



INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS

NEWS

SPRING 2011

VOLUME XVII • No. 1

Joy Goes Both Ways ~

Rusty the Golden Retriever and his tiny client at Primary Children's Medical Center, making each other very happy!



Inside:

ITA's Wizard of Paws Pages 3 & 16

Who are Intermountain Therapy Animals?

We are a human service organization, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, headquartered in Utah, that brings the gift of animal companionship and interaction to people in need. Our mission is to **enhance quality of life through the human/animal bond**. Our volunteers (people and their own pets) make regular visits to those who are physically or developmentally disabled, emotionally or psychologically impaired, lonely or suffering from depression. All services are free of charge to both client and facility.

ITA therapy animals and their handlers are screened, trained, licensed and insured to participate in animal-assisted interactions (AAI), which may be either animal-assisted activities (AAA) or animal-assisted therapy (AAT). Successful teams have completed both health and temperament screening and volunteer training.

Serving our communities since 1993, we are one of the largest groups of our kind in the United States, with more than 350 volunteer teams doing animal-assisted therapy at more than 100 hospitals, counseling centers, nursing facilities, detention homes, extended care centers, and schools. Chapters of ITA now thrive in Montana, Idaho, Nevada, and Kentucky.



We are also the founders of Reading Education Assistance Dogs® (R.E.A.D.®), a literacy support program to foster in children the love of books and the reading environment. R.E.A.D. has spread throughout the United States and beyond since we launched it in 1999.

If you would like more information about us and our work, please contact Executive Director Kathy Klotz at 801-272-3439. We welcome all who want to lend a helping paw! ♥



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 place
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Intermountain Therapy Animals' *NEWS* is sent to all members and contributors. Please call the ITA office at 801-272-3439 if you would like to be on our mailing list.

Intermountain Therapy Animals is proud to be one of the 22 Utah nonprofit organizations supported by Community Shares/Utah.



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"Because of the wonderful things they do!"

On October 2, 2010 at Gardner Village, ITA's generous friends and supporters celebrated the 300+ therapy animals, our "Wizards WITH Paws," who do so much to help their patient/clients find **courage, brains, heart, and a sense of home** when they are facing the toughest challenges of their lives.

Rene, a 16-year-old student at LaEuropa Academy, spoke to the assembled multitude that night about how her ITA friends help evoke HOME for her.



Rene at school with P.A.M. the Doberman, partner of Sydel Morris-Greco.

"My name is Rene, and I am here tonight to tell you how Intermountain Therapy Animals makes my home away from home a nicer place.

"I have been away from the people I love for 14 months. No, my parents, brothers, and pets don't live in Kansas, but sometimes I feel like I'm in a land like Oz, where things are different and sometimes really hard. It's those times when the dogs like P.A.M. or Lily Rose or Carbon or the cat named Sherlock (who I am allergic to) come for a visit and I can just relax, sneeze and enjoy their company.

"I know when they're scheduled to come and I look forward to the time I spend with them.

"They give me something to look forward to and to work for. Tonight is an example of that. I wanted really badly to be here and so I worked really hard to get my grades up so I would be able to come and speak to you and be with the dogs.

"Thank you for all that you do, ITA. I am so grateful for all of the volunteers like Sydel, Lynne, Shannon, and Eliza and the animals. There really is no place like home, but with your help I get closer to going back there every day."

The R.E.A.D.® Program



READING EDUCATION
ASSISTANCE DOGS®

Since 1999

A PROGRAM OF
INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS



R.E.A.D. continues to inspire artists. This bookmark illustration was done by Sam McCullen in the U.K. for Danny, greyhound partner of Tony Nevett.

"Mom! Today I had the BEST day of my life...EVER! I got to read to a dog! It's the best thing I've ever done in school!"

— Cole, a 2nd grader



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partner of Therapy Animals.

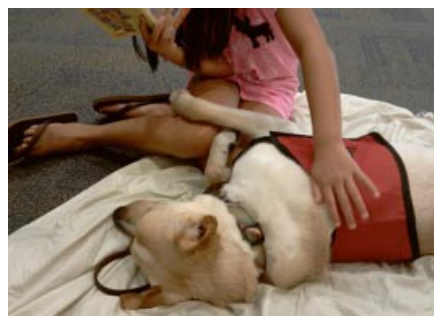
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My R.E.A.D. Dog

Sake is my 8-year-old lab mix. He loves going to the library and prefers to touch the kids while they read to him (as long as the kids are okay with it). He typically puts his head in their laps. In the photo at right, he wanted to face the child, so he put his legs in her lap.

Sake was a long-time shelter pup, found on the streets of Kansas City as a puppy with two brothers. Our Humane Society, which is a no-kill shelter, took them all in. One got adopted right away, but Sake and his black brother were there for a year and a half. The shelter staff loved him and took him to tons of adoption events, but nobody wanted him. When I was ready to get a #2 dog, I wanted to adopt an older, large, black female that could qualify to do some pet therapy. But they brought out Sake—the complete opposite of who I wanted—and said he was the dog I needed. I tried to say no, but Cabernet (my #1 dog) fell in love with him immediately. I took him home and fell in love as well. He's turned out to be a fabulous therapy dog and R.E.A.D. dog extraordinaire.

Amy Wurst
Kansas City, MO



Dear R.E.A.D.,

I have been a teacher for 30 years, and have retired this past year. I've taught first graders for 20 years. The information provided in your [R.E.A.D.] textbook pertaining to reading is excellent. I appreciate your focus not only on fluency but also comprehension. The reading prompts are awesome. Too often children are asked to "sound it out" when there are so many other effective and often more efficient ways of decoding a word. Congratulations on producing such an excellent resource!!

Stephanie Mays
Sinking Spring, PA

Gallery **A Day in the Life of a R.E.A.D. Dog**

Eli the Standard Poodle does a R.E.A.D. session at Longfellow Elementary School in Bozeman, Montana. Clearly it's a tough job, but somebody's got to do it!

