



Annual Portrait Fund-Raiser

Save the date for the Morley Portraiture SOS Animal Rescue sixth annual fund-raiser on Monday, November 24 and Tuesday, November 25. Because there is no session fee, we ask for a \$10 minimum donation to SOS Animal Rescue or a bag of dog food. Morley Portraiture provides a retouched-to-perfection 8x10 and eight wallets of your dog(s) at a dramatically reduced price. No reservations are needed; just come on a walk-in basis. Visit www.morleyportrait.com for details.

Meet Stripe

Stripe is a 2½-year-old grey tiger, a real sweetheart once he gets to know you. He loves to lounge on the couch and is a pretty quiet guy. Stripe has been with us for a very long time. He does not do well at PetSmart during our adoption events. He gets scared and hides under the blanket. It will take about a week for him to get comfortable in a new home. After that you will have a buddy for life. Please consider giving this boy a forever home.



SOS EVENTS

Adopt-athon

PetSmart Saginaw
Saturdays
1:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Membership Drive

November

Adopt a Senior Pet Month

November

Neuter Palooza

November 6

Monthly Meeting

Grace A. Dow Library
Conference Room B
November 17
6:00 p.m.

Morley Portraiture SOS Animal Rescue Annual Fund-Raiser

November 24-25

Midland Santa Parade

November 22
10:00 a.m.

Soldan's Giving Tree

December

National Mutt Day

December 2

Cold Weather Pet Safety

You're probably already aware of the risks posed by warm weather and leaving pets in hot cars, but did you know that cold weather also poses serious threats to your pets' health? Here are some tips to keep your pets safe during cold weather:

Winter wellness: Has your pet had his/her preventive care exam (wellness exam) yet? Cold weather may worsen some medical conditions such as arthritis. Your pet should be examined by a veterinarian at least once a year, and it's as good a time as any to get him/her checked out to make sure (s)he is ready and as healthy as possible for cold weather.

Know the limits: Just like people, pets' cold tolerance can vary from pet to pet based on their coat, body fat stores, activity level, and health. Be aware of your pet's tolerance for cold weather, and adjust accordingly. You will probably need to shorten your dog's walks in very cold weather to protect you both from weather-associated health risks. Arthritic and elderly pets may have more difficulty walking on snow and ice and may be more prone to slipping and falling. Long-haired or thick-coated dogs tend to be more cold-tolerant, but are still at risk in cold weather. Short-haired pets feel the cold faster because they have less protection, and short-legged pets may become cold faster because their bellies and bodies are more likely to come into contact with snow-covered ground. Pets with diabetes, heart disease, kidney disease, or hormonal imbalances (such as Cushing's disease) may have a harder time regulating their body temperature, and may be more susceptible to problems from temperature extremes. The same goes for very young and very old pets. If you need help determining your pet's temperature limits, consult your veterinarian.

Provide choices: Just like you, pets prefer comfortable sleeping places and may change their location based on their need for more or less warmth. Give them some safe options to allow them to vary their sleeping place to adjust to their needs.

Stay inside. Cats and dogs should be kept inside during cold weather. It's a common belief that dogs and cats are more resistant than people to cold weather because of their fur, but it's untrue. Like people, cats and dogs are susceptible to frostbite and hypothermia and should be kept inside. Longer-haired and thick-coated dog breeds, such as huskies and other dogs bred for colder climates, are more tolerant of cold weather; but no pet should be left outside for long periods of time in below-freezing weather.

Make some noise: A warm vehicle engine can be an appealing heat source for outdoor and feral cats, but it's deadly. Check underneath your car, bang on the hood,

and honk the horn before starting the engine to encourage feline hitchhikers to abandon their roost under the hood.

Check the paws: Check your dog's paws frequently for signs of cold-weather injury or damage, such as cracked paw pads or bleeding. During a walk, a sudden lameness may be due to an injury or may be due to ice accumulation between his/her toes. You may be able to reduce the chance of iceball accumulation by clipping the hair between your dog's toes.

Play dress-up: If your dog has a short coat or seems bothered by the cold weather, consider a sweater or dog coat. Have several on hand, so you can use a dry sweater or coat each time your dog goes outside. Wet sweaters or coats can actually make your dog colder. Some pet owners also use booties to protect their dog's feet; if you choose to use them, make sure they fit properly.

