



# Paw Prints

Newsletter of the Champaign County Humane Society, in its 57th year of caring for animals • Vol 30, No.1 • April-May 2008

## Partnering For Success



CCHS couldn't do it alone. Animal Control couldn't do it alone. No single individual or animal welfare agency in the area could do it alone. Only by working together and drawing on the resources of multiple agencies, professionals, and animal welfare advocates, were we able to succeed. And we did! At the end of the day on March 8, 2008, 161 cats were "relieved of the burden of procreation", according to Dr. Duane Dust, one of the participating veterinarians.

The idea for holding a one day, low-cost, high-volume spay/neuter clinic is not unique. Animal welfare agencies throughout the United States routinely hold such clinics in an effort to impact pet overpopulation. The Central Illinois Animal Welfare Coalition identified the need for spay/neuter initiatives in our area in the early days of its formation in the Fall of 2006. The Coalition is a cooperative of more than

15 animal welfare agencies, veterinarians, and companion animal professionals in Champaign and Douglas Counties.

In September 2007, a committee of Coalition members began planning Cat Nip/Tuck Day with the goal of altering 200 cats in one day, at the Champaign County Humane Society and Champaign County Animal Services Facility. Early in the planning process, it became obvious that the make up of this committee brought together a remarkable combination of talents and experiences. As time went on, each person's strengths became clearer, roles were defined, and tasks assigned. As individuals followed through on their assignments, our vision for the clinic took shape and our sense of commitment and purpose further strengthened.

By the evening of March 7, appointments had been made for over 190 surgeries; 24 veterinarians were on the schedule, and 102 other volunteers (vet students, certified veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, and others) had been trained and were ready to go.

Both clinics operated much like a production line. After being checked in, cats moved from the preliminary exam area, to the pre-surgery preparation room, to surgery, and then to recovery. At check in, cat owners were instructed to return later in the day to pick up their cat, at which time they received after-care instructions. The day was not entirely without complications, but all-in-all, operations were incredibly smooth.

A total of 161 cats (90 females, 71 males) were altered and most also received vaccinations, flea treatment, and a microchip for identification. Over 2/3 of the cats had never seen a veterinarian before. 24 cats were rescheduled for surgery at a later date, and those surgeries have since been performed. 17 additional appointments were made for clients who had additional cats at home.

At the end of the day, the planning committee members were too exhausted to celebrate. Not too exhausted to reflect on what we had accomplished, however. For the first time, our agencies had identified a common goal. For the first time, we joined forces and worked together. In that process of working together, we came to appreciate each others strengths and talents and recognize some of the challenges unique to each organization. We came away with a sense of pride in ourselves and pride in each other – not just for what we had accomplished that day, but for the spirit of collaboration in our common purpose. We look forward to working together again on the next spay/neuter clinic and on other projects as well. We have only just begun to realize our potential as a united force.

*Continued on page 7. More photos of Cat Nip/Tuck Day on page 6.*



## From the Executive Director

Those of us who strongly identify with companion animals are frequently dumbstruck by the number of animals that are surrendered to animal shelters, and the purported reasons for those surrenders. We cannot understand people who don't place as high a value on their pets as we do. We scratch our heads and wonder, "Why don't they get it?"

The answer we often tout is, "lack of education." It seems obvious that people are not being well educated about pet ownership, animal behavior, and animal care. Surely people will change their behavior toward companion animals if they better understand these animals and the gravity of the problem of animal homelessness.

While I certainly believe that this is true, I've lately started to think about the issue in a broader cultural context. The other day, I had

lunch with a friend of mine who works at a veterinary clinic. She was dismayed by the behavior of clients who complain that they can't afford a recommended veterinary procedure for their pet, and not soon after, call the clinic to happily announce that they have just obtained another animal. My friend wonders why a person would take on the responsibility of an additional animal when they can't afford to provide the animals they already have with quality care. My friend's lament immediately brought to my mind the "reason for surrender" I see on so many cage cards at the shelter: "Too Many."

Without question, we live in a consumer culture and are constantly bombarded with the message that personal happiness is obtained through the purchase of more "stuff." When considered in this context, the behavior of the veterinary client is entirely predictable. How many people routinely rationalize spending money for something new – a cell phone, a car, a pair of shoes -- yet complain that they cannot afford to pay their dentist, their mechanic, or their property taxes? Paying for services is not as emotionally satisfying as buying something new. Acquiring "stuff" makes us feel good. At least for a while.

But "newness" doesn't last, and therein lies the problem. Am I suggesting that we shift the focus of our message from humane education to the evils of consumerism? Absolutely not! I have no interest in so great an exercise in futility. However, I am suggesting we recognize that some of the problems we face in animal welfare are symptoms of larger societal trends.

