

# PAWS FOR THOUGHT



A Publication of the Humane Society of Forsyth County  
A No-Kill Adoption Facility located at 4440 Keith Bridge Road, Cumming GA 30041  
Phone 770-887-6480 or visit us online at our website: [www.forsythpets.org](http://www.forsythpets.org)

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2011



## Love is love...

- *Rebekah Di Bella*

My 9-year old daughter, Alley, and I headed to Petco one Saturday to pick up food for our dog, Strudel. The Humane Society of Forsyth County was at Petco that day with lots of dogs and lots of volunteers. My daughter spotted a dog sleeping in his cage and immediately went over to him. His eyes opened, he looked at her, and that was that. Thump, thump, thump against the cage: his tail didn't quit wagging.

"Blue" was a sweet 6 month old Australian Shepherd mix who had lived at the Forsyth County Humane Society most of his life. He had come into care as a puppy with his litter mates. They had all been adopted out months prior, but he lingered. When a volunteer took Blue out of his cage, he and my daughter visited as I went to find what we had come there for: dog food. When I came back, I had to laugh. Blue, a 30 pound orange dog, was doing his best to fit on her small crossed-legged lap. She was giggling; he was content.

We hadn't come for a dog. We had come for dog food. So, we said goodbye to Blue and purchased our food.

At the car, my daughter told me that she thought we should go back and get Blue. My responses: "We'll see..." "Let's think about it..." "We'll talk to your Dad when we get home...."

And then she said, "But I love him." I looked at her and knew she was serious. I've learned this in my 47 years: love is love. We put the food in the car and went back inside so I could assess this dog that my daughter already loved.

The volunteers got Blue out of his cage again, and this time I visited with him. He was definitely one big bundle of love, my daughter was right. Well-mannered. Sweet. Warm. Friendly. And handsome. He had soft, soft orange fur, and one brown eye and one that was half brown and half blue.

Then the Humane Society representative told me something that made me turn my head away so she wouldn't see the tears in my eyes...

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**Love...** (Continued from page 1)

She said that the only possible reason a wonderful dog like Blue could have lingered so long without being adopted is that there is a special home that he is waiting for. I knew then: it was us, it was *our* home.

So Blue came to the home he had been waiting for. He made immediate friends with our other dog (also a rescue), Strudel, and they ran around the yard and played. Then he came inside, jumped up on the sofa right next to my daughter, and took a nap. She laid her head on him, "He makes a great pillow." We couldn't believe it! After all, he had spent almost all of his 6 months of life in a shelter. How could he become a family dog in just 30 minutes? Welcome home, Blue!

Blue is a testament to how well the animals are cared for at the Humane Society of Forsyth County. He was physically *and emotionally* healthy. We had no issues with house-breaking or any weird behaviors. Amazing.

Blue and my daughter have been a pair since the day we adopted him. Blue is her special, special pal. He has enriched our lives beyond measure. And you know what? His tail hasn't stopped wagging yet.

Thank you for taking care of Blue until we found each other. And thank you for all you do for all the animals there as they wait for their forever homes!

Blue settled into his new home like he had lived there forever. It was the home he had been waiting for his whole life!

**Support the Humane Society of Forsyth County by donating or becoming a member today!**

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Humane Society of Forsyth County  
PO Box 337  
Cumming, GA 30028

Email \_\_\_\_\_

If membership, please circle one:

Individual \$20                      Lifetime \$500                      Corporate \$100

Family \$30                      Student (under 18) \$8

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation enclosed (If in memory of, please indicate the name of pet or loved one or specific purpose, i.e. Special needs medical, spay/neuter fund, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like a card sent in recognition of the loss of a loved one or pet, please include the next of kin's address.

To sponsor a pet or for more information on sponsorship opportunities, please visit our website: [www.forsythpets.org](http://www.forsythpets.org)  
For general information call 770-889-1365 or email: [rescue@forsythpets.org](mailto:rescue@forsythpets.org)

*Our books are audited annually by Keystone Accounting*

# Featured Adoptable Pets

**Cara** was born around 7/24/2010 to a Siamese mix. She is a female, tabby with a fun loving and sweet disposition. Cara has a big family with 7 brothers and sisters. They have had a rough time and have unfortunately been overlooked through no fault of their own. They were turned in to the Humane Society when they were three days old! They went into a wonderful foster home that taught them how to play with kids and other pets. Unfortunately, they also battled illnesses, but they are now completely healthy and ready for their forever homes!

