

### Opening Doors, Saving Lives: The Case for Pet-Friendly Rental Housing by Angela Sandoval, HOV Operations Director



When I first moved to Montana several years ago, I came with a husband and two large mixed-breed dogs. Excited to be living in a true "dog-town" where I had seen dogs in bars and local shops, and where no outdoor expedition was complete without canine accompaniment, I was shocked to discover that no one would rent a place to us. Between breed restrictions, size restrictions, and flat-out "no pets allowed" policies, I was left with precisely one rental choice I could afford in Bozeman, and I took it.

What would have happened if I hadn't found that one place that allowed my pets? Probably I would have lived in my car or pitched a tent somewhere while I kept searching, but many pet-owners in the same boat would have ended up facing the grim decision to surrender their pets to the local animal shelter. Indeed, of the 7 million pets relinquished to U.S. shelters every year, 29% of them are surrendered due to "housing issues" including moving – and in most of these cases the pet owners were renters.

#### The Effects of Pet Restricted Housing:

In a 2005 study, it was found that only 9% of U.S. rental housing allowed companion animals without any significant limitations on size or type. With numbers mirroring my own personal experiences in Bozeman, 82% of pet owners and 100% of dog owners reported having trouble finding a rental unit that would take their pets. Additionally, 35% of people without pets have stated that they would own a pet if their rental units allowed them.

These numbers are big and the statistics national, but here is what they translate to for our local community in southwest Montana:

- Fact one: Not counting strays, Heart of the Valley has had 734 dogs and cats surrendered so far this year. Given the percentages above, 213 of these pets were surrendered because of housing issues, and most of these owners were renters.
- Fact two: There are approximately 6,200 occupied rental properties in Bozeman, and if the statistics above hold true, half of these households own pets. Of the other half (those that do not own pets), 35% of them would have pets if they were allowed. This means that in Bozeman alone, about 1,000 more shelter pets could have homes if landlords would allow them!

These numbers bear out with cold hard facts what all of us who work in animal welfare know from daily experience: the

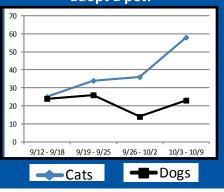


level of pet-friendly housing options in a community is directly correlated with the number of animals surrendered to animal shelters. Providing pet owners with more affordable, pet-friendly housing choices can literally save lives.

# So what's stopping more landlords from opening their doors to pets?

The tough economy can influence whether pet owners – renters and owners alike can manage to keep their pets. Making a CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

HOV's incoming animals are off the charts! Help make a difference and adopt a pet!



Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter • 1549 East Cameron Bridge Road • P.O. Box 11390 Bozeman, MT 59719 • (406) 388-9399 www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org

Open Monday through Sunday, 11:30 am - 5:30 pm

### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Imagine a kill shelter in Bozeman**, where after 1 month; animals are euthanized because their stay is up or there is just not enough room. Imagine a kill shelter where the animals are not allowed to be outside. There are no pens. Or a place where cats and dogs are not spayed or neutered, or vaccinated or micro chipped. There is no need.

Unfortunately, this is reality in many towns and cities throughout the country. I visited one last month, and the experience was not pleasant, but indeed was eye opening. The population of this town was similar to Bozeman. The territory was large, similar to Gallatin and Madison counties. Although this particular town was far from poor, the city only allocated \$40,000 annually to animal welfare.

Our shelter is different. Heart of the Valley places no limit on the

amount of time an adoptable cat or dog is cared for while waiting for adoption. Our story may best be described in the booklet "Puma" which was written by supporters Laura and Terry Cunningham. It's about a Treeing Walker Coonhound who was in shelter care for over 3 years before she found her forever home. Similar, is the case of Midnight Special, a black shorthair cat who was adopted in September after two years of being at the shelter.

And there is a difference of where you adopt a pet. At Heart of the Valley, all dogs and cats:

- Are spayed or neutered
- Receive a professional behavioral evaluation
- Are microchipped
- Are up to date on vaccinations
- Are dewormed
- Receive a physical exam by a veterinarian

Heart of the Valley can do this due to all the individual donors, local businesses, student groups, volunteers and everyone in the valley who supports their animal shelter. Thank you. We cannot survive without your generosity. Please keep us in your heart of hearts. We have much work yet to do: in-house and in future rescue efforts beyond our borders.

