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SOS Animal Rescue Newsletter • Volume 16, Issue 2 • April 15, 2016



Give Local Midland

Tuesday, May 3, 2016. 24 Hours. 50 Non-profits. Give where you live.

Please consider making a donation to SOS Animal Rescue's endowed fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation on Tuesday, May 3. The mission of the Personal Pet Assistance Fund is to provide grants to benefit residents of Midland County who cannot afford the cost of providing primary care for their family pet. Primary care includes but is not limited to spay/neuter surgery, routine or emergency veterinary care, food, and supplies. Gifts made on this day will be matched by local sponsors which make every gift go further. Visit www.givelocalmidland.org.

SOS EVENTS

Adopt-athon

PetSmart Saginaw
Saturdays • 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Neuter Palooza

April 14

Spay Day

April 20

Give Local Midland

May 3

Rummage Drop-Off

104 W. Wackerly St.
May 4 • 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
May 5 • 1:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Annual Rummage Sale

104 W. Wackerly St.
May 6 • 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
May 7 • 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Monthly Meeting

Grace A. Dow Library
Conference Room B
Thursday, May 19
6:00 p.m.

Bark in Park

June 8 & 22
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Dirty Dog Trail Run

August 27

Check the website for other updates to the schedule.

GIVE LOCAL CAMPAIGN – PLEASE HELP SOS WIN EXTRA DOLLARS



24 hours. 50 nonprofits.
Give where you live.

PRIZE LIST

\$300 EACH!

- > \$3,300 total in available prizes
- > max 2 per agency
- > Checks/cash don't count toward prizes

Early Bird

(donation closest to 12AM)

Night Owl

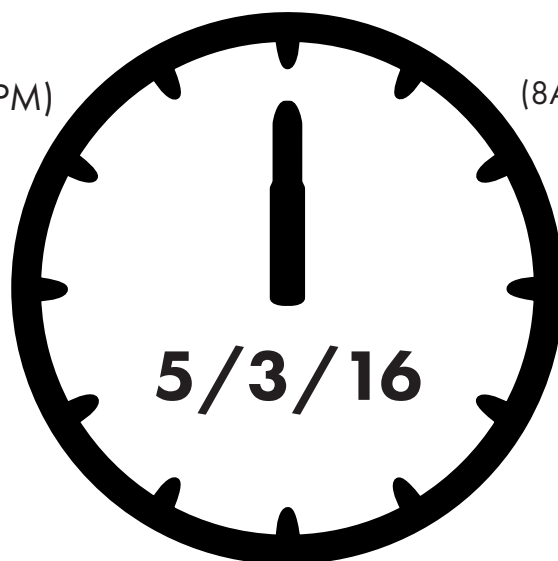
(donation closest to 11:30PM)

Be There!

(8AM drawing - must be present)

Happy Hour

(most \$ raised 6-7PM)



Coffee Break

(most \$ raised 10 - 11AM)

300 After 3

(first \$300 donation after 3PM)

Power Hour

(most donors 2-3PM)

OTHER PRIZES:

48640

(first to hit \$486.40 in donations)

First Timer

(most first time donors)

Social Butterfly

(Facebook contest)

Long Distance

(online donation furthest from Midland)

Thinking Through the Goodbye

by Dr. Julie Buzby, DVM

Winston Churchill said, “Never, never, never give up.” For most of life’s challenges, it is brilliant advice. But many of us will face a time when we make an intentional choice to “give up” the fight against saying goodbye to our canine companion. Of course, I am specifically referring to an end-of-life decision necessitated by declining quality of life, rather than a convenience issue.

I used to tell my clients, “You’ll know when it’s time.” Dr. Kathy Cooney, founder of Home to Heaven veterinary hospice, taught me to say, “We’ll know when it’s time.” It’s a truer representation of the ideal scenario—the dog’s family and doctor(s) functioning as a team of advocates for the patient.

A zillion people have told me, “I could not be a veterinarian, because I could never put dogs to sleep.” Strangely, despite the grief, I’m blessed each time I guide a dog and his people peacefully through the process of euthanasia. It’s very intimate and the stakes are high. Here are some things I’ve learned over the years:

In my observation, home euthanasias are the least stressful on the dogs and their people. Ask your veterinarian if this is something that can be arranged. If not, pet hospice practitioners offer home euthanasia and may be available in your area. Realistically, being at the veterinary hospital may be your only option, but this doesn’t mean your dog has to sit on a stainless steel table in an exam room, unless that is your preference. I’ve euthanized dogs cuddling with their owners on fluffy comforters on an exam room floor, lying in their owners’ arms in the backseat of their car, and outside in the grass. My goal is to work in the environment where the dog will be the most content.

In most cases, it’s standard operating procedure for veterinarians to administer sedation prior to the euthanasia solution, but it’s worth asking your doctor what to expect as the process unfolds. The pre-euthanasia injection relaxes the dog, dulls pre-existing pain and typically ensures a smooth transition.

