

## Upland Bird Hunting in Montana: Treat your Canine Hunting Partner Right!



Jim and Maggie.

Anticipation is building to a fever pitch as the opening day of the 2008 bird hunting season rapidly approaches. Heart of the Valley Board of Directors' Vice President Nancy Palmer caught up with two avid bird hunters, JIM KLOS and JOHN PALMER, and their English Setters Maggie, Thicket, Cinnamon and Sweetgrass, to learn some useful tips for getting ready for the early season. Jim and John have set out below their recommendations for ensuring a safe and successful early season. They will be addressing tips for late season hunting in the winter newsletter.

### HEAT

With opening season temperatures running over 80 degrees in September and October, heat can literally be a killer. Several years ago on South Dakota's Pheasant Opener, temperatures were unseasonably high and numerous dogs suffered heatstroke and death. It is imperative that dogs remain well hydrated during the hunt, with water breaks taken not only to ingest water, but also to cool the dogs down by bathing their ears and stomachs. To this end, John highly

recommends the Quilomene vest made in Billings by Steve Owen, a Setter-owning bird bum himself! His web site is: [www.quilomene.com](http://www.quilomene.com). This vest enables the hunter to carry close to 200 oz. of water in two separate Camelback pouches.

### FEET

To boot or not to boot? Pre-season conditioning can obviate the need for booting, but some dogs have very "soft" feet or suffer foot injuries during the course of a hunt. This is usually manifested in an injury to the pad or nail and protective measures should be taken after the fact.

Friends of John's who regularly hunt Chukar partridge in rough, rocky country use sections of downhill mountain bike inner tubes to protect their dogs' feet. A 6" section is slipped over each foot and several turns of electrician's tape secures the "booty" to the hair on the dog's leg. The tape easily disengages from the dog's hair at the end of the hunt. A single inner tube may also be used to protect an injured pad or broken nail and duct tape could be substituted in a pinch by simply wrapping the injured foot with several layers of tape.

### EYES/MOUTH

Since early season hunting on the prairie is hot and dry, grass, wheat stubble and weed seeds can often irritate your dog's eyes. Periodically flushing the eyes with saline solution soothes the eye and removes foreign objects from the eyelids and tear ducts. Post-hunt examination should always include a visual inspection of the dog's eyes, mouth and webbing of the feet to detect foreign objects.

### SNAKES

Jim has taken the precaution of snake breaking his setter Maggie. This involves the use of an electronic collar and a defanged rattlesnake. When the dog investigates the snake, an adverse stimulus is used to deter the dog from investigating snakes in the future. Snake breaking clinics



John with Sweetgrass, Thicket and Cinnamon.

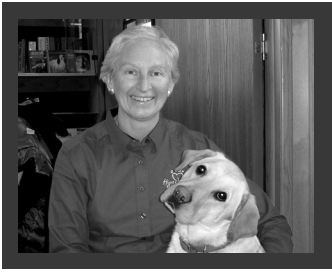
are conducted by the Missouri Headwaters Gun Dog Club ([www.mhgdc.org](http://www.mhgdc.org)).

John foregoes the snake breaking, but has Thicket, Cinnamon and Sweetgrass vaccinated to protect against the venom of the Western Diamondback. Avoiding southern exposures and hunting in the cooler early morning hours lessens the

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## Letter from the Executive Director

It has been a year since Heart of the Valley moved into its new facility—how the time has flown! Having a modern facility where all the animals can be inside was a major milestone on our path into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. But for the public, it is likely that a larger stride forward might have been the launch in August of HOV's new website: [www.HeartoftheValleyShelter.org](http://www.HeartoftheValleyShelter.org). We can still be accessed through MontanaPets.org but we encourage everyone to bookmark the new site

directly.

The new website is loaded with pictures, information, directions and resources for everyone. One can find all of our adoptable animals, descriptions of our programs and services, explanations of our policies, the annual report, directions for what to do if you have lost or found a stray animal, ways to support the shelter, how you can volunteer, links to many animal-related websites and so much more. One can even find directions for how to reach the new shelter.

We expect everyone will have different reasons why they like the new website. I particularly like that we now can provide full information on how we operate and thus ensure greater transparency and accountability for donors. In addition, providing information that can be accessed on-line and any time increases customer service and decreases the demands on our front desk and telephone system.

Another almost simultaneous development was conversion to PetPoint, the web-based animal database HOV now uses to maintain all information on its animals. PetPoint has an interface with both our new website and Petfinder so that all of HOV's adoption animals are posted within minutes of our determination that an animal is available for adoption. Previously, many animals were adopted before we could get them posted on the MontanaPets website. Now, all of these websites (including Petfinder and MontanaPets) will have our adoption animals posted automatically as soon as the staff clicks that they are available in PetPoint.