I'm also suggesting that our educational campaigns need to focus on differentiating animals from "stuff." No small challenge, when runway models and celebrities carry "designer dogs" on their arms like handbags. While this might seem like a colossal challenge, I have one small suggestion for how each and every one of us can help instill in the public mind the notion that animals are living beings, not "stuff."

In many instances, the language we use conveys our underlying values and beliefs. Although I often chafe against "political correctness," I do believe that there is a valid basis to the underlying idea that by changing the way we refer to others, we can begin to change perception.

Oftentimes, when referring to an animal whose gender I do not know, I will refer to him or her as "it." When I do so, I immediately cringe at my linguistic laziness, and wish I had constructed my sentence differently. Although my American Heritage Dictionary tells me that it is acceptable to use "it" to refer to a "nonhuman," it still doesn't feel right to refer to my dog, Daisy, as "it." An animal whose name or gender I do not know is no less of an "it" than Daisy.

So I'll try to do better. In the interest of changing the public perception of animals from "stuff" to the sentient beings that they are, I'll try harder to choose my words carefully so that they convey what I mean and reflect my true values.

Mary "Tief" Tiefenbrunn



By donating to Community Shares of Illinois where you work, you and your fellow employees are joining a committed group of individuals who share your passion for a just society, your desire to help people in need and your commitment to social change. Champaign County Humane Society is a member of Community Shares of Illinois. Visit [www.cs-il.org](http://www.cs-il.org).

PawPrints is the newsletter of the Champaign County Humane Society. The CCHS, incorporated in 1951, is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization dedicated to preventing cruelty to animals, promoting animal welfare, and educating the public about humane care and treatment for all animals. CCHS is an "open door" shelter and accepts all animals in need, regardless of age, physical condition or adoptability. PawPrints is a copyrighted publication; permission to reprint any item is given, provided that CCHS-PawPrints is acknowledged. All inquiries and article submissions should be directed to the PawPrints Editorial Committee, in care of CCHS. This issue was designed and edited by Brad Hudson, Gloria Sax, and Tief. Contributing writers were Clay Foley, Jennifer Stone, DVM and Tief. Portrait of Tief, Daisy and Rocky this page by DMS Photography, copyright 2007. Used by permission. Special thanks to Patricia Wentzel.

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**Champaign County  
Humane Society**  
1911 E. Main St.  
Urbana, IL 61802  
217-344-7297

### Shelter Hours

Adoptions  
Monday - Friday 2 PM to 7 PM  
Saturday 11 AM to 6 PM  
Sunday: 11 AM to 4 PM

Relinquishing an Animal  
Monday - Friday 2 PM to 4 PM  
Saturday/Sunday - 11 AM to 1 PM

[www.cuhumane.org](http://www.cuhumane.org)

# CCHS Climbs to New Heights to Rescue Local Cat

The Champaign County Humane Society recently proved that it is willing to go to any length (or height) to help companion animals in need.

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, a distraught Mahomet resident phoned the Champaign County Humane Society seeking assistance. The woman explained that a neighbor's cat had been stuck in a tree for five days. She did not know why the cat had climbed the tree; however, it was clear



that the he hadn't had access to food, water, or shelter during that amount of time. The woman's frustration and concern for the cat were made more severe by a sense of futility. Repeated efforts on her part to find aid for the stranded cat were ignored or rejected.

The Humane Society's Humane Investigator, Clay Foley, responded to the case of the stranded cat. He arrived at the scene to discover that the cat, named Roxy, was higher in the tree than he imagined. Roxy had climbed approximately 60 feet in the air and, searching for a way down, was desperately moving from back and forth from the tree's trunk to the tips of its branches.

As Foley explained, "Roxy was not comfortable in the tree. And after five days it was obvious that he wasn't going to find his way down without some assistance."

Knowing he couldn't climb the tree himself, Foley made calls to the professionals. He contacted one professional tree trimmer who'd had previous experience emancipating cats from trees. But when the trimmer arrived and scaled the tree, the cat simply moved to the unreachable outer ends of the tree's branches. It seemed the real challenge was to convince Roxy that the people were there to help, not hurt him.

Foley could see this was a job requiring more than just human dexterity. Hoping to bring in the heavy machinery, staff at the Humane Society made requests with area fire departments, utility companies, and any other organizations with access to lifting equipment. But no one was able or willing to help the stranded feline.

As the day waned, more neighbors joined the cause, attempting to coax Roxy down by any means imaginable. Newspaper reporters and television crews arrived to take pictures and report about the rescue operation. Bringing the cat down to safety became a community-wide effort.

