, DFL founder and CEO Shelly Ferger scooted around in a golf cart, transporting pooches and people from the parking lot and making sure all was running smoothly.

As Hobo Jim sang a hilarious rendition of "Why Don't

Vero Beach 32963 / October 27, 2016

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly ™

PEOPLE



Riley and Cali.

Jim Dixon, Ron Adamson with Bud-d, and Rick Daniel.

You Love Me Like My Dog Does?," volunteers Joan Freeman and Edna Hitzel sold tickets for the silent auction and raffle, and Mary Streff, Patti Schell and Bobby Clark registered a long line of costumed pups for the Pawrade. Conversing at the gate were two Chihuahuas with the same name -Pixie Meissner, a typical tan shorthair, and Pixie Kemper, whose longer curly hair looked adorably as if she'd stuck her paw in a light socket. Her human Mary explained that Pixy had some wire-haired terrier in her.

Impressive costumes included dogs dressed as pumpkins, sharks, vampires and ballerinas. Lauri Tagliaferro's poodle Hannah wore a pink poodle costume, complete with curly pink ears and bows. Ana Montoya's beautiful silver schnauzer Oslo sported a black collar glittering with rhinestones. Hanging out together were Cody Cowles, a white lab mix, and Misha Nechay, a shepherd, with their humans Vicki and Lori. Larry Ingham and his Papillionpoodle Lola were dressed as punk rockers; their ensembles created by wife Sherry. Both sported purple spiked hair, with Larry in a tie-dye tee and Lola wearing a purple tutu, skulland crossbones tee and doggles.

Lynnea Porter with Baby

Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit deputies and their partners showed off their skills with a breathtaking demonstration - Dep. Ron Adamson with Bud-D, Dep. Jim Dixon with Ruckus, Dep. Richard Henson with Falko, Dep. Rick Daniel with Lakota, and Dep. Christian Mathisen with Maco. Due to a surge of disabled veterans reaching out for assistance, the tagline of the Dogs for Life Veteran Dog Program has recently been changed to "Training Assistance Dogs for Veterans," which better reflects its focus, expertise and accreditation with Assistance Dogs International. There are currently 18 military veterans receiving training in the Veteran Dog Program, with several applications pending.

Vero Beach Community Calendar | Vero Beach Flash

Page 3 of 5

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				\$:30 PH One Flew Over The Cuckso's Next 9:30 PH Howl at The Moon	7.30 PM Howi at The Moon 8.00 PM One Flew Over The Cuckso's Nest 9.30 PM Howi at The Moon	
17	18	19	20	21	Moon 22	23
1:15 AM Tennis I Robin	Round 7:45 AM Tennis Round Robin	7:45 AN IRC Chamber Business Networking	7:45 AM Tennis Round Robin	NA Resklobertest Vers Beach	NA Rocktoberlest Vero Beach	NA Rocktoberfest Vero Beach
9:30 AM Florida Seru-Clety Meetik		Breakfast 9:18 AM Tennis Round	8:00 AM Gookles For Soldiers	9-00 AM Big Band Dance	7:90 AM Jungle Trail Tour	9:00 AM Dirding Feedbal & Bird and
9:20 AM Pilates Training Class	Circuit B:15 All Tennis Round Robin	Robin 9:20 AN Pilates Circuit	9:00 AM Woodcarvers Meeting	9:00 All Indian River Birding & Nature Art	7:30 AM Pilerida Serub Jay Tour	Nature Art show 10:00 AM Art in the
10:00 AM Exhibe American Spirit	T- The 10:00 AM Bengrooment Care Group For Women	Training Class 19.89 AM New Art Show	9:15 AM Termis Round	Show 9:08 All photo club	8:00 AN Overnastics Registration - Perform	Park 10:00 AM Countryside
11:15 AM Kid Fit yrs. skil		- Carl Rantz - Foyer Gallery	9:30 AM Art Babies	5:15 All Tennis Round Robin	in "Santa Who?" 8:00 AN Jaza Society	Core Mase 10:06 AM Organing
12:00 PM Chair 1 And Healing Med	/oga 11:30 AM Bereavement	18:30 AM Artitul Storytime	10:00 AN Mat Pilates with Patrixia	5:30 AM Pilates Circuit Training Class	Cesh Market	Eshibit - Bruce Marsh 10:06 All Opening
For Canter Surv 1:50 Pill Noveme	12:00 PH Boxing for	11:80 AM Octoberlant Reund Robin Drills	12:00 PM Chair EZ Pit 2:00 PM Afternoon at	12.80 AM Weiter's	Narket Oceanaide	Exhibit - David Orsles: Poliar and Poet
the Museum for with Parkinson y	Bose	witten MacDougall 1:38 PM Bernavement	the Museum - Pree Decentilized Tour	Windowpane 19.20 AM Yean Story	9:00 AM Birding Festival & Bird and Nature Art show	1:80 PM Concert featuring '33 Years' -
5:00 PW Mat Pila		Care Group 2/08 PM Adult Catoring	2-90 PM Benevenent Care Group	Time (3-6 Yrs. old) 12:00 PN Busing for	0:00 AN Fell Deper & Craft Show	Atternative Country Rock
6:06 PM Live Ma		Clase 2:08 PM Quilt Group	5-30 PM Centerl in the Park	4.00 PM Homesoming	18:89 AM Countryside Cam Maze	2:00 PM Visiting Author - Mary Alice Monroe presents A Lewcountry
Red Hart Rooster	a do PM Craft Hour (1-8 Grades)	Gathering 3:38 PM Prayerful	5:00 PHI Military Homs Prayer Group	Carsival "Week of The Weet"	19:90 AM Treasure Coast Bolence Pestival	Christman 4.20 PM "Let the Good
	4.00 PM Patio Maine Lobater Night - \$19.95	Knitting Group 5:38 PM Beginning Line	8-18 PM Pilates With Junice	4:00 PM MAMI Connections mental health peer support	11:00 AM Bad Kitty Scarrely Cat Day!	Times Rolf" Theatre Go Round Dinner Theatre
	5.15 PM Pilates With Janice	Dance Lessons with Mary and Jue	5:45 PM Tennis Round Robin	group open meeting 5:00 PM Friday Night	11:00 AM Sebestian Scrabble - Open	7:80 PM Poetry Open Mie Night
	5:30 PM ABC Tai Chi	8:30 PM Mat Pilaton with Publicia	6:30 PM Benavement Care Group For Parenta	Disners 8:00 PM Friday Family	2:00 PM Dad's Christmas Niracie	
	6.30 PM Benavement Care Group (under the age of 90)	6:00 PM Core & Mare 6:00 PM Live Music -	6:00 PM Concert - VDHS Philhermonic	Fun Might 8:80 PM Friday Family	2.60 PM Howl-O-Miten Dog Pawrade & Pet	
	7:00 PN Dueling Plance	Soluti Classe	Overheiserer 6:00 PHI USA	Fun Might 8:45 PM Owl Prowl Tour	Espo	
	7/30 PM Tuesday Jazz Jama	-Janice T.K. Lee preserva The Expetitizies	Oktoberfest Dance 6:00 PH Visiting Author	7.00 PM Dad's Ovintrea Miracle	Fashion Ranway Show 5:08 PM Sunset	
	7/80 PM US China Town Hall	6:00 PM Youth	- Keith presents The Cursed Man	7:00 PM Motows	Gooldall Cruise	
		Histnesday right programs	6:30 PH Cark, Canvas and Company - Adult	Downtown Dance Fundraliser	7:38 PM Cornedy Zone- Oktoberlesi Nights	
		7:60 PM Early Development of Sebartian - 1968-1975	Fun Painting Night	7:30 PM Comedy Zone- Oktoberfest Nights	9:30 PM Consedy Zone- Oktaberlesi Nights	
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:15 AM Tennis I Robin	Robin	8:15 AM Tennis Round Robin	7:45 AN Tennis Round Robin	8.90 AM Hig Band Dance	8.00 AM Jazz Boolety Craft Harket	9:08 All Automn in the Park
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10:00 AM Exhibit American Spirit	- The St15 AM Tennis Round Rabin	10:00 AM New Art Show - Carl Rantz - Payer Gallery	9:15 AM Tennis Round Robin	Robin 9:30 AM Pilates Circuit	9.00 AM Automn in the Park	18-89 AM Ongoing Exhibit - Brusie Marsh
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1:30 PM Moveme the Massesm for I with Parkinson n	Parkinson's	1:30 PM Benavorient Care Group	12:00 PM Chair EZ Fit 2:00 PM Afterneen at	Windowpane	Required 9:30 AM Trok & Tracka Mature Walks	Potter and Poet 1:00 PM Skunday Wine
diseases 2:00 PM Friends	12:00 PM Exchange Club	2.00 PM Adult Coloring	the Buseum - Free Decent-Led Tour	18:30 AM Yoga Story Time (3-6 Yos, old)	10:00 AM Countryside	Down with Collins & Company Band
Disgnosis - Oper	Mtg. 1:00 PM Craft 'n Chat	Class 2 00 PM Ring of Fire:	2:00 PM Dorsavement Care Group	12:00 PM Boxing for Parkingon's	Corn Mase 10:00 AN Hallowsen	2:06 PM Ring of Fire: The Musso of Johnny Cash
5:30 PM Mat Pila with Patricia	Grades)	Cash	6:00 PM Military Morea Prayer Group	6:00 PM Cance - Half Haunted Halloween	Parade & Costume Content	2:00 PM Titanio - A tribute to composer,
6:00 PM Live Mu Red Hot Rooster	s Lobster Night - \$15.55	3:80 PM Quilt Group Gathering	5:15 PM Plintes With Janice	6:00 PH NAME Connections mental health peer support	toido AM Kidz Artálhapa	James Homar & Dynamic Duce
6:00 PM Quarter Avertion	Janice	3:30 PM Proyectul Knittling Group	5:38 PM Ghosts of Fort Pierce Past Historic	group üpen ministing 5:50 Pill Friday Night	10:00 All VB Museum of Art - Free Admission Seturday	4:00 PM Phantasies & Phagues - Halloween Concert
7:80 PM Visiting - Randy Wayne V presents Seduce	Vhite d 6:00 PM Benezvement	5:30 PM Beginning Line Dence Lessens with Mary and Joe		Disners 5:30 PM Priday Might	18:38 All Celebrate the Arts concert - IRCHS	
	Care Group (under the age of 60)	5-30 PM Glosals of Fart Pierce Part Historic	Robin 6:00 PM Bernaversent	Group Bike Ride	Jazz Band 11:00 AM Sebastian	
	6:30 PW Teen Zombie Walk (and party)	Walking Tour 5:30 PM Mat Plates	Gare Group For Parenta 6:30 PM Indian River		1:00 PM Tops Writers	
	6:30 PHI Vero Beach Transfirmations Club #5721 meeting	with Patricia 6:00 PM Core & More	Photo Club -Open meeting	Flashlight Core Mase	Spoken Word Workshop	
	6:30 PH Vero Beach	6.00 PM Live Husis -	7:00 PM Orchestra Specificatular	6:30 PM Countryside Flashlight Corn Maxe	2.00 PM Ring of Fire The Busic of Johnny	
	Tositmasters Club open meeting	Sybil Gage 6.00 PM Yauth	7:30 PM Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny	Game	Cash 6:00 PM Trunk or Treat	
	7:00 PM Duoling Planos	Wednesday night programs	Cash	7:30 PM Have at The Moon	- Vere Christian Church	

Dog Pawrade

BRENDA SPOSATO FOR LUMINARIES

For 15 years the Vero Beach Dogs For Life, Inc. has hosted the Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo for dog lovers and their families wanting to dress up and have a little fun.

It has become one of Vero Beach's favorite Halloween traditions, said Shelly Ferger, CEO and founder/ director of Training Programs. This year the event took place at the Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park on Oct. 22.

There were vendors set up throughout the dog park. Even the Indian River County Sheriff's Department hosted a K-9 demonstration. "Everyone wins something. We have a prize for every pawrade participant! Little stuffed, scaredy-cats, stuffed pumpkins, and ghosts," Ferger said. Shelly began the ceremony with a warm welcome

followed by a moment of silence in memory of Indian River County Firefighter and Chief David Dangerfield, who recently committed suicide after suffering from PTSD.

Retired U.S. Army staff sergeant James Taylor and his PTSD service dog, Pia-Pia, were both recognized with a special award, presented by Dogs For Life's vice president Kathi Schumann.

SWAT Team member Ron Adamson appeared eager to speak after the K-9 demo. He describes his commitment to the community as one he has fun undertaking," Every other week we have some kind demonstration. Whether it is for schools, D.A.R.E. programs, or events like these. We have a lot of fun doing it."

It was Susan Micheel and her therapy dog Cody the Land Shark's first time attending the event. She dressed up as a shark victim, wearing a diving mask and snorkel as well as a life-saving float buoy around her waist. Cody wore a shark costume.

"We love it! Cody is a Dogs For Life dog so we thought we would come and honor the event by representing the agency and its great work," Susan said.

Dogs for Life is one of only four training facilities in Florida sanctioned by the Veterans Administration and accredited by Assistance Dogs International. They can cross train animals to serve in different capacities. For veterans suffering from PTSD, there's help for them at Dogs for Life. For the hearing impaired in need of hope, Dogs For Life can offer assistance. Please call 772-567-8969 or visit DogsforLifevb.org to find out how.

BRENDA SPOSATO

BRENDA SPOSATO

Mary Streff, Jessica Jenkins and Bobby Clark,

Treasure Coast Newspapers | Luminaries + | Monday, October 31, 2016 | 25

IRENDA SPOSATO Quilts of Valor volunteers Karen Bauer, holding Sunny, and **Devon Williams**





BRENDA SPOSATO SWAT Team members James Betancourt and Christian Matheson



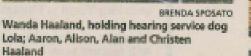
BRENDA SPOSATO SWAT Team members Richard Henson and Ron Adamson





BRENDA SPOSATO Jessica Jacobs and her service dog in training, River





POOCHES ON 'PAW-RADE'

Dogs For Life Expo raises funds to aid veterans

Mary Kemper

mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

It was canine capers galore at the 15th Annual Dogs For Life Howl-O-Ween Paw-rade and Expo Oct. 22 at the Dogs For Life complex in Vero Beach.

The akies were sunny and the air was crisp and breezy for the event, which saw a large turnout.

More than 50 dogs and their companions dressed up and marched to help Dogs For Life's mission to provide veterans with service dogs at no cost to themselves.

A large appreciative crowd applauded the marchers, and took their chances on several raffled items generously donated to the cause.

Members of the K9 unit of the Indian River County Sheriff's Office put on a display of the prowess of their Belgian Malinois working dogs.

"Oh, we've been coming here for years now," said Wanda Haaland, who was there with her granddaughter, Alison, and service dog Lola (hearing). "It's a lot of fun, and of course I want to help [Dogs For Life] any way I can." While Lola was dressed in a festive skirt, other costumes included



LEFT, THEN CLOCKWISE: Wanda Haaland and her granddaughter Alison, Vero Beach, brought service dog Lola, a Javanese, to the Howi-O-Ween Dog Expo Oct. 22 at the Dogs For Life complex in Vero Beach.

Oliver, a Yorkshire terrier, chills out in his beach shirt with companion Crystal Charity, Vero Beach, Oct. 22 at the Howl-O-Ween Dog Expo at the Dogs for Life complex in Vero Beach.

Lynnea Porter, Vero Beach, brought Baby (in her arms) and Google to the Howl-O-Ween Dog Expo Oct. 22 at the Dogs For Life complex in Vero Beach.

Staff photos by Mary Kemper

Stan prosent () .

sharks, Wonder Woman, pumpkins, and even a large garden gnome (worn by a huge Newfoundland hound). The annual event is Dogs For Life's main fundraiser. While the organization conducts regular dog training, such as obedience classes, its most

important program is matching veterans with service dogs, and training them to assist, at no cost to the veterans themselves. Many disabilities are covered, such

as sight, hearing and mobility. However, veterans returning from Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom suffer from PTSD, and Dogs For Life provides extensive and expert training to dogs to provide emotional and physical support. Dogs can be trained to "secure perimeters" in unfamiliar locations, brace themselves against the veteran during a panic attack, and gently awaken them during nightmares, among other tasks, including dialing a special 911 phone.





cond.

Veteran Voice. Oct 27,2016.5

Dogs For Life depends on its yearly "marchers" and others to help fund its vital mission, including generous sponsors.

To learn more about Dogs For Life and its veteran service dog program, or to donate, visit dogsforlifevb.org.

VERO BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - Links to the Cultural Council's calendar

Christ By The Sea Annual Pumpkin Patch Festival Day @ Christ by the Sea United Methodist Church Comedy Zone – Oktoberfest Nights @ Riverside Theatre

Fall 2 Gymnastics registration @ Leisure Square

Goodtime Getaways: Mount Dora Craft Festival

Goodtime Getaways: Tampa Fun Fest Weekend

Gymnastics Registration @ Leisure Square

Rocktoberfest @ Indian River County Fairgrounds

The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley

Bird and Nature Art Show and Birding Festival @ Environmental Learning Center

Fall 2 Gymnastics Registration 8:00 am - 2:00 pm @ Leisure Square Fitness Center - Centerstage Facility

St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church Fall Bazaar 9:00 am - 1:00 pm @ St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church

Handel String Project Rehearsals - Open to Violin, Viola, Cello & Bass Players 9:30 am - 10:30 am @ Port St. Lucie Community Center

Studio Classes with Dawn E. Miller 10:00 am - 1:00 pm @ STUDIO-Deborah Gooch

Treasure Coast Science Festival @ Veterans Memorial Park-Fort Pierce Riverwalk 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Introduction to Mindfulness and Meditation Workshop 11:00 am - 2:30 pm @ Center for Spiritual Care Lisa Steffens - Inner Vision - Exhibition Closing Reception 11:00 am - 3:00 pm @ RAW Space Dad's Christmas Miracle 2:00 pm @ Vero Beach High School Performing Arts Center Howl O Ween Dog Costume Contest Pawrade & Pet Expo 2:00 pm @ Dogs for Life Off Leash Dog Park

DILLARD'S BLACK DIAMOND AFFAIR CHARITY EVENT 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm @ DILLARD'S Indian River Mall Dillard's Black Diamond Affair to benefit H.A.L.O. 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm @ Indian River Mall Frightening 4K Run Walk 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm @ South Beach Park

Masquerade, Martinis, & Masterpleces 6:00 pm - 12:00 am

VIEWPOINT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2016 • VERO BEACH • WWW.HOMETOWNNEWSOL.COM • PAGE 6

Rants & Raves



Photo courtesy of Megan Hodges Vicky Cules and her dog Cody clearly know how to celebrate the changing seasons.



4 • OCTOBER 13, 2016 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Your Online News-Line

Dress up your pooch to help a vet

Mary Kemper STAFF WRITER mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

It will be canine capers galore on Oct. 22 at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach. That's right — it's almost time for the 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade and Pet Expo, where pooches strut their stuff and much-needed funds are raised to help connect disabled veterans with service dogs at no cost to themselves.

Hundreds gather each year with their furry friends in their best costumes, and a good time is always had by all. Vendors are on hand to quench thirst and appetite, exciting items are raffled, a display will be presented by the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit, and a Color Guard will be presented by VFW Post 3918. Dogs For Life founder and CEO Shelly Ferger will serve as master of ceremonies.

*Remember not to dress your dog in any way that might cause harm, and to get them

used to wearing the costume well before the event," stresses the Dogs For Life website, dogsforlifevg.org. "Do this by giving your dog lots of treats while they are starting to get used to their costume, reducing the treats a little at a time, each time you put their costumes on



Anything about Everyching!

Source: Wikimedia Commons

It looks like two dogs, but it's only one - at the upcoming Dogs For Life 'Howl-O-Ween Paw-rade,' slated for Oct. 22 at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, the sky's the limit on how to best put your pooch forward to help veterans connect with service dogs.

them. Make sure you tell them how cute they are. Dogs love the word awwwwwwwwww." The event begins at 2 p.m., and will conclude at 5 p.m., with the Pawrade taking place

The Voice of Experience

Veteran Voice is a newspaper for veterans, active military, their families and their friends.

Veteran Voice is published weekly by Veteran Voice, LLC. 1919 SW South Macedo Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984

at 4 p.m. It's free to the public, but the Pawrade and Expo relies on its sponsors. Sponsorships begin at \$25, with mentions on the Dogs For Life website and Facebook page, on up to \$5,000, which includes substantial advertising and a spot in the VIP tent. One of Dogs For Life's main missions is to select and train

trained to dial 911 on a special phone, and alert their companions to fire or other emergencies.

All of this costs a significant amount, and Dogs For Life depends on its generous donors. Even if you can't attend the



Pawrade and Expo and

wouldn't

(772) 247-0123 Office

LEGAL NOTICE ADVERTISING Morth: St. (acie. Indian River & Brevent) Frankie Agosto or Tori Spoth 407-286-0807 Legal notices may be emailed to: legal@flalegals.com (please note county in the subject line)

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Mary Kemper Staff Writer/ Marketing Consultant

Patrick McCallister **Contributing Writer**

> Ted Elkins Subscriptions

Frankle Agosto Legol Advertising

Tori Spoth Legal Advertising

Sharon Elkins Managing Partner

have disabilities with sight, hearing, mobility or PTSD.

service dogs for

veterans who

Training involves both the veteran and his or her dog for many weeks. It ltakes place at the Dogs For Life training center and in the veteran's home, as well as real-life situations like eating at a restaurant or going shopping.

For veterans with PTSD, a service dog is trained to "secure perimeters" in an unfamiliar place, or brace themselves against the veteran during an anxiety attack, among other tasks. Service dogs are also

For Veterans you want to? It's a hoot!) consider giving a donation of whatever you can afford. Just go to dogsforlifevb.org and click on either the "donate" button or "how you can help" tab.

But it's much more fun to show up and march. The costumes get more and more creative each year. Knowing you're helping veterans makes it even better.

See you there - woof!

Den Edna

We appreciate to much all your "latters" you donated to the Center . Shank you for your thought fullows? Ale Clients : Staff at Serier ferrie Association







15th Annual Howl-O-Ween **Dog Costume Pawrade**

> SATURDAY October 22, 2016 FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Registration starts at 2:00PM-Pawrade at 4:00PM 1230 16th Ave, Vero Beach at the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Hobo Jim will be providing live entertainment Food & Beverages by the IR County 4-H Dog Masters Club VFW Post 3918 Color Guard Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit More exciting raffle items this year!!



INSIDE VERO ONLINE NEWS

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

Come and celebrate our 15th year! 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

DATE: October 22, 2016

TIME: 2-5 PM - Pawrade at 4 PM

LOCATION: 1230 16th Avenue - Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park

Shelly	Ferger
--------	--------

From:	
Sent:	
To:	
Subject:	

Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Tuesday, October 18, 2016 4:01 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign DFL Howl-O-Ween.. Get Your Pawrade On has been sent

Constant Contact 📈

Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'DFL Howl-O-Ween.. Get Your Pawrade On' was sent on 10/18/2016 around 4:00 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: DFL Howl-O-Ween.. Get Your Pawrade On

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Event Underwriter Prinz Schumann

Join All Your Friends! at the Dogs For Life, Inc.

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

at the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach

Saturday October 22, 2016

FREE TO THE PUBLIC Registration starts at 2:00 PM Pawrade at 4:00 PM

Exhibitors will demonstrate and sell products

MORE EXCITING RAFFLE ITEMS THIS YEAR!

Hobo Jim will be providing live entertainment Food & Beverages by IR County 4-H Dog Masters Club VFW - American Legion Color Guard Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit Demo



Video - Last year's Pawrade





Vero Beach, FL 32960



Join us for a "howling" good time!



IT WAS A HOWLING SUCCESS

Sponsored by Henry Schumann of the Schumann family; Dyer Subaru; Dale Sorensen Real Estate; Snill n Barkens; and Windsor.

October 24: More than 70 local dogs dressed up in their best "Howl-O-Ween" costumes at the 14th annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume & Pet Expo at the Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park. The Pawrade opened with the American Legion Color Guard, followed by Dogs for Life Assistance dogs. CEO and founder Shelly Ferger announced all pawrade participants on the promenade before VIPs and guests. Attendees enjoyed music by Hobo Jim, a K-9 Demonstration by the Indian River County Sheriff's Department, raffles and other activities. More than \$25,000 was raised to improve the quality of life for people and dogs through the training of assistance dogs and pet therapy dogs, as well as the operation of a safe and clean off-leash dog park.



Katle and her puppy Auggie



CEO and Dogs For Life Founder Shelly Ferger with veteran Jim Taylor

VERO BEACH MAGAZINE

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Community News

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

Come and celebrate our 15th year! 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

DATE: October 22, 2016

TIME: 2 - 5 PM - Pawrade at 4 PM

LOCATION: 1230 16th Avenue - Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park

Riverside Theatre's 2016-2017 Theatre Arts Workshops

Riverside Theatre's Education Program announces a season of Theatre Arts Workshops geared to enhance each child's imagination and creativity. Developed to further enhance the experience of live performances, these classes will engage and enlighten students in the world of theatre.

Whether the child's interest is in singing, acting, dancing, directing, or even in the technical aspects of a show, each Theatre Arts Workshop will feature age appropriate experiences, topics and skills.

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Community News Reply

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

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Come and celebrate our 15th year! 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, the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit will present an exciting demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard will open the Pawrade. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

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DATE: October 22, 2016
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TIME: 2-5 PM - Pawrade at 4 PM

LOCATION: 1230 16th Avenue - Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park

Treasure Coast Newspapers Luminaries • Monday, October 3, 2016

13



ON THE BRIGHT SIDE STEPHANIE LABAFF

l love a parade

The 15th annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo will be held Oct. 22, at the Dogs For Life Dog Park, 1230 16th Ave.

Registration begins at 2 p.m., and the Pawrade starts at 4 p.m.

The event is free to the public and will also offer raffle items, entertainment, food and beverages by the IRC 4-H Dog Masters Club, VFW Post 3918 Color Guard and the IRC Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit Demonstration.

Businesses interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the event can call Dogs for Life for more information 772-567-8969 or visit DogsForLifeVB.org.

Treasure Coast Newspapers

Luminaries • | Monday, October 10, 2016 5

Oct. 22, 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo, 2 p.m., to benefit Dogs for Life, DFL Dog Park, Vero Beach. Raffles, live entertainment by Hobo Jim, more. Ticket: Free. 772-567-8969; DogsForLifeVb.org

OeT. 2-2016

My Dear, Shelly-ENCLOSED IS MY MENBERShip & Yor The Dog park. Sorry I'4 Late! - I will Neud some conTRIBUTION JOR DTL QTLE. end of the year from our Foundation Thank you toe your Letters & FUND Raising-and 2do Like The new QMBLEY! 2'LL NEVER PORGET YOU and Dogstorhfe!

She's St.IL BeAutiful - 21LL be LOST withouther !!-Love you -VET 13 KATTIS STENGARD-2 Life ps. My Vet 13

SEASON PREVIEW CALENDAR

DAISY WILL BE 16 in December, 2016. Yal gave her hutur Bam!! Shes OKhas a HARD TITE Getting up-She's on 'ha PREVOCOX every one day, which boes hElp, some She Loves The etticken 2: cook for lu-aps sometiker toos (K.D. dry+ Cannes)-Lois of MeDS-AZODYL, ThyRoid, Fish Oik +AB(2); FORTI- FLORA; VITE -

Les alap!! P.P.S AnD - CONGRATULATIONS ON Best Dog Park in YUNO!!! Of COURSe !!!! 3

INDIAN RIVER County - Hometown News | 11

SATURDAY, OCT. 22

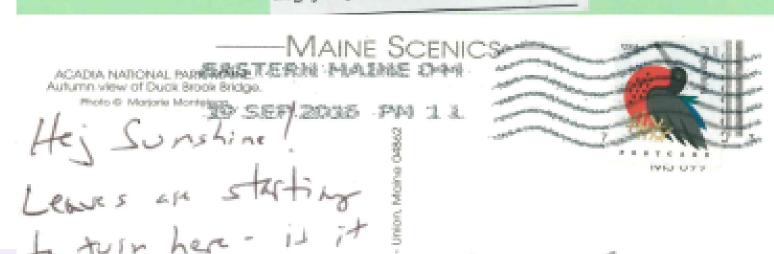
• 15th annual Howi-O-Ween Deg Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo: Dogs for Life Dog Park, 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach. Registration begins at 2 p.m., the Pawrade starts at 4 p.m. This event is free to the public and will also offer raffle items, live entertainment by Hobo Jim, food & beverages by the IRC 4-H Dog Masters Club, VFW Post 3918 Color Guard and the IRC Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit Demonstration, Businesses that are interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the event can call Dogs for Life for more information (772) 567-8969 or visit www.dogsforilfevb.org

6 • SEPTEMBER 29, 2016 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Calendar

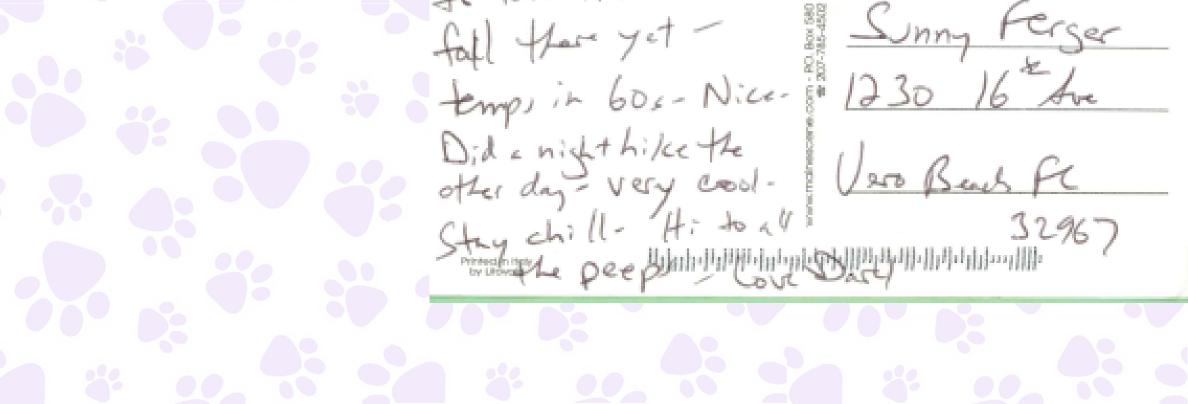
Saturday, Oct. 22

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume "Pawrade" & Pet Expo, Dogs For Life Dog Park, 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach. Registration begins at 2 p.m. and the Pawrade starts at 4 p.m. Event is free to the public and will also offer raffle items, live entertainment by Hobo Jim, Food and beverages by the Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club, VFW Post 3918 Color Guard and a demonstration by the Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit. Businesses interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at the event can call Dogs for Life for more information at (772) 567-8969 or visit the website www. dogsforlifevb.org





HOWL-O-WEEN PAWRADE







15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

at the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park—1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach 500+ DOG LOVERS, SPECTATORS & OVER 100 DOGS IN COSTUME!!



SATURDAY October 22, 2016 FREE TO THE PUBLIC Registration starts at 2:00PM Pawrade at 4:00PM

Exhibitors: Demonstrate and sell products, distribute samples and business literature Sponsors: Promote your name, your business name or pet's name with your sponsorship

More exciting raffle items this year!!

Hobo Jim will be providing live entertainment Food & Beverages by the IR County 4-H Dog Masters Club VFW Post 3918 Color Guard

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

Call (772)567-8969 with any questions

Email: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org All donations are fully tax deductible!





For Veterans

15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo DFL Off-Leash Dog Park - 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach

October 22, 2016 2 - 5 PM ~ Pawrade at 4 PM

500+ DOG LOVERS, SPECTATORS AND OVER 100 DOGS IN COSTUME !!

Exhibitors: Demonstrate and Sell Products, Distribute Samples and Business Literature Sponsors: Promote your Name, Your Business Name or Pet's Name with your sponsorship Free Booth Space for Non-Profit Organizations. Must show proof of non-profit status. ~ All Donations Are Fully Tax-Deductible! ~

			entry can be a strong of	Contract and the second states and a
Sponsor Exhibitor Levels	Exhibitor Space Available	Pawrade Route Recognition Signs	Permanent Dog Park Donor Bones	Additional Recognition Levels
\$ 25		Individual Sponsor		DFL Website, Facebook, Day of Event Handout
\$ 50	_	Business Sponsor	_	DFL Website, Facebook, Day of Event Handout
S100	10 X 10	Puppy Dog Sponsor Petite Sign 1'X 1 ½'	Small	DFL Website, Facebook, Day of Event Handout
\$250	10 X 20	Good Dog Sponsor Small Sign 2' X 1 ½'	Small	DFL Website, Facebook, Day of Event Handout VIP Tent Invitation
\$500	10 X 30	Big Dog Sponsor Medium Sign 2 ½' x 2'	Medium	DFL Website, Facebook, Day of Event Handout VIP Tent Invitation
\$1,000	20 X 40	Top Dog Sponsor Large Sign 3' X 2'	Large	Logo Displayed, Newspaper & DFL Website, Facebook, Constant Contact - VIP Tent Invitation
\$2,500	20 X 50	Best In Show Sponsor X-Large Sign 3' X 4'	Large	Logo Displayed, Newspaper & DFL Website, Facebook, Constant Contact - VIP Tent Invitation Sign prominently facing Pawrade Start Line

\$5,000 30	0 X 50	Pawrade Sponsor X-Large Sign 3' X 4'	X - Large	Logo Displayed, Newspaper & DFL Website, Facebook, Constant Contact - VIP Tent Invitation Sign prominently facing Pawrade Start Line
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- Sponsorship allows your name, your pet's name, or your business to advertise the day of the event on a sign to be displayed on the off-leash dog park property or fence line.
- Exhibitor space starting at \$100, allows your business to set up a tent or table along the Pawrade route, additional signage along the Pawrade route and a permanent display of a donor bone in the dog park.
- We strongly encourage all Exhibitors to supply their own tent as shade cannot be guaranteed. For your convenience, tents may be set up Friday evening and will be coordinated with the DFL office.







You are making a difference in the quality of life for people and dogs right here in Indian River county! 230 16th Avenue • Vero Beach, FL 32960 • 772-567-8969 • dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net • www.dogsforlifevb.com

Hurricane Matthew

Shelly Ferger at Dogs For Life

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Tuesday, October 04, 2016 12:12 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign Dog Park Closing Wed for Matthew has been sent

Constant Contact 📈

Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'Dog Park Closing Wed for Matthew' was sent on 10/4/2016 around 12:12 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: Dog Park Closing Wed for Matthew

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

We are preparing for Matthew

We are currently preparing the DFL Training Center and off-leash dog park for hurricane Matthew!

Hoping damage will be minimal but expect flooding.

As of today the entrance gate to the Large Training area is closed.

Sometime tomorrow the remaining gates will be locked. I'll wait as late in the day as possible, depending on when the security team arrives to shut

down the lock system to save the potential of lightening strike damage.

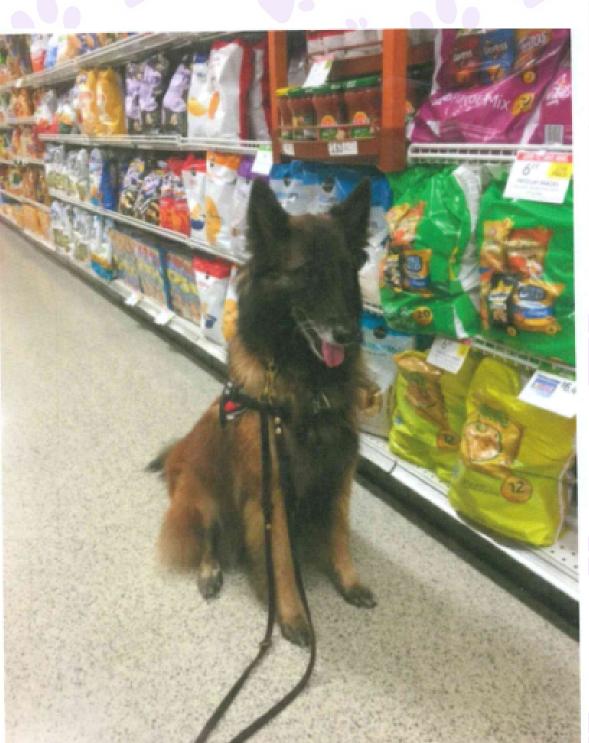
Following the storm, the dog park will re-open as soon as possible. Expect a week for the property to dry up.

If the only reason for remaining closed is cleaning up debris, I may call upon volunteers. Contractors may be in short supply.

I will send out a notice once the park is safe to open.

Stay safe, and REMEMBER don't let your dog drink or walk in standing water after the storm. Red ants, snakes and such (maybe crabs) will be on the move until the water recedes. ~ Shelly

P.A.C.T. Training







Paw Prints Newsletter

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Monday, October 24, 2016 12:02 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign DFL Paw Prints Newsletter is lost but attached has been sent

Constant Contact 📈

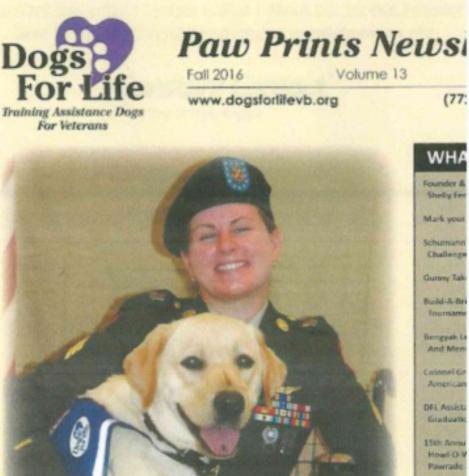
Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'DFL Paw Prints Newsletter is lost but attached' was sent on 10/24/2016 around 12:02 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: DFL Paw Prints Newsletter is lost but attached

The DFL Paw Prints Newsletter Fall Edition is Lost but Attached!





DFL Paw Prints Newsletter Fall 2016

Click on the above link to download your copy.

Please let the DFL office know at 772-567-8969 if/when you receive your hard copy. The DFL Paw Prints Newsletter was mailed on October 13 but as of Saturday no one we spoke with have received one.

We're following up with the USPS :(

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Wednesday, October 12, 2016 12:18 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign DFL Dog Park Not Today :(has been sent

Constant Contact' 💒

Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'DFL Dog Park Not Today :(' was sent on 10/12/2016 around 12:18 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: DFL Dog Park Not Today :(

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!



Many dangling limbs have been

removed from the trees, however the tree crew has not returned yet today.

There is still too much work for the crew to possibly finish today, so the park will not be opening this afternoon :(

I know we are all going through withdraws.. especially our dogs.

SEPTEMBER







Board of Directors

Eleanor M. Bengyak President Kathi G. Schumann Vice-President Linda Liss Treasurer Shelly Ferger Founder & Secretary Toni Gibson Karen Wyderski

Honorary Board Members

Robert G. Bowman Anthony J. Donadio Ann W. Ford Marie Gookin Darrell Horn, DVM Richard & Jane Manoogian Marjorie Owens Janet F. Riley Jocelyn Woodruff

Staff

Shelly Ferger, Founder/CEO & Director of Training Lisa Lopez Administrative Assistant & Volunteer Coordinator L. A. Bykowsky, (USAF) Veteran Dog Program Coordinator Joan Freeman Program Specialist Lisa Snycerski Training Coordinator



Member International Association of stance Dog Partners



September 21, 2016

Name Address Address City, State, Zip

Dear.

Would you like your name, business, non-profit name or dog's name to be recognized by 500+ dog lovers and spectators, and contribute to the training of Hearing, Service and Veteran Dog Teams at the same time?

> You can, by participating in Dogs For Life's, 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo

October 22, 2016 2-5 PM - Pawrade at 4 PM 1230 16th Avenue - DFL Off-Leash Dog Park

You are invited to reserve a premier sponsorship or exhibitor location at this bigger and better than ever community event! We expect even more exhibitors and sponsors for our 15th Annual Howl Event, so do not delay!

Confirm your participation by completing and returning the enclosed registration form today! Please display the enclosed poster even if you choose not to participate in the event.

As a Pawrade Sponsor, you will receive premiere coverage the day of the event.

Sponsors of \$1,000 or more will also have their logos displayed on all advertising, DFL's Website, Facebook and Day-of-Event Handouts.

Non-profit, military or first responder groups can reserve space for free!

Activities Include: This year's raffle items will be better than ever! Hobo Jim will be providing live entertainment. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Be sure to check out the ever-popular Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit demonstration and the VFW Post 3918 Color Guard.

Your support is fully tax-deductible and benefits people and dogs by funding DFL's assistance dog, veteran dog and pet-assisted therapy dog training programs, as well as our many community outreach programs including our beautiful 4-acre Off-Leash Dog Park.

Please send your reply on the enclosed form. If you have any questions at all, please contact me right away at (772) 567-8969.

ffiank, you, 12 Shelly Ferger

Kathi

Kathi G. Schumann & Prinz Event Underwriters

1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, Florida 32960 (772) 567-8969 E-mail: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net
 Website: www.dogsforlifevb.org Please remember Dogs For Life in your will, trust or other estate plans



Dogs For Life, Inc. 15th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo Exhibitor / Sponsor Agreement

Name of Exhibitor/Company/Organization: Yes, I / We want to participate as an event: Contact Name:	Exhibitor /	Sponsor Phone	number:		e one or both!	
Address/City/St/Zip: E-Mail address: Payment method: Amount \$ Credit Card Number:		or Check #		payable to I	Dogs For Life, Inc. CVV:	

Item donated toward raffle:

Value: \$

I am participating at the \$5,000 - \$100 levels, I would like the following printed on my dog park donor bone:

Dog Park donor bones are permanently displayed at the off-leash dog park and may be "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" a person, pet or business

Please enclose your check made payable to Dogs For Life, along with this completed registration form and send them to: Please enclose your check made payable to Dogs For Line, atom with the computer strateging of the stra

Payments must be received by 10/8/16 or inclusion in recognition signage is not guaranteed.

Conditions & Regulations:

- Subletting of space by exhibitor is prohibited and all supplies, signs, etc. shall remain within the exhibitor's assigned 1) space. No electricity, tables, chairs, or tents will be provided.
- Once checks are received by DFL, exhibitors are not entitled to a refund of any part should the exhibitor for any 2) reason be unable to attend the event.
- DFL has the option to cancel or reassign exhibit space. DFL will be entitled to close an exhibit at any time for failure 3) by any exhibitor to perform, meet, or observe any term or condition set forth herein, and such exhibitor shall not be entitled to a refund of any part of the fee. Returned checks incur a \$35 fee.
- 4)
- Non-Profit Organizations must show proof of 501 (c)(3) status for FREE booth space. If the event should be cancelled for circumstances beyond DFL's control, i.e. act of God, act of war, government emergency, or the unavailability of the expo site for any reason, exhibitors may be refunded their paid rental fee, less 5) a percentage equal to the cost incurred by DFL to date.
- a percentage equal to the cost incurred by DF. to date.
 bFL, nor any of their officers, agents, employees or other representatives shall be held accountable or liable for, and the same are hereby released from accountability or liability for any damage, loss, harm or injury to the person or property of the applicant or any of its officers, agents, employees or other representatives, resulting from theft, fire, water, accident or any other cause.
- 7) The applicant hereby agrees to indemnify, defend and protect DFL and the Expo grounds against and hold DFL harmless from any and all claims, demands, suits, liability, damages, loss, costs, attorney fees and expense of whatever kind or nature which might result from or arise out of any action or failure to act by the applicant or any of its officers, agents, employees, or other representatives, including but not limited to claims or damage or loss to property.
- Any photos, videos, or audio taken at the Expo can be used by DFL for any form of advertising or promotion.

Authorized Signature_

Date

Community Outreach Programs

Off-Leash Dog Park memberships for owners of dogs that are inoculated, neutered and social. Dog behavior and park orientations are scheduled by appointment and an orientation fee is required. Walking trails, water and shaded oak trees are all a part of this safe and controlled environment.



Dog Behavior Workshops and Obedience Training is available for the public by appointment for a nominal fee.

4-H Dog Masters Club promotes responsible pet ownership, self-confidence and leadership skills. This program is sponsored by DFL at no cost to the club and is available to youths between the ages of 8 and 18.



Donations are needed, appreciated and fully tax deductible.

Dogs For Life Mission

A non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training assistance dogs, pet-assisted therapy dogs and owning and operating an off-leash dog park.

Assistance Dog Training: DFL specializes in task training hearing and mobility service dogs to help their owners lead a life of independence and self-reliance.

Assistance Dogs for Veterans: This program is dedicated to providing dogs to the brave men and women who honorably served our country, many of whom suffer from the effects of posttraumatic stress, hearing and/or mobility loss.

Hearing Dogs are trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, a telephone ring, a smoke alarm or an alarm clock. Many other sounds can be added to meet a client's individual needs.

Service Dogs assist with mobility challenges and psychological support. They can be trained to open and close doors, turn lights on and off, assist with balance and tap a specialized K-9 emergency phone for help. The dogs can also create a safe zone around their human partner. provide pressure for a calming effect or reduce stress and hyper-vigilance through specialized task work.

Assistance Dog Training Center

In response to growing needs in our community and beyond, Dogs For Life constructed a 2,400 sq. ft. air-conditioned Assistance Dog Training Center at our 4 acre Off-Leash Dog Park at 1230 16th Avenue.

The building houses administrative and training areas, with the larger space and central location allowing us to better support the people who need our specialized services. We now have a simulated home environment and can train dogs year round, which helped expand our assistance dog program and increase the reach of our community based programs.



Administrative Offices, Training Center and Off-Leash Dog Park





"Sissy Girl" hits automatic door opener for Fred



"Precious" taps K-9 emergency phone



Improving the Quality of Life for **People and Dogs** AT NO COST TO OUR CLIENTS



Harmony, U.S. Army Veteran and her service dog "Gunny"

Assistance Dog Training Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 567-8969

Average Cost to Train a Service Dog Thanks to your donations, Dogs For Life is able to train

dogs for our c	lients free of ch	arge.	
Team Evaluation Proces Client Application Review Home Visit; Head Trainer &	s UNIT \$50/hr.	AVG. #	TOTAL \$200
Assigned Trainer Shelter Visits & Dog Tempera	\$75 ament	1	\$75
Evaluation	\$50/hr.	6	\$300
Cost to Adopt Dog	\$120	1	\$120
Administrative Record Keeping	ng \$50/hr.	6	\$300
Training Equipment			
ID Card - In Training	\$15	1	\$15
Jacket & Patches - In Trainin		1	\$125
Canine 911 Emergency Phone		1	\$264
Training Supplies	\$250	1	\$250
Basic Behavior / Obedien	ce Training		
Group Obedience Classes	\$100	4	\$400
AKC Canine Good Citizen Tes		2	\$20
Public Access Training	\$75/hr.	10	\$750
Administrative Record Keeping	ng \$50/hr.	6	\$300
Task Training: 3 Tasks M	inimum		
Assigned Trainer	\$42/hr.	120	\$5,040
Head Trainer	\$75/hr.	36	\$2,700
Administrative Record Keeping	ng \$50/hr.	96	\$4,608
Certification Costs			
ID Card - Certified	\$15	1	\$15
Personalized Collar & Leash;			
New Jacket Patches	\$150	1	\$150
Administrative Record Keeping	ng \$50/hr.	3	\$150
тот	AL Initial Trai	ining \$	15,782
Annual Recertification &	Support		
Annual Recertification	\$750	10 yrs.	\$7,500
Annual ID Cards	\$15	10 yrs.	\$150





Pet-Assisted Therapy: Our certified volunteer dog teams have been providing unconditional love and support to children and seniors in Indian River county since 2002. DFL teams also bring warmth and comfort to people at assisted living facilities.



