



PAW TALES



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Dear HPAN Supporter,

In 2014 the Helping Paws Animal Network (HPAN) assisted more than 20 rescues with our efforts to save local animals who were sick, hungry, homeless, or in need of basic and sometimes not so basic veterinary care. Many of those animals were placed in loving homes where they are wanted, loved, and will live out their lives returning that love to their forever families. These success stories are because of generous contributions from our donors. Many of you have given us a portion of your pay through automatic deductions; some of you have given here and there; others have given goods that we can sell; and others have given us your time in working at community events and social networking behind the scenes. As the saying goes, "it takes a village..." We could not do the work we do without all of you, so please know that everything you are doing is important, makes a difference, and is so appreciated.



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**Helping Hungry, Hurting
and Homeless Animals**



We thought we'd use the platform of Paw Tales to remind you that HPAN is a non-profit (all volunteer) organization through IRS Section 501(c)3. Your tax-deductible gift helps us help animals in need. No amount is too small, and I assure you we will always be good stewards of the funds we receive. Please consider donating through our Facebook page via the secure FundRazr link.

We hope you will consider forwarding this edition of Paw Tales to like-minded animal lovers to encourage their support as well. Because HPAN does not have a physical location, we do not publish a physical address; however, if you know of someone who might want to make a donation by mail, please ask them to send a private message on our Facebook page.

HPAN's Board of Directors stands ready to make 2015 a year of more success stories and happy endings. On behalf of the Board, all the rescues we sponsor, and all the animals we serve, thank you for your support.

Amy Starkey
Treasurer
Helping Paws Animal Network

When the Time Comes...

By Karin Jessen

October 8, 2014:

Lizzie, my 12 year old Golden Retriever, was diagnosed with B-cell Lymphoma on Dec. 26, 2013. Nine months and four chemo protocols later, the treatments did not work. She is currently taking medications that are keeping comfortable and stable. Quality of life is the name of the game and although Lizzie has cancer, she still wags her tail, looks forward to eating and enjoys short walks in the woods. Her eyes are bright and she perks up her ears when things are happening. I don't know how much longer she will be with us, but I think I will recognize the signs when the time comes.



Euthanasia is a difficult decision. I have had to make this decision way too many times and most recently six times in four years. As a pet owner for all of my adult life, this decision doesn't get any easier. But I have learned to recognize signs from my pets and to know when they are telling me to let go. It is always traumatic, painful, and heartbreaking, but it is the right thing to do. We don't want our pets to suffer, and letting go is the best way to ultimately say I love you.

The decision to euthanize is individual and personal. Seek advice from your vet, family members or friends who share a close bond with you and your pet. You will need support from people who truly understand what your pet means to you.

Important things to take into consideration when considering euthanasia include:

Does your pet enjoy life?

Is he/she still eating, walking, eliminating?

Is your pet in pain?

Are there any treatment options? Are there any medications that may ease the symptoms?

What is the quality of life for your pet?

Are there more good days than bad days?

When the decision to euthanize is made, setting up the appointment requires timing and it may be critical. You may need to decide the day of the week and/or the time of day. You may have to make the decision quickly due to the rapid deterioration of your pet's health. You may have to wait for the vet availability, or you may have to go to another vet. When we lost Kioko in March of this year, we had to use another vet because my vet was out of the country. I am very fortunate to know several vets in the area. Although the vet that euthanized Kioko had never met her before, oddly we had just seen this vet four days prior for Lizzie for another issue.

The euthanasia process should be quick and peaceful. It should be a two-step process. First, a sedative is administered to relax the pet and literally put your pet to sleep. Then an IV is inserted and flushed with a saline solution to make certain it is inserted properly into the vein. Once the euthanasia solution is given, the muscles will relax and the heart will stop beating. This is a quick and painless process for your pet.

Some pet owners want to be with their pet; others may wait in the waiting room. The decision is yours alone as a pet owner. I have been with every single pet I have ever owned when the time came. I would not have it any other way. You have options for the aftercare of your pet's body. Your vet can dispose of the body, or you can opt for cremation or burial. There are pet cemeteries all across the nation. These are influenced by financial and personal considerations and religious beliefs. Know your options ahead of time so you don't have to make a hasty decision.

Always take the time for your pets...they are so giving and enrich our lives. They are selfless and always put you first. Make their day a good day every day. Give them a hug and good bye pet in the morning and always greet them when you come home...you will not regret it.

