



ANIMAL TALES



A Stafford Animal Shelter Newsletter

Winter 2007/2008

Receiving While Giving

At Stafford Animal Shelter we envision a world where every dog and cat in our community has a loving home. We continue to receive scores of unwanted animals born of unaltered pets and strays, and always have more pets than there are homes. We've a long way to go before our vision becomes a reality, and your donation is what can make that dream come true.



'Tis the season to give, but this year you can receive while giving to the Stafford Animal Shelter. Your tax-deductible gift not only offers hope to the abandoned, hurt and homeless animals of our community, but helps your own bottom line.

We appreciate gifts of any size, have an endowment for larger gifts, and offer planned and estate giving. More donors are choosing to give gifts in the form of securities like stock, mutual funds and other investments. The tax savings are significant because giving a gift of appreciated stock with unrealized long-term gains allows a donor to claim a deduction against their federal income tax for the current market value of the shares. Neither the donor nor the shelter owes capital-gains taxes on the profit from the shares. For best tax result, donate shares owned for more than a year. Talk to your financial advisor or call Stafford Animal Shelter Executive Director Vicki Blakeman at 406/222-1311, or email sased@imt.net.

State employees can donate at work with a payroll deduction, cash, check or credit card and win prizes. Check, too, if your place of business will match your donation. If you'd like your gift to go to a specific cause, we have a 'Rosie Fund' earmarked for animals with extraordinary medical needs that is currently in the red due to the large number of animals we've taken in this year with special needs.

The holidays are a great time to give the gift of hope to Shelter pets in recognition of the animal lovers on your shopping list. We'll send them a special holiday card heralding your generosity.



See more photos from this summer's Bark in the Park on page 6

Consider making a gift today; mail your check in the enclosed envelope or phone 406/222-2111 with credit card donations. You may put a donation on your credit card for 2007 tax credit as late as December 31st and make your payment in 2008. Gifts of any size are welcome, crucial, and deeply appreciated. Thanks for making a real difference for animals in need.

Cat Got Your Tongue?

Join us for the 3rd annual Cat Got Your Tongue Friday, February 1st, 2008 with Chrysti the Wordsmith. Animal phrase charades will be acted out by local celebrities.



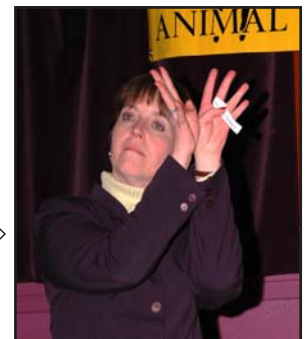
Lynnette Evanson demonstrates her horns

Audience participants guess the phrase and bet on which Charader's antics bring the quickest response. Chrysti the Wordsmith will also share the etymology of the animal phrases. The entertaining competitive charades and Calcutta betting begins at 7 pm.

Enjoy cocktails at the no-host bar beginning at 6 pm and bid on original artwork. Come hungry to enjoy the lavish 'Taste of Livingston' buffet.

Tickets are a tax deductible donation of \$22 in advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets can be purchased online at staffordanimalshelter.org or by calling 406/222-2111. All proceeds will go directly to shelter animals because the site, entertainment, food, and art have will all be donated!

Don't miss the opportunity to help animals in need while enjoying yourself at the Cat Got Your Tongue Fundraiser on February 1st at the Elks Lodge, 130 South 2nd Street in Livingston.



Nancy Curtis demonstrates her wings

Read more about Abigail, a three-legged dog up for adoption and our Rosie Fund needs on page 5

Big Dog Supporters:



