



## Do you love Chocolate?

Vanessa and Chocolate share the love  
A new life for Rufus • Giving back in memory of Luna  
#paws4love video contest • More adventures of Raja



## Greetings!

### MY GUESS IS THAT YOU LOVE CHOCOLATE AS MUCH AS WE DO —

whether it's the rescued dog Chocolate on the cover of this issue or the edible kind!

We're excited for our winter campaign, #paws4love, which celebrates the love we share with our pets. Joining us in this campaign is the renowned chocolate company, Russell Stover! They have created specialty boxes of chocolate for

Valentine's Day featuring photos of animals RedRover has helped. We could not be more heartened by this sweet way to include pets on Valentine's Day. You'll find more about the Russell Stover partnership and how you can join the #paws4love campaign in this issue.

Our latest issue of *Kind News* children's magazine also includes ideas for how to involve kids and pets in celebrating Valentine's Day this year with an easy dog treat recipe. More treat recipes can be found on our Pinterest page and a How-to video on our YouTube channel. And be sure to visit our redesigned website, where you can learn more about getting *Kind News* to classrooms, as well as catch the latest news, including recent RedRover Responders deployments and upcoming trainings.



[facebook.com/RedRoverOrg](https://facebook.com/RedRoverOrg)

[twitter.com/RedRoverOrg](https://twitter.com/RedRoverOrg)

[youtube.com/RedRoverOrg](https://youtube.com/RedRoverOrg)

[instagram.com/RedRoverOrg](https://instagram.com/RedRoverOrg)

[pinterest.com/RedRoverOrg](https://pinterest.com/RedRoverOrg)

Want to feel more positive about the world? Take a look at Chocolate's smile, and feel grateful for all the compassionate nonprofit volunteers and supporters like you who believe they can make a difference. Here at RedRover, you make lives better every day. Thank you.

**NICOLE FORSYTH**

President and CEO

## Ballot for election of board directors

**BRADLEY CARROLL** shares his home with his rescue dog, Duff, and two adopted cats, Monty and CT. Along with his wife, Anahe, Bradley is very passionate about humane treatment of animals and animal rescue. In addition to his work with RedRover, Bradley and Anahe foster kittens and dogs for the Front

Street Animal Shelter in Sacramento. Bradley is an attorney at Downey Brand LLP, the largest law firm in Sacramento.



### Make your vote count

#### FOR YOUR VOTE TO BE COUNTED,



please mark your vote on the enclosed postage-paid envelope and mail

it by March 16, 2018. For a director to be elected by written ballot, he or she must receive a majority of affirmative votes, with at least six percent of members voting. Votes withheld are not counted for or against a director. The board of directors will vote for directors if members do not return a quorum of ballots.



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# The adventures of Raja continue

**THE SECOND DIGITAL BOOK** and game in our E-Books for Empathy series, *The Restricted Adventures of Raja*, is now available to download for free in the Apple App store or Google Play!

*The Restricted Adventures of Raja* is part of the RedRover Readers Program and was developed to teach kids how to interpret the emotions of cats and dogs, as well as people—a necessary skill for empathy development.

In “Raja: Book 2,” the adventure continues for Raja, Belle, AJ and Meg, as they try to discover why the adults on planet Earth are suffering from so much anger and loneliness. The interactive, graphic novel story and game provide children with more opportunities to practice thinking from the perspective of the animal and

