



# Miss Nibbles' News



## greetings from the president

Greetings,

Fall colors have appeared once again as Summer gives way to Fall. I wonder if dogs and cats are aware of the changing seasons and how many have come and gone for them. At the shelter, we have several animals that have experienced many seasons coming and going while they are cared for by loving staff. Having lived in confinement, some for many years, they exhibit all sorts of strange behaviors when visitors stroll by their habitat. For the person or family looking to adopt, they might seem too vicious or too shy to be a good companion. While for some that might be the case, for most, they act entirely different when you take them for a walk. They seem to realize there's still hope for finding the right person to take them home. This summer, several seemingly permanent residents found their forever homes. One was adopted after 4 year four months living at the shelter.

So, there is still hope for all the unfortunate animals that find their way to the Bella Vista Animal Shelter. And don't forget the "Seniors for Seniors" program. Any dog over 6 years old can be adopted by someone over 60 years old, free of charge.

As a new year approaches, I want to remind everyone that election to the BVAS Board of Directors is held at our Annual Meeting, January 22, 2020. You can call the shelter for an application or go to our website: <https://bellavista-animalshelter.org/>, click on "Contact" and write an email to request a copy sent to your email address. Come join a vibrant and energetic Board as we leave a successful 2019 and look forward to the challenges ahead for the Bella Vista Animal Shelter.

Wishing everyone a happy and safe holiday season,

Curt Stoops

President, BVAS Board of Directors

Winter 2019 Edition



### Board of Directors

Curt Stoops, Pres.

Jeremy Velten, VP

Anita Werts, Treasurer

Merissa Spicer, Secretary

### Board Members

Karen Deal

Emily Enslow

Abby Swager

Debbie Sorensen

Kim Wilichowski



### Staff

Deidre Knight-Matney,  
Exec. Director

Laurie May, Shelter  
Manager

Tori Fritz, Asst. Shelter  
Manager

Jason Winter

Sonny Crabb

Maria Serrano

Lisa Parker-Stiles

The BVAS is going to an email newsletter to save money on mailings. If you received a printed newsletter this time, we need your email address for future letters. Send email Addresses to [bvas\\_ed@yahoo.com](mailto:bvas_ed@yahoo.com)



## SHILOH'S TALE

For everyone who wanted to know the story and helped get Shiloh back home, thank you.

An Open Thank You Letter To The Amazing Bella Vista Community From A Reunited Pet Parent

I am not an eloquent person and the words I have chosen can no way express my gratitude to this marvelous town.

My 8 year old German Shepherd, Shiloh, was missing for 74 days and I found her because of two wonderful couples: My fabulous neighbor (and her understanding husband) who spent hours daily for those 74 days on Facebook and every website that exists for missing animals and the wonderful couple that fed her and contacted me about her.

So many people have expressed an interest in Shiloh's story. The short version is: We moved to Bella Vista on July 20th. Shiloh disappeared July 30th. I had loaded her up in the back of my SUV to go for a walk. I walked 25' to go get her sister and load her. In those few seconds she saw a deer and jumped out of the SUV in pursuit. It took me less than a minute to secure her sister and go get Shiloh. In that short amount of time she had disappeared. She had never not come when I called her. She never came. I can only surmise she was having such fun chasing the deer and got so far from her new home that she could not find her way back. I looked and called until late that night hunting her. I looked and called 3 to 4 times a day for hours each outing for her for 73 days. No one could chastise me more than myself for leaving the back of my SUV up. From the first day until the 74th I have never felt such guilt and depression.

