

SIouxLAND
HUMANE
SOCIETY

paw prints

Published by the Siouxland Humane Society as part of our mission to provide services and programs that promote the humane treatment of animals in the Siouxland area.

Fall 2018

Published Quarterly, Issue Number 90

Pictures are worth a thousand words...

Pictures with your family, animals, Santa and more...

Let's capture them at Paws N Claus!

Fall is here and it's almost time to get ready for the Holidays! What comes next is a unique opportunity to take pictures with your pets, Santa and/or just of your family and help raise funds for the Shelter! This event is Paws N Claus. With a new winter scene, you are sure to catch the perfect pose with or without your pet!

Paws N Claus will be held on two consecutive weekends, Friday, November 2nd through Sunday, November 4th, and we added Thursday evening, Thursday, November 8th and then Friday, November 9th through Sunday, November 11th. Our NEW location will be in the Floyd Hills Center by Taco Bell and Chinese Chef at 3075 Floyd Blvd.

We invite you to bring your family, your pets, and anyone else you want to include in these one of a kind photos. Professional photographers will take pictures against a beautiful winter themed

backdrop that are perfect for cards, gifts or just a lifetime memory of those you love.

For just \$35.00, you receive three printed photos with a digital CD copy of the photos for you to use however you like, better yet, purchase 2 sittings for \$60 and get 6 printed photos and the CD copy. Gift certificates are available for purchase too! You can book your

Paws N Claus appointments online to make the process fast and efficient! Go to either our website event calendar at www.siouxlandhumanesociety.org or our Facebook page and check out the Paws N Claus event page for the link and easy to follow directions. You can also call to book your appointments at 712-252-2614 ext. 7. Appointments are first come first serve.

A huge thank you goes out to Principal Financial group for sponsoring this year's event.

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Group***

Brian Johnson & Jordan Ireland

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Dates and Sitting Times:

Friday, November 2nd – 5:30pm to 8:00pm

Friday, November 9th – 5:30pm to 8:00pm

Saturday, November 3rd – 10:00am to 3:00pm

Saturday, November 10th – 10:00am to 3:00pm

Sunday, November 4th – 10:00am to 3:00pm

Sunday, November 11th – 10:00am to 3:00pm

Thursday, November 8th- 5:30pm-8:00pm new session

Gifts From the Heart



AWESOME KIDS ALERT: Meet Brooklyn & Amari. These two beautiful young ladies wanted to do something special for the pets here at the shelter. They came up with the idea of a having a lemonade stand with the proceeds going to the homeless critters. Way to go ladies! Thank you!



MISSION FULL OF LOVE: This group represents the Junior Quota Club. They had a mission, and their mission was to help out the homeless pets here at the Shelter. Wow they knocked it out of the park! Thanks Junior Quota Club for everything you do for the homeless pets and us!

NO BARK ABOUT IT, PURRFECT GIFTS!

Looking for the perfect gift for your family or pet for Christmas? Stop by the Shelter and check out our holiday gifts for both the pets and people in your life. Treats, toys and clothing just to name a few, all reasonably priced! We are offering Decorated Dog Biscuit gift bags for just \$7.00 a bag! They are available for large or small dogs, all wrapped up in a festive holiday bag. No, we didn't forget about the felines! We also have cat gift bags full of toys for just \$7.00 a bag.



A GAL WITH A BIG HEART: Meet Madison Sewell. This young lady has a love for animals. Madison set out to get some much needed supplies for the pets in need. She not only surprised us with her gifts but, she made a lot of homeless pets happy! Thank you Madison! You rock!

NOTE FROM MISSIE FISCHER



What a great turn out for this year's 16th Annual Pets on Parade! A huge thank you to all of the volunteers, participants and attendees that supported the event! Thanks to Rob Powers for donating the DJ services and MC the event, Bob Prince for timing the run, the sponsors, businesses that donated auction items

and anyone that helped raise funds for our furry friends at the Shelter. A huge thank you to Cindy Downing, Animal Communicator and Psychic for the presentation and to Bear Grove Chainsaw Carvings for donating the

2ft tall Welcome Bear for our raffle. Lastly, thank you to the vendors that came out to help celebrate the cause as well as our sponsors that hosted a table!

We have had several events this year and want to thank each and every one of you for your support and to the businesses that have partnered with us to make them happen!

