



SEPTEMBER 2023

### THEY SAW IT, THEY SAID IT, THEY MADE THE CALL...

One would think that after years of documented arrests, billboard messages, national attention, social media warnings and television appearances, residents of Lee County would have come to the realization that Sheriff Carmine Marceno has absolutely no intention...none whatsoever...of allowing animal abuse, neglect or mistreatment to be accepted or overlooked in Lee County.

Yet, some individuals simply don't get it and, as a result, have an opportunity to ride the steel-cage shuttle directly to the Marceno Motel.



Teresa Pierret made that journey after LCSO deputies found her canine, "BB," suffering immensely from horrific mistreatment.

Having received a greatly-appreciated call from a concerned neighbor, deputies arrived at a home on Spanish Court in Fort Myers to investigate statements made regarding a black Labrador Retriever.



Following ongoing knocking and ringing of the doorbell, contact was made with Pierret through a window on the southeast side of the

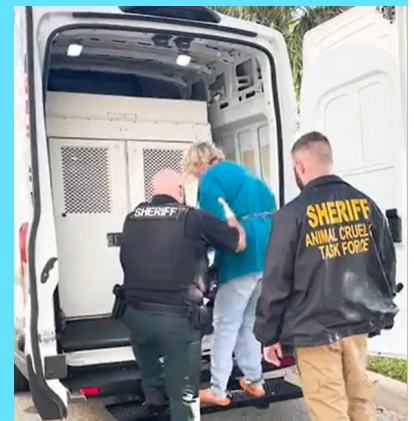
### (Made the Call...continued)

residence.

When Pierret opened the door, deputies were immediately overtaken by the smell of feces which were scattered around the floor of the home.

Deputies discovered a case of heinous and unacceptable abuse of the black Labrador. The dog was nearly unresponsive and the canine's neck was severely lacerated, emitting a foul odor.

BB was immediately transported to a local animal hospital in need of surgery; Teresa Lynn Pierret (DOB 08-30-1971) was immediately transported to the Marceno Motel in need of imprisonment.



### YOU CAN REPORT SUSPECTED ANIMAL ABUSE ANONYMOUSLY!

Animals are unable to speak for themselves. Reporting the abuse, mistreatment and neglect of animals is everyone's responsibility...*and did we mention cash rewards?*

Crime doesn't pay, but we do! Call with your tips.  
**SWFL CRIME STOPPERS**  
**1-800-780-TIPS(8477)**  
ANONYMOUS · CASH REWARDS

## Q&A WITH DR. WENDY PERRA, DVM: JOINT SUPPLEMENTS FOR CANINES

Dr. Perrera received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Tuskegee University in 2000. She has been the primary veterinarian servicing the Lee County Sheriff's Office Canine Unit for the past two decades.

**Question:** "How soon should you start giving joint supplements to your pups as prevention. Mainly asking for working and active dogs."

**Dr. Wendy Perrera:** "Nutraceutical supplementation for joint health is an excellent means to assist your pet's musculoskeletal system. Most veterinarians will recommend a quality chondroprotective supplement at the first hint of joint pain. The most common joints afflicted with pain issues are hips, elbows and stifles. While we tend to think about large working breeds as being most affected, small breeds also are subject to joint discomfort. The age at which supplementation should begin is not easily definable, and professional



recommendations will vary.

When you supplement your pet's diet with glucosamine and chondroitin, you

are providing the body with the building blocks of synovial fluid as well as decreasing the destructive effects on cartilaginous surfaces within a joint. This viscous fluid is responsible for providing a cushion within a joint capsule, hence not permitting any bone-on-bone contact to occur. If normal synovial fluid is not being made due to a dysfunctional synovial membrane (i.e. hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, luxating patellas, etc.), there will be pain (i.e. lameness, soreness). The body will take the extraneous glucosamine and use it to assist in production of equality synovial fluid, thereby easing joint discomfort.

If there is a known joint issue at an early age, I strongly recommend starting daily glucosamine supplementation for the life of the pet. There is no disadvantage to using it, only potential benefit. If you have a young, large breed

## (Dr. Perrera...continued)

working dog such as a German Shepherd or Labrador Retriever that is experiencing no musculoskeletal issues, I will usually recommend considering adding glucosamine prophylactically to the diet around age four to five years. In every senior pet (>8 years of age), I recommend glucosamine supplementation indefinitely."

