



PAW PRINTS

Finney County Humane Society

P.O. Box 2031 • Garden City, KS 67846 • 620-272-5651

Fall 2007

PLAYERS WANTED!!!

Don't miss your chance to have a great time and to win fantastic prizes at the FCHS TEXAS HOLD `EM TOURNAMENT on Sunday, September 30th. It will be held at Shooters, 2901 W. Mary, in Garden City.

Seating is limited to 80 players. Registration is at 2:00pm and game starts at 3:15pm. A tax deductible donation of \$30 is suggested for entry. All proceeds will benefit abused, abandoned, and unwanted animals.

Top eight places will receive prizes. First place prize is a Sears Craftsman 12HP OHV 5-speed, 36" cut riding mower. Other prizes include a new TREK 3-speed Custom Cruise-liner Bicycle, a huge patio fireplace on wheels, beef bundle, large Coca Cola ice chest with legs and wheels, YMCA membership, retro-look, balloon whitewall tires, cordless tool set, and more.

There will also be prizes given for 1st winning Royal Flush, Straight Flush, 4-of-a-kind, Full House, Flush, Straight, and 3-of-a-kind. "Special Prize" given for 1st One Out.



Antique & Crafts Festival

The FCHS will have a booth at the Antique & Crafts Festival. It will be held on October 27 & 28, 2007 at the 3I building in Garden City.

We will be selling gift baskets this year. Each basket will have a theme.

A few of the themes are Movie Night, Pamper a Special Lady, Pizza Night, A Day with Grandma, Ice Cream Sundae, Candy and Treats, Going to the Dogs, For That Special Cat, BBQ Chef, For That Special Scrap Booker, Men's Personal Products, and more.

Themed gift baskets are great as gifts for the person who has everything, friends and relatives far away, your boss, your kids' teacher, a secretary, an in-law, or a business associate. The list is endless.

The more basket items that we can have donated, the better our profit from this fundraiser. If you would like to donate any new items, cash, gift cards or gift certificates for services, please call Nancy at 620-275-6364. So, start your Christmas shopping early, visit our booth, and stock up.



There has been a committee formed to review animal control regulations, those sitting on the committee are: Bob Halloran, City Manager; Pete Olson, Co. Administrator; Roman Halibur, Co. Commissioner; Randy Parpington, Human Resource Director for Finney County; James Hawkins, Chief of Police; and Nancy Garhart, FCHS.

City and county animal control regulations were reviewed to identify possible changes to the regulations and enforcement procedures were discussed. The need for more education to protect the animals was an assignment given to the FCHS.

The second meeting will be held August 21. There will be a discussion about micro-chipping dogs and increasing education on care of animals.

If you have comments you wish to share about these meetings, please call our Humane Society number at 272-5651.

Flea Market at Marketfest

We are planning another Flea Market during Marketfest on September 22, 2007. We are very lucky to again have the use of the downstairs portion of the Windsor Hotel on Main Street.



To make the Flea Market a success we will need your donations of saleable items. We can not accept clothing. If you have large items to donate, we can usually arrange for pick-up.

To donate items, or to volunteer your time, call Nancy at 620-275-6364 or leave a message on the FCHS voice mail at 620-272-5651. You can also bring donations to the Windsor Hotel on the mornings of Sept. 8th and Sept. 15th. Someone will be there to receive them.



The Very Best Pet Network (VBPN) is a group consisting of Purina, Wal-Mart, and the American Humane Association. These companies have gotten together to help shelters across the United States promote animal adoption. Each time this message appears in our newsletter or at one of our events, the animal shelter gets points from VBPN toward an end of the year prize.

Board Members:

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PAW PRINTS is published quarterly by the Finney County Humane Society, P.O. Box 2031, Garden City, KS 67846, (620) 272-5651. It supports the mission of the society to educate the community in the prevention of cruelty to animals, and to relieve suffering among animals.



Lilies can lead to kidney damage if your cat eats even very small amounts.

