

Memorial Day isn't about food, pools and parades...it's about remembering the Fallen!

MAY 2024

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, you'll get tips that you can use for your own pet and since Wounded Paw Project® was founded by a Purple Heart recipient, we'll also provide veterans with information they may not know.

This May, we want to remind you to please remember our fallen service members who sacrificed so much so we could have a better life.

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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News@wpp.org

Confessions of a "store bought dog" Mom



Can I tell you a secret? I used to think that only perfect dogs came from a breeder. Can I tell you another one? I used to think that pit bulls and similar breeds were aggressive, dangerous dogs. Boy was I wrong.

After the loss of my son, I thought getting a dog would help me with my grief journey. But not just any dog...I thought if I got a new puppy from a breeder I would save myself the heartache of having to deal with behavioral problems that I was sure would come from any dog adopted from a shelter. A new puppy would mean perfection and there would be no bad habits to break. I got that new little puppy from a breeder. In fact, I ended up buying two puppies about a year apart. But I've learned a lot in the last 8 years. My two Morkies (half Maltese and half Yorkie) taught me that shelter dogs are perfection too and the smaller the breed doesn't automatically mean the dog is kinder and sweeter.



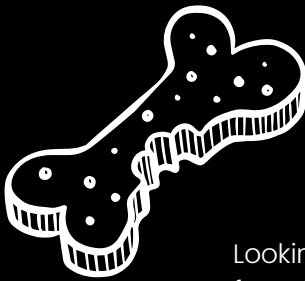
In addition to the Morkies, I'm now the proud dog mom to several pit bulls who were rescued from some bad situations. Just like people, each dog has their own personality. And honestly, I think the pit bulls are more friendly to humans and other dogs than the Morkies. When we're driving around town, it's usually the Morkies who get in trouble for barking too much (especially when anyone looks in their direction) or not staying in the backseat of the vehicle (they want to jump in the driver's seat and look out the window!). The pit bulls are just happy to be out and about. When I'm having a bad day, it's the pit bulls who try to comfort me first. I tell you all this to say before you spend thousands of dollars buying a dog, try your local shelter first. There are so many dogs that need a loving family and honestly just want to be loved. I think the pit bulls are well-behaved because they are grateful they are loved. And at the end of the day, doesn't everyone just want to be loved?

I wouldn't trade my Morkies for the world. And who knows, they could have ended up in a shelter if I hadn't bought them. I'm just saying that I will never buy another dog. The dogs in shelters (especially pit bulls) deserve your love too...more than the breeders need your money.



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 REMIND YOU THAT INSECT REPELLANT AND SUNSCREEN CAN BE TOXIC TO PETS. IF YOU NOTICE YOUR PET DROOLING, VOMITTING, DIARRHEA, EXCESSIVE THIRST AND LETHARGY, YOUR PET MAY BE EXPERIENCING REPELLENT TOXICITY.



SUMMER MELON ICE LICK

Looking for a way to keep your pup cool this summer? Try this recipe we found on [rover.com](https://www.rover.com) for a Summer Melon Ice Lick.

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups of honeydew chunks
- 1 1/2 cups of cantaloupe chunks
- 1/3 cup cranberries
- Water to fill your mold (if you want an Instagram ready mold use distilled water boiled a few times for the clearest ice!)

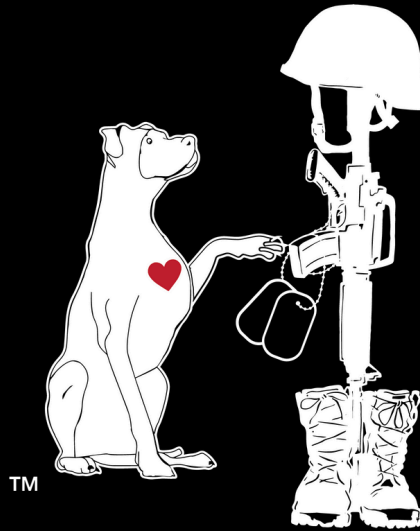
Before you make your Summer Melon Ice Lick, you'll need to make sure you have enough room in your freezer. You'll also need to make sure you have a bowl, a bucket, or Bundt cake pan to freeze your tasty mixture in. And to help make clean-up easier, you might want to have some type of container such as a water bowl, washtub or puddle pool to put your frozen treat in for your doggie to enjoy.

Add the fruit to your mold, cover with water and freeze for at least 4 hours or until frozen solid.

To serve, hold the mold under hot running water until loosened.

Serve outside!

MY HEROES WEAR DOGTAGS™



REMEMBER THE FALLEN

MEMORIAL DAY 2024



WOUNDED PAW
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Visit us at www.WPP.dog

LOOK FOR US AT THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE IN WASHINGTON DC ON MAY 27, 2024!



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.

BURIAL PRE-NEED

On September 1, 1973, the VA became steward of the 112-year old National Cemetery System, the forerunner of the National Cemetery Administration (NCA). Today, NCA (www.cem.va.gov) manages 155 national cemeteries in the United States and provides grant-funding to 122 state, territory, and tribal Veterans cemeteries. Over 4.1 million Veterans of every conflict—from Revolutionary War to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan—are honored by burial in the cemeteries.

NCA has assisted millions of Veterans and their families in scheduling and arranging for burial in national cemeteries for themselves and their spouses. In 2016, NCA developed a Pre-Need Eligibility application to assist families with burial planning. No longer do Veterans or spouses need to wait until the time of death to find out if they are eligible for burial in a national cemetery or for memorial benefits such as a headstone, flat marker, or bronze medallion for use in private cemeteries.

In FY2023, 55,374 Pre-Need applications were approved. There were 139,360 internments in national cemeteries and 33,556 headstones and markers provided for burial in private cemeteries. Pre-Need applications require the Veteran's social security number, date/place of birth, military status and service history such as service dates, discharge character, and rank-information commonly found on the DD214 or other separation documents. If you do not have discharge documents, NCA staff will help obtain the information needed for eligibility. Applicants can apply: online at www.va.gov/burials-memorials/pre-need-eligibility or by mailing or faxing your completed form (forms can be found at www.va.gov/find-forms/about-form-40-10007/), or simply search for "NCA Pre Need" on the internet.

If you have any questions about future burial needs for yourself or a living dependent of a Veteran, or you need assistance with submitting an application, please call 800-535-1117 and press 4. NCA's scheduling office is open Monday through Friday 8:00am to 7:30pm EST and Saturday 9:00am to 5:30pm EST except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Telecommunications Relay Services or TTY is available at 711.

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
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**ANIMAL ABUSE IS A PRECURSOR
FOR A LIFE OF CRIME INVOLVING
HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SERIAL KILLING,
SCHOOL SHOOTINGS, AND
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

BE THE VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS®



HELP US

GET INVOLVED

Report animal abuse

Adopt / Foster a shelter dog

Volunteer at Wounded Paw Project® or your local animal shelter

Sign our advocacy petition

Help someone who needs help with a pet

DONATE

Make a cash donation at WPP.dog

Donate your car, truck, or boat through our CARS program

Bequeath money or real estate to Wounded Paw Project®

SPREAD THE WORD

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on our social media platforms



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PROJECT®**

WORK WITH US

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