It's time to think about our next fun event. You can book your Paws N Claus appointments online to make the process fast and efficient! Go to either our website event calendar at www.siouxlandhumanesociety.org or our Facebook page and check out the Paws N Claus event page for the link and easy to follow directions. You can also call to book your appointments at 712-252-2614 ext. 7. Appointments are first come first serve.

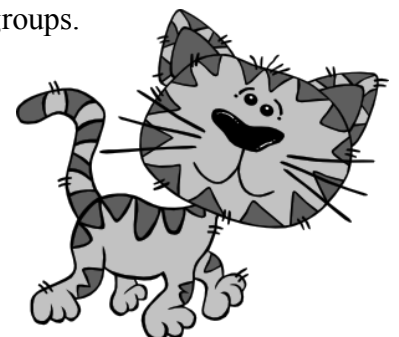
CALLING ALL QUILTERS

Fall is here and winter is not far behind, many quilters spend the winter months quilting away, a way to stay inside yet still productive. We know this is early, but if you are making quilts over the winter, please consider making a quilt for our annual

Quilt Auction in June of 2019.



Please consider donating a quilt to the Shelter to help raise money for homeless and often abused and neglected animals in Siouxland. For more information, please contact Missie at 712-252-2614 ext. 16 or by email at melissa@siouxlandhumanesociety.org. We appreciate you sharing this information with your family, friends, co-workers and quilting groups.



KELLY'S VOLUNTEER KORNER

As the leaves change colors and the next season begins it makes me ponder – what's our purpose in life? Do we serve to touch someone's life, make their day brighter, or just to know we truly do make a difference? I would love to share a story with you. It begins with a dog named Bruno. As an employee of the shelter I can say that we truly see the good, the bad and the ugly. This is where Bruno's story begins. He came to the shelter in poor shape. He was very thin, his head sunken in and so emaciated that he had a hard time standing, let alone walking. The veterinarian's findings were that Bruno was very malnourished and had muscle atrophy due to dangerously low protein levels. The veterinarian said he needed a very high protein diet, rest and lots of TLC. Not only did Bruno get put on this special diet, he got a comfy oversized bed to lay on and lots of attention from staff and a special volunteer named Joyce. As days passed we were all giving ourselves high fives and thinking, "Bruno has got this!" and was on the road to a much better chapter in his life. Then one morning as I entered the shelter and was going to say good morning to Bruno, I was stopped by staff telling me Bruno did not make it and he had passed. My first emotion of course was anger, then a great amount of sadness. Then I realized that despite the life he had before us, at least at the end of his life, Bruno was surrounded by people that truly loved him. Here was a dog that no matter what he had gone through, met you with his tail wagging and his eyes full of hope.

I wanted to share his story because I have so many people ask me what can I do to help? So what can you do to make a difference? There are many things you can do to help out your local animal shelters. First, get involved. Ask, what can I do to help? Become a volunteer. Help with socializing, fostering pets in need or help with fundraising or pet adoption events. Be supportive. Most shelters are nonprofit and need donations to help care for pets in need such as Bruno. Expenses add up quickly, especially if a pet needs veterinary care or surgery. Sponsor a pet – donate towards vet care or adoption. Ask if they have a fetch list of needed supplies. Most important ADOPT! If you can't adopt, but your family or friends are looking for a pet encourage them to adopt. Adopting pets from local shelters is a win-win situation. Adopting = more lives saved. Adopt don't shop!!


So if you have not visited your local animal shelter or if you have not signed up to volunteer, what's your hold up? Now is the time to move it forward and be that person that is not just saying "I want to make a difference," but be that person that IS making the difference. I say thank you to all my volunteers that have helped us in many ways. For those that are still sitting on the fence on what to do. It is simple: be their hero and their voice that needs to be heard! Become a volunteer today.


Kelly Erie, PR & Volunteer Manager

FETCH LIST

In an effort to reduce costs and improve operations we accept donated items at all times. To view the full Fetch List visit our website at siouxlandhumanesociety.org under Ways to Give, Fetch List tab!

 **Cat/Kitten Care Items:** Cat litter (clay-type), Cat toys, Dry cat food (any brand).

 **Dog/Puppy Care Items:** Kibbles n Bits dry dog food, Lamb & Rice dry dog food, Milk bone biscuits, wee wee potty pads.

 **Shelter Supplies:** Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent, Bleach, Febreze type spray, Dish Soap, Glass Cleaner, Scrubbing Bubbles Cleaner, Gift cards for discount stores or pet stores.

***Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated.
An envelope is enclosed in this newsletter!***

All donations to the SHS are tax-deductible.

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What's Happening?

November

2-4* Paws N Claus –

Online or call for an appointment*

3-4 Petco Adoption Days

4 Hamilton Bomgaar's Adoption Days

8-11* Paws N Claus –

Online or call for an appointment*

17 Southern Hills Mall Adoption Day

24 PetSmart Adoption Days

***Paws N Claus - two consecutive weekends
for your convenience.**

December Cats at PetSmart All Month

1-2 Petco Adoption Days

2 Hamilton Bomgaar's Adoption Days

15-16 Holiday Open House

22-23 PetSmart Adoption Days

January City pet licenses expire,
time to renew!

February Valentines Day Gourmet Double
Chocolate Caramel Apples!

*For more information on these and
other events check out our website at
www.siouxlandhumanesociety.org
under the events button!*



Like us on

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facebook.com/SiouxlandHumane Society

Gifts & Memorials

Thanks to our many friends for your generous gifts from 7/16 through 9/27/2018. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of this list. Let us know if corrections are needed.

PEOPLE MEMORIALS

Marty Hoffmann

Barbara Steeg
Grandma Rose
 Sierra Kestel
Carole "Kelly" Stokes
 Lorman & Sally Vilhauer
 Jeffrey & Janet Morris
John Sloan
 Randy Law
 Carlyle & Jami Krause
 Michael & Janice Borschuk
Connie Salviola
 Courtney Pottebaum
 Steven Simonin
 Judy & Lowell Vos
 Michele & Robert Koerner
 Debra Willer
Sherry Stowe
 Paul & Marlys Nagel
James Lubsen
 Jeannette Lubsen
 T.D & S.R Hansel
 Sandy & Keith Welcher
 Karen & Richard Murray
 William & Donna Bradbury
 Larry Hendricks
 Tead & Joanne Davis
 Joseph & Margaret Lemek
 Gary & Anne Shaner
 Robert & Mary Rehan
 Donald & Judy Chesley
Dave Rebstock
 Jessica Rebstock
 Judith & Allan Gates
 James & Roxie Anderson
 Norman & Mrs. Kay Koch
 Dr. Sharon & Donna Ocker
 William & Jill Young
 Joyce Lake
 Michael & Linda Cadwell
 Brian & Debra Banwart
 Theresa Spain
 Alan & Debra Pottebaum
 Fred Erbes
 Dr. or Mrs R.L Rasmus
 Marc & Kelli Rahn
 Scott & Teri France
 Ronald & Brenda Washburn
 Rick & Peggy Metteer
 Donald & Cheryl Gamble
Clifford Dodd
 Dakota Rose Inc
Jolene Stevens
 Joanne Glamm
Mary Beth Jensen
 Sue & William Conner
 Ramona Hanson
June Knight
 Vikki Smith
Anthony DeFazio
 Ralph & Carol Yanacheak
Clay Schuck
 Helen Schuck
Shirley Nichols
 Scott Sherman
Rich Janssen
 Scott & Laura Phelps
Martha Blasche
 Laurie Jones
Cathie Brende
 Timothy Brende
Shirley Nichols
 Laura Abbott

PET MEMORIALS

Terra

Audrey Gust
Lucy Reese
 Carolyn & Paul Rippke
Packer
 Ernie Savary
Peanut & Cuckleburr
 Nancy Schallau
Tippy & Tessie
 Leonard Larsen
Dar
 Diane Strait
Molly & Katie
 Curtis Kull
Ruby & Baby
 Gary Schultz
Abby
 Eldon & Marcene Heeren
Sally Bradshaw
 Beverly & Donald Arnold
Yougo
 Donald Petersen
Maggie
 Mary Beth Krohnke
Bailey
 Barb & Bill Maxon
Our beloved pets
 Helen Schuck
Khloie, Baby
 Brent Ford
Honey
 Mona & Nolan Georgesen
Simon
 Arlene Hollander
Dodger
 Riya & Rejesh Brenner
Smokey
 Ann & James Gregory
Alii
 H.J. Adams
Pita
 Janice Albright
Toby
 Debbie Bell