Sincerely,

**Phil Rogers** 

For a copy of the booklet Puma written by Laura and Terry Cunningham, please email jess@heartofthevalleyshelter.org, and HOV will mail you a free copy.



We are a proud member of Montana Shares, a a partnership of Montanabased nonprofit groups devoted to improving the quality of life in the communities throughout the state. To find out more, visit www.montanashares.org.



Ginger finds a new home on Christine's lap. One less dog euthanized at a kill shelter.

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### ... YOUR BEST FRIEND IS WAITING

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

decision to surrender an animal is never easy, but housing issues can tip the scale, causing more people to bring beloved pets into shelters. Among landlords who do not allow pets, approximately 2/3 of them cite pet damage as their major concern. Concerns about increased insurance rates were reported by about 40% of landlords. And of course, every landlord has heard or experienced the pet horror stories of shredded carpets and stinky urine stains.

But that same 2003 study found that these concerns were mitigated for most of the pet-friendly landlords surveyed. 48.2% of petfriendly landlords stated that they had never experienced significant damage from companion animals in their units. When rental property damage did occur, it averaged \$430 per unit, which was normally covered by the deposit. Additionally, there was no statistical difference in the damage caused from pet owners versus tenants without pets. (In fact, tenants with children were seen to be the most "damaging" group, regardless of whether there were pets in the home.)

The study also found that because of the pet-friendly amenity, landlords who okay pets are able to charge 20-30% more in rent, and tenants with pets stayed on average 46 months longer in their units than non-pet-owners. And pet-friendly housing also received about twice as many applicants for each vacant unit, and was rented out on average 10 days faster.

#### **Resources designed to open doors:**

The benefits of opening more rental doors to families with pets are many, and we would like to help renters, landlords and rental property managers move toward building a more pet-friendly community. When landlords are protected from financial harm, and tenants are responsible pet owners, the synergy can be a great thing. Heart of the Valley has compiled a bank of resources for tenants and landlords. Contact us at (406) 388-9399 anytime and we will happily help with a starter kit, including pet agreements and sample pet "resumes".



### Carpe Diem: Seize the Day! by Ben Donoghue, HOV Canine Behaviorist

Why do you have a dog as a pet? I think that every dog owner needs to ask themselves this question. In order to improve your dog's behavior, trust, and bond with you it is important to be able to look at yourself in the relationship. The answer to this first question for most people is that they want companionship. For a lot of humans a pet helps fulfill a natural parental instinct and desire to care for another individual. The material needs are easy for us humans to understand. We often know how to provide things for our dog such as veterinary care, feeding, watering, and giving toys or chews. It is the mental needs of our dogs that we can be challenged to find the right answer.

Raising the criteria of what is expected of our dogs means raising the criteria of what we expect of ourselves. You need to be aware of how your actions directly affect your dog's

behavior. Dogs are creatures of habit just like us. Pay attention to what things you habitually do that create desirable behaviors and what habits create undesirable behaviors. Most behaviors that we find unacceptable such as barking, jumping up or use of the mouth are reactive dog behaviors. When these behaviors become habit for the dog, I find people form the habit of luring or forcing the dog out of these behavior. If you find yourself continually luring or forcing your dogs behavior you need to think pro actively. Below is an example of how to change some of your dog's bad habits into good ones.

At an early age dogs figure out that doorways represent a change in their environment. Going in and out of doorways often times triggers an excited behavior in your dog such as charging, jumping, and barking. If this is your dog start to think of the doorway as a motivator the same way you think food or a toy when you are training. Ask your dog to do a calm behavior such as sit and when they give you eye contact give a release command such as "okay!" then open the door. Repeat until your dog is sitting and giving eye contact waiting for you to say "okay" without prompting from you. It is now time to raise your expectations, when your dog is sitting giving you eye contact, you want to be able to go through the entire motion of opening the door with them remaining in a sit waiting for you to say "okay". Be sure not to raise your criteria too fast, break down your own behavior of opening the door, at first you may just be repeating the fact that your dog remains in a sit when you touch the doorknob then say "okay" and open the door. Make sure that you are practicing good doorway manners at a low stress time for you, not when you have to answer the door for a visitor. As with training all new behavior in your dog be patient, self reflective and make the most out of your canine human relationship.