Before an emotional crisis with your senior dog’s health, ponder your ideal scenario for saying goodbye. It’s painful to process but much easier to think about in the hypothetical. I appreciate having the opportunity to discuss a client’s questions when we’re not both in tears. Some things to consider: Who would you want present at the euthanasia? Where would you want it to occur? Do you want burial or cremation? If cremation, do you want the ashes back?

Keepsakes can be a priceless treasure in the grieving process and beyond. I’ve watched many people instinctually remove their dog’s collar while stroking him and awaiting the final injection. For many dogs, this is upsetting. Their collar is a part of their identity. Most people do take the collar home, but please wait to remove it after the euthanasia.

My clients typically appreciate when I clip a tuft of their dog’s hair for them to save. It’s quick, simple, and painless, and often hair is shaved anyway for placement of an IV catheter or to better visualize the injection site.

Another excellent keepsake is a clay paw print. Many veterinary offices offer these to clients, or the option of stamping your dog’s paw print onto a piece of paper, which can be framed or easily stored.

Do you know where the name “Fido” originates? It is from the Latin for “faithful.” Think of the Latin phrase (and Marine Corps motto) *Semper Fidelis*, which translates to *Always Faithful*. Your dog is loyal at all times. Please reciprocate. If at all possible, even if it means working out of your comfort zone, don’t drop your dog off for euthanasia and leave. I realize this is a personal and emotional issue, so if you opt not to be present, consider at least staying until the sedation has taken full effect. This way, your companion won’t fully perceive your departure. Remember, hearing is the last sense lost before dying. May your dog’s transition be narrated by your familiar voice whispering reassuring words.

Pet Food Assistance Program

| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Families helped | 50 | 40 | 77 | 138 | 90 | 76 | 25 |
| Dogs | | 56 | 121 | 180 | 104 | 100 | 28 |
| Cats | | 149 | 159 | 210 | 174 | 159 | 51 |
| Other animals | | 11 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total dog food delivered | | | 2458 | 6386 | 3603 | 3904 | 933 |
| Total cat food delivered | | | 1627 | 2824 | 1866 | 1599 | 456 |
| Flea products | | | | | 16 | 60 | 0 |

YOUR DONATIONS HELP THESE ANIMALS RECEIVE MEDICAL CARE

- 1 Four kittens were born to a mother too young to care for them in need of bottle feeding.
- 2 Tyga had a sore on his neck and breathing difficulties.
- 3 Ranger had coccidia.
- 4 Cinnamon, Toast, and their three siblings had intestinal parasites.
- 5 Bigby is a very sweet boy. He loves to hang out with you and follows you around like a puppy dog. Bigby sleeps at the foot of the bed and is a quiet guy. If you are looking for a friend who is past the active kitten stage, Bigby is for you. The only challenge is Bigby is FIV positive so he needs to go to a home where he will be the only cat. He would be perfect for an older person who wants a love bug to hang with.
- 6 Lillian had coccidia.



FAQs About Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV)

What is FIV?

FIV stands for feline immunodeficiency virus. FIV typically causes a weakening of the cat's immune system. It is the same class of virus as HIV (a lentivirus). However, only cats can get FIV; people and dogs cannot.

How do cats get FIV?

The most common route of infection is a deep bite wound from an FIV-positive cat to another cat. It can also be transmitted via blood, in utero and from the milk of an infected mother cat. It is very rare for cats to get FIV just from being around infected cats, sharing food bowls, or from a person touching an FIV-positive cat and then touching an FIV-negative cat. Many FIV-positive cats and FIV-negative cats live together in the same home for years without spreading the virus to the non-infected cats.

What are the signs of FIV infection?

There are no specific signs of FIV infection. FIV-positive cats have a weaker immune system, so they are more prone to getting infections, such as upper respiratory infections, ringworm and dental disease. Other than that, FIV-positive cats tend to live normal lives and have a normal length of life.

How do I know if my cat has FIV?

There are no obvious signs of FIV, so the only way to know is to do a blood test.

Can FIV be treated?

There are no proven treatments to rid a cat of FIV. Most FIV-positive cats handle the disease well, but it is important to concentrate on treating the secondary illnesses.

What can be done to prevent the spread of FIV?

Cats should be kept indoors, so they do not fight with an FIV-positive cat. Depending on where one lives, the rate of FIV-positive cats ranges from four to 24 percent. An FIV-positive cat can live with an FIV-negative cat as long as neither cat is a fighter, or if the FIV-positive cat has no teeth.

Can FIV-negative and FIV-positive cats live together?

Yes, as long as the cats get along and do not fight. The risk that an FIV-positive cat could spread the virus to an FIV-negative cat can be minimized by having them live in separate rooms until you are confident that they will not fight with each other. And, spaying or neutering your pets will also reduce any risk.

