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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Resources available to grandparents raising grandkids

In Arizona, there are almost 60,000 grandparents who are responsible for the basic needs of one or more grandchildren under the age of 18, according to a 2013 estimate from the U.S. Census Bureau. First Things First reminds the public that there are two statewide resources that can provide advice and support to grandparents who are parenting a second time around.

Rescuers climb high to save stranded cat

Flagstaff's Melita Shoup and her fiancé Jim Crane's cat Cuddles had been missing for a week when they went out to dinner on Friday, Oct. 2. Shoup's phone rang at the end of the meal. In her own words, this is what followed:

A man called to say that he had located our cat about a quarter of a mile from his home in Kachina. Ron Bauman had been walking his dogs and had heard a strange sound. As he got closer it was obviously a cat in distress. He located the cat about 30 feet up a Ponderosa pine tree. He returned with his camera and took a high resolution picture with a zoom lens. He was able to capture the cat's tag in the picture. He returned home

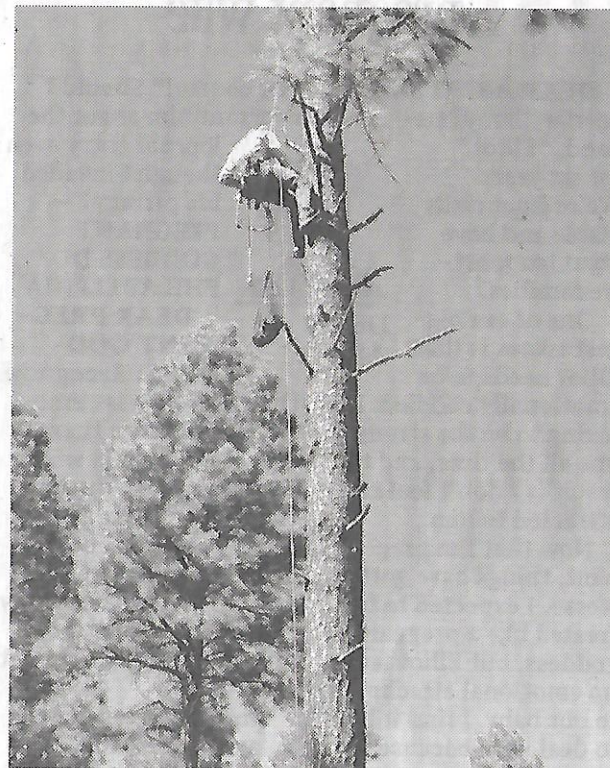


Ron Bauman took this photo that he used to read the stranded cat's tag and find her owner.

and loaded the picture to his computer and enlarged the image until he could read the tag. He immediately called my number. We paid the check and drove back to Kachina.

We reached Ron's

home, about a block from our own, just as the sun was setting. We all rushed over to the tree but no amount of coaxing could bring the cat down. We returned home and I called my former



Mick Henry of Mick's Tree Service carefully lowers a mesh bag containing Cuddles the cat to her owners. (Photo courtesy of Jim Crane.)

neighbor Mick Henry of Mick's Tree Service. He agreed to come the next morning (Saturday) and bring the cat down.

We are so grateful to the

two men who were instrumental in rescuing our cat. The cat is doing very well now and seems to be recovering without serious injury.