With the sun setting, and with the weather forecast predicting snow, hope was fading. No one wanted to contemplate the poor, hungry cat spending another night alone in the tree. But what could be done?

The Humane Society's Executive Director, Mary Tiefenbrunn, wasn't about to give up. She contacted Gary Amole, a professional tree trimmer, who agreed to take on the challenge.

At 8:00p.m., with climbing gear in tow, Mr. Amole scaled the thick trunk of the tree. Spotlights lit his way as he climbed higher and higher. His plan was to climb above where the cat was perched, then to drop down on the cat, catching him in a net. But Roxie was wise to the plan. And as Mr. Amole hoisted himself upwards, Roxie crept to the very end of his limb, well out of reach.

As Roxie perilously continued out onto the tenuous branch, the only method of removal became apparent. Spreading open a donated bed sheet, Tief and Clay positioned themselves below the frightened feline. With a few strong shakes of the limb by the brave tree climber, Roxy released his hold on the branch and landed safely in the awaiting bed sheet.

To ensure that Roxy wasn't ill after his frightful ordeal in the tree, his owner gave permission for him to be taken to the Humane Society for observation. Roxie thoroughly enjoyed his first meal in five days. Although he was in a new environment, his first cozy night on solid ground seemed to be appreciated as a real relief!

In the days following the rescue, Roxy's owner decided her lifestyle just wasn't suited to living with a cat. And just a few weeks after arriving at the shelter, Roxy was adopted into a new, loving home.

The Champaign County Humane Society extends great thanks to the neighbors, the news media, and especially Amole's Tree Solutions for assisting in the rescue of Roxy the cat.



*Roxy, on solid ground, contemplates his next aerial feat.*

# SPECIAL THOUGHTS

YOUR SPECIAL THOUGHTS ARE MEANINGFUL TO THOSE WHO SEND THEM, TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE THEM AND TO THOSE WHO ARE HELPED BY THEM. WE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO LIST MEMORIAL AND HONORARY DONATIONS CORRECTLY; IF THERE IS AN ERROR, PLEASE LET US KNOW. THIS ISSUE CONTAINS ALL THE SPECIAL THOUGHTS RECORDED AT CCHS FROM JULY 2007 THROUGH JANUARY 2008.

