



PAW PRINTS

Finney County Humane Society

P. O. Box 2031 • Garden City, KS 67846 • 620-275-5651

MAY 2004



PITCH FOR PETS

by Jim Arwine

The shouts of “play ball” will echo again this summer when the Finney County Humane Society hosts its second annual “Pitch for Pets” softball tournament, June 26 and 27, at Wiley baseball complex.

The weekend fund-raising event is hosted by KUPK-TV and the FCHS to gain awareness of the need for pet adoptions and the importance of spaying and neutering pets. Glenda Hopkins, the society’s President, said funds generated through corporate sponsors, team registrations and a drawing for donated prizes will help ensure the adoption of hundreds of pets every year. Donations, she said, will help sponsor a spay/neuter program, help board pets, buy pet food, provide veterinary care and purchase advertisements.

Up to 13 adult men’s teams will vie for tournament honors during the community event. The action starts each day at 9 a.m.

Even though there will be no admission charge to the tournament, baseball fans will have an opportunity to enter a drawing for a wide array of prizes donated by local businesses. Items include, but are not limited to, dinners at local eateries, a professional eye exam, a produce basket, a silver coin, animal spaying or neutering, and a gift certificate from a local butcher and grocer. At press time the list was still growing.

Retailers who contribute certificates or coupons for prizes or services will garner listing in the baseball tournament’s program.

Hopkins said organizations that donate \$100 in cash or merchandise will also be listed on a commemorative t-shirt and get mentioned on a promotional TV commercial that will be airing two weeks prior to the tournament.

Additionally, FCHS volunteers will have adoptable pets on hand both days of the tournament.

Hopkins added that the Humane Society is a non-profit organization and that all donations are tax deductible. The society is staffed by volunteers, so all the money raised will go directly to support animal care programs. For example, pet owners who spay or neuter animals they adopt from the Garden City animal shelter receive a reimbursement from the FCHS. The society also pays the Kansas application fee for residents who wish to foster animals awaiting adoption. Many times homeless animals come into the shelter needing medical attention. The Humane Society often pays for these veterinary services.

Last year’s tournament was successful, she said, but much was learned and is being applied to stage an even better event this year.

THE FCHS and Animal Shelter would like to thank WalMart once again for the donation of hundreds of pounds of dog and cat food each month.



CRITTERS FOR KEEPS

Every 1st & 3rd Saturday at Garden City’s WalMart, 12-2. PLEASE COME AND HELP!

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Glenda Hopkins

Late last year, a horse owner allowed her mare to starve to death. The Sheriff Deputies involved, the vet called in to help, and myself, as the representative for the FCHS, all knew that was a terrible and very wrong thing to have happen. Now, the justice system has also said that it was wrong. Adelbertha Martinez-Figueroa pled guilty to a charge of animal cruelty and was sentenced to 90 days in jail. She served three days in jail and the rest of the jail time was suspended. There are some of us that speculate that three days in jail were not enough. But, it is a start.

This is a time of learning for all involved. The Sheriff Deputies are now becoming more familiar with cruelty cases. I'm learning more about what takes place in the court system. And, hopefully the judicial system will come to realize what a rising problem this has become. At the first hearing on this case, the judge remarked that he so rarely sees any cruelty to animal cases. Well, I'm hoping that he sees a lot more in the future. We all know that the cruelty is taking place, now we just have to get it into the courtroom. At this time we have one cruelty charge that is pending against a horse owner and one case where horses are being watched for improvement.

We can't change a situation if we don't know about it. If you know of a situation where any kind of animal is being abused or not properly cared for, please tell someone. You can call and leave a message for the FCHS at 272-5651. You can call the Animal Shelter at 276-1152. You can call the Sheriffs office at 272-3700 or the Police Department at 276-1300. Animal's lives are depending on **YOU!** One person **can** make a difference.

VICE PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Nancy Garhart



Hang on to your hats... we're making tracks in 2004!



