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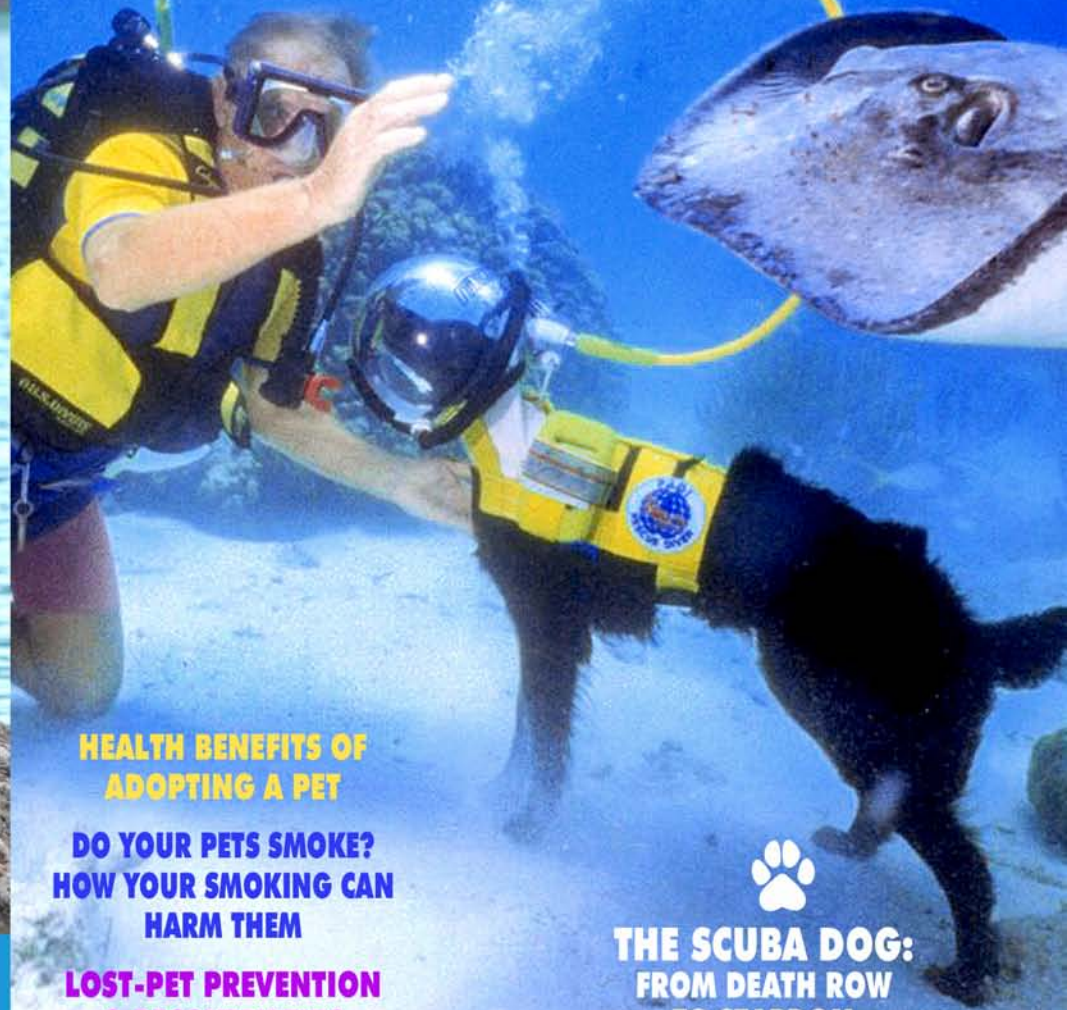
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COMPLIMENTARY

JANUARY 2018



**HEALTH BENEFITS OF
ADOPTING A PET**

**DO YOUR PETS SMOKE?
HOW YOUR SMOKING CAN
HARM THEM**

**LOST-PET PREVENTION
& RECOVERY TIPS**



**THE SCUBA DOG:
FROM DEATH ROW
TO STARDOM**



WELCOME TO JUSTIN BARTLETT ANIMAL RESCUE

WHO WE ARE

Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue is an ALL volunteer, ALL foster-based, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization serving South Florida. Our mission: To reduce the number of homeless, pregnant, nursing and orphan dogs and cats from becoming victims of shelter euthanasia; To host community events that promote pet adoption as well as educating the public on the importance of spay/neuter and humane treatment of animals; To provide low cost spay/neuter and veterinary care to economically challenged communities.

