



# Solutions

Helping Animals and the People Who Love Them

Issue 11

March, 2005

## Community Foundation Grant Will Fund Operation TLC!

On March 1st, SNAP was awarded a grant of \$10,600 from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks. The grant helps fund *Operation TLC* to provide deeply-discounted spay/neuter services to needy pet owners living in the 65802 zip code. This area was chosen because it contains a high proportion of low-income families and accounts for a disproportionate number of calls to Springfield Animal Control and animals surrendered to the Humane Society. The 65802 zip code also accounts for a large number of dog bites. In fact, a 2004 news feature reported that over half of the dog bites to mail carriers in Springfield occurred in the area of 65802 bordered by Division Street, Grant Avenue, Chestnut Expressway, and Highway 65.

*Operation TLC* will be a truly collaborative effort. SNAP will work with Springfield Animal Control, the Southwest Missouri Humane Society, and Castaway

Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) to identify pet owners eligible for our services. In addition, SNAP will work closely with the Caring Communities program, which has been in existence for ten years, to promote *Operation TLC* in neighborhoods throughout the 65802 area.

An exciting component of *Operation TLC* is an event called Nickel Neuter Day, which will take place in May. Several area vets, including Divine Veterinary Clinic and others, will neuter up to 100 male cats from the 65802 area for a nickel each. High-volume sterilization of male cats is a very cost-efficient way to eliminate unwanted litters. Nickel Neuter Day should generate a great deal of community interest and publicity, which will be invaluable for promoting the spay/neuter message.

SNAP will track the number of incoming animals from the 65802 area to both the

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## Taz & Sugar - Your Donations Hard at Work



Taz, an 8-yr-old male poodle/Shih Tzu mix, and Sugar, a 4-yr-old female Papillion, recently spent the day at Divine Veterinary Clinic getting "fixed." Taz and Sugar share their Branson home with three cats. Previously, the family's pets had produced at least five litters! Because of *your* support, Taz and Sugar won't be littering anymore. Taz and Sugar would like to say "Thanks!"



## SNAP Supports Spay Day USA by Promoting “B-4-5”

Spay Day USA is sponsored by the Doris Day Animal Foundation to promote spay/neuter awareness. Animal organizations across the country participate in all kinds of activities, ranging from education to spay/neuter clinics. This year's event took place on February 22, 2005.

This year, SNAP supported the national effort by promoting the concept of B-4-5, which encourages pet owners to get their pets fixed before the age of five months. Spay/neuter B-4-5 has many benefits, none more important than the elimination of "oops" litters resulting from early heat cycles. In addition, spay/neuter B-4-5 has many health benefits such as virtually eliminating the risk of testicular cancer in males and dramatically reducing the incidence of breast cancer in females.

To get the word out, SNAP developed a flyer touting the health and behavioral benefits of spay/neuter B-4-5. Eight area veterinarians ordered flyers and agreed to

distribute them to their clients and promote the concept of B-4-5. Participating vets included All Creatures Animal Clinic-Bolivar; Animal Care Clinic-Bolivar; Animal Medical Center-Marshfield; Cobblestone Veterinary Hospital-Nixa; Divine Veterinary Clinic-Ozark; Heartland Animal Clinic-Nixa; Rogersville Animal Hospital; and Strafford Veterinary Clinic.

Spay/neuter remains the most important tool available to stop pet overpopulation. Encouraging pet owners to get their dogs and cats fixed B-4-5 is a win-win situation. Pets live longer, healthier lives with fewer unwanted puppies and kittens born in the process.



## Shop 'Til You Drop - at CARE's Closet!



Don't let that Old Bag go to waste!

CARE, one of the Ozarks' best-known no-kill shelters has launched its new thrift shop, CARE's Closet, next to their Adoption Center at Sunshine & Fort. CARE is accepting donated items including clothing, accessories, and knick-knacks. Proceeds will go towards the care and loving maintenance of their shelter's animals, so drop by and help homeless animals while getting some real bargains! For more information, call CARE at 875-6565.

