

IRHS and 4 Paws News

Serving King William, King &
Queen and Essex Counties

May 2017



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Did you know May is National Pet Month? Indian Rivers Humane Society is all about pets. We encourage adoption and promote the benefits of pet ownership. These benefits go both ways; there are benefits of pets for people and people for pets.



People provide pets with love and basic needs. We can promote a long and healthy life by spaying and neutering them, ensuring proper health care, and providing a safe environment. Play time provides exercise and mental stimulation. A well-adjusted animal is a happy animal.

Anyone who has ever loved a pet doesn't need to be told how awesome they are. There are countless stories and pictures on the internet showing the bond between people and pets. We foster cats and dogs in our homes so we can match them with the perfect loving forever home. This brings us as much joy as the pet and their new family bring each other.

There are many benefits that pets bring to people. Companionship, a sense of responsibility, stress-reduction, and joy are just some of the things pets give us. Service dogs provide independence, and therapy animals promote healing. Love is a powerful emotion.



If you are looking for a pet, please consider adopting from us, a county shelter or any other rescue group. Animals that are adopted and given a second chance KNOW they have been given that second chance. They exhibit an increased level of appreciation and loyalty. Sometimes they need more patience and love before they can trust their good fortune, but it is totally worth it.

Celebrate National Pet Month with your best friend. Treats all around!

Anne

Visit Us At Our Upcoming Events

Transfer to Spay/Neuter –
Wednesday, May 10th, RAS
to Barron's

IRHS Monthly Meeting –
Tuesday, May 16th, 6:30pm-
8:00pm King William Ruritan
Bldg.

Tappahannock Farmers
Market – May 20th, 9:00am
– 1:00pm

Wine and Cheese/Golf
Tournament – Saturday,
June 17th, West Point
Country Club

Indian Rivers Humane Society
PO Box 264
Aylett, VA 23009
(804) 885-3109
www.indianrivershumane.org



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

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

IF YOU HAVE
ROOM IN YOUR
**HEART
& HOME**
BECOME A FOSTER



ALL THINGS DOGS

Warmer weather brings out fleas and ticks which can cause havoc with our dogs. These pests carry diseases so we always encourage people to use a flea/tick preventative, and to use it all year long. Warm days in the winter can also awaken these pests.



Ticks can transmit several diseases like Lyme Disease, Ehrlichiosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Canine Anaplasmosis. These diseases tend to have similar symptoms: fever, lethargy, swollen joints or lameness, loss of appetite, and depression. Check your dog when he comes inside to make sure ticks haven't found a ride on him. Symptoms often don't manifest until the disease is more advanced.

Fleas are mainly a nuisance, but they can also inflict some discomfort and disease. Fleas can cause Flea Allergy Dermatitis, which accounts for more than 50% of all dermatological cases reported to vets. The scratching can lead to infection. They also serve as a host for tapeworms which can infect your pet. It is also a fact that fleas can spread diseases to people, including typhus and plague. Fleas on cats can transmit "cat scratch fever" to people.



The best defense is to prevent fleas and ticks from infesting your dog in the first place. There are several preventatives on the market from collars to medications. You should talk to your vet for the best option for your pet. And your dog should be tested yearly for Lyme and other tick-borne diseases. Keeping your pet pest-free also helps keep your house pest-free, and that makes everyone more comfortable and happy.

ALL THINGS CATS

The Cat's Meow All cats make sounds — from meows and purrs to growls and hisses — but some felines are more vocal than others.

Kittens are typically more communicative than older cats, and domestic felines are usually more vocal than feral ones.

Cats communicate with meows, chirrups, hisses, purrs, chatters and growls, but the meow is the most common.

Meow Kittens will meow to their mothers, but as they mature, they typically quit using this sound to communicate with other cats. Often, adult domestic cats that meow do so only in the presence of humans. This is likely an extension of the way kittens use their plaintive meows as a signal.

If you have cats, you probably know that not all meows are equal. You might even be able to determine if your cat is happy, angry or demanding food or attention just by listening to the type of meow.



Purr It's often assumed that cats make this calming sound when they're happy, but they purr for many other reasons as well. Purring can signal that a cat feels frightened or threatened and research shows it's also a form of self-healing.

Chatter This stuttering sound has been described as a cross between a meow and a bleat. It's typically heard when a feline sees something — often a bird or flying insect — that they can't reach. It could communicate excitement or frustration.



Hiss A hiss can be loud or soft depending on the cat and the situation. It's often the feline response to fear and can be directed at cats or other animals, as well as humans. When a cat is hissing, it's best to give the animal some space.

