

“Love is like a virus. It can happen to anybody at any time.” *Maya Angelou*

July 4th for the USA! Time to celebrate the meaning of freedom with responsibility. Freedom is not “free”, it is a living action, work of art, constantly creating REAL respect for each of us, ourselves, our pets, nature, and our collective.

## EVENTS AND MY NEWS FLASHES

Update: My class Fur Folk Talk is helping create “safe shift” for folks and their fur loves with simple exercises to become more focused, centered, grounded and keen listening learnings. One of my students uses this new “talk” skill to help her with work in “harmonizing horses”. If you are in or around Moore County, NC, give her a call for connecting to new balance and well-being for your horse! Kudo’s Debra Parker, owner of “The Connected Balance”

*Check out Fur Shui’s 2nd release: Larger format and Kindle.*

To purchase: [Fur Shui](#)

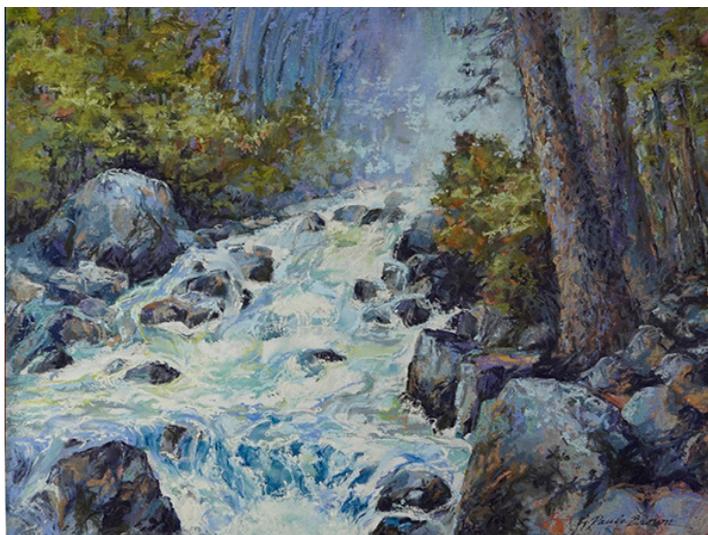


Debra Parker working with her client. <http://www.yourhorsein-connectedbalance.com>

## WHERE?

My website is changing and will be up in a couple of weeks, very excited! Busy like most of us working from home, teaching classes both animal and fun art online classes. I invite you to a soothing “Zen-tangle” doodle class on Sat. Aug. 1, put on through Carpinteria Art Center. No “art background” necessary. Relax by repeated doodle patterns! **Sign up at: Carpinteria Arts Center:** <https://carpinteriaartcenter.org/product/2020sumzentangle>

Working on “finishing up” some nice small Plein Air paintings. Good time to “review”! And, beginning to get outside with Plein Air painting...social distancing and masks. Also, diving back into my pastel painting with my photo sources from past hiking trips and current “Corona” walks and hikes here in Ojai, CA.



My 12x16 pastel: “River Dance” Remembering Yosemite’s Lower Falls. Yes, it’s for sale!

**Be well, be safe, be happy, focus on positive outcomes!**

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## WHO, HOW, AND WHAT?

### INVITING YOU TO JOIN MY FUR FOLK SOUL STORIES FACEBOOK GROUP!

Wanting to have more conversations with folks who love animals, nature, their pets. Please join the talk, contribute your own tips, shares, and love for all things “nature”... what’s your “story”? Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/576338039691377/>

*July 4th tips and awareness...some summer fun.*

It’s that time of the year for big bangs, booms, and frightened animals. This year there will be fewer gatherings, yet folks are still “hearing” private fireworks shooting off, loud parties for some, and in general, NOISE that our pets are so very sensitive to and are also in harms reach.

#### Some basic tips:

1. Keep your pets indoors the weekend, not just July 4th.
2. Give them a safe place to hide...inside...set up a cozy spot under a table, or in an area they can see out, yet feel hidden.
3. Update their ID tags NOW at the beginning of summer.
4. Play some soft music, or have ambient noise to mask the abrupt sounds from fireworks.
5. Skip the celebration and stay home with your pets.
6. Keep them busy, brush them, play with them, (interactive Kong toys are great), hold them and watch some Classic Movies together!

#### Some Summer Reading for You:

**Here’s a report on the most popular dog breeds for 2020.** According to the American Kennel Club, the #1 Dog: Labrador Retrievers. Labrador Retrievers are known for their friendly and outgoing nature. <https://currently.att.yahoo.com/att/top-10-most-popular-dog-204200136.html>

#### All You “AT HOME BREADMAKERS” beware!

Here’s important info put forth from the Pet Poison Hotline: “When a dog eats bread dough, the yeast in the dough continues to make the dough rise, distending his stomach and releasing toxic levels of ethanol into the dog’s bloodstream. The pressure of the rising dough can mimic and cause bloat, but the real danger is from the alcohol toxicosis. Ingestion of alcohol can cause dangerous drops in blood sugar, blood pressure, and body temperature. Severely intoxicated animals can potentially experience seizures and respiratory failure.”

<https://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poison/bread-dough/>

#### Fun July 4th “lights” for all summertime use:

Thanks Pat Hadden for your links to some alternative to fireworks fun stuff to light up July 4th and warm summer nights WITHOUT noise and harm to others or fur folks! **LED gloves and party lights:** [amazinglights.com](http://amazinglights.com) and [glofx.com](http://glofx.com)

**A great diy guide with non-explosive ideas from BuzzFeed** [www.buzzfeed.com/jessicaprobos/14-safe-alternatives-to-fireworks](http://www.buzzfeed.com/jessicaprobos/14-safe-alternatives-to-fireworks)

**a state-by-state guide to what fireworks are actually legal:** [www.americanpyro.com/state-law-directory](http://www.americanpyro.com/state-law-directory)