

Pet News

Delta County Humane Society
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Delta, Colorado 81416
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July - Sept 2021

Web Sites: www.deltacountyhumanesociety.org or www.petfinder.com

National Dog Day

August 26, 2021

Often known as man's best friend, dogs were the first animals to be domesticated by humans and they were often used for guarding property, herding stock, and for hunting game. Today, dogs are used as companions and are considered to be a member of the family in many parts of the world.

How to Celebrate?

- Adopt a dog and give it a loving home.
- If you have a dog, treat them with their favorite treats.
- If you are unable to have a dog in your family, celebrate the day by donating your time and money to the local animal and dog shelter.



Everyone thinks they have the best dog. And none of them are wrong.

. . . *W.R.Purche*

Beware the Dog Days of Summer

Excerpts courtesy of Care.com

Summer has long been a time for vacations, cookouts and pool parties. When the temperature heats up, the dangers to pets increase, too. To keep your dog, cat and other furry friends safe, make sure you are prepared. Here are a few items to be aware of:

1. Ticks

With pets spending more outside time outdoors in the summer months, you should check your pet for ticks at least once a day, and look thoroughly after walks or trips through wooded areas. If you find a tick, refer to the ASPCA's guide "How to Remove a Tick from Your Pet." Try to save the tick in an airtight container and, then, ask your vet if you should bring it in for testing.

2. Dehydration and Heatstroke

Dehydration and heatstroke are very real threats when the dog days of summer are upon us. Animals should always have fresh, clean water available, whether it's summer or the dead of winter. Carry portable water bowls on walks and bring them on vacation or long car rides. Short-nosed dogs, like pugs, Japanese chins and bulldogs, pets with dark fur or skin, animals that are overweight or ones that have thick coats (like Himalayan or Persian cats), are especially prone to heat stress. Watch out for these symptoms:

- Excessive Lethargy
- Decreased urination
- Dry gums
- Refusal to eat
- Sunken eyes
- Decreased skin elasticity (gently pinch your pet's skin near the shoulder up into the shape of a tent. If the skin is slow to snap back, your pet may be dehydrated.)

Don't worry if your dog pants. That's how they cool themselves off. Other ways to cool your pup include fans, ice packs, frozen treats, ice cubes, kiddie pools and sprinklers. If they seem weak or off-balance, cool them with a hose or wet towels and get them to a veterinarian as quickly as possible.

**IT'S SO HOT, THE
DOG MELTED!!!**



Dog Days of Summer (continued) . . .

3. Pools and Water

Despite what YouTube may tell us, cats and rabbits don't like to swim. And not all dogs have mastered the doggie paddle. Some may not like water, and certain breeds like pugs, bulldogs and terriers, may have trouble swimming. If you plan to spend time near bodies of water, buying a floatation device for your dog is not a laughing matter – it may save its life. And never try to force your pet into the water.

If you luck out and your pet enjoys splashing around, always rinse off after a swim. The chlorine, salt and bacteria in pools and lakes can be harmful. Animals should also have a shady area nearby where they can cool off and access to fresh water, as drinking salt water and pool water can cause health problems.

4. Cars

We have all been guilty of it. You leave the dog or cat in the car to run a quick errand inside a store. But in the summer months or if the temperature is above 65 degrees, stop this bad habit.

5. Bee stings

Buzz. Buzz. It may not be a pleasant sound to us, but it can cause your pet to investigate. And while curiosity may not kill the cat (or dog), it can get them stung. If possible, applying ice to the sting area may help. If there is a lot of swelling, call your vet, who can suggest an office visit or prescribe an over-the-counter medicine. Some OTCs are harmful to pets, though, so never dispense them on your own.

6. Barbeques and family cookouts

Talk to any guests, especially kids, before summer parties. Politely remind them if your pet has a special diet, is allergic to anything or if there are any foods on the table that could cause a health problem. You want to enjoy the party, too, not spend it looking after a pet with an upset stomach. These particular items are just a few things to look out for:

- **Meat with barbeque sauce:** This slow-cooked delight can cause non-delightful diarrhea in dogs.
- **Corn on the cob:** Dogs often have difficulty digesting corn cobs, and this grilling staple can be a choking hazard.
- **Fruits with pits:** Peaches, avocados and other pitted fruit can be choking hazards.
- **Food with bones:** Even things like bone-in wings can be very dangerous for your pet, as they may splinter and hurt their GI system, sometimes even piercing their bowels. Avoid the emergency room by not feeding your pet anything with bones.
- **Food with toothpicks or skewers:** An overlooked toothpick or skewer can pierce or make a hole in the intestines.
- **Ice cream:** A little of any flavor is fine for some dogs, but it may not agree with all dogs, especially if they have sensitive stomachs. Just like people, some dogs can be lactose intolerant.