Eli is the partner of Nancy Rosen, ITA's Montana chapter leader.



Hannah's Story

August 2006

We Love Colonel!

Our eight-year-old daughter, Hannah, was in a near-drowning accident on July 3, 2006. We have spent over six weeks in hospitals so far with Hannah. She is currently at Primary Children's Medical Center (PCMC) for rehabilitation services. I knew the day that I saw Colonel (the dog) and Susan (the owner) walking down the hall that we had to have Colonel visit Hannah. Hannah loves animals and I knew she would enjoy Colonel. I had no idea just how great her response would be. The first visit was special for us but Hannah wasn't able to respond. She appeared to enjoy the visit but because of the severity of her injury she had no way to convey her happiness.

On Colonel's second visit he made our daughter laugh for the first time—by burping! Hannah not only smiled but she laughed. The occupational therapist, the speech therapist, and the physical therapist were all co-treating, and we were all so amazed that we kept talking about it, and Hannah kept smiling and laughing. Everybody in the room had tears in their eyes! We had hoped for weeks to hear Hannah's voice again, and Colonel was the one who coaxed it out of her. I have never been



Spring 2006: Colonel and Susan participate in one of Hannah's therapy sessions in the hospital.

so happy to see a smile in my entire life.

Colonel seemed to sense what Hannah needed and needs. Hannah is very sensitive to sound and, having a brain injury, her whole body jumps when she is the least bit startled. When Susan says, "Speak," Colonel barks quietly so Hannah does not jump. Colonel keeps his paw on Hannah's knee at all times to let her know that he is nearby. Colonel tolerates several strange positions (that we put him in) so that he can be closer to Hannah. Colonel does not lick or jump up on Hannah. When Colonel comes by for a visit, Hannah's whole body seems to relax. Hannah seems to know that soon the fun will begin!

Colonel can perform several

entertaining tricks that keep us all laughing! We feel that Colonel's presence has contributed a great deal to Hannah's recovery. We look so forward to Wednesdays because we know we will have a chance to see Colonel and Susan. We are grateful that Susan has trained Colonel well and that we have a chance to benefit from such a wonderful program!

We would like to nominate Colonel for dog of the year because his kind of therapy could not be found anywhere else.

Kirsten Sessions

Hannah's Mom

April 2010

Susan & Colonel encountered Hannah's teacher at IMED one day. The teacher had asked Hannah a few days before if she remembered that she had visited her several times in the hospital. Hannah looked blank, and then replied, "I don't really remember anything at all about being in the hospital except for Colonel."

April 2011

I was so sorry to learn of Colonel's recent passing. What an amazing friend he was to you and countless others! He became such an important part of our Hannah's recovery and our family story—just like he did for other children and adults.

We credit Colonel with bringing Hannah out of her coma and into an awareness of her surroundings so she could take an active role in

her own recovery. She often tells people, "Colonel burped and I woke up."

Without your loving training and management of Colonel, we would never have had this therapeutic help in Hannah's life. We cannot thank you adequately for your role.

Colonel's gentle life will shine on in the lives of so many children, adults and families. We will never forget him or you.

Julie Landeen

Hannah's grandmother

P.S. Hannah is now in 7th grade and continues to learn and improve every day. She is enrolled in regular classes with some support from special education. She brings us joy every day. And she now volunteers at the Humane Society!

We were so sorry to hear about Colonel's passing. We will never forget the difference he made in Hannah's recovery.

Colonel was truly an amazing dog who shared his healing ability with so many. Hannah's teacher gave her a toy version of Colonel to help her remember him, and we will always cherish her pictures of Colonel in *Parents* magazine. We think of you all often. Love from

Kirsten, Cole & Hannah Sessions



Summer 2008: Hannah, Susan and Colonel romping and relaxing at a playdate at the park during a photoshoot for *Parents* magazine.



From ITA's Board Chair

Dear Friends,

I lost my beloved Colonel in March, shortly before his 12th birthday and after 10 years of being his partner at Intermountain Therapy Animals.

Colonel was the quintessential therapy dog and a very special being, and we miss him so much. But I will continue this work with my new partner, Devi, who is learning more about this "job" every day.

We will continue because I can say with great passion that nothing I have ever done has made such a dramatic and valuable difference in the everyday, real world challenges that people face, as animal-assisted therapies can and do.

People of all ages and socio-economic circumstances receive devastating diagnoses and injuries every day. Future paths must veer sharply, dreams are dashed, and all these events reverberate through a patient's family as well.

Our animals come into these situations with great wisdom and intuition; they are catalysts, motivators,

sources of fun and inspiration, and — they pass no judgments. They make healing connections.

Animals the world over inspire these reactions, so work like ours may seem almost mundane or insignificant in the larger scheme of things. But nothing could be less true, because each encounter, one by one, is also unique and of singular benefit. Our therapists tell us over and over, year after year, that the animals inspire cooperation, participation and progress that they cannot otherwise get from their patients.

Now in our 18th year, ITA is one of the most successful organizations of our kind. But we are struggling, like other charities big and small, to keep providing these crucial services during these challenging economic times. We need your help to survive, to continue helping our patient/clients in over 100 healthcare facilities to heal. Please do all you can to make room for ITA on your budget and your heart. Investing in animal-assisted therapy is a guaranteed Return on Investment—it

succeeds every time!

We hope we can count on your support. We need you now more than ever, so that we can continue to serve thousands of people in our community every year!

With sincere thanks,

Susan Daynes
ITA Board President



(ABOVE:) Susan and Colonel's last portrait. (BELOW:) Devi, Susan's new partner, with a young client.



Join Intermountain Therapy Animals —With or Without Your Pet

Yes!

I want to help ITA teams continue to bless the lives of so many who need them. Here is my tax-deductible gift:

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Thank you! ITA is committed to promoting and enhancing the human-animal bond, but we could not do it without the generous donors who made all our accomplishments possible in throughout 2010, into 2011, and into the future.