## IN MEMORY OF

Virginia Allen <i>Julia Kellman &amp; Phil Miller, Larry &amp; Marlene Book, Helen Parker, Jean Gothard, Marybeth Ambrose</i>	Ozilda Eads <i>Ashton Bull</i>	Mr. & Mrs. Martin H. Kimpel, Sr. <i>Marty &amp; Nancy Kimpel</i>	Ellen Hayes Mills <i>Patricia J Petry, Roger Derby, Bob &amp; Judy Nicolette, Ken &amp; Shirley Perry, Jack &amp; Carolyn Higgs, Michelle Lowe, Lois &amp; Riley McCulley, James &amp; Sherleen Scheibly, Ruth Miller, Virgil &amp; Helen Wikoff, Russ &amp; Peggy Derby, Shirley &amp; Gordon Murphy, Polly Dodson, Champaign Country Club, Steven &amp; Deborah Wannemacher, Charles &amp; Beth Jackson, Kathy &amp; Robert Wegeng, Jeannine &amp; Lauren Craig, Kelly &amp; Jill Foster, Elton &amp; Carol Smith, Mary Hannagan, Ron &amp; Rebecca Goeckner, Todd &amp; Eden Doebring, Brian &amp; Janice Lilly, Nancy Schroer, Margy Mckeon, Rosemary Applegate, Bryon &amp; Helen Vedder, Diane &amp; Michael Nowik, Betty Kell <i>A wonderful lady- Barb &amp; Jerry Mueller</i></i>	Chatterly (a CCHS alum) and Foxy <i>Julia Saville &amp; Mike Vaillancourt</i>
Claire Bailey <i>Pat &amp; Pat Goolsbey</i>	Thurston Eldridge, he will be missed <i>Eric, Lisa, Forrest and Charo Robeson, Amanda McWilliams</i>	Titus Kleber <i>Debbi Tasic</i>	Kit, the most loving, lovable pet! <i>Dorothy E. Neill</i>	
Buddy and Maggie, our beloved labs <i>Vicki &amp; Kevin Baker</i>	Sebastian, our "forever" dog forever in our hearts <i>Andrea &amp; Alex Ellinger</i>	Buffey <i>Marguerite &amp; Walt Maguire</i>	J.J., Tuffy, Dee Dee & mostly Jerry <i>Judy Hester</i>	
Katie, our beloved dog, and our little Chelsea <i>Steve &amp; Barbara Beckett</i>	Simon <i>Daniel Jackson</i>	Lu, CCHS alum and companion for 16+ years <i>Marguerite Kolb</i>	In memory of my cousin Don, a tough guy with a soft heart for all animals. <i>Marguerite Kolb</i>	
G.W., an outstanding feline <i>Jane &amp; Chuck Facer</i>	Ginger Reid Foster, she loved her cats <i>Wayne &amp; Joyce Eberhardt</i>	Tawny LaRocque <i>Pamela York</i>	Taco <i>Mrs. John Sebastian</i>	
Raleigh <i>Pamela York</i>	Murphy, a CCHS alum <i>Linda &amp; Roy Gaines</i>	Bubba, we miss you dearly <i>Dorothy Lawrence</i>	Beverly Hoover, a great dog lover <i>Gus &amp; Carol Curtiss</i>	
Alphonse <i>Fred Jaher</i>	Sara Gatewood <i>Cathy, Fred, Keith, Ryan &amp; Kristin Segovich</i>	Reno and Cleota Lenz <i>Rena Lee Lenz, Cherie Lenz</i>	Lewis Kingston <i>Laurie Eckerty</i>	
Jack Broyles <i>Tym &amp; Tammy Wilson, Monte, Donna &amp; Erin McElroy</i>	Tom Graham <i>Barbara Bromm, Irma Everrett- Lindreen</i>	Sam and Baby <i>Rena Lee Lenz, Cherie Lenz</i>	Gunnarsson <i>Jenny McCampbell</i>	
Cookie <i>Sam Volk</i>	Cisco, we had 13 fun years together <i>Craig &amp; Rose Grant</i>	Casper, beloved feline of Chase Leonhard <i>Robert &amp; Holly Clemons, Heidi Ladd &amp; Rick Huls</i>	Freddy, beloved feline of David & Charis Bacheller <i>Karen Koenig</i>	
Tiki <i>Harriett Weatherford and Tom Schaeffes</i>	Tarquin, happy trails old friend. Thanks for the memories. <i>Craig &amp; Rose Grant</i>	Keith Leseure <i>George S. Miller</i>	IN HONOR OF:	
Little Julie and her great big dogs <i>Jesse &amp; Ruth Anne Delia</i>	Greta, a Jack Russell who went to heaven to be with her sister, Pearl <i>Ellen Graves</i>	Lena Grace Lewis <i>Elliott &amp; Wanda Rogers, Ogarita Rhodes, Bertha Hiser, Betty Everence</i>	Rachel Anderson, Happy Birthday! <i>Jim &amp; Anna Mae Stenvart</i>	
Janet Caries <i>Holly Wilper</i>	Rudi, I miss him dearly <i>Pamela York</i>	Diggity, a kind and friendly dog who fit into the Lilly family <i>The Rannebarger Family</i>	Vickey Blaney <i>Carrie &amp; Richard Kubetz</i>	
Dave Carper <i>Lois Hoffman</i>	Richard Greene, Mary Beth Greene and beloved pets <i>Ken Bengoechea, Nancy Johnson</i>	Bob Lish <i>Carolyn Flowers</i>	Marcia Broyles, Merry Christmas <i>Renee, Rick &amp; Ellie</i>	
Estella Carr <i>Jerry Phelps</i>	Cleo, a CCHS alum <i>Andy Gregory</i>	Boscha, a beloved Labrador <i>Margaret Cupps</i>	Carle Clinic Marketing Services Department <i>Mary Dougherty</i>	
Ollie, he was the best and he will be missed <i>Melanie Starke</i>	Kipper Hammerstrand- Fortenberry <i>E. Paige Weston</i>	Jackie Martin <i>Pamela York</i>	Brigadier, our beloved CCHS alum <i>Robert &amp; Holly Clemons, Heidi Ladd &amp; Rick Huls</i>	
Shirley Clifford <i>Your Sjab Family</i>	Sophie <i>Donna Buchanan</i>	Jack Martin <i>Brenda Koester</i>	Emma Crandell <i>Katie Lenover</i>	
Doris Clifton <i>John &amp; Judy Hummel, Sandy &amp; Bill Volk, Scott &amp; Laurie MacAdam, Douglas &amp; Margare Beckmann, Michele Thompson, Sherri Drogue</i>	Richard L. Hays <i>Randy &amp; Twila Freeman</i>	Naomi McClaine, Pillsbury, Moon Pie, Renfield, Ambrose and Bismark, all greatly missed <i>Jeff &amp; Carol McClaine</i>	Gina & Jeff Darling, Merry Christmas! <i>Charles &amp; Linda Miezjo</i>	
Barbara Covert <i>Mary D. Klayda and Karen Leonardo</i>	Hannah, a happy golden retriever and 19-year family member <i>Sally &amp; John Grube, Donna &amp; Jay Hoefinger</i>	Jack McKinzie <i>Allen, Britt and Brad Smith</i>	Cooper Boone and Corky Davis <i>Matthew and Tiffany Davis</i>	
Murphy, a beautiful golden retriever <i>George &amp; Nancy Daigh</i>	Don Holthoff and his pets, Patches, Mittens and Mandi <i>Brenda Holthoff</i>	Sandy Miller and her beloved animals <i>Mary D. Klayda and Karen Leonardo</i>	Laura Davis <i>Vome Ortiz</i>	
Lorraine Davis <i>Malcolm G. Davis</i>	Trixie, Puppet, Cori & Murray, you brought me so much joy <i>Sharon Hyland</i>	Sophie, Sappho and Twinkle <i>Areli Marina</i>	Darcy McCutcheon and Mike Dayton, congratulations on your marriage <i>Jane &amp; John Waldbillig, Chad Slaughter, Connie Royse, Erwin &amp; Sandy Deelsnyder, Jerry &amp; Tim Carden-temple, Joann Griffin, Alan &amp; Marcy Creech- kujawski</i>	
Harley, the grandest of grand-dogs <i>Janice &amp; Norman LaDuke</i>	Mercury <i>Belinda &amp; Steve Ingold Barbara Irving Lois Pausch, Karen Huffman, Rena Lee Lenz, Cherie Lenz</i>	Natalie Misa, who waits for me with Choochi on her shoulder and Cora at her side. <i>Julie Misa</i>	Peeka and Boo <i>Karen Masel</i>	
Brenda Dyar <i>Audrey Irwin</i>		Minnie Rindt <i>Carolyn &amp; Cecil Van Etten, Carl &amp; Carol Millsap, Cindy &amp; Marty Walsh, Dave &amp; Jare Weaver, Betty &amp; Donald Coulman</i>		

