



Fall Newsletter

P.A.W.S. PRINT

Have you ever wondered what we do and where we go when we're not at the Shelter? The lack of communication—letters, emails, or newsletters—this year has been incredibly challenging for us. We thought last year was the hardest we had ever experienced, but this year has proved even more difficult. The amount of abuse, neglect, and abandonment we encounter is staggering. There is so much need, and we worry every moment of every day about how we can continue to help the animals that are so desperately relying on us.

We have been so focused on saving lives that we haven't had time to reach out for the much-needed financial support or to communicate with you as you deserve. Most days, we find ourselves stretched thin, unable to complete everything on our to-do list. To give you an idea of what a few days look like for us here at PAWS, I've pulled an entry from our journal. It reflects the struggles we face on any given day: so many animals in need, yet so few resources.

Here is a journal entry from one day in the life of P.A.W.S..

- We helped a family of dogs find safety. This included a mother dog, one of her adult offspring, and two little female pups. We are deeply grateful for your support that made this possible. At P.A.W.S., your support made a significant difference in the lives of these animals. They received vaccinations, were spayed or neutered, were provided nutritious meals, and received plenty of compassionate care, all thanks to you.
- We intervened urgently to save two young male dogs. Without Beth picking them up late that evening, they would not have survived, as we were informed they were scheduled to be shot by the county's animal control officer the next day. Yes, you read that right; we were told they were going to be shot rather than humanely euthanized. Even though we had no room at the Shelter, we brought these dogs in because we could not allow them to face that fate. This is the kind of urgent intervention your ongoing support enables us to do.
- We assisted an emaciated stray hound who was on the brink of death. Fortunately, P.A.W.S. was able to get her to the vet for lifesaving emergency surgery at Bryson City Vet.
- -We received five parvo puppies that had been dumped at our gate. They will survive, but the veterinary costs for their treatment amount to approximately \$1,700 per dog.
- We helped law enforcement with a distressing case of abandoned dogs that had been left on a property. These dogs were found in deplorable conditions, malnourished and frightened. With your support, we were able to provide them with the care and attention they desperately needed.
- We aided a cat with a broken leg who is nursing five kittens, and, on the same property, we found a hound with bullet wounds who also has pups. We are ensuring that all these animals receive the medical treatment they need and deserve. This is just a glimpse of what P.A.W.S. encounters daily. We wanted to share with our wonderful donors why your contributions and support matter.

The work we do at P.A.W.S. can be heartbreaking, lengthy, exhausting, and expensive, but it is so vital and important. If you can find it in your heart to donate to the care of these animals in need, we would be forever grateful. We also want to take this opportunity to thank our past donors for their generous support.

We have already exhausted our medical funds, but this doesn't deter us from helping the animals. If we didn't step in, these animals would suffer and die on the streets. Please help us if you can. Your immediate support can make a life-saving difference for these animals. No donation is too small, and every contribution is greatly appreciated.

Lily & her amazing pups

Sweet Momma Lily and her four puppies...oh wait, she adopted one more.

This sweet momma dog was found in the bitter cold. She had been left alone and had her babies all on her own, but soon, P.A.W.S. would find out from a Good Samaritan about sweet Lily and get her into the shelter with her newborn puppies.

Lily was so emaciated and malnourished that she wasn't producing enough milk to feed her babies, so we are so grateful she came in when she did. We let Lily nurse her babies, but we also helped her by bottle-feeding them. Lily and all her pups were underweight and loaded down with parasites. P.A.W.S. ensured that Lily and her babies got all the veterinarian care, love, shelter, and nutritional meals they were not receiving alone in the woods. As luck would have it, another puppy that needed a mother's care came in, and Lily immediately let this sweet loner join her pack of pups. Lily has been the best mother dog. We know the puppies would not have survived if the Good Samaritan had not brought them to us.

Lily and all her puppies are thriving. Lily will never have to worry again about where her next meal will come from or how she will feed her family.



Meet Windy...

We rescued Windy after she had been struck by a car. We rushed her to the vet, where it was diagnosed that she had a broken leg. She also had abrasions on her face and legs. We were concerned about her snout, mouth, and jaw as it was evident that she was injured in that area. After the vet had done the x-rays, our vet determined that poor Windy had suffered many fractures before this most recent incident. She had healed fractures in her jaw, most likely from being hit by an automobile in the past, and she didn't receive medical care. Although nothing medical could be done about the healed fractures, we could treat the new ones so she would have a healed leg and a healthy life. Windy had to wear a splint on her leg and engage in low activity for eight-plus weeks for the leg to heal completely. Unlike her jaw, the leg got the medical attention needed to heal straight, and now you can't even see or tell that it was ever broken. We named her Windy because it was a windy day when we saved her, and she has freckles across her nose and a splash of red hair on top of her head like pigtails, which reminds us of the mascot for Wendy's fast food.

