

TAILS _ TALES

SPRING 2022 EDITION

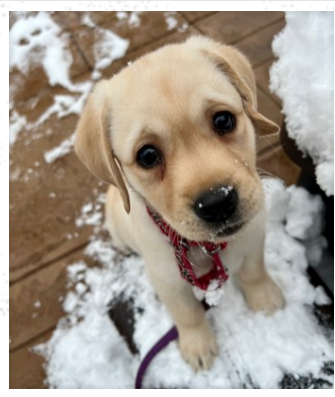
MEET OUR NEWEST TRAINEES!

We are excited to welcome our newest trainees to our program! Check out these sweet faces. We can't wait to embark on their 2 year journey with them as they work hard for the next 2 years to become Service, Facility or Companion Dogs. No matter what their future holds, one thing is for sure, they will change the lives of everyone they meet.



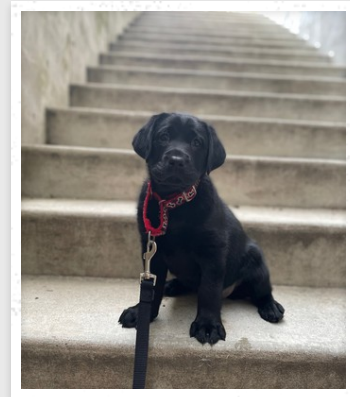
ROANIN

Roanin is being sponsored by the Elizabeth Zipf Charitable Foundation. He was born on 11/27/2021 and recently traveled to SCI Houtzdale to participate in our RUFF Pups in Prison Program.



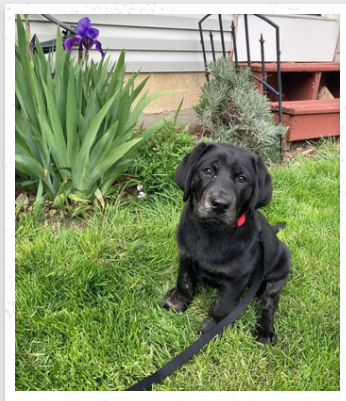
LACEY

Lacey is also being sponsored by the Elizabeth Zipf Charitable Foundation. She was born on 12/15/2021 and traveled to SCI Houtzdale with Roanin to begin her training with inmate handlers in our RUFF program.



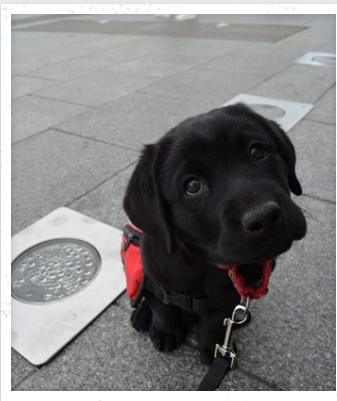
DAISY

Daisy is being raised by an employee of UDSF, Mason Smeltzer, don't forget to read more about Mason in this edition of Tails_Tales! Daisy was born on 2/7/2022 and her sisters Iris and Clover also entered our program.



IRIS

Iris was born on 2/7/2022 and will start her puppy training with Bethany Schrum. Her sisters Daisy & Clover are also part of our program.



CLOVER

Clover was also born on 2/7/2022 and will start her puppy training with Sammie Rios. Both Iris and Daisy, her sisters, joined our program. Their momma is Meadow and we hope to breed her again later this year!



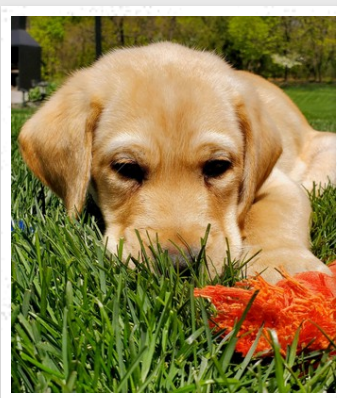
ARLO

Arlo was born 3/12/2022 and is a Golden doodle, he will begin training May 7th and will live with Alyssa Massaro until he travels to Houtzdale to be part of our RUFF training program.



