

Black Butte beagle thrives in forever home

By Jodi Schneider McNamee
Correspondent

Some folks might remember the ad that was placed in *The Nugget* last March by a hiker who had found a sweet female beagle on the summit of Black Butte. She had no collar and was shaking under a tree. There was fresh snow on the ground and no evidence of other hikers or people up there.

The ad also contained a captivating photo of the beagle that gained popularity among Sisters folks who still would like to know if she has found a good home.

Two months before the ad was placed, Sisters residents Susan and Jim Long lost their beagle, Buddy, when he passed away at 16 years old.

"The timing when the ad in *The Nugget* came out was serendipitous, because it had been a couple of months after Buddy had died. We really enjoy beagles and have had two in our lives," said Susan Long, Bi-Mart pharmacy technician. "After thinking it over for about a week, I finally called the number in the ad."

Brent, the hiker, brought the beagle over to meet the Longs.

"Brent explained to us that after he finally rescued the beagle on the second attempt, he took her to a vet and she was diagnosed with a broken right hip and had minor frost-bite on her paw pads and the tip of her nose," Long said.

"She was underweight, and maybe a year old. Her young age must have been a factor in her fast healing. She could have been up on Black Butte for over a week, but nobody knows why she was found there. But none of that mattered to us, because it was love at first sight."

The "sweet female beagle" is now called BB, named after Black Butte, and has adjusted extremely well in her forever home.

"We are very happy with BB," Long said. "And she seems quite happy with us, especially Jim. She tends to be a daddy's girl, and my son Ryan just adores her."

"She's too cute for her own good," said Ryan Long, 2012 Sisters High School

graduate. "I get stopped all the time when I take her for a walk, because people like to remark on just how cute she is."

When BB was first found, she weighed in at only 13 pounds, and now she is a healthy 21 pounds.

"We also have a cat, and at first she wanted nothing to do with BB, but now they have become the best of friends," said Susan. "They sit together and groom each other!"

"I still puzzle over what really happened to her. It's hard to believe all that she went through, because she is such a wonderful dog, and without issues. I believe this was meant to be. BB is so attached to all of us; she is an amazing family member."



PHOTO BY JODI SCHNEIDER MCNAMEE

Susan and Ryan Long love BB, rescued from the top of Black Butte.

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