ANIMALS SAVED TO DATE = 7,400

P.O. BOX 210572 | Royal Palm Beach, FL 33421
(561) 684-1010 | justinbartlettanimalrescue.org

JUSTIN'S LEGACY

Justin Bartlett, from Wellington, Florida, was a fine young man whose life tragically ended too soon. Justin's profound love of animals and his rescue-minded legacy live on in Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue. To learn more about this caring man with a huge heart for animals, visit justinbartlettanimalrescue.org and click on 'Justin G. Bartlett.'

ADOPT

Don't shop, adopt! We'll help you find your perfect feline or canine match! Go to justinbartlettanimalrescue.org and click on 'Adoptions' and 'Animals.'

VOLUNTEER

It takes a village! Join our dedicated team of volunteers, who all play a vital role in every aspect of rescue by fostering, transporting, working fundraising and adoption events, or even collecting supplies. Get involved at justinbartlettanimalrescue.org by clicking on 'Get Involved.'

JUSTIN BARTLETT ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Our exceptional veterinary professionals provide low-cost, caring treatment for your pet. This nonprofit, state-of-the-art veterinary facility is affordable and ready to care for your precious dogs and cats.

10405 Southern Blvd. | Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
(561) 795-9999 | justinbartlettanimalhospital.org

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Connect with us on Facebook to learn more at:
Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue & Justin Bartlett Animal Hospital

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CAN YOU HELP?

We need volunteers to solicit advertising for Rescue Tales and/or to distribute the issues to local businesses. Contact Pam D'Addio at rescuetaleseditor@gmail.com



RESCUE TALES

Editor-in-Chief

Pam D'Addio
rescuetaleseditor@gmail.com

Writers

Pam D'Addio
Julia C. Vladimir, DVM

Volunteer Copy Editor

Mary Crawley

Distribution Volunteers

Nancy O'Neal
Debra Mammino

Photography

ferrantephot.com
AFoleyphoto.com

Layout and Design

mouregraphicdesign.com

*Find RESCUE TALES online at justinbartlettanimalrescue.org, Click on Rescue Tales on left column



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About The Editor



Pam D'Addio was born in Chicago and has lived in Palm Beach County since the age of 8. Her love for animals began, she says, "at birth!" Even as a tiny girl, Pam was saving, feeding, rescuing, and caring for every living critter she could find. As she grew older, her passion grew even stronger.

Pam is an active animal rescue volunteer locally with Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue and TriCounty Animal Rescue. She is also a member of TEAM PAWS Chicago, a group of marathon runners who raise funds for PAWS Chicago, a national model for no-kill shelters.

As a member of the American Humane Association's Red Star Rescue Team, she's also trained to deploy to disaster areas to rescue and shelter animals.

Pam's long-time passion for writing makes her happiest when it's used to help raise awareness for animal rescue. "I want people to know that everyone can make a difference, no matter how large or small," she says, "so that we can reduce the number of homeless, neglected, abandoned, and euthanized pets."

When not busy with rescue work, Pam enjoys her own adopted pets!



NEW PET ADOPTION CENTER OPEN!

Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue (JBAR) is pleased to announce the opening of its new adoption center, located at its partner facility:



**Justin Bartlett Animal Hospital,
10405 Southern Blvd., Royal Palm Beach.**

**Adoption Center hours are:
NOON - 4 PM, Tuesday - Friday
11 AM - 4 PM, Saturday**

Stop in for a meet & sniff! You may find your new BFF. Volunteers are welcome, and JBAR foster humans may bring their adoptable "house guests" for adoption.



JBAR will also continue to feature its adoptable pets at the PETCO weekend adoption events, and they can always be found online at justinbartlettanimalrescue.org

What Is parvo...? and why is everyone talking about it?

By Dr. Julia C. Vladimirov
Medical Director
Justin Bartlett Animal Hospital



Q: What Is **parvo** and why is everyone talking about it?
~ Silvia Meyers

A: Parvo, or canine parvovirus (CPV), is a highly contagious, potentially fatal disease that affects dogs but not humans. Puppies between the ages of 4 to 14 weeks are most at risk, but any age dog can theoretically be infected. They are exposed to parvovirus by ingesting viral particles shed in the feces of infected dogs. Direct contact with an infected dog isn't required, though, because parvovirus is extremely hardy if not exposed to sunlight or disinfectants; and it is incredibly adept at utilizing fomites—animate or inanimate objects—to spread the disease. The parvovirus will either: 1) trigger in the dog's body an immune response that will defeat and clear the virus, or 2) replicate and attack the lining of the small intestine, inducing clinical signs of disease.

The incubation period (from exposure to signs of illness) averages 4-6 days, but can be 3-14 days. Dogs incubating parvo often shed 2-3 days before they show symptoms, and sick dogs can shed

the virus in high numbers for 2 weeks following recovery—in low numbers for up to 2 months.

