

THINGS TO DO:

- **Donate Pet Food to our Food Bank**
- **Teach your dog a new trick**
- **Send in your year end gift**
- **Recognize that your cat owns you and not vice versa**
- **Register your Food Lion MVP card with us**

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Client Spotlight

As promised we're shining the spotlight on our wonderful clients. These are the pets and their people that you help everyday with your donations.

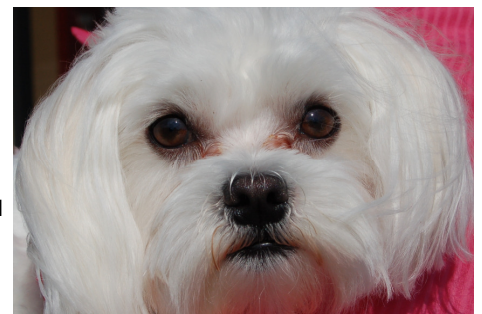
To start the ball rolling on this part of our newsletter we'll start at the very beginning: Our very first client: Toby the Maltese.

When Toby's owner contacted us she was extremely worried about being able to get him neutered and vaccinated. She had called some local vet offices and found the cost beyond her means. As a senior citizen living off of her Social Security check, any additional expense in the budget was out of the question. Needless to say she was excited to learn about the SNIP Fund and how it could help her do right by Toby.

The day of the surgery she showed up bright and early. I heard many a "Thank You!" that morning from her as she waited to get him onto the mobile vet unit. Toby came back that afternoon, a little woozy, but all the better for a successful surgery and being brought up to date on his vaccinations.

I want to thank each and every one of our donors and supporters for helping us make this possible for Toby and all the other pets (and their owners!) that have been helped. Without you none of this would be possible!

Rebecca Rodgers - President



Say "Hello!" to Toby the Maltese our first client.

Baby, it's Cold Outside!

Winter is coming and that means it's pretty chilly outside - days and nights. So what's a pet owner to do? Easy! Create a cozy spot for the animals in your life - be it indoors or out.

If your pets are indoor living they'd love to have their own spot somewhere in the house. A blanket on the floor (or even the couch!) is the perfect thing since they are easily washable.

However, if you have outdoor pets you'll need to make sure they have a shelter out of the wind, that's easily cleanable and has sufficient bedding to keep them warm. We recommend straw (not hay) as a good choice for bedding. It's less expensive, doesn't get moldy unless left to soak and it retains heat very well. Animals love to make a "den" in the straw and will use it if they get cold enough.

Another important item to have at all times: fresh water. That's fairly easy for our indoor dwellers but it can be a challenge for those who's bowls freeze over night. It's important to check your pets outdoor water bowls daily to make sure they have fresh, thawed water to drink so that they can stay hydrated.

If you don't have a dog or cat shelter call us! We want to help your pets stay warm and cozy this winter.



"No matter how little money and how few possessions you own, having a dog makes you rich." - Louis Sabin

Holiday Do's & Don'ts

Hmmm...smell that? Turkey!

Yes, it's that time of year again - lots of food, treats and holiday decorations around. Lots of things for pets to get into and possibly get sick from.

Plants make great gifts and many people either receive them or give during the holiday season. Some common ones to keep pets away from include: Holly, Amaryllis, Mistletoe, Poinsettia and Christmas cactus. All of these should be kept out of pets reach at all times. Food, food and more food! Turkey, ham, candy, cookies and more. All of which is NOT pet food and should NOT be given to pets at anytime. All of them can cause indigestion and some can be potentially fatal. Also, pets who receive scraps as part of their diet can become overweight which leads to many different health issues.

Decorations make our home pretty during this time of year but many of them can end up inside your pets - which of course, is never a good thing. So keep tinsel, ornaments, lights and other items up out of pets reach. Check them daily for missing parts.

Shopping for Paws...

Black Friday...some of us love it and some of us hate it. Either way, you can get some holiday shopping done before then and help the SPCA of FC at the same time:

Need stocking stuffers? Then check out Avon! For every purchase you make either online or off using the special code SPCAF01 we receive 30%. Avoid the long lines and crowds while saving money. The website is: www.youravon.com/pbardes. If you're shopping offline you can call our sale contact Phyllis Bardes at (919)556-2593 (We could potentially earn \$500 with this fundraiser and that would help pay for 10 spay/neuter surgeries!)

Another great gift (for you or another animal lover) is laser cut wooden ornaments from artist and animal lover Michael Caston at Critter Gift Shop. We love these items and think they lend a nice touch to the tree or even presents.

(continued pg 3)

Help us WIN!



Care2.com is having their annual "America's Favorite Animal Shelter" nation-wide contest and we've been entered. If we get the most votes we would win \$10,000. We also have the possibility of winning 2nd place (\$5,000), 3rd place (\$3,000), 4th place (\$2,000), 5th place (\$1,000) or 6th-10th place (\$500).