Autumn 2011





### Holiday Hazards to Pets by Nancy Mayer, DVM

With the holiday season rapidly approaching, most of us look forward to the abundant treats and goodies that find their way into our homes. Be mindful, however, that our treats can be harmful to our four-legged companions. Two conditions for which pets are commonly taken to veterinary hospitals during the holidays are pancreatitis and chocolate toxicity. Pancreatitis has numerous causes, but the most common is the ingestion a high-fat meal, high-fat treats, or a sudden change in diet. Feeding leftovers from Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner such as turkey skin, gravy, ham, etc...could be just the thing to make Sparky's pancreas unhappy. Signs of pancreatitis include vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, and abdominal pain. It occurs most frequently in middle-aged to older overweight dogs, but any dog or cat could be affected. Cats often have more subtle clinical signs such as exia and weight loss with or without vomiting. Liver disease and/or intestinal disease often accompany pancreatitis in cats. It can be difficult to distinguish pancreatitis from an upset GI tract (gastroenteritis) which you might expect after your pet ingests some of those generally forbidden table scraps. Symptoms vary from mild

to severe and your veterinarian may perform several tests to help determine if pancreatitis is the cause of your pet's symptoms. Treatment could include hospitalization, IV fluids, general supportive care and medication to help control nausea /vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain.

Most people are aware that chocolate is bad for dogs. It is bad for cats as well...but cats, being the discriminating creatures that they are, are not poisoned nearly as frequently by those sinfully delicious treats as dogs are. Keep in mind though...cats are small, so if they do indulge, it doesn't take much chocolate to make them sick. The darker the chocolate, the more toxic it is with baking chocolate and dark chocolate being more toxic than milk chocolate. The smaller the pet, the less chocolate it takes to make them sick. Initial or mild signs of chocolate toxicity could include vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity or restlessness. These may be the only signs you notice if small quantities are ingested. Higher doses of chocolate can cause incoordination, muscle tremors, rapid heart rate, irregular heart rhythm, seizures, coma, and death. Unfortunately, there is no magic antidote for the toxic agents in chocolate (caffeine and theobromine) with treatment being aimed at detoxification, control of hyperactivity, seizures, rapid and irregular heart beat and other symptoms. Chocolate also contains a large amount of fat which could lead to GI tract irritation or...you guessed it...pancreatitis. Thus, even in smaller quantities, chocolate can make pets sick. Call your veterinarian if your dog gets into chocolate and they can advise you of the best course of treatment based on your pet's body weight and type of chocolate it consumed.

A few other cautions on foods to avoid:

Xylitol- this is an artificial sweetener found in gum, candies, and other sugar free products and is extremely dangerous to dogs and possibly ferrets. Ingestion of small quantities can cause a sudden drop in blood sugar and could result in severe and even life threatening liver damage. Xylitol is being used in an increasing number of products. Please familiarize yourself with the toxic effects of xylitol.

Remember also to avoid feeding onions, garlic, grapes or raisins to your pets.

Don't forget that although plants make beautiful decorations during the holidays, some are toxic- Holly, Mistletoe, and Poinsettias if ingested are irritating to the GI tract and can have effects on other body organs as well. Lilies can be very toxic, even fatal.

Remember, if pets ingest potentially toxic substances, the sooner you seek veterinary treatment, generally the better the chances for a good outcome. If in doubt...call your vet for advice.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Smith Roedel, Phyllis Conner & the Woofstock Committee

### by Jessica Groseth, HOV Development Associate

HOV is blessed to have many amazing volunteers, from cat cuddlers and dog walkers, to animal bank collectors, committee members, event helpers, maintenance volunteers, volunteer groomers, and much, much more. We can never thank you all enough for all that you do for the homeless animals! All of you deserve an article about your efforts in the newsletter, but unfortunately, we just don't have the space to do so.

We would like to call attention to a few very special volunteers, who have gone WAY above and beyond for Heart of the Valley in recent months:





### Smith Roedel

The ways in which Smith Roedel helps HOV are countless, but his most recent act of heroism came when he saved Woofstock! Dock Diving is the biggest draw at Woofstock, attracting hundreds of people who want to see their dogs make a splash. Twice in the days leading up to Woofstock, we filled the pool, generously loaned to us by Gallatin County Fairgrounds, only to find a leak in the pool floor. Both times, Smith rented a pump, drained the pool, patched the leak, and started the pool filling again. He even came out at HOV at 5am the morning of Woofstock to start the water running. Thanks to him, Dock Diving was a huge success!!