## GOT LITTER?

The Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force is respectfully asking our followers and friends to drop off cat litter donations at our LCSO Miromar Outlets Community Outreach Center located in Suite 190 at the Miromar Outlets, 10801 Corkscrew Road in Estero.



Non-clumping, clumping, biodegradable, Silica gel... any brand...any size...would be greatly appreciated!

## CRAZY FOR YOU...



Meet Madonna!

This senior fur-girl is in need of a safe, caring and loving home. Please stop by the Animal Refuge Center located at 10811 Old Bayshore Road in North Fort Myers or call 239-731-3535.



## ANIMAL CRUELTY TASK FORCE VISITS GOLISANO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The work done here in Southwest Florida, by Golisano Children's Hospital, is second to none. The lifesaving care provided to children and their families is unmatched and priceless.



The Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force, with Lieutenant Hope in tow, regularly visits Golisano Children's Hospital in an effort to bring smiles to the faces of patients, their families and the incredible staff.



## (Golisano...continued)

During this most recent visit, "Robbie" the Robodog showed off a bit, demonstrating some of the cool and unique "tricks" that he can do.



In addition to the diligent work done by the task force in their effort to fulfill Sheriff Carmine Marceno's goal of eliminating animal abuse and mistreatment in Lee County, Lieutenant Hope and the ACTF staff devote considerable time toward educating the community in regard to proper animal treatment and animal rights. Without any doubt, our three-legged friend offers "hope" and inspiration to those dealing with their own personal medical challenges.



## COFFEE WITH KITTIES



### A Feline Adoption Event

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 11:00 am until 2:00 pm  
Lee County Sheriff's Office Miromar Outlets Community Outreach Center  
10801 Corkscrew Road, (Suite 190 at the Miromar Outlets), Estero

Coffee generously provided by Starbucks of Miromar Outlets  
Adoptable cats and kittens from the Animal Refuge Center will be on-hand!





## Q&A WITH DR. MEGAN DAVIS, DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL OPERATIONS AT CAPE CORAL ANIMAL SHELTER

Dr. Megan Davis joined the Cape Coral Animal Shelter as Director of Medical Operations in April of 2022 and oversees the veterinary care for patients at the shelter's veterinary clinic as well as their shelter animals.

Monthly, Dr. Davis kindly takes time out of her busy day to answer questions emailed to the Lee County Sheriff's Office Animal Cruelty Task Force.

**Question:** "My neighbors were discussing Leptospirosis in Florida. Can you please explain what this disease is, how our pets can contract it, what symptoms should we be looking for and if it is common here in Southwest Florida?"

**Dr. Megan Davis:** "Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that thrives in the tropical climate of southwest Florida. It is transmitted by the urine of wildlife like rodents, raccoons, and opossums. It can live in soil and water, so your dog does not have to have direct contact with these animals to be at risk. It is especially prevalent in the rainy season and your dog can be infected by drinking, swimming or even walking through infected water (this includes puddles!). In early/mild cases your dog may have a fever, vomiting and lethargy. More severe cases result in jaundice, kidney and liver failure, bleeding problems and ultimately death. Your veterinarian may suspect



Leptospirosis based on your pet's history and bloodwork results. There is a rapid in-house test that can be performed (similar to a heartworm test) but often blood and urine samples are sent to the lab for confirmation. The bacteria is treated with commonly available antibiotics but hospitalization for IV fluids and bloodwork monitoring is often necessary. Initial vaccination involves two injections three to four weeks apart, after that it is an annual vaccine. My personal dog is vaccinated for Lepto and we also vaccinate all dogs here at the Cape Coral Animal Shelter for it. It is a zoonotic disease meaning people can also get it; so we protect ourselves by protecting our pets!"

## "SENIOR OF THE MONTH" SHANDY

Oh, that face...



This sweet lady is in search of a loving home, a safe place to rest her head, someone to love unconditionally.

"Shandy" is a small-to-medium sized dog with quite a bit of energy.

