

FUR BUDDY BULLETIN

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A publication of Sanilac County Humane Society

The Latest News for You and Your Pets!

Hi Friends!

Did you ever wonder where our adoptable animals come from?

Owner Surrender-Many of our pets come from homes where they can no longer be cared for properly or are simply no longer wanted. Sometimes after being part of a family for several years, the pet has begun to be looked upon as a nuisance or their human has fallen on hard times. How very sad when a former best friend is no longer a valued family member. However, the transition is smoother and more loving when SCHS is chosen as the new temporary home!

Animal Control-We think our friends at Animal Control have the toughest job on the planet. At times we are able to help them out by transferring adoptable pets from their facility (sadly, a kill shelter) to

our NO kill shelter, thereby giving a chance at life to one more sweet dog or cat!

Simply Stray-There are times when a pet with no identification has been allowed to roam free and goes a little too far from home or has been left behind to fend for itself. Caring folks help them get to SCHS where we take the appropriate steps to find their human. We clean them up, give them good meals, a cozy bed and a lot of love. If they go unclaimed, we consider them one of our own until their new loving human comes along.

Ever wonder which of our programs is most popular?

Our Spay/Neuter program has allowed us to make a huge dent in the number of surprise kitty litters happening throughout the Thumb. Did you know that female kittens can become pregnant at 5 months of age?

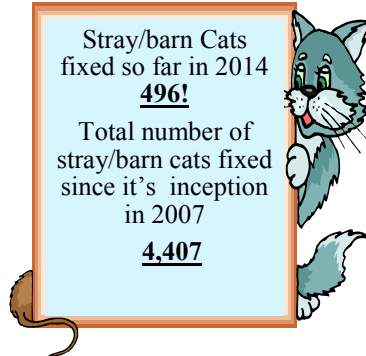
If you have barn cats, please get them spayed or neutered

NOW. We only require that they weigh at least 3 pounds and are at least 3 months old. Give the shelter a call and make your appointment today!

Even though there are no required fees for this service, we truly need your donation to be able to continue providing this much needed service to the community.

Stray/barn Cats
fixed so far in 2014
496!

Total number of
stray/barn cats fixed
since it's inception
in 2007
4,407



Upcoming Events:

- BOARD MEETINGS -
2nd Monday of each month
- DETROIT ZOO EVENT -
"Meet Your Best Friend"
September 19 & 20
- CHEESECAKE SALE -
Oct 1 - Nov 4 Orders
ready for Thanksgiving!
- SHELTER CLOSED -
Oct 28 thru Oct 31
- ADOPTION EVENT at
PETSMART-Nov 14,15,16
- HOLIDAY SHOP OPENS
at Shelter Dec 5th
- SHELTER CLOSED FOR
HOLIDAY
Dec 24 thru Jan 1st

BLESSINGS...

SCHS was recently chosen to receive a grant of \$10,000 from a local philanthropic organization. Our grant request was for funding to replace our outdoor kennels which have deteriorated over the years. Many of them are rusted and the latches have become unreliable. We are very excited and **GRATEFUL** for this incredible opportunity to improve our accommodations. **Thank You** for being the Angel on our shoulder. This same group made it possible for us to purchase our van in

2013. Have you seen it? It's a **BEAUTY!**

Many of you may remember back in May during our Mutt Strut promotion, an anonymous donor promised a dollar for dollar match if we raised \$10,000 or more. We were elated to find that with the continued support of the surrounding communities and friends, we came close to meeting that goal, but fell short by a few thousand dollars. Upon news of our shortage, another Angel came our way and without hesitation wrote the check that fulfilled our goal.

Because of her donation and her belief in the work we do here, we received those matching funds. We've already begun planning next year's event and can't wait to see you there!

In other news, our yearly **FREE** vaccination event in July was again a huge success. We provided vaccinations including rabies shots to 250 dogs and 130 cats. A very long day for our volunteers insures that so many animals will live longer, healthier lives.

Hours of Operation

We do our very best to let everyone know when we've made adjustments in our hours of operation. You will hear our current hours when you call the shelter and you will see closures listed in mailings.

It may seem that "closed" means that the animals are left unattended. Please know that the animals are our first priority, and we never miss a day, even in the worst of weather. If you've got an extra hour or two, especially during the holidays, you could give a gift of "time" to the dogs and cats who live here, waiting for a new family to call their own.

POOCH PAGE

Why do dogs have cold, wet noses?

According to legend, God bestowed cold, wet noses on dogs for saving Noah's Ark from sinking. As the story goes, a dog on patrol discovered water pouring in from a hole in the hull. The quick witted dog stuck his nose in the small hole to keep water from flooding in. The second dog ran off to get Noah, who quickly repaired the hole. Because the dogs saved the day, God made a cold, wet nose the symbol of good health for a dog.

