

# Burlington Reports

Paws and Claws Society, Inc., Thorofare, NJ








Issue 8, June 2012

Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction, since 1993

## For Fur-ther Information . . .

You can find more information on our web site at [pacsnj.org](http://pacsnj.org)!

- Find out "What's New" by following links on our home page or clicking on "News"
- Read other issues of our newsletter by clicking on "Burlington Reports", or join our email list to be notified when new issues are ready for viewing
- Click the link for any issue of the newsletter to comment on that issue's content. Start or join a discussion!
- Hover over "Burlington Reports" on our navigation menu to find "Links for Further Reading" for more information on topics mentioned in *Burlington Reports*, or click on "Share with Squirt" to share a question or story in our Squirty's Words column
- Click on "Furry Angels" to learn about pets currently available for adoption, read about pets who have found their Forever Homes, read or submit to the Funny Pages, read Letters From The Heart, or download forms
- Read about Paws and Claws Society's programs or see "Gems of Wisdom and Pearls of Knowledge: Humane Messages" at Compassion Central
- Find statistics and No Kill information on Tips From The Trenches
- Read articles about pet care (and even use the age calculator to find out your pet's age in human years) at Caretakers' Corner
- Look for "Share this page"      on any page in our web site to share the content via Facebook, twitter, email, or one of several other services



Happy Summer!

Happy Independence Day!

## In This Issue:

Did You Know?	1
Burlington Says: "Don't Give Up On Your Pet"	2
Humor	3
Kitten Season and National Adopt A Shelter Cat Month	4
Rescued Pit Bull Saves Owner	6
New Cages for Almost Home!	6
Squirty's Words . . . From The Rainbow Bridge	7
Is Your Pet Afraid of Loud Noises?	8

## Did You Know?



Fascinating bits of dog and cat facts and trivia found around the Internet

From [futurevet.net](http://futurevet.net):

### Cat Facts:

- All cats are born with blue eyes.
- A cat can jump as much as seven times its height!
- A cat has 230 bones in its body. A human only has 206.
- Cats can't taste sweet things.
- In relation to their body size, cats have the largest eyes of any mammal.
- The more cats are spoken to, the more they will speak back. Cats love to hear their name spoken and your voice, so talk to them often.

### Dog Facts:

- Dalmatian puppies are born without spots.
- Dogs sweat through the pads of their feet and nose.
- Prairie dogs are not dogs-they are a kind of a rodent.
- The Great Dane isn't the largest dog breed, the Irish Wolfhound is.
- The Basenji is the only dog that can't bark but it is known to make a sound resembling yodeling.
- The Greyhound is the fastest breed, reaching speeds of 45 mph.



Can you match these First Pets with the US Presidents who owned them? (Answers on page 2)

1



3



2



(Continued on page 2)

## Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction, since 1993

### Did You Know?

(Continued from page 1)

4.



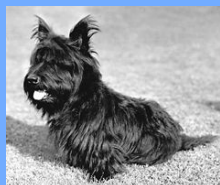
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6.



7.



8.



1. Laddie Boy (Warren Harding)
2. Socks (Bill Clinton)
3. King Tut (Herbert Hoover)
4. Feller (Harry Truman)
5. Tige (Calvin Coolidge)
6. Spot (George W. Bush)
7. Fala (Franklin Delano Roosevelt)
8. Pauline Wayne (William Howard Taft)

### Burlington Says: "Don't Give Up On Your Pet"



Hello. Burlington here.

Did I ever tell you about the time my human mom helped to heal a broken heart?

It was earlier this year. Mom had taken me to the book store with her, as she does fairly often now. (You can read about this in the June 2011 issue of *Burlington Reports*.)



We were enjoying a nice afternoon together while we waited for Mallory and Matthew to arrive after school. I laid on the counter next to the cash register, soaking up the rays of sunlight that angled in from the front window,

while Mom dusted the books on the display racks and placed her weekly orders for new stock.

The bells on the front door alerted us to the arrival of two customers. One was a little boy of about seven, and the other was a man who I guessed was the boy's father. The boy was talking to the father while the father scanned the shelves of books.

