



# PawsPress

Tony LaRossa's Animal Rescue Foundation • Fall 2019

Keeping  
Pets Where  
They Belong:  
**HOME**

**PLUS:**

**Pets and Vets Preps for the Skies  
& Molly: Rossmoor's Canine Hero**

# WELCOME TO Paws Press MAGAZINE!



If the name sounds familiar, you must already enjoy our monthly digital companion piece by the same title. And while the names of our print and online publications now match, we hope you'll enjoy the variety of content offered in each that tells you about the people

and animals impacted by our programming, current happenings, and of course lots of adorable animal photos!

Need to get your monthly digital dose of Paws Press? Sign up today at [arlife.org/help/pawspress](http://arlife.org/help/pawspress). 🐾



## ON THE COVER: JOSEPHINE

Josephine is a gorgeous eleven-year-old lady with long, luxurious fur and the most laid back personality you can imagine. She loves cuddling up, playing with wand toys, and purring throughout a nice brushing session. Her calico coloring draws eyes from across the room, and once she attracts someone, she keeps them smitten with her purrr-fect social attitude.

## PURINA'S SERVICE DOG SALUTE



Purina Dog Chow® is launching their second Service Dog Salute campaign featuring ARF's Pets and Vets program. This year's campaign features a trio of Pets and Vets graduates and their families talking about how their ARF-adopted service dog and 10-month training program not only changed their lives but their loved ones' as well.

You can find these videos on ARF's social media or go to [dogchow.com/service](http://dogchow.com/service). In addition to these great messages of hope for veterans everywhere, Purina Dog Chow is donating a portion of their proceeds now through November 1 to help ARF's Pets and Vets program continue Saving Both Ends of the Leash®. 🐾

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Change is in the air, but this goes way beyond falling leaves at ARF. There are so many exciting updates packed into this issue, it was hard to wait for September!



From the rescue and adoption of some of the unforgettable animals you'll read about in this issue, to new programming, it's full-speed ahead at ARF!

As summer comes to an end, we are wrapping up another "kitten season." Since the start of spring, ARF found happy, forever homes for more than 400 kittens, 250 of whom spent time in foster homes (page 14).

Thanks to you, our "Saving Both Ends of the Leash®" campaign is going strong, with the first phase of construction underway for our dog kennel expansion and new Pets and Vets Training Center. Learn more about how you can help put us over the top with our 2:1 matching gift phase from the Engelstad Family Foundation (page 7). As part of this early construction, ARF flipped the switch on our new solar panel array this summer, and is already seeing the energy- and cost-saving results. This is a significant development in cutting the operational cost of our air exchange systems, which protects animals' health by defending against airborne virus transmission.

Speaking of fiscal responsibility, ARF was recently honored by Charity Navigator, the nation's largest charity evaluator, with their highest four-star rating for the twelfth year in a row! This once again keeps us at number one in their list of celebrity-ranked charities, amongst some impressive company in the world of philanthropy. ARF is also in the company of many strong partnerships

- new and consistent - helping us highlight the benefits of the human-animal bond. Read about how our friends at Alaska Airlines recently organized an air travel training excursion for our Pets and Vets service dog teams (page 7) and how Purina Dog Chow will once again spread the word to veterans about the benefits of service dogs in their Service Dog Salute Campaign (page 2). Thanks to partners like these, we are building momentum to replicate our shelter-to-service dog model, save the lives of thousands of shelter dogs and give back to our country's military heroes - truly Saving Both Ends of the Leash®.

And while ARF is celebrating more than 42,000 adoptions, we're also excited to turn the spotlight on our programs aimed at lowering the number of owner surrenders (pages 8-9). We realize a strong commitment to reducing shelter populations must include keeping animals happy and healthy in loving homes and avoiding heartbreaking shelter surrenders whenever possible. Addressing the problems of shelter overcrowding from both ends not only makes sense but often keeps that human-animal bond strongest when it's needed the most.

All of these exciting changes are possible because of you. We are grateful you are part of our family as this thrilling chapter results in more lives saved and more happy animals receiving the loving care they deserve.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elena".

