



Fall 2011

Helping Labs Find Their Fur-ever Homes



Say hello to Holly!

# Labrador Ledger

## Emergencies: What to Do and Where to Go

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Please don't forget about planning for me!

Sometime during your life, an emergency such as a hurricane, flood or earthquake is bound to happen. This past summer was a great example. Preparing for a crisis will go a long way to relieve the stress for all family members - especially our pets. Here are two steps you can take today:

1. Create a Pet Emergency Supply Kit and include:



[Check Out Yellow Buddy!](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

## SAVE THE DATE! Longaberger Basket Bingo!



**FOOD** - a three day supply in an airtight container.

**WATER** - a three day supply in an airtight container

**MEDS and MEDICAL RECORDS** - place in a waterproof container, and check periodically that food, meds and water are fresh/up to date.

**FIRST AID KIT** - cotton bandage rolls, tape and scissors, antibiotic ointment, flea and tick preventive, latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol, saline solution and a pet first aid reference book.

**COLLAR with RABIES and ID tags** - harness and/or leash, a second set of ALL ID items, pertinent papers of identification along with a photo of you and your pet-labeled with age, sex, breed, color and distinguishing characteristics. Consider microchipping and a recovery database. Place all items in a waterproof container.

**CRATE/PET CARRIER** - large enough for the pet to stand, turn around and lie down. If needed, train the dog to the crate BEFORE he may need to use it!

**SANITATION** - paper towels, plastic bags and PLAIN chlorine bleach. For general cleaning dilute one part bleach with nine parts water. If necessary, dilute 16 DROPS bleach with one gallon of water for drinking.

**FAMILIAR ITEMS** - toys, treats and bedding are all possibilities.

## 2. Create a Plan of ACTION:

**CONTACT** - local emergency management office, animal shelters and/or control office for guidelines in and out of your immediate area. Specifically ask if pets are allowed. Consider local boarding facilities, vet hospitals, family and friends - both local and out of your area - to secure a safe place for all family members. Consult with your vet - always a good resource!

Whether you choose to stay or are ordered to leave your home by authorities, creating a plan of action which includes close contact with neighbors, friends and family members - along with the pet emergency supply kit - will go a long way to ensure both safety and peace of mind during this unpredictable and stressful situation.

*Submitted by: Cinnie Frith, Brookline Volunteer*

Sources: [www.ready.gov/America/getakit/pets.html](http://www.ready.gov/America/getakit/pets.html) and [www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/animals.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prepare/animals.shtm)

## Featured Lab - *Holly*

### This Girl Has Heart!

Who can resist that face? Holly is a loving, sweet girl who has what looks like a heart shape on her head as a reminder of how special she is. An 11 year-old yellow lab mix, she has an interesting coat color and a tail that rarely stops wagging. Holly acts like the senior she is -- enjoying life at a slower pace and preferring one-on-one activities to overwhelming dog parks.

**Sunday, April 22, 2012 --**  
1 to 4 p.m. (doors open at noon);  
Tylersport Fire Company, 125  
Ridge Road, Tylersport, PA  
18971.

\$20 for 20 games (\$25 at door, if available). There will be door prizes as well as extra cards, grand prize Bingo sheets, special and Chinese raffle tickets, good food and our Brookline merchandise available for sale. 100% of the net proceeds from this event will benefit Brookline. We hope you will plan to join us!

### Lab-O-Lantern Wins!



Brookline's Scarecrow entry won first prize and \$400 in the Group Category at the recent Peddler's Village Scarecrow Competition! A victory for the Labs! Thanks for voting for us.

*Need a New Home  
for your Pet?*

Click [here](#) to read tips on how to ensure that your dog is safely placed in the best home possible.



She loves her soft, comfy doggy beds, basking in the outdoor sun, a good sniff and the occasional retrieve.

In her foster home with other dogs, Holly likes to be top dog and her easy-going nature has helped her make a quick adjustment to her new surroundings. When two cats joined the home, Holly immediately accepted them into her pack. It turns out that she is a softie cat-lover at heart. She has recently started taking some arthritis medication which has added a new trot to her step. Holly needs an assist into the car, but loves car rides, has good car manners, and will come galloping over to you. She has great house manners too and does not get into the trash or counter surf and she doesn't get on the furniture or bark too much. Her bark is

typically an endearing 'roo roo' used to signal dinner or potty time, or to alert you to a visitor.

Ongoing allergy issues have caused Holly to lose some of her hearing due to repeated ear infections that have narrowed her ear canals. She also has some seasonal skin reactions to environmental allergens. So, she is looking for a family with the same loving heart she has who will take the time to give her ear drops, wipe her paws with medicated wipes and feed her a special diet. Regular baths are helpful in keeping her skin and coat clean and healthy too. Though it may be some extra work to manage her allergies and make her comfortable, this sweet girl is really worth it. Perhaps you're the right home to appreciate the joy that Holly will surely bring into your life?

To read more about Holly's history, go to her [blog](#) or please contact [Brookline](#) if you are interested in adopting her.

## *Training Tips...*

### **Got a 'Guardy' Dog?**

#### ***Teach him to Trade!***

Resource guarding is a normal, natural behavior for dogs. In the wild it is a survival instinct, and even since being domesticated, many dogs will still guard from other dogs. But their owners don't much care for it when their dog guards from the one that gives them a home.

You can teach a dog trade in order to change his association with you approaching to take an item he has. I typically use a cow hoof stuffed with string cheese or peanut butter. Give it to your dog while saying "take it" and let him start to lick. Have something really yummy (at least as good as or better than the cheese) and say "trade" and lure his nose away from the hoof. Take the hoof with your free hand as he looks away from it. You now have the hoof, so start over the practice session by telling him to "take it" again. Keep repeating the process.