"If there is anything I can help you find, I'll be right over here," Mom said to the man, and he nodded in her direction.

"What's this?" the little boy asked the man, pointing to a display of books about gardening.

The man glanced at the display and answered, "Books about growing plants."

The boy walked around the corner and, pointing to a section of books on doll collecting, said, "What's this?"

"Those are books about collecting dolls," the man said.

"Like Gramma's dolls?"

"Mm Hmm," the man replied.

The boy turned and started up the next aisle, stopping when he saw a row of books on dog training.

"Look!" he exclaimed, pointing and smiling, "It's Elmo!"



I rolled to my side and stretched, turning so that I could see the book the boy was looking at. On the cover was a photo of a terrier with warm brown eyes.

The man continued to look through the books, his focus on the travel section.

"Dad," the boy said, "Elmo! Look!"

"Mm Hmm," the dad said without looking up.

The boy walked over and tugged on the dad's sleeve. "Elmo," he said, pointing a finger at the book.

The dad turned and looked. "I see, Kevin," he said, "That looks like Elmo, alright."

Kevin picked the book up from the shelf and held it reverently, gazing into the eyes of the dog in the

(Continued on page 3)



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### Burlington the Cat

(Continued from page 2)

photo.

"Can we get it?"

"Get what?" the dad said, thumbing through a book about Paris.

"The Elmo book."

Finally, the dad turned to face the little boy. He looked at the book and said, "Son, that isn't Elmo. It's just a dog that looks like Elmo."

Kevin hugged the book to his chest. "I know," he said, then looked down at his feet. He added in a whisper, "I don't want to give Elmo away."

I was engrossed in their conversation now. Even though Mom was behind me, I could sense her stillness and I knew she was listening also.

"We have to give him away," the dad said, "He keeps peeing in his crate."

I turned to look at Mom, and she glanced at me at the same time. Our eyes met and we shared a mutual moment of shock at what the man had just said, followed by a look of stunned surprise on Mom's face.

Oops. I quickly contorted my face into a yawn, hoping to cover for my expression. The adult humans in my family

didn't know I could understand their language, and I certainly didn't want them to start figuring it out.

"I'll clean up after him," Kevin said, his voice cracking.

Mom and I turned our attention back



to the father and son.

"No," the dad said, "I think Elmo needs to live with someone who has a big back yard with a dog house, so he can be outside."

"Can't we move?" Kevin asked, "Aunt Lisa moved to a house with a back yard."

"We can't afford to move just for a dog," the man said, "We tried to train him and he just won't behave."

Mom couldn't take it anymore.

"What have you tried?" she asked, then added, "We have some excellent books on dog behavior."

The man looked annoyed, then confused when he realized that Kevin was crying.

"What's wrong?" he asked him.

Kevin replied, in a tiny voice, "Are you going to give me away if I don't behave?"

A gasp escaped Mom's lips and she brought her hand up to her mouth. The man's face changed, an expression of sadness and warmth replacing the hint of annoyance that had been hovering around the edges. He knelt down and put his hand on Kevin's shoulder.

"You're my son," he said, "Your mom and I won't give you away for any reason."

"Pets are traumatized by rejection, just as children are," Mom said.

(Continued on page 4)



### Humor

#### Why You Should Suspect Your Cat Has Your Email Password

- E-Mail flames from some guy named "Fluffy."
- Traces of kitty litter in your keyboard.
- You find you've been subscribed to strange newsgroups like [alt.recreational.catnip](http://alt.recreational.catnip).
- Your web browser has a new home page: [www.feline.com](http://www.feline.com).
- Your mouse has teeth marks in it... and a strange aroma of tuna.
- Hate-mail messages to Apple Computer Corp. about their release of "CyberDog."
- Your new ergonomic keyboard has a strange territorial scent to it.
- You keep finding new software around your house like CatinTax and WarCat II.
- On IRC you're known as the IronMouser.
- Little kitty carpal-tunnel braces near the scratching post.

