

# Reunion of best friends

Long Island animal activist Dori Scofield made international headlines earlier this month, when she helped reunite eight dogs with six National Guard soldiers that cared for the dogs while stationed in Afghanistan.

The soldiers – including Long Islanders Edwin Caba of Long Beach and Kevin Singer of Freeport – began caring for a stray dog that was following their unit around. The dog, which they christened Sheba, went on missions with the soldiers, protecting them from stray dogs. In March, Sheba gave birth to seven puppies, which the unit adopted, as well.

After returning home, the soldiers

reached out to Scofield, the founder and president of Save-A-Pet Animal Rescue and Adoption Center in Port Jefferson and vice president of Guardians of Rescue in Smithtown, for assistance in transporting the dogs to America. The organizations raised more than \$15,000 to bring the dogs to Long Island, where they were reunited with the soldiers at Save-A-Pet.

The puppies went home with the soldiers, while Sheba is being evaluated to serve as a companion service dog for a veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder.

“To be able to see them all reunited was worth all the effort we put into it,” Scofield said.