We are recycling ink cartridges, laser cartridges and copier cartridges. The small cartridges can be dropped off at Campbell's Abstract and Janet's Hallmark. For larger cartridges, please call 272-5651 and leave a short message and your phone number. We will pick up large quantities of cartridges.

Tracks will be made in the Beef Empire Days parade, please watch for us. Can't tell you too much but one of the board members will not be themselves.

August brings the Finney County Fair and we will be there. Stop by our booth for information and freebies.

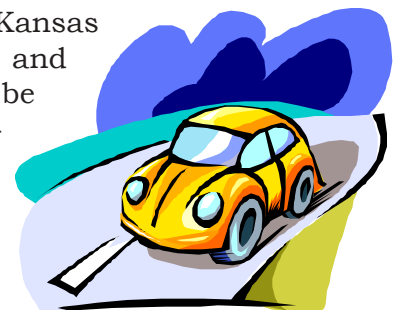
More tracks. Be sure to look for donation cans at Ward's Lawn & Garden Care, Orscheln Farm & Home Supply, Traditions Cafe', Comfort Inn, Day's Inn, Hannah's Corner, Continental Inn Restaurant, and Cox Cable. When doing business in these supporting places, please leave a few coins in the special marked cans. If you know of a business that would support us by displaying a donation can, please give us a call. Thank you!

We are also working on a speakers bureau. If any of you enjoy speaking to small groups, let us know. We hope to have several topics to speak about.

We have also handed out 82 spay/neuter coupons. You do the math on unwanted litters. We invite you to help us make tracks this year. As you can see there are many ways to help. Give us a call at 272-5651.

The FCHS is frequently transferring dogs to rescue groups here in Kansas and surrounding states. The most frequent travels fare to Wichita and Kansas City, KS and towards Pueblo, CO. If you travel and would be willing to help, please contact Glenda Hopkins with your email address or phone number so that she can put you on a contact list. You can contact Gloria at

ghopkins2@cox.net
620-276-3102





V E T ' S V I E W

By Dr. Rodney York, DVM

Kennel cough does not sound all that bad when you hear the name but if your dog has been a victim you understand it is a very annoying disease. Dogs with kennel cough have a deep dry cough that sounds like they are going to cough up a lung. At the end of a coughing spell they often gag up a small amount of white foamy material. Just what you want to hear and see in the middle of the night. Kennel cough is the result of a dog being exposed to the bacteria named bordetella bronchidaseptica. This bacteria hangs out in the lining of the dog's respiratory tract. The bordatella causes enough irritation that it starts coughing spells. The bacteria are readily transferred through the air and by nasal contact. Bordetella infections can sweep through a kennel or boarding facility very quickly. They often show signs of the infection about five days after being exposed. Sometimes the carrier animal may show very few signs making it difficult to isolate the source of the infection. It may also be transferred by dogs sniffing through a fence in the back yard or two dogs greeting each other during a walk. The good news is that for the most part it is not a life threatening disease; life annoying but not life threatening. The dog may be tired from coughing all night long and the owner from having to listen to them. Untreated kennel cough would clear up on it's own over the course of a month. But that can seem like a very long time so we often help by prescribing a couple medications. Prescribing an antibiotic will help shorten the duration of the disease and a cough suppressant makes the dog feel more comfortable. There are vaccines that can help prevent and/or reduce the severity of an infection. Some veterinarians have been frustrated by an incomplete protection after vaccination. Dogs that are going to be at a boarding facility or animals that are groomed on a regular basis may be required to have this vaccine. There are two forms of this vaccine. There is an injectable form that is given just like the distemper, parvo and rabies vaccine. There is also an intranasal vaccination that involves spraying the vaccine in the nose. This form of vacci-

nation stimulates a localized immunity where exposure first occurs. This past year there has been a running outbreak at the pound which is common when a large number of dogs that have limited vaccination histories are boarded together. The good news is that it has not cost any dogs more than a few sleepless nights. There have also been increases in the number of cases brought in to me at the clinic. I tell them kennel cough is not life threatening just life annoying. But I'll bet that's not much comfort when Fifi sounds like she is about to fall over from another coughing spell.