An added benefit of PetPoint is that HOV now offers all adopters 30 days of free pet health insurance through ShelterCare. This is a great benefit as the economy forces everyone to evaluate their expenses. In addition, PetPoint automatically registers the new owners' address and telephone numbers with the 24PetWatch micro chip database so the owners no longer have to remember this crucial step or pay the micro chip registration fee.

This summer has also seen the addition of Dr. Jo Beaty to HOV's staff. Dr. Jo joins HOV as the Assistant Director of Operations. Raised in Miles City, Dr. Jo is a graduate of the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University. She brings 26 years of business experience, 19 years from a small animal practice in California and 7 years from mixed practices in Kansas and Wyoming. Among other management responsibilities, she will focus on staff training, efficiency and teamwork.

As we close out this year, HOV remains eternally grateful to the community for building and supporting the new facility. It is wonderful to have a simple, clean facility and know that all animals can be inside during the very hot and very cold days our climate throws at us. Because of the downturn in the economy and other factors, more animals are coming through our doors. HOV has expanded its education and outreach programs in an effort to prevent pets from coming to us, but the need to provide shelter and care remains huge. Thank you for enabling us to be here for those in need.



Dr. Jo and Amaretta, her Saint Bernard.



*Margie Taylor*

We are a proud member organization.

Learn more at [www.montanashares.org](http://www.montanashares.org)

### HEART OF THE VALLEY

ANIMAL SHELTER  
1549 East Cameron Bridge Road  
P.O. Box 11390  
Bozeman, MT 59719  
Open daily 11:30 am - 5:30 pm  
Closed Sundays  
(406) 388-9399  
[www.heartofthevalleysshelter.org](http://www.heartofthevalleysshelter.org)

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## Josh Adams: Proof that Kids Can Make a Big Difference

By Jessica Groseth, Development Assistant



Josh with Arrow and Baby Beau.

The donations with the biggest meaning don't always come from the biggest places. This is the case with Josh Adams, an 8 year old who has been doing yardwork, saving up his allowance, and getting friends and family to contribute to his animal fund since last spring, in order to make an amazing donation to Heart of the Valley.

Josh, who is in the third grade at Emily Dickinson Elementary, decided to donate to HOV because he "just plain really liked animals" and he decided that he wanted to help. He earned the money by pulling a neighbor's weeds that are taller than he is, vacuuming, cleaning off the table, and giving his dogs food and water. He also convinced his mom, Monique, his dad, Jeff, his brother Nick, his sister Laura, and his friend Sam to contribute, and he would like to thank all of them for helping him raise money for the animals!

Josh has chosen to sponsor Baby Beau and Arrow, 10 and 14 year old Lab-Sharpei-Chow crosses, with his donation. He chose them by eliminating all of the dogs that barked at him, and then choosing the nicest of the dogs that didn't bark.

He requested that part of his donation be used to buy them each a toy, and then the rest be used for their needs, like food and medicine, instead of their wants.

When I asked Josh if he was ever tempted to buy toys for himself instead of donating his earnings, he told me that he made a rule for himself that any money that went into the fund couldn't come out, and that he was very proud of himself for obeying that rule! Josh has two dogs, Pinkie, a Border Collie/Spaniel cross adopted from Heart of the Valley and Canyon, a Border Collie/Sheepdog cross, as well as three Guinea pigs.

When he's not working hard to raise money for Heart of the Valley, Josh takes piano lessons, and likes to ride his bike, draw, jump on the trampoline, and he loves the water. In fact, he loves the water so much that if he could be any animal, he would be a sea turtle. "I love the water, they have a shell to protect them, they live to be really old, and they're really big," Josh said.

Josh's donation to Heart of the Valley will help Baby Beau and Arrow receive all of the loving care that they need, and we are so grateful to him for being so generous. Thank you, Josh!

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

chances of a rattlesnake encounter. If you do encounter a rattlesnake, Benadryl can be given to minimize swelling, and immersing the dog in water ( a stock tank, for example), may help to calm the dog. According to a local vet, 75% of rattlesnake bites are "dry" bites (no venom is injected), but dog owners should be alert to the possibility of a tetanus infection from the puncture wound of the snake's fangs. Any snake bite should be treated by a veterinarian as soon as possible.

### PORCUPINES

Surprisingly, "quill pigs" are quite prevalent on the prairie and can cause a real problem for inquisitive bird dogs. In the event of a quilling, the dog should be immobilized, paying particular attention to his jaws, and the quills should be extracted with firm, steady pressure. The plier jaws on a Leatherman tool are ideal for this. A tablet of Benadryl can't hurt and again, a veterinarian should be consulted as soon as possible.

### FEEDING

John and Jim both feed their setters the same high fat/high protein food all year round. Our experts disagree, though, on when to feed their dogs during the day. Jim feels it is best to give Maggie some dry food 2-3 hours before a hunt. He also gives her a couple of high protein treats throughout the day. John, however, feels it is best to hunt his setters on an empty stomach, feeding them at the end of the hunt. Since dogs need at least several hours to metabolize their food, feeding before the hunt not only doesn't benefit the dog, but also could contribute to torsion if a large amount of food and water is ingested prior to high activity.

