

PAW PRINTS

The Newsletter from The Lucky Dog Complex



BOARDING & TRAINING CENTER

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Welcome to Paw Prints

The Monthly Newsletter from The Lucky Dog Complex

Hello and Welcome to the new Lucky Dog Complex newsletter, "Paw Prints". Our goal is to keep the clients, supporters, volunteers, and employees of our four entities up to date on the current happenings. Paw Prints will be published monthly and be distributed primarily via email. Printed copies will also be available at the front desk.

Lucky Dog Boarding and Training Center, The Marshmallow Foundation, Patriot Assistance Dogs, and Muddy Puppies will each author a column relevant to their organization or business. Watch for training ideas, grooming tips, and seasonal reminders for your pets, as well as fundraising and support opportunities for our two non-profit organizations. Guest columns will highlight information related to the pet industry.

Paw Prints will also feature upcoming events, introduce you to employees and volunteers, and provide information on monthly specials. We welcome your comments and ideas as we grow this newsletter.

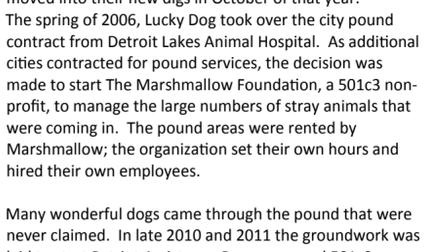
Be sure to scroll to the end of the letter, which is where you will find November's Special!



Calendar Events

- ⇒ Nov. 3rd: Daylight Savings Time (Fall Back)
- ⇒ Nov. 9th—17th MN Firearms-Deer Season (Wear Your Orange!)
- ⇒ Nov. 23rd Lucky Dog Complex Holiday Open House
- ⇒ Nov. 28th Thanksgiving
- ⇒ Dec. 9th—18th Patriot Assistance Dogs Veteran Owned Class Week

Lucky Dog Boarding and Training LLC



The History Of The Lucky Dog Complex

Lucky Dog Boarding & Training Center LLC was started in November 2005 in a building rented from Swanson's Repair. Owners were Linda Wiedewitsch and Mary Holsen. Located on 8th Street SE, the large, open shop was subdivided with temporary walls into office, retail, kennels, a small training area, and a tiny grooming area. (My, how we have grown!)

A lot in Detroit Lakes' north industrial park was purchased in 2006. The perimeter fence and dog parks were installed that fall by Eastman Fence. Bob Bristlin & Son erected a 9,500 square foot building the summer of 2007. Lucky Dog moved into their new digs in October of that year. The spring of 2006, Lucky Dog took over the city pound contract from Detroit Lakes Animal Hospital. As additional cities contracted for pound services, the decision was made to start The Marshmallow Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit, to manage the large numbers of stray animals that were coming in. The pound areas were rented by Marshmallow; the organization set their own hours and hired their own employees.

Many wonderful dogs came through the pound that were never claimed. In late 2010 and 2011 the groundwork was laid to start Patriot Assistance Dogs, a second 501c3 non-profit dedicated to rescuing dogs, clearing them for temperament and health, then training them as service dogs for Veterans who struggle with PTSD, anxiety and depression. Dogs were accepted into training in 2011. PAD's first three Veteran/Service Dog teams were certified in April of 2012.

Mary Holsen left Lucky Dog in 2011 to pursue her passion for breeding and showing dogs in AKC conformation classes. Boarding, training, and doggy daycare have continued as the mainstays of Lucky Dog. The dog parks and seven acres of fenced in walking trails remain quite popular.

As we continue to grow our various entities, we would like the opportunity to share our services, events, and successes with you, our customers, our volunteers, and our community. If you enjoy this newsletter, please let us know. We also would appreciate hearing of items you would like to see included or changed. Thank you to each of you who have added to the success of the Lucky Dog Complex.

Employee of The Month

Dawn's Retiring?!

Dawn is leaving! Well, at least leaving the front desk to spend more time behind the scenes working with Lucky Dog and The Marshmallow Foundation.

Dawn has been employed at Lucky Dog since 2012. She started as their bookkeeper, bringing with her a degree in accounting. Over time, Dawn took on the task of managing the front office: scheduling employee, ordering retail merchandise, maintaining inventory, setting up training class schedules, and recently working some marathon front desk hours.

Dawn serves on the Board of Directors for The Marshmallow Foundation and is currently President of the organization. She and city pound manager Cassi Ohman are the driving forces behind many of Marshmallow's fundraising events.

A rescuer of dogs, horses, and the occasional cat, Dawn's interests are a good fit with all the critter related activities that go on at the Lucky Dog Complex. Only Cassi and Linda have more years of employment here. Thank you, Dawn, for all of your contributions to our multiple business activities over the years. (And for the awesome jalapeno creamed corn that shows up at some of our potlucks!)