DONATIONS

Patty Miller
 N.E Vanmeter
 Shirley Haskins
 Terri Post
 Charles Bohlke
 Carole Broyhill
 In honor of Julie Ogbum
 Birthday
 by Ashley McCarville
 Vicky Bue
 Janet Christensen
 In honor of Jack B
 Gary & Clarisse Sutherland
 Jodi Deuhr
 Dan & Suzane Henderson
 Bernardine Burke
 Brooklyn Limoges
 Amari Blum
 Thomas Xavier Post
 Noll Collection Service
 In honor of Ciara Wilcox's
 Birthday
 by Lewis Wilcox
 Christopher Mathewson
 In honor of Tyrel & Erica
 Morales Wedding

by Jean & Mike Harms
 Aaron Peterson
 Carol Wassmuth
 Gaige Gill
 Deanna Daniels
 In honor of Anna & Penny
 by Barbara Steeg
 Jack & Mary Campbell
 Jacqueline Magee
 Richard & Mary Delfs
 Ken & Carolyn Carlson
 Carole Broyhill
 Norm Waitt Sr. YMCA
 In honor of Bella
 by Betty Berigan
 Nancy Boysen
 Dan Hurt
 Leonard Larsen
 In honor of Buddy
 by Jim & Karen Swanson
 Clara Ahlers
 Adair & Ruth Countryman
 Keith & Jennie Roed
 Barbara Windeshausen
 John DeRocher
 The City of Sioux City
 Employees-Jeans for Worthy
 Cause-Employee Advisory
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 Barbara Claussen
 In honor of Diddle/Bop,
 Swede, Flinstone, Barney,
 Stretch, Dane, Hershey,
 Packer and Wille
 by Ernie & Jo Ann Savary
 Terri Post
 Juliann Delperdang
 Gary & Clarisse Sutherland
 Cost Cutters
 Hometown Supersavers-
 LeMars, IA
 America Cares, LLC
 In honor of Mark Rawlings
 from Friends at Baird
 Joyce Rasmussen
 Chad Glouser
 George Allen
 Julia Kay Meinking
 Mark & Colleen Stanek
 In honor of Buddy Love
 help with Jumanji Eye
 Surgery
 Lola & Gracie Roberts &
 Barbara Roberts
 Nancy Cameron
 Michael & Jolinda Stoel
 In honor of Sam
 by Joanne Smith
 Bernardine Burke
 Adamaris Caballero
 Rosalie Schlichting
 Aaron Peterson
 Robin Weiler
 In honor of Foxie
 by Crist Tess
 Mary Ann Kelly
 John C Kelly III
 Allen & Sheri Whitcomb
 Yvonne & Michael Trudo
 Fay Forman
 Linda Romine
 Robert & Marie Thomsen

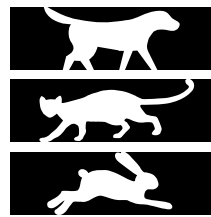
Janet Sawyer
 Deanna Daniels
 Thomas Brandt
 Carole Broyhill
 Janet Christensen
 Paula Bonham
 Terri Post
 John Hansen
 In honor of Sunman
 Gigi Goodson
 Darrin Pry

IN KIND DONATIONS

Avery Brothers
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 Country Vet Pet Food
 Dakota Dunes Times
 Dunes Animal Hospital
 Elk Creek Animal Hospital
 Guarantee Roofing
 Family Pet Hospital
 Hawarden Independent &
 Ireton Examiner
 Hometown Animal Hospital
 KSUX
 KTIV TV Channel 4
 KMEG Channel 14
 KWIT
 Leader Courier
 North Sioux City Times
 Petco
 PetSmart
 Roto Rooter
 Merville Vet Services
 Siouxland Animal Hospital
 Sioux City Journal
 South Sioux Animal Hospital
 Thompson Electric
 Winnavegas Casino
 Hayley Bland
 Cindy Hanson
 Lester Juon
 Lisa Ferris
 Dawn Woodford
 Linda McKinney
 Mary Burgfechtel
 Lauri Conner
 Darla Burns
 Geri Day
 Emily Dirks
 Connie Aasen
 Brenda Budzinski
 Paula & Tom Kleen
 Brenda Oehlerking
 Connie Larson
 Heather Vedral
 Stephanie DaSilva
 Heather Arment
 Meagan Jacobson
 Madison Sewell
 Ryan Jacobson
 Shirley Henderson
 Lou Ann Hass
 Michael Gajaway
 Audrey Chase