That is one example of how Smith helps HOV, but he does so much more than just save our events - he is out here almost every day, cleaning out the big barn, building dog beds, weed whacking, supervising dog play groups, and much, much more. Thank you, Smith!!!

### **Phyllis Conner**

You won't see Phyllis Conner out here at the shelter on a regular basis, but the ways in which she helps the shelter are many, mostly behind-the-scenes. Phyllis feeds the feral cat colony living at the old shelter site every single day, rain or shine, and hasn't missed even one day since HOV moved to its new facility almost FOUR years ago! Phyllis even buys the food she feeds the cats with her own money.

Phyllis also collects animal banks for HOV, with more than 25 banks on her route. She generously supports almost all of the businesses on her route, because she wants them to know how much she and HOV appreciate them. And even though Phyllis works full time at First Security Bank, she finds the time to empty her banks every single month, without needing any reminders or nagging. Whenever we have a new bank that needs a collector, Phyllis is my go-to woman - she is always happy to take on more banks, even though I have no idea how she finds the time. And to top off all that, she is also one of the single nicest people that I have the pleasure of knowing. Thank you, Phyllis!

### The Woofstock Committee

We had another great Woofstock this year, thanks to the mighty efforts of the Woofstock committee, fearlessly lead by Violet Adams. Thom Van Winkle ran the parking, and it was the smoothest it has ever been. Nancy Xander lead shelter tours, AND coordinated the Alumni Pet Parade, which had 18 dogs and one brave cat. Daun Clemens came up with the idea that we needed a maintenance person, and took that on herself. Anyone who attended Woofstock probably saw her scurrying around on an ATV, filling water bowls and emptying garbage. Susan Paglia was the ringmaster for the three-ring circus that is the Kids Corral, and it was another great year! Liz Smith ran the Demonstrations. Terry and Laura Cunningham coordinated all of the contests, including setting up the courses, planning the contests, MCing, handing out awards, and taking down the courses! Carissa Stein lead Meowstock, which looked beautiful and attracted TONS of people. Cheryl Matthews ran the Information Booth, jumping into her first Woofstock with both feet, so that the Information Booth ran the most smoothly that it ever has.



Terry Cunningham MCing Dock Diving!





### RUN, DOG. RUN! by Karin Caroline, RDR Coordinator

On Saturday, October 1, the community of Bozeman had a first - that is the 1st Canine event. Yes, that's right, an event just for our dogs! 360 Pet Medical Veterinary Clinic and Bozeman Canine Classic teamed up to host Run, Dog, Run! Saturday was a warm sunny day and close to 100 people and even more dogs came out to run or walk the one mile course.

The event was held at the site of 360 Pet Medical's clinic newly located at 338 Gallatin Park Drive. After the race, participants and their pets were treated to tours of 360's clinic including a demonstration of their underwater treadmill in action.

This event benefited both Heart of the Valley and Livingston's Stafford animal shelter. Both HOV and Stafford brought shelter dogs

to walk in the event. Some of the dogs in the event were also past 'clients' of HOV and now proudly walked with their families in the event.

Bozeman Canine Classic is planning to continue the tradition next year in addition to planning more running/walking events for our dogs that also benefit our animal shelters and other great causes. Stay tuned for Bozeman's K9 9K in May 2012 - Bozeman's first trail run for our dogs and huge dog festival! Visit www.bozemancanineclassic.com for more information.

# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2011 WOOFSTOCK SPONSORS! BOB & ELSA MONTGOMERY

Big Time Inflatables Bozeman Daily Chronicle Bridger Feeds Classic Ink Cottonwood Enterprises In Memory of Rufus Model JCCS Accounting Jereco Studios Mountain West Bank Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply Rotherham Construction SIME Construction Zebra Cocktail Lounge

At Home on the Range Big Sky Tie Dye **Bridger Bowl Buffalo Bump Cottonwood Veterinary Hospital** Dee-O-Gee In Memory of Sheppy Dr. Alex Le Grand & Dr. Laurie Ann Le Grand Northwestern Energy Susan Paglia & Phil Rogers Peak Recording **Bozeman TV & Appliance Central Insurance Agency Colorworld Printers** Dave's Sushi **Gallatin County Fairgrounds** Heidi Hohmann - In Honor of Mouse Sky Federal Credit Union Jayne Van Alstyne

## AND, OUR MOST HEARTFELT APPRECIATION TO ALL 142 VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED MAKE WOOFSTOCK POSSIBLE. THANK YOU SO MUCH!



