

# The Pathway

A publication of KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc.  
Spring 2022— Volume 22 Issue 1



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Sponsorships—Our 3 Years of Success!

Kora's Amazing Career with KSDS

Upcoming Events & Graduation



# "Changing Lives One Dog at a Time"

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## **Spring Graduation**

Join us as we honor our spring 2022 team placements.

The ceremony will be on

**Saturday April 9th, 2022 11:00am**

**KSDS West Training Building  
703 D Street**

**Washington, KS 66968**

A luncheon will follow in our East Training Building.

Graduation is free to the public!

We hope to see you there!

\*Masks may be required based on CDC recommendation for new variants.\*

## **Other events that will be posted on the website**

**Dog & Jog in Manhattan, Kansas April 3rd**

**Grad Retreat July 11th, 12th, and 13th**

**Pups Retreat August 5th-6th**

**Kansas State Fair Booth Sept 9th-18th**

**Fall Class September 25th-October 7th**

**Fall Graduation October 8th**

## **Thank you to our Sponsors!**



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# Fall 2021 Graduates



**Guide Team**  
Randy Teske & Yentna (Yeti)  
**Puppy Raiser**  
Kaitlin Umsheid



**Guide Team**  
Sarah Anson & Salcha  
**Puppy Raiser**  
Barbara Mashak



**Service Team**  
Jerilyn Smith & Douglass\*  
**Puppy Raiser**  
Dr. Judy Norton

\* Douglass was named by the Douglass School System



We are excited to unveil the Karen Price Administration Building, which was newly dedicated during our graduation celebration on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. Karen was a founding member of KSDS. She proudly served the organization as the guide dog trainer and then CEO from 1990-2007. Pictured below are members of Karen's family who came to the dedication.

## A warm welcome to our new Apprentice Trainers!



### ***Tulene Farwell***

She has always had a passion for animals of all sizes. Growing up in Orlando, Florida, she has mostly small animal experience, but loves large animals just as much. In middle school, she began to volunteer at Freedom Ride, a local non-profit that offers therapeutic horseback riding for individuals with disabilities. While working on her bachelor's degree in Animal Science at the University of Florida, Tulene learned about Southeastern Guide Dogs. She began to puppy raise for them during her junior year of college and has helped raise more than seven dogs. When her second dog was placed as a guide dog, she attended their on-campus celebration where she watched her dog work and spoke with her new handler. Tulene knew that training guide and service dogs was her passion. She loves being able to help someone achieve a new found level of confidence with an assistance dog at their side. She is excited to continue helping others achieve that independence as a member of the KSDS family, which she joined in August 2021.



### ***Brooke Pfizenmaier***

Growing up on a farm outside of Linn, Kansas, Brooke found a love for animals at an early age. She enjoyed having several pets around the farm and showing some in 4-H. Currently, her parents have three dogs that she loves to spend time with: Lacey, Mya, and Chief. Brooke received an Associate of Science degree at Cloud County Community College. While going to Cloud, she also started working at a mixed animal vet clinic. Brooke then went on to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science & Industry from Kansas State University. At K-State, she started working at a small animal vet clinic where she enjoyed seeing the animals and expanding her learning. Brooke and her husband now enjoy living in the country outside of Clay Center with their red heeler, Mercury. In her free time, Brooke enjoys spending time with friends, attending K-State football games, going to coed softball tournaments, or doing any outdoor activity. She loves being back around her hometown and working in the community. Growing up, she always knew of the great things KSDS did for people, and is excited to now be a part of that program.

# The Secret to our 32 year Success!

*In 1980, a mother of two had a double stroke. Due to permanent paralysis of her left side, she was confined to a wheelchair and had limited independence. Wilma struggled daily with simple tasks that most of us take for granted. Although she battled with her self-reliance, she remained optimistic until she passed early in 2005.*



*In September of 2005, with the loss of her mother still weighing heavy on her heart, Janice Lair was having a casual conversation with an acquaintance. The friend talked about how the Lions Club donated \$1,000 to a nonprofit that helped people with disabilities by means of trained dogs. Intrigued, Janice verified the information and was more curious than ever. To satisfy her interest, she called KSDS and spoke with Karen Price, the co-founder of KSDS. Karen took the time to tell her all the ways she could help, how KSDS worked, and answered any questions she had. Janice could hear Karen's passion for KSDS and knew she wanted to help also.*

