



PAWS OF HERTFORD COUNTY

Protecting Animals Worth Saving

Santa PAWS Comes to Town!



One of many gifts from "Santa PAWS" helpers!

Santa PAWS has been hard at work for the homeless companion animals at the Hertford County Animal Shelter. This is but one set of gifts given to PAWS animals in response to the annual Christmas Wish List. Our donors are numerous, and for concern of leaving someone out, we won't give names. The true

Spirit of Christmas is alive and well at PAWS and in the hearts of our supporters. From the tips of their ears to the ends of their tails, PAWS dogs and cats thank you. You are each a blessing; and without you, PAWS would not be what it is today. Here's to a record making New Year!

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ALERT: Rabies in Our Community



At 2:00 a.m. on December 19, a bobcat attacked a chained dog in Maney's Neck Trailer Park, north of Murfreesboro. The Bobcat tested positive for rabies. In response, PAWS of Hertford County and Animal Control conducted a mobile rabies clinic at the park on New Year's Eve. 29 dogs and cats were vaccinated for rabies.

As the group packed the clinic to leave, animal control received a call that a bobcat that had been acting strangely was killed in Como. The bobcat will be tested for rabies. Please be sure that your animals are vaccinated and have their rabies tags properly affixed to their collars.

We need Volunteers!

Is it in your heart to save animals? If so, consider volunteering for PAWS! There is no better feeling than knowing that you helped save a life because a homeless pet has found a loving home. It's satisfying to know that because of your efforts, another animal has been spayed or neutered and the homeless population reduced. There are

many ways that you can help, including shelter work, fundraising, spay/neuter transport, giving medication, fostering, education, public relations, or adoption events. Go to www.pawsofhertfordcounty.com and click "volunteer and membership."

Bully Buddies Bulletin

by Amy Brown

Who are “Bully Buddies”? All PAWS members seem to have a soft spot for the 'bully' breed. We usually have four or more “pit bull/bully breed type dogs” in the shelter at any one time. Dogs that are commonly labeled “pit bulls” can actually be various breeds – American Pit Bull Terrier, Staffordshire Terrier, Bull Terrier, American Bull Dog, and mixes. PAWS members like to think of each dog as an individual, and figure out what sort of home would best suit the dog’s adoption needs.

All PAWS dogs, including the breeds mentioned above, are temperament tested before being offered for adoption.

We utilize the ASPCA SAFER (Safety Assessment for Evaluating Rehoming test).

Nationally, pit bull terriers score higher than most breeds and our dogs are no different. Bully breeds are known for loyalty. They love attention and are great at clowning around to get someone to look at them. Aggression toward people is not a common breed trait.

Did you know that bullies are the most overbred dog in this country, as well as the most euthanized in shelters? Many are turned over to shelters, and few are adopted out. Media attention has contributed to a negative public perception of

the breed, making it difficult to find responsible adopters. Spay/neuter programs and public education are the answers to this problem, and PAWS is working hard in both areas.

(Continued on pg. 3 BBB)



Cookie: A Christmas Eve Angel



On Christmas Eve, Cookie fell from a moving pickup truck

There is no holiday from saving lives. Cookie was turned over to PAWS after a Good Samaritan found her on the side of the road, unable to get up. In obvious pain with a jaw broken in two places, Cookie continued to wag her tail and attempt to kiss the young teen pictured with her. Our diligent assistant animal control officer, Jessica Hoggard, who has been working long 7-day-weeks since November, took the time to take this precious animal to Dr. Powell’s office. After posting Cookie’s story to Facebook, the outpouring of love, support, and donations has warmed hearts and produced tears.

PAWS is deeply appreciative to Dr. Powell for taking holiday time from her family and pets to take care of our Christmas Eve Angel, Cookie. Updates on her progress will be posted on Facebook. Donations to PAWS Second Chance Fund will be used for her care.



Safe Traveling with your Pet

By Julie Dilday

In light of recent events, I am inspired to highlight safe ways to travel with your pet. The scary incident that left Cookie alone on a county road with a broken jaw and skinned knees is a stark reminder to **never travel with your dog loose in the bed of a pick-up truck**. It's an all too popular-and dangerous-way to travel with dogs in rural North Carolina.

Appropriate methods of transportation will keep your dog or cat safe in normal transportation, and reduce her chances of injury or death in a traffic accident. The best way to travel is with your dog or cat secure in a well-ventilated plastic or wire crate--inside of your car or truck. If you need to put the crate in the bed of the truck, please secure it with tie-downs or bungee cords. I don't recommend putting your cat loose, or in a crate, in the back of a truck! And never leave a cat unsecured in a car. He needs the safety of a crate when in unfamiliar places, and if left out, he could jump out and run when you open the car door.