Executive Director





# Wine & Whiskers

## IS BACK IN THE BAY AREA

Wine & Whiskers is coming to Walnut Creek - make sure YOU are too! We're proud to be pouring wine from wineries including Bennett Lane Winery, Nectar of the Dogs, Pine Ridge Vineyards, Pope Valley Winery, and Sterling Vineyards, plus local beer offerings from Calicraft Brewing Company, Del Cielo Brewing Company, and Mike Hess Brewing. Paired with delicious bites from some of the East Bay's most popular restaurants, and visits from wiggly puppies, adorable kittens, and Pet Hug Pack® therapy dogs, this is one event you do not want to miss.

Tickets to this year's Walnut Creek event are available today at [arf.ejoinme.org/wineandwhiskers](http://arf.ejoinme.org/wineandwhiskers). All proceeds benefit ARF's life-saving programs. 🐾

**“Wine and Whiskers is one of my favorite events every year. My wife loves the wine, and I love all the dogs!”**  
**Robert, Wine & Whiskers 2018 Guest**



## UPCOMING ARF EVENTS

Join us at these events to support ARF's life-saving programs.

For more information, as well as a full list of upcoming ARF events, classes, youth programs, mobile adoptions, mobile clinics, and more, visit [arflife.org/calendar](http://arflife.org/calendar).

### BARK AT THE PARK



Thursday, September 26  
Citi Field • Queens, NY

New York dog-lovers can bring their furry friends to a ballgame for Bark at the Park!

### WINE & WHISKERS



Saturday, September 28  
ARF Headquarters • Walnut Creek, CA

Food, wine, beer, and adorable animals. Get those party shoes on for ARF's annual fall shindig.

# AN UNFORGETTABLE WEEKEND AT LEADERS AND LEGENDS

Thursday, Nov. 14 - Sunday, Nov. 17  
**ARIA Resort & Casino**  
 Las Vegas, NV

Brush shoulders with Hall of Famers and Olympic gold medalists. Climb inside the minds of business titans. Personally thank America's heroes (including Medal of Honor recipients). You never know who you'll meet or what wisdom you'll encounter at ARF's Leaders & Legends. This exclusive event at the Aria Resort and Casino offers once-in-a-lifetime views of what inspires some of the most accomplished individuals. To register, please contact Steve Webster at [stevewebster@cmpr.net](mailto:stevewebster@cmpr.net) or (310) 426-9900. 🐾



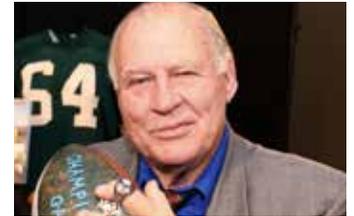
*Tony La Russa, MLB HOF-er*



*John Salley, NBA Champion*



*Adm. William McRaven, USSOCOM*



*Jerry Kramer, NFL Champion*



*Mary Lou Robinson, US Air Force*



*Bob Costas, Sportscaster*



*Robert Swan, Polar Explorer*



*George Will, Political Commentator*



*Ron Kruszewski, Stifel Financial*



*Gen. Stanley McChrystal, US Army*

## ARF'S HOWL-O-WEEN



Saturday, October 26  
 ARF Headquarters • Walnut Creek, CA

Bring the kids for a not-so-spooky afternoon of games, prizes, and Pet Hug Pack® playtime.

## LEADERS AND LEGENDS



November 14 - November 17  
 ARIA Resort & Casino • Las Vegas, NV

Join Tony La Russa and friends for a memorable weekend at the Aria Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

## STARS TO THE RESCUE



Saturday, January 18  
 The Leshar Center • Walnut Creek, CA

The stars are out in support of ARF at this annual concert. Stay tuned for performer announcements!

## NOW INTRODUCING: KITTEN KINDERGARTEN

Just like puppies, kittens need socialization to help them develop into a well-adjusted and social pet. That's why ARF began a new training program for your young feline: Kitten Kindergarten.

These structured, three-week classes are a great way to socialize and train kittens younger than 16 weeks. Curriculum includes acclimating kittens to their carriers (for veterinary visits, road trips, etc), introducing them to wearing a harness, and teaching them to "sit" via clicker training. They even get "recess" where they can play with their fellow kitty classmates. Meanwhile, guardians learn about optimal litter box set up, enrichment, toys, treats, scratching posts, and more.