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(cont. from page 9)

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Going Ever

Greener:

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melissa@therapyanimals.org

and we will make it so!

Goodbye & Godspeed

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Newfoundland partner of Stephanie Magid of SLC, UT

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Stella

Terrier mix partner of Katie Domann of SLC, UT

Betty

Golden Retriever partner of Diane Bracey of Park City, UT

Luther

12/6/97 – 4/9/10

Our second retired racing greyhound, Luther, came to live with us in July 2002 at age 4-1/2. An outgoing but gentle guy, he became a therapy dog in 2005, with Therapy Dogs, Inc. and a R.E.A.D. dog in July 2008. At age 11, when he was no longer able to continue room-to-room visitation due to leg surgeries, Luther still looked forward to lounging on the fluffy pillows in the reading nook of the Leola Branch Library in Lancaster Co., PA. Here he patiently listened to many children read their favorite books. Luther became a friend to all, from autistic children to a young Russian girl who initially was terrified of dogs but became Luther's special friend. Once again, the gentleness of a greyhound worked a miracle.

Luther left us unexpectedly in April, following routine dental surgery. His greyhound sister and brother, Berry and Solomon, and coonhound sister Lily carry on for him at the library.

Luther didn't sip life, he gulped it. Our lives are far richer having had the privilege of knowing and loving him.

— Earl and Donna Dinger.
Denver, PA

TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD YOU MUST BE ABLE
TO DO THREE THINGS: TO LOVE WHAT IS MORTAL;
TO HOLD IT AGAINST YOUR BONES KNOWING
YOUR OWN LIFE DEPENDS ON IT;
AND, WHEN THE TIME COMES TO LET IT GO,

TO LET IT GO

— Mary Oliver

Recognition & Memorials

DONATIONS

In MEMORY of . . .

Bandit

Debbie Gardiner Logsdon

Betty, pet partner of Diane Bracey

Kathy Klotz

Bob Gulliver, pet partner of Jean Glaser

Jeri Claspill

Kathy Klotz

Jan & Ted Nemcik

Bucky, pet partner of Stephanie Magid

Karen Keeley

Kathy Klotz

Kathy Sullivan, Sammy & Peanut

Jon Campbell, my late friend

Camilla Kragius

Callie, our pet partner

Judi & David Harris

Chloe, Westie companion of Dan Shaffer & Kim

Anderton

Kathy Klotz

Marj Thomas

Colonel, pet partner of Susan & Skip Daynes

Sue & Brent Cameron

Penny Edwards

Kathy Klotz

Sandi Martin

Hootie Cat

Stephanie Magid

Janet Hunsaker

Doris Bywater

Sharon Bywater

Linda & Mike Carter

Sharon, Sherry & Denny Finke

Peter Krasilovsky

Virginia Mariposa

Gayle Shuler

Lucky, pet partner of Donna Olsen

Kathy Klotz

Jose Woodhead

Joseph Martin III

Leona Ferris

Beverly, Steve & Deb Foley

Kathy Klotz

Sandi Martin

Susan L. & Ella E. Nagy

His friends at the Oakwood

Annapolis Hospital

Bryce & Cathy Rosche

Betty Scheurer

Elizabeth Scheurer

Marilee McKenna

Nancy Yonko

Odie, companion of Nancy & Bud Cranford

Frankie Gibbs

Oscar on Hubbard Avenue, SLC

Elaine Ellis, Lita & Sophie

Q-bert, R.E.A.D. partner of Sarah Jane Mitchell

Ronnette & David Mitchell

Sage, Siamese companion of Beth & Dave Wavrek

Hilary Jacobs

Snickers, companion of Lisa & Jesse Rollins

Frankie Gibbs

Stella, pet partner of Katie Domann, DVM

Katie Domann, Greg & Brian

Kathy Klotz

Stinky Pete, companion of Breens & Allreds

Frankie Gibbs

Timpek, Siamese companion of Lynn Rilling & John

Englund

Hilary Jacobs

In HONOR of . . .

Dennis J. Clear

Friends & Peers of Dennis at the California Dept. of Motor Vehicles, Sacramento

Dan & Kim Cook

Todd Harman

Norma Disz, Sam & Max

Tina Hose & Miley

Katie Domann, DVM

George Q. Morris Foundation

Order of the Eastern Star of Utah, Grand Chapter

Officers

Robert McGregor

Sandra & Neil Barclay

Lori Stockinger & Rockea

John Stockinger

Peggy Stone

Rocky Rognlie

In TRIBUTE to . . .

Buck

Ann & Sandy Coleman

Stephen Currie

Kathleen Farrell

Joan & Howard Faust

Nancy & Keith Andrews

Shaun Elizabeth Gartman

Sherri & David Gartman

Macy Kimbro

Kris Butler

D. J. Scott

Christine Brown

Jeanne & Daniel Brown

Derk Harris, Gena Huffman

Frank Pisani

Marina & Mike Reece

Rhianna Riggs, Rebecca Simmons

& Rachel Tew

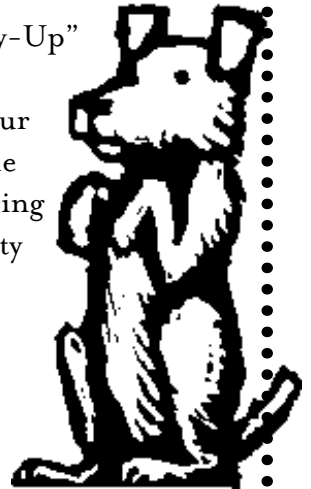
Tank, partner of Desiree Parent & Kevin VanBogart

Susan Malcom, Mom, Doug & Smokey

ITA's Wish List

We're Begging Shamelessly for . . .