While this is often true, it's not the best indicator of health and should not be relied on. A normal moist nose doesn't always mean the dog is healthy. If your dog's nose is moist but he is lethargic or in any discomfort or pain, consult your vet right away. In keeping, a dry nose doesn't signal illness, most dogs just waking from sleep have warm dry noses and Bulldogs just have dry noses that sometimes chap and crack.



Many pets hide when they are sick. This is a defense mechanism to prevent predators from spotting them in a vulnerable state. Be mindful of your pet's habits and don't ignore changes that seem different or odd.

The PETSMART CONNECTION

Hey, hey you there...have we met? You look so familiar. Hmmm, I remember now, you're that nice lady who comes to PETSMART every week to get stuff. You stop by the Adoption Center every time just to see us. We get a kick out of how you stand there and make cute faces and talk sweet through the little holes in the glass. When we see you come around the corner and the kids are with you, yippee, we know there's gonna be some action! They borrow one of the feather toys from the shelf and really get us going, back and forth, up and down, what fun! Pretty soon other people start to gather around to see what's goin' on. Oh yeah, we hear you share stories about a kitty that you have at home (or used to have). We keep going, back and forth, up and whoa!!! STOP EVERYTHING! There HE is, our eyes meet and he smiles. (I'm smiling too but no one else can tell). That's the **connection** part, get it? Now if he just walks over to those papers on the cart, I think they call them applications? OH, I've got a good feeling about this. I think I'll just take a little cat nap and dream...of HIM...and home.

OK, so if you're not the lady, or HIM, you need to make it a point to stop in at PETSMART the next time you're in

Fort Gratiot. Stand in front of the Adoption Center, make cute faces, talk sweet to us through the little holes, and maybe you'll find a new best friend. You could even become a volunteer right here at PETSMART. If you're over 21 and have a little time to give, contact the Shelter and they'll get you in touch with the lady who's in charge of that stuff. Oh, and guess what? My cat nap dream came true! After a few days went by and the office people checked HIM out to make sure we were purr-fect for each other, HE came back to get me. Now I get to sit by a window where the sun shines in and I keep track of all the birds and squirrels. Later in the day I get busy keeping a spot warm on the sofa for me and HIM to snuggle up and watch a little TV. Life is GOOD!

Thanks PETSMART!

Myth: Potential Adopters too often say, "We'd prefer a female cat because male cats spray."

FACT: Both male and female cats can spray, BUT this tendency can be avoided by having your cat spayed or neutered as soon as they are old enough!

If you only knew...how many amazing volunteers there are that devote countless hours to SCHS, many of whom you see around the shelter or at most of our major events, and some you rarely see but whose work behind the scenes makes us the great organization that we are! Just to name a few;

Jeff & Paula Lyall and Tom & Marsha Farenger for animal care, cutting and sewing blankets, setting up and running the Mutt Strut Store, and tending to many much needed repairs at our facility.

Sarah Willis-Ostrowski who tends to our cats and kittens in the isolation ward, early, early mornings many weekends.

Sue Shull who for many years has observed and helped care for our feline population, and who also volunteers at PETSMART in the Adoption Center.

Peggy Vermader for opening her heart and home to many of our special needs and older, less desirable pets, for helping to manage our collection boxes and also volunteering at PETSMART.

Rose Grizzoffi, one of our original founders, who still makes time for managing the folding and stuffing of our mailings.

Thank you all so very much!

Endless Gratification and a million licky kisses

FREE

Call the shelter office to see how you can get yours!

(810) 657-8962

Expiration Date: 00/00/00

It won't be long.....you know Winter is on it's way. Time for some reminders and tips on how you can keep your pets warm and safe.

Certain dogs are more affected by the cold than others, particularly older ones and those with ailments like arthritis. Clothing for pets may seem silly to some, but a simple sweater, or a weather resistant jacket can do a lot when out for that daily walk! In temperatures of 32 degrees or more, a 10 to 15 minute walk is plenty, 32 degrees or lower warrants about 5-10 minutes, or simply wait for a warmer day. A little extra indoor activity will do nicely. Try to wash your pet's paws after your walk. Residue from rock salt and ice melter, even the "pet safe" variety can cause itchy, dry pads and may also cause vomiting after he's been licking them. Melted snow puddles can look appealing to a thirsty dog but they probably contain salt chemical run off. If your dog is older or your home is chilly, a hot water bottle or a snuggle disk (manufactured disk, heated in the microwave) will give great comfort to aging bones. Cot style bedding, raised at least 3 inches off the floor will help avoid drafts. Finally, dogs that spend more time outdoors use up more calories to stay warm, feed a little more in winter months.



