



P.O. Box 1135, Midland, MI 48641
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www.sosanimalrescue.org

SOS Animal Rescue Newsletter • Volume 16, Issue 1 • January 31, 2016

A Year in Review

what your donations made happen in 2015

- 220 cats and dogs adopted to new families
- 360 spay/neuter surgeries on pets in low income families
- 259 animals living with 76 families helped with pet food
- \$2,188 donation to Shelter House to help pets of families in need

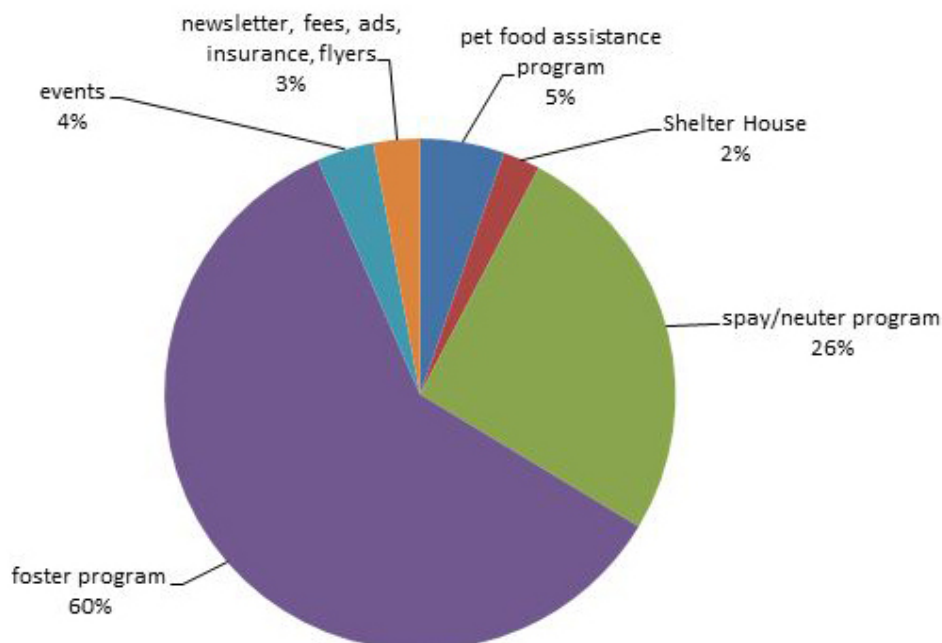
Your donations make a difference and go directly to help the animals. The four programs above account for 93 percent of our budget. We have no paid staff, no building, no utility bills, and no wasted supplies. What we do have are very dedicated volunteers, fantastic veterinarians, and a great support network. None of this would be possible without you.

Thank you!

Joann Taylor
President
 SOS Animal Rescue



Spending in 2015 by Category



SOS EVENTS

Adopt-athon

PetSmart Saginaw
 Saturdays • 12:00–4:00

Monthly Meeting

Yeo and Yeo
 6018 Eastman Ave., Midland
 Thursday, February 18
 6:00 p.m.

Neuter Palooza

M-20 Animal Hospital
 February 18

Spay Day

River Rock Animal Hospital
 February 10

Neuter Palooza

M-20 Animal Hospital
 March 10

Monthly Meeting

Yeo and Yeo
 6018 Eastman Ave., Midland
 Thursday, March 17
 6:00 p.m.

Give Local Midland

May 3

Dirty Dog Trail Run

August 27

Check the website for other updates to the schedule.

THANK YOU!

