



Ruff Times



Volume VI Issue 1

Animal Rescue Friends (ARF)

June 2017

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Have a happy, safe summer!



Director's Message

It Takes a Community

It takes a village, so they say, and up here it takes a mountain community. And fortunately for ARF, we *do* have a mountain community that cares for and about our four-leggeds. From the 90+ volunteers who helped make the 3rd annual beer festival fund raiser a success, to the loving souls who donated cash to care for an abused German Shepherd, ARF has witnessed much love and compassion.

ARF's core is comprised of a small dedicated board of six that is supported by loving fosters, energetic dog walkers, and those who contribute on a regular basis by way of donations, lending a helping hand, and even artwork. ARF is also supported by very generous local businesses and individuals who stepped up once again to donate lodging, cash, and auction items for this month's *Paws for Rhythm and Brews* beer festival.

And speaking of the beer festival, individuals once again came out of the woodwork to help with set-up, breakdown, pouring beer, providing entertainment, and more. The Art Alliance of Idyllwild came through to help establish the brand new Kidz Zone, which provided good times for the younger beer festival visitors.

I often find myself marveling at the compassionate nature of this mountain community. Although it is a very small group that leads ARF, we are not alone. Locals regularly assist us with lost and found four-leggeds, calls for additional funding in special cases, donations of pet food, carriers, dog toys, and more. During the holidays, ARF's donation box at the Fairway Market overflows with much needed supplies. Bottom line: ARF feels so loved!

With so much support, our many "ARF" hours each day, week, and month are a joy. We humans and four-leggeds thank you from the bottoms of our hearts (and paws).

Janice Murasko
Director of Operations



A non-profit organization

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ARF House: 26890 Hwy 243, Idyllwild

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Baxter's Buddies

Who are Baxter's Buddies? They are his fellow ARF adoptees and their stories. Each month, Baxter will share the story of an ARF rescue, adopted into a loving, forever family.

This month's Baxter's Buddies is a bit different. I interviewed Baron, a loving, gentle German Shepherd who came into ARF's care at the end of May. You just might want to have tissues handy.

Baron was brought to Living Free after being found in Anza. Edgar, Living Free's kennel director, called ARF about Baron since his facility was completely full and because he was very concerned about Baron. Edgar explained to ARF's director that Baron had severe wounds around his neck and at the shoulder of one of his front legs. Edgar thought maybe it was from being chained in a yard. ARF immediately found a foster (Mallory Cremin), then took him to the veterinary hospital.

The news ARF received from the vet was horrifying. The veterinarians had to shave Baron from the base of his neck to the tip of his tail. You see, he had fox tails embedded all over his body and his hair was matted. But that wasn't the worst. The vets said his dozens of old wound scars and

the deep bite wounds around his neck and shoulder were indicative of his being used as a bait dog in dog fighting.

Everyone at ARF was devastated to hear this news. In the short amount of time Baron had been in their care, they had come to know him as a very gentle dog who was good with the foster's little dogs. In the ARF House, Baron stepped aside for the office cat. He loved to put his head in their laps. He wanted to love and be loved.



Baron had an initial surgery the same day, where the doctors cleaned his wounds (which were deep into the muscle) and stitched them. They spend a long time removing countless fox tails that

were embedded in his skin. Baron then went to his foster to recover. Ten days later he went in for another surgery to continue the daunting task of removing buried fox tails.

When Baron's story became public, members the mountain community and beyond (San Diego, for instance) stepped up to help ARF fund Baron's extensive medical care. In addition to his serious injuries, Baron has severe arthritis in his front shoul-

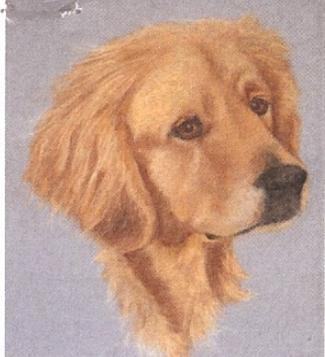
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Adoptees of the Month



Taken from an unhealthy environment and brought to ARF, Crue (named for Motley Crue) and Jet (short for Joan Jet) are very happy with their loving fosters, but would love a forever family. Crue, 4 years old, is a very *atypical* Jack Russel Terrier. He is happy just snuggling with his favorite human when he isn't playing with dogs *and* cats. He is house trained, quiet except to alert bark, and happiest when receiving loving attention.

