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## The Benefits of Dogs

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**The Benefits of Dogs**

By

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Project submitted in partial fulfillment of the

Requirements for the

Bachelor of Integrated Studies Degree

Murray State University

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## **Abstract**

The purpose of this paper is to identify the benefits of dogs. Whether you need a dog for the benefit of having a companion or for physiology benefits. A dog provides love, support, friendship, and assistance to any of our required necessities. A brief discussion about the history of dogs and their responsibilities to the owner will be discussed throughout the paper. A dog is a loyal companion and partner to their owner. They love to aide their benefactor and thrive for love and affection. The next topic section will demonstrate how service dogs can aide in the replacement of the loss of senses and research will demonstrate how a dog can be used to provide a service to resolve the loss of health functions; as well as substantial evidence on how a dog can provide the emotional support and services needed by owners with disabilities. It will continue discussing how dogs have benefited society in health fields, police, military, rescues and during natural disasters. Dogs have saved lives, provided health care needs, performed services for people with disability needs, helped provide for their owner, and have been a care given companion full of love and support.

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## Table of Contents

Abstract	i
Acknowledgements	ii
Table of Contents	iii
Introduction	1
Literature Review	4
Benefits of Dogs in our Healthcare System	7
The Aide of a Dog at the Loss of Our Sense	14
The Working Dog	17
The Courageous Hunting Dog	29
The Presidents Dog	30
The Hero Dog	31
Love of a Dog	33
Professional and Famous Dogs	37
Dogs in Prison	43
The Right Dog	46
Findings	47

Conclusion 48

Reference 51

## **Introduction**

All kinds of animals play an important role in our society; however, the dog stands out amongst them all and is well known by “Man’s and Woman’s best friend”. Dogs have a long history as being human companions. Throughout the history of canines one can realize the impact that dogs have had on development of culture of the time. This paper is not going to debate about when dogs became domesticated or whether they are part of the wolf family.

I have been brought up around dogs all my life and on both sides of the family. My brother was born with a disease still unknown to this day and was hospitalized most of the beginning of his life. Since he was in the hospital for such long periods of time my parents had to be housed so they could be close to him. Through those times I stayed with my grandparents and had my dog Jazz with me. It became very lonely not having my parents to keep me occupied and entertained. This is when my first real relationship with a dog began. When I was home from school and had free time the rest of my day would go to spending time with Jazz. From playing in the mud together to falling asleep together every night the loneliness and sadness began to fade away and become occupied by building my relationship with my best friend. Without having Jazz as a part of my childhood I would have been lost and alone.

Coming into my sophomore year I was in an extremely serious relationship. We were living together and bringing up our own dog. It was in the happiest moments of my life until things fell apart and we left each other, and I moved to Florida with my dog Nala. I was going through one of the hardest times of my life between hurt and anger. I just packed everything up and left. Having what you thought to be the love of your life with you for years and then within

days to nothing. That is one of saddest and loneliest moments. You feel as if you have had everything ripped away from you and locked in a dark hole with no fight to try and escape. I went through an extreme depression and was mentally struggling for months. Nala was my everything through this time. She knew what days my worst were and would cuddle her body up next to mine and tuck her nose under my neck. It always felt as if she were just giving me a huge hug and would always comfort me back to peace. When I would have my angry days, it was as if she just wanted to act extra goofy and energetic. She would get the zoomies and run across the house, throw her toys in the air, and catch them, and her favorite running on a hardwood floor and pulling the emergency brakes to slide all the way across the room. When I did not feel like caring or pushing myself to get up and move Nala is always here to lift my spirits up. Therefore, I believe it is so important to realize the benefits and positives of having dogs in our society. Even though Nala was not a licensed emotional support dog she was for me.

My Aunt who does own an emotional support dog is a severe diabetic. With age it has increasingly gotten worse due to memory of taking medications etc. Whenever her medication is not taken, she has a high chance of falling into a diabetic coma. Could you imagine being asleep next to your partner not knowing their sugar is crashing and had no idea they needed help? This is where her emotional support dog has stepped in. If they are asleep her dog can sense the change and danger in her body and will wake her husband or find him. I can truly say my aunt's dog has saved her life. If your dog is capable enough to notice you are in danger and to save your life, then I think it is safe to say there are plenty of benefits of having a dog around.

As demonstrated within the above paragraphs about the many benefits of owning a dog and the reasons to support establishments that take care of these four-legged companions. The plan of this paper is to gain awareness to emotional support dogs and their counter parts the

service dogs. With the popularity of emotional support dogs there has developed some confrontational strategists fighting against the need of these dogs within public and private establishments. The desire is to provide through research the history and services provided by dogs that there will be an overwhelming desire to welcome these companions in our lives.

Now, that I have told you the benefits of how dogs have inspired and made a difference in my life I want to show other ways of how beneficial they are in our society. Throughout the paper you will see the different jobs and situations dogs are in that benefit our society. These jobs are going to include fire rescue, bomb detection, therapy, psychiatric, emotional support, hearing assistant, seeing eye, exercise, physical assistant, herding, military, police, detection, and famous dogs.

## Literature Review

Scientists are continually researching the foundation of the domestication because of the desire to understand how such an animal that is believed to have derived from the wolf family has become such a loyal and faithful friend to humans all over the world (Udell & Wynne, 2008). To illustrate or define the proof that dogs have been domesticated for centuries is to find a demonstration of human love for his or her companion and that was demonstrated when archaeologist discovered the burial remains of a dog, which reveals that dogs have benefited humans for thousands of years, because the bones discovered in Germany resemble those of a sheep dog (Udell & Wynne, 2008). To unveil to importance of the domesticated dog to our society Udell & Wynne (2008) stated:

“Dogs play an astonishing range of roles in human society. Many individuals put their faith in rescue dogs when stranded in the wilderness or capsized in cold water. Others rely on guide dogs to get them safely to multiple destinations daily. Drug dogs, de-mining dogs, police dogs, termite-and even cancer-detecting dogs are trained and utilized as substance detectors even in the face of competition from the latest technology. There are herding dogs, hunting dogs, sled dogs, and various other specializations that are crucial to the livelihoods of many individuals, not to mention the role dogs play in the entertainment and the pleasures of individual dog ownership” (Udell & Wynne p. 248, 2008).

The above statements will be dissected and discussed thoroughly throughout the paper and hope to reveal how beneficial dogs are to the society and how their abilities are coordinated, trained, and embellished through the companionship of their human counterpart. Thus, because our canine friends were selected by humans and not by natural selection. It is furthermore imperative

to understand that our canine companions demonstrate the psychology behavior of emotions, such as, love, fear, and the desire to be rewarded. Dogs behavior is not limited to emotions, it also includes intelligence with the ability to decipher and recognize the difference in even small objects such as handwriting. Early experimenters or trainers were able to train dogs to bring cards with different handwritten words upon them. It is also easily demonstrated how dogs use their intelligence. A dog generally will not take food off the counter if the owner tells the animal “no” however, if the owner closes his eyes or walks out of sight of the dog. The chances are highly increased that the dog will take the food. Dogs are not limited to understanding vocal communication they are also capable of understanding hand gestures or sign language, which has become imperative in training for the emotional dog that supports people who are def (Udell & Wynne, 2008).

As forementioned scientist have discovered that canines have been around for fourteen to sixteen thousand years and they were found to be in more than one country. Archaeologist have placed canines in Asia as well as in Germany. Europe is one of the founding countries of domesticated canines per say. We can recognize different breeds emerging from the Irish Wolfhound. Hounds have different types of breeding, which includes dogs that are slow and steady and with hounds that are known for their speed. Generally, speaking most hounds are typically known for their strong sense of smell, which is why the Romans used them shows within their amphitheaters as well as hunting companions (Dalziel, 1889). The Celtic Hound as was so named by the by historians, which have documentation to their existence in 500 B. C. Researching through history has also revealed that Greyhounds as we know them, where amongst the breeds of hounds. They were used by the Kings hunter’s and it was well noted that the dogs where trained to listen and to obey commands given by their instructor. It was also

ascertained that King John admired this breed of hounds and used them as hunting and working dogs as well (Dalziel, 1889). Throughout time dogs have been used for many different purposes from sports, hunting, companions, and fire fighters. What would be a fire house without a Dalmatian sitting on top of a fire truck. Back in the 1800's the Dalmatians and other breeds of dogs would run beside the wagons warning folks to get out of the way like today's sirens (Rainsford, 2018). Dogs have played an intricate role in changing society in our past and now they are also changing the paths we will take in our future.

Dogs keen sense of smell is one of the primary senses that give them the ability to aid in changing today's society. It would be hard to find another animal that is devoted like a dog and has the contributing factors that gives them the sensory of smell that is over forty times stronger than their human partner (Levine, 2013). Have you ever noticed a dog twitching each nostril separately? This attribute gives the dog the ability to locate the direction the smell is coming from, which is very helpful to find food, water, and many other items. Levin (2013) explained,

“When air enters a dog's nose, it splits into two separate paths—one for breathing and one for smelling. And when a dog exhales, the air going out exits through a series of slits on the sides of a dog's nose. This means that exhaled air does not perturb the dog's ability to analyze incoming odors; in fact, the outgoing air is even thought to help new odors enter. Even better, it allows dogs to smell continuously over many breathing cycles” (p.73)

The breed of the dog also plays a function in determining, which mission or service the animal would be best or fit to do. For instance, with the strong sense of smell and the ability to segregate each distinctive odor a dog can be trained to become a bomb detector. The breed of dog one might look for is one that is patient and not destructive. If you are looking for a canine that can

use its sensory tools to track a missing criminal. The bloodhound would be among the best to choose from; however, if you are needing a dog to find a bomb. The German Shephard or Labradors are probably the best choice, so it is always best to ask the training facility what breed would be best for the task that you wish to accomplish (Levine, 2013).

