

# PAW PRINTS

A publication of the Mahaska Humane Society and the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter

Volume 3 Issue 2

Summer 2004

## Officers of the Mahaska Humane Society

- Angie Edgren, President
- Mindy Beers, Vice President
- Katrina Thompson, Treasurer
- Sally Uchtman, Secretary

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## Board Members of the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter

- Jeanie Bieri
- Suzann Holland
- Nancy Simpson

## Shelter Director

- Gabby Evans

## Inside this issue:

Get Ready to Walk and Wag	2
Make Mouths Happy	3
Join the Board	4
Thank you!	5
Meet the new Director	6



*Duchess, a lucky Mom and perfect pet.*

## Volunteer Spotlight: The Kminek Family Shares Their Fostering Experience

We had a blast with Duchess and her puppies! In eight weeks we learned about foster care, pregnancy, birth, death, growing up, and saying goodbye. All very good lessons in a very short amount of time.

Duchess came to us a very pregnant dog, and so it didn't seem surprising that she was

quiet and mellow, even with four kids running around her. What we discovered is that she's always that way, even while feeding and protecting ten puppies. We were amazed by how much she knew how to do by instinct, especially when the pups were first born. We still can't believe that she ate all that stuff.

There was sadness too when one female pup was stillborn (Angel) and a male pup died the first night (Baby). These pups appeared to be sleeping and were beautiful little animals. Our kids came to understand quite a bit about life and death in one day. We said goodbye and buried the two pups on Beth's parents' acreage. After that, we noticed two pups who weren't getting their full share of milk from Mom, and required special nursing attention. We had some late nights with them, and are glad that they grew strong like their litter mates.

Many times the kids would take a pup or two out of the box and into the family room to cuddle them (starting before their eyes were even open). Duchess would pad into the room, sniff everyone's lap, find the pups, and gently pick them up and carry them back to the nest. That always made everyone smile.

The pups grew so fast that the only way to really measure their growth was to remember that their ears were the size of a fingernail when they were born. Eight weeks later, their ears are huge and floppy, and they seem funny compared to the little buds that weren't even fully open at first.

Now the pups have moved outside, despite everyone's concern about them being safe at first, and they have the run of the yard. They love to see us and they usually swarm around our feet when they hear the back door open. One day, they had a good hold of my pajama bottoms and were tugging them down while I was trying to scoop some escapees back into the yard. They're a funny bunch who love to play and romp, and they've made us laugh many times.

We're very thankful that this fostering opportunity happened when it did, during summertime when the kids could experience it all first-hand. It's funny that the pups are finding forever homes the same week that school starts. We pray that they are happy dogs in happy families.

Beth, Frank, Joseph, Zoe, Wil and Hope Kminek



*Brown Bandit is waiting to steal your heart.*

*For adoption or fostering information, please call the shelter at 641-673-3991.*

# MADWAG RETURNS!!!



**Mark your calendars! Grab those leashes! Circle your dogs! The Second Annual MADWAG is coming to town!**



Enjoy amazing demonstrations...

The second Oskaloosa Mahaska Annual Dog Walk and Games is slated for Sunday, October 3 from 12:30 to 4:00 at Edmundson Park in Oskaloosa. The goal of this event is to raise money for the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter. In last year's successful debut \$14,000 was raised! Everyone-- people and dogs alike--will have lots of fun!

Enclosed in this newsletter is a flyer listing the sponsors and activities of MADWAG. On the reverse side is the registration and pledge sheet. **Please fill in the registration blanks and begin collecting pledges.** Ask your relatives, your friends, your neighbors and your co-workers for pledges. Remind them that their pledge will help to care for the hundreds of Oskaloosa area homeless and abandoned pets that come to the Stephen Memorial Shelter each year. Bandanas and T-shirts will be given to those earning pledges totaling at least \$25 and \$50.

The opening ceremonies of MADWAG will feature an organized dog walk led by Celebrity Dog Walkers (media personalities, city and county officials) and some of the Shelter's "stars." Registration begins at 12:30 at the Rotary shelter near the playground. The walk winds through the park on the recreational trail. Maps will be provided and an alternative route will be offered for those who do not wish to participate in the entire route.



Get a little exercise...

