

# Saving Riley, the "Miracle Dog"

ello, I'm Riley. It's a miracle that I'm alive to share my story. I was surrendered during the June 20-22 Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force pet wellness clinic at Saddle Lake. I had been hit by a car and my spine fractured. Martin Luther said everything that is done in the world is done by hope. Most dogs don't recover from an injury like mine, but SCARS in their usual fashion... dared to hope. They rushed me to the Guardian Veterinary Centre in Edmonton where I received emergency surgery. In all honestly, no one knew if I would make it. But I could muster the strength to gently wag my tail and they figured that was a good sign. What can I say, that's how much I adore you humans. Thank goodness for the expertise of Dr. Fowler and all the kind staff at the clinic. They said I had a severe fracture of my third lumbar vertebral body. Surgery involved reducing the fracture and placing a bone plate that extends from the first to the fifth lumbar vertebral body. Based on my recovery so far, they anticipate I will regain near normal to normal function over the next two to three months. As of today. I'm able to walk again and the new challenge will be how to keep me from doing too much during my



recovery. I'm a lab cross that is about a year old and I have lots of energy. I'm a gentle, sweet, lovable boy and everyone at the clinic is falling madly in love with me. I will need some time to fully recover, but my future is looking very bright. Surgeries like mine are



complex and, therefore, expensive. If you can donate to SCARS, please do so. They have helped many severely injured and sick dogs in the past few weeks and their bank account is rapidly dwindling. I would hate to think that they would have to turn away other dogs like me. We all deserve our second chance. Please share my story and help if you can. Every dollar counts and all donations of \$20 or more receive a tax receipt. You can even give monthly. I can't wait to get better and find my forever home.

Thank you to Global TV Edmonton news for sharing my story on June 27. Visit the SCARS website for a link to the video and story.

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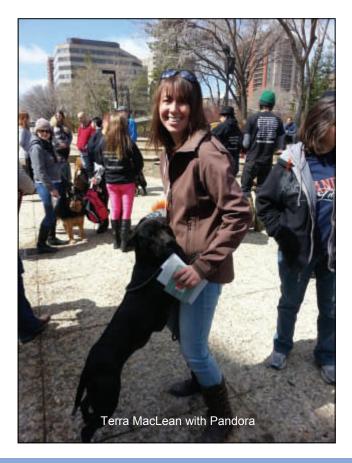


### Rallying for Improved Animal Welfare Laws

undreds of people attended the Charlee's Angels for the Animals Rally on April 27 at the Alberta Legislature. This was a peaceful rally to gather support for tougher animal cruelty laws in Alberta and Canada. The event included inspirational speeches from former SPCA peace officer Don Ferguson, Terra MacLean of SCARS, and Alberta's Minister of Justice and Solicitor General, Jonathan Denis. The event was organized by Charlee Morgan, who is a voice on the radio at UP!99.3. Minister Denis invited Albertans to email his office if they are in support of tougher minimum penalties for animal abusers. If you agree, please send him an email c/o ministryofjustice@gov.ab.ca. Copy the following link into your internet browser to see the whole story on our website, including a video of Terra's speech:

http://scarscare.ca/charlees-angels-for-the-animals-rally-in-support-of-tougher-animal-protection-laws/





### **NAPA Auto Parts Fundraiser**

he NAPA Auto Parts Wabasca Annual Garage Sale for SCARS was held on June 21 and they raised over \$4,000.

The event included a bake sale and a 50-50 draw. Congratulations to Mary Rathbone who won \$120.

There was also an auction of an amazing decorated cake (see photo) made by Andrea Haggits.

Thank you to Shawn Molloy and Paula Bissell, owners of the NAPA Wabasca store, for their tireless support.



















### **Rescue Stories**

#### Clover's story

I was rescued during the June 20-22 Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force pet wellness clinic at Saddle



Lake. My foster mom named me Clover because she says I am very lucky I was found. I'm not going to lie, I'm a mess. A clinic volunteer found me hiding in a dog house and, much as I wanted to, I was too weak to run away.

