

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 26 Aug '13  
Rea Cord  
Director

Since the coming weekend is the Labor Day holiday we will NOT be doing any adoptions at the area PETsMARTs on Saturday. The shelter and Thrift Store will, however, be open our normal hours on Saturday, 31 Aug but the Shelter will be closed Monday, 2 September in observance of Labor Day.

Labor Day is that last big opportunity for many people to spend some time on our wonderful area lakes and rivers, and if you include your dog(s) in your water fun, please also plan for their safety. Just like you, your dog needs its own Pet Flotation Device (PFD) which it should wear while on board any boat. Over the years we have received some very lucky dogs that were rescued from the middle of Lake Martin and have to wonder how they got there. If a dog falls overboard in a huge lake like Lake Martin, and is not noticed, it might not be able to make it to shore before tiring out. You can purchase dog PFDs from various retail sources locally and on-line and make sure to get the appropriate size for your pet and get your dog used to its PFD before heading out on the water. Please be watchful for your dog and have a plan in mind for how you would retrieve it from the water (especially a larger dog) should you need to get it back onto your boat. Give your dog a shady, secure spot to rest and pack a dog first aid kit in the event of hazards from fishing gear and walking around unfamiliar shores. One last caution might be to not feed your dog too much before going out in case it is susceptible to motion sickness – smaller snacks might work better than a big breakfast.

It is less than one month to our Bark in the Park at Ft. Toulouse in Wetumpka on Sunday, 22 September from 1-5 pm! Bark in the Park is an afternoon of fun for pet lovers with great food, pet contests, children's games, dog activities such as Agility, Flyball, Disc Dog and K-9 Nose Work, wildlife exhibit by Ron's Kritter Kids, Wildlife Touch Table by Marianne Hudson, Livestock exhibits from members of the Elmore County Farmer's Federation, Puppet Shows, Mimes, Big Mo from the Biscuits and so much more! Vendor space is only \$50 (vendors must also have an Elmore County business license) and admission is \$5 for those 13 and older. We will have a microchip clinic from 2 – 3 pm for a cost of \$25 per dog which will cover the microchip and registration. There will be great food from Joe to Go & More, yummy Gelato from Venice Gelato, SnoCones from Sims Cajun Sno-balls & great baked goodies. Our Bark in the Park 2013 T-Shirts will be available for only \$10 and we will have some great pet items for sale. All dogs must be leashed, good in public and have a current rabies tag on their collar. In the event of severe weather, the backup date for Bark in the Park is Sunday, 29 September 2013, still at Ft. Toulouse. For more information go to our website at [www.elmorehumane.org](http://www.elmorehumane.org).

We hope everyone has a safe and fun Labor Day weekend!