Rescuing, Rehabilitating and Rehoming Golden Retrievers in Central Texas

Gold Ribbon Rescue

Golden Tales

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GRR Store

September 2022

A Message From Our President

Breck

Hello Friends,

Can you believe Fall officially starts this month? We are definitely ready for some cooler weather and weekend football games. We have a lot of exciting things going on with GRR over the next couple of months. Read more below about our October fundraiser event featuring David Rosenfelt. We hope you'll join us!

We also have the call for nominations for board member positions and the annual business meeting at the end of October. We are so grateful for all of your support, whether it is monetarily, volunteering or attending our events. Our community is truly amazing and we could not rescue dogs without you.

This month I want to talk about something very personal to me. It seems timely as my Breck and his littermates are about to celebrate their 4th birthday on 9/3/22. This litter of puppies has had a significant share of challenges beginning in the womb. Prenatal stress in dogs can be a significant factor, which can have a negative impact on the puppies and can lead to behavior deficits. There are also genetic and environmental factors. That litter was hand raised without the care and interaction of their mom.

From a very early age we started to see that Breck has significant resource guarding, which includes guarding his people in the home, and he is highly barrier reactive. Breck also has a lot of anxiety that presents in different ways. We started working with trainers at the first onset of challenges. We realized that was not enough. Three years ago we were referred to a veterinary behaviorist who is one of the best in this field. The doctor gave us a comprehensive plan which included training, management and medication.

We were extremely nervous to start medication for behavior modification. We had never had to use meds this way before and were concerned about the impact on his behavior, wondering if he would be lethargic and not himself. We knew we trusted our doctor and had to try this path as we needed help. We jumped in and began the hard work. In the beginning we had a lot of struggles and needed to make adjustments to medication. We had regular calls with our doctor to ensure things were going in the right direction and we would tweak where needed. We started to see things really improve.

Managing a multi-animal household can be a challenge, but adding in a behavioral needs dog makes it even more complicated. We wondered if we could do the work.

Over time we started to see significant improvements and never did see any of the things we were initially concerned about. Breck was never lethargic and “not himself”. He was and is the playful and goofy boy we call our Big Baby Bear or Brecker the Wrecker. He loves hard and plays hard. We manage Breck on a daily basis and know this will always be the case. We also know that the benefits of the medication have truly made the most significant impact.

I wanted to be vulnerable with you and share this because I know there are people out there who feel hesitant with using medication for behavior modification in their dogs. Of course, every dog and their situation is unique and requires a professional to make an assessment. I do encourage you to be open-minded and consider all options when dealing with significant challenges with your pets. Have the hard conversations with your trusted veterinary doctors and do research.

We can’t imagine our lives without Breck and are so grateful we took the leap of faith to do what we needed to do for him. He is living his best life and will have a fantastic birthday. I wish all of his littermates the happiest of birthdays as well.

As always, GRR is ready, willing and able to help Goldens. If you know of a Golden in need or one to be surrendered, please always remember to contact our **intake team** or call our hotline at 512-659-4653 as our social media pages aren’t monitored for posts of dogs in need.

Warm regards,
Michelle

Do you have questions or comments for the Board? We value your input. Please send a note to the **GRR Board** and include **Questions For The Board** in the subject line. We hope to hear from you! The next board meeting is **September 17, 2022.**

Everyone is invited to the the **Gold Ribbon Rescue Annual Business Meeting and Election on October 29, 2022**. It's a great venue to learn about GRR and we hope to see you there. As a reminder, only members with 20 hours of volunteer time and who have attended a business meeting in the past twelve months are eligible to vote

We invite nominations for the Board of Directors. All nominations for candidates for the Board of Directors **must be received by October 1. 2022**. Please send your candidate nomination to the **GRR Board** and include **Candidate Nomination** in the subject line.

Be sure and watch for more details in the October newsletter. We hope to see you there!

HAPPY FALL Y'ALL!

The More You Know

GRR Volunteer Orientation Webinar
The first fall Volunteer Orientation Webinar is on **September 21st from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.** Please join GRR for this high level overview of the organization and to learn about available volunteer opportunities.

If you are unable to join us, new volunteers and others interested in learning more about volunteering in other roles may contact us at **volunteer@grr-tx.com** and we will follow up with you.