The volunteers at the clinic figured I wouldn't have lasted much longer. You

see, I had a run in with a porcupine a while back and it went untreated. This resulted in a very bad infection. To top things off I have a swollen leg and am very thin and malnourished. To be honest a lot has happened in the last couple of days and I am absolutely terrified. Foster mom says I have to hang out with the nice folks at the Westlock Veterinary Centre for a little while. She says they will give me the care I need until I am out of the woods and can come home and relax. I have an uphill climb but I have some great people watching out for me.

#### Bob's story



I'm Bob and I also came to SCARS as part of the June 20-22 Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force pet wellness clinic. I have had a rough go of things. It's clear that I have been in a fight or two during my life. Sadly the last one caused extensive damage to one of

my eyes and it needed to be removed. I am an older guy and I want nothing more than to be by your side. Though I have a body full of war wounds from fighting, I have been very good with other dogs. They tell me I am very sweet boy. I'm so glad to finally get a chance at the good life.

#### **Buddy's story**

When I came to SCARS, my first few days in care were really tough. The kind of days where it seems nothing is going your way and you are so stressed

and tired that you can barely lift your head. That is the way I felt. I am told it is all going to get better. A lovely lady named Bev found me not a moment too soon. She contacted SCARS and drove me to safety and care. You see I have some nasty



burns on my back. Do you know how much that hurts? They are pretty serious and will take a lot of time to heal. I am in a good place, making friends at Westlock Veterinary Centre. They have cleaned me up, and are helping me start the healing process. It didn't take long before I was starting to feel better. My burns are responding to treatment and beginning to show progress. They are making me wear the cone of shame, really I was only trying to clean the wound and help out, but they say I can't do that. The medication has to stay on the burn, no helpful licking allowed. I don't like the cone, the other dogs at the park might laugh at me. Anyway everyone seems happy with my progress so onward and upward we go. If you can donate to SCARS, they will use the funds to help dogs like me!





# Girl Guides and Students Helping SCARS

CARS volunteer Deb Kardash was asked to talk about SCARS to the nineteenth guides group in Sherwood Park. One of the leaders, Cindy Beasley, had adopted one of Deb's foster dogs a year earlier. After Deb's presentation, some of the girls decided to collect donations for SCARS.

Cindy's daughter, Madison, approached her school's administration about doing a blanket/towel drive for SCARS. Her goal was to collect 100 towels and blankets but she collected over 200 (see our photo). Another guide, named Fyn, made and sold rainbow loom bracelets. She raised over \$96 dollars to donate to SCARS, along with more towels and blankets.

Deb was also asked to speak about SCARS at her son Noah's school, St. Gabriel Elementary. The grade six social justice class was split up into groups and each group had to pick a cause that they wanted to research, support and present to the school. Noah's group chose SCARS. The boys in his class each told the story on one of the dogs/cats on the website, and they made pins with the animal's pictures on them to sell for \$1 each in support of SCARS.

Deb took her special needs foster dog, Beatrice as well as her own dog, Grace, to the event. Beatrice has been a wonderful ambassador as most schools have special needs students who are integrated into the regular classrooms. Deb said it was great to bring a dog that had special needs as many of the children could relate to that. Deb spoke about what SCARS does and showed a short video from one of our past

fundraising events. We also have a photo Deb with Noah's team, and Beatrice and Grace. Sadly, sweet Beatrice passed away recently. SCARS is grateful to Deb for providing Bea with comfort and love while she was in our care. The boys in the team were Jonah, Aiden, Kai, Cole, Elijah, and Noah (see photo below).







Left: Madison with Deb & Grace at a guide's meeting Right: Madison next to a truck load of towels & blankets

# **Advertising and Sponsorship Opportunities**





# Dawson—Sad Beginning, Happy Ending

'm Dawson. I would not be here today if it were not for the dedication of SCARS volunteers and the kindness of those who donate to SCARS.

I would like to think that I would have been able to live at the dumpster where I was found. I'd like to think that I would have been able to find food, fend off predators, fight disease and live happily ever after, but I was just a three month old pup at the time of my rescue so what did I know. I most certainly would have died out there all alone in the cold. But thankfully someone cared and they would not give up on me.