### **Benefits of Dogs in our Healthcare System**

Focusing on the responsibilities that today's society have placed on our canine friends can be revealed in many different health professions. One of the growing occupations of a dog is psychiatric service, which are like a walking alert system. The canines provide a service for their partner in need. One needy partner for example was Riley Wall, which at the age of seven contemplated taking his life and constantly caused problems at school, which led to his mother not being able to keep her job. After therapy and treatment, the mother was talking to a friend who introduced her to Paws4people a therapy dog training facility. When Riley first met Canyon a golden retriever therapy dog. It was an immediate connection and after a short few month of working together Canyon knew how to respond to Riley's needs. If Riley got upset Canyon would nudge his hand and want him to pet his head. It was amazing how a nudge of the nose could change the demeanor of Riley who was suffering from anxiety disorder. Canyon has been a blessing for Riley and his mom, which has not had to go back to school to calm Riley down since Canyon has come into their lives (Westfall & Herbst, 2020). To teens psychiatric dogs can save their lives. Imagine not being able to go outside and play or run around the mall with your friends and shop to you drop. This was life for Elizabeth Horner before a Greyhound named Pippin came into her life and put back the joy of living in her daily routine. Because of Pippin, she could ride on the bus and go back to school. It was all because Pippin was in touch with Elizabeth's emotions. Pippin could sense when anxiety was kicking-in even before Elizabeth.

The canine psychiatric therapy dog would lean upon Elizabeth and apply a deep pressure, which would disrupt the attack from coming upon the teenager (Westfall & Herbst, 2020).

A voice in the dark, whispers in your head to kill yourself day after day is what was haunting a young lady Molly Wilson, which was suffering from schizophrenia. She was unable to elaborate on the circumstances she was going through with therapist or family members because the voices became more destructive and terrifying to her. The voices made her cut herself and provoked her to try to commit suicide. Day after day the parents lived in fear of not being alert enough to stop their child from listening to the voices. This all changed once the family invested their money into training their dog to be a pet therapy dog. Hank is the name of Molly's companion, who lets her know by nudging her if she is about to harm herself with razor blades as well as turning on the lights and verifying the room is all clear to ward off hallucinations. With Hank being an outgoing and friendly dog, which cannot meet a stranger, Molly knows that if she visions someone in her head that Hank does not greet. She knows it is not a real person; therefore, she can go about her own business. This is just another example how therapy dogs can save and give back lives to mental health patients (Westfall & Herbst, 2020).

These therapy dogs are professionally trained as well as their care takers (Masinter, 2017). There are three main techniques or fields that psychiatric dogs are trained in to aid in their therapeutic skill. One of the most obvious would be obedience, which is basically doing what is told by their owner. Service dogs need to know how to be courteous in public situations and finally how to communicate with their partners to make them aware of a potential mental occurrence. They should know the basic commands of leave it and to stay. These dogs are with their owners twenty-four hours a day seven days a week. The psychiatric service dog knows their patients (owners) better than they know their selves. The canines are aware of their partners

personality traits, emotions, and even their body chemistry, such as, smell. Canines can derive from a certain scent from their handler that there is a problem arising. This gives their partner time to contact their care facility or to help them to remember to take their medication. Mental illness episodes can be severe and dangerous, so advance warnings can save the care takers money or even their lives. How do the psychiatric service dogs warn their partners? There are several different ways the canine will communicate with their partners. Some of the dogs will spin in circles, nibble on their owners to gain the owners attention, whine, or to continue to bark profusely to alert the patient that they need to act (Esnayra, 2007).

Psychiatric dogs perform more than one task for their owners. Previously, the therapeutic role of psychiatric dogs was discussed. But that is just one of their jobs. Mental health patients have trained their dogs to remind them to take medication and even to turn on the house lights. This tactic has become beneficial for handlers suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and from patients who suffer from night tremors. The dogs turn on the lights and give their handlers a sense of comfort from their presence and the sense of security. These dogs use their sophisticated abilities to accomplish these prevalent task of their handlers as well as they use their own body. Some psychiatric dogs will lay on top of their owners who are having panic attacks to give them warmth and comfort. The owner can relax by stroking the canines' fur; therefore, give himself or herself time to calm and recover (Esnayra, 2007).

Psychiatric dogs are life savers for military personnel that come home with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The constant panic and anxiety attacks along with being depressed was causing his military home coming to be exhausting nightmare for his wife. Specialist Wil Nobles could find no way out, he was spiraling down. But then Wil was introduced to Harnett, a loveable lab, who was trained to calm down patients, such as Wil. When

Harnett feels that Wil is losing control, he will press his body against Wil's leg to calm him down and if Wil needs deeper affection, he can give a command "Cuddle" and the Labrador will lie upon Wil's back and apply pressure like a big hug. Dogs like Harnett are life savers for families. They give the patient their ability to live normal lives and to feel safe to go back to work. They also lower the cost of medicine and help them with their emotional needs as well as their physical. For instance, Wil would picture a person just walking down the sidewalk as a potential threat. But paying attention to Harnett's physical appearance and demeanor has taught him to read the person's body language and to not react in a harmful manner. Psychiatric dogs like Harnett have also caused patients to become sensitive to their emotions, which helps them to communicate with their family (Westfall & Herbst, 2020).

Mental health problems are affecting our kids as well, after all twenty percent or more of all-American children suffer from a mental illness. Whether from underlying health problems or spurred off from traumatic events, it is among the primary causes of childhood disability. Healthcare facilities have realized that children tend to relax and become open about their emotions, when there is a dog in the presence. A dog can give the child a sense of comfort and security and become a canine partner in alleviating social problems and the children who interact with the dogs tend have less stress (Crossman, et.al., 2020).

Even students in college suffer from anxiety or emotional stress, especially at exam time. Stress can affect our health and our academic grades. There is a sharp increase in stress related emotions when students enter college the first year. Over half of the students admit to being lonely and despondent. To alleviate or decrease this feeling of being overwhelmed and alone, universities have started using animal-assisted programs and students seem to be responding.

The canines give the students a way to interact with other students and the petting of the canines helps leave stress during times of preparing for test (Ward, et.al, 2018).

Emotional support dogs are widely used in the public health sector of service dogs (Schoenfeld-Tacher, et al., 2017). The latest public health pandemic has warranted emotional support. Even before the pandemic psychologist were concerned about the overwhelming quantities of people feeling secluded, which can put them at risk of not depression but coronary disease and shorter life spans. Emotional service dogs tend to ease these discomforts by lowering stress and providing companionship. With a loyal friend by your side, that can feel emotional changes of their companions and respond to their needs, one might find it easier to manage through uncertain events like the current pandemic of the Corona Virus (Man's Best Friend During Self-Quarantine, 2020).

When you are looking for an emotional support dog, it is beneficial to find one that protects and gives a person reassurance, while also being a loving and affectionate companion (Close companions, 2008). Although, there are several different types of breeds used for emotion support dogs, the German Shephard is amongst the favorite. German Shephard's are loyal and have a soothing temperament. They are quick learners and obedient to their owners. One of the biggest advantages of having a German Shephard as an emotional support dog would be their lovingness toward a family (Anderson, 2019). They are great with children and kids love to talk with them. I would have to agree, my dog is a great listener (Close companions, 2008). They are working dogs; therefore, they are not lazy and are generally healthy animals that love to interact and go for walks, which makes them great for patients that need emotional comfort (Anderson, 2019).

With over half of Americans owning dogs or some other type of pets. It is reasonable to assume that there is a bond that forms between the two because of this attachment it is common for the owner to be concerned about their pet's health; therefore, owners of pets tend to exercise a little more than people who do not own pets (Rock & Lail, 2009). Children tend to be spending more time in front of the television than out walking or playing outside; however, it has been noted that families who own dogs recognize that their children are more energetic. This is not only attributed to children walking their dogs. It is acquired by playing and gaining muscles strength by gripping of the dogs' lead. With the rise in obesity among children this could be a long-term benefit to the health of our society that are contributed by dogs (Westgarth, et al., 2017). Depression can cause obesity; it can be a vicious cycle. A person can feel lonely or have low self-esteem because of being overweight and use eating to fill a void; however, by introducing a puppy or an adult dog into the equation can balance lifestyles. Ms. Lawson was one such lady, she adopted a puppy and rapidly became a care giver. She had to change her daily routines, instead of eating junk food she started eating healthy, mainly because the puppy did not care for health food and then she started exercising because the dog was energetic and love to walk. She also made a lifestyle change from drinking alcohol to drinking water like her companion. Not only did she become healthier and save on health cost. She also saved money on giving up obsessions, such as, junk food and alcohol (The Dog Diet, 2006).

It seems that people tend to get more out of exercise, when they have a friend to accompany them and exercise together. This is another reason why it is a benefit to have a loyal companion like a dog. A dog will not make excuses of reasons why they cannot exercise at a specific time and they will always be there instead of giving the dreaded call explaining why they cannot exercise today. So, if you want to lose weight and improve your cardiovascular take

your canine best friend, they will enjoy being with you. There are several ways to workout with your pet. If you play fetch, try to beat your dog to the ball or do stretches or exercises while they are retrieving the ball. Try to see how many pushups you can do before your canine gets back. I always loved swimming with my dog or even walking through the woods exploring (Levi, 2018).

