



Solutions

Helping Animals and the People Who Love Them

Issue 9

September, 2004

We Got A Grant! Now We Need Go-Getters!

One of the reasons SNAP came into being was to tackle the problem of the alarmingly large number of homeless animals that are being destroyed in Southwest Missouri. A shelter study conducted in 2000 revealed that the largest percentage of animals surrendered come from the lowest-income neighborhoods in Springfield. The Housing Authority of Springfield (HAS) allows residents to own cats and dogs if they are neutered by the age of six months, but when the average annual income of families is \$5,000, the cost of getting a pet fixed is prohibitive. Hence, many pets run loose, reproduce, and when caught, are turned into shelters where roughly half are euthanized.

Some families have been known to comply with the HAS rule by keeping their cat or dog until it reaches the 6-month age limit. When they can't afford to fix the pet, they turn it in and get another puppy or kitten in the free-to-good home ads. In such instances, pets become disposable, replaceable, and dispensable. These pet owners believe they have no other options, but SNAP's new Project Spay & Stay, funded by a grant, will help end this cycle by allowing HAS tenants to comply with the HAS spay/neuter regulation.

SNAP believes that Project Spay & Stay will ...

- ✎ Strengthen HAS tenant-pet bonds
- ✎ Demonstrate the program's effectiveness to other landlords so they might allow fixed pets in their housing
- ✎ Increase public awareness that fixing one's pet is the best overpopulation solution

- ✎ Reduce the number of unwanted animals
- ✎ Lower the tax burden required to capture, house and euthanize homeless animals.

This grant will make a huge difference in the lives of HAS tenants and their pets. Of course, the additional administrative requirements mean our volunteers will be working even harder, so if you'd like to be a part of SNAP's exciting success, please give us a call or fill out the form on page 5 and join our SNAP team!



Grant # 2: We're on a Roll!

At the end of August, SNAP also learned that Wal-Mart has contributed \$750 to our coffers as a partial matching grant for our Ice Cream Chill-Out. This means the Chill-Out event raised a grand total of \$10,350, exceeding the \$10,000 goal we had established for ourselves! For more on the Chill-Out, see page 4.

80 Wallflowers Waiting. Do You Have Room on Your Dance Card to SPONSOR A SPAY?

Your generous financial contributions to the Sponsor-A-Spay program have enabled us to spay 228 pups and kits, dogs and cats since the program's debut one year ago. Thanks to you, we've made progress in the last quarter, but we've still got 80 little wallflowers looking for someone to sponsor a spay or neuter.

Please consider adding one or more of the cats or dogs listed on the right to your dance card so we can waltz the wallflowers into the surgical ward before they tango with a Don Juan or Delilah and start the jitterbug that will result in dozens of unwanted, homeless puppydogs and kittycats all over again.

It takes a mere 25 smackers for a cat's fixin' and 40 greenbacks to make a dog single and childlessly happy for life. Please use the order form on page 5 to tell us how many cats/dogs you want to help.

For a complete list of animals awaiting sponsors, visit our website at www.snap123.org.



Kittens 'n cats awaiting sponsors:

- 🐾 Bodacious, 7MO/M, orange
- 🐾 Clown, 8MO/F tortie
- 🐾 Felicity, 8MO/F, black (feral AKA wild)
- 🐾 Kiara, 2YO/F, Siamese w/ dark points
- 🐾 Simmy, 9YO/M, gray tabby
- 🐾 Splotch, 1YO/M, DSH, brown/black
- 🐾 Teeny T, F, calico
- 🐾 Tree Bee, 3YO/M, yellow
- 🐾 Wiggles, 2YO/M, gray/white

Puppies 'n dogs awaiting sponsors:

- 🐾 Betsy, 5MO/F, Beagle/Blue Tick
- 🐾 Cheyenne, 6MO/F, Yellow Lab mix
- 🐾 Ellie Mae, 1YO/F, Pit Bull, brindle/white
- 🐾 Julie, 9MO/F, MinPin/Black and Tan mix
- 🐾 Kodi, 3YO/M, Shar Pei/Golden Retriever
- 🐾 Patches, 2YO/F, Chow/Border Collie
- 🐾 Taz, 2YO/M, Collie/Lab
- 🐾 Thelma, 4YO/F Border Collie mix

Be a Voice for the Voiceless; Vote Humane!

