



Happy Holidays

From Miranda's Rescue

MirandasRescue.org

Miranda's Message is published semi-annually by Miranda's Rescue, 1603 Sandy Prairie Rd., Fortuna, CA 95540

Miranda's Message

A Tale of Two Heroes

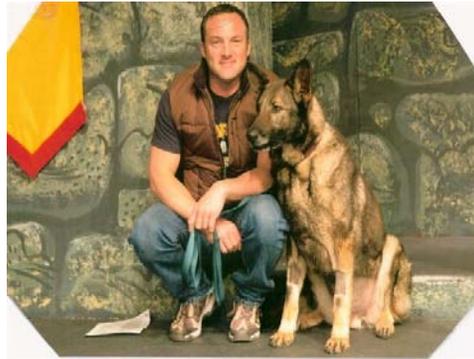
Though months have elapsed since the tragic event, Shannon Miranda, still sensing the presence of his beloved, 8 year-old German Shepherd, has left Buddy's bowls unmoved from where this "remarkable, one-in-a-million, canine-companion and watch dog," once enthusiastically ate and drank from. On Monday, September 28, following a cruel trespass upon that portion of Miranda's Rescue abutting the river bar, and wherein abused horses, goats, llamas, ducks, geese, sheep, pigs and donkeys enjoy sanctuary – Buddy, keeper and guardian of this menagerie, lost his life valiantly, from injuries suffered "in the line-of-duty".

In fall of 2002, while volunteering at the Rescue, I was summoned by Shannon to "meet someone", who was apparently holed up in the garage. Unaware, until then, of the secret 'apartment' behind the main room, long since converted into a meeting chamber and intake area for newly rescued pets – I pursued Shannon to the mysterious door behind which I heard voices. Obediently, I followed the silent hand-signal beckoning me to peer through the glass portal atop the door, and into the secret room.

There, elegantly stretched out on a couch adorned with fluffy blankets, lay a magnificent German Shepherd, apparently *watching television*. Just as Shannon proudly whispered, "Got him yesterday", the dog's instincts overcame the clamor of the TV, and Buddy sprang soundlessly to his feet – crimson eyes peering at my intrusive face bobbing behind the glass like some spectral, dismembered head video-projected at a séance. Fangs displayed, the sweet canine whose soap opera had been interrupted, morphed into the hideous "Hound of the Baskervilles". "Oh no", I thought,

"Shannon's adopted a werewolf!"

Like St. Frances (or Tarzan), Shannon Miranda has an uncanny connection to the Animal Kingdom, so I unquestioningly accepted Shannon's wisdom in having rescued this terrifying beast, and was soon privileged to know and love Buddy. Were there a canine counterpart to MENSA, this keenly intelligent dog would be honored with a membership, and the adventures of Buddy and Shannon – rivaled only by Lassie and Timmy – should be chronicled as legend:



While tending horses at the site where the Miranda home, barns, and aviaries are located, Shannon received an urgent call from a volunteer at the Drake Hill side of the property where scores of rescued dogs, and a few impounded strays are sheltered. Momentarily questioning his sanity in serving as depository for three cities' stray animals, Shannon took a running short-cut, reaching the

maniacal, screaming man who refused to pay impound fees for two dogs, and threatened to break down the kennel and take back his "property". The huge man's rabid mood escalated with Shannon's surprise appearance – but suddenly the guy's beet-red face paled, and he meekly inquired, "Is *he* going to bite me?"

Buddy, who Shannon had just left patrolling his usual 'turf', had apparently leapt over the tall, bolted gate, sped down Drake Hill Road and through the rescue's open gateway, and thrust himself upon his imperiled master's feet. In his 'werewolf' persona, 120 pound Buddy, glared menacingly at the man who cheerfully paid fees and endured a lecture on how to better care for his dogs.

(Continued on page 6)

A special thanks to Color Impressions in Fortuna, 1010 Main Street, 725-4880, for their support publishing this newsletter.



Picture of Miranda's Koi Pond and Garden. Even the Koi are adoptable!

11th Annual Wine & Cheese Open House Was a Sunny Delight for Fun-Loving People and Critters!