### TRAVELING BIRD HUNTERS

Since cell phones are ubiquitous, it makes good sense to put your cell phone number on your dog's collar. Microchips can be inserted by your veterinarian or at Heart of the Valley, and aid in the recovery of lost dogs. Make sure that your contact information is kept current with your microchip service. Contact information for local vets should always be kept on hand.

John and Jim would love to hear your feedback on their advice. If you have questions, concerns, or comments, please email them to [deva@heartofthevalleyshelter.org](mailto:deva@heartofthevalleyshelter.org). John and Jim will do their best to address them in our next newsletter.



## WORKING DOGS: AN INTERVIEW WITH KINDRA MESSMER OF THE PINTO RANCH

By Nancy Palmer



Kindra and Taz

HOV Board member Nancy Palmer was lucky enough to catch Kindra during a break from a typically busy day at Pinto Ranch, located 17 miles south of Livingston on Highway 89. Following is an interview with her, specifically talking about the Border Collie as a working dog and the Maremma as a guard dog.

**NP: Kindra, you have been a rancher for many years and are actively developing a nationally recognized flock of Katahdin sheep. Tell us why the Border Collie is your ideal choice for working sheep.**

**KM:** I guess, Nancy, I would have to refer to the history of this breed to help explain my choice. Today's dog is descended from the droving and gathering breeds originating in the Scottish and English border country. The "Collie" or "Colley" type first appeared at the end of the nineteenth century with a foundation sire known as Old Hemp.

The Border Collie is the most versatile of the herding breeds. Gathering is natural and instinctive for them, which sets them apart from most other herding breeds. Driving, cross driving, holding a gate opening, penning, sorting and splitting are also natural for the Border Collie with some assistance from the handler. They can also be very sensitive dogs emotionally and it takes time, experience and an open mind to respect the dog's individuality in order to refine what they naturally want to do. Experienced handlers will tell you that each dog is different and knowledge of livestock behavior is essential.

Many times in the field, the dog's choice is better than the handler's. The collie's natural desire is to become a team with its handler. They are, in my opinion, the best "all around" and most "natural" of the herding dogs. I need and want these qualities for my sheep operation.

**NP: Can you talk about the selection and early training of puppies, specifically what you look for in temperament and conformation?**

**KM:** This is a complicated question and also very subjective. I have seven dogs and they are all very different. As young pups, some of them were very shy, some were extremely friendly, and one of them was bit aggressive. But, they have all turned out to be good workers. Selection of a pup may depend on the needs of the owner. Remember that Border Collies are working dogs first, and are not always the most social dogs to people outside their immediate circle. They have a very high energy level and if not given a job to do, they will find one on their own.

I look at the parents' dispositions....do they work? Are they calm when off the clock? Although my dogs know what kennels are, they also live in the house with me. I want a disposition that contains the hard work ethic and the ability to be called off. The parents' dispositions provide good insights into their off springs' characteristics.

Border Collies mature at different rates, so it's best to let them develop before making a judgment as to their working dog potential. Some pups show no interest at first, but many do between 4-6 months and they start by herding cats, chickens and anything else that's around. My dog Vic who is now 7 didn't really come on until he was a year old and he is now my very best dog.

Before I even show young dogs sheep, I start by molding them to my discipline and commands: "lie down", "here to me", "that'll do" and "git back" for instance. These are all commands they will be asked to do with livestock, but can be taught as simple obedience at home. When I feel the dog has "turned on" to start working, I will begin with sessions of 1-2 minutes and gradually increase the frequency and time depending on what the dog can handle.

As far as conformation goes, Border Collies used exclusively as working dogs are bred for performance rather than to a conformation standard strictly speaking. Too straight a shoulder limits range of motion for getting down with their front end – the classic pose you may have seen in my demonstration at Woofstock last month. This is very important to this breed for showing strength and "eye" to the livestock. These dogs do a lot of lateral movement and very often need to have speed. Size and color are secondary to what is in their heads.

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Guard Dog Josie, a Maremma

## Fighting the Good Fight for the “Road Warrior”

By: Angela Sandoval, Volunteer & Education Manager

There are times, many of them, when working for an animal shelter saddens me. Day after day I see pet owners surrender their animals because they are moving, or don't have time to train their dog, or for any number of reasons. Hundreds of helpless kittens and puppies are brought in because pet owners refuse to spay or neuter their pets. As a humane educator, I sometimes feel that the challenges are insurmountable, and I wonder if we humans will ever get it all figured out.

But then...

Sometimes, even in the midst of the worst cases of neglect and abuse, a ray of light will shine brightly and instill hope once again. These beacons of kindness are the everyday folks who choose to do the right thing by the animals that cross their paths. They are the volunteers who give so generously of their time to help shelter animals, and they are the families who choose to adopt from the shelter and give homeless pets a second chance at life. And they are also the kind-hearted people who go out of their way to help an animal that they've never even met before – animals like the kitten who now bears the name “Road Warrior” as a monument to all he has been through in his short life.