Crue's 2-year old daughter Jet is a little, snuggly angel. She would be happy to be in your arms all day long, but is also happy to play with dogs, cats, and her daddy, Crue. Jet is house trained as well, and is quiet except to alert bark.

*We want these two to stay together, as they are **very bonded**.* If you have love to share, and just a little space in your home (they are pretty small, after all!), won't you stop by ARF on the weekends to meet these adorable pups? They are waiting for you!

Crue & Jet

Anabel and Tinkerbelle came to ARF when their forever mom went into hospice. Their mom was brokenhearted letting them go, but she knew she had no choice.

These two beauties, with eyes the size of saucers, are very loving. Once in your home for a few days, they'll be jumping into your lap at every opportunity. They have been together since they were kittens. These two girls are so stunning that visitors will ask why they aren't in the movies!

Tired of coming home to an empty house? Your solution just might be right here with these lovely ladies.

Both are getting along very well in the ARF cattery, but there is no place like home...a forever home.



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Sadie Says

Summer Challenges & Their Solutions



Sadie's Clinic is as busy as ever testing for heartworm, vaccinating, and performing routine wellness checks. With summer weather come rattlesnakes and the dangers they pose for humans and their beloved four-leggeds. Sadie's Clinic offers rattlesnake vaccinations that will "buy time" for the dog who has been bitten, giving his guardian time to get him to the vet.

Pet guardians have a responsibility to protect their dogs and cats against extreme heat. PLEASE leave your dogs at home during the day; your car is too hot! The good news in California now is the average citizen has the right to rescue a dog trapped in a car on a hot (even

warm) day. This relatively new law, **AB 797**, provides legal immunity for a person who damages a car in a good faith effort to save an animal from dangerous conditions while trapped in a hot car.

To receive legal immunity, a person must comply with all of the following requirements:

1. Determine the car is locked or there is no other reasonable method to remove the animal from the vehicle;
2. Have a reasonable and good faith belief that the animal is in imminent danger if not immediately removed;
3. Contact law enforcement prior to entering the vehicle;
4. Use no more force than necessary to enter the vehicle; and, if the person does enter the vehicle, the person must remain nearby with the animal in a safe location until law enforcement arrives. The person may not leave the scene.

Dogs face danger from the heat not only in cars, but also when walking on hot asphalt/pavement. PLEASE continue to check the temperature of the ground when walking your pup by placing the back of your hand directly on the asphalt. If you cannot hold it there *comfortably* for ten seconds, it is too hot for Fido. If Fido is "dancing" while you're standing still, odds are his feet are burning. Of course, his pads are also susceptible to burning even while moving.

We at Sadie's hope you and your furry friends have a safe and happy summer.

Teri Hardy

Director of Sadie's and Animal Welfare

THE MONEY PIT

HOT ASPHALT AWARENESS

AIR TEMP	ASPHALT TEMP
77°	125°
86°	135°
87°	143°

AT 125° F, SKIN DESTRUCTION CAN HAPPEN IN 60 SECONDS.

Data source: Journal of the American Medical Association

BE KIND! LEAVE YOUR DOG BEHIND! It's HOT !!!!

But do you know just how quickly your car's temperature heats up?

Outside	Inside	Time to Reach
75	100	10 minutes
75	120	30 minutes
85	90	5 minutes
85	100	7-10 minutes
85	120	30 minutes
100	140	15 minutes

The German Shepherd Dog Community

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Dogs on the Run: An Epidemic?

Take a glance at ARF's Facebook page and you'll see a continual string of posts about missing or found dogs (and some cats). Recently the number of lost and found dogs has been skyrocketing. The reason? We're not certain, but what we *are* certain of is every dog guardian has many ways to prevent an escape, and should it happen, there are many ways to help bring the beloved pup back home.

PREVENT THE ESCAPE: Why do dogs run from home? There are a host of reasons for a dog to stray from its back yard. Dogs that are unaltered have "needs" and the desire to meet these "needs." A vast majority of male dogs ARF finds or are brought in are un-neutered. Get your dogs spayed/neutered. If cost is an issue, contact Living Free's clinic (951-659-4687) that will perform this surgery for only \$25.