We all feel stressed out sometimes, and it can be so bad that we feel overwhelmed. Luckily many of us have a healthy outlet for this stress, like an enjoyable activity or a friend who will listen to what's bothering us. You might not realize it, but cats can feel stress just like humans! Many of the same things bother them, such as: moving into a new house, a new family member moving in or a death in the family. Cats need routine in their lives and when that routine is upset, they can become uneasy.

The symptoms of stress are not always obvious. Some signs can also be indicators of health prob-

lems. That's why it's important to keep an eye on your cat's behavior and pay attention to anything unusual.

Make sure to you have your cat checked out by his vet to rule out any serious condition if you notice:

- ◆ Lack of grooming or over grooming
- ◆ Overeating, or the lack of interest in food
- ◆ Changes in sleep (much more or less than usual)
- ◆ Avoiding the litter box
- ◆ Excessive vocalization
- ◆ "Acting out" inappropriate behavior

Don't dismiss you cat's sudden personality change as a phase or bad attitude! Think of the last time you were stressed out; it's not a good feeling and your cat probably doesn't enjoy it either. You can do your best to ease his stress, the easiest, most obvious way is to remove the cause, however, sometimes you can't just remove what's bothering your cat. A new baby, for instance, or moving into a new house, are things you can't change. In that case you can ask your vet or you can research on-line for some methods of desensitization. There are ways to get your cat used to whatever is causing him stress by gradually

introducing the stressor in a safe, controlled manner.

Great Read:

"The Secret Language of Cats"

By: Heather Dunphy

Fascinating and revealing insights into why cats act as they do.

Contains practical advice on training, common health and behavioral problems and tips for strengthening the bond between you and your feline companions.

Now Available!

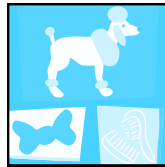
**NDGAA CERTIFIED
GROOMER**

Cindy: (810) 710-0015

Pet Grooming

We are now offering grooming services right here at the shelter!

Bath & Blow-dry
Dematting & Haircut
Ear Cleaning
Nail Trimming



Importance of Microchipping

Microchipping is the only **truly permanent** method of identifying your pet, and linking the animal back to you, the owner.

Microchipping is available at the shelter!

If you would like more information, or if you would like to make an appointment to have your dog or cat microchipped, call the shelter today and get your pet protected!

HERE'S HOW TO PUT YOUR SUPPORT ON AUTO-PILOT:

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR!

Just let us know the dollar amount you wish to contribute and we will charge your credit card on the 1st of each month, (\$5.00 minimum)

You can change or cancel your monthly amount at ANY TIME.

A monthly contribution is easy on your budget, allows you to s-t-r-e-t-c-h out your donation and, most importantly, gives us a steady income that we can rely on for monthly expenses.

Use this convenient form or call the shelter office to make the arrangements.

Claim and Display Your Window Cling, our "Thank You" Gift for your Support!

Diamond Level-Monthly Donor () Gold Level-\$250.00 () Silver Level-\$100.00 ()

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ E-mail address: _____

Monthly Donor Gift Amount (min. \$5.00) \$ _____ One Time Gift Amount \$ _____

Charge my Credit Card # _____ Expires on: _____

Signature _____ Visa () M/C () AMEX ()

Check Payable to: **Sanilac County Humane Society** Enclosed ()

Donate on-line **ANYTIME** at www.societypets.org, with your PayPal account or Credit Card

SANILAC COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

A "No Kill" Shelter

3847 Sheldon Street, PO Box 27, Carsonville, MI 48419

Phone: (810) 657-8962 Fax: (810) 657-9308



Always Needed:

Purina Cat Chow
Purina Kitten Chow
Purina Dog Chow
Pedigree Dog Chow
Clumping Cat Litter
Paper Towel
Kitchen Trash Bags
Bleach
Dish Soap
Hand Soap
Toilet Paper

White or Color copy paper
Office Supplies

Founded in 1996 by a small group of compassionate animal lovers, SCHS is the **ONLY no-kill shelter** in Sanilac County.

Our mission is to provide temporary shelter and medical care for homeless pets before connecting them with new families and their FOREVER homes. In addition, we sponsor spay/neuter clinics in an effort to reduce the number of unwanted dogs and cats.

We rely on volunteers for our daily operations, and rely solely on donations to support our efforts.

We are not funded by any federal, state or county agency.

Over the past 17 years we have spayed or neutered over 6,000 dogs and cats. Best of all, we have connected over 4,000 dogs and cats with their new families.

We need YOUR support to continue in our mission to reduce the number of homeless animals.

OUR greatest needs are **VOLUNTEERS** and **DONATIONS**.

Sanilac County Humane Society is on the Web and Facebook!

Google us at: www.societypets.org

Like us on Facebook at: Sanilac County Humane Society

Post a story of how you found and adopted your pet at our shelter!