Sadly pups like me are found at rural dumps on a regular basis. I'm a smart little guy I must say. I hid under that dumpster, smack in the middle, so nothing and no one could reach me. This made it impossible to get me out. It took several days of setting live traps and some help from Julie and Ron to get me in to SCARS care. I was a feral guy, but with a few months, I started coming around. When I first arrived, I hid in my kennel and would not come out for anything.

Now it's June 2014 and I happily greet my foster mom and new people! I am a very gentle guy, even when I'm scared. I absolutely love other dogs and the cat. I'm a husky cross that is about 10 months old.

I've gone from being an emaciated, parasite infested, terrified semi-feral puppy with demodectic mange to a beautiful, friendly, charming young adult who is ready to find my loving forever home. My foster mom tells me I was worth all that effort, I hope you agree! Where there is SCARS, there is hope for dogs like me.

Thank you to Jill Shantz of Shantz photography for taking my "after" photos. I think I'm looking great!





This is me before & to the right is where I used to call home









### **Look At Me Now**

The SCARS website has a section called "Look At Me Now" which features happy ending stories. These stories are provided by the families who adopt from SCARS. Here are two examples:

#### Coach

adopted Coach from Tails on the Trails June 6, 2009. He was originally rescued from a rural area where he had been abandoned as a pup. When I got him home he didn't know how to use the stairs. It took him a few days to learn. He is the best dog in the world. I brought him for show & tell at my son's school – grade one at MPES. The kids loved him so much that they decided to do a bake sale fundraiser for SCARS. The kids raised \$260. Coach

was there as the SCARS mascot. Everyone loves Coach. A lot of people call him Coachie Bear. He is my world. I wouldn't trade him for anything. I love him SO much. Thank you SCARS for doing what you do.

Much love, Lindsey, John Jr., Coach and our other rescue dog, Bingo!







### **Ozzie (formerly Mikey)**

ey SCARS! My family and I adopted Ozzie (formally Mikey) way back in Sept. 2007 when he was just a pup and I figured it was time for an update. He's a fantastic dog! We could not love him more. His energy and love for life always brightens my day. Together we've been participating in flyball, obedience, agility (he absolutely loves to run up the A-frame) and partaking in 2-hour trips to the dog park most days. He's very attentive to where his people are at all times and won't leave my side for too long. We've tried to do a bit of swimming but it doesn't seem to be his thing. He's more into wading into the shallow areas and rearranging the rock bed of the rivers and lakes. We recently went through a rough time where his gallbladder ruptured. His prognosis was extremely grave for a week but Ozzie has a fighting spirit and after 2 abdominal surgeries and 5 bags of plasma for transfusions he's now back at home expecting to make a full recovery! He is getting very bored of being on bed rest though so we're going to have to figure out some fun mental stimulation games. I couldn't imagine life without him and I'm so grateful to SCARS for bringing him into our lives all those years ago! — Darci





# **Adorable and Adoptable**

ere are a few examples of adoptable pets. To see more, visit www.scarscare.ca. There are approximately 175 companion animals of all ages, types and sizes currently in our care. We are always looking for people who would like to adopt. The fee is only \$300 for dogs and \$150 for cats and it includes spay or neuter, first vaccinations and a microchip.







(Left to right) Brando, Elvis and James are 4-month-old male mixed breed puppies. Their litter mates Audrey, Jett and Carbon are also available for adoption.

# SCARS Needs Foster Homes!

Please consider fostering for SCARS. As a foster home, you will provide temporary care for an animal until we can find it a suitable permanent home. Becoming a foster home is easy and there is absolutely no cost or long-term obligation. Foster homes are vital to our success. Simply put, they save lives. Sadly, every day in Alberta there are hundreds of dogs and cats waiting to be rescued. Our goal is to make the fostering experience as enjoyable as possible for you and your family.