The first sign is often loose stool, followed by vomiting, loss of appetite, and lethargy. Most dogs become rapidly ill in the next 24-48 hours, though the storyline for each dog is often different and unpredictable. **There is no cure for parvo**; the dog's immune system must overcome the virus if he is to survive. Co-infection with intestinal parasites, such as hookworms, giardia, and coccidia, increase duration of illness and decrease odds of recovery.

Complications and secondary infections are common. Bacterial sepsis is a risk whenever bacteria that live normally in the GI tract "escape" into such areas as the blood stream or the body cavity. The healthy intestinal lining prevents this, but in parvo, the lining is under attack and cannot contain the bacteria. Other common complications are edema (collection of fluid where it shouldn't be), intussusception (telescoping of one section of intestine into another), and myocarditis (infection of the heart muscle).

Treatment is focused on supporting the immune system and preventing bacterial sepsis. A parvo patient's GI tract doesn't work, so giving food, water, and medicine orally is ineffective. They come right back up and dehydrate the patient even more. Parvo patients have a better chance at survival if hospitalized for IV and subcutaneous administration of fluids, anti-nausea medicine, and antibiotics.

Recovery from parvo is generally regarded as when the dog can eat and hold down food for 24 hours. The average time of active illness is 3 to 4 days. Diarrhea, usually the last symptom to resolve, can persist for several days following recovery. Once a dog has recovered from parvo, it is generally immune to that disease for life.

Veterinary and rescue communities are talking about parvo lately, because this season has been particularly brutal. Prior to this year, I rarely saw parvo in a puppy vaccinated on schedule. However in the last 3 months, I have seen multiple cases in vaccinated puppies younger than 14 weeks of age. Vaccinating puppies every 3 weeks between the ages of 6 and 14 weeks remains the most effective way to prevent the virus, but it does not guarantee immunity.

So how can we protect young puppies from this tragic disease? **Vaccinating puppies on schedule and minimizing exposure are key.** Parvo is easily killed with dilute bleach solution OR accelerated hydrogen peroxide products (**don't mix them – the combination creates toxic gas**), but if left untreated, the virus can survive in the heat, cold, humidity, and most environmental conditions for YEARS!

Common vehicles for the spread of parvo include caregivers (their hands, hair, skin,

clothes, shoes); instruments (thermometers, stethoscopes); surfaces the sick animals touch (cages, treatment tables, bedding, toys, food bowls); as well as rodents and bugs.

Puppies less than 14 weeks of age and those that have never been vaccinated should not visit dog parks or participate in uncontrolled playgroups. In kennel and rescue/shelter settings, fastidious sanitation of animal areas several times a day and immediately after dogs defecate is ideal.

While much of the information above is frightening, remember that most puppies coming in contact with parvo will not become sick. Many will clear it before they show any signs of illness. In the rescue world, however, it is important to be familiar with the nature of the disease, clinical signs, and prevention measures. The more we know, the better equipped we will be to prevent, act, and minimize its impact.

Parvo facts on pg. 21



A Happy Tale JENNY... Four Years to Joy



Alone, scared, and tied to a tree in the woods, the dog had been left to die. She was emaciated, covered in parasites, and shaking with fear when Tri-County Animal Rescue (TCAR) rescued her. Recovering physically, her emotional wounds proved much harder to overcome. Named "Jenny" at the shelter, the 60-pound Shiba Inu mix was so traumatized that people browsing the shelter barely noticed her as she stayed in the dim, quiet back area of her cage. Her cushioned bed became her only comfort zone in the bustling facility.

TCAR is a no-kill shelter, where Jenny could safely remain as long as necessary, but weeks went by, then months, then years. Other dogs came and went while Jenny waited. She received food, care, and three walks a day with the few people she trusted enough to lead

her outside; but she still shied from their gentle contact. Although loving staff and volunteers worked to lure her out of her shell, this girl clearly needed a special forever home and a consistent, patient touch. Dogs are born with an inherent joy, but Jenny's was buried under layers of trauma.

In summer 2008, Linda Terrell of Lakeland, Florida, searched petfinder.com. Jenny's face captured her heart, and she called TCAR to inquire. A murmur went through the shelter: Could this be Jenny's chance? She had been at the shelter for nearly four years.

A volunteer who especially loved Jenny answered Linda's questions. She didn't sugarcoat Jenny's issues, but her love of the dog and her belief that Jen could blossom in the right home came through.

E-mails ensued, and two months later, Linda and her husband, Ron, made the three-hour drive to meet Jenny. Jen's volunteer waited nervously for their arrival with prayers that Jenny would finally find her happy ending.

The apprehensive dog met Linda, Ron, and their dogs in a penned area. Jenny was clearly aloof and skittish, but Linda took the leap of faith that would change Jenny's life, and she became a member of their family.

"She gives 'butterfly kisses.' She is so very loved, and I'm so happy we found her."