### MEMORIALS

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A memorial gift to Heart of the Valley is a thoughtful way to express your sympathy and honor a departed loved one. A Heart of the Valley memorial not only remembers the life of a loved one, it also offers hope and opportunity to the animals at the shelter. *"Gone from our sight, but never our memories. Gone from our touch, but never our hearts."* 

#### In Memory of Those Who Loved Pets

In Memory of Ben Arts **Esther Nelson** In Memory of Martha Baptie John & Margaret Papadakis In Memory of Mike Bolin Patricia Watts In Memory of Roy Brown Jack & Faith Dredla n Memory of Geoffrey D'Atri **Rick Maxey** Louis V. Bockius III Lindalee Sourini Helen Flath In Memory of Oleta Davis Sandra Murphy In Memory of Ann & Em DuPuy William & Jane Shields In Memory of Kathryn Doucette Celia Wood In Memory of Roger Hand **Eleanor Truitt** In Memory of Jeff Helding Valerie Wegner In Memory of Kate A. Heuer Pat Ray n Memory of Sam Hoffman **Rosetta & Howard Barrick** Don, Jana & Mary Fogle Dave & Yvonne Hinman In Memory of Mark Horswill Stu & Ann Tisdale In Memory of Gordon Hudson Jo Hudson In Memory of Leslie Jane Jacobsen AAA Mountain West In Memory of Sue Jameson George & Betty McClure Clarice & Robert Koby Jameson Family **Daniel & Sally Baumgartner** Sandra Smiley Addie Sullivan Jane Johnston In Memory of Charles Kaepnick Suzanne Gorder n Memory of Koralyn Kibbee Geraldine & Troy Hauser Jay & Krys Paulsen Kenneth & La Dora Ellis

In Memory of Joe Krupa Frank & Mary Kowalczyk In Memory of Eril Joy Merrell Cheryl Farmer In Memory of Eva Neils Joanna Nielsen In Memory of Laura Kolman Lori & Ron Liston In Memory of Nick Miller Larilyn Miller In Memory of Joyce Nimmick Shirley Gerhardt Ann Nimmick Alice Sutton In Memory of Peter Brook & Al Cunningham In Memory of Merris Petersen Rosalea Abelin In Memory of Steven Sally Shirley Gerhardt In Memory of Peggy Shutes Nancy liams In Memory of Herva Simpson Mary Riley In Memory of Deirdre "Dee" Stringer Susan Jones Jim & Carmen McIlhattan Jack & Karen Rogers Geraldine & Troy Hauser Rosalea Abelin Edie Gale **Gary Jones** Jack & Carol Martin **Bud & Sally Griffin** Lead, SD High School Class of 1971 William & Linda Hinebauch Wayne & Kathy Stringer Pamela Englund Donald & Ida Alfson **Richard & Susan Snellman** Mr. & Mrs. James Hagen In Memory of Arthur Vant Hul Bob, Jo Ellen & James Neumayr In Memory of Vernon Westlake James Williams In Memory of Shirley Wiedenmeyer Lari Miller, DiLyn & Bob Arneson, Rick & Robin Miller, and Vicki & Pete Vining **Esther Nelson Robert Tootell** 

#### In Memory of Beloved Pets

In Memory of Abbie Debra De Bode & Dale Pickard In Memory of Alea Joseph McCarty In Memory of Alexei Michelle Kazeminejad In Memory of Annie Ron and Bonni Glock In Memory of Babuska Mary Anne Hansen & Craig Hall In Memory of Baby Cat & Chelsea Dog Teresa & Paul Flanagan In Memory of Benny Jack & Faith Dredla In Memory of Bis'kit & Clover **Tracy Fairbanks** In Memory of Black Jack Bob & Katie Shaw Jimmy & Howard Goodman Ann Van Balen & Marvin Morenstein In Memory of Bongo **Bobby Crowe** In Memory of Bruno & Jazz Jack Orr In Memory of Buster Marcus & Patricia Dash In Memory of Chloe & Bob Marshall & Marsha White In Memory of Dancer Suzanne Smith In Memory of Darby **Debby & Jim Bangs** Merrilee Glover Judy & John Heald In Memory of D.D. Michael & Theresa Mullen In Memory of Ellie Brown The Brown Family In Memory of Ernie **Diane Hilborn** In Memory of Eddy & King **Christian Husted** In Memory of Freddy **Mike Templeton** In Memory of Fritz **Bob Rasmus** In Memory of Houdini **Doug Reeves** In Memory of Hunter