Staff at the Cape Coral Animal Shelter believe that it would be best for Shandy to be an only-furchild, so a home without other animals would be best.

Room to run and roam would be great, so a fenced-in yard would give this gal a chance to burn off some of her energy. Shandy enjoys exercise and an owner with the ability to go out for long walks would be best.



If Shandy seems like a good fit in your home, please come by the Cape Coral Animal Shelter, located at 325 SW 2 Avenue in Cape Coral.

For additional information regarding Shandy or any of her friends, please 239-573-2002.



## ZEUS, RETIRED LCSO K9, PASSES AWAY

It is with great sadness that the Lee County Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit announces the passing of retired K-9 Zeus, who transitioned peacefully surrounded by family.

Zeus began his career at LCSO in 2012 and specialized primarily in narcotics detection. Zeus was previously assigned to Deputy Reed and Lieutenant Lockhart before finishing out his career as a loyal partner to Sergeant Chris Rodriguez.



Zeus was responsible for countless narcotics seizures including over thirty-seven thousand grams of marijuana, five hundred grams of methamphetamine, four hundred grams of cocaine, and over one hundred thousand dollars in drug money.

Zeus assisted narcotic detectives and several federal agencies with major narcotic investigations, resulting in over one hundred and twenty felony arrests.

During the course of his career, Zeus also had one hundred and sixty patrol deployments resulting in the arrest of sixteen dangerous felons.

In 2020, Zeus, lovingly referred to as "Frito" by family members, received his well-earned retirement.

Even at 13 years old, Zeus never knew a stranger. He loved stealing snacks from the counter, frolicking in the backyard, and was known to hop a six-foot fence or two to visit with neighbors.

Zeus...we love you and will so miss you. The entire community sincerely thanks you for all of your hard and dangerous work. Lee County is a far better place because of all that you have done.

Rest peacefully, buddy.

Sunday  
NOVEMBER  
**12**



## GOLDENFEST XIII

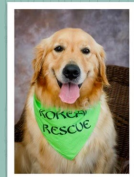
Sponsored by



**The Shell Factory & Nature Park**  
10am - 2pm 16554 N. Cleveland Ave, North Fort Myers

Dozens of service &  
product vendors  
First Responders & K9s  
GRRSWF Alumni Reunion  
Pictures with Santa Paws  
Agility  
Obedience  
Pup Wading Pools

Flyball  
Silent Auctions  
Huge Raffle  
Live music, food  
Pony rides  
Bounce Houses  
Free Admission &  
Parking  
And so much more ..



## HARPER...A SENIOR SWEETIE...NEEDS A HOME!

This playful and loveable girl is so deserving of a safe and loving forever home!

Can you help?



Harper would prefer to be an only-furchild and a home without other dogs would probably be ideal.

Interested? Know someone who might be interested?

Please visit Harper at the Gulf Coast Humane Society

located at 2010 Arcadia Street in Fort Myers or call 239-332-0364.



## HAVING LOST HER OWNER IN HOUSE FIRE, “GINGER” SEARCHING FOR NEW FOREVER HOME

A house fire took my owner from me...leaving me alone and without a home. I'm very fortunate to have survived the horrific blaze.

Life is very different now. As a nine-year-old, I'm forced to begin again...looking for the love that I once enjoyed. Are you the one to provide me with my forever home?



I'm very mellow, enjoy other calm dogs and a fenced-in yard would be, well, incredible. I love people, I'm affectionate...except to cats. Yuch!

If you're the one ready to be loved unconditionally, please visit the "Big Hearts for Big Dogs" website at