- 8.5 x 11 white paper by the case, for copying and printing
- A vacuum cleaner — just a straight, powerful upright, no bells, tubes, attachments or whistles needed!
- (6) Ergonomic desk chairs (Our ancient donated chairs are getting dangerous!)
- An "Easy-Up" tent for keeping our dogs in the shade during community events
- Portable display boards, for community educational booths and similar events



Dogs' lives are so short. Their only fault, really.

- Unknown

About Both Ends of the Leash



Janet Anderson & Rosie

[ED. NOTE: A version of this article was first published by Primary Children's Medical Center.]

When you meet Rosie and her sidekick Janet Anderson, you know right away that Rosie is one of those special dogs who was meant to be a therapy animal! Rosie is nine years old, (in people years that is 63) and will fool you because at first glance she looks like a stuffed animal. She is a West Highland Terrier, with a triple soft coat which is very, very soft, cuddly, and does not shed.

Rosie knows when it is a "work" day when Janet puts on her red volunteer shirt. She is on Janet's heels, dancing and anticipating her backpack coming out of the storage closet with her special collar and treats. When they pull into the parking garage, Rosie is scratching at the window to get out and get going.

Rosie has been visiting Intermountain Primary Children's Medical Center for more almost three years. She especially loves the infants and is extraordinarily careful with them, even if they latch onto a handful of her hair. Rosie loves to show off by doing tricks for the kids. She can talk like a pirate, sit pretty, roll over, play dead, and dance.

Rosie is true to her breed, always sniffing, and she's definitely not an injudicious kisser, which is a good thing in a hospital. Once in a blue moon she'll give a little kiss to an infant's bare foot or someone's hand. She always knows who needs an extra love that day.

(Continued on page 13)



Joe Vervaecke & Elliot

I feel blessed to have volunteered with Elliot at several facilities each week for the past two-plus years, and I've learned a lot from him during that time.

These are remarkable animals and they provide an extraordinary service to the community. They minister to all ages, from new infants and their families to seniors in their tarnished golden years, and too often to families at funerals of friends who have lost the fight. It seems every area of the community benefits from their presence: hospitals, rehabilitation centers, chemotherapy center, prisons, juvenile courts, nursing homes & assisted living facilities, hospice, Veteran's Administration, libraries, schools, Boys & Girls Clubs; anywhere there is a need for their unconditional love.

Not every dog (or person) enjoys every setting. To be the most successful team, we need to find a setting and population that we both relate to and interact easily with. A convenient location also helps for making a commitment we can be faithful to. I have stopped visiting some facilities for several reasons: because I couldn't cope with the emotional stress; we were too committed at other places; or Elliot stopped interacting with the patients. But we are faithfully committed to the facilities that we have mutually selected.

I am humbled at the compassion that these therapy animals instinctively express to people that they have not met before, their ability to sense stress, fear, anxiety, pain; and without

(Continued on page 15)

Dear ITA Letters from our Friends

October 19, 2010

Hi ITA:

Thank you and your organization for the honor of making our office an ITA "Facility of the Year 2010." Working with the ITA volunteers and therapy animals has been an extraordinary experience, not only for the children whom they comfort and cheer, but also for our staff who are lifted by their very presence in our office. These selfless ITA teams have become so much a part of our office, and we look forward to each and every visit. Thank you for the confidence you have placed in us by referring your teams to apply to work with us. Each team is different and shares different talents to thrill our children and make them feel loved unconditionally, as only animals can truly accomplish.

We will continue to do our best to deserve the services this wonderful organization provides to our children. As always, we welcome your referrals.

We will proudly be displaying our framed plaque for everyone to see in our office!

Linda Barksdale

and The Guardian ad Litem Team
Salt Lake City Courthouse Office

December 7, 2010

Dear ITA,

Some time ago a couple of my residents gave me some cash which they wanted donated to you as the organization which sponsors our therapy animal visits. Please accept this check as a contribution directly from these two residents. It is a token of their gratitude for the ITA therapy animals program and for allowing us to be one of your well-served facilities.

We continue to enjoy visits from Ron Barness and Tucker. Ron is very easy to work with, and we know Tucker now recognizes some of our residents and enjoys them as much as they do him.

I personally appreciate all that you do and your passion for this work. I'm grateful for our association and hope to continue for a long time to come.

Many thanks!

Matthew Hope

Director of Programs and Events
Parklane Senior Apartments

Hello Kathy,

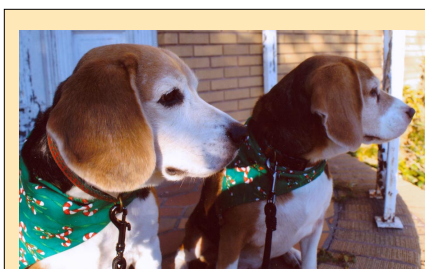
Thank you for the wonderful award you and the board gave to Flocki and me. She was an outstanding therapist yesterday. We were just starting our visit at the Ogden Veterans home when a nurse told us that one of the residents had just been told that his wife had died and would we be sure to visit him. We went right away and he was of course very distraught. Flocki sat in front of him for a quarter of an hour, never taking her big sad eyes off him. He hugged her and cried into her thick fur and told her about his wife. Flocki gently put her huge paw on his leg and never moved. He gradually calmed down and told her that from now on she had to be his companion and see him often. It was very touching. The nurse was standing in the corridor observing and there was not a dry eye.

Thank you for making all this possible.

Regards,

Erika Daines

ITA Volunteer, Ogden, UT



Chip & Holly Wood, Linda's R.E.A.D. beagle partners.

February 28, 2011

Here is our membership renewal for myself, Chip & Holly Wood for Therapy Dogs, Inc., in accordance with the R.E.A.D. rules.

Also enclosing a small donation saved up by Chip & Holly.

Thank You! We love being part of your program!

Linda Wood

Winter Springs, FL

Dear ITA,

On behalf of the 36 volunteers and Senior Services Staff, thank you so much for making our day with your presentation to the Foster Grandparents last Thursday. You were great, but I must say your four-legged partners were the favorites—I'll bet you are used to that.