Picture it: you are driving down a busy road and you see the occupants of the car in front of you open their windows and throw something out onto the road. Then another, and another thing is thrown out. At first it appears they are littering, but in the same moment you realize with horror that the “litter” that was just dumped from a moving vehicle is in fact three terrified little kittens. You pull over and, quick as you can, run to save the kittens, but by the time you can reach them, two have already been hit by cars. The one who remains is beat up, in shock – a handsome weeks-old gray tabby.

Gruesome stories like this tend to make national headlines, but it is important to realize that they always happen in someone's hometown. None of us is that far removed from this kind of cruelty, and each of us must be willing to take action – to “fight the good fight” – when we see it happen in our community. The person in the car behind those dumpers had to make a choice: do I simply go about my business, acting as if those kittens are not my responsibility? Or do I take action on their behalf, knowing that we are all of us stewards of the pets we have created to be our companions?

Luckily for one little kitten that day, that good citizen chose to stop traffic, swaddle the injured animal, and bring him straight to Heart of the Valley. Here the kitten received medical care for the trauma he had gone through, a new name, and a second chance at life. Today, “Road Warrior” is still recovering a bit, but his playful and feisty nature has lived up to his name.

And yes, this is just one more example of the kinds of sadness and despair I hear about every day at the shelter. Horrific as this story is, though, it also illuminates a bit of hope. It is a daunting challenge to try to stop this kind of animal abuse. And sometimes, in the face of such wanton cruelty, it does seem like an insurmountable problem. But the part of the story that really stays with me, that restores my hope anew, is the knowledge that for every one person who would harm an animal there are hundreds more who will choose to step forward and fight to make our world a kinder place for all.



Road Warrior with his new friend, HOV Feline Supervisor Kelly Haniuk.

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**NP:** Predators go with the territory when ranching, so can you tell us about your choice of the Maremma as guard dog.

**KM:** The Maremma-Abruzzese is the classic European flock dog and is most likely a descendant of the great white Eastern sheepdogs that slowly spread across Europe over 2,000 years ago. They are massive in size with a noble, distinctive bear-like head and strong jaws with a scissors' bite. It is alert and independent by nature and fiercely protective, barking and attacking any animal or unknown human if they think the flock is in danger. Their barking alerts the sheep who group up to protect themselves. The dog then takes a position between the flock and the danger. Llamas and donkeys are also used as guard animals. Llamas use their eyes and are imposing by virtue of their size. Donkeys are aggressive in their direct approach to a predator and will kick, strike and bite (often they will go after Border Collies too!). For my situation, I feel that the guard dog suits my needs best. My Josie is exceptional and does an incredible job keeping the Katahdins safe. Although she does fine on her own, it is wise to have more than one (depending on the size of your flock and ranch). Socializing puppies is absolutely not what you want to do if you intend to raise successful guard dogs: one person only should be responsible for their care and under no circumstances should they be treated like pets. As cute as they are, leaving them alone to bond with the sheep will give you the best results.

**NP:** Thank you Kindra for your time and insights. If you would like to know more about these wonderful dogs, Kindra would be happy to welcome you at Pinto Ranch or you can visit her web site at: [www.harlowhairsheep.com](http://www.harlowhairsheep.com)

# Kid Zone!

## "THINGS PETS DO" WORD SEARCH!

H H O W L O H  
 P I B A R K Y  
 O D S U A U A  
 H E N S C L L  
 R G W O E M P  
 N D W A L C U  
 P U R R L R L  
 H N E T S I L



Dogs, cats and rabbits can do many things. Find the following words in the grid to find out what some of these things are!

- |      |       |        |
|------|-------|--------|
| BARK | MEOW  | LISTEN |
| CLAW | NUDGE | RUN    |
| HIDE | PLAY  | LEARN  |
| HISS | PULL  | HOWL   |
| HOP  | PURR  | RACE   |

## SILLY PET JOKES!



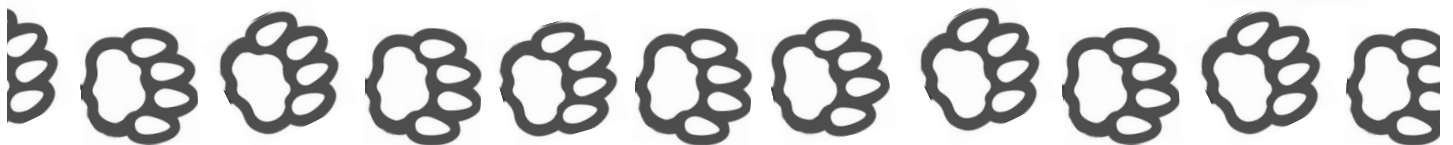
Why do cats eat fur balls?  
Because they love a good gag!

