Keeping Pets Where They Belong: HOME

PLUS: Pets and Vets Preps for the Skies & Molly: Rossmoor’s Canine Hero
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 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. 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

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.

Executive Director
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. 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.

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

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@cmpn.net or (310) 426-9900.

AN UNFORGETTABLE WEEKEND AT
Leaders and Legends

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

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 Lesher Center • Walnut Creek, CA

The stars are out in support of ARF at this annual concert. Stay tuned for performer announcements!
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 to unlock your kitten’s inner potential and help them grow into a cool, confident cat!

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!”

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**NOW INTRODUCING: KITTEN KINDERGARTEN**

**SEBASTIAN: SOLO TO SAVED**
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.

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

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 arflife.org/campaign.

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

“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.”

Elena Bicker, ARF Executive Director

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. 🐾
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.

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!

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.

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.
“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.”

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Marie Ramagli

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 or (925) 296-3149.

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
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 ltakahashi@arflife.org. To make a tribute gift, please visit 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 LaRus’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,
Andreí 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 Bruskiewicz,
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 Dolbey
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)

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,  
Ikuo Takeshita
Dingo,  
Gary Spaugy
Dolce Stanfield,  
Glenn and Diane Colacurci
Doolus,  
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
Gruskena 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,  
Elena 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 Steven,  
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 Merril,  
Richard and Shannon Merril
Zeke,  
Robert and June Morris
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 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.

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 arflife.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.
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!

facebook /tlrarf
instagram @tlrarf
hashtag #ARFadoptions
twitter @ARFtweets

@ARFadoptions