

UDS SERVICE DOGS'



Tails and Tales

Kiwi



Welcome back to some normalcy as things with COVID start to settle down a little. We hope that all has been well with your families during this very uncertain time. We are always thrilled to share things about the UDS Service Dogs program, so it is exciting to get right back to it. Featured throughout are some photos of our recent graduates. Please enjoy "Tails and Tales", as much as we do bringing it to you!

Remember to exercise your dog

In general, most dogs benefit from between 30 minutes to two hours of physical activity per day (source). That averages out to 3.5 to 14 hours of walking per week. Many people break that time up into two or three walks per day.

<https://www.rover.com/blog/how-often-should-i-walk-my-dog/>

Let Them Sniff

Why is it important to let your dog sniff on walk?

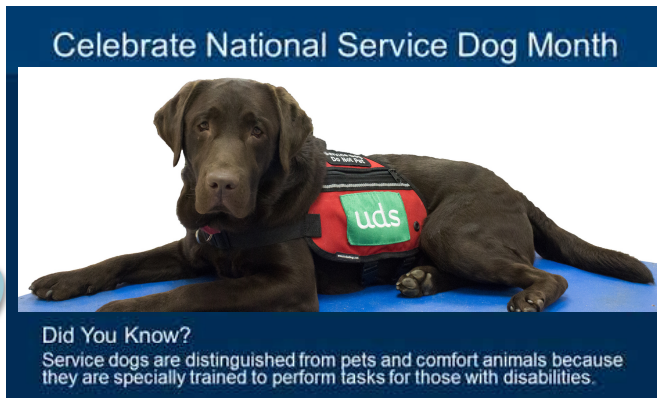
- Dogs "see" the world through their noses
- Slow scent/sniffy walks let your dog absorb and process all the scents
- Gives you insights into their behaviours
- Mentally and physically stimulating
- Decreases their heart rate
- Decreases their stress levels
- Improves behaviour
- It's their walk not yours



www.welfare4animals.org

Note: Letting dogs sniff does not mean letting them pull you.

September is...



Trooper

National Dog Week- Last full week of September – A week that celebrates all that's great about dogs.

October is...

National Animal Safety and Protection Month - A month focused on animal safety and protection.

An interview with

KRISTY CONRAD

Program Coordinator

What is your role at UDS and how long have you been with the company?

My current role is Program Coordinator for the service dog program. I have been an employee with UDS Service Dogs since 2008. I started volunteering in 1998 with the service dog program, then New Life Assistance Dogs.

What do you enjoy most about your position?

There is so much to enjoy about the service dog program that I can't just pick one thing. There is a constant flow of cute puppies, we have wonderful volunteers who have become friends and extended family, and we have consumers whose lives have been changed by the dogs we put so much time and care into. Seeing all the work of our village with the pairing of a service dog and their client is what it is all about.

When you're not working, what kind of things are you doing?

Spending time with my family, watching the kids at their sports games. We have become a big soccer family over the last year or so and I enjoy spending time on the sidelines supporting the kids. I also enjoy doing active things such as running, biking, and walking the dogs.



Kristy, new family member Kyler, and Emery



Young Sawyer



Baby Kato

November is...

Pet Diabetes Month

National Senior Pet Month

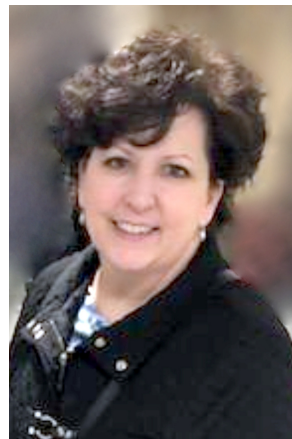
Adopt a Senior Pet Month

Pet Cancer Awareness Month (AVMA)

An interview with

NANCY ELLEDGE

Administrative Assistant for the office
and for the Service Dogs Program



How long have you been working for UDS?

19 months

What is your role, specifically with the Service Dogs?