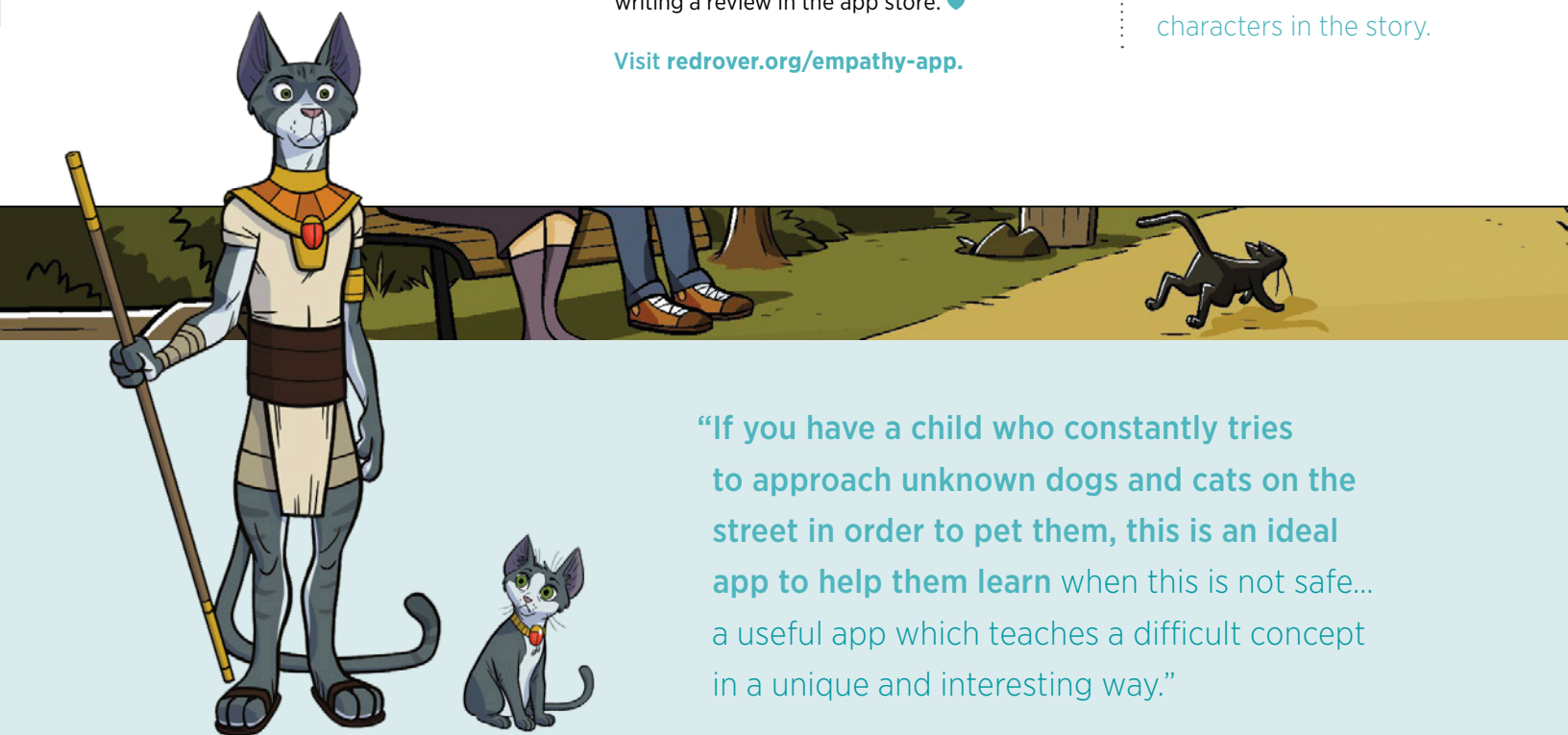


human characters in the story and includes English and Spanish language options.

Please help us achieve more downloads of this wonderful app that provides kids a way to better understand animals and practice the skills necessary for empathy development. You can help by downloading the app onto your smartphone or tablet device, sharing with a child in your life and writing a review in the app store. ♥

Visit [redrover.org/empathy-app](http://redrover.org/empathy-app).

The interactive, graphic novel story and game provide children with more opportunities to practice thinking from the perspective of the animal and human characters in the story.



“If you have a child who constantly tries to approach unknown dogs and cats on the street in order to pet them, this is an ideal app to help them learn when this is not safe... a useful app which teaches a difficult concept in a unique and interesting way.”

— [GeekDad.com](http://GeekDad.com)

# A champion for animals, kids – and Chocolate!

by Karly Noel, RedRover Director of Education and Outreach

**VANESSA KALINOWSKI** is a teacher who's passionate about helping animals and people in her community. Ever since she took the RedRover Readers training in August 2010, she's been helping RedRover spread empathy and messages of kindness toward animals and others. That's more than seven years of using the RedRover Readers



## RedRover Readers Workshop

March 7, 2018 | Orlando, FL

Other people had passed Chocolate up at the shelter... I knew she would be perfect, and she is!

program in her classroom — which adds up to more than 200 children!

On Read Across America day, Vanessa dressed as The Cat in The Hat for Dr. Seuss' birthday and used the RedRover Readers program to talk with her students about what a cat needs and how cats and people are similar and different. She also uses

the RedRover Readers program in the Sacramento SPCA's Camp Kindness.

Vanessa and her students helped RedRover create a video about the impact of the RedRover Readers program (now available on YouTube). We recently visited Vanessa and captured photos of her and her beloved rescue dog, Chocolate. ♥





## Q&A with Vanessa

**When you think about Chocolate (your dog), what comes to your mind?**

**VANESSA:** She is spoiled, a princess, happy, sweet and loving. And she loves food!

**How did you and Chocolate meet?**

**V:** I was volunteering at the Sacramento SPCA. Other people had passed Chocolate up at the shelter — her skin was saggy because she likely had had a litter of puppies. I knew she would be perfect, and she is. She is very smart, social and loves people... and food.