Jenny's transition was slow, measured in the tiniest of tail wags and the slightest acceptance of petting. There were treats, soft voices, and calm reassurances, along with a regular routine. Despite setbacks and challenges, Linda never gave up. As the weeks turned to months, the Terrells and their other three dogs showed her the ropes; and Jenny, although still shy, found the trust to be a happy dog. Jen now lives a life of comfort, love and fun play with her canine siblings — the life she always deserved.

"Jenny is beautiful inside and out, with eyes that smile to show a warm, kind heart," says Linda. "She gives 'butterfly kisses.' She is so very loved, and I'm so happy we found her."

The moral of the story? All dogs matter. Jenny mattered, and a determined, loving family gave her a chance. Local shelters and rescue organizations are full of happy, outgoing dogs that will catch your attention. But maybe your heart will lead you to the special-needs dog at the back of the cage. Your loving touch and kind patience can turn that dog into a wonderful pet!





Photo: Sherry Ferrante

LOST-PET PREVENTION AND RECOVERY TIPS

Have you ever seen a “lost dog” running alone near a busy road — or a cat that may be lost? Perhaps you’ve stopped to help (bless you!) or just hoped it found its way home. Maybe your own pet has slipped its leash, dug under the fence, or bolted through an open door. As responsible pet caretakers, we must take steps to prevent them harm; but if the worst happens, we should know how to find them.

IT’S ELEMENTARY. Prevent Houdini impersonations by neutering, by never leaving dogs alone in a yard, and by checking doors, screens, gates and fences often. If an escape does happen, search immediately — the second you realize your pet is loose. Most area shelters will hold a dog or cat for only 5 days before making it available for adoption. Many municipal shelters euthanize unadopted pets.

MICROCHIP. Microchip, microchip, microchip! This is the best thing you can ever do for your pet. An adopted pet should have either a tattoo on its underbelly or the all-important microchip. Both will have numbers traceable back to the shelter or rescue organization and ultimately, through their records, back to you. If you obtained your pet in another way, be SURE it has a microchip. Go to any veterinarian for this low-cost, tiny chip, which contains contact information and is implanted under the skin of the pet. Collars and tags can fall off, but microchips are forever. Every shelter, rescue organization and veterinarian’s office will scan for a microchip on a found pet, and it’ll be your pet’s link back to you.

TAGS. Although a microchip can eventually help you reunite with lost pets, always tag them as well. This is your most immediate method of getting your pet back. Nothing is faster than someone finding your dog, reading your contact info on the tag, and calling you. Pet stores have machines that can make a tag within minutes, or you can find custom tags at websites such as dogtagart.com. Keep rabies tags on your pet’s collar, too; they also will link to you. Buy an ID tag the day you adopt your pet, and always update tag and microchip information if it changes.

SOCIAL MEDIA. Move quickly with posts on social media. Many cities, towns and communities have their own Facebook pages where you can post photos and a plea for help finding your pet. Include any information that’ll make your beloved pet approach someone, such as being called by its name or hearing the words “cookie” or “treat.” The biggest challenge can be getting hands on a pet that’s out on a freedom run and enjoying himself!

FLIERS. Also move quickly to make up some fliers with a large photo of your pet and your phone number. Offer a reward. Distribute the fliers throughout your neighborhood and in coffee shops and pet-related businesses — increase the number of eyes looking for your escapee.

SHELTERS. Check all local animal shelters, rescue organizations and city animal-care-and-control facilities, in person and often. You may be able to fill out a lost-pet form. It’s still best to search personally, as shelters are busy places, and sometimes the front office isn’t aware of recently admitted animals.

APPS AND DATABASES. Take advantage of the many databases, websites and apps available to help.

A few are:

- pawboost.com
- fidofinder.com
- thecenterforlostpets.com
- missingpet.net
- lostmydoggie.com

Download or check these out now, so you’ll be prepared if need be.

We hope you never need to search for a lost pet, but if you do, this information could bring your beloved pet home, sweet home! Good Luck!

WHY SPAY AND NEUTER?

<p>REDUCE SPRAYING & MARKING</p>	<p>REDUCE ROAMING</p>
<p>LOWERS RISK OF CANCERS</p>	<p>DECREASE OVERPOPULATION</p>
<p>REDUCE AGGRESSION</p>	<p>INCREASE LIFESPAN UP TO 3-5 YEARS</p>



HEALTH BENEFITS OF ADOPTING A PET

Did you know that sharing your life with an adopted pet does a body good, literally?

Research shows that living with pets provides tangible health benefits in addition to enriching our lives. **Adopting** a rescued pet has the added benefit of feeling good from knowing you saved a life. It's a win-win arrangement for you and your pet!