# HEART OF THE VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER...

**Bob & Elsa Montgomery** In Memory of Jack Chambers Terry & Jan Deal **Debby & Jim Bangs** David Chambers & Sigrid Gentile-Chambers Stu Levit In Memory of Jack Janet Storey In Memory of Jake W.B. Gallaher In Memory of Jasper Toni & Jim Sims Mary Zartman & Chuck Nelson In Memory of Juliet Kaye Grissom & D.A. Davidson In Memory of Katie Lynn Foust In Memory of Libby Carrie Holder In Memory of Lily Elisa, Claire & Audrey Eddy In Memory of Loki Mary Harter In Memory of Maggie Susan Gallaher In Memory of Maggie Davenport Goetz Noah Cooper In Memory of Maia Harland **Richard Block** In Memory of Mama Beau Missy Mayfield In Memory of Marshmello Bunny Kris & Jim Hall In Memory of Mattie James & Kathryn Eneboe

In Memory of Max Hodges Lynn Zichy In Memory of Mimsy Lynn Foust In Memory of Molly Brown **Bill & Michelle Niles** In Memory of Nacho **Kirsten Sawczyn** In Memory of Newt Smaaland Nancy Palmer In Memory of Ottis Brooke & Al Cunningham In Memory of Paco Mary Anne Hansen & Craig Hall In Memory of Pigger **Elaine Reardon** In Memory of Pip & Frannie **Elizabeth Darrow** In Memory of Ralf Nadine Keogh, Jessie Kosorok Mellor, Brittany Greb & Renee Moreland In Memory of Ralph Nancy Palmer In Memory of Rikki Vanda & George Gallagher In Memory of Romeo Randi & Steve Hulett In Memory of Roscoe Ward **Kimberly Walker** In Memory of Rosedog John & Maureen Ruggles In Memory of Ruby Harold, Judy & Cody Hunter Grandma Eunice In Memory of Rudy Lillian Yerger

In Memory of Ruppy James & Jeannette Martin In Memory of Rusty **Cheryl Templeton** In Memory of Sam, Kounty, Bart & Chip **Kris Peyer** In Memory of Sebastian Victoria Bonner In Memory of Shadow Harris Lindy Bunch & Steve Tully In Memory of Siggi Judy Staigmiller In Memory of Snuff Scott & Jayne Erholm In Memory of Tatum Lindy Bunch In Memory of Tipper John & Maureen Ruggles In Memory of Tippet **Kimberly Walker** In Memory of Tippy & Tiger Jaclyn Katz In Memory of Tisza Shirley Gerhardt In Memory of Toby Fred & Jane Leopold In Memory of Trixie Anonymous In Memory of Tucson Steven & Susan Schwab In Memory of Wally Beth & Bill Hammond In Memory of Whisper & Elsie Karen & John Blackwood

### Stephanie Mauer, HOV's New Feline Outreach Coordinator



Stephanie is a Montana native and grew up in the foothills of Sheridan, MT. Her passion has always been animals and even as a child she was working with cats, trying to tame strays she'd find outside. She joined the team at HOV in July as the Feline Outreach Coordinator. After graduation from Sheridan High School Stephanie attended MSU-Bozeman and received her B.S. in Biological Sciences in 2008. She was an intern several times for different animal-centric organizations throughout the past several years. She volunteered at the Montana Raptor Conservation Center for a couple of years while attending MSU, and moved to Texas during the summer of 2007 to help with the husbandry of 54 big cats including lions, tigers, leopards, and cougars. She has also worked with Mexican Spotted Owls, and as a veterinary technician. She writes a blog that can be found at fantasticfelinefriends.wordpress.com and can answer (or research an answer) for any cat-question you may have.

On days off Stephanie enjoys trail running, rock and ice climbing, camping, fly fishing, and hiking with her big fluffy white dog, Bear. She currently resides in Bozeman with her dog, Bear and her cat, Pico (once an HOV cat!).