I am the Admin Assistant for the office and for the Service Dogs Program. Basically, I am the paper-support system for the Team.

What does your current role require you to do and why is this important for UDS?

I process incoming Service and Facility Dog applications, communicate with the prospective clients to set up interviews while coordinating calendars with the team members who will be interviewing and create files for them. I create team event calendars, process and submit bills for the program to the finance department, work on special fundraising projects, and send out client update forms. I send updates to our Puppy Sponsors by reaching out to the prisons or other volunteer handlers, or by reading their files to obtain good information to share with the sponsors so they know how their "babies" are doing and assemble that into a mailing. I do the filing of all the incoming paperwork for each dog into their individual files and log veterinary information into their charts. I also record/ minutes for the Service Dog Team meetings. For the office, I am a back-up receptionist for the front for UDS, do the outgoing mail for the building, order and stock for the kitchens and office supplies, and I prepare all out-going birthday cards and anniversary cards to be mailed to all employees. In addition, every other month I record/distribute the AI (Accessing Independence) Board Meeting Minutes. This work is important because it offers organization for a lot of moving parts to make the process easier for everyone involved.

If you had to switch jobs with someone else in the company for one day, whose job would you pick?

A Service Dog Trainer.

What's your favorite thing about working for UDS?

I am fortunate to work with a team that works well together and gets along well... and that's saying a lot since we're all women.

A 5k Bib
A T-shirt
A Medal



UDS SERVICE DOGS PRESENTS
2020 GREAT PUPKIN 5K
VIRTUAL WALK/RUN/ROLL

ANYWHERE! ANYTIME!
BETWEEN AUGUST 29 – OCTOBER 31

\$35

STEPS TO JOIN THE FUN:
1. SCAN THE QR TO REGISTER
2. CHALLENGE FRIENDS TO JOIN
3. WALK/RUN/ROLL YOUR 5K
4. SUBMIT YOUR TIME!

SCAN TO REGISTER!

Click link
to register

<https://udservices.org/event/service-dogs-the-great-pup-kin-virtual-5k/>



Fun facts about dogs and smell

<https://www.purina.co.uk/dogs/behaviour-and-training/understanding-dog-behaviours/amazing-dog-facts>

Dogs noses are wet to help absorb scent chemicals
This amazing dog fact might answer a long-standing question that dog owners have. Why are dogs noses wet? Vetstreet says that the answer is that dog's noses are wet to help them absorb scent chemicals! Their nose secretes a special mucus that helps to absorb these chemicals, and then they lick their noses to sample them, helping them understand what the smell is.

A Bloodhound's sense of smell can be used as evidence in court According to PBS, a Bloodhound's sense of smell is so spot on that it can be admitted as evidence in a court of law. Now if you thought that was an incredible dog fact, prepare to have your mind blown. Bloodhounds can also follow tracks that are over 300 hours old and can stay on a trail for over 130 miles!

2.

December is...

Dec. 2: National Mutt Day

Dec. 5: Celebrate Shelter
Pets Day
Humane Society of the
United States

Dec. 9: International Day of
Veterinary Medicine

Penn is training dogs to sniff out COVID-19 in humans

JOHN MCDEVITT (MAY 15, 2020)

PHILADELPHIA (KYW Newsradio) — Smell that virus? Probably not. Viruses do in fact have odors, our 6 million human smell receptors just can't detect them. But with up to 300 million smell receptors, dogs may be able to. The University of Pennsylvania launched a pilot study to see if canines can sniff out both positive and negative cases of COVID-19.

Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine is currently training 10 Labrador retrievers to detect the scent of COVID-19 in humans — even if they're asymptomatic. Related: Sign up for KYW Newsradio's daily newsletter for the latest on the coronavirus pandemic across the Philadelphia region. "That would be huge. That would be a game-changer," said Dr. Cynthia Otto, a professor of working dog sciences and sports medicine, and the director of Penn Vet's Working Dog Center, which she founded about eight years ago.

