



PAWS FOR THE NEWS

A monthly publication for Praying for Paws, a non-profit dog rescue serving the needs of Henry County, GA and surrounding areas

www.prayingforpaws.com

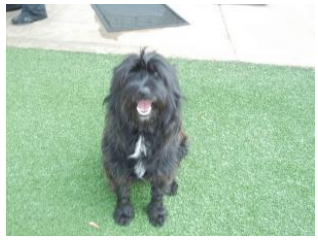
August 2011

Phone 404-202-4208



Four Adoptions This Month!

Four of our great dogs were adopted this month – **Scotty, Ruby, Muffin** and **Charlie** (adopted by his foster family, the **Martins**). We hope to have lots more adoptions next month, so help us spread the word about the great dogs at **Praying for Paws!**



Scotty



Ruby



Muffin



Charlie

Six New Dogs Join Us This Month



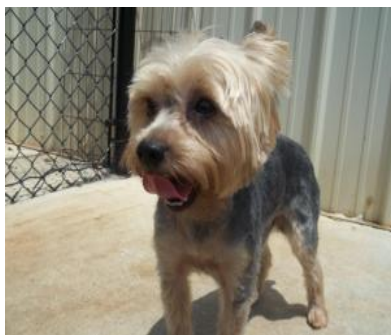
Hope - Yorkie



Jagger - Yorkie



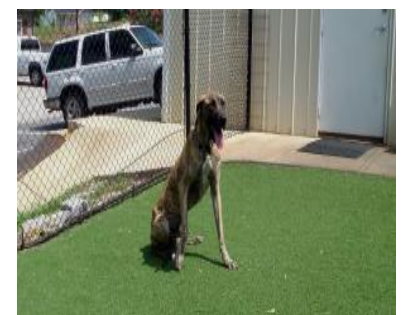
Leo – Chocolate Lab



Teddy - Yorkie



Tutt - Corgi



Tiger – Great Dane



Transport Update – Bandit Goes to Canada



Bandit, our wonderful little **Chihuahua** mix, was recently transported to a partner rescue group in **Canada**. We received this picture of **Bandit (far right)**, lounging in his new foster home with a new friend. The rescue group reports that **Bandit** has already adjusted very well to his new surroundings, and they expect him to find a forever home very soon.



Bandit

Honey, Our Featured Pet from Last Month, Goes Home!

Honey, our beautiful senior Golden Retriever, was adopted last month by the **Bayless** family. They read about **Honey's** story in the newsletter and adopted her the next day! Senior dogs typically have a very difficult time being adopted and are often forced to living out their days in a shelter environment. The **Bayless** family wanted **Honey** to experience a loving home with their other **Praying for Paws** rescue dog, **Ali**. According to **Diana Bayless**, **Honey** adapted immediately to her new surroundings. She is happy, confident and bonded immediately to everyone. **Honey** is housetrained, non-destructive and a wonderful, loving girl! We hope that **Honey's** adoption will inspire others to consider fostering or adopting a senior dog. They make wonderful pets!!



Check out beach dogs **Aissa** and **Copa**! **Aissa**, a **Border Collie** mix, was adopted from **Praying for Paws** (formerly named **Ashley**) and now resides in **Milwaukee** with her "brother," **Copa** and owner, **Katheryn**. **Katheryn** reports that **Aissa** is a wonderful dog who travels everywhere with her. We're happy to receive another success story!

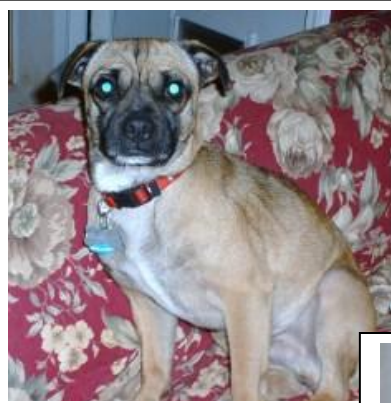
Save the Date – October 1st and 2nd! We will participate in the **PetSense** annual adoptathon at the **Tanger Outlet Mall**. If you can help on either **Saturday** or **Sunday**, please contact **Michelle** at [**mfarris547@aol.com**](mailto:mfarris547@aol.com). We will have many great dogs, like **Loeey** (right), who need a forever home, and it can be a great success with your participation!