Barbara Anderson
Darlene Andrews
Anne Applegath
Michael Bain
Mike Bartos
Edward Becker
Susan Berghoff
Marianne C. Bird
Merry Blades
Lily Cheng
Robert Christensen
Mona Cline
Joy Ann Cooper
Charles and Kathy Cribbley
Michelle Dittenber
Linda Dubay
Monica Essenmacher
Sandy Fritz Kelly
Deb Fugate
Janice Hawrelak
Richard Heiny
Beverly Holtham
Sara and Daisy Hughes
Michael and Joy Marchione
Elizabeth Marshall
Ann Matthews
Barbara Nead-Nylander
John, Julia, and J.R. Nosal
Adam Paveglio
Anne Kelly-Rowley
Chris and Nancy Peeler
Sali Reynolds
Sherry Rogers
Alyssa Russell
Madeline Sasse
Judith Scheuffele
R.R. Schluckbier
Gayle Serbus
Karen Shirey
Sandra Simmons, PH.D.
Jeffrey Smith
Lyle and Debra Smith
Cathy Snyder
Michael Spencer
Luanne Stickley
Sabrina Sullivan
Hitoshi Takahashi
Isaac Teller
Angela Tewksbury
Fran Thiel
Cheryl Williamson
Arnold and Sally Young

Rena Marx in memory of Audrey Matlock and family's husband and father

Rena Marx in memory of Denise McMahon's mother and stepfather

Rena Marx in memory of Jerilee and C.J. McHard's husband and Stepfather

Rena Marx in memory of William Brunson and Family's wife and mother

Rena Marx in memory of James, Jason, and Sara Baird's father and grandfather

Rena Marx in memory of Barb Tierney and family's brother



Soldan's, thank you for hosting the share tree in the Midland store and thanks to everyone who donated the many toys, treats, and bags of food that will be used to help animals in need.

THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who brought their pets to the Morley Portraiture fund-raiser. Special thanks to Kathy Morley and volunteers for donating the time, talents, and energy to help the animals.



Platinum Sponsors

Larkin Food Center
M-20 Animal Hospital
Morley Portraiture
Northern Animal Clinic
Park Place Homes
PetSmart
Precious Cat
River Rock Animal Hospital
Surrey Vet Clinic
VetMed of Midland

Gold Sponsors

Aberro Creative
Bob Evans
Krogers
Soldan's
Superior Title and Settlement
Target

Silver Sponsors

Animal Pal
The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe
Legacy Wealth Management
Benjamin F. Edwards
Wolverine Bank

Bronze Sponsors

Amazing Deli
Glover's Rexall Pharmacy
Hugs for Homeless animals
Midland Animal clinic
Olive Garden
Quilts for Cages
Ross Medical Education Center
Runners
Sanford Food Pride
Shay Water
Shelley's Bed and Biscuit
Shirlene's Cuisine
Thai Basil Bistro
WalMart

Your donations help these animals receive medical care.



Num Num and Thunder are two little kittens that were dropped off at an animal shelter and needed to be bottle fed. They are thriving and will be ready for new homes in a few weeks.



Jingle, Merry, and Noel came to us covered in fleas. Revolution for fleas made this holiday kittens all better.



Whisper had an open wound on her neck that has healed nicely so she is ready for a new home.

Thank You for Supporting Diamond!

Mary Bain
Carolyn Beiser
Christina Erskine
Amy Gale
Susan Gansser
Gabriele Golombeski
Louella Hoffman
LaRae Meldrum
Rochelle Miller
Denise Sampson
Diana Schnople
Kim Wehl
& many anonymous donors



Jazzy Cat is a real snuggle bug now that his inflamed pancreas is all better.



Diamond has an injured leg that we thought would need to be amputated. Months of rehab are in place to try to avoid that.



Clyde had an infected wound, umbilical hernia, and fractured tooth. He is the nicest cat who was declawed sometime in his past.

ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE!

Friday, May 6
9-6

Saturday, May 7
9-12

104 W. Wackerly St.
corner of Jefferson and
Wackerly, next to
Sylvan Learning Center

Donation Drop-off
Thursday, May 5
1-8 p.m.

No adult clothes.

PLEASE BRING
gently used items &
shoes, boots, clogs,
any foot wear

Proceeds benefit our
fostering, pet food, and
spay/neuter assistance
programs.