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Pet Vaccines: Schedules for Cats and Dogs

Submitted By Patti Bradam

Like people, pets need vaccines. And pet vaccinations, like those for humans, may sometimes require a booster to keep them effective. The best way to stay on schedule with vaccinations for your dog or cat is to follow the recommendations of a veterinarian you trust.

Chances are your vet's suggestions will break down into two categories: core pet vaccines and non-core vaccines. Core pet vaccinations are those recommended for every pet, while non-core vaccines may be advised based on your pet's lifestyle. For example, your vet may suggest certain non-core vaccinations if your cat or dog is outdoors only or boarded often.

Many vaccines can be given to pets as young as 6 weeks old, so talk to your vet about setting up the best vaccination schedule for your cat or dog, kitten or puppy.

Vaccination Schedule for Dogs: Core and Non-core Vaccines Taken from:
<http://www.m.webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/pet-vaccines-schedules-cats-dogs>

Dog Vaccine	Initial Puppy Vaccination (at or under 16 weeks)	Initial Adult Dog Vaccination (over 16 weeks)	Booster Recommendation	Comments
Rabies 1-year	Can be administered in one dose, as early as 3 months of age. States regulate the age at which it is first administered.	Single dose	Annual boosters are required.	<i>Core dog vaccine.</i> Rabies is 100% fatal to dogs, with no treatment available. Prevention is key.
Rabies 3-year	Can be administered as one dose, as early as 3 months of age. States regulate the age at which it is first administered.	Single dose	A second vaccination is recommended after 1 year, then boosters every 3 years.	<i>Core dog vaccine.</i>
Distemper	At least 3 doses, given between 6 and 16 weeks of age	2 doses, given 3-4 weeks apart	Puppies need a booster 1 year after completing their initial series, then all dogs need a booster every 3 years or more often.	<i>Core dog vaccine.</i> Caused by an airborne virus, distemper is a severe disease that, among other problems, may cause permanent brain damage.
Parvovirus	At least 3 doses, given between 6 and 16 weeks of age	2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart	Puppies need a booster 1 year after completing the initial series, then all dogs need a booster every 3 years or more often.	<i>Core dog vaccine.</i> Canine "parvo" is contagious, and can cause severe vomiting and bloody diarrhea. Parvo is usually fatal if untreated.
Adenovirus (canine hepatitis)	At least 3 doses, between 6 and 16 weeks of age	2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart	Puppies need a booster 1 year after completing the initial series, then all dogs need a booster every 3 years or more often.	<i>Core dog vaccine.</i> Spread via coughs and sneezes, canine hepatitis can lead to severe liver damage, and death.
Parainfluenza	Administered at 6-8 weeks of age, then every 3-4 weeks until 12-14 weeks old	1 dose	A booster may be necessary after 1 year, depending on manufacturer recommendations; revaccination every 3 years is considered protective.	<i>Non-core dog vaccine.</i> Parainfluenza infection results in cough, fever. It may be associated with Bordetella infection.

Vaccination Schedule for Dogs: Core and Non-core Vaccines *(Continued from page 3)*

Bordetella bronchiseptica (kennel cough)	Depends on the vaccine type; 2 doses are usually needed for protection.	1 dose of the intranasal or oral product, or 2 doses of the injected product	Annual or 6-month boosters may be recommended for dogs in high-risk environments.	<i>Non-core dog vaccine.</i> Not usually a serious condition, although it can be dangerous in young puppies. It is usually seen after activities like boarding or showing.
Lyme disease	1 dose, administered as early as 9 weeks, with a second dose 2-4 weeks later	2 doses, 2-4 weeks apart	May be needed annually, prior to the start of tick season	<i>Non-core dog vaccine.</i> Generally recommended only for dogs with a high risk for exposure to Lyme disease-carrying ticks.
Leptospirosis	First dose at 12 weeks; second dose 4 weeks later	2 doses, 2-4 weeks apart	At least once yearly for dogs in high-risk areas	<i>Non-core dog vaccine.</i> Vaccination is generally restricted to established risk areas. Exposure to rodents and standing water can lead to a leptospirosis infection.
Canine influenza	First dose as early as 6-8 weeks; second dose 2-4 weeks later	2 doses, 2-4 weeks apart	Yearly	<i>Non-core dog vaccine.</i> Similar to bordetella.