Replacement Jackets, Collars & Leashes \$175 Administrative Record Keeping \$50/hr.	10	\$700 \$500	
TOTAL	4	24,632	
Additional Costs For DFL Pre-Trained I	Dog:		

Initial Exams & Vaccinatio Heartworm/Fiea Meds	ns , \$290 \$40 Subtotal	1 6 mos.	\$280 \$240 \$520	
DFL Housing Costs Cost of Service Dog Puppy Boarding Food & Treats Crate & Dog Bed	\$1,000 \$25/day \$100 \$400 Subtotal	1 6 mos. 6 mos. 1	\$1,000 \$4,550 \$600 \$400 \$6,550	
GRAND TOTAL w/Addit	tional Costs	\$	31,702	

our donation is tax deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal income tax reposes under section 501(s) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, Registration is

We are grateful for your support. Should you have any ns please call our office at (772) 567-8969.

opy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from th islon of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800) 435-7352 within the state

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE DOGS

Guide Dogs assist their blind or visually impaired partners to independently and safely negotiate the environment by guiding them around obstacles, safely across streets and stopping at curbs and steps.

Hearing Dogs assist their deaf or hearing impaired partners by alerting them to sounds such as a smoke alarm, telephone, alarm clock, door bells, sirens, stove, or dryer timers.

Service Dogs assist with mobility challenges and psychological support. They can be trained to open and close doors, turn lights on and off, assist with balance and tap a specialized K-9 emergency phone for help. The dogs can also create a safe zone around their human partner, provide pressure for a calming effect or reduce stress and hyper-vigilance through specialized task work.

Larry, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and his service dog "Lola"

Laws that protect the rights of people with disabilities who have task trained their service dogs:

Federal laws which protect individuals with disabilities include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA, revised 2010); the Fair Housing Amendments Act (1988); Sect 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (1973); and the Air Carrier Access Act (1986).

The ADA is the federal law that governs access rights to buildings, businesses and public accommodations for people with service dogs. For more information, visit www.ada.gov or call 1-800-514-0301.

The ADA and Florida law both define a service animal as any dog that is trained to do work or

SOME PEOPLE DO NOT "LOOK" DISABLED. WHY DO THEY NEED AN ASSISTANCE DOG?

When you see an assistance dog "on duty," be assured there is a good reason for it, even if the human partner does not use obvious equipment such as a wheelchair or a cane. The human partner undoubtedly has something known as a "hidden disability" such as balance issues, a hearing impairment, traumatic brain injury, or psychological challenges.

HOW DO I RECOGNIZE AN ASSISTANCE DOG?

Most assistance dogs wear a tag, vest, harness, or backpack, **however**, these forms of identification are **not** required by law. You should never pet an assistance dog when it is working as this could distract the dog's focus from its human partner. You can talk to the person, not the dog, if they are not busy and are able to see or hear you.



1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 567-8969 dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org 9-2016

Florida State Statute 413.08 defines the rights and responsibilities of an individual with a disability, use of a service animal and prohibited discrimination in employment, public accommodations and housing accommodations. The law also provides for criminal penalties in the following circumstances:

Any person, firm, or corporation, or the agent of any person, firm or corporation, who denies or interferes with admittance to, or enjoyment of, a public accommodation, or otherwise interferes with the rights of an individual with a disability or the trainer of a service animal while engaged in the training of such an animal, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree. (SS 4)

A person who knowingly and willfully misrepresents him or herself as using and being qualified to use a service animal or as a trainer of a service animal commits a misdemeanor of the second degree. (SS 9)



Legal Rights for People with Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs, and Service Dogs



Assistance dogs are "task trained" to mitigate the disability of the people who own them.



individual the option of continuing access to the public accommodation without having the service dog on the premises.

Summary of Law:

Physically or psychologically disabled persons have the legal right to be accompanied by a specially trained dog in business establishments, housing and accommodations where the general public has access and on all common carriers. No extra charge can be levied because of the dog's presence, but the dog user is liable for any damage the dog might cause to the premises.

Businesses

When it is not obvious what service an animal provides, only limited inquiries are permitted. Business owners or employees may ask two questions: (1) is the dog a service animal

perform tasks for a person with a physical or psychological disability; the work or task must be directly related to the individual's disability. The disabled person must have a diagnosed impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.

Service dogs are working animals, not pets. A dog used only for crime deterrence, emotional support, comfort or companionship does not qualify as a service animal under the ADA or Florida law.

These laws protect the rights of individuals with disabilities to be accompanied by their trained service dogs in taxis, buses, trains, stores, restaurants, doctors' offices, schools, parks, hotels and other public places.

Reasons to Deny Access

Under Federal Law, SS 36.302 (c)(2) of the ADA, access can be denied for two reasons: (1) the animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it; or (2) the animal is not housebroken.

Under Florida Law, FSS 413.08 (3)(f) access can also be denied if the dog's behavior poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others. Allergies and fear of dogs are not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to an individual with a service dog. If a service dog is properly excluded or removed, the public accommodation must provide the disabled required because of a disability; (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to do.

Staff cannot ask about the person's disability, require medical documentation, require a special identification card or training documentation for the dog, or ask that the dog demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task.

Service dogs can be any breed or size and are not legally required to wear special equipment or tags. Certification or registration of the dog as a service animal is not required under federal or Florida law. It's the training to do work or perform tasks that makes a service dog legal, not the ID or "clothes" they wear.

Dog Park Application

Application Approval

I have read, signed and understand the Off-Leash Dog Park application.

- I understand that all dogs can bite. I realize I am responsible for my dog's safety and assume all risks for myself and my dog for injury, loss or theft.
- I have attended the Canine Behavior Workshop. I understand there may be situations where my dog is not compatible with other dogs in the dog park.
- The dog described in this application has attended the required temperament evaluation.
- I agree to remove my dog from the park if, at any time, it is found to be incompatible with a dog or person already in the park upon my arrival.
- My dog is currently vaccinated. I will provide current proof of vaccinations, and I understand proof of vaccinations are required every year.

Owner's Initials

Date

Evaluator's Signature

Date

To be signed on Dog Park orientation date.

Our Mission

A non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training assistance dogs, pet-assisted therapy dogs and owning and operating an off-leash dog park.

Our Programs

Assistance Dog Training: DFL specializes in task training hearing and mobility service dogs to help their owners lead a life of independence and self-reliance.

Assistance Dogs for Veterans: This program is dedicated to providing dogs to the brave men and women who honorably served our country, many of whom suffer from the effects of post-traumatic stress, hearing and/or mobility loss.

Pet-Assisted Therapy: Our certified volunteer dog teams have been providing unconditional love and support to children and seniors in Indian River county since 2002. DFL teams also bring warmth and comfort to people at assisted living facilities.

Community Outreach: These programs include dog behavior and obedience training for the public and dog park members, as well as sponsorship of the Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club.





Training Assistance Dogs For Veterans Email: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org

Dogs For Life, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization as described under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). Federal ID# 31-1800397

9-2016



Off-Leash Dog Park



- 4 acres safe, clean, fenced, with lights
- Walking trails
- · Restrooms, chairs and benches
- Large and small dog areas
- Separate training area
- Shade and watering stations

Assistance Dog Training Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 567-8969





Off-Leash Dog Park Information

All persons applying for use privileges at the Off-Leash Jog Park must abide by all park rules and regulations.

Cost: \$100 per year.

Membership fee is non-refundable. Scholarships re available to those who qualify. In honor of DFL's Assistance Dogs for Veterans Training Program, there s no cost for military veterans or first responders to use he park.

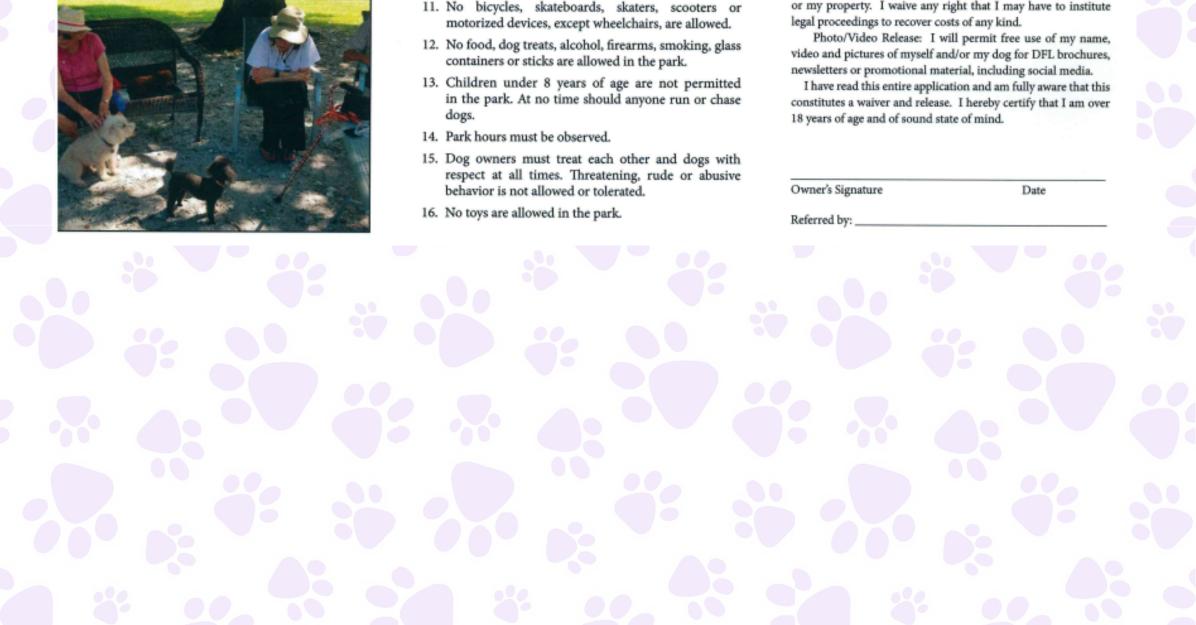
Payment method: Cash, Check or Credit/Debit Card.

Application process: All dogs must be inoculated, eutered and social. All applicants must attend a dog ark orientation and canine behavior workshop prior to nembership.

log temperament evaluation: Each dog's emperament is evaluated to determine social ability with logs and people.

Canine behavior workshop: Orientation includes canine behavior workshop where dog behavior, body ostures, communication and canine pack structures are xplained.

)onations are needed, appreciated and fully tax leductible.



Safety for the Park

Rules are for everyone's safety and promote good etiquette. The disregard of any rule may result in a grievance being filed against any person or dog. Grievances will be reviewed by the Dogs For Life, Inc. Board of Directors and may result in loss of park privileges.

Rules and Regulations

- 1. Only pre-approved dogs may enter the park. Dogs must wear a buckle collar when in the park (no choker, spike or electronic collars).
- Dogs must be leashed when entering and exiting the 2. park. No exceptions.
- 3. Dogs are not allowed to chase people.
- Dog park members assume liability for any non-4. member invited to the park.
- Dogs are not allowed to dig. If dogs do dig, owners 5. must immediately fill holes.
- 6. Owners must clean up after their dogs and must deposit waste in receptacles.
- Dogs over 6 months old must be spayed/neutered 7. and no puppies less than 5 months of age are allowed.
- 8. If your dog acts aggressively, you must leash your dog and immediately leave the park.
- 9. No dog can be in the park without an adult in attendance. No more than 2 dogs may be brought into the park by any individual.
- 10. Park gates must not be left open. Owners are responsible for ensuring that their dogs do not escape from fenced areas.

Application

Name:		
Address:		
City:	Zip:	
Phone:		
Email:		
Dog's Name:		
Dog's Breed:		
Age/Birthday:		Female
Vet Clinic:		

Preferred method of communication: D Email D U.S. Mail

How did you hear about us?

□ Member □ Friend □ Ad □ Dog Park Sign □ Event

Other

I, the undersigned, in consideration of park privileges in the Off-Leash Dog Park, hereby release from liability Dogs For Life, Inc., its Board of Directors, employees, agents and volunteers and waive any right that I may have in the law to recover medical, property or bodily injury damages, regardless of cost, as a result of any injury I may sustain from my dog or any other dog, while on the property of the Dogs For Life, Inc., Off-Leash Dog Park.

I further agree and assume the risk for participating in programs at the Off-Leash Dog Park where there are dogs whose temperament may be unpredictable. I also assume full responsibility for any injury that may occur to me, to my dog(s) or my property. I waive any right that I may have to institute

Programs and Services



Mark, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and his service dog "Shadow"

Our dogs also help provide the emotional stability that veterans suffering from posttraumatic stress need to restore peace in their everyday lives. They instill the confidence necessary to be able to leave the house or to enter a confined space like an elevator. This critical help enables their owners to lead a life of self-reliance and independence.



Service Dogs for Veterans

Dogs For Life, Inc., (DFL) is one of only six organizations accredited by Assistance Dogs International in the state of Florida to certify service dogs for veterans, allowing them to receive some benefits from the VA.

Service Dogs are task trained to assist people 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Dogs For Life specializes in training hearing, mobility and psychiatric support dogs at no cost to our clients. Dogs can also be cross-trained to perform other tasks depending on the needs of their companions.

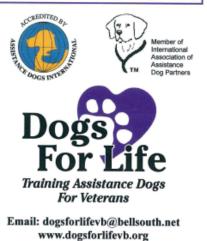


Other Dogs For Life Programs and Services

Assistance Dogs are task trained to assist their disabled owners, enabling them to lead a life of independence and self-reliance. Ears that hear smoke alarms; paws that tap a 911 phone; legs that provide stability, and a lifelong partner to recognize and ease the effects of post-traumatic stress.

Pet-Assisted Therapy: Our certified volunteer dog teams have been providing unconditional love and support to children and seniors in Indian River county since 2002. DFL teams also bring warmth and comfort to people at assisted living facilities.

Community Outreach Programs feature dog behavior workshops and obedience training classes for the public and park members. Our 4-acre off-leash dog park has served the community since 2002.



Dogs For Life, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization as dess under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). Federal ID# 31-180 9-2016

The fastest growing need for service dogs is in Florida, especially for the brave military men and women who served our country!

231,000⁺ veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq already call Florida as their home of record¹.

80,000+ Iraq and Afghanistan veterans will retire to Florida in the next two years2.

Extrapolating national VA numbers, the news is grim for our new residents:

- 3 in 10 will have a service-related disability
- 20*% will suffer from the effects of posttraumatic stress
- 50% of those with post-traumatic stress will not seek treatment
- 19% will report post-traumatic stress symptoms classified as "serious functional impairment"
- Florida is home to the highest number of amputees from the Gulf War-Era³





James Taylor, SSG, U.S. Army (Ret.) Iraq War Veteran and his hearing/service dog "Pia Pia"

Assistance Dog Training Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 567-8969

Service Dogs Can Help Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress

Our program is dedicated to providing service dogs to the brave men and women who honorably served our country, many of whom suffer with the effects of posttraumatic stress, in addition to hearing and/or mobility loss. Dogs For Life has been training service dogs since 2010. These dogs specifically help veterans by:

- Waking them from nightmares
- 2. Creating a "safe zone" around them to allow distance from people in a crowd
- 3. "Watching their back"
- Turning lights on in a darkened room
- 5. Creating a distraction or finding an exit to
- leave a stressful situation
- 6. Calling for help on a special K-9 emergency phone
- 7. Providing deep pressure for calming effect



Public Access Training for Veterans in Vero Beach

Bill, (USN) and "Freyja" Larry, (USMC) and "Lola" Chere, (USAF, Ret) and "Stella" Bob, (USN, Ret) and "Bodacious"

Other studies show4: Treatment via medication Talk therapy Service Dogs

50% effective 50% effective 84.5% effective



L.A. Bykowsky, (USAF) and K-9 "Darel"

Reducing hyper-vigilance through task work

On September 5, 2012, the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) amended its regulations concerning veterans in need of service dogs. Under this final rule, VA will provide to veterans with visual, hearing, or mobility impairments, benefits to support the use of a service dog as part of the management of such impairments. The benefits include assistance with veterinary care, travel benefits associated with obtaining and training a dog, and the provision, maintenance, and replacement of hardware required for the dog to perform the tasks necessary to assist such veterans.

Florida Department of Veterans Affairs According to local Veterans Groups Walter Reed Army Hospital estimate ⁴Operation Wolfbound

Mulligan's Article

TC « TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS & Monday, September 5, 2016 & 11A

COMMENTARY

Thank Yous

Shelly Ferger, Vero Beach

Mulligan's helps with therapy dogs

Dogs For Life would like to extend a very big thank you to everyone at Mulligan's in Vero Beach. We were so pleased to be selected again to participate in their "12 Weeks of Summer" Fundraising Program.

We were delighted to be there for two evenings in August to present assistance dog teams, talk about our mission and about our training programs for veterans with PTSD and people with hearing or mobility impairments.

Two of our pet-assisted therapy dog teams were working the crowd on the patio, showing off their "puppy love" and expressing how much comfort and joy our therapy dogs bring to seniors throughout Indian River County.

There was a fabulous turnout

from the community with many patrons participating in our raffle and talking with members of our teams. Thanks again to Mulligan's and everyone who came out to learn more about Dogs For Life and our Mission. We hope to see you again next year!

If you would like more information about Dogs For Life and our services, please visit our website www.dogsforlifevb.org or call us at 772-567-8969.



AUGUST



8 • AUGUST 4, 2016 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE



Thursday, Aug. 4 5 6 2 3 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 Local Hero 22 23 24 25 28 27 28 Night, 5-8 p.m., 29 30 31 Mulligans Beach House and Grill, 28 29 30 1025 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach, benefits Dogs For Life. Come dressed as your favorite local hero - doctor policemen, firefighter, or other. In conjunction with Mulligans' 12 Weeks of Summer. Eat, have a good time and help Dogs For Life. "Mr. Spongie" will appear, and there will be balloons and crafts for kids. For more

information, call (772) 567-8969, e-mail dogsforlifevb@bellsouth. net or visit dogsforlifevb.org.

Thursday, Aug. 11

Puppy Love Night, 5-8 p.m., Mulligans Beach House and Grill, 1025 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach, benefits Dogs For Life. Come dressed as your favorite doggy. In conjunction with Mulligans' 12 Weeks of Summer. Eat, have a good time and help Dogs For Life. "Mr. Spongie" will appear, and there will be balloons and crafts for kids. For more information, call (772) 567-8969, e-mail dogsforlifevb@bellsouth. net or visit dogsforlifevb.org.

MATTER

www.Cultural-Council.org 772.770.4857

ultural Council

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dogs for Life has been chosen to participate n Mulligan's 12 Weeks of Summer! Donate to

Dogs For Life while eating and having fun!! 10% of the evening's proceeds will be donated to DFL on the following dates:

Thursday, August 4th from 5-8 pm (Local Hero Night - Come dressed as your favorite local hero - doctor policemen, firefighter, or ?) and on

Thursday, August 11th from 5-8pm (Puppy Love Night - Come dressed as your favorite doggy!) Mr. Spongie will come for a visit each night with Balloons and free crafts for the kids! Mulligan's Beach House Bar & Grill is located at 1025 Beachland Blvd. For information about Dogs For Life, visit: <u>www.dogsforlifevb.org</u>.



We'll be at Mulligan's this Thursday!

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Some readers see this part of your email after the subject line in the inbox. Write something brief and catchy, compelling them to open the email.



Dogs For Life is participating in Mulligan's 12-Weeks of Summer!

Fun for the whole family!

Raffle Crafts & Mr. Spongie for the kids!

Enjoy a delicious dinner - 10% of the evenings proceeds will be donated to Dogs For Life!





MS Society



A Barking Good Time

Dogs For Life has been chosen to participate in **Mulligan's 12 Weeks of Summer!** Bring the family out for dinner and support **Dogs For Life** at the same time. **Mulligan's** will donate 10 percent of the evening's proceeds on Aug. 4 and 11, 5-8 p.m.

On Aug. 4 come dressed as your favorite local hero, hang out with **Mr. Spongie**, enjoy balloons, and crafts. Or join them on Aug. 11 for **Puppy Love Night** dressed as your favorite canine.

To learn more about **Dogs for Life**, visit DogsForLifeVB.org. **Mulligan's Beach House Bar & Grill** is located at 1025 Beachland Blvd.

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

15

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

Monday, July 25, 2016

Dogs For Life to benefit from Mulligan's 12 Weeks of Summer

LUMINARIES · LU

balloons and free crafts for the kids will be available.

By LISA LOPEZ

Dogs For Life has been chosen to participate in Mulligan's 12 Weeks of Summer! August 4 from 5 to 8 p.m., will be Local Hero Night — come dressed as a doctor a policemen, a firefighter, or other local hero.

Mr. Spongie will come for a visit and

Ten percent of the evening's proceeds at Mulligan's Beach House Bar & Grill, 1025 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach will be donated to DFL For more information, visit DogsFor-LifeVB.org.

Commentary & Caldendars

Mt. Washington Summit Observatory Pinkham Notch, New Hampshire Photos © Bob Grant WT D5D 1 L Hey Every body 27 ALIG 2016 PM Just suying hi from the top of NH. Washington-Went from 83° to 53° in 8 miles/20 min. Plus-a 45 mpL steady wind w(5-st) or to S8. It was need! Mich better the the 90° back homer Hope everyone is ok -Printed in Italy by Printaly Love Darch New HAMPSHIRE SCENICS

Doys Furlik 1230 16 - Ave Vero Beach, FC 32960

Basin falls and HERER RENER JUNCTION Pemigewasset River, VT 050 1 T Franconia Notch State Barkaug 2016. PM VT 050 1 T New Hampshire. Photo © William H. Johnson Hej Sunry - what up this is a coul spot on one of our hikes - I DFL love NH. Lots of talk 1230 16th Ave morntains & cool water Vero Beach, FL fulls- 'dourse - I need 32960 a couple days rest in between hilces! ++41



Friday, August 5, 2016

THURSDAY, AUG. 11

 Town Hall Presentation: The Indian River County School District and Charter School partners will provide information about the proposed 0.50 millage, which will appear on ballots on August 30. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m., Sebastian River High School Performing Arts Center, and will offer information about budget reductions, proposed uses of millage, a question and answer session, and more.

 12 Weeks of Summer: 'Puppy Love Night' from 5-8 p.m., Mulligan's Beach House Bar & Grill, 1025 Beachland Blvd., Vero Beach. Come dressed as your favorite puppy.
 10 percent of the evening's proceeds will be donated to Dogs for Life. Mr. Spongie will

2





Training

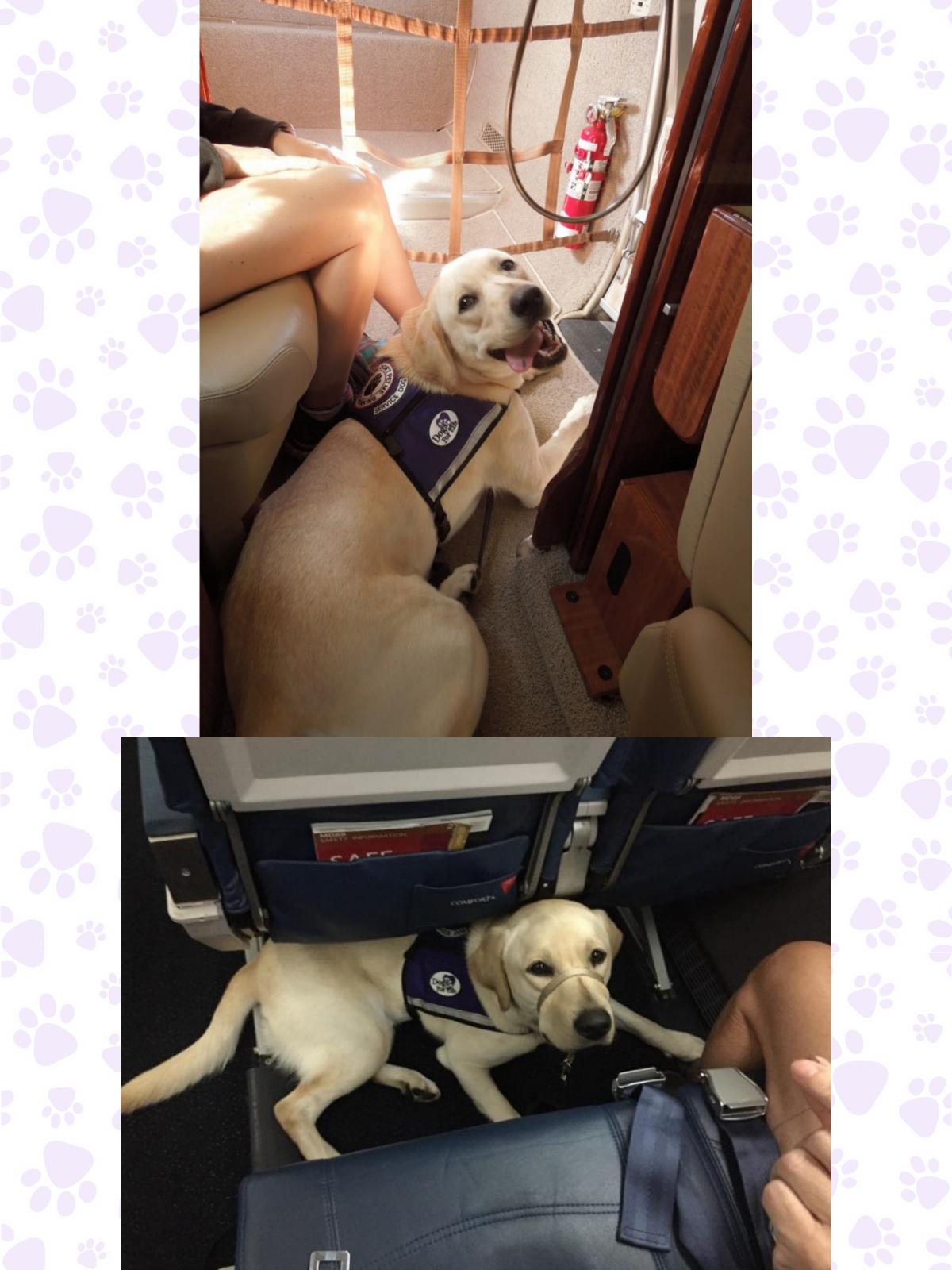


ALL S

Gunny's Flight











For breaking news visit: www.veronews.com

PETS 🌺

Bonz says hey to PeiPei, an amazing service dog

Hí Dog Buddies!

I love my job - learning new stuff, making terrific new poocheroo pals! Like this week. You know how, when you think of a Service Dog, you picture a German Shepherd or Labrador or some other big, takecharge looking breed? I know I do. Or did.

So when I scheduled an interview with a Hearing and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Service Dog, PeiPei Taylor (PayPay), that's what I was thinkin'. We planned to meet at Cracker Barrel and, at first, when me and my Assistant went to the table where her Mom and Dad and some friends were sitting, I thought PeiPei had forgotten to show up. But when we were settling in, I heard this sweet little voice from under the table. "Hello, Mr. Bonzo. It's me, PeiPei. I'm down here. I'm really glad you're gonna do my story. Do ya want some toast or something?"

family and friends, Miss PeiPei." Shadow, a goodlookin' black Lab, was On Duty, so he just smiled and nodded, then settled back down next to his Dad.

"I know you have an amazing story," I said to PeiPei. "I sure do. My Daddy's

Mom and Dad were volunteers at H.A.L.O. rescue up in Sebastian. They were unloading a bunch of rescue pooches, including me. I was just a puppy. My (future) Daddy and Mommy were on

the way to pick up their daughter at the saw horrible things I can't even airport and had stopped to help unload. imagine. After he got home, he thought so Daddy'll play with me. But, guess what Even though I'm a purebred, my breeder he was OK, but 18 months later, he was Bonzo, I'm a total Girly Girl. I have more couldn't sell me cuz I had a very bad eye. I was almost totally blind. I kept bumping into stuff, and my eyes were all boogly, going every which way. Then, Bonzo, one of the most amazing moments in my life happened. I'll never forget. Mommy and Daddy saw me and Right Then and There bump mib stun adyntore: -- - Bast Estand I had to stop writing and wipe my eyes



July 8, 2016

got my own photo ID. Now, even though Daddy says, 'I live in Iraq every night. I can still smell the sand,' I'm right beside him to help him be calm. When we go out, I make sure people keep a comfortable distance away to keep his stress down. Me and Daddy have a special bond. He says me and Miss Shelly saved his life."

VeroNews/Sebastian River News

B11

It was hard finding my voice. Finally I asked, "Whaddya do when you're Off Duty?"

"I'm always by Dad's side. But I have fun, too. Like running around the house makin' clicky noises with my toenails. And I do my crouchy football stance

I looked down and there, on a colorful blanket right next to her Dad's feet, was this little Pug, wearing an Official Vest with Patches.

"A PUG?" I thought. "Seriously?" This is my Mommy, Dawn, and my Daddy, Jim, I'm his Service Dog, and these are our friends: Shelly, she's our trainer, and Lisa, they're with Dogs for Life; and this is Shadow Santos and his human, Tony. Shadow's a Balance Dog; and this is Kathi, she's a BIG Dogs for Life supporter and she knows Everything About Dogs - horses, too." "I'm honored to meet you and all your

with my paw. "So," PeiPei continued, "I started regular obedience training, you know, sit, stay, shake, that stuff. Then Mommy heard that Dogs for Life was looking for veterans to be in their Dogs for Veterans program. My Daddy was in Iraq with the Army and

at Disney World with his daughter and he totally freaked out. He had what humans call Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, which means your mind keeps pulling you back into those horrible places and you can't get out. Daddy gave up on life. When he was in a bunch of people, he felt like he had to aithar fight 'am all or run away on he never

DON'T BE SHY

We are always looking for pets with interesting stories. To set up an interview, email zothecolumnist@gmail.com. than 200 dresses. I love getting all Dolled Up. Then I'm a Mommy's Girl. I can even say, 'I love you, Mommy,' in Human. Wanna hear?"

"Sure!"

And, by Snoopy, she did! It was like, "Aaaar woooove ooooo, Mommeeeeeeaarf!" Service Dogs, and it's not fair to you, either.

It's a Big, Serious Responsibility!

Till next time,

The BONZ

6A » Friday, July 15, 2016 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS »

TC

THE DISABLED

L. A. Bykowsky, Vero Beach

Ignorant man — not dog — disturbing

An ignorant man yelled at a young disabled woman because her service dog barked during the movie. Shame on him. The young dog let out a "woof-woof" during the scene where a character was being chased by a pack of dogs. The service dog had been lying there quietly when all of a sudden, there was a barrage of barking and howling. It's understandable that it could be startled and react.

His bark just added to the surround sound, it didn't disturb the movie. The woman told her dog to be quiet and it was, which is what the law requires. But she must have felt uncomfortable, and not wanting to bother anyone else, she got up to leave.

That's when he chose to show his ignorance and rudeness, yelling at her to hurry up and get out, scaring her to the point where she had to yell back at him, apologizing for being disabled, for needing a service dog and for not being able to see in the darkened theater to exit it quickly enough to satisfy him.

That behavior was more disruptive to the moviegoers than anything the dog did. His treatment of the young woman bordered on criminal. The new Florida law protects the disabled from people like him; it's a crime to harass or interfere with a disabled person's rights to enjoy things the rest of us take for granted. Berating her as he did constitutes harassment in my book. Maybe he should walk a mile in her shoes, try getting around with a cane or in a wheelchair. Maybe it will teach him to be a little more tolerant ... but I doubt it.

8A » Friday, July 15, 2016 »

22A » Sunday, July 17, 2016 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS * TC





George Frederick Schoonover

With sadness and love, we announce the passing of our dad, George F. Schoonover, on July 11, 2016.

Born on August 14, 1923, in Lima, Ohio, he was the son of Helen Wemmer and Thomas R. Schoonover. His wife, Bette Harriman Schoonover preceded George in death.

He is survived by their four children: Polly Schoonover,

Charlie (Lori) Schoonover, all of Vero Beach, FL., Patty (Tom) Jones of Albuquerque, NM, and Tom Schoonover of Austin, TX; five grandchildren: Alex (Marcella), Mally, and Nash Jones, Sutton Schoonover, and Tansey Schoonover and great-granddaughter Pearl Jones.

George was a graduate of Western Reserve Academy in Hudson, Ohio. He attended The Ohio State University, before enlisting in the United States Army Air Corps. During World War II, he completed 23 missions for the 8th Air Force, flying a P-51 Mustang. After his honorable discharge, he married Bette Harriman, on October 12, 1946. They settled in Lima, Ohio, where George worked in an executive capacity at The City Loan and Savings Company until 1974. He was also a member of the board of directors of The Metropolitan Bank of Lima, and was a founder and member of the board of directors of North American Equitable Life Assurance Corporation, and its succeeding parent North American National Corp. During his years in Lima, George was involved in many civic organizations. He served for 21 years on the board of Lima Memorial Hospital, 7 years as the President; he was elected and served for 6 years on the Lima City School Board; he served on the board of the Lima Community Chest, and with many others, helped form the current United Way of Greater Lima. Most important to George was his family, and spending time with them. He was active in golf, tennis, skiing, bowling, backyard basketball, ping-pong, and he played a mean game of pool. His pool game was so good that he beat Minnesota Fats at the Lima Club. ("Go ahead kid, tell anyone you want - they'll never believe you.") His kids also remember him as the starter for their many swim meets at Shawnee Country Club. In 1974, George and Bette moved to John's Island, in Vero Beach, Florida. After a few years of retirement, they bought The Gifted Cook in February 1978, and enjoyed their life together as shop owners. Trips to Dallas and San Francisco yearly to buy for the store were highlights. They were members of John's Island Club, Vero Beach Yacht Club, and George was a founding member of Bent Pine Golf Club. His family would like to thank all of the amazing and loving people at Grace Rehab Center who cared for him in his final years.



BITUARIES

to place an obituary please call 772-692-8954 or email to TCNpaidobits@tcpalm.com

A private memorial service will be scheduled at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his name may be made to Dogs For Life, Inc., 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, Florida 32960. www.strunk-

1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, Florida 32960. www.strunkfuneralhome.com

Treasure Coast Advertiser Spotlight

6D » Thursday, July 21, 2016 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS » IC

Treasure Coast Advertiser Close-Up

To spotlight your Indian River County business on this page, contact your Treasure Coast Newspapers account executive or call 772-978-2248

Dogs For Life Therapy dogs are helping to improve quality of life

By Jackie Holfelder Correspondent

We've learned more and more over the last several years about how, with proper training, dogs can be life-changers for people with a broad variety of physical and psychological challenges. Locally, no one has been more committed in this field than Dogs For Life, Inc., a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization located in Vero Beach, which is devoted to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training assistance dogs and pet assisted therapy dogs.

Dogs For Life specializes in training canines for many modalities, including hearing dogs, mobility assistance dogs and service dogs for veterans to ease the effects of post-traumatic stress. Its service dog training programs adhere to the guidelines and requirements of Assistance Dogs International and were just reaccredited for an additional five years. DFL has experienced an influx of veterans, which has tripled the number of dogs that have been trained in the last two years. The need continues to



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

increase.

The Pet Assisted Therapy Program is a totally volunteer-based program, where volunteers train and take their own DFL-certified dogs to senior, children and medical facilities in Indian River County. Since 2002, dozens of facilities, including The Boys and Girls Club, Homeless Family Center, Hibiscus Children's Center and The Alzheimer and Parkinson's Association, to name just a few, have enjoyed visits and have been comforted by the amazing dogs. Dogs For Life maintains a four-acre off-leash dog park, which provides a safe, clean environment for canines and their owners. Additionally, it offers basic dog training for the public and the 4-H Dog Master's Club.

Under the dynamic leadership of founder, president and CEO Shelly Ferger, Dogs For Life has been making a difference in people's lives for 25 years, providing independence and self-reliance for individuals who need assistance and a renewed purpose for abandoned dogs through specialized training. All funding is provided by donations from individuals,

foundations, corporate spon-

sors, fundraisers and mem-

berships for the off-leash dog

Dogs For Life has been making a difference in people's lives for 25 years, providing independence and self-reliance for individuals who need assistance and a renewed purpose for abandoned dogs through specialized

training.

park.

The assistance dog training center and off-leash dog park are both located at 1230 16 Avenue in Vero Beach. For information, call 772-567-8969, email dogsforlifevb@ bellsouth.net or visit the website at www.dogsforlifevb.org.

Reaccredidation

22

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

YOUR NEWSWEEKLY | INDIAN RIVER COUNTY | TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

Dogs For Life earns ADI reaccredidation

By Lisa Lopez Your Newsweekly Contributor

Dogs For Life Founder and CEO Shelly Ferger is pleased to report Dogs For Life (DFL) has achieved their coveted 5-year reaccreditation from Assistance Dog International (ADI). The entire DFL team spent months preparing for the arrival of the ADI representative and after two days of interviews, reviews and demonstrations, their hard work was rewarded with the announcement DFL passed with flying colors. "Maintaining our ADI accreditation is critical to our program as we are one of only six organizations in Fla. able to certify dogs to ADI standards. That certification allows

our assistance dogs to fly internationally with their partners and may also provide VA benefits for our veteran clients," stated Ferger.

ADI is a coalition of nonprofit organizations that began in 1985 with a hearing dog symposium in San Francisco. ADI now has over 150 members world-wide, dedicated to improving training, placement and utilization of assistance dogs, staff and volunteer education, as well as educating the public about assistance dogs and advocating for the legal rights of people with disabilities partnered with assistance dogs.

The ADI representative reported that DFL's approach to training assistance dogs is unique and could become the ADI is a coalition of nonprofit organizations that began in 1985 with a hearing dog symposium in San Francisco.

model for other organizations to emulate. The standard in the industry is to pre-train dogs, using only trainers to teach the task work over a long period of time. When the dog is ready, they're partnered up with the right person and the team then spends a few weeks training together.

Dogs For Life is considered an "owner trained" dog program, where clients are involved in the training process right from the start. DFL can train a dog a client already owns or will help find a suitable dog at a shelter. DFL trainers work with the clients and their dogs on general obedience, public access (the teams visit community businesses to acclimate dogs to working in public places), task work and finally, certification. This approach requires at least a six month relationship between DFL, the client and dog, and has proven to be very successful. The "road to certification" includes individual and group sessions at the DFL training center in Vero Beach and training at a client's home or work place, as needed.

We specialize in training hearing dogs and mobility assistance dogs, as well as service dogs to help veterans ease the effects of post-traumatic stress. Our dogs have been turning lives around since 2001 - providing ears that hear smoke alarms, noses that tap 911 phones in emergencies and legs that provide stability. If you are interested in learning more about Dogs For Life, visit DogsForLifeVB.org or call 772-567-8969 and we will make arrangements for a tour of our campus.



4th of July Parade



Brad and Janice Marx



GFWC Sebastian Women Junior Women's Club



Denielle Konary and Daniella McGuire, 5



Ladies from the DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution, Treasure Coast Chapter

BY BRENDA SPOSATO For Luminaries

The Sebastian 4th of July parade, hosted by The Lions Club of Sebastian and the City of Sebastian, is a 45-year tradition, attracting thousands of locals and visitors every year.

This year's event began at the Sebastian Community Center and ended at Riverview Park.

"We always get up bright and early to watch the parade and have fun," resident Alan Haa- The Lions Club Koleigh Knight, Chuck and land said.

It's a way for our community to stand united and have a good time on our nation's birthday.

"No other time in recent history in America have we ever needed to come out and support each other, wave the flag and know that the things that have happened in that last few weeks, not only in America but the state of Florida are not going to hold us down," Sheriff Deryl Loar stated after he was finished marching in the parade.

For the grand finale, AirSport's Flag Sky Dive team dropped in to close out the parade.



Tradition continues with July Fourth parade

Terry & Gene Rauth



isu Briley

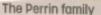


Alan & Wanda Haaland, Lola, and Terri & Dale Gieske



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY





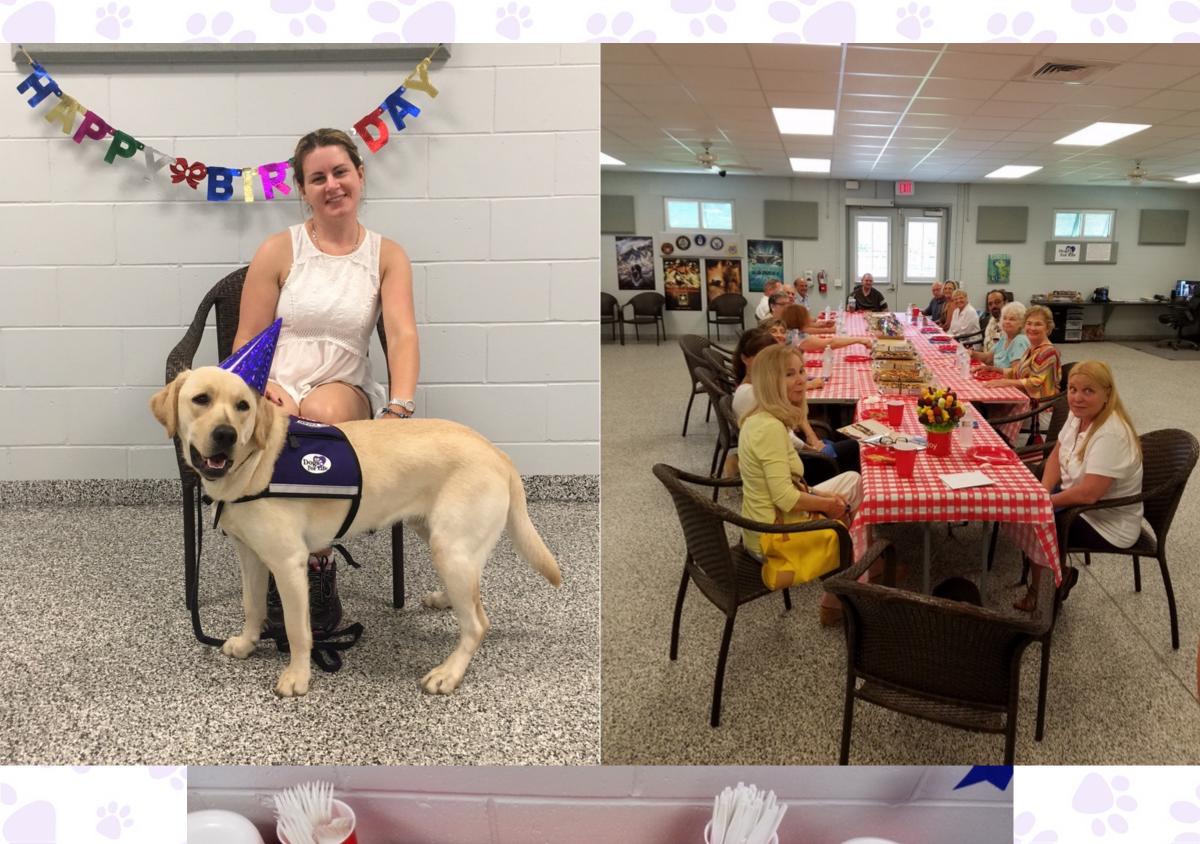




JUNE



2 Ladies and a Lab Birthday Party

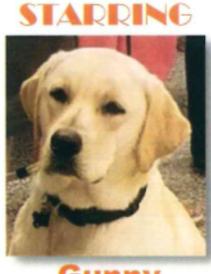




A Dogs For Life Birthday Production



Shelly Ferger Co-Star



Gunny

Two Ladies

Labrador



Lisa Lopez Co-Star

DFL Birthdays to Celebrate!

Gunny, the star Labrador will be 1 year old and the Ladies ... well, they're not telling!

Friday, June 10th at Noon

DFL Training Center at 1230 16th Avenue

Please RSVP by June 3 567-8969

Pizza, Birthday Cake & Frosty Paws Ice Cream Assistance Dogs Welcome Gunny is begging for donations to train Veteran Dogs in lieu of birthday gifts 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960 I MISS running in the park with you and please tete HS. Lisa, MS. LA. & MS. Shelly Imiss them too I I will see you in the fall -Love, BoBo I thought of you today!

Happy Birthday Gunny !!

Sorry I Can't be there to help you celebrate - but -I found this on the floor at my North Carolina house -And you know how I like to Pick things up!! I asked the folks here to send it to you!

VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE • JUNE 30, 2016 • 11

A paw-fectly great birthday



Approximately 30 well-wishers attended the Dogs For Life 'Two Ladies & a Labrador' Birthday Party at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, on June 10 at the Assistance Dog Training Center. This fun fundraiser raised almost \$5,000 toward the DFL Veteran Dog Training Program. Harmony, an Air Force veteran, shown here with Gunny the Labrador, trained with Gunny for several months, and he now accompanies her everywhere. Gunny is



Photo courtesy of Dogs For Life

Memorial Day Ceremony

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES - LN

Monday, June 13, 2016

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS Veterans Council Memorial Day Ceremony



Master's Academy Fife Drum Corps

BY BRENDA SPOSATO For Luminaries

Nearly 1,800 people gathered at the Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary for a Memorial Day ceremony honoring our nation's fallen heroes.

Services in recognition of our veterans have taken place there since the early 1960s.

Every year, the Veterans Gouncil of Indian River County hosts the commemoration with a prayer, full military honors and laying of the wreath accompanied by bagpipes and ship's bell.

The morning began with patriotic music provided by the Vero Beach High School Band and the Master's Academy Fife and Drum Corps.



The Dobish Family visiting from Orlando.



Keynote Speaker Ret. Air Force Lt. General William Welser, Mayor Jay Kramer and Private Marine Cash Adams





Indian River County Sheriff's Office Deputy Ryan Haffield, Sgt. Milo Thorton and Sheriff Deryl Loar





Color Guards saluting during the National Anthem.

Keynote Speaker Ret. Air Force Lt. General William and Sue Welser and Veterans Council Immediate Past President Col. Martin Zickert



Army Staff Sgt. John N. Melia placed the wreath at the memorial of Scott Owen, who was the last Indian River County resident killed while in combat.

Ceremony highlights included keynote remarks from retired Air Force Lt. General William Welser III.

Former council president Colonel Martin Veterans Council Board Members Eric Zickert stated, "I would proudly follow Gen- Menger, Kim Pilger, and Past President eral Welser anywhere. He's a man worthy of John Michael Matthews, Veterans Memo-



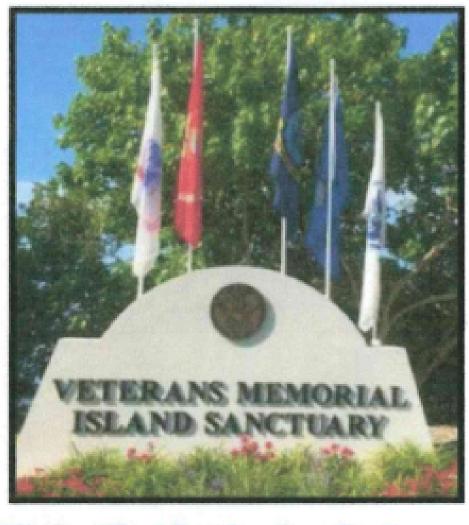
Martin, Indian River County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Bud Spencer, City Council Member Pilar Turner and Vero Beach Police Chief David E. Currey



Air Force Disabled Veteran Chere McCoy and her service dog Stella

Memorial Day 2016





DFL Certified Service Dog Stella

Veteran Assistance Dog Teams Receive 6 Month Certification

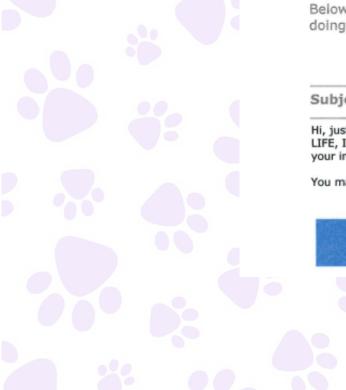
Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Thursday, June 09, 2016 3:15 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign In the News from DFL has been sent



Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'In the News from DFL' was sent on 6/9/2016 around 3:14 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.