We could not do this life-saving work without the generosity and support of YOU, our donors. You can donate to our life-saving mission at www.pawsbrysoncity/donate.html or by mailing a check to PAWS PO Box 1814, Bryson City, NC 28713, or stop by our shelter at 57 Lemons Branch Rd, or by our Thrift Store at 95 Slope Street Suite D. Bryson City, NC 28713 or you can use the QR code below.
<https://app.autobooks.co/pay/paws>





AVAILABLE PAWS ANIMALS

Here are some of the beautiful faces you will find at PAWS Animal Shelter. Come find your fur-ever friend today!



HELP PAWS SAVE THEM

Yes, I want to help PAWS save them! I would like to:

- ☐ Be a volunteer
- ☐ Make a \$ _____ donation
- ☐ Sponsor a dog or cat with medical expenses
- ☐ Pledge \$ _____ a month to help all PAWS animals
- ☐ I would like to talk with someone about other ways to give (estate planning, vehicles, land, etc)



PAWS is a 501(c)3 non-profit, no-kill animal shelter existing on the generosity of private donors.



Send your tax deductible contribution to: **PAWS Animal Shelter**
PO Box 1814 Bryson City, NC 28713

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

LITTLE YVETTE

Meet Little Yvette. P.A.W.S. recently took this sweet baby in, and she had to be rushed into hospital care. Not only did she have parvo, but she also had several canine bites on her neck; she was very anemic and heavily infected with roundworms and hookworms. Her situation was dire, and she needed immediate attention. This baby was in critical care and had to be hospitalized for several days before we could bring her home to the shelter. No animal should have to suffer the way she did when preventive care is available at numerous free vaccine clinics throughout WNC.

Her bill was over \$3,000, and your help in paying her vet bill would make a significant difference. You can make a monetary donation at PAWS Shelter, located at 57 Lemons Branch Rd, Bryson City, or at the PAWS Thrift Store, located at 95 Slope Street, Unit D., or you can mail in a check to PAWS PO Box 1814, Bryson City, NC 28713 If you prefer to donate online, you can do so at our website, [<https://www.pawsbrysoncity.org/donate.html>], or through our secure payment portal, [<https://app.autobooks.co/pay/paws>].

Your help, no matter how small, would make a significant difference in Little Yvette's life. She's already been through so much at such a young age. Please consider supporting P.A.W.S. so we can continue helping animals like Little Yvette.



Lottie

Meet beautiful Lottie.

It was the caring community that stepped in when Lottie, starving and in severe pain, sought shelter on a family's porch. They called PAWS, knowing the sweet girl needed immediate vet care, but they couldn't provide it.

When Lottie arrived at the vet, she had to go in for immediate life-saving surgery to save her life. We did not hesitate in telling the vet to go forward and save her life, even though we had depleted all of our medical funds. We knew we had to save her no matter the cost.

Lottie was fortunate to have a loving foster family who cared for her as she healed from her surgery. Now, she's at our shelter, ready to find her forever home.

With your help, Lottie has made a miraculous recovery. She's back to a healthy weight and is now eagerly waiting for her forever home. As you can see from the following two pictures Lottie is no longer emaciated and is a very healthy girl.



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Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Adopt Spay/Neuter Donate

www.pawsbrysoncity.org



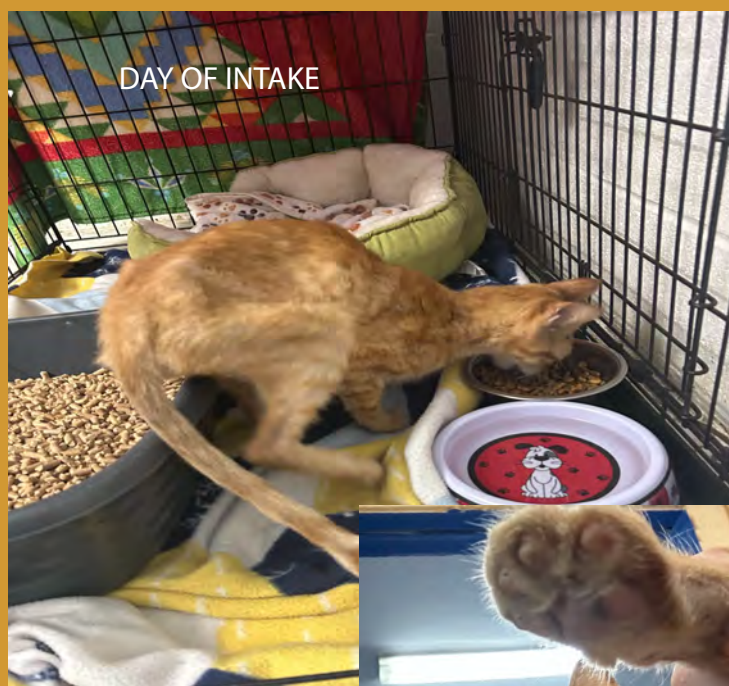
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THORIN