*Editor's Note: As the above joke seems to have originated quite some time ago in the evolution of the Internet, can you suggest some more current examples of "Why you should suspect that your cat has your online passwords"? Share them in the comments section on our web site, on the June 2012 Burlington Reports page!*

#### How Many Dogs Does it Take To Change a Light Bulb?

Afghan: "Light bulb? What light bulb?"

Australian Shepherd: "Put all the bulbs in a little circle..."

Beagle: "Light bulb? Light bulb? That thing I ate was a light bulb?"

Border Collie: "Just one. And I'll replace any wiring that's not up to code."



See "For Fur-ther Information" on page one to learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports!

(Continued on page 5)



## Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction, since 1993

### Kitten Season



#### What is Kitten Season?

"Kitten Season" is the time span from April through November when most kittens are born, and subsequently more kittens are taken to shelters.

It is a very busy time for shelters as they work to find homes for the influx of new cats and kittens, and to spay and neuter the new arrivals to prevent future overpopulation.

June has been named "National Adopt A Shelter Cat Month". Other than by adopting a cat or kitten, what else can you do to help? Petfinder has a page on their web site with a list of ways we can help to increase awareness. Among these are:

- Use your Facebook status or Twitter account to make others aware that June is Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month.
- Check out local shelters or rescue groups. You may be able to provide something that is on their donation wish list, post flyers to promote special events, sign up to foster pets or volunteer at their shelter.
- Use your Web site or blog to spread the word, or write an op-ed about the importance of pet adoption for your local paper.
- And, something that Paws and Claws Society advocates heavily: **Education!** "Talk to your kids, nieces, nephews, grandchildren and other up-and-comers about animal shelters and why Adopt-a-Shelter-Cat Month, and pet adoption in general, is important."

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 3)

The man looked at her and began to say, "This really isn't any of your . . ."



"I know," Mom said, "It isn't my business, but it breaks my heart to think you would give your dog away rather than work through the problem. If your son were wetting

the bed, you would help him overcome that, wouldn't you?"

When the man didn't say anything, she continued, "Pets love their people with all their hearts, and they become members of the family. Don't they deserve the same level of commitment you would make to the rest of your family?"

"But what can I do?" the man finally asked.

"Well," Mom began, "there are all kinds of reasons a dog may go potty in his crate. The key is to figure out what it is."

"I thought they didn't do that where they sleep," he said.

"Normally they don't. That's how you know there is a problem."

The man stood up and walked toward the counter, listening to Mom.

"Is he a puppy or an adult dog?" she asked.

"He's a year old, but we've had him for six months."

Mom opened her laptop computer and pressed the power button.

### Burlington the Cat

While she waited for it to come to life, she said, "The first thing I would do would be to check with the vet, to make sure he has no health problems. Is this a new problem or has he done it since you got him?"

"He's been doing it as long as we've had him."

"Does he seem stressed?" she asked, while opening her browser window.

"No," the man said, "He eats well and he's playful. He doesn't cower away from people or tuck his tail between his legs. He adores Kevin. He acts just like a normal dog, except for the peeing thing."

I sat up and turned to look at the computer screen. The man reached over and petted my head while Mom navigated to a web site about dog housebreaking. She turned the laptop so the man could see.

They discussed things like making sure Elmo's crate is the right size, adjusting his schedule so that



he doesn't eat or drink right before going into his crate and making sure he has had enough exercise and playtime so that he will be ready to sleep when he goes into his crate.

"If that doesn't help," Mom said, "it says here that you can start feeding him in his crate so he will associate the crate with food."

(Continued on page 5)





Paws and Claws  
Society, Inc.

## Burlington Reports

Paws and Claws Society, Inc., Thorofare, NJ

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

Issue 8, June 2012

Page 6

### Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction, since 1993

#### Rescued Pit Bull Saves Owner

When Dona Timoney rescued her dog, Lilly, from a drug house in North Carolina, she had no idea that Lilly would one day repay the favor and save Timoney's life.

Timoney was walking Lilly near cranberry bogs at New Jersey's Double Trouble State Park on June first when she suffered a medical event and fell unconscious. Lilly ran off down the path until she found Frank Delarosa. Delarosa picked Lilly up and began to walk with her toward the park office. Restless, Lilly struggled until Delarosa put her back on the ground, and she tugged at her leash and pulled him back down the path toward the bogs. He followed Lilly's lead and found Timoney, 51, unconscious but breathing.