Book a class online today at [arflife.org/training](https://arflife.org/training) to unlock your kitten's inner potential and help them grow into a cool, confident cat! 🐾



## SEBASTIAN: SOLO TO SAVED

**PURINA**

From food to litter,  
we're proud to support  
the pets of Tony La  
Russa's Animal  
Rescue Foundation

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Abandoned in an Oakland apartment when his family moved, one-year-old Sebastian found himself all alone in this world. Luckily, a neighbor heard his cries through the wall and alerted animal control, who got in touch with ARF. He had lost quite a bit of weight, but still purred in excitement when picked up by the intake team.

Today, he is thriving in his new home, alongside three kitty siblings and an eight-year-old Poodle. His new guardian, Jane, is absolutely smitten, telling us, "Sebastian is such a cool cat. I can't imagine why someone would leave him behind - he's perfect!" 🐾



## ALASKA AIRLINES PREPS PETS AND VETS FOR THE SKIES

When a rescue dog completes ARF's Pets and Vets training with their veteran adopter, they are recognized as a public-access psychiatric service dog. This means the dogs can accompany their veteran in most public areas through protection of the American Disabilities Act - even at 35,000 feet! But even experienced



service dogs might find the first time at the airport daunting. ARF's friends at Alaska Airlines helped with a solution, inviting Pets and Vets service dogs and service dogs-in-training for a special practice session at Oakland International Airport. The Alaska Airlines team coordinated with TSA so the teams experienced every aspect of air travel, from security screening, getting settled in their seats, and dodging those frantic passengers with roller bags. Alaska Airlines even flew in their special "Honoring Those Who Serve" airplane for our veterans and their dogs to board. 🐾

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**"Practicing traveling as a team has given me the confidence to open my world!"**  
**Johnny, Pets and Vets Graduate**

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### CAMPAIGN FOR PETS AND VETS

With only \$250,000 remaining to be raised by December 31, the Campaign for Pets and Vets is in the home stretch. Due to the generosity of our donor community, our solar array is complete, ARF's Pets and Vets Center construction is underway, and the animal care expansion, which will save 500 more dogs each year, has broken ground.

Thanks to the Engelstad Family Challenge, all new gifts/pledges to the Campaign will be tripled until matching monies expire. Join us by making a gift or pledge to the Campaign by December 31! To learn more about what the Campaign will make possible for both people and animals or to make a gift, visit [arlife.org/campaign](http://arlife.org/campaign).

We appreciate your partnership to save lives at both ends of the leash.



# KEEPING PETS IN HOMES AND OUT OF SHELTERS

While a huge part of supporting the human-animal bond is seen each week through rescuing and rehoming shelter animals, ARF engages on multiple fronts to keep animals out of shelters in the first place. It's a strategic move to battle animal homelessness and shelter overcrowding at both ends of the challenge for greater results – namely, healthier and happier animals.

“Decisions to relinquish an animal are heartbreaking for all involved and typically occur only when people feel they are completely out of options,” ARF Executive Director Elena Bicker said. “If we can get families through a rough time so they can continue relying on the unconditional love and consistency of that human-animal bond, it's better for both the human and animal involved.”

ARF's assistance can vary from a one-time intervention



## **FOODSHARE**

This program supplies pet food to qualifying low-income pet guardians and community cat caregivers in Contra Costa County. Frequently, we witnessed low- or fixed-income families limiting their own food to feed animals in their care. By providing nutritious pet food to those who cannot afford it, our friends at Purina® help ARF relieve food uncertainty for pets and families. With regular deliveries, ARF FoodShare volunteers not only provide food, but also a smile, and a human connection to clients - many of whom are elderly, disabled, and struggling to make ends meet.

## **PET SAFETY NET**

ARF's Pet Safety Net program assists qualifying East Bay pet guardians facing relinquishment of their pets due to financial crisis or personal struggles. Upon referral from partner shelters and inquiries through ARF's Resource Center, this program provides financial stipends and one-on-one counseling to prevent pets from being surrendered. Assistance is available for a variety of services, including veterinary care, spay/neuter and vaccines, temporary boarding, housing pet deposits, behavior and training, pet food and supplies, and more to help keep pets in their homes with their families.