We've long known that service animals are trained to help the disabled. Emerging studies reveal animals' helping autistic children, military veterans, and victims of violence. As pets work their magic, there seem to be no areas of the human condition that they can't improve.

Studies have shown lowered stress levels, lowered blood pressure, and less anxiety and depression in people with pets. Interacting with your pet can elevate levels of serotonin and dopamine, which are nerve transmitters known to have pleasurable and calming properties. Heart attack patients with pets recover faster and live longer than those without pets. AIDS patients in one study proved to be far less likely to suffer depression if living with a beloved pet. Alzheimer's patients are calmer, with fewer anxious outbursts, as are people suffering schizophrenia. Improved immunity and decreased risk of heart attack and stroke are also thought to be benefits of life with pets.

University of Wisconsin pediatrician James E. Gem has conducted a number of studies demonstrating that a pet in the home can lower a child's likelihood of developing related allergies by as much as 33 percent. His work published in the *Journal of Allergy & Clinical Immunology* shows that children exposed to animals early in life tend to develop stronger immune systems overall.

Heart-related studies by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) show lower blood pressure and lower triglycerides and cholesterol levels in pet owners, decreasing their risk of heart attacks. NIH studies also showed that pet owners are less likely to be obese.

Canines are the perfect personal trainers, getting their people out to exercise for walks or playtime and providing fresh air and sunshine. Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) or Pet-Facilitated Therapy (PFT) in hospitals and nursing homes bring health benefits to the sick or elderly. Pets counter loneliness and provide companionship as they help owners meet other people. A pet is a great conversation starter once he gets you out for a walk in the neighborhood!

Several insurance companies now recognize the health benefits that pets provide. The screening process for Island Life Insurance Company of Columbus, Ohio, now includes asking people over 75 if they have pets. A "yes" is a point in the client's favor.

Pets — better than an apple a day. What better incentive to adopt a furry companion and save a life? That pet might save yours!



A Happy Tale

A BROKEN KITTEN HEALS A BROKEN HEART

Tiffany was heartbroken at the unexpected passing of her beloved cat, Tricksey. That same week, however, a stray kitten was born, later to suffer a terrible injury causing the loss of one leg. As if it was meant to be, the kitten came into the young woman's heart and life — and they helped each other heal.

A Good Samaritan found the 1-pound, 7-week-old kitten, which had been hit by a car, and rushed it to Broward County Animal Care and Adoption. The feline's left femur (the large rear leg bone that connects to the pelvis) was broken, and her pelvis was fractured. Amputation was needed. Cats Exclusive, Inc. stepped up to rescue the kitten and — with Friends of Broward County Animal Care & Adoption — raised funds to pay for her surgery.

Tiffany saw the fundraising page on Facebook. In constant contact with homeless kittens through her own rescue work, Tiffany was still sad over the loss of Tricksey and hadn't been ready to adopt another cat. But this one was special, and her heart said it was time.

Eight days after amputation surgery, Tiffany and her husband, Colin, adopted the teeny warrior. The kitten was soon wearing her new Harley Davidson collar inscribed with the name Harley, which proved apropos. Within an hour of her adoption, it was clear that her little motor runs nonstop.



"She's always motoring in some way, either racing around and playing hard or cuddled up on one of us, purring her little heart out," says Tiffany. "We're amazed and inspired at how well and how quickly she adapted to three legs. It doesn't stop her from running, jumping, rolling, climbing, pouncing, and playing. She loves her toys, and she acts like any four-legged, silly, active kitten. We love her so much, and we think she's just perfect!"



MARC COLTON

When Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue (JBAR) President Peter Torres needs help or business opinions, he often turns to good friend and volunteer Marc Colton. “He’s my ‘brother from another mother,’ says Peter, “and he never lets me down.”

Marc always smiles while doing every possible task that animal-rescue work can throw at him. Despite a full-time career with Office Depot, Marc still makes time to answer the rescue call. For more than five years, he’s worked nearly every JBAR event, rescue mission, and project. He transports animals and supplies, often driving JBAR’s huge RV on rescue missions near or far. He’ll set up and break down equipment, tents, tables, and pet crates at events. He jumps right in to travel on road-trip rescue missions when pet lives are threatened. He loads and unloads tons of donated food and supplies. He fixes, he cleans, he leaps tall buildings in a single bound! (Well, maybe not that last one!)

Marc and Suzanne Mondo also foster JBAR pets. Recently, they lovingly fostered Dexter, a dog found terribly neglected and abused, with a severe,

painful case of demodectic mange. Besides the resulting sores over his face and body, Dexter also had a collar deeply embedded into his neck. Obviously placed on him when he was much smaller, the collar became tighter as he grew. Veterinarians removed the collar, but of course, that left more wounds. After JBAR rescued the pup, this caring couple gladly took on the extra care and attention Dexter needed to recover and heal.

