Love a Golden Rescue
Golden News
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Fall 2026 **Volume 26 Issue 3**

A Golden Named Dusty

Dusty was born at a breeding facility. He lived in a large pen with his siblings until he was eight months old. He had little human contact. Food was thrown on the floor, no bowls necessary when the dog chow is just tossed on the dirty floor. When he was eight months old, he was given to a gentleman who had acreage. Still no real home. Here, Dusty lived outside again with little human contact. The breeding facility had taught Dusty something: humans are scary, so when he went to the home with lots of land, he was too afraid of humans to approach them. They did try to socialize him but to no avail. It takes lots of patience to work with a dog that's emotionally scarred, it takes lots of time, and it takes some knowledge/training to know what will work with particular dogs.

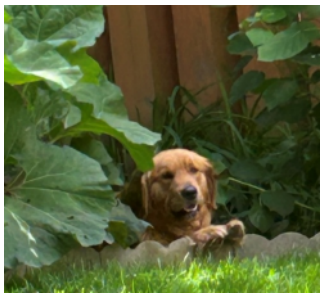
When he was thirteen months old in April 2025, that was it. They contacted us, and we agreed to take Dusty. First, they had to catch him, and since he trusted no one, he would run away.

Finally, they caught him, and we went to meet them in Rolla. Now the next challenge began. This dog was afraid of everything. He had to be vetted and neutered. How do you get a dog who's scared of people into the car... then out of the car and onto the vet's parking lot... then into the vets' office?

You crate him--that's how you do it.

He was crated, and got loaded into the car in his crate, then the crate was carried (with lots of help) into the vets' office. Dusty was definitely a flight risk, so this was the only option.

Luckily, he was negative for worms, heartworms, and ehrlichiosis. He did have an ear infection which was treated. On May 15th, he was neutered and again, the crate was carried in.



In his foster home, it was baby steps. Dusty would not come into the house from the yard. He loved being in the yard, just watching the world go by. He would go out with a leash, and that way we could stop him running. To this day, he will still not come in a lot of times, especially if anything has moved, or something is on the couch or floor, for example. If he is hesitating, it's better to not get an annoyed voice or he, for sure, will not come in. To this day he will not eat from a bowl, since in his first home, food was thrown on the floor. Dusty will go hungry rather than eat from a bowl, but he does drink water from a bowl.

Dusty is a beautiful red golden, but everyday life has to be lived with Dusty in mind. He loves treats but will not take from your hand: he would rather go without.

Dusty - continued next page

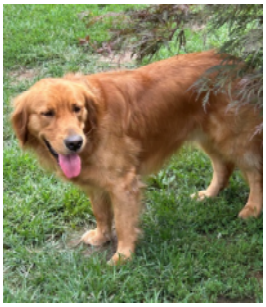
Dusty - continued

He does not like anything new or anything moved. Recently his foster home got a new fridge, the ice maker had a different sound, and you would think a monster was in the house (from Dusty's perspective). He would not come into the kitchen; he would peek around the corner looking at it. He is slowly getting used to it, just as he did the TV. (Imagine it. You're a dog and you've never lived in a house. There are strange smells, strange sounds and strange routines that make Dusty terrified.)

Dusty loves other dogs. He plays and does zoomies in the yard. Daisy, who you may know as "Daisy the Fence Jumper and Thunderstorm Anxiety Dog" (*that's* a mouthful!), is his BFF and is his therapy dog. She has been a great help with him. They play and run around the yard, and they play hard.

Recently, Dusty met a family who is experienced with shy dogs. Well, he did not really meet them. We all sat in the yard, and he kept his safe distance. It was all too much for him.

He is very happy with his present life: two good meals a day (on the floor), treats (not handed to him,) a great mentor and playmate (Daisy) who is anxious (like Dusty) but with different issues. What more could a guy ask for?



President's Message

Dear Golden Friends,

October already... time marches on. Thank you to everyone who came to our picnic, it was a very hot day, but we're glad about all who braved the heat. It was great seeing old friends (two-legged and four-legged) along with new friends, and so many dogs all on their best behavior. The theme was our 25th birthday party. It was our initial thought this was going to be our last picnic, but great news: we are going to change the format so it is less work for our aging volunteers, so stay tuned. The picnic is our favorite event of the year, so thanks to all who made it a great success.

