

PAW TALES



Volume 8 | Summer 2016



Why We Do What We Do

By Amparo Atencio

HPAN has a vision to end animal suffering, one rescue at a time. We are fortunate to be able to help local verified rescue groups with funds for food, shelter, veterinary services, and other critical needs through generous donations.

Each rescue group that we help most certainly must feel they are "that one rescue." In reality, we currently support more than 30 rescues in Anderson and surrounding counties (plus Blount) because of our love for animals and the enduring, selfless work that we see. We help rescues like the **Secret City Animal Rescue** with surgery costs when they rescued two cats found in a dumpster at a local store; one of the cats required surgery for a broken leg. We recently helped



Roane County Animal Shelter vet 20 animals through Animal Works, and now they will be on their way to good lives up north. Rescues like **Fighting for the Bullies Rescue** was able to pay for required training for aggressive puppies who deserved a shot in life because of our sponsorship.

Every month, HPAN puts out a call offering to assist these and many more local rescues. Often times, rescues contact us before the call goes out because they know all they have to do is ask! If we are in a position to help, we do so after carefully evaluating the request and our means to assist. As our good reputation grows, we are even contacted by non-sponsored rescue groups beyond Anderson and surrounding counties. We recognize the need is great but funding is limited, so assistance can only be provided to rescues within our local mission area.

Through our collective efforts of sponsorship from HPAN and hard work from local rescues, we strive for the day when we can truly say that we have done our part to end animal suffering.

All donations are used to help animals and are tax-deductible. HPAN is a non-profit organization with a 501(c)3 status from the IRS.

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Helping Hungry, Hurting and Homeless Animals



HPAN Sponsored Rescue Feature: At Risk Intervention

Submitted By Cyn Mobley

At Risk Intervention (ARI) is one of the oddest animal welfare groups you'll run across. We don't do adoptions and meet and greets. We don't have foster homes. We are not 100% volunteer run.

The reason we don't look like a rescue group is because we're not. ARI's mission is to be a force multiplier for frontline do-gooders and to provide infrastructure and support to them. ARI is a major player regionally in animal welfare programs and, with HPAN's help, has been a part of saving countless lives that would not have had a chance otherwise.

Our current projects took shape around five years ago. Since I'm a graduate of the Naval War College, the first thing I did was look at what our desired end state was, and then I worked backward from that to determine where we could fit into things without duplicating other programs. I surveyed local rescue groups to find out what they thought they needed.

Well, you can guess what most of them said: MONEY! So we asked some MORE questions – primarily, "Money for WHAT?" And that's when we hit gold.

Rescue groups needed money for kenneling and vetting. So what they really needed was kenneling and vetting, not necessarily the money – that was just the medium of exchange.

We did some research and started putting together some low cost rescue only comprehensive vetting packages that would enable rescuers to get a dog completely vetted for around \$100, and made that list widely available. And we built the Waystation.

The Waystation is a rescue-only, short-term kennel in South Knoxville. It is the answer to, "It's Saturday night and my foster just bailed," or, "I can take this dog but need a week to find a foster," or, "I can send this dog north but need two weeks out of shelter." The Waystation asks for a donation of \$6/day from participating rescues, and normally 25% - 50% of our residents don't even pay that. We call those our "scholarship" dogs. And YIKES, at the moment every single one of the dogs at the Waystation is on scholarship.

We also do a HUGE amount of fundraising for other groups as well as coaching them through writing grants

and using online tools.

And we have a different philosophy about fundraising – we believe it is not a zero sum game,

that there is enough for

all of us, and that sharing and cooperating is the way for all of us to win. In keeping with that principle, we invite other groups to participate in our events, such as the annual Ogle, Elrod and Baril Celebrity Dog Wash, and we SHARE a percentage of the revenue with those who do. That's right, no booth charge – in fact, ARI sends participating groups money! Last year it was around \$100 to each group that came to the four-hour event. As far as I know, we are the ONLY group that not only does not charge a booth fee but actually shares revenue.