Besides all the duties Marc cheerfully takes on as a JBAR volunteer, Peter says he also relies on Marc’s business acumen and ideas. “Marc is not only the one I call when I need pretty much anything done, but he’s also the person I trust with business advice,” says Peter. “I often bounce ideas and challenges off him.”

Marc Colton is a strong, solid part of the volunteer foundation at JBAR. THANK YOU, Marc, for your hard work and your heart for animals!

Be like Marc! Go to:
justinbartlettanimalrescue.org
 and click on “Get Involved.”

OUR ANIMAL HEROES

JUSTIN BARTLETT ANIMAL RESCUE THANKS OUR 2017 HURRICANE RESCUE PARTNERS

DALLAS PETS ALIVE
 GULF COAST HUMANE SOCIETY
 TRICOUNTY ANIMAL RESCUE
 BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE
 A SECOND CHANCE PUPPIES AND KITTENS
 PET HAVEN
 FURRY FRIENDS
 NALA’S NEW LIFE RESCUE
 H.A.L.O. RESCUE
 ROTTI NATION
 CARING FIELDS FELINES
 GOOD KARMA PET RESCUE
 RUFF PET RESCUE
 DOMINO’S CAT RESCUE LEAGUE
 DACHSHUND RESCUE OF SOUTH FLORIDA
 BARKY PINES ANIMAL RESCUE AND SANCTUARY
 BIG DOG RESCUE OF PUERTO RICO
 SAVING PAWS BY LADY, INC
 LIGA DE RESCATE ANIMAL DE PUERTO RICO
 SAVE A GATO
 SANTUARIO CANITA



DO YOUR PETS SMOKE?

Your Smoking Can Put Your Pets' Health At Risk

environmental Tobacco Smoke (or ETS) is a combination of second-hand smoke, which is involuntarily inhaled, and third-hand smoke, which is smoke residue that remains on skin, fur, clothing, furniture, etc. after the air has cleared. Scientific studies from Harvard Medical School, Tufts University, University of Minnesota, Oklahoma State University, and Colorado State University reveal a link between ETS and serious diseases in cats and dogs.

In dogs, risk of nasal cancer increases 250 percent in dogs with long noses — e.g., Collies and Shepherds — because their extensive nasal passages filter much of the toxins in smoke. Dogs with short or medium noses tend to develop lung cancer under similar conditions because the toxins pass through the shorter noses more readily and into the lungs. Dogs may also develop cancers of the respiratory tract.

Not only are pets breathing smoke-filled air, but they also lie directly on carpets

and furniture saturated with a brew of gases and particles from smoke. Grooming themselves introduces the chemicals into their bodies. Cats of smokers are three times more likely to develop malignant lymphoma and also are more likely to develop oral cancers due to their extensive grooming habits.

Ten milligrams of nicotine is potentially fatal to a dog, yet one cigarette contains 20 mg, and the butt contains 6 mg; so if eaten, your cigarettes can be fatal to your canine. (If you suspect nicotine poisoning, call your vet, or the Animal Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435). Nicotine gums and patches, cigars, marijuana, and smokeless tobacco can also be deadly to your pets and must be kept away from them.

“No Smoking” is the best solution for your pets’ safety. Smoking outdoors, using an air purifier, and washing bedding, carpets, and furniture will somewhat reduce your pets’ exposure to tobacco toxins.



A Happy Tale Bella Pays It Forward

When Annette Amiraian-Maggio noticed a small, black, stray cat in her neighborhood, she wanted to get it off the streets and into safety. She and her husband, Dan, began feeding her. Months went by, but although the cat accepted food, it wouldn’t allow any contact.

When they noticed the cat was pregnant, they doubled their efforts to capture her, but failed. Then the cat stopped coming around their home. Sad and worried, the kind couple searched the streets without luck. Weeks later, they learned that a neighbor, who had been feeding the cat, thought she might be able to catch it, so Annette loaned the neighbor a pet carrier. Weeks later, the neighbor told Annette she’d caught the cat and brought it to Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue (JBAR).

But Annette and Dan weren’t done loving this feline. They looked online and found that a black cat in JBAR’s care was being shown at a Petco store,

and they went to see if it was “their” little stray. It was indeed. Now named Venus, she’d become a mama to four kittens, born just two days after she was safely in JBAR’s care. Venus had also accepted two orphaned kittens and nursed them with her own babies. Talk about repaying a good deed!

Not about to let this special mama cat out of her life again, Annette adopted Venus that day.