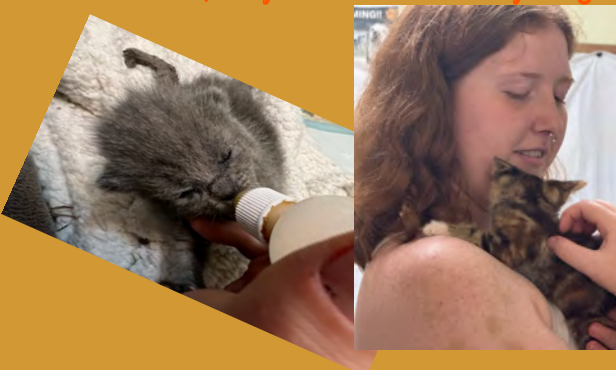
Hi, my name is Thorin! It means strength and bravery, which is exactly what the ladies at P.A.W.S. say I am! Before P.A.W.S., my life was terrifying. I used to have a family to whom I showed unconditional love all the time; however, I made too many biscuits, so they removed my claws on my front legs. I was in so much pain, it hurt even to try to make any more biscuits, let alone walk. After that, I was dumped outside, absolutely defenseless, without my claws. Living outside was scary; I couldn't find food anywhere, and catching food was out of the question. I was alone and scared, and just when I was starting to lose hope, I tried one last time to find a family that would love me. I wandered around this family's house, and they noticed me, commenting on how skinny I was. They fed me and gave me lots of love, but they sadly could not keep me. Instead, they got the attention of P.A.W.S. Animal Shelter, and they took me right in! They gave me a warm bed to sleep in, water to drink, plenty of food to eat, and all the toys I could ever imagine!

My leg really bothers me, making it hard for me to walk and jump. I think an animal attacked me, but it's hard to remember. The vet at P.A.W.S. diagnosed me with a severe injury that requires extensive treatment. I wish I could talk so I could tell the staff what happened to me, and when I'm hurting. P.A.W.S. said they would do anything and everything to help me, and they have kept their word! They immediately took me to the vet, had my leg checked out, and now I am on the mend.

With the help of P.A.W.S., I've been making significant progress in my recovery. I've been gaining weight, and I even tried making biscuits again. Your support is crucial in this journey. Could you be the one to help me make biscuits again by assisting P.A.W.S. with my medical bills?



Sick Cats, Tiny Kittens And Everything In Between. P.A.W.S. staff has been busy taking care of sweet kittens.



The past few months we have felt as if cats were falling from the sky. So many animals needing our help and not enough resources to help them all. It has seemed almost impossible to keep up because we have had to bottle feed tiny kittens, syringe feed sick cats, treat severe eye infections and help so many in need. As times get worse and people begin to struggle we see the effect it also has on their animals. We are seeing so many more animals with life threatening illness and injuries being discarded and homeless.

2025

LITE-A-LITE FUNDRAISER



With the holidays just around the corner, P.A.W.S. will soon hang lights for our Lite-a-Lite fundraiser. If you would like your pet's honor or memory to be represented in this special holiday display. Fill out the form below and mail back to PAWS PO BOX 1814, BRYSON CITY, NC 28713

We will also be lighting special stars this year for the special ones we lost this year.
Doc, Big Daddy, Hamilton, Bruce, Yvette McClure & Mary Stewart



LITE-A-LITE

In honor/memory of: _____

Donor's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount: \$ _____ (any amount is appreciated)



Your pet's honor/memory will be represented at PAWS Thrift Store when our lights are lit for the holiday season. Names will also be added to the PAWS spring newsletter.

Send your tax deductible contribution to PAWS Animal Shelter, PO BOX 1814, Bryson City, NC 28713. Thank you for your support!

DID YOU KNOW..

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has found loving forever homes for over 5,800 animals?

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has provided financial assistance for over 26,000 spay/neuter surgeries?

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has saved 1000s of animals that needed life-saving, expensive surgeries after being injured at the hands of a human?

