

Humane Society of Elmore County News – 12 Nov '18
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Executive Director

At the close of a fantastic 24-hour Tattoo-a-thon yesterday the awesome crew at the [Madd Tatter Tattoo Studio](#) had completed 383 tattoos!! So think it is easy to say that [The Fire & Fur Festival](#) was a huge success! And it appeared that the Paw Print Tattoo was the overwhelming favorite followed closely by the American Flag which is just so wonderful to have so many pet lovers who also showed their love for our country as this event wrapped up on Veteran's Day. Once they catch up on some sleep they will be splitting the proceeds between the our shelter and the Holtville/Slapout Fire Department and we are most grateful that they came up with this great event and stayed the course for 24-hours straight!

Thanksgiving is right around the corner so if you are a pet owner with travel plans, we certainly hope you have already made arrangements for your pet's care as most kennels and veterinarians are likely booking up for the holiday. We bring this up as we take far too many reports after holidays of missing pets while someone else was supposed to be caring for it. In many instances the owner was never even told and only found out upon their return. When you are entrusting your pet's care to someone else, please make sure they not only care about your pet, but that they are reliable and can reach you in the event of an emergency.

To help keep your pet safe at home with a pet sitter, leave printed instructions for your pet's care and emergency contact info for you or someone else if you will be out of contact. Ensure your pet sitter knows how to contact your Veterinarian and that you have worked out any potential emergency veterinary payment issues with your pet sitter or your Vet. Giving some written instructions as to lifesaving extent and credit card limits to your Veterinarian can also help immensely in the event time is critical and you cannot be reached. Having a rabies tag, custom ID Tag (we can make those at our shelter in a few minutes) or microchip can get your pet reunited quickly and having a good photo of your pet(s) on your phone greatly help if you need to post about a lost pet or show people proof that a found pet is yours.

Make sure gates are LOCKED as better for your pet sitter to have a bit of inconvenience going through the house or garage than not securely closing a gate. And do some 'pet proofing' of your house and yard for those things that may get a bored pet into trouble.

Of course, make sure you have plenty of pet food on hand and put extra, large water containers full of water inside and outside your house 'just in case.' If your pet is on any medications, make sure to have enough on hand so they don't run out in the middle of your vacation or 'beyond' as never know when a flight delay, or car trouble, or illness might change your 'getting home' plans.

In the event your pet escapes while you are gone, impress on your pet sitter the importance of reporting the missing pet immediately! If here in Elmore County call us at 334-567-3377, email us at hselco@bellsouth.net and post pics of your lost pet to "[Lost & Found PETS in Elmore County Alabama](#) and any number of Lost & Found Pet Facebook pages for our tri-county area. Make sure to post a phone number in your post as it is very frustrating to have a lost or found pet and get no response to your Facebook post. Many a lost pet has been brought to our shelter the same day it got out, yet the owner waited days or more to ever contact us. Nothing we love doing more than reuniting lost pets with their owners.

Taking extra care to find a reliable pet sitter and seeing to the details noted above will not only help keep your pet safe at home while you are gone, but will help you relax a bit more since you won't be worried about your beloved pet(s).