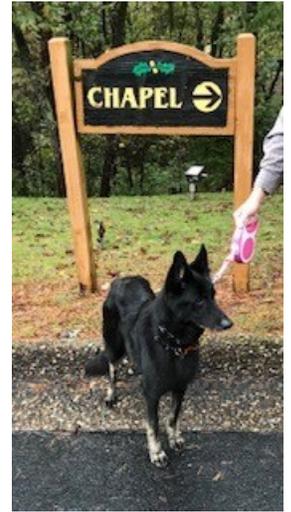
But the real message of this story is the caring thoughtfulness and kindness of the people of Bella Vista. Neighbors I had never met stopped me and said they would help and they actually did! I was astounded. I was not use to such kindness and concern from strangers. People were praying, helping me put up posters, and actually out looking for her. One wonderful neighbor sat out in her yard for days trying to perhaps spot Shiloh. This same neighbor also rode her bike around looking for her and put up posters. Another neighbor rode his motor cycle around to lakes hunting her. Since I do not use social media, yet another neighbor got busy on the internet telling my plight as previously stated. Other neighbors prayed and helped also. I saw posters I had not made that some wonderful person had made and put out. I saw them in many places and to be honest they were better than what I had made. People called or texted and told me different sites and organizations to get in touch with. Others told me of possible things to try and places to look. I took all of their advice. I was overwhelmed by this fabulous community. Within a day or so people started calling and texting with possible sitings. I checked every kind tip out—even the midnight and 2:00 A.M. ones. The time did not matter to me since I could not sleep anyway thinking of all the scenarios that my little girl could possibly be encountering.

Shiloh is a pampered inside dog and is a member of my family. She is also truly scared of everyone but three people. I knew she would be hiding in the woods trusting no one. During her time missing we had stifling 100 degree days, news warning of bad lake water for pets and humans, and the absolute worst ear splitting thunder and torrential rain storms I have ever encountered which caused downed trees and flooding. My thoughts were of how terrified I knew she was. My heart was broken and depression set in. I am sure people got very tired of hearing me call for her but I refused to give up hope.

By September, her sister was showing signs of having a hard time also. The two had lived their entire lives together. The veterinarian changed her food and put her on some medicine to help her upset stomach but mostly he renewed my hope. He said not to give up—that dogs were very smart and much stronger than humans thought. His words renewed my spirit. All through this experience people of Bella Vista would tell me to not give up—that they would do exactly what I was doing—hunting non stop. Those people also gave me hope and were my life line.

On October 11th a wonderful woman called. She did not say I THINK I have seen Shiloh. She said I have your dog. For some reason I knew it was really Shiloh and a strange calm came over me. She and her husband were Shiloh's angels. She proceeded to tell me the story of a stray dog sleeping on their cottage steps some nights. They decided to try to feed it because it looked starved. They would put food out but anytime they tried to approach, the dog would bolt. She had taken three pictures through her screened window in her house and showed them to me. It was my baby! She was truly emaciated, but alive. My emotions were so raw it was all I could do to not cry. It was my dog! Shiloh's angel said she looked on the internet and found information on what she thought was Shiloh and called me. Somehow out of the 100+ posters I, and others had put out, not a single poster was on that road.

This wonderfully kind husband and wife offered to let me stay all night in their back yard to watch for Shiloh. I did. I had put out her sisters blanket and a collar with sisters smell on it. One of my hoodies and old shoes and some of her favorite food. Of course she never showed that night! Later that morning Shiloh's angels suggested I start looking in all the woods around their house. I did. I had gone to my third set of woods, picked a place to enter and stated calling. I saw a black animal dart across about 50' in front of me. It took a half second to realize it was Shiloh. I gave her halt command and dropped to my knees. She stopped. She was scared. I called again. She came closer. I told her I had food. She came and gobbled it up and started jumping on me. I gave the command to get in the car. She was so excited she pulled me down on my hands. We had to go up a slight hill and this time she pulled me all the way down. We made it to the car and headed straight to the Emergency Veterinary Hospital. I quickly texted Shiloh's angels and my children that I had her and that I would explain more later. She had lost 14 pounds and her shiny black coat was covered in dime size chunks of sap but again- she was alive. She only weighed 54 pounds to start with. By the following Monday at our regular