PERCY

Percy is being sponsored by the Ed Schoenberger family and entered our program May 7th. He was born on March 12, 2022 and is Arlo's brother, he will live with the Cunningham family until he travels to Houtzdale to train in our RUFF program.



JACKSON

Jackson was born on 2/21/22 and will be living with Kristy Conrad until time for him to attend our RUFF training program at Houtzdale.



OLIVE

Olive was born on 3/6/2022 and started our program on May 4th and will live with Judy Kilhefner our kennel assistant until time for her to travel to Houtzdale for our RUFF training program.

WELCOME TO OUR TEAM NICOLE OREM!

For the past several months I have been talking with Nicole about our PT Trainer position knowing she would be a good fit for our team. Due to the resurgence of the COVID variant and some other factors we were unable to confirm a start date. Fortunately, we were both patient

and perseverance paid off and Nicole joined our team February 21st.

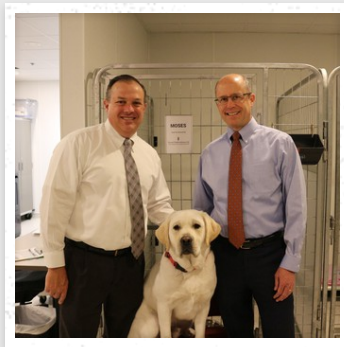


1) What made you apply for the PT Trainer position with UDS Service Dogs? *I have been breeding dogs for about 6 years and had chosen to donate some of my pups in the past to a veteran organization. When the pandemic happened, I was laid off of my previous job and I took that as my opportunity to study dog training and get certified to do so. I had just finished my certification when Kristy Conrad had actually found me on Facebook looking for possible pups for the program. We got to talking and she told me that UDS was actually looking to hire another PT trainer. I applied, and here I am. My long term passion is to train dogs specific for Post 9/11 military veterans to help them navigate their PTSD, TBI, MST, or other mobility issues they may have sustained during their service.*

2) What do you feel you bring to the program? *I feel I bring a new and fresh perspective to the program to help with continuing to grow our program here and I'm always looking for ways to make things more efficient and successful.*

3) Have you identified a favorite part of your role with UDS SD Program? *I don't have one favorite part as of now, but if I had to pick a part that was of most interest to me, it would be our beginning stages from picking the pups to their first year of life. This is the most significant time in a dog's development and therefore I feel it's the time to really focus on the quality of dogs we introduce to the program to ensure their success to fulfill a need for a consumer.*

4) Tell us a little about yourself and your family. *I'm a Marine Corps veteran 99-03. I met my husband after I served my time and somehow we landed ourselves in him joining the Marine Corps, so then I became the supportive spouse. We have a 20 year old daughter who works two jobs, a 16 year old son who is very involved in Football and Lacrosse, but also is quite the gamer as well. Then we have our 14 year old son who is also an avid athlete and also loves riding his dirt bike when not playing a sport. My husband and I have been married for 15 years and along with 3 kiddos, we have 3 yellow Labradors, a crusted gecko(my daughter's), and a 6 month old ball python(also my daughter's). We are an active family, but I also enjoy my down time. When I have free time, I enjoy spending time in my craft room or reading books.*



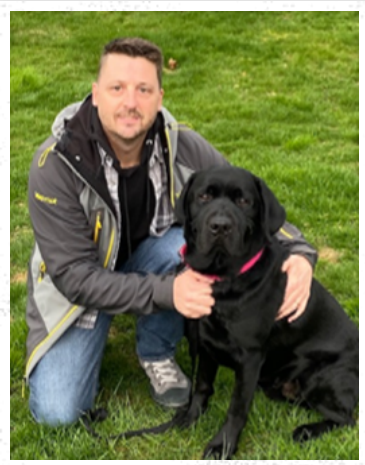
MOSES FINDS A KENNEL SPONSOR!

