



# NEWSLETTER

## We're Back on Track..... Visiting Again!

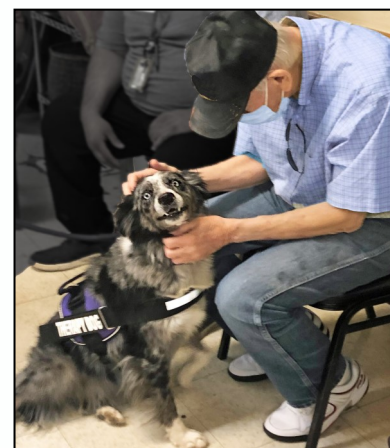
They're back on the job! After over a year of suspended visiting, facilities are opening again and welcoming back with open arms those happy heart, smiling eyes, wagging tail, wet nose, joy spreading visitors – our CAAA dogs! So how is it going? Read on.....

### Lady and Rene

Remember the story, Rene, Lady and the DEA agent that was in our newsletter a while back? It was the one in which a chance meeting with a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) agent resulted in Rene Chaillie meeting Lady, an Australian Shepherd that had been confiscated during a drug bust. That was the beginning of a forever home for Lady and one of our newest CAAA teams. After a few training classes and certification they were ready to start visiting when the pandemic hit. Now after over a year of waiting all the necessary CAAA paperwork has been completed and Rene and Lady have been visiting at Maravilla Care Center since June 10<sup>th</sup>. Was it worth the wait? After seeing these pictures of Lady interacting with a few of her new friends, the answer is a resounding YES! Rene adds "Most of the residents and staff are thrilled to see us. Michael, the Activities Director, is awesome. I am required to wear a mask, which I don't mind doing, and the receptionist always checks my temperature. We stay an hour, as Lady gets overwhelmed after that time, but she loves visiting everyone. Thanks for letting us have this opportunity to give some joy to people who really need it."



*Bath day: Ty getting ready for our pet therapy visits.*



*Lady with some of her new friends*

### Ty and Jane

A few weeks ago, Ty and I recommenced our visits at an assisted living facility (under the auspices of CAAA) and at a skilled nursing facility (under the auspices of a local hospice), and most recently we begin again visiting at an in-patient palliative care hospice unit. What immediately struck me was how different the COVID precautionary measures are in each place. Each facility sets its own visitor requirements using its own management's interpretation of the CDC requirements for the specific level of health care rendered within the facility.

*(Continued on page 2 )*



## A Social Pet Therapy Program

**THE COMPANION  
ANIMAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
ARIZONA, INC.**

**P.O. Box 5006  
Scottsdale, AZ.**

**85261- 5006**

**Phone (602)  
258-3306**

<http://www.caaainc.org>



## OUR MISSION

To enhance the quality of lives of people by promoting the Human/Companion Animal Bond and to provide support when the bond is broken.



Dogs are not our whole life, but they make our lives whole.

~Roger Caras~



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## Visiting Again! (continued)

While visiting assisted living residents, I must sign a form and have my temperature taken upon entering. I must remain masked throughout our visit. I'm free to visit residents in open areas and designated private rooms.

When we visit on behalf of hospice regardless of the setting, I am required to disinfect my dog's vest and his leash & collar before and after entering the facility. I'm required to wear my own mask into the facility, but I must change to a hospice provided mask after entering. The hospice also provides single use barrier pads for me to use when putting Ty onto a bed or lap which I have to carry along with me. And should the facility have had a COVID patient, I do not visit (notice though that I don't have my temperature taken or sign any forms).

At the skilled nursing facility the rules are so much more stringent and trump the hospice's requirements. And it makes pet therapy visits both challenging and tiring for both me and the dog. It's a very large, 3 floor facility and not only must I be masked upon entering, have my temperature taken and sign a form, I must change my mask before entering every single patient room! Thankfully the facility provides masks outside the door. Furthermore I must carry a container of hand sanitizing wipes and offer one to every patient that touches my dog. Remember I'm also carrying the barrier pads. Oh and of course, I must sanitize my own hands before and after entering each patient's room..

So I'm constantly juggling: the container of wipes, my lists of patients, the barrier pads, and of course Ty's leash! It reminds me of my father's expression about being "busy as a one-armed paper hanger."