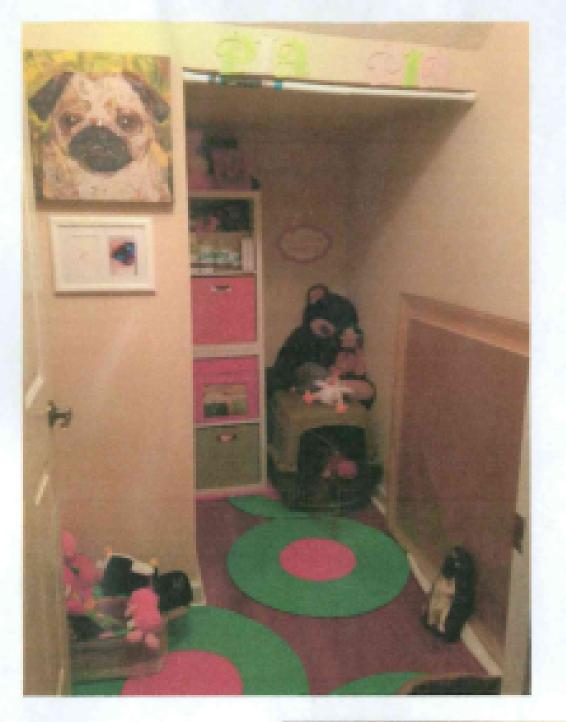
Subject: In the News from DFL

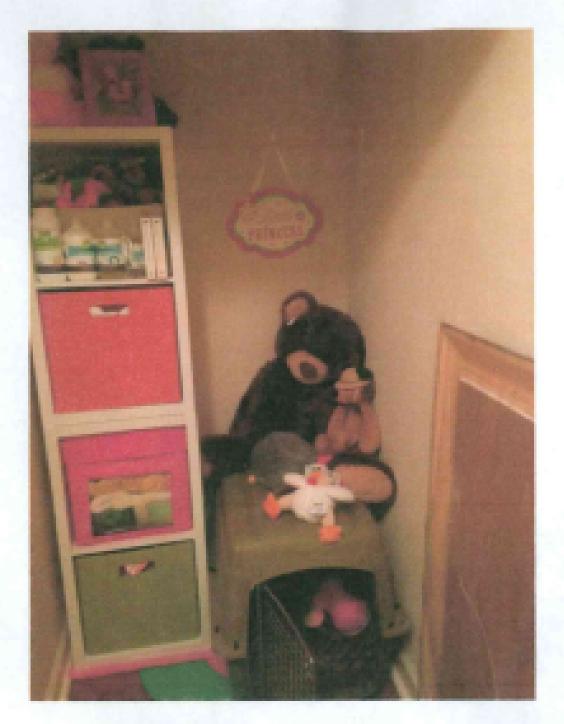
Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

In the News from Dogs For Life

To Kathi Schumann from Princess Pia Pia ~ With Love







Jimmy & Dawn Taylor



Juse 18,2016

Shellys Thank you agoin he ping me. I admine your Work. Your passion has benefited Uno Boach of Indiand Riven County. Toms weed people that give breek And you mast containly have I plan to do The same and the City Council. Serving has always bew pont of my life. Now I get to sorve in one more more This place is home. We should leap that heritage. It would be such of lows if own growelkids finiled to witness the quality of life we know today. Thomas for helping me keep the spinit alive!

At the end of the service, families gathered around the memorials reflecting on loved ones. Widow Jaime Scott-Owens shared her deepest appreciation. "When I see all these people, it just amazes me that after all these years, his spirit still lives," she said.

The Veterans Council of Indian River County supports veterans and their families, providing emergency financial assistance, transition assistance, resource connection and transportation services to the VA Medical Center in West Palm Beach and to local appointments. Visit VeteransCouncilIRC.org for more information about upcoming events or to donate to the organization.





monday

LUMINAV 185



Nearly 1,800 gather at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary to pay tribute Veterans Council President Colonel Tony Young and honor our veterans.



salutes during the Pledge of Allegiance



Bagpiper Michael Hyde





Meet The Blue Angels *

and our other star performers

Saturday June 25, 2016 * 5:00-9:00 pm **Riverside Park, 3200 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach**

Fun for the Entire Family

30 Food Trucks with Delicious Food and Beverages Live Music by Collins and Company * Bounce Houses * Coloring Station



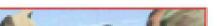
Proceeds Benefit The Buggy Bunch, Inc.

A charitable 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Federal ID#27-3137533. - thebuggybunch.com No pets, coolers, or weapons allowed



See the Blue Angels and all performers fly at the Vero Beach Air Show June 25-26

★ ★ ★ 🖬 ★ ★ veroairshow.com ﷺ ★ ★ 🈏 ★ ★ ★















Presenting Sponsor Press Journal TCPALM.COM







- INDIAN RIVER COUNTY GUIDE TO SERVICES-

HOPE

22

FOOD ASSISTANCE	2-1-1	PARENTING & FAMILY		
Access Florida (SNAP) http://www.myflorida.c	om/accessflorida/	CASTLE	(772) 567-5700	
Food Pantry of Indian River County	(772) 770-2068	Childcare Resources of Indian River	(772) 778-8884	
Harvest Food & Outreach Center (Vero)	(772) 770-4142	Healthy Start Care Coordination	(772) 563-5469	
Meals on Wheels (ext.133)	(772) 569-0760	Life Works Parenting Tools	(772) 288-9886	
Operation Hope	(772) 571-0003	Mental Health Association	(772) 569-9788	
Our Father's Table	(772) 562-6268	WIC- supplemental nutrition/education (Fellsmere)	(772) 794-7488	
Roseland Ecumenical Food Pantry	(772) 589-3035	WIC- supplemental nutrition/education (Vero Beach)	(772) 794-7430	
Salvation Army	(772) 978-0265	SENIORS		
St. Vincent De Paul (Wabasso)	(772) 589-3338	211's Sunshine-free daily phone calls	2-1-1	
The Source	(772) 564-0202	Agency for Health Care Administration	(800) 226-5082	
FORECLOSURE CONCERNS	2-1-1	Alzheimer's/Parkinson's Association	(772) 563-0505	
HEALTH CLINICS/HOSPITALS		IRMC Lifeline (press #3 then ext.1601)	(772) 567-4311	
FL Department of Health Indian River County	(772) 794-7400	Senior Center (Sebastian) (SRA)	(772) 469-2062	
Gifford Health Center Pediatrics	(772) 794-7410	Community Center (Vero Beach)	(772) 567-2144	
Indian River Medical Center	(772) 567-4311	Senior Resource Association (SRA)	(772) 569-0760	
Sebastian River Medical Center	(772) 589-3186	Visiting Nurse Association	(772) 567-5551	
TC Community Health	(772) 257-8224	Your Aging & Disability Resource Center (AAA)	(772) 467-0008	
Visiting Nurse Association Mobile Unit	(772) 567-5551	SOCIAL SECURITY ADMN	(866) 964-7414	
Whole Family Health Center	(772) 257-5785	TRANSPORTATION		
HOMELESS PREVENTION & AS	SISTANCE	Care-A-Van (Sebastian River Medical Ctr ext.2010)	(772) 589-3186	
Cold Weather Shelters	2-1-1	Community Coach	(772) 569-0903	
Homeless Family Center	(772) 567-2766	Go-Line	(772) 569-0903	
Samaritan Center	(772) 770-2900	Volunteer Ambulance Squad	(772) 231-1230	
The Source	(772) 564-0202	VETERAN'S SERVICES		
TC Homeless Services Council Resource Ctr	(772) 567-7790	IRC Veterans Service Office (Sebastian)	(772) 589-6597	
HOUSING	2-1-1	IRC Veterans Service Office	(772) 226-1499	
FloridaHousingSearch.org & PublicHousing.com		Veterans Service Van	(772) 226-1695	
Habitat for Humanity	(772) 562-9860	VA Outpatient Clinic	(772) 299-4623	
Heritage Villas	(772) 562-8023	VICTIM ASSISTANCE- IRC Sheriff	(772) 978-6255	
LEGAL SERVICES		YOUTH DEVELOPMENT		
Florida Rural Legal Services	(772) 466-4766	4-H Youth Development	(772) 770-5030	
IRC Courthouse Public Defender	(772) 770-5080	Big Brothers Big Sisters	(772) 770-6000	
19th Judicial Circuit Court of Florida	(772) 770-5185	Boy Scouts of America	(561) 694-8585	
LEISURE/RECREATION/WATER SAFETY	(772) 226-1732	Boys & Girls Clubs of IRC	(772) 299-7449	
LIBRARIES	(772) 770-5060	Daisy Hope Center	(772) 589-3535	
MUNICIPAL & COUNTY GOVE		Feed the Lambs Enrichment Program	(772) 501-2617	
City of Fellsmere	(772) 571-0116	Gifford Youth Achievement Center	(772)794-1005	
City Of Sebastian, City Council	(772) 589-5330	Girls Scouts of SE Florida	(561) 427-0177	
		Characteristic second state in the second		
City of Vero Beach City Hall	(772) 978-5151	Take Stock in Children-mentoring & scholarships	(772) 226-2506	

This listing is a partial representation of information maintained by 211 Helpline current as of print date July 2015. Inclusion on this information sheet does not imply endorsement nor does omission imply a lack of endorsement by 211 Helpline. For more information call 2-1-1 or visit:

211 Treasure Coast.org

We are so excited to say that BJ has a new forever home! See how happy Linda is with BJ!



Thank You for



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

4 ACRES

Lights, Oak Trees, Winding Trails, Water Fountains, Chairs and Benches

6 Month Summer Membership June-November 2016

 Separate areas for large/ small dogs and training

567-8969

Choosing us as the

 All dogs screened for temperament, all inoculated, neutered & social

1230 16th Ave.

Memorial Garden Pavilion

Join DFLs Off-Leash Dog Park and enjoy recreation with your dog while supporting a non-profit organization that trains hearing & service dogs for the community including local military veterans.

OBEDIENCE & BEHAVIOR TRAINING AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

From: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforiifevb@beilsouth.net/ Subject: The Dog Park is Open! Pretwader: The Dog Park is Open! Raply: dogsforiifevb@beilsouth.net

> Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC... Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@blelisouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

Come to the Dog Park!





The electric box that operates the gates was struck by lightning. The box has been replaced and upgraded to avoid this in the future.



Keep your message brief, friendly, and to the point. Use the image as a link, or add a call-to-action link here.



TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES - LU

Monday, June 6, 2016

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

COVER SPONSOR STAR



Nancy Bryant, Robert Paugh and Bill Bryant

BY TANIA OFFECA-COWAN FOR BLL BRIVET & ASSOCIATES

T MAKES PERFECT SENSE ON NUMEROUS LEVELS that Bill Bryant & Associates would come out and support the Vero Beach Air Show in such a big way by sponsoring today's Luminaries cover story!

The company itself and the people behind it have deep roots in Vero Beach, and a 35-year history of supporting and fulfilling the many needs of our community and its nonprofits.

Robert H. Paugh is vice-president and general manager at Bill Bryant & Associates, and he volunteers his time and energy as president of the Vero Beach Air Show which will benefit our three area Exchange Clubs and the Veterans Council of Indian River County.

"Vero Beach Regional Airport Director and Air Show Volunteer Eric Menger and I serve together on Exchange

Bill Bryant & Associates 'Reaching for the sky with roots firmly in the ground'



Project managers are Chris Bryant, Joey Calmes and Mike Samberg. Chris is the son of the Bryants and graduated from Vero Beach High School in 1986.

Mike Samberg, Gloria Cutting, Robert Paugh, Bill Bryant, Joey Calmes, Nancy Bryant, Chris Bryant and Julie Medecke

our company and we have encouraged all of our folks to partake and help out wherever they could in the community," says Bill.

Regular Luminaries readers have no doubt seen the name Bill Bryant & Associates connected to many nonprofit efforts through the years, including the John C. Girard Leisure Square Pavilion, the Vero Beach Theatre Guild, Children's Home Society, Heritage Center, Dogs for Life, area schools, the IRC Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, and plenty more.

"We came to Vero in 1977," Nancy says. "Bill and I had just gotten married, and in 1981 we started the company."

"We have had the privilege of meeting a lot of nice people over the past 35 years and building for them," says Bill. "As we drive through the area, it's always a source of pride to look around and say 'oh I remember that job! Oh I remember those folks!"

Project managers are Chris Bryant, Joey Calmes and



Joey Calmes, Chris Bryant, Mike Samberg, Robert Paugh and Bill Bryant

Club of the Treasure Coast, and for the 2014 show he Mike Samberg. Chris is the son of the Bryants and graduralled meand said T need you to be chairman of logistics and from Vero Beach High School in 1986. He served What is it the Bryants would most want everyone read-



Downtown Friday

Dogs For Life, Inc.





Luminaires Memorial Day



Graduation





L to R: Bob & Bo, trainer Lisa Snycerski, Bill & Freyja, CEO Shelly Ferger & trainer L.A. Bykowsky

DFL recognizes Memorial Day by turning our thoughts to those that have selflessly served for us and our country. Our gratitude and appreciation is immeasurable. We pay tribute to all veterans and bring special attention to two of our DFL Veteran Service Dog Teams.

Bob (left) served in the Navy 1959 through 1963, which included the Cuban Missile Crisis. Bob and Bodacious, better known as "Bo" have been together since she was a pup. Bo provides hearing and mobility assistance for Bob and that makes getting out and about a whole lot easier. Bob and his wife enjoy traveling and spend their summers in North Carolina.

Bill (right) served in active duty in the Navy from 1984-1988 and in active reserves 1988 through 1992. He was recalled for Desert Storm, 1991-1992. Freyja, his Huskie performs many tasks for Bill and has greatly improved his day to day life. Bill likes to go camping, fishing and work on his computer.

Both teams recently received their 6 months Service Team Certification from Dogs For Life.

We have enjoyed working with both of these well deserving veterans and their predecessors in this program. Our list of new veterans in or waiting for training is ever increasing.

Another Happy Ending!!



Along 14th Avenue and 23rd Street **6 - 9 pm** To Benefit The Veteran's Council of Indian River County



We hope to see you there!

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Wednesday, May 25, 2016 10:11 AM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign Come see us this Friday next to the Veteran's Council tent! has bee sent

Constant Contact /

Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'Come see us this Friday next to the Veteran's Council tent!' was sent on 5/25/2016 around 10:10 AM 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.

while she Come and up this Friday, part to the Matemala Council test

Subject: Come see us this Friday next to the Veteran's Council tent!

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add <u>dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net</u> to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

This Friday - May 27th from 6-9 PM Dogs For Life will be at Downtown Friday with Assistance Dog Teams next to the Veteran's Council tent

In Loving Memory Cornelia A. Perez



May 29, 1942~May 15, 2016

Dear Shelly: Thank Jone very moch for your sigt to the Aumane Society of Vero Beach in Convelias herong. The Shelter and Taking care of animals in med were Very important parts of her life. Cohrita was a very fear persy and To sched many lives. I'mill missher Tensibly bor are happy her-but verysad form. Shelly- She loved mand alibary had the highest adminia-tim and respect for all the good Thing mds. and prayers. you Warnest persnal regards_ gouified Reve and finity



Dear Shely-Thank you So very Much & The Lovely + Thoughtful Plant! What a Blessing to have you available in

That girl Slole our hearts 15 years ago and we Know that she had many many great visits to the dog park! God Bless you and

all the good work boa our time of need at dol Park! It means the Dog 1 So much to us to Know that you FY509 Loved DUY

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Friday, May 20, 2016 12:25 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Update has been sent

Constant Contact' 🖊

Dear Shelly Ferger,

Your campaign 'DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Update' was sent on 5/20/2016 around 12:21 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: DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Update

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



The DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Gates

system for the off-leash gate was struck by lightening. We'll know for sure Monday and replace the circuit board if necessary.

> For everyone's safety it was necessary to lock the entrance gates to the large

should be repaired tomorrow (Saturday 5/21/16).

Meanwhile – Dog Park entry is accessible now through the park's south training gate.

Please keep your dogs on-leash until you reach your desired

& small dog areas.

Accessibility to all areas will remain through the south training area. PLEASE keep dogs on leash in this area to make is safe for all to enter and exit.

We will update you again the first of next week.

location.

To exit the park use the buttons at the small and large dog gates.

Some low lying areas are still holding water.. let's hope the rain stops.

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject:

DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. < dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Wednesday, May 18, 2016 12:25 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net DFL Off Leash Dog Park Closed Temporarily due to flooding

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



1230 16th Avenue - Vero Beach, FL 32960 - 772 567-8969 www.dogsforlifevb.org

The DFL Off-Leash Dog Park will be closed for a few days due to historical flooding which has affected the electricity at the security gates. We hope to reopen by Friday 5/20/16.

Although there are some low lying

areas that are still holding water, the property in general has drained surprisingly well.



WE WON AGAIN!

Dogs For Life TCPalm Choice Award Winner For Best Dog Park Thank you for casting your votes! www.TCPalm.com/Choic eAwards

We appreciate your support!



Donation Center

Your donations are what help keep us serving the Veterans of our community. Without your support, this would not be possible. Please donate now by tapping the tab below.

Donate Now



3300 N Highway A1A • Fort Pierce, FL 34949-8520 Phone (772) 595-5845 • Fax (772) 595-5847 www.NavySEALmuseum.org

Dogs for Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach 32960

1 May 2016

The Navy SEAL Museum and its Board of Directors very much appreciate the support provided our Trident House Team Challenge. Your **Hole Sponsor** of **\$150.00** helped provide both the maintenance and family support for the house and its Navy SEAL guests.

It is through the support of individuals like you that we are able to continue to strengthen our programs, and to develop new and innovative projects to serve our members and the public.

The UDT-SEAL Museum Association, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our Federal Identification Number is 59-2569073.

Again, thank you for this kindness, generosity and loyalty.

Thois

Rick Kaiser, Master Chief SEAL (Ret) Executive Director

People Newsweekly

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly "

Vero Beach 32963 / May 19, 2015 23

PEOPLE





HEASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS LUMINARIES - LU

> Service Dog Team members received six month Service Team certification from Dogs For Life

Monday, May 30, 2016



Bob and Bo; Trainer Lisa Snycerski; Bill and Freyja; CEO Shelly Ferger and Truiner LA. Bykowsky

BY LIEA LOPEZ

As we celebrate another Memorial Day, we turn our thoughts to those who have selflessly served for us and our country.

Our gratitude and appreciation is immeasurable. We pay tribute to those who are no longer with us by reaching out to all veterans who need support.

Dogs For Life, Service Dog Team members are trained at the Vero Beach facility and two recent graduates have helped improve quality of life for vets.

traveling and spend their summers in North Carolina. Bill served on active duty

Bob and his wife enjoy

in the Navy from 1984 to 1988, and in the active reserves 1988 through 1992. He was recalled for Desert Storm from 1991-1992.

Freyja, his Malamute, performs many tasks for Bill and has greatly improved his day-to-day life. Bill likes to go camping. fishing and work on his computer.

Both teams have recently Bob served in the Navy received their six month

from 1959 through 1963, which included the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Bob and Bodacious, better known as "Bo," have been together since she was a pup. Bo provides hearing and mobility assistance for Bob, which makes getting out and about a whole lot easier.

Service Team certification from Dogs For Life.

We have enjoyed working with both of these well deserving veterans and their predecessors in this program. Our list of new veterans in or waiting for training is ever increasing. For more information. please call 772-567-8969.

ANIMALS

Bauer Research Foundation engages in research studies that do not involve the use of animals but which can make a huge difference in improving animal and human health.

www.bauerresearch.org

Bark Park is the off-leash dog park in Sebastian with an open area where man's best friends fly like the wind. Set-aside spaces accommodate shy small dogs and larger "customers." www.sebastianbarkpark.com

Dogs for Life Inc. provides training for dogs to assist people with hearing or mobility issues, as well as veterans with post-traumatic stress issues.

www.dogsforlifevb.org

H.A.L.O. No Kill Rescue takes in and adopts out more than 1,500 animals annually, helping them find a "furever" home. www.halorescurefl.org

The Humane Society of Vero Beach & Indian River County's

"Open door, Open Heart" shelter accepts all animals, regardless of age, health, behavior or adoptability. www.hsvg.org Vero Beach Dog Park, the offleash park along the Indian River Lagoon, has plenty of running and chasing space for our four-pawed friends. It's a social time for their owners.

VeroBeach Handbook

www.verobeachdogpark.org

ARTS AND

The Academy for the Performing Arts offers vocal and instrumental instruction and performance opportunities for all ages. www.academyinvero.org

The Atlantic Children's Chorale is a select choir that develops the individual's potential to a high level of vocal technique while exploring challenging repertoire. www.atlanticchildrenschorale.org

The Atlantic Classical Orchestra encourages and cultivates the appreciation of classical symphonic music by presenting performances at the highest artistic level. www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com

Ballet Vero Beach promotes the art of dance as a universal language in our community and beyond with performances throughout the year. www.balletverobeach.org The Gifford Youth Orchestra

provides education, training and on-stage stage experience in the performing arts through music. "More Violins, Less Violence, Better Tomorrows." www.gyotigers.org

The Indian River Symphonic Association seeks to bring the world's finest orchestras and soloists to Vero Beach. They've succeeded. www.irsymphonic.org

Riverside Children's Theatre

offers affordable performing arts experiences and outreach to area children. The youthful enthusiasm and talent is something to see. www.riversidetheatre.com

Treasure Coast Chorale members share their love and enjoyment of choral music with four annual performances at First Baptist Church of Vero Beach.

www.treasurecoastchorale.org

The Treasure Coast Jazz Society encourages the performance, promotion and preservation of jazz. www.tcjazzsociety.org

The Vero Beach Art Club fosters the appreciation of art and artistic growth through exhibitions and educational opportunities.

The National Elephant Center in Fellsmere is home to North American elephants in need of short and long-term health care. www.nationalelephantcenter.org

The Cultural Council of Indian River County promotes public awareness of the many available cultural opportunities throughout the community. www.cultural-council.org www.verobeachartclub.org

Dogs Donors & Awards

STAR VOLUNTEERS

By LISA LOPEZ

Shelly Ferger, CEO/Founder of Dogs For Life, along with the DFL board members, staff and friends celebrated their 2015 top donors and volunteers. It was a perfect evening for an outdoor event and all in attendance embraced the reasons for the gathering.

Board President Eleanor Bengyak, expressed her continued devotion to DFL and noted the ongoing needs and efforts for the organization as requests for assistance dogs for veterans in and around Indian River County has been substantially increasing.

After cheerful socializing and engaging introductions with some of the current assistance dog teams everyone enjoyed a delicious BBQ dinner and were then entertained with the 4-H Dog Masters Club and their Agility Show. The young club members had a great time showing their dog's skills and accomplishments they achieved during the training season. The 4-H Dog Masters Club is yet another facet of DFL's contribution to the Vero Beach community.

To round out the evening everyone gathered in the Training Center for dessert and Shelly Ferger proudly presented the numerous and well deserved awards. She stated, "Dogs For Life can never say just how much we appreciate our supporters – donors and volunteers alike."

If you are interested in learning more about Dogs For Life, please give us a call and we will gladly make arrangements for a tour of our campus, which includes an Off-Leash Dog Park and review all of our services available to the people and dogs in need in Indian River County.





Larry and Sherry Ingham with Larry's service dog, Lola, enjoying the Awards Ceremony.



DFL Board Member Karen Wyderski with Gunny, DFL's service dog in training. 2015 Donor and Volunteer Awards

Assistance Dog Team: L. A.
 Bykowsky and Darel
 Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog Pro-

gram: Mary Streff Volunteer of the Year: Linda Liss Volunteer of the Year: Edna Hitzel

 Individual Philanthropist: Kathi G.
 Schumann
 Individual Philanthropist: Richard and Jane Manoogian



IR County 4-H Dog Masters Club: Sara and Coral, Brittany and Jeter, Jayse and Rocky, Jasmine, Renzi and Jake, Madeline and Gretchen, Grace and Bonsal, Raina Corporate Philanthropist: Coast To Coast Landscaping

Corporate Philanthropist: Linda Parrish for Colton, Williams, Reamy & Nelson

■Corporate Philanthropist: Laura Bonney, LEB Printing ■Media Marketing: Dale Sorensen

Real Estate, Inc. Media Marketing: Amy Robinson for Sniff & Barkens

6:00 BBQ Dinner & Social

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES - LU Monday, May 23, 2016

- 6:30 4-H Dog Masters Club Dog Obedience & Agility Show
- 7:00 Hearing & Service Dogs Demonstration
- 7:15 DFL Donor & Volunteer Awards Ceremony 7:45 Celebration of Lights
 - Celebration of Lights

2015 Award Recipients

	Assistance Dog Team	
	Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog Program	Mary Streff
	Volunteer of the Year Awards	Linda Liss
		Edna Hitzel
	Individual Philanthropist Awards	Kathi G. Schumann
		Richard & Jane Manoogian
	Corporate Philanthropist Awards	Coast To Coast Landscaping
		Colton, Williams, Reamy & Nelson, CP
		LEB Printing & Design
	Media Marketing Awards	Dale Sorensen Real Estate, Inc.
	•	Sniff & Barkens

You are cordially invited to attend our celebration

Dogs For Life Board of Directors. Toni Gibson, Karen Wyderski, Eleanor Bengyak, Shelly Ferger, Kathi G. Schumann and Lindo

Liss

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

DFL Staff Members. L.A. Bykowsy, Lisa Snycerski, Shelly Ferger, Lisa Lopez and Joan Freeman

Dogs, Donors & Awards

Dogs, Donors & Awards

in honor of our remarkable

Donors, Assistance Dogs, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs & Volunteers

BBQ Dinner

Tuesday April 26th - 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Administrative & Assistance Dog Training Center 1230 16th Avenue – Corner of 12th Street and 16th Avenue

> Please RSVP by April 12th, 2016 Assistance dogs only please

(772) 567-8969 or dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net



Back row from left: L.A. Bykowsky, Amy Robinson, Laura Bonney, Jeff Gomez, Suzy Gomez and Mary Streff. Front row from left: K-9 Darel, Kathi G. Schumann, Edna Hitzel, Linda Parrish and Linda Liss

Dogs, Donors & Awards

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2015 Donor and Volunteer Awards

Assistance Dog Team L. A. Bykowsky & Darel

Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog Program Mary Streff

> Volunteer of the Year Linda Liss

Volunteer of the Year Edna Hitzel

Individual Philanthropist Kathi G. Schumann

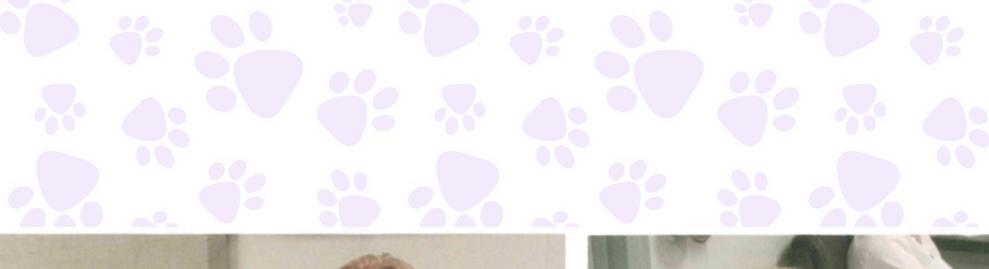
> Individual Philanthropist Richard & Jane Manoogian





IR County 4-H Dog Masters Club From left: Sara and Coral, Brittany and Jeter, Jayse and Rocky, Jasmine, Renzi and Jake, Madeline and Gretchen, Grace and Bonsai, Raina

Dogs Donors & Awards attendees enjoying the agility demonstration by the 4-H Dog Masters Club





Larry and Sherry Ingham with Larry's service dog Lola enjoying the Awards Ceremony



DFL Board member Karen Wyderski with Gunny, DFL's service dog in training





DFL Staff Members From left: L.A. Bykowsy, Lisa Snycerski, Shelly Ferger, Lisa Lopez and Joan Freeman

Dogs For Life Board of Directors From left: Toni Gibson, Karen Wyderski, Eleanor Bengyak, Shelly Ferger, Kathi G. Schumann and Linda Liss

4-H Dog Masters Club



Thank You

Shelly

m; MG.Shelly

Thankyou for training my dog with me and getting us to where we are today! we really enjoyed the agility and hope to get even better out it!

> from, Maddy + Gretchen



Dear Shelly,

you have been agreat teacher, and Very enjoyable to work with. The club has allowed me to grow in my relationships with others. It has also allowed me to be involved in the community and learn how to work with others. I have leathed so much this year and thank for so much more than I could ever say.

> Thank you for everything, Jasmine

love homzi

lay thank you.

Pear Shelly

Thank you for helping

Me with dog traning

shelly you helped me

to get jack to sit and





Shelly Dear Thanks for teaching me to my dogs Rochy. train Joyse

he enjoyed them!!! Anyway, thank you so much for all you have done for me and Bousai!

Love, Grace

Dear Miss Shelly,

Thank you so much for spending much of your time this past year teaching Bousai and & training and agility We have truly learned the process:) I am so song this card is so late, but il wanted to thank you Do much for the dog chicken chips you gave the for Christmas Bansai octually got into the bag last Sunday while al was out and at them all There were teeth marks bit ento the bag ... yeah

Dearest Sheely



Thank you so very much

for your kindness.

you are such an and far all you do. I

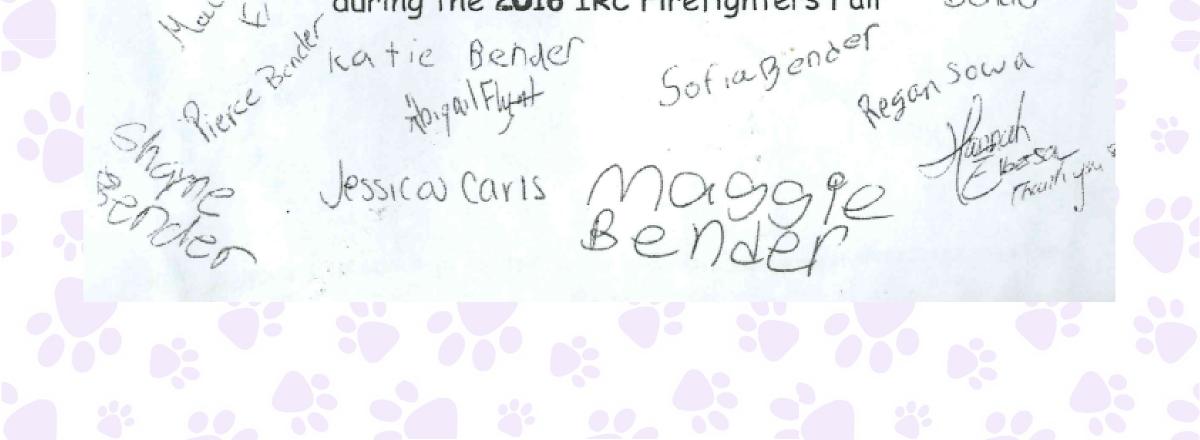
Pear Mrs. Shelly, Thank you so much for helping me train Coral this year! You are amazing at what you do. Coral and I are always looking forward to doing agility. Coral has improved a lot sense we first started,

everyone has! Thank you again ...





Ailen Flynt Jam es EIM Ded Auszin Pastar Morgan Hayes Auszin Pastar Thank you for supporting Bree Russell the section of the se IRC 4H Emma r Bender during the 2016 IRC Firefighters Fair



Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: Constant Contact <support@constantcontact.com> Tuesday, May 31, 2016 4:04 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Your campaign Sweet Yorkie-Poo Needs a New Loving Home! has been sent

Constant Contact' 💒

Dear Shelly Ferger,

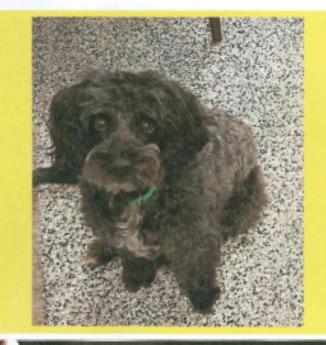
Your campaign 'Sweet Yorkie-Poo Needs a New Loving Home!' was sent on 5/31/2016 around 4:03 PM EDT.

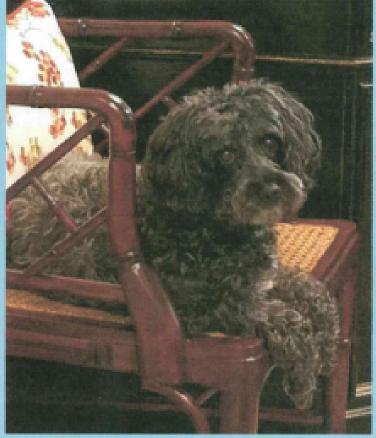
Below is a copy of the message your subscribers received. See how your campaign is doing by visiting Reports in your account to get real-time results and stats.

Subject: Sweet Yorkle-Poo Needs a New Loving Home!

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.





Do you have room in your heart and home?

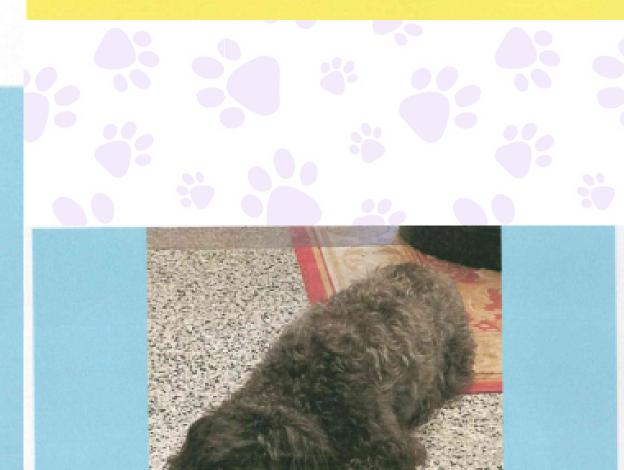
BJ, a 9 year old Yorkie-Poo, is a sweet, very loving and playful girl.

This darling came to DFL because her owner could no longer care for her and Shelly knows a cute face when she sees one!

BJ gets along quite well with other dogs and will most likely be ok with a cat as well. Not recommended for small children.

She is very healthy and all shots are up to date. BJ weighs 17 lbs. and stands approx. 11" at the shoulder.

She does not pull on a leash, sleeps all night and is crate and house trained.







If you are interested or know someone who is, please call Dogs For Life to make an appointment to see her. (772) 567-8969



VIETNAM VETERANS of AMERICA CHAPTER 1038 P.O.B. 0322 Vero Beach, Florida 32961-0322

May 22, 2016

Dear Friends,

We sincerely thank you for helping us to make our Annual Golf Tournament on May 21, 2016 a success. Dogs For Life was proudly displayed on one of eighteen holes on the golf course at Pointe West. The event proceeds will go to help our Chapter with the many community projects that we are involved in.

Here is a brief summary of our Chapter's accomplishments:

- We give three \$1000 college scholarships to IRC high school students. This year we will add an
 additional \$2000 to donate to local ROTC high school students.
- Donated \$1000 for beds for homeless veterans in IRC.
- Donated \$1500 to a local Vietnam Veteran in need of household repairs.
- We support our veterans at the VA Medical Center.
- We built a Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Memorial Island in Indian River County.
- Our members serve as VVA Chapter 1038 Color Guard. We participate in Memorial Day, and Veterans Day observances, the Sebastian 4th of July Parade, and the Vero Beach Christmas Parade, and funerals of our local veterans.
- We spend hours speaking with our youth in the area high schools.
- We offer a group for veterans to meet with other veterans to share and help one another.
- Our members participate in the annual "Toys for Tots" campaign; Indian River County Sheriff's Office BBQ, Bark in the Park, Air Show and other community events.

It is through support like yours that helps us make a difference.

We are also a not-for-profit 501 (c) (3), Veterans organization. Our tax ID number is 32-0310694. Your contribution was tax-deductible.

"Serving America Together Then and Serving America Together Now"

I nank you again for your support.



Hap Allston President VVA Chapter 1038

Monday, May 2, 2016

STELLAR EVENT



L.A. Bykowsky and Dogs for Life Founder Shelly Ferger with Darel and Gunny



Board Member Kathie Pierce, Ret. Col. Gregory Gadson, Executive Director Dr. Bob Brugnoli and Board Chair Dr. Karen Mersky



Mental Health Association Grit, Ganache and Gadson

BY STEPHANE LABATY For Luminories

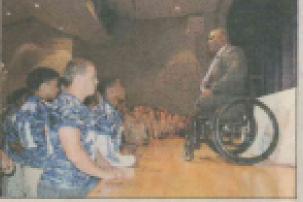
The Mental Health Association of Indian River County presented Col. Gregory Gadson for an inspirational message of recovery to about 300 guests at the Saint Edward's School Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts.

The former West Point Graduate was wounded in Baghdad and returned home as a double amputee. He said the most challenging aspect of regaining his life was admitting he needed help.

Gadson credits his success to "his team," which consisted of faith, family and friends.

Gadson testimony of courage and perseverence was the inspiration behind the New York Giants 10-game winning streak and subsequent Super Bowl win.

His decorated career also includes advocacy for the Wounded Warriors program and people with disabilities; noted Commander of the U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, Va.; actor in the movie "Battleship;" and advocate for mental health.



The audeince consisted of area residents and visitors of all ages, including veterans, students from Vero Beach High School, JROTC, and the Sebastian River High School and St. Edwards football teams.

Throughout the evening, Gadson emphasized society's need to eliminate the stigma of mental illness so people will have the courage to reach out and get help.

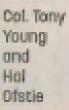
After all, if a war hero can ask, why can't you?

The evening was designed with the primary intent of raising awareness of the services offered at the Mental Health Association.

Funds will be used to provide mental health programs and services at the Walk-In Center, located at 820 37th Pl.

To learn more, visit MHAIRC.org,







APRIL



DDA Event Awards & Agility Show



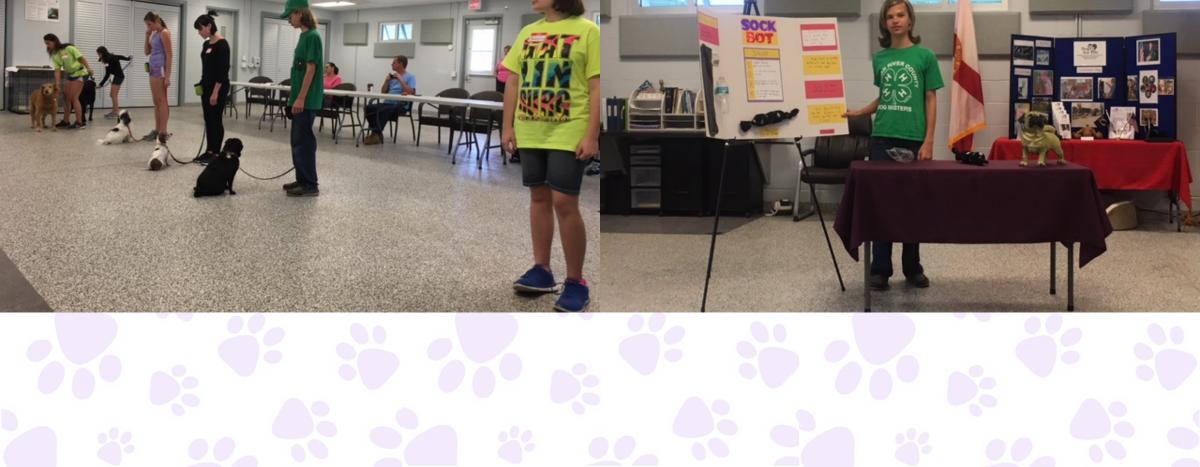


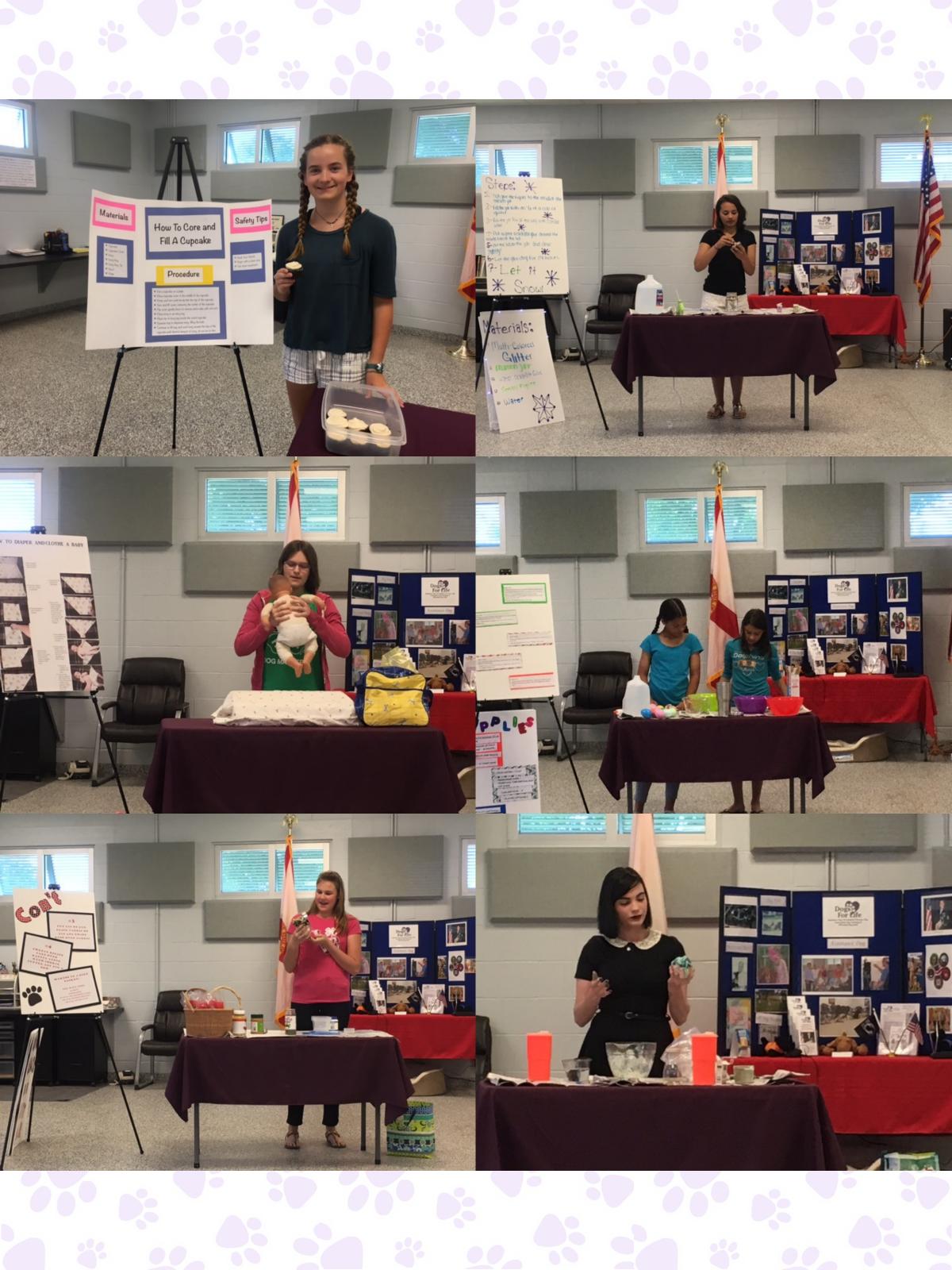
Donor Tree



4-H Training Class







Public Outings



Articles

Vero Beach 32963 / April 28, 2016 20

Your Vero Beach Newsweekt

PEOPLE

A hero among us: Col. Gadson inspires at benefit

BY CHRISTINA TASCON Sig/Writer

At the Grit Ganache and Gadson fundraiser to benefit the Mental Health Association of Indian River County, Col. Gregory Gadson, U.S. Army (ret.) shared his inspirational story of overcoming unthinkable challenges after losing both legs to a roadside bomb

while serving in Bagdad on May 7, 2007. Roughly 300 guests attended the event last Tuesday evening at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts at Saint Edward's School, including members of the Sebastian River High School football team and Vero Beach High School ROTC, and numerous veterans.

The audience sat riveted as the West Point graduate spoke about his incredible journey of recovery and resiliency. Gadson became one of the first military personnel to use a technologically advanced, powered prosthetic knee after the explosion which almost took his life. Despite being eligible for medical retirement, he went on to assume command of the Fort Belvoir, Va., installation.



Patty Vascuez and Angela G

Gadson followed up his talk with wide-ranging Q & A, tackling such queries as why he enlisted and what inspired him - and whether he thought Army would ever beat Navy on the gridiron. "Absolutely!" said Gadson enthusiastically, injecting a touch of humor into a night filled with solemn emotion.

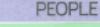
Gadson played football at West Point and after his near-fatal injury, friend Mike Sullivan, then a coach with the New York Giants, asked him to speak to the team. Gadson's inspiring talk earned him a specially minted Super Bowl XLII ring after the team beat the New England Patriots, and he continues to play a role as a team mentor even today.

Retired U.S. Army Col. Gregory D. Gadson speaks to the Sebastian River High School football team and Vero Beach High School ROTC.



Vero beach 22902 / April 20, 2010

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly "



Many of the students in the audience recognized him from the feature film "Battleship," where he had a role which won him critical acclaim as a paraplegic war hero helping to fight aliens.

When Gadson spoke about mental health, he acknowledged that he initially refused any counseling at Walter Reed Hospital.

"For 48 hours I prayed to God to take me, but then I realized I had a choice to live," said Gadson. "I had to give everything I had to get where I was going. Most importantly, God, my family, my friends and my team got me through."

Gadson said that it took more courage to ask for help and none to not ask. He was most proud when someone told him they had seen him on the screen and it inspired them to get their life to-



"Sometimes it is uncomfortable, but you have a chance to build character and strive to live up to the best you can be. We all have to do our part to share our stories and live by example," Gadson explained.

"Faith is also important in recovery. I tell the kids, if you don't have faith, it's like getting into an accident and not having 911 to call."

Afterwards guests had a chance to CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



Shelly Ferger and L.A. Bykowsky of Dogs For Life.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

speak personally to the colonel as they enjoyed champagne and delectable desserts at a reception catered by Adrienne Drew.

"This event kicks off our May Mental Health Month," said MHA Execu-

it interesting to note that 65 years ago the very first Mental Health of America campaign was to raise awareness of returning veterans from World War II. And now we continue to focus attention on making people aware that help

tive Director Dr. Bob Brugnoli. "I find is available for those that are struggling."

"If you were not inspired tonight, you are not human," said Col. Tony Young, who introduced Gadson. "Col. Gadson has gone through enormous adversity and yet is a great force in healing."

"I am so happy to have seen the community come out tonight," said board member Kathie Pierce after the successful evening. "Colonel Gadson was great and he got our biggest point across - that it really is OK to get help."

An American hero

Greg Gadson to share his inspirational story Tuesday at St. Edward's

By Zach Dean

VERO BEACH - Retired Army Col. Greg Gadson has quite a story to tell. Gadson will share his tale Tuesday night at St. Edward's School. It goes from football player to American hero, to life as an actor and on to his focus today, that of a motivational speaker — which helped spark a team to a Super Bowl championship. Gadson's message of overcoming personal injury to inspiring others will benefit the Mental Health Association in Indian River County.

Health Association in Indian River County. Gadson, 50, served our country for more than 26 years, retiring in 2014. A 1989 graduate of the Military Academy at West Point, where he played football, Gadson served in every major conflict during the past two decades, including Operation Desert Storm.

