**Foster Homes Are Saving Lives**

**Jade Finds A Home**

When Jade, a senior Yorkshire Terrier came to the shelter as a stray, she was weak, frightened and barely able to walk. The one on one care she desperately needed was provide by an Ingham County Shelter Foster Home. She soon was able to eat, run, wag her tail and most importantly, found her forever home.

In keeping with our goal to adopt as many healthy animals from the shelter as we can, the ICAS has developed the Foster Care Program. The purpose of the foster program is to increase the chances that animals entering our shelter will be adopted into permanent homes. The program provides animals that have a good chance for adoption, but are too young, sick, injured, or stressed to do well in the shelter environment, an opportunity for rehabilitation in a nurturing foster home. Healthy adult animals are also placed in foster care when space is limited in our shelter.

By becoming a part of our foster care program you could be the difference between life and death for dogs, cats, kittens, puppies and other companion animals that cannot be adopted right away. This can be an intense short-term commitment, but also one of the most rewarding things you will ever do.

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact the Volunteer Foster Care Coordinator, Maria at Juniorboone925@aol.com or call the shelter for a foster parent application.
How can you help?
A few ideas on how you can help the animals

Feline Needs:
• CAT LITTER —With over 100 cats in the building on any given day, we will consume over 600 lbs of CAT LITTER each week!
• Canned cat food
• Iams dry cat food
• Stainless Steel Bowls
• Rugs—(small), Cat Cozies & Cat Beds, Towels
• Detergent—(we do 10 loads per day of towels and linens)
• Clorox—20 gallons per week.
• Cat Toys, Scratching Posts
• Cat carriers

Canine Needs:
• Collars, leashes and bandanas
• Toys, lots of toys
• Raw hide chews & Kong chews.
• Blankets, small rugs and linens to lay on and towels for bathing
• Dog carriers, dog crates
• Stainless steel bowls
• Cheez-wiz (we stuff it in the Kong toys and freeze them for the dogs)
• Packages of hotdogs (used to hide the medication for dogs)

WANDA'S TIPS.
We hear frequently at our mobile adoption sites from one half of a couple very interested in adopting a dog or a cat but hesitant to do so because of the negative response from the other half in their relationship. We'd like to offer some suggestions for this sticky situation.

If your partner is out of town, this provides an excellent opportunity to adopt a dog or cat in their absence. Never lying but suggesting that you might have obtained the animal through some raffle process where you thought you were bidding on a genuine Amish quilt often works.

Saying to your husband, “but you did agree to this, dear. Remember, it was during the fourth quarter of that tied football game. I asked you and you said, ‘yes, go ahead’. Geez, you never listen to me!” You may then begin a completely different argument but you've moved the focus from the new addition to the family.

Try, “but honey, I got him for you”.

Blame the staff. “I don't know what happened. I got ready to leave and there she was, in my car. What could I do?”

“You didn't say yes? Oh my gosh, we have got to get better cell phones. I could have sworn you said ‘yes’. This static and poor reception is just unacceptable. Should you call the phone company or should I?”

“But we can't return him. Look, he's already so attached to you.”

“When you told me that long story about your childhood pet I was sure you meant you wanted me to run out and get one just like him. You really should be more specific.”

“What dog? Where?”

Every Little Bit Helps!
Have you noticed the improvements at the shelter? Vital medical services, new equipment, remodeling, (a new laundry room, animal bathing room, additional outdoor exercise area)? All made possible because of the Animal Care Fund.

The fund provides for the very critical medical needs as well as new medical and shelter equipment to better care for the animals. Many exciting changes are happening at the shelter. We invite you to come visit the animals and staff and see what's happening at the shelter.

Please support the Animal Care Fund we couldn't do what we're doing without your help.

Yes! I want to support the work of the Animal Care Fund at the shelter. Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift:

___$25  ___$50  ___$100  ___$500  ___$1000

Name:_________________________________________________
Street Address:__________________________________________
City/State/Zip___________________________________________
Phone#_____________ E-Mail:_____________________________

Special Giving Options:
_____I would like to make a Memorial Contribution in MEMORY or in HONOR (circle one) of:
Name of person to honor____________________________________

Please notify (name & address of person you want notified) of my contribution:
__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Gabby's Column

Dear Gabby,

My owner's mother hates cats so whenever she comes over I wind around her legs. Is this the right thing to do?