Dixie Leigh Dean  
*Mom and Dad*

Brian Fisher, on behalf of all my friends and family. Thank you!  
*Melissa Veits*

The Fratia Family  
*Jerry & Judith Blaker*

Princess, Teebo, Chukka, Fluffy & Hobbes  
*Cindy Dodds*

Dr. Duane Dust and Dr. Kara Spoerer at VCA Heritage Hospital  
*Julia Saville & Mike Vaillancourt*

Theresa Eggett  
*Carol Lynn Dobbs*

Maggie Mae, Sister Sadie & Honey Bear, they have blessed my life with joy!  
*E. A. Epling*

“G.G”, Mr. G. G. and Mojo, Merry Christmas to our wonderful classroom volunteer  
*Mrs. Grabow's class at Thomas Paine School*

Kathy Finn  
*Robert & Carol Stickrod*

Laura Davis  
*Vome Ortiz*

Donald & Linda Foster, Happy 48th Anniversary!  
*Cammy Foster*

All animal lovers and their pets  
*Lana Friedman*

Dawn Fuchs, Merry Christmas!  
*Florence Fuchs*

The entire Geides clan  
*Aston Bull*

Linda M. Green, Merry Christmas!  
*Mr. & Mrs. Russell Green*

Charlie and Katie  
*Andy Gregory*

Michael Hallihan & Suzanne Hovey, Merry Christmas!  
*Butch & Mary Diderich*

Johnie Hall, Happy Birthday, Dad!  
*Michael Hall*

Becky Hand  
*Dale Rascher*

Mr. Herriott, 5th grade teacher at Lincoln Trail School  
*Ann, Randall & Matt Augspurger*

Harvey & Marilee, Merry Christmas!  
*Paula Moore & Howard Hall*

Betty Homa and her new joy, Hannah  
*Jason & Melia McCord*

Percy & Theo  
*The Hopkins*

Harpo and Lily, Happy Earth Day  
*Nigel and Sophie*

Friends at the U. of Illinois Career Center  
*C. Jeannine Bertsch*

Grover, our good friend  
*Ellen Jacobsen*

Richard & Linda Judd  
*Ronald & Susan Bryant*

Ranger, our buddy  
*Bob, Holly & Brigadier Clemons Clemons*

Wallace Malloy  
*Douglas & Margaret Beckmann*

Linda Manwaring  
*Rylee Stabl*

Elway, a CCHS alum and my best friend  
*Bonnie Markiewicz*

Amber Marks, for her exemplary service  
*Laura Huth*

Alberta Marshky, Happy Birthday!  
*Ruby & Sherry Slade*

Candace McMaster, Merry Christmas!  
*Brenda Kominck*

Dennis & Chris Miezio, Merry Christmas!  
*Charles & Linda Miezio*  
In appreciation of our managers, Stan, Jennifer, Leslie and Steve  
*Milos and Escobar*

