



## 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](http://www.prayingforpaws.com)

July 2011

Phone 404-202-4208



## Six Adoptions and One New Dog This Month!

It's been a busy month at **Praying for Paws**, and we are staying at full capacity! Luckily, we had seven adoptions – **Annabelle**, Bella (who was one of our featured pets last month!), **Hobbs**, **Lizzie**, **Darby** and **Annie**.

Sweet **JJ**, a little **Yorkie** mix, joined us recently and is looking for a new home. His elderly owners were dealing with health issues that did not allow them to provide the care that they want for JJ.



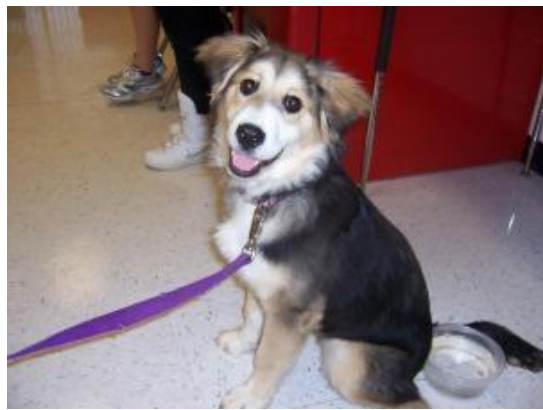
*JJ*



*Annabelle*



*Annie*



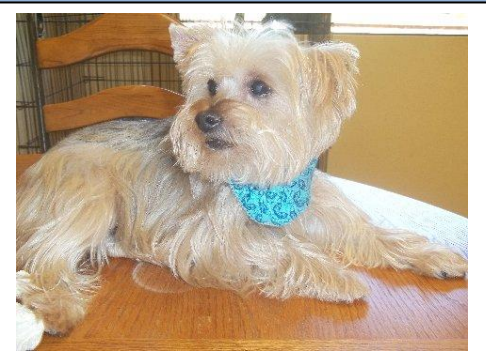
*Lizzie*



*Hobbs*



*Bella*



*Darby*



# Transport Update – Ernie Goes Home!



This weekend, Ernie, a cute terrier mix, was transported to a new life through our partner in **New England**. We continue to transport dogs as often as possible to partner rescue groups who find approved homes for them. The **New England** and **Northeastern** states have stricter spay and neuter laws, as well as pet licensing fees, which help control the pet over-population problem and encourage people to be more responsible when owning a dog or cat.

We have placed many dogs to great homes and look forward to more “happy tails.”



**Ernie**

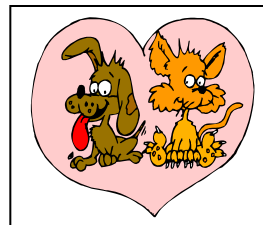
## Henry County Animal Control Offers Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program!

Statistics show that between **six and eight million dogs and cats** enter U.S. shelters every year; far too many to all find homes. Often these animals are the offspring of cherished family pets. Sadly, statistics show that approximately **four million** of these pets —about one every eight seconds—are put down in shelters each year. **Too many pets and not nearly enough homes for them all.** Spaying and neutering is a proven way to reduce pet overpopulation, helping to ensure that every pet has a family to love them! The solution to the problem of pet over-population starts with each of us taking one small step: getting our own pets fixed.

The **Henry County Animal Care and Control Department** is very proud to be able to offer pet owners a low cost way to have their pets fixed!! By partnering with **Dr. Elizabeth Perry, DVM**, and her staff from **Paradox Spay/Neuter Clinic**, spay and neuter services are offered at the **Henry County Animal Shelter** twice a month. Appointments are necessary and can be made by calling the shelter at **(770) 288-7387**.