Vaccination Schedule for Cats: Core Vaccines (see website above for non-core vaccines)

Cat Vaccine	Initial Kitten Vaccination (at or under 16 weeks)	Initial Adult Cat Vaccination (over 16 weeks)	Booster Recommendation	Comments
Rabies	Single dose as early as 8 weeks of age, depending on the product. Revaccinate 1 year later.	2 doses, 12 months apart	Required annually or every 3 years, depending on vaccine used. State regulations may determine the frequency and type of booster required.	<i>Core cat vaccine.</i> Rabies is 100% fatal to cats, with no treatment available. Prevention is key.
Feline Distemper (Panleukopenia)	As early as 6 weeks, then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age.	2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart	1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years.	<i>Core cat vaccine.</i> Feline distemper is a severe contagious disease that most commonly strikes kittens and can cause death.
Feline Herpesvirus	As early as 6 weeks, then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age	2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart	1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years.	<i>Core cat vaccine.</i> Feline herpesvirus causes feline viral rhinotracheitis (FVR), a very contagious upper respiratory condition.
Calicivirus	As early as 6 weeks, then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age	1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years.	1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years.	<i>Core cat vaccine.</i> A very contagious upper respiratory condition that can cause joint pain, oral ulcerations, fever, and anorexia.

HPAN Sponsored Rescue Feature:

Friends of Oak Ridge Animal Shelter (FORAS)

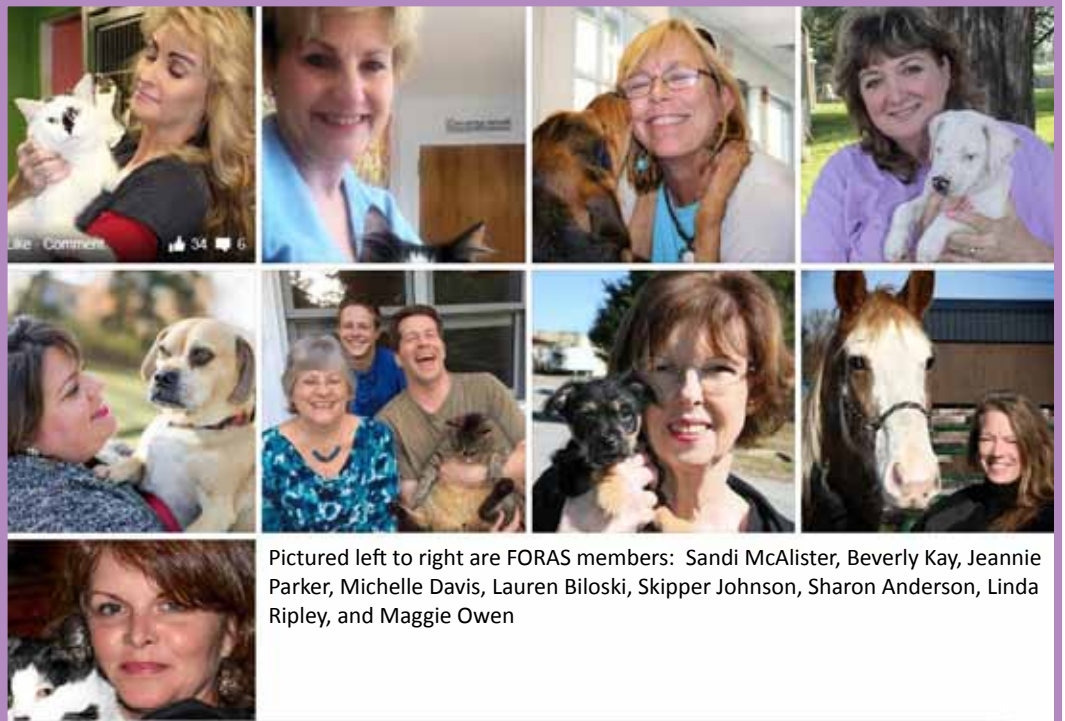
By Jeannie Parker, FORAS Member/Founder

Who are they? FORAS is a group of friends that came together by fate, each one wandering into the Oak Ridge Animal Shelter individually, wanting to help. Their love of animals runs deep, and within a matter of months, they bonded to become a coherent group of animal advocates whose mission and impact started small, but grew exponentially in a very short time. Here's how their efforts began: "Let's start a Facebook page that features the animals; let's paint the cat rooms to make them pretty and inviting; heck, let's paint the shelter and make it bright and cheerful; oh, and we should have an art contest to throw some shining life into this place. Let's not make it forbidding, let's make it bright and happy, so people will be OK walking through the doors! Hey, here's someone who knows how to set up transports; hey, here's someone who is passionate about cats! OK, let's have a meeting, and put all of our energies together. Let's work with Shelter Animals Rescue Group (SARG) and Helping Paws Animal Network (HPAN) to see how we can compound our resources for the good of the animals."