ADOPTIONS !!!



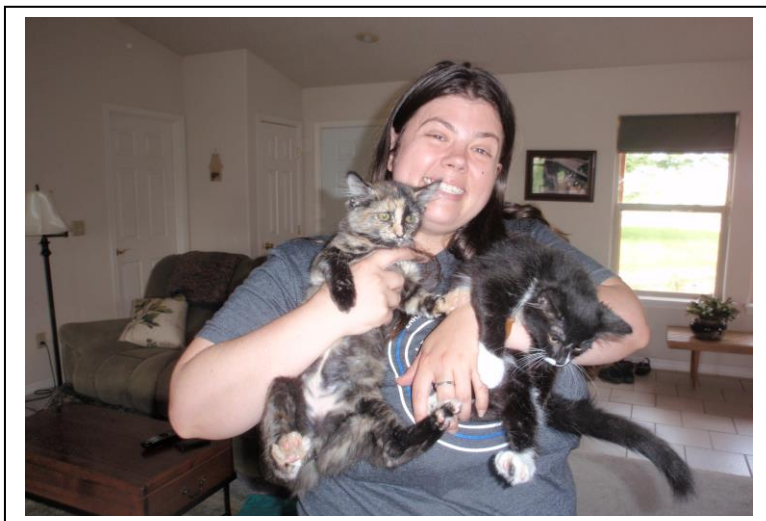
← Bunny is on her way home to Pueblo, Colo. Melissa fell in love with Bunny at the last spay/neuter clinic in Delta, Colo. and has been patiently waiting since to make Bunny a part of her family – she was finally able to take her home on June 7. Melissa has three other cats and two dogs... what a wonderful family for Bunny!!

Our foster mom, Joan, tells us that little “Rowdy” picked Michella as his mom when she came to visit. He rolled right over in front of her to have his tummy scratched, and that was it! Michella lives in Delta with her daughter, two dogs, two cats & nine chickens so Rowdy won’t be lonely. →

As a side note, Michella & her daughter, Chay, have adopted 3 dogs and 3 cats from DCHS in the past 16 years !! That has to be a record – THANK YOU!!



← Caitlin, of Delta, Colo., decided that one kitten wasn’t enough so on June 18 she adopted “Jazz” and “Zoomer.” She already has a dog and a cat, so now it’s definitely a full house. Thank you, Caitlin, for making room in your heart and home for these two bundles of joy. Great photo !



ADOPTIONS !!! (page 2)



← Jeremy and Kacy drove from Gypsum, Colo. to adopt “Finn” on June 19. They have a dog, two other cats, and a large rabbit for Finn to play with – and Kacy is a vet tech. The perfect home for Finn! Kacy even brought a cat harness for Finn to wear instead of going into a crate, and Finn didn’t mind at all. What a great life Finn will have - thank you for adopting him!



← “Turbo” was the lucky kitten to go home with Mary and Brandon on June 21. Now she will live in Delta with one other cat and two dogs – lots of company to keep her happy. Kitten kisses were received by her new owners to let them know she was ready to go home. Great adoption!

GANG VIOLENCE HAS TO STOP 🙏🙏



Never try to wash a dog in an outdoor pond.

A Heart Warming Story . . . (*borrowed from Animal Connection*)

This story was sent to us by several people and although we don't know if it is true, it's such a heartwarming story in so many ways that we hope it truly did happen.

Mary and her husband Jim had a dog named 'Lucky.'

Lucky was a real character. Whenever Mary and Jim had company come for a weekend visit they would warn their friends to not leave their luggage open because Lucky would help himself to whatever struck his fancy. Inevitably, someone would forget and something would come up missing.

Mary or Jim would go to Lucky's toy box in the basement and there the treasure would be, amid all of Lucky's other favorite toys. Lucky always stashed his finds in his toy box and he was very particular that his toys stay in the box.

It happened that Mary found out she had breast cancer. Something told her she was going to die of this disease....in fact, she was just sure it was fatal.

She scheduled the double mastectomy, fear riding her shoulders. The night before she was to go to the hospital she cuddled with Lucky. A thought struck her...what would happen to Lucky? Although the three-year-old dog liked Jim, he was Mary's dog through and through. If I die, Lucky will be abandoned, Mary thought. He won't understand that I didn't want to leave him! The thought made her sadder than thinking of her own death.

The double mastectomy was harder on Mary than her doctors had anticipated and Mary was hospitalized for over two weeks. Jim took Lucky for his evening walk faithfully, but the dog just drooped, whining and miserable.

