

# humane tails



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## DONATIONS NEEDED

We desperately need your financial support today. The Gulf Coast Humane Society does not receive any local, state or federal funding so we cannot continue our mission without your help. Please help us save them and continue bringing joy to Gulf Coast families. Donate online at [www.GulfCoastHumaneSociety.org](http://www.GulfCoastHumaneSociety.org) or call us (239) 332-0364.



## The Dog (and Cat) Days of Summer

We all love spending the long, sunny days of summer outdoors with our furry companions, but ASPCA experts warn that being overeager in hot weather can spell danger.

By taking the following simple precautions, you can help prevent your pet from overheating.

- Get pets tested for heartworm if they aren't on year-round preventive medication.
- Pets can get dehydrated quickly, so give them plenty of fresh, clean water when it's hot outdoors. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful to not over-exercise them, and keep them indoors when it's extremely hot.
- When the temperature is very high, don't let your dog linger on hot asphalt. Being so close the ground, your pooch's body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.

Remember if it is hot outside for you, it is hot for your pets, too! If you suspect your pet is suffering from heat stroke get help from your veterinarian immediately. Symptoms of overheating in pets include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. They can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.

Cooler weather is only a few months away, so in the meantime let your furry friends enjoy the wonder of air conditioning. For more information on caring for your pets this summer, visit [www.aspc.org/petcare](http://www.aspc.org/petcare).

### **NOW OPEN!** Low Cost Clinic

Monday 8am to 5pm

Thursday Noon to 5pm

Saturday 9am to 4pm

Please call for an appointment

239-332-2719

Visit our adoptable pets online at [www.GulfCoastHumaneSociety.org](http://www.GulfCoastHumaneSociety.org)

## SPOTLIGHT PET



**- Hanley -**  
7 months old  
Daschund-Chihuahua mix

Hanley came to the Gulf Coast Humane Society in May with hardly any hair due to a severe case of mange. She would barely eat the first few days and her legs were bright red and swollen to twice their size. After a lot of TLC from the clinic and shelter staff, Hanley began eating and gaining some strength. She began treatment for the mange and has been in a loving foster home since she arrived. For more than a month we had no idea of her coloring, but she has emerged with a beautiful black and tan coat. She still needs additional treatment for the mange, but is available for foster until she is fully recovered. The foster home needs to be a calm environment with a family that would be able to bring her in for treatment every two weeks.

## Supplies Needed:

At the GCHS, we are always thankful for any donations of food and/or supplies. This month, we are in particular need of Kuranda dog beds of all sizes. The Kuranda beds are perfect for our shelter, as they sit off the floor, are easy to clean and the design prevents dogs from chewing the edges. To order, visit their website at [www.Kuranda.com](http://www.Kuranda.com). Prices range from approximately \$60 to \$120. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

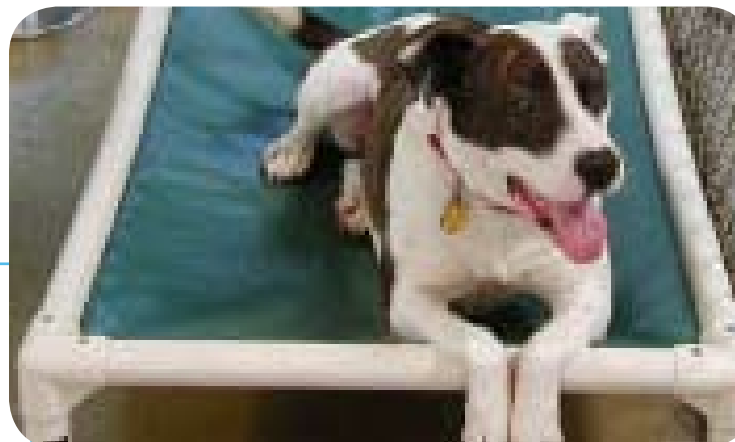
## Pat and Riley's Roundup

It's hard to believe it's September and the kids are back to school. The animal shelter sure has been a busy place with many animals in need of a loving home. We are so excited about our Low Cost Animal Healthcare Clinic's reopening! A great staff is available to offer quality care at affordable prices as well low cost heartworm and flea preventative for purchase.

Daily, we find abandoned animals left by our entrance gate. Sometimes it is a small scared kitten or an entire litter of puppies. Some are in crates and some are tied to the fence. As a Humane Society, it is our duty to care for these helpless pets; a duty we welcome with open hearts.

Dogs and cats that are looking for a forever home are realizing their dreams coming true here at GCHS! We would like to thank the community for making their "option adoption." GCHS depends solely on contributions through donations and grants to keep our doors open and to provide needed medical care for our pets. Many of our beloved animals come to us heartworm positive or disabled. It is our job to bring them back to a healthy and happy condition for adoption. We are so grateful to everyone who gives so generously. Our need is so great and without all of you, this would not be possible. Please visit our website at [www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org](http://www.gulfcoasthumanesociety.org) to donate to our organization.