This group of friends works as hard, if not harder, as they do at their daytime jobs to promote the animals, to rehabilitate them, to vet them when they are sick or broken, to foster them when the shelter gets full, to take in the pregnant moms and let them have their babies in peace, only to go to loving homes later. They are up at midnight, or at 4 A.M., updating web pages. They do the fun things, like taking animals to the adoption events, but they also do the dirty work, helping the shelter staff with cleaning kennels, doing laundry, bathing and grooming animals, purchasing medications for the sick ones, and they give heart and soul for each and every animal. They get to know the animals individually by walking, holding, talking to and evaluating the special needs of each one.

But this small group of friends didn't single-handedly reduce the number of animals that were previously euthanized due to illness or lack of space all by themselves. They have teamed with the shelter staff, rescues, transporters, and volunteers who have all worked hard to support and promote the City of Oak Ridge's animal shelter. All the combined efforts are what have reduced the euthanasia rate.

The FORAS dream is, of course, for the shelter to rate as a no-kill shelter, although, as a municipality, no animal can be turned away. It is a daunting challenge, and it does not take just a small group of friends, but it does indeed take a village. Fundraising and donations have been critical to their success with the animal adoptions and care. They started it, yes. But the community outpouring, donations, and support (our village) have been the key to the successes to date. FORAS may have gotten the ball rolling, and will continue to exert the time and energy it takes, but the local community support and assistance has also been incredible and invaluable.



Pictured left to right are FORAS members: Sandi McAlister, Beverly Kay, Jeannie Parker, Michelle Davis, Lauren Biloski, Skipper Johnson, Sharon Anderson, Linda Ripley, and Maggie Owen

Thank You Corner

"Thank you for your donation to Smoky Mountain Animal Rescue of Tennessee (SMART). Your \$150 donation was able to sponsor the vetting for four orphaned kittens and ensures that these cats will not be adding to the pet over-population problem. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting our mission and for being a crucial part of saving animals' lives."

~Vanessa, Smoky Mountain Animal Rescue of Tennessee

"Thank you so much for your recent generous donation to Horse Haven of TN. Your continued support is much appreciated."

~Sonja, Horse Haven of TN

"Thank you so much for your continued support of our efforts to save the animals!"

~Deborah, Friends of Campbell County Animals of TN

"Thank you HPAN for help with vetting seven adult kitties at the Loudon County Shelter. God bless your group. You guys ROCK for sure! You guys came to the rescue, literally."

~Kimmey, Loudon County Friends of Animals

"WE LOVE HPAN!!!! Thank you! You have helped sooo much in so many ways!"

~Jeannie, Friends of Oak Ridge Animal Shelter

"Thank you to HPAN for sponsoring surgeries for Sweetie and Baja! They are happy and playful and on their way to adoptive families."

~Sherron, Morgan County Animal Coalition of TN

"Oh! How I LOVE you guys!!! THANK YOU! I cannot tell you how much your help means to us! You guys are a Godsend!"

~Carla, Fighting for the Bullys Pit Bull Rescue

Just wanted to let you know the results of the senior panel on our girl, Poppi, that you guys sponsored. Surprisingly the T4 panel came back normal. However she did have some elevated kidney levels and her urinalysis required antibiotics. she also was put on ketoconazole and Duramax. So this blood test and senior exam was definitely good for her and much appreciated.

~ Kim, Southern ROOTS Rescue

Time

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Regarding Lizzie, she is currently eating what I call the "end of life" diet. She doesn't eat dog food anymore, but she is more than happy to eat three scrambled eggs, one large baked potato, three pieces of white bread and four oz. of meat per meal...and I am more than happy to go the extra mile to keep her happy and eating. She has been eating this diet for about three weeks now. Kioko ate a diet very similar to this for about six weeks. I always make sure I give every dog a petting when I leave for work or play. You never know when the end will come. When Lizzie stops eating, walking and wagging her tail, I will know her time has come.

October 18, 2014:

Today Lizzie crossed over Rainbow Bridge. I could see Lizzie declining these last few days. Although she was eating some, it was not with enthusiasm. Her legs weren't getting the message from her brain to walk. She would fall down after taking a few steps. She did not wag her tail. This morning we mostly carried her out the lawn so she could relieve herself. We carried her back inside and she did not eat. I knew her time had come...