Right now we especially need foster homes for cats and kittens. There are two types of cat foster homes:

- Temporary foster care where cats and kittens are kept in your home for about two weeks. During that time, they receive the veterinary care they need before we move them to our partner pet stores where they are often adopted out.
- Longer term foster care for cats that don't do well in the stores or have special medical needs.

Please email to fosterprogram@scarscare.ca if you would like more information. Thank you!



Twixie is a young mixed breed female cat



Gwendolyn is a female mixed breed kitten



Popsicle is a senior, mixed breed female



Widacur is an adult mixed breed male



### Tails on the Trails 2014

hank you to all dedicated SCARS' volunteers, supporters and sponsors who made our 10<sup>th</sup>
Annual Tails on the Trails Pawsathon a tremendous success. This year's event was held on June 7, 2014 at Lion's Park in St. Albert and raised close to \$52,000!

TOTTs is an annual event open to anyone who wants to show their support for animal rescue by collecting pledges and then participating in our dog walk. This event includes a full day of family activities to support and celebrate animal rescue. It is also a chance for our volunteers to reconnect with the loving families that have adopted from SCARS. For our volunteers, there is no greater joy than seeing how much happiness our rescued animals have brought into people's lives.

Congratulations to our prize winners and thank you to Instabox Alberta Inc. for donating all of the prizes:

- 1st prize Liza Russell raised \$4,855 and won a \$1,000 gift certificate to the Apple Store
- 2nd prize Jayden Pidsadowski raised \$1,855 and won a \$500 gift certificate to the Apple Store
- 3rd prize Heather Jones raised \$1,300 and won a \$500 gift certificate to the Apple Store

• Top Team Pledge — Laurier Law Office raised \$2,830 and won dinner for 10 people at Famoso Pizzeria at West Edmonton Mall. Their team name was "Laurier Law Cares."

Everyone who raise \$500 or more received a Tails on the Trails hoodie, those who raised \$100 or more received a Tails on the Trails T-shirt or SCARS market bag, and all pledge participants receive a free "pooch and people" swag bag.

During the event, a woman showed up with a stay dog that she had found wondering near our event and she asked for our help. We scanned the dog with a microchip reader and were able to connect the lost dog to its grateful owner. We were pleased to help out this dog and its owner during our event.

After a pleasant 45-minute stroll along the scenic Sturgeon River Valley, participants browsed through SCARS merchandise, bid on silent auction items, checked out adoptable animals, watched fly ball and scent hurdle demonstrations, visited with vendors and enjoyed the SCARS BBQ and beer garden. Kids enjoyed games & prizes with their pets and had a great time in the bounce house.

The walk was supported again this year by the

# Thank You to our Generous Sponsors

#### **Platinum**

Instabox

#### Gold

- Napa Auto Parts Wabasca
- Brookfield Residential

#### **Silver**

- New Paradigm Engineering
- Guardian Veterinary Centre
- Troy Trudgeon A Buyer's Choice Home Inspections,
- Westlock Veterinary Centre
- Neat & Unique Interior Decorating
- Catty Canines Inc.
- Lisa Locher & Entrec Corporation

#### **Bronze**

- G&E Pharmacy
- Jill Shantz Photography,
- Champion Petfoods
- 780 Kennels
- Blackpaws Pet Resort
- Spotlight Studios





### Tails on the Trails 2014 Continued

SCARS rescue pack—some previously rescued dogs who came together to show their support for SCARS. Together, they raised almost \$2,200 through online donations. Our event once again featured free live music by Spotlight Studios. They provided sound equipment and their talented students volunteered their time to sing. Their beautiful voices made our day even more special.

