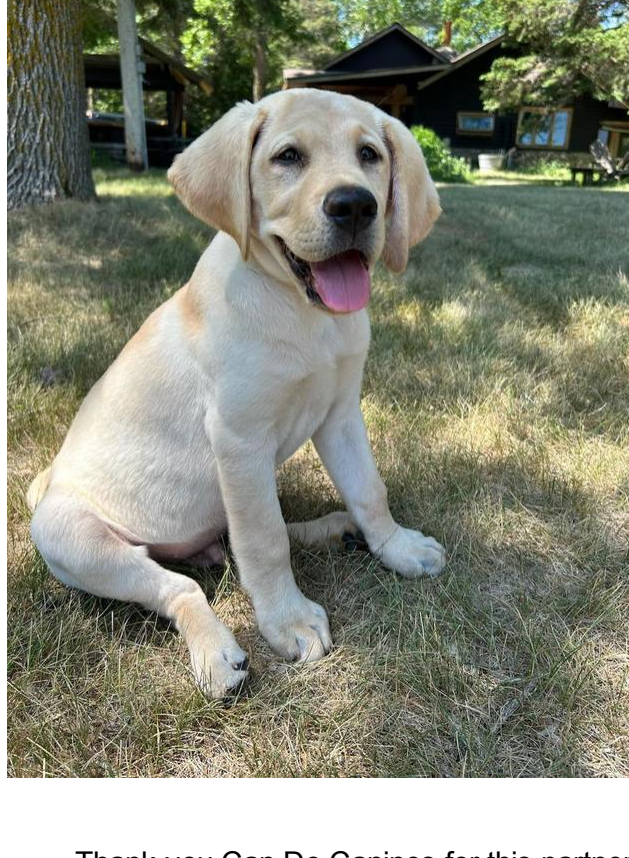


June Hearing Dog Herald



Welcome, Cooper!

International Hearing Dog is thrilled to introduce our newest Puppy with a Purpose, Cooper! Cooper's addition to the IHDI family is a direct result of the connections made possible by our Accredited with Assistance Dogs International! Cooper was bred for Service Dog work by our friends at Can Do Canines and has already shown remarkably strong traits that are looked for in a Service Dog Candidate; brave, confident, curious, super food motivated, smart, in addition to being great with children and other dogs!

Thank you Can Do Canines for this partnership & welcome little Cooper!!



Thank you, Nylabone!

If you give a dog a bone ... he'll chew it! We are SO excited that Nylabone chose to donate chews of all shapes and sizes to IHDI trainees! We want to make sure all of our dogs needs are met, and that includes providing safe and appropriate chews in addition to a healthy diet and exercise. Did you know that chewing can be completely normal for dogs of all ages, releases endorphins (happy hormones!) and has other benefits too?



Benefits like:

- Relieving pain from teething for young pups as their adult teeth come in
- Cleaning teeth, which helps to keep breath fresh
- Keeps jaw muscles strong
- Can relieve boredom, stress, and frustration

Chewing on a Nylabone can help a pup acclimate to their crate, self-soothe when stressed, or just feel good! Whatever the reason, IHDI dogs are ready to focus on training after a session of quietly chewing, and we think that's doggone good!

#NylaboneCares



Annual Recertification

It's so important to IHDI that our Hearing Service Dog teams continue to do well after Team Training that we recertify them every year! This is a tall order and requires long term commitment from our working teams. The process requires the handler to fill out a report about experiences with their dog, submit a vet report showing their dog is still healthy, repeat the ADI public access test, and show that their dog is still alerting to at least three sounds.

Our training staff talks with the client and reviews everything. All of this effort ensures that the

service dog is still doing its job well, is appropriate in public, and is healthy enough to continue working. If all is in order, then the team is certified through IHDI for another year! If any concerns come up, then our training staff works with the team to get things back in order.

Trainer Talk

Summer Saftey for our four

legged friends

Summer means fireworks, BBQs, parties, and hot days by the pool. While these activities are enjoyable to most people, for dogs some of these festivities are downright terrifying. This month, in IHDI's Trainer Talk segment, our trainers discussed creating a safe & fun environment for you & your dog this summer! We normally think of fireworks as the biggest threat in summer fun, but other summertime activities can pose a threat to your furry friends too. Be thoughtful about your dog to, and remember that oftentimes the safest, kindest thing you can do for your pet dog is leave him or her home in a secure, comfortable space indoors. Barbecues and large gatherings can be intimidating to some dogs, especially if there is loud music or crowds of kids and adults. Strangers coming into your dogs space to pet or interact may make the dog uncomfortable and be overwhelming after a short period of time. Not every dog is a social butterfly! Parties and cookouts also come with dangerous foods your dog could get ahold of such as meat bones that can crack and splinter, and corn cobs that can cause severe intestinal blockages. If you are taking your dog to such an event, keep your dog tethered to you so you can keep an eye out for potential dangers. Bring a pop up crate you can put your dog into if you need a safe place for them to be. Be aware of hot temperatures on asphalt, and always bring water and a bowl for your pup. If you aren't sure if the ground is too hot, place the back of your hand firmly down against the ground for 5 seconds. If it isn't uncomfortable for your hand, it should be ok for your dogs paws. Seek out shade as much as possible!



If you're lucky enough to have access to a pool that is dog friendly, always supervise your dog when they're swimming. Sometimes dogs get swimming and cannot find the steps to exit, and will tire themselves out looking for a way out of the pool. Always make sure they know where the exit is and help them find it if they lose their bearings. You can purchase a life jacket for your furry pal as an extra precaution if they swim regularly.

And lastly, fireworks. It seems that fireworks last well beyond the 4th of July celebrations. Prepare yourself ahead of the big fireworks by purchasing some of our dogs favorite treats and keep them on hand. If you have a basement, that can often be the best place to hunker down and avoid some of the big booms. Turn on a fan, or some music, or cue up your favorite movie so there is some other noise to focus on besides fireworks. If your dog reacts to the sounds, try to distract them with some treats or a toy. Support them but don't coddle them. We don't want to add any of our own negative emotions to the situation. Ensure all tags are up to date with correct contact information and that gates, fences and doors are secure. To our four-legged friends fireworks can sound like the end of the world.

With all that in mind, have a happy and safe summer with your favorite dog(s)!!!

-Leah, IHDI Service Dog Trainer

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