We truly do appreciate the time and effort it takes to get that many animals and their handlers together. The service you do is amazing and we are so lucky to have you be part of our New Volunteer Orientation. As our volunteers discussed which presentation was their favorite, of course the therapy animals were at the top.

Please express our gratitude to all the teams that came.

Thanks again!

Marianne Christensen

Salt Lake County Foster Grandparents

Kathy!

I am thrilled to be a small part of the huge good you are doing [R.E.A.D.].

Dogs, tigers, pigs, mice, rabbits ... and me. We are all grateful to have you as a reader.

Thank you and all best,

Kate DiCamillo

[award-winning author of *Because of Winn-Dixie* and other wonderful books]

Janet & Rosie

(Continued from page 12)

Rosie and Janet love visiting with the patients, families and staff, and giving a helping paw whenever they can to Primary Children's. They love being able to bring a smile and a little cheer to everyone. They are so glad to give a little back to our community and feel fortunate to be a part of an organization like ITA and its amazing volunteer "staff."

At ITA we feel likewise. Thanks, Janet & Rosie, for all you do! ♥

Pet Power

Spike, a shepherd mix, knows to nudge his owner, Celia, when she has a panic attack, interrupting the tremors of her distress. When Bill, an Iraq war veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder, stops at street corners, his yellow Labrador retriever, Pax, sits behind him, blocking anyone from getting too close and triggering a flashback.

Spike and Pax are psychiatric service dogs and the stars of *Healing Companions: Ordinary Dogs and Their Extraordinary Power to Transform Lives*, a collection of inspiring stories of therapeutic dog/human relationships by Jane Miller, LISW, CDBC. In the book, Miller, a clinical psychotherapist who has worked with the national Education for Assistance Dog Services and the Canines for Combat Veterans program, offers advice on selecting, training, and caring for therapy and assistance dogs.

She describes dogs who have learned to interrupt their owners' obsessive television watching by asking for a walk, and others who circle their owners in crowded situations to create secure buffers. For Miller, the world of healing dogs first opened up when she witnessed the calming impact of her own dog, a golden retriever named Umay, on patients in therapy sessions. Over time, Miller learned how many tasks well-trained psychiatric service dogs could take on, from bringing food or medications to summoning help in an emergency. "All dogs provide love, comfort, joy, and support," writes Miller. "But for some people, dogs have the ability to transform lives."



An Austrian special forces trooper training parachuting with dogs

Dog joins troops parachute jumping in Norway

A four-legged recruit to the special forces joined troops on a parachute jump into one of Europe's biggest military training exercises in Narvik, Norway.

The explosives sniffing pooch — a member of Austria's version of the SAS — took part in Operation Cold Response in Norway along with British special forces and Royal Marines assault teams.

Securely strapped to his handler and with a muzzle to stop him damaging his mouth on landing he plunged 10,000 ft from a transporter plane.

"It's something he does a lot and he's very comfortable with. He has a much cooler head than most recruits," said one operation trooper.

Far from panicking at the experience of hurling themselves out of a plane at 10,000ft, the Austrians' Belgian Shepherd dogs appear to be perfectly calm both before and during the jump.

One handler explained, "They don't perceive height difference the same way humans do, so that doesn't worry them. They're more likely to be bothered by the roar of the engines, but once we're on the way down, that doesn't matter and they just enjoy the view."

He was also eager to point out that the dogs, like their human colleagues, are regarded as valued team members and aren't put into situations that could prove unnecessarily dangerous.

[telegraph.co.uk, 9/18/10]


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Dogs improve office productivity

There are plenty of studies which show that dogs act as social catalysts, helping their owners forge intimate, long-term relationships with other people. But does that apply in the workplace? Christopher Honts and his colleagues at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant were surprised to find that there was not much research on this question, and decided to put that right. They wondered in particular if the mere presence of a canine in the office might make people collaborate more effectively. And, as they told a meeting of the International Society for Human Ethology in Madison, Wisconsin, on August 2nd, they found that it could.

To reach this conclusion, they carried out two experiments. In the first, they brought together 12 groups of four individuals and told each group to come up with a 15-second advertisement for a made-up product. Everyone was asked to contribute ideas for the ad, but ultimately the group had to decide on only one. Anyone familiar with the modern "collaborative" office environment will know that that is a challenge.

Some of the groups had a dog underfoot throughout, while the others had none. After the task, all the volunteers had to answer a questionnaire on how they felt about working with the other—human—members of the team. Mr Honts found that those who had had a dog to slobber and pounce on them ranked their team-mates more highly on measures of trust, team cohesion and intimacy than those who had not.

In the other experiment, which used 13 groups, the researchers explored how the presence of an animal altered players'

behaviour in a game known as the prisoner's dilemma. In the version of this game played by the volunteers, all four members of each group had been "charged" with a crime. Individually, they could choose (without being able to talk to the others) either to snitch on their team-mates or to stand by them. Each individual's decision affected the outcomes for the other three as well as for himself in a way that was explained in advance. The lightest putative sentence would be given to someone who chose to snitch while the other three did not; the heaviest penalty would be borne by a lone non-snitch. The second-best outcome came when all four decided not to snitch. And so on.

Having a dog around made volunteers 30% less likely to snitch than those who played without one. The moral, then: more dogs in offices and fewer in police stations.

— in *THE ECONOMIST*
(online), August 12th 2010

Joe & Elliot

(Continued from page 12)

hesitation go to that one person who needs them the most, and stay until the discomfort is mitigated. They also quickly develop relationships with patients that we visit often and become very familiar with them. When we are visiting, Elliot has a measure of confidence that sometimes I don't feel, but I work to avoid any distractions so that Elliot can focus on the needs of each person.