#### Thank you to our vendors:

- Alberta Lost Pet Locator
- Alberta Safety Compliance Ltd.
- Animal Cancer Therapy Subsidization Society
- Abby Elizabeth Designs
- Catty Canines Inc.
- Champion Petfoods
- Dog Early Warning System (DEWS)
- Guardian Veterinary Centre
- Jamberry
- Kat Tracks Sweet Shop
- Northwood Pet Foods
- Pawsh Treats
- Pedalheads
- Princess Florence Handbags & More
- Sadie's K9 Stay and Play
- Shelter Animal Reiki Association
- Snap Dragonz
- Troy Trudgeon A Buyer's Choice Home Inspections
- Tupperware

A special thank you goes out to St. John's Ambulance for being onsite to keep us safe and to the St. Albert Fire Department for filling the wading pools for the dogs. Thank you our MC, Sarah Klapstein, to our event organizers who made an already great event even better this year, and to the volunteers who assisted with silent auction, bake sale, jumpy house, pit stop challenge, greeting guests, registration, photography, set up and tear down, beer gardens, and face painting, games, adoptions, and so forth. We hope to see everyone again next year.

















### Student Fundraisers for SCARS

#### Pine Street School Fundraiser

Thank you to Emily Boyd and her grade 3 students at Pine Street Elementary School in Sherwood Park. The students generously collected money to donate to SCARS as part of their unit in social studies on being a global citizen.

In the true spirit of giving, they even donated most of the money they were going to use to buy lollipops and ice cream for one week at the beginning of June. As a class, the kids collected \$50 and Emily (their teacher) and the class EA matched what they raised. The total donation to SCARS is \$150. We think they are amazing and we hope you agree!



#### **Guthrie School Garage Sale**

Just over \$800 was raised for SCARS at the annual Guthrie School Garage Sale for SCARS on June 4, 2014. We are sharing two photos from the event. Thank you to teacher, supporter and organizer Colleen Tremblay (shown right). Looks like they had a lot of fun at the event (see photo of Maurice Deguzman with Billy Martin). We are truly grateful for their ongoing support.





# March 2015 Norweigan Cruise for SCARS

lanning a vacation during Easter Break 2015? Why not support SCARS at the same time. Join Steve & Heather aboard this great ship designed for all ages as we sail the Eastern Caribbean. For every cabin sold on this group Escape TravelPlus will donate \$50 (inside cabin), \$75 (outside cabin), \$100 (balcony) and \$500 (Haven Suite) to SCARS. Here are the starting prices for cruise only. They can work with you to match up Airmiles, Eeroplan, and so forth or they can price air from what ever city you prefer to fly from.

#### NORWEGIAN GETAWAY Sailing March 28, 2015

- Inside Staterooms Starting at \$720\* plus \$330 tax per person
- Ocean View Staterooms Starting at \$870\* plus \$330 tax per person
- Balcony Staterooms Starting at \$1042\* plus \$330 tax per person

Prices are in CAD based on 2 sharing. Third and Fourth passenger prices available upon request. For more information, visit www.escapeforscars.ca or http://scarscare.ca/7-day-norwegian-getaway-cruise.

To book or if you have any questions contact Heather at: <u>Heather.folkins@travelplus.ca</u>, 780-939-5865 Ext 101, 780-349-3155 Ext 101, or 1-888-839-8936 Ext 101.





# Mind your Canine Manners—Dog Park Etiquette

By Nomi Berger

he lure of the dog park is inescapable. That wide expanse of lush green grass. Trees and bushes and rocks scattered about. Perhaps a high, wire mesh fence for added security.

The scent of freedom in the air.

As tempting as the scene may be, it's wise to ensure that both you and your dog can pass the test in proper dog park etiquette before you even enter the grounds.

There may be no signs posted that declare, "BAD MANNERS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED," but every well-informed dog owner knows what they are.

For those newbies who have absolutely no clue, the following is a list of the most essential DO's and DON'T's of playing at the dog park.

DO keep your dog under control at all times and DO make certain that he always comes when called. Pity those poor owners standing helpless and hoarse, leashes dangling, treat bags drooping, while their own dogs dance off disobediently into the distance.

DO make certain that your dog has been properly socialized beforehand. What's worse than watching an aggressive dog going after a timid dog, resulting in punishment for one and pet therapy for the other?

DO ensure that your dog is up to date on all of his vaccinations, is heartworm tested and parasite protected. Think about all of those tiny, unseen menaces lurking everywhere — including ticks and fleas and mosquitoes.

DON'T bring an unneutered or unspayed dog to the park. Picture the pandemonium that would ensue. Not to mention the potential for a passle of unplanned pups.