Dog owners can agree that a dog just soothes the heart and makes you feel a special kind of love, but did you know that a dog can also help you live longer and improve your heart health? Numerous studies along with an agreement from Dr. Kazi a cardiologist and a faculty member of Harvard Medical School. Studies have concluded that people who own dogs have over a thirty percent decrease in chances for heart problems over people who do not own a dog. Dr. Kazi gives possible causes for the increase in heart longevity for dog owners. The first is an increase in physical activity and affection can reduce blood pressure and improve your heart rate. The second is a reduction in stress level. In a time as little as fifteen minutes, a dog can lower your blood pressure and stress hormones. The third advantage of having a dog to increase your heart function is how it improve your mental health. This is strongly related to the bond between the owner and their pet. The pet is a member of the family, which decreases the anxiety and depression levels. The final advantage noted by Dr. Kazi is the “introduction of health-promoting bacteria”. Dogs can be a host to germs and these germs may increase or intestinal bacterial, which may aide in becoming heart healthier (Puppy love may help your heart, 2020).

Dogs are like our family members and they play in important part in our lives. To illustrate how important, there was a family who owned a dog and while the husband slept in another room. The wife became ill and the couple’s little beagle ran to the husband and woke him up and ran back and forth from the husband to the wife in another room. After the husband

checked on his wife, he realized the dog was letting him know something was wrong. His wife had an aneurysm and was successfully treated at the hospital (Fischer, et al., 2012).

In another household, a little terrier recognized that owner was not acting right. The pet's owner just came from the hospital after feeling dizzy and having chest pains. He came home and laid down on his bed. While laying down he lost consciousness, if it were not for his pet the wife would have continued thinking that he was sleeping. The pet whined and continued jumping on her husband, which alerted her that something is wrong (Fischer, et al., 2012).

### **The Aide of a Dog at the Loss of Our Sense**

Continuing with the benefits that dogs have contributed to our society; especially, in the health field where some patients have loss part of their five senses (Seeing, Hearing, Feeling, Smelling and Tasting), it is hard not to recognize the freedoms that a service dog can provide for their owners. That freedom has been particularly appreciated by people who have lost their eyesight. "There over a million Americans legally blind" (Worth & Rein, 2008). Being blind just does not take away your eyesight, it takes away freedom and can leave you feeling emotionally distraught because of the loss of independence. People who have lost their eyesight tend to have difficult relying upon others for help and seem to detach from society and find it hard to hold down jobs. Blind patients that are in the nursing home; generally, cost society more than Eleven Billion Dollars a year not including ordinary care cost; however, guide dogs can offset these costs by giving a sense of independence. The guide dog can be their eyes, so they can get to work and perform job task. They also become a member of the family and help alleviate stress and depression. Because of the increase of independence, health care cost tends to go down. They do not acquire home health care teams to come by as often (Wirth & Rein, 2008). These service dogs guide their owners up and down their neighborhood and even can help with day-to-

day activities, such as, finding objects that are lost. These service dogs go as far as picking up dropped objects and give them back to their partners. Even while being trained these canines are providing a service, some of the training facilities are located within prisons and are trained by prisoners who teach them basic commands by doing this the inmates learn skills, such as patience, leadership, love, and accountability. These canines are then sent to professional trainers to enhance their training (Jerome & Blackman, 1996). Training consists not only of guidance but protection for their partner as well. The dog is well versed into obeying the commands of their owners but on occasions when the dog feels the command could cause harm the dog will disobey the order (Miklosi, et. al., 2018). The dogs and the trainers go through different types of trials and tribulations. There is a lot of work that goes into training dogs to become guide dogs. In Australia for instance the guide dog starts their training as a puppy and stay almost nonstop with their start-off trainer for twelve months. There are a little of thousand puppies trained a year in Australia and that probably is not enough with the growing vision impairment population. Day in and day out the puppy stays with the trainer with little or no interaction with other people because of the need to have the puppy to know that its attention is to be on the handler's needs and desires. With the constant training the handlers and the puppies go through life changes, which include frustration, anxiety, and a desire to give up as well as developing love, emotional bonds, and affection for the puppies. This can create an additional problem because after twelve months the dogs are sent to another facility for a more intense training. Breeders also play an important role in contributing the proper dog companion for the vision impaired. They make sure that the mates have the characteristics of genetically producing the best puppy for the guide dog responsibility. It is obvious that the puppies once trained will provide a service for their owners that cannot be quantifiable but what about the trainers that go through puppy stage of the dog's

life? Most of the trainers that commit to the twelve-month training program for guide dog puppies; unfortunately, do not remain in the program. Puppies are said to be like little kids. The puppies demand attention most of the day and they must be groomed and maintained. Although, the puppies do give the trainers a sense of self-worth and the knowledge that they are helping someone in society warms their heart, but the constant demand sometimes out weights the benefit, and this could be because of the knowledge that the puppies will be leaving the handler in twelve months and the lack of sleep obtained during the training period. Even though the puppy can put a lot demand and stress upon the handler most handlers would agree that the training program is a great opportunity to give back to society and that they will benefit from the experience and the memories (Chur-Hansen et al., 2015). To move to another service dog of similar attributes and is dedicated to fulfilling a lacking part of our human five senses is the hearing aid dog. These dogs are trained to be the ears of their owners. If a deaf person could not hear their crying baby or warning sirens for instance. Their canine companion would nudge and touch their owner to gain their attention and then direct them to the location of the alert. Because these canines act as the ears for their owner, they also are trained to be independent. The best breed type for hearing assistant dogs are generally Golden Retrievers or poodles (Miklosi, et al., 2018).

There are dogs used also for the sense of touch. They are called physical assistance dogs, which are used to help patients or owners who cannot open doors or even turn on household lights. These dogs are generally laid backed and can perform multiple tasks for their owners just by receiving a particular signal from the controller as well as being an emotional support partner. The sense of smell is a well-known trait of dogs and it is used for societies advantage is several types of ways; however, we are only going to touch on an example being used in the health field.

From diabetics to people with epilepsy these dogs can use their sense of smell to recognize conditions, such as, a change in odor that signals a behavioral change that could be the onset of a seizure or even a diabetic coma (Miklosi, et al., 2018). There is not yet enough information available to understand how a dog can use their sense of smell to diagnose certain types of cancer, diabetes, and the onset of seizures (Fischer, et al., 2012). Currently, research did not reveal dogs' sense of taste being used in the health field. I am certain that it will be used in the future for instance what if a dog could use its sense of taste to identify diseases such as cystic fibrosis. The five senses of humans can be taken for granted in different ways but how extraordinary it is to realize a canine companion can be there for you if one of those sense's go astray.

### **The Working Dog**

When you grow up around horses and cattle, you come to realize fast sometimes they do not want to be caught or herded. That is the reason a working dog is a man's best friend. My family-owned Border Collies, Shelties, and Blue Healers. They all were great herders, especially the Border Collie. He would even nip at my ankles to make sure I was kept safe; however, at the time I did not understand. A working farm dog can herd the cattle or sheep as well as making sure they are protected. Even though at first glance, one might think that the dog acts purely on instinct. That is not completely true. The dog and their owner are partners, and they learn and train together. Some working dogs are guardian dogs. Their responsibility is to make sure the livestock or poultry remain safe and protected. Trainers have found that bringing the dogs up as puppies around already trained dogs is the best way to receive the proper results. Another farm working canine is the Terrier, whether it is a Rat Terrier or Jack Russel these dogs do the dirty work. They get rid of burrowing animals, such as opossums, rats, and foxes. What do all these

working farm dogs have in common? They all obey and listen to the commands of their partner (Hansen, 2013). Livestock Guardian Dogs live inside the house with the family or they can live outside with the livestock, when they are pups; however, it is best to have them living near the livestock that they are going to protect. While training these dogs need to stay with the handler as much as possible. A good working dog needs to be strong and have a high tolerance for pain because working around animals can sometimes get you kicked (Dohner, 2018). These types of dogs help our society by protecting the livestock that will be supporting our needs.

In considering livestock working dogs, there is none quiet like the Newfoundland dog. This massive dog, which is stands over two feet tall and weighs around hundred and forty pounds and consist of a furry two-coated makeup that keeps them warm and dry. It also gives them the ability to stay in cold water for a long period of time. These gigantic dogs worked on ships in their early history of breeding because of their heavy coat and web feet. These dogs were designed to save lives and cold water. They love to save and protect lives of their human companions. They are strong enough to swim with a rope in their mouth or around their neck and pull in a stranded boat and their crew. These beautiful animals are four-legged lifeguards that enjoy conforming to their purpose in life, which is to save lives stranded in the water (Preserving Ancient Skills, 1977).

Currently, dogs are being used in our households and business as well as in our society to aide our police force and our military to help fight against the drug activity. Drugs have become so detrimental and costly to our society. The threat level on civilization because of the drugs has been shifted from a fight to an outright “war” to stop. A recent article revealed that “seventy-eight percent of teens say that illegal drugs are used and sold on school grounds and that substance abuse cost corporate America over \$100 billion each year” (Koerner, 1998 p.1). With

this damaging overload of abuse, society had to release the dogs out to abate the trade and use of illegal drugs. Privately owned companies are training canines to detect the smell of illegal drugs. Parents, schools, and businesses are paying fees for the use of detector dogs. The canines not only detect the drugs, but they can also be used to deter kids from even purchasing or trying illegal drugs from fear that the dog will sniff them out (Koerner, 1998).

With the overwhelming increase in the need for detection dogs. It has become more prevalent to determine what type of behavioral factors are common among the dogs that are the best in detecting bombs, specialized weapons, and disease detecting. One of the main traits is the unity between the owner and the canine. The typical detection dogs are excited, energetic, and ready for work (Lazarowski, et.al, 2019).