It was in 2007 that Gadson's life changed forever. On May 7 of that year, Gadson was returning from a memorial service

See HERO, 2C

IF YOU GO

Who: Retired Army Col. Greg Gadson What: 'Grit Ganache & Gadson' – an Inspirational story Whene & 30 p.m. Tuesday – followed by wine/dessert reception for those age 21 and older at the adjacent Wechter Activities Conter Wheter: Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts, St. Edward's School, 1895 St. Edward's Drive, Vero Beach Admission: \$50 Contact: 772-563-9788 Tickets: Can be purchased nt www. mhairc.org \$50)



New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning (left) talks after practice with Col. Greg Gadson during training camp in Albany, N.Y., on Aug. 14, 2009. Gadson, who lost his legs in Iraq, will speak at St. Edward's School in Vero 1 each on



HERO from 1C

for two of his fellow soldiers in Baghdad when a roadside bomb exploded. He would lose both legs above the knee and suffer a severe right arm injury. Despite the setback, Gadson remained on active duty, becoming the Army's first double amputee to take over as commander of a major installation. Today, he travels the country to share his message: "Grit Ganache & Gadson." "We don't really control a lot of the things that hap-pen to us in life," Gadson said last week in a telephone interview. "What we do have control over is our actions, our attitudes and our thoughts. That's what I'm trying to get across, is to focus on what you can control and to shape your destiny through that."



sense of value and a sense of contributing something that I had lost."

Many say Gadson's speech that day played a pivotal role in the Giants' victory and a season turnaround, as New York went on to win 10 straight road games, culminating in a 17-14, come-from-behind upset victory of the New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII.

In the years that followed, Gadson served

The 2007 incident is just the beginning of Gadson's story.

Four months after the attack, Gadson was visited by then New York Giants wide receivers coach and friend Mike Sullivan, a former teammate of Gadson's at West Point. Sullivan asked Gadson Die Contraction of the second se

President Bush shakes hand with Col. Greg Gadson, the New York Giants honorary co-captain, during a photo opportunity with the members of the Super Bowl XLII champion New York Glants on April 30, 2008, on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington. Gadson, who played at West Point and lost both legs to a roadside bomb in Iraq, will speak at St. Edward's School in Vero Beach on Tuesday.

if he would speak to the then 0-2 Giants before the team's Sunday kickoff against the Redskins in Washington.

"He wanted me to share my story with the team, especially because they were struggling at the time," said Gadson,

e a Chesapeake. Virginia e native. "I was lost. I had f never come back from a deployment early like that, without the rest of my team, so I was strug-

e gling. "It was that relationship t with the Giants that gave me a sense of purpose, a as director of the Army Wounded Warrior Program before taking over command of Fort Belvoir, Virginia, in 2012. He has received many awards for his service, including the Bronze Star, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and Purple Heart.

The former linebacker also has played the role of actor in the 2012 movie "Battleship" — portraying a wounded Army veteran named Mick.

"In some ways I view it as a responsibility," Gadson said of his life today as a public speaker.

"Less than 1 percent of our nation serves, and if I can share my experiences from my service to an audience, then I feel like that's something I should be doing."

PRESS RELEASE

April 20, 2016 CONTACT: Shelly Ferger, Founder and CEO 772-567-8969

DFL Representatives Meet Colonel Greg Gadson, USA, (Ret.) American Hero

DFL Founder and CEO, Shelly Ferger and DFL Assistance Dog Trainer, L.A. Bykowsky met American Hero and "Battleship" Film Star Colonel Greg Gadson, USA, (Ret.) while at the Grit Ganache & Gadson Presentation hosted by the Mental Health Association at the St. Edwards Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts on April 19 2016.

"The opportunity to hear Colonel Gadson's inspirational story was one we did not want to miss" said Shelly Ferger. "This event also gave DFL an opportunity to bring our certified and intraining service dogs to a public venue where local veterans and the public were encouraged to ask questions on how service dogs are trained to mitigate their owner's disabilities.

DFL task trains hearing dogs to alert their owners to a knock at the door, the phone ringing, an alarm clock and the smoke alarm. Service dogs are trained to assist their owners with balancing on their feet, picking up items or tapping a 911 K-9 emergency phone. Service dogs can also be trained to help someone with the effects of post-traumatic stress, such as waking from a nightmare, creating subtle barriers in crowds, and alleviating oncoming panic attacks. Other tasks can be trained to mitigate mobility and stress related issues as needed.

Caption: L.A. Bykowsky, with service dog Darel and DFL Service Dog in-training Gunny, poses with Shelly Ferger and Colonel Gadson during the Wine & Dessert Reception held after the presentation.





Make a bid at the American Legion **Quarter** Auction

Wednesday, April 6, 2016 | 25

By Daisy Williams Your Newsweekly Contributor

Four Community

The American Legion Auxiliary North County Quarter Auction is April 11 at 6 p.m. at American Legion Post 189, 807 Louisiana Ave., Sebastian. This month they will be sponsoring Dogs for Life. This group trains dogs to improve the quality of life for people with service dogs for veterans with hearing, mobility challenges as well as PTSD, assisted therapy dogs and assistance dogs.

Bring \$2 paddle rental and quarters. Must be 18 years or older to Attend (no exceptions).

Alchemy Treasures, Avon, Damsel in Defense, Dove Chocolates, Everything Whimsical, It Works, Jamberry Nails, K P Paparazzi, Longaberger, Mary Kay, Our Hearts Desire, Pampered Chef, Passion Parties, Scentsy, This Heart of Mine, Thirty One, Tupperware and more vendors will participate.

The American Legion Kitchen crew will be selling food. For information contact Daisy Williams at 772-882-7352, avondaisy44@aol.com or Mori Serpa at 772-633-9913 or mori44@aol.com.

DOGS FOR LIFE QUARTER AUCTION! April 11th

6:00 PM

\$2.00 for a paddle rental

American

Legion

Auxiliary

Quarter Auction! Monday, April 11th . 6:00 PM For the benefit of the:

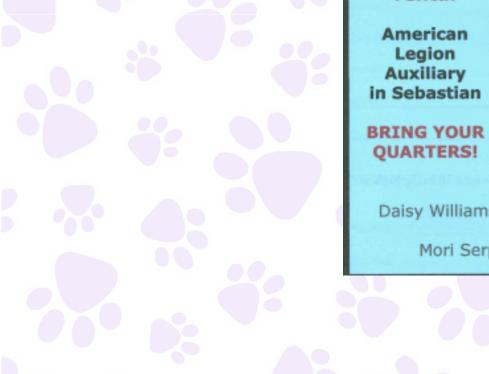
Dogs

and operating an off-leash dog park at no cost to the clients! Dogs For Life specializes in training Hearing Dogs, Mobility Assistance Dogs, and Service Dogs for Veterans to assist with hearing and mobility challenges, as well as the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Join us for an evening of fun, raffles, 50/50*

ne bid on the chance to win products from over 20 ver

Bring \$2.00 for





 (\star)

paddle rental & lots of quarters.

Must be 18 years of age or older to attend.

American Legion Auxiliary 807 Louisiana Avenue Sebastian, FL For additional information contact:

visy Williams 772-882-7352 avondaisy44@aol.com or Mori Serpa 772-633-9914 mori44@aol.com Daisy

Call or Email Daisy Williams 772 882-7352 - avondaisy44@aol.com or Mori Serpa 772 633-9914 -mori44@aol.com

IC « TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS & Tuesday, April 26, 2016 & 11A

IC « TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS & Thursday, April 28, 2016 « 114

OTHER

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Off-Leash Dog Park Small Dog Orientations: 3 p.m. Dogs For Life, Inc., Off-Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach. Ages: 6 months +, dogs must be inoculated, neutered & social. \$100. Register: 772-567-8969; dogsforlifevb.org.

IC « TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS « Saturday, April 30, 2016 « 13A INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

OTHER

Dog Obedience Training: Registration required with instructor Shelly Ferger. 9 a.m. Dogs For Life, Inc. Off-Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach. Ages: 7 months +. \$120. Reservation: 772-567-8969; 0.00

TREASURE COAST

Off-Leash Dog Park Large Dog Orientation: 3 p.m. Dogs For Life, Inc., Off-Leash Dog Park, 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach. Ages: 6 months +, dogs must be inoculated, neutered & social. \$100. Register: 772-567-8969; dogsforlifevb.org.

Sunday, April 3, 2016 TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

Entertainment: Dog Park

DOG PARK Dogs for Life, Inc. 1230 16th Ave. Vero Beach 32960 772 567-8969 www.dogsforlifevb.org www.facebook.com/

DFLVB

Dogs For Life, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non profit tax deductible organization located in Vero Beach, Florida. It was founded to improve the quality of life for people and dogs through the training of assistance dogs (including hearing dogs, mobility assist dogs, and service dogs for veterans), pet therapy dogs, and the owning and operating of an off-leash

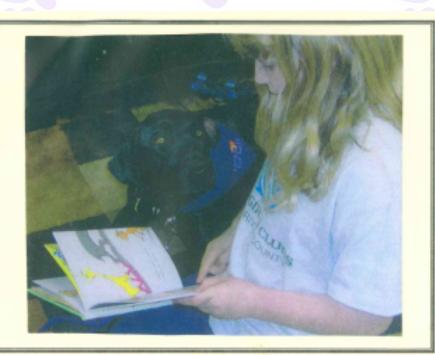


ogs For Life was founded to improve the quality of life for people nd dogs through the training of assistance dogs.

generous Donors, Dogs at our of for Life, Inc. completed construction on an Assistance Dog Training & You Administrative Center in Luby 2014. We are now open

at our Off-Leash Dog Park property location, 1230 bith Ave., Vero Beach, FL. You can become inn volved with Dogs for Life through their annual





Dear Shelly,

Thank you for the nine years of fun and education Chloe and I had at the Park, Pet assisted Therapy and working for Elsie and me.

You are blessed with God's love working Thru you, dear Sister. You made all the difference in my little family's life. They loved you, and so do I. Thank you, Patti Schell

IS IT SUMMER TIME YET?



Could not afford it.

Your father and Bud Holman once took Ralph Kobertson and me to a very rice restaurant between Viero and H. Prierce. I Can't remember the of it but it had the best food I have ever tasted. It remains to this day a bond memory.

Cindy and I are so gled that you are a friend to the dog park and we have you remain so for many years to come.

> Sincerely. Rafe and Cindy Padasett

> > 4126/16

Dear ms Schumann,

We are so very gratiful to you for all of the many things you do in support of the dog park. The elight are just the latest of an almost indless string of agnerous offerings. They seem to be first class elights and with the timer Cindy and I are able to spend more time with Gabby at her favorite play spot. She never wants to leave the park.



Generousity is a way with your family. If I remember right, I recall that your mother had an account with Dr. Sindsey for years to furnish medical help to dogs where owners MARCH



Indian River County Sheriff's Office

Certificate Appreciation

Presented to

Dogs For Life Inc.

In appreciation for your generous support of the boys and girls of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches through our annual Indian River County Sheriff's Office Barbeque

Deryl Loar, Sheriff

18116 Date

31





Assistance Dogs International, Inc. A non-profit coalition of organizations training Assistance Dogs

DOGS FOR LIFE/Shelly Ferger <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Thursday, March 31, 2016 3:21 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Cast Your Vote & Quarter Auction!

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in DOGS FOR LIFE, INC.. Don't forget to add dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may unsubscribe if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



Dogs For Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960 772 567-8969

www.dogsforlifevb.org

Shelly Ferger From: Sent: To: Subject:

March 8, 2016

Ms. Shelly Ferger Chief Executive Officer Dogs for Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Dear Shelly.

Please find enclosed the re-accreditation date plate for the Dogs for Life Assistance Dogs International accreditation plaque.

ificant delay in getting the date plate sent. ADI is now

Sheriff Deryl Loar Indian River County

March 18, 2016

Dogs For Life Inc. 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, Fl 32960

Dear Dogs For Life Inc.,

On behalf of the Indian River County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches, I would like to personally thank you for your generous support of our annual barbecue fundraiser. Enclosed, please find a certificate of our appreciation.

Because of the generous support you and our community provided for our 22nd annual barbecue, we will present a check for \$45,000 to the Youth Ranches this year! You can be very proud to have played a part in helping not only Florida's children but children from Indian River County.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Deryl Loar, Sheriff

DL:lt

Enclosure

INTERNATIONAL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILLIAM CHEN PETER GORBING SALLY IRVIN RICHARD LORD PAUL MUNDELL DANNY VANCOPPERNOLLE CARELL YOUELL

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

> Danny Vancoppernolle, Vice Presiden DYADIS asbl rue Konkel 87/89

BE-1150 Bruxelles Belgium (Phone) 32 2 772 3012

Paul Mundell, Secretary CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE P.O. Box 446 Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0446 (707) 577-1700

Cabell Youell, Treasures SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI SERVICE DOG FOUNDATION 8232 Enon Drive Roanoke VA 24019 (540) 342-3647

EXECUTIVE BOARD RICHARD LORD PAUL MUNDELL DANNY VANCOPPERNOLLE CABELL YOUELL

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

CONTACT INFORMATION Suzi Hall ADI Coordinator PO Box 5174 Santa Rosa, CA 95402 info@assistancedogsinternational.org working with a new vendor and the process will be much more efficient in the future.

Congratulations again on this important achievement for your program.

Please acknowledge receipt of this shipment via email to.

accreditation@assistancedogsinternational.org

Thank you

Sincerely

ASSISTANCE DOGS INTERNATIONAL

Lynn Hoekstra Accreditation Coordinator accreditation@assistancedogsinternational.org

248.622-9304 (USA/Eastern Time Zone)

Лh enclosure

2016 asure coast

e Coast Newspapers TCPALM.COM **VOTE APRIL 3-17**

Greetings **Dogs For Life** Lovers! We are in the line-up for this year's TC Palm Choice Awards

> Voting begins April 3rd ends April 17th

Please cast your vote today at www.TCPalm.com/Cho **iceAwards**

We appreciate your support!

Lights in the Park

Shelly Ferger

Subject:

ŧN

FW: DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Is Open With Lights

The DFL Off-Leash Dog Park Is Open ~ Watch Your Footing Over the Weekend

The DFL Off-Leash Dog Park has now re-opened, but please be aware the site work is not yet complete.

You are now able to access the park, but you must watch your footing as sodding the trenched areas will not be done until Monday.

Information on the Property Lights: See Map Below:

1) Three lights are on a timer from 6 PM to 8 AM bordering the parking lot. Lights # 1, 3 & 4.

2) All other lights are operational by use of a timer (up to 1 hour per setting) located at each entrance. We recommend your setting this timer to a full hour when you enter the park, even if someone is already in the park, this way no one is left in the dark.

3) Three lights along the east side of the property are not operational due to missing parts. Lights # 6, 7 & 8, mostly affecting the large dog area. They should be operational within 6 weeks.

Use these following areas temporarily until all lights are operational.

4) Large dogs owners please use the Training Area located on the south end of the property. Lights # 1 & 9 light this area. Note: Until Monday there is no running water in the large dog water station, water is accessible in the Memorial Garden or all other areas of the park.

5) Small dogs owners should use the Training Area located to the north of the Training Center. To have the best lighting owners should first turn the timer on in the South Training area Light # 1, to utilize lighting from light # 9.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation while we wait for the project to be complete.

0.

2.40.00

w

S



Dogs For Life, Inc. Off-Leash Dog Park We Have Lights!! 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960



Open Door. Open Heart.

March 10, 2016

Ms. Shelly Ferger Dogs For Life 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

Dear Ms. Ferger,

The Humane Society of Vero Beach & IRC is thankful for your generous donation to "Cause for Paws - 2016". Your contribution of the following item(s) will greatly benefit this year's auction:

Gift Certificate for Annual Membership (Donor's Declared Value: \$100.00)

The Humane Society receives and gives humane care and shelter to over 6,000 animals a year. No animal is ever turned away, regardless of health or temperament. "Cause for Paws" is the Humane Society's most important annual fundraiser. The proceeds from this event help support the operations, ongoing maintenance, and community outreach offered by the shelter and its dedicated staff.

You will be listed in this year's program and on BidPal as: DOGS FOR LIFE

Speaking 'for those who cannot speak for themselves', we value your friendship and generosity.

Sincerely,

Pat beausor

Pat Isaacson (231-3909) Isaacson8337@bellsouth.net Committee /"Cause for Paws - 2016"

In accordance with recently enacted IRS requirements, the Humane Society of Vero Beach and Indian River County, FL. Inc. acknowledges that no goods or services have been provided you in return for your contribution. "A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER. SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE."



35 cents

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016

Thousands turn out for Indian River Youth Ranches BBQ

Mary Kemper

misempergiveteranyotoeweetils.com

A base crowd in the thousands flocked to the Indian River County Sheriff's Office grounds Feb. 2 for its annual Youth Ranches BBQ.

Under partly cloudy skies, which kept everything cool, law inforcement members, veterans, family, friends and interested members of the public came to enjoy a day of good food and fun and interesting activities.

There were static displays of fire trucks, police vehicles, and even Coast Guard ships for people to view and learn about.

4 * MARCH 10, 2016 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

SWAT and K-9 demonstrations were presented by members of the Sheriff's Office and other law-anforcement agencies.

Tours were also given in the County Jall and 911 Center.

The U.S. Forestry Service had a booth "manned" by a giant statue of Smokey Bear, towaring over the grounds.

There was a bounce house for the kids, as well as a petting noo. "This is like one big Army amusement park," one bright lad was overheard to say.

Numerous veterans' organizations manned booths as well, including one for the National Navy-UDT SIIAL Museum in Fort Pierce.

L.A., a former federal agent, and John Baughman

See YOUTH BBQ page 4



Sheriff Deryl Loar

Indian River County -

March 1, 2016

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

Staff photo by Mary Kemper

L.A., left, and John Baughman, of Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, attended the Indian River County Sheriff's Office annual Youth BBQ March 2 at the Sheriff's Office compound. Accompanying them are retired bomb disposal dog Daryl, left, and brand-new service dog Gunny.

YOUTH BBQ from page 1

represented Dogs For Life, Vero Beach. They were accompanied by Daryl, a former bomb-detection K-9, and Gunny, a brandnew service dog-in-training. The crowds were a good test for Gunny, who must resist the temptation to make friends with everyone he sees, instead learning to focus for his one-day veteran companion.

The catered lunch consisted of a choice of pulled pork or chicken, baked beans, potato salad and cake for dessert. Cheerful volunteers kept a busy pace handing meals out to hungry attendees. A steady stream of volunteers in golf carts shuttled passengers back and forth between the parking area and the BBQ grounds. "We've done really well today, no doubt about it," one driver said. "And it all goes to the kids." Since 1957, the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches have helped the needs of thousands of troubled and neglected children throughout the state.

According to youthranches.org: "This summer, the boys at Merrill Cottage at the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch participated in the Teen Outreach Program (TOP), which is sponsored by the Florida Department of Health and the U.S. Office of Adolescent Health. "TOP is a positive youth developDear Sponsor:

I would personally like to thank you for being a Helping Hand Sponsor of the 22nd Annual Youth Ranches BBQ. If you haven't done so already, I hope you will be able to visit one of the Ranches or visit them on-line at <u>www.youthranches.org</u> to see the wonderful work that is being done with these young people.

Thank you again for your support and I hope to see you at the BBQ on March 2nd.

Sincerely,

Deryl Loar, Sheriff

DL/It

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | INDIAN RIVER COUNTY | YOUR NEWSWEEKLY | Wednesday, March 16, 2016 | 23

Your Community

Assistance dogs graduate

By Shelly Ferger Your Newsweekly Contributor

Dogs For Life, Inc. held an Assistance Dog Graduation Ceremony at the DFL Administrative & Training Center, at 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach on Jan. 16. "We are thrilled for the first time to have four teams graduating at the same time" said Shelly Ferger, DFL Founder and CEO.

Chere McCoy with her service dog Stella, Wanda Haaland with her hearing dog Lola, Larry Ingam with his hearing/ service dog Lola and Corinne Cruickshank with her service dog Aya, have completed all of the requirements of DFL and Assistance Dogs International to graduate the DFL Assistance Dog Training Program with honors. With the doubling of teams in training this year, expect to see larger graduation



Graduating teams pose with members of the DFL Board of Directors and Staff.

ceremonies in the future in Vero Beach.

DFL has had more veterans of war apply for training in 2015 than since our inception in February of 2002. Hearing dogs are trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, the phone ringing, an alarm clock and the smoke alarm. Other sounds can be trained as needed. Service dogs are trained to assist their owners with balancing on their feet, picking up items or tapping a 911 K-9 emergency phone.

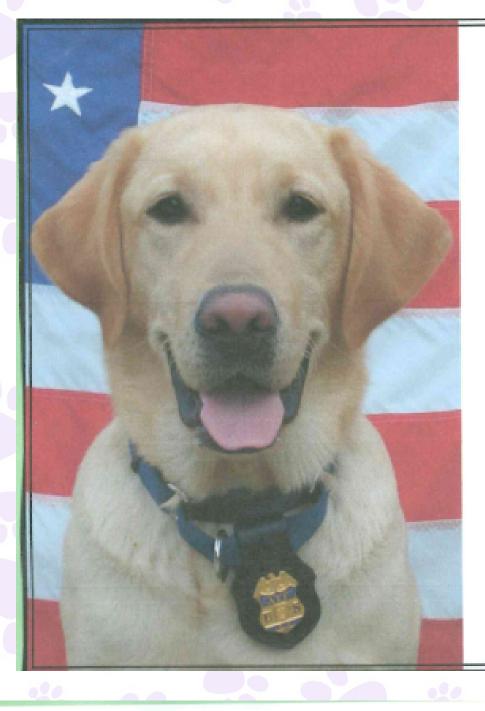
Service dogs can also be trained to help someone with the effects of post-traumatic stress, such as waking from a nightmare, creating subtle barriers in crowds, and alleviating oncoming panic attacks. Other tasks can be trained to mitigate mobility and stress related issues as needed.

FEBRUARY



4-H in Tampa Florida State Fair









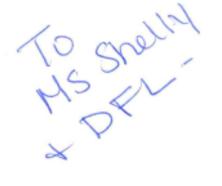
Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

A non-profit organization devoted to training assistance dogs for people who have physical disabilities or are living with the effects of post-traumatic stress. Florida has seen an enormous surge of veterans moving to our state. With your help, they can gain independence and live with confidence.

They proudly stood up for us, now it's time to stand up for them. Please donate today, no amount is ever too small.

> 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960 772 567 8969 dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org

Sarah Eliason Jasmine Donforch Gracie Norwood Raina De Leon Renzi Innes Maddy Ursulean Jayse Soroka Alex Webber



Thank you for your generous constribution to our club. your support is so greatly appreciated! IRC 4-H Dog Masters

Amanda Wagner

Training



NOUS BUSCAMOS EN Internet Control of Control

and Rat

Shelter to Success

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: Chere McCoy <agedog1@hotmail.com> Monday, February 29, 2016 10:05 AM Gav NightStalker; Shelly Ferger; Lisa Article for Barks - I am going with LA's in totality nothing for me to ad. Remember Ladies I will be turning it in TOMORROW!!!!

FROM SHELTER DOG TO SERVICE DOG A CHIHUAHUA'S SUCCESS STORY Part III Task Work

Whew. It's February now and I'm exhausted. Not only was I under the gun to write what I hope was an informative and enjoyable article on one small dog's journey to a lifetime of service, I had to go through a grueling graduation ceremony after months of task work training on my way to becoming a certified service dog!

The last article talked about my Canine Good Citizenship training and passing the Public Access Certification test. This time, I'm going to tell you about the specialized training, called 'task work', that distinguishes service dogs from pets.

There are many different kinds of service dogs: pups that help people with vision, hearing or mobility impairments, dogs for seizure alert or kids with Autism...you name it and I bet a dog can help. My mom has a disability that's been around for a long time, but only recently have organizations like Dogs For Life started training dogs to help alleviate it: Post-Traumatic Stress. PTSD, as it is commonly called, shows up in different ways at different times for different people. Luckily, service dog trainers have found different tasks that dogs can do to help with this disabling psychological impairment.

The law says a service dog has to be trained to do work or perform tasks that mitigate a person's disability. In my mom's case, she has severe nightmares from the traumatic incidents in her life; sometimes she experiences emotional overload or can even get stressed out just being too close to other people or in a crowd. These are the types of situations I'm now trained to help her with.

Task work training is real similar to obedience training: there's something the human wants or needs the dog to do; there's a command or cue to get the dog to do it; the dog performs the task. The difference between service dogs and an obedient pet is the end result of the task directly affects their owner's way of life.

One task, called 'nightmare interruption' is kind of self-explanatory. Some dogs (like me) learn this one on their own. When mom is asleep, sometimes she starts to moan or maybe even scream. I can tell that she's upset and in a bad way. When I think she's having a nightmare, I jump on the bed and lick her and nudge her until she wakes up. Once she opens her eyes and takes a look at me, she immediately gets to a better place and isn't afraid anymore.

Other tasks I've been trained to do involve creating a safe space around my mom. With a simple word like 'six' or 'block', I move into position, maintaining a 'stand or sit and stay' until she tells me its okay to resume a relaxed heel position. I'm sort of ambidextrous at this work, doing it on either side, in front of, or behind mom and sometimes facing forward, sometimes looking backwards (watching her 'six'). This task comes in real handy in places like a restaurant or even a check-out line in a store, where my mom has me watch what's going on behind her and she can take care of business in front and just relax, knowing I have her back.

Sometimes mom experiences 'emotional overload' or panic attacks, kind of like nightmares when you're awake. Before she had me, whenever that happened, mom would have to leave wherever she was because it was just too hard and scary to get through alone. In fact, just a few weeks ago, mom had a panicked blackout in the middle of a grocery store. She sort of just froze, right there in the aisle, not moving, not aware of the people around her. Because of my special training, I knew mom needed help, so I moved into position right in front of her, holding a stand/stay, until mom 'woke up'.

I was also taught another task to help when mom gets overwhelmed: she can put me in her lap (the command for this is easy: lap) and I'll stay there, with my head down, using all my weight for pressure, so mom knows that I'm there. This task is easier for bigger dogs, because they can put their front paws or even just their head in their partner's lap, but the result is the same. Mom calms down and my staying 'on task' lets her stay where she is and go back to enjoying what she was doing.

Let me tell you, I got a lot of 'lap time' at the graduation ceremony last month. There were probably 100 people there, a real big crowd, all eyes on mom and I (and the three other graduating teams). There were several times mom felt a panic attack coming on, so she had me do 'lap'. That simple and smooth move was all she needed to be able to stay for the whole ceremony and appreciate all those people who came to acknowledge our hard work.

If for some reason 'lap' doesn't work and mom decides she needs to leave some place quickly, I'm being trained to help her with that, too. The trainers are teaching me 'exit' and I'm learning that means I have to find the nearest door and get mom to it without making a fuss.

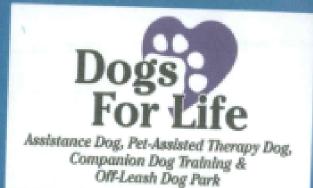
There's one more thing that I'm trying to help my mom with and that's her blood pressure. Sometimes it goes sky high and that's really dangerous. I can't really describe how I know when mom's BP changes, but when I sense it's going too high, I've been nipping at her ankles and yipping to let her know. That's not really an acceptable behavior for service dogs, something I started doing on my own before I knew any better. Mom and the DFL trainers are now working with me to modify my response, like just nudging mom at her feet. Service dogs are, after all, supposed to be invisible. Training for this task is a team effort, with mom and I working really hard to 'capture' the moment when her BP soars. I need to let her know with a gentle nudge, she has to take a BP reading to see if I'm right and if I am, then I get rewarded. The hope is that doing this enough times, I'll be able to replace nipping at mom to nudging her and her recognizing that I'm not just seeking attention but really trying to tell her something important.

That's probably one of the most important aspects of service dog work. We're not on our own, we're in it with our human partners...for life.

My mom and I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the wonderful people at Dogs For Life who made our partnership possible. Their mission statement 'a non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people and dogs' may be simple, but the results are not. Mission accomplished and thank you.

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Tuesday, February 09, 2016 4:44 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Lights, Lights & More Lights



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Beginning Mon. February 15, 2016

Lights, Lights & More Lights!Installation Begins February 15th!

Light Poles, Trenches, Electric & Sod Installation

On Monday February 15, Manning Electric will be installing the light poles for our Property Lighting Project!

This work will include underground piping and wiring that will allow lighting to cover the entire 4 acre property.

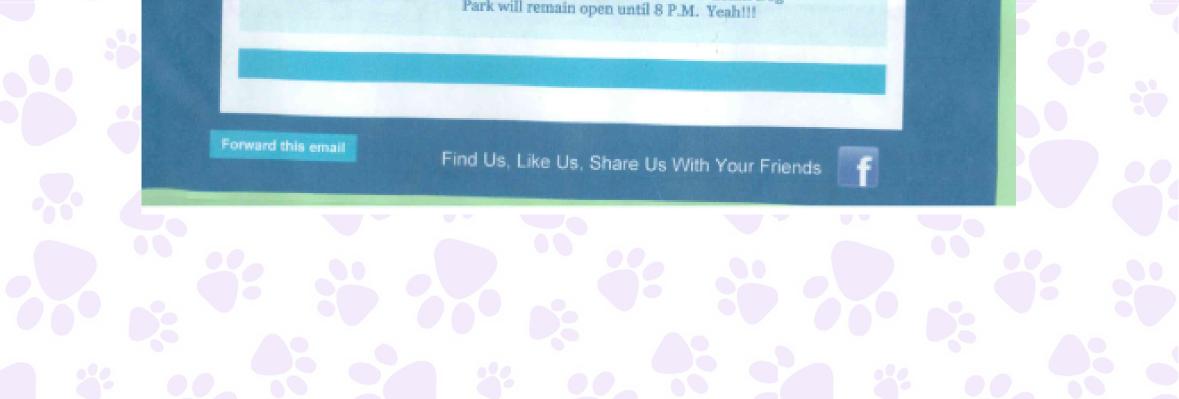
Once the lights are installed, sodding and pathway repairs will be necessary.

During this work, the dog park will be closed.

We expect all construction to be complete by February 26th. If the work is completed earlier you will be notified.

Please be mindful of the park closure that will also effect the parking lot.

Once the lights are installed the Off-Leash Dog



26A » Monday, February 29, 2016 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS » TO

Opinion

SERVICE ANIMALS

LA. Bykowsky, Vero Beach 'Support' not the same as 'service'

I was volunteering at the Indian River County Fairgrounds when a woman's dog was denied access. She could benefit from a clarification about the law:

She said her dog was an "emotional support dog." Both Florida and federal law (the Americans with Disabilities Act) state that "dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support" are not considered service dogs for purposes of public access.

She said she left her dog's vest at home. That's immaterial. Service dogs are not required to wear identifying labels or vests. Their owners don't have to carry ID cards or documents proving their dog's "service."

Service dogs are identified by their training and the task-work performed to mitigate a person's disability, not their size, breed or the "clothes" they wear.

Perhaps this woman's dog is a legitimate emotional support dog, protected by other laws that allow access to public housing (i.e. condos with "no pets" rules) and flying in the cabin of aircraft. However, the ADA, the governing law for public access, does not include emotional support dogs and they are not allowed to accompany their owners into res= taurants, stores or other places of business where dogs are prohibited.

I have a feeling that person has been bringing her dog to business establishments unfamiliar with the law and has been allowed in because the dog was wearing a vest. Shame on whoever operates those businesses for not educating themselves on the law.

For those who don't know, Florida law was modified last year and now provides for a criminal penalty if people misrepresent themselves as having or using a qualified service dog (FSS 413.08 (9)).

If one's dog is not "task trained,"

which the lady said he wasn't, he's not a service dog and she can't bring him places where dogs are prohibited.







Eleanor Bengyak and "Mitzi" Invite You To Support The 6th DFL "Build A Bridge" Bridge Tournament To Help Raise Funds To Train Assistance Dogs in 2016 Vero Beach Country Club 800 30th St., Vero Beach, FL 32960

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

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

> **\$75 Bridge/Lunch** (\$50 Tax Deductible)

~ Limited Seating ~ Please Reply By January 28, 2016

Committee Members: Eleanor Bengyak & "Mitzi" Kathi G. Schumann Linda Liss Betty McCalister

SANCTIONED DUPLICATE OR PARTY BRIDGE

Masterpoints and Prizes Exciting Silent Auction Items 50/50 Drawing



Eleanor Bengyak and "Mitzi" Invite You To ...

SAVE THE DATE! Tuesday, February 2nd, 2016



Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, February 2nd, 2016

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

Invite your bridge friends to come help "Mitzi" and Eleanor Bengyak raise funds to train Assistance Dogs in 2016.

For more information call (772) 567-8969

11:00 a.m.





JANUARY



Bengyak Legacy



Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Monday, January 11, 2016 2:15 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net DFL Bengyak Legacy Society Reception

You are Invited The Bengyak Legacy Society Reception

By now you should have received your invitation to attend The Dogs For Life, Inc. Bengyak Legacy Society Reception to be held tomorrow January 12 at Noon. The Reception will be held at the DFL Administrative & Training Center located at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. Please join us for lunch and an Assistance Dog Demonstration.



News Coverage

VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE • JANUARY 28, 2016 • 5

eterans, dogs successfully graduate rom training

FOR VETERAN VOICE

ogs For Life, Inc. held its Assisce Dog Graduation Ceremony the DFL Administrative and uning Center, at 1230 16th enue in Vero Beach on Jan 16. le are thrilled for the first time have four teams graduating at : same time," said Shelly Ferg-DFL founder and CEO. eteran Chere McCoy with her vice dog Stella, Wanda Haad with her hearing dog Lola, eran Larry Ingham with his aring/service dog Lola and rinne Cruickshank with her vice dog Aya, have completed of the requirements of DFL d Assistance Dogs Internanal to graduate the DFL Assisice Dog Training Program with nors.

evon Williams and Tina Cafro m Quilts of Valor presented nd-sewn quilts to each veteran, th a certification of authenticilove and appreciation. lore than 100 guests attended, d watched hearing dog team la and Wanda perform an alert a smoke alarm demonstration

with DFL Trainer Lisa Snycerski. Each graduate was presented with an ID vest, certified identification card and a graduation cake.

DFL Vice President Kathi Schumann was quoted to say, "We are saving lives at DFL, lives of our military heroes and lives of dogs rescued from animal shelters."

Ferger said the hard work and dedication of each of these teams is a testament to those who do want to recover and live as normal a life as possible with the effects of their post-traumatic stress.

"We love working with military, as they know how to follow direction and take orders," she said. "This is refreshing for any dog trainer. I am inspired every day by these brave men and women, and hope more will follow in their boot steps."

With the doubling of teams in training this year, expect to see larger graduation ceremonies in the future in Vero Beach.

See DOGS page 7



ham, holding service dog Lola, belonging to Larry Ingham, Marine Corps veteran, Penny Coxe, Army veteran, and Chere McCoy, Air Force veteran, with service dog Stella, display special handmade quilts given to them by Quilts of Valor, Vero Beach, in recognition of their successful graduation from the service training program held Jan. 16 at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach.

Photo courtesy of Dogs For Life

DOGS from page 5

DFL has had more veterans of war apply for training in 2015 than since our inception in February of 2002.

Hearing dogs are trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, the phone ringing, an alarm clock and the smoke alarm. Other sounds can be trained as needed.

Service dogs are trained to assist their owners with balancing on their feet, picking up items or tapping a 911 K-9 emergency phone.



Service dogs can also be trained to help someone with the effects of post-traumatic stress, such as waking from a nightmare, creating subtle barriers in crowds, and alleviating oncoming panic attacks. Other tasks can be trained to mitigate mobility and stress related issues as needed.

The Federal Americans with Disabilities Act allows people with disabilities to task train their own dog. However, you may need the assistance of a dog trainer for obedience and task training if you wanted public access rights (Title III28CFR SEC 36.104 & 36.302). State laws can vary from state to state. You must document all of the time spent on task training, obedience-training, training towards certificates such as the AKC Canine Shelly Ferger, CEO and founder of Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, gives remarks at the graduation ceremony Jan. 16 for successful participants in its service-dog training program, several of whom were veterans.

Good Citizen Certificate and specific tasks that your dog has been trained to mitigate in connection with your particular diagnosed disability.

The Assistance Dog International website lists many assistance dog training organizations. Perhaps there is one near you that will help you train a service dog. Please visit www. assistancedogsinternational.org for minimum standards of training an assistance dog as well as the public access requirements for training or (self training) an assistance dog. For more information, please visit dogsforlifevb. org.

These dogs are more than cute



Larry Johnston ALWAYS LEARNING

Imagine yours was a world without sound. What would you miss most? The sound of a loved one's voice? The sound of ocean surf? A visit by a friend because you could not hear the knock on your door? But more dangerously, a smoke alarm or the sound of an approaching vehicle?

These situations are ones those with hearing loss must face every day. Some are fortunate enough to have the benefit of a four-legged companion to add warmth and friendship to their lives, as well as assisting them solve many of the challenges associated with their special condition.

But where do these dogs and their owners go to learn how to perform these substitute skills? To find out, I attended last week's graduation ceremony at Dogs for Life in Vero Beach however, casual attendees could be excused for mistaking it for the World's Cutest Dogs Contest.

The event began on time. This was good because with so many furry guests and graduates in attendance, the telltale bored whimpering, scratching,

and sniffing might have become infectious in another few minutes. I should know, I started it.

Dogs for Life is one of six accredited training facilities in Florida with regular classes and a fouracre leash-free recreation area. There are no fees for qualified participants. Its goal is to improve the quality of life for people and dogs. A wide and unexpected variety of training options are available. For example, there are "hearing" classes designed to teach dogs to give their human partners visual and tactile notice when specific or unexplained sounds are heard.

Then there are "service" classes where dogs learn to perform certain physical tasks such as picking up fallen or requested objects and answering the phone. In addition, there are "veteran assistance" classes where dogs learn to offer special mobility and therapeutic support for veterans dealing with the effects of traumatic stress.

But the star of the show was Larry Ingham's Lola. Lola alerted Larry whenever the audience applauded. She apparently interpreted all applause as being for him and therefore enthusiastically let him know about it. Who could ask for a better friend for life than that?

For more information about Dogs for Life, go to DogsforLifeVB.net or call them at (772) 567-8969.

Contact Johnson at LarryJohnstonFL@aol.com



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LICENSED CAPTAIN VACUT DELIVERY

is the article

PEOPLE

5 teams graduate from service dog training program

BY CHRISTINA TASCON

It was graduation day Saturday for four service-dog teams at the Dogs for Life Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center, located on the grounds of the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park. After undergoing extensive training, the teams each achieved

Certified Status, having met the requirements of Assistance Dogs International and the Dogs for Life Assistance Dog Training Program.

Shelly Ferger, founder and CEO of the non-profit organization, introduced the graduates and their canine partners at the ceremony as friends and family members looked on. Chere McCoy, a United States Air





Shelly Ferger, Kathi Schumenn and Linda Liss.

Larry Ingham and Lola with trainer Lisa Snycerski.

Force disabled veteran, graduated with her service dog Stella; Wanda

ed States Marine veteran, partnered with his hearing/service dog also Haaland graduated with her hear- named Lola, and Corinne Cruicking dog Lola; Larry Ingham, a Unit- shank completed her training with



Among other tasks, the dogs can be trained to alert their owners to someone at the door, to a phone ringing, or in cases of a fire alarm, to get them out safely. Service dogs are also trained to pick up items and tap 911 on a special K-9 emergency phone. While these teams received training for hearing impairment and mobility issues, DFL also provides training for disabled veterans, including those with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Your Vero Beach Newsweekly

"All of these dogs are rescues but in this case the dogs and their person are both being rescued," said DFL board vice president Kathi Schumann. "We are rescuing a dog and making their partner well at the same time."

To thank them for their service, Devon Williams and Tina Cafro from Quilts of Valor presented hand-sewn quilts to McCoy and Ingham. Their four-legged partners each also received a smaller quilt.

In addition to its assistance training programs to help clients live more independent lives, Dogs for Life offers private obedience training to members of the public. The fastest growing need at DFL is assisting veterans returning home

Alan and Wanda Haaland with their pup Lola.

service dog Aya.

"A lot of people think it may be cute to have a hearing or service dog but it takes a lot of work," said Ferger. "My guess is that for every team that graduates, there are four or five who are not able to complete the course."

from their tours of duty suffering from Post-Traumatic Syndrome Disorder or who have lost mobility from an injury in combat.

Training dogs are primarily found at shelters such as the Humane Society or H.A.L.O., or are rescued from dire circumstances and then trained for specific tasks. Dogs are also trained through an Assisted Therapy Program for visits to nine local assisted living facilities and nursing homes.





FROM TEAM MCCay



Chere & Stella



Larry & Lola

Honoring

Chere United States Air Force Disabled Veteran with Service Dog Stella

and

Wanda with Hearing Dog Lola

and

Larry United States Marine Corps with Hearing Dog Lola

> *and* Corinne

with Service Dog Aya



Wanda & Lola



Corinne & Aya



Please join us

Saturday, January 16, 2016 2:00 p.m.





Training & Administrative Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, Florida

Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to (772) 567-8969 or dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net



TRAINING

From Shelter Dog to Service Dog

In Part One of a three-part article, L.A. Bykowsky and Chere McCoy tell the tale of Stella, ane very special Chihuahua who was left to languish in the sheller but now works as an assistance dag for her owner's PISD

very year in Hay the Humane Society in Vino Beach, Parisla HOVE3 holds an adoption event that includes a Bleasing of the Animals, where people convert and colobrate the bunds they have with creatures of all shapes, sites and species. It is a time to give thanks for the comparisons some already have and a chance at a new beginning for others. I reacted Stella, a rat terrien/Chihushus mix, during the 2015 corremony I am a disabled essense and together we have embarked on a journey that has led to Stella researing one. This first article in the series follows us Forn adoption to graduation as an Assistance Dog Team, contined by Diega for Life. Inc. (DPL).

Six records ago Scole was at the HSVB waiting far that special someone to take her harns and leve her forever it as happeried due I went in one day looking for a super special deg to be rey service dog Scolls and I sook one look as each other and know right away that we were avant to be a team - but there would be hundles to cross first.

Backtracking for a moment, I should explain that I am a United States Air Force vestme and my disability is net physical; post-traumatic stress deorder (PTID) is not something you can see, but it can 'orippie' a person just the same. Since I live in Wiroleach, Nurida, I went to DPL for help. DPL trains service dogs take called 'asstance' dept) for people with hearing and mebiltry issues and voterses with PTSD Stella's job will be to help me get through stressful situations. Some of you wight be clocking now picturing a Chibashan doing such important work, but Sprila is training really hard and i levew that she can do it.

DPL is second and by <u>Assistance</u> Dogs International and goes above and beyond what the law requires to produce a good ansistance dog team. According to follow! law, a service animal is any dag trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a distributed disability and the samely or took must be related to the person's doubling Remember the hundles I mencioned! Before the training can begin, there are reamy of paperwork to 58 out, starting with an application to make some a person is qualified to use a service dog. I also had to provide documentation from my doctor and letters of reference from blands, and DPL did a beging impaction to make same it was a rafe environment for Scola.

While all that was going on behind the scenes, I was going to the shelter looking for the right dog. On my fifth wait, I found Seella.A few days hater I came to take her home but, before I could do that. Sanita had to pass a test. Before DPL starts training for anywhote dog weark, they conduct a compertament test as a way of gauging whether or not a dog will be sainable for the spooring job. Of course, lots of degs know obedience commands, but the temperament test looks at other qualities that could indicate whether or not a dog will be good at task work.

phi WHICH from the Guild Instance 2014



Solds is a section ble deg to she manual on that part of the tomperv test. She liked follewing the DPL tester around the room, allowed him. to coll her over en her back and screach her belly, and stroke her al. ever. Check, check and check. The tester site threw a piece of paper. which Scells were over to investigate. another part of the rest that she

passed. She does had to endure a thorough check of her pass. and tail and allow them to be appended a little. The teater said there was some sensitivity done but gill she passed Stells did not like load noises as much but did not run away either, so she passed that part of the test. Her personality was also taken into account, as was her alert counterance and her willingness to learn (that might have been the rat service in her), reaking her all round a perfect candidate to become a PTGD service dog There were many other things that went into the temperament test.

tester welled test Seafuly peop and the raw styler too upon hims and wagged her tail. being a service. dog is a canine carear and the next-Motes are different. for each individual, For instance, hearing dogs need to be high energy because they are going to be the ears for their harright partners. They need the extra drive to be dde to react flast. stay cales) when they bear all types of search. They cannot be scared by

they have to be per-

sistent in gaining

the state



such as when the

load noises and



their humana. If their human partner is alreping and the ansole

TRAINING

In Stella's case, on the day of the Biossing of the Anima's one of the trainers from DFL tested her and she passed with flying solars as I have already mensioned. It was a blessed day for both of us to be sure. Stells cave home with me and then came a three week period of adjustment. The trainers at DFL knew how streachi things could be at a shelter, with all the other dogs. barking and easts meawing and the many other reasons, so they told me to just spend quality time with Stells and let her get to know her new surroundings, in fact, it did not take long for her to fit right in. It did not burt that I was a ratired day trainer and aviewal disaster responder and knew from day one how to shape Stella's behavior into exactly what I reeded.

So far Saella has passed the compensivent test and the "housewarening" test and now the real training begins. A new jacket with a "Service Dog in Tealeing - Do Not Touch" parch is about to have a rac terrior/Onbushaa wearing it. The corefleation property can take anywhere from six months to a year and a half. In my reast article I will talk about Stella's issumes through the Carine Good Cicase and (CGC) and the beginnings of task work B

References

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American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen www.akc.org dog-awarantrainingkanina-gaad-aktar Assistance Dogs International www.assistancedegones

Dep for Life, inc.: www.dop/torifinit.org Humane Society, Vero Brach, Florida www.havb.org

L.A. Bylacordry is a vesteran and farmer federal agent (retred) who speed the last 10 years of her career working as an explosives specialist and canine handler in south Fiorida, doplaying an needed for anappresents worldwide. She retired as 2011, ending her federal experience by training military working deguated began valuencering with her retired basels degas a per-assisted dwengey deg team for Degs For Life (DFL). She now trains assistance dogs for DPL and works in project. dovelopment, coordinating the service dog program for veterans. Chara McCay is retred from the U.S.Ar Force and was a Isunderidreeter (retired) of Ferret Friends Dianter Response international severing everything from the alternation of Hurristane Andrew to the North Daketa foods. She has

also been a horse and dog trainer for over 15 years and is currently a Service Dog in Training seam member

100

EARING From the Salid Servery 20



As we launch into the New Year, let's reflect on who we are and where we hope to go in the 12 months ahead.

The past year has been a year of daunting challenges and new responsibilities for many of us.

Life is about transiwas, and as an incurable



GUEST COLUMNIST

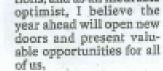
example by not accepting

To respect and celebrate the diversity of faiths, feelings and fashions. Differences are natural and honoring one anothers' perspectives creates mutual admiration.

To exercise artistic expression for its intrinsic value. The vitality of

needs of others of every stage of life who may not know how to find their own voice.

To preserve natural environments for their beauty and bounty. Natural settings are home to plant life and species which are too often victims of our wants, not our



Traditionally, New Year's resolutions are about making a commitment to do something different in our lives, perhaps going in a new direction from that of the past. In 2016 I resolve:

To appreciate my family, friends and colleagues for who they are, what they mean to me and others and to gracefully overlook some things they do (or don't do). None of us is perfect and accepting that reality helps relationships flourish.