Grapes, raisins, garlic, and onions are very toxic to dogs.

Remember to keep your prescription medicine out of reach of your pets!

The zinc in pennies are very toxic to dogs so please be sure to keep them away from your dog.

Some dogs are prone to eating anything!

Polyurethane glue poses a large danger. If a dog or cat swallows the glue, it will go to the stomach and form a rock-like mass. A vet could have to surgically remove the mass.

HELP WITH COST OF SPAY/NEUTERS

Every year the FCHS has provided vouchers, on request, to anyone in Finney County that has needed a little help with the cost of spaying or neutering their pets. These vouchers have been worth \$25. The FCHS has also had a program where it has refunded \$25 to the adopter of a shelter animal after a spay or neuter had been performed. A person was only eligible for one of these programs per pet.

Now, thanks to a grant from the Finnup Foundation, the FCHS is offering a \$50 voucher for spay/neuter OR a \$50 refund from a spay/neuter of a recently adopted shelter animal. This offer will remain in effect until funds are depleted. Remember, only one offer per animal, two offers per family.

The FCHS is making this offer to target those that would normally not be able to afford to pay the cost of surgery on their own. This is to help Finney County residents that want to be responsible pet owners but find the cost of spay/neuter too high. We do not have income guidelines but let your conscience be your guide.

This program is to help increase adoptions from the shelter and to decrease pet overpopulation. To request a voucher, call 620-272-5651 and leave a clear message.



Bonnie is a wonderful dog that needs a good home. She has been in foster care for several months. Bonnie is spayed and would do best if she was an "only" dog. This is because Bonnie wants to have a person of her very own and she doesn't like to share. She is very

smart and we believe that if she is not already housetrained then she would learn quickly. Bonnie likes to give hugs. She has been in foster care with lots of cats and other dogs. Bonnie needs to have a high fence for the times that she would be outside. Call Carol at 620-275-8943.

Domino is a strikingly beautiful long-haired white, with black, spayed female. She would prefer to be the only pet in a home but she is currently living among several dogs and other cats. Very clean and well housetrained, Domino could be the perfect new member of your family. Call Carol at 620-275-8943



Nellie is an energetic spayed Chihuahua mix that is current on her shots. She is housetrained and very loving. She would be best in a household with no

cats. She doesn't hurt cats but likes to chase and bark at them. Nellie is nervous when she meets a stranger so please don't judge her quickly! She will also be very protective of "her person". An ideal home for Nellie would be with a middle aged person living in a quiet home. Nellie is always happy to announce when someone comes to the door or if someone is lurking outside so she is a good security alarm. To meet Nellie, call Kay at 620-276-6537.

WANTED

REWARD

\$5,000 REWARD

PETA, People for Ethical Treatment of Animals, is offering a \$5,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of people involved in dog fighting.

Participating in dog fighting is a felony and it IS taking place in Finney and surrounding counties. If it is your opinion that steps need to be taken to stop this, please contact your local Sheriff or Chief of Police.

If you have any information concerning local dog fighting please contact Martin Mersereau at MartinM@peta.org to be eligible for a reward.

The following are the statistics for the Garden City/Finney County Animal Shelter. The FCHS, as most of you know, has nothing to do with animals impounded or animals euthanized. We have helped the shelter in helping get animals adopted and animals transferred to Denver and to other rescues. We have transferred 215 animals from January to June 2007.

Two items to note from the statistics are that over 50% of the animals impounded came from out in the county. Also of note, the large number of impounded cats and the small number of adopted or released to owner cats. These numbers show the magnitude of the cat overpopulation problem. So please spay/neuter, keep your cat inside, when your cat is missing check the shelter, and when you adopt, adopt from the shelter.