*She thought about the different ways she could provide support and wished she had known about KSDS prior to her mother's death. She felt her mother's independence would have widened dramatically. Plus her mother absolutely adored dogs. "We always had one growing up. I remember one time, we rescued two abused Golden Retrievers. I just knew my mom would approve if I supported KSDS," Janice stated.*

*"When I was little, after playing outside, I could always count on my mom asking me if I was raising cane. "I was not the mischievous type, that was my brother" she teased. In 2008, just like it was meant to be, her first team sponsorship went to a 10 year old boy and his service dog, Raisin Cain, (R.C. for short). This sponsorship, was dedicated in "In Loving Memory of my mother." In addition, R.C. happened to be a Golden Retriever. Janice said, this sponsorship completed a full circle, which was an amazing feeling.*



*After overcoming some struggles of her own Janice was ready to sponsor another team. She decided to do an honorarium on behalf of the one person who has always been there for her, her brother William. Soon she found out that the sponsorship went to Scott Carrel and Gatsby, a yellow lab, similar to the lab her brother has. She also learned that Scott had similar struggles to her mother.*



*At age six, Scott was involved in a vehicle pedestrian accident leaving him completely paralyzed. Spending three years in a hospital and countless hours struggling in rehabilitation, he was able to leave walking on forearm crutches. Years after the incident, he heard about KSDS and applied for a Service Dog and was told in 2019 he would be granted Gatsby.*

*Scott and Gatsby have a very strong bond. Gatsby is able to retrieve dropped items, open doors and drawers, and stand in front of Scott to brace, while he transfers to/from his chair. Not only did this help his independence, but increased his confidence, mental, and physical stride.*

*"I love the markings on his nose. It looks like a cross," Scott said as he spoke from the heart. Is this team placement fate or coincidence?*





January 2021, Janice set out to sponsor another team. She received word, this time, she would be sponsoring a Facility Team, Alyson Burkhart and Star. Alyson works as an Early Childhood Special Education Teacher and Autism Specialist. Janice could not have been more overwhelmed with excitement. She too had worked with children that had autism. This sponsorship, just like the others, was extremely rewarding to her. She is not just helping one person, but many. "I feel a strong connection to KSDS and they are helping me achieve a goal of giving back so others can have a more fruitful life." Janice expressed her appreciation and said she chose this sponsorship to honor her father "Buster."

Also expressing joy and excitement, was Alyson when she was told her new facility dog's name. As part of the social emotional curriculum she uses conscious discipline and teaches children to "Be a STAR" when they get upset (S-smile, T-take a deep breath, A-and, R-relax). This placement was truly a perfect match.

Over the years, Janice had spoken to her family and friends about KSDS and how it has helped so many people. Among those people are Buster and Bill, her dad and brother. They both have become proud supporters of KSDS. Bill even went on to support a team sponsorship that is set to graduate this spring, "In honor of his kind and generous sister, Janice" and although we are uncertain how many people her huge heart has touched, KSDS is not the only one eternally grateful.

We have received sponsorships to fully fund four team placements, by one's casual conversation. Donors, sponsors, grantors, puppy raisers, current and previous teams, fellow facilities, our community, and yours', our combined effort defines KSDS Assistance Dogs, Inc. So when you ask "What is the secret to KSDS's 32 year success?" In the end we reply with one word, "YOU!"

**Thank all of you for everything you do, everyday!**

### **Naming Opportunities, Sponsorships, and more ways to donate**

**AmazonSmile**— This company donates a portion of your purchase price to us

**Dillions**— Do your everyday shopping at dillions. It costs you nothing extra and Dillions will donate a portion back to KSDS.

**iGive**—Join and 26% of each purchase you make will come to KSDS.

**Let's Roam**—Participate in scavenger hunts & virtual games. They will donate 60% of proceeds to KSDS.

**Infinite wags**—Use code KSDS and receive 10% off your purchase and KSDS receives a \$5 donation.

**CFC**—If your work place holds an annual charity fund, look for us in your campaign brochure.

**GIVE DIRECT**— Making a donation online is safe, fast and easy.

**Automatic Monthly Donations**— Save yourself the time and hassle of writing a check when you sign up for monthly ACH donations.