Month	Carryover from 2018	Carryover from 29	Incoming City	Incoming Not City Adopted	Reclaim	Rescue	Return	DOA	Euthanized	Foster	Other
Jan	25	3	20	14	1	4	0	0	0	0	0
Feb	26	0	13	13	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mar	29	4	13	22	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Apr	31	4	16	22	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
May	30	4	12	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June	28	3	15	19	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
July	38	4	9	17	0	1	0	0	5	0	0
Aug	40	3	25	21	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
Sept	43	6	18	20	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Oct	50	3	15	32	0	2	1	0	1	0	0
Nov											
Dec											
Totals	369	34	156	198	2	14	3	2	6	0	0
		403									

## DOGS

## 2019

## STATISTICS

Month	Carryover from 2018	Carryover from 53	Incoming City	Incoming Not City Adopted	Reclaim	Rescue	Return	DOA	Euthanized	Foster	Other
Jan	21	1	16	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
Feb	11	3	8	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Mar	9	1	16	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Apr	11	2	9	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
May	29	0	12	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
June	30	7	12	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0
July	19	0	16	2	0	0	4	1	9	0	0
Aug	19	1	21	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Sept	14	2	25	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0
Oct	7	0	15	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
Nov											
Dec											
Totals	223	17	150	7	1	7	21	4	9	0	0
		240									

## CATS

In House Dogs 45 and 2 Dogs in Foster Homes

In House Cats 59

In House count as of 11/01/2019

### In Loving Memory of

Shirley Cox

Donald Gibbs

Kena Wachholtz

Dorothy Diers

Kenneth Stanley Ska-winski

Elsia Hanson

William Edward Hurt

Jo Kolpek

Ann Frausto

Helen Dansker

Dale Veach

Mary Lewis

Helen Griffin

James E. Patterson

Curt & Arvilla Vipond

Chance Glubzcynski

Lili Van Hecke

Iona & Ginger Odgers

B.T. Spychala

Scrubbs King

Bill & June Roberts

Ronald Wozny

Ruth Cross

Henry Sinkus

Larry Taylor

### Beloved Pets

Elwood Law

Kimme Harris

Kat Davidson

Ducky Lear

Giggy Gott

Mr. Branson Schlegle

Jasper Kettering

Sid Defreitas

Dora & Rascal Ramsey

Chico-Buddy French

Bocce Abrahamson

Cado King

Riley Paradise

Sophie Gozdecki

Hairyette Hays

Riley Pursley

Punkin Carter

Cato King

Angus Glaser

Duncan Brown

### Beloved Friends and Family

Shiloh continued — Veterinary office she had lost 1.4 pounds more. As of today, she is thriving and putting on weight.

I have experienced a true miracle. What are the odds of finding an animal in all of these Bella Vista woods— to cross paths at the exact same moment in order to find each other?

I feel so appreciative of this helpful and caring community. There were so many people looking for her. Before I got to Springdale 15 people had texted me. All were so elated and asking if it was true that I had her. People were giving thanks and crying. Though out the day so many people called wanting to hear the story and telling me of their happiness.

I am so blessed to have Shiloh back. It never would have happened without the help of all in this wonderful community! I am overwhelmed and amazed by the goodness of the people of Bella Vista. They had gone to great lengths to try to get Shiloh home to me.

I thank you all for your caring, support, time out of your busy days, tips, help, thoughts and prayers. I am forever grateful to each and every one of you. May God Bless you all in all that you do!

And to those missing their beloved pets: Never give up hope!

Sincerely,

A humble new resident

(Shared with owner's permission for those who do not Facebook-D. Matney, Exec. Dir.)

# SPOTLIGHT PETS

available for adoption



Hans



Tonka



## Bronx and Brutus

**ADOPT, DON'T SHOP**



Visit us On [Petfinder.com!](https://www.petfinder.com)

Adoption fees: Dogs \$60, Cats \$45.

Fees cover spay/neuter, worm treatments; age appropriate shots including rabies inoculation (if old enough); dogs, DHLPP, cats FVRCP; and microchipping.