Garden City		Finney County	
Animals.....	Total	Animals.....	Total
Impounded			
Dogs	431	Dogs.....	264
Cats	221	Cats.....	130
Adopted			
Dogs	73	Dogs.....	55
Cats	28	Cats.....	11
Released to owner			
Dogs	143	Dogs.....	0
Cats	3	Cats.....	0
Transferred			
Dogs	115	Dogs.....	96
Cats	0	Cats.....	4
Euthanized			
Dogs	103	Dogs.....	68
Cats	164	Cats.....	112



We have a few more generous people to thank for memorials.

Their names didn't get into our last newsletter. For Charlie Guy memorial – Paul & Debbie Karkiainen and Bill & Danna Jones

MANY HEARTFELT THANK YOU'S FOR DONATIONS-

- A washer and dryer, for the shelter, donated by John & Pat Bealmear.
- A side-by-side refrigerator, for the shelter, donated by Tim & Tina Burgardt.
- A microwave oven, for the shelter, donated by Jim & Tammy Wheatley.
- New lettering for the FCHS van donated by Sign Pro.

Don't forget to save your used inkjet and laser cartridges!
To Donate Call 620-260-7658

The Starfish Flinger

As the old man walked the beach at dawn, he noticed a young man ahead of him picking up starfish and flinging them into the sea. Finally catching up with the youth, he asked him why he was doing this. The answer was that the stranded starfish would die if left until the morning sun. "But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," countered the other. "How can your effort make any difference?" The young man looked at the starfish in his hand and then threw it to the safety of the waves. "It makes a difference to this one," he said.

Make a difference in the life of one animal. Volunteer.

END OF YEAR GIVING

Now is the time to be thinking about last minute charitable giving so that you can have tax deductions for 2007. The FCHS is a 501c3 not for profit organization so all of you contributions are tax deductible. By giving to the GCHS you will help save live, help pay for medical treatment for animals or to help educate children and the public on humane treatment of animals and the need to spay or neuter their pets.

A Success Story

Mary Shortridge and her family had adopted from the shelter in the past so when they decided to look for another dog the shelter was their first choice. They have always believed in trying to save dogs in need.



Molly is sitting pretty!

At the shelter was a medium sized plain brown dog, with a dull looking coat, that had been passed over by other lookers because she was terrified

and had no social skills. This dog huddled in the back of her cage. When Elissa Shortridge tried to get the dog outside she had to carry her. That day became the dogs lucky day.

That plain brown dog now has a name, Molly, a home and a family. Molly now has a shiny coat, a happy smile, and is the picture of health. She even gets to go flying with Mary. Molly now has "the good life".

www.finneycohs.org

To see pets available for adoption check out our website at finneycohs.org, look in the Wednesday night G.C. Telegram for Pet of the Week, or listen to Pet of the week on Q-97fm at about 8:40am on Thursdays.

Rescue Railroad

Much like the underground railroad that moved the slaves to freedom during the Civil War, a similar railroad of dedicated volunteers exists across the United States willing to drive many uncompensated miles to help a dog or cat reach a safe haven or a "forever" home.

I first discovered rescue railroads from just browsing the internet looking for people with similar interests. I discovered that Yahoo Groups has an internet chat group for any interest or subset of interests. Since my interest was dogs, I signed up for a dog chat group. I soon found a group of dedicated folks for every breed of dog, and even mixed breeds. My first foray into this world was to help with the transport of two Dalmatians from a rescue near Moore, Oklahoma to Evergreen, Colorado. I picked up the dogs from a Wichita driver in Mullinville, Ks., kept them overnight and the next day drove them to Burlington, Co. where I met the new adopters. I participated in several other transports of different breeds for the next few months, when I realized that with a digital camera and a little effort, I could find help for the dogs in our local shelter.