To act upon wrongs that need righting, crass statements that require correction and offenses that demand just responses. We set a positive

negativity in others.

To be a valuable teammate and to trust others to do their best. Each of us should know what position we play and regularly practice our skills to be our personal best.

To actively listen to the voices of children and elders. Accepting the wisdom of innocence and experience is both free and priceless.

To accept that I don't know everything. By collaborating with others who know much more, together we can create a great brain trust and blend expertise.

To pleasantly surprise someone every day with a genuine smile and unexpected kindness in word and deed. Life's subtle gifts of compassion and concern are cherished.

the instrumental, literary, dance, visual or vocal arts fuels the soul and expands

the mind to new possibili-

ties. To invest a thoughtful minute before I speak or act. Regret is often preventable. Reversing harm is one of life's most vexing

challenges. courageously sacrifice for us at home and abroad, care for our health, educate, protect us and perform the healing and helping arts so that our quality of life is improved.

To share even if I think I don't have enough. Setting an example by giving to others in need is one of the best lessons for children to observe.

To protect, defend and advocate for people who rely on me. Give special attention to the

needs.

To never give up on a person or a cause, despite the challenges we face. Perseverance is an attitude that exemplifies leadership, attracts allies and creates meaningful change.

To speak truth to power, but to be both polite and persistent. There's a fine line between persistence and pestilence. Resist aggressiveness, but advocate with assertion, confidence and commitment to the cause. Advocating for prevention policies and programs that keep bad things from happening is the most important of all investments.

lack Levine, founder of 4Generations Institute, is a family policy advocate based in Tallahassee. He may be reached at jack@4gen.org.

FREE! ONE

VOLUME 125

JUST WHAT THE "DOGTOR" ORDERED

by Colleen Sanders-Symanski, RN, CDE, NDP

Dogs for Life

Dogs For Life is an amazing center that improves the quality of life for people and dogs by training assistance dogs and pet assisted therapy dogs. They also own and operate the off-leash dog park at the corner of 12th Street and 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. Seeing the pet-assisted therapy dogs working with trainers at the center is an incredible experience. These fabulous animals will provide

new life for many people.

Dogs For Life specializes in training hearing dogs, mobility assistance dogs, and service dogs for Veterans. These special dogs provide a specific service to their handlers and enhance the quality of their lives with a new sense of freedom and independence. Trained assistance dogs are the cars that hear smoke alarms, paws that tap a 911 button to call for emergency assistance, and legs that provide mobility. The growing need for assistance dogs in Florida is for men and women who have served in the United States military.

Hearing Dogs assist deaf and hard of hearing individuals by alerting them to a variety of household sounds such as a door knock or doorbell, an alarm clock, oven buzzer, telephone, baby cry, name call, or smoke alarm. Dogs are trained to make physical contact and lead their deaf partners to the source of the sound then responding in a specific way.

Service Dogs also assist people with disabilities other than vision or

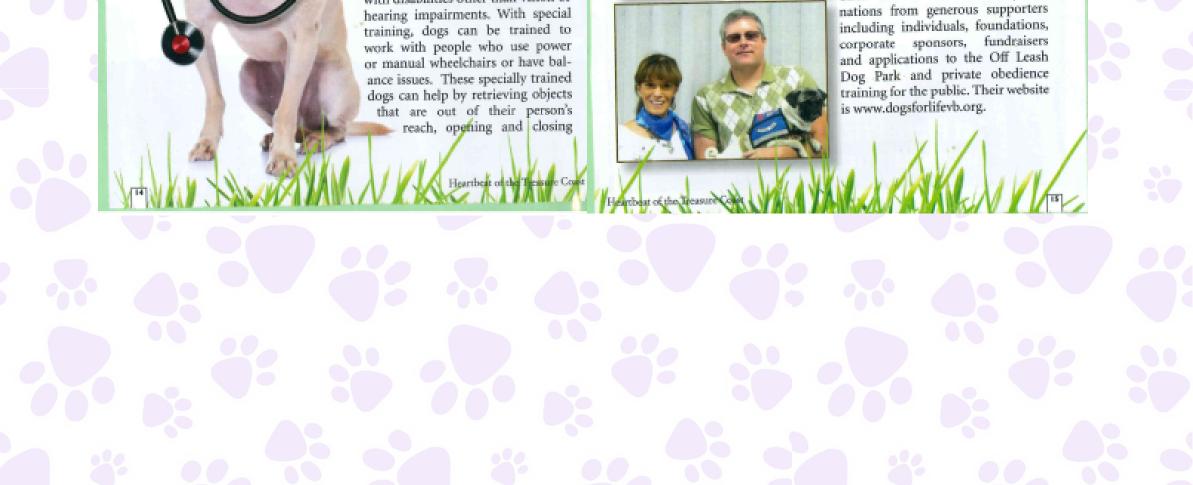


LOCAL HEALTH, WELLNESS & FITNESS DIGEST

eartbecco







doors, turning light switches off and on, barking to indicate that help is needed, finding another person, and leading the person to the handler, assisting ambulatory persons to walk by providing balance and counterbalance, providing deep pressure, and many other individual tasks as needed by a person with a disability. PTSD Tasks include searching a home before entering, looking both ways before entering a room, watching behind your back and creating a barrier to block people approaching if it makes their companion nervous.

The Pet Assisted Therapy Program thrives as a total volunteer based program where volunteers train and take their own DFL Certified dogs to nursing and medical facilities in Indian River County. For Hearing or Service Dog Training, contact us by phone (772) 567-8969 or by email:dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net.

Dogs For Life, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-deductible organization. Their services are funded by do-



BRIGHT LIGHTS & RED CARPETS

Indian River County with Tania Ortega-Cowan

Jean Armstrong

I want to apologize to Jean Armstrong for calling her "Jen" in last week's cover story on the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

Thirty years ago, the Vero Beach Museum of Art opened its doors for the very first time, thanks to the efforts of Jean and George Armstrong, Leonor de Gonzalez and the support of community members Alma Lee Loy, Dan K. Richardson, Richard A. Stark and architect James Gibson!

Lots of others were part of the process too, Visit VeroBeachMuseum.org.

Lions Gift St. Francis

Every year at Christmas, luminaries from the Vero Beach Lions Club select one lucky nonprofit to help.

This year they donated a \$5 gift card to every resident at St. Francis Manor in Vero Beach.

Lions members Mo and John Mazzacane and Inge Curcio delivered the gift cards in person.

St. Francis Manor is located at 1705 20th Ave. and provides affordable, independent-living apartments to senior citizens on a limited income in an attractive, safe and socially supportive environment.

Volunteer Nature Stewardship Janice Broda says the 20th FREE Vol-

explore the habitats that surround and protect the Indian River Lagoon.

The Oslo Riverfront Conservation Area serves as the outdoor classroom.

In exchange for this free class, all participants are asked to volunteer in a manner that suits their interests and schedule." Visit OurOrca.org.

Groovy Food & Funky Music

Counter Culture restaurant is hosting Groovy Food & Funky Music for a Good Cause on Sat., Jan. 9, 4-8 p.m, benefiting the local breast cancer organization Friends in Pink.

The event will include hors d'oeuvres, a raffle, music by the Hot Sauce Boys and more.

Funds raised at the event will help pay the medical bills of those on the **Treasure Coast** who have breast cancer and are uninsured or underinsured.

There are only 100 tickets available for the event.

Cost to attend is \$20.16 per person, available at Counter Culture, FriendsinPink.net or 772-785-8730. To donate to the raffle or to become a sponsor call 772-785-8730.

Assistance Dog Graduation

Dogs for Life Founder and CEO Shelly Ferger tells us that four teams will graduate at the same time at the Assistance Dog Graduation Ceremony on Jan. 16 at 2 p.m. at the Dogs for Life Administrative & Training Center located at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. "We had more veterans of war apply for training in 2015 than since our inception," says Ferger. Learn more at 772-567-8969.

unteer Nature Stewardship Training Class begins Saturday, Jan. 16 from 1:30 to 4:30pm.

The six-week class is presented by the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, University of Florida and the Pelican Island Audubon Society.

It offers an exceptional opportunity to



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

Attn: Shelly Ferger

Dear Ms. Ferger:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the American Security Council Foundation, we extend our sincere gratitude for your contribution of \$150.00 in support of the ASCF's 2016 Heroes Appreciation Annual Golf Tournament. Because of your support the ASCF will be able to provide scholarships to the children of active duty military, first responders, and veterans.

Since our conception in 1958, the ASCF has remained committed to promoting national security, economic security, diplomatic security, and moral leadership. We are able to continue our mission because of the generosity of patriotic Americans like you. Thank you for all you do to support our active duty military, first responders, veterans, and the United States of America.

Sincerely,

liking a truck att

Dr. Henry A. Fischer President & CEO ASCF

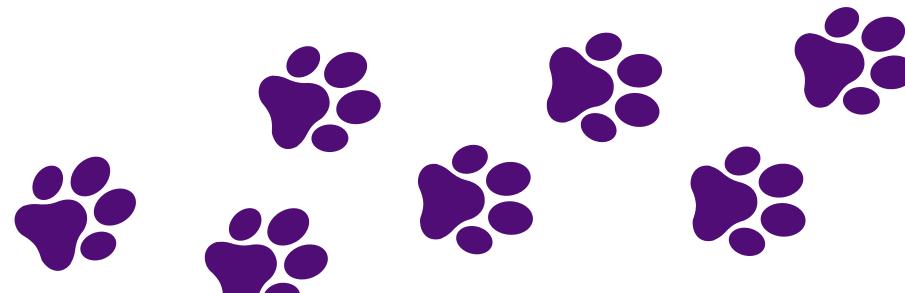
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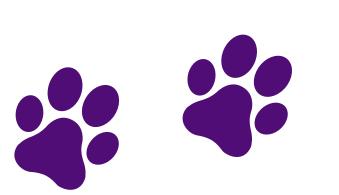
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ienior Fellow: Van Dowd

The American Security Council Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt Organization established in 1958.

Scrapbook 2015







DECEMBER



Annual Christmas Party





4-H Christmas Party



Gunny Checks In



Gunnery Sergeant "Gunny" Assistance Dog In Training December 2015





My first few week at DFL, I'm only 5 months old here. I'm with my Trainer & Foster Mother L. A., and my friend DFL Trainer Lisa holding Shelly's Dog "Sunny" and my "Live-In" dog friend named Darel. Darel is a DFL Certified Service Dog for my Foster Mom. He said he would teach me everything he knows!



Me again with my trainers and Darel, we're at an event in Vero Beach, FL that honored the 9/11 First Responders from New York City.

This is me today with my Best Bud Darel. I'm 8 months old and learning all I need to Best Service Dog in the World.





Thank you for helping me to be all I can be. ~ Love Gunn

NOTE CARDS Veterans' Service Dogs



Portraits by Jariet E. Tyrrell C

Improving the lives for our heroes

14.00

Enjoy the beautiful new graphite portraits of service dogs.

Our Veterans are proud of their new buddies and amazing service dog partners.

Every purchase of these Note Cards contributes to the training of another service dog for a person in need.

Each box contains:

- 8 Note Cards, blank inside
- 8 Matching Envelopes



Dogs For Life, Inc., ~ 1230 16th Ave., ~ Vero Beach, FL ~ 32960 Donations are tax deductible as Dogs For Life, Inc., is a Non-Profit Organization, a 501 (C) (3) Donating Call: 772 ~ 567 ~ 8969 or Online: www.clogsforlifevb.org Carb created and durated to Dogs For Life by Actist Janet E. Tyrrell ©

Printed in USA

Perfect Christmas Gifts for Friends and Family On Sale at Dogs For Life Training & Administrative Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

Articles

VETERAN VOICE . THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE . DECEMBER 31, 2018 .

'Who rescued who?' Vet's wife pens 'tail' of unique service dog

Mary Kemper STAFF WRITER

mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

It's often the unwanted extra member in many a military family — PTSD. To say it's a challenge, both for the veteran and those who love them, is a huge understatement.

Nightmares, panic attacks, and lashing out are just some of the things that make life very hard for those coping with PTSD.

There's help available, though — major help — in the form of a furry, four-legged buddy. Many veterans are finding that bonding with a service dog has made a big change for the better in their lives.

Enter Pia Pia (pronounced "paypay"). She's an adorable pug whose guardian James Taylor, an Army combat veteran with PTSD, takes her nearly everywhere he

goes. And she inspired Dawn Taylor to write "Who Rescued Who? Veteran rescues pug who rescues veteran", a book about their journey together back toward normal life. "It was actually James who came up with the title," Dawn said.

"And it really fits." James had served 20 years in the Army before retiring. One day in 2008, the bottom dropped out of the Taylors' world.

"We took a trip to MGM Studios, now Hollywood Studios, in California," Dawn said. "Suddenly, James just took off running. We didn't have a clue what was going



Back home in Vero Beach, they visited a doctor, and then went to counseling through the VA. About a year later, the Taylors adopted Pia Pia.

"We adopted her to keep James company," Dawn said. "We never thought of doing more with her." They enrolled Pia Pia in basic obedience at Pet Smart and then advanced training, which was where they met Shelly Ferger, who is the founder and CEO of Dogs For Life in Vero Beach. "We took Pia Pia to see Shelly, and to see if she could be trained (for PTSD service)." Dawn said. Ferger's team makes the decision based on in-home tests, such as dropping things to gauge a dog's reaction to loud noises. "Shelly was hesitant, because she's an unusual breed for it, but she said as long as we were dedicated, it could work." James began speaking at engagements with Pia Pia, especially fundraisers for Dogs For Life, to

holp its proport of mathematic verses and with trained correct dogs. At one event, "Linmon started getting uncast, a lot of manery," Dawn and. Pin Pin climbed up on him and literally happed and kinned him, and calmed him down.

"It was really good, because people could see for themselves how she comforted him. And, it helped bring in more donations."

The years passed, and not long ago Dawn's sister, Cinnamon Palso, a teacher in Fayetteville, N.C., asked Dawn to give a presentation to her class on Pia Pia and James.

"It went really, really well," Dawn said. "The kids were riveted. "My sister and I joked about "Every Harright II's a children's sank, it harips merepense conder tannel merrice and immenatology, and here important it is to adopt a many an possible," Energy and Alt proceeds will go to Dogs For

Life and the Halo Rescue project. "I am not into this for the moncy," she said. "It's just my way of giving back."

Coming up, Dawn plans to attend book signing events in Clearwater and at Pug Rescue of Control Physics.

For more experimention, itself have book com/down taylor.33. Cupters of the book may be purchased online at authoritoriae com or by emailing Down at va.dtayloris gmail.com. The cost is \$17,99 per hard copy, and \$3.99 to download.

To learn more about Dogs For Life or to donate, visit dogsforlifevb. org.



James and Dawn Taylor, with Pia Pia, their service dog, stand near their home in Vero Beach.

Photo by Brittany Lee

writing a book. I decided to write a journal. I wanted to not just write about our experiences, but also to educate people on how important service dogs can be for veterans."

The journal evolved into the book, which is categorized as a children's book, but Dawn said adults enjoy it just as well. "I had met lots of authors of children's books, who told me to put it in writing — that people would appreciate it," she said. "I thought, well, I might as well try it."

The book, whose illustrations Dawn also drew, began to be picked up on social media among friends and family. It's now one of the chief marketing outlets for the book, though the publisher, Author House, is marketing it as well.

"My best critics were my parents," Stan and Ann Orvel, Clearwater. "The book definitely passed the parent test.

Photo by Brittany Lee

Pia Pia the service dog 'reads' a book written by Dawn Taylor, whose husband, James, an Army combat veteran, relies on her to help him cope with PTSD.

THE OFFICIAL VeroBeach Handbook 2016

ANIMALS Bauer Research Foundation en-

gages in research studies that do not involve the use of animals but which can make a huge difference in improving animal and human health.

www.bauerresearch.org

Bark Park is the off-leash dog park in Sebastian with an open area where man's best friends fly like the wind. Set-aside spaces accommodate shy small dogs and larger "customers." www.sebastianbarkpark.com

Dogs for Life Inc. provides training for dogs to assist people with hearing or mobility issues, as well as veterans with post-traumatic stress issues.

www.dogsforlifevb.org

H.A.L.O. No Kill Rescue takes in and adopts out more than 1,500 animals annually, helping them find a "furever" home. www.halorescurefl.org Vero Beach Dog Park, the offleash park along the Indian River Lagoon, has plenty of running and chasing space for our four-pawed friends. It's a social time for their owners.

www.verobeachdogpark.org

ARTS AND

The Academy for the Performing Arts offers vocal and instrumen-

tal instruction and performance opportunities for all ages. www.academyinvero.org

The Atlantic Children's Chorale is a select choir that develops the individual's potential to a high level of vocal technique while exploring challenging repertoire. www.atlanticchildrenschorale.org

The Atlantic Classical Orchestra encourages and cultivates the appreciation of classical symphonic music by presenting performances at the highest artistic level. www.atlanticclassicalorchestra.com The Gifford Youth Orchestra

provides education, training and on-stage stage experience in the performing arts through music. "More Violins, Less Violence, Better Tomorrows." www.gyotigers.org

\$2.50

The Indian River Symphonic Association seeks to bring the world's finest orchestras and soloists to Vero Beach. They've succeeded. www.irsymphonic.org

Riverside Children's Theatre offers affordable performing arts experiences and outreach to area children. The youthful enthusiasm and talent is something to see. www.riversidetheatre.com

Treasure Coast Chorale members share their love and enjoyment of choral music with four annual performances at First Baptist Church of Vero Beach. www.treasurecoastchorale.org

The Treasure Coast Jazz Society encourages the performance, pro-

The Humane Society of Vero Beach & Indian River County's "Open door, Open Heart" shelter accepts all animals, regardless of age, health, behavior or adoptability, www.hsvg.org

The National Elephant Center in Fellsmere is home to North American elephants in need of short and long-term health care. www.nationalelephantcenter.org Ballet Vero Beach promotes the art of dance as a universal language in our community and beyond with performances throughout the year. www.balletverobeach.org

The Cultural Council of Indian River County promotes public awareness of the many available cultural opportunities throughout the community.

www.cultural-council.org

motion and preservation of jazz. www.tcjazzsociety.org

The Vero Beach Art Club fosters the appreciation of art and artistic growth through exhibitions and educational opportunities. www.verobeachartclub.org 2 • DECEMBER 10, 2015 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

The Dec. 2 monthly meeting of the Indian River Veterans Council was attended by more than 20 member organizations and at least a dozen auxiliary members, including Dogs For Life, Vero Beach. Shown are, from left, trainers Lisa Snycerski, with service dog-in-training Gunny, and L.A., a former law enforcement official, with retired service dog Darel.

2. December 10,2015 . Veteran Voice

Indian River council packs its December agenda

Mary Kemper STAFF WRITER mkempen@veteranvoiceweekly.com

Reports, tributes and holiday bonuses were just some of the items packed into a sizable agenda at the Dec. 2 meeting of the Veterans Council of Indian River County.

This bustling council lists more than 20 member organizations, and dozens of auxiliary members, like Dogs For Life, Vero Beach. All were brought up to speed on a wide variety of activ-

978-9997."

Mike Strickland, of Patriot Productions, announced a Military Expo and Gun Show Feb. 6 and 7 at the Indian River County Fairgrounds. His company partners with charities like veterans' organizations to help them raise funds by manning booths at the event.

As part of the council's Upward American Veterans program, it was announced that a house, undergoing renovation, will soon be ready to become a home for a needy veteran and his family, and that six more are on the waiting list. It is expected that the re-homing project will be completed by June 2016. Down the road, there are plans to build a veterans' retirement. community for veterans and their families barely scraping a living on disability or Social Security benefits. A pep rally at Vero Beach High School is planned specially to honor veterans, to take place at 8 a.m. Dec. 17 at the high school campus. A hat was passed for donations for holiday bonuses for the council's 4-man driver staff, which takes veterans to West Palm Beach VA Medical Center and back. By meeting's end, a little over \$200 was collected,

VETERAN VOICE . THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE . DECEMBER 10, 2015 .

COUNCIL from page 2

providing the hard-working men some extra holiday cheer.

Curtis Paulisin of the Italian-American Veterans told the council that an anonymous donor approached him and wanted to donate a late-model van to the council. "We'll make sure it goes to a needy vet," he said.

The council's recent "Operation Enduring Laughter" comedy show drew 98 veterans and their families. It was designed to reach out to younger veterans as part of the council's Veterans Outreach Program, which connects veterans to needed benefits and local resources.

For the next 3 weeks, the council's Victory Center Military Store, Indian River Mall, will open on Sundays. One item to tempt gift-givers is a new-style flag pole, which telescopes from 7 to 20 feet and has a rotating mechanism that allows the flag not to become caught on its lanyard.

Veteran Rob Medina, a representative of U.S. Rep. Bill Posey thanked the council members "for all the great things you do — you are by far one of the best (councils) in the state.

"Give yourselves kudos."

Indian River County Commissioner Joe Fleischer, who attends every council meeting with few exceptions, echoed tha statement.

"Everything you do ripples out to the community a hundred-fold," he said. "God bless you — you've earned a very hap py holiday."

The Veterans Council of Indian River County meets the first Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. at the Indian River County Administrative Complex, Building B. For more information contact Catherine Caddell at (772) 226-0191.

ities.

On Nov. 14, Velda Ford, Vero Beach, held its annual Car Show in tribute to veterans. General Manager Wayne Zwick was there to announce that more than \$4,000 was raised to help the council help veterans.

"We had a ball," he said. "We had about 300 cars this year, which was up from last year." Teenager Austin Berwick, Vero Beach, was given a certificate honoring his more than 1,000 volunteer hours over 3 years for the council.

Sgt. Joe Abollo, Indian River County Sheriff's Office, warned council members about the perennial uniformed charity seekers.

"We take this very, very seriously," he said. "If you see someone suspect, please call me at (772)

See COUNCIL page 7

NOVEMBER



TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES - LU | Monday, November 9, 2015 |

VETERANS LIMELIGHT Col. Martin Zickert Molan River COUNTY Making sure people know the needs of local veterans

By TANIA ORTEGA-COWAN For Luminaries

Col. Martin "Marty" Zickert, US Air Force, Ret., has done so much for our community and for veterans, it's hard to believe he has only been volunteering here since 2008.

"At that time, not many in our community knew the need that veterans have here, so I went around with my hair on fire,"he says, laughing.

"How are they going to know you have a problem if you don't tell them? And tell them. And tell them. Everyone you meet, you tell them. We have 18,000 veterans here! We need some help! People listen. Often they say, I didn't know."

Marty served in the United States Air Force from January 1962 until June 1992. He was born and raised in the little town of Greenwood, Wisconsin, and after two years of college, he was signed by the Milwaukee Braves for a short stint before starting a roofing business.

"My dad taught me a good work ethic early on," he says.

After joining the Air Force, he played baseball for a year while waiting for flight school at Waco Texas.

Upon completion of the year long course, he received his Navigator wings, was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and got married.



Martin Zickert

From 1964 to 1967 he was based in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

"At that time, the Russian threat was real. We had an airplane over Greenland 24-7. We all stuck together and took care of each other and our families. We each were on a crew of four guys and we would go on alert for 7 days. We had 15 minutes from the time the horn went off to be airborne," he says.

From 1967 to 1968 he went into reconnaissance.

"We flew unarmed RC-135s out of Omaha. We would fly 24 to 26 hours, and we refueled two or three times airborne. We would go up to Alaska, then the North Pole and then back down at Russia where we made a run at the Russians like we were bombers going to attack, just to show our presence. The Russians would launch two airplanes at us and fly alongside of us."

Marty went back to college, flew with the Memphis Tennessee National Guard, and he worked in the entomology department at Mississippi State University before going back to the Air Force in 1971 as a navigator.

He flew tankers and then F-4 Phantoms in 1973. He flew all over the country as well as southeast Asia. He

'We have 18,000 veterans here! We need some help! People listen. Often they say, I didn't know.'

TREASURE Coast Newspaper Luminaizies Man Nav 9,2015

was assigned to the Philippines in 1975. After that, he made Major, during which time he was given the project of re-writing the Air Force's Tactical Training manual.

Later, he was promoted to Lt. Colonel which got him back in flight school and dustry.

He and his second wife Penny moved here in 2001. In 2008, he took the local veterans community by storm!

Now past-president of the Veteran's Council of IRC and the Blue Angels liaison for the 2016 Vero Beach Air Shows,

then off to Germany in March 1981. With every accomplishment, he says with characteristic humility, "I thought, this is so cool!"

He was promoted Colonel and Base Commander in 1984 and left in 1986 to go to Eglin Air Force Base in Fort Walton Beach to learn operational testing. By 1991 he was at Edwards Air Force Base performing operational testing on C17s and B2s, and doing fly-offs of F22s

and F23s. He finally retired in 1992, settling the insurance and financial in-

Marty has a full schedule.

Over the years, he has helped secure two buses for veterans to be transported to the VA clinics in South Florida, and he assisted opening the Victory Center store in the Indian River Mall, which he credits the Vietnam Veterans of IRC Chapter 1038 for really making happen.

"You get the right people in place and then all it takes is someone out front to say, you know we really ought to do this, and then you kind of stand back and you get out of the way," he says.

cord. page 11

'We cannot abandon them now' Veteran organizations are banding together to provide homes for those who served

By Fran Foster The Newsweekly

Despite the efforts of many, there are homeless veterans in Indian River County.

However, due to the devotion and drive of some of our local support organizations, most veterans have or will have a place to call home.

The Veteran House, located on Old Dixie Highway in Vero Beach,

is just one example where servicemen are getting the support they deserve. The property, owned by Jerry Hamel, is operated by the Vietnam Veterans of Indian River County and houses four men.

Each individual has served his country and each has a compelling story like so many others in our community.

Their plight is a reminder approaching Veteran's Day we have

port those who have put themselves in harm's way for our safety.

Homeless vets

Vic Diaz, secretary of the Vietnam Veterans of Indian River County, remembers being told back in 2010 there were no homeless veterans in the county.

"I have been all over our country and there are homeless vets everywhere, for various

the opportunity to sup- reasons," he says. "We turned up 38 veterans living in our woods."

> Diaz, along with president of the Vietnam Veterans of IRC, Tim Nightingale, decided to provide housing for all those seeking shelter.

They knew benefits were available and they wanted to make sure the servicemen received all they were due.

As Diaz pointed out, "We needed them to defend our country then, person by person with



Vietnam Veterans of IRC Secretary Vic Diaz and President Tim Nightingale.

we cannot abandon them now."

A big clean-up The work began assistance from other local organizations such as the Veteran's Council of Indian River

See VETERAN, 18

PGIUGZ



Each organization offers its own expertise and most operate only

on local funding. All money collected instance the duplex be-ing built in Gifford at 38th Place. A property gets built and then we have to help them get their VA benefits, find





in Indian River County stays right here.

The Veteran House, located at 955 Old Dixie Hwy, is a perfect example of how Diaz and Nightingale ensure local veterans have a place to call home.

"You should have seen the place before," says Sal Lobianco, a Vietnam vet who offered his skills as a tradesman to get the house in shape, along with his wife Di.

"I literally had to scrape the windows six times to get the gunk off of them," said Di. "It was uninhabitable."

Helping

The group had \$12,000 in its coffers to renovate the house from top to bottom, inside and out, including appliances, a

live together. Each has his own room with cable television and shared common areas.

USMC veteran Frank Al-

ber, USAF veteran Neil

Carpenter and Army

veteran Cato Du Bois all

Alber makes sure that Spencer's blood sugar and insulin levels are right. Carpenter makes coffee, although there seems to be some disagreement of who makes a better pot.

There are no drugs, no drinking, and no women. They thrive on the support of one another and continued efforts by Diaz and Nightingale to assist them in any way necessary.

"We have helped 31 veterans under the HUD-VASH grant program," says Diaz. "We've used up (the grant money) but hopefully we can get more. This was a four-year journey that

them jobs if possible and make sure they are compatible to live together and support each other. We believe in a hand up, not a hand out," Diaz emphasizes.

There is still work to be done in this ongoing battle to provide help to veterans in need.

For instance, the owners of the Breath of Heaven Ministries house is considering selling the property and the seven vets living there will need new housing. There are five veterans on a waiting list for the Gifford duplex.

Challenges

Some veterans have mental illnesses that can make providing assistance a challenge. Oth-

Wednesday, November 4, 2015 | VERO BEACH-INDIAN RIVER NEWSWEEKLY | TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPER

from 18

ers have succumbed to drug and alcohol abuse and refuse assistance.

And more still suffer from PTSD and require a long-term assistance to get back on their feet.

Diaz described a particular veteran who suffered from PTSD and couldn't keep a job or find a balance in his life.

Through a lot of hard work over the past six years, this veteran has received proper medical treatment, is employed full-time, reconciled with his wife and children and now



lives in a three-bedroom home.

"There is no reason that we should have homeless veterans living in Indian River County," Diaz insists.

Diaz and Nightingale are not giving up on those that need a hand up. They may be retired, but they conHouse offers four small bedrooms, a full bathroom, full kitchen with all appliances, a dining and family room as well as internet and cable.

The Veterans

tinue to serve.

For more information contact the Vietnam Veterans of Indian River County at 772-794-0005.

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INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

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SERVICE DOGS FOR VETS

Dogs For Life recognized by Veterans Administration

BY SHELLY FERGER

Dogs For Life (DFL). is one of only four Assistance Dog Training organizations in the state of Florida recognized by the Veterans Administration to certify Service Dogs for Veterans.

As stated in the Federal Register, "Service dogs must be certified by ADI or International Guide Dog Federation for veterans with visual, hearclaim Florida as their home of record. More than 80,000 veterans will retire to Florida in the next two years.

Extrapolating national VA numbers, the news is grim for our new residents:

 3 in 10 will have a service-related disability
 30 percent will suffer from the effects of PTSD



Veteran Jim Taylor with his hearing assistance dog Pia Pia

ing, or sbstantial mobility impairments to receive benefits."

DFL's prestigious ADI accreditation enables our service dogs to enter VA and military facilities, and our dogs' owners are eligible to receive benefits. Dogs trained by other organizations do not have these privileges.

Our dogs have been turning lives around since 2001 because they enrich people's lives — providing ears that hear smoke alarms, paws that tap 911 buttons for emergency and legs that provide access to an unseen world.

The fastest growing need for service dogs is in Florida, and it is for the brave military men and women who served our country! More than 231,000 Veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq already 50 percent of those with PTSD will not seek treatment

 19 percent will report PTSD symptoms classified as "serious functional impairment"

 One-third of Florida's adult homeless are Veterans, and 45 percent of them will suffer from mental illness

 Florida is home to the highest number of amputees from the Gulf War-Era wars

DFL is committed to capitalizing on our 12 years of experience to train service dogs for these Florida veterans in need.

If you know has need for these services or you would like to support DFL's mission, please call 772-567-6989, email dogsforlifevb@bellsouth. net or visit DogsForLifeVB.org. TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | VERO BEACH-INDIAN RIVER NEWSWEEKLY | Wednesday, November 11, 2015 |

PHILANTHROPISTS OF THE DECADE



DONADIO & Associates, Architects, P.A.

Donadio and Associates, Architects P.A.

2012 Outstanding Corporate Philanthropist

Tireless is a word often used to describe Anthony Donadio, president of local architecture firm, Donadio and Associates.

For over 20 years, the firm has supported more than a dozen nonprofit organizations with in-kind professional services to help facilitate the planning and design of various structures.

A self-professed dog lover, Tony generously donated the services of Donadio and Associates to draw up the architectural plans and oversee the construction of a new dog training facility at the Dogs for Life Off-Leash Dog Park on 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. The new facility allowed the organization to expand its dog training program to

The tion to meet the In 20 dio and rate Phi profess organiz expand

meet the needs of local veterans. In 2012, Dogs for Life nominated Donadio and Associates as Outstanding Corporate Philanthropist for contributing their professional expertise to give nonprofit organizations the courage and ability to expand services in the community.

Howl-O-Ween Coverage

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES - LN | Monday, November 2, 2015 31

STARS WERE OUT

Dogs For Life Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade



Little Red Riding Hood 3-yr-old Lily with grandma the werewolf, 5-yr-old Yorkie, Oliver



James Taylor and his service dog Pia Pia with Kathi Schumann and Sir Georgia Sunshine

and her

iel rescue

dog Heidi,

'mommy's

pumpkin'



Hometown News - SEBASTIAN - www.HometownNewsOL.com

BY BRENDA SPOSATO

The 14th Annual Dogs for Life Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo on Oct. 24 attracted pooches and their proud owners - from superheroes, hotdogs and Hawaiian princesses, to traditional story book characters.

Held at the off-leash Dogs For Life Park on 12th Street in Vero Beach, the pawrade draws nonpet owners too!

CEO and Founder Shelly Ferger said the pawrade was part of the nonprofit's effort to raise aware-

Mary Kemper and DFL CEO and Founder Shelly Ferger

ness in the community about the off-leash dog park, the service dog training center and the outreach programs at Dogs For Life.

"This year, we've had more sponsors than ever," Ferger said. "We're very grateful to all our underwriters, including Henry IX Schumann and Dyer Subaru who have been awesome. We're also very thankful to Dale Sorensen for helping us out today and all our volunteers and other sponsors."

Learn more at DogsForLifeVB. org.



Ruthann Glass and her two 8-month-old malteses Spider-Man and Super

Friday, November 6, 2015



Dogs For Life held its 14th Annual Howl-oween Pawrade and Pet Expo Saturday, Oct. 24. Dozens of dog owners were on hand for the annual event. Dogs For Life offers programs for





assistance dogs, pet assistance therapy, companion dogs at their off-leash park. For more information call (772) 567-8969. Lilly Springer came as Little Red Riding Hood and her Yorkshire terrier Oliver, was grandma.

> **Photos by Cliff Partlow** staff photographer

Rocky the pug, dressed as a bumblebee, gets a last minute costume adjustment from his owner Deb Soroka. Her son Jayse is a member of the 4H Dog Masters.

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Annual "Dog's For Life" 'Pawrade' a howling success



Stephanie Springer, Vero Beach, her daughter Lily and their Yorkshire turnice, Officer, dressed in a Little Red Riding Hand theme, with Oliver being the Big Bad Wolf dressed as Grandma.



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

Brooke Bouza, left, and Lisa Kent, vetoximary technicians with Vero Beach Veterinary Hospital, manned a booth at the annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade held Oct. 24 at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach.

More than 100 people showed up at the 14th Annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade

Mary Kemper nkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

Now in its 14th year, the annual Dogs For Life Howl-O-Ween Pawrade fundraiser was a smash once again Oct. 24 in Vero Beach. Nearly 100 owners and their dogs flocked to the Off Leash Dog Park to march in costumes ranging from a horse and jockey to Little Red Riding Hood. Hundreds of others came to show support for Dogs For Life, and to donate toward its mission of helping those who need it from fourlegged friends. Representatives from the Indian River County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit put on a dog-handling display. Other representatives included a contingent from the Vero Beach Veterinary Hospital. VFW



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

See PAWRADE page 9

Roscoe, a 6-year-old Dachshund owned by Beth Martin, Vero Beach, came to the Oct. 24 annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade held at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach.

PAWRADE from page 8

Post 3918 provided a Color Guard, while "Hobo Jim" provided musical entertainment. Numerous raffles were also held.

An English Labrador breeder in northern Florida contacted the mother of Shelly Ferger, founder and CEO, asking if Dogs For Life wanted a puppy to train for some lucky recipient.

"Of course, I said yes!" Ferger said. (In the Dogs For Life "Paw Prints" newsletter, it was announced that "we are expecting (the puppy) by Lab-or Day.")

One of Dogs For Life's most important programs involves training service dogs for veterans with PTSD. While other kinds of disabilities — hearing, loss of sight, etc. — are also part of dogs' training, it is veterans with PTSD who provide a unique challenge in matching them with service dogs.

Trainers teach the dogs to "secure perimeters," or investigate a room or area before the veteran enters it, and brace themselves against a veteran having a panic attack, among many other tasks.

Everything — the service dog and its training — is provided to the veteran for free, thanks to generous donors and Pawrade-goers. Also in the works is a program called Veterans Training Dogs for Veterans, which, as its name implies, will involve veterans taking on a more direct role in helping other veterans with their service dogs.

In addition to assisting veterans, Dogs For Life has a thriving number of dogs in training to assist disabled civilians as well, who hearing, sight or mobility issues. Vital tasks the dogs are trained in include alerting their owners to a doorbell or fire alarm, "herding" them out the door and dialing a special 911 phone, among many others.

Training for all the service dogs takes place in part at Dogs For Life's administrative facility, which has a mock bedroom complete with furniture, partly in the owner's home and partly in public places. It is a time-consuming and demanding job, but the staff has a strong track record of successful "graduates."

Those wishing to donate, or to learn more about Dogs For Life's programs, can contact them at (772) 567-8969.



Staff photo by Mary Kempe

Corina Turner, Vero Beach, holds Baby, her 4-year-old tricolor Chihuahua, at the annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade held Oct. 24 at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach.

MEASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | VERO BEACH-INDIAN RIVER NEWSWEEKLYNAME | Wednesday, November 4, 2015 |

'Pawraders' strut their stuff at Dogs for Life park

By Fran Foster The Newsweekly

The recent Howl-o-Ween Pawrade and Pet Expo was another huge success at the Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog park in Vero Beach. Enthusiastic canines were dressed from head to toe in elaborate costumes along with some of their owners who got in on the fun.

Dog owners adorned their beloved best friends - big and small - in costumes that ranged from Sherlock Holmes to football players to a Hawaiian princess.

Each one received a participation prize from the 4-H Dog Masters Club as well as lots of attention,





Little Red Riding Hood, Lify, 3, with her Yorkie, Oliver, in his wagon with mom Stephanie Springer received lots of amiles for their creative costumes.



treats and pats on the head.

Seventy-three dogs took part in the annual Pawrade, passing by the VIP tent to strut their stuff and show off their creative costumes.

Shelly Ferger, founder of Dogs For Life, emceed the event.

The parade was open to the public and attendees could visit vendor booths supplying pet information or selling products, such as designer doggie clothing. "We had a slow start this

time around, but eventually we had 73 dogs registered for the parade and plenty of people stopping by to show their support," said Ferger. "I am really pleased with the outcome but I want to point out it took an army of volunteers to set everything up. HOTOS BY PRUM POSTER

Dogs For Life volunteer Joan Freeman and poocle Daisy guard the raffle prizes at the Howlo-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade and Pet Explo.

The parade was open to the public and attendees could visit vendor booths supplying pet information or selling products.

their time and energy."

Ferger also noted the K-9 demonstration provided by Indian River Sheriff deputies, who volunteered their time to highlight their special talents.

Since 2001, Dogs For Life has been turning lives around by providing indefor people who need assistance, as well as to give a new purpose in life to abandoned dogs, through specialized training.

These trained assistance dogs enrich people's lives - providing ears that hear smoke alarms, paws that tap 911 buttens to call and legs that provide accessibility.

The fastest growing need for assistance dogs in Florida is among the men and women who have served in the United States military.

For more information about the Dogs For Life programs or to become a member of the Off-Leash Dog Park, stop by at 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach; visit the website at www. dogsforlifevb.org or call 772-567-8969.



Dogs For Life Founder/CEC/President Shelly Ferger (center) with Jim Taylor holding PlaPla and Kathi Schumann holding Sir Georgia Sunshine in the VIP tent. 8 | Wednesday, November 4, 2015 | VERO BEACH-INDIAN RIVER NEWSWEEKLY | TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

EVENTS

'PAWRADERS' STRUT THEIR STUFF AT DOGS FOR LIFE PARK



Beekeeper Jayse Soroka with his burnblebee pug Rocky.



Hudson, a Great Pyrenese/Husky mix, attends the pawrade dressed as a polar bear.



Vero Beach Veterinary Hospital's Brooke Bouza and Lisa Kent manned the vendor booth at the Dogs for Life event.



Great Dane Finnegan shows his owner Linda Roberts' sense of humor.



Hawailan Princess Lola adomed in a pink tutu takes a break from her hearing dog training for the pawrade.



Elvis the Bloodhound as Sherlock Holmes.





Brittany Kramer, Renzi Innes, Alex Webber, Maddy Ursulean along with Otto the poodle represented the 4-H Dog Masters Club.



The 14th Annual Howio-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade and Pet Expo had 73 dogs participate in the costume parade.

I LOVE MY JOB! Assist Assist Copen a door Cross a street Make a call I WAS CHOSEN FOR A REASON.



At Dogs For Life, Inc., our mission is to empower those in our community who have physical disabilities or are living with the effects of post-traumatic stress. With your help, they can gain independence and live with confidence.

Dogs are man and woman's best friend for a reason. Our specially trained dogs help their owners achieve amazing things. Hearing Dogs give the gift of confidence to their owners by alerting them to a knock on the door or when a smoke alarm sounds. Mobility Dogs provide independence to their owners by picking up dropped items or helping them stand. Service Dogs return freedom to their owners by waking them from a nightmare, creating a soft barrier in a crowd or disrupting emotional overload through tactile stimulation. DFL has trained over 100 dogs since 2002, rescuing 18 dogs from area shelters; saving their lives and changing the lives of their disabled owners.

In 2015, the number of veteran teams we certified and supported increased 17%. That's a considerable jump in the need to train dogs for the men and women of our military and DFL has been recognized by the community for its commitment to these veterans.

Assistance Dog Teams Trained and Certified for Veterans / First Responders

- Twenty-Five percent increase in the number of dogs task trained to mitigate PTSD
 Seventy-Five percent of these dogs are duel trained as either a hearing or mobility assistance dog in addition to PTSD work
- Sixty-Five percent increase in the amount of questions we receive nation-wide via phone and email
- Eight Indian River County veterans are on a waiting list for our program

And as you can read below, Florida has seen an enormous surge in veterans moving to our state.

We need to make sure we, as a community, are prepared to serve them

- 80,000+ Iraq & Afghanistan veterans are expected to relocate to Florida in the next two years; more than 231,000 already claim Florida as their home
- Roughly 30% suffer from PTSD
- · Florida has the largest population of veteran amputees in the nation

They proudly stood up for us, now it's time for us to stand up for them. Please donate to DFL today.

Euconor m. Bengyak Eleanor M. Bengyak, President

fathill Schuman

Kathi G. Schumann, Vice-President

Dogs For Life is ONE OF SIX fully accredited service dog providers in the State of Florida.

Your donation helps Dogs For Life train dogs for

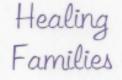
Mobility Limitations



Comforting the Elderly

Hearing

Loss





Veterans with PTSD



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32960 772.567.8969 dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

www.dogsforlifevb.org





TYPES OF ASSISTANCE DOGS

Guide Dogs assist their blind or visually impaired partners to independently and safely negotiate the environment by GUIDING them around obstacles, safely across streets and stopping at curbs and steps.

Hearing Dogs assist their deaf or hard of hearing partners by ALERTING them to sounds such as the smoke alarm, telephone, alarm clock, door bells, sirens, stove, or dryer timers.

Service Dogs assist people with mobility or psychological impairments and can be custom trained for the particular needs of the individual. A dog trained in mobility task work can help their partner stand up, pull a wheelchair, open doors or cabinets, carry items (groceries/medication), retrieve dropped items (keys/cane) or tap a special 911 phone. Service Dogs also assist individuals with symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress and can be trained to wake someone from a nightmare, conduct a perimeter search, find an exit or create a 'safe zone' around their partner.

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The ADA and Florida law both define a service

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Florida State Statute 413.08 defines the rights and responsibilities of an individual with a disability, use of a service animal and prohibited discrimination in employment, public accommodations and housing accommodations. The law also provides for criminal penalties in the following circumstances:

Any person, firm, or corporation, or the agent of any person, firm or corporation, who denies or interferes with admittance to, or enjoyment of, a public accommodation, or otherwise interferes with the rights of an individual with a disability or the trainer of a service animal while engaged in the training of such an animal, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree. (SS 4)

A person who knowingly and willfully misrepresents him or herself as using and being qualified to use a service animal or as a trainer of a service animal commits a misdemeanor of the second degree. (SS 9)



Legal Rights for People with Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs, and Service Dogs



Assistance dogs are "task trained" to mitigate the disability of the people who own them.



must provide the disabled individual the option of continuing access to the public accommodation without having the service dog on the premises.

Summary of Law:

Physically or psychologically disabled persons have the legal right to be accompanied by a specially trained dog in business establishments housing and accommodations where the genera public has access and on all common carriers. No extra charge can be levied because of the dog's presence, but the dog user is liable for any damage the dog might cause to the premises.

Businesses

When it is not obvious what service an anima provides, only limited inquiries are permitted Business owners or employees may ask two questions: (1) is the dog a service animal required because of a disability; (2) what work or task ha the dog been trained to do.

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Reasons to Deny Access

Under Federal Law, SS 36.302 (c)(2) of the ADA, access can be denied for two reasons: (1) the animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it; or (2) the animal is not housebroken.

Under Florida Law, FSS 413.08 (3)(f) access can also be denied if the dog's behavior poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others.

Allergies and fear of dogs are not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to an individual with a service dog. If a service dog is properly excluded or removed, the public accommodation Staff cannot ask about the person's disability require medical documentation, require a specia identification card or training documentation for the dog, or ask that the dog demonstrate it ability to perform the work or task.

Service dogs can be any breed or size and ar not legally required to wear special equipmen or tags. Certification or registration of the do as a service animal is not required under federa or Florida law. It's the training to do work o perform tasks that makes a service dog legal, no the ID or 'clothes' they wear.



Other studies show4: Treatment via medication 50% effective Talk therapy Service Dogs

50% effective 84.5% effective

Our dogs also help provide the emotional stability that veterans suffering from posttraumatic stress need to restore peace in their everyday lives. They instill the confidence necessary to be able to leave the house or to enter a confined space like an elevator. This critical help enables their owners to lead a life of self-reliance and independence.



Dogs For Life Programs and Services

Assistance Dogs are task trained to assist people 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Dogs For Life specializes in training hearing, mobility and psychiatric support dogs at no cost to our clients. Dogs can also be cross-trained depending on the needs of their companions.

Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs provide warmth and comfort to individuals in need of support and unconditional love. Certified volunteer dog teams provide pet-assisted therapy for children and seniors. Since 2002, Dogs For Life volunteer teams have regularly visited 33 facilities in Indian River county.

Community Outreach Programs feature Dog Behavior Workshops and Obedience Training Classes for the public and members. A four-acre Off-Leash Dog Park Campus has served the community since opening in February 2002. Memberships help to fund programs and services.



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

Email: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org

Dogs For Life, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-enempt organization as described under the Internal Revenue Code 501(z)(3). Federal ID# 33-1800397



Service Dogs For Veterans



Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960 (772) 567-8969

Service Dogs For Veterans

Dogs For Life, Inc., is one of only six organizations in the state of Florida recognized by the Veterans Administration to certify service dogs for veterans. DFL's prestigious accreditation from Assistance Dogs International enables our service dogs to enter VA and military facilities and our dogs' owners are eligible to receive benefits.



80,000+ Iraq and Afghanistan veterans will retire to Florida in the next two years2.

Extrapolating national VA numbers, the news is grim for our new residents:

- 3 in 10 will have a service-related disability
- 20+% 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"
- 1/3 of Florida's adult homeless are Veterans, and 45% of them will suffer from mental illness1
- Florida is home to the highest number of amputees from the Gulf War-Era3
 - DFL is committing our 25 years of experience

Service Dogs Can Help Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress

Our program is dedicated to providing service dogs to the brave men and women who honorably served our country, many of whom suffer from the effects of Post Traumatic Stress, in addition to hearing and/ or mobility loss. Dogs For Life, Inc. (DFL) has been training service dogs to help veterans combat the effects of post traumatic stress since 2010. Specifically, DFL Service Dogs help veterans by:

- 1. Waking them from nightmares
- 2. Creating a 'safe zone' around them to allow distance from people in a crowd
- 3. "Watching my back" dog sits down with back to owner's back to alert if anyone approaches
- 4. Making a perimeter search inside of the

James Taylor, SSG, U.S. Army (Ret.) Iraq War Veteran with Kathi Schumann, DFL Board Vice President and hearing & service dog Pia Pia.