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL FUND**

A medical emergency for a pet can not only cause emotional but financial hardships, and it's one of the most frequent reasons people part with their pet. This can lead to even greater challenges, as most public shelters are limited on the extent of medical care they can give. The ARF Emergency Medical Fund® (EMF) provides residents of Contra Costa County, California with affordable, high-quality, non-urgent veterinary care for their pets at ARF's clinic during times of serious financial hardship. From dental extractions to treating infections, this program makes certain animals receive the medical care they need while staying under the watchful eye of those who love them most.

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**“Decisions to relinquish an animal are heartbreaking for all involved and typically occur only when people feel they are completely out of options.”**

**Elena Bicker, ARF Executive Director**

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to help a family struggling with fencing issues, to assisting pet-lovers facing unexpected medical expenses, to helping fixed-income seniors keep a beloved companion in their care. ARF frequently works in partnership with Monument Crisis Center, Meals on Wheels, and The Coordinated Outreach Referral, Engagement (C.O.R.E.) program and others to help identify pets and families who might be in need. 🐾

# ARF EMERGENCY MEDICAL FUND® SAVES LIVES

The ARF Emergency Medical Fund® (EMF) provides qualifying residents of Contra Costa County with affordable, high-quality, non-urgent veterinary care for their pets during times of financial crisis. Since its founding in 1995, EMF has been a much-needed lifeline for thousands of dogs and cats.

Every once in a while, we receive feedback that we can't resist sharing with our supporters. Emma recently wrote to us about her experience with EMF and how it helped her save and adopt her feral feline friends.

*My name is Emma*

*I have been so fortunate over these many years to have qualified for and received assistance for my pets. Fifteen years ago, my first feral stray "Groucho" decided to bring a guest home with him.*

Emma goes on to explain how she brought out food and water for the stray cat Groucho brought home, and the next morning she found both Groucho and the stray in her driveway, along with four terrified kittens!

*If you're familiar with what's required to socialize a feral cat, you know it's truly a journey for all involved. A lot of scratches and hissing. In my soul I needed to save and prep these kitties for a decent life. They had all come home: Boxer, Lightfoot, Felicia, and Scooter II.*

Through EMF, ARF provided check-ups for the kittens, followed by fifteen years of medical care for the six kitties, now pets. Through the hard work of a woman with an enormous heart, the trust of a desperate mother cat, and EMF, seven lives were changed.

*What is so important, here within all of these many words, is that this program not only provides a financial assistance that helps us to continue to have our beloved pets, it also provides support for them and us. I'll always be grateful. Many are, I'm sure.*

Our goal is to prevent kind-hearted people from having to choose between pet care and self care. To learn more about EMF, its history, and how to apply, visit [arflife.org/programs-and-services](http://arflife.org/programs-and-services). 🐾



**ARF Emergency Medical Fund® is funded in part by proceeds from the**



# THRIFT STORE



**1950-H Market Street, Concord CA  
(925) 685-0908  ARFThriftStore  
[arflife.org/thrift-store-199](http://arflife.org/thrift-store-199)**

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: *Marie Ramagli*

**“Giving back is a win-win if you participate in making a difference for something you believe in.”**

**Marie Ramagli, ARF Volunteer**

This issue, we're pointing the Volunteer Spotlight in the direction of a special individual who has always had a love of animals. An avid multi-sport athlete and coach, Marie Ramagli's training runs were often put on pause to pet every dog on the trail. Since joining the ARF volunteer team in 2006, she has been able to work with almost every department, including marketing, training, cat care, and even leading yoga for the staff. This Fall, she'll start volunteering as part of the animal intake team!

As Gaye McDuff, ARF's Volunteer Services Director, put it, "Marie has the ability to reach out, connect and inspire others. She is a friend to the two-legged and four-legged alike." And it's true! From cat, to dog,



to person, seeing Marie is the highlight of anyone's day. Marie credits her passion for animal welfare to the adoption of her pets. "My life is forever changed because of adopting Opal, my first cat who is now 15 years old," she said. "Giving back is a win-win if you participate in making a difference for something you believe in. Animals have no voice, so helping them is important to me." 🐾



**Maddie's  
Fund**

Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation is a proud recipient of funding from Maddie's Fund®, a national family foundation established by Dave and Cheryl Duffield to revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals.

**#ThanksToMaddie**



## **ROLLOVER! TAX SMART GIVING FROM YOUR IRA**

Did you know that you can reduce your taxes by making a gift from your IRA to ARF? An IRA rollover is a simple and easy way for you to use your IRA to help save lives. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make a charitable gift of up to \$100,000, and your gift will qualify for your required minimum distribution. You will not pay federal income tax on the amount given from your IRA to ARF.