Dogs also travel well with a [harness](#) made to attach to a seat belt. And despite how cute the ads and how much he begs, please don't let your dog hang his head out of an open car window. Objects flying by can injure his face or eyes.

Always keep an I.D. tag properly attached to your dog's collar. Don't be the person who loses her dog in a car accident, with no tag to identify her.

(BBB Continued from pg. 2)

PAWS has found wonderful homes for our bullies this year. Those who have been rehomed in 2011 include Dawson, Dougie, Delaney, Ruby, Hazel, Frances, Mickey, Precious, and Everest. Both Mickey and Everest have received their Canine Good Citizen designation, as well as Therapy Dog Certification, and are actively visiting local schools and nursing homes in the area.

Please consider opening your heart to this wonderful breed.



Travis is one of two American Staffordshire Terriers for adoption at PAWS of Hertford County. His best friends are Beagle brothers Andy and Barney

Grant News from JoAnn Jones

"We received a grant check on December 12 for \$891.00 from Pedigree Foundation! We also received a \$5000 check from the Tony Stewart Foundation! They couldn't have come at a better time. Cheryl, thanks so much for your hard work. This comes in mighty handy this time of year."

Adoption, Transfer, and Spay/Neuter Updates

PAWS continues to make great strides toward reducing pet homelessness in Hertford County with its Spay/Neuter, Adoption, and Transfer Programs. 712 shelter pets and county resident pets were spayed or neutered in 2011. December, alone saw an astounding 100 animals spayed or neutered through 7 separate transports to the mobile clinics. If that is a foreshadowing of what the Spay/Neuter Program does in 2012, we have much to look forward to!

The final 2011 count on adoptions and transfers is in! 286 dogs and 171 cats were adopted in 2011 for a grand-total of 456 animals adopted. PAWS also transferred to no-kill rescue organizations 240 dogs and 60 cats for a total of 300 pets. PAWS of Hertford County saved a total of 756 dogs and cats in 2011.

December, 2011 breakdown:

Cats adopted at shelter: 6
Cats adopted at Greenbriar PetSmart: 12
Cats adopted at Cary PetSmart (Tracey): 9
Total December Cats: 27
Dogs adopted at shelter: 5
Dogs adopted at Greenbriar PetSmart: 9
Total December Dogs: 14

Total December Adoptions: 41

Did You Know?

- Tracey Collins adopted out 50 of the 172 cats that went home in 2011.
- Of 9 Bengal Cats left at the shelter by a breeder, 8 have found homes and 1 remains.
- Nine Pit Bull Terrier/mixes were adopted in 2011, two of those have received AKC Good Citizens and Therapy Dog Certifications!

A note from Tango's new Mom



Tracey, Tango has definitely moved in! He is quite a talker. He hides under the Christmas tree skirt and plays with his toys. We have window all across the back of our house which looks out on a wooded area and then a greenway. He has lots of things to watch. I quilt and last night I did not pay attention to him and he just laid across the fabric so that I could not get anything done but pet him. We are really enjoying him.
Carol

Sweet Delilah



Do you remember one of our shy puppy projects, Delilah? Well, here she is pictured with her big "twin" sister in her new home. Delilah was adopted a couple of months ago, and her folks sent us this update on her progress. We think that she is settling in just fine. The shelter has seen an increase in shy dog intakes; Delilah is a shining example that shy dogs cannot only be saved, but thrive!

Featured Foster Volunteer



Sue Hunter and her latest Foster, Zoey

Please tell us who you are and what you do besides foster PAWS animals.

My name is Sue Hunter. I am a Speech Therapist for the Hertford County Schools. I have worked for Hertford County for 12 years. This year Riverview Elementary School in Murfreesboro allowed me to start a dog reading program for at risk readers. It has been quite successful with the children.

When did you begin fostering animals and what prompts you to do so?

I was blessed with my first foster dog in November 2010. I started off doing this as a favor to a friend. It has quickly become a passion.

How many animals have you fostered, and how many have been placed?