Cara currently lives at the adoption center. She is up to date on shots, combo tested, spayed, and microchipped. The HSFC requires cats to be indoors only. If you would like to give her the forever home he deserves please fill out an [adoption application](#) online or contact the shelter at: 770-887-6480 or [rescue@forsythpets.org](mailto:rescue@forsythpets.org)



*Cara*



*Molly*

Molly was turned in to the shelter from an unimaginable life on a chain. She is in a foster home with 5 other dogs of all sizes. She cowers when she doesn't understand a sound or movement around the home, but she comes happily when called with her head cocked down and sideways and a half smile on her face. Her tail wags with anticipation. She gingerly sits and politely reaches her paw for permission to be loved. Her life changed overnight when she arrived at her foster home. She carefully watches her housemates' behavior. Although still timid, she enjoys playing and chasing with the other dogs. She will absolutely make a wonderful pet for a family with a heart to heal.

Molly is up to date on shots, heartworm tested, spayed, and microchipped. If you would like to give her the forever home she deserves, please fill out an [adoption application](#) online or contact us at: 770-887-6480 or [rescue@forsythpets.org](mailto:rescue@forsythpets.org)

**Cole** is a handsome, Maine Coon mix tabby. He is a truly magnificent kitty with a great personality! He is almost 4 yrs old but loves to play with the laser pointer! He enjoys being held and LOVES affection. You can even brush his coat and he will roll onto his belly for a belly rub or to make sure you get his undercoat nicely groomed.

Cole is diabetic and requires insulin shots twice daily after he eats. He is also on a special diet of Fancy Feast Classic Chicken or Turkey. The insulin shots are tiny and he is very easy going about taking them. He would make a great companion for a child with diabetes!

Cole is up to date on shots, combo tested, neutered, and microchipped. If you would like to give him the forever home she deserves please fill out an [adoption application](#) online or contact his foster mom at: [igooch@forsythpets.org](mailto:igooch@forsythpets.org)

## Special Needs Feature



*Cole*

# Volunteer Spotlight: Terri Murphy



Sometimes the road to volunteering at the Humane Society isn't always a direct route. Such is the case for Terri Murphy. Terri is no stranger to volunteering, she has been actively volunteering in the community for years. Her daughter, Amanda, is a senior at South Forsyth High School. In order for her to earn her volunteer hours for Beta Club and National Honor Society last year, she chose to spend time at our shelter socializing the pets.

When Amanda's father didn't go up to the shelter with her, her mother, Terri did. During one of the visits, Terri offered to help with any office or admin work if it was needed. It was music to our ears!

Most volunteers want to spend time directly with the pets, which is great, but there are also the less exciting volunteer tasks that are just as meaningful. Our Director asked Terri if she'd be willing to help with tracking our veterinary expenses in a database. This can be quite confusing because we work with several veterinarians and have to deal with all sorts of medicines and procedures that would be Greek to most people. It is the largest expense in our budget, so it's really important to break down how we are spending our money. By tracking these expenses, we are able to see places for savings, use different vets for less expensive procedures, and target funds.

Terri jumped right in and has been helping us track our vet expenses ever since. Every month she does through the vet invoices, for each pet and enters them into a database format. She also helped at the Humane Society of Forsyth County Thrift Store with the enormous task of sorting and organizing all of the wonderful donations that we received prior to our store opening this past October. Terri's family grew last May, when they adopted two lab mix puppies from our adoption program. The two 'puppies', Bear and Nicki, have since grown and are now 65 pounds each and so grateful to be blessed with such a loving forever home.

Terri has taken on a very unglamorous task that is behind the scenes, but she has made a huge difference. We are so grateful for her willingness to help. That is why Terri Murphy is our Volunteer Spotlight this month!

You may not see Terri around the shelter but we hope you will join us in thanking her for all she does for the HSFC.

If you have a little free time and a lot of love in your heart, you could help us save even more animals. Other administrative tasks that you can do from home include: Online calendar posting, website support, donation acknowledgments, Spay/neuter database creation... To get involved is easy...just contact us at:

[Volunteer@forsythpets.org](mailto:Volunteer@forsythpets.org) or come to volunteer orientation (see Calendar of Events for dates).

-Article by Yvette Matzek. Volunteer Chairperson

## **THRIFT STORE NEWS-- MARCH CLEARANCE TAGS:**

**Yellow-25% off**

**White-50% off**

**Red-75% off**

**Green-85% off**

Visit the [Humane Society Thrift Store](#) at 168 Tri-county Plaza. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- **March 5, 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30**– Offsite adoptions at Petco in Cumming, Dogs & Cats 11-3pm
- **March 6 & 20 and April 3 & 17** – Offsite adoptions at Petco in Milton, Dogs only 11-3pm
- **March 5 & 19 and April 2 & 16**– Offsite adoptions at Rucker Pet and Wild Bird Cats only 11-3pm
- **March 26 and April 19**– Offsite adoptions at the HSFC Thrift Store (tri-County Plaza), Dogs & Cats 11-3pm
- **March 24**– **Volunteer Orientation, Adoption Center: 6:30pm** (please bring volunteer application)
- **March 17**– **Member Meeting: 7pm** Northside Hospital Forsyth
- **March 28**– **Spay- ghetti & No Meatballs Dinner, Bello Italian Restaurant 4-9pm, Adults: \$20, Children under 10: \$10**
- **April 28**– **Volunteer Orientation, Adoption Center: 6:30pm** (please bring volunteer application)