To make an IRA rollover gift, simply contact your plan and request that an amount be transferred to us. Your gift could be \$1,000, \$10,000, \$50,000 or more. To learn more about how you can save more lives by redirecting unneeded IRA income to ARF, contact Erin Jones at [ejones@arflife.org](mailto:ejones@arflife.org) or (925) 296-3149. 🐾



## TRIBUTE GIFTS

We are pleased to recognize tribute gifts of \$250 or more, which offer a special opportunity to remember a loved one, recognize an accomplishment, celebrate a special occasion, or thank a friend or colleague.

This listing recognizes gifts received 2/1/19 - 6/15/19. Dates may vary due to data entry and press lead time. If you have any questions about our tribute listings please email Lynn at [Itakahashi@arflife.org](mailto:Itakahashi@arflife.org). To make a tribute gift, please visit [arflife.org/honor](http://arflife.org/honor). 🐾



## IN HONOR

**Adam L.,**  
*Kristine and Travis Law*

**Ali,**  
*Sheridan Stanton*

**All the veterans,**  
*Fred and Sharon L. Siau*

**Dr. Andrew Waxman,**  
*Joan Balzarini-Robbins*

**Angela Bever,**  
*Scott J. and Shelley Bever*

**Ashley and Darcie Chellew's New Home!**  
*Sara Born*

**Betty and Gordon Towell,**  
*Estelle Bryan*

**Bruce Rodda,**  
*Caro Lou Rodda*

**Buster P,**  
*Dawn Boyd*

**Carmela Meely,**  
*Alamo Women's Club  
Federated*

**Charlene Trautner,**  
*David and Elizabeth Tobias*

**Cheryl Mosby,**  
*Linda Giddings*

**Dan and Shawne Moylan,**  
*Robert Moylan*

**Diane Lundquist,**  
*GHD*

**Elaine LaRussa's Birthday,**  
*Penny and Peter Rammer*

**Emilia Stern's 9th birthday,**  
*Lisa and Rob Black*

**Gary Katayama,**  
*Mitch Singerman*

**Hoolie and Paul,**  
*Brad Levesque*

**J.J. Filice,**  
*Nancy Filice*

**Dr. John O'Dea,**  
*Joan Balzarini-Robbins*

**Kat Berg's Service Project,**  
*Andrei Behdjet  
Leny and Frank Riebli  
Lise Wollenberg and Adam  
Zoger*

**Kellianne,**  
*Patricia A. Geary*

**Kelly Millino,**  
*Christin Hafstad*

**Dr. Kenneth S. Yamamoto (in memory of Farley),**  
*Anita Guerra*

**Dr. Kris Bruskiwicz,**  
*Joan Balzarini-Robbins*

**Lee and Ron Greenberg,**  
*Michael Shing*

**Leela,**  
*Cesy Martinez and  
Christopher Witte*

**Mackenzie Austin,**  
*The Taylor Family*

**The Man who pulled my Subaru out at FHL (1/28/18),**  
*Thomas Mork*

**Marie and Richard Ivona,**  
*Valerie Wong and Robert  
Jordan*

**Martin J. Zvada,**  
*Donald and Nancy Dalbey*

**Michael and Jessica Phan's New Home!,**  
*Sara Born*

**Mylu,**  
*Intellix Solutions, LLC*

**Nala,**  
*Barbara Blakely and Gary  
Maestas*

**Owen Puente,**  
*Anita Klein*

**Pam McMillan,**  
*Michele Barajas*

**Pete,**  
*Brindisi Animal  
Foundation*

**Rocco and Joey,**  
*Kathleen Constable*

**Shayna Greenwall,**  
*Donna and Ephraim  
Greenwall*

**Shelley Bever,**  
*Dan Bora  
Scott Bever*

**Snickers,**  
*Kaye and Jack Gordon*

**Tiger,**  
*The Dutkiewicz Family*

**Winston,**  
*Diane and Jerry Origlia*

**Zoe,**  
*Elizabeth and Joseph  
Atencio*

## IN MEMORY

**Aik,**  
*Janet Widmann*

**Alyosha,**  
*Edward J. Leiter*

**Amanda Dery,**  
*Susan Sanders*

**Angel,**  
*Marianne Tracy*