Wipe down: During walks, your dog's feet, legs and belly may pick up deicers, antifreeze, or other chemicals that could be toxic. When you get back inside, wipe down (or wash) your pet's feet, legs and belly to remove these chemicals and reduce the risk that your dog will be poisoned after (s)he licks them off of his/her feet or fur. Consider using pet-safe deicers on your property to protect your pets and the others in your neighborhood.

Collar and chip: Many pets become lost in winter because snow and ice can hide recognizable scents that might normally help your pet find his/her way back home. Make sure your pet has a well-fitting collar with up-to-date identification and contact information. A microchip is a more permanent means of identification, but it's critical that you keep the registration up to date.

Stay home: Hot cars are a known threat to pets, but cold cars also pose significant risk to your pet's health. You're already familiar with how a car can rapidly cool down in cold weather; it becomes like a refrigerator, and can rapidly chill your pet. Pets that are young, old, ill, or thin are particularly susceptible to cold environments and should never be left in cold cars. Limit car travel to only that which is necessary, and don't leave your pet unattended in the vehicle.

Prevent poisoning: Clean up any antifreeze spills quickly, as even small amounts of antifreeze can be deadly. Make sure your pets don't have access to medication bottles, household chemicals, potentially toxic foods such as onions, xylitol (a sugar substitute) and chocolate.

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Protect family: Odds are your pet will be spending more time inside during the winter, so it's a good time to make sure your house is properly pet-proofed. Use space heaters with caution around pets, because they can burn or they can be knocked over, potentially starting a fire. Check your furnace before the cold weather sets in to make sure it's working efficiently, and install carbon monoxide detectors to keep your entire family safe from harm. If you have a pet bird, make sure its cage is away from drafts.

Avoid ice: When walking your dog, stay away from frozen ponds, lakes and other water. You don't know if the ice will support your dog's weight, and if your dog breaks through the ice it could be deadly. And if this happens and you instinctively try to save your dog, both of your lives could be in jeopardy.

Provide shelter: We don't recommend keeping any pet outside for long periods of time, but if you are unable to keep your dog inside during cold weather, provide him/her with a warm, solid shelter against wind. Make sure that they have unlimited access to fresh, non-frozen water (by changing the water frequently or using a pet-safe, heated water bowl). The floor of the shelter should be off of the ground (to minimize heat loss into the ground) and the bedding should be thick, dry and changed regularly to provide a warm, dry environment. The door to the shelter should be positioned away from prevailing winds. Space

heaters and heat lamps should be avoided because of the risk of burns or fire. Heated pet mats should also be used with caution because they are still capable of causing burns.

Recognize problems: If your pet is whining, shivering, seems anxious, slows down or stops moving, seems weak, or starts looking for warm places to burrow, get them back inside quickly because they are showing signs of hypothermia. Frostbite is harder to detect, and may not be fully recognized until a few days after the damage is done. If you suspect your pet has hypothermia or frostbite, consult your veterinarian immediately.

Be prepared: Cold weather also brings the risks of severe winter weather, blizzards and power outages. Prepare a disaster/emergency kit, and include your pet in your plans. Have enough food, water and medicine (including any prescription medications as well as heartworm and flea/tick preventives) on hand to get through at least 5 days.

Feed well: Keep your pet at a healthy weight throughout the winter. Some pet owners feel that a little extra weight gives their pet some extra protection from cold, but the health risks associated with that extra weight don't make it worth doing. Watch your pet's body condition and keep them in the healthy range. Outdoor pets will require more calories in the winter to generate enough body heat and energy to keep them warm – talk to your veterinarian about your pet's nutritional needs during cold weather.

Reprinted from AMVA.Cold Weather Pet Safety

Thank you to everyone who attended the Dirty Dog Trail Run. Additional photos can be seen on our Facebook page.