Further, because everyone, staff included, are so thrilled to have Ty back visiting, we are constantly being interrupted as we work our way down the halls of the facility. And I'm finding myself wondering "Have I already changed my mask and sanitized my hands?" And Ty becomes impatient with me because he just wants to see all of his friends!

Is it worth it? OF COURSE..... It is great to see both staff and residents light up with smiles when they see Ty. More than once, staff has commented that it's wonderful to see a usually silent, unresponsive resident smile and talk to Ty.

That's the greatest reward.

### CAR TEMPERATURE PET SAFETY CHART

It's heating up!  
The temperature inside a vehicle rises quickly.  
Call 911 immediately if you see an animal locked in a car.

**How long does it take for a car to get HOT?**

| Outside Temp (F) | Inside Temp (F) |        |
|------------------|-----------------|--------|
|                  | 10mins          | 30mins |
| 70°              | 89°             | 104°   |
| 75°              | 94°             | 109°   |
| 80°              | 99°             | 114°   |
| 85°              | 104°            | 119°   |
| 90°              | 109°            | 124°   |
| 95°              | 114°            | 129°   |



**WITHIN MINUTES  
INTERIOR  
CAR TEMPS  
CAN BE DEADLY!**

 VeterinaryClinic.com





*There are several ways you can help CAAA generate financial contributions by participating with our Community Partners.*

- When shopping at **Amazon** on line, use : [SMILE.AMAZON.COM](https://www.smile.amazon.com)
- When you enroll your **Fry's** VIP card in their Community Rewards Program
- Any real estate transactions with **Richard Howell, North & Co. Real Estate**. Email: [richard@northandco.com](mailto:richard@northandco.com)
- **Making United Way Agency** Pledges using code: Companion Animal Assoc of Arizona TIN-94-2908620
- **Intel** encourages employees to pursue their passion to volunteer. The Intel Foundation matches the time they volunteer with a cash grant through the Intel Involved Matching Grant Program. CAAA is eligible to receive these cash grants.



## 2020 TOP HERO SEARCH & RESCUE DOG

Our 3rd article on The American Humane 2020 Hero Dog Awards focuses on Remington (Remi); a Lab mix from Montgomery Texas that's trained and nationally certified in Human Remains Detection. Remi and handler Rachael Crivelli, have worked many high profile cases and has assisted law enforcement agencies in five states with Special K9s search and rescue. He's also a public relations rep for his local fire department and an advocate for dogs to be in the fire services; not only because of his technical training but also because he's brought comfort to firefighters after long shifts and rough calls. Remi's numerous deployments have included missing persons, cold cases and finding hurricane victims.



On June 19, 2019, Remi was medically retired after an unexplained lameness. He was later diagnosed with a cancerous tumor. Due to the high financial costs of treatment and low chances of a good quality of life, euthanasia was advised. That's when Rachael reached out to Project K9 Hero whose mission is explained on their website as "Protecting Those Who Have Protected Us. We are so grateful for the service of our nation's retired Police K-9 and Military Working Dog Heroes that we want to honor them in retirement, and ensure the best quality of life for them, by providing assistance with medical costs, food and end of duty services." All Vet bills for Remi were paid by donors and although Remi has lost one leg, he has a full and active life as he continues to serve, now as an advocate for other dogs. He represents Project K9 Hero in events to raise awareness and funding which helps other K9's and he also helps shelter pets find forever homes through the Hallmark Channel's Adoption Ever After initiative.

Want to read more about Remi? Click on this America Humane website which has his story along with his Tribute video:

[Remington : Hero Dog Awards / American Humane](#)

# Huger Mercy Living Center

An Update From One of Our Visiting Facilities



Huger is an assisted living facility operated by Dignity Health St. Joseph's Hospital. The skilled staff there serves people with dementia and is one of the facilities CAAA therapy teams have been visiting for over twelve years.

Huger's social, activity-based model of care is one in which residents are encouraged to interact individually and also through a variety of activities. The physical design of the campus reflects this; it includes four identical cottages located on a grassy five acre campus. Each cottage provides a home for twelve patients and has a large common area. Residents can walk from one cottage to another or just enjoy the outdoor park setting by relaxing on a bench under one of the large shade trees. The overall appearance is that of a neighborhood.

