

PAW PRINTS

The Newsletter from The Lucky Dog Complex



BOARDING & TRAINING CENTER

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Hello and Welcome to the Lucky Dog Complex newsletter, "Paw Prints". Our goal is to keep the clients, supporters, volunteers, and employees of our four entities up to date on the current happenings.

Lucky Dog Boarding and Training Center, Marshmallow Animal Shelter, Patriot Assistance Dogs, and Muddy Puppies have all contributed to this month's newsletter. Read on to find out about the Christmas helpers that arrived at the complex to provide some much needed cheer, Patriot Assistance Dog's new Office Manager, and learn about the equipment needed for giving your pet a hair cut at home!

We welcome your comments and ideas as we grow this newsletter.

Lucky Dog

Boarding and Training LLC

The Christmas Visit

Written by Paula Anderson

While the following play on words from the *Visit from St. Nicholas* poem is lighthearted, we have only deep gratitude and appreciation for the Minnesota Army National Guard members from Detroit Lakes and Moorhead that donated time, talent and long, hard hours of work in December.

There was no project too daunting, and they divided and conquered without complaint. Many worked outside and while it was mild, it was still December in Minnesota.

Marshmallow Animal Shelter received a sturdy, well built – and much needed! – set of steps to their storage trailer. The tasks accomplished for the entire building complex are almost too numerous to mention. What a gift to have received the donation of the time and talent of these members of the Minnesota Army National Guard.

Twas the 12th of December

Twas the 12th of December, when all through the building, the cats and the dogs were already stirring.

The tools were ready and the tasks near to hand, in hopes that the Moorhead RSP “Rangers” with the Minnesota Army National Guard were soon to appear.

Their numbers were many as they joined the Detroit Lakes Minnesota Army National Guard members, and next to pull in was the Sargent in charge. No pack on his back or bundle of toys, but a trailer filled with carpenter’s toys”.

The trailer was opened and what should appear, but lumber and tools that many employed and by afternoon a set of new steps did appear.

The weather was mild, but not quite warm. Several toiled outside for all of the morn, sprucing up the parks for all of the Patriot Assistance Dogs and Lucky Dog clients to frolic and bark.

Some toiled inside and met quite a challenge, to organize donations for Marshmallow Animal Shelter. The heaved and they tugged, they dusted and swept, and filled all the shelves with all of the “stuff”.

A short break for lunch, the wrap up of projects, and soon the dogs came out to visit and celebrate the completion of plans.

Face masks in place, to the new steps all gathered, and pictures were taken before they drove out of sight.





Patriot Assistance Dogs

Patriot Assistance dogs is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing dogs, then training them as service dogs for Veterans who struggle with psychiatric disabilities.

Welcome To Our New Office Manager

Written By Paula Anderson

The PAD (Patriot Assistance Dogs) program is fortunate to have a community of dedicated, caring and exceptional members. It is our pleasure to introduce you to a new member, our new Office Manager Marielle Kahler. Her skills, can do attitude and capabilities have already made an impact within Patriot Assistance Dogs. We anticipate her time, talent, skills, and dedication will help us navigate us towards our future goals, as well as keeping us balanced in our day to day operations.

We asked Marielle to help us introduce her. She brings passion, dedication, experience and as you will hear in her own words, a great hope to make a positive impact.

"I was born in the Philippines and moved from country to country while my parents served as missionary doctors. I received a scholarship to complete my college degree in Nebraska. After my graduation, I married Tyson Kahler and we moved to southwest Minnesota. I worked in healthcare as medical laboratory scientist, but it was not the path I wanted for my career. After a few years, we moved to Michigan to pursue masters degrees. I received a masters degree in Community & International Development, focusing on disaster relief, non-profit organization, and program management. Once we both finished our academic endeavors, Tyson was called to the Detroit Lakes area as a minister. On July 9, 2020, we welcomed our first child, Levi, who came six weeks too early, but we are so blessed by his little giggles in our home."

"It is my hope, that in some way, the work that I do and the life that I live, can positively impact someone's life. Even if it's just one."

Marielle brings a generous, kind and warm personality with her to the office daily. We look forward to what the future brings with her as a vital part of it. Welcome Marielle!





Muddy Puppies Dog Grooming

Tools of The Trade, Continued

Written by Dawn Hutmacher

Let's talk clippers! Many people are just not comfortable giving their dogs a haircut, and that is absolutely okay! Shaving your dog can be a daunting task. It is easy to make mistakes, and some of the tricks that groomers use can only be learned over time, through trial and error. Remember, it will grow back... eventually!

If you are brave enough to take on the task, make sure that you have the right tools for the job. I am currently using an Andis Detachable Blade Clipper. They are available on Amazon anywhere from \$175-\$295 depending on what you want. Yes, that is a lot of money, but I use mine in a professional setting. For home use, I would recommend one of the less expensive models from either Andis or Oster.

The clippers normally come with a #10 blade. Clipper comb attachments can be found for around \$15-\$18 for an entire set, giving you several length options without needing an assortment of expensive blades. Make sure that the attachments will fit your clippers (they are brand specific). Refer to a cut length chart for your brand of clippers to decide what size blade you want to use. Don't forget a can of Cool Care to cool the clipper blades while grooming. Clipper blades can get hot, and can burn your dog. Check the heat regularly while grooming, and use the Cool Care to cool the blade (or stop and give your dog a break).

Maintenance is very important with clippers. Keep them clean, oiled and please spring for a clipper blade cleaner to that your blades stay sanitized and lubricated. On a side note, I stay away from the rechargeable clippers, because the batteries just don't stand up to several hours of clipping in a day. However, for home use, many people prefer the freedom of a cordless clippers.

As always, I am not endorsing any particular brand. Photos are for reference purposes only.