LIVINGSTON VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Shelter Info

The Stafford Animal Shelter

3 Business Park Road

Livingston, MT 59047

Phone: (406) 222-2111

Fax: (406) 222-8752

Website: www.staffordanimalshelter.org

Email: staffordshelter@imt.net



The shelter is located east of Livingston on Old Hwy. 10. Exit 337 from I-90

Shelter Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 11-5

Closed Sundays and Mondays

STAFF

Executive Director

Vicki Blakeman

Lead Veterinary Technician

Linda Wright-Taillie

Veterinary Technician

Facilities Manager

Gail D. Karnatz

Animal Behavior Counselor

Animal Caregiver Supervisor

Tiffani Zimmerman

Customer Service

Representatives

Elaine Divens

Laura White

Development Coordinator

Kris King

Pet Portrait Photographer/Animal Caregiver

Yvonne Venturino

Animal Caregiver Assistant Supervisor

John Hammerel

Outreach Coordinator/Animal Caregiver

Leslie Seaton

Animal Caregivers

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Letter from the Executive Director

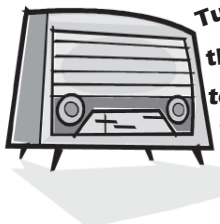


It has been a very busy summer and fall here at the Stafford Animal Shelter. Again we have had very high quantities of cats and kittens. As many of you know we are finalizing our plans for the expansion of the cat and surgery areas of the shelter and covering the outdoor dog runs. We will have the plans and costs completed early in the coming year so watch for updates on this exciting project. In the meantime we have been working with PetSmart in Bozeman who offer us a high-traffic adoption area and greater convenience for our many Gallatin Valley area customers. While this does not solve our space problems, it has worked well in the short term, especially for our longest resident cats. This venture has been successful due in large part to the efforts of two great shelter employees, Leslie Seaton and Sarah Van Orden. Thanks to their dedication several hard to place older cats and teen age kittens have found happy homes and won't have to spend another winter in the shelter. Special thanks to Clay and Janice at PetSmart who have embodied PetSmart's motto: "where pets find families."

You may have noticed our new shed going up on the east corner of the shelter property. This spring the shelter was given the opportunity to receive free building materials from local construction firm, On Site Management, to use in building dog houses. Local high school students are building the dog houses during Jamie Isaly's technology education classes. We needed a structure to store our building materials out of the weather. Ursula Neese stepped forward to build it and Kenyon Noble provided the framing materials we lacked. We will have a nice, tight, attractive storage facility that will serve many uses through the coming years. Please remember us if you need a well built dog house to shelter your best friend while you are at work. We have models on display at the shelter or can custom build one to your specifications.

We hope you will remember our shelter animals this year by giving those folks who have everything a gift to the shelter in their name. The Stafford Animal Shelter relies on your generosity to continue caring for the lost and abandoned animals of our community. Please support us with your year end donations.

Happy Holidays, *Vicki Blakeman*



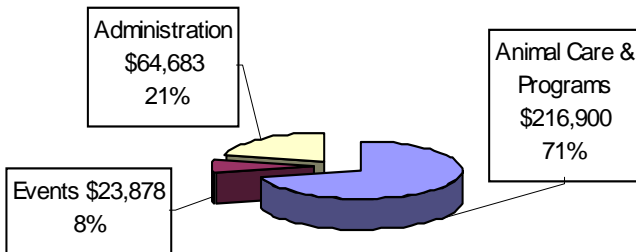
Tune into KPRK 1340 AM
the 3rd Wed. each month at 7:50 a.m.
to learn about current animal issues
with staff members Tiffani and Kris!

Annual Report 🐾

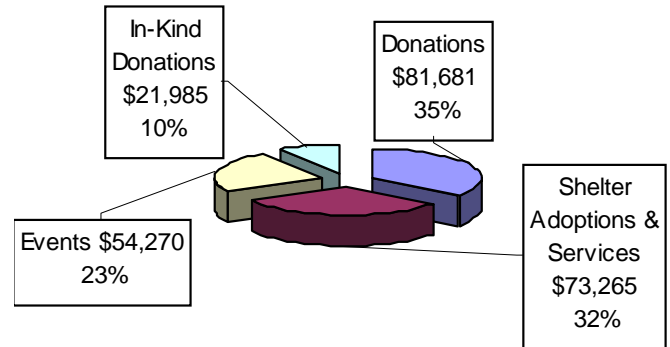
Once again the local community has been very supportive of the Stafford Animal Shelter. Donations were up again this year even though we did not receive any large bequests for operations as we did last year. Our payroll expenses have increased as we have made some long overdue wage adjustments as we strive to reduce costly employee turnover and the associated training costs.