Virginia Abel has been the Activity Coordinator at Huger for fifteen years, the entire time CAAA teams have been on the campus. She recently updated us on how things are going during these times of change. As always, the patients come first at Huger and that is where Virginia's update started:

*"We are blessed because our residents are doing exceptionally well I think. From day one we have had total support from Dignity/St. Joe's with all our medical needs for both residents and staff. Our residents have never been isolated in their rooms so when the lockdown came into effect they were already living communally. They weren't confined to just one room, only to the campus as it had always been, so nothing changed for them. I don't believe it affected our residents as much as it would have in a different living environment."*

*As always, we've strictly adhered to all CDC guidelines and we did of course have to adjust some things like eliminating off campus rides and visits as well as all outside visitors including entertainers, our therapy teams and family visits. It's possible that maybe because of their short term memory loss, our residents were not totally aware of these changes. I think they realized that something was missing but perhaps they didn't know exactly what."*

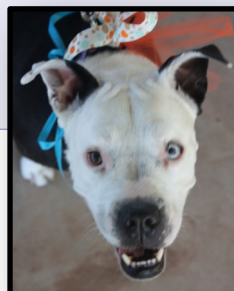
*But now there's good news ! Huger has FINALLY opened its doors after over one year. What does that mean?.... Well, that means the families will be able to visit their loved ones at Huger. For our pet therapy teams, you will have to wear a mask since you will be in close contact with our residents. If you have been vaccinated I will need to have that on file, although not required. Hand sanitizing is still necessary. Visitation is every day, except Wednesdays from 8am – 4pm. You'll be triaged at the front office. 99% of our residents have been fully vaccinated (one cannot since he is allergic to penicillin ) and 98% of our staff have been fully vaccinated, there are about 2*

*who are waiting for their second dose! For those that took a hiatus or quit due the pandemic, I so understand and we love you, missed you and are hoping to see you back. Residents may not be totally remembering, but now as they are beginning to physically connect again with others, such socialization only helps with cognition.*

*The light at the end this crazy tunnel is getting brighter.....Thank you for all you do and take care."*



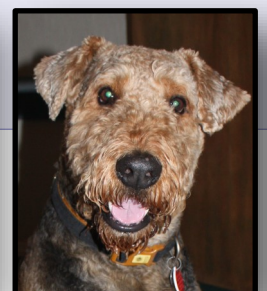
## A FEW OF OUR HUGER ALUMNI STARS



Bella



Simon



Bear



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

# Our Universities Are Studying Dogs?

*The following information is from each University's Website*



*"We study dog psychology, often as compared to humans, primates, or other animals."*

Located within the School of Anthropology on the campus of U of A is the Arizona Canine Cognition Center. It's there that research is driven by the questions of: "What makes animal minds the way they are, how did they get that way, and why." Among their major areas of study is the relationships between humans and dogs. The Staff has conducted and published many studies on topics such as :

- Are Puppies Primed to Understand Human Gestures
- Is Social Intelligence Genetically Hardwired in Dogs

To learn more about their research as well as access to more of their news articles and publications visit their website at:

<https://dogs.arizona.edu/>



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

School of Anthropology



**The Canine Science Collaboratory is dedicated to improving the lives of dogs and their people.**

ASU research is conducted within the Department of Psychology and is more specific to dog and human relationships. Current research projects are:

- Dog Welfare at the Animal Shelter
- Behavioral Problems in the Home
- Human-Dog Interaction
- Dogs' Wild Relatives
- Cognitive Aging in Canines

Their website includes many more details about these projects and a long list of publications resulting from their research. Visit the site at:

<https://psychology.asu.edu/research/labs/canine-science-collaboratory-wynne>



**Department  
of Psychology**

CAAA

BULLETIN BOARD

Ray Ritchotte's  
Blake hopes  
everyone had a  
Happy  
fourth of July.



Want to see the 2021 American  
Humane Hero Dog finalists? You  
can also vote for your favorite. Visit  
their website at:

<https://herodogawards.org/>

## Save the Date



## Our Fall Outing is Still "ON"!

Our Fall Outing and Volunteer  
Celebration is still scheduled so  
plan on attending:

Oct 23rd at Hollis park in Tempe  
10:00 - 1:00 p.m.

More information to follow as we  
get closer to October 23

CAAA  
2021

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