When you go to the polls in November, don't forget about our furry friends! Make your vote count for the animals. Vote for candidates whose political stances, electioneering promises, and voting records demonstrate their commitment to animal welfare issues. Educate yourself by using the resources available through one of the following:

- 🗳️ Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation at www.maal.org
- 🗳️ ASPCA at www.asPCA.org
- 🗳️ Humane Society of the United States at www.hsus.org



Thank You, Merci, Gracias, Woof, and Meow

Our success depends upon the generosity of our participating veterinarians, our financial contributors, and our dedicated volunteers. We are very proud of what we have accomplished with your support! Thanks to you, more than 4,700 dogs and cats (and two bunnies) will live healthier lives, and many thousands of animals will have a better chance to find a forever homes.

Dear SNAP Supporters,

Can you provide any of the following items, so area dogs and cats will get fixed and stop producing puppies and kittens that compete for the homes we want?

- Cash donations (these help save lives, plus they're tax deductible!)
- Empty printer cartridges - SNAP gets money for recycling them!
- Gift certificates for office supplies (Office Depot, Office Max, Staples)
- Gift certificates from local fabric stores for the Sewing Circle
- Long distance pre-paid calling cards
- Best Choice UPC codes, Price Cutter Community Bucks & Summer Fresh grocery receipts
- Clear plastic storage bins
- 4-drawer filing cabinet
- Envelopes and postage stamps
- Pre-paid monthly rental on a storage unit in Springfield (for SNAP's stuff)
- Garage sale items (needed before September 10)

Love, Southwest Missouri's Homeless Animals



SNAP is a Missouri 501c3 not-for-profit corporation.

Prevent a Litter ~ Donate your Clutter!

On September 17, SNAP will host its Fall Garage Sale. So here's your chance to clean out some space in your garage, your storage shed, your attic, and your kids' toyboxes! If you have quality items you'd like to donate, we'd love to have them if you can arrange to deliver them the evening of September 10 (sorry, we're a little short-handed). Pre-pricing is preferred, but not required. No clothes or humongous items please!

For further details about location, etc., contact us at 823-SNAP or via e-mail at snap123@att.net, and thank you for your support!

SNAP's Second Annual Ice Cream (You Scream) Chill-Out a Shrieking Success!!

It was a dark and stormy night... No! No! The weather for SNAP's second annual Chill-Out in Rogersville Park must have been special ordered by the dogs' gods and the kittens' Ketuit-ten-ba, for it was beautiful and balmy despite being held on the usually hot and humid date of July 17. The dog cake walk, short-legged dog race, and guess-my-breed contest all left the canine participants happily pooped. Babs sustained the suspense by postponing her poo..., I mean, pomp and circumstance, so David McCready didn't find out he had the winning \$500 ticket until 2:37 p.m. Scoops full of delicious, decadent ice cream were consumed by all. Contributing to the festivities were SNAP booth balloon animals and face painting. Payton and Ekaterina Jackson (right) were just two of the happy customers who came away dog-faced, dog-tired, and doggone happy with the day. And so were we...because we exceeded our \$10,000 goal and will be able to

fix as many as 500 dogs and cats! A big whopping thank you to our co-chairs Susan Tolliver and William Hutcherson, as well as all of the other volunteers, booth sponsors and supporters who helped make this event such a success!



What a Difference A Day Makes: National Feral Cat Day October 16, 2004

Right now, one of SNAP's volunteers is attempting to tame three feral kittens captured when their shelter was inadvertently disturbed. If Will Feral, Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Feral Fawcett do not respond to human contact, they will be speutered and released back into a feral cat com-

munity. This is the preferred non-lethal control method for dealing with the millions of homeless wild cats in the U.S.: Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR).