### Current pricing is as follows:

- **Female dogs: \$65.00\***
- **Male dogs: \$60.00 /**
- **If over 50 pounds, add \$10.00**
- **Female cats: \$55.00\***
- **Male Cats: \$35.00**

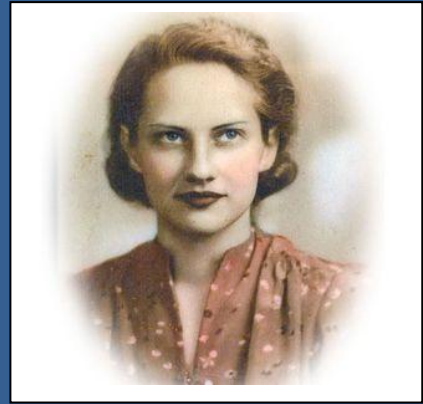


\*There is an additional charge of \$15.00 to \$25.00 if the pet is pregnant. Surgery will not be performed if the pet is in season.

All pets receive pain medication and go home the same day as the surgery. For more information, please contact us during regular business hours.

Note – if you think that spaying/neutering is not necessary for your pet because you keep it inside and away from other pets, please note: dogs and cats can escape, even with the best of intentions from their owners. Also, it has been proven that spayed and neutered pets are healthier and have less risk for many types of illnesses, including cancer. Spaying and neutering also tends to help with dominance and aggression. **DO IT NOW – NO EXCUSES!! Please spay and neuter!!**

Praying for Paws would like to express our deepest sympathies to volunteer and board member, Elizabeth Ward Pearce. Her mother, Elwyn Ward, passed away on July 1<sup>st</sup> at the age of 96.



## Lost and Found Pets

Recently, we have received numerous emails and phone calls about lost and found pets. Especially during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, many pets are frightened by fireworks and run away in fear. Here are some tips if you have lost or found a pet:

### Found

Get the animal to a safe, secure place such as your home, garage or fenced yard until the owner is found.

Take the pet to a local clinic or shelter to be scanned for a microchip.

Place "found" posters in the neighborhood, at vet clinics, the animal shelter, groomers and pet stores (you can make a flyer at [www.petbond.com/flyergenerator](http://www.petbond.com/flyergenerator))

Please do not contact **Praying for Paws**, as we cannot take "found" pets. If you cannot keep the dog or cat until the owner is located, please take to the local animal shelter.

### Lost

**Note – to insure your pets safety in the event that he is lost, ALWAYS have a collar with ID tags, and have your pet micro-chipped.**

Put up posters, with a photo, immediately all over the area where your pet was lost. A reward offer may be helpful.

Utilize social media, like **Facebook**, to spread the word about your lost pet. Many animals have been reunited with their owner this way.

Visit the local animal shelter DAILY and look for your pet – DON'T call! Shelters are busy and may not have time to provide a thorough search. Also – go to shelters in nearby counties, as someone may have picked up your pet and taken them further away.

Place ads in the local newspaper. The **Henry County** shelter posts pictures each day of impounded animals – go to [www.co.henry.ga.us/Animal Control](http://www.co.henry.ga.us/Animal Control), then click on **Impounded** at the left side of the page (updated daily)

Don't assume that your dog has stayed close to home. Many dogs or cats can wander many miles away, especially when scared.

As many of our volunteers know, **Finn** lost his battle with infection and pneumonia and passed away on July 6<sup>th</sup>. With the support of your donations, we were able to provide Finn with the best care possible during his illness. In the end, the infection was just too advanced for him to overcome.

**Finn** was loved by so many, and we are overwhelmed by your caring and support!

In addition to the contributions for his vet bills, we also want to extend our appreciation to **Finn's** foster mom, **Vicki Slade**, who loved him so much during his final days. We also thank **Dr.**

**Carol Billingsley** for her chiropractic and homeopathic advice.

Lastly, a huge "thank you" to **Linda Baker** and **Tara Trainor** for their help in transporting Finn to the local vet, specialists and giving him lots of TLC! ***We will miss you, sweet Finn!***





## Featured Pets



**Honey** is a senior **Golden Retriever** who was apparently abandoned by her owners. We think that she is at least 11 or 12. She was rescued after being hit by a car and injured, and **Praying for Paws** took her into the program. Now, she has recovered and needs a loving home to spend her golden years. Senior dogs are the most overlooked group, but **Honey** is so special. She loves everyone and gets along well with other dogs. If you're looking for a low-maintenance dog to give you lots of love and companionship, **Honey** is your kind of dog!!