**Planned Giving**—Make sure future generations will benefit from KSDS, by making a contribution from your estate.

**Wish list**—We have a wish list on our website of in-kind donations that you can purchase and donate to KSDS that is tax deductible.

**Name a puppy**—For \$1,000 donation you can name a puppy we receive on an individual basis.

**Subsidize an Intern**—For \$5,000 you can cover the cost of living and wages for one student to complete a 400 hour internship.

**Sponsor a litter**— By donating \$10,000 you will be given the opportunity to chose a litter theme and name each puppy fitting that theme.

**Team Sponsorship**— Each assistance dog we provide is valued at \$25,000. By providing \$25,000 in donations, your contribution will cover the cost of housing, training, veterinary care, travel, equipment, and other related expenses for one assistance dog. In return, you will receive a personalized "Team Sponsorship" plaque, contact information for the team, and recognition in our KSDS newsletter and online once they graduate.

**Memorialize Loved Ones**— Estate donors can have a program or fundraiser named after the deceased individual (with the permission of the executor of the estate). The estate must have a value of at least \$100,000 for a program to be named after the deceased. Examples of programs include: Pups Day, Grad Retreat, and local fundraisers.

**Building Opportunities**— Name a Building along Highway 36 or just off of the highway.

\*Permanent Naming of a building would be reserved for an Estate or a donor that donates \$1.5 million or more\*

To find out more information on any of these, visit our website at [www.ksds.org](http://www.ksds.org) or call us at (785) 325-2256

# Kora's amazing career with KSDS

*It all started on January 25th, 2015, when Adelaide of Australia and Mason from Canine Partners of the Rockies, gave birth to a litter of beautiful black labradors. Due to the mother's heritage, the litter theme was chosen as Australian Slang. Sooky (meaning, needing affection) and Dundee (very masculine) became Facility dogs. Kora (a companion) and Roo (happy and kind) became breeders. Mandu (rock star) was given to Susquehann Service Dogs and is currently a working dog, as well.*



*Kora was raised at Topeka Correctional Facility. During our prison program, she was able to learn her basic obedience and house manners while gaining social skills. Once she returned, she was placed in the breeding program, as she had an excellent bloodline. Puppy Raiser Glenda Keller took on the responsibility of a Breeder Host for Kora, as she began her career.*

*The Solar Eclipse litter followed on July 2nd, 2017 and was sired by Noah of Southeast Guide Dogs. Shadow, Twilight, Eclipse, and Solar graduated as Service dogs. Lunar advanced to Indiana Canine Assistant Network. Sunny journeyed to St. Francis Service Dogs. Auggie was given to Canine Partners for Life and Starry was awarded to Southeast Guide Dogs.*



*Kora's career took a three year sabbatical due to a temporary thyroid issue, however with Can Do Canine's Gucci helping her along, on July 20th, 2020, she whelped four Labs. This litter theme was Sandlot. We have Squints and Ham that are both potential breeders. Smalls and Benny were unfortunately released due to hip subluxation in December of 2021. They both have found a forever home with their puppy raisers, where each will be spoiled and loved for years to come.*

*Continuing her path, Kora mated with Arnold from Can Do Canines. On March 14th, 2021 she was wrapped in love with seven new angels. This extra special litter was named after doughnuts. Cruller, Sprinkle, Twist, Glaze, Fritter and Churro are Assistance Dogs International's (ADI's) International Breeding Cooperative potential Breeders and their future career will be determined at a later date. Éclair has already jumped the pond to Ireland as an inaugural member of ADI's International Breeding Cooperative. Éclair is featured on our website, if you would like further information.*



## All good things must come to an end!

*On November 20th, 2021 Kora's final litter was born! KSDS hosted a game on Derbyz.com. Donors were able to vote on their favorite theme.*



*From three choices, you chose Famous People with Disabilities. Of course Kora could not possibly let her final nest be less than spectacular.*



# Kora's Retirement Litter

*We would like to introduce*

*Temple, Keller, Tanni, Stevie, Reeve, Walt, Robin, and Summer*



*This litter happened to be dual sired. Walt was singly sired by Darby of Guide Dogs of America, whereas Temple, Keller, Tanni, Stevie, Reeve, Robin, and Summer were sired by Chance of Susquehann Service Dogs.*