**\*\*Events subject to change. Please check our online calendar for updates.**

# MARCH & APRIL

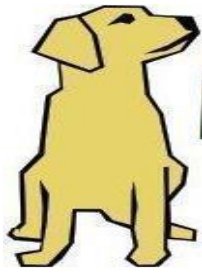
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
27	28	1	2	3	4	5 Petco Adoptions & Rucker Cat Adoptions
6 Petco Dog Adoptions	7	8	9	10	11	12 Petco Adoptions
13	14	15	16	17 <b>Member Meeting</b>	18	19 Petco Adoptions & Rucker Cat Adoptions
20 Petco Dog Adoptions	21	22	23	24 <b>Volunteer Orientation 6:30pm</b>	25	26 Petco Adoptions & Thrift store Adoptions
27	28 <b>Spay-ghetti Dinner</b>	29	30	31	1	2 Petco Adoptions & Rucker Cat Adoptions
3 Petco Dog Adoptions	4	5	6	7	8	9 Petco Adoptions & Thrift store Adoptions
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Petco Adoptions & Rucker Cat Adoptions

## Community Support keeps us going!

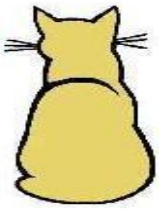
Special thanks to BJs Wholesale Club, Sawnee Elementary (not pictured), and McGinnis Woods Country Day School Jr Beta Club for supporting the animals with supplies and fundraising! Thank you to the Confirmation Class at Johns Creek United Methodist Church for your volunteer work to beautify the shelter! The flowers look wonderful.



Above (Left to right): Elizabeth Findley, Christopher Findley, Trevor Cook, Blake Cavender and Elizabeth Cavender.



# MUTTS & MORE Festival



## RUNNERS AND WALKERS WANTED!

Join us June 4<sup>th</sup> at the Cumming Fairgrounds



Run to benefit the animals! Enjoy this 5K Road Race through downtown Cumming starting at 8am.

To register visit [www.active.com/donate/racetorescue](http://www.active.com/donate/racetorescue)

Get your walking shoes and Rover's leash ready for the Mutt Strut fun walk at 10am.

Round up your friends and neighbors to sponsor you as a walker to raise money for the animals. Build your own team then challenge another team! Prizes will be awarded for the individual and team with the most raised, largest team, creative costumes and more!

To register for this fun walk, please visit [www.firstgiving.com/forsythpets/Event/muttstrutt](http://www.firstgiving.com/forsythpets/Event/muttstrutt)



FOR MORE INFO ABOUT ALL THE ACTIVITIES AT THE MUTTS AND MORE FESTIVAL, Please visit our website at: [www.ForsythPets.org/MMF](http://www.ForsythPets.org/MMF)



Have you adopted from the HSFC? Do you know a dedicated volunteer who deserves to be recognized?

Share your "Pet Tale" or nominate a volunteer for recognition by contacting us at: [Newsletter@forsythpet.org](mailto:Newsletter@forsythpet.org)



## ADOPTION STATISTICS

	DECEMBER 2010	JANUARY 2011	FEB 2011	TOTAL <u>2011</u>
CATS:	31	39	41	80
DOGS:	38	38	51	89
PETS ADOPTED:	69	77	92	169

# FRIENDS REMEMBERED & HONORED



Your donation in memory of or in honor of a cherished friend will help give homeless pets a chance to know that same love. If requested, the HSFC will send a note to let a friend or loved one know that a donation has been made in their loved-one's honor. The HSFC is grateful for the following donations:

- In honor of Bailey, a donation has been made by Hope Kauffman.
- In honor of Riley Roo, a donation has been made by John Benthall.
- In honor of Kate Ryan's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday, a donation has been made by Michelle and Claire Taylor.
- In memory of Buddy Rabbit McKinney, a donation has been made by Barbara Buchwald.
- In memory of Florence Nifos, a donation has been made by Martin Freeman.
- In honor of Allison Farnen, a donation has been made by Edward Farnen.
- In memory of Bagwell Hegarty, a donation has been made by Bob & Theresa Foster.
- In memory of Gizmo, a donation has been made by Chuck and Pam Woddail.
- In memory of Zell, for years of wonderful memories, a donation has been made by Kathleen Lewis.
- In memory of Winston Finney, a donation has been made by Bob & Theresa Foster.
- In honor of Clayton Munnell, a donation has been made by Amy Munnell.
- In honor of Moe, a donation has been made by Vicki Kuglin Carver
- In honor of Clayton Munnell, a donation has been made by Virginia Nell Morris.
- In honor of Andrew & Tyler Mathewson's birthday and in memory of Lynn Mathewson, a donation has been made by Edy Marsal.
- In honor of MaKayla & Jake, a donation has been made by Michelle McAllister.
- In memory of Theodore Alligood, Virginia Mitchell's father, donations have been made by Cheryl McLaughlin, Sheri & Ron McElroy, and JoAnn & Greg Geldart.
- In memory of Marie McLaughlin Chambers, a donation has been made by Nancy Hollifield.
- In honor of Panda, a donation has been made by Philomena Moss.
- In memory of Oso, beloved dog and friend to Mischelle and Steve Hall, a donation has been made by Becky Vaughn.
- In honor of Holland Moon's 7<sup>th</sup> birthday, a donation has been made by Vivian Tognarina.
- In memory of Mr. S. Bennett, a donation has been made by the band.
- In memory of Allan Beegle, a donation has been made by Mineral Springs Middle School.
- In memory of Motto, a donation has been made by Cal and Sandi Tax.
- In honor of Mary Katherine Lynch's 9<sup>th</sup> birthday, a donation has been made by Eddie Parsley and Frank Callis.
- In honor of Angus and Murray Schubert, a donation has been made by Tammy Schubert.
- In honor of Kumah, a donation has been made by Matthew Allison.

## HAPPY TAILS!



Cadet got adopted from Petco



Raquel (aka Akilah) with her new family



Middie made herself at home with Adriana



"Callie", our 8 month old cat we adopted from the Humane Society of Forsyth County! After a week of the dogs being "over-excited", all is peaceful now. She keeps us laughing with her antics!

-Susan



Congrats on adopting Molly (aka Mocha)



VISIT US ON THE WEB:

[www.forsythpets.org](http://www.forsythpets.org)

Phone: (770) 889-1365

or (770) 887-6480

Email: [Rescue@forsythpets.org](mailto:Rescue@forsythpets.org)

**WE'RE ON FACEBOOK!**

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Humane-Society-of-Forsyth-County-GA/136444916387429?ref=ts>

**NEW SHELTER HOURS: 11am-6pm!**  
Seven days a week!

If you are a member and would like your membership dues to go toward mailing this newsletter to your home. Please call: 770-889-1365 x8 and leave a message with your request, name and address.

If you would like to receive this by email, register at: [www.forsythpets.org/news/newsletter-sign-up](http://www.forsythpets.org/news/newsletter-sign-up)

### WISH LIST

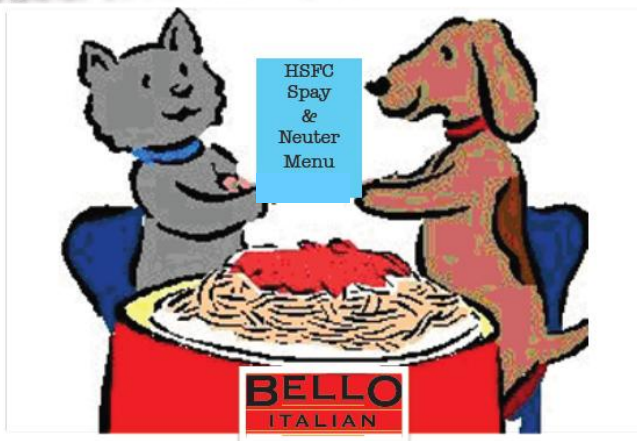
- Tall kitchen garbage bags
- White Copy Paper
- Large garbage bins with lids (to hold loose food)
- Industrial mop head refills
- Bleach
- Scoop able & Clay Cat litter, esp: *World's Best Cat Litter* (brand)
- Tall plastic storage containers on wheels
- Paper towels
- Toilet Paper
- Automatic Dishwasher soap
- Dog and Cat food- all types
- Disinfectant wipes (like Clorox, etc)
- Antibacterial hand soap
- Electric pressure washer
- Easy walk harnesses/Premier collars
- Toner Cartridges: Brother TN-330 or 360
- Small stainless steel food bowls
- Reusable plastic grocery bags

Items are tax deductible as allowable by law and can be dropped off at the adoption center or thrift store.

## **HUMANE** SOCIETY OF FORSYTH COUNTY a NO KILL shelter

# "Spay"ghetti and No Meat Balls

### Dinner to Fund the Spay and Neuter Program



**MARCH 28, 4pm-9pm**

- Bello's Italian Restaurant – 101 Meadow Drive, Cumming
- Adults: \$20, Children under 10: \$10

To purchase tickets or volunteer contact--  
Debbie Booth: [d booth@att.net](mailto:d booth@att.net) or Lance White: [onyxgable@aol.com](mailto:onyxgable@aol.com)