The police force and security officials use dog detectors all over our country now. It not only saves the taxpayers money; it also saves a lot of innocent people some embarrassment. Imagine security going through everyone's luggage by hand and the long wait it would take for this timely process. Canines can just take a sniff of your luggage and you can be on your way. Dogs are used in airports, train stations, bus stations, and many other public used facilities to help deter and sniff out drugs to help our police force (Walker, 2001). Detection Dogs become part of the police team. They are treated with respect just like any other officer. These dogs put their own life on the line day after day and this does not go without recognition. To reward the canine's some police departments have even promoted the dogs in rank. In California, a German Shepherd that made multiple drug arrest was promoted from a patrol officer to detective. This will give the canine more time to train other detection dogs (Dockterman, 2015). There are times when you have dogs that work for the police department and then there are times, when the police department work for dogs. Because dogs promote companionship and relieve stress a K-9

unit felt it necessary to come to the rescue of their canine's brothers and sisters. Officers from a police department took dogs from a shelter on a ride-along. They introduced them to neighborhoods, businesses, and schools. This partnership between law enforcement and the humane society paid off. The officers loved the affection from the canines and the humane society was able to find every ride-along pet a new home (Adams, Hahn, & Keating, 2019).

Being a police dog has its responsibilities, it is their job to protect society; therefore, sometimes they are called upon to enter dangerous situations. Rocco a K-9 police dog was needed to flush out a criminal that was posing a danger to the public and because the suspect was not responding to warning's submitted by Rocco's fellow officer's Rocco was sent into apprehend the criminal; unfortunately, in the line of duty the offender killed Rocco. Rocco received an officer's funeral and was honored throughout the town (Schiavone, 2019). Rocco paid the ultimate price to benefit his society.

To continue with the bravery and dedication of K-9 units, let us look at an historical event that shook our nation. September 11, 2001 is a year that will be remembered for decades to come. It is the year that our country came under attack and planes were used as weapons to destroy two high rise twin towers in New York area and all the people within them. The towers once stood over 1,300 feet high and now are diminished to fifteen stories of rubble. People came from all around to help with search and rescue. But people were not the only rescuers called into action. The K-9 units were called in to help find survivors as well as corpse. The dogs would work in shifts and they strived to accomplish their task of fulfilling their jobs. While working in twelve hour shifts the canines would singe their paws from the extreme heat and get covered with debris so much that the odor of their own bodies would interfere with their rescue efforts, so people would have to treat the dogs and give them praises and send them back into the battle

grounds per say to find more victims. The dogs took great admiration in performing their duties and strived to perfection. These dogs along with their care takers did not shy down from tracing through the unstable and high temperature rubble. They were courageous and eager to do their jobs that they were trained to accomplish. Sometimes the dogs would even show a side of humanity and get depressed when they were not accomplishing a rescue, so veterinarians along with other volunteers designed a mock rescue to build the confidence within the canines. This seems to revive their enthusiasm and give them inspiration to attack the battlefield for their search and rescue mission (Precin & Gottlieb, 2003).

Natural disasters seem to bring the best out of everyone. People will come from all over the country to come to the aide of their fellow mankind. They will even deploy with their canine partners to sift through the chaos and search for survivors. Just like Captain Valentine and his Golden Retriever who traveled for days to help search for survivors after the rampage from Hurricane Katrina. The dogs, which were not use to the heat and the humidity of the deep south were risking their lives climbing and searching through mounds of debris (McGuigan & Friedman, 2006). However, these dogs did not slow down, they maintained eagerness to continue to search for survivors. They even escalated comradery between other rescuers by relieving their stress by playing fetch. After searching for days and miles and miles of rubbish, rescuers rejoice when they come across a survivor by the aide of one of the canine rescue team members; especially, when this elderly gentleman would not have survived another day. The dogs also bring families at ease, when they are witnessed by them go through the debris and not finding anything. This gives them the security that no one is there to be found. Family members also found it refreshing when the dog found one of their missing family members. It let them have the closing they needed. This process used teamwork from the owners and their dogs. The rescue

dogs would locate the scent of a person that has died, and a cadaver dog would come in confirm there is a body. After the rescue efforts are finished the dogs and their handlers continuing working together and practicing, sometimes they compete with other rescue teams. This is another example how dogs can bring people together and promote a healthy society (McGuigan & Friedman, 2006).

Dogs play many different job functions in our society to protect the human lives. For instance, in our military, working dogs are responsible for detecting mines, illegal drugs, and explosives as well as being there for their partners to offer comradery and emotional support. General David Petraeus suggest the important role dogs serve in the military stating as cited in (Giles, 2016)

“The capability that military working dogs bring to the fight cannot be replicated by man or machine. By all measures of performance, their yield outperforms any asset we have in our inventory. Our Army would be remiss if we failed to invest more in this incredibly valuable resource.” (p. 157)

In consideration to not only military dogs but also police dogs and K-9 units. These animals' main purpose is to protect and save human lives. Every time a military dog discovers an improvised explosive device it is considered a life saved (Giles, 2016). Primarily the sense of smell has been the focus on military dogs. These dogs are trained to detect certain odors, which they learn at training facilities like MSA academy but before they get to MSA the canines must go to kindergarten. Kindergarten for dogs is a program that is taught by inmates within a prison, because inmates can devote and spend time with the puppy. It takes constant companionship. The puppies are being trained to save lives, while they are giving life back to their trainers.

Prisoners have recognized, while working within the program, what counts and that is the love, affection, and responsibility can do for a person contributing back to society (Levine, 2013). They have over a hundred working teams at a time training hand and paw together. Once they arrive at MSA, these canines are trained to pick out numerous different types of odors and depict which odor is an ingredient for a bomb. Once they find the correct odor they will sit and wait for the handler. They are trained to do this so that they will not trigger a bomb (Levine, 2013). The handler works and trains with the canine as well. They are part of a team. The handler is in charge and must be able to communicate properly with their four-legged companion. They do this by signals and by rewarding their partners with treats (Levine, 2013). Bomb dogs once were limited to find but now they can be found all over. They can be found in airports, banks, concerts, military, police, and many different public and private facilities.

Canines have been used in our military to transport the injured as well as to carry weapons and ammunition to much needed military personnel (Phillips, 2018). Another job function among military dogs throughout history is its usefulness as a front-line messenger (Phillips, 2018).

Police and Military dogs are now more important than ever. Their job has shifted from delivering weapons and messages to fighting terrorism. These highly trained detector dogs can smell products of a bomb from yards away, which gives responders more time to react (Southall, 2018). One could only imagine how many lives are being saved by the heroism of these canines to give an example of a heroic event explained by Levin, (2013):

“A German shepherd named Brandy, in March 1972 was called upon to help. An anonymous caller threatened to blow up several TWA jets unless he received \$2 million. All jets on the runway were grounded, and planes in the air turned back, among them

TWA flight 7, New York to Los Angeles. It was pure coincidence that Brandy was at John F. Kennedy International Airport. She was part of an Army funded research project and was there to give a demonstration. Instead, she went live. Le onto Flight 7. Brandy headed straight to a briefcase labeled “crew” and filled with C4 explosive. President Richard Nixon gave the Federal Aviation Administration its own canine bomb-sniffing unit later that year” (Levine, 2013, p. 3).

Detectors dogs are trained to search out and divert bombers from highly public areas, such as, the Boston Marathon (Southall, 2018). Officers tend to use German Shepherds more than other breeds because of their strong sense of smell, which detects the odor within the bombs. German Shepherds also tend to have good instincts and act upon situations without waiting for the handler to give the order and they will pursue and capture the suspect. Labradors are also used frequently; especially, in highly public areas because of their gentle demeanor (Southall, 2018). These canines enjoy their job, and they look forward to being rewarded after they have completed their mission. There is nothing like receiving a meaty treat after sniffing ammonium nitrate and capturing criminals (Southall, 2018).

Military and K-9 dogs go on many different types of missions that benefit society and it usually involves situations that are considered nightmares to most civilians; however, there are some dogs help nightmares become blessings. Maddee is one of these dogs. She is a Search-and-Rescue dog. One of her last missions involved finding two little girls who lost their way in the forest. Imagine being lost in a pitch-black canopy of woods with rain drizzling all over and sounds of wild animals stirring around. This is what these lost girls were experiencing. However, this is what Maddee strives to do just like all Search-and-Rescue dogs. These canines are called to duty in mudslides, earthquakes, and other natural disasters. Their job is to find

missing persons. It has been said that a Search-and-Rescue dog can do the job of twenty human searchers because of their tremendous ability to sniff out different types of aromas. A human aroma trail is left by dead skin slivers called rafts. A Search-and-Rescue dog will take the sense to memory and follow the raft wherever it leads through creeks, swamps, up-and-down hills, and treacherous ravines. They will do the unthinkable to fulfill their mission. Maddee went off the beaten path and shortly thereafter found the two young girls and reunited them with their parents (Tarshis & Friedman, 2020).

The next set of nightmares that are conquered best using our canine friends are nightmares that actual fire fighters face throughout their careers. One unfortunate fire commander had to put out an apartment fire and then found out there was a child that was missing, and they did not know which apartment the child was inside. This job is best done by a human remains detection dog because no one is comfortable searching through burnt rubble expecting to find a body at any time. These detection dogs can sniff through these discussing obstacles quickly using their sense of smell to find their target, while keeping the scene intact for investigators (McGruder, 2018).

Imagine losing your child or even a parent that is suffering from Alzheimer's. A person who has Alzheimer's can cover a lot of ground fast and avoid search and rescue teams; especially, in dense wooded areas that are not easily accessible. This is another example where a Search-and-Rescue dog can take over and cover a wide range of space in a short time. The next life experience by a group of fire fighters that use canines is when arson is expected. The fire chief will call his four-legged friend that is trained in accelerant-detection, so not only do they help their firefighter partners. They also serve as investigators (McGruder, 2018).