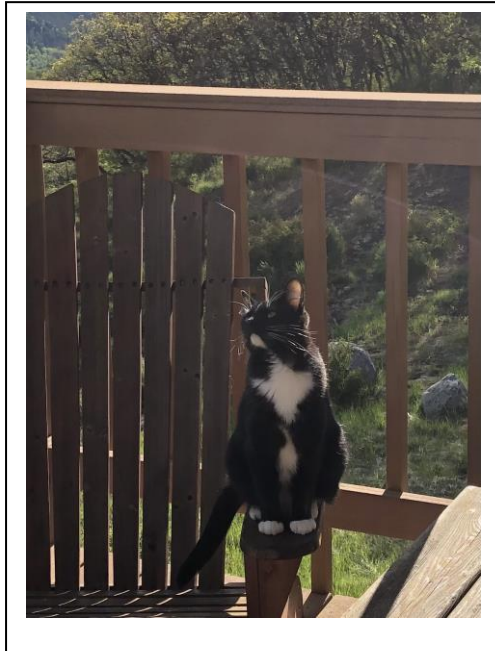
Finally the day came for Mary to leave the hospital. When she arrived home, Mary was so exhausted she couldn't even make it up the steps to her bedroom. Jim made his wife comfortable on the couch and left her to nap.

Lucky stood watching Mary but he didn't come to her when she called. It made Mary sad but sleep soon overcame her and she dozed.

When Mary woke for a second she couldn't understand what was wrong. She couldn't move her head and her body felt heavy and hot. But panic soon gave way to laughter when Mary realized the problem. She was covered, literally blanketed, with every treasure Lucky owned! While she had slept, the sorrowing dog had made trip after trip to the basement bringing his beloved mistress all his favorite things in life. He had covered her with his love. Mary forgot about dying.

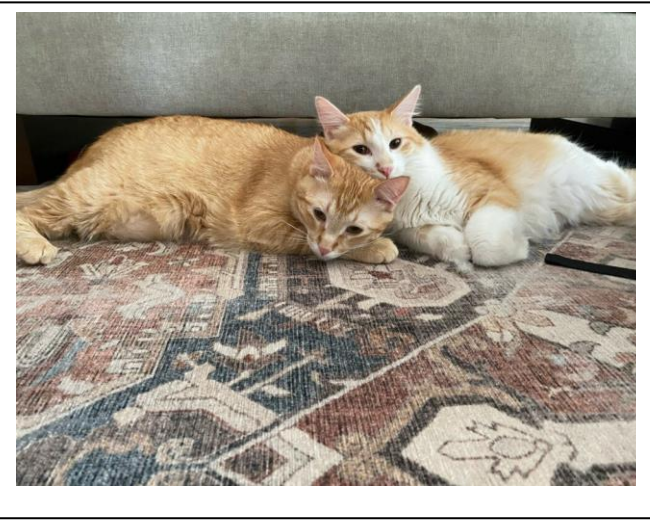
Instead she and Lucky began living again, walking further and further together every day. It's been 12 years now and Mary is still cancer-free. Lucky still steals treasures and stashes them in his toy box but Mary remains his greatest treasure.

Here's the latest photo of a traveling cat



“Lexie” is now spending her summer at her home in Marble, CO. She was adopted by Alan and Susan who spend their lives divided between Washington DC and Marble, Colorado. Needless to say, Lexie has become an experienced traveler and certainly doesn't look like life on the road affects her much.

. . . and these two brothers had a name change . . .



Once “Mango” and “Marmalade,” they are now “Archie” and “Finn.” Their owner, Ellie, in Grand Junction, Colo. decided on more appropriate boy-type names, and we don't mind because we can tell by looking at this recent photo that they are loved & well cared for.

More Pets Go Missing on July 4th Than Any Other Day Of The Year!

Share these great tips to provide a safe Independence Day for your canine household!

Take your dog for a long walk before the festivities begin. This will allow them to potty before the noise begins and it tires them out.



Never use fireworks around your dog. The noise can spook them into taking off, or they can accidentally get burned by the fireworks.

Make sure your dog is wearing an ID collar with your current contact info. Collars can come off, so microchip your dog as well (and be sure to register it).



Loud, crowded fireworks displays are no fun for dogs. Resist the urge to bring your dog with you to the festivities.



Leave your dog at home with all the windows securely closed and all shades drawn. Turn on some music to drown out noise from fireworks.



Leave your dog with something to play with (A frozen kong stuffed with treats will last hours).



Consider staying home with your dogs to insure they remain safe, especially if they have anxiety.



If your dog is extremely anxious, consult with your vet about giving a mild sedative to help calm your dog.