“We renamed her Bella, and she made herself at home immediately,” says Annette. “Our household had been in mourning over the passing of our Maltese, Lexi. Bella added just the spark that Buddy, our tuxedo cat, needed to stave off depression over the loss of his canine friend. We love her and are grateful to JBAR for uniting us with the ‘little black cat’ we thought was forever gone. Many thanks to her JBAR foster mother, Jessica, for the loving care she gave Bella. It certainly shows in her disposition. Bella is safe, loved, and forever in our hearts and home.”

HURRICANE AID TRIPS TO TEXAS AND PUERTO RICO

Helping the animals and humans affected by Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Maria

Well-behaved and calm, they sensed that they were on their journey to safety.



Nursing kittens, puppies, and their Mamas, were part of the precious rescued cargo.

ethanizing homeless animals previously in their care to make room for the surrenders and storm rescues. Worse, other pets were left to fend for themselves as the storm hit.

2017 was an active and devastating year for hurricanes, but as Mr. Rogers said about scary news: "Look for the helpers." Hurricane helpers included Justin Bartlett Animal Rescue (JBAR), which traveled to help the people and animals of Texas and Puerto Rico.

First came Hurricane Harvey, hitting Texas as a Category 4 storm, bringing torrential rain and floods, and displacing more than 40,000 people. As people fled the storm, a massive number surrendered their pets to already-full animal shelters. Shelters were

The JBAR crew — President Peter Torres, as well as a veterinarian, a veterinary technician and five volunteers prepared to take supplies and return with rescued animals. On social media, they put out a plea for supplies. Community donations of pet food and crates, and human supplies, such as diapers, food, and clothing, were so great that JBAR had to rent two cargo vans to accompany its massive RV on the 20-hour drive to Texas. The trip was fraught with three blown tires, hours awaiting roadside assistance, truck-stop food, and sleeplessness; but determination remained.

continues on pg. 20





continues from pg. 19

Upon arrival, the supplies were unloaded and distributed. With the help of rescuers from Texas and Louisiana, 67 animals — from elderly pets to pups and kittens, some still nursing — were loaded onto the three JBAR vehicles, which began the long return to Florida.

Just as they returned, Hurricane Irma was approaching Florida. JBAR scrambled to quickly place the animals into foster homes or with partnering rescue groups. Thankfully, Irma spared Palm Beach County for the most part.

Ten days later, Category 4 Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico, causing catastrophic damage to homes, animal shelters and infrastructure. Overextended from the previous missions, low on funds, and exhausted, JBAR mobilized yet again. A small plane and pilot were commissioned, and JBAR Director Deven Soto climbed aboard with donated pet food and medications, later returning to Florida with rescued animals.

As this issue went to print, more than 200 hurricane-affected animals had been saved by JBAR, more than 25,000 pounds of relief supplies had been delivered, and another mission flight to Puerto Rico was in the works.



Parvo Facts: *continues from pg. 7*

Most dogs vaccinated against CPV after 14 weeks of age have adequate immunity to parvo.

Parvo virus has a seasonal peak in incidence in the spring and fall, but it is diagnosed year round.

Some dogs who are exposed to the virus will become infected but not sickened. These dogs may still shed the virus and "silently" spread the disease to other animals.

Parvo tests can sometimes be incorrectly negative (false negative) if testing is done early or late in the course of the disease or exposure.

Parvo tests can be incorrectly positive (false positive) if the testing takes place 4-8 days following a parvo immunization. Most test kits however will identify this scenario with a "weak positive" result.

Even though most parvo vaccines are of the Modified Live Virus type, vaccination does not cause parvo.

It is possible for a parvo vaccine to temporarily lower a dogs immunity, making him more susceptible to parvo infection if coincidentally exposed in the environment around the same time as vaccination. This is considered to be extremely rare, however, and is regarded as an adverse vaccine event.

A dog that becomes sick from parvo following a vaccine was most likely exposed prior to the administration of the vaccine.



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SHADOW THE SCUBA DOG

FROM DEATH ROW TO STARDOM



Boynton Beach dog lover Dwane Folsom stopped at Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control on a whim: “just to look.” He had no idea of the life he would save and the media darling he would create.

A black, 8-month-old Flat-Coated Retriever mix that huddled in the back of her cage caught his attention. With a trip planned the next day, Dwane decided to check back the following week and consider adopting her if she hadn’t yet found a home.

Upon returning to the shelter, Dwane was first told that the dog had run out of her allotted time to be adopted and had been euthanized that very morning.

Luckily, another shelter employee said that the dog was indeed still alive because the vet had had an emergency and had not yet arrived! The mutt was immediately adopted by Dwane and his wife, Vi, and was named Shadow.

On her first night in her new home, Shadow showed her appreciation by chewing a sofa. Experienced in dog training, Dwane patiently began teaching her basic manners. Shadow proved to be very smart and eager to please. She quickly became a well-behaved and much-loved pet who was always at her active owner’s side.