*Patricia Dickey*  
Executive Director



## Ask Ky Why

**Q. My dog won't come when I call him, what can I do?**

**A. We all want our dogs to come when we call them so here are few important tips to remember:**

- You must be more interesting than anything else around.
- Use inviting body language.
- Give your dog some "off leash" time.
- Practice in low distraction areas with short distances first then work up to more difficult situations.
- Practice when you are sure your dog will come to you (i.e. dinner time).

Most importantly, be patient, loving and don't expect results overnight. It is a process, but a rewarding one for both the pet and the owner.

*Kelly Legarreta*  
Education & Training Director

## Clinic Corner

A heartworm is a parasitic worm that lives in the heart and pulmonary arteries of an infected animal. Mosquitoes transmit heartworms from animal to animal. Dogs that live in hot, humid regions such as Southwest Florida—conditions in which mosquitoes thrive—are at the greatest risk.

The good news is that heartworms are easily preventable with an inexpensive, chewable pill available with a vet's prescription. The pills (which most dogs find very tasty) are administered monthly. The pills can be given to dogs under 6 months of age without a blood test, but older animals must be screened for the disease prior to starting medication.

Symptoms include labored breathing, coughing, vomiting, weight loss and listlessness, fatigue after only moderate exercise and a distended abdomen. Should you observe any of these symptoms, see your veterinarian for an immediate exam.

The Low Cost Animal Healthcare Clinic at Gulf Coast Humane Society can help you with testing and medication. Please call (239) 332-2719 and schedule a preventative heartworm schedule and test for your pet.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**SOMETHING IS ALWAYS HAPPENING AROUND HERE AND WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE PET-FRIENDLY EVENTS.**

FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE EVENTS LISTED OR TO SEE IF WE CAN PARTICIPATE IN YOUR EVENT, CALL (239) 332-0364 EXT 304 OR E-MAIL [PATRICIAD@GULFCOASTHUMANESOCIETY.ORG](mailto:PATRICIAD@GULFCOASTHUMANESOCIETY.ORG)

### OCTOBER 3

#### Humane Heroes Club Meeting

11am – 3pm  
Bell Tower Shops Courtyard near T.G.I.Fridays  
Fort Myers

### OCTOBER 9

#### Yappy Hour and Stroll

6 – 8pm  
Center Circle at Bell Tower Shops  
Fort Myers

### OCTOBER 10

#### Adopt-a-thon & Low Cost Clinic

11am – 3pm  
Call for appointment for Clinic 332-2719  
Gulf Coast Humane Society  
2010 Arcadia Street  
Fort Myers

### OCTOBER 15

#### "Thirsty Thursday"

Young Professionals of Lee County  
5:30pm to 7:30pm  
Hotel Indigo  
Fort Myers

### OCTOBER 29

#### Spooky Pooch and Kitties

Halloween Costume Parade and Party  
5pm Trick or Treats for the kids  
6:30pm Costume Judging  
Coconut Point Mall  
Estero



## Foster Families Needed

Becoming a foster parent is a wonderful way to help GCHS and right now, we are in dire need of foster families for our beloved animals. A foster parent is someone who provides a temporary home for our animals. The length of fostering can vary from a few days to several months depending on the amount of care or behavioral modification that is needed. The most common reasons we need temporary foster families are: treatment and care after an illness or injury, the animals are extremely young or we lack shelter space. Foster parents provide sick and injured animals with the additional time, medication and space they need to recover. Young animals, such as kittens and puppies, which are not yet weaned, require a serious commitment since they have special needs such as diet and frequent feeding schedules.



One of the greatest rewards of nurturing these animals is knowing that you are giving them a great start in life or the chance at a whole new life. For more information or to inquire about becoming a foster parent, call us at (239) 332-0364.

## Star Team Member

**Bobby Weinley**, an employee of Gulf Coast Humane Society since 1988, has been honored with the prestigious Elaine McLaughlin Outstanding Hospitality Service Award (E Award), a project of the Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau. The award recognizes extraordinary service and dedication. Everyone at Gulf Coast Humane Society congratulates Bobby for receiving this great award!

## MANY THANKS

### Miracles happen and dogs do fly!

Cabrigo is a Catalan Sheepdog who needed a special home. GCHS staff sent emails about him to everyone who might be able to place him in the right home or rescue. Cabrigo got very lucky, the email about him reached a woman named Leslie Wills who knew instantly she had found her perfect dog. With lots of land, a herding dog background, and the understanding of his needs, Cabrigo hit the jack pot with one minor snafu ... how to get him to his new home.



The amazing volunteers of GCHS helped get Cabrigo on the list of rescue dogs needing transport in the Pilots-N-Paws network. These pilots donate their planes, fuel, and flight time to help dogs get to their homes all over the United States. When pilots Nancy Moore and Bill Traum saw the posting on the website, they offered to take him to Myrtle Beach.

Cabrigo arrived safely at his new home on August 11th and Leslie and he are very happy.