After the walk is completed, several activities kick into high gear. Featured this year will be the *Cyclone Flyers Fly Ball* team from Ames. This group of dogs will thrill and amaze you with their speed and ability. Visit their website and learn more about them: [www.flyballdogs.com/cycloneflyers](http://www.flyballdogs.com/cycloneflyers). Other demonstrations will include obedience, agility, and retriever test training (by Jim and Julie Reeves from Shadowland Kennels) and herding (by Susan Thorp from Windrush Kennels). The Mahaska Veterinary Clinic will also feature a microchip clinic.



Make your pet a star...

Dogs and people alike will have great fun with contests including Owner/Dog Look-Alikes and Stupid Pet Tricks. All dogs on leashes can compete for the prizes. MADWAG will come to a rousing end with a fitting contest: the Best Tail-Wagger contest! This lucky dog will be the reigning champion of MADWAG for 2004. Ceremonies will close with a Blessing of the Animals by Pastor Terry Kleven of St. James Episcopal Church.

Great prizes, including two bikes (donated by Pedal Power) and grooming coupons (donated by Angie's Pet Grooming) will be awarded to the top fundraisers. Refreshments, provided by Hy-Vee, will

be

## Help win the MADWAG 50-50 Challenge!

A very generous Oskaloosa donor has offered to match all pledges raised if at least 50 walkers each raise \$50 or more. Wow!

**You can help double the donations!  
Start collecting pledges today!**



Have a great time with your furry (and not-so-furry) friends!

## NEW PRODUCT MAKES DOGGIE DENTAL CARE FUN! *Well, ok, maybe just a little easier...*

Brushing our dog's teeth....Ugggh! There's little else in our pampered pet's world that generates as much anguish and guilt as teeth brushing. Guess what, you are not alone. Studies suggest that less than 2% of dog owners brush their pet's teeth. The benefits of dental care are undeniable. Their heart, liver and kidneys are much happier without the constant assault of bacteria and toxins. 80% of dogs have periodontal disease by the time they are four years old.

Merial has introduced a new dental product, OraVet, which is easy to do once a week and will actually prevent the tarter from starting in the first place. OraVet works in an effective new way. It significantly reduces plaque and tartar formation by creating an invisible barrier that prevents bacteria from attaching to your pet's teeth. While other products may remove plaque and tartar, OraVet is the first plaque prevention system. It's a completely safe and drug-free product.

### **Why is it important to have my pet's teeth cleaned regularly?**

Like people, pets need regular dental cleaning to remove plaque and tartar buildup. If not removed, this buildup may lead to periodontal disease and more serious health problems.

### **I feed my pet a dental diet or dental chews. Isn't that enough to keep its teeth clean?**

Dental diets and dental chews can scrape off plaque above the gum line to varying degrees, but do little to remove plaque under the gum line. OraVet prevents bacteria from adhering to your pet's teeth, so it significantly reduces plaque and tartar formation above and below the gum line.

### **Is the OraVet System safe for my pet?**

Absolutely. OraVet Barrier Sealant and OraVet Plaque Prevention Gel are non-toxic and may be used in pets of any age.

### **If I brush my pet's teeth regularly, should I still use OraVet Plaque Prevention Gel?**

Yes. The gel is effective with or without regular brushing and it's easy to integrate into your regular pet dental care routine. Simply apply the gel once a week as directed.

**For more information on Oravet, contact your veterinarian.**



*"Happy dogs have clean teeth!"*

## ***Volunteers do not get paid. They are not worthless. They are priceless.***

If thoughts of puppy kisses and purring kitties make you smile and you have a little extra time to give, then becoming a Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter volunteer may be just what you are looking for! Volunteers help enrich the lives of our shelter pets while they wait for their forever families. Shelter volunteers walk, bathe, and brush dogs or they can spend quality time cuddling cats. If you are handy with a camera you could help us capture those cute canine and feline expressions in pictures that will be used in the newspaper or on our website and pet posters. Nursing home visits, classroom educational presentations, and delivering pet posters are just a few of the additional volunteer opportunities for you animal lovers out there.

Volunteer orientation is held every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 AM at the Oskaloosa Public Library. Please make plans to attend and find out more about the rewards of being a shelter volunteer. You may also call the shelter at 641-673-3991 or email Jane Funni, Volunteer Coordinator at [jfunni@hotmail.com](mailto:jfunni@hotmail.com) for more information.

## Join the Board! Make a Difference for Pets Like Simon and Duke! Mahaska Humane Society Board Elections will be held October 11.