Our dogs have been turning lives around since 2001 - providing ears that hear smoke alarms, paws and noses that tap 911 phones in emergencies, and legs that provide stability.

The fastest growing need for service dogs is in Florida, especially for the brave military men and women who served our country!

231,000° veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq already claim Florida as their home of record1.

to train service dogs for these Florida veterans in need.



home

- 5. Barking when given a hand signal if the owner feels the need to leave a stressful situation
- 6. Calling for help on a special K-9 emergency phone.
- 7. Providing deep pressure for calming effect 8. Reducing hyper-vigilance through task work

On September 5, 2012, the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) amended its regulations concerning veterans in need of service dogs. Under this final rule, VA will provide to veterans with visual, hearing, or mobility impairments, benefits to support the use of a service dog as part of the management of such impairments. The benefits include assistance with veterinary care, travel benefits associated with obtaining and training a dog, and the provision, maintenance, and replacement of hardware required for the dog to perform the tasks necessary to assist such veterans.

1 Florida Department of Veterans Affairs 2 According to local Veterans Groups Walter Reed Army Hospital estimate ⁴Operation Wolfbound



Application Approval

I have read, signed and understand the Off-Leash Dog Park application.

- I understand that all dogs can bite. I realize I am responsible for my dog's safety and assume all risks for myself and my dog for injury, loss or theft.
- I have attended the Canine Behavior Workshop. I understand there may be situations where my dog is not compatible with other dogs in the dog park.
- The dog described in this application has attended the required temperament evaluation.
- · I agree to remove my dog from the park if, at any time, it is found to be incompatible with a dog or person already in the park upon my arrival.
- My dog is currently vaccinated. I will provide current proof of vaccinations, and I understand proof of vaccinations are required every year.

Owner's Initials	Date	
Evaluator's Signature	Date	

To be signed on Dog Park Orientation date



Off-Leash Dog Park Information

All persons applying for use privileges at the Off-Leash Dog Park must abide by all Park Rules and Regulations.

Cost: \$100 Orientation fee.

Tax deductible donations needed and appreciated. Orientation fee is non-refundable. Scholarships are available to those who qualify. In honor of DFL's Assistance Dogs for Veterans Training Program, there is no cost for military veterans or first responders to use the park.

Payment Method: Cash, Check or Credit/Debit Card

Dogs For Life Mission

A non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training Assistance Dogs, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs and owning and operating an Off-Leash Dog Park.

Dogs For Life Programs

Assistance Dogs: DFL is accredited by Assistance Dogs International and specializes in task training hearing and mobility service dogs, as well as psychiatric support dogs for veterans.

Assistance Dogs for Veterans: This program is dedicated to providing service dogs to the brave men and women who honorably served our country, many of whom suffer from the effects of Post Traumatic Stress, hearing and/or mobility loss.

Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs: Our certified volunteer dog teams have been providing unconditional love and support to children and seniors in Indian River county since 2002. DFL teams bring warmth and comfort to people at assisted living facilities, schools and the Off-Leash Dog Park.

Community Outreach Programs: These programs include Dog Behavior and Obedience training for the public and members, as well as sponsorship of the 4-H Dog Masters Club.





Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

Email: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net www.dogsforlifevb.org

Dogs For Life, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization as described under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). Federal ID# 31-1800397

Safety For The Park

Rules are for everyone's safety and promote good etiquette. The disregard of any rule may result in a grievance being filed against any person or dog. Grievances will be reviewed by the Dogs For Life, Inc. Board of Directors and may result in loss of park privileges.

Rules and Regulations

- 1. Only pre-approved dogs may enter the park. Dogs must wear a buckle collar when in the park (no choker, spike or electronic collars).
- 2. Dogs must be leashed when entering and exiting the park. No exceptions.
- Dogs are not allowed to chase people.
- Dog owners assume liability for any non-member 4. invited to the park.
- 5. Dogs are not allowed to dig. If dogs do dig, owners must immediately fill holes.
- Owners must clean up after their dogs and must 6. deposit waste in receptacles.
- Dogs over 6 months old must be spayed/neutered and



Off-Leash Dog Park



- 4 acres safe, clean, fenced
- Walking trails
- Restrooms, chairs and benches
- Separate areas for large and small dogs
- Separate training area
- Shade and watering stations

Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center

1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 567-8969

Application

Name:			
Address:			
City:	Zip:		
Phone:			
Email:			
Dog's Name:			
Dog's Breed:			
Age/Birthday:		Male	Female
Vet Clinic:			

Preferred method of communication:

Email
U.S. Mail

How did you hear about us?

□ Member □ Friend □ Ad □ Dog Park Sign □ Event Other

I, the undersigned, in consideration of park privileges in

Application Process: All dogs must be inoculated, neutered and social. All applicants must attend a dog park orientation and canine behavior workshop.

Dog Temperament Evaluation: Each dog's temperament is evaluated to determine social ability with dogs and people.

Canine Behavior Workshop: Orientation includes a canine behavior workshop where dog behavior, body postures, communication and canine pack structures are explained.



no puppies less than 5 months of age are allowed.

- 8. If your dog acts aggressively, you must leash your dog and immediately leave the park.
- No dog can be in the park without an adult in 9. attendance. No more than 2 dogs may be brought into the park by any individual.
- 10. Park gates must not be left open. Watch for dogs so that they do not escape from the fenced areas. Owners are responsible for ensuring that their dogs do not escape from fenced areas.
- 11. No bicycles, skateboards, skaters, scooters or motorized devices, except wheelchairs, are allowed.
- 12. No food, dog treats, alcohol, smoking, glass containers or sticks are allowed in the park.
- 13. Children under 8 years of age are not permitted in the park. At no time should anyone run or chase dogs.
- 14. Park hours must be observed.
- 15. Dog owners must treat each other and dogs with respect at all times. Threatening, rude or abusive behavior is not allowed or tolerated.
- 16. No toys are allowed in the park.

the Off-Leash Dog Park, hereby release from liability Dogs For Life, Inc., its Board of Directors, employees, agents and volunteers and waive any right that I may have in the law to recover medical, property or bodily injury damages, regardless of cost, as a result of any injury I may sustain from my dog or any other dog, while on the property of the Dogs For Life, Inc. Off-Leash Dog Park.

I further agree and assume the risk for participating in programs at the Off-Leash Dog Park where there are dogs whose temperament may be unpredictable. I also assume ful responsibility for any injury that may occur to me, to my dog(s) or my property. I waive any right that I may have to institute legal proceedings to recover costs of any kind.

Photo/Video Release: I will permit free use of my name video and pictures of myself and/or my dog for DFL brochures newsletters or promotional material, including social media.

I have read this entire application and am fully aware that this constitutes a waiver and release. I hereby certify that I am ove 18 years of age and of sound state of mind.

Owner's Signature	Date
Referred by:	



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36X 22

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DFL Community Outreach Programs

Off-Leash Dog Park usage for owners of dogs that are inoculated, neutered and social. Dog behavior and park orientations are scheduled by appointment and an orientation fee is required. Walking trails, water, and shaded oak trees are all a part of this safe and controlled environment.

Dog Behavior Workshops and Obedience Training is available for the public by appointment for a nominal fee.

4-H Dog Masters Club is available for youths between the ages of 8 and 18, which promotes responsible pet ownership skills, self-confidence and leadership skills. This program is

sponsored by DFL at no cost to the club.

All donations to our community outreach programs are fully tax-deductible.





Dogs For Life Mission

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Hearing Dogs can be trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, a telephone ring, a smoke alarm, or an alarm clock. Many other sounds such as a baby's cry or an oven timer can be added to training depending on individual needs.

Service Dogs can assist with mobility challenges and psychiatric support. They can be crosstrained to open and close doors, turn lights on and off, tap a specialized K-9 emergency phone for help, carry shopping bags, and bring items to their companions. The dogs can also be trained to watch behind one's back, create a safe zone around their human partner, or reducing hypervigilance through task work.

DFL Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center

In response to growing needs in our community and beyond, Dogs For Life has constructed a 2,400 sq. ft. air-conditioned Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center at our 4 acre Off-Leash Dog Park located at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach. This facility enhances the Dog Park Campus and gives DFL exposure to the public.

The new building houses administrative and training areas and the increased space and central location allows DFL to better support the people who need the specialized services we offer.

The center allows us to increase the scope of our Community Outreach Programs by training dogs year round. It also enabled us to expand our Hearing Dog and Veterans Assistance Dog programs with the addition of a simulated home environment.



Administrative Offices, Training Center and Off-Leash Dog Park



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

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Assistance Dogs For Veterans Training Program "task trains" dogs to assist veterans with hearing and mobility challenges, as well as the effects of post-traumatic stress.



Improving The **Quality Of Life For People And Dogs** AT NO COST TO OUR CLIENTS



James Taylor, SSG, U.S. Army (Ret.) Iraq War Veteran and his Hearing/Service Dog Pia Pia

Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center

1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

(772) 567-8969

Average Cost To Train A Service Dog Thanks to your donations Dogs For Life is able to provide dogs and training free of charge to our clients.

Clean Evaluation Process	\$50/hr.	AVG. #	\$200
Iome Visit; Head Trainer & Assigned Trainer	\$75	1	\$75
Shelter Visits & Dog Temperament	4500	~	+200
Evaluation	\$50/hr.	6	\$300 \$120
Cost to Adopt Dog Administrative Record Keeping	\$120 \$50/hr.	1 6	\$300
Training Equipment	615		\$15
D Card - In Training	\$15 \$125	1	\$125
lacket & Patches - In Training	\$264	1	\$264
Canine 911 Emergency Phone Training Supplies	\$250	î	\$250
Basic Behavior / Obedience Tra	aining		+ 100
Group Obedience Classes	\$100	4	\$400
AKC Canine Good Citizen Test	\$10	2 10	\$20 \$750
Public Access Training	\$75/hr.	10	\$300
Administrative Record Keeping	\$50/hr.	0	\$500
Task Training; 3 Tasks Minimu	m \$42/hr.	120	\$5,040
Assigned Trainer Head Trainer	\$75/hr.	36	\$2,700
Administrative Record Keeping	\$50/hr.	96	\$4,608
Certification Costs	\$15	1	\$15
ID Card - Certified Personalized Collar & Leash;	910	1	410
New Jacket Patches	\$150	1	\$150
Administrative Record Keeping	\$50/hr.	3	\$150
TOTAL I	nitial Tra	ining s	\$15,782
Annual Recertification & Supp	ort		
Annual Recertification	\$750	10 yrs.	
Annual ID Cards	\$15	10 yrs.	\$150 \$700
Replacement Jackets, Collars & Leas	nes \$1/5	4	\$500
Administrative Record Keeping	\$50/hr.		4
TOTAL			\$24,632
Additional Costs For DFL Pre	-Trained	Dog:	
Veterinary Care			+200
Initial Exams & Vaccinations	\$280		\$280 \$240
Heartworm/Flea Meds	\$40 Subtotal	6 mos.	\$520
DFL Housing Costs			** 000
Cost of Service Dog Puppy	\$1,000	1	
Boarding	\$25/day		
Food & Treats	\$100 \$400		\$400
Crate & Dog Bed	Subtotal	T	\$6,550





provide Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs warmth and comfort to individuals in need of support and unconditional love. Certified volunteer teams provide pet-assisted therapy for children and seniors at assisted-living facilities, schools and at the dog park.

Your donation is tax deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal income tax purposes under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, Registration # CH15831. You will receive a written receipt and regular updates through the Dogs For Life, Inc. Paw Prints Newsletter.

We are grateful for your support. Should you have any questions please call our office at (772) 567-8969.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800) 435-7352 ithin the state.

OCTOBER



Howl -O-Ween

The AREA The William AR www.HometownNewsOL.com Friday, Oct. 30, 2015

Vol. 13, No. 6

Perfect pet 'Pawade'



Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Tuesday, October 27, 2015 4:22 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net DFL's Howl-O-Ween Photos and YouTube video

Dogs For Life's Howl-O-Ween Pawrade was a huge success thanks to all of your efforts and support!





ttps://woutu.bo/eduXeeN5WDM

14A » Sunday, October 25, 2015 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS *

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Going to the Dogs



More than 70 dogs lined the track at the Dogs For Life dog park in Vero Beach for the 14th annual Howi-O-Ween Pawrade on Saturday. "This was last-minute," said Linda Wyatt (left), of Vero Beach, who attended with her dog Izzy, granddaughter MacKenzy Peavy (right), 9, and her friend Chloe Wilson, 8. "I didn't plan on coming, but my granddaughter insisted." This was Wyatt's second year participating in the event. To see more photos, go to **TCPalm.com**.

38 INDIAN RIVER County

IN SEASON

October 2015



Pawrade

Bruni Serrano gets Jasmine ready in her Events From page 36

\$35. For more information visit afpindianriver.afpnet.org • 'Riverside Goes to Hollywood:' 8 p.m., Stark Stage, 3250 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach. Two evening performances, Thursday and Saturday, following an already sold-out musical revue luncheon on Nov. 19. Enjoy some of the most beloved and acclaimed songs from Hollywood musicals. Tickets are \$45. For tickets or more information, call (772) 231-6990 or visit www.riversidetheatre.com.



not-so wicked witch costume. Dogs for Life held its 13th Annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade at their offleash park. Dozens of dogs dressed in the holiday best assembled for a parade around the park.

Cliff Partlow staff photographer

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18

• Sebastian Area Historical Society, "Flounder Fishing at Sebastian Inlet State Park" by Ed Perry, Park Services Specialist, Sebastian Inlet State Park. North Indian River County Library, 1001 Sebastian Blvd., CR 512 at Roseland Road. Admission is free. Refreshments provided. For more information call (772) 581-1380 or email sahsi@att.net.

• Free Wildlife Tours, 8-10 a.m. every Wednesday, November through March (except holiday weeks), Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge. You MUST have a reservation. For reservations call (772) 581-5557, ext. 2.

THURSDAY, NOV. 19 & SATURDAY, NOV. 21

THURSDAY, NOV. 19 - SATURDAY, NOV. 21

• "That's Entertainment!' variety concert: McAlpin Fine Arts Center, IRSC main campus, 3209 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Join the IRSC "Company" singers and jazz ensembles in a celebration of classic jazz, pop and Broadway music from past to present. Show times are 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with a 2 p.m. show on Saturday. General admission tickets are \$15. For more information, contact the IRSC box office at (772) 462-4750 or visit www.irsc.edu.

See EVENTS, page 39





Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

14th Annual Howl-O-Ween Dog Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo October 24, 2015

Registration - 2 pm • Pawrade - 4 pm



Event Underwriter Henry IX Schumann

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

26A ». Sunday, October 18, 2015 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS »

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

TREASURE COAST

Community Calendar

564-4611; james.batory@ indianriverschools.org. **Orchid Mounting** Workshop: Make and take a mounted Dendrobium orchid. All materials included, 10 a. m-noon Oct. 24. McKee Botanical Garden, 350 U.S. 1. Vero Beach, Ages: 16+, \$55. Register: 772-794-0601; www. mckeegarden.org. Absolute Integrated Medicine: Learn more about Acupuncture at AOM Day. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 24. Absolute Integrated Medicine, 1575 Indian River Blvd., Suite C-130, Vero Beach, \$0-\$30, 772-770-6184; AcupunctureVeroBeach.com. Vero Beach Oktoberfest & Music Jam: Rock, Country, Blues and German/Bavarian bands, foods, vendors. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Oct. 24. Indian River County Fairgrounds. 7955 58th Ave., Vero Beach. \$2.866-611-0442; http:// www.VeroBeachOktoberFest. com/. VNA's "Shoo the Flu" Vaccination Clinic: 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 24. Vero Beach Hidden Treasures, 660 21st. St., Vero Beach, 772-567-5651: www.vnatc.com. **Dogs For Life Canine**

C # TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS & Friday, October 23, 2015 & 11A

Howl-o-ween Pawrade & Pet Expo: Halloween Dog Costume Parade at DFL Off-Leash Dog Park. 2 p.m. gates open for registration, 4 p.m. Pawrade Oct. 24. Dogs For Life, 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach. 772-567-8969; www. dogsforlifevb.org.

Community Calendar

Hidden Treasures, 660 21st St., Vero Beach, 772-567-5551; www.vnatc.com. Dogs For Life Canine Howl-o-ween Pawrade & Pet Expo: Halloween dog costume parade at DFL Off-Leash Dog Park, 2 p.m. gates open for registration, 4 p.m. Pawrade Oct. 24. Dogs For Life, 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, 772-567-8969; www. dogsforlifevb.org.

10

CHARTING YOUR COURSE

Monday, October 19, 2015

Calendar Oct. 19-30

Cocktail Party: 6-8 p.m., to benefit ARC of Martin County, Piper's Landing Golf & Country Club, Stuart. \$75 per person. 772-283-2525

Oct. 24

Swinging Fore the ARC Golf Tournament: 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m., to benefit ARC of Martin County, Piper's Landing Golf & Country Chub, Stuart. \$250 per ; erson. 772-283-2525

19th Annual Golf Tearnament: noon, to benefit Caring Children Clothing Children. Monarch Country Club, Palm City, \$150 per golfer. 772-221-8777, www4cmartin.org

Exchange Club of IRC Foundation's Black & White Masquerade: 6 p.m., Vero Beach Country Club, 800 30th St., Vero Beach. \$75 per person. www.exchangeclubofindianriver.org.

Annual Halloween Party: 3-6 p.m., to benefit The

Shelly Ferger

TREASURE COAST

From: Sent: To: Subject: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Friday, October 16, 2015 4:18 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Oct 24 Howl-O-Ween Pawrade

Don't forget to join us for our Annual Canine Howl-O-Ween Pawrade Saturday, October 24th at 4 PM!



STAY CONNECTED

Arc of Indian River County, Sun-Up Campus, 2455 5th St. SW, Vero Beach. \$5. 772-562-6854, etx. 228

Howl-O-Ween Canine Costume Pawrade & Pet Expo: 2-5 p.m., to benefit Dogs for Life. 772-567-8969 Service dogs "paw it forward" to military and aw enforcement veterans



Darel, a Labrador retriever, is a retired law enforcement K-9 and is now an assistance dog. Returning soldiers and law enforcement personnel often suffer from PTSD after a traumatic event. Founder and assistance trainer Shelley Ferger of Dogs For Life is increasing the number of service dogs trained at their facility in Vero Beach, Florida to accommodate the growing demand. Dogs For Life is one of only four Assistance Dog training organizations in Florida with Assistance Dogs International accreditation and is recognized by the Veteran's Administration.



Dawn Taylor, wife of Jim Taylor, SSG US Army Iraq War veteran got Jim a rescued pug named Pia Pia after he showed signs of PTSD. The pair went through assistance training togethe



Ferger founded Dogs For Life based on her passion for helping veterans and people with disabilities. "We recognize each person's disability and determine how a trained dog can help", she states. "Dogs interrupt panic attacks, anxiety, PTSD to name just a few. One of the things we teach is 'lap' where the dog makes full, comforting contact with the veteran", she adds. "It's like a dog hug".



at Dogs For Life and the family has seen a big turnaround. ""They all say they cannot believe how 12 lbs of love could change this man into a happy and smiling person again. Jim does not hesitate to tell anyone that Pia Pia is his angel."



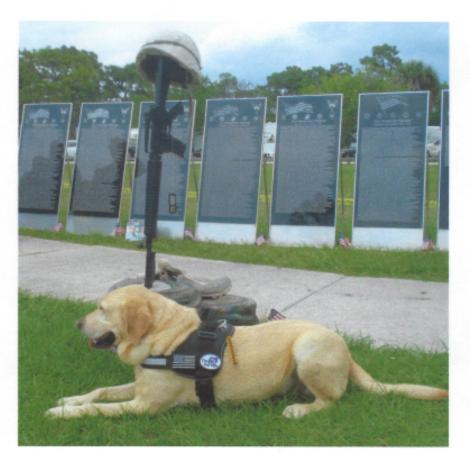
Another favorite task assistance dogs perform is "Watch my six" where dogs alert to anyone approaching from behind. Dogs can also provide stability so the owner can stand without help from another person.

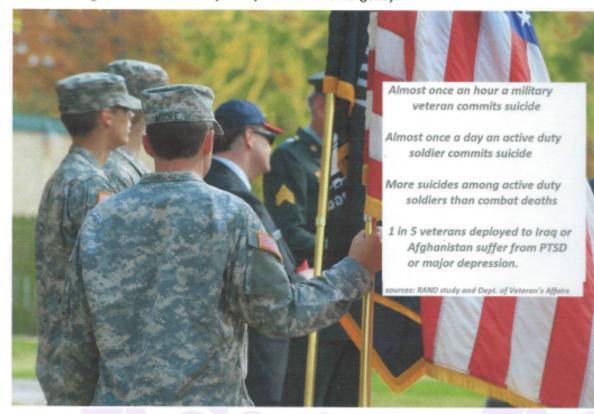


Ferger believes that dogs are a workable alternative to medication and augment talk therapy to a great degree. She is backed up by the Operation Wolfhound study that showed service dogs were 85% effective in helping with PTSD as opposed to medication and talk therapy each at 50% effective.



Iraq war vet Jim Taylor's assistance dog Pia Pia is trained for many of the tasks veterans and law enforcement want, such as alerting to a doorbell or knock, babies crying, tea kettles, stove timers and they can even distinguish between a cell phone and house phone. Some dogs are also taught to dial 911 on a special phone in an emergency.





Ferger is increasing the number of dogs she trains to accommodate the growing need and echoes the sentiments felt by many: "They deserve our help for all they have done for us". On October 24th, Dogs For Life holds its annual Howl 'o'ween Pawrade at 1230 16th Ave. in Vero Beach, Florida to raise money for their work. Judging by the chart below, they will need it. http://www.dogsforlifevb.org/



Service Dogs For Veterans

A Message From Kathi Schumann

Dogs For Life, Inc. is one of only four Assistance Dog Training organizations in the state of Florida recognized by the Veteran's Administration to certify Service Dogs for Veterans.

As stated in the Federal Register, "Service Dogs Must Be Certified by ADI or International Guide Dog Federation for Veterans with Visual, Hearing, or Substantial Mobility Impairments to Receive Benefits.

DFL's prestigious ADI accreditation enables our Service Dogs to enter VA and military facilities, and our dogs' owners are eligible to receive benefits. Dogs trained by other organizations do not have these privileges.

Our dogs have been turning lives around since 2001 because they enrich people's lives - providing ears that hear smoke alarms, paws that tap 911 buttons in emergencies, and legs that provide stability.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

The sobering fact is that suicide is rampant5:

Almost once an hour - every 65 minutes a military Veteran commits suicide

Almost once a day an active duty soldier commits suicide; 349 in 2012 - a record high

There are now more suicides among active duty soldiers than combat deaths

Veterans make up 7% of the American population, but they account for 20% of its suicides

Our Veterans deserve our help!

Our Veterans Are Returning Home ... Without Homes



The Statistics Are Staggering

 13% of homeless adults: Veterans · 20% of male homeless: Veterans · 62,619 Veterans homeless on any given night⁶

 4 in 10 of these are unsheltered⁴ · 240,000+ homeless or "at risk"

Veterans were served by the VA in 2012 (up 21% from 2011)

· 80,558 calls made to the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans in fiscal 2012 (up123% from 2011)





Kathi Schumann gives Veteran Jim Taylor and his Hearing/ Service Dog Pia Pia a special treat at the Schumann Racetrack.

The fastest growing need for Service Dogs is in Florida, and it is for the brave military men and women who served our country!

231,000+ Veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq already claim Florida as their home of record1.

80,000+ Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans will retire to Florida in the next two years2.

Extrapolating national VA numbers, the news is grim for our new residents:

- 3 in 10 will have a service-related disability
- 30"% 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"
- 1/3 of Florida's adult homeless are Veterans, and
- 45% of them will suffer from mental illness Florida is home to the highest number
- of amputees from the Gulf War-Era3

DFL is committing our 25 years of experience to train Service Dogs for these Florida Veterans in need.

Service Dogs Can Help Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress

The Department of Veteran Affairs has long recognized the effectiveness of Service Dogs for Veterans". The Department is currently sponsoring a study to evaluate the effectiveness of Service Dogs as a treatment method for Post Traumatic Stress.

Other programs indicate10:

Treatment via medication	50% effective
Talk therapy	50% effective
Service Dogs	84.5% effective

Dogs For Life, Inc. (DFL) Service Dogs already help Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress by tasktraining hearing, mobility and psychiatric service dogs, as well as dogs that can be cross-trained depending on the Veteran's needs. Specifically, DFL Service Dogs help Veterans with Post Traumatic Stress by:

- Waking up the owner from nightmares 1.
- 2. "Creating a Barrier" around the owner to allow distance from people in a crowd
- 3. "Watching my back" - dog sits down with back to owner's back to alert if anyone approaches
- 4. Making a perimeter search inside of the home before entry
- 5. "Popping a corner" - looking both ways before a person enters a room or long hallway
- Barking when given a hand signal if the owner feels the need to leave a stressful situation 6.
- Providing tactile stimulation to disrupt emotional overload of the owner 7.
- "Breaking the Spell" and/or combat sedative side effects 8.
- "Finding the Car" when owner needs to exit building quickly and get to a car 9



(Ret.), Iraq War Veteran and his Hearing/Service Dog Pia Pia

A brief look at the national numbers also gives us an idea of what awaits us here

in Florida:

2.6⁺ million Veterans have served our country since September 2001^{4⁻}

307,00016 members of our armed forces are likely to leave the military in each of the next four years5

Current homelessness statistics do not bode well for these brave young men and

Post Traumatic Stress, Physical Disabilities & Homelessness:

What does Post Traumatic Stress have to do with homelessness? The sad fact is: 2/3 of homeless Iraq and Afghanistan veterans have Post Traumatic Stress⁶

Post Traumatic Stress is even far more common than physical wounds among troops who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan:

- 336,000" have been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress (some studies indicate that up to 70% of Veterans suffer from Post Traumatic Stress)7 - 50,409 have been wounded?

While unemployment, poverty, lack of support networks and substandard housing are major reasons that many Veterans become homeless, a closer look reveals that disabilities, both mental and physical, precede and contribute to these conditions5:

- 51% of individual homeless Veterans have disabilities
- 70% have substance abuse problems
- 50% have serious mental illness

Veterans Are Disproportionately Homeless':

 20% homeless for veterans aged 18-25 (vs. 16.4% for same-aged

 10.4% for veterans aged 25-34 (vs. 8.1% for same-aged civilians) What's even worse:

- 1,400,000 veterans are considered "at risk" of homelessness⁶

Moreover, the VA says the numbers could be higher because they include only the homeless the department is aware of 8.

Compounding the problem is the fact that our Iraq and Afghanistan vets are different from other Veterans. "They're younger, much more savvy and they don't necessarily like to ask for help."

No one who has served our country should ever go without a safe, stable place to call home. Those who keep us safe deserve our help now!

Dogs For Life Programs and Services

Assistance Dogs are specially trained to perform tasks to assist a person with a special need 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to provide a life of self reliance and independence for their companions. Dogs For Life specializes in hearing, mobility and psychiatric support training at no charge to our Clients. Dogs can be crossed-trained depending on the needs of their companions.

Service Dogs for Veterans Training Program "task trains" dogs to assist our Veterans with hearing and mobility challenges, as well as the effects of Post Traumatic Stress. This innovative program is certain to give back to our Veterans who have given so much to assure our freedom.

Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs provide warmth and comfort to individuals in need of support and unconditional love. Certified volunteer dog teams provide pet-assisted therapy for children and seniors. Since 2002, Dogs For Life volunteer teams have visited 33 facilities in Indian River County.

Community Outreach Programs feature a Dog Behavior Hotline, Dog Placement Referral Program, Dog Behavior Workshops and Obedience Training Classes. The Off-Leash Dog Park Campus has served 492 members since opening in February 2002. Memberships help to fund programs and services.

- Calling suicide hotline on a special K-9 emergency phone
- Carrying backpack with medical supplies and/or water 11.
- 12. Providing deep pressure for calming effect
- 13. Reducing hyper-vigilance through teamwork
- Serving as the owner's "combat buddy" to provide security and mitigate loneliness 14.

Our dogs also help provide the emotional stability that Veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress need to restore peace in their everyday lives. They instill the confidence necessary to be able to leave the house, or to enter a confined space like an elevator. This critical help enables their owners to lead a life of self-reliance and independence.



On September 5, 2012, the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) amended its regulations concerning veterans in need of service dogs. Under this final rule, VA will provide to veterans with visual, hearing, or mobility impairments, benefits to support the use of a service dog as part of the management of such impairments. The benefits include assistance with veterinary care, travel benefits associated with obtaining and training a dog, and the provision, maintenance, and replacement of hardware required for the dog to perform the tasks necessary to assist such Veterans.

Florida Department of Veterana Affairs According to local Veteraris Groups Whiler Reed Army Hospital estimate Carrent Population Sarway (CPS) 2012, U.S. Department of Veteraris Affairs and U.S. Department of Labor's Veteraric Tangloyment and Training Service Department of Veterans Affairs ary 2012 HUD national "point-in-time count" of the homeless January 2012 FIGU automa point-to-tane court of the horizon The Rand Study: Department of Veteran Affairs; Department of Defense "Wis specialized homeleumeus programs "Anne Murphy, LA Salvation Army program director

SEPTEMBER



4 Monday, September 28, 2015 | LUMINARIES - LU | TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

BRIGHT LIGHTS & RED CARPETS

Indian River County with Tania Ortega-Cowan

Theatre in Fellsmere

Riverside Children's Theatre partnered with the City of Fellsmere to present two free productions from the RCT On The Go troupe.

The performances will take place in the **Clarence F. Korker Center for the Per**forming Arts - the old school auditorium, located on the second floor of Fellsmere Town Hall, 22 S. Orange Street.

RCT On The Go will present "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Oct. 3.

Then at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., on Nov. 14, RCT On The Go will present "The Tiger Who Came To Tea."

The free tickets will distributed at the au-

Dogs for Life Howl-O-Ween

The Autumn Equinox was last week, so we can start thinking about pumpkin weather and all that comes with it!

From 2 to 4 p.m., on Oct. 24, Dogs for Life will hold its 14th Annual Howl-O-Ween Pawrade & Pet Expo.

It's a fun gathering for people and dogs alike, and extra festive with everyone in costume.

The IRC 4-H Dog Masters will be there, selling beverages to raise funds for their group too.

Natalie's Orchid Island Juice Company is donating juice toward the cause. Learn more at DogsForLifevb.org.

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES - LU | Monday, September 28, 2015 |

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

IN REMEMBRANCE



Honor Guards - American Legion Post 189

Cmdr. Sylvester McIntosh, American Legion Post 181





Diacing of the Wrenth _ CDL Hogth Harris LIEMC Local officials, dignitaries, veterans and residents attended the POW/MIA ceremony on Veteran's Memorial Island.

Dogs for Life John Baughman and

O'Bryan

CANADA MICROPHYS

John Matthews and Dwight Harris

Peter &

/MIA Day

Veterans Counci

BY BRENDA SPOSATO

A special ceremony was hosted by the Veterans Council of Indian River County on Sept. 18 to honor the thousands of men and women who were held prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action.

The POW/MIA candlelight vigil took place at Veterans Memorial Island.

Master of ceremonies was Veterans Council President Tony Young and welcoming remarks were presented by Cmdr. Sylverster McIntosh of the American Legion Post 181.

Bagpiper Michael Hyde participated in the ceremony's interlude.

Vocalist Dolores Mark sang two songs, "My Heart Will Go On" and "America, the Beautiful," in remembrance of our lost heroes.

A moment of silence and illumination of candles was led by Dwight Harris, Marine Corps League.

Placing of the wreath was posted by Cpl. Heath Harris, USMC, in front of the POW/ MIA Monument, which was dedicated on Sept. 29, 2007.

The ceremony concluded

with a taps by Duke Scales, Bugles Across America, and benediction by Father Dave Newhart. According to Vero Beach Mayor Dick Winger, this is a very disappointing moment for him. In January 1944 he lost someone very important.

"I was of course a child. It was my father's brother, Bob, and he was killed in a destroyer of Anzio and they never found his body," he said. "As a child, trying to cope with someone that you love and used to bring me things from all over the world He was gone and we never saw him again."



Joe Flescher, Marty Zickert, Tony Young, Rip Wieler and Shelly Ferger with the POW/MIA flag, a symbol of remembrance.

Golf Tournament

ANNUAL VETERANS OUTREACH GOLF TOURNAMENT HOLE SPONSOR



FOR LIFE

United Way Day of Caring

10A » Sunday, September 20, 2015 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS » IC

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

7 women tabbed to lead United Way campaign

By Janet Begley Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

VERO BEACH – When you name seven women as co-chairs of a fundraising project for the United Way of Indian River County, it could turn out to be a sensation.

That's what United Way Executive Director Michael Kint was hoping as he announced the names of the "sensational seven" who will lead this year's annual fundraising campaign of \$2.955 million. The announcement came during the organization's annual "Day of Caring" breakfast Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church in Vero Beach.

"This powerhouse lineup of women have agreed to take responsibility for pulling well over 100 volunteers together to do the daunting work of raising the funds needed to advance the common good and make a real impact on community conditions for all of us," Kint said. "Today is Day 1 of 365 days of caring for the coming year." Kerry Bartlett, managing director of Bob Carter Companies, is one of the seven women who will

THE 'SENSATIONAL SEVEN'

Kerry A. Bartlett: Managing director, Bob Carter Companies

Susan L. Chenault: Vice president, Wealth Advisory Services, Northern Trust

Janie Graves Hoover: Sales and marketing executive, Tight Line

Katherine (Katie) Kirk: Vice president, Legal and House Counsel, Daland Corp.

Leah Muller: Leah Muller Interiors

Lenora Ritchie: The Robert F. & Eleonora W. McCabe Foundation

Sue M. Tompkins: Vice president and senior financial advisor, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc.

lead this year's campaign. She said collectively, the group understand the needs of the community and want to raise as much community support as possible to address those needs.

"It's a huge opportunity but also a huge responsibility," Bartlett said. "We're bringing seven different spheres of influence and seven different women leading the campaign might be scary to some but she believes it brings diversity to the project.

"It gives us a different leverage when it comes to raising funds," Tompkins said. "We want to be the faces of this campaign and mobilize volunteers throughout the commu-

nity."

'DAY OF CARING'

More than 30 projects were completed during the "Day of Caring" for the following organizations: American Red Cross; CareNet; Children's Home Society; Leisure Square; Dogs for Life; Harvest Food & Outreach; Hibiscus Children's Center; Healthy Start; Senior Resource Association; Keep Indian River Beautiful; St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store; The Source; The Source Thrift Store; United Way of Indian River County; Humane Society of Vero Beach thrift stores in Vero Beach and Sebastian; Homeless Family Center; Indian River County Habitat for Humanity; Literacy Services of Indian River County; Florida Aquaculture Foundation; Redlands Christian Migrant Association; Treasure Coast Community Health; Environmental Learning Center; Gifford Youth Achievement Center; and the Samaritan Center.

Resource Association.

Meredith Egan, director of community impact for the United Way of Indian River County, said the local nonprofit organizations that benefit from the "Day of Caring" are very

appreciative of the extra assistance from volunteers.

"I work closely with nonprofit partners and I can tell you that the help you're providing today makes a big difference," said Egan. "Hundreds of you are going out today to paint, clean, build, organize and even scrapbook, things that these agencies don't have to money or people power to do without help. Thanks go to people like you who put your time and money where your mouth is, step up, and make things better for others."

Stephany Sanders, 25, of Vero Beach, said she learned of the "Day of Caring" event from her dad, and thought it sounded like a good way to spend a Saturday morning. She and some friends were scheduled to do some painting at the Treasure Coast Community Health Center in Fellsmere.

"I like to help others," she said. "It gives me a sense of giving back."

connections in the community to the table and we want to leverage our resources."

Another member of the "sensational seven" is Sue Tompkins, vice president and senior financial adviser for Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith. Tompkins said having After breakfast, about 400 volunteers headed off to perform more than 30 different community service projects throughout Indian River County, ranging from washing windows at the Homeless Family Center to cleaning the Meals on Wheels kitchen at the Senior

EVENTS

VOLUNTEERS UNITE FOR DAY OF CARING



Dogs 4 Life gets new mulch thanks to volunteers with the United Way: Jesse Hatmaker, Brittany Auld, Erin Raines, Jessica Hatmaker , Kristin Zimmermann , Chrissy Stephens and



Hundreds of volunteers attended the breakfast pep rally at First Presbyterian Church before heading to various locations throughout the county.





Darel's Birthday Party



3rd Annual Tunnel 2 Towers 5K

24 Monday, September 14, 2015 UMINARIES - LU | TREASURE COAST NEWS/WPERS

STARS IN REMBRANCE



IRCFR Chief Brian Burkeen



IRCFR's Captain Jamie Coleman and Battalion Chief Lonn Benham



Bottolion Chief Jack Oehm from Brooklyn's Red Hook station who was working on 9-11



Dogs for Life's Lisa Snycerski, Shelly Ferger, 'Puppy', L.A. and 'Darrall'

3rd Annual Tunnel 2 Towers 5K

LINIA OWYSEA-COWAR

and han fit the Income too



For Lumrores Riverside Park in Vero Beach was filled with first responders, American flags, rows of fallen 911 heroes' names, and enthusiastic supporters Saturday

to participate in the Tunnel 2 Towers 5K.

The event commemorates those who died saving others on September 11, 2001.

To honor the heat and physical challenges our 911 first responders endured in NYC, many chose to run the race wearing full firefighter and law enforcement gear. Proceeds benefit the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Foundation which forever remembers the sacrifice firefighter Stephen Siller made when he ran to the World Trade Center and laid down his life to save others on 9-11. Battalion Chief Jack

Oehm from Brooklyn's Red Hook station, who helped the rescue efforts on 9-11, came to Vero Beach just for this event.

"It is great to see some many people from the community coming out to support everyone," said Sarah Mazza of the Vero Beach High School girls

HILPUSSE ICHIII.

Sydney Bracken added, "We are proud to be here. We are all volunteering and supporting our first repsonders."

IRC Fire Rescue Chief Brian Burkeen said, "What we want everybody to understand is that this isn't just about firemen and first responders, it's about everybody who sacrificed on 9-11. It affects everybody in this-county and in the world. We appreciate everybody coming out to support us. It's all about community support and that's what we are here for."



Cowboy Beer Night

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS / LUMINARIES

Cowboy Beer Night Cattlemen help Samuel Tripson

BY TANIA ORTEGA-COWAN

The Patio Seafood Tavern was packed to capacity last Wednesday evening for the Indian River Cattlemen's Association's Cowboy Beer Night fundraiser.

The venue has close ties to the cattlemen community. Built by Waldo Sexton in the 1930s using wood, wrought iron, tile and collectibles still there today, the Sexton family owns the building.

Cattle rancher Sean Sexton, Waldo's grandson, is a long time member of the Indian River Cattlemen's Association. Like Waldo, he is a man of many talents.

and poet, he designed the label for a new beer being served at the event, the Cow Boss Imperial Milk

Stout. Made by Cigar City Brewing Co. in Tampa, the beer was inspired by Florida ranchers, and the company donated \$10,000 to the Florida Cattlemen's Association.

While the crowd enjoyed the Cow Boss beer, Sean, Doyle Rigdon and Will Barker recited cowboy poetry. Sybil Gage gave a live musical performance. And, Wesley Davis presented an energetic live auction. Even more fitting, the loved one Sam.

An accomplished artist Patio donated 15 percent of the evening's proceeds to the Samuel Tripson family for vitally needed medical treatments.

> Samuel Tripson, who is battling a return of lymphoma, is related to the Sextons.

> Waldo's daughter, Barbara, married a handsome serviceman named John Tripson in 1945. Among their children is Mark Tripson, Samuel's father.

> So, the event had a bit of a family reunion feel as so many Tripsons and Sextons were there celebrating the Cattlemen's Association and supporting their



Joe & Liz Earman



Lange Sykes, Cindy Goetz and Andrew Witteck

Vinnie Parentela

eptember,

monday

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY









TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS | LUMINARIES · LU | Monday, September 7, 2015 |

Cindy O'Dare and Rosanne Moler



ogan Tripson Geeslin, Debra & David Fromang, and Nick Geeslin



Mark, Hildie and Charlotte Tripson



Michael Pressley, Tiffany Tripson and Ashley Moree

Sean Sexton



Ryan Cappelen and Hillary Stanley

Chris Dale Sexton with some necklaces. for the auction



Johns Island Grant

NEW&NOTEWORTHY



Dogs For Life Receives Grant

The John's Island Foundation awarded *Dogs For Life Inc.* a \$12,679.50 grant. The funding will provide expanded handicapped accessibility in the dog park as well as the outdoor training areas. This generous grant will also help complete the drainage project throughout the Dogs for Life property. "We are thrilled that all of our clients who use wheelchairs will have total access to the outdoor training areas," states Shelly Ferger, Dogs for Life founder and CEO. Dogs for Life is the only assistance dog training center in the area accredited by Assistance Dogs International and they have specific standards to maintain accreditation. Since opening in 2014, the number of local residents and veterans enrolled in the Hearing and Service Dog Training Program has doubled.

Dogs For Life 1230 16th Ave. 773-567-8969, www.dogsfortife-b.org 199 49

REPORTACIE

VERO BEACH MAGAZINE'S ANNUAL GUIDE PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE REGISTRY OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN OUR AREA.

jude to

Vero Beach and Indian River County are blessed with people who give freely of their time, energy and money to help others. No matter where your interests lie, we have a number of organizations that you can choose from so it's hard not to be generous. Make a donation or give of your time at one of our local notable nonprofits. Our Guide to Giving is organized by categories to help you make choices that are relevant to your interests. If your favorite organization is not included, please email editor@verobeachmagazine.com with details to be included in the next year's issue.

ANIMAL WELFARE

Bauer Research Foundation Promotes effective and safe therapies for the treatment of cancer in animals. 2001 9th Ave. Ste. 103. Vero Beach.

H.A.L.O. No - Kill Rescue

Creates a no-kill safe haven for abandoned and abused animals in Indian River County. 710 Jackson St., Sebastian, FL 32958. 772-589-7297; www.halorescuefl.org kong-term health and welfare by providing and promoting excellence in elepitant care and management. P.O. Box 892, Feltsmere, PL 32948; 772-202-8875;

ARTS AND CULTURE

Academy for the Performing Arts

Offers vocal and instrumental music instruction and performance

FL 32960; 866-403-7171; www.bauerresearch.org

Dogs for Life Inc.

Seeks to improve the quality of life for people and dogs through training assistance dogs for people with hearing or mobility impairments and veterans with post-traumatic stress. 1230 16th Ave., Vero Beach, FL 32960; 772-567-8969; www.dogsforlifevb.org Humane Society of Vero Beach & Indian River County

Provides an "open door, open heart" animal shelter dedicated to helping and protecting the animals of our community. 6230 77th St., Vero Beach, FL 32967; 772-388-3331; www.hsvb.org

The National Elephant Center Seeks to improve the North American elephant population's

Vero Beach Dog Park Provides a clean, safe environment for dogs of all sizes to roam freely in an off-leash, 5-acre, green space along the Indian River Lagoon, providing two fenced exercise areas for both large and small dogs. 505 Beachland Blvd. Ste. 1-124, Vero Beach FL 32963; www.verobeachdogpark.org opportunities for all ages. 1750 20th St., Vero Beach, Fl. 32960; 772-562-7265; www.academyinvero.org

Atlantic Children's Chorale

Develops each student's potential to a high level of vocal technique and musicianship while exploring challenging choral repertoire. 1901 23rd St., Vero Beach, FL 32960; 772-469-2310; www.atlanticchildrenschorale.org

MAGAZINE SEPTEMBER 2015 115

Vero Beach Elementary PTA



This certificate of appreciation is presented to

DOGS for LIFE

for

Supporting our PTA 2015-2016



AUGUST



4-H Dog Masters Club

Things to Do

County 4-H Dog Masters Club sets meeting

VER COUNTY | YOUR NEWSWEEKLY |

By Shelly Ferger YourNews contributor

Are you a dog-loving 8- to 18-year-old looking for a fun-filled experience?

The Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club is holding an informational orientation meeting for families interested in joining the club.

The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 8 at the Dogs For Life Training Center, at the northeast corner of 12th Street and 16th Avenue (1230 16th Ave.).

Membership is open to all youth between the ages of 8 and 18, and members are not required to own a dog.

Have fun with friends and dogs using positive reinforcement.

Some exciting activities planned for the year include basic dog training, participation in the Dogs For Life Howl-O-Ween Pawrade & Pet Expo, Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club Spring Dog Show and Agility Demonstrations.

To sign-up for this informational meeting, call 772-567-8969 or email dogsfor-



lifevb@bellsouth.net

Find more information about the 4-H Program in Indian River County at http:// indian.ifas.ufl.edu/4H/index.html/.

*A member's age is determined by his /her age as of Sept. 1, 2015, or if he or she is still in high school.

6 * AUGUST 20, 2015 * VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Club wants children and youths to have doggone good time

FOR VETERAN VOICE

The Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club is looking for 8- to 18-year-olds. It'll have a meeting for folks interested in joining that'll be on Sept. 8, at 6:30 p.m. at the Dogs For Life Training Center, 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach. Membership is open to children and youths ages of 8 to 18, or still in high school Members are not required to own dogs. Learn to use positive reinforcement to have fun with dogs. Some exciting activities the club will do this year include basic dog training, participation in the Dogs For Life Howl-O-Ween Pawrade & Pet Expo and Indian River County 4-H Dog Masters Club Spring Dog Show and Agility Demonstrations. Additionally, at the meeting folks can learn about Dogs For Live and what it does for veterans with disabilities. It matches dogs with veterans and trains both to handle daily activities. To sign up, call (772) 567-8969 or email dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net. Find more information about the 4-H Program in Indian River County at http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/4H/ index.html/.



Photo courtesy of Dogs For Life

Indian River County children recently participated in a fundraiser for the 4-H Dog Masters Club at Dogs For Life, Vero Beach. Veterans and civilians with children are encouraged to attend the club's upcoming orientation meeting Sept. 8.

International Assistance Dog Week

2015 International Assistance Dog Week Tour The DFL Training Center



You're invited to tour the Dogs For Life, Inc. Assistance Dog Training Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

TIO/



2015 International Assistance Dog Week Fact Sheet

What is it?

International Assistance Dog Week was created to recognize all the devoted, hardworking assistance dogs helping individuals mitigate their disability-related limitations

What do assistance dogs do?

Assistance Dogs transform the lives of their human partners with debilitating physical and mental disabilities by serving as their companion, helper, aide, best friend and close member of their family.

What are the goals of International Assistance Dog week?

The goals are to recognize and honor the hardworking assistance dogs; raise awareness and educate the public about how these specially trained animals are aiding so many people in our communities; honor the puppy raisers and trainers of assistance dogs; and recognize heroic deeds performed by assistance dogs in our communities.

Are all assistance dogs retrievers or are they other breeds as well? Assistance Dogs can be from a variety of breeds including, but not limited to: Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Standard Poodles, as well as shelter dogs.

Where can I get more information about Assistance Dogs?

You can go to the websites for International Assistance Dog Week (www.assistancedogweek.org) and Working Like Dogs (www.workinglikedogs.com). You can also check out Assistance Dogs International (www.assistancedogsinternational.org) and the International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (www.iaadp.org).