Dogs can protect society and lives in many ways; however, it is hard to imagine a little dog standing up to a gigantic bear. But Carrie Hunt and her dogs do just that. They ward off unwanted bears from campers' and ranches. Even though sight seers love to come across seeing a grizzly bear. They do not anticipate seeing one on their porch. It is safe to say when most of us see a bear we want to run, but there are dogs who have a job to hold their ground against them. A business has trained their dogs to scare away bears by getting close to their face and continuously barking until they ran away. Once, the job was done the dogs were trained to automatically stop and become silent. The training to get the dogs to proper loyalty and expectations was intense. In this training they would use the remains of a bear and add sound effects to make it as if it was a much larger bear. After, the dogs would approach these beasts several times they would then be prepared for the realistic version (Florio, n.d.).

As much as people love to watch entertainment, dogs love to entertain. Dogs can be like Olympic athletes. They can do a hundred-yard dash in a matter of seconds and catch a frisbee at the end, while displaying acrobatic moves. There are even frisbee competitions where the dogs do a gymnast routine to music. Other competitions are done by the dog doing tricks in the air, while catching a frisbee. These are competitions that are fun and energetic like freestyle, it is like being at a circus watching animals act and do tricks (Mendez, 2006). Entertainment also can come from watching dog racing, which has been around since the early 1900's. It was so popular that famous people from all around came to watch the Greyhounds chase a mechanical rabbit around a track as well as contributing to the economy by means of gambling. Greyhound racing attracted around "19 million customers annually" (Huggins, 2006 p.31).

Sometimes working dogs are part of a team and to show off their attribute's competitions are designed. Mitch Seavey owned one of these working teams and his team competed in dog

sled competitions. There might not be a better example to demonstrate the need and comradery between dogs and their owners than a life threatening, competitive, and a total team working event like a sled race that is 77 miles in length through snow, ice, gravel, and untrodden terrain not mentioning the dangerous slightly frozen oceans and iced over water areas. The sled team operates like a business, which consist of an owner or controller (sled driver) and a business manager (lead dog) who direct and work with a team of workers to obtain a common goal. The lead dog in Mr. Seavey's team is Tanner; however, at this moment in time the team was being led by another lead dog since Tanner was not feeling up to par. This race was full of obstacles and created a full reliability and trust on the sled team. The team was forced to use all their strength and wits because of a strong wind that was gusting over sixty mile per hour causing the sled to slide and shift off course not including causing havoc on visibility, so Seavey had to rely on the courage and expertise of his team of dogs, which consisted of eleven dogs including the lead dog. Due to weather and the insecurity of a lead dog, the wind whipped the dogs into a pile up crash tangling the lines and bruising bodies and egos. Mr. Seavey was realizing the benefit of having a team of hard-working dogs that were dedicated to him and each other because the terrain and weather was unforgivable and continued to pound on them, which created uncertainty with the lead dog along with some of his team members. This is when Tanner stepped up and pushed aside his ailments and took control of the team, which demonstrates the dedication and love a dog can have for their owner. Tanner took over the lead position and through his leadership he guided the team through the hardest and dangerous obstacles. Mr. Seavey was reliant on Tanner because he was beaten down and has been scared out of his mind, but Tanner continued to lead the team to safety in back on the right path. Tanner also revealed his intelligence by humbling himself and stepping aside once the team has surpassed the viscous

terrain and Mr. Seavey placed another dog in the lead spot. If it was not for the leadership of Tanner, members of the team including Mr. Seavey might have lost their lives. This is just another amazing story to show the benefits of owning a dog and how a dog can teach and contribute to our livelihood (Famous Feet et al., 2019).

Sled dogs are also beneficial to society. Sled dogs are used in racing, rescue missions, and pulling large sleds that are loaded with supplies. The sled dog is part of the heritage in Greenland and great pride goes into raising the next generation of sled dogs. The musher or handler needs to be able to trust the sled dog as well as rely on his strength. The musher and the sled dog are a team, and the dogs respect their leader (Egevang, 2020). With snow and mountain ranges also comes danger. That is why dogs are also trained to be rescue dogs in the snow. These rescue dogs learn how to ride on ski lifts and practice running down steep hills covered with snow. This is done to prepare for avalanches. A trained snow dog will sit down next to the mound of snow and bark to let his handler know that he has found someone (Avalanche Dog Heroes, 2018).

Working dogs are all special but some spark love and emotions and many ways. As a traveler was going through the hills of Jordan. They came across shepherds tending their flock along with border collie. The dog steadfastly watched over the herd to verify temptation did not stray them away. Because of the awareness of the shepherd dog the sheep knew they were being watched over and they remained calm. As the spectator witnessed this event, they came to realize a lesson that they could learn from this border collie. It represented how the Lord watches over us as sheep for he is the good shepherd, who watches over us to steer us away from temptation. It never ceases to amaze each of us how a dog can teach us so many things in our lives. A similar dog that was waiting for them to come back home from their vacation in Jordan was given the

challenge of herding sheep just like its predecessor in Jordan. “Biddy” was the dog’s name awaiting them at home. Biddy was also a border collie and so the owner decided that she would like to find out if Biddy had the instinct to take care of sheep. She found a local sheep farmer who agreed to let her bring Biddy and to watch and see if she could herd the sheep. It did not take Biddy long to herd the sheep into a corner and now the shepherd could let in or out the sheep of his chosen (Stanton, 2020).

### **The Courageous Hunting Dog**

From as far back as we can go, people love to hunt. In the past it was mainly to survive. You had to have the capability to hunt to provide for your family. That is why it is important to have a good hunting dog and if you ask any hunter their dog is the best. Whether you are hunting rabbits, squirrels, ducks, or fowl in general there is a dog ready for the task. The sport of duck and goose hunting can be exciting. The hunter sitting in a duck blind quiet as can be and then it starts the wagging of a tail from a Labrador Retriever, which alerts the hunter by wagging its tail faster and faster the closer they get. With the aid of the canine companion the hunter was able to bag nearly a couple of hundred geese (Linden, 2015).

The avid quail hunting dog. There is nothing like seeing a good bird dog work. It is like sneaking up on someone playing hide-and-seek, except the bird dog will alert you when it comes upon something hiding. It has been said that a good bird dog will stop at nothing to retrieve their prey. Kate a twelve-year-old bird dog lives for the hunt. She enjoys her job and helps to support her handler by providing food and from breeding. Similar, to the rescue dogs the bird dog Kate will refuse to quit because of pain. It does not matter about the terrain she treads if she is able to provide for her family (Linden, 2015).

Some hunting dogs become like members of the family. They have their own personality. A good hunting dog will listen to your commands and will be social to other humans around them, that is when they are not hunting. A dog can give its owner a sense of well-being. They provide a heart-warming service. Hunters get close to their dogs. They even let their canine friends sleep in the bed at night with them (Linden, 2015).

### **The Presidents Dog**

What best way to show the importance and benefits upon society that dogs have impacted is to look back on the dogs within the White House. To illustrate the importance a dog can play it was recommended in the 2008 elections for Barack Obama to get a pet. Franklin Delano Roosevelt had a Scottish Terrier. The importance of this dog was so much that they had to send a Navy vessel to pick up the missing dog. He even included the dog in one of his speeches, which was credited for helping him win the election. Vice-President Nixon gave a Cocker Spaniel to his daughters and would not leave without the dog, which implied the democrats were trying to get rid of him. During President Bill Clinton's scandal, he was suddenly blessed with a Labrador named "Buddy". Amazing, how a dog can show family solidarity. President Johnson got scolded by the public for lifting his pet beagles by their ears. Other presidents that had dogs, while in office were Abraham Lincoln, Calvin Coolidge, which had eleven dogs, Theodor Roosevelt had five dogs, and President Kennedy had several dogs as well (Maceiko, 2008). President Kennedy was also blessed by having a dog from famous descent; although, its origin derived from Russia and was given to the President's family as a gift or a reminder that Russia was the leader of space travel. The dog's name was Pushinka and was from the offspring of Strelka one of the first space dogs in Russia (Zernes, 2020). It is amazing how a little dog can have an impact on a Country such as the United States (Maceiko, 2008). Barack Obama received so much admiration

for getting his first dog named Bo to get elected that he decided to continue with the luck charm and buy another dog for his second term in office (For 2<sup>nd</sup> Term, et al., 2013).

Dogs at the white house are also there for protection, on October 23, 2014 an intruder tried to gain access to the White House, only to be attacked by a K-9 police officers. After a scuffle, the intruder was arrested, and the dogs resumed their daily rounds (Dockterman, 2014). Another Presidential scare happened March 2015. A detector dog picked up a bomb device scent from a car in the vicinity of the President's residence and around the same time a vendor cart caught on fire. With the scrutiny of a detection dog the incidents were warded off (Shear & Smith, 2015).

### **The Hero Dog**

If you ever owned a dog, you know how much you love your dog. Your dog becomes a part of your family and there is not much you would not do for your family pet. Recently, a family pet demonstrated his love and loyalty to his family. Two young brothers were in a dense forest area with their family pet. They went into the jungle to go to the restroom, when suddenly a tiger came upon one of the brothers and started to attack him. The tiger's claws struck the young kid on his hands and his head and would have continued terrorizing the young lad if it were not for the family dog, which leaped into protection mode and started barking and lunging toward the tiger warning him away from his owner. The tiger gave into the alarming barks and left the scene. The boy was taken to the local hospital and only had minor injuries, so he was released (Dog Scares Tiger et al., 2019). Who knew that buying or adopting this pet could once prove to be a life altering purchase? Bhaggu, another brave and loyal family dog also showed his bravery by warding off a bear from continuing to attack his owner. The dog put the owner's life before his own and diverted the attack away from his owner and saved his life (Pet Dog et al., 2019).