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has reunited 1000s of lost cats and dogs with their owners?

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has provided over 32,000 lbs of dog and cat food to families that need food assistance with their animals?

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has provided over 300 dog houses to dogs without shelter?

Did you know that P.A.W.S. has successfully trapped, neutered, and returned over 3,000 feral cats and continues to feed over 32 colonies since we started the TNR program in 2019?

Did you know that cost of Shelter Operation Expenses is over \$380,000 a year? This year the cost is expected to be even much higher because of the increase in prices from dog food to cleaning and medical and vet supplies.

Did you know that veterinary care for animals we have rescued costs us over \$100,000 a year? That is vet clinic care and does not include the cost of medicine, preventative, or vaccines.

We need your help NOW; we need help keeping our shelter open so we can continue to help the animals.

Totals above do not include all 30+ years, totals are just from the past several years that we started keeping a total amount of animals we have helped.

HELP PAWS HELP THEM

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Adopt Spay/Neuter Donate

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Meet Drama and Trauma! Drama is a 12-year-old senior, and Trauma is a 3-year-old young adult! While they are not dramatic or traumatic whatsoever, the day they came in was indeed traumatic.

P.A.W.S. was contacted by the Sheriff's Department, who sought our assistance in a dire situation. Three animals had been left abandoned in a car, a situation that could have been fatal. Thanks to the timely intervention of the Sheriff's Department and our team, the cats survived against all odds. After being contacted by SCSD, Beth went to the location and picked up the surviving cats.

These babies, along with the deceased dog, had been locked in a hot car for at least three days. They were dehydrated, tired, sad, scared, starving, and in need of lots of love and medical attention.

They needed immediate vet care, and we ensured they received the necessary medical treatments, along with all the love and attention from us here at P.A.W.S. We provided them with the help they needed, along with all the love and support imaginable, and now they are flourishing and ready for their forever homes!

Drama is a very loving girl who gets along well with other cats and children! She enjoys lounging around and receiving a lot of attention. She also enjoys playing with the cat lasers and wands! One thing about Drama is she LOVES her treats! As soon as you shake that bag, she comes running right towards your feet! Drama is the perfect cat for a laid-back household, or for someone who wants a lap cat! She is sure to bring a loving light into your home.

Trauma loves any attention! His favorite thing to do is crawl on your lap for chin scratches, and then fall right over on top of you, so you have no choice but to stay and give him love. He is a very chill cat who gets along great with other cats, dogs, and children!

Without donors like you, we wouldn't be able to do this lifesaving work. Your donations enable us to save dogs and cats, just like Trauma and Drama. Your support is crucial and greatly appreciated. Thank you for being a part of our mission at P.A.W.S.



During March and April, Swain County suffered several wildfires. During that time, P.A.W.S. stepped up in a big way to help those evacuating with animals. On April 19th, during the Sam Davis fires, people had to evacuate immediately. Many had no place to take their animals, and most did not have crates. The evacuation bulletin came out around 5:00, when P.A.W.S. is usually closed. Beth stayed, got the crates out, and made them available. Then Beth kept the shelter open all night Saturday night so people would have someplace to take their animals and also so we would have crates and carriers available for the evacuees. Beth also transported crates and animals for those who couldn't fit crates in their car or couldn't make it to the shelter to pick them up. Luckily, the residents could return to their homes after a couple of days, and everyone had a place to go back to.

Beth worked with emergency management to ensure everyone knew not to leave their animals when evacuating. We are proud to say that no lives — two-leggers or four — were left behind, and everyone returned safely to their homes, ensuring the safety and well-being of our community.

MEET CHAOS

This sweet little cat, Chaos, was rushed into PAWS after being found in a ditch by a Good Samaritan. Her situation was dire, and she was definitely suffering. Little Chaos had to have two surgeries to correct a prolapsed rectum. Thanks to the life-saving intervention from P.A.W.S. and your invaluable support, this sweet baby is now on the path to recovery, a journey she wouldn't have been able to make without you.

We are deeply grateful for your support that made this possible. Thankfully, after two surgeries, Chaos is on the mend. She is now thriving and enjoying the life of any other healthy kitten her age, a testament to her remarkable resilience and the exceptional care she received from P.A.W.S.



Just this month, we were faced with a critical situation. Four dogs were left homeless after their owner, who could no longer care for herself or her pets, had to move to a nursing facility. The Sheriff's Department reached out to us, and we immediately took these animals in. Two of them were in urgent need of vet care, which we provided without delay.

