



Summer 2009

# animal tales

6227 5th Avenue North • Birmingham, AL 35212 • 205-591-6522 • [bjcacs.com](http://bjcacs.com)  
Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 8 AM-5 PM and Saturday, 9 AM-1 PM

## Vet Notes With Mel

Staff veterinarian Dr. Mel Shaw urges you to remember that your animals need much more fresh, clean and cool water during these hot days. Shade is also a good idea, particularly with circulating air. Taking precautions can easily prevent overheating and pet heat strokes.

However, if your pet does overheat, immediately get them to a cool environment with good air flow. You can also use moisture, such as a spray mist, to help cool them—particularly at their feet. You may put water on the body slowly—remember to not overcool. If this first aid doesn't correct your pet's overheating symptoms, contact your veterinarian or visit a veterinary emergency hospital.

And remember, keep your pets out of hot cars at ALL costs. This is extremely dangerous, and is a common way pets overheat each summer. Be smart and keep your loved pets cool and safe—be responsible!



## Adopt Through BJC

Looking for a new family pet? We invite you to come to our facility to see our furry boys and girls waiting to be adopted! From dogs to cats, babies to adults, we have the perfect addition to your home. And, as a service to you and the community, every pet we offer for adoption is spayed or neutered.



Nothing makes us happier than to see our dogs and cats leave the facility with new families, so please make a trip to BJC and see our lovable pets. If you're interested in adopting, call in advance to inquire about the animals we have available that will best fit your family. We send special thanks to BJC's partner rescue groups who work hard alongside us to help find homes for so many of the animals we see everyday. Let's all keep working to ensure these deserving dogs and cats find loving families and homes!



Look for us online at [www.bjcacs.com](http://www.bjcacs.com)  
and on Facebook by searching for "BJC Animal Control."

## A New Beginning

Unwanted and given up, Sinatra's life was already near tragedy when BJC Animal Control became his home. An officer out on routine patrol saw the little dog being put out by its owner, and he was brought in for a vet evaluation. From the beginning, Sinatra was a special boy.



Jefferson County Commission President Bettye Fine Collins had been looking for a companion pet when she met Sinatra at the BJC facility. They were instantly bonded, and, as Commissioner Collins says, "he adopted me."

Having been renamed Sebastian by his new proud owner, this little boy truly has a happy ending. BJC Animal Control would like to thank Commissioner Collins for adopting a shelter pet in need and turning his life into a success story. We wish this duo many years of loyal companionship that only a dog and its master can share!

## Thank You Janie

For three years, Janie Thomas has been a proud member of BJC Animal Control, giving of her time and talents in many ways. Janie may have had the title of Adoption Coordinator, but she has been so much more—a great friend to many people and an admirable advocate for animals.

Janie will be returning to her home state of Texas, and although we are sad to see her go, we know she will be successful in all of her future endeavors—especially in her continuous efforts to help animals of all kinds. Thank you Janie for everything you've done for BJC, but more importantly for what you do for animals that need you.

## Partner Spotlight: Cross My Heart Rescue

One of BJC's favorite rescue groups in the Birmingham area is Cross My Heart Rescue, founded by a group of dog lovers who felt their collaborative efforts could better serve dogs in need. The group continues to be one of BJC's greatest allies in helping find homes for lovable dogs and cats that might otherwise not be adopted.

For more information or to assist in adoption efforts, please visit [www.crossmyheartrescue.com](http://www.crossmyheartrescue.com).

## Obey the Leash Law

Leash laws exist to protect the public from diseased, nuisance and dangerous dogs. Although rightfully called "man's best friend," dogs can transmit many diseases to humans and cause severe injury or death. For the public and pet protection, keep your animal indoors or in a secure enclosure. When it is time for exercise or a potty break, keep your dog on a leash and in the hands of a responsible person. Do your part to keep your pet from becoming an unwanted statistic by exercising responsible pet ownership. And please spread the word, spaying and neutering is the LEAST expensive and MOST effective form of animal control!