Men's 10K Run
1. Brian Jones
2. Benjamin Conard
3. Charles Serrano

Men's 5K Run
1. Kent Wischmeyer
2. Robert Lawrence
3. Eric Kozuch

Under 13 Male
1. Will Rappuhn
2. Joshua Roberson

Women's 10K Run
1. Meagan Baranek
2. Dana Derosier
3. Jaclyn Doyle

Women's 5K Run
1. Melissa Chritz
2. Laura Crower
3. Jennifer Brey

Under 13 Female
1. Emilee Bonter
2. Emma Brown
3. Jennifer Prining

Thank You, Race Donors

Darcy Czarnik Laurin
Erika Doster-Funk
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Kristyn Frost
Jeremy Goldsworthy
Tom Grigar
Eric Kozuch
Santana Kozuch
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Kristen Wischmeyer
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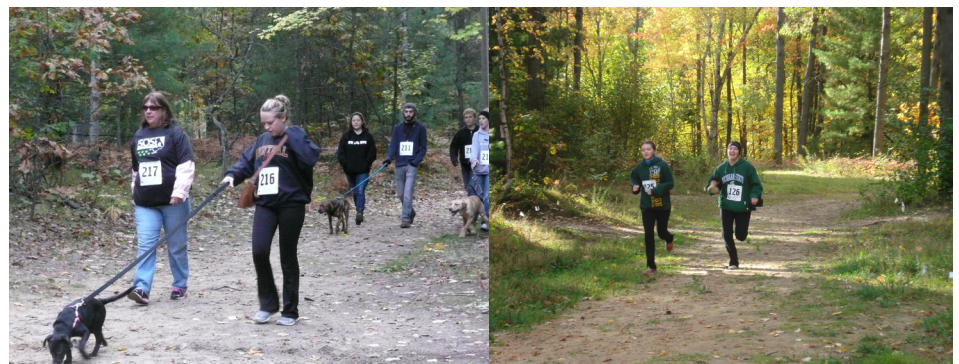
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Soldan's
Thai Baseil Bistro
Zach's Dog Groomery and Bathhouse



Some of our walkers enjoying the trails

Adrienne And Gina



Sloan, Will, Emilee, and Bella

Melissa and Marina

Thank you, Bullock Creek Robotics team, for helping at the Dirty Dog Trail Run



Thank you, Midland High School Key Club, for volunteering at the Dirty Dog Trail Run



Thank you Craig and Cameron for being our race DJ's



Thank you, Midland Amateur Radio Club, for providing race communications

Thank you, Theresa and Troy Guthrie, for pre-registered check-in



Volunteer Jennie handing the medal to one of our race winners



Thank you, Angela and Lainee, for timing the event



A Guide to Vet Visit Etiquette

From yearly wellness exams to unforeseen illnesses or injuries, visits to the veterinarian's office are inevitable for pet owners. For the safety and comfort of pets, their owners, and the staff, it's important to practice good vet's office etiquette. Below are a few tips to ensure your manners are up to par:

1. Be on time: This one can get a little difficult when you're trying to encourage your cat into a carrier and get out the door, but if you're late, your veterinarian will likely be late to appointments for the rest of the day. Be courteous to the vet, the staff, and the other patrons by allowing yourself plenty of time to get to your pet's appointment.
2. Give your dog a potty break before your appointment: Before entering the building, allow your dog to go to the bathroom outside. This won't stop accidents from ever occurring, but it is a good preventative measure to take.
3. Opt for the right kind of leash: Extra-long leashes aren't a good idea in confined spaces, so a retractable leash probably isn't the best option for the vet's office. Instead, keep your dog on a traditional leash that is sturdy and relatively short.
4. Keep your cat in a carrier: You never know when an illness or injury will occur, so it's important to have a carrier at home that your cat is comfortable with. While in the waiting room, your cat will feel much more at ease in a carrier than on a leash. Plus everyone will be protected from those kitty claws.
5. Give everyone space: Don't assume that every animal is friendly or wants to socialize. Pets in waiting rooms may be sick, injured, or anxious, all of which can contribute to aggressive behavior. Be respectful by not approaching other people's animals.
6. Speak up: If your pet is particularly stressed, unsocial, aggressive, or fearful, don't be afraid to let the receptionist know. It may be safer for everyone (and less stressful for your pet) if you wait outside until the exam room is open.

by VetDepot on September 9, 2014

Thank You for Displaying SOS Donation Canisters!

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Soldan's
Surrey Vet Clinic
Wall & Webb

Membership Renewal Cards

Membership renewals cards will be arriving in your mailbox soon. Your membership helps save animals by providing food and vet care to animals in need.



Pooches at the Pool

More photos can be seen on our Facebook page.





Shelley Park Cluff modeling our race shirts. High quality, wicking shirts. We have a few XL left for \$12. Email us at info@sosar.org if interested.



Ten Fun Facts about Dogs

Dogs are not only loyal and lovable companions, but they're also fascinating creatures. Here are ten interesting facts!