We continue to take in as many dogs as we can and find great homes for them. As always, we are hampered by the number of foster homes. Kennelwood continues to be our saving grace. They board our dogs, when we have no foster homes, allowing us to rescue more dogs than we would be able to otherwise.

Since the last newsletter, Buster has had surgery and is cleared to slowly resume life as a normal dog. Thanks to his foster mom for driving to Columbia multiple times and giving him the best care. Sophia, the ten-year-old with Cushing's, has also found a wonderful forever home. We're thrilled about Sophia, now with her loving family, and we're excited about Buster's progress. Soon, he too will have a forever home. We can't wait (and neither can he).

Our calendars are great and ready to find their new homes; we still have lots to sell. Information on how to order a calendar (or two? Or three?) is in this newsletter. They make wonderful gifts for your home or your office. They would also make incredible Christmas gifts. How many gifts can you purchase for a friend or family member that cheers them up every month (the gorgeous goldens are irresistible) *and* does something good for rescued dogs? Thank you to all who submitted photos. It's a fabulous calendar.

The rest of the year is always busy. We will again be selling treats and baskets at Pattonville Craft Fair on December 5th, so drop by to visit and check out the other great booths. This is a huge craft fair--the high school cafeteria, the hall-ways, the gymnasium, the lobby--they're full of a great assortment of crafts and specialty food items. We have lots of regular customers who drop by to shop for their pets every year. Stop at the LAGR booth, pick up something for your pooch, and do some other holiday shopping at the same time.

We will also be wrapping gifts at four Half Price Book stores. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please email adoption@loveagolden.com because it's easy. You don't have to be an expert at gift wrapping--mostly the volunteers manning the table chat with the customers who stop by to admire the golden that's on duty. If you can't volunteer, at least come by one of the stores to see us.

Thank you for supporting Love a Golden Rescue as an adopter, friend, volunteer, donor or foster home. We could not do this without your support.

Golden thoughts,

Jan

Dear Gretchen

Dear Gretchen,

I was recently at the vet and was told I had to gain some weight. (I had lost a few pounds over the past year.) Now my mom is giving me a little extra food at breakfast and dinner. However, while I was there, I got to meet another dog in the lobby at the vet's office, and *that dog* said the doctor said she needs to *lose* five pounds. Do you have any tips, so if I see her again, I can give her some advice? I bet she loves treats. Are there any low-calorie and healthy treats that I could tell her about?

Rarin' for a Recipe,

Radar

Dear Radar,

Here is a recipe for sweet potato dog chews. I really like them. They're all-natural, healthy *and* low in calories. Bon appétit!

Ingredients: 1 or 2 sweet potatoes (depending on the quantity desired.)

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 250F (130C). Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
- Wash and Peel Potatoes if desired.
- Cut the sweet potato into ¼ inch lengthwise slices or coins. (Tip. If you cut the potatoes too thin, they will get too crispy.)
- Arrange the pieces in a single layer on the baking sheet, then bake for 2 ½ to 3 hours. Flip once, halfway through, until they are shrunken, dried out and some pieces are a bit crispy while others are a bit chewy. Let cool, then store in an airtight container in the fridge– they'll be good for three weeks.

The Galloping Gourmet,

Gretchen

Love a Golden Rescue – The First 25 Years

One of our volunteers, Donna N., made us a timeline for our 25th Anniversary. She reviewed each and every one of our newsletters for the last 25 years, and consolidated the information.

We have put this timeline on our web page so you can view at your leisure.

Two ways to find it:

Follow this link https://loveagolden.com/25th-anniversary/
or
From the main menu of our website www.loveagolden.com click on **About Us** and then click on **Our First 25 Years**.

Happy Endings

Ruger is doing very well. He is full of energy and loves to play! He has adjusted here great over the last year, and we are inseparable. Ruger is a great companion to me, even though he's a bed hog lol.

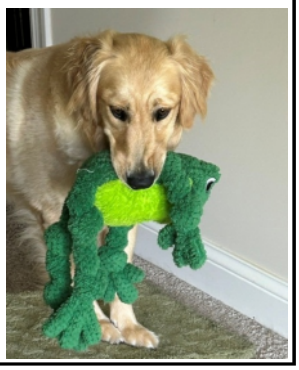
Tasha is doing fantastic with her two brothers and two little sisters, all of whom weigh less than 20 pounds.