*Out of the eight puppies, four were willed to other schools. Temple was transferred to Guide Dogs of America. Robin was directed to Retrieving Freedom.*



*Walt was turned over to Susquehanna Service Dogs, and Summer hitched a ride to Can Do Canines.*

*As mentioned before, Kora has a wonderful bloodline and with that said, Keller, Reeve, and Stevie have been marked as potential North American Breeding Cooperative (ABC) breeders. As exciting as that is, Tanni, Robin, and Summer have been chosen as potential exports for (IBC) International Breeding Cooperative.*

*What a way to finish your career with such outstanding legacies of 5 litters, 6 sires, and 34 amazing babies!*



*While getting some back to back snuggle time with her sister Robin, Temple shows off her perfect little paws. They must think pictures are so exhausting!*



*Robin and Stevie testing their coordination on the wobble board!*



*Stevie is sporting her new green bandana donated by Earthrated Products while showing her spirited personality.*

*KSDS is looking for some dedicated puppy raisers. How can you say no to these adorable faces?*

To learn more, go to our website or call Kyanna Volkman at 785-325-2256 extension 114

Applications are available at (<http://www.ksds.org>)



# Lima's not so little reindeer



*Comet loves to flaunt her flexibility or is it her insatiability? Either way she is a whacky puppy.*



**On Christmas day 2021, Lima and Chase of Raynefall Chasin Dream was blessed with nine bundles of joy. They had 5 females and 4 males. During the name game, you chose the litter theme of Reindeer. We would like to introduce you to Rudolph, Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Blitzen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, and Vixen.**



*Just as the story goes, Santa's helpers all stick together forming a precious and cuddly team. These slumberous sweethearts played hard today and deserve a little rest! Their personalities are starting to shine and they are becoming very comical!*



*Dasher spent a lot of time with the Easter Bunny! The resemblance is becoming uncanny!*

*Getting some bunny lovin', is our famous Dancer.*

**Although this herd of reindeer are well behaved, there is always that one that doesn't want to be in the spotlight.**



**February 19th these guys and gals were turned over to their most generous Puppy Raisers to learn their basic obedience, house manners, and social skills**

**We are so anxious to see the growth of all nine of these characters!**



*Known for his goofiness, Blitzen flaunts his underside for a little tummy rub.*



*Projects underway! We received a very generous grant from the E.L. & Elene Z Hopkins Foundation for some sizable projects. With this we were able to add two new offices to our west training building for Tulene and Brooke and within the Canine Housing Unit (CHU) we are able to replace the flooring.*

**Sugar**



Sponsored by William Lair In Honor of Janice Lair

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We apologize for any omissions or mistakes that were made in this, or any previous newsletter — they were unintentional. If you notice a mistake on the donor pages of this newsletter, please email [ksds@ksds.org](mailto:ksds@ksds.org) or call us at (785) 325 - 2256.

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#### Anniversary of:

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## *Spring Flings and Easter Things*



*KSDS will be having an event for children on Wednesday April 13th, 2022 from 330pm-530pm. There will be pictures to color, small crafts, and a gift bag of treats and trinkets for the children.*



*Some of our special four legged friends will also be attending to greet our guests. Parents may take pictures of their babies with ours, if they wish!  
Bring the kids over to say hello and kick off spring with a little fun.  
This event is free to the public.*

Supplies for the event have been donated by a staff member.  
Donations are not required, but will be accepted.

[www.ksds.org](http://www.ksds.org)



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## *In the Next Issue*

*A Breeder Technician's day*

*Staffing Changes at KSDS*

*Upcoming events & Graduations*



## ***E-Newsletter Now Available!***

As we continue to grow, we have found that many constituents would rather receive our bi-annual newsletter electronically than via mail. If you would like an e-newsletter in place of a physical mailer, please let us know by completing our "E-Newsletter Request Form" at [www.ksds.org](http://www.ksds.org). Want to make other changes to how you receive our mailers? Contact KSDS at (785) 325—2256 or [ksds@ksds.org](mailto:ksds@ksds.org). Thank you in advance!

**Note:** If you completed the survey previously, we have recorded your response and there is no need to re-submit!

## *Until next time*

