

GUAM DAILY POST • MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2018

Paralyzed dog inspires outpouring of support

By Meghan Swartz
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As Arwen Niles loaded a mother dog — her back legs hanging limp and useless beneath her — and her two young puppies into the trunk of her car on Aug. 1, she didn't know what was going to happen to them. She just knew that there was something in front of her that she could help fix.

"If you just stop and say OK, right here in front of me is a living thing that's suffering, what can I do to alleviate the suffering to the extent that I can right now with what I have available?" she said. "And then do it."

Niles took the dogs to Wise Owl Animal Hospital to be assessed and learned that the mother — now affectionately nicknamed Mama — had suffered from spinal injuries, including a fracture, leaving her two back legs completely paralyzed.

Mama and her two puppies lived near the airport, Niles said, where they were fed by Rosanna Sison, a local resident living nearby. Niles said she was connected with Sison, who had already gotten permission from the dogs' owner to take the dogs and try to find them new homes.

Niles wrote in a previous message that based on X-rays, it appeared Mama's back injury was from being beaten. Pellets also appeared in the X-ray, indicating that she'd been shot.

Most of the veterinarians Niles has spoken with so far recommended putting Mama down and finding her



HELPING ANIMALS: Mari Kosaka-Figueroa, left, and daughter Ariana Figueroa hold one of the power pups. Arwen Niles gets a kiss from Mama while holding son Phineas. Matt Herrygers holds Mama, and Taylor Eager holds the other power pup outside Eager's home in Yigo. David Castro/The Guam Daily Post

puppies a home. Some said keeping her alive any longer was cruel.

On top of it all, even if Mama could be treated with surgery, local veterinarians didn't have the necessary equipment, and with United Airlines' new pet policy, which places restrictions on pets they will fly based on size and breed, they didn't know if she would be able to leave the island.

A veterinarian at Wise Owl gave Niles until Aug. 7 to see if Mama could get the support she needs: that meant funding, treatment and someone who would be willing to give her a forever home. If it didn't happen, Niles agreed they

would humanely euthanize Mama.

"We thought we'd have to put her down," Niles admitted. "I didn't want to keep fighting with the vet."

Nonetheless, Niles started sharing Mama's story on Facebook. Suddenly, things started to happen.

"Someone said they'd buy a wheelchair, someone offered to cover euthanasia and cremation if necessary, someone has her pups, someone is sewing her a skirt to cover her legs to protect them from dragging," she said. She said a pet shipper also offered to waive its fee to help transport Mama off island, and perhaps most importantly, she has someone who wants to adopt her.

"I haven't slept," Niles said, as she's been working with people and organi-

zations in Guam and stateside, trying to collaborate across time differences.

A GoFundMe campaign has already raised \$3,615 as of Sunday evening, and a separate PayPal account has raised thousands more. The funds will help pay for her flight and surgery, if necessary.

Mari Kosaka-Figueroa, who has lived on Guam for 20 years, offered to pay for Mama's heartworm treatment.

Another person reached out to their hometown news station in Las Vegas, which Niles said expressed some interest in the story.

Niles shared this news with the veterinarian, who told her, "if you have media interest, that's a game changer. She absolutely can have a full and happy life."

Go online

To learn more, visit www.gofundme.com/paralyzed-dog-2nd-chance-at-life or www.paypal.me/BoonieLove.



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INVITATION FOR BID IFB 18-07

INVITATION FOR BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF STORAGE AREA NETWORK (SAN) EQUIPMENT FOR THE JUDICIARY OF GUAM.

SUBMISSION DATE: Monday, August 13, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Interested bidders may purchase and pick up a bid packet at the procurement office located at the Guam Judicial Center, 1st floor, 120 West O'Brien Drive, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday (excluding Government of Guam holidays). A non-refundable fee of \$25.00 is now being charged for each bid package.

For further information, please contact the Procurement Office at 475-3393/3141/3290 or email: procurement@guamcourts.org

JOHN Q. LIZAMA
Administrator of the Courts

This project is funded by FY16 National Criminal History Improvement Grant

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GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

**Regular Board Meeting,
Wednesday, August 8, 2018
at 4:00 PM**

at the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority Board Room, 850 Carlos G. Camacho Road, Tamuning, Guam.

For more information please contact the Board office at 735-7405 thru 12. Persons with disabilities needing special accommodations may call Jimmy Sian at 735-7172 or the telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) at 649-1801. Executive meeting may be called if necessary.

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Send us a photo with your name, contact number, and a brief description of what makes you happy to goodnews@postguam.com.

Look for a special feature in The Guam Daily Post every Magof Monday.

Pink Ball celebrates 5 years of supporting cancer patients

By Tihu Lujan
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Celebrating hope, compassion and love in Guam's charitable community, The Pink Ball is back to celebrate its fifth anniversary as a major fundraiser for island cancer patients Aug. 4 at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort.

This year's theme is "HIS ... The Pink Ball Turns 5!" according to a press release. The black-tie event will benefit five organizations this year, including Guam Cancer Care, which has been supported by the gala since its inception.

Other local benefactors include the Guam Diabetes Association, Lupus Awareness Group of Guam, Harvest House and Project: Inspire.

Purchase tickets

The Pink Ball will celebrate five years starting at 6 p.m. Aug. 4 at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort in Tumon.

To purchase tickets to the gala, visit pinkballguam.com, call 486-0918 or email info@pinkballguam.com.

'Worthwhile cause'

The gala has raised over \$200,000 in the last four years to benefit Guam cancer patients and promote cancer awareness. Proceeds from the event directly benefit local cancer patients through Guam Cancer Care's support services.

"We are privileged to support The Pink Ball and its worthwhile cause of raising funds for Guam's local charities," said Katherine Mercado, senior director of international marketing and hotel sales for Resorts World Manila, one of three sponsors. The Dongo Foundation and Sorensen Media Group are presenting sponsors.

"Guam is a key market for us and we are proud to offer medical tourism packages in partnership with St. Luke's Medical Center, which has some of the top doctors and oncologists in the region, as well as state-of-the-art equipment, allowing our clients to undergo every phase of their health care journey with both confidence and comfort," Mercado added.

Take five

"We are now on our fifth year, and we are making our gala even more exciting and meaningful by having everything five! Dinner will be a five-course meal, we will have five



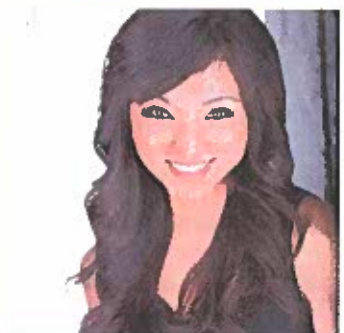
BALLERS: The Pink Ballers band is one of five featured performers to play live at The Pink Ball's fifth anniversary gala Aug. 4 at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort. From left are bandmembers Mike Hartendorp, Rob San Agustin, Eric Tydingco and Trey Cunningham. Contributed photo



Anthony Fedorov



Laurence Mossman



Jennifer Paz

grand prizes and we will feature five performers," said Leah Beth Nahlowaa, The Pink Ball chairwoman.

The Pink Ball will feature live entertainment from Anthony Fedorov, Laurence Mossman, Jennifer Paz, Tricia Canilao and The Pink Ballers - a Guam-based band.

Fedorov is a singer-songwriter with three albums under his belt and a number of Broadway appearances. He was a finalist on season four of "American Idol."

Mossman is a classically trained singer from New Zealand, who has starred on various television shows and musicals.

Paz and Canilao have starred in



Tricia Canilao

productions of Miss Saigon worldwide and have various musicals to their credit.

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