## I Dream of Ice Cream - SNAP's 3rd Annual Chill Out!

It may not seem like it now, what with daffodils braving our brisk days and cold nights, but in short order, we'll all be craving the chill of ice cream to counter Southwest Missouri's sweltering sun-filled Saturdays. Just in time, when you think you can't stand the heat anymore, SNAP will hold its 3rd Annual Ice Cream Chill-Out on July 16, 2005, from 9 am until we run outta fun, at the Rogersville City Park! The entertainment is free, and for just \$3, you can participate in a yummy all-you-can-eat ice cream *extravaganza!*

If you've joined us before, you know about the family-friendly festivities we enjoy. If you're a newbie, here's your chance to find out firsthand what a blast the Chill Out has become. Whether you're new or returning guests, we are delighted to announce that we've gone "dog wild" to come up with even more doggone events for the kids (furry or human...or a little of both) and their parents.

Of course, back by popular demand is SNAP's Black Angus Bingo. Rogersville City Park's arena is marked off into grids and "Babs," our celebrity cow, having eaten to her four tummies' content, will roam the arena until she decides where to make her "deposit." For a mere, miniscule, microscopic \$5 per ticket, *you* could take home the \$500 prize if Babs graces your square! Tickets are available in advance, but if we run out, you'll be able to purchase "near miss" tickets the day of the event.

Also on hand: Model-Ts, concessions, exhibitors' giveaways, games and prizes, a Pet "cake-walk," short-legged dog races, face painting, balloon animals, a live

band and, very importantly, a water/treat station for our furry friends. As if all that weren't enough, this year we've added an antique fire truck, roaming jugglers, an "Ask the Vet" booth, a pet parade, an elementary grade Essay Contest, a middle school Poster Contest, and the piece de resistance (drum roll, please) ... "Animal Idol" - SNAP's special talent show for pets and their people!

For those of you who want to assist SNAP with our largest annual fund-raising event, we have a wish list that, if fulfilled, will insure that Chill-Out 2005 is the best one yet:

- Volunteers for the day's activities
- Volunteers for set-up the day before
- Donations for door prizes
- Sound system use for the Talent Show
- Walkie-Talkies to keep the festivities flowing on the day of the event
- Underwriters for gift certificates to winners of Animal Idol, Essay Contest, and Poster Contest (total \$650)

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## Prepare to Chill Out on July 16

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We are also seeking businesses, agencies and groups who want the opportunity to catch the eye of our pet-lovin' crowds by displaying their goods and services at Chill-Out booths. Booths are available for \$50, and vendors are responsible for providing ice cream and a game with small prizes or giveaways.



To find out how you can get your Black Angus Bingo tickets, e-mail Amy at [msbullhead@aol.com](mailto:msbullhead@aol.com).

To reserve a booth, to volunteer, or to ask for additional information, call us at 823-7627 and leave a message for Susan.

## Operation TLC

(Continued from page 1)

Southwest Missouri Humane Society and Springfield Animal Control. If this pilot program is successful in reducing shelter intakes, public funding will be sought to ensure the continuation of the program next year.

## “Smart” Pets go to PETsMART!

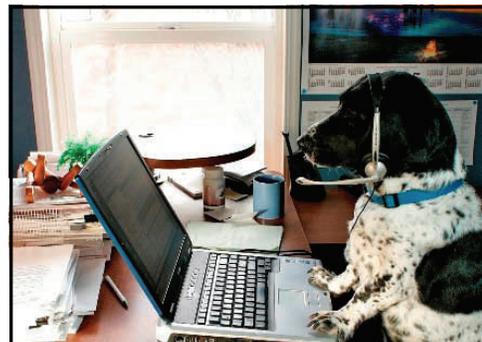
(smärt: *adj.* chic; elegant and stylish)

Has Caesar's collar grown worn and frayed? SNAP has *just* the solution - a fashionable and unique bandana to adorn his collar and spiff up his Spring wardrobe. He'll be the “smartest” pet on the block. Are Petunia's playthings looking a little forlorn? Check out our wide array of cat toys.

We're excited to announce that SNAP is now hosting a table at PETsMART nearly every Saturday from 11 am 'til 5 pm. We've got catnip toys, canine 'n' cat bandanas in dozens of designs, and trinkets and treats for all pets. To make things even more convenient for you, SNAP volunteers will also collect those money-raising ink cartridges, Summer Fresh receipts, Price Cutter Community Bucks, and Best Choice UPC codes that you've been saving for us.

This is also an opportunity for animal lovers to join our volunteer team and help us meet, greet, and educate pet owners at our weekly PETsMART outing. If you're interested in helping, call SNAP at 823-7627. So be sure to drop by. We want to meet you and your pets!

