

FEBRUARY 2023

# THE PAW



## OUR MISSION

WOUNDED PAW PROJECT® IS A 501(C)(3) THAT FOCUSES ON THE PREVENTION OF ANIMAL ABUSE AND THE REHABILITATION OF ABUSED AND RESCUED DOGS.

Welcome to The Paw, Wounded Paw Project's® monthly newsletter that keeps you up to date on how you and Wounded Paw Project® are making a difference for abused and rescued dogs. Each month, we'll also share tips that you can use for your own pet and provide veterans with information they may not know.

This month, we'd like to introduce you to Elvis, an abused dog from Las Vegas that was rescued with the help of a Good Samaritan. Keep reading to learn his story and what you should do if you witness similar abuse.

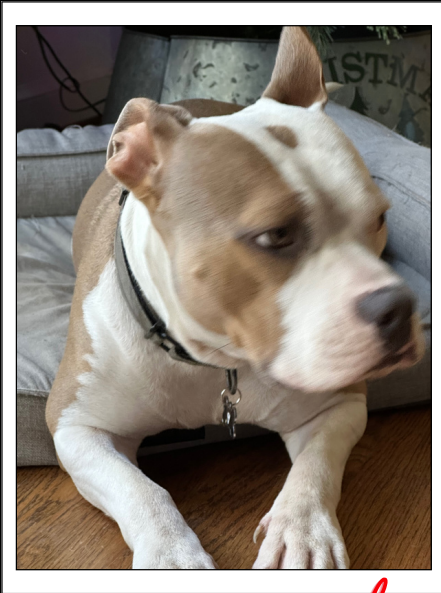
We hope you enjoy this month's newsletter and don't forget to follow us throughout the month on our social media platforms.

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WPP.dog

News@wpp.org



Watching Elvis play, you would never guess that he was rescued from an alleged Las Vegas drug house last October. A Good Samaritan noticed that Elvis was being left outside for days with no food or water. Elvis had nothing to shelter him from the Las Vegas heat, was living in trash, and had multiple abrasions and infections on his skin. The Good Samaritan called Wounded Paw Project asking for advice on what to do.

First, we got the address and began researching the shelters in the area. Unfortunately, the shelters in the area were all kill-shelters. We made several attempts to find someone in the local area that could foster Elvis but couldn't, so we decided to bring Elvis to Virginia.

Bringing Elvis to Virginia had its challenges as well. Since we needed to get Elvis out of his current situation as quickly as possible to keep him out of the kill-shelters, we only had a few days to get Elvis in the custody of Wounded Paw Project. There wasn't enough time to drive from Virginia to Las Vegas in a car, if we were able

able to find a flight, we couldn't find a rental car that we could drive back to Virginia in. We also thought about renting a U-haul but decided not to because the cost of a one-way rental was astronomical. We ultimately decided on hiring a pet transport company who drove Elvis cross-country over a 10-day period.

Elvis arrived in great spirits, was excited to play with the other Wounded Paw doggies and seemed eager to explore his new surroundings.

Within days, Elvis figured out how to navigate up and down stairs and got the hang of potty training (for the most part!), Elvis has even become best friends with Diva, a Spanish sheppard mix that Wounded Paw Project® rescued from a landfill in Phoenix, AZ.

Elvis now attends weekly training at Patriot Pet Care at Fort Belvoir, VA and is working towards his Canine Good Citizen certification.

Wounded Paw Project® would like to thank the donors that helped us rescue Elvis. We couldn't have done it without your generous donations. If you would like to help us rescue and rehabilitate more dogs like Elvis, please visit our website at [WPP.dog](http://WPP.dog) to donate today.

## RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF POTENTIAL ANIMAL ABUSE

- Failing to provide food, water or shelter to a dog being kept outside for extended periods of time
- Pets kept in a cage or kennel that doesn't allow them to stand up or turn around.
- Signs of wounds that aren't being treated
- Excessive barking that goes non-stop for more than a day
- Emaciated appearance where bones are visible

**IF YOU WITNESS ANIMAL ABUSE CALL  
YOUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT! IF YOU  
DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE CALLING LAW  
ENFORCEMENT, CALL US AT  
1-844-SAVAPAW  
AND WE'LL MAKE THE REPORT AND KEEP  
YOUR IDENTITY ANONYMOUS**

# You got a puppy...how's the potty training?

Getting a new puppy can be exciting but it can also be a lot of work. One of the most challenging things for new pet owners can be potty training a new puppy. First and foremost, you need to put your new puppy on a consistent routine. Take your puppy outside to go potty every 2 hours, after every time they eat or drink, every time they wake up from a nap, and every time after playing.. In other words, your puppy is going to be outside a lot! Always take your puppy to the same spot to potty and use the same phrase to tell them to go such as "go potty". This way your puppy associates this spot and the phrase with going potty. Once your puppy has gone potty, make sure you reward them immediately with a treat and praise. You want your puppy to associate going potty where they are supposed to go as a good thing. Also, make sure you are feeding your puppy at the same time every day. This will help with establishing a potty routine. Finally, make sure you limit the amount of water before the puppy's bedtime. This will help reduce nighttime trips to go potty. Hope these tips help!



## DOGGIE PUPCAKES

We found this recipe on [recipetineats.com](http://recipetineats.com) and it has become one of Elvis's favorites! He loves the "frosting" made out of potatoes. This recipe makes 12 pupcakes and stays fresh for a week.

### Ingredients

#### Pupcakes:

- 2 ripe bananas mashed
- 1/2 cup natural peanut butter
- 1/3 cup honey
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 2 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 cup vegetable
- 3/4 cup water

#### "Frosting":

- 1 lb potatoes, peeled and cut into 1" pieces
- 2 Tbsp honey
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 2 - 4 Tbsp water
- 12 small dogbone biscuits (optional)

### Pupcakes

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Line a 12-hole muffin tin with cupcake liners.
2. Place bananas in a bowl and mash until smooth.
3. Add peanut butter, honey and eggs. Whisk until smooth.
4. Add flour, baking powder, oil, and water. Whisk until smooth.
5. Fill liners 3/4 full. Bake for 22 minutes until the top is golden, or a skewer comes out clean.
6. Transfer to cooling rack and cool for 30 minutes before frosting.

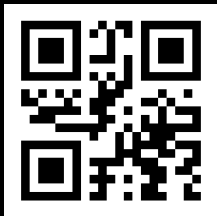
### Frosting

1. Place potatoes in a large pot of water. Bring to boil, then cook potatoes for 20 minutes until very, very soft and starting to crumble on the edges. (Just like making mash potatoes).
2. Drain, then return to empty pot. Add yogurt, honey and water (starting with 2 Tbsp). Beat with an electric beater until smooth and creamy. Add more water if needed - it should have a soft consistency like frosting.
3. Pipe or spread frosting onto pupcakes.



**MEET SADIE THE MO'PITTIE...  
THE MORKIE WHO THINKS  
SHE'S A PITBULL. EACH  
MONTH, SADIE WILL GIVE YOU  
TIPS TO HELP YOU HAVE A  
SAFE AND HEALTHY PET. THIS  
MONTH, SADIE WANTS TO  
REMINDE YOU THAT IT'S  
IMPORTANT TO TAKE YOUR  
PET TO THE VETERINARIAN  
FOR HIS OR HER ANNUAL  
CHECK UP!**

## Sign our petition!



Help us end Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) on military installations by signing our petition! BSL bans the ownership of dozens of safe breeds and is based on junk science that says a dog is bad based only on its breed

### SCAN CLICK SIGN

and not the aggressive behavior taught by the owner. BSL is not consistent between military installations so if you adopt a dog at one base, receive orders to another, you may be required to give your dog away. This creates trauma for the family and may even result in the dog being euthanized all because the dog was welcomed at one installation and not another. Let's keep military families in tact by signing our petition.

