

Pet advocate spearheads calendar fundraiser

January 10, 2020



Efforts are underway to tie the turning of the new year's calendar to a local fundraising effort.

When Gloria Bobertz adopted her dog Cash, a 9-month old German shepherd/Malamute mix, from Camp Berry, she was so impressed with the puppy adoption effort run by Rhonda Barry from her home that Bobertz wanted to help.

"It made me realize, here are these people working with dogs that are neglected or are pups like Cash, so I wanted to become more involved in this, because I've always had a passion for animals," Bobertz said.

With the arrival of the new year, she had an idea. "I do photography, and I thought, 'You know, I bet I can get some people to donate their photographs to create a calendar, with all of the proceeds to go for the dogs.'"

Bobertz approached business owners she knows at Del Norte Office Supply, 101 Laundry, and Trees of Mystery to finance creating such a calendar.

"Each said yes. That made it possible for the calendars and all of the profits - 100% - to go to these dogs.

“One hundred percent goes to animals that need spay or neutering. Or, if Camp Berry needs help with health costs on these puppies that she takes in that are sick,” Bobertz said.

Then, she solicited local companies to purchase \$50 business card-size ads for the calendars, promising that 100% of their contributions would go to Camp Barry, Dogs of Del Norte or the Humane Society of Del Norte.

“We had a lot of people, with no questions; they just did it. It was great,” Bobertz said.

Next, she recruited local photographers to contribute photos, including Pam Wilcox, Jenn Cron-Miller, Catherine Black and John Walker.

The calendar’s pages were finished off with photos of dogs awaiting adoption at the Del Norte Animal Control Shelter.

Del Norte Office Supply printed the completed products and the Prints for Paws calendars were quickly available for year 2020.

Eileen Bennett, director of the Humane Society of Del Norte, said that in her 11 years there, she has never seen such a calendar produced. It consists entirely of local photography, including the Battery Point Lighthouse, scenic wooded areas, the harbor and local events.

In fact, Bennett said, the calendar has photos suitable for framing.

“The cover photo is of a beach area, with the members of each group. Pam Wilcox took several photos of us and we got to choose which one we liked best,” Bennett said.

“Plus, John Barker’s Fourth of July fireworks photo is the most amazing Crescent City fireworks shot I’ve ever seen.”

The calendars cost \$10 and are available at the Humane Society of Del Norte, Del Norte Office Supply, 101 Laundry, Fisherman’s Restaurant and Lounge, and the Local Roots Salon.

Bennett said the combination of ad and calendar sales so far totals just over \$4,000. “The money will be used to spay and neuter dog pound dogs, for puppy fostering costs, and emergency help through Dogs of Del Norte and Camp Berry,” she said.

“I plan on doing it again,” said Bobertz, “maybe with a different idea, maybe black-and-whites. I’m thinking of other projects we could do to help these dogs.”

Bennett added that another animal fundraiser already in the works will benefit local spay and neutering programs. A corn hole tournament sponsored by SeaQuake is planned for Feb. 8 at the VFW Hall, 810 H St. in Crescent City.

Registration is \$40 per team, with the event starting at 3 p.m. and games beginning at 4:00. There will be a limit of 40 teams. Those not competing will be asked to contribute a \$5 spectator fee.

Bennett plans snacks, a host bar, music and dancing. She said that to preregister, call 707-218-5998.