The other thing we believe is that together we can afford things we all need but can't afford individually. ARI pays kennel staff, graphic artists, and programmers who develop our online fundraisers and support other groups' fundraisers. Our Christmas Room and Calendar Contests are always very popular. Most recently, our graphic artist designed Facebook banners and images used in post boosts for on-line auctions benefitting ARI and other non-profit groups, including HPAN.

Most of our large online fundraisers are built on our custom software and are fundraisers for both the participating groups and for ARI. That works like this: when we put up a fundraiser for a group, we ask that they split the first \$400 that they raise with ARI. After that, it's all theirs. Most groups raise around \$2000 per fundraiser – and many go MUCH higher – but the max donation to ARI is \$200. We do that because putting on and designing those fundraisers requires things like a subscription to stock photo sites, programmers, graphic artists, and large online hosting packages – again, more stuff that groups need but can't afford individually.

The partnership between rescues and the Waystation has made a tremendous difference for dogs like Oak Ridge Animal Shelter's Lincoln the Lab, who needed two weeks out of shelter before he could get to his rescue, and countless others who just needed to catch a break in the form of time and vet care. With HPAN's help, the Waystation can reduce the number of dogs euthanized for minor conditions and help all area shelters progress toward no-kill. And isn't that what it's all about?

Summary of Spring Events

Submitted By Amparo Atencio

HPAN's activities were not deterred in the slightest as Old Man Winter continued his grip on the south and other parts of the nation this past spring. We had two fundraising events in March.

Our first donation drive in support of the **Oak Ridge Animal Shelter (ORAS)** ran from March 1-15. Staff at ORAS were filled with gratitude to receive the many donations contributed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) employees. Items collected included:

- Puppy, dog, kitten, and cat food
- Dog and kitty treats
- Pill pockets
- Cat litter
- Catnip toys and dog toys
- Paper goods

After the resounding success of the first ever **Facebook Auction** last winter, we did it again! The second **Facebook Auction** ran from March 19-April 2. Proceeds were even greater than the first auction and resulted in almost \$4,000 in sales! A total of 212 donated items were posted in the auction, and all but five items were bid on and sold!



Another successful event was the **Employee Parking Lot Sale**, held on May 7. The morning started with a chill in the air but quickly warmed up. Employees and friends of ORAU as well as other HPAN supporters donated items ranging from plants, gardening equipment, handmade crafts, and furniture for total sales of \$775!

Technology-wise, we were as busy as ever. The HPAN Online Shopping Cart opened in April! Supporters can now purchase t-shirts in a variety of sizes and colors, or memorial/in honor of certificates on behalf of loved ones or pets from the convenience of their homes by shopping at [http://helpingpawsanimalnetwork.org/hpan-store/!](http://helpingpawsanimalnetwork.org/hpan-store/)

Member Spotlight – Tom Amidon

I have always loved animals but until a few years ago, I didn't realize how much. I grew up a "dog person," but through my 20 years in the Army, I was always moving or on deployments and wasn't stable enough to have one of my own.

So how did an old Army Green Beret become a "cat person"? It wasn't until "Bandit" (pictured) adopted me that I understood what I had been missing, and understood how mean, cruel, and heartless some people can be towards animals. He was not "perfect," which is probably why someone set him out in the snow as a baby kitten. He couldn't flex his front paw, but that never slowed him down. That's the wonderful thing about animals—they are not vain. They don't know there is anything wrong or different about them; they just adapt and live on, and in the case of pets, are often more personable and loving.

Bandit was an appropriate name, not only for his coloring (black mask), but he truly stole my heart. He had the most incredible personality and gave me more than I could ever repay. In 2013, after 12 years

of laughter, joy, and love, Bandit became ill and was diagnosed with brain cancer. Over 18 months, this tough little guy survived two brain surgeries and radiation treatments. He fought and loved to the end, and although I know I will never replace him, I also know I would not trade my time with him for anything. See, to me, he was "Purrfect," and that's all that matters.