DO monitor the behavior of the other dogs in the park and be alert to possible signs of trouble. Step into referee mode and start dropping penalty flags on the field if loose packs are forming, playing is getting too rough or bullying has begun.

DO be prepared to leave the park if it means avoiding a potentially unpleasant or dangerous situation. Whether it's your dog's fault or someone else's dog, finger pointing is preferable to finger biting. But both should be studiously avoided.

DO be considerate of the other dogs and their — hopefully — considerate owners. Stoop and scoop up carefully after YOUR dog. If you don't appreciate your dog's nose sniffing at, or your feet slipping on, another dog's droppings, you're certainly not alone.

Forewarned, as they say, is forearmed.

Now go play!

This article was posted with permission from Nomi Berger. Nomi is the bestselling author of seven novels and one work of non-fiction. She lives in Toronto, Ontario with her adopted morkie, Shadow. Nomi now devotes all of her time volunteering her writing skills to animal rescue organizations both in Canada and the USA.





Adoptable dogs, Dani (top) & Taffy enjoying play time



# What We Do and How to Help

econd Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) is a non-profit, registered charitable organization dedicated to reducing the number of homeless animals in Northern Alberta, Canada. Since 2002, SCARS has rescued, rehabilitated and rehomed thousands of companion animals.

Our mission is to promote the humane care and protection of all animals and to prevent cruelty and suffering. We believe there is a suitable home for all homeless animals: young or old; large or small. We provide veterinary care and foster homes until permanent homes are found. Our foster homes provide the animals with warm shelter, food, exercise and tender loving care—something that so many of these animals have never experienced. We also promote responsible pet ownership, the importance of spaying and neutering, and community awareness. We rely solely on money raised through memberships, donations, grants, sponsorships and other fundraising efforts. Because we have no paid staff and use private homes for fostering, we can only take in as many animals as our resources will allow. Here are some ways you can help:

**Donate or sponsor**—our veterinary expenses are enormous. Please consider donating to our rescue efforts. We issue tax receipts for all donations of \$20 or more.

Foster an animal—we rely on our volunteer foster homes to provide temporary care until we can find suitable permanent homes. There is no cost to becoming a foster home. We will provide everything you need.

**Volunteer**—help with fundraising, adoption events, animal care and transportation, and our daily operations. As a volunteer, you will become an integral part of a team that saves animals' lives.

**Adopt an animal**—provide a needy animal with a loving, permanent home. To see pictures of adoptable animals, visit www.scarscare.ca.

**Share the message**—ask your family and friends to spay/neuter, microchip and vaccinate their pets. And remind them that all pets need food, water, shelter, healthcare, exercise, love and attention.

**Buy merchandise**—purchase SCARS calendars, clothing, totes, leashes, lunch bags, or one of our "Gifts from the Heart" certificates. Visit our website for more information.

Watch us on Global TV Edmonton every Saturday morning at 9:50 a.m., subscribe to our e-Newsletter at www.scarscare.ca, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter. We welcome feedback or suggestions for this newsletter, please contact:

Second Chance Animal Rescue Society Box 3045 Athabasca, AB T9S 2B9 www.scarscare.ca 780.466.SCAR (7227) scars@scarscare.ca

#### Please support

Please support our participating vet clinics. Look for them on our website under Animals / Adoption Information / Participating Vets. SCARS is very grateful for EVEC's support with emergency care and Guardian's support with specialty surgeries. For pet emergencies in the Edmonton area, trust:



11104 - 102 Avenue, Edmonton | 780.433.9505



5620 - 99th Street, Edmonton | 780.436.5880

Please support Champion Petfoods. They provide SCARS with generous and ongoing donations of quality pet foods.



At Champion Petfoods, our mission is clear and strong: We make Biologically Appropriate Dog and Cat foods from Fresh Regional ingredients in our own local kitchens. With shared passion to support those cats and dogs who need us most, we thank SCARS for their work in communities, and we are pleased for the opportunity to support them with ongoing ACANA and ORIJEN food donations.