What do you call a cat who eats lemons?  
A sour-puss!

Where do dogs go when they lose their tails?  
To the re-tail store!



What did the hungry Dalmatian say when he had a meal?  
"That hit the spots!"



## Heart of the Valley Summer Day Camp

is over for the year, and we had so much fun romping with the shelter animals!

Every camper also chose to help their favorite pet get adopted. Here are some of their awesome success stories...



**"Roly Poly"**  
ADOPTED  
8/15/08



**"Wiggles"**  
ADOPTED  
8/16/08



**"Davis"**  
ADOPTED  
8/11/08

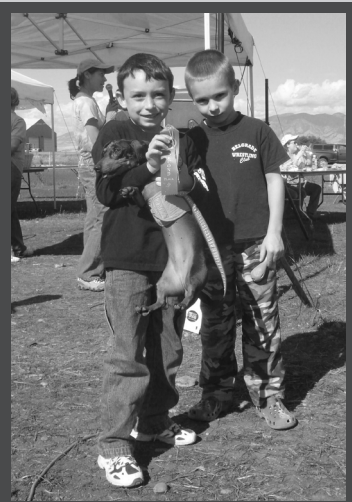


**"Wheatie"**  
ADOPTED  
8/10/08





By Jessica Groseth, Development Assistant



Two "Fun Pet Show" participants and their prize-winning dachshund.

The biggest pet lover's event of the summer took place at Heart of the Valley on September 13th, at the inaugural celebration of Woofstock! Although rain threatened throughout the morning set up, the day cleared up just as the event kicked off, and over 3,000 people participated in the event! 1,000 dogs and one cat accompanied their families, and competed in fun events like dock diving, the doxie derby, and pet idol. There was definitely something for everyone, with dog and cat contests, great prizes, a huge kids' corral with inflatables, crafts, and a fun pet show, and lots of great food and beer. Vendor booths such as K9 FUNdamentals and All Creatures Medical Centre offered tempting treats for people and their pets, and there were plenty of freebies!



Pet Idol silver medalist Lily, and her fellow search and rescue dog K2.

Shelter tours throughout the day were completely packed, and gave visitors a behind-the-scenes look at the shelter. Shelter pets were looking their finest, after being groomed by the Dee O Gee staff to look their most fluffy for Woofstock. Dog and cat adopt-a-thons helped encourage festival-goers to meet our homeless friends, and seventeen shelter animals were among the happiest Woofstock participants, because they found new families!



Dock Diving gold medalist Luda and his owner, Jay Erickson, and Libby Mock of Bridger Feeds.

As the Kids' Corral and vendor booths began closing down, the bands began cranking up, and kept the party going strong. Milton Menasco and the Big Fiasco kicked things off, followed by the Pet Idol Finals, with Molly the former shelter dog taking home the grand prize, a jeweled collar; Search and Rescue dog Lily coming in second with her amazing tricks, and Calvin the singing basset hound placing third. After Pet Idol, Bigsby Jones continued rocking until it was time to go home, happy, sunburned, and looking forward to next year.

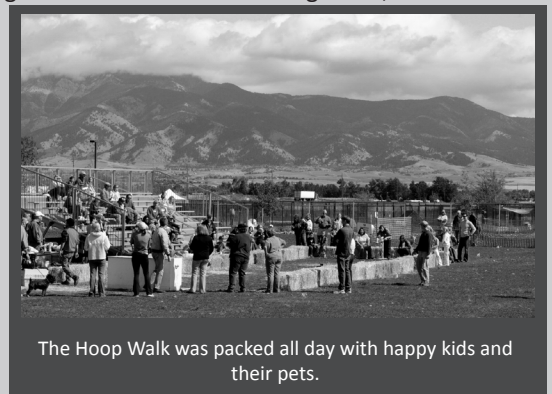


The Kids' Corral inflatables were a hit!

A big thank you to Murdoch's and all of the pet-loving businesses who sponsored

Woofstock and made it such a great day of pets, love and happiness!

Join us on SEPTEMBER 12, 2009 for Woofstock 09!



The Hoop Walk was packed all day with happy kids and their pets.



## MEMORIALS

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

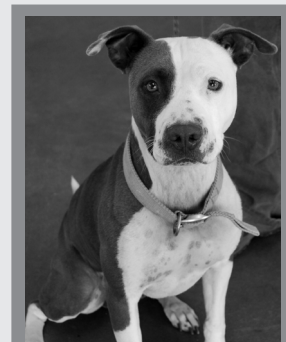
In Memory of Les Denning  
B.J. McAlear  
In Memory of Scott Farquher  
Joanne and Dick Norton  
In Memory of June Harding  
Esther Nelson  
Mary Lou and Charles Fjeld  
Charles and Beulah Stablein  
In Memory of Corey Jackson  
Verna DuPuis and the Academy of Costmetology  
In Memory of Millie Krenning  
Gene and Debbie Gibson  
In Memory of Mary Lou Levingood  
Julie Bales  
In Memory of Theolyn (Lynn) Martin  
Fred and Julie Videon  
In Memory of Frances McMurray  
Bobby Bjork  
Charles and Maureen Poremba  
GA and Lavonne Nielsen  
In Memory of Dr. John Montagne  
Sara J. Anderson  
In Memory of Bill and Maggie Murdock's Mothers  
Dee Hall  
In Memory of Arleen Peterson  
Michael Peterson  
In Memory of Walt and Shirley Taylor  
Joseph Sample