A Brief History of Domestic Cats

Today, domestic cats are everywhere: in the home, in the yard, on television and, overwhelmingly, on the Internet. But have you ever wondered where they came from and how they ended up as the world's most popular pet? Us too. Here's a brief history of cats – from being domesticated in ancient Egypt to wearing funny hats on YouTube.

In the Beginning...

Thought to have descended from the African wildcat and used to catch vermin, the domestic cat can be traced all the way back to ancient Egypt 4,000 years ago (and perhaps beyond). By helping to reduce disease and protect crops, cats were quickly regarded as sacred creatures by the Egyptians.

The Wandering Cat

After the Egyptian dynasty collapsed, cats became popular elsewhere. In the Far East, cats were originally owned by the rich. As their popularity grew, the domesticated cat made its way to surrounding countries like India and Japan. This is when breeding also began, with breeds such as the Siamese and Burmese first emerging.

Meanwhile in Europe

It's believed that Egyptian traders originally introduced cats to Europe where the Greeks and the Romans used them as pest control. However, during the Middle Ages, cats became associated with superstition. During the Black Death of 1348, rulers ordered the killing of all cats because they were suspected of carrying the disease. It wasn't until the 1600s that their reputation started to recover.

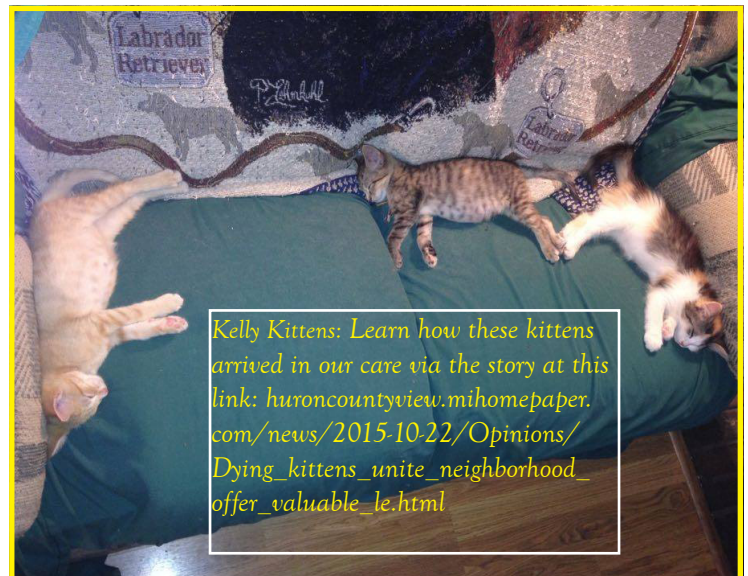
Living in America

During the 15th and 16th centuries, cats were welcome cargo on ships to minimize vermin and disease. It's commonly thought that when Christopher Columbus discovered America, cats from his ship went ashore and flourished. In fact this is where the American Shorthair is rumored to have originated.

Cats Today

Nowadays, cats are a key part of modern society – it's estimated there are close to half a billion around the world. They continue to be an important and special part of our lives. We're always looking for new ways to show them how much we care. So, actually, when you consider how revered cats were by the Egyptians – not much has actually changed.

Reprinted from
catspride.com.



Kelly Kittens: Learn how these kittens arrived in our care via the story at this link: huroncountyview.mhhomepaper.com/news/2015-10-22/Opinions/Dying_kittens_unite_neighborhood_offer_valuable_le.html



&



are sponsoring

10 FREE Male Cat Neuters*

February 18, 2016

- Includes rabies vaccine
- pain medication after surgery
- ear mite treatment
- one dose of flea preventative

Apply Online: www.sosanimalrescue.org



Surgeries are intended for feral, wild, or free-roaming cats or cats living with families that cannot afford the neuter surgery. If your application is approved, you will receive a call from SOS Animal Rescue to set up your cat's surgery.

**Must be a Midland County Resident*

For more information or to receive a mailed application:
SOS Animal Rescue • 989-492-0042

Support TNR...