READIN', WRITIN', & ANIMALS

Nancy Garhart

Finney County Humane Society is going to school. We will be able to offer an education program to the schools in Finney County. The program is written by the National Humane Society. **Kind News** has been published since 1983 and is read by more than a million children in classrooms nationwide. It's focus is helping educators teach children kindness and respect for all life. FCHS is excited to be able to give this gift subscription to all third grades in our county. A part of our mission statement, "to promote the extension of humane education", can be fulfilled with this gift.

There will be 31 third grade classes that will receive **Kind News** starting next fall. Estimated population of children touched will be 1,000.

Kind News covers many National Education Standards and requires little or no preparation time for the teachers. This newsletter is a fun, cross-curricular teaching tool that helps children get into the reading and writing habit. The program also includes Spanish translation of the material. **Kind News** is written for grades K- through High School. We choose the third grade to encourage the children to read at an early age. If you would be interested in sponsoring this program for a specific classroom that we have not been able to include, you may call 272-5651 for more information.

**In 2003 we sent 277 dogs to the
Dumb Friends League in Denver, and
260 of those dogs were adopted.**

TEMPERATURE'S RISING

DONATION DRAWING



As heat rises this summer we all need to be on the look out for animals in trouble. Lt. David Slaughter with the Garden City Police Department has assured the

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that Garden City Police Officers will respond to calls from the public that a dog is shut inside a parked car. Lt. Slaughter said that when a person sees a dog inside of a parked



car with the windows mostly closed, they should call the police department at 620-276-1300. They should then write down the license plate number of the car. If possible, they should then stay in the area to direct the responding police officer to the car. If you see a dog, or other animal, which is kept outside with no shelter from the elements or no water, call the Garden City/Finney County Animal Shelter at 620-276-1152. Or, you can call the Garden City Police Department at 620-276-1300. If you don't see results in a timely manner, please call back.

The FCHS is having a 2nd Annual Donation Drawing in conjunction with our **SECOND ANNUAL PITCH FOR PETS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**. The drawing will be held on June 27, 2004, in the afternoon, of the second day of the tournament. The tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. You can purchase tickets from any board member or, at Campbell Abstract, 417 N. 8th, or at KS Commission on Veterans Affairs, 302 Fleming, Suite 4B. We haven't finished visiting businesses yet but the ones that we have visited have been generous. We will be adding more prizes before the drawing but for now our prize list is as follows:

1. Two free spay or neuters by Dr. Rodney York, DVM
2. One free membership to Friends of Lee Richardson Zoo
3. One free eye exam by Dr. Kristina Reimer
4. A \$20 gift certificate from Klass Act
5. A free massage from massage therapist Wendy White
6. A basket of hair products from Signatures Salon
7. A gift certificate from 4- Paws Pet Care Center
8. A Silver coin from Gipsons Diamonds
9. A \$20 gift certificate from Ehresman Packing Co.

We have also had some other generous donations. Thank you to Coca-Cola, Comfort Inn, Garden City State Bank, Dr. Grant Larkin, DDS, and Western State Bank.



Please make sure that your dog wears an identification tag and be sure that the tag has current information, including day and evening phone numbers.



We would like to thank **Target** and its employees for the large donation of dog and cat food, cat litter, and dog treats. The FCHS, foster care givers, and the shelter appreciate the generosity.

We would also like to thank **Peterson Printing** and **Key Office Supply** for the free and discounted printing that they do for us. The owners and employees are generous and caring people.