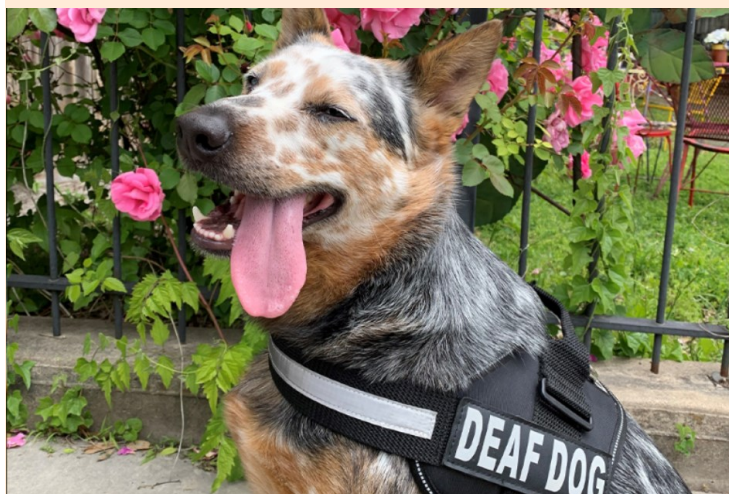
[bigheartstbigdogs.com](http://bigheartstbigdogs.com) or email for more information at [info@bigheartstbigdogs.com](mailto:info@bigheartstbigdogs.com)

## DEAF DOG AWARENESS WEEK

Annually, the last full week in September is designated as "Deaf Dog Awareness Week."

Well over 35,000 dogs in the United States have been diagnosed as deaf in both ears; over 120,000 having fully lost hearing in one ear.

While deafness can affect any breed, there are particular breeds that appear to be more susceptible to such hearing loss. Those breeds are Dalmatian, Boston Terrier, Jack Russell Terrier, Cocker Spaniel, Australian Shepherd, Maltese, Toy and Miniature Poodle, German Shepherd and West Highland White Terrier.



In nearly all cases, deafness is hereditary and pigment-related. Interestingly, it is believed that deafness is associated with piebald or merle coat patterns. Merle (marbled/streaked pattern on coat) is a genetic pattern that can be in a dog's coat. Piebald patterns, which are irregular patches, are generally the result of a genetic abnormality.

Deafness can be confirmed by veterinary professions using a BAER (brainstem auditory evoked response) test that detects electrical activity in the inner ear (cochlea) and hearing nerves (auditory pathways) in the brain.

Potential adopters are asked to consider rescuing and caring for a deaf dog. These canines are often overlooked and left to spend the entirety of their lives in a shelter setting.

Want to know more? For more information regarding deaf dogs, please visit <https://www.pethealthnetwork.com/dog-health/dog-diseases-conditions-a-z/what-you-need-know-about-deaf-dogs>.

## “DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT ABUSING AN ANIMAL IN LEE COUNTY.”

- SHERIFF CARMINE MARCENO



### "SISSY" AND "KAZ," TWO PEAS IN A POD...

Please help us find a loving home for this bonded pair!  
Sissy and Kaz are best buds...love to do their zoomies together...are extremely playful and friendly!



Reportedly, this pair loves going for walks together and loves the staff at the shelter.

It is recommended that they find a home without children, so a home with

adults only would be ideal!

Stop by the Cape Coral Animal Shelter, located at 325 SW 2 Avenue in Cape Coral...or call 239-573-2002 for additional information.

### WHY DO DOGS TILT THEIR HEADS?

Veterinarians, training experts and canine behaviorists offer several possibilities regarding canine head-tilting... but, despite substantial research, none seem to be definitive or concrete.

Of the numerous possibilities offered, we selected a few that seemed based in scientific reason:

Canines have remarkable hearing and many breeds have a minimum of 18 muscles in and around their ears. You will notice that pointy-eared dogs turn and rotate their ears, much like the rotation of satellite dishes, to determine the origin of the sound. Experts offer the possibility that the head tilt may serve a similar purpose, tilting the head in the direction of the sound.



Another consideration is that there may be a visual benefit to the head-tilt. Generally, the dog's

muzzle would block a portion of the canine's view and it is believed that the head-tilt may allow for a better view. Experts believe that dogs with shorter muzzles tilt their heads less as their field of vision isn't as compromised as longer-snouted canines. A study of 582 pet owners indicated that only 52% of short-muzzled dogs tilted their heads while 71% of long-snouted dogs did so.

Whatever the actual reason might be, most agree that it is an adorable behavior!

### ANIMALS DON'T HAVE A VOICE...

# BUT WE DO!



"My ACTF detectives are the best of the best!  
Their work in protecting animals that don't have their own voice is important and part of what makes Lee County the greatest county to live."

- Sheriff Carmine Marceno