Lamar & Bill Murphy  
*Patricia Prieto*

Marjorie Nelson  
*Ken & Paula Miebach*

Andrea Poling  
*Anonymous, Eva Vlach, Jason & Lori Beers*

Helen Prestin  
*Diane White*

Roscoe and Lola  
*Chris & Hanna Rao*

Richard & Christie Read  
*Diane White*

Amdia & Lou Reid, Merry Christmas  
*Dolores Davis*

Meredith Emert & Paul Riegel, congratulations on your marriage  
*Nancy Holcombe*

Martha Rinne  
*Allyn & Sally Bock, Kent Rinne*

Robert W. Rinne  
*Steven & Gretchen Fitzpatrick*

Tom Schaeffges, Harriett Weatherford and Austin  
*James & Laurie Dey*

Daisy  
*Phyllis Sweitzer*

Spurlock Museum Education Section  
*Kim Sheahan*

Dr. Stone & Nate's baby  
*Karen Koenig*

Jennifer Stone  
*C. M. Stone*

Elizabeth Ware, beloved mother of Woody Woodward  
*Olive Carnine*

Harriett Weatherford  
*C. K. Gunsalus & Michael Walker*

Sam Weintraub  
*Phyllis M. Denny*

Christian Andrew Weiss  
*Nancy Dietrich*

Bonnie Wienke  
*Bronwyn McClellan*

Janus Woods, thanks for all your special care of our Sir Wayne  
*Jen & Brian Masciadrelli*

Taylor Lykins, Happy Birthday!  
*Mirjana Cesnjaj, Joy Kammerling, Roselin Sundaravelu, Angela Marcum, Paul & Deborah Tender, Hung-tai Lin*

Mary Young  
*Omegatype Editorial Dept.*

Kids Care  
*Bronwyn Redvers-Lee, Kathryn Gunderson, Zippy Goldenfeld, JoEllen Machesky, Maris Wszalek on her 7th birthday, Taylor Lykins on her 12th birthday, Jason Webb on his 8th birthday*

Amber & Michelle Hildebrand, who sold hand painted china to raise money for CCHS, and the individuals who made donations through their purchase: *Susan & William McLane, Mary Ruth Johansen, Rod & Anne Wright, Donald & Jennifer Barta, Peter & Marian Baratta, Dixie Phillips.*

Our thanks to those who have collected much needed items or raised funds for CCHS  
*Rachael Courtney and Bradley O'Connor, St. Joseph Grade School 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class, Keller Williams Realty, Parkland College Student Chapter of the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America, Smoothie King and Alternative Baking Co., Melissa Veits, Holy Cross 2<sup>nd</sup> grade advent project, Kendall Schultz on his 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, Students at Countryside School, U. of . Dept. of Electrical & Computer Engineering, U. of I. Alumni Association Accounting Department, Chris and Amanda Bland at their wedding.*



Dear Humane Society,

My name is Corey White. I'm in sixth grade at St. Matthew School. I have two Golden Retrievers named Lucy and Buddy. We got Lucy from a Golden rescue when she was around 7 yrs old. I don't know why anybody would give her up because she's the best.

I know that you take care of a lot of homeless animals just like Lucy and I wanted to help them, too. For my 12<sup>th</sup> birthday this year I had a football party and all my friends brought items from your "Wish List" instead of birthday presents. We had a lot of fun, but the most fun was seeing all the great things collected for the animals. Everybody was really generous and donated lots of things for your office, for cleaning, for the dogs, cats, and even for the rabbits and gerbils! They also gave money and gift cards, too!

I'm really glad that my friends and I could help all the homeless animals. Thanks for all you do.

Corey White

P.S. Here's a picture all the donations collected. A special thank you goes out to the Johnson family for their generosity.



*Vet students from the U of I performed preliminary physical exams on each cat.*



*A cat is prepped for surgery by having her abdomen clipped of hair.*



*In the CCHS surgery suite, surgeons worked at five tables throughout the day.*



*Dr. Dust (VCA/Heritage Animal Hospital) performs a spay surgery.*



*A cat is microchipped before going to recovery.*



*Veterinary technicians and assistants monitored cats in recovery until they were awake.*



*Wrapped to maintain his body temperature, a cat wakes up from sedation.*



*A cat is placed in a carrier to be sent home.*

# Cat Nip/Tuck Day

Partnering For Success, continued

We would like to thank all the participants who volunteered their time and services to this event.