Chris & Steve with Personal Wealth Advisory LLC pictured with Moses. PWALLC is sponsoring Moses during his Secondary Phase of Training as he begins training for a client on our waiting list. Our thanks and appreciation!



KOLA FINDS A KENNEL SPONSOR!

Susan Bingaman is pictured with Kola. Susan is sponsoring Kola during his Secondary Phase of Training as he too is training for a client on our waiting list. We are truly grateful for your generosity!



~FAMILY MATTERS~

2020 brought us all a lot of surprises, one of the best surprises for the UDS Service Dogs Program happened to us right before lock down. We received a volunteer application from Jeff Smecker, a principal at Hans Herr Elementary school in February of 2020 expressing interest in volunteering with the UDS Service Dogs. Jeff's school has a facility dog through Susquehanna Service Dogs and is well aware of the power of 4 paws and wanted to get more involved with dogs. It wasn't long until the Smecker family Jeff, Meghan, Ryan (17), Keira (14) were all on board. I asked Meghan if she would capture some thoughts and stories of their time volunteering with the program.

How did you become involved in the UDS Service Dogs Program?

My husband, Jeff, works with service dogs at Lampeter Strasburg School District and has observed the positive benefits of having the dogs in the buildings. The dogs bring positive energy to the schools and create a positive culture in the building. The dogs provide countless benefits to the

students including engaging them in learning and calming them on difficult days. We often dog sit for one of the service dogs at LS and when she is visiting our home, my whole family is happier and engaged with one another. It's a common interest for all of us, and we spend more time together when the dogs are visiting. Knowing this could be a very rewarding experience for our family to do together, we reached out two years ago to get involved. Jeff and I took the classes and brought the kids along with us. The kids asked to go back and continue volunteering with the classes, kennel care, and then weekend sitting. Once we all observed the benefits the dogs can provide to individuals with disabilities, we wanted to keep volunteering to help the organization. Also, we are all happier with the dogs in our lives!

How long have you been volunteering?

We started the classes right before COVID shut the kennel down so since March, 2020. We started volunteering again as soon as the agency opened up for volunteer work again. We participate in the classes, help with Kennel Care, and provide weekend sitting as often as possible. I am also part of the school-team training one of the service dogs at CV school district.

What made you do this as a family project?

My kids absolutely love the dogs and everyone is happier when the dogs are with us. We wanted our kids to understand the benefits to individuals with disabilities as well as engage in volunteer opportunities to help them build character. They have to complete community service hours as a graduation requirement, but they quickly met the requirements a while ago and still want to continue the volunteer work. The dogs bring the family together. There is more laughing, more conversations, and more time together when the dogs are visiting, and we all feel good about helping the organization with their mission.

Jeff and I both work in the local public schools, and I work with students with autism. It's nice to know there are other ways to help individuals with disabilities beyond the classroom. It also opens up conversations with my son and daughter about the work we provide in the schools so it gives us opportunities to help raise their awareness and understanding of individuals with disabilities.

What is your favorite part about being involved in the program?

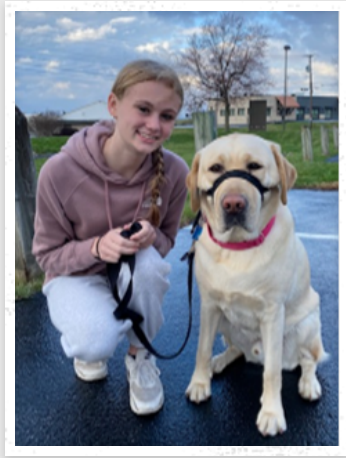
It's very rewarding knowing that we are helping the agency reach their goal to place the dogs with individuals with disabilities to improve their lives. I teach students with disabilities and who struggle with anxiety and depression so knowing these dogs can provide a better quality of life to these individuals is very special. I am happy that my own kids can be connected to something so beneficial to others as well. I love that the whole family is invested in helping others.

The weekly kennel care and weekend sitting also provides benefits to my own family. In addition to helping the agency reach their goals, it provides an outlet for us to spend time together doing something rewarding each week. It's always a positive experience for us to do together.