*What a handsome man! Simon is a very laid back cat that does like to play but would probably prefer to help you watch TV and just hangout. Simon is a three to four-year-old neutered male.*

Are you interested in becoming a Mahaska Humane Society Board member and making a difference? Mahaska Humane Society Board elections will be held Monday Oct. 11, 2004 at 6:30pm at the Oskaloosa Public Library.

Board members attend regular Humane Society monthly meetings held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Oskaloosa Public Library.

Board members are also involved in planning and volunteering for a variety of fundraisers as well as occasionally writing articles for the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter/Mahaska Humane Society newsletter. Board members represent the Humane Society in our community and should be supportive of the goals and mission of the Society. Mahaska Humane Society board members serve a term of three years.

Events and fundraisers of the Mahaska Humane Society and the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter include:

Art on the Square  
Pet Pictures with Santa  
Valentine's Day Gourmet Chocolate Caramel Apples  
MADWAG  
Spay Day USA  
Oskaloosa Lighted Christmas Parade  
North Mahaska Farm and Home Show  
Mahaska County Showcase

The Mahaska Humane Society works cooperatively with the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter to raise funds to support the adoption program at the shelter. The Society also funds and administers a spay/neuter program to financially assist community members who cannot reasonably afford to have their pets altered.

If you are interested in membership on the Mahaska Humane Society board of directors, please submit a short statement (no more than two paragraphs) expressing your interest and why you would like to be elected. Send your statement to: Mahaska Humane Society, P.O. Box 404, Oskaloosa, IA 52577. Statements must be received no later than October 1, 2004 and will be distributed to voting members present at the October meeting. Voting will be by written ballot. You do need to be present on election day to be eligible for election to the board.

If you have any questions about board membership, please call Mahaska Humane Society president, Angie Edgren at 641-673-2374 or email Angie at [danangie@lycos.com](mailto:danangie@lycos.com).

*For more information on adopting Simon, Duke or any one of many wonderful pets at the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter please call 641-673-3991 or visit [www.smas.petfinder.com](http://www.smas.petfinder.com).*



*Duke is a comical, fun-loving two-year-old Collie mix. This boy is always ready for a good time!*

# Thank you for your generosity!

The following individuals and organizations have generously contributed to the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter to help many homeless furry friends in need.

Alpha Zeta Chi Omega  
Bowen, Alan  
Cargill Inc. in honor of Lea Buerman  
CKA Associates, Inc.  
Criss, TJ and Ambjour  
Davis, Jackie  
Dickinson, Sara  
Dienstbier, Kim  
Dixon, Patricia  
Englehoven, Louise  
Evans, Kay  
Eveland, Frances  
Fields, Penny  
Frazier Garage Door  
Glandon, Jo Anne  
Glover, Andrew  
Herrman, Theola

Kauffman, Karen  
Kelderman, Janet  
Klein, Danyell  
Lanphier, June  
Leonard, Dorothy  
Likens, Virginia  
McMains, Brent and Gina  
Nedderman, Nita  
Nelson, Jack  
Nusbaum, Jane and Jerome  
Pantier, Danette  
Pella Rolscreen Foundation in honor  
of Jennifer Breakenridge  
Phillips, Pat  
Presley, Barbara  
Rivera, Kathy

Romine, Lois B. Howell  
Ryan, Bill and Tracy  
Scanlon, Agnes  
Shepherd's Crossing  
Stout, Dorothy or Marty  
Tietz, Rhonda  
Uchtman, John and Sally  
VanZee, Mildred  
Vatter, Eugene and Marilyn  
Wanders, Marcy  
Ware, Lowell and Marie  
Wells, Frances L.  
White, John and Carol Jean

## Contributions have been received in loving memory of the following individuals:

***In Memory of Helen Carlson Packard*** by Joe and Edna Beal, Frank and Phyllis Carlson, Darlene Hamilton, Dorothy Lanphier, Larry and Carol Ann McNeese, Earl J. Morgan, Kent Sellars, and Marvin and Bess Uitermarkt.

***In Memory of Belva Keylor*** by George and Dorothy Ballinger, Lawrence and Margie Gay, and Thelma Grandia.

***In Memory of Ann and Jim Harvey*** by Harriet Lenarz

***In Memory of Jack K. Jones*** by Joe and Edna Beal, Allen and Pamela Holliman, Harriet Lenarz, Merrill and Susan Phillips, Charlotte Shrago, and other friends and family members.