"Scent detection dogs can accurately detect low concentrations of volatile organic compounds," Otto continued, "associated with various diseases such as ovarian cancer, bacterial infections, and nasal tumors. ... This study will harness the dog's extraordinary ability to support the nation's COVID-19 surveillance systems, with the goal of reducing community spread." Researchers are introducing the dogs to biological samples from people who had COVID-19. "Basically, we are looking at urine samples. We are hoping to look at saliva and breath samples as well," Otto said. "We are going to tell basically if there is an odor excreted in these samples." Once the dogs learn the odor, researchers will see if they can differentiate between positive and negative samples. Preliminary COVID-19 screenings in live humans could start as early as July.

The goal is for the dogs to be able to identify the COVID-19 scent among asymptomatic patients, as well as hospital or business environments. Otto hopes this study can help detect other viruses in the future. "It's going to be challenging, but I think it really has a huge potential for opportunity," she added.



Young Samson



Young Oliver



Baby Trooper

Teaching your puppy to be alone

<https://tinyurl.com/yxqkfub2>

Since puppies are highly social creatures, being alone can be quite stressful for them.

Fortunately, you can teach your pup to enjoy his alone time, or at least tolerate it. If he never grasps how to do this, you may end up with a dog who acts out through excessive barking, digging, and chewing - or develops a very serious case of separation anxiety.

When you leave your pup alone, make sure he's in a safe place--either a roomy crate or a secluded, puppy-safe, space. Puppies should be "crate trained" whenever you leave the house, until they're about a year old, though some dogs may need more time.

Before your pup goes into his crate, make sure all his needs are met--that he's been walked or let out, has had some playtime, and has food and water. If he cries, at least you know his basic needs have been attended to. With time and proper training, your pup will begin to adjust to being alone, and start to understand that you will always return.

Steps to teaching your puppy to be alone:

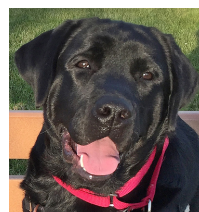
1. Leave your pup alone in his crate or secluded, puppy-safe space for at least 30 minutes to an hour each day. Gradually increase that length of time to up to 2 hours for pups 3 months and younger, or up to 4 hours for a 3-6 month old pup.
2. Make your pup's alone time the main time he eats, and he'll learn to enjoy these stretches more. Leave him with a couple of stuffed chew toys to make the experience more pleasant.
3. Once in a while, interrupt his playtime with short, quiet breaks. Teach your dog that quiet time is a good thing by telling him to "settle down," and lie still for a second or two. Then reward him and continue playing. When your pup is able to settle successfully for these brief periods, slowly build up to longer segments. Your dog will soon learn that quiet time is followed by playtime, and the wait is never more than he can handle.



Sawyer



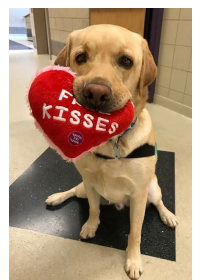
Kiwi



Kato



Oliver



Samson

Autism and Service Dogs

IDAMAE DEVERS

ServiceDogs trained to work with those that have Autism provide physical safety and an emotional anchor for children with autism.


With the child tethered to a service dog, families are able to engage in activities as simple as going to a park or out to eat as a family. When out in the community, a service dog increases safety and helps the entire family feel secure. A service dog's calming presence can minimize and often eliminate emotional outbursts, enabling the child to become a full participant in community and family activities.

How are Autism Service Dogs utilized?

Children along the spectrum are often perceived as not being empathetic, but their reactions to animals are often quite different from their reactions to people. By encouraging this empathy with the service dog, empathy can then be learned and transferred to people, as well. Children with autism often have trouble recognizing emotions on human faces, and often they have a difficult time learning to read and understand people's emotions. A dog's play-bows, wagging tail, and thirsty panting are big clues that are simpler and easier to recognize than the subtleties of human behavior.