Microsoft Teams meeting
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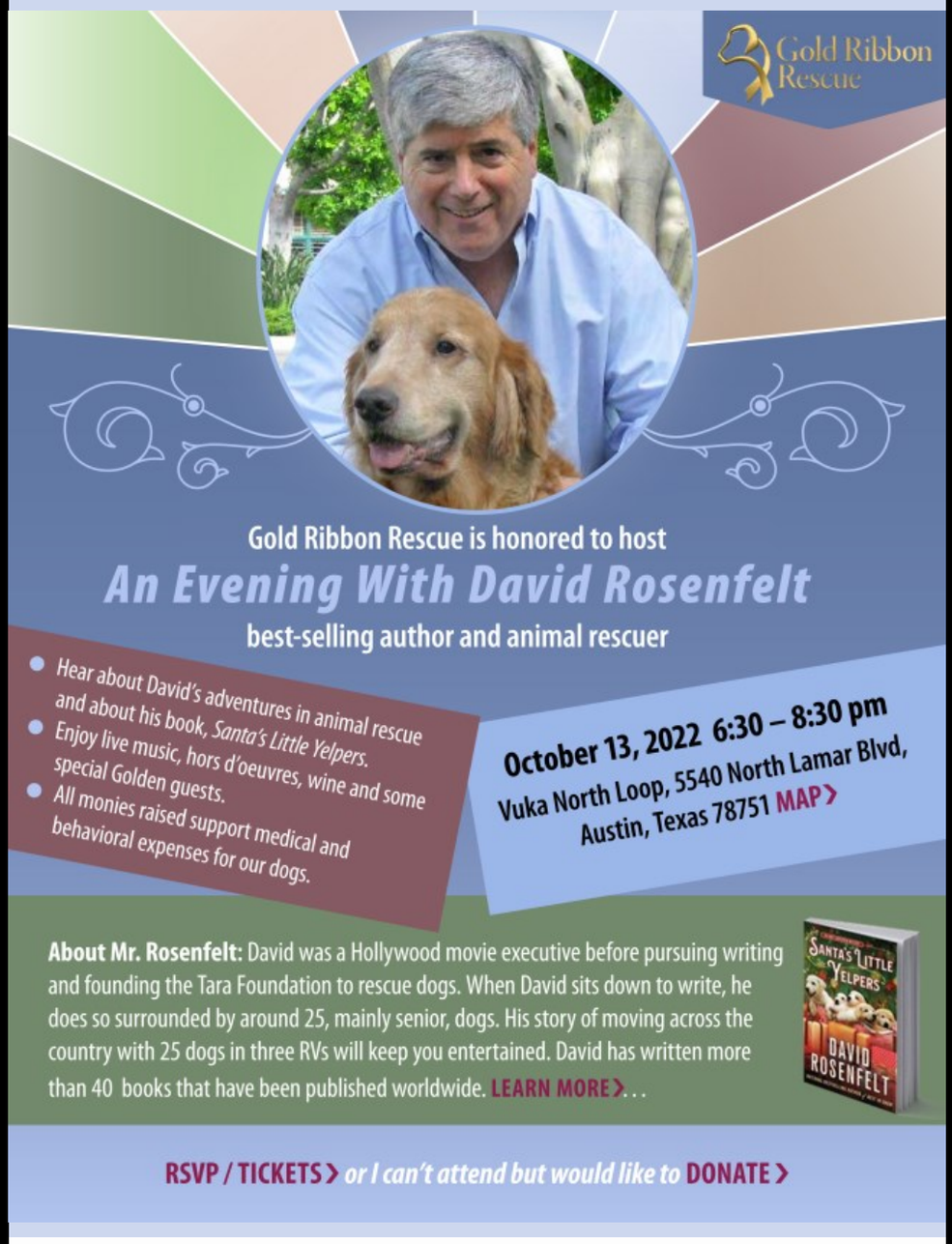
HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GRR

Join Us on October 13th!

Enjoy a fun evening with author and animal rescuer **David Rosenfelt** and support Gold Ribbon Rescue Goldens.



Reservations are $65 per person. To RSVP, **click here**.

If you cannot attend but would like to make a donation to support Goldens, **click here**.
This is a human-only event.

Thank you to our generous event sponsors:

Carol and Chris Adams
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Joan and Jeffery Lava
Denise and Joe Martinez
Mary, Mark and Ben Martinez
Marla McClain and Ed Hamel
Lynn and Andy Neillie
Dan and Susan O'Reilly
Donnie and Cheryl Smith
Kelly Topfer

We hope to see you on October 13th!
Thank you for supporting Gold Ribbon Rescue.