Through his treatments at the University of Tennessee Veterinary Hospital, I was amazed at how much can be done to help and treat animals, and what a wonderful place it is. That's when I decided I needed to give something back to help animals that cannot help themselves. I got involved in the UT College of Veterinary Medicine, Smokey Mountain Service Dogs, and now HPAN.



Xylitol and Your Dog: Danger, Paws Off

Submitted by Carol Iddins, MD

Your six-month-old puppy, Hoover, will eat anything that isn't tied down. Like many dog owners, you know chocolate can be dangerous to your pooch. But you may not know that if Hoover sticks his nose in your handbag and eats a pack of sugarless chewing gum, the consequences could be deadly.

Sugarless gum may contain xylitol, a class of sweetener known as sugar alcohol. Xylitol is present in many products and foods for human use, but can have devastating effects on your pet.

Over the past several years, the Center for Veterinary Medicine at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has received several reports—many of which pertained to chewing gum—of dogs being poisoned by xylitol, according to Martine Hartogensis, a veterinarian at FDA.

And you may have seen recent news stories about dogs that have died or become very ill after eating products containing xylitol.

Other Foods Containing Xylitol

But gum isn't the only product containing xylitol. Slightly lower in calories than sugar, this sugar substitute is also often used to sweeten sugar-free candy, such as mints and chocolate bars. Other products that may contain xylitol include:

- breath mints
- baked goods
- cough syrup
- mouthwash
- toothpaste
- children's and adult chewable vitamins

Why is Xylitol Dangerous to Dogs, but Not People?

In both people and dogs, the level of blood sugar is controlled by the release of insulin from the pancreas. In people, xylitol does not stimulate the release of insulin from the pancreas. However, it's different in canines: When dogs eat something containing xylitol, the xylitol is more quickly absorbed into the bloodstream, and may result in a potent release of insulin from the pancreas.

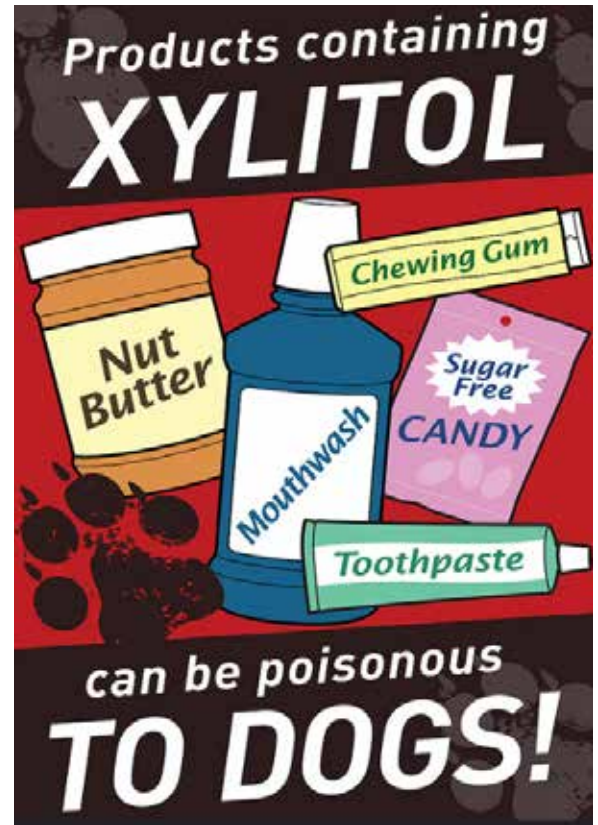
This rapid release of insulin may result in a rapid and profound decrease in the level of blood sugar (hypoglycemia), an effect that can occur within 10 to 60 minutes of eating the xylitol. Untreated, this hypoglycemia can quickly be life-threatening, Hartogensis says.