Of course, there are some breeds and some individuals that just like to explore. They are happy at home, but are wanderlusts at heart. If this is the case with your dog, you'll need to

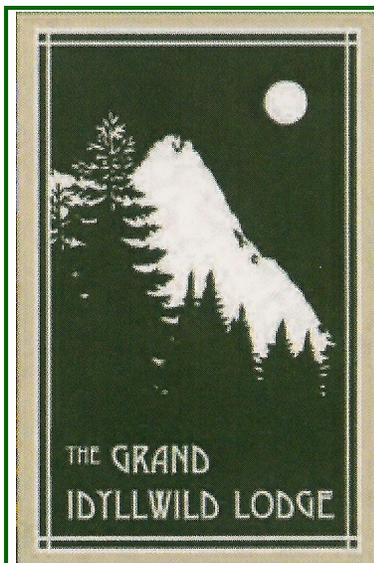
transform your yard into a fortress. And sadly, there are cases where dogs continually run from home because they are unhappy or scared. In this case, we can only hope we have the opportunity to help with rehoming.

How do they do it? The most obvious is that the yard is not secured. Fences too short, fences with holes, or no fence at all are easy fixes. You're certain your fence is secure, but Fido still gets out? ARF's Search and Rescue Director Robert Hewitt is happy to meet with you at your home to help you find the problem. And once the problem is found, he will help you with the solution. Just call ARF!

Other common opportunities for escape include dog sitters who are unaware of your pet's favorite escape routes, careless workers who leave open gates or doors, and children who don't understand the importance of closing doors/gates behind them.

GETTING THEM BACK HOME: We at ARF

Continued on page 6



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Dogs on the Run, continued

are always so excited when a found dog is scanned and has a micro chip. Hurray! It's all good until we call the registered phone numbers, and not one of them is current. Aarrgghh! Please make certain that the information registered with your pet's micro chip is current. If you are unsure as to which company your pet is chipped, bring him by ARF, and we'll scan him to find out.

Collars and tags are the easiest way for a good Samaritan to get your pet home to you. If

your dog's ID tag is continually falling off of the collar, use a permanent marker to write your number directly onto the collar.

Call ARF, who will help as much as possible, and put up lost dog or cat signs right away. ARF can cite numerous cases where a sign with the pet's photo and contact information has been the key to the pet's return. Post them in the area where the pet was last seen as well as near the post office.

Call your micro chip* company! Let them know your dog is missing. If someone picks up your pooch and tries to re-register the chip in his name, you will be notified. Share your missing pet's photo and related information on social media. Facebook has a great track record when it comes to reuniting family and pet.

Riverside County Animal Services posts photos of found pets at rcdas.org. It is possible your dog was picked up by animal services, especially if your dog is a "repeat offender" and your irritated neighbors have made a phone call. The County will hold a micro chipped dog for 10 days. A dog with no ID will be held for 5 days. At that time, they may be put up for adoption.

ARF is here to help, not with just helping a lost dog get back home, but with preventing this scary event from ever happening. We do our best to get dogs back home ASAP, but your help as their guardians is vital.

*Your dog isn't micro chipped? He should be! ARF does micro chipping with lifetime registration for only \$20!