Fall is on the way and it isn't a moment too soon. Check out our new fall fashions and prepare for leaves and pumpkins and little ones in costume.

To see the new fall tee shirts and to order, click **here**.

NEWS ABOUT OUR GRR GOLDENS

Looking for Their Forever Homes

Nash 22-049

Nash is an eight months-old typical young. energetic puppy. He's completely housebroken and will go to the door when he needs to go out.out. He loves all humans, loves to play ball and is making good progress walking on a leash

Nash is SMART: he likes to play with his rubber ducky outside butwill leave it by he back door when he comes inside and will pick it up again when he goes outside. He learned to drop it and pick it up in a couple days on his foster mom's command. Nash needs walking daily and time to run in his backyard, as well as mental stimulation. He's good with kids, but because he's a young dog, older kids would be best.

Nash is a sweet, sweet boy with lots of love to give his adopting family. In return, he needs a family who will give him patience as he grows out of his goofy puppy phase into a grownup doggie. Nash will be neutered in late August and ready for his adopting family after that. Learn more about Nash **here**.

Daisy 22-044

Sweet Daisy was found as a stray in San Antonio in a known doggy dumping area! Daisy is super gentle and sweet and loves everyone -- humans and dogs. She does jump up, but gently. She is between 9 months and one year old and is all gangly, long legs at this point. She sits politely to get a treat, is potty trained and is excellent in the house. Daisy is fairly low energy and enjoys hanging out with her humans.

While Daisy can be calm at times, she needs a family who will work with her on training, provide adequate exercise and continue to build her trust and confidence. She is a relatively low energy dog that enjoys calm, quiet surroundings. Daisy will do well with an older couple or a family with older, calm children. She can be an only dog or have another dog companion as long as it has similar energy. Could you be this gentle girl's forever home? Read more about Daisy **here**.

Forrest 18-096

Forrest was returned to GRR when his owner moved to New York. He has Ataxia, which is a neurological issue that causes some unsteadiness and some abnormal motor movement of his legs. It is not debilitating, but rather needs monitoring. For example, Forrest can't jump into the car on his own and when he does his business, Forrest does a little "potty dance" because he has to keep his legs moving. Forrest was examined by a specialist who says no further treatment is needed at this time as he's doing great.

The home that would be best for Forrest is one with no kids and a small dog that he can play with. While Forrest can navigate a few steps, the ideal home must be one without a lot of stairs. He also needs a forever family that's willing to accept Forrest for all that he offers rather than focus on what he cannot do and be willing to devote the time and love that he needs and so richly deserves. Forrest enjoys the simple things in life: looking outside, cuddling with people, lots of petting and dozing. Forrest will make his forever family very happy as he's truly an extraordinary boy. Could you be Forrest's forever home? Read more about Forrest **here**.

Stevie 22-028

Stevie is around 1.5 to 2 years old and is still a super-sweet big puppy. He is great with kids and doesn't jump on visitors. Quite the opposite, he melts into the ground when he meets people. Stevie plays great with other dogs and is enjoying having a strong, independent, playful dog in his foster home.

Stevie was likely born with a congenital eye issue. Although his vision is impaired, with extra tissue covering part of his cornea, it does not slow him down at all. Stevie sees well enough to get around, play and cuddle and is expected to live a full and happy life. Stevie will likely need eye drops for the rest of his life due to his condition.

The ideal home for Stevie would be one with a companion dog who resides in the home that he can also play with. Children aren't a deal breaker for him; he loves anyone that's willing to pet him. Ideally his forever home would have a backyard for him to run around in and a kiddie pool for him to get in. Read more about Stevie **here** .

All of these dogs are lovely and just waiting for their perfect home where they will be loved and adored. Could it be yours? If you are interested in learning more about one of these dogs, please contact **Paula** .

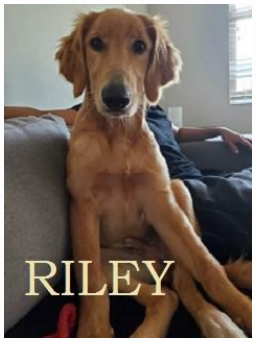
Look Who's Here!

Our August GRR Arrivals

22-053 Pixie is an 8 1/2 year-old female who is an owner surrender from the San Antonio area. The current owner was watching Pixie for a friend, who pretty much vanished and never picked up her up. Pixie is decompressing in her FPA home and is reportedly very timid and shy. You're in good hands now pretty girl!

22-054 Marley is an owner surrender from the Austin area and he just turned two on June 10th. Marley first appeared on our radar several months ago and right when we finished the intake evaluation, the owner gave him to friends. The friends couldn't handle the amount of fur Marley was leaving in their house and they wanted him gone pronto. Welcome to GRR Marley, where not only we don't mind the fur, we embrace it!

22-055 Hunter is a a 2 year-old male who is an owner surrender from the Brownswood area who was surrendered because of fights with one of the resident dogs. His foster reports that "Hunter is a super sweet and gentle dog; surprisingly calm for such a young pup. He has not barked once and is very very quiet. He is shy and timid at first, but he is very trusting and loving. He's been taking long walks with us in the early morning and late evening, but is very relaxed during the day and more than happy to just be a couch potato while you go about your day." Sounds like a prize to us!



22-056 Riley is a six month-old male who was fostered temporarily by GRR director Hara until he moved to his FPA family. Astonishingly, he came to GRR fully vaccinated and with a clean bill of health. He's potty trained, chews on toys instead of furniture and overall is an average-energy, adorable puppy. You're such a good boy Riley! Welcome!

22-057 Lady is is a 4 year-old owner surrender from the Killeen area. Lady was surrendered because her owner is expecting twins and moving to a new house and won't have time or space for Lady. Welcome Lady! We have plenty of time and plenty of space for such a Lovely Lady.

22-058 Bonnie is a 10 year-old stray from the Bastrop shelter. We know her name and birth date (August 20, 2010) because she has a microchip, but the information is outdated. She has a darling sugar face and her foster reports that she is a very good girl who still has a lot of zip. Welcome to GRR Bonnie.

22-059 Banks is an adorable boy who is almost 7 months old. He is an owner surrender from a single mom who didn't have enough time for him and wanted a better life for him. Director Paula met him and says “You can touch and hug this dog everywhere He thrives on human attention. He is very trusting and loves humans. I was a stranger, but he was my best friend. He has a lot of energy, but he did calm down and wants lots of petting.” Little Banks is with his FPA family and loving the attention. Such a good boy!

22-0650 Hershey is a rescue from the San Antonio shelter. He was past his stray hold and at risk, but luckily we received a hotline call about him and were able to put a rescue hold on him. He is debilitated, neglected, badly flea and tick infested, suffering from anemia and malnutrition, very weak but able to stand and he is heartworm positive. He is such a sweet boy, but he is utterly exhausted and overwhelmed. Hershey is decompressing with his very experienced foster, Nancy, and is eating well. Hershey, we will do everything possible to bring you to good health. We're so glad that you're with us!

22-061 Bailey is an almost 9 year-old gal (DOB September 4, 2013) who is an owner surrender from the Lago Vista area. Sadly, her very elderly owner is no longer able to care for her. Bailey has never gone on a walk due to her owners frailty and age She is decompressing in her foster home and her foster parents are taking it very slowly because Bonnie has just lost the only home she has ever known. Never fear Bailey - GRR will make sure you get a wonderful new home!

Adopted!

Hunter 22-015

We're so excited to announce the long awaited, finalized, official, certified adoption of Hunter (Drum roll please!!!) on August 8th!

Hunter came to GRR with his housemate Molly on February 28th Paul and Judy were his FPA family and everything was on track for his adoption until the brakes were hit when he tested positive for heartworm five weeks later. Judy and Paul nursed him through his heartworm treatment and he is finally an official member of their family.

Congratulations and a huge thank you to Judy and Paul for their hard work and tenacity to bring Hunter to full health and happiness! What a lovely family!

Powell 22-042

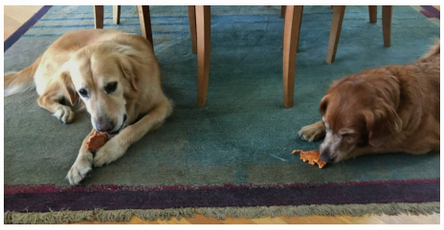
We are thrilled to share that Powell, now known as Benny, was adopted by Amanda. Powell has had a fast transformation from a frightened guy to a happy smiling boy who has found his loving, forever home.

Congratulations to Amanda and Powell!

Jingles 22-039

Congratulations to Jingles who was officially adopted by Pat on August 18th. Jingles is now known as Bojangles, which stems from "Good Boy Jingles." You may recall that Jingles joined our GRR family along with 22-038 Benelli who were both abandoned with several other dogs at a boarding facility in San Antonio.

Pat is in love with both Jingles and her female Golden, Devon Rose (formerly Diamond 21-041), that she adopted last year .Another great match! Thank you Pat, for making their lives the best possible!



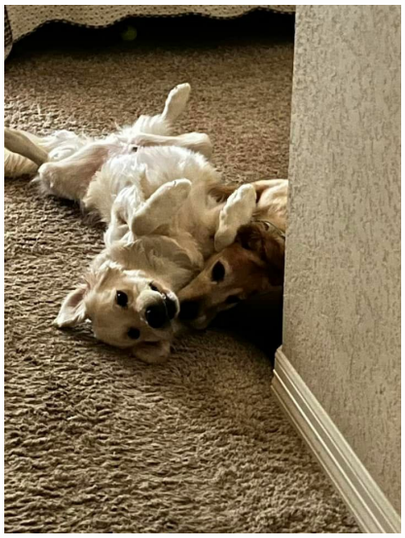
Jingles and Devon Rose

Nahla 22-045

Wonderful news! Nahla was adopted on August 20th by Kirk and Judy and she is so happy with her new parents and her new Golden sister, Maggie. She had been under-appreciated at her former home and is basking in the love and attention she is receiving. With love and energy to spare, this sweet girl is enjoying the good life!

Marley 22-054

Marley was adopted by Troy and Joyce and their two sons on August 21st and they are in love with him. He has a sweet Golden sister, Molly, that came from GRR four years ago and he couldn’t be a more perfect addition! We are so grateful for them all for giving them both a perfect home!

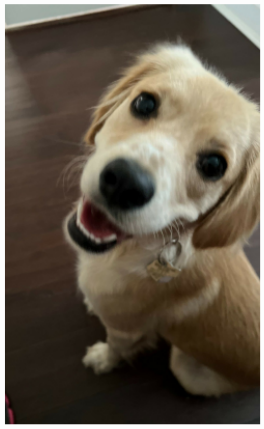


Winslow 22-048

Winslow was adopted by David and Karen on August 22nd. They love him and are enjoying training sessions with him. They say he is a very smart six month-old pup and he really soaks up what he is learning!

Arizona 22-041

This sweet little girl was adopted on August 24th by Carol and Tommy and her two new four-legged siblings, GRR Wyatt (18-122) and Tango, who comes from the English Springer Rescue America. Tommy and Carol have opened their home to those who are in need and they provide the BEST life for them all! They are so excited that Arizona has joined their family! Congratulations to all!



Lady 22-048

We are excited to announce that Lady was adopted by Tracy, Stefan, Michaela and her new four-legged brother, Charlie, on August 25th. She will have a great home with them and they are super excited to add Lady to the family. They are such a beautiful family!

ABOUT DOGS

Tippy Swims with a Whale!

Golden Retriever Splashes Around With Gray Whale Off Whidbey Island

A Golden Retriever ignored the calls of its owners and continued to swim with a gray whale off Whidbey Island, on Tuesday, July 26, 2022. John Derlega shared this video of his mother-in-law's six-year-old dog, Tippy, powering through the waters to frolic with the gray whale on Instagram, adding the caption: 'Whale's Best Friend'. "You can hear everyone on the beach shouting for Tippy to return to shore, but Tippy seems to be enjoying herself with the whale," Derlega told Storyful. Derlega said that Tippy swims around the bay most days, usually playing with seals and attempting to catch fish. "I think this gentle encounter is objectively a rare and interesting interspecies moment. "I'm sure she'll happily swim with the whale again!" (Credit: John Derlega via Storyful)

Watch the video **here.**

Editor's Note: Gray whales reach a length of 49 feet and weigh up to 90,000 pounds.

Bloat - The Mother of All Canine Emergencies
Whole Dog Journal

Familiarize yourself with the symptoms of bloat, so you can act quickly enough to save your dog's life.

No word strikes fear into the hearts of dog owners like bloat. It is a fairly common occurrence and requires immediate intervention and surgical treatment. But what exactly is it? And what should you do if you suspect that your dog is suffering a bloat?

Bloat is the nontechnical term for gastric dilatation and volvulus (GDV), a condition in which the stomach rotates around itself to become twisted. The stomach can twist halfway (a 180-degree torsion), all the way leading to a 360-degree torsion, or anywhere in between. Once twisted, the stomach becomes stuck, and fluid and gas cannot exit. A dog cannot vomit, as the entrance to the stomach (the cardia) is obstructed, and nothing can leave the stomach via the intestines, because the exit (pylorus) is also blocked.