\* SNAP will *not* be at PETsMART on April 9 or May 7, because we'll be “tabling” at the Cat Show and Artsfest. We will also fold up our tents—oops—table at 1:30 on our Volunteer Workshop days (April 16 and May 21).



*Biscuit auditions for “Smartest Pet.” Sorry, Biscuit, that’s not the kind of “smart” we’re talking about!*  
(photo by Clay Myers, Best Friends Animal Society)

## SNAP's Wish List

- Cash donations
- Empty printer cartridges
- Gift certificates for office supplies
- Gift certificates from local fabric stores
- Long distance pre-paid calling cards
- Best Choice UPC codes
- Price Cutter Community Bucks
- Summer Fresh grocery receipts
- Clear stackable plastic storage bins
- 4-drawer filing cabinet
- Envelopes and postage stamps
- Pre-paid monthly rental on a storage unit
- Printer paper (white or colorful)

## In Memoriam

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

*"Daisy"*



## Have You Sponsored a Spay Today?

Since the inception of our Sponsor a Spay program, our supporters have sponsored 295 pets! The guardians of the pets named below are just a few of those who have asked SNAP for assistance in fixing their promiscuous pets and are currently awaiting sponsors. Won't you please sponsor one of these pets, or visit our web site for a complete listing of the 100 pets currently awaiting sponsors? If you would like to sponsor one of these pets (or two or twelve or twenty....), we thank you!

Your \$25 donation will sponsor a cat; \$40 will sponsor a dog. Your generosity truly *saves lives!*

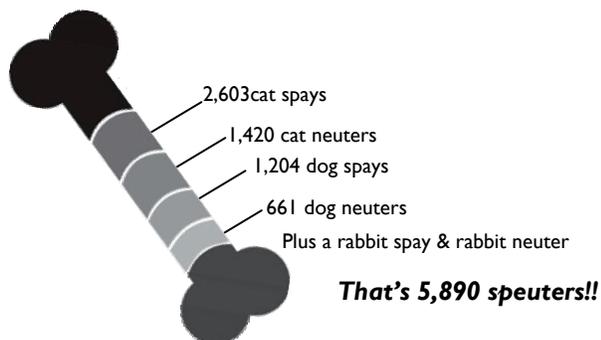
### *Kittens and cats awaiting sponsors:*

- 🐾 Princess, 7 mo Female Short Hair Tortie
- 🐾 Nub, 1 yr Female Short Hair Tabby
- 🐾 Marlee, 1 yr Male Short Hair Black
- 🐾 Penelope, 10 mo Female Short Hair Sealpoint
- 🐾 Brat, 2 yr Female Long Hair White
- 🐾 Cat, 1 yr Male Long Hair White & Gray
- 🐾 Prissy, 3 yr Female Long Hair Calico
- 🐾 Leo, 6 mo Male Short Hair Manx Yellow
- 🐾 Elsie, 6 mo Female Short Hair Siamese
- 🐾 Buttermilk, 9 mo Male Short Hair Yellow
- 🐾 Panda, 1 yr Male Medium Hair Black & White
- 🐾 Angel, 6 mo Female Short Hair Dark Tortie
- 🐾 Amber Andy, 5 mo Male Black & White
- 🐾 Simone, 3 mo Female Siamese Mix
- 🐾 Callie, 6 mo Female Short Hair Calico
- 🐾 Cry Baby, 1 yr Female Calico
- 🐾 Blitz, 7 mo Female Short Hair Grey
- 🐾 Lacy, 6 mo Female Short Hair Tortie
- 🐾 Leather, 2 yr Male Short Hair Yellow

### *Puppies and dogs awaiting sponsors:*

- 🐾 Millie, 1 yr Female Dachshund
- 🐾 Pugsy, 1 yr Male Shih Tzu Mix Black
- 🐾 Squirt, 5 yr Male Pomeranian Golden
- 🐾 Aussie, 1 yr Female Rat Terrier/Aussie Mix
- 🐾 Wrangler, 3 yr Female Blue Heeler
- 🐾 Sequoia, 5 yr Female Rottweiler
- 🐾 Sadie, 4 yr Female Boxer Fawn
- 🐾 Scooby, 1 yr Male Beagle Red
- 🐾 Tater, 2 yr Male Chow/Bulldog Mix
- 🐾 Betsy, 5 mo Female Beagle Blue Tick
- 🐾 Taz, 2 yr Male Collie/Lab Mix
- 🐾 Opossum, 4 mo Male Lab/Rottie Mix
- 🐾 Baby Girl, 1 yr Female Pit Bull Mix
- 🐾 Dufus, 3 yr Male Hound Boxer Mix Brindle
- 🐾 Buddy, Male Rat Terrier White & Brown
- 🐾 Snoopy, Male Rat Terrier Black & White
- 🐾 Gizmo, 1 yr Female Shih Tzu Mix
- 🐾 Tramp, 2 yr Male Terrier Red