Her BFF is the one-eyed Chihuahua from Miami named Macho. They have the entire house and the entire yard to lay in, but yet they are always seen laying together! He is her dental hygienist, her emotional support animal and her personal bodyguard. Nobody gets to Tasha without going through Macho! She also loves to go every weekend as we go to our cabin in the woods, and she enjoys when we put the window down!

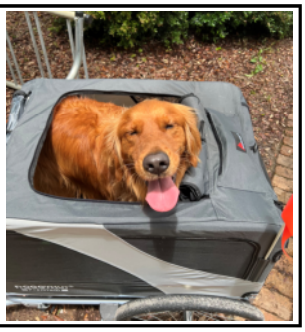
Hattie is doing well. We continue to work on losing some weight with diet and exercise/walking. She was 63 lbs and is 60 lbs. now. Slow progress but going in the right direction. She is now doing the treadmill along with the water therapy. We go one time per week. She seems to like going there.

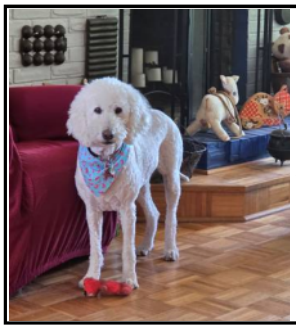
She's a good girl and is still quiet & calm. She still loves her crate and goes in there when I am gone. She has mastered the deck steps and going up the basement steps. Going down the basement steps is a work in progress.

We love Bailey! She's an absolute joy. It's been many years since we've had a dog this young, she loves to run in the backyard with her toys. In the house, she always has a toy in her mouth as well bringing it to present it to us with her little noise that she makes.

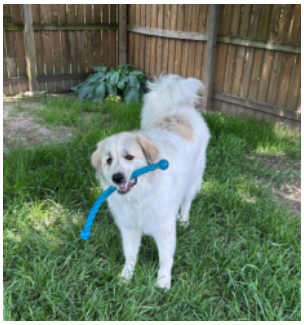


Simba living his best life on vacation.





Things are going great with Gracie. Gracie sneaks up on the bed each night after we are asleep which is ok. Just shows she loves us and wants to be close all the time.



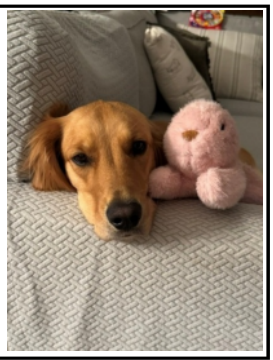
Cooper is doing great and has been a perfect addition to our family!

Lola turned two last Monday and celebrated with her friends at Kennelwood.

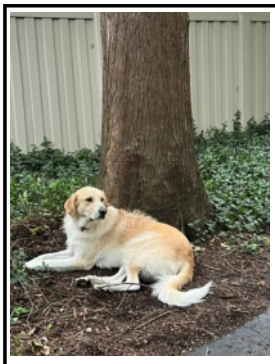
Happy Endings -continued next page

Happy Endings continued

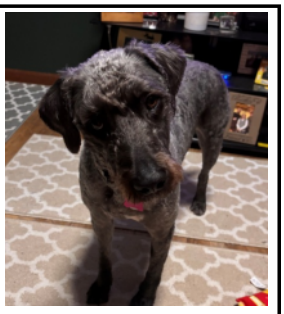
Things are going great here with Sadie! We can't believe it has already been a year with our sweet girl. She continues to bring so much joy and happiness to our lives. She loves her early morning walks. She especially loves her weekend walks where she knows that after them, we get to stay home with her all day. She loves her little bunny brother and is very gentle and patient with him.



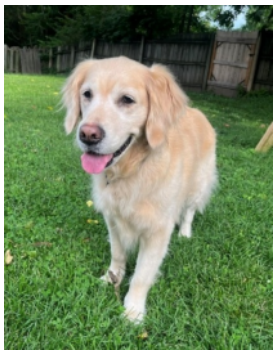
Kacey is doing wonderful! We completed training classes with her, and she has gotten much better about not jumping. She's so great with the kids and with Estes, and we all love her!