We have seen wonderful support from our local business community but always welcome new supporters. Stafford Animal Shelter works diligently to economize whenever possible and pursue in kind donations of food and other products we would normally purchase. We continue working to build local partnerships with businesses, other organizations and local government so we can make the most of every dollar you donate.

Shelter Expenses 2007



Shelter Income 2007



Enlarging the Pack

Livingston resident Margie Kidder has always had rescue dogs. Her first was a three-legged guy named Harry that houseguest Candace Bergen found and took to the set of the movie she was shooting, "Rich and Famous," for which he became the mascot. "We fell in love with him," Kidder recalls, "but it wasn't until I got Kendall that I had that 'soul connection' with a dog." Kendall came from a shelter in L.A., "The saddest dog, slumped in the back of his cage," she recalls, "I fell head over heels in love with Kendall and he with me." Concerned that he would be lonely, Kidder added another shelter rescue, Zelda, to the pack. The dogs lived with Kidder in Prague, New York, Toronto, and eventually settled in Livingston.

"When Kendall finally died, Zelda was bereft and I was really bereft," says Kidder, whose daughter, Maggie, finally said, "That's enough of this depression; we're going to get you another dog." After multiple visits to Stafford Animal Shelter, Kidder met a puppy, "He was a kind of hang dog character who came up and put his head on my shoulder and picked me - it was Pierre." Zelda and Pierre gradually formed a close bond, and Kidder recalls, "As Zelda got older, I didn't want Pierre to go through the same depression as she had when Kendall died. So I went down to the Shelter, a litter of puppies had come in ...and that was that, we got Sally. Pierre and Sally became buddies and it helped Pierre deal with his grief when we had to put Zelda down."

Kidder recommends adopting multiple dogs and enlarging your pack. "It's way easier to have two than one, they can be alone in the yard and play with each other, you're not guilty when you've left them, they're not at home alone getting anxious and bored, and they really bond." Another benefit she's observed, "I have not had to housebreak a puppy; you bring them home and the older dog teaches them within a day or two."

Dogs enrich the life of anyone who takes them in, but have special benefits for those who live alone. "You don't have a sense of living alone when you have dogs," Kidder says, "There's a very real physiological thing that happens from touch. A sense of touch is essential to keeping our stress levels normal and is directly related to a neurotransmitter called norepinephrine. When we touch, norepinephrine is released and your body isn't aware if you're touching another human or a dog, it just knows it's getting touched." People struggling with mental illness and elders are other populations Kidder recommends adopt a pet. "When you have a dog, you are needed and loved, and rise to the occasion no matter your condition," she says.

Adopting a pet from the Stafford Animal Shelter is easy, Kidder says, "We have such a special shelter here, so going and getting a dog is not the heartbreaking experience it is elsewhere... they are so well loved and taken care of that it's a positive thing." She suggests that people adopt a pet for the holidays, "It's a gift to give yourself at Christmas. And if you're someone who lives alone, I can't imagine anything that will make your life feel better." Kidder concludes that adopting a pet, "enriches your life in ways you can't imagine."



Kidder with Zelda, Pierre and Sally on Santa's Lap



The Doctor Is In - Veterinarian Jeff Dickerson

Separation anxiety (SA) is an animal's response to being denied access to familiar individuals resulting in a breakdown of the owner-pet relationship. In the U.S. and England studies found an incidence level of 14-19%. This common behavioral problem leads to owners becoming frustrated, moving their dogs

outdoors, surrendering them to shelters, and even euthanasia. It is behavioral issues like SA that represent the most common reason pets are relinquished to shelters. Additionally, many adoptees leave shelters for new homes with a high potential to develop SA because they have been abandoned once and are worried this will occur again. The signs of SA are interpreted by owners as disobedience or poor training, causing miss-corrections that compound the problem.