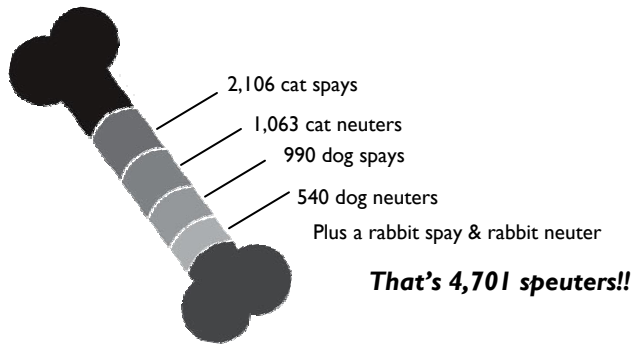
Alley Cat Allies established National Feral Cat Day to enlighten animal welfare professionals about TNR, to offer a means of reducing the feral cat population without active extermination, and to educate communities about the fact that TNR works! It is, in fact, the most effective, lowest cost method of reducing feral cat communities.

To promote a growing awareness of feral cat colonies, veterinarians around the country are volunteering to speuter wild felines at no or minimal cost on National Feral Cat Day. You, too, can make a difference by educating yourself and others about TNR and by advocating TNR-friendly policies and services in the Ozarks. For more information, log onto www.alleycat.org.

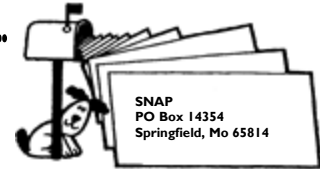


National Feral Cat Day October 16, 2004

Where The Money Goes!



To Contact Us...



Spay Neuter Assistance Program, Inc.
 P. O. Box 14354
 Springfield, MO 65814
 Phone: (417) 823-SNAP (7627)
 E-mail: snap123@att.net
 Web address: www.snap123.org

Mission Statement

SNAP's mission is to eliminate the need for euthanasia in our community's animal shelters, to reduce the number of homeless animals, and to educate the public about the importance of spay/neuter.

In Memoriam

SNAP wishes to thank the caring people who contributed in the memory of:

Lydia Love Windhorst

"Pepper" Doty



I want to make a difference...

We are grateful for the generosity of those who have helped us to accomplish so much. There are many simple ways to make the Ozarks a happier and safer place for our fur-covered friends. Please let us know how you would like to help by checking the appropriate spaces and returning this form to: SNAP, PO Box 14354, Springfield, MO 65814. Thank you for your support!

_____ *I want to support SNAP's work with the enclosed tax-deductible donation.*

_____ *Please ask SNAP's volunteer coordinator to contact me. I want to help!*

_____ *I have used printer cartridges to donate. Please contact me.*

_____ *I would like to "Sponsor a Spay". I am enclosing \$ _____ to sponsor:*

_____ *a specific pet (indicate pet's name) _____*

_____ *the pet at the top of SNAP's waiting list*

Name: _____ Phone (day): _____

Address: _____ Phone (evening): _____

E-mail address: _____

Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendars!



September 17, 9am-4pm
Second Chance Garage Sale

September 25, 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Dog Fest, Pavilion Area, Chesterfield Park

October 9, 12:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Volunteer Workshop, Library Center

October 16, 2004 is *National Feral Cat Day*

November 13, 2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Volunteer Workshop, Library Center.
(New volunteer orientation, 1:30 p.m.)

November 21; watch your mail for your invitation
Wine tasting Christmas fundraiser

December 4, 1:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Volunteer Workshop, Library Center

A Taste of What's Inside:

SNAP is Awarded Grant Funds ... Read about SNAP's innovative Project Spay & Stay and how it will help pet owners in subsidized housing. Also, Wal-Mart helps out with a partial matching funds grant.

Election Year ... How to make your vote count for the animals this November.

Recap of SNAP's 2nd Annual Ice Cream Chill Out ... Relive the fun and fundraising success of the day!

Solutions!

PO Box 14354

Springfield, MO 65814