An avid scuba diver, Dwane watched Shadow jump off the boat one day and try to follow him “down under.” The wheels began to spin. Soon the ace mechanic and amateur inventor was at his workbench, building a special breathing apparatus for his canine buddy. After a few prototypes and lots of tinkering, it was ready. Shadow was comfortable with the equipment, and they were soon scuba diving together in their pool. Not trying to impress anyone, Dwane said, “I just wanted a dive buddy.” Dwane taught Shadow hand signals to be used under the sea and later added an intercom system to her dive helmet so he could talk to her. Shadow loved her dives and got excited when she saw the gear brought out. Dwane called on the expertise of veterinarian friend Dr. Charles Goby to be sure diving was safe for the dog. Also an avid diver, Goby monitored Shadow’s health on her dives.

“She was so calm and happy underwater that her pulse remained exactly the same as it was on land,” said Dr. Goby. “She loved Dwane and wanted to be wherever he was, and she was happy to be with him underwater, too. There were no medical issues with her enjoying shallow dives.”

Dwane limited Shadow’s dives to 15 to 20 minutes and a maximum depth of 13 feet. “It was always Shadow’s call as to when the dive was over,” said Dwane. “Although she was always relaxed, at about 15 to 20 minutes, she’d start glancing up toward the boat, and I’d immediately ascend with her.”

continues on pg. 24

“She loved Dwane and wanted to be wherever he was, and was happy to be with him underwater, too.”





continued from pg. 23

"I hope her story will encourage more people to adopt. She was my buddy — an amazing, smart, loving dog."



Over the next several years, the unlikely pair of dive buddies enjoyed about 200 dives. Several were at Stingray City in the Cayman Islands, where stingrays casually swam within inches of the scuba dog. Both Shadow and the stingrays seemed calm and mildly curious about each other.

After the *Sun-Sentinel* ran a small local feature about Shadow, the Associated Press picked up the story, which instantly became international. Her tale captivated readers and subsequently appeared in over 150 newspapers and magazines, including the *Guinness World Records* book and an elementary-school reading textbook. She was featured on 111 television shows worldwide, including *Larry King Live*, *Ripley's Believe It Or Not!* and *Good Morning America*, as well as the Animal Planet channel. Folsom patented Shadow's dive apparatus (US Patent #6206000), and she even had her own passport for international dive trips.

Shadow the Scuba Dog led a long and happy life in the media spotlight and in the Folsoms' hearts. On land or at sea, she could be found at Dwane's side. Most important, her unique, wonderful story promoted and raised awareness of homeless pets.

"Shadow enjoyed celebrity status for many years, and it all began with a mutt in her last moments on death row at an animal shelter," said Dwane. "I hope her story will encourage more people to adopt. She was my buddy — an amazing, smart, loving dog. It just goes to show that shelter dogs really are the best dogs!"

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Love Your Pets On Valentine's Day

ah, Valentine's Day! The day we "paws" to celebrate love includes our pets. Statistics show that we embrace our furry loves with passion on this day. In 2016, Americans spent over \$700 million on their beloved pets. Twenty percent of pet owners include their pets in Valentine's Day shopping, according to the National Retail Federation. Pet stores, such as our local Petco chain, are happy to cater to these numbers and offer Valentine-themed gifts to make your pet purr or wag.

Just remember that, like all holidays, Valentine's Day comes with some hazards. Keep the following accents of the season safely away from your pets.

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- Candles (Fire hazard)
- Ribbons, Balloons
- Xylitol (An artificial sweetener)



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Congratulations! You've decided you have the time, resources, and love to give to an adopted pet! Maybe you'll just see where your heart leads you, or maybe you have some specifics in mind about the type that will fit perfectly into your life. But where do you begin your search? Petfinder.com can get you started.

Petfinder.com is a searchable list of nearly 300,000 adoptable pets from more than 14,000 shelters and rescue groups. Making matches since 1996, the site is updated daily. You can search by location, breed, specific rescue group, size, age, and gender. You can even save your query, and they'll send you an automatic e-mail when new additions match your search. If you find a pet you'd like to meet, you can review the rescue organization's policies, adoption requirements and contact information.

"Working hard to help end euthanasia of adoptable homeless pets and encouraging happy and fulfilled relationships between pets and their people," petfinder.com is also a great continuing resource. The site offers pet care tips, videos, inspiring articles, and more to enhance the human-pet bond.

Remember that it's always best to meet a pet in person before adopting. You're about to make a commitment to an animal for the rest of its life, so use petfinder.com to help you locate your potential new BFF, then plan a visit for a "meet and sniff."

Go ahead and log on — you may be the next pet parent to join the 25 million matches made by petfinder.com!



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