A stray dog come to the aide of his caretaker. For almost two decades Dr. Ramesh cared for a little stray dog, that he named Brownie. Brownie was a part of the family and had some health problems of its own; however, Brownie's caretaker made sure that the dog received the proper health care. Dr. Ramesh did not know that one day Brownie would one day return the favor for saving his life by saving Dr. Ramesh. It was in January that Brownie brought a concern to a neighbor that his master was in trouble and lured them to a window that gave a view of his caretaker lying unconscious on the floor. The dog could hear Dr. Ramesh being in distress is what alerted Brownie. The neighbor noticing the persistence of Brownie trying to get him to investigate the window and knowing that it was out of character for the dog to be reacting as he was followed the dog and found Dr. Ramesh laying on the floor. Dr. Ramesh family was out of town at the time, so if it were not for the love of a stray dog Dr. Ramesh would have died on that floor (Stray Dog et al., 2019).

One devoted dog gives it all to save the lives of over thirty people in a burning building. Everyone was sound asleep, when the fire broke out except for a family pet dog, which continued barking to alarm and wake up everyone residing in the building. This action gave everyone the opportunity to get away from the inferno. Unfortunately, the dog was tied up to a cylinder that eventually exploded due to the extreme heat and killed the hero dog (UP et al., 2019). To continue with headline stories of our four-legged hero's. A miraculous rescue of a little girl that was only three years old who went missing, while playing with her family pet in temperatures ranging below zero degrees Fahrenheit. The rescuer's said that the little girl would not have survived if it were not for her pet dog, which would not leave her side and kept her warm throughout the night. Another dog hero saved its owners life by leaping at an armed robber, which pulled a gun on its owner. The canine was shot and luckily survived the dramatic event along with his owner. Another

young adult was recently saved by her dog by performing the Heimlich by pouncing on the choking adults back until the bone was dislodged (Brave Dog et al., 2013).

One owner in the UK cannot imagine being without his dog as his companion. The benefits of having his dog could possibly save his own life because evidentially the dog knows how to call UK's emergency number "999". The dog must have been playing with the corded phone and got the cord wrapped around his neck and would have choked to death but somehow the dog dialed "999" and the emergency responders came to his rescue after hearing the heavy breathing (Dog saves et al., 2012). What an amazing benefit of owning a dog that knows how to call for help. How about the benefit of owning a dog that saves your life every night by watching you sleep and awaking you when you quit breathing due to sleep apnea? A dog named, "Boris" does just this for his owner every night; however, this is not all that Boris does for his owner. Boris's owner is deaf and elderly, so sometimes she might forget stuff recently, she left some bread in the oven and went to take her bath and the dog came into the room and gave her the "Danger" signal and she got out of the shower and went down a smokey hallway and found the toast burning. Not only is the dog her fire alarm. He is also alerting her of someone at the door and the ringing of her telephone. Not only is this dog a service animal, but he is also a loving companion (My dog et al., 2010).

### **Love of a Dog**

Have you ever wondered if your dog loves you or is it just because you feed and take care of them? Well Clive Wynne mentioned; "Whatever measures used – Hormones, brain waves, physiology, behavior, whatever evidence you require to convince you that something loves you-your dog will fulfill those criteria" (O'Callaghan, p41). Communications plays an important role in relationships and dogs love to communicate with human companions. To demonstrate put a piece of food under a cup or two and put the cups on a table and point to the cup and the dog will

go to the cup. It was noted that chimps do not even respond to this type of gestures. Another simple test of social interaction that one can do very easily is to walk a circle around your dog several times about a yard in length and generally, your dog will stay within that circle for a while after you walk away; however, if someone that they do not know does this test, they will not respond in the same way (O'Callaghan, 2020). Dogs interaction also seems to bond more to one person, although in a family environment the dog also might tend to be bonded more to one person, while also contributing his obedience throughout the family clan (Mariti et al., 2011). The love felt for a four-legged companion is as strong of a bond as with a family member. As a little beagle guides its partner toward the proper hunting grounds where the deer and rabbits reside. A hunter could not ask for a better guide; especially, when you are a paid guide for advocate hunters. Bob Howe loves his canine hunting companions so much that when his pets die, he will have them cremated and spread their ashes over their favorite hunting grounds. Where he can still get a vibe off their spirit surrounding the area (Good Dogs et al., 2020). Another sportsman enthused about the loyalty of his hunting partner, who has been hunting for him for many years and is now getting at an age that makes him almost incapable of hunting. The owner realizing that this is probably his last hunt with his faithful companion due to failing hips aides her by carrying her to the deeper water so she would not have to walk through the mud and put stress on the hip and as his lab retrieves the last drake from the water and brings it back to her friend Dustin Whitehead rejoices as well as probably somber over the final retrieve (Good Dogs et al., 2020).

To further prove that having a dog is like having an additional family member is to watch the interactions between the humans and their canine companions. Imaging visiting a friend who just became a father or a mother and listen to them on how they talk with their newborn child. It

is a language all its own and it is called “motherese”. Now picture a lady being introduced to a new puppy and watch how she communicates with the pet. It is in the same language style, which represents that we consider the pets as part of our families. Most of the time family members will identify their attachment bonds by describing the bond between them as either love, enjoyment, or protector. No matter what descriptive words are used, it still identifies the attachment bond between the family and their dog. The bonds between family members and their pets do vary among the parents and their children. Most of the time the youngest child develops the biggest bond with the family pet. This is generally because the youngest child likes to act as the teacher and gives the child a sense of authority. The youngest child also tends to give the dog human characteristics and treats them like a human playmate, which is probably why if you ask a child with a dog who is the most important person in their life. The dog will be among the top ten listed. The dogs also tend to develop bonds with its home environment as well and consider their selves as the guardian of the property. The great thing about a dog is that they do not judge what you wear or what you look like they love you for being a part of their family and they tend to create a stronger bond with those who take care of them, such as, feeding and watering them. Adults also develop strong bonds with their pets; however, they bond more with those they show affection to them. Kids on the other hand are not so arduous (Jalongo, 2015).

The scientific approach on identifying the bonds between humans and dogs can also be revealed through testing the release of hormones. Researchers have identified the “feel good” hormone is produced in abundance, when dogs are introduced to others, so this gives a great reason why they are used in the healthcare fields. On the reciprocal part the dogs also tend to lower their stress hormones when they get to visit others and supply comfort. Dogs love to comfort others. This has been verified by having strangers place their selves in a box and cry as

being hurt and the dog will go to the box and open it up and check on the stranger hiding inside the box. Dogs also empathize with people who are experiencing sadness or distress. Dogs have been known to leave their owners in console someone who is crying by placing their head in the lap of the stranger. However, the dog's loyalty abides with the owner because of the strong bond between them. This has been reflective by the dog leaving the stranger as soon as his owner walks away. One of the most important acknowledgements about attachments with the family dog is the recognition that most kids who are compassionate for their pets are generally compassionate with people later in life (Jalongo, 2015).

The family dog is considered a member of the family by over 60% of pet owners and this is conveyed through actions performed through everyday family life members with or without pets. From the time the puppy or dog arrives to the household to the demise of the beloved pet. The family dog is an important part of the everyday adventures in a household. Once a puppy enters a house, the turn of events begins. The puppy goes through potty training just like a child, then moves toward the "no-no's", which is another way of saying stop or do not do that and then the rebellion teenager side where they tear up stuff around the house to get attention. Throughout all these changes in life the bond grows stronger and stronger between the pet and their owner. The pet generally has its own room or place to sleep and about fifty percent of pet owners admit that the pet sleeps in the bedroom with the parents or with one of the children. Most of that group even acknowledge that the family pet sleeps in the bed with them. To further demonstrate the family bond. A lot of family dogs go on vacations with their owners and on road trips to the grocery store or even to the bank where they are sure to retrieve a treat from the teller (Power, 2008).

The human and dog bond are strong and unique because in the development of the bond, there becomes a pack like role between the two. The human takes the role as the leader of the pack and enforces the rules and guides his companions through the proper roles and routines within the household or pack. In the eyes of the children of the family the family pet is more of a playmate or in another words a brother or sister like figure. Who is there to play and to provide emotional support and give the child a sense of responsibility because the child is the main caretaker who walks and feeds the family pets? Just like people enjoy showing off their kids, they also love to show off their family dog (Power, 2008). They dress them up and clothes, make sure they are groomed, and ready for public exhibition. They also pride themselves of maintaining a household that is clean and odor free so no one would believe a pet lives inside the house and, to them the pet is a family member instead of a pet. To return the love some dogs show their affection by helping with chores around the house like helping clean dishes and pushing the dishwasher drawer back inside the unit, which shows they are part of the family clan (Power, 2008).

### **Professional and Famous Dogs**

Today most of the people love to be entertained. We all have our favorite actors and actresses but how about our favorite movie dogs. This is another function or benefit in our everyday lifestyles that our beloved canines are a part. To even go a step further how about a combination, which is to view the beloved family dog along with the voice of one of your favorite actors. George Lopez a well-known actor plays the voice of a dog named “Papi” who starred in the hit movie Beverly Hills Chihuahua. What is spectacular about this dog is that he was a dog that was set to be condemn. But he was blessed because Mike Alexander a dog trainer saw his picture on a rescue shelter’s web page, and he knew immediately he found the dog for

the movie. The dog was a proud dog and walked with pride. He also had a mischievous side that led him to be a rebel. He was in the rescue center tearing up newspapers and pouncing around when the trainer adopted him from the rescue shelter. He was destined to be a star from that moment. He went from shelter life to living in a home and sleeping in a bed with his co-star. This little dog life was balancing on a thread and then leaped into the heart of millions through the cameras of Hollywood (Clark, 2008).