Members of the Bayville First Aid Squad and MONOC paramedics took Timoney to Community Medical Center in Toms River. She was later airlifted to St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston. Her condition was unknown at the time news stories appeared on the Internet.

Lilly has been staying with Timoney's daughter until her owner returns home.

Detective Will Cullen commented, of Timoney, "The back of her car was filled with treats and bones. She's obviously an avid animal lover."

Paws and Claws Society wishes Dona Timoney a speedy recovery.



#### New cages for Almost Home!

Nancy Welsh opened Almost Home Animal Shelter in Pennsauken, NJ in 2006 as a temporary shelter "after the private West Jersey Animal Shelter in Pennsauken closed and the township reached out to Welsh..." explains Kevin Riordan on philly.com.

"The idea was to have the temporary shelter operate for about 18 months while a consortium of towns, working with Camden County, collectively came up with a permanent arrangement".

Welsh had been a veterinary technician, animal control officer, and lifelong animal lover from Collingswood before becoming the director of Almost Home. Six years later, the shelter is still open.

The combined funding (averaging \$16,000 per month) from the six towns of Pennsauken, Gloucester City, Merchantville, Audubon, Audubon Park and Woodlynne does not cover all the costs associated with running the shelter.

"That \$16,000 is needed for our payroll alone," said Welsh in an interview on the CollingswoodPatch web site, "It costs more than \$16,000 to get through a month. We need at least \$16,000 to pay our staff. Anything over \$16,000 is what covers shelter operations."

Almost Home relies on private donations and fundraisers to cover the rest of their shelter expenses. They have nearly had to close their doors more than once in the last six years.

The article on philly.com mentions



See "For Fur-Ther Information" on page one to learn about links for additional reading on topics mentioned in Burlington Reports!

some of the reasons that pets end up at shelters like Almost Home:

*"They're here because they've been picked up as feral, or as strays; they've been surrendered by their owners, or simply left in boxes outside the office door..."*

*"One lady called and said she didn't want her dog anymore because it didn't match her furniture," office manager Anna Panaccio notes."*



Nancy Welsh, Director of Almost Home Animal Shelter with Diana Kane, Treasurer of Paws and Claws Society.

Paws and Claws has donated \$25,000 to Almost Home Animal Shelter and Camden County agreed to match that donation, so that the shelter can purchase much needed additional cages in order to house the number of animals coming through their doors.

On Sunday, June 10th, Almost Home will host Paws-A-Palooza, a fundraising event at Top Dog Bar & Grill in Cherry Hill, NJ. For more information, look for "Almost Home Animal Shelter" on Facebook or see our web site, [pacsnj.org](http://pacsnj.org)!

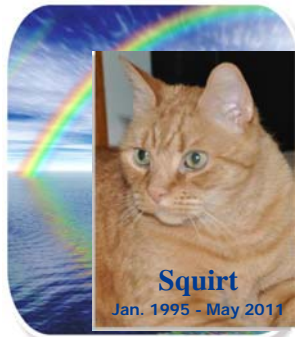






## Partners in Prevention *Not* Destruction, since 1993

### Squirty's Words . . . From The Rainbow Bridge



*In memory of Squirty, a longtime friend of Paws and Claws Society who passed away on Mother's Day 2011 at the age of 16½, Burlington Reports added a new section to remember pets who have passed. Ask Squirty a question, or share your pet memorial story on our web site (click on Burlington Reports). Let Squirty meet your pet(s) at the Rainbow Bridge and escort them to Pet Heaven.*

**Question:** Squirty, my cat has a lot of hairballs during this time of year. How can I help him?

**Answer:** While most cats tend to shed somewhat all year, the arrival of the warm weather each spring brings with it an increase in shedding as cats begin to lose the extra hair that made up their thick winter coat. Consequently, it goes everywhere - on your furniture, your clothes, and in your cat's belly when he bathes himself!

