IRHS and 4 Paws News

Serving King William, King & Queen and Essex Counties

December 2017



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Merry Christmas Everyone! Are you planning on adding a pet to your home this Christmas? Or planning on giving a pet as a present? Here are some things to consider:



The holidays can be a stressful time with shopping, decorating, socializing, etc. Make sure you have time to spend with your new pet as they get acclimated to their new home. Pets often feel the stress around them. Patience is key to making a successful transition for your family and your new pet.

Puppies and kittens are attracted to tinsel, ornaments, lights, plants and other decorations. Make sure they are supervised to keep them safe, or remove anything that might be a danger to them.

If giving a pet as a gift, make sure the recipient wants a pet. An unwelcome pet becomes a burden and not a joy.

Sometimes it makes sense to take the family or gift recipient to your local shelter or rescue after the holidays to pick out a pet. Things have settled down, there is less stress involved, and it can make for a better match.

Whether you are adding a pet, or celebrating with current pets, everyone at IRHS wishes you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year! Visit Us At Our Upcoming
Events

Transfer to Spay/Neuter – RAS to Barron's, no van this month. Resumes in January.

<u>IRHS Monthly Meeting</u> Tuesday, December 19th, 6:30pm-8:00pm, West Point (contact Teresa for more info 804-514-4296)





4 Paws Thrift 801 Main Street West Point, VA 23181 (804) 843-2902

Weds, Thurs & Fridays 10:00am - 5:00pm Saturdays 10:00am - 3:00pm

Connie

ALL THINGS DOGS

Merry Christmas! As much as we all love the holidays, please remember there are dangers lurking for your dogs among the food and decorations.

The 12 days of Christmas
ok maybe 13...

Mince pies

Poinsettias

Christmas pudding

grapes, raisins & sultanas

Mistletoe

garlic

All this stuff looks
DELICIOUS

Pine needles, tinsel,
decorations & lights

www.creatureelinio.com

I'm sure you know about many foods that are dangerous to your dog, but here's a reminder. Chocolate is toxic, and can cause agitation, tremors, convulsions and heart problems. If you dog gets into the candy or baking ingredients, you should consult your veterinarian.

Grapes, raisins, currants and other dried fruits are also toxic. Be sure to keep your dog away from fruitcakes, mince pies, and Christmas puddings. These can cause kidney failure.

Onions, garlic, leeks, shallots and chives can also be toxic. Vomiting and diarrhea

are the main reactions, but they can also damage red blood cells resulting in anemia. Symptoms may not appear for several days.

Keep your dog away from alcohol,

macadamia nuts, and artificial sweeteners. Don't give your dog large amounts of the Christmas dinner or leftovers (a few tidbits are ok), as it can cause stomach upset.

Don't let your dog chew on Christmas plants. Poinsettias, holly, Christmas trees and ivy may cause stomach upset. Mistletoe is more toxic and should be avoided at all costs.

Other items to be aware of are the small sachets of silica gel found in many consumer goods, plastic or foil decorations, wrapping paper, candles and potpourri.

It's easy to lose track of your pets during the Christmas festivities, but as long as you

are aware of your pet's surroundings and are diligent about the potential hazards, everyone can have a great holiday season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

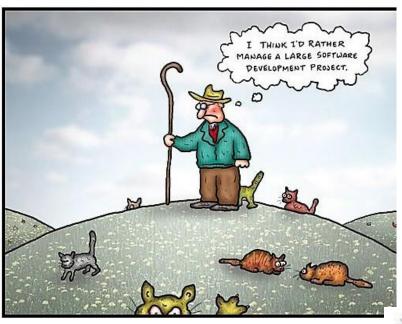
Anne



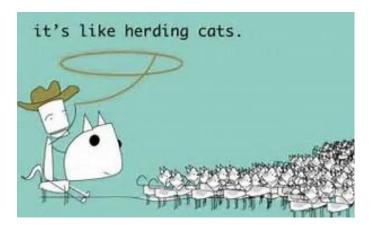
ALL THINGS CATS

December 15 is National Cat Herders Day

You've probably heard the saying that something is as impossible as "herding cats," used in reference to a seemingly futile or difficult task. Granted, if you have actually attempted to literally herd a bunch of cats for some reason or the other, you would know exactly how impossible this task actually is. This is a day for everyone who has to face the frustration of trying to manage the unmanageable, anyone whose day to day life involves insurmountable tasks.



However, if you are going to take the action of herding cats quite literally, it's really a very easy thing to do. Simply take a bag of treats and shake it; cats will come running from wherever they are. Moreover, if you do the Hansel and Gretel thing of dropping treats as you walk, they will simply follow you—until you run out of treats.



While the idiom that something impossible is "like herding cats" is a popular saying now. The phrase has relatively recent origins – one story has it that an IT expert popularized the phrase when he said that "managing senior programmers is like herding cats". What we can say is that the phrase is pretty suitable for what it describes. And while cats are independent, solitary, and easily distracted, many humans also share this characteristic. So, you may well have to complete tasks that are in fact as difficult as herding cats.