**The animals who did not get out of the fires,**  
*Lisa Waits*

**Anna Magloth,**  
*Glenn and Diane Colacurci*

**Arfy Sears,**  
*Julie Fulford*

**Army Staff Sgt Alex Conrad,**  
*Karen McClelland*

**Bagger, Polar, The Girl, and Maggie the Pup,**  
*Phillip Wirthman*

**BC,**  
*Cookie and Donald Orescanin*

**Bear,**  
*Carole A. and H. P. Breslin*

**Bella,**  
*Linda and Carlos Madeira*

**Bentley,**  
*Roger and Judy Haughton*

**Birdie Sherman,**  
*Marsha A. and Richard  
Servetnick*

**Brad Carmel,**  
*The Foundation of Athletes  
Relying on Television*

**Breeze,**  
*Susan and Fred Gilliam*

**Bruce R. Morhaus,**  
*Karen and Matt Matuszewski*

**Bruiser,**  
*Renee D. and Christopher  
J. Gallagher*

**Buddy,**  
*Scott Roberts*

**Buffy,**  
*Lynn and Bill Running*

**Buster,**  
*Anonymous*

**Carley Glover-Torrez,**  
*Kelly Becker*

**Carol Sue Wolfe,**  
*Delmar Wolfe*

## IN MEMORY (CONTINUED)

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**Carolyn W. Goldwater,**  
*Gerald and Karen Carlson*

**Chip,**  
*Ronald and Judith Smith*

**Chris Gleasman,**  
*Cynthia Gleasman*

**Claudia Gallup,**  
*Debra Obert*

**Cody,**  
*Christine and Jerome Frazee*

**Colleen 'Connie' Freschi,**  
*Gary and Marie Freschi*

**Cookie,**  
*Valerie Haak*

**"Cool" cat Ricky,**  
*Marsha A. and Richard Servetnick*

**Cowboy,**  
*Jack and Jean Roman*

**Crash,**  
*Donna Oldag*

**Dad and Lexi,**  
*Linda Dortzbach-Hudlin*

**Darby Sielman,**  
*Richard A. and Dana Sielman*

**David Paul Luther,**  
*Birinder Rai  
Deborah Simpkinson  
Jaryl Lore  
Walter Kurtz*

**Dean, Kai, and Kitty,**  
*Mitch Singerman*

**Diane Vindelov,**  
*Donald Vindelov*

**Dianne Wittusen,**  
*Maureen and Richard Ford*

**Diko,**  
*Ikuko Takeshita*

**Dingo,**  
*Gary Spaugy*

**Dolce Stanfield,**  
*Glenn and Diane Colacurci*

**Doofus,**  
*David Geiger*

**Edith J. Price and Roland,**  
*Lindsay McCrea*

**Edith Morrey,**  
*Patricia Berrey and Diane Wolf*

**Elaine Barker,**  
*Patricia Barker*

**Ellen Stice,**  
*Carole Lucas*

**Fran Stuart,**  
*Catherine Locke*

**Fred,**  
*Karla McAvoy and Tad Swida*

**Gary Michael Schwab,**  
*Mary Ann Halvorson*

**George,**  
*Barbara J. Daum*

**George Tom Hendricks,**  
*Lynn Kelly*

**Gerry Russell,**  
*Brenda and Allyn Moise & Dually*

**Ginger Roberts,**  
*Elena and Bill Bicker  
Glenn and Diane Colacurci*

**Grace Lopez,**  
*Margaret Hertstein  
Nancy Shore*

**Grandpa,**  
*David Geiger*

**Grushenka of Villa Caos,**  
*Edward J. Leiter*

**Hannah Bartlett,**  
*Elena and Bill Bicker  
Marsha A. and Richard Servetnick*

**Harvey Mayo,**  
*Karen Wisniewski*

**Homer,**  
*Briana Foster*

**Honey Garcia-Gavin,**  
*Judith M. and David Gavin*

**James Burke,**  
*Elaine and Richard Durkin*

**Jane "Choo" Downing Harker,**  
*Carol McGrail  
James Downing*

**Janet Di Reyslo,**  
*Alayne Heuken*

**Jennifer Elizabeth McCarthy,**  
*Terry and Steve Homand*

**Julia Sturtevant,**  
*Mary Callesen*

**Kimberly Sue Stutzman,**  
*Benicia State Parks  
Association  
Jenny Davis  
Linda and Philip Henika  
Marianne and Richard P.  
Goodson  
Mrs. C. M. Schwab*