Since then, with each purebred dog that comes in, I get a picture, immediately send out emails with picture attached to the appropriate group and wait. Sometimes I get no answer; sometimes I get immediate and even multiple answers. Usually if rescue answers it means they can take the dog if I can get it there. Most of the rescues I deal with on a regular basis are in Colorado, Kansas City or Nebraska, but I have sent dogs as far away as Tennessee, central Texas and Florida. Then comes the task of putting together a transport. For the dogs going to Kansas City area, an invaluable resource



has been Paul Schipp, an attorney with Kansas Legal Services who lives in Topeka, but works here in Garden City and Dodge City. He goes home almost every Friday and he has transported quite a few Brittanies for us, a couple of Chihuahuas and even an Old English Sheepdog. The Rescue group usually has its own network of volunteers who will take over from there to get the dog

a place to overnight and then be transported on to its final destination the next day. For dogs going to Colorado, most of the time the dog is put in the van with the DDFL transfer dogs and rescue meets the van in the Denver area. However, sometimes a special trip is made just for rescue dogs. Last month I made a trip to Pueblo with three of our "special needs" foster dogs and four more dogs from Kansas Humane Society in Wichita going to the same rescue. A volunteer from KHS drove their dogs to Garden City; I overnighted them, and took them with our dogs the next day.

Even for the hard cases, such as mixed breed small dogs who are fear biters, there is a rescue. The Poodle Preserve in Cotapaxi, Co. has taken many small dogs who would have otherwise been euthanized here. There is even a rescue for Large Ugly Dogs in Colorado...however, as you might expect, they are usually at capacity, but a couple of spaces there have been taken by Garden City Ugly Dogs.

The internet has made it possible to network with likeminded folks all across the country who are willing to do almost anything to help a dog reach its new foster home, rescue facility or permanent home. If you would like to help with these efforts, please contact me, Danna Jones, at 275-4155. Drivers are always needed.



Finney County Humane Society Membership Form



Membership dues provide a large part of our operating and projects revenue. Not only does it help pay for fuel and maintenance for the Hound Hauler and medicine for sick animals, it also pays for printing and mailing of you *Paw Prints* newsletter.

PLEASE clip this form and start or renew your membership NOW!

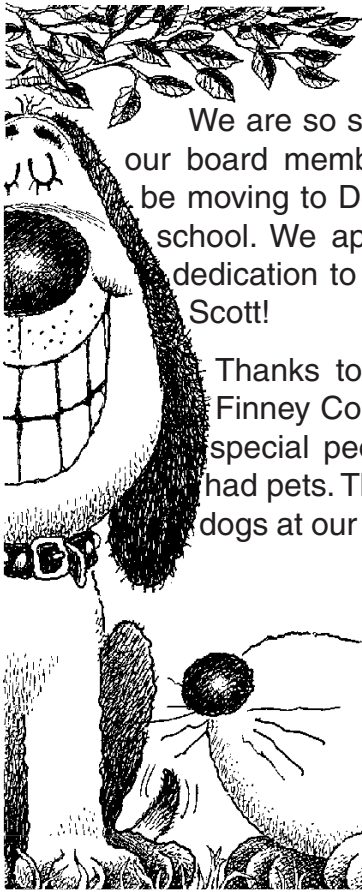
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Individual \$15 Family \$25 Business/Corporation \$100

FINNEY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY • PO BOX 2031 • GARDEN CITY, KS 67846

Thank You! If applicable, please let us know who referred you: _____



bits n pieces

We are so sorry to be losing one of our board members. Scott Bershof will be moving to Denver to enter graduate school. We appreciated his time and dedication to the animals. Good luck Scott!

Thanks to all who helped at the Finney County Fair. We met many special people, of course they all had pets. There were also cats and dogs at our booth who were looking for a forever home.

The drawing winners were: Diane Turley, Brittany Utz, and Ashley Mongeau.

There will be three more fundraisers this year. If you can give the time or donate something to one of these, it would be muc appreciated.

We have the Flea Market, Poker Run and the Craft Show coming up this fall. For more information, call Nancy at 275-6364.

The Animal Shelter and several FCHS foster homes have a large variety of cats that the FCHS has had spayed or neutered. Their adoption cost is only \$28. \$16.50 is prepaying for a rabies shot, \$10 is the shelter adoption fee, and \$2 is for a tag. For information call the shelter at 620-276-1152 or Carol at 620-275-8943.

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

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