Please share some funny stories about any of the dogs you have had at you place.

Harry is definitely the one that makes us laugh the most. He loves to hang out in our shower and is a master at swiping things from the kitchen. We all have to take turns watching him when he visits our house. We also find it funny the way he just decides when he has had enough on long walks. He'll just stop walking mid-walk and sometimes sits down on the trail. His faces are hilarious, and he makes us all laugh. We have a hard time giving him back on Monday mornings!

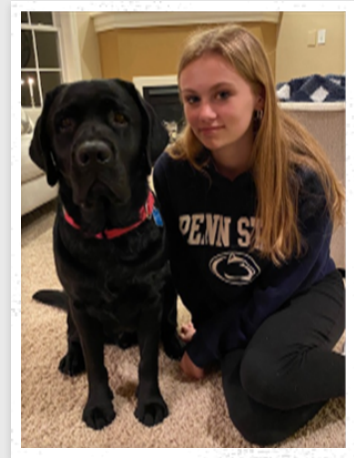
Morgan is also very funny. When she finishes eating she carries her bowl to me for more. It is hard not to give in because she is so adorable. I send her pictures to my mom and my aunt who live far away so she is making people smile far and wide. 😊 They ask how Morgan is when I talk to them on the phone. We also love her sweet noises of excitement and her friendly personality.



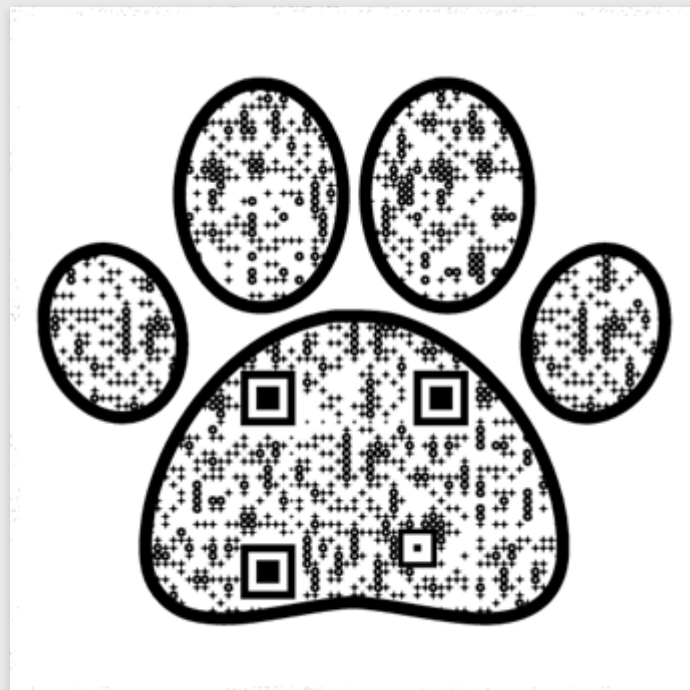
QUINCY



REMI



SHADOW



*Check-out our Partnering for Paws E-store via QR Code
or follow the link below:*

PARTNERING FOR PAWS DONATION STORE

3RD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN

FRIDAY, AUG. 26TH, 7AM

WHERE

**1 CROSSLAND PASS
MILLERSVILLE, PA**

MORE INFORMATION

Join us at Crossgates Golf Club for our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament to benefit our pups in training! The UDS Service Dogs golf Tournament helps to raise critical funds necessary to sustain our program and provide Service Dogs to individuals with mobility disabilities, children with autism and facility dogs to elementary schools. For more information, please contact: Lori Breece, Program Manager, at lorib@udservices.org or 717-715-8753.



UDS Service Dogs Golf Tournam...

udservices.org

Register here to participate in the annual UDS Gold Tournament- all proceeds go towards the work we do for people with disabilities in PA!