The beautiful sunshine drew a record crowd to the rescue for our 11th Wine & Cheese Open house. With the dedicated volunteers that gave so much of their time and with the wonderful donations from so many individuals and businesses, we can proudly say that we live in a remarkable community. All of us really pulled together this year and made this our most successful open house yet. We raised \$14,885. We were able to pay \$1,500 to the veterinarian, \$2,885 to the feed vendors, \$6,500 to taxes and \$4,000 to insurance. Bless each and every one of you that made this possible! Thank you!

BUSINESS MGR. NEEDED

This will be a volunteer position to start. Miranda's Rescue offers limitless opportunities for increased income production which is necessary for the rescue to remain viable. The applicant for this position would be an "on the ball" type A personality, likely coming out of a professional career that required independent, out-of-the-box thinking and the ability to develop and run with new ideas. A "thick-skin" is needed. A passion to promote animal welfare is vital. This person would report to the non-profit Board of Directors. Eventual salary commensurate with success. Call Alice, 764-4080 to discuss.

These lucky turkeys will never need a "Presidential Pardon" because they will live out their lives at Miranda's Rescue!



A Pet's Prayer

*I ask for the privilege
of not being born...
not to be born until
you can assure me of a home
and a master to protect me,
and the right to live
as long as I am physically able
to enjoy life...
not to be born until
my body is precious
and men have ceased to exploit it
because it is cheap
and plentiful.*

Puppies Rescued in Dyerville

A kind Humboldt Redwoods employee saw a puppy running around the riverbar on the mouth of the Eel. Since there were no houses for miles, he figured the puppy had been "dumped". He was on the job and couldn't do anything then, so he called Shannon. When Shannon got there, he looked around and found the rest of the litter—four more. They were hungry and dehydrated (they bit at Shannon's fingers when he fed them!), but seemed healthy. They hadn't walked there for sure, as their little pads were not worn or sore. They seem to be stock dog crosses around 10 weeks old. They will be available for adoption as soon as they are spayed and neutered and have their shots. Call the Rescue at 725-4449 if you are interested in adopting one of them or the many other available dogs and puppies (cats and kittens, too!).





PhotoPhobic PhoeBe caught on film!

PhotoPhobic PhoeBe

PhoeBe may be the best dog ever. She loves people, other dogs and “grins and bears” the cats and kittens who just seem to want to smother her with affection. Her obedience surpasses any human’s as does her loyalty. She hates getting wet, cold, or her photo taken.

About 5 years ago, I told Shannon that I was looking for a Pit or PitX to help protect the cats of Bless the Beasts. He recommended this little one of 1+ yrs. and home with me, she came. She needed no training; she just adjusted to the requirements of the household. She has a happy nature and is endowed with high moral scruples.

When looking for the perfect dog, don’t overlook the bully dogs. One may offer the exact blend of good genes and behavior to make your family proud.

Alice, Bless the Beasts

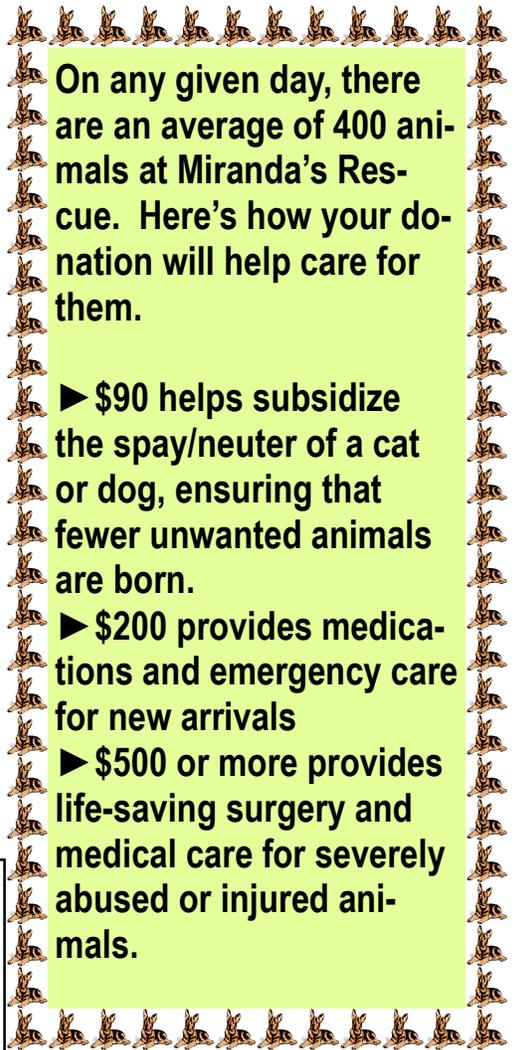


Pictured is the interior of Coco Cuvee at 531 “D” in Eureka. Left to right is Coco Cuvee’s assistant manager Sarah Vitello and Shannon Miranda’s children, Logan Miranda, age 5, and Mikayla Miranda, age 9. If you own a business and would like to do a fundraiser, call 725-4449.