Signs of SA in pets include constant pestering and following of owners. Excessive greeting when an owner returns home is common, and acting downcast as they prepare to leave. House soiling, inappropriate urination, and destructiveness – all of which are easily and often misinterpreted as poor training, being spoiled, or even "getting back at us" - are very common. Vocalization and anxious behaviors (circling, over grooming, self-mutilation) are often experienced. When properly diagnosed by careful history taking, examination for medical disorders and even using video taping, treatment can be successful. Recent studies have shown 70-80% of dogs improve when proper steps are taken. But success requires us to recognize the symptoms that a dog is experiencing SA, then correctly handle and treat them with behavioral modification of both the owner and pet.

So let's meet "R-Mutt," a 3 year old male Rottweiler recently surrendered to a shelter by an owner that is moving. His overall health and temperament are good except he is underweight 15%. He is taken for a trial week by a potential adopter that has no other pets. "R-Mutt" comes to the home nervous and anxious, and within hours has house soiled in a

hallway and bedroom, and will bark nervously if left in a vehicle. During the next few days he very closely attaches himself to the father (the person that brought him home) and appears to be bonded to two middle school aged children (who are very excited to have this new dog and provide lots of attention to "R-Mutt") always following them closely. He also gets into several household trash cans, empties items from one kitchen cabinet and chews on two pieces of furniture. Frustrated by these actions, the new caretakers consider returning "R-Mutt" to the shelter as he doesn't seem to enjoy his new home and is not responding to the owner's corrections of these misbehaviors. First they ask their veterinarian about these issues, and the DVM diagnoses separation anxiety after taking a thorough history of the dog's current situation and his past history. First the family is consoled on how they are affecting the dog and producing this anxiety through their actions – excessive attention when coming home, miss-correcting the trash can incidences and furniture damage, and rewarding "R-Mutt's" excited behavior. The family agrees to carefully reward only calm behavior, provide signals to "R-Mutt" that they will be leaving the home well in advance of doing so, and to ignore him for the first 15 minutes after they return home. After 30 days of using these modifications there is significant improvement, but "R-Mutt" still lapses – trash can explorations and kitchen cupboard investigations of peanut butter jars and cereal boxes. The veterinarian adds a distraction toy to the pre-exiting time from the home and a behavior medication. After two months the medication is slowly removed. There are still relapses of trash can explorations, but the family works out a system of "dog proofing" the home before leaving in addition to using the exit toy that results in very few problems. Because there is no longer any destruction or house soiling, they agree to keep "R-Mutt" even with these existing behavior issues.

This typical scenario shows how we can successfully manage many shelter adoptees allowing the owners and pets to enjoy each other.

We appreciate our Business Partners

Big Dog Supporters

Chico Hot Springs Resort and Day Spa
First Interstate Bank
Livingston Veterinary Hospital
Yellowstone County Motors
PetSmart

Pet of the Week Supporters

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Alicia daCosta
Suzanne Hoefler Studio
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Top Cat Supporters

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At Home on the Range
Precision Invisible Fence
The Office Lounge & Liquor Store
Native Landscapes & Reclamation

PET PERSONALS		Stafford Animals Shelter <i>Friends for Life</i>
	<p>Single White Male Seeks Partner I'm Bo and don't let my pugilistic face fool you - I'm a lover not a fighter. I do enjoy a bit of wrestling with a loved one, but only for fun. I may be a young, tough-looking guy but I'm all about affection and being sensitive to your needs. I will give more than I take in the relationship. Who could ask for more?</p>	<p>Pet of the Week generously brought to you by</p> 
<p>Visit: 3 Business Park Rd, Livingston, MT; Tues - Sat 11 am - 5 pm, Phone: 222-2111, and see pets online: staffordanimalshelter.org</p>		

You too can make a difference as a Business Partner, contact Kris at 406/222-1313 or shelterbark@imt.net



Behavior Beat with Tiffani Zimmerman

The Stafford Animal Shelter has been inundated with dogs suffering from severe – but entirely preventable – injuries. Currently we have a young German Shepard hobbling painfully on three legs and an energetic American Bulldog whose torn and stitched paws are now infected. These are just a few of the dogs injured recently while riding loose in uncovered pickups. It's estimated that 100,000 dogs die each year in the United States from falling out of trucks. And it's not just the young "untrained" dogs at risk, but dogs of all ages with previous truck experience. Most people think that because their dog has not yet fallen or jumped from their truck – it will never happen. Unfortunately, it's not a question of *if* your dog will get hurt, but *how severely* and *when*.