### In Memory of Beloved Pets

In Memory of Afton and Sunny  
Lauri and Scott Ferraro  
In Memory of Anna  
Jane Barber  
In Memory of Ashley  
Roxane, Dan, Rocky and Helen Longano  
Chris and Joe Sabatini  
In Memory of Barnum  
Anne Sherwood and Otto Pohl  
In Memory of Blackjack  
Richard and Jane Reardon  
In Memory of Belle

Tamara Bechara  
Sue Barrows  
In Memory of Blossom  
Geoff and Billie Richards  
In Memory of Boomer  
Richard and Kristine McKichan  
In Memory of Bridget  
Susan Paglia  
In Memory of Cassidy  
Bill Wall  
In Memory of Cinnamon Hauck  
Bobby R. Bjork  
In Memory of Cleo Duffy  
Myrna, Reed and Buster Renshaw  
In Memory of Cody  
Jim and Dian Bottcher  
In Memory of Daisy  
Joanne Pieper  
In Memory of Diesel  
SBC Construction  
In Memory of Doolin  
Diane Hilborn  
In Memory of Georgia  
Dick Corne and Joan Chadwick  
Ann and Lee Chase  
In Memory of Grubby  
Candice Bartholomew  
In Memory of Jasmine  
Joanne Pieper  
In Memory of Joey and Casey Theisen  
Mark and Addie Theisen  
In Memory of Lhotse  
Shelly Russell and David Kozicki  
In Memory of Lily Swinger  
Tana Covey  
In Memory of the Little One  
Elizabeth Harrison  
In Memory of Lizzie  
Katie and Bob Shaw  
Jinny and Howard Goodman  
Erin Pepus  
Chuck and Polly Rogers  
In Memory of Macho and Pascal  
Nancy Palmer  
In Memory of Max  
Erin Pepus

In Memory of Maxine  
Eleanor Truitt  
Bonnie Bunch  
In Memory of Milo  
Amy Washtak and Brian Riddicks  
In Memory of Mookie  
Hilary Field and Wesley Broadway  
In Memory of Mouse, the sweetest kitty  
Polly and Chuck Rogers  
In Memory of Paige Sue Southern  
Teri Hoyt  
In Memory of Penny  
Joe and Barbara Gillespie  
In Memory of Puck  
Janna Kuntz  
In Memory of Rio  
Ann and Lee Chase  
In Memory of Sam  
Marcia, Chuck & Chip Raches  
In Memory of Silver  
Jinny and Howard Goodman  
In Memory of Siyeh  
Mary Wilson  
Tammy Wert  
Katy Duffy  
Rita and Sonny Davis  
In Memory of Sport  
Margaret Mackin  
In Memory of Todd the Biting Cat  
Wendy L. Cochran  
Ann and Lee Chase  
In Memory of Tug Boylan  
Jane Boylan  
The Annie Cranson Family



Shelter dog Patch, a 2 year old Pit Bull Terrier.





## 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!

### In Honor of Those Who Love Animals

In Honor of Marcia and Buck Anderson  
Jack and Ginny O'Neel

In Honor of Gabby Flach's Birthday  
Dee Hall

In Honor of Nathan Hafla  
Annette and Tony Hafla

In Honor of Mahri Hafla  
Annette and Tony Hafla

In Honor of Carol Patterson's Birthday  
Charmagne O'Neill and Andrew Oswald

In Honor of Brooke Rice's Birthday  
Jeffrey and Kendice Rollison

In Honor of Neal Ross' Birthday  
Cathy and Michael Du Bois  
In Honor of the Marriage of Jed Thomas  
and Katie Lineberger  
Douglas and Gael Harris

### In Honor of Special Pets

In Honor of Church  
Beth Littlefield

In Honor of Coco  
Rena Easton

In Honor of Dusty McGeddy  
Dawn McGeddy

In Honor of Honey Dog  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Visscher

In Honor of Kashmir

Shelly Martel  
In Honor of MacIntosh, an HOV feline  
alumnus  
Charles Lange  
In Honor of Maggie  
John and Judith Patterson  
In Honor of Mr. Max  
Ronald and Miriam Huisenga  
In Honor of Oliver, Buster and Cookie  
Andrea Eastman  
In Honor of Ranger  
Katherine Lineberger  
In Honor of Sam  
William and Kathryn Anderson  
In Honor of Vernon  
Kenny and Teresa Dockery