**Kysse,**  
*Adriana Kevill*

**LaVonne M. Urbaniak,**  
*Mathew Minshull*

**Lexie,**  
*Karen Garcia*

**Lila,**  
*Lisa Brill-Nadler and Eran Nadler*

**Little Blacky II,**  
*Nick Costa*

**Little Hisser,**  
*David Geiger*

**Lizzie,**  
*Shelley and Joseph Murdock*

**Lori Ellen Brown,**  
*Richard Orr*

**Lucky Bonds,**  
*Debbie Cotton*

**Lucy Corral,**  
*Marsha A. and Richard Servetnick*

**Lulu,**  
*Kate Sherman*

**Mally,**  
*Mark Solorzano*

**Martin Zvada,**  
*Donald and Nancy Dalbey*

**Marvin Slevan,**  
*Mary K. and Joseph Gaspar*

**Mary,**  
*Carolyn Cohn*

**Maryanne Helene Homa,**  
*Sara Born*

**Max,**  
*Karen J. Mannering*

**Moose,**  
*Pamela C. Miller*

**Murphy,**  
*Renee D. and Christopher J. Gallagher*

**Myeka,**  
*Steven L. and Maria Valente*

**Norma Wicht,**  
*Louis Dagen*

**Norwood Teachey,**  
*Steve Cochran*

**Okilani,**  
*John and Beverly Barron*

**Patience Peters,**  
*Harold and Barbara Hubinger*

**Patrick McMahon,**  
*Roberta and John Baron*

**Paul Peratis,**  
*Tina and Mark Fletcher*

**Pawses,**  
*Kimberly McCarty*

**Peggy Winegardner,**  
*Robert C. and Terry L. Damico*

**Perry 'Tony' Thomas,**  
*Belinda George  
Sharon James*

**Philippe Alexandre Peyron,**  
*Cliff Shum*

**Piotr Ilych,**  
*Edward J. Leiter*

**Ray Robbins,**  
*James Stephens*

**Raymond W. Carino,**  
*Catherine Anderson*

**Rheena and Sierra Marchand,**  
*Enid and Larry Kissinger*

**Richard M. Moreno,**  
*Cheryl Wolfe  
Susan Simkin*

**Richard M. Urbaniak,**  
*Harbeen Gill  
Karin Youngberg  
LaVonne Urbaniak and  
Mathew Minshull*

**Richard Rector,**  
*Gail Friedman*

**Ricky,**  
*Priscilla L. and Robert A. Buchman*

**Rider,**  
*Ryan Christoi and Sara Prado*

**Ripley,**  
*Joan Balzarini-Robbins*

**Robert G. Taylor,**  
*Panagiota Taylor*

**Rosie,**  
*Harold M. and Janet L. Freiman*

**Roxie,**  
*Judith French*

**Ruby St. Angelo,**  
*Paula B. and Michael M. Bafan*

**Ruth Whysong,**  
*Albert and Joyce Bjorgum*

**Sally Caldwell,**  
*Susan Caldwell*

**Sandra Kendall,**  
*Kathleen Carrai*

**Sean Garvin,**  
*Dayna and Michael Garvin*

**The Seven Sequoia Grove Puppies,**  
*Janelle and Barry Clark*

**Sheba Nickerson,**  
*Good Shepherd Episcopal Church*

**Sheila Dobrushin,**  
*Christine Dobrushin*

**Shirley Nelson,**  
*Julie A. Nelson-Terry and Paul Terry*

**Sierra and Khaluah,**  
*Pamela P. Dietz*

**Sing Lurt Chiu,**  
*Karen Chin*

**Mrs. Spring,**  
*Renee Charland*

**Sweet Bianca Kitty,**  
*Marsha A. and Richard Servetnick*

**Teddy of Villa Caos,**  
*Edward J. Leiter*

**Tita Mitchell Lanning,**  
*Albert and Diana Edgerton*

**Wayne Hall,**  
*Kathleen Edmonds*

**Wendy Merrill,**  
*Richard and Shannon Merrill*

**Zeke,**  
*Robert and June Morris*

## ROSSMOOR'S CANINE HERO

**“It makes me feel warm inside that my dog was able to save a life.”**

**Judy, ARF Adopter**

In the East Bay neighborhood of Rossmoor, an ARF-adopted pooch has become a community hero. Judy Kahn was embarking on an afternoon stroll with her dog, Molly, when the five-year-old beagle mix yanked the leash out of her hand and took off! Judy followed Molly to a neighbor's front porch, where the dog was scratching and whining at the door. Judy found the door unlocked and upon entering, made an astounding discovery – a woman lying on the ground, disoriented and injured. While unheard by anyone else, Molly's sharp ears had picked up on faint cries for help coming from inside.

It turns out, Judy's neighbor had fallen early in the morning, hit her head, and was lying on her bedroom floor for ten hours, unable to reach out for help, before Molly came to her aid. Judy immediately called 9-1-1 and waited along with her sharp-nosed pup. “Molly



*Photo by Dan Rosentrauch of the Rossmoor News*