Email Stephanie at stephanie@heartofthevalleyshelter.org, or call 406.388.9399, ext.119





### HONORS

There are many reasons to honor someone you love with a donation to Heart of the Valley. Holidays, birthdays, weddings, or just everyday good deeds can be a reason to celebrate - and transferring that good feeling to direct aid for the shelter animals is the sweetest gift of all!

Honor of Those Who Love Animals In Honor of Joli Diffenderfer	Peggy Storey & Scott Zenz
Quinnlyn Kelley	In Honor of Erica & Michael Walrath
Honor of the Angels who helped Tar In Honor of HOV Staff	Missy Mayfield
by regain at least some of her nine lives John & Judy Patterson	
Bev Townsend In Memory of Kristin Hodges' Birthday	In Honor of Special Pets
Honor of Barbara Banach Theresa & Michael Mullen	
Susie Boyer D'Arla King	In Honor of Emmett
Honor of the Marriage of Tyler Bangs & Greta Bradford	Josh Norris
gela Chou In Honor of Penny Monforton	In Honor of Linus & Lucy
David Chambers & Sigrid Gentile- Judy & Larry Bender	Ginger & Michael Phillips
ambers In Honor of Rebecca Murray	In Honor of Pony
Honor of Bill Boltz Hy & Brook Adelman	The LaFoleys
oe & Angel Rossman In Honor of Betsy Quammen's Birthday	In Honor of Syndrox & Annie
Honor of Mick Calarco Katie Madison	Dianne & David Rushenberg
Ross & Jeanette Calarco In Honor of Lora & Alex Smith's Wedding	In Honor of Trixie
Honor of Kathy & Gordon Decker Advanced Medical Imaging	Allen Fry & Jennifer Brokaw
Mary Zartman & Chuck Nelson In Honor of Janet Storey	

Gifts in honor or in memory of a loved one are special to those who send and receive them, and are truly appreciated by Heart of the Valley. To make a memorial or honor donation to Heart of the Valley, or if an error or omission has occured, please contact us at (406) 388-9399 or via e-mail at deva@heartofthevalleyshelter.org. This list reflects donations received between July 1, 2011 and October 1, 2011.

### A WAVE OF THE PAW TO...

Lynda Livingston and the Last Wind-up, for asking customers to contribute to the HOV animal bank, rather than paying her for various small repairs.

Missy Mayfield, for her tireless dedication to the dogs of HOV. Missy grooms our dogs, walks them, trains them, and buys them treats and goodies!

Dan Stebbins, for coming out to HOV every other Saturday to take fabulous photos of all of our dogs!

Dr. Mark Albrecht and Gallatin Veterinary Hospital, for performing life-changing ACL surgery on one of our shelter dogs, Gracie.

Bridger Feeds, for sponsoring HOV's cat and Woofstock television ads. Thank you so much for helping us reach a whole new audience!

Terry and Laura Cunningham, who according to our Canine Behaviorist, have been "pretty bad ass lately." Thank you for all you did for Woofstock, and for writing the wonderful dog biographies!

Cory and Diane Pulfrey, for graciously opening their home to HOV for donor cultivation events.

Rebecca Murray and Bozeman Pet Pics, for taking gorgeous photographs of our shelter kitty Miracle.

Abby McMillen and tart, for hosting a fabulous opening, "Folk Dogs Off the Wall!" and donating part of the proceeds to HOV.

Emily Dickinson School, for hosting a "Fun Run," and raising \$1,500 for HOV!

### THANK YOU ONE AND ALL FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



# Just a few of our happy adoptions in the past few months...



СНИСК



FLOSSY







DUNDEE



KHLOE



MOOSE



**STELLA** 



DUSTY



ΡΟΡΟΚΙ



### ARE YOU EXERCISING YOUR WILL POWER? By Kathryn Hohmann, HOV Development Director

Want to help Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter in another way? Maybe you're a dog walker, cat cuddler, or help us with our events. Or perhaps you make a small gift in order to remember the birthday of a friend or beloved pet. Think about including Heart of the Valley in your wills. All it takes is a simple designation in your will or trust and it costs nothing during your lifetime. You can name the shelter in your will for a specific amount, a percentage or a residuary share of your estate. Your gift will be exempt from federal estate taxes (at least through this year) and your estate may also qualify for the Montana Tax Credit for Endowed Philanthropy.