*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 occurred, please contact us at (406) 388-9399 or via e-mail at [deva@heartofthevalleyshelter.org](mailto:deva@heartofthevalleyshelter.org). This list reflects donations made between July 19, 2008 and September 26, 2008.*

### FREE PET INSURANCE WITH ADOPTIONS!



30 days of ShelterCare Pet insurance is now complementary when you adopt a new best friend from Heart of the Valley. The policy covers accidents, such as car accidents or bone fractures, as well as ear illness, eye illness, fleas, and infectious diseases such as ringworm, Parvovirus, or Panleukopenia. The policy can be extended, starting at only \$10.95/month. To find out more call 1-866-375-PETS, or visit [www.sheltercare.com](http://www.sheltercare.com).



### SAVE THE DATE!



**The fifth annual Howlin' At the Moon Snowshoe Shuffle will take place at the Madison Lodge at Moonlight Basin at 5:30 pm on February 28, 2009. Bring your dog and join HOV for a howlin' good time! Snowshoe on Moonlight Basin's beautiful trails to work up an appetite, and then dig in to a hearty chili dinner, while enjoying great local music. Tickets are only \$20, and proceeds go straight to caring for the homeless animals of the Gallatin and Madison valleys!**

## A WAVE OF THE PAW TO...

**Tiffany Feisthamel**, for graciously allowing HOV to use her dock diving photos in the Summer Newsletter.

**Emma Hughes**, for donating her hard-earned allowance to Heart of the Valley.

**The 2007-2008 Third Grade Class at the Ophir School**, for donating the proceeds from the Third Grade Lasagna Restaurant to HOV.

**John Bailey and the Meat Shoppe**, for donating a portion of the proceeds from their bone bags for dogs.

To **Jerry Cashman** for wedging HOV's landscaping into his jam-packed schedule and getting grass planted around the new building despite a million rocks. It was not enough to donate trees and shrubs, he spent a few afternoons on the tractor as well.

To **Bill Oyler** for providing moral support to the Bridger Irrigation crew that fielded hourly questions about whether there would be green grass in time for Woofstock.

To **Travis Oyler and Bridger Irrigation** for giving us green grass for Woofstock.

To all of the **sponsors, volunteers and staff** that launched **Woofstock** as a day of free fun for pets and people to say thank you to the community for supporting the shelter. It was fun and we thank you!

To **Kim and Paul Cameron** at the **Bugaboo Cafe** in Big Sky, for hosting a Pooch Party every Thursday night, and donating the proceeds to HOV.

To **Molly Boucher** and the crew at **Earthtalk Studios**, who created a beautiful new website for HOV, and to **Steve Roderick** at **GoToBilling**, for designing a custom online donation site for HOV..

To **Dianne Armstrong** at [www.montanapets.org](http://www.montanapets.org) for creating and maintaining a statewide website for animal shelters in Montana.

To **Beth McFawn, MSU Plant Propagation Spring 2008 class, Westcape Nursery, Bray Landscaping & Irrigation, and Gallatin Garden Club** for providing much-needed plants and landscape services.

To **Jessica Boerger at East Main Trading Company**, for donating the profits from sales of quality used furniture to HOV.



## DOG FOOD ASSISTANCE NEEDED!

Your donation of dog food will help us to assist needy pet owners to keep their pets at home, rather than having to surrender pets to the shelter in times of hardship. (Animals in the shelter receive free food donated by Hill's Science Diet, so we are able to share donated pet food with those who need it.)

## WISH LIST

*Your unwanted items and in-kind donations may mean the world to the animals at the shelter!*

### CLEANING SUPPLIES

Powdered laundry detergent  
Paper towels  
Extra strong trash bags  
Tall kitchen garbage bags  
Sponges with scrubby pads  
Used blankets (no comforters, please)

### MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Neosporin  
Nitrile gloves (M & L)  
Hand disinfecting wipes or gel  
Betadine

### OFFICE SUPPLIES

Copy paper (any color)  
Postage stamps  
Scotch tape  
Sharpies (all colors)  
8 1/2 x 11 Note pads  
Scissors

### PET SUPPLIES

Dog collars (prong or martingale)  
Hard rubber indestructible dog chew toys  
Dog training treats  
Cat condos

### Dog biscuits

Small cat brushes  
Litter boxes (non covered)  
Canned cat or dog food with pull-top tabs  
Machine-washable pet beds  
Rectangular fleece dog pads  
Heavyweight plastic crock bowls  
Fleece cat beds  
Metal cat or dog bowls  
Crocheted 12" x 12" colorful "Granny squares"  
Igloo type dog houses  
Clay kitty litter (no scoopable, please)

### OTHER

AA Batteries  
Children's craft supplies (various)  
4' x 9' rectangular vinyl tablecloths  
Gift certificates for cat or dog grooming  
Gift cards for Bridger Feeds, Murdochs, Rocky Mountain Supply, Costco, Petsmart or Walmart.