Can FIV-positive cats have a good and long life?

Yes, FIV-positive cats can live normal lives, both in quality and duration. They just need to be monitored for infections and dental issues. But if they're well cared for, they can be healthy, happy, wonderful pets.

Reprinted from bestfriends.org.

At SOS Animal Rescue, we often receive questions about helping animals that are considered wildlife. A rescue must be registered to handle wildlife via the Department of Natural Resources. Michigan rescues can be found at www.michigandnr.com/dlr.

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

Wed., May 4
5-8 p.m.

Thurs, 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.

THANK YOU!

General Donations
Mike Bartos
Eleanor Butcher
Lucinda Edelen
Bob and Nancy Emmert
Monica Essenmacher
Kevin Helsley
Sharon Kilgore
Bruce and Cathy Menning
Elizabeth Marshall
Lyuba Pace
Anne Reis
Madeline Sasse
Judith Scheuffele
Betty Shangle
Shelly's Bed and Biscuit
Susan Smith
Kristi Turner
Kim Wenzel

In memory of Honorable Donna T.
Morris by John, Julia, and J.R. Nosal

For the care of foster cat, Clyde,
Sandra Gueli

In Memory of Wayne G. Beehr
Beckie Baybeck
Kenneth and Carol Baybeck
Richard and Phyllis Beehr
Cynthia L. Coltrane
Jane and Michael Wittbrodt

PAW IT FORWARD

In memory of Debra A. Eisenhardt
Roger and Judy Bishop
Richard Boynton
Randy and Robyn Boynton
Robert and Sue Huntley
Claudia Kleppert
Debbie Paige
Michael and Diane Papa
Bill and Kathleen Pike
Linda, John, and Bruce Rector
Fred and Jerilyn Walker
George and Dianne Williams

Memorials from Rena Marx
The mother of Mr. and Mrs. James
Hayes
The husband of Melodye Adomaitis
The nephew and grandson of Lisa
Conlee and Ilse Letson
The grandmother of David Smith
The mother of Jo Fitzpatrick
The loving dad of Mr. and Mrs.
Mark Vines
The father of Mr. and Mrs. Michael
Webb
The father of Mr. and Mrs. Brian
Hobbs
The husband and father of Judy
Parsons and family

In memory of Blake Robison
– multiple anonymous donors



WE DID IT!

For shopping locally with Soldan's Pet Supplies this holiday season we were able to donate over \$690 to local rescue organizations and humane societies. Thank you to all who helped us 'Paw It Forward' and give to the organizations that do so much for the animals and their humans in Mid-Michigan!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Soldan's, thank you for sponsoring Paw It Forward and donating a portion of sales to help the animals.

THANK YOU!



Girl Scout Troop 50834, thank you for the Kitty Kits.

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

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Superior Title and Settlement
Target

Silver Sponsors

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

Bronze Sponsors

Amazing Deli
Computers To Go
Glover's Rexall Pharmacy
Hugs for Homeless animals
Midland Animal clinic
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



Chippewassee Dog Park

*across the Tridge
in Midland*

second and fourth
Wednesdays
this summer
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

June 8
Meet, Greet, Treats

June 22
Seek & Find

July 13
to be determined

July 27
Pool Party

August 10
Spay Day

August 24
to be determined

*sponsored by
SOS Animal Rescue
of Midland County*

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 2015 | 2016 | Total |
|-------------|-----------|------|-------|
| female cats | 1072 | 25 | 1097 |
| male cats | 800 | 46 | 846 |
| female dogs | 486 | 4 | 490 |
| male dogs | 358 | 5 | 363 |
| total | 2716 | 80 | 2796 |

Congratulations to Clara and Zuleika for getting the most votes from the SOS Animal Rescue fund-raiser portrait contest sponsored by Morley Portraiture! Now her 16x20 just needs a frame and Clara will have a work of art on her wall!



Play Ball!

We are running the concessions stand at Southtown Little League in Midland as a fund-raiser for SOS Animal Rescue. We still need volunteers on **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.



Kroger Community Rewards

Don't forget to re-enroll after April 1 to keep your donation going to SOS Animal Rescue. Our number is 91497. So far this year, Kroger has donated \$270!



ASPCA Grant

SOS Animal Rescue received an in-kind grant from the ASPCA in the form of 9Lives dry cat food. This donation was made possible by the 9Lives Morris' Live Well and Prospurr program.

“Donations like this have allowed SOS Animal Rescue to help 1500 pets in 480 families with pet food in the last few years,” said SOS President Joann Taylor. “Our goal is to keep pets united with their families so they don’t need to be rescued or rehomed.”

People needing pet food assistance can fill out an application on line at www.sosanimalrescue.org or have one mailed to them by calling 989-492-0042. There is also a satellite location to obtain cat food at the Coleman Family Center.