Vote for Merlin! Merlin is a rescue dog who belongs to **Praying for Paws** volunteer **Michelle Farris**. He was adopted from the **Henry County Humane Society** back in 2004, where he was being fostered by **Carol Kelly**. **Carol** volunteered there prior to starting **Praying for Paws** and kept Merlin for several months until he was adopted. **Merlin** inspired **Michelle** to start working closely with **Carol** and **Praying for Paws** as the organization grew. **Merlin** is a finalist in the **Fuzzy Nation Top Model Contest**, and you can vote for him daily through **August 21st** by going to your **Facebook** page and then to **Fuzzy Nation/Top Model** contest. The winner receives a \$10,000 donation to the shelter where they were adopted, which is **Henry County Humane Society**, one of our rescue partners in **McDonough**.

Tax Breaks for Foster Parents

Every month, we mention our need for foster parents. We are very thankful for the volunteers who foster for us, like **Claudette Towe**. **Claudette** fosters several of our dogs, including sweet brothers **Abbott** and **Costello**. Foster parents can enjoy a tax deduction for their foster pets by keeping good records of all expenses associated with fostering above \$250 and providing a letter from the licensed, non-profit rescue organization. Deductions can include food, medicine/medical care, trash bags, paper towels, pet supplies and other expenses that are not reimbursed by the rescue group. For a letter from **Praying for Paws**, please email **Carol Kelly** at [**carolkelly0000@aol.com**](mailto:carolkelly0000@aol.com). Be sure to keep good records and consult with your accountant for details.



Abbott



Costello

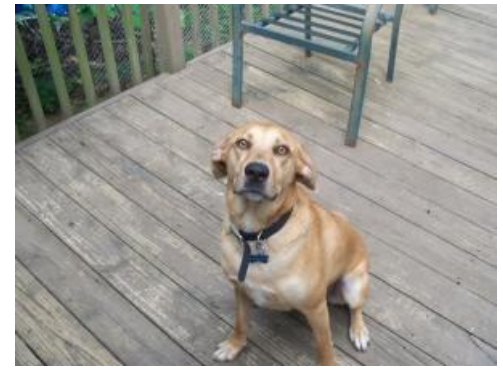


Featured Pets



Faye is a really sweet dog who is still young (about a year old). She is a former shelter dog from **Henry County**, and she is a really sweet girl. She is active and playful, and she needs an owner who will give her regular, daily exercise. **Faye** would love another dog as a companion, and she would do well in a home with children. Poor **Faye** was adopted a couple of months ago and then returned after only a week because her new owner decided that she wasn't ready for another dog so soon after losing her previous pet. Please give **Faye** a second chance at a new life! She would love to meet you!

Rex is an awesome boy who appears to be part **Hound**, part **Lab**. He is a big guy and just loves everyone. He currently resides in a foster home with other dogs and a cat. Did we mention that he loves kids, is housetrained and knows how to use a doggie door? **Rex** is the perfect family dog and has been through a lot in his short lifetime. He needs a permanent home filled with the love that he deserves!



Calling All Photographers!

Praying for Paws is seeking volunteers to donate 1-2 days of their time in the next few weeks to photograph our wonderful dogs. In fact, we'd love to have a committed photographer to come out once a month to update pictures for **Petfinder** and our website.

Studies show that great photographs of adoptable pets are the critical key to finding them great homes quickly! Each pet profile needs a close-up shot showing the beautiful facial features, as well as a full body shot.

Right now, our staff stays busy with the responsibilities of feeding, exercising, providing medical care as needed and much more. It is difficult to find time for "extras" like making pictures and updating descriptions, but it is a vital part of our rescue program.