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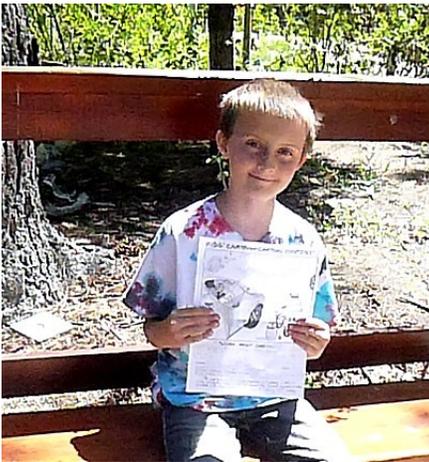
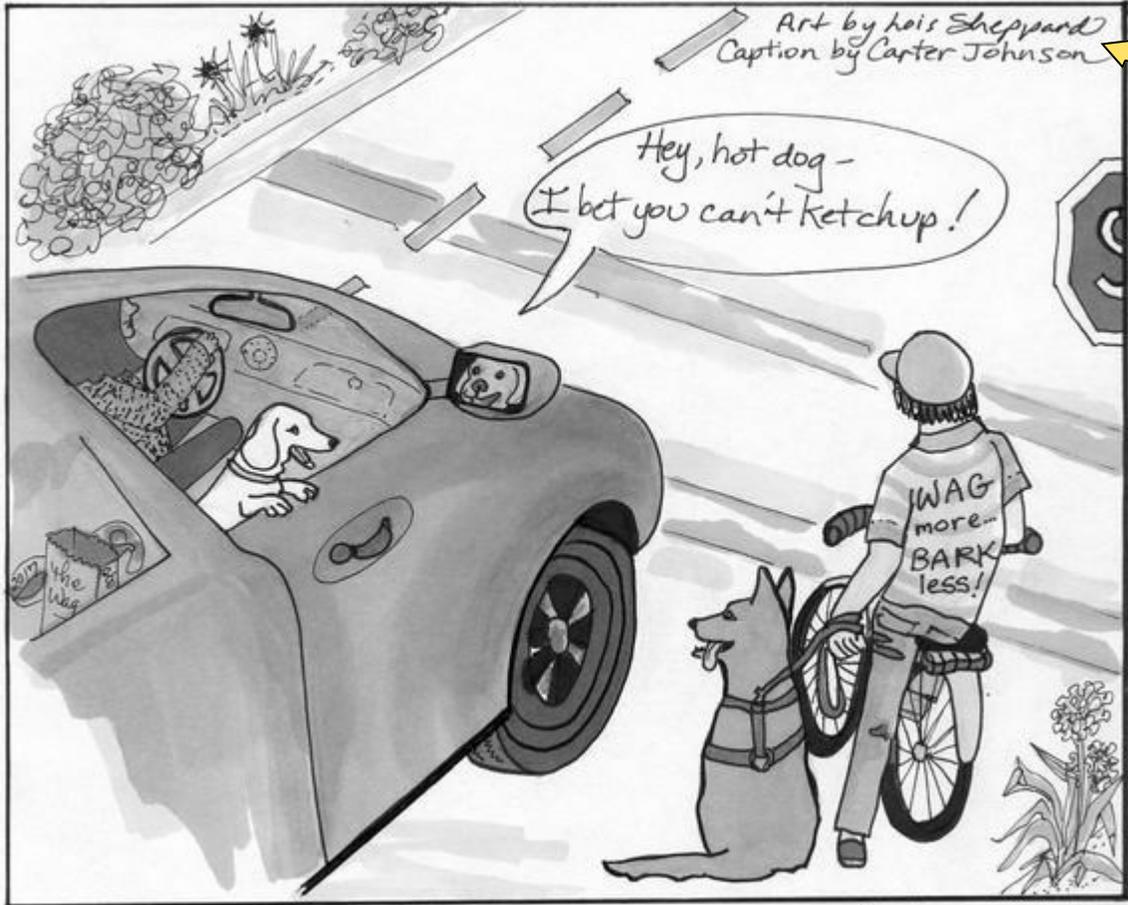
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ARTTOONS



Local artist and ARF Angel Lois Sheppard, creator of ARFtoons, led a cartooning lessons in the *Paws for Rhythm and Brews Kidz Zone* on June 3. She also hosted a cartoon caption contest where young attendees created their own caption for an ARFtoon. Carter Johnson (L), 11, of Idyllwild was the winner. His caption on Lois's cartoon is this month's ARFtoon.

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Baxter' Buddies continued

ders, which will be treated with medication for the duration of his life.

Baron, 9-years old, is ready for adoption to the perfect family. He is waiting for the loving life he so deserves and probably has never had. 



Baron, after his initial surgery, is getting better every day!