**"SPONSOR A PET"
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Belle
Riley Anderson
Beesly
Jakki Bata
Callie
Reggie Pautsch
King
Mary Lou Nelson
Larame
Melanie Lefebure
Ledton
Brenda Murray
Little Bitz
Sydney Derochie
Rosco
Elizabeth Majewski
Molly
Carson Heaton
Brooklyn Humphrey
Mali & Rosco
Patty Raymond
Marshmellow, Henry, Dot
Kacie Allen & Kady Ham
Harley & Paco
Brenda Murray
Herky & Jack
Akyna Kopsas
Snickers & Mac
Livy Beelner
Buddy, Bones, Tokens
Melanie Lefebore
Bobo, Cozmo, Squeaks,
Carmal, Pickles, Pixie
Anna Corderman
Bonn & Cream Puff
Patty Raymond



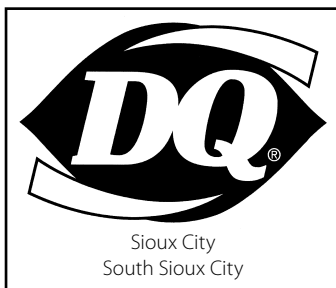
**SIouxLAND
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SHS – An Independent Organization

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and all other national animal welfare organizations are all separate organizations unrelated to the Siouxland Humane Society (SHS). The SHS is not an umbrella organization or local chapter of any national animal welfare organization nor are we governed, ruled or regulated by them.

The Siouxland Humane Society has a local Board of Directors and is governed by our own articles of incorporation, bylaws, mission statement, philosophy and programs and services. Our focus is on the adoption of animals to the general public through the operation of a shelter and to educate the general public on spaying and neutering their pets as well as other pet related topics.

We receive no financial support from the HSUS or any other animal welfare association, nor do we financially support these organizations. The Siouxland Humane Society is an independent private 501c3 non-profit organization. Any contribution you make should be made directly to the Siouxland Humane Society to support your local animal shelter.



President's Letter

Hello again friends and supporters of the Siouxland Humane Society. It's hard to believe it is already autumn. Last quarter I gave an overview of this year's agenda with the board and I am happy to say we are making progress. To recap, we are reviewing our financial portfolio and looking for the best ways to grow in areas we are already great.

The board's financial committee has lined up presenters for reviewing our financial portfolio and we should be finished by year end with recommendations and securing our portfolio needs. We are lucky as a non-profit organization to have the portfolio we do. The investments we do have have been presented to us by supporters who have passed and wanted specific funds designated to support homeless pets. It is our responsibility to be fiscally responsible with these funds to honor our supporter's wishes. This is a novel way to donate and leave your legacy and we are blessed any time a supporter chooses this way to help the Siouxland Humane Society. Again, we exist by supporters in the community and who love animals not by any state, federal or charity organizations!

The board also created a subcommittee to look at the need for a fundraising and events building. This idea has been discussed many times and after a second review it is recommended we direct our focus inward rather than spread our wings. Being financially responsible brings the responsibility to stay true to our mission and savvy with what partnerships we have in the community and funds we have been blessed. This is not the time to expand in this way. This committee will continue on this year investigating strengthening our adoption offerings.

As a board we encourage feedback from our supporters and friends! We exist because of you and we want to hear from you what we are doing well at and where we can improve. Our next big fundraiser which supports our yearly budget is Paws and Claus. Can't wait to see all the smiling people and pets faces this November!!!

Sincerely, Betsy

MAKING A DIFFERENCE – In the lives of people and pets!

The Siouxland Humane Society is here to help. We're a full service open admission Shelter that provides programs and services that promote the humane treatment of animals in the Siouxland area. We work to serve the community that has supported us so devotedly over the years.

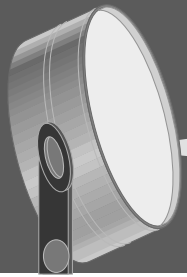


In 2017 the Pet Food Bank helped 186 families keep their pets by providing pet food for up to 3 months. Some of these families were granted extensions so they could get back on their feet and supply adequate nutrition for their pets. Over 3800 pounds of food was given out this past year.

The Veterinary Assistance Program helped 55 pet owners with sick or injured pets get emergency medical attention for their pets. These pet owners did not have the means to seek veterinary treatment for their pets on their own without our assistance.