Symptoms to Look For in Your Dog

Symptoms of xylitol poisoning in dogs include vomiting, followed by symptoms associated with the sudden lowering of your dog's blood sugar, such as decreased activity, weakness, staggering, incoordination, collapse and seizures.

If you think your dog has eaten xylitol, take him to your vet or an emergency animal hospital immediately, Hartogensis advises. Because hypoglycemia and other serious adverse effects may not occur in some cases for up to 12 to 24 hours, your dog may need to be monitored.

(A note to cat owners: The toxicity of xylitol for cats has not been documented. They appear to be spared, at least in part, by their disdain for sweets.)



Continued on page 5

Thank You Corner

"Thanks to you, we can pay the [transport] insurance bill that comes due next month! Thank you so much, HPAN!"

~ C. Trammell, GoNorth Collaborative

"More kitties saved thanks to HPAN"

~ K. Goodson, Loudon County Friends of Animals

"Thank you, HPAN!!!!!"

~ H. King, Humane Society of Roane County

"WHOOHOO! Thank you for being here for all of us rescues! Don't know what we would do without your help!!"

~ C. Welch, Fighting for the Bullies Rescue

"Thank you so much."

~ H. Hattermer-Frey, The Stray Connection

"Thank you, thank you! You all make such a difference and are so generous. Bless you!"

~ V. Whiting, Smoky Mountain Animal Rescue of Tennessee

"Thank you and your team!"

~ J. Parker, Friends of Oak Ridge Animal Shelter

"21 puppies and dogs are on their way to Buffalo. Thank you HPAN for making this happen!!"

~ D. Bakos, Animal Wellness Foundation

"Have I told you lately that I love you? Well... I love you guys and ETPBR greatly appreciates all that you do for the animals in our area!"

~ W. Jackson, East TN Pit Bull Rescue

"You guys are awesome; thanks so much!"

~ K. Badeaux, Southern ROOTS Rescue

"Holy crap. That's very kind. Thank you!"

~ C. Mobley, At Risk Intervention

"Thank you so much! We appreciate that and all the things you do for animals in need like Brutus."

~ T. Lacy, A Pinsch of Heaven Doberman Rescue

"Thank you, thank you, thank you,"

~ H. Gibson, Roane County Paws

"Oh my goodness, THANK YOU so very much! We sincerely appreciate your help! You have helped with so many & each and every one are living awesome healthy lives because of you!"

~ C. Waggoner, Animal Wellness Foundation

"We thank HPAN so very much. Caramel is improving and eating. This literally saved her from a worse fate!!"

~ B. Kay, Secret City Animal Rescue

"WOW!!! Thank you! SO fast!!!"

~ J. Riggs, Rural Appalachian Cat Rescue & Sanctuary

"Thank you so much!"

~ K. Disbrow, Feral Feline Friends

"Thank you! We appreciate you so much and your continued support!"

~ J. Power, Little Ponderosa Zoo and Rescue

Xylitol

Cont. from page 4

What Can You Do to Avoid Xylitol Poisoning in Your Dog?

"If you're concerned about your dog eating a food or product with xylitol in it, check the label of ingredients. If it does, indeed, say that it contains xylitol, make sure your pet can't get to it." Hartogenesis says. In addition:

- Keep products that contain xylitol (including those you don't think of as food, such as toothpaste) well out of your dog's reach. Remember that some dogs are adept at counter surfing.
- Only use pet toothpaste for pets, never human toothpaste.
- If you give your dog nut butter as a treat or as a vehicle for pills, check the label first to make sure it doesn't contain xylitol.

You Can Help FDA by Reporting Safety Issues

FDA wants to know if your pet encounters safety issues with a product, and/or unanticipated harmful effects that you believe are related to a product.

"Timely reporting of problems enables FDA to take prompt action," Hartogenesis says. Each report is evaluated to determine how serious the problem is and, if necessary, additional information may be requested from the person who filed the report.

You can report problems related to both human and pet foods and treats at the Safety Reporting Portal.

This article appears on FDA's Consumer Updates page, which features the latest on all FDA-regulated products.