For your Calendar

Tue, 6/27 Nail Trim Clinic

Wed, 6/28 Sadie's Clinic

Sat, 7/22 Cats 101: Cat-Cat Aggression




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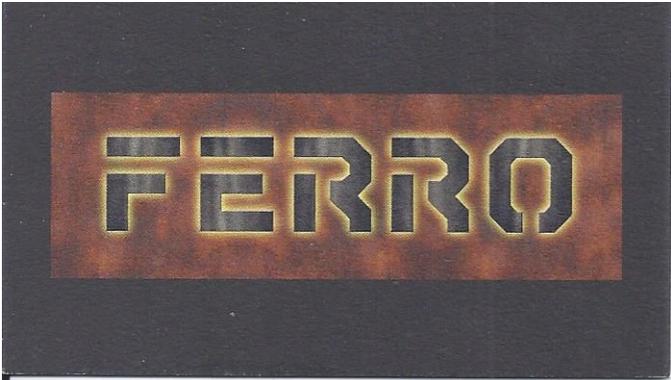


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Cats 101: Cat on Cat Aggression

Certified cat trainer and behaviorist Miri-an Hasani will return to Idyllwild on Saturday, July 22 for another Cats 101 session. This time she will focus on cat-on-cat aggression.

Do you own several cats and suddenly some do not get along anymore? Would you like to know why cats turn on each other and what to do when it happens? This is your opportunity to learn all you need to know when dealing with a tenuous multi-cat situation.

Seating is limited, so arrive early or call ARF to reserve your seat. The session will take place at the ARF House, 26890 Hwy 243, Idyllwild, 10:00 a.m.-noon. A \$10 donation per family is suggested.

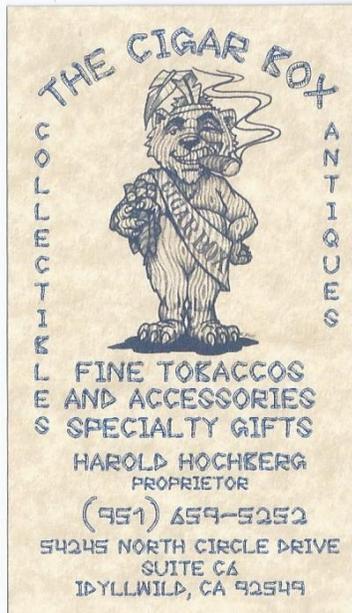
When Dogs Growl

The majority of dog guardians want their four-leggeds to be loved by all, so they are often quick to jump in and stop them from growling. Before correcting your dog for growling, think about this:

When Fido growls, it's because he is trying to tell you he is uncomfortable with something in the immediate environment, be it another dog, a human, or the situation. *Teaching a dog to not growl takes away the one way he has to let you know something bad could happen if the situation is not addressed.* Do not take away the only method he has for warning you and others!

When Fido growls, immediately assess the situation and learn what it is that is causing his distress. Be it a child in his face, another dog sending negative signals, or something causing fear, you need to either remove the trigger or get Fido out of the situation. Taking action can prevent a bad situation. Not allowing your dog to communicate his stress in the best way he can (growling) is setting him up for a tragic event.

So the next time a dog growls, don't correct or punish him. Thank him for his warning! 



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Pets: Better for More Than Just Protection and Mousing

Your dog alert barks to let you know someone has entered your property. Your cat keeps the mice at bay. Your rabbit doesn't let any produce go to waste, and your horse provides hours of relaxing trail rides. But are they worth more than all of this? You bet they are!

According to WebMD, having a four-legged as part of your family makes sense for your health.

Your dog may make you less likely to get heart disease. Why? Dog owners walk more and have lower blood pressure than people who don't have dogs. Pets can also be good for you if you already have heart problems.

Heart attack survivors and people with serious abnormal heart rhythms who own dogs live longer than people with the same heart problems who don't have pets, studies show.

Petting and caring for your pet feels good. It can lower your blood pressure, helps your body release a relaxation hormone, and cuts down on levels of a stress hormone.

Alan Beck, ScD, director of the Center for the Human-Animal Bond at Purdue University, found

that people in wheelchairs report strangers are much more likely to make eye contact and be helpful if they are with their dogs. And people who have dogs, cats, horses, and the like are more apt to make friends, because these animals create an instant connection. And according to the Mayo Clinic, friends prevent loneliness and give you a chance to offer needed companionship, too.

People with pets are generally happier, more trusting, and less lonely than those who don't have pets. They also visit the doctor less often for minor problems.

One reason for that may be that your pet gives you a sense of belonging and meaning. Allen R. McConnell, PhD, professor of psychology at Miami University says, "You feel like you have greater control of your life."

If you don't have a pet to enhance your life and health, please consider adding one to your family. ARF, Living Free, and other loving rescues and shelters can help you find the perfect four-legged friend.



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