Spay/Neuter Assistance provided nearly \$30,000.00 in financial assistance to the Siouxland community. This program provides assistance to those in a financial need focusing primarily on cats. The Spay the Mom Cat program pays 100% of the spay cost for those who qualify.

These and our many other programs and services are vital to the Siouxland community. Check out all the great programs and services on our website at www.siouxlandhumanesociety.org.



Volunteer Spotlight

BIG DOG LOVER!

When Rob Powers was a kid they had dogs at home all the time. He would talk his mom into taking them to the old Humane Society to look at the animals. He is a big dog lover so when he purchased his own home he knew they had to have the love of dogs in their home. At first Rob adopted a couple cats named Raider and Reese's! He went on to adopt Lucky, Moose, Ella (labs), Jewel (Great Dane), and a turtle or two over the years. He can't see his household without a dog ever, the love they bring is like no love you will ever endure. In 2018 Rob was welcomed onto the Humane Society Board to continue helping in any way possible the animals. He has been active helping for many years and this was just a natural extension.

Rob is on the fundraising committee. He loves Pet's on Parade as it gives him an excuse to get their rescued dogs out and around people and dogs. He is a huge help with the apple fundraiser, bringing along friends every year to help out too. They caramelize apples, carry

trays, clean microwaves, do dishes, and at the end of the day know they are helping raise funds for the Humane Society and that's what it's all about! Paws N Claus is also another great time to get those photos with your beloved pets.

Rob is 41 years old, married and has a baby girl on the way in December, yup... a Christmas baby! Rob and wife Emily, and son Brandon, currently have their dogs (Koda, Lucky, Bebe, & Ella) and a basement full of fish, as well as some turtles, which is another one of his hobbies. He works for iHeart Radio and has been on the radio in Sioux City since 1993. He currently does mornings on KG95 and some on KISS FM and also oversees the day to day operations of all 5 stations iHeart Radio owns in Sioux City. In his spare time he travels with the family back home to Wisconsin and loves to camp around the Siouxland area for weekend get aways. Just enjoying life to the fullest and having animals around is a big part of that for Rob and the family!



Ho Ho Ho Holiday Open House



Don't forget to mark your calendar for our Holiday Open House! We invite you to join us on Saturday, December 15th from 10AM-4PM and Sunday, December 16th from noon to 4PM. Stop by for shelter tours, hot cider, cold punch and treats. There will be a bake sale, holiday pet costume contest and holiday gift bazaar filled with fun trinkets and toys for your pets or the dog and cat lovers in your life! Come shop for the holidays and support the homeless pets!

We'll also be running a "Help the Homeless Pet" Drive to fill one of our kennels with supplies. Everyone who brings cans of cat food, bags of cat or dog food, paper towels, laundry soap or bleach will be entered into a drawing for a door prize! There is no cost to attend – just join us for some holiday fun!

From the desk of...*Jerry Dominicak, Executive Director*

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you for your support of the Siouxland Humane Society's unrelenting efforts for a more humane world for our four legged friends. Our programs and services make a difference in the lives of the people and pets in Siouxland! Today, the Siouxland Humane Society is the only non-profit full service open admission animal shelter in Siouxland. We do not turn away any animals in need, charge a fee, nor do we pick and choose those that we will help. We find forever homes for 100% of the adoptable pets in our care.

Each year we renew our commitment to fight the war against pet overpopulation by directing a substantial dollar amount to spay/neuter and education. We continue the battle to end healthy pets being euthanized because there are no homes. Our focus remains to be on cats through aggressive spay/neuter assistance programs. Our educational programs deal with topics such as pet overpopulation and responsible pet ownership and are a source of education for youth, school and civic groups. Participation in Siouxland

events such as ArtSplash, Multicultural Fair and others, along with our offsite adoption events and other pet friendly events and activities educate young and old alike.

The Siouxland Humane Society is a model shelter and is instrumental in heightening awareness among our associates. We receive many shelter and rescue referrals every year to provide assistance with operational issues and regularly have visits from board members, management and staff of shelters and rescues to get ideas on operating a better organization.

Like many other worthy non-profits in Siouxland we must compete for funding from a finite pool of philanthropists. If you believe that the Siouxland Humane Society is unique, helping both the people and pets in Siouxland, and that our all-important fight is vital, then we ask you to demonstrate your support by regularly contributing to our efforts. Please consider giving generously. Together we can make a difference.