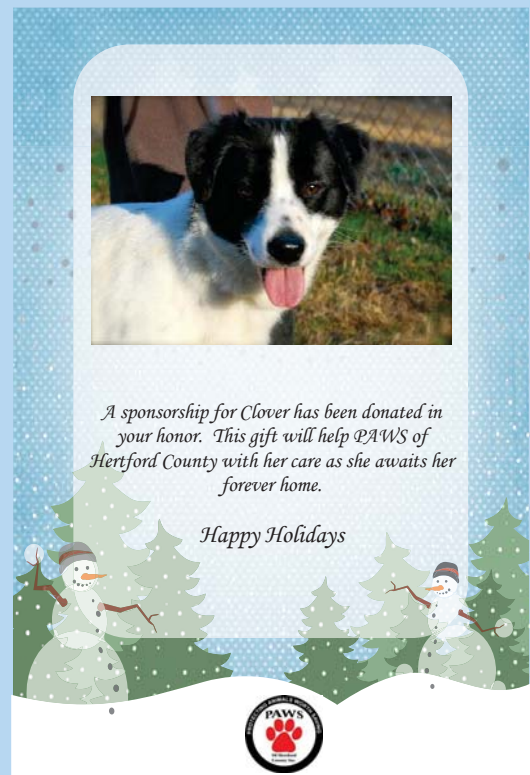
I have had the pleasure of fostering four wonderful dogs (Millie, Maggie May, Dixie, and Zoey) and have rescued two dogs (Mac and Moses). All six dogs have been adopted into some of the most wonderful homes. I have had the pleasure of meeting some of the most interesting people through these adoptions. Seeing the dog complete a family is such a thrill, and makes fostering such a worthwhile calling.

What advice do you have for someone who is thinking about fostering, but has not made the final decision?

Some folks don't want to foster because they are afraid of falling in love with the dog and would be unable to give the dog up. Yes, turning the dog over is a bit heartbreaking, but when I see what that dog does for the adopting family I know that fostering is so terrific. As a foster parent you have the ability to bring the dogs' true personality to shine out of a shy or scared dog. What more blessing could a person have?

Fundraiser Update

The goal for the PAWS Christmas Sponsor Cards has been met! Trees with cards were placed at RC-Hospital and at PetSmart during 2 adoption events. We collected \$450 from the hospital and about \$500 from Pet Smart. We also received hundreds of dollars worth of items from our PAWS Christmas Wish list. A special "ruff-ruff and meow" goes to Stephanie Holt, Sarah Nesbit, Catherine Allen, and Amy Brown for their hard work on the Christmas Tree/sponsorship card project. Special thanks to JoAnn Jones, Cheryl Snyder, and Julie Dilday for their work with the Christmas Wishlist. And a very special PAWS shout-out goes to 9-year-old **Daymon Meeks** and his mother for standing in front of Walmart in Ahoskie on Dec. 4 collecting items from the PAWS Wishlist! They collected over \$40 and 3 boxes full of beds, food, treats, and other items. Thanks Daymon! It's kids like you who make a difference!



PAWS 2012 Members and Officer's List

The 2012 officer's slate was voted on by the membership on December 5, 2011. All officers and committee chairpersons are members of the Board of Directors.

OFFICERS

Chairperson, JoAnn Jones

Vice Chairperson, Julie Dilday

Treasurer, Mary Etta Flowers

Recording Secretary, Cheryl Snyder

COMMITTEE CHAIRS/CO-CHAIRS

Shelter/Animal Management: Catherine Allen, Stephanie Holt, Cheryl Snyder

Adoption PetSmart: Stephanie Holt, Catherine Allen

Education: Sarah Nesbit, Catherine Allen

Spay/Neuter: Cheryl Snyder, Carol Lang

Public Relations/Website: Allison Briggs, Catherine Allen

Fundraising: JoAnn Jones, Cheryl Snyder

Grant Writing: Cheryl Snyder

Transport/Transfer: Cheryl Snyder, Stephanie Holt

Meals on Wheels: Inactive, but open to formation

Microchipping: Carol Andrews, Stephanie Holt, Catherine Allen

Foster Management: Amy Brown

Maintenance and Grounds: JoAnn Jones, Cheryl Snyder

Animal Political Advocacy: Sarah Nesbit, Amy Brown

Member Liaison: Allison Briggs, Amy Brown

Nominating Committee: Sarah Nesbit, Allison Briggs, Carol Lang, Catherine Allen, Lauren Castelloe

ADDITIONAL:

Minutes: Elaine Simmons

Dues/Mtg. Attendance: Sarah Nesbit

Backup Minutes/Thankyou notes: Mabel Dilday



"Christmas kitty Heather wishes all of her friends as PAWS a very Merry Christmas!"