Cats of both genders may begin breeding as early as four months of age

help prevent the next generation from entering the shelter.

TNR

We fixed a total of 51 cats (10 boys and 41 girls) with our TNR efforts in 2015. If each female has two litters of four kittens per year, TNR prevented over 300 unwanted kittens. This is why we continue to beat the drum of spay/neuter.

TNR Homes

We have several of these trap-neuter-return (TNR) outdoor cat homes (pictured below), courtesy of the River Rock Animal Hospital service day. If you would like one, contact us at 989-492-0042.



Many thanks to Hugs For Homeless Animals, Quilts For Cages, Joy Ann Cooper, and Luanne Stickley for their continued support by providing blankets and catnip mice to our foster animals. They put in countless hours of their time plus donate the materials towards these blankets and toys that make life better for the fosters. Thank you!





PetSmart, thank you for hosting the pet food drive. The cats appreciate all the canned food.



Kroger Community Rewards

Sign up and list SOS Animal Rescue as your charity. Our number is 91497. So far this year, Kroger has donated \$270!

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 2014	2015	Total
female cats	959	111	1070
male cats	646	154	800
female dogs	433	53	486
male dogs	312	42	354
total	2350	360	2710

River Rock Animal Hospital, thank you for hosting the pet food drive. We appreciate the donation.



Play Ball!

We are running the concessions stand at Southtown Little League in Midland as a fundraiser for SOS Animal Rescue. We will need volunteers on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- Last week of April
- All of May
- First week of June

Volunteering involves waiting on customers, making popcorn, heating up and packaging hot dogs, and selling candy, chips, and pop. This is a simple way to help out by donating your time. You will get lots of exercise too. If you are interested in helping, let us know. Even a few hours would be appreciated.



Precautions for Outdoor Pets

According to the American Humane Association, if your pet is outside during cold weather:

- Remember that staying warm requires extra calories. Outdoor animals typically need more calories in the winter, so feed them accordingly when the temperature drops. Talk to your veterinarian for advice on proper diet.



Michael Spencer from the Judy V. Spencer Fund hands a check to Janine Ouderkirk, Executive Director of Shelter House. The funds were raised during the Dirty Dog Trail Run to ensure victims of domestic violence can provide a safe haven to their pets. (Left to right: Robin Greiner from Shelter House, Michael Spencer, Janine Ouderkirk, Joann Taylor from SOS Animal Rescue.)

- Watch your pet's outside fresh-water bowl. If it is not heated, you may need to refresh it more often as it freezes in cold weather.
- Salt and de-icers: Many pets like to go outside to romp and stomp in the snow, but many people use powerful salt and chemicals on their sidewalks to combat ice buildup. Thoroughly clean your pets' paws, legs and abdomen after they have been outside, to prevent ingestion of toxic substances and to prevent their pads from becoming dry and irritated. Signs of toxic ingestion include excessive drooling, vomiting and depression.
- Ice and snow: When you let your pets in from a walk or a romp outside, make sure to wipe their paws and undersides – get those ice balls off as soon as possible, as they can cause frostbite. After being outside, check your pets' paws, ears and tail for frostbite. Frostbitten skin usually appears pale or gray and can be treated by wrapping the area in a dry towel to gradually warm the area. Check with your veterinarian if you suspect frostbite.
- Use nontoxic antifreeze. Antifreeze is great-tasting to pets, but even a very small amount ingested can be deadly. Look for nontoxic antifreeze, consider using products that contain propylene glycol rather than ethylene glycol, and make sure all spills are cleaned up immediately and thoroughly. Contact your veterinarian immediately if you suspect your pets have ingested any antifreeze!

RePurpose Your Shoes!

Donate any gently worn, used shoes during our drive to benefit our organization as well as micro-enterprises around the world!