We also have a chance to win a \$500 prize each week for the nine weeks of the contest!

The contest runs from November 5, 2009 to December 15, 2009

Visit the contest website at www.care2.com/animalsheltercontest/70171 and vote for us! And please tell everyone you know to vote for us too!

Separation Anxiety, Canine-Style

Has your dog been chewing up the couch or remote? Not to worry, he's just well, worried!

It's not uncommon - especially during the back-to-school season and the holidays. Dogs (and cats) feel the stress of the new schedules or of holiday plans. Suddenly their family members have all gone from hanging around and throwing the ball everyday to leaving out the front door and not coming back until the end of the day. Dogs don't know that you're going to come back - they just think you're taking off forever.

Some signs to watch for are barking, whining, scratching at the door, chewing inappropriate items, lethargy or not eating well. If any of these things have been happening to your dog there are some things you can do to help relieve the stress:

- Every time you leave the house you need to say good-bye to your dog. It doesn't literally have to be "good-bye," it can be "Be back soon!" or any other phrase. The point is to condition your dog to know that when he hears this phrase, he will see you again later. Do this several times for 5 minute period over a weekend to prepare the dog for Monday morning.
- Leave clothes with your scent on them around the house.
- Make sure your dog can keep busy while you're gone. Try giving your dog an empty milk container without the lid, but with some of the milk residue still inside it. He'll be attracted by the smell, then he'll find out it makes a really neat noise and then they're king of the mountain
- If your dog is outside, hang an old bike tire, a bunch of dish rags knotted together or a shoe from a tree so the dog can play with them
- Have a pet sitter come over once in a while to spend time with the dog, or try doggie daycare two or three times a week.
- Put the radio on a talk station and leave it on while you're gone. The noise muffles any other kinds of sounds the dog might worry about and it's just background.

The important thing is to spend time with your pets interacting with them when you are home and providing a way for them to relieve their anxieties when you're gone.

Now where's that remote...

"Cat's Motto:

**No matter
what you've
done wrong,
always try to
make it look
like the dog
did it." -
Unknown**

...Shopping for Paws

And for every purchase you make using their website and choosing SPCA of Franklin County as the recipient we receive 25%. If you're an offline shopper call us and we'll be happy to place an order for you! The website is www.crittergiftshop.com

And while you at it why not get a shirt for the dog(s) and let him/her/them show their (and your) support for the SPCA of FC! These are available in six colors and range in size from XS (toy breeds) to 3XL (56lbs and up). Made from 5.8 oz, 100% combed, ringspun cotton. We receive 15% for every one you purchase at www.zazzle.com/spcafc* (make sure to add the star at the end!)



**The latest fashion
for your dog**



SPCA of Franklin County
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Phone: 919-556-0954

E-mail: spcafc@gmail.com

Web: www.spcafc.org

Save a tree! Get our newsletter by email! Sign up at our website today!

Where the Wild Things Are...

**Feral cats
have a
home...
outdoors!**



Welcome back to our little corner of the wild. In this issue we'll be looking at what you can do for feral cats.

A feral cat is defined as any cat that you can not approach, easily pick up and hold in your arms or lap. Some of you may have indoor cats that seem like this but really they just like their personal space. A true feral is a wild animal.

Cats have been here in North Carolina since the first settlers arrived. They have been breeding and surviving ever since. However, this does not mean they shouldn't be helped to be healthy and safe. Every cat deserves our help regardless of where he or she lives.

First you need to start feeding two times a day - morning and evening. This allows the cats to get used to humans in their area and gives them two opportunities to eat each day. This also makes it easier for you to humanly trap them for spay/neuter surgery and to keep an eye out for illness or injury.

Second you need to talk to your neighbors about the cats. Don't assume everyone is going to want to help but don't assume they don't either. You never know until you talk about it! Let everyone around you know that you're trying to help the cats and see if they would be interested in helping too. We know of several communities who have come together and been very successful in feral cat management.

Third - contact us so we can help **you** help the cats! After all, it's what we do best!

Here's What Your \$\$ Means to a Franklin County Pet Owner And How Far Your Money Can Go

- \$5...
...pays for a rabies vaccination
- \$10...
...pays for a distemper/parvo vaccination
- \$25...
...pays for half the cost of a spay/neuter surgery
- \$50...
- \$100...
...pays for two spay/neuter surgeries

Other amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Check Credit Card

Card Number _____

Exp Date _____

SPCA of Franklin County
105 Mill Creek Dr Youngsville NC 27596

Donations

Without you we would not be able to help the pets of Franklin County. Your year end gift will be used to provide spay/neuter & vaccination services to pet owners and feral cat caretakers.

Every penny counts and no matter what you give it is always appreciated!



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