Since cats can't digest the hair, it will either pass through their digestive system or will be ejected in the form of a "hairball", a long tube-shaped mass that your cat will "cough up". It is normal for this to happen occasionally, but if it becomes frequent (several times a week or more), it can indicate a problem for your cat. Sometimes cats will have a hard time bringing up a hairball. If you find your cat retching and nothing comes up after a few tries, you should seek the advice of your veterinarian. As an article on the Animal Planet web site points out, "Hairballs that won't pass can also cause lethargy, diarrhea, defecation problems, a bloated abdomen or a loss of appetite in a cat. Occasionally, hairballs can get so bad that they block his throat, stomach or intestines, resulting in death. If there's enough hair to cause a blockage, your cat may need surgery. Hairballs the size of baseballs have been removed from cats' stomachs."

There are several hairball remedies on the market that help to pass the hair through the digestive system more smoothly. You can also find cat food and treats with ingredients that provide the same function. Prevention is best, though! The best way to limit the amount of hair swallowed by your cat is to brush regularly, and vacuum often during shedding season, so Kitty doesn't pick the hair back up by lying on the floor.

You can find cat brushes in many different styles and types, based on different types and lengths of hair. (Check out the links for further reading on the PACS web site for information on choosing the right brush.)

Brushing can be a bonding experience for you and your cat. If you make it a part of your routine (daily for long-haired cats), Kitty will become used to it and will look forward to it.

My humans used to hold the brush still for me and I would rub my cheeks against it. That was the best!

*Peace, Love, and Head-Butts,  
Squirty*

### Kitten Season

(Continued from page 4)

#### Why does kitten season last so long?

As explained on RescueGuide.com, "Understand that kittens are born in cycles, hence the term 'kitten season.' The first two 'waves' of kittens have reached the adoptable age of 8 weeks or older by mid-summer."

The article goes on to explain that female cats have more than one heat cycle each year, and that these cycles are regulated by weather. In any given area, "the weather affects cats at the same time, creating a surge in pregnant cats at the same time. Female cats can, and often do, become pregnant while still nursing a litter of kittens. Most cats go into heat three times a year, and with some weather patterns in Southern California, four times per year. A cat, unlike a dog, will keep repeating a heat cycle until she gets pregnant. Dogs go into heat twice a year, whether or not they get pregnant. Pregnancy is 8-1/2 weeks from conception and kittens are up for adoption at 8 weeks of age. There are usually three seasons per year of 8 week old kittens: April/May, July/August, and October/November."

Weather plays other roles in the lives of homeless kittens. "Cold, wet weather can kill kittens under 4 weeks of age."





## Paws and Claws Society, Inc.

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Visit us online at [www.pacsnj.org](http://www.pacsnj.org)

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## Is your pet afraid of loud noises?



Summer can be a scary time for pets. With the Fourth of July approaching, there are likely many pet owners who are concerned about their pets' reaction to the noise of local fireworks displays. Does your pet have a fear of fireworks and other loud noises like thunderstorms? What do you do to calm your pet? **Please share your suggestions with us** in the discussion section on our web site (on the July 2012 Burlington Reports page). Here are some pieces of advice we found:

- Your presence is extremely calming to your pet. Some pets may prefer to go to their crate, bed, or another safe place, and others may want to curl up beside you or in your lap, but knowing that their trusted person is there with them will go a long way to soothe their fears.
- Talk quietly and calmly to your pet; your voice is music to him or her!
- Toys, treats, brushing, or petting can be a welcome distraction.
- Background sound from a TV, radio, or fan can help to neutralize the effect of the outside noises.
- Talk with your vet about possible supplements or medications that can help combat anxiety.
- Look into desensitization training programs online or through an animal trainer.
- A product called the ThunderShirt Dog Pressure Wrap has received good reviews as a helpful, drug-free method to relieve many types of anxiety in dogs. From ThunderShirt's web site: "As for WHY ThunderShirt's gentle pressure works to calm a dog, experts such as Dr. Temple Grandin believe that pressure has a calming effect on the nervous system. Using pressure to relieve anxiety has been a common practice for years."

Paws and Claws Society wishes you and your pets a happy and safe Fourth of July!