SOS Animal Rescue Launches Shoe Collection Drive to Raise Money for Saving Animals

SOS Animal Rescue is conducting a shoe collection drive from March 15 to May 15 to raise funds for the animals. SOS Animal Rescue will earn funds based on the number of pairs collected as Funds2Orgs will purchase all of the donated goods. The money raised will benefit the rescues foster and spay/neuter assistance programs. **All footwear is welcome, including tennis shoes, clogs, dress boots, dress shoes, work boots, sports shoes, flip-flops, and snow boots.** Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used, or new shoes at one of the following locations:

Midland:

- Community Center at 2205 S. Jefferson Ave.
- M-20 Animal Hospital, 4808 Isabella Rd.
- Midland Chiropractic at 4710 Eastman Ave., on the corner of Eastman and Saginaw
- Midland Physical Therapy at 5319 Saginaw Rd. A
- North End Fitness Center at 601 E. Wackerly
- Park Place Homes at 1007 Wackerly St., across from the Greater Midland Tennis Center
- Planet Fitness at 701 Joe Mann Blvd.
- Reaction Fitness at 1403 Washington St.
- River Rock Animal Hospital at 116 Harold St., near Kroger

Sanford:

- Max's Place at 2161 N. Meridian Rd.



March 15–May 5

All donated shoes will be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of microenterprise partners in developing nations. Funds2Orgs helps impoverished people start, maintain, and grow businesses in countries such as Haiti and Honduras and other nations in Central America and Africa. Proceeds from the shoe sales are used to feed, clothe, and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school. Thank you for supporting this wonderful program!



SOS
ANIMAL RESCUE



In Partnership with:



shelterhouse
Empower and Educate to Eliminate Domestic and Sexual Violence



Judy V. Spencer Fund

8th Annual Dirty Dog Trail Run

10k Run • 5k Run Walk • 1 Mile Walk

Saturday August 27th Midland City Forest

Registration Opens @ 8am & Races Start @ 9am

Register at: itsyourrace.com

The Reason for the Race:

Judy V. Spencer Fund to provide funding to the Shelterhouse to ensure victims of domestic violence can provide a safe haven for their pets.

SOS Animal Rescue to provide funding for animals in need through their foster, pet food, and spay/neuter assistance programs.

Purpose

Judy V. Spencer Fund to provide funding to the Shelter House to ensure victims of domestic violence can provide a safe haven for their pets. SOS Animal Rescue to provide funding for animals in need through their foster, pet food, and spay/neuter assistance programs.

Location

Midland City Forest located at 2840 E. Monroe Rd. (1/4 mile west of Eastman Ave.), Midland, Michigan 48640.

Race

The Eighth Annual Dirty Dog Trail Run is for runners of all skill levels to run with or without their dogs. The course is a combination of unpaved two-track and single-track trails that twist and turn over flat land and hills in the scenic woods of Midland City Forest, a 520-acre preserve of woods, creeks, marshes, and bridges. It's an enjoyable and challenging off-road run. Not interested in running on hills and single track trails? Join the one mile walk over a flat, unpaved course through the woods.



M-20 Animal Hospital

and



are sponsoring

FREE Neuter Surgeries for Male Cats

**NEXT NEUTER PALOOZA:
APRIL 14**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
FUTURE DATES**

**NEXT SPAY DAY:
APRIL 20**



and



are sponsoring

FREE Spay Surgeries for Female Cats



Saving Cats One Surgery at a Time

M-20 Animal Hospital and River Rock Animal Hospital have partnered with SOS Animal Rescue to provide free spay/neuter surgeries to free roaming cats and cats living with families who cannot afford the surgery. The combined efforts of these vets by hosting Spay Day and the Neuter Palooza have resulted in over 300 free surgeries since the programs started. With cats having up to three litters per year these surgeries have reduced the number of unwanted kittens by 3600 since 2014.

We want to thank Dr. Busch and Dr. Peterson (shown above), and Dr. Schad and vet tech Sam Vinecki (shown below), and all of their staff members for partnering with SOS Animal Rescue on these vital programs. There is a clear, ongoing need for these events. Spay Day and Neuter Palooza are offered as often as funding allows and are always full. If you would like to be a part of the solution, please help us raise funds by donating items to our rummage sale, volunteering at a fund-raising event, or donating directly to SOS Animal Rescue.

Watch videos of these events on our YouTube channel [SOSAnimalRescue1](#). Thank you to everyone who helps save lives one surgery at a time.





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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.

Directors

Liz Shook
Casey Wenzel

Newsletter Editor

Sheryl Billmeier Hnizda

THANKS TO OUR PLATINUM, GOLD, & SILVER SPONSORS!



Morley Portraiture

Surrey Veterinary Clinic



Midland VetMED



Animal Pal



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