**Staff's Pick Pup:**

**"Rip"**

Description: Rip is a real lover of a dog and enjoys being around people as much as possible. Rip also enjoys having kids around to give him lots of attention. Rip is very active and would love being someone's jogging partner. If you're looking for a dog that needs some extra love but is very eager to please come and visit with Rip.



**Kitty Pick of the Litter:**

**"Alan"**

Description: Alan is Mr. Personality! He is athletic and funny and can talk the ear off just about any cat or potential owner he's looking to impress. He takes center stage in our colony room, where he is the life of the party. As much as a party is fun and all, sometimes even Alan starts to miss spending a quiet night with a couple close friends. If he sounds like the right guy for you, he's available any and every night of the week. (ask for Big Al).



**Spaying and Neutering Puppies and Kittens  
By Crista DeJoia, HOV Staff Veterinarian**



Euthanasia of healthy unwanted cats and dogs remains the leading cause of death in these species. The Humane Society of the United States estimates that 4-6 million are euthanized annually in this country alone. The leading source of pets entering animal shelters are unwanted litters, and for this reason the American Veterinary Medical Association advises that all pets be neutered before adoption, including puppies and kittens as young as 6 weeks old. We routinely perform pediatric spays and neuters at HOV, but have received many questions regarding this practice.

The issue of pediatric spay/neuter of pets has remained controversial despite the lack of scientific data to support waiting until an animal reaches puberty to spay or neuter. Scientific studies have been performed to examine the safety of the procedure, as well as potential short-term and long-term problems that may arise from early spay/neuter. Below are some of the findings.

Spaying and neutering animals at 6-7 weeks of age caused no more surgical death or complications than spay/neuter at 6-7 months of age. In fact, surgery time and recovery from anesthesia is significantly reduced in young animals.

Retrospective studies show that early age spaying or neutering did not affect growth rates, food intake or weight gain. Instead of causing stunted growth, early spay/neuter may result in a slight increase in adult height.

Activity level, playfulness, vocalization, excitement, aggression, and affection were the same between dogs and cats that were neutered early versus those neutered after puberty. Neutered dogs or cats were not lethargic or inactive.

In response to concerns about urinary incontinence, there was no difference between dogs and cats neutered early and those neutered at 7 months of age.

In essence, the conclusion was overwhelmingly that early age spay/neuter is safe and effective, and does not seem to affect skeletal, physical, or behavioral development. Early spay/neuter can benefit the animal, the new owner, and provide animal population control for the community.



**We have a new website! For photos of all of our awesome animals, and tons of great information about Heart of the Valley, check out Heart of the Valley's new website at:**

**[www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org](http://www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org)**





**Heart of the Valley  
Animal Shelter**  
P.O. Box 11390  
Bozeman, MT 59719  
[www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org](http://www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org)

Please report duplicate or inaccurate mailings to  
(406) 388-9399

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## Coming Soon!

### **Pampered Chef Online Fundraiser**

**October 1 - 25, 2008**

Online holiday sales event to benefit Heart of the Valley. Visit [www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org](http://www.heartofthevalleyshelter.org) for details.

### **Pet Pals "Teach a Dog a Trick" Event**

**October 25, 2008 at 2pm**

At this fun and free event, we will be teaching shelter dogs the basics of obedience, like sit, down & stay. This event is open to all kids and their families, and snacks will be provided for all. For more information, contact Angela at 388-9399 extension 105 or [volunteer@heartofthevalleyshelter.org](mailto:volunteer@heartofthevalleyshelter.org).

### **"Little Explorers" at HOV!**

**November 7, 2008 at 11am**

The Bozeman Recreation Department has put together a series of "explorations" of interesting places in the community, and Heart of the Valley is proud to be next in the series! This event will include a tour of the shelter, meeting lots of adoptable animals, and fun animal activities for each kid. To find out more about the Little Explorers program or to sign up for the HOV tour day, please contact Jamie at [jsaitta@bozeman.net](mailto:jsaitta@bozeman.net).

### **Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force Free Clinic**

**November 15, 2008**

Come have your pet spayed or neutered to help reduce pet overpopulation!  
To sign up or volunteer, call (406)586-1152

### **Santa Paws at Bridger Feeds**

**December 12-13, 2008**

Come have your pet's photo taken with Santa at Bridger Feeds. Details coming soon!

### **Snowshoe Shuffle**

**February 28, 2009 at 5:30 pm**

Join Heart of the Valley for a moonlit snowshoe trek with your dog at Moonlight Basin, followed by a chili feed and live music!

For more information about upcoming events, call (406) 388-9399 extension 112, email [deva@HeartoftheValleyShelter.org](mailto:deva@HeartoftheValleyShelter.org), or go to our new website at [www.HeartoftheValleyShelter.org](http://www.HeartoftheValleyShelter.org).

## VISIT US AT THE NEW SHELTER TODAY!