***In Memory of Jim McCombs*** by William and Lois Bainbridge, R.E. and Edith Bridges, Fred Bridges, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dennis, Tom and Cynthia Drost, Pat and Patricia Glover, the Hospital Employees Fund, Dean and Margaret Mains, Carolyn Malloy, Elizabeth McCombs, Keith and Gloria Nollen, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Roozeboom, Artie Van Roekel, Brett and Lori Veerman, Robert and Julie Woldt, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wyngarden.

***In Memory of Carol Hudson*** by Dale and Louise Aeschliman, Joseph and Heather Banks, Jake and Marge Bram, Ronald and Joann Comstock, Judy and James Cropp, Burton and Colleen Curtis, Ralph and Wilma De Bruin, Craig and Marian Downing, Jane Dulin, Kimberly Dulin, Peggy Dulin, Jean and Roy Edwards, the First Presbyterian Choir, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Frey, Raymond and Norma Gasperi, Julie Grotewold, Terry and Sandra Haskell, Lyman Hein, Gary Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Jensen, Eve Jensen, Ann Johnson, Erma Johnson, Martha Larson, Harriet Lenarz, James and Lorna Lewis, G.W. and Freda McCracken, Robert Miller, Betty Moore, Annabelle Morris, Elaine and Barrie Oblinger, LW Ray, E.L. and P.J. Sarver, Roger and Barbara Sarver, the Swing Club Edmundson Golf Club, Mary Trowbridge, Dirk and Dianne Van Gorp, Frances Wells, Floyd and Margaret White, and other friends and family.

***In Memory of Ralph Benzing*** by Karla Riches

***In Memory of Ray Jolley*** by Ernest Dilley, Tom and Marti Gillespie, Walter and Lois Heimberger, Connie Lanphier, Harriet Lenarz, Wilma Mitchell, P.E.O. Charter N N, Carl Pitts, Kathy Pleima, Morris Reynolds, Betty Stanley, and other friends and family members.

*A special life leaves us memories  
and memories live forever.*

The above contributions and memorial donations were received between **March 1, 2004 and July 31, 2004**. We sincerely regret if a donation made during that time has not been recognized. Please call the shelter at 673-3991 to inform us of any inadvertent omissions. Thank you for understanding.

Donations save lives! You can help! Please mail contributions to the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter, 2299 235th Street, Oskaloosa, IA 52577. Thank you for your support!

## MAHASKA HUMANE SOCIETY

PO Box 404  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

### Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter

Phone: (641) 673-3991  
animal@kdsi.net



Visit the website and see our pets on the net!

[www.smas.petfinder.com](http://www.smas.petfinder.com)

#### Shelter Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 12:00-6:00

Saturday: 11:00-4:00

Your support of the Mahaska Humane Society and the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter is greatly appreciated. This newsletter is mailed to members of the Humane Society or those who have made a donation to the Animal Shelter within the past year. If you know of anyone we may have been mistakenly omitted from our mailing list, please contact the shelter at 641-673-3991. If you know of anyone that might be interested in our activities, please pass along this newsletter to them. Thank you for helping us to help those who cannot help themselves!

## Welcome to our new Shelter Director, Gabby Evans!

Hello, my name is Gabby Evans and I would like to invite all the wonderful people of Oskaloosa and the surrounding area to come to the shelter and meet April, the other animals and me.

I've had a love for animals all my life, but didn't realize it was my calling until my family moved to Southeast Missouri in 1996 and I accepted the position of executive director of a shelter where I served for eight years. I am a member of the Missouri Animal Control Association and have served on their board of directors. I am a certified Animal Control/Humane Officer.

My husband Rob and I have one daughter, Ashley, who will be starting seventh grade this year.

After interviewing for the director's position, we toured Oskaloosa and knew it would be the perfect place to call "home". So, in July, we packed up my mom, our "critters" and ourselves, and here we are! We love Oskey, and have been very impressed with the friendliness of the people.

I am very proud to work for the Stephen Memorial Animal Shelter and for the good of the animals. We have a lot of beautiful cats and dogs up for adoption and would love to see them all get a wonderful forever home.

My goal in life is to see no more homeless animals. You can be a part of achieving this goal. If you are not able to adopt, there are many ways to help the shelter. If you already have pets, PLEASE help control the pet population: spay or neuter your pet.



*Gabby with April, a four-year-old Labrador with a heart of gold who needs a good home.*