Without wonderful people like you who donate, we would not be able to help all the animals that desperately need our life-saving help. Your continued support is crucial to our mission. Thank you for always being there for us and the animals in need. Your past donations have not only made a significant difference but also saved lives. You are the true heroes who make all this possible. Without you and your donations, we could not have helped the animals you have read about in this newsletter, nor could we continue this life-saving work.

My name is Sheppy. It's catchy, considering I'm a German Shepherd. The Director says I remind her of her first dog that she had as a little girl. His name was Shep, but that's a story for another day. Today, it is all about ME!!! Where should I begin? P.A.W.S. was notified by several Good Samaritans when they saw me limping and hanging around the Rec Park. One lovely lady stayed and played with me, leaving me food and water. She was on the phone with another lady named Beth, who promised to look for me. Beth came to look for me, but someone had scared me away, so she told the guys mowing to let her know if I showed back up. I had been hanging around there for a few days; you know how dogs sometimes stay at the last place they see their people. I didn't want to wander off in case they came back.

I showed back up, and Beth was called. She took me to this place called P.A.W.S. Those ladies are so good to me up here at P.A.W.S. They gave me a clean, soft bed, shelter, nutritious food, clean water, toys, and lots of love. They could see I was having trouble with my hips, so they took me to see the vet. It turns out that even though I am relatively young, I am already beginning to suffer from hip dysplasia.

I guess being out on my own for so long and just living with the pain, I have learned to hide it well. I know P.A.W.S. could use some help with all my medical bills plus all the others that they have helped and those that will come after me.

There are several ways to help P.A.W.S. You can adopt, volunteer, foster or donate. You can make a payment online by sending it through PayPal to pawsbc@yahoo.com, or you can go through our website and do it on our donation link at <https://www.pawsbrysoncity.org/donate.html> Alternatively, you can make your donation through AutoBooks, which deposits the payment directly into P.A.W.S.' checking account. <https://app.autobooks.co/pay/paws> We also have a Venmo account for those who prefer to pay via Venmo. Our account is PAWS Bryson City @PAWS-AnimalShelter

We even have a cash app, Paws: Placing Animals Within Society \$pawsbrysoncity

With so many options, we hope that we have suggested a convenient way for you to help us today by making a lifesaving contribution.



HELP US CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH THE ANIMALS THAT MUST BE IN OUR CARE OVER THE HOLIDAYS.

Back by popular demand by our P.A.W.S. residents, we are doing the Thanksgiving Feast for a fourth year in a row. We always want to do something new and special for the cats and dogs who will spend their Thanksgiving at P.A.W.S. so we made sure they would feast on Thanksgiving too!! The animals residing at P.A.W.S. Animal Shelter will have a Thanksgiving feast and also a Christmas feast to enjoy. You can help by providing a cat or dog at P.A.W.S. with a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal. Go to <http://www.pawsbrysoncity.org/thanksgiving.html> to feed a cat or dog at the shelter on Thanksgiving or Christmas. If you can't give them a home for the holidays, how about a special meal on Thanksgiving? We will also be doing a special feast for Christmas as well so if you miss out on donating to the Thanksgiving Feast your donation will be put towards their Christmas Feast.



CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS!!!

The animals love the holidays as much as we do and you can help us make sure they have a wonderful Christmas by helping us fill their stockings. Each animal in our care gets a Christmas stocking each year and we would love for you to help us stuff those stockings this year with yummy treats and fun toys for our shelter dogs and cats.



As a non-profit no-kill shelter, PAWS receives no tax dollars from any federal, state or local government, and no funding from any national animal organization. Because of this, financial contributions are always needed and appreciated in order to continue our mission. In addition to monetary gifts, there are many other ways you can help us take care of the animals in need. One such way is to purchase and donate items on our supplies wish list. Some items in particular are always in great demand at the shelter. Donated items can be left at the PAWS Thrift Store or PAWS Animal Shelter.

BIG ITEM WISH LIST

- Larger building for Thrift Store
- Quarantine Building
- New shelter/ Land

EVERY DAY ITEMS WISH LIST

- Purina Dog Chow
- Purina Puppy Chow
- Purina Cat Chow
- Purina Kitten Chow
- Pupperoni
- Milkbones (medium and large)



- Wet (can) dog food
- Wet (can) cat food
- Cat treats
- Cat & Dog toys/ laser toys
- Laundry Detergent (he)
- Bleach
- Trash Bags
- Cat litter (Tractor Supply natural pine equine pelletized bedding)
- Toilet paper
- Paper Towels
- Hand sanitizer
- Dish washing liquid



PAWS Animal Shelter

PO BOX 1814
BRYSON CITY NC 28713

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