## THE LITTLE ENGINE WHO COULD

Meet Ms. Wilma, the little engine that could overcome anything! Wilma, a 12 year old senior dog was brought into the shelter on July 3, 2019 with one eye missing and her remaining eye not in the best physical shape. We took her into the office where she negotiated chairs and around us fairly well, but on Sunday, July 6th, her remaining eye ruptured and she was rushed to the veterinary clinic. Her eye was treated with drops and pain medication but did not improve so on July 29th, the vet clinic removed her eye. After surgery, this little trooper negotiated the office very well following the sound of the staff's voice's but she would occasionally bump into chairs and the wall.

Priscilla, a shelter volunteer who also has a blind dog, Sir Winston was concerned for Wilma and contacted Muffin's Halo's For Blind Dogs who donate halo's to blind animals in shelters. Sir Winston also wears a halo.

"Muffin's Halo - Guide For Blind Dogs was invented out of the love and devotion for Muffin Bordeaux, a 13 1/2 year old Toy Poodle who lost his sight over two years ago due to cataracts. Muffin began bumping into walls, fell down the stairs, and became depressed and immobile, as he attempted to transition. His mother Silvie Bordeaux was heartbroken and determined to find a solution for her beloved dog. After doing some extensive research, she realized there is a great need for products to help blind dogs, so she created Muffin's Halo and is now dedicated to assisting blind dogs and their caring owners."

The photo shown above is Wilma on her maiden voyage in her halo on her adoption day, August 1st to Justin & Dustin, owners of Java Dude's Coffee Co. They tell us that after Wilma's transition in coping with blindness with the aid of her halo she is now able to negotiate 7 steps off the deck to the back yard and throughout the house with out her halo. She even has the confidence to initiate play and chase their other dog through the house and doesn't bump into a thing. Justin and Dustin are so enamored with Wilma that they developed her own Facebook page. Follow her at [facebook.com/mswilma2019/](https://www.facebook.com/mswilma2019/)

For all of us at the Shelter and her new family, this brave little girl has left HUGE Paw Prints on our hearts!

Dee Dee Matney  
Executive Director



### Nutty Bacon Dog Treats

Makes ~6 dozen 1" diameter treats

#### Ingredients:

3 slices of bacon, diced	1 egg	1/2 cup soy flour
1/3 cup creamy natural peanut butter		1 tablespoon maple syrup
3 tablespoons water	1/2 cup wheat germ	1/2 whole wheat pastry flour



- Preheat oven to 300 degrees and line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
- Fry the diced bacon until crispy. With a slotted spoon, remove the crispy bacon but save the fat. Allow the fat to cool slightly (2-5 minutes)
- Add the egg, peanut butter, maple syrup and water to the bacon fat and mix thoroughly.
- Add in the flours and wheat germ and mix until combined. Stir in the crispy bacon pieces.
- Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to about 1/4" thick. Cut into desired shapes. I used three different 1" cookie cutters.
- Bake in the oven for 12-15 minutes (for 1" diameter shapes) until lightly browned. Cool before serving.

## Homemade Pill Pocket Recipe



1 T Milk  
1 T Crunchy Peanut Butter  
2 T Flour (any kind)

Mix together and form 12 pockets.

Store in fridge or freezer.

We are a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the rescue & rehabilitation of the strays in the Bella Vista. Our Mission is to provide food shelter and medical care for the animals in need - until they can be adopted into loving homes. Our facility like many others operates solely on the kind-hearted donations from private parties, volunteers & the community. Thank you to all that have donated to the shelter past & present, as well as those of you that have helped to save an animal, by welcoming them into your heart and home by adopting a homeless pet.

A red holiday-themed poster with white text and images. The text reads "Sponsor a Spay-Neuter this Christmas" in a mix of fonts. Below the text is a photo of a dog and a cat with a small green gift box. At the bottom right, it says "CHANGE A PET'S LIFE SAVE THEIR FUTURE SPAY & NEUTER." The poster is decorated with holly leaves and berries in the corners and snowflake patterns.

Sponsor a  
Spay-Neuter  
this Christmas

CHANGE A PET'S LIFE  
SAVE THEIR FUTURE  
SPAY & NEUTER.

Visit us on the Web at <http://www.bellavista-animalshelter.org>

Bella Vista Animal Shelter  
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