



Pet Tips 'n' Tales

by Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"

"When I look into the eyes of an animal, I do not see an animal. I see a living being. I see a friend. I feel a soul." Anthony Douglas Williams

Sometimes, when you least suspect it, the best surprises run right to you. This story explains the mystery, "Do dogs see angels?"

One torrentially storming Louisiana day, Anne pulled into the Post Office parking lot to wait for the downpour to quit and before she could turn off her engine a 6-9 month-old, teeny tiny toy maltese/shitzu mix

puppy raced towards her car. She watched the little thing, as it made a bee-line towards her, hopping across the highway on three legs. One leg was obviously broken and as soon as he reached her driver's door, he stopped, and rolled onto his back.

Anne, having two dogs, knew that being in a parking lot is a dangerous situation for any dog. She opened her car's door to get a better look at him, and that darn wet pup jumped in, sat down on her lap, and looked up at her, as if to say, "Well, let's

go home!"

In a futile attempt, she used her scarf to dry off the cute hitch-hiker's white and black ears. She noticed how thin the puppy was and that he was covered in ticks and fleas.

Anne went into the Post Office and inquired about the dog. Everyone was as purr-plexed as Anne. None of the customers were its owner and the employees didn't know where the dog came from. She returned to her car and named her little passenger Jack, as he had just hiJACKed her vehicle; and the

two drove home.

She phoned animal shelters and put an ad in the newspaper, but no one ever claimed him. In the meantime, the friendly-easy-going little guy had leg surgery, was paper trained, and happily joined her family of dogs as if he always belonged.

Dr. Agnes Thomas, a pet communicator, asked Jack where he came from. "I was dumped in the woods, and I am very grateful for my rescue," said a relieved Jack. "I was hungry, there a long time and very scared. Then an Angel ap-

peared and said she would find me 'another mother'. I hid in the tall grass where she told me to and when Anne's car stopped for refueling the Angel said, 'Here she is' and so I ran to my new mother."

It is a mystery why anyone would dump Jack. He could have starved, being injured/killed by vehicles, and being so small a larger animal could have caused him great harm. Jack, a sweet dog, deserved better. Even an Angel knew it. Jack graced Anne's home for seven years before his passing.

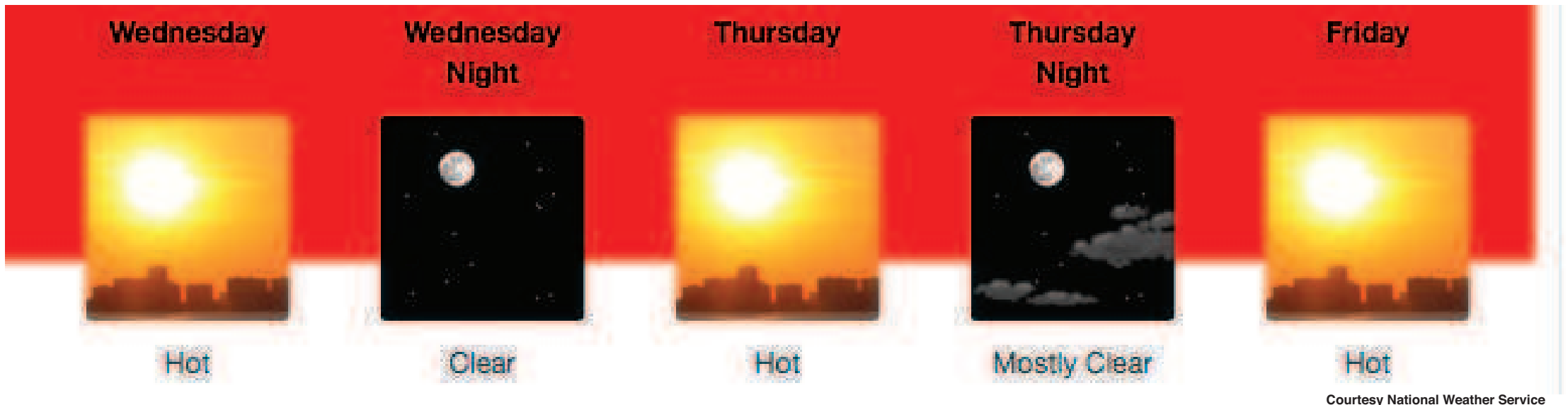
Anne called him, "The best behaved dog I ever had". He was affectionate with her and her guests. "He followed me around the kitchen, constantly cuddled next to me on the sofa, and was a great traveling companion. On our many trips, he enjoyed looking out the win-

dows watching the scenery." Some animals leave a forever paw print on your heart, Jack was one of these. The fact that an angel sent him flying into Anne's life made their connection even more magical.

TIPS
"When I was training my dog, Belle, I also trained her to hand signals," said Brenda in Kentucky. "When we met Spanish speaking children I would tell Belle, in the only few Spanish words I knew, to sit, shake and high five. Belle did not understand me at all, but I also included hand signals which she had learned. The children were laughing, so impressed that my dog understood Spanish."

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Heat wave Continued from A6



the heat.

- Check on your animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from the heat.

How to Treat Heat-Related Illnesses

During heat waves people are susceptible to several heat-related conditions. Here's how to recognize and respond to them.

Heat Cramps

Heat cramps are muscular pains and spasms that usually occur in the legs or abdomen. Heat

cramps are often an early sign that the body is having trouble with the heat.

- Get the person to a cooler place and have him or her rest in a comfortable position. Lightly stretch the affected muscle.

- Give an electrolyte-containing fluid, such as a sports drink. Water may also be given.

Heat Exhaustion

Heat exhaustion is a more severe condition than heat cramps.

- Signs of heat exhaustion include cool, moist, pale, ashen or flushed skin; headache; nausea; dizziness; weakness; and exhaustion.

- Move the person to a cooler

environment with circulating air. Remove or loosen as much clothing as possible and apply cool, wet towels to the skin. Fanning or spraying the person with water also can help. If the person is conscious, give small amounts of a cool fluid such as a sports drink or fruit juice to restore fluids and electrolytes. Give about 4 ounces of fluid every 15 minutes.

- If the person's condition does not improve or if he or she refuses water, has a change in consciousness or vomits, call 9-1-1.

Heat Stroke

- Signs of heat stroke include extremely high body temperature; red skin which may be dry or moist; changes in consciousness; rapid, weak

pulse; rapid, shallow breathing; confusion; vomiting; and seizures.

- Heat stroke is life-threatening. Call 9-1-1 immediately if you believe someone is suffering from this condition.

- Rapidly cool the body by immersing the person up to the neck in cold water, if possible OR douse or spray the person with cold water.

- Cover the person with bags of ice or cold, wet towels.

- If you are not able to measure and monitor the person's temperature, apply rapid cooling methods for 20 minutes or until the person's condition improves.

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