Being a cautious driver or avoiding highways won't prevent injuries since you can't control road hazards or other drivers. Any sudden start, stop or turn can toss your pet out since they can't "hold on" the way humans do. If the impact of hitting the road doesn't kill them, oncoming traffic probably will. A dog riding loose in the back of a pickup is a public safety hazard to others when he falls out. Tethering your dog in a pickup may not improve safety either, as there have been multiple cases locally of people dragging their pet after it's fallen out of the truck.

Even rides in pickups when a dog doesn't fall out are risky. It's assumed that dogs enjoy the wind from the back of a truck, but the blowing dirt, debris, insects and the cumulative effects of high impact wind irritates the mucous membranes of their nose, mouth, throat and eyes. Chronic irritation and permanent eye damage are common. Open truck beds also provide no protection from the weather. Rain, snow and freezing temperatures are obvious problems, but hot sun can heat the metal floor of a truck bed enough to burn a pet's paw pads also.

A dog left in the truck sitting in the sun without water or shade may suffer from heat stroke.

For public safety, prevention of animal cruelty, fewer veterinary bills, and plain common sense: we implore you to not let your dog ride loose in an uncovered pickup. If you must transport a dog in a truck bed, please secure them in an anchored carrier and if tethering, use cross-ties short enough to prevent them from falling over either side.

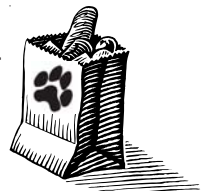
For those of you concerned about dogs wounded in truck falls, we have a special "Rosie Fund" for animals who require extraordinary medical care. The fund is now in deficit due treating an increasing number of injured dogs. If you'd like to help these wounded animals, please send Stafford Animal Shelter a donation marked for the "Rosie Fund." Thanks for healing their broken bones and hearts.



Abigail needs medical help & a home

Support the Shelter at No Cost to You!

You can support the Stafford Animal Shelter while you shop at no cost to you! Please call us at 406/222-1311 with your Albertson's card number, regardless of where you live, and a portion of every dollar you spend there will go to animals in need at the shelter. If you no longer have your Albertson's card, your number is on your receipt; it's not the same as your phone number. Thanks for thinking of the animals!



Volunteers of the Month

Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love. —Martin Luther King Jr.

- July: Amber Bachmeier
- August: Samantha Williams
- September: Jim Hillner
- October: Sarah Van Orden
- November: RSVP Mailing Team
- December: Santa Paws

Join us at the Bozeman Petsmart Dec. 1st and 2nd for a pet photo with Santa Paws!

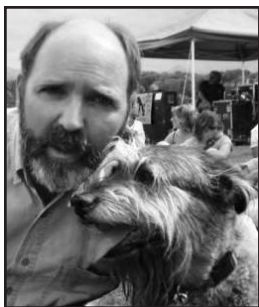
Samantha Williams and Maddie raised the most money at the Bark in the Park Walk-a-thon and took second for 'Best Dressed.'



John Hammerel, one of our great 'Santa Paws,' gives a jolly chuckle



Bark in the Park 2007 a Big Splash



*Look-a-like winners
Paul and Digger*

The Stafford Animal Shelter's fourth annual Bark in the Park August 19th brought in nearly twice the funds as the previous year thanks to great



Hair and painted faces, dogs barking happy greetings, guests enjoying snow cones, lemonade, and hot dogs, a demonstration by the Pawparazzi Dog Dancing Club, and live music by The Blokes.