Growl These rumbling sounds are meant as a warning. They can be a response to humans, animals or other cats, and most felines make the noise out of fear, anger or territoriality. Growling is often added if body language and hissing don't seem to be effective. It can be a more demonstrative sign that the cat is definitely not to be disturbed or hassled.



Caterwaul This shrill and wailing noise is the cry of a cat in heat. Once your female cat is spayed, you will never hear this noise coming from her.



Chirrup This trilling sound is a cross between a meow and a purr, and many cat owners say their felines use it as a form of greeting.



Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 17th, 1:00pm. Join us for our annual **Wine & Cheese Fund-Raiser** featuring a spectacular Silent Auction (you won't believe the fabulous prizes available!). This year there will also be music, vendors and more! At The Country Club of West Point. Bring your own chairs if you wish to sit by the pool.



Join us for our **first annual golf tournament**. Play 18 holes on the beautiful Country Club of West Point course. \$180 for Captain's Choice 4 person team. Includes green fees, cart and lunch.

We are accepting applications now and are limited to the first 15 teams. The application can be found on our website.



2017 IRHS Board Nominees - To Date Elections to be held June 20, 2017 Two year term

President - Connie Prince
Vice President - Gina Fetterolf
Secretary - Angela Scott
Treasurer - Jon Cox
4 Paws Thrift Chair - Teresa Glidewell
All Things Cat Chair - **OPEN**
All Things Dog Chair - Margie Hurson
Education/Legislation Chair - Joan Coven
Public Relations Chair - Kristin Kite
Membership Chair - Kathy Haurand
Special Events Chair - Connie Prince



We still have one position to fill. Please consider donating your time and talents for a 2 year term. The rewards are well worth the time spent.

Tappahannock Farmers Market

IRHS was at the first Tappahannock Farmers Market of the season on April 15th. With them were two cats and one dogs from TECAS. Merlin, the dog, is a super friendly pit/sharpei mix. Sheba, the gray cat, is two years old. Dash, the orange and white cat, is 4 years old. All can be seen at the Tappahannock/Essex County Regional Animal Shelter.



Looking For Love



Meet is Goldie. He's had a tough start. Our veterinarian thinks that he is at least 10 years old. He has a thyroid condition that 2 pills a day regulates. The pills aren't pricey. He is very laid back and super sweet. We hope that someone will consider giving a senior cat a new life for his final years. For more information on Goldie, contact Teresa at 804-514-4296.



Found Love!

Guinness found his forever home with a family with another Shih Tzu! Two peas in a pod. After coming to us very sick, he recuperated beautifully in his foster home. While there he displayed his loving and playful side which was just what his new family and furry sibling was looking for. As Guinness settles into his new home we expect to hear all about his new adventures.



Congratulations
Guinness!

DOLLHOUSE

On display at the Wine and Cheese/Silent Auction Fundraiser on June 17th, will be a hand-made dollhouse. This dollhouse was started by West Point native, Alan Beswick. Due to his untimely death, the dollhouse was never completed. The family donated the project to IRHS to raise money for Spay and Neuter. We have the blue prints, other pieces of furniture and carpet that go with it. We will be accepting silent bids in the hopes that someone will appreciate the craftsmanship and complete the Dollhouse.



WE ARE HIRING

4 PAWS THRIFT IS HIRING.....

One, maybe 2, days a week (usually would be a Saturday), minimum wage...duties would include register, sorting, washing dishes etc., must be willing to work hard in a fun environment...we have lots of laughs but do lots of work!! We are mainly volunteers and we always need more of those. Applicants should come into the shop. We are open Thurs -10-5; Fri 10-5; and Sat 10-3. 801 Main Street, West Point. Tell your friends or come in yourself!

MAY HOLIDAYS

**May is Responsible Animal
Guardian Month**

OWNER NEVER

**GUARDIAN
FOREVER**



**MAY IS
NATIONAL
PET
MONTH**

May is Pet Cancer Awareness Month

Help us fight the
number one disease
afflicting older dogs.



May 3rd

May 3, National Specially-Abled Pets Day

"A dog doesn't care if you're rich or poor;
young or old. A dog will
not judge your appearance.
To your dog, you are the greatest,
smartest, and nicest human ever born.
You are a friend and protector."
- Louis Sabin



May 7th – 13th



**Be Kind To
Animals
Week**

May 7th – 13th

**National
Pet
Week**



May 8th -13th

Puppy Mill Action Week



May 8th

**NATIONAL
ANIMAL DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS DAY**

**CREATE A
PET EMERGENCY
GO-KIT**



May 21st – 27th



**NATIONAL
DOG BITE
PREVENTION WEEK**