Sincerely, Jerry



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Dr. Earl Maxwell

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TAX ADVISOR 4

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HARD LUCK STORIES



BEST WISHES – Meet Token, a charming fellow of 6 years. He is neutered, great with kids and a big chatter bug who loves to snuggle. This sweet boy is a diabetic kitty and he is hoping people won't judge him for that and love him the same. Squeeks, a loving female cat, is also diabetic, and needs a loving home. Stop by to visit or call us for more information on these two!



IN NEED OF HELP – Jumanji came into the Shelter with something going on with his eye. Off to the vet clinic to find out he has Entropion. What is Entropion? It is a genetic condition that a portion of the eyelid is inverted or folded in. This can cause an irritation and scratch the surface of the eye, leading to corneal ulcer. Sadly Jumanji had an ulcer on his eye and needed surgery right away. Surgery and before and after care was quite costly but worthwhile as he has found a new loving home!

Vet's Corner – Canine Valvular Degeneration

Have you ever wondered why your veterinarian has a stethoscope hanging around his or her neck? Maybe it seems like a no brainer as many medical professionals carry them including EMTs, nurses, and physicians. One of the primary reasons veterinarians always have them on hand is to evaluate the function and condition of the heart and lungs. Heart disease is a relatively common occurrence in man's best friend and a simple auscultation is a quick and easy way to detect some of the diseases that can affect the heart including valvular degeneration.

Valvular degeneration (also myxomatous valve disease or endocardiosis) happens to all dogs' heart valves as they age. As the valves in the heart age, their cellular makeup and extracellular matrix changes. This change makes the valves thicken and change shape slightly over time. Usually, it takes so long that it never affects the heart's function. However, in some dogs (and especially in certain breeds) the heart valves can change so much that they cannot close properly and some blood can flow backwards in the heart when it beats. Fortunately, this abnormal flow of blood can oftentimes be detected with the stethoscope. If your veterinarian has ever detected a murmur in your dog, it is possible that this backwards flow of blood was the culprit.

A small amount of blood flowing backwards in the heart (regurgitation) may not have an effect on your dog. However, with progression of the disease, it can create changes in the heart chambers and eventually have noticeable effects. Fortunately, veterinarians are equipped with diagnostic equipment as well as medications to help monitor and improve cardiac function in dogs with endocardiosis. Some clinical signs include exercise intolerance, rapid breathing at rest, coughing, abdominal distention, and loss of consciousness. If you have any suspicion that your dog may have cardiac disease, ask your veterinarian to evaluate them!



**Matt Samuelson,
DVM, Siouxland Animal Hospital**

Matt is a Siouxland native and recent graduate of Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine. He received his bachelor's degree at Iowa State University and is a North High School Alumnus.



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See Page One for more details!

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BABY IT'S COLD OUTSIDE

The cold and short days make it is easy for us and our pets to get lazy in wintertime. But it's still important to stay active, even when it's cold and snowy outside. Here are some ideas to keep you and your pets busy this winter.

Aerobics – There are a wide variety of cat toys that can get your cat off the couch and moving. Find one that you two really enjoy and make her pounce around! Most dogs enjoy a nice walk on a brisk day, take a hike or check out the dog park. Don't forget sidewalks often are salted and if your dog is short haired put a coat on him.

Stimulating Meals – Cats get fat if all they do is eat and sleep. You can avoid this by hiding small portions of food around the house in bowls or feeding toys. Do the same with your dog. Studies show that dogs enjoy their food more when they have to work for it! Make it fun; make it a game you all can play!

Treat Time Fun Too – There are two simple ways to make giving your cat or dog a treat more interesting and fun. Use a treat dispensing toy or play a game of hide and seek using the treats. Make the treats fairly easy to find in the beginning to keep them interested and so they understand the game. Cats love catnip toys for this too!

Learn New Tricks – Just like dogs, cats can learn tricks like come, sit, fetch and stay too. Start with a treat that your cat loves and practice for 15 minutes a day. There are many tricks you can teach your dog indoors during the cold winter. Start with a simple dog trick like sit, stay or shake and work up to harder ones like roll over.

When it's cold outside and the season gets busy, be sure to keep these activities in mind that will be fun for you, your pet, and the whole family. Remember to keep a close on your pets during winter as any changes in your cat or dog's activity can lead to weight gain or loss.