

Talk to the Paw: From the Editor

Shopping locally helps us all — people and pets

Anyone who has spent a winter in Tucson knows that there are many great things about our fair city. The weather is unbeatable. It's affordable, at least compared to cities further west. It's rated among the top 10 cities least likely to experience a natural disaster. And yes, it's also pet friendly.

But what I find really great about Tucson year-round are the one-of-a-kind, locally owned businesses. Tucson is unlike any other city in the world thanks largely to the independent shops, restaurants and service businesses.

Economists argue that locally owned businesses are far more beneficial to local economies than are chain stores and corporate businesses, where profits rarely remain in the local community.

Dollars spent at locally owned businesses have three times the impact on the community than do dollars spent at national chains because most of the money spent at chain stores leaves the local economy. You may save a few cents by shopping at a chain store, but the loss to Tucson results in a lack of diversity, higher unemployment, higher taxes, less money donated to local causes and reduced government-funded services, due to reduced sales tax revenue.



By supporting locally owned, independent businesses, more of your dollars stay in Tucson, and, therefore, you help enrich the local economy, increase the diversity of available products and services and improve the quality of life for all of us.

If you appreciate Tucson's local flavor and want Tucson to continue to have local flavor, consider doing your holiday shopping and eating out with locally owned businesses this season.

Check out the holiday gift guide (page 18) for great gift ideas and, of course, the many ads in the pages that follow from businesses that support Desert Dog News, which also is an independent, locally owned business.

-Gretel Hakanson

NOW OPEN!

DIAMOND DOGS TRAINING FACILITY & DOG DAYCARE



Muriel Gardner of PAWS UP!, LLC,
Debora Hogan of DOG DIRECTION, LLC and
Jay Smith of COMMUNITY DOG TRAINING
have joined forces to provide all of Tucson with:



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