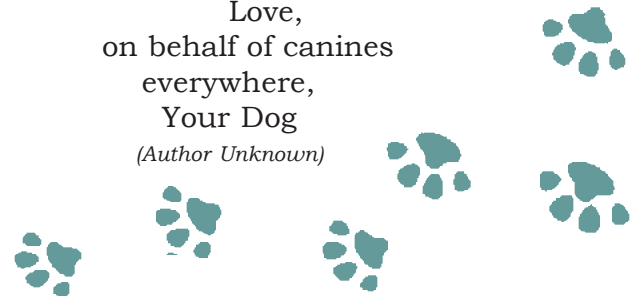


I am your dog, and I have a little something I'd like to whisper in your ear. I know that you humans lead busy lives. Some have to work, some have children to raise. It always seems like you are running here and running there, often much too fast, often never noticing the truly grand things in life. Look down at me now, while you sit there at your computer. See the way my dark brown eyes look at yours?

They are slightly cloudy now. That comes with age. The gray hairs are beginning to ring my soft muzzle. You smile at me; I see love in your eyes. What do you see in mine? Do you see a spirit? A soul inside, who loves you as no other could in the world? A spirit that would forgive all trespasses of prior wrong doing for just a simple moment of your time? That is all I ask. To slow down, if even for a few minutes, to be with me. So many times you have been saddened by the words you read on that screen, of others of my kind, passing. Sometimes we die young and oh so quickly, sometimes so suddenly it wrenches your heart out of your throat. Sometimes, we age so slowly before your eyes that you may not even seem to know until the very end, when we look at you with grizzled muzzles and cataract clouded eyes. Still the love is always there, even when we must take that long sleep, to run free in a distant land. I may not be here tomorrow; I may not be here next week. Someday you will shed the water from your eyes, that humans have when deep grief fills their souls, and you will be angry at yourself that you did not have just "one more day" with me. Because I love you so, your sorrow touches my spirit and grieves me. We have NOW, together. So come, sit down here next to me on the floor, and look deep into my eyes. What do you see? If you look hard and deep enough we will talk, you and I, heart to heart. Come to me not as "alpha" or as "trainer" or even "Mom or Dad". Come to me as a living soul and stroke my fur and let us look deep into one another's eyes and talk. I may tell you something about

the fun of chasing a tennis ball, or I may tell you something profound about myself, or even life in general. You decided to have me in your life because you wanted a soul to share such things with. Someone very different from you, and here I am. I am a dog, but I am alive. I feel emotion, I feel physical senses, and I can revel in the differences of our spirits and souls. I do not think of you as a "dog on two feet" -I know what you are and who you are. You are human, in all your quirkiness, and I love you still. Now, come sit with me, on the floor. Enter my world, and let time slow down if only for 15 minutes. Look deep into my eyes, and whisper into my ears. Speak with your heart, with your joy, and I will know your true self. We may not have tomorrow, but we do have today, and life is oh so very short. So please...come sit with me now and let us share these precious moments we have together.

Love,
on behalf of canines
everywhere,
Your Dog
(Author Unknown)



VISIT THE FCHS WEBSITE!

www.finneycohs.org

This newsletter is now available on our web site, as well as lots of excellent pictures of adoptable cats, kittens, dogs and puppies!

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Dear Friends of Animals:

The Finney County Humane Society needs your help. All it requires is for you to save some trash that we can turn into cash for the animals. Please save your empty inkjet, laser cartridges and toner cartridges for us, and we will arrange to have them picked up and recycled for cash.

This is an important fund-raiser program for us. It will allow us to help more animals to be neutered/spayed and it will also give us more monies to transport animals to no-kill shelters.

The only cartridges that we can not accept are ones made by Epson. Please ask friends and neighbors to help us. You may drop inkjet cartridges off at Campbell Abstract, 417 N. 8th, and Janet's Hallmark, 2214 E. Kansas Avenue, or if you have a large number of inkjet cartridges you can give us a call and we will pick them up. We will also pick up laser cartridges or toner cartridges, just call 272-5651 and leave a message with your phone number.

We appreciate any help you can give us so that we may help our animals.

Sincerely Yours,
Nancy Garhart

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Fi. Co. Humane Society
P. O. Box 2031
Garden City, KS 67846



**OUR MISSION
STATEMENT:**

To prevent cruelty
to animals, to relieve
suffering among
animals, and to
promote the
extension of
humane education