All footwear is welcome:

Tennis shoes

Dress shoes

Flip-flops

Clogs

Work boots

Snow boots

Dress Boots

Sports shoes



We are still collecting shoes!
Please drop them off at Park Place Homes,
1007 E. Wackerly St . (across from the Tennis Center)

Pet Food Assistance Program

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Families helped	50	40	77	138	90	76
Dogs		56	121	180	104	100
Cats		149	159	210	174	159
Other animals		11	2	6	1	0
Total dog food delivered			2458	6386	3603	3904
Total cat food delivered			1627	2824	1866	1599
Flea products					16	60

BOOK REVIEW BY CHRIS ERSKINE

A Home for Dixie

The True Story of a Rescued Puppy
By Emma Jackson

Ages 4–8

A little pup named Dixie was one of three litter mates fortunate enough to be rescued by Aunt Mary's Doghouse located in New Jersey.

Dixie and her siblings were in good hands at Aunt Mary's. They were provided vet care and a clean environment. Last but not least, they received positive interaction with the caretakers and of course toys that all dogs require for proper enrichment. Now it was just waiting for the right human family to provide that loving, forever home.

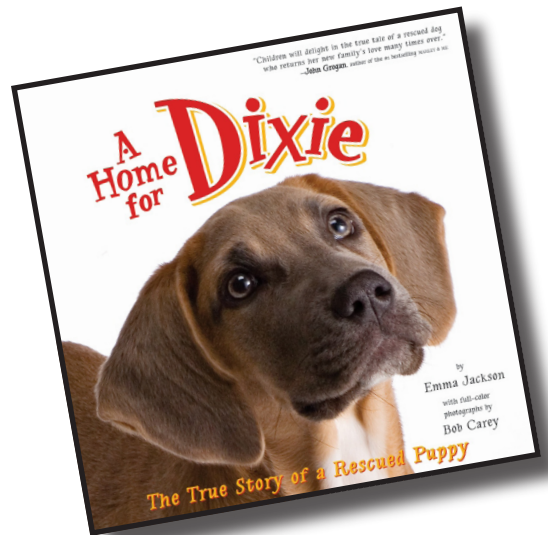
This is where Emma and her family enter the story. A girl named Emma so wanted a dog. After much consideration, her parents finally said "yes". Should they go to a pet shop? No. Her father checked online to get all the information they would need to properly take care of a dog and where to find one. He discovered Petfinder.com and navigated his way to Aunt Mary's Doghouse.

As you may have guessed, Emma and her family chose Dixie to take home and care for. Not only did Dixie find a loving home, Emma found a loving best friend.

A Home for Dixie is illustrated with large color photographs taken by photographer Bob Carey. His photographs have graced the pages of O (Oprah Magazine), Essence and others, as well as campaigns for Lexus and Mastercard. The author and true life companion of Dixie is Emma, a high school student living with her family in New Jersey.

Mary Cody, founder of Aunt Mary's Doghouse, continues to rescue dogs from overcrowded shelters and dogs wandering the streets. She and her group of volunteers have managed to rescue and place in loving homes hundreds of dogs that were initially considered unadoptable. In 2007, the American Red Cross awarded Mary its Bravo for Bravery medal for her tremendous accomplishments in animal rescue.

There are millions of dogs and cats that end up in shelters in our country every year. Some get new homes, most do not. These animals are not broken, just discarded. So if you are considering opening your home to that new family member, do not buy, please adopt. Petfinder.com is a great place to start.





&



Are sponsoring

FREE Spay

Surgeries for female cats*

February 10



Call 989-492-0042 for an
application

Or

Apply online at
www.sosanimalrescue.org

Surgeries are intended for feral, wild, or free roaming cats or cats living with families that cannot afford the spay surgery. If your application is approved, you will receive a call from SOS Animal Rescue to set up your cat's surgery.

*Midland County residents only and limited to 15 total surgeries.



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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.

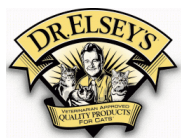
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Morley Portraiture



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Animal Pal



BENJAMIN F. EDWARDS & Co.

Surrey Veterinary Clinic