1. A dog's sense of smell is at least 10,000 times more sensitive than that of a human.
2. Dogs can only sweat through the pads of their feet.
3. Every dog breed except the Chow has a pink tongue. Chows have a distinctive black tongue.
4. The world's oldest dog lived to the age of 29.
5. Dalmatian puppies are completely white when they are born, they don't develop their signature spots until later in life.
6. Dogs have about 1,700 taste buds (humans have 9,000).
7. The first sense a puppy develops is touch.
8. About 25 percent of dogs snore.
9. The nose print of a dog is as unique as a human fingerprint.
10. Contrary to popular belief, dogs do see in color, just not as vividly as people do.

By VetDepot, September 12, 2014.

Ten Fun Facts about Cats

Cats are fascinating creatures and any cat owner can tell you that they definitely have minds of their own. Below are ten fun facts about cats that are as interesting as their personalities:

1. All kittens are born with blue eyes.
2. The print of a cat's nose is totally unique, much like a human finger print.
3. While awake, cats spend 30 percent of their time grooming themselves.
4. Cats very rarely meow at other cats.
5. There are 33 different cat breeds.
6. A group of kittens is called a "kindle."
7. A group of adult cats is referred to as a "clowder."
8. One female cat can produce up to 100 kittens in her lifetime.
9. Cats are only able to sweat through their paws.
10. Cats can make more than 100 different vocal sounds (dogs can only make about 10).

By VetDepot, May 23, 2014.

Pet Food Assistance Program	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Families helped	50	40	77	138	55
Dogs		56	121	180	61
Cats		149	159	210	101
Other animals		11	2	6	0
Pounds dog food out			2458	6386	1859
Pounds cat food out			1627	2824	1229
Families helped with pet flea products					15

Elections

Elections for vice president, treasurer, and one director will take place at the November meeting. Dues must be paid in order to be a member in good standing and eligible to vote. All members shall be entitled to cast one vote if they have been a member of the organization for three months.



Downtown Pumpkin Fest

**See all the photos on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/sosanimalrescue**

**And the video on our youtube channel
[Sosanimalrescue1](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCs0s0s0s0s0s0s0s0s0s0s0)**

What to Expect as Your Cat Ages

Cats typically reach senior status at around 10 to 12 years old. Although they're still as lovable as ever, some physical and behavioral changes will likely occur.

Senior cats tend to slow down as they age due to joint pain. They may stop jumping up on furniture or playing with their toys as often. Hearing or vision loss is also a possibility. As a cat progresses into its teen years, dementia becomes more likely as well, which can cause confusion. This may all sound a bit discouraging, but management of these conditions is possible.

Below are some helpful tips for keeping your senior cat healthy and comfortable:

- Pay attention: Subtle changes in behavior can actually be clues about your cat's health. Discuss any and all behavioral changes with your cat's veterinarian.
- Switch from visiting the vet annually to twice yearly checkups. Health conditions are typically more easily managed if caught early on. Regular blood work will help catch diseases at their onset.
- Give your kitty some space: If you have visitors, especially if they're accompanied by young children, consider blocking off an area of your home for your cat to have some peace. Your senior cat may also need some space from other, younger animals in your household.
- Commit to a healthy diet: Older cats are at an increased risk for obesity, which can lead to a host of other health conditions. Consult with a veterinarian about the best cat food for your individual pet.
- Invest in comfortable bedding: You may notice that those catnaps are getting longer, so make sure your feline companion has a comfortable place to rest.
- Spend one-on-one time together: Your cat may not be up for chasing the laser pointer for extended periods of time, but that doesn't mean you can't spend any quality time together. Try a relaxed play session or just curl up together while you're reading a book.

By VetDepot, April 22, 2014.

THANK YOU!

Mary Bain
Debra Beardslee
Emilee Bonter
Michelle Cook
Monica Duebbert
Monica Essenmacher
Marshall Giant
Jessica Hill
Hugs For Homeless Animals
Sandy Kelly
Jennifer Kuester
Marge La Feldt in memory of
Charlie the beloved pet of Dan and
Sherry Thurlow
Elizabeth Marshall
Loretta Mackenroth
Rena Marx
Paul and Cathleen Price in
gratitude of Viola and Sebastian
Elizabeth Proulx
Crystal Ramon
Mary Reetz
Crista Rowe
Sanford Animal Clinic
Madeline Sasse
Judy Scheuffele
Karen Shirey
Kim Wenzel
In memory of Norma Rozinski by
Laura, Allen, Madison & Noah
Wittbrodt and her beloved cats:
Frankie, Molly, Piggy, and Bootsie

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QUALITY
THEATERS



Thank you, PetSmart, for the food donated during the canned food drive.