Chester

Dear Chester,

Absolutely! People seem to either love or hate us and by showing this attention to your owner's mother, she could change her mind, be won over to our side or trip and fall, hit her head and forget she ever disliked you in the first place.

Good luck, keep winding.

Gabby.
Animal Cruelty Violations/Update

Man Pleads Guilty

Kian M. Miller, a 29 year old Lansing Township man pled guilty to a dog fighting charge. He was sentenced by 55th District Court Judge Thomas Boyd to 360 days in the county jail and two years probation. In addition he was ordered to pay restitution to the Ingham County Animal Shelter in the amount of $1356 and all court costs and fines. By order of Judge Boyd, Miller is not allowed to own or harbor animals during the two year probationary period. ICAC officers discovered four dead pit bulls and three live pit bulls chained in Miller's back yard in May 2006. Evidence of dog fighting was also found inside his home.

Animal Control Officers Seize 18 Pit Bulls

In early November ICAC officers were called to the 1200 block of West Maple Street regarding a complaint of thin dogs at the residence. Officers discovered 18 pit bulls on the property. The dogs were chained in the back yard and several were located inside the home. The owner left the scene prior to the arrival of officers. Evidence was found in the home to indicate dog fighting had occurred. The dogs were found to be in poor shape. The Prosecuting Attorney's office has issued two warrants with charges including dogfighting, animal neglect and unlicensed dogs. All of the dogs still remain under the custody of Animal Control.

REPORT ANIMAL CRUELTY

If you suspect an animal is being neglected of proper shelter, food or water, please call animal control and ask for a welfare check on that animal. State Law REQUIRES that dogs left outdoors MUST have proper shelter to protect them from the elements of weather. Don't let the dog freeze this winter. Call 517-676-8370 or to report anonymous tips of animal cruelty you can leave a message at 517-676-8376. If it is an emergency and the shelter is closed call your local police department.

Message from the Director

I will soon embark on my two-year anniversary with the Ingham County Animal Control Department. I'm very pleased to reflect on the accomplishments achieved thanks to the generosity and cooperation I've enjoyed with other county agencies, volunteers and members of the community. Having spent the last 22 years in the animal shelter/humane society environment I anticipated my transition to the animal control side to be difficult. To my surprise, it was not difficult at all. What I did find was a community and a board of commissioners who welcomed me and supported my goals for the department. Staff and volunteers pitched in to begin the hard work of ensuring the best service and care was being provided to the animals and citizens of Ingham County.

"Where there are animals there are people who care deeply for them..."such is the case in Ingham County. When the call for help went out, they responded. The people I have come to know while working along side them and those I depend on daily to ensure the animals are fed, cleaned and adopted have been impressive. Their selfless dedication of untold hours of volunteer work and support is boundless. Thanks to these efforts ICAC has a stronger presence in the community and statistics prove our efforts and programs are having a positive impact. There's nothing more rewarding than hearing,"Wow, you guys have really done a lot here". Or when visitors comment that the animals "look so comfortable on their blankets" or "playing with their toys". The ultimate compliment is when they ask “What can I do to help?”

We have made remarkable progress and with your support will continue to provide the best service possible for the citizens and animals of Ingham County. Keep tuned-in as we look forward to an exciting 2007!

Sincerely,
Jamie McAloon Lampman
Director
Bark & Build Event
It was collaboration between animal welfare groups and non-profit agencies.
It was a good time had by all who attended the First Annual Bark & Build event sponsored by Habitat for Humanity of Lansing, Ingham County Animal Control and Capital Area Humane Society at the Ingham County Fairgrounds.

Many animals found new homes, dog contestants showed off their creative side during the Halloween contest and proceeds benefited the three agencies hosting the events. Animal Placement Bureau and Animal Resource Network featured many beautiful rescue animals from their organizations as well as local groups and businesses who demonstrated animal products and services. Thank you to all the volunteers who worked on this event and a special thank you to Deb Larson and her talented set-up crew for the fabulous job on the Ingham booth.