Imagine benefiting by owning a Chihuahua and not only just benefiting but being the owner of a famous pet. Meet Gidget famous for being known as the Taco Bell dog and performed in many commercials and even bit the nose of famous actors, such as Antonio Banderas. Gidget showed off for the viewers by being energetic and feisty. This little dog changed the life of many viewers along with her own. Gidget's job performance earned a spot walking down the red carpet, starring in movies, and getting loved on by famous actors and actresses (Smith, 2011). The opportunity of owning a professional dog may not be everyone's destiny but training and loving a dog that performs and shows off their tricks and emotions every day is priceless.

Famous dogs have been around for a long time. Everybody has heard about the famous Collie who won the hearts of a nation and that dog is Lassie, which had an abundance of famous movies with the stamp of his "paw" signature. One of Lassie's star roles was introduced in the year 1943, when he sold away from his love of his life a little boy. Lassie went through trials and tribulations to find a way back to the heart of his young owner. A movie that has open many hearts and emotions of young and old ("Woofily et al., 2017). The next star on the big movie list is "Hooch" from the movie Turner and Hooch. Hooch is a large beastly dog from the breed of Mastiff. Can you imagine getting stardom and fame for ripping a house apart including the

furniture and slobbering over every item just to leave your trademark? This is what Hooch accomplished, while gaining the hearts of the viewers and his accompanying star Tom Hanks (Woofily et al., 2017). The next beloved movie star is Uggie, who starred in movies, such as, Mr. Fix It and Wassup Rockers. Uggie was not always famous. His career started off inside a dog pound where he was passed over several times until Omar von Muller an animal trainer swooped him up and found his hidden capabilities within his energetic style. Uggie was not only energetic. He was also intelligent, which aided him to be easily trained. This loveable canine showed off his talents not only in America, but he also ventured into silent French films where he used his canine bag of tricks to win over the hearts in the international world of fame and was paid around \$25,000 to \$30,000 for his debut, which is not bad for a dog from the pound; however, along with achieving the prosperity benefit for owning a pet like Uggie comes the heart loss of losing your best friend when they die. This multi-movie star lived to be a ripe old age of thirteen years old, while achieving many awards, having his paws engraved within the Chinese Theatre along with Marilyn Monroe, and playing alongside famous actresses like Reese Witherspoon. Uggie was described as the “perfect terrier” and further noted that the Jack Russel Terrier was given a tribute upon his death because of his overwhelming pleasure he contributed to his fans by his owner (Uggie, 2015, p.1). To add to Uggie’s fame an autobiography was written about his life because of his extraordinary life (Uggie et. al., 2015). The dying of our loveable pets can be detrimental, but we really do not think about how the animals feel when they lose their beloved owner. Disney one of the world’s renowned film makers captured this moment perfectly in a movie called Greyfriar Bobby. The story about “The famous Skye Terrier from Edinburgh is said to have guarded the grave of his beloved master from 1858 to his own death in 1872” (Flicks and Hounds, 2009 p.1). How about the renowned Rin Tin Tin, which is probably one of the most

recognizable names in movie dog history? Like other famous dogs Rin Tin Tin started his career from a dog shelter and became the life breath of Mr. Duncan, which is one of the greatest benefits of owning a dog. The dog becomes a part of you and your family and can also replace a void that was missing. This is like what a German Shephard named Rin Tin Tin did for Mr. Duncan. The once homeless dog became the most famous dogs known by the year 1927 and was known throughout the world. His career transition from silent movies to talking movies better than a lot of actors and was only out rated in the filming industry by Walt Disney. His fan club wrote letters to him illustrating that he was a benefit to society because he had become a part of the fan club family (Jackson, 2011).

The benefits of owning a dog can come in many different forms, as discussed earlier there are famous dogs that starred in films to gain their popularity; however, through the changing of times, especially with the new wave of social media. Dogs like Max have exploded social media with his popularity. Max who lives in Cumbria and has become renown through Facebook by exploiting their adventures that unfolded since Max's owner was injured in a car wreck and developed crippling depression. Max used his energy to persuade his owner to get back out into society and to restart his enjoyment of life. Kerry: Max's owner developed a Facebook page for Max and his canine companions to post their adventures. Their fame on famous Facebook was not used in vain. Mr. Irving used his dogs Facebook page to help raise funds for charity. They have raised way over Hundred Thousand dollars for their charities and less than two months. People love to see the canines enjoy life exploring and doing jetty jumps, while Mr. Irving adores them for saving his life by leading him out of his depression state. These dogs have benefited Mr. Irving's life in many ways with helping him through depression and giving him reasons to journey out and help others, which includes organizations that help other

animals that are sheltered and going through hard times themselves and vet clinics (Cubria's most famous dogs et al., 2020).

In the 1960's there were several dogs that benefited the future of the whole world and that was through space exploration. There were two dogs that sparked the space travel adventures and they were from the Soviet Union and their names were Belka And Strelka, which were two street dogs that changed the 1960's and future generations livelihood's; although, it was actually not their mission, but it was their destiny. Belka and Strelka were backup cosmonauts that were entering their preteen years of a canine's life and characteristic appealing to the camera as well as homely, which helped with the publicity of sending dogs into space. Although, there were several other animals aboard the space craft, it was the Belka and Strelka that received most of the recognition for being the first animals to go into orbit. There were all types of different items for sale representing the cosmonaut pets, books were written about their exploration, and even kid films were produced to promote future explorations and to gain media attention. These pets were not only benefiting space travel. They also benefited the commercial business industry by introducing new products for sale. They also contributed to new inventions, like specialized space suits and chairs for the pets. The canine's cosmonauts' physical stats and movements were recorded in detail by journal's and by television for the first time ever on a space craft. The young dogs handled the flight as pro's; although, one of the dogs vomited after the takeoff; however, this aided future flights by giving space official insight into a problem that would affect human astronauts. Zernes revealed that "the triumphant return of the shaggy crew yielded invaluable information about the effect of various aspects of space flight on the physiological, genetic, and cell biology systems of living beings" (Zernes, 2020 p.54). The young dog's stardom even effected the first man who flew into space because the rumor was that

when he returned from space, he questioned, “Am I the first man or the last dog?” (Zernes, 2020 p. 55).

Our canine companions amaze and benefit us in many ways and sometimes we like to show their abilities and beauty. Similar, to a beauty contest dogs have their own contest called the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show and it presents all types of breeds and demonstrates their types from working, sporting, and herding dogs just to name a few. To show the importance and the legacy of the show and how it is beneficial is to visualize the legacy of its conception which started in Madison Square Gardens in 1877. Imagine the pride of the canine in the owner when they receive the award of being the best in show or the agility championship winner. The dogs and owners must be in sync as one unit and loyal to one another and the love for each other can be demonstrated throughout the show. These are generally, the top dog performers and they have mastered the ultimate obedience reward. As previously mentioned the show brings dogs from all over the world. It can range from Golden Retrievers and Labradors, which are used in many different health, military, and sporting events to dogs that very few have heard of which part of the hound group is called Azawakh breed, that’s history derives from the nomads. The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show obedience award goes to the team that performs a timed routine that must demonstrate a variety of obedience instructions that the canine obeys precisely. So, what benefit is derived for the spectators and owners? The owners get the recognition and prosperity from their dogs’ performance and young handlers receive a prestige’s Junior Handler Award that has been around since the early 1900’s. The spectators learn training techniques and they get to enjoy visiting their favorite show canines at the meet and greet (Westminster dog show et al., 2020).

Community service programs and groups are even recognizing the benefits and popularity of our loyal canines and have ventured out to have virtual dog shows to help raise money for communities and provide service that promotes peace, goodwill, and community stewardship. The Rotarians realize that there are a lot of dog lovers who love to show off their canines' funny antics and they want to give back to the animal community by raising donations to contribute to the animal shelters. These shelters are feeling the effects from the Covid-19 pandemic because of the lack of walk-in adopters. The pandemic has limited the public's access to store sponsorships that promote adoptions. Currently, these shelters communicate about their canines through phone conversations, but a picture is worth a thousand words and who can pass up the lovable face of a puppy looking for a home; especially, when they use those puppy eyes. The Rotary Dog Show contains different categories' than the Westminster show, such as, the best dressed, best dancer, and the saddest eyes (Rotary Club et al., 2020). The Rotarians along with their loving dogs have managed to raise money and contribute to their community, while promoting happiness during a time of pandemic wretchedness.

### **Dogs in Prison**

A lot of previous discussions relayed information about the benefits of having dogs within our society but how about the benefits dogs can give inmates that are subdued from society. Most of all prisons across the United States and have entered programs that integrate animals with prisoners within the prison walls and is currently rippling across the world as well. The trend of using animals within the prison system is continually growing and has become overwhelming vital to the aide of prisoner integration back into society as well as decreasing suicide and anger issues inside the detention center. These are just some of the benefits of having dogs within the housing of the prison system as far as the executives are concerned it is a

win-win situation. It is cost effective and a positive emotional program that is accepted by outside sources and inmates. The prisoners develop a fondness for the dogs and enjoy the recognition from superiors for being worthy and capable of teaching and reconditioning the canines who are looking to enter awaiting family households. The dogs and the inmates develop a bond for one another. The goal of the inmate is to enhance the loving behavior of a dog toward humans and to provide training attributes that can be used to illustrate obedience toward the dog's future owners. The bond of affection that the dog emits is not just limited to one inmate but multiple inmates. Some of these rescued dogs are blessed with the abilities to provide aid and comfort for their owners and trainers and are put into prisoner programs that develop their skills to become emotional support dogs. Because dogs have the capability to obey gestures made by their human companions that use hand and body signals to communicate some of these dogs become police dogs, bomb detection dogs and even ranch hand dogs that get to work with cattle or other types of farm animals (Smith, 2019). To illustrate the success of the inmate and dog Smith (2019) stated:

Successful outcomes of the dog-training program included staff perceptions of an increase in positive behavior in the inmates, mainly expressed as a therapeutic benefit for the unit as a whole due to the presence of the dogs. Perceived benefits of the dog-training program by inmates included increased freedom of movement in the institution, giving back to the community, easy work compared to other jobs, desire to keep busy, and the dog as a form of therapy. The participants believe that the dogs help them to deal with anger, teach them patience, give them unconditional love, and simply making doing time a little easier" (pp. 309-310).