**What is the best thing about your dog Chocolate?**

**V:** Her personality and how she smiles.

**How has Chocolate helped you and others?**

**V [smiling proudly]:** I remember one time I brought Chocolate to my class, and one little boy ran to the back of the classroom. He and his mother had been chased by another dog and he was afraid. Little by little as the other students were petting Chocolate and giggling, the little boy started to approach and said, "I think I want to pet her." And later he said, "I am not afraid of dogs anymore."

**What do you think of *Kind News* magazine?**

**V:** I love it! My students and I get it, and I'll be renewing our subscription.

**What would you tell others about RedRover?**

**V:** I talk to lots of people about RedRover. I tell them that RedRover helps bring animals from crisis to care and they have a reading program that increases empathy and works for kids' internal cognition.

**Do you like actual chocolate?**

**V:** Yes!

That's good news, because RedRover has partnered with Russell Stover Chocolates for Valentine's Day!



Vanessa used the RedRover Readers program to talk with her students about what a cat needs and how cats and people are similar and different.

Look for candy bars and boxes of chocolates featuring photos of animals that RedRover has helped in retail stores across the country and at [www.russellstover.com](http://www.russellstover.com). ♥

Learn more about the RedRover Readers program at [RedRover.org/Readers](http://RedRover.org/Readers).



# Russell Stover®



## Hurricane Maria puppy finds his forever home

**MEET RUFUS** McScruffyFace. This adorable Jack Russell Terrier mix was at an animal shelter in Puerto Rico when Hurricane Maria hit.

In the wake of Maria, he was one of hundreds of adoptable dogs and cats airlifted by The Humane Society of the United States from Puerto Rico to St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center in Madison, New Jersey. When Rufus and the others arrived at the emergency shelter, our RedRover Responders team was ready with compassion, dedication and open arms.

Rufus, then called Pepe, was just a puppy, estimated to be about a year old. After his time at the St. Hubert's way station, he ended up at Second Chance Animal Rescue in East Brookfield, Massachusetts — where he met Sanford and Jody, the couple who would become his forever family.

Now, Rufus is happily settled in to his new home in the country, where he loves going to the dog park and running around their backyard like it's a race track.

Jody says, "It's a joy to behold how every day Rufus settles in more deeply to being safe and truly home. He charms everyone he meets — his goofy little face and buoyant nature are irresistible. He's such a smart and happy guy!"

"We're best buddies already," says Sanford. "We're so excited that he's come into our lives, bringing new cuddliness, exercise and adventure for all of us." ♥

Read the full story at [RedRover.org/Rufus](http://RedRover.org/Rufus).



He charms everyone he meets — his goofy little face and buoyant nature are irresistible.

## Luna's "mom" gives back

**IN OCTOBER OF 2002**, I had an emergency with my new cat, Luna, and being a recent college graduate, I was extremely low on cash to get her the veterinary care she needed.

I contacted RedRover (then United Animal Nations) and they were generous enough to provide me a \$100 grant to get Luna taken care of. I was lucky enough to find the receipt and letter from RedRover when I was cleaning out my storage unit today and I wanted to reach out.

Luna and I were inseparable until July 2014 when I sadly lost her to aggressive lymphoma. Having to say goodbye to my best friend was one of the hardest things I've ever had to do. But I am so grateful for the 12 years of love and memories that Luna and I shared. I may have had



I would like to make a \$100 donation to pay back what was granted to me in my cat's time of need.

to say goodbye even sooner if RedRover hadn't provided me with the help I needed in 2002.

I would like to make a \$100 donation to pay back what was granted to me in my cat's time of need. I want to be able to help others who deeply love their pets as part of the family and

want the best care even though they may not be able to afford it. There is nothing worse than having to ask yourself if you can afford to take care of one that is injured or sick...be they animal or human.

♥ **Nicole S.**, RedRover Relief grant recipient and donor

I want to be able to help others who deeply love their pets as part of the family.

## 2017 Safe Housing grant recipients



**Arising Hope**  
Eastlake, CO

**Alternatives Incorporated**  
Anderson, IN

**HEAL, Inc. & The Nest**  
Ruidoso Downs, NM

**Willow Domestic Violence Center**  
Rochester, NY

**Women's Resource Center to End Domestic Violence**  
Decatur, GA





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## Join our #paws4love video contest

### DO YOU SERENADE YOUR PET, TAKE THEM ON ADVENTURES OR PLAY FRISBEE AT THE PARK?

There are so many ways to show our pets we love them — we want to see how you #paws4love!

In honor of Valentine's Day and our partnership with Russell Stover, we're holding a video contest for you to showcase your special bond. To enter, submit a video (30 seconds or less) by February 14 that shows your favorite way of bonding with your pet. ♥

Visit [redrover.org/paws4love](http://redrover.org/paws4love) for contest details.

*Russell Stover*