## 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

93% of SNAP's budget pays for spay/neuter surgeries, and 7% goes toward operating costs. SNAP pays no salaries or rent.

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

*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.*

## YES!

*I would like to become a member of SNAP to help reduce the number of unwanted animals born in southwest Missouri. I understand that by becoming a member, I will receive a quarterly newsletter and an invitation to SNAP's annual meeting. (Membership is renewable annually and is tax deductible. Payment may be made by check or money order.)*

**MAIL TO: SNAP • P.O. Box 14354 • Springfield, MO 65814**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Student/Senior (60 & over) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$125 Business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual                 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Lifetime |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Family                     |   |

I am not interested in becoming a SNAP member at this time; however....I want to help!

- \_\_\_\_\_ Please send information about becoming a SNAP volunteer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I want to support SNAP's work with the enclosed tax-deductible donation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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

## Let's Go to the Cat Show!



If you want to purr-fect your CATalogue of feline facts from A (Anatolian Turkish shorthair, left) to T (Turkish Vanà below right) - sorry, we don't have any U through Z cat breeds yet - mark your calendars for April 9-10 when Lakes Country Cat Fanciers, in conjunction with SNAP, will be sponsoring its Spring Cat Show, with up to 225 cats. The event will be held at the Oasis Convention Center, 2550 N. Glenstone, in Springfield. Doors are open to the public from 11 am to 6 pm on Saturday and 9 am to 3 pm on Sunday. SNAP participates by providing volunteers to assist during the show - collecting admission fees, cleaning cages between judging events, and acting as "runners." SNAP volunteers from past years report

that the tasks are easy and the rewards are high since they get to hang out with some pretty neat people and their cats. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact SNAP at 823-7627.

SNAP will also host a table, selling our handmade cat 'n' dog items, with proceeds going toward fixin' all those critters out there whose humans can't afford the full price of a spay/neuter. Plan on visiting with SNAP booth volunteers and finding finery for four or five of your furry friends! To learn more about this event, visit the Lakes Country Cat Show's website at <http://members.aol.com/lakescountry/lakes.pdf>.



We'll see you there!

## Trash = Cash ... More than \$3,000 so far!

Wait! Don't throw that empty printer cartridge in the garbage! Did you know that SNAP raises money to help animals for every printer cartridge we recycle?

Well, it's true. And we're not the only ones. SNAP, CARE, and the Southwest Missouri Humane Society are sharing in the proceeds from this very simple fundraiser. So instead of throwing away *easy money*, bring those cartridges to us. You can drop them off at the CARE adoption center at 1328 W. Sunshine, at either of the two Humane Society locations, or at the SNAP table at PETsMART on Saturdays. We thank you for your trash!



## Join us April 6 for SNAP's First Annual Membership Meeting

On Wednesday, April 6, SNAP will hold its first ever annual meeting at The Library Center, 4653 South Campbell. The meeting will start at 7 pm in Community Room A. We'll be sharing information about SNAP's accomplishments during the past year, as well as plans for the future. This is your chance to meet other animal welfare supporters and get the latest information on spay/neuter activities in southwest Missouri. For more information, call 823-7627.

### Mark Your Calendars!



April 6  
*Annual Meeting, The Library Center*

April 9-10  
*Lakes Country Cat Show (Oasis Convention Center)*

April 16 & May 21 (2:00 pm - 4:30 pm)  
*Volunteer Workshop, The Library Center  
(New volunteer orientation, 1:45 pm)*

May 7  
*Artsfest (tentative)*

May 13  
*Spring Garage Sale (tentative-call to confirm)*

July 16 - *3rd Annual Ice Cream Chill-Out!!*

### *Solutions!*

PO Box 14354

Springfield, MO 65814