Adoptions have been slow for the last couple of months, so we are actively marketing our dogs to try and increase awareness and focus on the dogs who have been with us for several months.

If you can help with photography, please contact **Carol Kelly** at **404-202-4208** to set up a time to help. Dogs are currently housed at **The Paw Pad** and at our off-site kennel in **McDonough**.

We appreciate your help, and it will have a big impact on future adoptions!

To view current dogs, go to www.prayingforpaws.com



Beautiful Susie needs some "glamour shots" to appeal to potential adopters who check out our website!



The Joys of Fostering

by Jean Kessinger

I was asked if I would write a little something about my foster child... er... dog – **Miss Ruby**. I jumped at the opportunity, and then suddenly realized... I can't talk about our dear sweet **Ruby** without first taking a moment to remember a few others that have graced us with their abundant love in the last year.

There was **Berkley** with his big eyes and puppyish and playful way of running up and down the basement stairs.

Farley was all **Lab** puppy – big black ears, long legs and a huge smile that begged us to run and play catch with him in the back yard.

Then there was **Isis** with her 100% Jack Russell Terrier personality – bouncing up and down quite politely.

Izabelle was the young lady of the house, quiet, obedient and loving. She only wanted someone's hand on her head and to be told she was a "good girl". I wanted to name her **Velcro**.

Princessa was a mixture of pure electricity in motion, vibrant youth in its glory with energy to spare. Oh how I envied her agility on the stairs.

Then there was **Holly**, a classy older girl who knew all of her commands, but did not need them. She knew just what to do under any condition. She was the dog that everyone wants, but few people know it.

Before these most recent there was **Church** (the cat), **Zeus** the **Rottie**, **Gus** and **Walker** who just wandered up old, sick and tired, and **Buddy** a thunderstorm stray. I could go on, but at some point, I would still leave some out. Even of the most recent ones, and there have been numerous dogs over the years. So let me go back to **Ruby**. Dear, sweet, loving **Ruby**. My **Wooby-Doo**.

It never matters what time of the day or night I open my basement door – **Ruby** comes bouncing around the corner, tail wagging at 100 MPH to look up at us. She has free run of the hall and room at the base of the stairs and the dog room on the other side of the hall where **Jessi**, **Apache**, **Ralph**, **Sadie** and **Powder** are. She visits with them until my husband or I come down stairs. Then **Ruby** gives us 200% of her love and attention. We could never say we were not well loved by **Ruby**. She will walk crazy 8's between our legs like a cat, dance with her arthritic legs next to us as we walk outside – always keeping her eyes on us... just waiting for us to say, "Ready to go back in and get a cookie Ruby?" The response is a resounding "WOOF" (translation, "YES"). Being an older lady with a serious case of arthritis in her hips and shoulders does not slow her down now. All she wants to do is please us and get some serious petting time or lap time with either my husband or me. A cookie is the icing on the cake.

We realize that **Ruby** could be adopted, and we would lose this vibrant personality in our life. But that is what a foster home is all about. Loving, healing and moving them forward to their fur-ever homes...making room for the next foster or rescue.

I cannot begin to tell anyone how much more I get from our fosters than we give them. I have only to lay my hand on my **Sam's** head and I think about the peace in my life. I have only to stroke **Ruby's** soft coat and know I am loved completely without reservations as she lays her head on my knee.

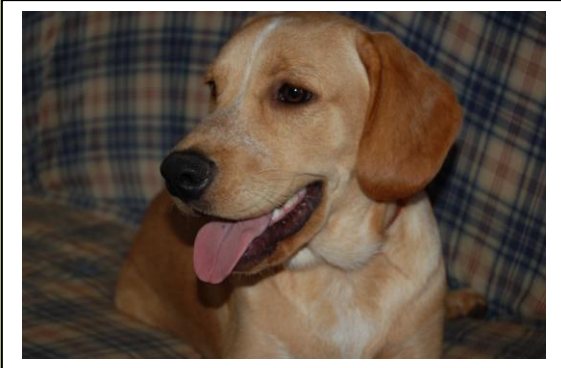
Being a guardian gives much more than I can put into words. I will live a longer life with more peace than many will ever know. All because I foster. The rewards are greater than can be put into words. They out-weigh any emergency trips for unknown illness, wellness checks or money spent and never recovered. A foster parent gets more than they will ever give. It is the foster child's... er... dogs way of saying "**Thank You**" to us. Foster kids leave a sticky residue on us... it's called love.