When we are visiting a facility, Elliot totally trusts me to be his advocate and watch his back while he relates to the various people we meet. It is my responsibility to watch for anything on the floor that might interest him and

remind him to "leave it," to watch for people or equipment coming out of rooms that might surprise him, and turn him to face that toddler who is running up behind him to pull his tail. His safety and protection are my priorities.

When we finish and are riding TRAX home, I look for an area where he can lie down for the ride, since he has worked so hard. Often Elliot will skip dinner and go to bed early on his visit days; he reminds me of John Coffey in the movie "Green Mile." One might think that it's all positive for the dogs, since they are getting all the attention and petting, but actually, when they finish they are emotionally fatigued, and we need to

decide if they need some quiet time, a long walk, or a visit to the dog park to relieve that stress.

Often when people learn that Elliot is an ITA therapy dog, they comment that what we do must be "fun," but I cannot agree. When we enter the room and see the child's face change to a big smile, or have finished our visit and the person or parents or grandparents look you in the eyes and say "thank you," we are reminded why we are doing this — bringing some hope and happiness to our community on a personal, individual level. So instead of "fun" I would argue that it is awesomely rewarding. ♥

More from The Wizard of Paws



Melissa Martinez, Colleen Baum and Jose Woodhead enjoying the festivities.



(ABOVE:) Glinda the Good Witch thought Devi Daynes made a fine Tin Man, and (BELOW:) Gracie Chudd was a quintessential Dorothy, complete with ruby slippers.

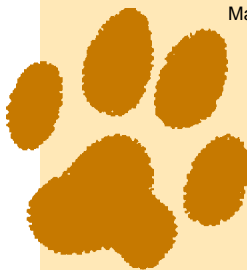


PAWS

on the Yellow Brick Road

All the following contributed to name "bricks" in honor or in memory of their beloved animal companions, at ITA's "Wizard of Paws" gala on October 2, 2010:

Nancy Richards Barthelmess ~ Charlie
 Brett & Rachael Beasley ~ Jaro & Jett
 Penny & Sands Brooke ~ Gabe & Kelly
 Karen Caduff ~ Zephyr
 Peggy Chudd ~ Waldo
 Erika Daines ~ Pescht, Purdy, Flocki & Bella
 Susan & Skip Daynes ~ Colonel, Alba, Diva & Reggie
 Norma Disz ~ Samantha & Maxwell
 Katie Domann ~ Stella
 Mary & Del Draper ~ Lucky & Lily Bones
 Penny Edwards ~ Ramsey
 Michele Erskine ~ Razer
 Jacqueline Faust ~ Tara
 Claudia Fruin ~ _____
 Pat Gay ~ Rupert
 Frankie Gibbs ~ Myka & Hattie
 Jean Glaser ~ Bob Gulliver
 Vicky Hall ~ Raven & Wylie
 Lynne Hanson & Terry Hines ~ Lily Rose, Stella & Roxy Rockstar
 Virginia Harris ~ Bridget & All the Dogs We Have Loved
 Jeannine Heil ~ STETSON, Street Dog of Park City
 Pat & Hank Hemingway ~ Ben, Lola, Mackey & Kiefer
 Lynne Kerr ~ Chowder, Pasha, Bawser, Jasmine, Hamilton, Moonshadow, Hercules & Webber
 Heather King ~ Watson
 Kathy Klotz ~ Foster, Shelby, Keoke, Sundae, Banner, Matisse, Skye, Lucy, Lexie & Emily
 Rob Klotz ~ Foster, Shelby, Hobie & Friday
 Tracey Leetham ~ Coco & Zoey
 Stephanie Magid ~ Annie & Bucky
 Pam March ~ Sprinkle
 Sandi Martin ~ Olivia, Bullwinkle, Zelda & Kermit
 Eduardo Martinez ~ Fritz Kaiser, Katarina Witt, Sophie's Choice & Willow
 Tammy & Rich McKelvie ~ Loki, Charlie, Mick & Aspen
 Kathy & George McNulty ~ Kiyoshi & Emmie
 Patrice Mealey ~ Sid, Bailey, Whatney & Bandit
 Jackie Medina ~ Kody Dawn
 Monique Milius ~ Abby, Gretchen & Whiskey
 Anjelee Norton ~ Race & Lola Belle
 Jaimee O'Brien & Bill Todd ~ Rosie & Ghost
 Marjorie Owens ~ Daisy, Tinker, Toby, Ginger, Brandy & Freckles
 Jan Owens-Floor ~ Ridge, Blaze, Cedar & Jasper
 Chris Pellegrino ~ Khan
 Nancy Rosen ~ Eli, KC & Maggie
 Dan Shaffer ~ Chloe & Rosa
 Stalsbergs ~ Cubby
 Lori & John Stockinger ~ Rockea, Chaunsea & Sammea
 Pam Strickland ~ Nick & Switters
 Allison Strong ~ Jack & Augie
 Joe Vervaecke ~ Elliot, Annie & Brinkley
 Graham Walker ~ Molly
 Kristy Walker ~ Hawkeye
 Jeannie Watanabe ~ Truman, Muffie, Sabrina & KC Kitty
 Beth Wolfgram ~ Jackson
 Jose Woodhead ~ Ginjer, Middie & Dyna



Inner Peace

If you can start the day without caffeine,
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it,
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,
If you can overlook it when something goes wrong through no fault of yours, and those
you love take it out on you,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can ignore a friend's limited education and never correct him,
If you can resist treating a rich friend better than a poor one,
If you can face the world without lies and deceit,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can relax without alcohol, and sleep without the aid of drugs,
If you can say honestly that deep in your heart you have no prejudice against creed,
color, religion or politics,
Then, my friend, you are probably ... the Family Dog.

– Author Unknown —circulating on the internet (first seen many years ago in Ann Landers' column)



Art for the Heart

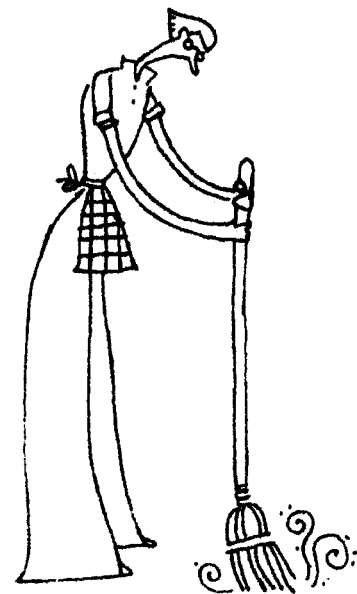


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The Facilities and Programs We Serve

Intermountain Therapy Animals team volunteers are currently participating in animal-assisted interactions (AAT or AAA), including R.E.A.D. programs, at the following facilities:

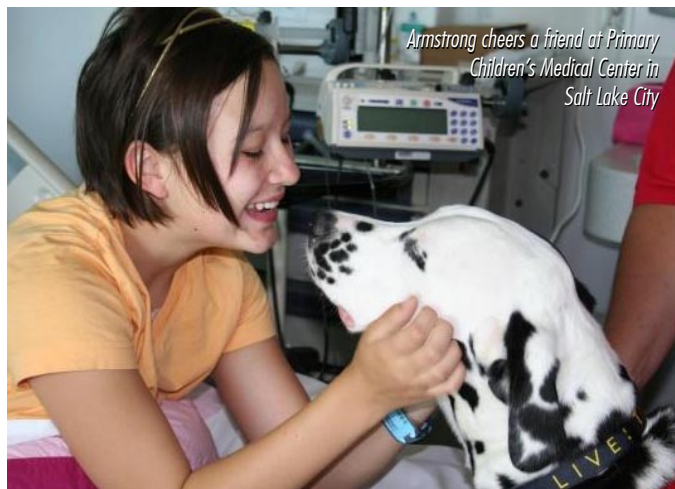
UTAH – SALT LAKE AREA

Affinity Hospice / SLC
Alta Ridge of Holladay
Alta View Hospital / Sandy
Anderson-Foothill Library (R.E.A.D.) / Bluffdale
Arlington Hills / SLC (Assisted Living)
Aspen Ridge Rehabilitation Center (Rehabilitation therapies)
Atria Crosslands / Sandy (Assisted Living)
Benchmark Hospital / Woods Cross (Adolescents in Residential Treatment Program for Drugs and Violence and R.E.A.D. program)
Boys & Girls Clubs of Midvale (R.E.A.D.)
Bluffdale Elementary (R.E.A.D.) / Bluffdale
Canyon Creek Assisted Living / Sandy
Canyon Rim Academy / SLC (R.E.A.D.)
Canyon Rim Care Center (short- and long-term care)
Care Source Residence (Hospice care)
Children's Center / SLC (Treatment Center)
Chateau Brickyard / SLC
Christ-Centered School / SLC (R.E.A.D.)
Columbus Community Center / SLC
Copperview Elementary / SLC (R.E.A.D.)
Crossland Rehabilitation / SLC
Garden Terrace / SLC
HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital / Sandy (Long-term Rehabilitation)
Heritage Place / Bountiful (Seniors)
Highland Care Center / SLC (Senior Care)
Highland Cove Retirement Community / SLC
Holladay Healthcare
Holy Cross Ministries (R.E.A.D.)
Hope Center for Children / SLC
Inspiration Hospice / SLC
Intermountain Medical Center / Murray
Jackson Elementary / SLC (R.E.A.D.)
Jordan Valley Hospital / West Jordan (Med Surg)
Juvenile Justice Services / SLC (Observation & Assessment)
King's English Bookshop / SLC
La Europa Academy - Girls' Residential Treatment / SLC
Lakeview Hospital / Bountiful (Senior Psych Unit)
LDS Hospital (IHC) / Rehabilitation Services
Learning Services / Riverton (Adult Males with Longterm Disabilities)
LifePath Hospice
Mt. Olympus Rehabilitation / SLC (Rehabilitation Services)
Neighborhood House / SLC (elder daycare)
Observation & Assessment, Boys' Unit / Salt Lake City (Adolescents in juvenile detention)
Observation & Assessment, Girls' Unit / Salt Lake City (Adolescents in juvenile detention)
Our House / Sandy (Assisted Living)
ParkLane Senior Apts. / SLC (retirement housing)
Pioneer Valley Hospital / WVC
Primary Children's Hospital (IHC) / SLC (Inpatient Rehabilitation Services)
Primary Children's Residential Treatment Center (IHC) / SLC (Children With Emotional and Abuse Issues)
Recovery Ways Treatment Center / SLC
Riverton Library / Riverton (R.E.A.D.)
RHA Community Services / SLC
Ronald McDonald House / Salt Lake City
Salt Lake City Libraries / SLC (R.E.A.D.)
Salt Lake County Libraries (R.E.A.D.)
Salt Lake County Youth Services
Salt Lake Regional Medical Center / SLC
Sandy Regional Medical Center
Sarah Daft Home / SLC
The Sharing Place / SLC
Shriner's Hospital for Children / Salt Lake City (Children Undergoing Orthopedic Procedures)

South Davis Community Hospital / Bountiful (Long- and Short-term Rehab)
South Valley Sanctuary / West Jordan (Woman & Child Center)
Snowbird Mountain School / Alta
TURN Community Services / SLC
TURN Community Summer Camps
University of Utah University Hospital (Rehab Services, Burn ICU, MedPsych Unit and Surgical Waiting Room)
University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute (Adult and Child Units)
Utah Cancer Specialists / SLC
Utah Guardian Ad Litem's Office / SLC
Utah School for the Deaf & Blind / Connor Street (Children With Multiple Disabilities)
Utah State Prison / Women's Inpatient Unit
Veterans Hospital / SLC (Rehabilitation/Hospice/Care Center)
Volunteers of America Women & Children's Center / SLC
The Wentworth at East Millcreek
Work Activity Center / Midvale