If you find your dog isn't interested in what you are offering to trade for the hoof, you will need to use a higher valued treat like a meatball. If he quickly looks back for the hoof, make a trail of small pieces going away from the hoof so that he needs to take the time to collect them. The more you practice, the better your dog will get and hopefully as you approach and say "trade," he will drop any item he has and happily look for that special yummy treat!

If you are having issues with your dog resource guarding, please contact a positive reinforcement trainer in your area.

*Submitted by: Heather Smith, PMCT; [www.all4pawsdogtraining.com](http://www.all4pawsdogtraining.com)*



photo source: ehow.com

## You Can Help Brookline



*Check out [Candy!](#)*

Brookline is always looking for new ways to raise money to help our Labs! If you have a creative fundraising idea, or even an event you think we should attend, please contact us at [info@brooklinelabrescue.org](mailto:info@brooklinelabrescue.org).

Brookline depends entirely on donations and fundraisers to operate. If you would like to help, please consider making a donation today. There are also free ways that you can help Brookline; click [here](#) to find out.

Check your mailbox because soon you may be receiving our annual fund appeal letter featuring heartwarming stories about Callie, who had her sight restored, and Paxton, who had two knees repaired thanks to our generous donors! Please consider helping us save more Labs by donating as much as you can.

*Thank you!*



*[Cute Carmen!](#)*



*[Buddy is available for adoption](#)*

## A Love Like No Other

***Loving foster dogs in their final years ~ a 'Special' Success Story***

A Brookline volunteer evaluated Rocky at a county shelter knowing that she was probably his only chance out. He had advanced Heartworm disease, Lyme disease, and a severely infected ear. He was also estimated to be 12 years old (or older). Rocky was made a promise by our volunteer, who was devastated to find in a post-shelter vet visit that he most likely only had two months to live. She would stick by his side no matter what. When Rocky entered her home and made his way up on the couch, she knew she had made the right choice. That was 2

½ years ago, and Rocky has overcome the odds and is still living the good life with a comfy couch to lay his paws on.

Senior dogs are often Brookline's untold success stories. These dogs (at times) aren't posted for adoption, but instead cared for by our loving foster families who know that they will most likely be providing "end of life" foster care. Rocky's mom says she would adopt another senior dog in a heartbeat - she has had many Labs of all ages over the years, and it's her way of giving back to the breed that has given her so much. In fact, that's why she chose to adopt him before starting his treatment for his various ailments. It was one way to give Rocky the permanency he deserved.



Rocky has overcome the odds.

Buddy is a 14-year old distinguished chocolate lab currently in foster care. He was rescued from a shelter in West Virginia after its director realized his best chance at a good life was through a rescue. Buddy's foster mom said, "When we saw the picture of his beautiful gray muzzle and heard how wonderful he was, we knew that he deserved better than to live out his remaining time in a shelter." Though Buddy is currently available for adoption, his foster mom says that no matter what, her goal for Buddy is to live out his remaining time with love, comfort, and many belly rubs!

Brookline usually only posts a "Success Story" once a dog has been adopted, but we think you'll agree that seniors like Buddy in foster care are definite success stories to be shared. If you would like to learn more about fostering dogs like Buddy or Rocky (or Labs of all ages), please visit our website to learn about foster opportunities.

*Submitted by: Laura Bergan, Brookline Volunteer*

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*Who needs gold, when you can have Silver?!*

Check out Brookline's [Silver Muzzle Match](#) adoption program for our Labs nine years of age and older.

## Upcoming Events, Foster Dog Blog and More Available Labs...

Brookline participates in a variety of events in many geographic areas. Our volunteers are always ready to explain who we are and what we do. At many events, we have some really great merchandise to sell -- including our popular tug toys, bandannas and treat bags that are all hand made with love by several of our volunteers. Click [here](#) to check out our t-shirts. If you are an approved adopter and are interested in a particular dog, ask your volunteer if that dog will be present at the event. Most of our foster dogs put in guest appearances at our table. Click to check our [calendar](#) !

~ ~ ~



**Bandannas!**



*Buddy - a very special boy!*

Click on the photos of the Available Labs pictured throughout this newsletter and you will see their detailed write-ups. Read about

our other available Labs by clicking [here](#).



**Tug Toys!**

Also, check out our [Foster Dog Blog](#) where you can read about some of our dogs in foster care waiting for their fur-ever homes.



**Meet our Board of Directors**  
 Marie Krout...President  
 Rachel Stauffer...Vice President  
 Sharon Frey...Vice President & Treasurer  
 Mary Tennant...Vice President & Secretary

**Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue**  
[www.brooklinelabrescue.org](http://www.brooklinelabrescue.org)

Brookline Labrador Retriever Rescue (BLRR), founded in 1997, is a nonprofit all-volunteer organization that specializes in placing Labs and Lab mixes. We place an average of 100 dogs per year in their forever homes. BLRR maintains a regularly updated list of available Labs being given up by their owners (but still living at home) and dogs pulled from shelters and puppy mills who are placed in foster care with our volunteers. We evaluate both the dog and the prospective adopting home to help ensure a good fit for everyone. All dogs are vet checked and their shots updated before they are adopted. BLRR serves areas of Pennsylvania and New Jersey depending on the number and availability of our volunteers. Please visit our website at [www.brooklinelabrescue.org](http://www.brooklinelabrescue.org) for links to other rescues serving locations beyond our coverage areas and for more information about adoption.

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Brookline Lab Rescue | P.O Box 638 | Warrington | PA | 18976