Poor **Koda**! He had a home and an owner who loved him very much, but **Koda** ended up with us after his owner lost his home. **Koda** is an indoor dog who is housetrained and very laid back. He loves people and gets along with other dogs. He is a large boy who appears to be a **Lab/Husky** mix. He would adapt quickly to a new home and really wants to be your new pet!



## Foster Homes Needed



**Praying for Paws** is requesting your help – we need foster homes, especially for our large or special-needs dogs! Anyone who has fostered a dog will tell you that it is a rewarding experience. For the dogs, it prepares them better for a successful adoption because their foster family learns more about their personality, trainability, phobias/fears, etc. Many dogs do not flourish in a shelter environment, so their true personality doesn't shine at our facility, despite our efforts to give them the best care and interaction that we can provide. A foster home can bring a dog out of his shell, especially if that dog has experienced something traumatic.

If you foster for us, the vet expenses are covered, as well as heartworm preventative and flea control. You will provide food, shelter, and most of all, love and training to a dog who needs you. The dogs pictured below have been waiting for a home for quite a while, and they would greatly benefit from a foster home until their permanent one comes along.

If you would like to foster, please contact **Carol Kelly** at [carolkelly0000@aol.com](mailto:carolkelly0000@aol.com). Thanks!!

**Samson**



**Loeey**



**Snow**



**Bruno**



# Preventing Heat Stroke in Dogs

## Heat Stroke in Dogs

By Jenna Stregowski, RVT, About.com Guide

Hyperthermia is a term describing an elevation in body temperature. This increase typically occurs as a response to a trigger, such as inflammation in the body or a hot environment. When a dog is exposed to high temperatures, heat stroke or heat exhaustion can result. Heat stroke is a very serious condition that requires *immediate* medical attention. Once the signs of heat stroke are detected, there is precious little time before serious damage - or even death - can occur.

Dogs do not sweat through their skin like humans - they release heat primarily by panting, and they sweat through the foot pads and nose. If a dog cannot effectively expel heat, the internal body temperature begins to rise. Once the dog's temperature reaches 106°, damage to the body's cellular system and organs may become irreversible. Unfortunately, too many dogs succumb to heat stroke when it could have been avoided. Learn how to recognize the signs of heat stroke and prevent it from happening to your dog.

## Signs of Heat Stroke

The following signs may indicate heat stroke in a dog:

***Increased rectal temperature (over 104° requires action, over 106° is a dire emergency)***

***Vigorous panting***

***Dark red gums***

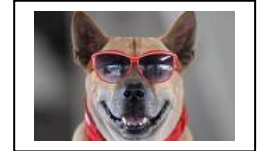
***Tacky or dry mucus membranes (specifically the gums)***

***Lying down and unwilling (or unable) to get up***

***Collapse and/or loss of consciousness***

***Thick saliva***

***Dizziness or disorientation***



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## What to do if You Suspect Heat Stroke

If you have even the slightest suspicion that your dog is suffering from heat stroke, you must take immediate action.

***First, move your dog out of the heat and away from the sun right away.***

***Begin cooling your dog by placing cool, wet rags or washcloths on the body - especially the foot pads and around the head.***

***DO NOT use ice or very cold water! Extreme cold can cause the blood vessels to constrict, preventing the body's core from cooling and actually causing the internal temperature to further rise. In addition, over-cooling can cause hypothermia, introducing a host of new problems. When the body temperature reaches 103°, stop cooling.***

***Offer your dog cool water, but do not force water into your dog's mouth.***

***Call or visit your vet right away - even if your dog seems better. Internal damage might not be obvious to the naked eye, so an exam is necessary (and further testing may be recommended).***