A Pair of Cute Pups

support from individuals and businesses in our community. The Dollars for Collars walk-a-thon

Victoria Bell emceed the event, the contests were judged by Maggie McGuane and Bev Dawson, and photographers Jo Ferguson and Yvonne Venturino captured all the action. Dog Contest highlights included a Great Dane in a polka-dot bikini, hilarious look-a-like contestants, and best dressed contestants in everything from trousers and glasses, to frilly frocks, to a pirate in a boat, to a tiny cowgirl dog riding on her saddled larger dog sibling.



*Best Dressed Dogs Iva (as horse)
and Twinkie (as cowgirl)*

participants and their sponsors exceeded funds raised in previous years, and a record number of business partners sponsored the event. The first ever Livingston City Pool dog swim and contests in conjunction with Bark in the Park made the event twice as fun too. The dogs had a great time splashing in the pool and competing in the longest jump, fastest swim, and best swimsuit contests.

Bark in the Park was further enlivened by kids with brightly colored Fair

Thanks to all the generous businesses and individual donors who made Bark in the Park 2007 successful and all the volunteers, staff, and Board members who made this joyous celebration of the bond between people and their pets possible.



Best Swimsuit Bikini Brendi

The Kindness of In Kind Donors

While cash donations are Stafford Animal Shelter's greatest need, we are very fortunate to have many generous businesses and individuals in the community who provide in kind donations. Their generous support boosts our limited budget by providing much-needed services and items or venues for fundraising. This year, more than \$20,000 worth of in kind donations have been made to Stafford Animal Shelter; a full 10% of the shelter's budget!

We appreciate Hills Science Diet Pet Food for donating all but the shipping costs of the food for all our animals, Way Out West for pallets of dog biscuits, Jeff Dickerson and Kim Kreigie for discounted veterinary services and Nancy Tanner for training advice. Ursula Neese, Ben Stockwell, Steve Baugh, Steve Dennison, Jamie and Eli Isaly built our new storage shed with donated materials from Kenyon Noble and On Site Management, and Mark Weiser poured the concrete foundation. Ruggles Excavation donated gravel for dog kennels. Pamida, Way Out West and All Wags and Whiskers host adoptable pet boards. Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co. discounted our Audit, Tom Shellenberg and Roxanne Haidle provide discounted accounting services, and Insty Prints discounts printing costs. Lynn Weaver discounted the design of our new website, staffordanimalshelter.org. Julianne Jones designed our Pet Prayer

Flags, which were carved by Frank Eggers and sewn and handprinted by Yvonne Venturino. Deb England crochets us boxes of great dog sweaters and cat blankets. Mountain Sky Guest Ranch donated towels and bedding, as did Angela Melmark among others. Thanks to youth from the Conservation Corps, 4-H and Manaia, and Tom Lemke for helping keep our grounds clean and green. Bill Lipe and Laura Barrerra wow us regularly with gifts from a washer and dryer, to pet beds, to candy to keep us revved up.

Thanks to everyone who puts change in our donation banks and the businesses that host them: Livingston Vet, FoodWorks, TJ's Gas Station, Sumner's Carpet, True Value, Obsidian, Pinky's, The Mercantile, The Office, Gateway Office, Ron's Barber Shop, The Beanery, The UPS Store, Yellowstone Pizza, Ace Hardware, Movie Gallery, Corral West, Pamida, The Truck Stop, Western Drug, Way Out West, Colmey Vet, and the Big Timber Town Pump. Town and Country has a donation shelf for wish list items. Many businesses and individuals offer supplies and services that make our fundraisers possible, and too many individuals to list bring us crucial supplies. We apologize to anyone not included on this partial list. We are overwhelmed and grateful for all your support – you make it possible for us to help the many lost, abandoned, hurt and hungry pets of our community. We couldn't do it without you!