Children with autism are often more empathetic and sensitive than we might think as evidenced by the nurturing behavior often observed toward a service dog. A child who does not want to be touched by people is often quite comforted by the furry touch of their service dog or the service dog working at their school. A child who frequently displays anger or aggression to other people can become quite gentle with the dog. By encouraging these types of interactions with service dogs, the child can be taught to use these positive behaviors when interacting with other people.

Autism Service Dogs can be a tool for parents or teachers to encourage the child to learn to self-soothe using their service dog or the facility service dog. As many people living with children with ASD know, meltdowns are much more extreme than mere tantrums and often lead to the children lashing out physically. There may be times when the child cannot be soothed by a parent, teacher, or a caretaker, an autism service dog can often help prevent a tantrum from escalating to a meltdown. Even in cases when the service dog cannot prevent a meltdown, the service dogs often help soothe the child afterward.



Continued from previous page

An Autism Service Dog can be used as a teaching tool, either in class or in general life to:

- Help a child's focus. As a prop for teaching, helping the child stay focused on the lesson being taught.
- Capture attention. A child with autism is so often focused on inanimate objects, rather than people, teaching the child can be a difficult task. A child will often focus on their or the Facility Service Dog, though, and since the dog is moving around and doing things, the dog can provide great opportunities for teaching, at all sorts of times during the day.
- Calm anxiety. The ability to learn drops under stress, and when the child can be calmed down with the dog. Learning can begin again.
- Learn empathy. As the child learns to take care of the dog and teach the dog, the child learns empathy.

The types of dogs that are utilized for Autism service dogs are, Golden retrievers, Labrador retrievers, Golden Lab mixes, and some hypoallergenic breeds such as labradoodles. Puppies come from specially selected breeders. They begin socialization and training early and join training programs when they are 8 weeks old. Their first training experiences include socialization, command training, and skill training. At approximately 18 to 20 months the puppies enter advanced training. They accompany their trainer to various locations, they attending school from K to 12 as well as College for those being trained to become a service dog to an individual.

They attend classes in the general and special education classrooms to continue their preparation. Once a dog demonstrates an exemplary score on the public access skills and socialization test and proves mastery of specific environments and commands the dog is matched with a child or becomes a facility dog to the school. UDS Service Dogs provides an excellent program of training these special dogs to become facility dogs as well as individual Autism Service Dogs. Those pups that are placed as facility dogs once assigned to their facility are changing the lives of not only the students who might be struggling but also the whole school in positive ways. These dogs make a difference in both the classroom as well as in the children's everyday lives.



The UDS 1st Annual Golf Tournament was held at Meadia Heights Golf Club in Lancaster on August 28th. The event hosted over 100 golfers to compete in a scramble style event over the course of the day, while also entering to win some exciting door prizes, raffles, and the option of bidding on silent auction items.

Duncan, a school facility dog, spent his last day of summer vacation posing with attendees. He also directed golfers to their starting holes -- and kept careful watch over the silent auction items. He was joined by Lance with Milo, Jenn with Griffin, Wayne with Renner, and several others dogs in training as the golfers finished their rounds and headed to the BBQ lunch.

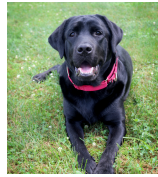
Overall, this great signature event proved to be a fantastic fundraiser for the dogs -- raising \$25,000 in funds for the program. We hope to see the event get even bigger in the future with even more golfers and sponsors... ultimately serving as a signature event for the UDS Service Dog Program.

Mark your calendars! The UDS 2nd Annual Golf Tournament is already slated for August 29th, 2021 at Meadia Heights.

Many thanks to all that made this event a success!



Our Recent Graduates



KATO



Kato



OLIVER



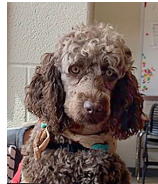
Oliver



SAMSON



Samson



SAWYER



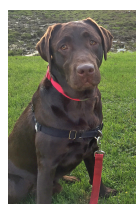
Sawyer



KIWI



Kiwi



TROOPER



Trooper