What kind of activities can I take part in during International Assistance Dog Week? Tour your local Assistance Dog Training Center at Dogs For Life, Inc. 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL.

Who is sponsoring International Assistance Dog Week?

International Assistance Dog Week was established due to the efforts of Marcie Davis, a paraglegic for over 35 years and CEO of Davis Innovations, a consulting firm based in Santa Fe, NML Davis is the author of "Working Like Dogs: The Service Dog Guidebook, "and she is the host of the Internet radio program, "Working Like Dogs," at www.petliferadio.com. International Assistance Dog Week is facilitated as a program of Soulful Presence, a nonprofit Davis established to empower underserved populations.

What types of assistance dogs are there?

while many people are familiar with Guide Dogs, those that assist people with vision loss, not as many people are aware of the other types of assistance dogs working today. Here is a description of the various types of assistance dogs:

> Guide Dogs - Assist people with vision loss, leading these individuals around physical obstacles and to destinations such as seating, crossing streets, entering or exiting doorways, elevators and stairways.

Service Dogs - Assist people with disabilities with walking, balance, dressing,

transferring from place to place, retrieving and carrying items, opening doors and drawers, pushing buttons, pulling wheelchairs and aiding with household chores, such as putting in and removing clothes from the washer and dryer.

Hearing Alert Dogs - Alert people with a hearing loss to the presence of specific sounds such as doorbells, telephones, crying babies, sirens, another person, buzzing timers or sensors, knocks at the door or smoke, fire and clock alarms.

> Seizure Alert/Seizure Response Dogs - Alert or respond to medical conditions, such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes, epilepsy, panic attack, anxiety attack, post-traumatic stress and seizures.

Medical Alert/Medical Response Dogs - Alert to oncoming medical conditions, such as heart attack, stroke, diabetes, epilepsy, panic attack, anxiety attack, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

Are assistance dogs allowed to go in to restaurants and other businesses even though other pets can't?

Yes, assistance dogs are allowed to accompany their human partners to places of business including restaurants and shops. Under state law and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), they are guaranteed equal access to any and all establishments and accommodations; no extra charge can be levied because of the dog.





Veteran Voice is a weekly newspaper for veterans, active military, their families and their friends.

2 • AUGUST 28, 2014 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Celebrating valor



Photo courtesy of retired Command Sgt. Maj. Ed Britt, U.S. Army The Victory Center Military Store held an honoring for local Purple Heart honorees earlier this month on Purple Heart Day in the all-volunteer store at the Indian River Mall. From left, Ronald Stevens, O. Ivar Svenson Jr., Ed Britt, Yank Yannetelli, James D. Wilson Sr., Rick Brower, John Darling, Mike Hosfod, Robert M. Latimer, Steve Kraus and Daniel Votrobek with his service dog, Ariel. Not pictured but in attendance were Roy Siler and Len Zanca.



Sign Language Class



You Are Invited to Attend a Free Sign Language Class At The DFL Training Center With Instructor Whitney Mann 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach

Register now for this FREE 6 week Class Starting Wednesday July 29 from 2 - 3:30 PM 772-567-8969

Learn the Sign Language Alphabet, hand shapes, expressions and etiquette. Basic communication and key words.



Sign Language Alphabet

Beach, FL Libations-250 Awesome 32960 Hey to all - Darel

Korean War Ceremony

Monday, July 27, 2015

LUMINARIES . LU | TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

STARS FOR VETS

Korean War ceremony honors vets

By BRENDA SPOSATO

A ceremony was held this past Saturday at Memorial Island Sanctuary to commemorate the 62nd anniversary of the end of the Korean War and to honor the Indian River County veteran community.

Korean War Veteran Association Chapter 318 founder Commander Vincent Abbate said he was happy with the morning's turn out.

Abbate welcomed the crowd and introduced a reading of the testimonials by keynote speaker Lt. Col. Eric "Rip" Wieler, which silenced the crowd.

"Records show that there are 7,846 Americans still remaining unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using modern technology, identifications continue," said Wieler.

Wieler told the gathering there are over 19,000 veterans living right here among us in this community. "We pride ourselves in providing support to those who have come back from the war. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you for all you do and for all your efforts and volunteer work you provide to our veterans."

"There are many more veterans who will be coming back from the war. They will need our help." It is our duty to honor and take care of them," added Abbate.

The morning event concluded with the presentation of colors, a closing prayer and taps by bugler Duke Scales of Bugles Across America.



veterans who will be coming back from the war. They 1038: Rick Brower, Hap Allston and Andrew Coull

> City Council Pilar Turner and Veterans Council Marty Zickert



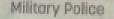
INDIAN RIVER COUNT

Veterans Council Programs Manager and Marine Corp Vet, Doy Demsick and Veterans Council Boardmember, Ted Cooperstein





8th Marine Regiment John Baughman, Kosovo and Iraq; Col. Tony Young, 30 years in Army and President of Veterans Council of IRC; and Iraq Army Veteran Jay Harris, 972





Hammer the Dachshund

Monday, July 27, 2015

LUMINARIES . LS | TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

BRIGHT LIGHTS & RED CARPETS

Indian River County with Tania Ortega-Cowan

Super SRA Volunteer

Jude Carole along with her dog Hammar from 'Dogs for Life', have been awarded the Sophie Restivo Volunteerism Award for their efforts in volunteering weekly at the Senior Resource Association's Adult Day Care Center in Vero Beach.

The award is given annually to a volunteer for their outstanding contribution to improving the lives of seniors in Indian River County in honor of former volunteer Sophie Restivo. Jude and Hammar visit the Vero Beach Adult Day Care weekly.



Pud Lawrence, SRA Chairman of the Board of Directors; Karen Deigl, SRA President/CEO; and Jude Carole, Volunteerism Award recipient with her dog, Hammar





"We love him! But he runs off! He just goes from one to another," said Bernita Raulerson (center) as she and Jean Cuffe (left), both of Vero Beach, visit with Hammar, a 4-year-old longhaired Dachshund. Jude Carole (right) brings Hammar to the Senior Resource Association's Adult Day Care Center In Vero Beach every Friday through the Dogs for Life organization. To see more photos, visit **TCPalm.com**.

Hammar the Dachshund brightens each Friday at Adult Day Care Center

By Janet Begley

Special to Treasure Coast Newspapers

VERO BEACH - Each Friday at the Senior Resource Association's Adult Day Care Center is Hammar Day.

Hammar, a therapy dog owned by Jude Carole, of Vero Beach, visits the clients and staff, spreading his special breed of comfort to people with neurological or cognitive impairments.

"It's just wonderful when he comes here," said Betty Walker, 95, of Vero Beach."I've always had dogs, so I look forward to Friday because I know he's going to come to visit."

Carole adopted Hammar

SENIOR RESOURCE ASSOCIATIO

Operates two adult day care facilities in Indian River County: Schumann Center, 685 14th SL, Vero Beach. Information:

- 772-469-2059
- 815 Davis St., Sebastian. Information: 772-388-5827.

PET-ASSISTED THERAPY PROGRAM

- Volunteer-based program where people train and take their Dogs for Life-certified canines to nursing and medical facilities in Indian River County.
- For more information, send an email to: dogsforlifevb@bellsouth. net.

about four years ago after his owner placed the longhaired Dachshund for adoption. She enrolled him in pet therapy training through the Dogs for Life organization in Vero Beach, where Hammar earned his canine good citizen award. Just recently, Carole and

Hammar were the recipients of the Sophie Restivo Volunteerism Award from the Senior Resource Association for their contribution to improving the lives of seniors in Indian River County. The award is named after Sophie Restivo, who volunteered for more than 20 years at the senior center.

"Our clients thoroughly enjoy seeing Jude and her dog Hammar every week," said Karen Deigl, president and CEO of the Senior Resource Association. "She truly is a wonderful volunteer who goes above and beyond. We are so grateful for her and everyone at the Dogs for Life organization for visiting both of our adult day care facilities each week."

Shelly Ferger, president of

See DOGS, 9A



from 1A

Dogs for Life, said not every dog is a good candidate for the pet therapy assistance program.

"It takes a special dog and owner to do pet therapy," Ferger said. "Success is based on temperament, not breed, and a lot has to do with the training the dog receives. The biggest problem we find is some dogs are great with their owner but not with meeting a lot of new people."

Bea Raulerson, 81, and her friend Jean Cuffe, 96, stopped working on a puzzle when Hammar came over to visit them last week.

"We love to see the dog," Raulerson said. "He's so pretty and he is really good around people."

Certified nursing assistant Vivian Johnson said Hammar's weekly visits to the adult care center are uplifting to the roughly 50 people who visit the facility weekly. "It is an absolute delight to have Hammar and Jude here," Johnson said."You should see the smiles on our clients' faces when they hear his collar jingling when he comes in on Friday. It's priceless."

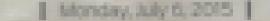
The volunteer award from the Senior Resource Association took Carole by surprise.

"I was really choked-up about the award," Carole said. "It is a great honor and I truly get as much out of our visits as the people do. This is a real win-win."

1st Graduation







STARS FOR SERVICE DOGS

Dogs for Life holds assistance dog graduation

In Gappy Press

Dogs For Life Inc., held its first graduation ceremony at the DFL Administrative & Testning Center, which opened last July at 1250 titls Avenue, Vero Jicsch.

"We are thrilled to have had so many distinguished guests on hand to help us celebrais" mid-Shelly Rerger, DFL founder and CEO.

Hearing, dogs are trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, the phone ringing, an alarm clock and the serois alarm.

Other sounds can be trained as needed. Service days are tenteed to assist their owners with balancing on their feet picking up iterator topping a 70. 5.9 centergency phone.

Survice dogs can also be trained to holp someone with the crfects of post-traumatic stress, much as waking from a nightmass, cresting subtle barriers in and bring her to full public access bearing dog status.

Norine Goody and Kelly started training last Jurse. The ceremony marked Norine and Kelly's ist year recurtification.

NAMES - LAT TREASURE COAST MEANINGPER

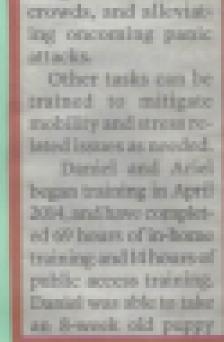
If you want, you may ask about their dogstraining, but please do not pet their dogs as this distracts them from their work.

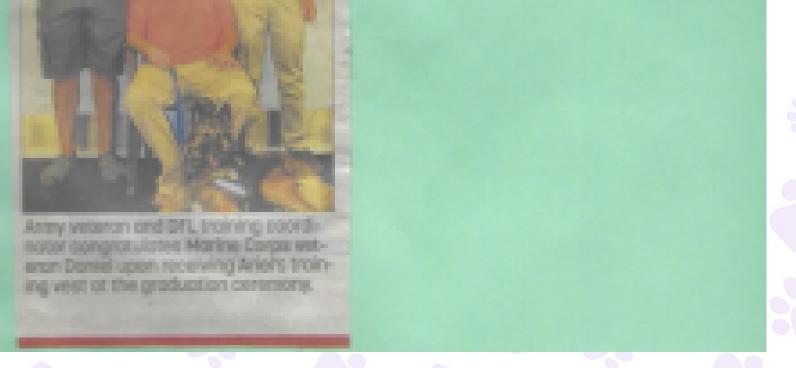




John Schumoni, Jr., with DFL President Eleanar Bangyak, Vice President Kothi Schumonn, and hearing dog team Joan Presman and Dolivy.







VETERAN VOICE + JULY 9, 2015

K-9 from page 2

sistance Dogs International to graduate the DFL Assistance Dog Training Program with honors.

(Editor's note: Votrobek and Ariel have been featured before in Veteran Voice.)

They will now be seen around town with their assistance dogs. If you want, you may ask about their dog's training, but please do not pet their dogs as this distracts them from their work.

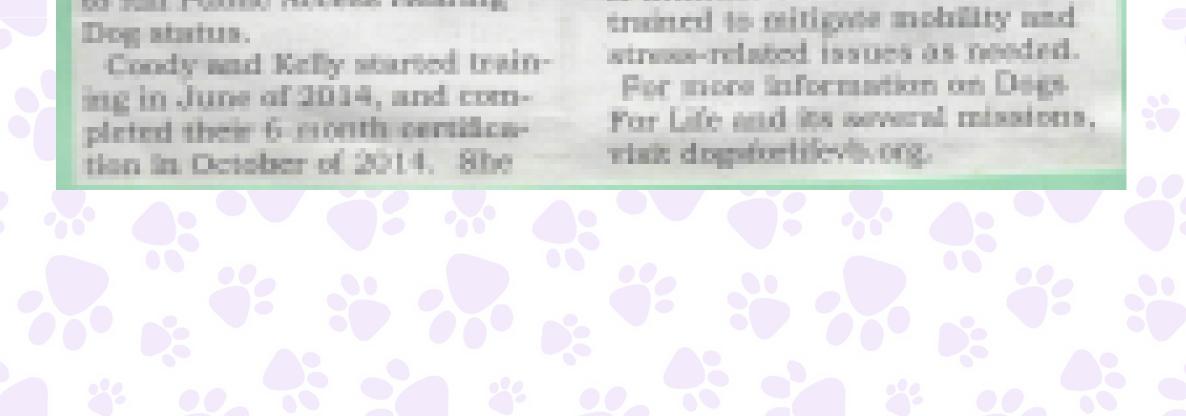
Votrobek and Ariel began training in April of 2014, and have completed 69 hours of In-Home Training and 14 hours of Public Access Training.

Votrobek was able to take an 8-week-old puppy and bring her to full Public Access Hearing was instrumental in helping to train her second hearing dog with DFL. The ceremony marked here and Kally's first-year Re-Certification.

Hearing dogs are trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, the phone ringing, an alarm clock and a smoke alarm. Other sounds can be trained as needed.

Bervice dogs are trained to assist their owners with balancing on their fest, picking up items or tapping a 911 K-9 emergency phone.

Service dogs chn also be trained to help someone with the effects of post-traumatic stress, such as waking from a nightmare, creating subtle barriors in crossds, and alleviating oncoming panic attacks. Other tasks can be



Fake Service Animal

Fake service animal law to take effect

Law

A new Florida law taking effect July 1 will make it a misdemeanor to pass off an unqualified pet as a service animal.

The law, proposed by state Rep. Jimmie Smith, R-Inverness, will make misrepresenting a dog as a service dog a seconddegree misdemeanor. The offense is punishable with up to 60 days in jail and 30 hours of community service for an organization that services people with disabilities, to be completed in less than six months.

The law will also make it illegal to deny accommodations to or discriminate against anyone accompanied by a service animal, which the law defines as dogs or miniature horses.

Nick Kutsukos, who has been training service dogs for more than 20 years and owns Elite K-9 Academy in Jupiter, said the law was

long or "Th certifi "Peopl and si their d The Disabi says s may w or harm tificati ask for provid the dis likely t

long overdue. "There's no national certification," he said. "People buy vests online and sign a waiver saying their dog is trained." The Americans with Disabilities Act's website says some service dogs may wear special collars or harnesses and have certifications, but no one may ask for documentation to provide services because the disabled person is unlikely to have it with them.



Vero Beach Dog Park

BRIGHT LIGHTS & RED CARPETS

Indian River County with Tania Ortega-Cowan

Doggie Heaven in Vero Beach

Stroll into the Vero Beach Dog Park and you will uncloubtedly be welcomed by happy dogs with tails wagging. Walk around, sit on a bench, and enjoy the shade.

Look around and notice random holes dog in the dirt as well as beautifully painted fire hydrants. This is Doggie Heaven and you can find it at 3449 Indian River East, one block north of the Merrill Barber Bridge along the Indian River Lagoon.

Dogsofallsizes are welcome in this 5 acres of fenced green space.

"We want people to know that it is here and itisfor everybody," says **Phil Reid.** "It is not just for dogowners. It is for everybody! It is a mazing how many people come out here that just want to watch the dogs."

The founder of the Vero Beach Dog Park is Jim Welles.

He adds, "In our mission, we state we are as much a people's park as a dog park. We have people in their 90's coming here to enjoy the space and the fun. Young families come just to see the dogs. We are now a dog friendly town?"

Jim worked tirelessly for five years to start the dog park, approaching the City Council and Recreation Department with his idea, rallying the community to sign petitions, and commissioning professionals to help him put together a workable proposal.

In April 2014, the city agreed to allo-year lease and his dreambecame availity: Veros only free, fenced, off-leash dog park was established!

"Something else that is very important for people to know is that we are a 50k3 non-profit organization that operates strictly on donations. We do not receive any government funding at all. The Cityle as edus the land and we have made all the improvements and we operate at our own expense. Fortunately Vero Beach is agenerous, kind-hearted place so we are able to doit with private funds."

Connie Keiser explains, "We planted trees, and we installed sunshades, benches and water fountains, all on donations?"

Jill Jones got the ideato have a secure donation box installed. "This is a convenient way for the average person that is passionate about the park to give back. So maybe instead of a cup of coffee you can give a dollar and support the dog park. Our donation box is a secure lock box that is actually used at banks. There are envelopes there and you can place your donation in securely. It is collected daily. We plan to install a second one as soon as we have the funds."

Longtime Vero Beach resident Mary MargaretMcQueensays, "Iloveeveryminute ofit.It's awonderful place to be. The boaters who stay at Marina are so delighted too!"

Jimagrees, "We have had people move here tell us the deciding factor was that we have a dog park."

Phil says, "In the last year maybe 10 or 12 people have told me that a big part of their decision to buy a home in Vero Beach was the fact that the dog park was sonice. We expect realitor donations," he jokes.

Another way to support the park is to buy an inscribed brickpaver. Learnmore at DogPark. org. You may also make donations at IRCommunityFoundation.com.



JUNE



Graduation

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject:

DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Saturday, June 27, 2015 12:26 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Hearing & Service Dog Graduation at DFL



Assistance Dog

Graduation Ceremony Well Attended And a Huge Success!

DFL held it's first Graduation Ceremony at the DFL Administrative & Training Center that opened in July 2014, at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach, Fl.

"We are thrilled to have had so many distinguished guests on hand to help us celebrate" said Shelly Ferger, DFL Founder and CEO.

Daniel with his hearing dog Ariel and Norine with her hearing & service dog Kelly, have completed all of the requirements of DFL and Assistance Dogs International to graduate the DFL Assistance Dog Training Program with honors.

They will now be seen around town with their assistance dogs. If you want, you may ask about their dogs training, but please do not pet their dogs as this distracts them from their work.

Daniel and Ariel began training in April of 2014, and have completed 69 hours of In-Home Training and 14 hours of Public Access Training. Daniel was able to take an 8 week old puppy and bring her to full Public Access Hearing Dog status.

Norine and Kelly started training in June of 2014, and

completed their 6 month certification in October of 2014. Norine was instrumental in helping to train her second hearing dog with DFL. The Ceremony marked Norine & Kelly's 1st year Re-Certification.

Hearing dogs are trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, the phone ringing, an alarm clock and the smoke alarm. Other sounds can be trained as needed. Service dogs are trained to assist their owners with balancing on their feet, picking up items or tapping a 911 K-9 emergency phone. Service dogs can also be trained to help someone with the effects of post traumatic stress, such as waking from a nightmare, creating subtle barriers in crowds, and alleviating oncoming panic attacks. Other tasks can be trained to mitigate mobility and stress related issues as needed.

For additional information call 772-567-8969.



CONGRADULATIONS DANIEL & NORINE DFL Graduating Teams: Daniel with Ariel and Norine with Kelly



Jay Harris, U.S. Army Veteran and DFL Training Coordinator poses with Daniel, US Marine Veteran and Guest Tony Young, President of the Veterans Council of Indian River County.





John Schumann, Jr. poses with DFL President Eleanor Bengyak and DFL Vice-President Kathi Schumann, and DFL Hearing Dog Team Joan Freeman and Daisy.

Forward this email

Find Us, Like Us, Share Us With Your Friends

Pet Assisted Therapy

DOGS FOR LIFE

Pet Assisted Therapy Volunteer Program / Facility Report

Pet: 2	Pet: Sunny - 10 lb. Maltese					na Hitzel Schubert
Date	Facility Visited	PAT-Booth-etc	# of people	Resident's Response	Animals Response	Comments
6/3/2015 Wed.	Harbor Chase Sommerset Vero Beach FL	PAT Point of Entry Presentation Edna, Sherry Sunny	approx 8 Group & individual rooms	receptive, comforted questioning On resident not responsive or welcoming	calm, gentle	Shelly brought attention that one resident held too tightlyadjusted Sunny showed slight sign of stress (yawned) when not comfortable on residents lap-adjusted one negative response from resident - not welcoming
6/17/2015 Wed	Harbor Chase Sommerset Vero Beach FL	PAT 2nd visit Edna & Sunny	approx 10 individual rooms hallway visit	receptive, comforted remembered Edna and Sunny	calmer no yawning or fidgeting Sunny was comfortable with the car ride - curious then slept	met with some new residents - questioning some not "lovers of dogs but were delighted with visit. Last visit with "negative" resident was more responsive and welcoming. Held conversation about Sunn but no "hands on"



Johns Island Grant

John's Island awards grant to Dogs For Life

By Shelly Ferger Your Newsweekly Contributor

A huge thank you goes out to the John's Island Foundation for the \$12,679.50 grant awarded to Dogs For Life for expanded handicapped accessibility in the Dog Park and outdoor training areas.

Since 1997, Dogs for Life has been working to improve the drainage throughout the property and now the John's Island Foundation grant will also help us complete this project.

"We are thrilled that all of our clients who use wheelchairs will have total access to the outdoor training areas," said Shelly Ferger, Dogs for Life Founder and CEO.

Eleanor Bengyak, Board President, added, "As the only Assistance Dog Training Center in the area accredited by Assistance Dogs International, we have specific standards we have to meet in order to maintain our accreditation. It is our goal to exceed the minimum standards and raise the bar because our clients deserve more than the minimum." Kathi Schumann, Board Vice President, stated,



Dogs for Life Training Center at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach.

"Since the Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center opened in July 2014, the number of local residents and Veterans enrolled in the Hearing and Service Dog Training Pro-

gram has doubled and we need to be able to efficiently and effectively use all the space we have, indoors and out. The John's Island Foundation is helping us do that." formation about Assistance Dog Training, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog Training, or Off-Leash Dog Park, please call 772-567-8969 or visit www.dogsforlifevb.org.



Dogs For Life, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training Assistance Dogs. For more in-

Daniel and Ariel

John's Island Foundation awards grant to Dogs For Life

Mary Kemper STAFF WRITER mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

A huge thank you goes out to the John's Island Foundation for their \$12,679.50 grant awarded to Dogs For Life Inc., Vero Beach. This funding will provide expanded handicapped accessibility in the Dog Park as well as the outdoor training areas.

This generous grant will also help complete the drainage project throughout the DFL property.

Since 1997, DFL has been working to improve the drainage throughout the property and now the John's Island Foundation is going to help us complete this project. "We are thrilled that all of our clients who use wheelchairs will have total access to the outdoor training areas," said Shelly Ferger, DFL founder and CEO. "Thanks to the John's Island Foundation, this 8-year-long drainage project will be finished." Eleanor Bengyak, DFL's board p,resident added "As the only Assistance Dog Training Center in the area accredited by Assistance Dogs International, we have specific standards we have to meet in order to maintain our accreditation. It is our goal to exceed the minimum standards and raise the bar because our clients deserve more than the minimum.

See GRANT page 4

GRANT from page 3

"We are proud and honored that the John's Island Foundation is

confident in our organization, and we look forward to sharing with them the results of their investment."

Kathi Schumann, DFL's board vice president, said, "Since the Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center opened in July 2014, the number of local residents and veterans enrolled in the Hearing and Service Dog Training Program has doubled, and we need to be able to efficiently and effectively use all the space we have, indoors and out. The John's Island Foundation is helping us do that." Dogs For Life, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training Assistance Dogs.

For more information about DFL's Assistance Dog Training, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog Training, or Off-Leash Dog Park contact Ferger at (772) 567-8969 or visit the website at www.dogsforlifevb.org.

Articles

Florida veterans population growing

Patrick McCallister FOR VETERAN VOICE

patrick.mccallister@yahoo.com

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently released its 2014 Geographic Distribution of Expenditures. The annual document helps the Florida Department of Veterans Affairs and others know where the veterans are.

"The numbers look good for Florida," Steve Murray, communications director at the state veterans department, said "We're only about 100,000 below Texas. We may bump up ahead of Texas here in a few years."

Which would put Florida in the silver for total veterans.

From 2013 to 2014 Florida went from about 1.52 million veterans to 1.58, gaining about 63,000. Nationally, there was a slight increase, from 21,882,153 to 21,894,286, about 12,000 more. Texas picked up about 12,700 veterans, going from 1,667,740 to 1.680,418 veterans.

California has the most veterans of any state in the nation, about 1.8 million. Florida, Texas and California are the only three states with more than a million

veterans. New York lost its status as a million-veteran state a couple years ago.

Duval County claims the largest number of veterans in Florida, with about 98,860. Hillsborough comes in with the second most veterans in the Sunshine State, 94,500. There are 22 counties with more than 25,000 veterans and 11 counties with more than 50,000. Liberty County has the smallest number of veterans, 665. It is one of only two counties with fewer than 1,000 veterans.

In the Veteran Voice coverage area, Brevard County has the most veterans, 67,060. Heading south, Indian River has slightly more than 15,200. St. Lucie has slightly more than 24,100. Martin just more than 15,000.

While there was a slight uptick in the number of veterans from 2013 to 2014, the population is reducing. The population decreased about 17 percent from 2000 to 2014. The veterans population is projected to decline to fewer than 14 million within the next three decades. At the same time, the American population is growing. The Census Bureau projects that there'll be about 400 million by 2050, up from

about 320 million today. In other words, veterans are in the next 30 years going to drop from about 7 percent of the population to 3.5 percent.

Nevertheless, the Florida Legislature sent a message during its 2014 session - the state wants veterans. The House and Senate unanimously adopted the Florida GI Bill last year, and Gov. Rick Scott - a Navy veteran - signed it not long after. The Florida GI Bill was omnibus legislation that combined numerous militaryand veterans-related bills, but creation of Florida is for Veterans

 now called Veterans Florida - was its core. It was fitted into the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, but is acting largely autonomously.

The state-created not-for-profit got \$300,000 from Visit Florida for market research on the veteran and military community and to advise Visit Florida in the development and implementation of a marketing campaign encouraging veterans and service members to make Florida their permanent residence." And Visit Florida is directed to use \$1 million annually to do that marketing campaign.

6 • JUNE 11, 2015 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Makeover proceeds apace on Brevard Corsair



18A » Sunday, June 21, 2015 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS »

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY



Dogs For Life

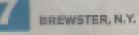
SAM WOLFE/TREASURE COAST NEW SPAPERS

IC.

Daniel Votrovek (left), of Vero Beach, who spent four years in the Marines, was one of two recipients to receive service dogs from Dogs For Life on Saturday afternoon. "She's helped me just as far as getting up off the couch and doing stuff with my life again," said Votrovek, who suffers from hearing loss and post-traumatic stress disorder. In addition to his dog, Ariel, graduating as a service animal, Votrovek and three other veterans also were presented with a hand-stitched quilt by members of the Quilts of Valor Foundation. Also graduating during the event was Kelly, a service dog for Norine Coody of Vero Beach. To see more photos, visit



HONOLULU PAPER





Staff photo by Mary Kemper Veteran Daniel Votrobek, Vero Beach, and his service dog, Ariel, stand outside Dogs For Life Inc., Vero Beach. Votrobek is just one of many veterans whom DFL has assisted with service-dog training since it started.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEDI

A service dog threw himself in front of a school bus to try to protect his blind owner and stayed by her side as emergency responders tended to the injured pair, authorities said. Both Figo, the golden retriever, and his owner, Audrey Stone, were on the mend Tuesday, a day after the collision in Brewster, N.Y. "The dog took a lot of the blow," Brewster Police Chief John Del Gardo said. "And he did not want to leave her side. He stood right with her. He was there to save her."

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject:

judecarole@comcast.net Friday, June 19, 2015 1:53 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net May PAT report.

Yikes. So sorry this is so late. I had NY company and "life" got in the way too so I apologize for not getting this to you on time. Not that anything has changed. Group is getting smaller and smaller and the staff has all changed. The original aids are gone, Mary, Amy and the rest are gone as well. The new clients are beginning to bond with Hammar. He still has a few favorites that go and they're explaining to the others what he does, how cute he is (how can ya not notice?????) etc. One of my girlfriends who visited me in May I brought to DFL to show her the facility. She was VERY impressed! I was very proud to be a small part of all you've accomplished. It's dead as a door knob in Vero now that summer is here. Actually, summer has been here ALL YEAR Heat is just awful. Ham goes for his yearly shots on Thursday. I'll fwd. his shot record for his file. I haven't told him yet. Just dropping him off for his usual groom and then they'll surprise him with the needles! I can't bare to watch so I just drop him off and pick him up when it's "all over" He ate my girlfriends \$400 pair of shoes within 20 minutes of her visit. Her wifi charger, silk underwear, a stick of butter, dinner rolls and attempted a garganzol salad which he apparently didn't like. All because my friend bonded with Sally Ride, the hound from hell. Here I'd been bragging on him being a highly trained PAT dog and he blew it! He was insane with jealousy because Sally for once in her life got all the attention. I think he needs a tune up in the attitude department. He thinks it's always all about HIM! Little creep. Again, sorry for not getting this to you on the first. Since the shoes I doubt anyone will visit me again for a few years so I'll be more timely in my reports from now on now that I don't have any friends left. I did ask my friend when she'd visit us again and she asked me "how long do Doxies live" Guess that tells me her answer. She mentioned the Rainbow Bridge. I covered

Hammars ears on that snarky comment....Love ya girl and as always, thanks for the opportunity to serve! xxx

RANGER POZIOMEK

n June, 2015, a large but undernourished black dog was picked up by Animal Control and brought to the Humane Society shelter. Mark Poziomek had just lost a dog he had loved for 16 years, and when he heard about the big black dog he came to the shelter to see him.

Mark and his wife Lisa decided to add the nameless canine to their family, which already included three cats, a stray and two adopted from the Humane Society. Mark recalls that the new dog, who was about a year old, was skin and bones and had bad teeth. With good food, lovingly cooked by the Poziomeks, he developed into the 90-pound family member with good teeth now named Ranger.

Ranger is currently in training at Dogs for Life to become a service dog. As a service dog he will provide needed assistance to Mark, who has a balance impairment and depends on Ranger for support.

Ranger has also learned how to swim; his first time in the water was a challenge but now he does just great! A recent photo of Ranger practicing his new swimming skills won first prize in Vero Vines Best Dog Photo Contest.



Ranger and Mark Poziomek

Go Ranger! 🏘

Editor's note: If you have adopted from the Humane Society and would like us to publish your pet's story, please contact Joan Patota at regpat1@msn.com.

HUMANE SOCIETY OF VERO BEACH & INDIAN RIVER COUNTY



Separate areas for: Large Dogs/Small Dogs Training/Transition Memorial Garden & Pavilion

All dogs screened for temperament, all dogs inoculated, neutered & social

Summer Membership Special only \$50/6 MONTHS

Join the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park and enjoy recreation with your dog while supporting a non-profit organization that trains hearing & service dogs for the community including local military veterans

> **OBEDIENCE 8** BEHAVIOR TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

THANK FOR BEST DOG PARK

4 Acre property located at 1230 16th Avenue.

Mature Oak Trees, winding trails, water fountains, chairs & benches.

Free membership for Military Veterans & Assistance Dogs

- Scholarship Memberships available
- Soon to be installed, lights for use after dark



DFL Announces



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training &





Youth Guidance Excel Club



Youth Guidance Excel Club Pathfinders





Armed Forces Week Open House

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject:

DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Friday, May 08, 2015 4:52 PM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Armed Forces Week Celebrated at DFL

Be sure and visit the DFL Booth and Service Dog Teams on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 16th at the Victory Center in the Indian River Mall 11-12:30.



Mon - Fri 9 - 4

Armed Forces Week At DFL

Open House at DFL

In honor of Armed Forces Week DFL will hold an about training for Assistance Dogs for Veterans.

week to answer questions from the public.

please call ahead to make sure we're "covered".

Tours will be offered Monday, May 11 through Friday, May 15, from 9 AM - 4 PM, at the DFL Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center, located at 1230 16th Avenue in Vero Beach.



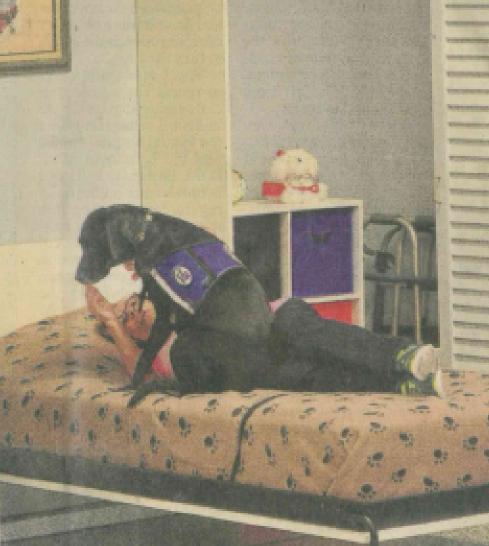
Articles



Tuesday, May 12, 2015

New leash on life





UNIC RASEWY TREASURE DOAST NOT AND THE

"It's very important. If I'm in my bedroom or bathroom and someone knocks on the door, she comes and gets me, and the same with the telephone," said Norine Coody (right) about her service dog. Kelly, after a fire alarm drill monitored by trainer and Army veteran Jay Harris (left) at Dogs For Affe. Coody, who has hearing loss, was led by Kelly to an exit door during the drill. "It's important so I can live normally," Coody said. Dogs For Life. An assistance dog training organization in Vero Beach, is celebrating Armed Forces Week through Friday with an open house for all area veterals. The facility certifies service dogs for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as for those with hearing loss and mobility issues. Call 772-567-8969 or visit www.dogsforlifevb.org for more information. To see more photos, go to **TCPalm.com**.

LU = LUMINARIES & SCRIPPS NICHE PUBLICATIONS & Week of May 25, 2015

STAR DOGS

Indian River County

Dogs for Life helps veterans

For Luminores

Shelly Ferger, founder of Dogs for Life in Vero Beach, trains service dogs for veterans, many of whom suffer from post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and hearing loss.

"We found out when we started working with veterans that they are really committed to helping each other," says Shelly. "We train one team (human and dog) and they come back and become trainers," Shelly explains.

Service dogs for veterans are specially trained to assist veterans with specific challenges, including spinal cord/head trauma, visual or hearing deficits, arthritis, ataxia/poor balance, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, spinal bifida, seizure disorders, and psychiatric disabilities.

PTSD tasks the dogs perform range from searching a home before entering and looking both ways before entering a room, to watching the owner's back and creating a barrier to stop people approaching if it makes the companion nervous.

Jay Harris is the group's first full time hired trainer. He served in the Army in Kuwait in 2007.

"The intuitive nature of the dogs is absolutely amazing," says Jay of histwo terriers. "If I am feeling a little stressed out they come up and bump me and give me a little lick. Hey, man, are you all right?' They learn to read humans and pick up on their needs." In 2009, Jay began giving regular obedience training to a pug named Pia Pia (pronounced Pay Pay), a rescue dog from H.A.L.O. The owner's husband, Jim Taylor, a retired Army combat veteran who served in Iraq. was suffering from PTSD and so Jay connected them with Shelly and Dogs for Life. Now with 700 hours of training, Pia Pia is dual certified to help Jim with hearing and PTSD.



Jim Taylor and Pia Pia demon strate making a 911 call on the telephone.



Tony & Shadow, Jay Harris, LA & Darrell, Jim Taylor & Pia Pia, and Bill & Lola

bound. But now with her in our life and all the training Shelly has done, I can go everywhere. Also when I have a bad nightmare she jumps on my chest and wakes me up."

Vietnam veteran Tony Santos brings his dog Shadow to Dogs for Life for training. The two often ride around the community together in a golf cart. "He has more friends than I do," says Tony. "But as soon as I grab that yest and he bends his head to get into it - he knows he is working. He is a completely different dog." Lola, a rescue from the Humane Society, has just begun training with Dogs for Life to help her new owner, Bill, a Vietnam veteran with difficulty hearing. Her training will center around the jingling of keys for cues. Learn more, get involved and make a donation at 772-567-8969 or visit DogsForLifeVB.org.

"Everywhere I go, she comes," says Jim, "Before Pia Pia, I was home



Friday, May 15, 2015

Right: Paula Bright gives Raymond a head scratch during Saturday's event.

Below: Steve Selzer and his apple head Chihuahua listen as the opening prayer is read.



SEBASTIAN – www.HometownNewsOL.com Hometown News



Pet blessing





The Wall

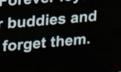


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	KING 8X87*	*KELLY 55A0	SMOKEY X817*	WOLF 7X03*	KEECHIE 14X7*	CAESAR 3A55*	SKIPPER 288M*	10
	CHASE 98X6*	BOOTSY 9X64*	BARON 1X33*	DUKE 409M*	RUSTY 6A97*	DUGAN X322*	*PEANUTS 3M56	
	KAISER UNK	DENO 7M28*	*HECTOR 4X06	STARK 071X	MIKE 4X64*	TIGER 9A34*	DUKE 461A*	R
	RINNY 185E*	KELLY UKN*	STORM 01M3*	MESA 103M*	TIGER 3A17	BRITTA 0X47*		CRY
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	TIGER 18A4	KING A642*	BUCK 7X74*	COUNTRY JOE	GRETCHN 3M32	ANZO 0H79*	SAM 76X2*	KAZA
	BRUNO 26X8*	HANNO 0H03*	HUSKY 48X4*	PRINCE 288A		BUMMER 9X58*	BLITZEN 0745*	BUDD
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In Memory

Of the Military Working Dogs that served this country both in peacetime, and times of war. These dogs were our faithfull companions. Forever loyal. They were our buddies and we will never forget them.

©JFL 13

DFL History

History







2001 Dogs For Life, Inc. filed for IRS 501(c)(3) Tax deductible status in August & September and the Florida Department of State Articles of Incorporation. 2002 501(c)(3) Status awarded on February.

MISSION STATEMENT: To train and certify qualifying as assistance dogs for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, and or and physically challenged. Provide training for pets and their owners for therapy visits to area nursing homes and children's facilities. Provide pet behavior information with a telephone hotline. Provide educational programs such as anti-dog bite, and providing dog behavior and obedience training for the general public and groups such as 4-H Dog Master's Club. Coordinate with local law enforcement and Emergency Response agencies on the legal rights of assistance dogs. To enlist donors, staff and volunteers who are interested in sharing mutual interest in assistance dogs and training in general dog welfare.



4-H Best-Friend's Off-leash Dog Park / Dog Park Club of Indian River

1997 The Indian River County 4-H Dog Master's Club, as a community service project, under the leadership of Shelly Ferger owner of Shelly's Canine Community Center and began raising funds toward Indian River County's first off-leash dog park.

1999 The Dog Park Club of Indian River, a non-profit organization, was formed to continue fundraising, development and management of the park. Over \$80,000 in donated funds and In-Kind donations were raised to build the dog park on 4 ½ acres of leased property at the corner of 12th St. & 16th Ave. Vero Beach.

2002 The Dog Park opened for membership.



2003 Dogs for Life, Inc. a tax-exempt non-profit organization adopted the Dog Park in July. The lease agreement ended in 2007. Membership fees: \$200 annually, second dog from the same household half price. Qualifying dogs must be inoculated, neutered, and social.

2007 The DFL Board of Directors agree to a Capital Campaign to purchase the 4 ½ acres of dog park property for \$275,000. Assessed value was \$450,000 and plans were made to build a DFL Assistance Dog Training Center with offices and restrooms.

2010 The dog park property was purchased by Dogs For Life, Inc.

2013 The goal of \$350,000 was reached through a \$100,000 matching grant to build the Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center. On January 11, 2014 a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the dog park with distinguished guest speakers.

In June DFL moved into the Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center located at 1230 16th Avenue. Shelly Ferger was hired as CEO and Director of Training Programs, Debbie Burton as Administrative Assistant and Katie Kowanic as Administrative & Fund Development Director. Contractors: Paula Via, Jason Harris and Patti Schell work part time for training, office and maintenance duties.

The Center is a hub of activities. Regular basic obedience classes are open to the public, assistance dogs are trained at the center on a weekly basis, the 4-H Dog Master's Club has re-started. The general public interest has increased 50% since June in all of DFL's programs.

An anonymous donor has donated 34 of the cost to operate the dog park for the next 2 years, the dog park orientation fee is lowered to a 1 x \$100 orientation fee, and The Eleanor Bengyak Legacy Society is established to help offset dog park operation costs in hopes that donations will continue to support the park forever.



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

November 8, A New DFL Logo is unveiled. The Logo with a Purple Heart is to help signify DFL's commitment to training service and hearing dogs for our Military Veterans.

A Matching \$100,000 Grant has been Awarded to DFL toward programs and operations for 2015. Current Account Balances: \$150,000 DFL's estimated Budget for 2015: \$250,000

STATISTICS

November 8, 2014

Assistance Dogs Trained	and the second se
Assistance Dogs Currently Supported	18
Assistance Dogs In Training	
Assistance Dogs For Veterans Trained	11
Pet-Assisted Therapy Facilities Visited	- 19
The state of the s	

Pet-Assisted Therapy Facilities Active ----- 12 Pet-Assisted Therapy Volunteers ----

2014 Budget \$85,000

2014 Budget \$35,000

Dog Park Users ----- 116 2014 Budget \$40,000 Actual number of dogs ----- 134 Assistance dogs / no charge ----- 15 Scholarship Program / no charge ----- 18 **Community Out Reach Program** 2014 Budget \$60,000 General Public Support / Public Training / 4-H Dog Club DFL Board of Directors ----- 8 / 4 Openings/Volunteers DFL Staff ----- 3 DFL Dog Part-Time Contractors ----- 3

Total 2014 Budget S220,000

Dogs For Life on Facebook



Assistance Dog, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dog, Companion Dog Training & Off-Leash Dog Park

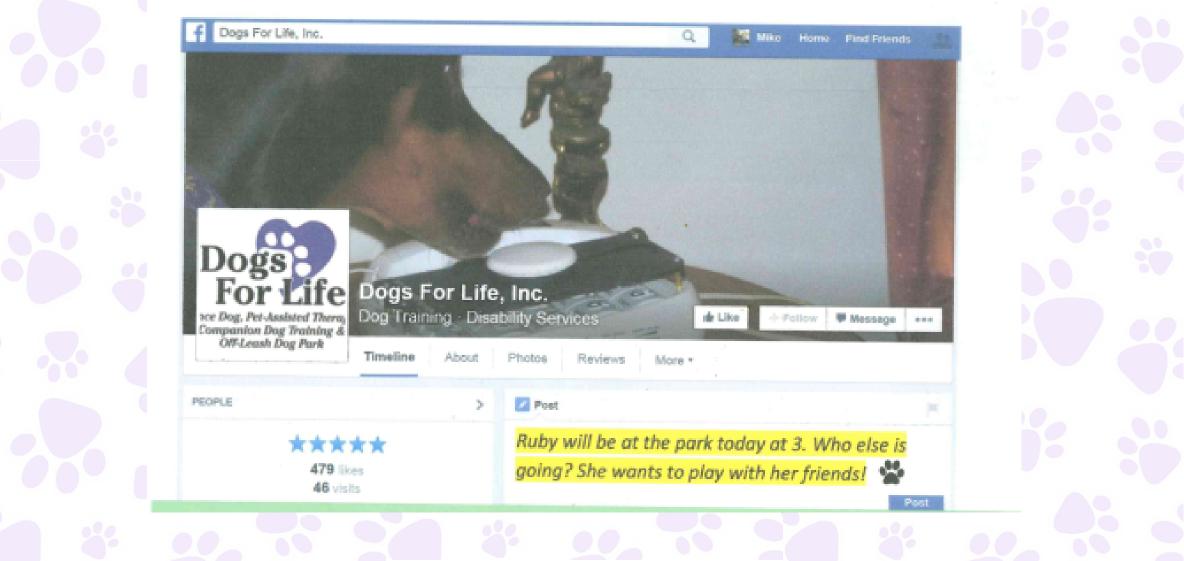


https://www.facebook.com/DFLVB

Find us, Like us, Share us with your Friends

Posting on Dogs For Life's Timeline

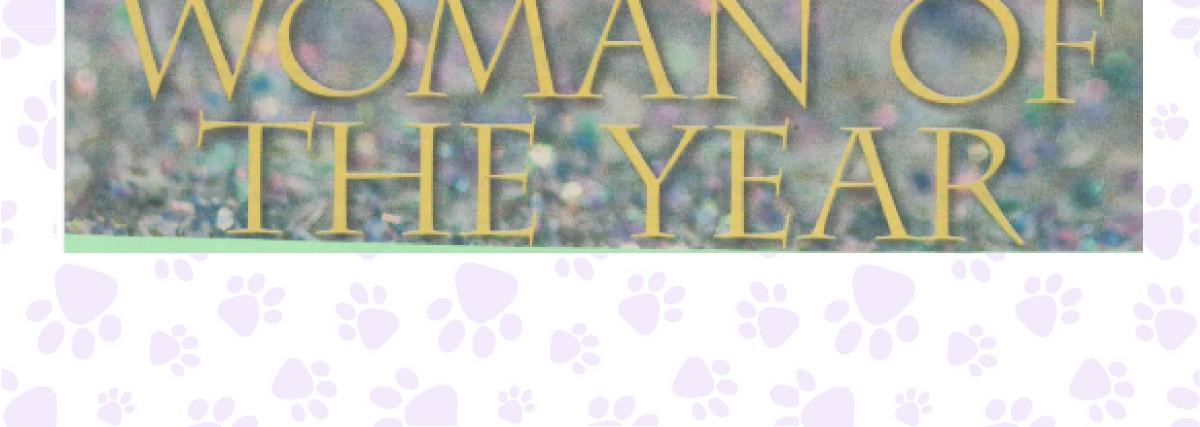
If you want to share something with DFL friends, you can post it directly on the Dogs For Life's Timeline. To do this, simply use the Publisher located on DFL's Timeline.



Woman of the Year

April 6, 2015

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF INDIAN RIVER





Congratulations to our 2015 Nominees

Join the Junior League of Indian River in honoring these remarkable women at a luncheon benefitting Junior League initiatives including Whole Child Indian River on

Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 11:30 am

Tickets \$100 per person

Available at www.womanoftheyear.info or by contacting Chrissy Stephens (772.907.9319 or cstephens@omnitaxhelp.com) by April 22, 2015 at noon. For more information about our nominees and the event, visit JLIR.org



Business/Professional



Onto New Perfit Performent

AMANDA VOICE

Rising Star.





TESSICA WOOD OricNon-Pade Padesional

NATALIE ZATZ

Rising Star

Volunteer

ELEABETH WOODY Ork/No-Ped/Poisson/



HELEN CROCKETT

Business/Professional



REJECCA EMDICAS

Business Professional

DEANNA BOWMAN

EMBY ARSONAULT Rising Star



TRACY CARROLL Volunteer

28 » Friday, April 10, 2015 » TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS » IC





SHERRI DAVIS Volunteer.



MICHELE FALLS

Volunteer



CAROL EANAREE Voluniorry

LIZ MAYO Volunteer







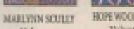


Oktion Rolt Periodeal

TRUDIE RAINONE

Volunteer Volunteer

JESSICA SCHMITT



HOPE WOODHOUSE Voluniere:

HEANOR DESIGNAL

Valuator:

Indian River County

Shelly-Great media coverage in this event! Every time & opened a paper there it was!