Coco Cuvee Comes Through For “Critters”

All of us here at Miranda’s want to thank Janna Lyon and Heidi Meyers, the owners of Old Town Eureka’s trendy women’s boutique Coco Cuvee. They raised \$368 at their store’s one year anniversary party. Jana and Heidi hosted raffles with items donated from other businesses and rounded up each sale to the next dollar. The extra change they then donated to Miranda’s Rescue. Thank you and bless you to everyone involved! Congrats to you both!

Saving one animal will not change the world....but it will change the world for that one animal.



On any given day, there are an average of 400 animals at Miranda’s Rescue. Here’s how your donation will help care for them.

▶ \$90 helps subsidize the spay/neuter of a cat or dog, ensuring that fewer unwanted animals are born.

▶ \$200 provides medications and emergency care for new arrivals

▶ \$500 or more provides life-saving surgery and medical care for severely abused or injured animals.

FOOD DRIVE!



Help feed the animals at the Rescue by bringing donations of dog food, cat food, and non-clumping cat litter.

When: 1st Saturday of every month.

Location: Short Street between 15th and Wabash (In front of Costco)

Time: 11 to 3





Freddy, the Male Foster Mom

I work at Miranda’s Rescue taking care of all the cats. About three years ago we got in a male cat. I named him Freddy. Freddy was overly friendly to me and anyone who visited the cat area. He would always jump on me and other people visiting. He would even jump up on my back when I wasn’t looking at him. I finally brought Freddy home. A month later, I brought home a day-old kitten to foster. I let Freddy smell the kitten and he started to wash the kitten! So everyday, I would let Freddy give the kitten a bath. Over the past two years, I have been a foster mom to lots of kittens, and it didn’t take long before the kittens would go to Freddy to get their faces washed and Freddy was more than willing to do so. I still have the first kitten, Pudgy, now two years old, and Freddy still washes his face and they often sleep together with Missy, one year old, who still gets her face washed by Freddy too. It just amazes me that a male cat can be so friendly and gentle to kittens. I guess Freddy just loves everybody.

I know it’s fun to get a new kitten, but you just might find a real gem, like I did, if you look at the adult cats at Miranda’s Rescue.

By Kathy Pollard (Kitty Caretaker, Extraordinaire)



Miranda’s Thrift Store Ransacked

Miranda’s Rescue Thrift Store was broken into sometime between Sunday 10/9 and Monday morning 10/10. The vandals threw a huge rock threw the front window shattering glass everywhere. The same rock was then used to bash one of the jewelry cases and many watches were taken. The thrift store is under new management with a whole new staff. Prices are lower than ever before. The stores winter hours are 10-5 Monday through Saturday and is located at 822 South Fortuna Blvd Fortuna., phone 725-4166. We accept clean, good condition, resalable items.

Thank You Local Business for Paving our Entryway

We want to thank Dennis Roe Plumbing & Thomas R. Bess for paving Miranda’s entryway to the Dog & Cat shelter. During the rainy season, it was a nightmare with constant flooding. The inground brace that holds the gates in place always filled with water and stones resulting in volunteers spooning out all the debris in order to lock the gates. Dennis Roe spent many hours working with Planwest in acquiring the permits for the encroachment. Dennis donated all his time to the rescue! Tom Bess’ hard working team laid the driveway and he gave the rescue a great discount! Dennis Roe Plumbing can be reached at 441-1122 and Thomas R. Bess at 768-3427.



We also want to thank Dennis Roe for winterizing our outdoor dog kennels which are pictured below.. He donated many hours in labor, expense and time into this project and we can’t thank him enough. Thank you to all our hardworking staff and volunteers for painting two coats of paint on each board. Bless you all!!!