MEET MASON SMELTZER - NEW VOLUNTEER & PUPPY RAISER

Mason Smeltzer, the new Director of Construction Services for our Home Mods/ASB/Housing Divisions had just started his employment with UDS when he quickly wanted to learn all he could about our Service Dogs Program. In a recent interview, we asked Mason some questions, we wanted to share a bit about him and his enthusiasm for volunteering!



1) Why did you volunteer for the UDS Service Dogs Program?

Initially, I saw an opportunity to help alleviate some work load for the morning staff as I was always in here at the same time as the morning crew. But then once I learned more about the mission and the lives that are changed by this program, I wanted to get more involved.

2) What are you enjoying the most through your volunteer work with the pups?

Visible progress is the best part about it for me. Whether it is the puppy I am raising (Daisy) or one of the kennel dogs. Watching them grow into their purpose is an awesome thing to witness

3) You offered to be a puppy raiser almost immediately, why take on such a challenging role so quickly?

I like a challenge, and I like to move quickly. So when that opportunity involved a puppy I didn't shy away. It seemed to be an important and needed role so I had no problem jumping in!

4) Can you share a funny moment or story you have had with one of our pups in training?

Daisy gets very excited when she sees my Fiancé (Michelle) or myself. Michelle was sitting on the floor eating the other night when Daisy and I came in from going to the bathroom. She got so excited, bolted over to Michelle and leapt into her lap. Michelle didn't have enough time to get her plate out of the way and Daisy ended up in the food.

5) What will you get out of your time volunteering for our program?

The satisfaction of playing a role in a life changing experience for someone in need. I am also learning to be more patient, understanding and thinking more about the subject of my teaching or instruction.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING? START HERE!

If you are interested in getting involved and would like to attend trainings and learn more about ways you can help our program. Fill out our application and get started! Thank you.

BRINGING BACK BINGO

WHEN

**SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH 2023 AT
11:30AM**

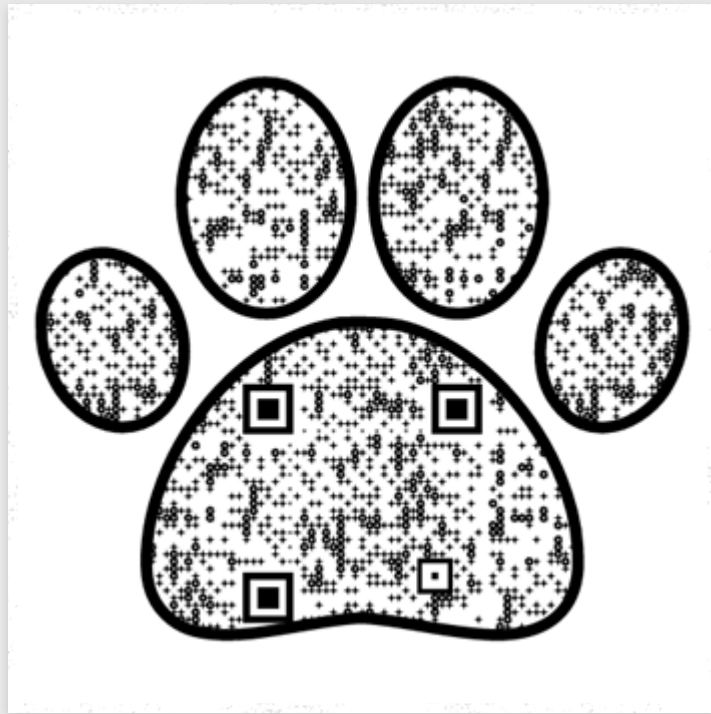
WHERE

**1383 ARCADIA ROAD
LANCASTER, PA**

MORE INFORMATION

Our last BINGO event held in 2019 was so successful my team and I had been looking forward to continuing this fairly new fundraising initiative when 2020 changed our lives.

We are so excited to plan to bring back BINGO at the Farm & Home Center to benefit our pups in training and help financially support this worthwhile program! Stay tuned in the months ahead as we will share more details and information about this fun way to support our program!



*AMAZON WISH LIST QR Code
or follow the link below:*

AMAZON WISH LIST LINK