

## Therapy Dogs

Without words.

By Haidee E. Allerton

Illustration by Luc Melanson

Amidst the rubble of New York City's Ground Zero, therapy dogs are providing emotional support to people struggling to come to terms with the September 11 attacks.

Cindy Ehlers, head of the Hope and Crisis Response Team and handler of two therapy dogs, says the animals have given rescue workers and victims a reason to feel hopeful. The dogs often seem to sense who needs support most. That's because humans emit a particular scent when they're distressed. Rescue workers who are

sorting through the metal debris find comfort in touching the warm, soft fur of a dog's coat, says Ehlers. "Over and over again I've heard them say, 'That dog made my day.'"

<» Source/Cynthia Long, American Red Cross

Actual classified ads

- Stock up and save.  
Limit: one.
- For Rent: 6-room hated apartment.

- Man, honest. Will take anything.
- Man wanted to work in dynamite factory. Must be willing to travel.
- Christmas tag sale. Handmade gifts for the hard-to-find person.
- Wanted: Hair-cutter. Excellent growth potential.
- Wanted: Man to take care of cow that does not smoke or drink.
- Three-year-old teacher needed for preschool. Experience preferred.
- Auto Repair Service. Free pick-up and delivery. Try us once, you'll never go anywhere again.
- Illiterate?  
Write today for free help.
- Girl wanted to assist magician in cutting-off-head illusion. Blue Cross and salary.
- Semi-annual after-Christmas Sale.

◀ Source/ivillage.com

## RealityCheck

1. You try to enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played Solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You email the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. You chat several times a day with a stranger in South America, but you haven't spoken to your next-door neighbor all year.
6. Your reason for not staying in touch with certain friends is that they don't have an email address.
7. You get most of your jokes from reading emails instead of talking to people.
8. When you make phone calls from home, you dial 9 to get an outside line.
9. You've sat at the same desk for four years—but worked for three different companies.
10. Your supervisor doesn't know how to do your job.
11. It's dark when you drive to and from work, even in summer.
12. You see a good-looking person at work and know it must be a visitor.
13. Free food left over from meetings makes up most of your diet.
14. You're already late on the assignment you just got.
15. There's no money in the budget for the five staff your department desperately needs, but the company can afford four full-time consultants advising your boss's boss on strategy.
16. Vacation time is something you roll over to next year.
17. Your relatives and friends describe your job as "works with computers."
18. As you read this list, you keep nodding in recognition.
19. You're thinking about forwarding it to your "friends you send jokes to" email group.
20. You got this as an email from a friend who never talks to you anymore, except to send you jokes from the Net.

◀ Source/FOWL (Friend of Working Life) Mitzi Davis