INCOMPANY NOR

Business Professional

DEVON CREASESTICIES.

Rising Star-



LORI McCORMICK-

Bestmen/Professional

CASSIDE LAPTON

Rising Star

Volunteer

MACKENZE MOORE

CINDY O'DARE

Instness/Professional

Rising Star-

MADELINE PARTON Rising Star

KIM PRADO

Basiness/Professional



















Somtimes twice. (LOL) Good for you -Penny

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 1216 21st Street • P.O. Box 2947 • Vero Beach, FL 32961 • Tel 772.567.3491 • Fax 772.778.3181 www.indianriverchamber.com + e-mail: info@indianriverchamber.com

The world is hugged by the faithful arms of volunteers.





We don't know what

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Thank of out

Park Improvements

Shelly Ferger

From: Sent: To: Subject: DOGS FOR LIFE, INC. <dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net> Friday, April 24, 2015 11:47 AM dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net Improvements Coming to the Off-Leash Dog Park



O Wed-Thurs

April 29 & 30, 2015

Attention Dog Park Friends

More Improvements Coming to the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park

You may have noticed the beautiful umbrellas, tables and chairs recently added to the dog park from very generous contributions restricted to these items. We are very grateful for these improvements to the park.

More improvements are coming to the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park beginning Wednesday, April 29th. East Coast Tree Company will be in the park April 29th and 30th to lift and thin 84 trees on the four acre property. It is our goal and East Coast Tree Company's to make sure adequate areas of the park remain open for off-leash use during this time.

Please be mindful of the work and where it is being conducted. Safety is always a priority for you and your dog and while we want to make sure there is a place to take our four legged friends during the work, if you see the workers coming into an area where you are, please leash your dog and move to another section of the park.

See below for more news...









Dog Park Drainage Project to be completed

Dogs For Life with a grant to

Foundation has awarded

complete the 8 year long

pathway from behind the

small dog area through the

Stay tuned for start dates.

The John's Island

drainage project. In

addition, we will be

connecting the shell

training area.

Pardon Our Mess As We "Shed"

Thanks to a very generous contribution, the old DFL storage shed will be "blown down" and a new, larger, hurricane rated shed will be installed in the very near future.

More information to come.

DFL T-Shirts will be Available for Purchase

Several people have asked to purchase DFL T-Shirts. They are on order through a local vendor and will be available in the next week or two. If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact the office at 772-567-8969.

Forward this em

Find Us, Like Us, Share Us With Your Friends

Articles

14A & Monday, April 13, 2015 & TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS *

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Community Calendar



Quarter Auction American Legion Auxiliary Sebastian: ALA Quarter Auction Sponsoring Dogs for Life. 6 p.m. April 13, American Legion Post 189, 807 Louisiana Ave., Sebastian, Ages: 18+, 772-882-7352; Avondaisy44@ aol.com. | Wednesday, April 22, 2015 | YOUR NEWSWEIKLY | INDIAN RIVER COUNTY | TREASURE COAST NEWSPIPERS

Good For You

Exchange Club 'Champions for Charity' donates to Dogs for Life

By Joseph Walsh Your Newsweekly Contributor

The Exchange Club of the Treasure Coast first Champions for Charity Golf donated \$500 to Dogs For Life.

Dogs For Life specializes in training Hearing Dogs, Mobility Assistance Dogs, and Service Dogs for Veterans to assist with hearing and mobility challenges, as well as the effects of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

This donation was made possible through the participation of all

Things To Do

the golfers and sponsors of the first annual Champions for Charity Golf Tournament.

Exchange Club of the Treasure Coast meets the first and third Thursdays at noon at Culinary Capers, 737 22nd Street in Vero Beach. For more information please visit TCExchangeclub.org. Members donate time and money to organizations that help support our four pillars: Prevention of Child Abuse, Americanism, Community Service and Youth Programs.



Cindy Jewett, Sam LaFevers, Dogs For Life President Shelly Ferger, veteran Jim Taylor, and his service dog, Pia Pia.

6 » Wednesday, April 1, 2015 » YOUR NEWSWEEKLY » INDIAN RIVER COUNTY » SCRIPPS TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

American Legion Auxiliary quarter auction is April 13

By Gayle Selfert Your Newsweekly Contributor

American Legion Auxiliary Quarter Auction is Monday, April 13, at 6 p.m., at American Legion Post Come join us for a night of fun, raffles, 50/50. Bring \$2 for paddle rental and quarters.



189, 807 Louisiana Ave., Sebastian.

This month we are sponsoring Dogs for Life. This group trains dogs to improve quality of life for people facing various challenges, including service dogs for veterans with hearing and/or mobility impairment, as well as PTSD issues.

Come join us for a night of fun, raffles, 50/50. Bring \$2 for paddle rental and quarters. Must be at least 18-years-older to attend (no exceptions).

Vendor booths will feature products and services from A Hidden Oasis Spa, A alchemy Treasurz, Avon, Beauty Control, Cruise Planners, Damsel in Defense, Dorothy Leggett, Dove Chocolates, Everything Ecuadorian, Jamberry Nails, Mary Kay, Our Hearts Desire, Pampered Chef, Thirty One, Tupperware, Whimsical Designs and others.

American Legion kltchen crew will be selling burgers, hot dogs, fries, salads, dessert etc. for a nominal fee.

For information contact: Daisy Williams 772-882-7352 avondaisy44@aol. com Or Mori Serpa 772-633-9914 mori44@aol.com

Veteran Voice writer given award from Dogs For Life

Mary Kemper Domotion mkemper(trateranoiceweekdy.com

On March 28, I was privileged and honored to receive an Excollence in Journalism sward from a group I've come to care very deeply about — Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, which, among other missions, connects disabled veterana with service dogs, and trains them to live fuller and more productive lives.

The training Dogs For Life offers veterans — at no charge — is phenomenal.

One story I wrote concerned a veteran whose ability to walk was becoming more and more diminished, so his dog was being trained to alert him to people at the front door, pick up dropped items and dial a special 911 emergency phone, among other things.

Another story concerned a veteran whose hearing was steadily going south, so his dog was being trained to alert not only to the front door, but also smoke alarma and similar events.

Part of that training involved a visit to a Vero Beach entery, which uses real-world situations to make training most effective.



Photo courtesy of Dags For Life

Many Kemper, left, a staff writer for Meteron Voice, receives as Excellence in Journalism event from Dogs For Life founder and CED Shelly Ferger at its Vero Beach administration facility March 28.

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Band. Band. Band. April 25 - 11 a.m., opening commences, measing of the colcommences, measing of the colcor, helicoptur landing from 11 a.m. to 2.500 p.m., music by The Copuy The Heliday and Two of Diamonday. J. p.m., music by The Copuy Bain at the main stage arm, 3.30-5 min.

True Progs, The Last Chance



VETERAN VOICE + THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE + APRIL 2, 2015 + 7

What Dogs For Life does goes way beyond helpful. They're helping vetarans get their lives back. You just can't put a price tag on that — and they don't, which is even more amazing.

understatement.

Since Dogs For Life's beginning in 1997 as a 4-H community service project - resulting in bottom

Oh, and I forget to mention a story on farmer Army Sgt. Jay Harris, who has just recently been hired as a trainer full-time from his former contract status. I'll never forget my enjoyable interview at his Vero Beach home. with his "passe" of four dogs who bear such ranks as "general" and "secretary of state." The rest of the staff, and board of director members, are one and all lovely people who bring a wealth of experience to their jobs. Shelly paid tribute to them as well at the coversory. This includes Debbie Burton, administrative assistant; Katie Kowanic, administrative and fund development director; training, office and maintenance contractors Paul Viaand Patti Schell, and of course, Jay.

Let me give you an idea of the scale of assistance Dogs For Life offers - it's not just helping. veterana. Additionally, they train and certify assistance dogs for anyone with a disability; provide training for pets and their owners for therapy visits to nursing homes, mental health and children's facilities; provide pet behavior information, a telephone hotline and education programs lifer anti-dog bits, dog behavior and obedience training for the general public; and coordinate with law enforcement, emergenty response organizations and buninesses on the legal rights of assistance dogs - and run the off-leash dog park for its 140 users and their 145 dogs [as of this monthi. Dogs For Life's annual budget runs well into the six figures to cover all the services they offer. Please consider sending a denation their way at degeforightb. org. While you're there, take a look around and find out all the vorsierful things they do. Or, you can give them a cell at (772) 567-8969, or email them at dags for the ababa for a south net.

See AWARD page 7

Watching veterents and their dogs train is a treat. You can see and feel the bond between them, which goes so much deeper than ordinary owners and dogs. They depend on each other, as well as love each other.

PTSD sufferers can also learn to

things, to "secure perimeters" and

cope with life's challenges. Their

dogs are trained, among other

brace themselves against their

owners during anxiety attacks.

AWARD from page 6

It fills me with happiness to know these wonderful yets, who've given so much, get so much back from their dogs, who only want love in return.

What Dogs For Life does goes way beyond helpful. They're helping veterans get their lives back. You just can't put a price tag on that — and they don't, which is even more amaging.

In honor of veterans, Doga For Life changed its logo color to purple recently, as a tribute to wounded warriors.

They say an organization is only as good as its manager, and Shtily Forger is as good as they come.

To call Shally - founder and CEO - "energetic" is a laughable River County's first off-leash dog park — to today's full-service dog park and training facility. Shelly has been the driving force. She has been absolutely tireless in seeking (and getting) donations for what became a massive project, frustrating at times, but ultimately rewarding — all the while doing administrative tasks, overseeing building, overseeing staff and somehow squeesing in dog training, her real passion and forts.

Her bridge tournament fundraisers are always a success, and what fun I had at this past year's "How)-O-Ween" event with my little dog Pixyl Close to 100 costumed owners and pooches went on parada, and some of the outfits were just out-there awesome. (I swore I'd never be one of "those people" who foo-foo their dogs like that. Oh, well — it's just plain fun, so, as the saying goes, call the copsil

I wasn't the only award-winner, either. Others received recognition for all the help they've given to Dogs For Life in different ways. Frenkly, I didn't feel I deserved any recognition — It's sheer pleasure to write about them. It's I who should give them an award.

Mary Kemper is a staff writer for Veteran Voice.

EVENTS

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 VERO BEACH - INDIAN RIVER NEWSWEEKLY

CONTENTS PREPARED BY SCRUPPS TREASURE COAST NICHE DEPARTMENT

VERO BEACH - INDIAL

EVENTS

More than a best friend

Dogs for Life recognizes those that improve the lives of humans who might need a helping paw

By Fran Foster The Newsweekly

Watching the dogs of every size, age and breed cavorting at the Dogs for Life off-leash dog park is sure to bring a smile.

But there is much more happening at the facila nonprofit organization founded and run by CEO Shelly Ferger, is changing lives for many in Indian

at the Assistance Dog tive Center to celebrate the people and animals who improve the quality of life for individuals by and pet-assisted therapy dogs, as well as providing basic obedience classes and a safe, clean off-leash

animals and the effects they have on people motivates her devotion to our veteran program.

"Without her contribution to furnish the training facility and office, we couldn't have opened our doors in 2013," said Ferger. She also pointed out that Schumann chal-

She went on to explain how part of DFL's training entails working with pets to convert them into service dogs for their owners.





Duke, Darel and Mitzi enjoy some play time before going

she said.

FRIEND

16V

board president Eleanor Bengyak was awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award at the reception.

from 15

She is carrying on the philanthropic work of her late husband Victor. who created the Legacy Society.

His charity began by making gifts to DFL to help fund and support the dog park so his DFL-

trained service dog Mitzi would always have a place to run.

Mitzi is now being trained to assist Eleanor as a service dog, illustrating just how complex and rewarding the relationship can be between a person and his or her best friend.

For more information, visit Dogs For Life, Inc. at 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach, Call 772-567-8969 or visit their website at www.dogsforlifevb.org.





Shelly Ferger, center, presented Jeff and Suzy Gomez from Coast to Coast Landscaping with the Corporate Philanthro-





Shelly Ferger with Individual Philanthropist Award winner Kathi G. Schumann











Legal Rights of Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs 1 Service Dogs



ylor, SSG, U.S. Army (Ret.) 4 War Veteran and his



Dogs For Life



MARCH



Annual Meeting





THESCENE



Individual Philanthropist, Kathi G. Schumann



Digital Media, Preston Orrick



Volunteer of the Year, Eleanor Bengyak



Digital Media, Sharon Morgan

Donors And Volunteers Are Celebrated

March 28: Dogs For Life Inc. celebrated those who helped ensure the fulfillment of their mission in 2014 at the annual Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Awards at the Dogs For Life Administrative & Assistance Dog Training Center. "We look forward to this event each year, It gives us the opportunity to express our gratitude to our donors and volunteers," stated Shelly Ferger, founder and CEO. Board president Eleanor Bengyak added, "The number of clients we are working with to become Certified Hearing Service Dogs has doubled in the last few months. So far, we have been able to keep up with the demand, but only because of the donations and volunteer work that goes into each client. These specially trained dogs perform tasks by assisting with medical and lifecoping situations for people right here in our community. including our military veterans, law enforcement officers and first responders."

Recipients of this year's Donor and Volunteer Awards: Assistance Dog Team: L.A. Bykowsky and K-9 Darel Volunteer of the Year: Eleanor M. Bengyak Journalism Award: Mary Kemper, Veteran Voice Digital Media Award: Sharon Morgan Digital Media Award: Preston Orrick Pet-Assisted Therapy Team: Ana Montoya & Oslo Individual Philanthropist: Kathi G. Schumann Corporate Philanthropist: Jeff and Suzy Gomez, Coast to Coast Landscaping





Corporate Philanthropists, Suzy and Jeff Gomez

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Pet-Assisted Therapy Team, Ana Montoya and Oslo Journalism Award, Mary Kemper Assistance Dog Team, L.A. Bykowsky

2014 Donor and Volunteer Award Recipients

Assistance Dog Team

L. A. Bykowsky & K-9 Darel

Volunteer of the Year

Media Awards

Eleanor M. Bengyak

Journalism Award ~ Mary Kemper, Veteran Voice Digital Media Award ~ Sharon Morgan Digital Media Award ~ Preston Orrick

Pet-Assisted Therapy Team

Individual Philanthropist

Kathi G. Schumann

Ana Montoya & Oslo

Corporate Philanthropist

Jeff & Suzy Gomez, Coast to Coast Landscaping

Please join us for our 2014 Donor & Volunteer Appreciation Awards Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.

Dogs For Life, Inc. Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center 1230 16th Avenue,Vero Beach, Florida

Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to 567-8969 or dogsforlifevb@bellsouth.net

Dogs For Life celebrates donors and volunteers

by Mark Schumann • Community News NEWS RELEASE



(https://indianrivertoday.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/dogs-for-life-logo.jpg)Dogs For Life, Inc. will celebrate the donors and volunteers who helped ensure the fulfillment of the mission of the organization in 2014 at an event to be held March 28 at 11 a.m. "We look forward to this event and having the opportunity to express

our gratitude to our donors and volunteers. Dogs For Life has so much to be grateful for. It is our donors and volunteers who have made it possible for us to be working with so many clients today," stated Shelly Ferger, Founder & CEO.

Board President, Eleanor Bengyak added "The number of clients we are working with to become Certified Hearing/Service Dogs has doubled in the last few months. So far, we have been able to keep up with the demand, but only because of the donations and volunteer work that goes into each client. Each dog mitigates the challenges to their owner from mobility or hearing loss or post-traumatic stress.

These specially trained dogs perform tasks by assisting with medical and life coping situations for people right here in our community, including our military veterans, law enforcement officers and first responders.

Dogs For Life is proud to announce the Recipients of this year's Donor and Volunteer Awards:

Assistance Dog Team – L. A. Bykowsky & K-9 Darel

Volunteer of the Year - Eleanor M. Bengyak

Journalism Award – Mary Kemper, Veteran Voice

Digital Media Award – Sharon Morgan

Digital Media Award – Preston Orrick

Pet-Assisted Therapy Team – Ana Montoya & Oslo

Individual Philanthropist - Kathi G. Schumann

Corporate Philanthropist - Jeff & Suzy Gomez, Coast to Coast Landscaping -

The Awards Ceremony will be held at the Administrative & Assistance Dog Training Center located at 1230 16th Avenue, Vero Beach.

Dogs For Life is a non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for people and dogs through training Assistance Dogs, Pet-Assisted Therapy Dogs and owning and operating an Off-Leash Dog Park. If you would like more information on the programs and services provided, please contact Dogs For Life at 772-567-8969.



You Are Invited to the 2014 Donor & Volunteer Appreciation Awards

Saturday, March 28, 2015

Dogs For Life, Inc. Past Donor / Volunteer Appreciation Awards

Year	Award	Recipient
2009	Assistance Dog Team	Pat Scott & Holly
	Volunteer of the Year	Ed Boatwright
	Media Award	Dutch VanNorren
	In-Kind Services	Jeff Gomez Coast to Coast Landscaping
	Pet Assisted Therapy Team	Deborah Cornell & Stella
2010	Assistance Dog Team	Jim Taylor & Pia Pia
	Volunteer of the Year	Linda Liss
	Media Award	DHI
	In-Kind Services	Garden Club of IR Co.
	Pet Assisted Therapy Team	Barbara Bodnar & Maddux
	Individual Philanthropist	Janet Riley
	Corporate Philanthropist	Jeff Gomez Coast to Coast Landscaping
2011	Assistance Dog Team	Norine Coody & Abby
	Volunteer of the Year	Eleanor Bengyak
	Broadcast Media Award	fill Roberts-McDermott,
	Journalism Award	Mary Schenkel - 32963 Article
	In-Kind Services	Suzy Gomez / Beech Annuals,
	Pet Assisted Therapy Team	Nancy McCusker & Buford
	Individual Philanthropist	Robert Bowman
	Corporate Philanthropist	Florida Veterinary League

Pet Assisted Therapy Team Individual Philanthropist Individual Philanthropist Corporate Philanthropist	Shirley Schindler & Sarah Richard & Jane Manoogian Kathi G. Schumann Travis Chambers - Adron Fence Company

Past President's Award Assistance Dog Team Volunteer of the Year Media Award Pet Assisted Therapy Team Individual Philanthropist Corporate Philanthropist Assistance Dog Team Volunteer of the Year Media Award Pet Assisted Therapy Team Individual Philanthropist

2012

2013

Al Turner Fred Jones & Sissy Girl Jack Saucerman Sydney Liebman / Luminaries Carol Hartwig & Baxter Beth Stryker Tony Donadio, Donadio & Associates Joan Freeman & Daisy Laura E. Bonney, L.E.B. Printing & Design Taria Ortega-Cowan / Luminaries Shirley Schindler & Sarah Richard & Jane Manoogian Kathi G. Schumann Travis Chambers - Adron Fence Company

Dream Job

8 • MARCH 12, 2015 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Army vet realizes dream job with Dogs For Life in **Vero Beach**

FOR VETERAN VOICE

Part of the mission of Dogs For Life, Vero Beach, is providing training for returning warriors and their canine companions to help tackle the daily challenges of life.

Now, Army veteran Jay Harris is going to continue his mission of training and helping full-time up till now, he has been working on a contract basis.

Dogs For Life board president Eleanor Bengyak said, "Since the Assistance Dog Training and Administrative Center has opened, the number of people and dogs in training has doubled.

"For me, it's about giving back. I know that sounds a little strange, coming from another veteran, but I didn't serve alone. I might not be here today if it weren't for so many others who served. This is my chance to say thank you and give back to them."

Jay Harris, trainer

with.

"Jay, being a veteran himself, can relate to the brave men and women he trains. He is truly an asset to the organization," added DFL director of training programs Shelly Ferger.

"Jay is a team player, dedicated to the DFL mission. He has been contracting with us for five years. and who better to assist in the training of our heroes than someone who has 'been there?'

"Dogs For Life is proud and honored to bring Jay from a contractual status to a full-time employee. We need the additional help with training, especially with the increase in the number of military veterans we are working

Harris said, "For me, it's about giving back. I know that sounds a little strange, coming from another veteran, but I didn't serve alone. I might not be here today if it weren't for so many others who served. This is my chance to say thank you and give back to them."

For more information on Dogs For Life and its mission, visit dogsforlifevb.org

FEBRUARY



Accredidation

We Are Accredited by Assistance Dogs International Gold Seal Achievement

The ADI Mission

To establish and promote standards of excellence in all areas of assistance dog acquisition, training and partnership. Facilitate communication and learning among member organizations. Educate the public to the benefits of assistance dogs and ADI membership.

As a Member Program of Assistance Dogs International (ADI)...

We believe that organizations and individuals involved in the assistance dog industry have common goals and interests which are best achieved by uniformly complying with all local, state and federal laws as well as ethical, moral and legal policies, practices and procedures.

We are honored to demonstrate our commitment to this belief through voluntary participation in the ADI accreditation process.

Our achievement of full ADI accreditation means that the facilities and operation of our assistance dog program meet ADI's standards of excellence.

ADI and the Accreditation Process

ADI is an international coalition with members representing assistance dog programs from across the world. The purpose of ADI is to improve the areas of selection, training, placement and utilization of assistance dogs.

Accreditation by ADI is a peer-review process. It is a uniform method by which ADI voting member agencies can achieve compliance with the operational standards of excellence established by ADI for organizations that train and place assistance dogs. Participating organizations undergo an official on-site assessment conducted by highly skilled assessors. During the course of the visit, assessors interview agency staff, volunteers, the Board of Directors, assistance dog applicants and recent graduates, and are given access to a variety of agency documents and records.

The following areas are evaluated during the accreditation survey:

Program Management

- Application policies and procedures
- Canine management and training
- Teaching curriculum and instruction
- Program record keeping
- Volunteering
- Graduate input

Administration

- Organization
- Emergency procedures and safety regulations
- Risk management
- Documentation
- Business practices
- Written policies and procedures

Facilities

- Building and grounds
- · Safety and maintenance
- Kennels

Community Activities

· Behavior of assistance dogs in the community

Assistance Dogs International



Members must be accredited every 5 years

Compliance with ADI standards in all these operational areas results in full ADI accreditation for a term of five years and the award of an official plaque containing the ADI gold medallion.

We are proud to be an Accredited ADI member program and be recognized for maintaining ADI's standards of excellence in all areas of our assistance dog program.



For more information, please visit:

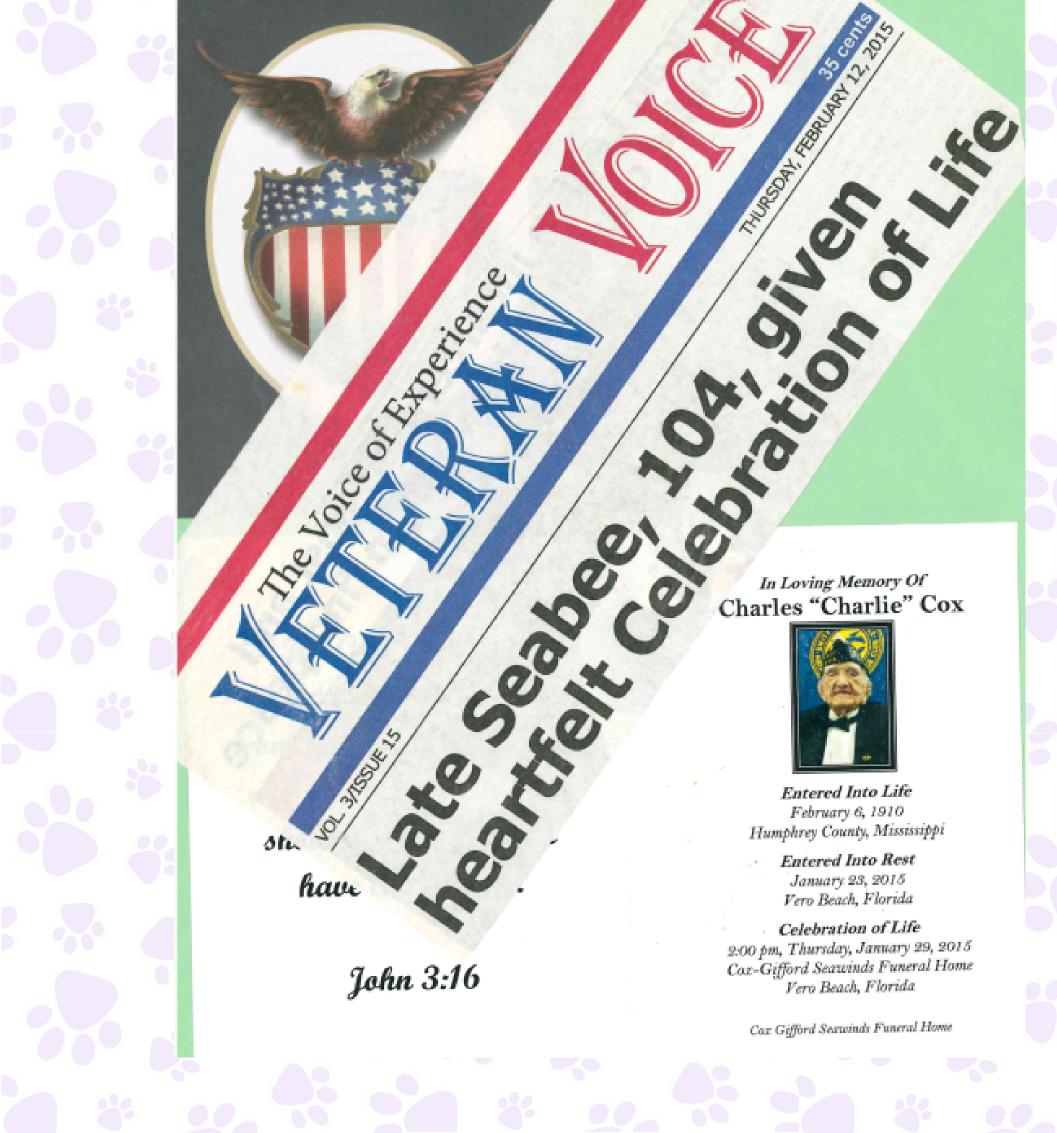
Community education about assistance dogs

www.assistancedogsinternational.org



Seabee Celebration of Life





February 6, 1910 Humphrey County, Mississippi

Entered Into Rest January 23, 2015 Vero Beach, Florida

Celebration of Life 2:00 pm, Thursday, January 29, 2015 Cox-Gifford Seawinds Funeral Home Vero Beach, Florida

Cax Gifford Seawinds Funeral Home

Mary Kemper STAFF WRITER mkemper@veteranvolcowookly.com

It was to be a birthday party for the late Chief Petty Officer and former Navy "SeaBee" Charlie Cox Feb. 4, but he died just days beforehand. The Indian River Veterans Council decided to turn mourning him into a Celebration of Life instead. In conjunction with its monthly meeting, the council gave a tribute, attended by Cox's widow, Busilisa, and family and friends.

The ceremony began with a speech by Bradley Scott, 12, Vero Beach, a League Cadet with the David McCampbell Construction Battalion (SeaBees) of the Navy League Sea Cadets, Melbourne.

(Editor's note: Please see a feature on Bradley Scott, and his "Change 4 Change 4 Vets" effort to help veterans in need, in the Jan. 22 edition of Veteran Voice.)

Accompanied by his father, Mark, Bradley had most in the assembly moved and impressed.

"I'd like to give thanks to the council for allowing me to speak today about Chief Petty Officer Cox," Bradley said.

"We in our battalion want to be just like him. We want to recognize a brother."

Bradley then read "The Old Salt," a poem by Mac McDonald, which ends:

"As I look up at night, I envision The Old Salt, a beret draped just above the eye, as he draws upon his pipe, quietly he waits. The guardian of heaven's gate."

Bradley then explained his "vision" — with the help of the council — "to see that someday every Sea Cadet in the nation will collect change for our patriots."

Council Vice President Curtis Paulisin then gave opening remarks on Cox and his legacy.

"He was the oldest veteran in Indian River County, and he was a hero," he said. "Not only to our coun-



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

Indian River County Sheriff Deryl Loar speaks at a Celebration of Life ceremony for the late Chief Petty Officer Charlie Cox, who recently died just short of his 105th birthday, at Vero Beach Veterans Inc. headquarters, Vero Beach, Feb. 4. Listening are, from left, Indian River Veterans Council Vice President Curtis Paulisin and Cox's widow, Busilisa, and family and friends.

"Anyone who knew him knew he was a real presence. He would command the room, and with his voice, he never needed a microphone."

Curtis Paulisin, vice president, Indian River Veterans Council

ty, but also to his country and his family. "Anyone who knew him knew he was a real presence," Paulisin said. "He would command the room, and with his voice, he never needed a microphone."

An invocation was given by Eric "Rip" Weiler, of the council.

Former Army Command Sgt. Maj. Edwin Britt next paid tribute to "my friend, comrade and buddy," whom he designated "an honorary paratrooper."

After a rendition of "Amazing Grace" by Delores Chambers, the Colors were presented and "Taps" played by Duke Scales. Paulisin introduced Busilisa Cox and family and friends who accompanied her. Fellow Seabee Bill Beyerle reflected on Cox's life and career, and read a letter from national commander Jerry Landcastle, who wrote, "Chief Petty Officer Cox joined a brand-new battalion in World War II, and was thrust immediately into danger.

"He had little military training, but skills (as an electrician) second to none." Beyerle pointed out that Cox was in-

CAA CUADI IE MARA P

CHARLIE from page 1

volved in "many, many" veterans' organizations, and served as Veterans Memorial Island chaplain for 12 years.

"He truly lived up to the Seabees' motto 'can do.' I wish him calm winds and following seas." Beyerle said that in addition to his many services to veterans. Cox was also the founder of Habitat for Humanity in Indian River County - at the age of 80. Reminiscences were next given by Joe Martorana and Tony Russo, members of both the council and the Italian-American Veterans Association, of which Cox was also a member. Martorana, the former national commander, recalled that among Cox's other accomplishments, "he established the Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Award here in Indian River, and he even met one of the survivors of the (USAT) Dorchester." Memorial Island steward John Michael Matthews spoke in tribute to Cox's "deep sense of spirit," and Will Collins spoke on behalf of the Vero Beach Veterans, which donated the use of its post for the ceremony.

"He was an unbelievable human being. In a recent conversation, he said to me, 'Joe, they mothball ships younger than me.'

Indian River County Commissioner Joe Flescher

Deryl Loar said "There's no way to know how many lives he (Cox) has touched in our county."

Weiler noted "the difference in our ages" (Weiler is in his 80s) -"he remembered World War I --and when I think of what he's accomplished in the 25 years since he turned 80, I'm ashamed." Indian River County Commissioner Joe Flescher said, "He was an unbelievable human being. In a recent conversation, he said to me, 'Joe, they mothball ships younger than me.' "He could be anything he wanted." Former Army Col. Tony Young, president of the council, who recently returned from a two-month leave of absence, said, "Charlie told me, Tve been around the world, but I'm glad to be around you (veterans).



Indian River County Sheriff

"For his birthday, he asked that flowers be given to his wife. That speaks volumes. Mrs. Cox, his Photo courtesy of the Indian River Veterans Council The late Chief Petty Officer Charlie Cox, center, is seen at a recent Indian River Veterans Council function. His wife, Busilisa, is seated behind him, and he is conversing with John Michael Matthews of the Veterans Council.

success in life was born from your love and affection."

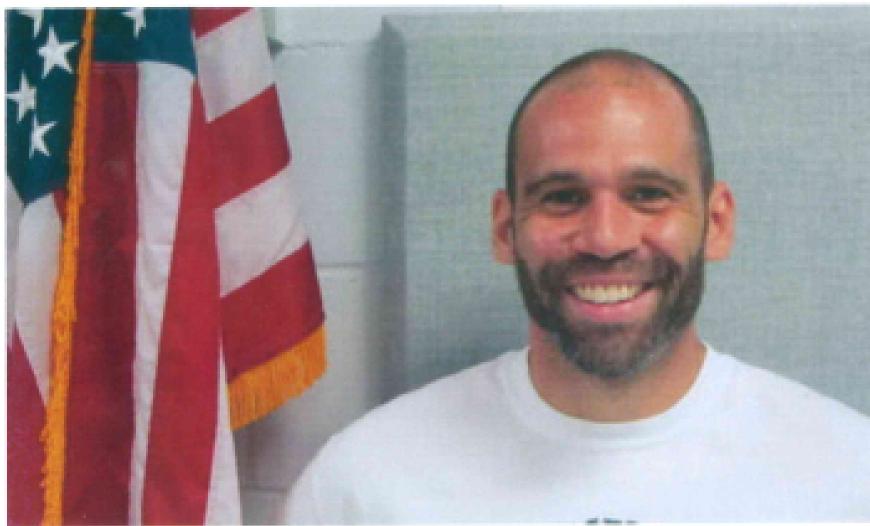
Young noted that after serving in the SeaBees, Cox went on to have a long career in electrical engineering.

Lastly, Sam Kouns of the council proposed that a Charlie Cox Memorial Scholarship be estab-

lished for deserving Indian River students.

During a luncheon following the ceremony, family friend Helene Beck said, "They shared love every day. He had a long, productive life, and (Mrs. Cox) was his caregiver in the last months. "He will be sorely missed."

U.S. Army Veteran, Jay Harris, Joins Dogs For Life on a Full-Time Basis as Training Coordinator



U.S. Army Veteran, Jay Harris, Training Coordinator

For those of you who have had the opportunity to meet or work with Jay, you are familiar with his dedication to the people and the dogs he works with. DFL Board President, Eleanor Bengyak stated, "Since the Assistance Dog Training & Administrative Center has opened, the number of people and dogs in training has doubled. Jay is a team player, dedicated to the DFL mission. He has been contracting with us for five years and who better to assist in the training of our Heroes than someone who has "been there?"

Jay added, "For me, it's about giving back. I know that sounds a little strange, coming from another Veteran, but I didn't serve alone. I might not be here today if it weren't for so many others who served. This is my chance to say thank you and give back to them."

"Dogs For Life is proud and honored to bring Jay from a contractual status to a Full-Time Employee. We need the additional help with training our increase of Military Veterans. Jay, being a Veteran himself, can relate to the brave men and women he trains. He is truly an asset to the organization," added DFL Director of Training Programs, Shelly Ferger.

2 • FEBRUARY 19, 2015 • VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE

Meet Ariel — and her human who are forging a special bond

Mary Kemper store warter mkemper@veteranvoiceweekly.com

She's small, has beautiful hair, bright eyes and boundless energy. She can'leap onto a tall bed in a single bound and save her human's life in the event of danger. She can wait patiently under the table until a meal is done. She can even "herd" and keep

track of those lesser beings not gifted with her sense of organization. Is there anything she can't do?

The answer: Not-much. Just ask her human, Daniel Votrobek, Vero Beach, who has Ariel, a Belgian Turveren (also known as Belgian sheepdog) in training at Dogs 4 Life to become a certified service dog.

Votrobek is a Marine Corps veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart Medal, for wounds sustained in three different IED explosions in Iraq.

Enlisting in 2002, he served in the initial invasion in 2003, as "She picks things up very quickly, and she's so intelligent. These two are going to go a long way together." Dogs 4 Life founder and CEO Shelly Ferger, on veteran Daniel Votrobek and his service-dog-in-training, Ariel

well as later missions checking vehicles and house-to-house combat.

He suffered hearing loss from perforated eardrums, among other injuries, and the condition appears to be getting worse over time.

*I figured I'd better get Ariel trained in case it goes completely," he said.

That's where Dogs 4 Life came in.

"My neighbor, Barbara, told me about them," Votrobek said. "I contacted (founder and CEO) Shelly (Ferger). "I had just gotten Ariel in Tallahassee at 2 months old. She started training at 6 months, and she's almost 2 (years old) now."

"To tell you the truth, I was a bit apprehensive about him (Votrobek) providing his own dog, without our vetting it first," Ferger said. "But as soon as I met Ariel, I could tell she has what it takes."

Dogs 4 Life, which just changed its logo color to purple — "to honor our veterans," Ferger said, as it reflects the Purple Heart as well — trains service dogs for veterans with special needs related to a wide range of injuries, whether hearing loss, paraplegia or PTSD, as well as civilians with similar needs.

At a class on Feb. 12 at Dogs 4 Life, Ariel learned how to come and get Votrobek when she heard a knock at the door, how to wake him up when a smoke alarm goes off and how to behave in a public setting like a restaurant.

Ferger and trainer Jay Harris, an Army veteran, had Votrobek sitting at a desk, just as he would at home. When a volunteer knocked at the door, Ferger or Harris would release Ariel, who then ran and alerted Votrobek, who gave her a treat both for alerting properly and for sitting when she reached the door.

During the smoke-alarm training (which was purposely done at the center, as Votrobek has a newborn daughter, Gabrielle, at home), Ferger made use of a mock bedroom, which is contained in a closet, complete with a real fold-down bed. Ariel successfully "woke" Votrobek up when the alarm went off and led him to the door, earning more well-deserved treats.

In time, she'll be trained to go outside Votrobek's home and wait by the mailbox until the family emerges safely.

During a break in the training, Ariel joined L.A. (a former law-enforcement officer) and Daryl, and Judy (who declined to give her last name) and Bailey, out in the

See DOGS name 3



VETERAN VOICE • THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE • FEBRUARY 19, 2015 • 3



Staff photo by Mary Kemper

Marine veteran and Purple Heart recipient Daniel Votrobek, right, and his dog, Ariel, are undergoing training to prepare Ariel to become a service dog at Dogs 4 Life, Vero Beach, with the help of trainer and Army veteran Jay Harris.

Staff photo by Mary Kemper At the Dogs 4 Life training center, a mock bedroom helps simulate the home situations of service dog trainees for emergency situations that might take place while the owner is asleep, such as someone knocking at the door or a smoke alarm going off.

DOGS from page 2

yard for a romp. Naturally, Ariel tried to "organize" the other dogs, who simply looked at her with what could only be amusement. Judy and Bailey, a "Labradoodle," are also taking the sound training, as Judy has hearing issues as well. L.A. visits Dogs 4 Life frequently with Daryl, a Labrador retriever and former bomb dog, to help the other dogs see how to behave properly. After the sound training, the group underwent "table" training, which teaches dogs to lie quietly under a table in public situations like going out for a meal.

Then it was off to a real eatery in Vero Beach, to put the training to a real-world test.

Ferger showed Votrobek how to keep Ariel between himself and the counter while ordering and paying, so as to limit distractions from all the stimuli in a busy restaurant.

The ordering accomplished, Ariel finally joined the other dogs un-

der the table and, with the help of treats and "stay" commands, she sat at Votrobek's feet properly. Ferger had a lot of praise for Ariel's progress. "She picks things up very quickly, and she's so intelligent," she said. "These two are going to go a long way together."

Votrobek said Ariel already has the instinct of protectiveness.

"She helped my father-in-law at Christmas," he said. "He's diabetic, and his sugar got low. He got up and went to the door, but then

got disoriented.

"Then he found himself out on the road. Ariel went to him, and started pacing in circles around him. She was very protective.

"My father-in-law said the last thing he remembered was Ariel coming up to him."

Votrobek said she's equally as protective of his wife, Joy, and daughter. "She's pretty awesome."

(To learn more about Dogs 4 Life, call (772) 567-8969, or visit www. dogsforlifevb.org)

Bridge Tournament







Eleanor Bengyak and "Mitzi" Invite You To Support The 5th DFL "Build A Bridge" Bridge Tournament To Help Raise Funds Vero Beach Country Club 800 30th St., Vero Beach, FL 32960

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

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

> \$75 Bridge/Lunch (\$50 Tax Deductible)

~ Limited Seating ~ Please Reply By January 26, 2015

> Committee Members: Eleanor Bengyak & "Mitzi" Kathi G. Schumann Linda Liss Betty McCalister



To Train Assistance Dogs in 2015





JANUARY



Ver

VeroNews/Sebastian River News January 30, 2015

Serving mainland Indian River County

A Great Pyrenees who ate Christmas dinner

PETS 🌺

Hí Dog Buddies!

This week I met a Great Pyrenees, Opal Schlesinger, who looks like a beautiful, giant snowball. She lives in Sea Oaks with her humans, Lil and Peter, and she's one of those pooches who come from a long line of showdogs. She has *papers* and everything. But, even though her Official Name is – get this – Gardenia Ivory Jewel, for Lassie's sake, she's not snooty at all. Actually she was a little shu at first



"Where do you play with your dog buddies?" I asked.

"We have this really cool dog park called Dogs For Life. Members only. We have 4 acres to run around in. My Besties are Sammi, Charlie, another Charlie, Polly, Lady, Benj, Clem, Winnie, Tigger, Dugan, Inka, Gus and Boo."

"Wow, you got some great posse there," I said.

"I know! But Lady's my total BFE We can yap about anything."

"But I have my job, too, Mr. Bonzo.

When I arrived, she was on her leash with her Mom, waiting for me in the front yard. After a cautious wag-andsniff, her Mom said, "let's go for a walk." So off we went. It was really pretty on Opal's street, lots of handy trees and stuff. And we ran into several of her dog buddies and their humans.

I'd never gone for a walk with my interviewee before and I guess I looked a little puzzled, because Opal said, by way of explanation, "Mom says this is a good way for us to get to know each other. I'm still kinda shy and when we take a lovely walk together it makes things easier, you know?"

"I never thought about it before," I told her, "but this is nice. I think it's a cool idea." long time, named Oze. When he went to the Big Dog Park in the Sky, they wanted another pooch like him.

"Actually, Oze and I are related. Our dads had the same dad," Opal said. Then, in an excited voice, "I've gotta tell you this story – my humans love to tell it to their buddies. But their version is a little different than mine," she said.

"Can't wait to hear it!" I was intrigued. "Well, it was last Christmas Eve morning. Mom had to take Dad to the doctor, but I didn't get to go. I used to have this terrible separation anxiety. Anyway, Mom knows I don't like it when they leave so she left me a special treat. There it was, in a lovely big pot right on the stove. With a lid and everything – just for me. So I very carefully got up on my back tippypaws and gently, with my nose, nudged and nudged and nudged. Finally the pot slipped over the edge and landed, as I had planned, upright. The lid had bounced off nicely." Lots of delicious meat, and a lot of nice juice. I kept pulling off little pieces and putting them on the floor and nosing them around and nibbling."

"Ooooh boy," I managed.

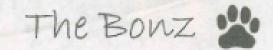
"Anyway, I was taking a little nap when, all of a sudden, I heard Mom say, in her loud voice, '*What* did you *do*, Opal???' Turns out, Mr. Bonzo, I'd eaten the entire Christmas dinner. Mom called it Beef Burgundy. I mean, how was I to know? Mom told me it was a pound and a half of beef, with bacon and a whole bottle of wine. I thought she was just being nice because she knew I didn't like to be alone. And it worked, too, because I was so busy eating all that delicious food I didn't even miss Mom and Dad. I bet no other dog ever had such a great Christmas dinner."

vorite toys with me. So now, when Mom and Dad are gone, I don't freak out or anything like that. I just push a chair up to the dining room table, jump on it, then to the table, where I sit and wait for them. I jump off when I hear them coming. So far, there hasn't been anything to eat up there, but maybe, someday ..."

My ancestors were Spanish guard dogs. They worked with the sheep-herding dogs, standing guard so no other animals could grab any sheep. So I carry on the tradition. I guard my family."

I knew she was right, but I couldn't help but think it would be kinda hard to be scared of anything that looked like Frostie the Snowman. I wisely decided not to share that with her.

Till next time.



"I walk 3 ½ to 4 miles every day, morning and evening," Opal told me. "And I also like to run around inside and jump " over stuff. I'm great at that!"

Back in the house, I asked Opal how she found her forever family. Turns out, they'd had a Great Pyrenees before, for a I'm pretty sure my eyes were as big as water bowls, as I listened to Opal's story. "So, then, I just stuck my nose in and started nibbling. Man, it was fabulous. "I think that's a safe bet," I said.

"I had to stay in the den with my Dad for 3 ½ hours, while Mom cleaned the kitchen. I guess it was a pretty big mess. Then, two days later, Mom and Dad told me I wasn't a little girl anymore and I had to graduate to my own bed. But that's okay, as long as I can have my fa**DON'T BE SHY** We are always looking for pets with interesting stories. For a questionnaire, email bonzothecolumnist@gmail.com.



Vero Beach Magazine

TOR JOEY PANTOLIANO - HOME WITH MODERN VIBE - MODERN QUILT GUILD - OLD RIOMAR TALES - DELICIOUS JEWELRY - THE TIDES' REC



THE SCENE

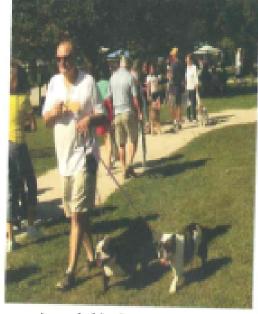


Supergirl and her sidekick

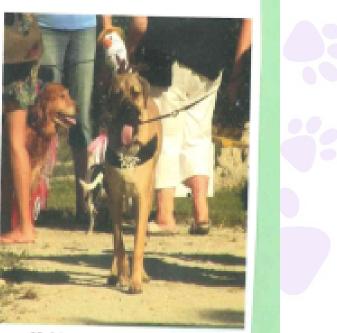


A skeleton escarting her dachshund





A crowd of dog-lovers gathering for the Howl-O-Ween Pawrade



Sponsored by Gene and Martha Schumann

OCTOBER 18: Dogs For Life held their annual *Howl-O-Ween Pawrade* with 63 canine entries and as many as 400 spectators taking a peek at the pooches on pawrade. Attendees shopped local vendors such as the Florida Veterinary League, Vero Insurance, Capital Investments, Forever Family Pet Cremations and the Vero Beach Veterinary Hospital. Just over \$18,000 was collected through cash donations, raffles and vendor fees.

> Olaf the snowman getting a ride on Sven the reindeer



Zorro leading the parade



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VERO BEACH

A pair of pals showing off their fancy costumes



Dogs For Life Off-Leash Dog Park Off-Leash Dog Park Hours: Dawn to Dusk Memberships Available For Information or Emergencies 567-8969 DE is a tax deductible non profit organization.

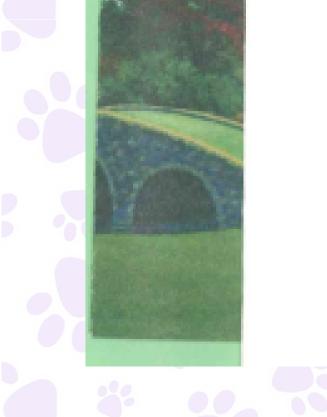


Service of Celebration

A » Thursday, January 22, 2015 » SCRIPPS TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS a

A Service of Celebration for





Nancy H. Ireland September 29, 1923 – January 16, 2015

January 26, 2015 – 11:00 am Community Church of Vero Beach Vero Beach, Florida

Legacy Society



Mrs. Eleanor Bengyak cordially invites you to the Eleanor Bengyak Legacy Society Reception

Eleanor Bengyak Legacy Society

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:	~	2 C	
Email:			
Names of Gu	iests:		

I am unable to attend but want to help Eleanor and Mitzi "Keep the Dream Alive."

Please see my enclosed gift to the Eleanor Bengyak Legacy Society in the amount of \$_

This event will formally kick off the Eleanor Bengyak Legacy Society

which began with gifts to Dogs For Life in memory of Founding Member, Victor Bengyak

This fund was started to help support the DFL Off-Leash Dog Park which Victor loved to visit with his Service Dog, Mitzi. "Now I will continue this Legacy to keep my dream alive. We love this park and want to make sure it is here in the future." $\sim E.B.$

Please join



Eleanor and Mitzi

January 13, 2015

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.



Training & Adminstration Center 1230 16th Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960

Refreshments Served