Raising the first wall of the storage shed

Book List for Pet Lovers

Cat Books

Cat Massage: A Whiskers to Tail Guide to Your Cat's Ultimate Petting Experience by Maryjean Ballner

Think Like a Cat: How to Raise a Well-Adjusted Cat—Not a Sour Puss by Pam Johnson-Bennett

Housecat: How to Keep Your Indoor Cat Sane and Sound by Christine Church

Dog Books

Training People: How To Bring Out The Best In Your Human by Tess of Helena with Brian Kahn

For the Love of a Dog: Understanding Emotion in You and Your Best Friend by Patricia McConnell

Real Food for Dogs: 50 Vet-Approved Recipes to Please the Canine Gastronomer by Arden Moore and Anne Davis

For Kids

Brave Norman; A True Story by Andrew Clements

Lassie Come Home by Eric Knight

Barkley Come Home by Marilyn D. Anderson

(Recommended by ten year old Stafford

Animal Shelter Volunteer Ren McShea)



If you would like to recommend a book for our next list please contact Kris at 406/222-1313.



An Excerpt from *Dharma*, a poem by Billy Collins

The way the dog trots out the front door
every morning

without a hat or an umbrella,

without any money

or the keys to her doghouse

never fails to fill the saucer of my heart

with milky admiration...

If only she did not shove the cat aside

every morning

and eat all his food

what a model of self-containment she would be,

what a paragon of earthly detachment.

If only she were not so eager

for a rub behind the ears,

so acrobatic in her welcomes,

if only I were not her god.

Young Philanthropists Make a Difference

At Stafford Animal Shelter, we are regularly touched by the warmth and generosity of the community support we receive. Perhaps the most touching support is from our young philanthropists who not only volunteer to work with our undersocialized animals, but come up with creative ways to provide financial assistance. They bring in their allowances, money from bake sales, and ask for donations instead of birthday gifts. The 'Lemonade Brigade' had a stand to collect funds and included: Olivia and Jake Hintz, Cole and Maggie Burkhardt, and Ryan, Siobhan and Colin Marks. The group took a vote and decided on the Stafford Animal Shelter as the recipient of their philanthropy and said, "We all like animals and no one else in town cares for animals as much as the shelter."

Sarah Keller's 3rd grade class at Shields Valley School gives holiday gifts to our pets instead of each other every Christmas. Isabel Davis started her own company called "Animal World" to raise funds for animals. Lacey Ward sold cookies at the Farmer's Market to raise money. Amanda Leckner raised \$35 for animal care at her birthday and Jordan Coleman asks for gifts for shelter pets instead of herself for her birthday.

Jordan explains how her philanthropy began, "I've loved animals since I was little, and decided I wanted to start volunteering at the Shelter so I can be with the animals." She says of her decision to receive no birthday gifts for herself, only Shelter pets, "Every present I get is usually plastic and breaks anyway, so I thought it would be more useful and special to me to get presents for dogs and cats for my birthday instead. It makes me feel good and it makes the animals feel good. It's a gift that really means something." Jordan suggests other young people join her in her philanthropy efforts, and this year, her cousin Emilee got cash donations and gifts for our animals instead of herself for her birthday, too.

Thanks to the young philanthropists who help our homeless pets – they not only make a difference in the lives of these animals but serve as stirring role models.



Jordan Coleman and her friends present their gifts to Shelter animals

Top Cat Supporters:



The Stafford Animal Shelter
 3 Business Park Road
 Livingston, MT 59047
 Phone: (406) 222-2111
 Fax: (406) 222-8752
 www.staffordanimalshelter.org

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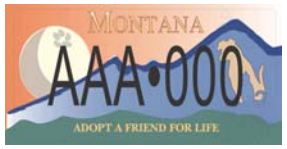
At the Stafford Animal Shelter
 we house the homeless,
 feed the hungry,
 and on the side
 we run a matchmaking service.

**Unique Handmade Pet Prayer Flags
 now available at the Shelter**



Become a Licensed Pet Advocate!

Show your support of pets by sporting a Stafford Animal Shelter license plate. They can be purchased year round, regardless of your license plate renewal date. A portion of every plate purchased goes directly to caring for our homeless pets.



Big Dog Supporters:

