

THE HYDRANT

The Monthly Bulletin
for Members of
Intermountain Therapy Animals

Volume 24 / Number 7
July 2025



Are you current with ITA?

Membership Dues:

Individual \$99
Family \$150

How to Pay:

Pay online at therapyanimals.org/ita-members-only/
OR call the office with a credit card (801-272-3439),
request a PayPal invoice, or send a check to
PO Box 17201, SLC, UT 84117

Update your Contact Information:

If your contact info remains the same, you can simply make your payment. If any of your contact info has changed, please let us know by responding to this email or you can use the membership renewal application on our website (using the link above).

If you are not planning on renewing your membership, please let us know so that we don't send more notices.

ITA Normal Office Hours:

Monday ~ Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm (Fridays - CLOSED)

In July: CLOSED on Thursday, July 24th



COMFORT, HOPE, HEALING AND LOVE - SINCE 1993
INTERMOUNTAIN THERAPY ANIMALS



It's ITA Gala Time Again

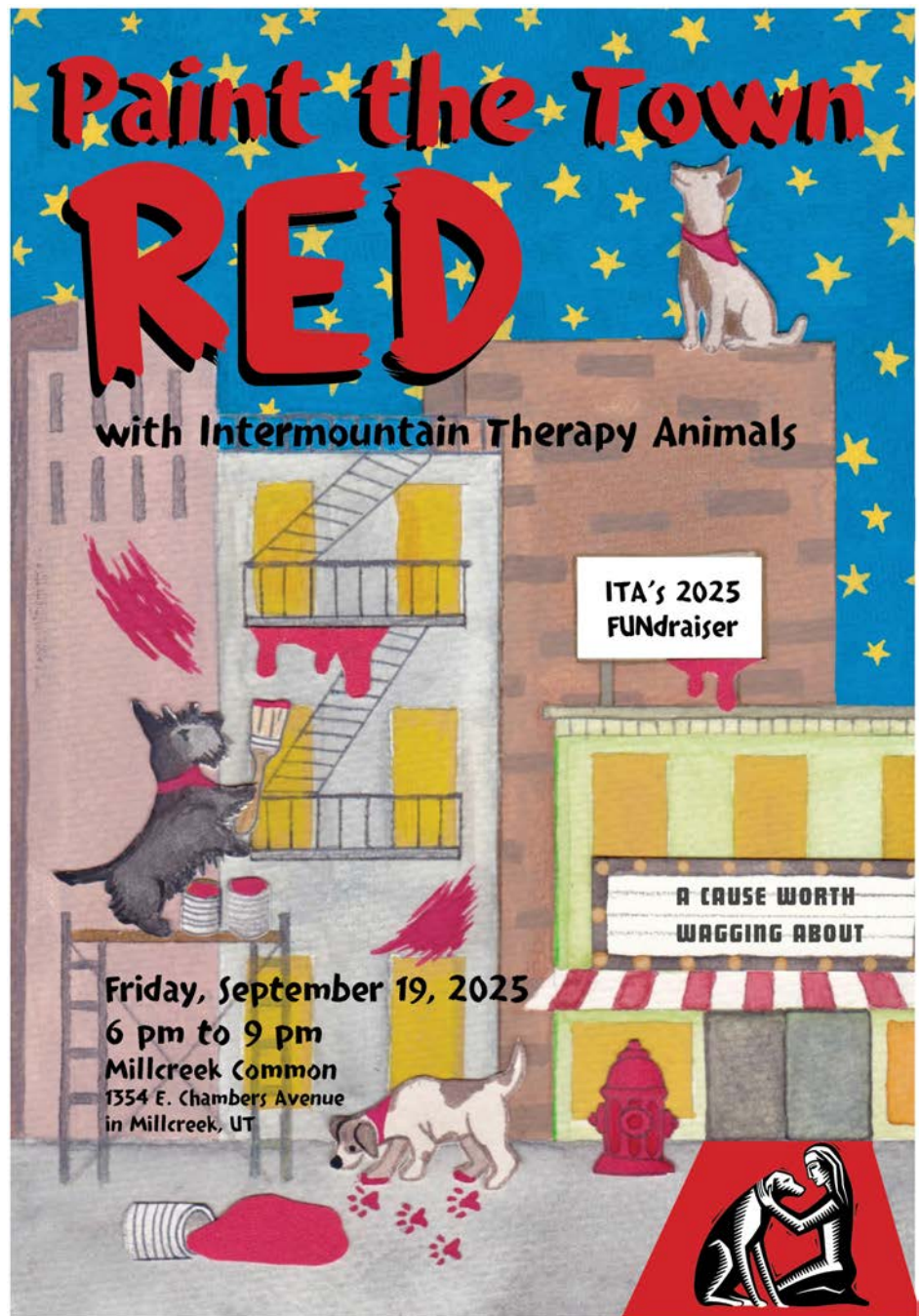
As most of you are already aware, we hold ITA's biggest party and FUNdraiser of the year every fall.

This year we are going to be at the Millcreek Common facility, nice and centrally located just off 33rd South and Highland Drive.

There are lots of ways our members can participate in these festivities—you can choose one or several of the following:

- **Come to the party** as a guest! Sit back, relax, and enjoy a different perspective of your ITA experience.
- **Be a volunteer** for the night of the party, helping the ITA staff and board make sure all the details happen on schedule.
- **Be a team.** We always have a few teams come to be part of the presentation because of course our animal partners are our whole reason for being.
- **Solicit some interesting item or unique experience** that can be included in our silent or live auction.
- **Donate a gift card** or two to be used in our classic Doggy Bags.

If you have questions or want more details, contact the office anytime to find out more!



You can buy tickets on our website, or use this QR code to get there fastest.



HANDLER W/ NEW PARTNER



Bruce Hamilton & Ginger

(Holladay, UT)

Bruce is back with Ginger, after losing his partner Boo, with whom he started at ITA in June of 2013.

LEAVING EARTH



Jojo, partner of Judi Pikell

(Woodland Hills, UT) Died suddenly on May 28th.

Jojo and Judi started with ITA in April of 2024.

RETIRING



Cobra, partner of Bill Cutting

(Salt Lake City)

Bill will continue with his new partner, Parker.

Coach, partner of Bee Lufkin

(Salt Lake City)

Coach has been Bee's partner since March of 2017. He is a senior gentleman now and has let Bee know he would like to retire. Bee will continue with Emma.



OUT & ABOUT



TOP: At IMC's NICU Graduation event on June 21st: Michelle Bouwman & Junie B, Anne Stringham & Skye, Alexandra Henderson & Teddi, and Patty Meldrum & Finn.

TOP RIGHT: Mia, partner of Kyler Gonzalez, poses at the Primary Lehi trauma survivor event at the end of May.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Peggy Chudd & Gus visit with Jon Absey at Huntsman. Jon is a longtime friend of ITA—he is the original *Jazz Bear* (for more than 25 years) and came to help us entertain kids and appear at our events whenever we asked. (We still sometimes find scraps of confetti in the odd corners of the office!) Now it's our turn to support Jon with ITA therapy animals as often as we can.



APPRECIATION & GENEROSITY



Jan Abramson & Izzie met Chloé, a young woman from France, at the SLC Airport. She had a variety of stuffed animals hanging from her backpack and Izzie seemed to particularly admire her green octopus. They visited and said their goodbyes, but soon after, Chloé returned with a similar pink octopus for Izzie!

We received an email from Chloé on June 25th:

Hi guys,

I met Izzie and Jan at Salt Lake City airport on the 17th and she kindly offered to send a picture of Izzie and me as I gave her a little stuffed animal.

Thank you guys for the initiative, it's an amazing idea and it really warmed people's heart that day. You are doing an amazing job! Thanks again for your kindness, Lots of love to all the cute dogs and their partners, and have a great week,

~ Chloe Chiesa

U of U Cockayne Award

Every year, University Hospital singles out a volunteer for the prestigious Cockayne Award. The winner for 2025 is ITA member **Emily Callahan**! She receives a certificate and \$500 gift certificate.

Shannon Allsop was also nominated and was recognized with an Honorable Mention and a \$100 gift certificate!

Patrick Becker, Volunteer Services Supervisor at the hospital, has expressed his appreciation for the time and effort that our teams put into enhancing the experience for U of U patients, visitors, and employees, and we second that! We are beyond proud of all of you and how much you do to truly make the world a better place for so many.