The Marshmallow Foundation

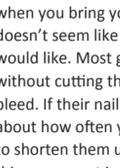
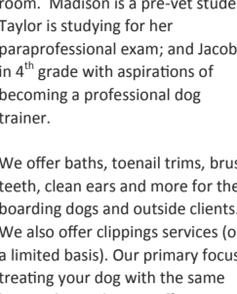
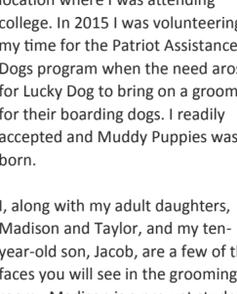
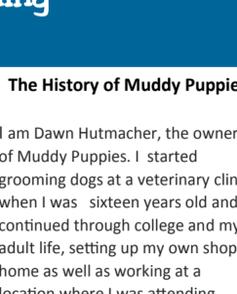
The Makings of Marshmallow

In 2006 Lucky Dog Boarding and Training was alerted to a pregnant Lab that had been left abandoned for 3 weeks. That Lab was soon dubbed "Hot Cocoa". With a group effort made by a team of people, Cocoa arrived at Lucky Dog on December 9th 2006. She delivered her first puppy at 4:45 a.m. on Thursday, December 14. By 6 a.m. there were six puppies, three black, three chocolate, three males, three females. We congratulated Cocoa on a beautiful litter of puppies. Cocoa, however was not done and went on to add another five black females to the group. Cocoa's little Marshmallows.

The puppies weighed in between 12 and 15 ounces and were strong and healthy. Cocoa took to motherhood like a pro, treating the pups gently. Although she only weighed 48 pounds after whelping she managed to consume two cans plus 9-11 cups of dry food per day. Cocoa watched visitors very closely when they were around the pups, however willingly allowed her caregivers to handle and care for the pups as needed. Although they started life on the small side, the pups grew fast and developed right on schedule. They progressed through all the milestones of opening their eyes, finding their voices, waddling, sitting, wrestling and running without a hitch. Through five weeks of nursing eleven puppies Cocoa managed to gain two pounds and improve her coat condition.

Looking at Cocoa's story made us realize there have been more mothers and puppies...and mothers and kittens...and a need for a way to help them had to be answered. And so Marshmallow was formed, and has since gone on to save hundreds of homeless animals each year.

Some of Our Adoptable Pets



Patriot Assistance Dogs

Patriot Assistance dogs is a 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to rescuing dogs, then training them as service dogs for Veterans who struggle with PTSD, anxiety and depression.

P.A.D. Guest Column

Written By Jacob Heaton (Hutmacher)

My New Dog

So I train service dogs for veterans at Lucky Dog. We were training a dog named Huckleberry. He was the best service dog ever! We were training him since he was a puppy. We had him for about a year. We had to teach him how to sit, come and lay down, and how to cuddle. We brought him everywhere! Stores, malls, doctor's visits! It was the best, but then, we had to give him to a veteran.

He had to go through a special test before he went to a veteran. I was hoping he would fail, so then we would be able to bring him home, but we trained him too well! I was sobbing in tears as the head trainer named Linda said, "When is your birthday?" I was confused but I said, "In a month". She said, "Can I give you your gift NOW?" So I said, "Sure."

As she handed me the leather leash with an English Black Lab connected to it, I was still sobbing with sad and happy tears but mostly sad though. I was running to give the head trainer a ginormous hug for a minute straight, because she gave me an amazing gift.

After that, the head trainer let us say goodbye to one of my best friends... Huckleberry. It was really hard to say goodbye, but my Mom said, "We have to go home." As we were going out the door with my new dog, I was thinking of names. I thought of the *most wonderful* name when were loading him into the Equinox. "Blue, Blue is a good name for him," I said softly. Blue it is and forever will be. We stopped at Walmart to get him a collar and a name tag. The name tag said, Blue. The best thing about my new dog is that he is a professional hunting dog, and we are training him to be a service dog as well, but that's a different story.



The end.

A real story.

(Pictured to the right: Jacob and Blue)

Muddy Puppies Dog Grooming



Let's Talk Toenails!

Written by Dawn Hutmacher

Trimming your dog's toenails is an often overlooked, yet vital part of your dog's grooming needs. Most dogs do not wear their nails down enough to alleviate the need for regular trimming. There isn't a set time period so please check our dog's toenails regularly. If they start touching the floor (you can often hear them click) then they are too long. The pressure from their nails pushing on the floor causes stress on the nail beds and discomfort that makes the dog move unnaturally, which then puts undue stress on ligaments and tendons of the feet and legs. There is also the danger of having them get caught on things, which can cause them to rip their toenail (off or partially off) which can lead to a host of problems with pain, infection and aftercare, often leaving them fearful of having their nails trimmed. Just imagine trying to stuff your feet into your shoes with ingrown toenails on all ten toes. Dogs don't complain much, but they feel just as much pain!