wouldn't leave her side until the paramedics arrived,” she told Rossmoor News. “My neighbor said to me, ‘How did you know I was lying there?’ and I told her, ‘You'll have to ask Molly!’ ”

Dogs' ears are much more sensitive than those of a human, hearing noises four times farther away and of a much wider frequency range. So, it's not uncommon for them to pick up on something that their human family cannot hear. While usually it's just a bird, a car, or a mailman, this time it was someone in danger – and Molly acted accordingly. 🐾

**diablo** 2019 Best of the East Bay  
MAGAZINE



**Best Dog-Training Classes:**  
Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation  
For the fourth year in a row (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)  
[arlife.org/dog-training](http://arlife.org/dog-training)

## FOSTER AS A FAMILY

Fostering ARF animals makes for fantastic family bonding! From kittens to future Pets and Vets service dogs, there is a wide range of animals who spend time in foster homes. ARF offers bimonthly Foster Orientation seminars (both in-person and online) to go over protocols and procedures. Get the ball rolling and sign up at [arlife.org/foster](http://arlife.org/foster). 🐾



## THE CUDDLIEST CACTUS

Poor Cactus was an ARF dog who just couldn't find the right family. But it wasn't because he was prickly - from jumping fences to chasing cats, it always seemed like he just "wasn't a good fit" for the homes he found. So time after time, Cactus was returned back to ARF, tongue out and tail wagging.

Eventually, a couple named Sarah and Brad visited our adoption center and were instantly smitten. They were told he was a little anxious from all the yo-yoing back and forth to the shelter, that his rough-and-tumble play style wasn't for everyone, but Cactus was still a favorite of ARF staff and volunteers. The couple knew at first sight that he was the dog for them.

These days, Cactus spends his time happily hiking through the hills of Martinez, CA, cuddling on the couch with his family, and training with treats - we're told he's one smart cookie! We know every dog and cat has a perfect home out there waiting, even if it takes a few tries to find it. And we couldn't be happier that our sweet boy, Cactus, found his. 🐾



**"It's been great seeing him go from cautious in a new home to a confident, obedient dog who is excited to explore!"**  
**Sarah & Brad, ARF Adopters**

## VETERANS DAY AT CAMP ARF

With a day off from school, Veterans Day is a great chance for young animal-lovers to spend some time at ARF! Join us on Monday, November 11 for a day of excitement, all focused on service for our adoptable cats and dogs. Campers will make homemade treats and toys for shelter pets and use their creative skills to help showcase them for adoption. A visit with one of ARF's famous Pet Hug Pack® therapy animals will round out the day of fun!

Veterans Day Camp is offered for children in grades 1-5. Register online at [arflife.org/camp-arf](http://arflife.org/camp-arf). 🐾

A ginger cat is lying on its back on a white shaggy rug. The cat is wearing a string of white lights around its neck and body. The cat has its paws tucked up near its face.

**Holiday WISHES** | HELP **arf** WIN UP TO \$100K!  
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[petcofoundation.org/holidaywishes](http://petcofoundation.org/holidaywishes)



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JOIN THE ARF CONVERSATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



Stay up to date on adoptable animals, milestones, ARF events, and more by following ARF on social media! We're available right at your fingertips on the platforms listed below!

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