

Freckles

(continued from page 1)

When a contractor stopped by the store and left his truck door open, Freckles sneaked in and stole the tennis ball lying on the seat.

When he returned to the store a week later and saw Freckles behind the counter, he exclaimed, "You stole my tennis ball!" She hid.

Eason chuckled as he remembered her habit of bringing grungy old bones home and hiding them in the shop.

One especially well-travelled knuckle bone first appeared behind the pipe clamps, until a customer disturbed them. Then it migrated to a display of electrical boxes, where it got stuck in one. Freckles carried the bone in the box in her mouth all day until it fell out.

Finally she buried it in a bucket of loose limestone powder.

"She was white up to her eyes," Eason laughed.

When the Eason family went on vacation, Freckles helped the employees tend the store. Every evening she caught a ride with Bill Haddle back to her special condo at his kennel. Freckles sat on Haddle's front seat, rather than in the kennel in the back of his van.

Every morning Carol's brother, Rick Ruger, picked her up from Haddle's on his way to the store.

"Bill Haddle actually saved her life when she was so sick four years ago," Carol said. A veterinarian had diagnosed Freckles' illness as liver failure and given her about a month to live.

Haddle gave Easons the name of another vet, who found that Freckles actually had a bad case of pancreatitis, which could be treated with medications and a special diet.

Until the day she died, Freckles faithfully ate her medicine and one can daily of prescription dog food with a scoop of strawberry-flavored Slim-Fast on top. No chocolate or vanilla, please. Strawberry.

This wasn't the first time that Freckles had baffled a veterinarian.

Several years ago, she cried whenever she got up, convincing the family that she was in pain and couldn't walk.

The family took her to three area veterinarians before her problem was correctly diagnosed: she liked to be carried around.

"She was a good friend to everybody," recalled customer Jim Perugino. "Every day at lunch she visited around, even though we weren't allowed to give her treats because of her special diet."

Neighborhood kids came to dub Dallas Centre Hardware "the Freckles store." Jim Eason says the store will now adopt the nickname and have it painted on his truck.

Freckles' passing has left a big hole in the Eason family's lives.

"I don't want to come to work now. Freckles isn't here," Michele mourned.

"It was very difficult last Friday, trying to explain to a customer three-year-old daughter that Freckles isn't here, that she's in heaven now," Carol added.

Jim said that late last week they couldn't bring themselves to come home from an out-of town meeting, knowing that their faithful companion of 15 years wouldn't be there to greet them. They cried all the way back to Dallas.

Even the family cat, Bubbles, can't understand where her best buddy is. She has been searching the house for Freckles for the past week.

Customers asking about her get choked up when Jim and Carol tell them what happened.

When asked what they'll remember most about her, Jim, Carol and Michele said that Freckles was a character and a charming dog who touched the lives of everyone who met her.

What better memory could a furry-faced angel leave her people with?

Reporter's notebook

Good dogs do go to heaven

Writing about Freckles' death brought back many memories for me.

Although I didn't know her as well as some people, I know how Jim, Carol and Michele Eason feel about her loss.

There's a big, empty hole in their lives. And it hurts.

When the first of my dogs died, I also mourned. Trying to console me, a well-meaning colleague said, "Look, it's just a dog."

I knew that she would never understand: it wasn't just a dog.

When you lose a furry friend who has become so close to you over the years that your shadows are one, you suddenly lose a piece of yourself.

My personal belief about the furry ones is that they're really angels come to earth to teach us to become human beings. That's what I learned from Lenape Wolf Clan chief Sakima William Sauts Bock.

Certainly Freckles was an angel with four paws, for she spread good will and laughter wherever she went.

What better ways than gentleness and laughter to teach us to become human beings?

Freckles was a good dog, a flop-eared angel with fur. And since they're already angels, all good dogs do go to heaven

by Grace R. Dove

Buses

(continued from page 1)

said.

Superintendent Gerald Wycallis said that under state law, the district isn't obligated to provide bus service to students who live less than 1-1/2 miles from school unless the area has been designated as a safety hazard by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT).

He suggested busing the Orchard View students for a two-week trial period in the fall to see how many of them actually use the buses.

Board member Ellen Nagy suggested that the parents work with Miers and PennDOT to have Orchard View Terrace designated a safety hazard so that busing could be provided.

In other business, the district approved a contract with Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18 to provide special education classes for 97

Dallas students, at a total cost of \$955,458.

Although this breaks down to a per-pupil cost of \$9,850, Wycallis said that this figure isn't accurate, since different students, based on their needs, require different types of education, which can cost different amounts.

"We have one student whose educational needs cost nearly \$40,000, while other students require much less," he explained.

In personnel matters, the board approved:

• An extension of the adminis-

trators' current salaries from July 1, when their contract expired, until new salaries can be agreed upon.

• The appointment of Mrs. Carol Harding, who had been furloughed, to replace retiring elementary teacher Mrs. Patricia Kirk.

• A list of extra-curricular advisors, substitute non-professional employees and staff transfers. The resignation of groundskeeper Steve Lowe, effective July 16, and retirement of librarian Ann Marie Gries were accepted with regret.

KT posts sign rules

The Kingston Township Zoning Officer reminds the residents of the Township that it is illegal to attach garage/yard sale signs to telephone poles, or trees and they should be attached to individual stakes. All such signs should be removed no later than two days after the sale. Violators may be fined up to \$300.00. Additional information may be obtained from the Zoning Officer at 696-3809.

KURLANCHEEK'S OF DALLAS

CLOSING

FOR A CHANGE

THIS WEEKEND

Thurs. + Fri. 10 - 9

Sat. 10 - 5

Sun. 12 - 5

SAVE LIKE NEVER BEFORE NEVER AGAIN

BROYHILL, LAZYBOY, SERTA, LANE, BASSETT, KING KOIL AND MORE!

Everything Must Go... Savings To 80%

NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED EVERYTHING MUST GO!

JACOB KURLANCHEEK FURNITURE

DALLAS STORE ONLY

718 Memorial Highway Dallas, Pa. 675-2553

Hours: Mon. - Tues. - Sat. 10-5, Wed. Closed, Thurs.- Fri. 10-9, Sun. 12-5



Fax your ad!
to The Dallas Post
675-3650

Do you want to cool off?

Take a refreshing bath or shower with a shower gel from

DOWN TO EARTH BODY ESSENTIALS

Choose from Summer Hill, Apricot, Aloe and many more.

Stop by and join our Birthday Club.

Victorian House

1027 Wyoming Ave., Forty Fort, PA
717-283-8401