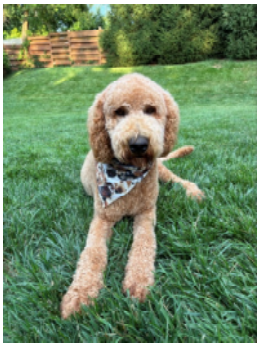
Life with Elly is pretty much perfect. We split our time between our house in University City and our house on a creek in rural Indiana. At both places she is getting walked about 4 miles a day and hanging out in our fenced in yards where she loves watching the squirrels and bunnies that love tormenting her with their very existence. She dreams of catching one of them some day but we can see that will never happen. On our last trip to Indiana, she encountered a couple of large turtles that she found quite interesting. She loves car rides... either the long ones to Indiana or the short ones in STL to parks and restaurants where she can join us for al fresco dining.



Things have been great with Lady, We truly couldn't be any happier with her. She continues to enjoy her window and loves going on jeep rides.



Leela is doing fantastic! Her favorite activities continue to be summer morning runs, playing ball (she's becoming quite the catcher!), and enjoying bedtime cuddles with the kids. Recently, the kids attended a week of camp at Kennelwood, where they learned all about caring for dogs. One of the highlights was making treats for Leela, which she has been savoring every day! We are so grateful to have her as part of our family.



Bruno is doing well! He is a sweetheart and is so good with other dogs, kids, and everyone he meets. He has decided the life of a pampered inside dog fits him well. He learns fast and has done well in training classes. He did find his voice, so we are working on "bark control."

Champ is doing great! He is a happy and loving boy and is such a joy. He loves his daily walks and visits to the barn to see the horses. He loves to play catch and is learning to be a well-behaved dog. He also loves to go on adventures and is so good in the car.

The Annual Picnic--The Last Hurrah?

We love getting to see our former foster dogs, now that they're in forever homes. We love getting to chat with old rescue friends and getting to know new ones. We love getting to celebrate the families who have stepped up to adopt our dogs.

What we *don't* love is all the heavy lifting. Loading up a truck, a minivan plus several other vehicles the night before. Unloading the tables and tents and all the other "stuff" that next morning. Loading all the stuff at the end of the day, and then unloading it once again. Most of the people doing this are in their 60s and 70s--and one of the tables is an antique, it's solid wood and it weighs 182 pounds. (Okay, that might be a *slight* exaggeration, but every year it feels like it's that heavy.)

The board members were tired. We couldn't see any way to continue hosting the picnic, and since it was LAGR's 25th birthday, we figured it was a good time to say "no more." (There *was* a young couple who helped with the loading this year, and we were very appreciative.)

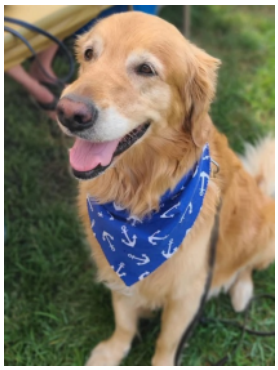
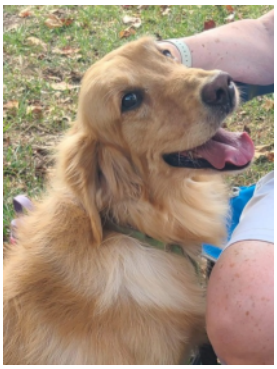
The day after the picnic, two board members were headed to Illinois to pick up dog food for the foster homes, and they were talking about the "last picnic" and how fun it was... but they were also glad it was the last one. Then one of them had an idea…

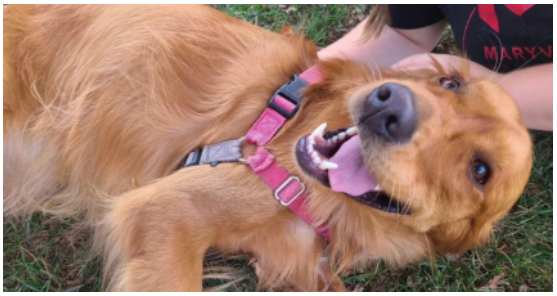
What if we had a "Golden Get-together" in early October? Maybe the weather would be cooler. It would be at the same park--Vago--but no tents, no silent auction, no BBQed meal.