Anyway, we know that Cat Herders' Day was invented sometime in the last decade, and is basically one of those cheeky holidays that you can celebrate however you want.

TECAS Raffle

The Tappahannock-Essex County Animal Shelter is raffling off this double dog stroller



For Tickets contact: Ellen Shifflett 804-443-0726

Update on Rebel and Zorro



Rebel and Zorro are going to be transferred to a Northern Neck Rescue group that works with FIV positive kitties. They will be adopted out as a bonded pair. So, congratulations Rebel and Zorro and thank you to the Animal Welfare League of the Northern Neck's cat team for their assistance with these two delightful boys.

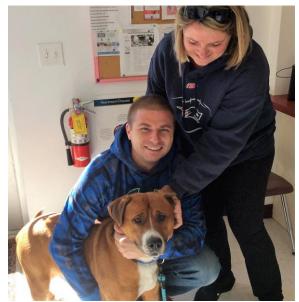
TAPPAHANNOCK FARMERS MARKET

November 18th was the last Tappahannock Farmers Market of the season. IRHS was there along with Brutus, a 2-year-old mastiff mix, and Beebits, a 7-year-old kitty, from Tappahannock-Essex Animal Shelter.





Good News! Both Brutus and Beebits were adopted. Here is Brutus with his new family!



Holiday Giving for Spay/Neuter

INDIAN RIVERS HUMANE SOCIETY

WE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN INFORMED OF A COLONY OF 20+ CATS THAT NEED TO BE SPAYED/NEUTERED.

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO OUR HOLIDAY FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN TO HELP "FIX" THESE CATS. WITHOUT YOUR HELP, WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO DO THE WORK THAT WE DO IN OUR THREE COUNTIES, I.E. KING WILLIAM, KING & QUEEN AND ESSEX.

AS OF THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NEWSLETTER, ONLY \$325.00 HAS BEEN RAISED TOWARDS OUR \$5,000 GOAL.

THE HOLIDAYS ARE A TIME OF GIVING - PLEASE GIVE TO OUR GIVING GRID.

HTTPS://WWW.GIVINGGRID.COM/WWWINDIANRIVERSHMANEORG/

YOUR DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED

Support us when you shop this holiday season

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials at smile.amazon.com.

You shop. Amazon donates.







Looking for a Home for the Holidays





Meet Sonny. Sonny is a handsome young male who loves to have his head scratched just behind the ear. Although previously a stray, he is very social with people and quite playful with other cats. When he sees his foster Mom, he comes running and likes to snuggle. He's a bit resistant to being picked up, but makes up for it with his mister personality allure. For more information on Sonny, contact Carole Lindsay at 845-800-2597



In this season of open hearts, we hope you will consider making a shelter pet's dream come true by committing to adopt a new lifelong best friend, because no one wants to be alone during the holidays - or any other day of the year! Throughout the month of December, to encourage adoptions, half of the spay/neuter fee will be paid for by the Indian Rivers Humane Society, and the Regional Animal Shelter will waive the \$20 adoption fee!



Available at RAS to "Bring Home for the Holidays"









Chestnut Rusty Blitzen Noel

Did You Know?

Virginia law states the following:



§ 3.2-6551. Notification by individuals finding companion animals; penalty.

- A. Any individual who finds a companion animal and (i) provides care or safekeeping or (ii) retains the companion animal in such a manner as to control its activities shall within 48 hours:
- 1. Make a reasonable attempt to notify the owner of the companion animal if the owner can be ascertained from any tag, license, collar, tattoo, or other form of identification or markings or if the owner of the animal is otherwise known to the individual; and
- 2. Notify the public animal shelter that serves the locality where the companion animal was found and provide to the shelter contact information, including at least a name and a contact telephone number, a description of the animal, including information from any tag, license, collar, tattoo, or other identification or markings, and the location where the companion animal was found.
- B. If an individual finds a companion animal and (i) provides care or safekeeping or (ii) retains the companion animal in such a manner as to control its activities, the individual shall comply with the provisions of § 3.2-6503.
- C. Any individual who violates this section may be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$50 per companion animal.

§ 18.2-97. Larceny of certain animals and poultry.

Any person who shall be guilty of the larceny of a dog, horse, pony, mule, cow, steer, bull or calf shall be guilty of a Class 5 felony; and any person who shall be guilty of the larceny of any poultry of the value of \$5 dollars or more, but of the value of less than \$200, or of a sheep, lamb, swine, or goat, of the value of less than \$200, shall be guilty of a Class 6 felony.



3rd Annual Shop Til You Drop Fundraiser

The 3rd Annual Shop Til You Drop event was held on the sunny, but cold Saturday, November 11th. Held at Tony & George's Restaurant, this year's event included a visit from Santa and Mrs.

Claus. Here are a few scenes from the event:



DECEMBER PET HOLIDAYS