The Cat Nip/Tuck Day planning committee:

Stephanie Joos, Sarah Hurley CVT, Susan Norris, Susan Helmink, Kate Meghji, Jennifer Stone DVM, Nicole Martin CVT, Chelsea Angelo, Mary Tiefenbrunn.

The 23 area veterinarians: Dr. Gary Brummet, Dr. Rebecca Buraglio, Dr. Kerri Carlson, Dr. Eric Dunayer, Dr. Duane Dust, Dr. Joyce Eisold, Dr. Leigh Gass, Dr. Tamara Gossman, Dr. Daniel King, Dr. Kay Lindsay, Dr. Dolores Lipton, Dr. Kim Livezey, Dr. Patty McElroy, Dr. Kathleen McManamon, Dr. Jennifer Miller, Dr. Helen Myers, Dr. John Penning, Dr. Gretchen Reid, Dr. Karla Smith, Dr. Kirsten Waratuke, Dr. Sherry Welch, Dr. Cathy Williams, Dr. Tina Wismer

From the University of Illinois Veterinary Teaching Hospital: Deneen Cordell CVT, Kristi Donze CVT, Michelle Jaegar CVT, Heather Soder CVT, Jenn Robbins CVT.

From the ASPCA Regional Office: Linn Simanuskas, Margo Kelly, Tamra Foss CVT, Joanna "Jo" Howard CVT, Margaret Moorman CVT, Melissa Kingsley, Nicole Martin CVT, Jenni Brewer CVT.

From the University of Illinois Department of Animal Sciences: Michele Buis, Bridget Conran, Rachel Berenson, Amy Fisher, PhD.

From VCA/Heritage Animal Hospital: Kyle Follansbee, Sue Kroszner, Tammy Whitaker, Sheena Drone, Henry Dust, Rose Dust, Rachel Anderson.

Students from the Parkland College Vet Tech Program: Caitlin Bryan, Stacy Schlink, Britney Strode, Brandy Sloan, Jennifer Payton, Marc Bozych, Danielle Wise, Amber Raney, Ashley Weis, Melissa Rafac, Jes Hood, Casey Saindon, Cassie Paoli, Melissa Fass, Laura Daily, Bobbi McCullough, Phaedra Hutchison.

Students from the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine: Allison Balch, David Genovese, Elizabeth Wolf, Caitlin Rothacker, Darren Imhoff, Johanna Neil, Krysta Stewarts, Jill Wojciechowski, Heather Brown, Amy Ruggiero, Sara Dowling, Amy Somrak, Ann Johnson, Kathryn Smith, Taylor O'Brien, Samantha Shields, Candice Turnlund, Allison Ostdiek, Brooke Frautschy, Jamie Hoffberg, Laura Lambruschi, Bethany Bond, Jacob Taylor, Aracely Acevedo, Zachary Neumann, Carolyn Shimkus, Amanda Vasquez, Stephanie Schmidt, Megan Kees, Andrea Compton, Lauren Wrobel, Theresa Hess, Elizabeth Clark, Chris Obradovich.

Also Karen Simmons, Eva Wyatt CVT, & Nancy Miller.

Heartworm 101, continued

when worms are dying. In the dying process, pieces of the heartworms can break off and flow downstream to the blood vessels in the lungs causing blockages and oxygen deprivation to a section of the lungs. This is a medical emergency that can be very difficult to treat, and it is more likely to occur with increased activity and increased blood pressure.

Ideally, we send dogs that are being treated for Heartworm Disease into foster care to ensure a safe and complete recovery. In Nico's case we had a wonderful foster care provider who kept her for a whole month. Nico was a model patient who not only weathered the treatment without any complications, but was also one of the best house guests the foster home has ever encountered.

As we welcome the warmer weather, now is the time to have an annual heartworm test done on your pets and get them started on preventative treatment. You'll enjoy the summer more knowing they are safe from this deadly disease and so will your animal companions!

# Heartworm 101

by Dr. Jennifer K. Stone, CCHS Veterinarian

Heartworm season is here, and pet owners should start preparing for the inevitable onslaught of the dreaded mosquito! Heartworm--a parasite transmitted by these little blood-sucking fiends--should be taken seriously by all dog and cat owners. It can be deadly, yet it is very easy to prevent. There are several options for preventing Heartworm infection. Daily and monthly tablets and chewables can be given orally; monthly topical preventatives can be applied to the skin. Heartworm Disease is easy to prevent, yet every year dogs are relinquished to CCHS who test positive for the parasites and must be treated.

Many of our volunteers probably remember Nico, a Rottweiler/Lab mix with a very sweet temperament. Nico finally went to her forever home recently, but it took her a long time to get there. When Nico was relinquished to the shelter, she was obese and tested positive for Heartworm Disease. Luckily for her, we had the resources to treat her, but if she had been given the preventative that all dogs should receive then she would not have needed treatment and it would not have taken her so long to get a permanent home.