Pizza would be ordered for the group, people would bring their own drinks, everybody (who wants to) could take a walk through the park (Vago has a beautiful trail), and we could chat and catch up on how the dogs are doing in their forever homes.

Sounds good? We think so, and we hope when October 2027 rolls around, you'll join us. Maybe the leaves on the trees will be golden, just like our dogs…

A few photos from our 2026 LAGR Picnic



In Loving Memory

Our beautiful Bree left us on September 29, 2026, after just six short years, leaving behind a lifetime of love and memories. She came into our lives as a "foster baby," but it didn't take long for her to steal our hearts. We simply couldn't let her go, and she became a cherished member of our family.

Bree was smart, sassy, and had the most precious smile. She had her own special way of letting us know when it was time for a walk, making the sweetest little noises to get our attention. Afterward, she would lead us straight to her favorite treats, making sure we knew exactly what she wanted!

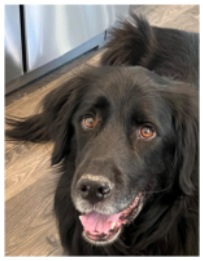
She was gentle and loving with our grandchildren, always eager to run outside and play with them. Bree proudly watched over our home, keeping an eye on the street and letting strangers know they needed to move along. Yet, on our walks, she wanted to be friends with everyone she met, and somehow, she always succeeded.

She never wanted us to leave, but her happiness when we returned was a reminder of just how deeply she loved us.

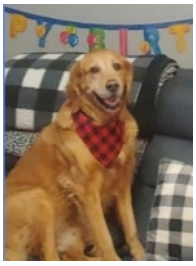
Bree was so much more than a pet. She was family, our companion, our protector, and a beautiful part of our everyday lives. Six years feels far too short for a love so big, and our hearts are broken knowing she is no longer by our side.

Run free, our sweet Bree. You were loved beyond measure, and you will be missed more than words can ever express. Thank you for choosing us as your family and filling our lives with so much joy. You will forever hold a special place in our hearts, and the memories we made with you will stay with us always.

It is with a heavy heart that I send you this note. We got Bruno from you back in November of 2018. He crossed the Rainbow Bridge two weeks ago very suddenly and unexpectedly. His stomach ended up flipping and with the progression of his skin cancer, it was not guaranteed he would make it through surgery. We opted to do what every pet owner dreads ever having to do and make the choice to let him go.

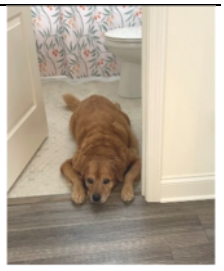


We were so lucky to have had him come into our lives and spend as much time as we did with him. Our home is feeling very empty without him, and he is surely missed, but we have found peace in knowing he is no longer in pain, reunited with his best bud and barking uncontrollably.



We said goodbye to our sweet Dublin as he crossed the Rainbow Bridge at 16 years old. For 12 years, Dublin filled our home with love, loyalty, fun, and so many memories. Saying goodbye to him was extremely hard. However, we know his buddy, Gunner, was waiting for him to share his toys and treats. Dublin, our hearts are broken, but we are so grateful for every moment we were blessed to have with you. Run free, sweet boy. No more struggles, just sunshine, soft grass, and all the treats you could ever want.

We are sorry to say our beautiful baby Clair crossed the bridge in May. She was 14 years old and the love of our lives. We miss her so much.



Our sweet Hoku, nearly 17 years old, passed Friday on 8/14/26. We adopted her as a puppy from Love a Golden Rescue. We loved her emphatically and are heartbroken. She was the best girl.

Love A Golden Rescue - Benefactors

Love a Golden Rescue would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our benefactors who, since the publication of our last newsletter, have given new "forever homes" to our goldens and who have generously helped our goldens with their financial support, gifts in kind and donated services.