Not everyone is comfortable clipping their dog's toenails and that's okay! That is what your groomer or veterinarian is for. Also, remember to be patient with your groomer when you bring your dog in to have its nails trimmed and it doesn't seem like they have cut them as short as you would like. Most groomers will go as short as they can without cutting the quick and making your dog's toenails bleed. If their nails are still too long, ask your groomer about how often you should have them trimmed in order to shorten them up without hurting your dog. The last thing you want is to make the experience painful for your dog. Until next time, don't forget to play with those puppy feet!

The History of Muddy Puppies

I am Dawn Hutmacher, the owner of Muddy Puppies. I started grooming dogs at a veterinary clinic when I was sixteen years old and continued through college and my adult life, setting up my own shop at home as well as working at a location where I was attending college. In 2015 I was volunteering my time for the Patriot Assistance Dogs program when the need arose for their boarding dogs. I readily accepted and Muddy Puppies was born.

I, along with my adult daughters, Madison and Taylor, and my ten-year-old son, Jacob, are a few of the faces you will see in the grooming room. Madison is a pre-vet student; Taylor is studying for her paraprofessional exam; and Jacob is in 4th grade with aspirations of becoming a professional dog trainer.

We offer baths, toenail trims, brush teeth, clean ears and more for the boarding dogs and outside clients. We also offer clippings services (on a limited basis). Our primary focus is treating your dog with the same love and care that we offer our own.

My availability is limited to week-ends by appointment, so be sure to schedule ahead. Just give me a call or text at 218-371-6525.

November Open House

Join us for our annual Open House on November 23rd 2019 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.!

- We will be hosting our 4th Chili & Fudge Competition, come vote by placing a cash donation in your favorite bucket. Contestant with the most cash at the end of the day wins the grand prize! Don't forget to pick up some homemade goodies at our Pounds for the Pound bake sale. There will also be various vendors, holiday ornaments, silent auction & pictures with Santa.*
- Visit Muddy Puppies for \$5 nail trims from 10-12.
- Have you been thinking about microchipping your pet? Now is the time! We will be offering microchipping services during our Open House. We have 25 microchips available, call ahead and get scheduled today! We can be reached at 218-847-9040.
- Also if you live in the city limits of Detroit Lakes, ask us about renewing your pet's 2020 city license.
- While you're here be sure to pick up your 2020 raffle calendar, to be entered to win all the awesome prizes throughout the year.

We look forward as always to seeing everyone this year!

**All pets must be leashed, or kenneled, and current on vaccinations to attend the Open House.*

November Special

25% OFF!

Grandma Lucy's Organic Oven Baked Dog Treats

Fall is here, and what a better way to celebrate than to receive 25% off your next purchase of Grandma Lucy's Organic Dog Treats (and BilJac Holiday Pumpkin Flavor) for your pup! Mention the newsletter at the time of purchase to receive the discount. (While supplies last)

Grandma Lucy's Oven Baked Dog Treats are USDA Organic - All Natural - Certified Kosher - Vegan - No By-Products - No Preservatives -

Here at the Lucky Dog Complex, we love Grandma Lucy's for their quality, value, and taste, with a flavor so good you wouldn't know it's not for humans! (Go ahead, try one!) Grandma Lucy's treats are made in the USA and 100% Human Grade with no GMO products.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please E-mail us at luckydogdl@yahoo.com

Questions or comments? E-mail us at luckydogdl@yahoo.com

Trainer's Corner

The change of seasons, especially fall, signals a time when many things get put away until warmer weather returns. Before you consider putting away the heart worm, flea and tick prevention for your pets, there are a few things to think about.

Mosquitoes can, and some do, hibernate during the winter, but they are crafty and will seek out cellars, basements, and barns where the underground temperatures stayed warmer than the outside area. You may find them around boxes and in indoor or warmer climate storage areas. While they may be sluggish, they are still able to move around, depending on the warmth of where they're hanging out for the winter.

Fleas don't hibernate and they do not become inactive in winter. They will search for and hitch a ride inside on pets so they can hunker down and do what they do which is feed and repopulate. They aren't too fussy about who they attach to—deer, squirrels, sheep, cattle, rabbits, and even poultry may host fleas. Depending on exposure and climate, they may readily transfer to your pet with ease. Generally, two hard frosts will kill ground fleas, not so much if they're on a warm body.

(Continued to the left)