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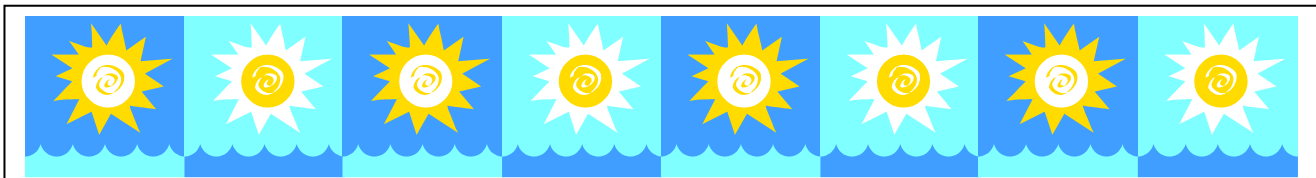
## Preventing Heat Stroke

***NEVER leave your dog alone in the car on a warm day, regardless of whether the windows are open. Even if the weather outside is not extremely hot, the inside of the car acts like an oven - temperatures can rise to dangerously high levels in a matter of minutes.***

***Avoid vigorous exercise on warm days. When outside, opt for shady areas.***

***Keep fresh cool water available at all times.***

***Certain types of dogs are more sensitive to heat - especially obese dogs and brachycephalic (short-nosed) breeds, like Pugs and Bulldogs. Use extreme caution when these dogs are exposed to heat.***





*Please continue to help us with dog food and treat donations! We need them every month. Our dogs eat Pedigree dry food and Beggin' Strips bacon treats. You can drop off at The Paw Pad on Jonesboro Road.*

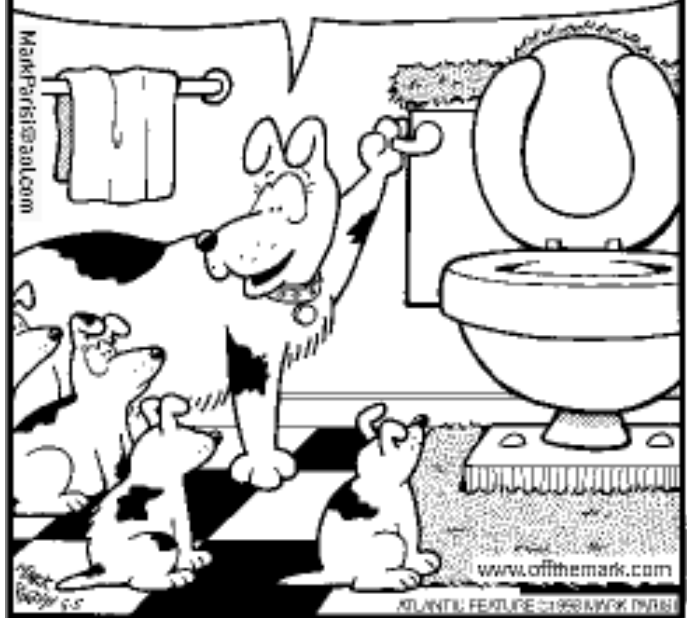
If you are 18 or older and want to work with the rescue dogs, please contact Carol Kelly at [carolkelly0000@aol.com](mailto:carolkelly0000@aol.com) or call 404-202-4208. We need lots of help caring for the dogs, whether you can help during the day or in the evenings after work. We especially need one-on-one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

You can support **Praying for Paws** every month by making a tax-deductible online donation. Just go to our website, [www.prayingforpaws.com](http://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 is greatly appreciated!



**off the mark** by Mark Parisi  
www.offthemark.com

FORGET THAT DINKY WATER DISH ...  
**THIS** PLACE HAS COLD, GENEROUS PORTIONS... AND REFILLS ON DEMAND!



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Are you ready for summer vacation? It's time to make reservations now for your travel plans 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. Check out our website at [www.georgiapawpad.com](http://www.georgiapawpad.com) for more information. You will love us, and your pet will, too!