Dear, Chloe!

Another long-time resident, Chloe, found her furr-ever family on December 9. They say that a picture tells a thousand words, and this one may help you to appreciate the following adoption detail shared by Sarah Nesbit:

Chloe was all cuddly and putting on a good show to secure the adoption. Then Auntie Sarah suggested a photo op. Chloe then squirmed, and Catherine and I were scared she was going to bite her new Papa's ear off. "Please, Chloe, don't mess this up!" Was running through our minds!

PAWS 2012 Members List

Catherine Allen, Ahoskie, N.C.
Allison Briggs, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Amy Brown, Colerain, N.C.
Carolyn Brown, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Tracey Collins, Wendell, N.C.
Frank Daccolti, Ahoskie, N.C.
Julie Dilday, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Mary Etta Flowers, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Stephanie Holt, Ahoskie, N.C.
Jamie Howell
JoAnn Jones, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Mitch Kelly, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Carol Lang, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Candace Matthews, Cofield, N.C.
Sarah Nesbit, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Tina Roberts, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Elaine Simons, Ahoskie, N.C.
Cheryl Snyder, Ahoskie, N.C.
Frank Wheatley, Suffolk, VA
Sherry Wheatley, Suffolk VA



Look Who Has Thundershirts!

The shelter environment can be frightening for any dog, especially those who are already temperamentally vulnerable. Thanks to Cheryl Snyder, PAWS has received a generous grant for 40 Thundershirts from PetFinder. Now several of our anxious dogs are sporting them – and what a difference they make! These pups will even get to take their new thundershirts home with them!

Friends of PAWS 2012

Dell Aycock, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Joe Blomquist
Vanessa Bunch
Luther Culpepper
Johnnie R. Farmer
Curtis A. Freeman, Sr.
Leeta Harding, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Howard J. Hunter, III
Catherine Jenkins
Pam Jenkins, Ahoskie, N.C.
Dr. Peggy Johnston, Gates
Anne Laskin, Colerain, N.C.
Jennifer Lobred, Chesapeake, VA
Janie Markert
Joan McEnery, Norfolk, VA
Joe Minton, Murfreesboro, N.C.
William F. Mitchell
Amy Paulson
Dr. Cheryl Powell, Powellsville, N.C.
Dr. Proctor, Ahoskie, N.C.
Dr. Ben Shelton, Williamston, N.C.
Deborah Spalding
Mandy Spiller, Chesapeake, VA
Paula Spiller
John Sullin, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Phyllis Sullin, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Suzy Swims
Kenny Thomas, Murfreesboro, N.C.
Juan Vaughan, Murfreesboro, N.C.

2012 Student Members

Macie Calvert, Clayton, N.C.
Ashley Holloman, Ahoskie, N.C.
Lydia Murphy, Ahoskie, N.C.
Eva Walton, Wendell, N.C.
Seth Parker, Harrellsville, N.C.
Jacob Parker, Harrellsville, N.C.

*To the World You May be Just One Life, but
to One Life, You May Be the World.*

-Unknown

K9 Justice League Comes to Town!

PAWS ended 2011 in a very special way. K9 Justice League (K9JL) of VA Beach came to the shelter on New Year's Eve and pulled 10 dogs: Wallace, Florence, Buddy, Angel, Louis, Shane, Lucy, Houston, Noelle, and long-time resident, Georgia. Each dog will go into foster care before being adopted to good homes. The group also transported Josephine to Boxer Rescue.

The old saying is that whatever one does on New Year's Eve is what one will do the rest of the year - if that is true, 2012 will give us rescue at its BEST with collaboration between rescue groups and numerous pets saved. A huge THANK YOU goes to our friends at K9JL for their open hearts and generosity. You are a beacon of hope for those with no voice. We deeply value your friendship.



K9 Justice League saved 10 PAWS dogs on New Year's Eve. They truly are heroes.

The mission of PAWS of Hertford County is to make our community a more humane place for homeless, abused, and neglected animals through increased spaying and neutering, high-quality sheltering, conscientious adoptions, education of the public, and animal welfare advocacy.

PAWS OF HERTFORD COUNTY

Located at Mt. Moriah Rd. (Next to the Landfill)

P.O. Box 153
Murfreesboro, N.C. 27855

www.pawsofhertfordcounty.com

This issue of the PAWS of Hertford County Newsletter is dedicated to the memory of "Bruiser Jones," who crossed the Rainbow Bridge in December, 2011. You were a good dog, and you are missed.