To save mailing, printing expenses and trees, we would like to email your newsletter in pdf format. Please fill in your email on the form on the back (with or without a donation) and your newsletter will arrive in your inbox instead of your mailbox. You can also email to info@MirandasRescue.org and request an emailed newsletter instead of a printed one.

GRRRREAT GIFT IDEAS FROM MIRANDA'S RESCUE

Christmas is soon approaching and Miranda's has great gifts for your animal loving friends! Miranda's will be selling 2 year calendar mouse pads for \$9.99, 2009 Animal Wall Calendars for \$19.99 and Single Sheet 2009 Calendars in either Dog or Cat for \$4.99. The mouse pads were generously donated by Stewart & Nancy Guider. Nancy is one of our hard working cat volunteers. The wall calendars and single sheet calendars were made and donated by Margaret Stevens of Heartfelt Gifts. They display lots of the animals residing here at the rescue. Some are even up for adoption. You can purchase any of these calendar items at Miranda's Rescue Thrift Store in Fortuna or at our Dog and Cat Shelter office. The mouse pads can also be found at local businesses throughout Humboldt County. Please call Dean at 616-5018 or for bulk orders.



Miranda's Rescue

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We make a difference; you make it possible.
www.mirandarescue.org

The following businesses are carrying our mouse pads! Great presents!

FORTUNA:
Arney's Office Supply
Fortuna Feed Store
Fortuna Pet Store
Horizon Business Products
Main Street Feed
Miranda's Rescue Thrift Store
Miranda's Rescue shelter

EUREKA:
Booklegger Bookstore
Fin-N-Feather Pet Store
Myrtle Avenue Pet Store
Pacific Paper Company
Pierson's Garden Shop

ARCATA:
Arcata Stationers
North Coast Co-op
Tin Can Mailman Bookstore
Wildberries Marketplace

MCKINLEYVILLE:
A & L Feed Store
Miller Farms Nursery

Remember this number when you shop at the CO-OP in Eureka or Arcata! Miranda's Rescue has been accepted to participate in the Register Donation Program. That means when you tell the cashier to use 82012, you allow the CO-OP to collect an additional 1% donation to Miranda's Rescue. The Rescue must meet the minimum of at least \$2500 each month in grocery activity, so EVERYONE who shops at the CO-OP needs to remember this number—write it on your checkbook or card!
82012



Pictured are Margaret Stevens, owner of Heartfelt Gifts heartfelt-cards@hotmail.com & Shannon. She generously made and donated the 12 page calendars and single sheet 2yr calendars.

82012

A Tale of Two Heroes, Continued:

In the case of the disappearing leftovers: A spare refrigerator kept in the garage, was always filled with large blocks of cheese, unfinished sandwiches, and other goodies. Shannon's kids, who had exclusive nighttime access to the fridge, were the only thieving suspects, and infuriated their father by ongoing, fervent denials of such obvious guilt! Surreptitiously, Shannon set up a hidden camera to catch the culprits in action.

Apologies were in order when Shannon triumphantly played back the video in front of the children, who their Dad has proclaimed as "caught!" But the kids appeared nowhere in Shannon's "Reality Show", which instead, starred **Buddy**, who was seen repeatedly emerging from his aforementioned 'apartment', opening the refrigerator door, selecting his snack of choice, then closing the fridge and trotting the delicious booty back to his couch!

Spanning six years, Buddy, from an exclusive German Shepherd lineage, bred for strength, bravery and shrewd intelligence which made them unparalleled sentinels and loyal companions, went everywhere with Shannon. Since that fateful day when Buddy's original owners, who had, in 2000, "imported" the beautiful puppy from Germany, telephoned Shannon to tearfully announce that their dog, whose German obedience training has been recently subsidized by Shannon's continued training sessions in English, was at Ferndale Veterinary *awaiting euthanasia*. Buddy had bitten a neighbor's child whose rough-play he perceived as a threat to his own family's children.

Begging Buddy's distraught owners to turn their two year-old dog over to his care, Shannon sped to Ferndale, but was admonished by the vets not to open the crate containing "that vicious, snarling dog". Armed with owners' permission, Shannon entered the room where Buddy was to die, open the crate, and to onlookers' amazement was greeted by a wagging tail and ecstatic kisses. In Shannon's words, "Buddy hit the deck running", enthusiastically assuming his duties at the Rescue and gently safeguarding all critters, from horses to chickens; even the escaped, scurrying guinea pigs were safe with Buddy, as were Shannon's mutually devoted kids. Respecting Buddy's fiercely protective instincts, Shannon forbade the presence of other children while Buddy was on patrol.