May 12, 2016

DANGER ZONE

Help Pets in Hot Cars



OREGON
HUMANE
SOCIETY

Does your dog love coming along in the car when you run errands? On a warm day, dogs will love staying somewhere cool even more. The temperature inside a car rises to dangerous levels for dogs in just a matter of minutes, even with windows cracked open:

CAR/OUTSIDE TEMPERATURES

When the temperature outside is 78° the temperature inside a car can reach 105° in just 20 minutes.

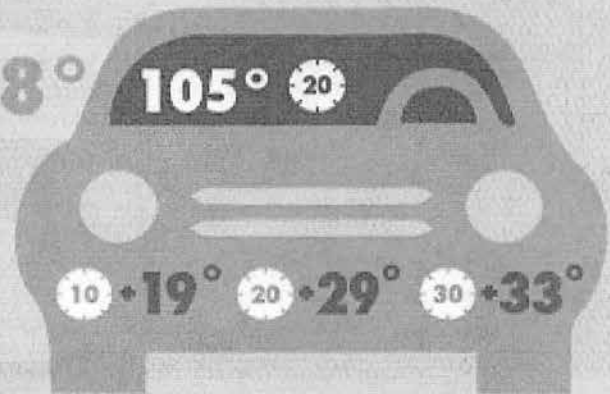
78°

105°

20

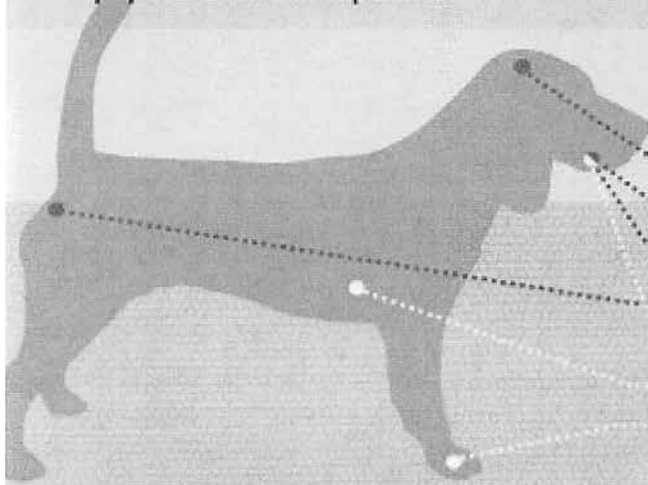
Temperatures inside a car increase by an average of 19° in the first 10 minutes; 29° in 20 minutes; and 33° in 30 minutes, regardless of the outside temperature.

That's too hot for pets!



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A PET IN A HOT CAR

- Write down the vehicle make, model and license plate number
- Alert the management of nearby business, who could make an emergency announcement
- Call local police or animal control (keep their numbers handy for emergencies!)
- Stay by the vehicle until help arrives



Even if you think, "I'll only be gone 5 minutes!" don't risk it. 5 minutes can quickly become 10, 20, 30 minutes. It only takes 5-10 minutes for heatstroke to affect your pet.

Signs of heatstroke include:

- Seizures
- Profuse drooling, heavy panting
- Vomiting, diarrhea
- Red gums, tongue, or skin
- Rapid pulse
- Lying flat/lethargy

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR PET MAY HAVE HEATSTROKE

- Get your pet out of direct heat & offer water to drink
- Call your veterinarian - you may need to bring the pet in right away
- Place cool (not cold), wet towels or running water on the pet's head, neck, feet, abdomen

THE BEST THING TO DO FOR YOUR PETS WHEN IT'S HOT: KEEP YOUR PETS INDOORS!

See more tips online at oregonhumane.org/heatsafety

References: Study of Extensive Temperatures in Enclosed Vehicles, San Francisco State University, 2009 • Canine Heatstroke, Lisa Powell DVM, University of Minnesota, 2008 • Heatstroke in Family Pets, Murdoch University