Country Pines Retirement / Ogden
Crestwood Care Center / Ogden
Davis Behavioral Health - Crisis Recovery Unit / Layton
H. Guy Child Elementary (R.E.A.D.) / Ogden
Emeritus Estates Assisted Living / Ogden
The Gardens / Ogden
George E. Wahlen Veterans Home / Ogden
Girls Independent Living / Ogden
Heritage Park Care Center / Roy (Alzheimer's Patients)
Highland Park Elementary / Clearfield (R.E.A.D.)
Holt Elementary School / Clearfield (R.E.A.D.)
Logan Regional Hospital / Logan
Manor Care / Ogden
McKay-Dee Hospital (IHC) / Ogden (Transitional Care, Psychiatric, Oasis Program and Rehabilitation Units)
Mount Ogden Junior High / Ogden
Mountain Ridge Assisted Living / Ogden
Mountain View Health Services / Ogden
North Ogden Jr. High (R.E.A.D.)
North Park Elementary (R.E.A.D.) / Roy
Polk Elementary School / Ogden (R.E.A.D.)
Rocky Mountain Care / Clearfield (Assisted Living)

Aspen Pointe / Bozeman
Bear Creek Respite / Bozeman
Belgrade Public Library (R.E.A.D.)
Big Sky Ski Patrol / Big Sky
Big Sky Youth Center / Bozeman
Birchwood Retirement / Bozeman
Bozeman Deaconess Hospital (cancer treatment center, dialysis unit and surgical waiting room)
Bozeman Lodge (Retirement)
Bozeman Public Library (R.E.A.D.)
Community Medical Center
Eagle Mount Camp / Bozeman
Edgewood Vista (Retirement)
Emily Dickinson Elementary (R.E.A.D.) / Bozeman
Epicenter / Bozeman
Frontier Assisted Living / Bozeman
Gallatin County Health Dept. / Bozeman (immunization clinics for kids)
Gallatin Gateway School (R.E.A.D.)
Gallatin County Rest Home / Bozeman
Hawthorne Elementary School (R.E.A.D.)
Head Start (R.E.A.D. programs)
High Country Care / Bozeman
Highgate / Bozeman (retirement home)
J's Place Mental Group Home
LaMotte School (R.E.A.D.)
Longfellow Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Missoula Public Library (R.E.A.D.)
Morningstar Elementary (R.E.A.D.) / Bozeman
Mountain View Care Center / Bozeman
New Horizons / Livingston
Operation Military Kids / 4H Youth Center
Parkhaven Retirement / Bozeman
Quaw-Heck School (R.E.A.D.)
REACH Homes for Developmentally Disabled Adults / Bozeman
Riverside Assisted Living
Sourdough Montessori (R.E.A.D.)
Springmeadows Assisted Living / Bozeman
Veterans Center Hospital / Helena
Whittier Elementary (R.E.A.D.) / Bozeman



UTAH – PARK CITY AREA

Heber Valley Medical Center
Jeremy Ranch Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Park City Medical Center
Parley's Park Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Peace House
McPolin Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Park City Library (R.E.A.D.)
Rocky Mountain Care Center / Heber
Summit County Library (R.E.A.D.)
Timpanogos Intermediate School / Heber (Special Education)
Wasatch High School / Heber (Special Education)

UTAH – OGDEN / LOGAN

Archway Youth Service Center / Ogden
Aspen Behavioral Center / Syracuse
Aspen Care Center / Ogden (Assisted Living)
Behavioral Health Institute / Ogden (Acute Care and Day Treatment)
Canyon View School LIFE Program / Ogden
Chancellor Gardens / Clearfield (Assisted Living)
Christmas Box House (Children in care of state services) / Ogden
Clearfield Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Coalville Library (R.E.A.D.)

Utah Schools for the Deaf & Blind / Harrison Blvd., Ogden (Children with Multiple Disabilities)
Vista Care Hospice / Ogden
Wasatch Care Center / Ogden
Washington Terrace Elementary / Ogden (R.E.A.D.)
Waterfall Canyon Academy / Ogden (students with cognitive disabilities)
Weber County Library / Ogden (R.E.A.D.)
Weber Valley Detention Center / Ogden
Willard Elementary / Willard (R.E.A.D.)

UTAH – UTAH VALLEY AREA

American Fork Hospital
Center for Change / Orem (Eating disorders)
Courtyard at Jamestown / Provo
Summerfield Manor / Orem (Assisted living)
Utah Cancer Specialists / Provo
Utah Valley Regional Medical Center / Provo

Rocky Mountain Hospice / St. George

MONTANA

911 Dispatch
Absarokee Elementary (R.E.A.D.)

IDAHO

3B Juvenile Detention Center / Idaho Falls
Bridgeview Estates (long-term care center) / Twin Falls
Cassia Regional Medical Center / Burley
Eastern Idaho Medical Center (EIRMC)
EIRMC Behavioral Health Center
Hansen Public Library (R.E.A.D.)
Harwood Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Jefferson Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Larsen-Saint Public Library / Preston (R.E.A.D.)
Snake River Juvenile Detention Center / Twin Falls
Southern Idaho Learning Center / Twin Falls
Twin Falls Public Library (R.E.A.D.)

NEVADA/CALIFORNIA

Camp Care, Camp Lotsafun & MDA Camp / Reno
Incline Village Elementary (R.E.A.D.)
Marvin Piccolo School / Reno (R.E.A.D.)
Nevada State Dept. of Corrections / Carson City
Plains Regional Medical Center
Tahoe Forest Hospital / Truckee
Washoe County Public Library (R.E.A.D.) / Incline Village

KENTUCKY/OHIO

Hospice of Hope / Maysville
Mason County Detention Center
Ohio Valley Manor / Ripley

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ITA's 3rd Annual Bowling for Therapy Animals

Paws in the Alley

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3 to 7 pm

Bonwood Bowl

2500 South Main, SLC

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