Adoptions

Name held on request	Amos
Kathleen Wilson	Bear
Michael & Carla Sloss	Belle
Karen & Larry Lavin	Dixi
Ed & Debbie Schwarz	Goldie
Cathy Cleveland	Hattie
Stephanie & Chris Baines	Maisie
Cinde Mattler	Sophia

Matching Gifts

Boeing

Foster Buddies

Joe & Ruby Blair	Buster

Donations

Alan Reisinger
Alicia Ross
Annette Beschinski
Beth & William Farmer
Carolyn & Bill Grobl
Cindi Palmer
Connie Coleman
David & Joy Presson
Deb Kinscherf
Debbie & Bill Bandle
Debra Henke
Elizabeth Mazdra
Erin & Matt Preuss
Gabriella Stuart Meister
Grace & Greg Hammett
James & Patricia Hoisington
Jeffrey Taylor
Jon & Barb Meline
Karen Louis
Kent Holcomb
Pat Brennan
Patrica Rushing
Paula Hughes
Paulette Koons
Shery Klousia
Steve Maas
Terry Carmody

In Memory and Honor

Rachel Monday	In honor of Belle
Suzanne Hembrough	In honor of Elsa
Adam Godfrey	In honor of his dad Tim Godfrey
Tamara Scrivner	In honor of Honore Hughes
The Gebken Family	In honor of Olivers 2nd bday
Mary & Tim Wyss	In honor of Tater & her tots
Peggy Springer	In memory of Buddy
Al Berberich	In memory of Kathy Berberich
Jess Hundal	In memory of Zouk

Love a Golden Rescue 2027 Calendar

$20.00 per calendar (includes postage)

To order online please follow this link https://loveagolden.com/2027-Calendar/

If you prefer to order by mail, please copy or print out this order form, and mail with your payment to:

Love a Golden Rescue, PO Box 27621, St Louis, MO 63146

Love a Golden Rescue 2027 Calendar Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

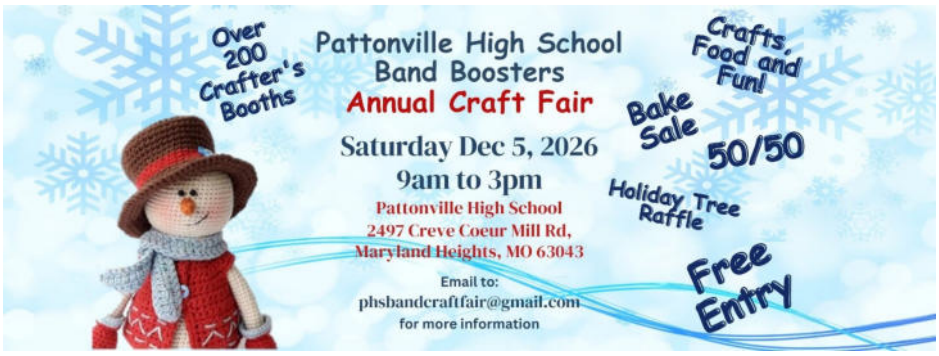
E-Mail address _____

Number of calendars_____ Amount enclosed_____ ($20 per calendar)

Mail this form with your payment to:
Love a Golden Rescue, PO Box 27621, St Louis, MO 63146

Upcoming Events

Come visit the LAGR Booth at this years Pattonville Craft Fair



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Adoption Days

Come see our available goldens.

Treats Unleashed; Meet & Greet
Saturday, November 14 - 11am - 2pm
Treats Unleashed in North Kirkwood
10700B Manchester Rd
Kirkwood, MO 63122

Please see our webpage for more information.
www.loveagolden.com/events/

See the LAGR calendar on the web site for details on all the events: www.loveagolden.com/events/

For information on any of these events, please email adoption@loveagolden.com.

Love A Golden Rescue
P.O. Box 27621
St. Louis MO 63146-0621

address correction requested

About our newsletter....

The Love a Golden Rescue newsletter is published three times each year, in the months of February, June, and October. The deadline for submitting stories, photos, announcements etc. is the 1st of the month in which the newsletter is published.

We reserve the right to edit any submissions for publication.

The newsletter is published in full color in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format on our web site and can be accessed at:

www.loveagolden.com/newsletter

To have the newsletter mailed to you, please drop a note to one of our addresses listed below.

Interested in volunteering with Love a Golden Rescue?
Then fill out a volunteer application form on-line at: www.loveagolden.com/volunteer-application/
or send an e-mail to Jan@loveagolden.com

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Love a Golden Rescue now has a facebook page. Log in to Facebook , find us and friend us at:
www.facebook.com/loveagoldenrescue - LAGR

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Phone: (314) 963-5232

Articles must be submitted by
February 1, 2027
to be considered for our next newsletter.