May everyone be so lucky to receive such a "Thank You" of their very own.

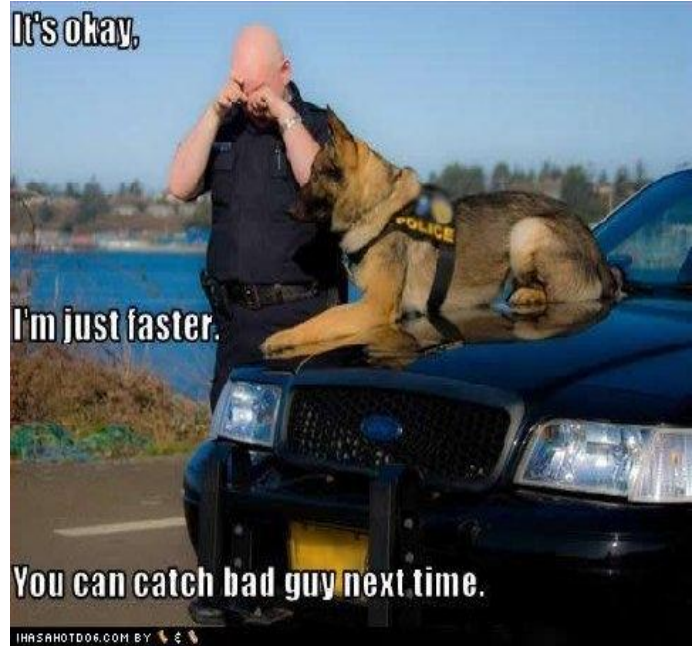
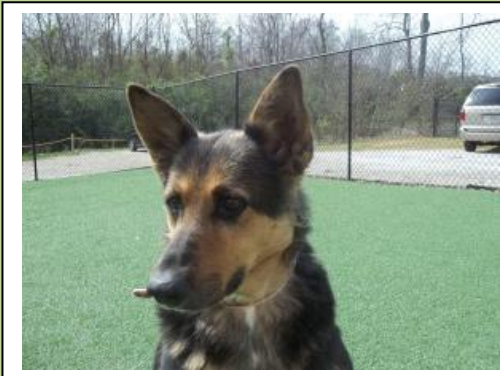




*Our dog food supply is running **VERY LOW!** We need help every month. Our dogs eat Pedigree dry food and Beggin' Strips bacon treats. You can drop off at The Paw Pad on Jonesboro Road. Leo (pictured below) appreciates your contribution very much!*



You can support **Praying for Paws** every month by making a tax-deductible online donation. Just go to our website, www.prayingforpaws.com to donate online. If you prefer to mail a check directly, you can send it to our address on the website or to **The Paw Pad**. Our monthly expenses continue to grow as we have been at full capacity since last summer. Your help supporting dogs like Snow (pictured below) is greatly appreciated!



If you are 18 or older and want to work with the rescue dogs, please contact Carol Kelly at carolkelly0000@aol.com or call 404-202-4208. We need lots of help caring for the dogs, whether you can help during the day or in the evenings after work. We especially need one-on-one help with some of our dogs who need training for specific issues.

Now that school has started, It's time to make reservations now for your fall and holiday travel at **The Paw Pad**. Your pet will receive top-notch care and lots of love at our facility. We offer 24/7 staff, grooming, doggie daycare, a cattery, luxury suites, doggie cams and lots of TLC from every employee. Now that the kids are in school, how about some fun doggie daycare for your pet? They will be happy all day, playing with other dogs, and you can drop them off early as you head to work! Check out our website at www.georgiapawpad.com for more information. You will love us, and your pet will, too!