Thank you, Saginaw Quality 10
GDX Cinema, for conducting a
food drive in October.

Your donations help these animals receive medical care.

They are either still in treatment or waiting for their forever homes.

Bubba came to us with undiagnosed diabetes and was humanely euthanized due to the extent of damage to his organs.



Many of the clients we help with spay/neuter have outdoor cats. Here is one shelter we provided to a home that has a colony. Frankie and Speckles checked it out within five minutes of placing it on the deck.



Bella has scarred eyes due to lack of vet care. She is doing well now and has been adopted!

Franny has eye scarring due to lack of proper vet care. She does have some vision and was adopted by a very caring family.



Patch came in very sick with upper respiratory, eye infections, and failure to thrive. Look at him now. He is a sweet playful guy ready for a new home.



Schwinn is suspected to be blind and was living outside fending for himself. A few kind ladies were feeding him and finally were able to pick him up and put him in a carrier. SOS Animal Rescue is treating his eyes in the hopes that vision can be restored once the infection is gone. Schwinn was one scared boy at first but now loves his long hair combed and his chin rubbed. Stay tuned for updates.

Spay/Neuter Statistics

If each spay/neuter surgery prevents two litters of unwanted puppies or kittens from being born the program has saved over 16,000 from a life of hunger, cruelty and disease. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many.

Spay/Neuter	thru 2013	2014	Total
female cats	806	120	926
male cats	491	123	614
female dogs	388	31	419
male dogs	267	32	299
total	1952	306	2258

Diabetes in Pets

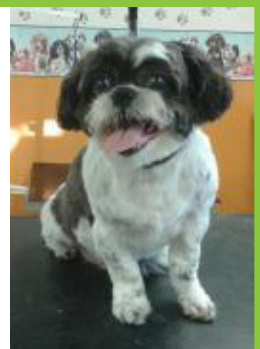
We have lost two cats this past year who came to us with undiagnosed diabetes. Please take any animal to the vet if it is exhibiting signs that are not normal. Here are symptoms to watch for: Owners of diabetic cats often notice increased thirst and urination, weakness, and weight loss despite a normal or even ravenous appetite. Reoccurring infections are also possible, and cats may walk without fully straightening their hind legs or develop cataracts as the disease progresses. Left untreated, severe diabetes can cause electrolyte disturbances, extreme dehydration, seizures, and death, a condition known as diabetic ketoacidosis.

Soldan's Giving Tree

In December, Soldan's lets SOS Animal Rescue set up a Giving Tree in their store. The Giving Tree is similar to Midland's Sharing Tree; however, the focus is on dogs and cats in need. Please consider stopping in, choose a card from the tree and help an animal in need. We especially want to thank Soldan's for letting us put the tree in their store.

Meet Lucy Lou

Lucy is a four-year-old Shih Tzu. She was found wandering the streets and was taken to Animal Control. SOS Animal Rescue took her in, was spayed, given revolution for fleas, dewormed, tested for heartworm tested. As Lucy became part of her foster home, we realized she has a thyroid issue that is corrected by medication that costs about \$5 per month. She also has seizures which are controlled by medication that costs about \$35 per month. Because of her ongoing expenses Lucy's adoption fee will be waived. She lives with many cats, dogs, and kids in her foster home. Lucy is a very laid back little sweetie, couch potato, and lap dog.



Midland Santa Parade

Come one, come all to march with Mid Michigan Limo and SOS Animal Rescue in the Santa Parade on November 22. All are welcome to march or ride in the limo bus along the parade route. Bring your pet and people-friendly dog to walk or ride with you. Don't have a dog? Join us anyway to hand out flyers and dog biscuits or to wave at the crowds. Feeling especially jolly? Then volunteer to dress up as Sylvester the Cat or Clifford the Big Red Dog. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. at the Midland High parking lot. Hope to see you there.





P.O. Box 1135, Midland, MI 48641-1135

989-492-0042

info@sosar.org

www.sosanimalrescue.org

www.facebook.com/sosanimalrescue

Officers

Joann Taylor, President
Shelley Park, Vice President
Darlene Andrews, Secretary
Karla Oldenburg, Treasurer

Mission Statement

SOS Animal Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to reduce the number of unwanted pets in the Midland area through placement, public education, spay/neuter assistance programs, and support for the efforts of local animal welfare groups.

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