The Heartworm parasite is an actual worm that lives in the pulmonary vessels of the heart (the vessels that carry blood to the lungs to pick up oxygen). If the infestation becomes severe enough, the worms can actually live in the heart itself. As they increase in number, the worms begin to take up space in the heart and pulmonary vessels causing high blood pressure, difficulty in breathing, and eventually death due to heart failure.

Heartworms are spread from animal to animal by mosquitoes. When the mosquito feeds on the blood of an infected animal, immature worms (called microfilaria) enter the mosquito. The microfilaria must then undergo an incubation period inside the mosquito during which the temperature outside must be constantly warm for several weeks. Because of this developmental period, danger of infection for pets begins in the Spring, after a few weeks of warm weather.

After the heartworm has reached the infective stage inside the mosquito, it is passed to a new host animal when the mosquito bites again. After entering the new host, microfilaria must spend up to five months maturing before they migrate to the pulmonary arteries. During this developmental period the worms cannot be detected, so veterinarians recommend testing for heartworm every spring in case infection occurred the previous summer. This is also why we do not test any puppies for Heartworm Disease that are under 6 months of age; their tests will always be negative. Puppies should be started on the heartworm preventative just like adult dogs, to be sure they are not developing microfilaria during this period.

Once the heartworms reach the pulmonary arteries, they grow and reproduce, releasing more microfilaria into the bloodstream. The next mosquito that bites this host animal then carries the heartworm microfilaria to another animal, starting the cycle of infection anew.

Symptoms of Heartworm Disease include coughing, fainting, fatigue, and difficulty breathing. Animals may have Heartworm Disease for several years before showing any symptoms, and when they finally occur, the heart and pulmonary arteries are often so full of worms that treatment becomes very risky.

Treatment for this disease can be just as taxing to the animal as the infection. The primary treatment available for Heartworm Disease is a form of arsenic administered at doses designed to kill the worms but not the dog. Although this treatment is safer today than in the past, there is still a risk that the animal may suffer complications, especially in dogs that have large numbers of worms. The most dangerous complication can occur

*continued, bottom of previous column.*

# If it's May, it must be garage sale season!

It's been difficult to tell if spring will ever truly arrive. But there are some things that even Mother Nature can't derail with an intractable winter season. The annual CCHS GIANT Garage Sale returns Memorial Day Weekend to Kesler Hall at the Champaign County Fairgrounds in Urbana!

And we need YOU (and your friends) to shake off the winter blahs and clear out your unwanted, usable, unbroken items from home and bring them to Kesler Hall at the Champaign County Fairgrounds.

Items will be gratefully accepted at Kesler Hall (the big green pole barn) for four days only: Thursday, May 15, through Sunday, May 18.

We appreciate the generosity of every donation – large and small – but there are some things that we cannot accept. We must turn down large pieces of furniture, large kitchen appliances, windows, doors, outdated computer equipment, paint, chemicals and remainders from organizations' sales. We accept books, but not magazines. Just about everything else is needed: clothing, jewelry, housewares, small appliances, toys, tools, gardening items, holiday decorations, sports equipment, animal-care items and other treasures you no longer need.

We also need YOU (and you friends) to come help unload cars during drop off, organize merchandise during set up, assist shoppers during the sale and clean up afterwards. Trucks are especially needed on May 11 and 25 to transport our equipment to and from CCHS and the fairgrounds.

And we need YOU (and your friends) to come back to shop. The sale begins at 7 a.m. Friday, May 23, and continues until 6 p.m. A \$2 entry fee will be charged until 3 p.m. that day. The sale continues on Saturday, May 24, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our \$3 bargain bag sale will begin at 3 p.m. this year.

The Unique Boutique – full of collectibles, antiques and other treasures – will be back. And Jack and Phyllis Bidwell will be serving coffee, doughnuts, lemon shakeups and sandwiches throughout the sale days.

All proceeds from the sale benefit the homeless pets at CCHS.

## **Sale Dates**

Friday, May 23, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

\$2 fee from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, May 24, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

\$3 bag sale at 3 p.m.

## **Donation Drop Off**

At Kesler Hall, Champaign County Fairgrounds, Urbana  
Thursday, May 15, noon to 7 p.m.

Friday, May 16, noon to 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 17, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, May 18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## **To volunteer**

Contact CCHS at 344-7297 or  
[2.volunteer@cuhumane.org](mailto:2.volunteer@cuhumane.org).

PawPrints  
Champaign County Humane Society  
1911 E. Main St.  
Urbana, IL 61802



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