Accustomed to property surveillance from the vantage point of his home's second-story bedroom window, where a panoramic view of the Rescue is accessible, and where Buddy could always be seen and heard guarding his precious 'flock' – Shannon rarely fell asleep in the silence of his living room. On that fateful September night, drained from a harrowing day of rescue emergencies, Shannon collapsed on the couch, awakened at dawn by someone yelling, "My God, Buddy can't get up!"

It is conjectured that the intruders, who methodically wreaked havoc by letting out all the separately housed animals, had been surprised by Buddy, the courageous, aging 'warrior' with debilitating, hind-quarter arthritis, and before the still-formidable guard dog could get to his feet, bashed Buddy's shoulders. Miraculously, no other animal escaped or was harmed, but rushing his beloved dog to Ferndale Vet, Shannon was apprehensive of the outcome for Buddy, so he impulsively stopped at the nearby home of Buddy's original owners. The beautiful German Shepherd had never forgotten his first family, so Buddy raised his head from Shannon's front seat and bid farewell to his first 'Dad'.

The amazing veterinarians at Ferndale could have saved Buddy's life through complex surgeries which would have left him unable to stand for many months. But Shannon could not imagine as helpless, this valiant, canine-soldier who'd lived to 'serve and protect' his human family. On September 28, embraced in the arms of *his* hero, **Buddy**, Shannon's *hero*, was peacefully delivered back to the galactic splendor of his spirit's Source.

***If you wish to honor Buddy's memory by facilitating Shannon's crucial work, then please generously support Miranda's Rescue through your tax-deductible donations. Only with your help can miracles happen for thousands of otherwise ill-fated animals!**

By Gail Holder, Miranda's Rescue Volunteer and founder of K-9 Angels

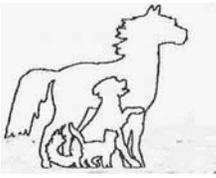
"CANINE CASTLE: A WORK IN PROGRESS"

Though not nearly the sum we requested, Miranda's Rescue is thrilled to announce that Fortuna's benevolent, McLean Foundation, awarded a \$10,000 grant toward the construction of our crucially needed "Canine Castle". The award letter from McLean stated that this project has been granted the "Largest sum ever awarded to a project for the benefit of animals", and we are honored to have this distinction!

The Castle's current status is as follows; Generous public contributions over the last 18 months, enabled the Rescue to make a sizable deposit to general Steel Company—securing the necessary raw materials for our planned, expansive manufactured steel sanctuary for abandoned dogs and puppies. The "McLean funds" have secured finalization of design and engineering of the building by GS experts, so following Shannon's approval, will forward the plans to Humboldt County for procurement of building permits.

Watch for upcoming creative fundraising schemes to raise the sizeable amount needed to have our building delivered— Miranda's Rescue, a non-profit honored by the California Legislature as "The best and most diverse sanctuary for abused animals", is counting on you passionate animal-lovers to continue donating generously to the Castle! ***Tax-deductible donations are gratefully accepted at Redwood Capital Bank (Eureka or Fortuna) or call 725-4449 or 496-4589 for further information. Thanks!**





Miranda's Rescue
1603 Sandy Prairie Rd.
Fortuna, CA 95540

Non-Profit
 Organization
 US Postage Paid
 Eureka, CA
 95501
 Permit No. 30

Miranda's Rescue really needs your help! Due to the current economy, our corporate sponsorship has been greatly reduced. We are struggling to survive and care for our hundreds of cats, dogs, birds, reptiles, horses, livestock, and other creatures. Donations of any amount will be greatly appreciated. If you have friends and relatives who really don't need more "things" - think about a donation in their name to Miranda's Rescue. THANKS! No amount is too small—everything helps!

Donations are tax-deductible! Mail to: **Miranda's Rescue, 1603 Sandy Prairie Rd., Fortuna, CA 95540**

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Chose one: Enclosed Check or money order Please charge my visa/mc

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature _____

E-mail address _____

MIRANDA'S RESCUE WISH LIST

Money! (Cash, check, MO, or credit card) Volunteers are desperately needed to care for the animals. We really need hay and grain, cat food and plain clay non-clumping kitty litter.