There are nonprofit organizations developing across the nation that help implement inmates and dog programs. Their goal is to teach compassion and ultimately change the life of the prisoner and canine. The dogs help spur the emotional gears into action within the inmate and enhances their desire to be empathetic and compassionate with others. It helps them to become less selfish and fosters the emotion to think about other people's feelings and needs. The dogs also receive a great deal of benefit from this program because they are generally, rescued from abusive and neglectful cultural event themselves. The prisoners can relate to the misfortunate lifestyle that the dogs grew up within; some of these animals where just left of the streets to fend for their lives. They were thrown to the curb like unwanted trash. Some of the dogs even are parolees from dog prisons where they were at risk of being euthanized at any time and yet these canines that were previously unwanted become potential animals that are trained to save or heal lives of society members. Because of the similarity of unfortunate life obstructions between the dog and the inmate. The inmate feels a harmony and can relate to the heart aching pain of wanting to be loved and to have a loving home to lay your head; therefore, a stronger bond develops, and the inmate strives harder to enhance the chances of the dog to receive a better lifestyle and job once trained and back within society (Smith, 2019). To recognize this in a professional psychological terminology of how the dogs effects the lively hood of the inmate. Smith makes reference to responses from the inmates themselves that recounts the missing of love during the inmate's childhood. Smith (2019) inmate stated:

“I can relate to Pippin; she was a wild dog out there on her own. Doing whatever it took to survive. It reminded me of my life once. Being homeless, family turning their back on me. Turning to a life of crime to survive. Isolating myself from everyone. Afraid of being rejected. When I look at her, I know that we share something in common because I can

relate to being abused, being beaten, being abandoned, being afraid, fearful, scared, angry, being rejected. Just wanting someone to care about me and to love me for me. I probably will probably never know why my dad hated me so bad that I had to be his punching bag” (p. 315).

This notably expresses how these dogs benefit the mental and emotional need within the inmates. It reveals the personal self-worth baggage department, which if left untreated could overwhelm the inmate and cause anger and suicidal problems. The dogs ultimately reduce this stress and unwanted emotions and replace them with a feeling of peacefulness and stabilization. They provide inmates that are socially withdrawn with a key to unlock their inward contained emotions and release them to become a friendlier human being. That is capable of spreading delight. A feeling of self-worth can increase joy and happiness. If a dog can promote happiness within a prison. It can provide joy within society. The canines help prepare these inmates for their return to society by enhancing these life changing events (Smith, 2019).

### **The Right Dog**

Our canine companions give us much joy and benefits all types of people in their everyday lives; however, there are many different types of breeds of dogs and these can even be sublimated into different categories, such as mixed or pure bred. Pure bred canines’ ancestry and blood line can be traced, and it has no differential in the breed within the bloodline. Mixed breed dogs can have blood lines from several breeds of dogs, and it is hard to trace their ancestry. What is the best breed and which type can benefit society the most? There have been studies differing between mixed breeds and pure breeds and the general perception is that there is very little difference between the two, when you compile the two breeds on a broad spectrum. The main idea is to select a canine that is compatible with the needs of the owner and that their

personalities mesh. Choosing a dog that is not compatible with the owner could lead to behavioral issues and cause emotional distress for the owner and the canine (Turcsan et al., 2017). Dogs like humans have different types of personalities and traits, so choosing the best match can come down to the matching of the personalities and the one that fits the social needs of the owner. Also, like humans' dogs need attention, love, and affection from their owners. This contributes to behavioral issues as well as health issues. The more interaction spent around people, while the dogs is young tends to help with the sociable tendencies of the canine and the more training the dog receives while a puppy contributes to the dog's obedience when it becomes mature in age. Simply put to gain the maximum benefits of a dog, find a dog that meets your criteria and give the dog your maximum benefits and return for theirs and the reward of having a new best friend, which is loyal, and loving will abound for years to come.

### **Findings**

The focus on this paper was to verify that dogs are beneficial to today's society and that they can perform a service. Throughout the paper illustrations and examples have been given about highly trained canine companions as well as ordinary household dogs that have come to the rescue of their human companions in more ways than one. Dogs are being used to do jobs that are considered life threatening to humans and yet these canines place their life on the line to protect their owners all the time. The paper identified that dogs could detect health diseases, such as, cancer and even rescue people that are buried alive in rubble or even snow. They sniff out and search for bombs and drugs that can be used to cause harm to society. They are crucial instruments to farmers who use them to protect and herd their livestock and who can deny that their lovable features provide entertainment and affection to all our lives that are blessed to befriend a canine.

## Conclusion

There have been books, songs, movies, poems, custody battles, and research papers written about the ever lovable “Dog”. The mentioning of dog movies sparks memories into all generations. How many actual people cried when “Old Yeller Died”? This phrase was not just limited to the movie it has also been written into songs. Why does Hollywood and song writers produce movies and songs about dogs? The answer is different among all of us and that is because dogs play a different role in everybody’s life; especially today, where needs and lifestyles are changing day to day. Throughout the paper one can recognize that there are many benefits that our canine companions do for our society day after day, whether it is just providing love and support, being a loyal friend, helping provide food for the family by being a supportive hunting dog, aiding us with our healthcare needs by performing task that we are no longer capable of performing, daring to do the unthinkable by putting themselves into harm’s way and searching for bombs or drugs to help our police and military, being a protector of our home environment and as well as providing entertainment.

It is amazing the impact a dog can make on our perception and our emotions. As we have identified Presidents obtaining canines just to identify with Americans. Everyone loves to see a President with a loyal family dog by his or her side and showing that they are just like everyone else. That they are loving and family oriented. Our love for our canine friends can be identified through movies as well. How our heart aches when a puppy gets injured on one of our favorite movies or how easily it is to get angry and upset if someone hurts one of these dogs on a show even though we realize it is just acting. Every one of us that have own a dog has stories to share, which is just another benefit of owning a dog for a pet. A story was recently told about a house catching on fire in a small town. The dad got everyone out of the house including the family dog;

unfortunately, the dog was not breathing but the dad did CPR on the puppy and revived her. Hearts melted when they heard such a dramatic event. Emotions were stirred not only for the family's house fire but also for the trauma the pet endured. Dogs really can have an impact on our emotions.

Another accomplished role that our canine companions play in our society was identified through our health care system, which also involved emotional care needs as well as physiological needs. Identifying that dogs can calm our emotions as well as provide us strength through encouragement and self-worth. They provide themselves as tools to help people who have been injured, suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, loss of vision or hearing, and for those who have other handicap needs. Psychiatric services can also be performed by canines. Imagine around the clock doctor being at your beckon call every day. That is one of the biggest newly found roles that dogs can provide for our love one. Stories have been shared where the pet has protected their children from harming themselves and other family members. Not to mention how they have blessed the Mom and Dad with a piece of mind knowing that they could live a semi-normal life with the aid of their emotional support dog.

Throughout history dogs have played a role in our lives. Whether helping their master hunt or guiding them through trails of the unknown. Who can forget about the astronaut dogs that paved the way for Americans and other countries to explore "Space" as the new frontier? Imagine what communication would be like if there were no satellites hovering over our planet. This is just a small portion of what was sparked through the exploration by Belka and Strelka, which were just two ordinary dogs that were introduced to space exploration and created an awareness and a need to explore the unknown universe. Their encouragement gave mankind the knowledge that if a canine can do it so can I emotions. Their offspring even had an impact on

our country because it pushed America to move forward with space exploration; especially, after our John F. Kennedy received a puppy from the lineage of Strelka, which reminded everyone that Russia was the first to orbit the earth.

Dogs have also saved numerous lives, as we remember about the canine that was scheduled to put on a demonstration at the John F. Kennedy airport and instead of putting on a demonstration; actually, saved lives by running over to a package and identifying that it was full of explosives. Wonder how many lives “Brandy” saved that day and continues to do so because of her actions the Federal Aviation Administration’s now has its own canine bomb-sniffing unit. It is because of the canine’s unique sniffer capabilities that give the animal its superpower. Some of the canines have found humans buried deep within Avalanches or rubble from buildings that have collapsed or piled up from hurricanes or other natural disasters. Their nose also aides in search and rescue teams that are looking for loss members that are stranded in dense forest or similar areas that are easily to lose one’s barrens within, such as, house fires.

As mention previously dogs capture our emotions and through this Hollywood has embellished the movie industry by revealing heartwarming stories of dogs and their owners. Who would not have a hard time holding back a tear learning about a little terrier that loved his master so much that he spent his life guarding his grave once his master died, which was for fourteen years? How many kids would love to have a pet like Lassie or Benji that can play with you and take their owners on adventures after adventures. These loveable pets and adventure seekers where usually found at humane shelters, which can be found within most cities in America, whether small or metropolitan. Whether they become famous or not is unknown but what is known is that these canines can provide many benefits within your life. Each one of us can contribute to our animal’s companions by adopting a pet or by donating their time or money

to the local animal shelter because one of the animal shelter dogs could be the next “Benji” of America.

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