You can designate that part of your legacy goes to the Best Friends Forever Endowment Fund, which is a permanent fund that the shelter is now building. Our goal is that the fund will someday provide up to 20 percent of the shelter's operating funds. It's a sure bet that as long as there are people in

the community, there will be pets – and some of them are bound to end up lost, abandoned or homeless. That's why it's so important that donors help us out now, and plan to do so in the future. We need your support!

If you believe that the idea of writing a will is intimidating, or if you think this is a step that's important for only the very wealthy, think again. We can help you gain the tools you need to remember the shelter in your plans, and make a lasting difference to our organizations. If you'd like to talk about how to do this, we're happy to help by detailing the options and deciding how they may work for you. We can even put you in touch with others who have made the same generous choice, and share some language to include in your plans. Just call Kathryn Hohmann at 388-9399 extension 106.

Watch what happens when you factor Heart of the Valley into your estate planning. You can achieve your personal financial goals and help Heart of the Valley . You'll be amazed at what you can accomplish.

# WISH LIST

### Your donations mean the world to the animals at the shelter!

Pet Supplies Dog food Cat food Nylon dog collars Nylon cat collars Feliway plug-in refills Kong stuff-it toys Dog training treats Cat trees Canned cat food - pate Gift cards to pet supply stores Stainless steel water buckets Kuranda Kennel Cots Puzzle Toys for Dogs Cleaning Supplies Powdered laundry detergent Paper towels Toilet paper Bleach Terry Washcloths Miscellaneous Various children's craft materials Copy paper Snowblower

twitter

### FOLLOW HOV ON TWITTER!



Follow **@hovshelter** to learn about what's going on at the shelter, and be the first to find out about exciting new arrivals!



### FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

"Like" Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter on Facebook to find out about the latest happenings at HOV, cool dogs and cats, shelter events, and our Pet of the Week!



### FOLLOW OUR CAT BLOG!

Check in at **www.fantasticfelinefriends.wordpress.com** to find great hints about cat behavior and other useful feline information!

Autumn 2011







Bozeman, MT 59719 www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org

Please report duplicate or inaccurate mailings to (406) 388-9399, ext. 112

# COMING SOON!

#### Parenting Your Dog Training Course

This five-week obedience course is taught by HOV's Canine Behavior Consultant, Ben Donoghue. It will improve communication between humans and their dogs, as well as providing a foundation in obedience, and preparing participants to become AKC Canine Good Citizens. Classes are offered on Thursday nights - please call for dates and times.

Cost: \$35 for HOV alumni, \$65 for spayed/ neutered dogs, and \$75 for intact dogs For more information, call Ben Donoghue at 388-9399, ext. 122

#### Santa Paws

December 10th and 11th, 2011 11am - 5pm, at Petsmart Ho, ho, ho! Come have your pet's photo taken with Santa! Photos are \$9.95 and come with a keepsake frame. Half of the proceeds of every photo are donated to HOV!

### Howlin At the Moon Snowshoe Shuffle

March 3rd, 2012

Registration at 5:30pm, snowshoeing starts at 6:00

Join HOV at Moonlight Basin for a howlin' good time! Snowshoe a lit two mile course with your dog, and then enjoy a chili feed, raffle, and live music!

For more information about upcoming events, call 406-388-9399, extension 112, or email jess@heartofthevalleyshelter. org., or go to our website at www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org.

# Kitty Pick of the Litter:

Kennedy is a handsome, easy to handle, affectionate cat. Sadly, this is his second stay at Heart of the Valley. He was given the purrfect job of store greeter after his first adoption. Kennedy was so good, he rose to the top of the pay scale! When the store could no longer afford a greeter, Kennedy was assigned the new job of mouser. Unfortunately Kennedy is just too friendly to be a mouser. We have completely unsubstantiated rumors that he was inviting his mouse friends inside for poker and a nice meal. He was returned to HOV because he is too affectionate and friendly. If you are searching for a confident, sweet cat that loves attention and has a soft meow, Kennedy just might be your dream companion!

### Staff's Pick Pup: BOB

Bob is a fun-loving, water-loving, life-loving dog who is looking for his forever home. He's ten years old, but he's in really great shape, having just had a full dental work-up. He loves going places, and is a dog walker's favorite here at the shelter. He loves to jump in our "water feature" and is good with other dogs. He travels well, and recently attended a fundraiser for Heart of the Valley. He's an owner surrender who lived with the same family for many years, so he's eager to get back home!



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