Due to this twisting, the stomach rapidly fills with fluid and gas, leading to abdominal distention. As the stomach quickly expands, blood vessels supplying it rupture and lead to hemorrhage. The massive stomach pushes on the diaphragm, making it hard for the dog to breathe. It also causes pressure on the caudal vena cava, which brings deoxygenated blood from the body back to the heart. Without blood circulating, shock occurs rapidly.

Bloat Symptoms in Dogs
The symptoms of bloat are classic and include restlessness, discomfort, pacing, abdominal distention, gagging, salivating, and non-productive retching. The earliest signs may be as subtle as increased drooling and pacing/restlessness. Frequently, this occurs soon after a meal, especially if the meal is followed by exercise. Certain breeds are more likely to develop bloats such as Great Danes, Standard Poodles, and Dobermans, but any breed can bloat. Sex does not seem to be related.

Bloat is an immediate emergency. The longer the stomach stays twisted, the more damage is done. If twisted long enough, the stomach tissue will die and rupture, leading to spillage of stomach contents into the abdomen.

If you suspect your dog is bloated, an emergency trip to the veterinarian is a necessity. Do not wait overnight to see your veterinarian in the morning. The sooner that GDV is addressed, the better the chances for recovery.

If you subscribe to *Whole Dog Journa*l, continue reading **here**.
Otherwise, continue reading **here**.

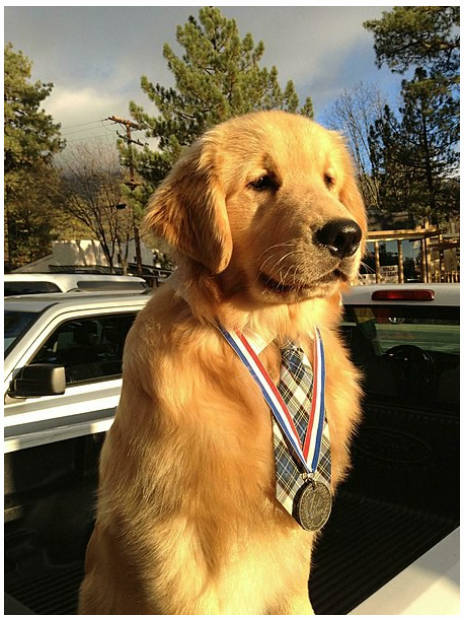
MAYOR MAX
Mayor of Idyllwild, California

May 6. 2013 - July 30, 2022

Mayor Max II, whose real name was Maximum Mighty-Dog Mueller II “took office” after his predecessor Mayor Max died in his sleep in 2013. At the time Max II was just a puppy, born just under a month after the first doggy mayor died.

The first Mayor Max was “elected” after Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends ran a fundraiser where families in the non-incorporated town could nominate their pets. Voters cast their ballots by donating $1 a vote. The money then went to help save animals to the tune of $31,000 raised by the animal rescue group,

“I thought it would be fun to have my dog be the mayor,” Phyllis Mueller told ABC News in 2019. “You were asked to pay a dollar a vote and you were encouraged to buy the election.”



Mayor Max II on his visiting truck November 24, 2013.

Mayor Max II was supposed to leave office after his first term in 2014, but the Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends group decided to not set a term limit on Max II''s reign over the town. The third election held for the pet mayor of the town was the last, after the animal rescue named Max II mayor for life.

Phyllis Mueller, Max’s co-owner and Chief of Staff, said that Max was “a devoted public servant. All I had to say was, ‘We’re going to work!’ and he would jump up and run to the door. As I put his tie on, he would put his head down to put it through the elastic band. I then put on his vest and he would lift up his paw so that I could put it on him.”

Mayor Max II served with two deputy mayors, both Golden Retrievers, and all would take their turns for appearances at city events, hospitals and schools, among their other mayoral duties. The deputy doggo mayors will be filling the void left behind by Max II for now, but there will be a new search for a new mayor of Idyllwild, his owners said on Facebook.

Thoughts, Prayers and Remembrance...

Molly (Taylee Anne) 10-037
Guiness 12-006
Chase 11-015

Molly 10-037

Guiness 12-006

Chase 11-015

Newsletter Editor: Dori Olsen
Send comments or suggestions to: **newsletter@grr-tx.com**

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