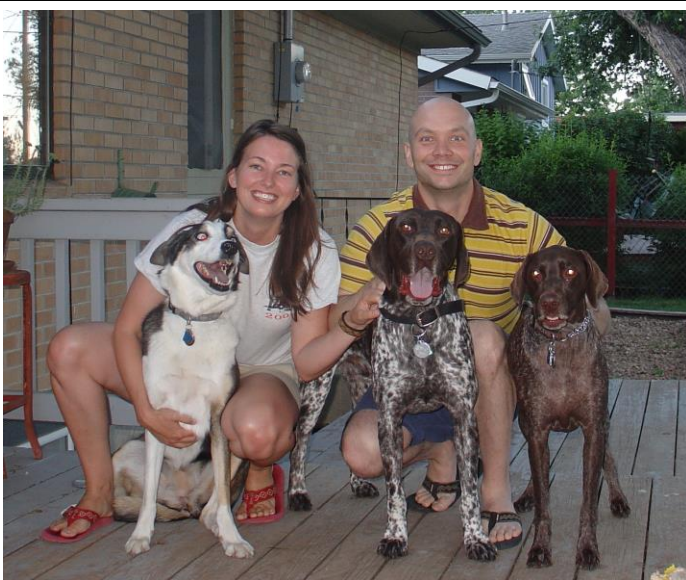
We send our sad goodbyes to Lenny and our sympathies to his loving family . . .

You may recall that in our last issue we inserted photos of *Leonard Painter Andrews* (aka “Lenny”) eating his meal while sitting down on a stool. Needless to say, Lenny was a special dog and extremely loved by his family. We are sorry, and very sad, to report that Lenny passed away on April 27, 2021 at the age of 16.7 years. Here is a short blurb from the Facebook posting from his mom, Tiffany:

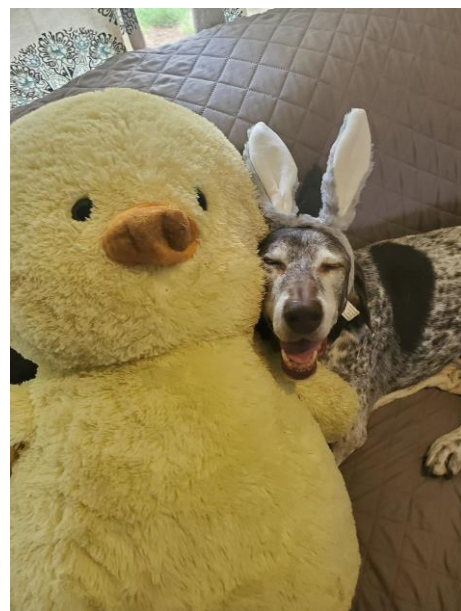
“13 years and 56 days. That’s the time we had with Leonard. It wasn’t enough but it was exactly what was best for him. We said goodbye in the sunshine in his backyard. He was surrounded by all of his stuffed animal friends, his mom and dad, and some beautiful homegrown flowers from the sweetest friend.

The story of how we got him has been told many times. How we drove 10 hours to pick him up after we found him on the Delta County Humane Society website. How I couldn’t eat because I was so nervous to meet him. And how I started crying the second I did meet him because I loved him immediately. How we got him home, gave him a bath, put him in the bed, and he growled at me. How Blake slept with him on the couch that first night because I didn’t know what to do after he growled. Thirteen years later, there aren’t any words to say what his passing means. He was the glue that held everything together. He ran this house from day one. Len was our very best friend.

Our hearts go out to the Painter-Andrews family for the loss of dear Lenny. All of us who are animal lovers can understand the loss of a companion pet who was a major part of our lives.



“Lenny” with his family in his early years – June 2008.



“Lenny” still hamming it up as the Easter Bunny – April 2021



The Delta County Humane Society is a non-profit organization. This means all of your donations of money and materials are tax deductible. The organization is not funded by your government tax dollars. This is why YOUR membership and donations are so very vital to us. As many of you are aware, we have only a small force of volunteers who care for the abandoned and unwanted animals in their homes until they can be provided with a permanent and suitable home. If you are concerned with the well-being of our animals and would like to help financially with a membership or donation, please fill out this form and return it with your check. If you have material items with a value, please call our office (970-874-2149) and leave a message. (We are always in need of blankets, towels, dog houses and runs, pet food, carriers, collars, leashes, food bowls, large food storage containers, wire fencing, etc.)

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MEMBERSHIP: \$10 (annual) \$20 (supporting) \$100 (lifetime)

MEMBERSHIP: \$_____ DONATION: \$_____ PHONE: _____

GYPSY FUND DONATION \$_____ (feral cats)

Name: _____

ADDRESS: _____

MAIL TO: DELTA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1111
DELTA, CO 81416

THANK YOU FOR HELPING THE HOMELESS ANIMALS
OF DELTA COUNTY