## DOGGIE CPR

Do you know what to do if your dog's heart stops? Many pet owner's don't but if you want to give your pet the best chance of survival, follow these tips we found in the book, The First Aid Companion for Dogs and Cats by Amy D. Shojai (order your own copy from AmazonSmile):

Get your pet to the veterinarian immediately! While you are enroute to the veterinarian, begin CPR on your pet.

**For small dogs:** cup your hand over the point of the chest, just behind the elbows. Squeeze firmly, pressing in about 1/2 inch, with your thumb on one side and your fingers on the other. This not only pumps the heart but also makes the pressure inside the chest (and against the heart) rapidly increase and decrease and helps move the blood. Ideally one person gives chest compressions while a second performs artificial respiration. Give one breath for every 5 compressions. The goal is 80 to 100 compressions and 15 to 20 breaths per minute until your pet revives or you reach medical help.

**For medium or large dogs:** lay your dog on its side on a hard surface, and, if it's readily available, place a small pillow or rolled blanket under the lower part of the chest. Put one hand on the chest at a comfortable position near the highest point of the chest wall. Place your other hand on top of the first, then press down firmly and vigorously with both hands, compressing the chest by 25 or 50%.

Alternate compressions with breaths at the rate of one breath for every 5 compressions. The goal is 80 to 100 compressions and 15 to 20 breaths per minute until your pet revives or you reach medical help.

**For barrel-chested dogs like bulldogs:** lay your dog on its back, cross the paws over his breastbone, and kneel with this abdomen between your legs. Hold the paws and perform chest compressions by pushing downward directly over the breastbone. If your dog moves a lot while you are compressing the chest, put your dog on its side, and continue compressions. Alternate compressions with breaths at the rate of one breath for every 5 compressions. The goal is 80 to 100 compressions and 15 to 20 breaths per minute until your pet revives or you reach medical help.

Unfortunately, doggie CPR isn't very successful without specialized veterinarian equipment but at least this gives your pet a fighting chance!



**VET-2-VET**

Each month The Paw provides valuable information to our Nation's veterans on services and opportunities that may not be common knowledge to Vets.

## THE PACT ACT

The PACT Act was signed into law August 10, 2022 and expands health care eligibility to several groups of Veterans who may not have been eligible before. Because of this, the VA is offering a special VA health care enrollment period for veterans who served on active duty in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War or in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998, and who were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013 may enroll in VA health care between October 1, 2022 and October 1, 2023. There are four easy ways to apply for VA health care:

- Apply online at [VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](https://VA.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction)
- Mail a completed, signed Application for Health Benefits, VA Form 10-10EZ
- Call the toll-free hotline at 1-877-222-8387 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 8:00 pm ET
- Bring a completed, signed VA Form 10-10EZ to the nearest VA Medical Center or clinic

Family members or dependents of a deceased Veteran may qualify for various VA benefits due to the additional disabilities defined in the PACT Act if they meet eligibility requirements. More information for survivors is available online at [VA.gov/PACT](https://VA.gov/PACT).

For more information on the PACT Act and to see if you qualify, visit [VA.gov/PACT](https://VA.gov/PACT) to learn more.

### COMMONLY USED VA PHONE NUMBERS

VA MAIN INFORMATION LINE  
1-800-698-2411

VA BENEFITS HOTLINE  
1-800-827-1000

VA HEALTH BENEFITS HOTLINE  
1-877-222-8387

WOMEN VETERANS HOTLINE  
1-855-829-6636

CAREGIVER SUPPORT LINE  
1-855-260-3274

eBENEFITS TECHNICAL SUPPORT  
1-800-983-0937

**ARE YOU A VET  
IN CRISIS?  
CALL FOR HELP  
DIAL 988 THEN  
PRESS 1**



**WOUNDED PAW  
PROJECT®**

**WORK WITH**

**US**

**Wounded Paw Project®  
12644 Chapel Road #193  
Clifton VA 20124**

**Telephone  
1-844-SAVAPAW  
(1-844-728-2729)**

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