

A Publication from

Pet Over Population Prevention



Pet Friends

Spring 2011



June is Adopt-a-Cat Month

Did you know...

- 95% of cat owners admit they talk to their cats.
- A cat can be either right-pawed or left-pawed.

- A cat can jump as much as seven times its height.
- A cat cannot see directly under its nose. This is why the cat cannot seem to find tidbits on the floor.
- A cat in a hurry can sprint at about thirty-one miles per hour.
- A cat will spend nearly 30% of its life grooming itself.
- A cat's brain is more similar to a human's brain than that of a dog.
- A cat's hearing rates as one of the top in the animal kingdom. Cats can hear sounds as high-

pitched as 65 kHz; a human's hearing stops at just 20 kHz.

- A cat's sense of taste is keener than a dog's sense of taste.
- A cat's tail held high means happiness. A twitching tail is a warning sign, and a tail tucked in close to the body is a sure sign of insecurity.
- Americans spend more on cat food than on baby food.

Consider bringing a cat into your life and giving it starring role in your heart! Don't forget older cats make terrific family additions too! POPP has several 3+ year old cats seeking a forever home and lap! If you would like to meet one of our friendly felines, send an email to catsadopt@popptricities.org or call our message center at 509-943-4722. Our cat adoption fee is \$60 and our kitten adoption fee is \$75. All POPP pets are spayed/neutered prior to being available for adoption. All adoptions include a complimentary vet exam, coupons from PetSmart, and a gift bag from POPP. Adoption fees help provide spay/neuter assistance to needy pets in our community.



Join us for...

Ameri-Canine Idol

Saturday, May 21 ♦ 10am-3pm

Columbia Dark Bandshell

The City of Kennewick is once again hosting this fun, entertaining event for community pooches and their families. Events will include Doggie Dashes — Dachshund Dash, Pug Lug, Chihuahua Chase, Tea Cup Trot (Under 15lbs), Junior Jaunt (15-25 lbs.), Middle Weight March (26-50lbs.) and Big Dogs Derby (over 51lbs.)—and Pet Showcases—Peanut Butter Lick, Frisbee Catch, Diva Strut, Best Dressed Dog, Dog-Owner Look-A-Like, Shedding Contest and Most Tricks in 30 seconds. Cost is \$5 for one (1) event and \$10 for Unlimited events per dog. For more information visit the official website at <http://www.americanineidol.com>.

POPP will be hosting a microchip clinic at the Event. Come out and get your pet permanently identified for \$20! And join in on the festivities!!



Calendar

POPP Quarterly Meeting

5:00pm to 7:00pm

Upcoming meetings:

Sunday, July 24

Sunday, October 23

All meetings are held at the POPP center located at 524B Warehouse Street, Richland.

Meetings are open to the public.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ameri-Canine Idol

Saturday, May 21

Microchip Clinic

Saturday, May 21

Adopt-a-Cat Moth

June 2011

Art in the Park

July 29-30

Cat Adoption Locations

Saturdays and Sundays

12:00pm-4:00pm

PetSmart, Kennewick

Dog Adoption Location

Saturdays

11:00 am to 4:00 pm

524B Warehouse St, Richland

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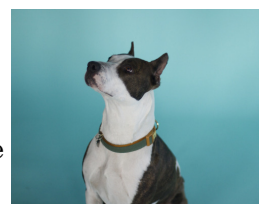


POPP Heartbreakers and Footwarmers :



Introducing Sweet Pea...Sweet Pea is a beautiful short-haired calico kitty that is about a year old. She has been loved by some kind people who took in her and her siblings after they were abandoned on their property. Sweet Pea is a little bit shy at first but she will be your best friend once she gets to know you. She is used to living with other cats and has not had exposure to dogs. She would probably do best in a quieter home with adults or a family with older children. Sweet Pea has been spayed and vaccinated.

Announcing Ophelia...Ophelia was a rescued from life is a stray, and currently lives with her rescue family while she settles in to life in a home and learns house skills. Ophelia is good natured and very smart, and has quickly got on board with house training, crate skills, and has picked up some basic obedience commands. Ophelia does great with the other dogs and small children, but it is not yet known how she feels about cats. She lives in a home with a 6 foot tall fenced yard, and enjoys her day with a mixture of toys, other creatures to play with, and loves to frolic and run. Her foster family believes that she could be part Greyhound, and would make a great companion dog for someone who runs or jogs. She will bring a playful nature and an active lifestyle with her, ready to share it with her new family!



Meet Buster...All dogs deserve a wonderful home. Every so often a dog has special needs and it always appears that the dog has a sublimely sweet temperament, making the additional care not so much to ask. Buster is that dog. Buster is approximately two years old. He is devoted, loving and would be a loyal companion. Buster is a handsome black lab mix who enjoys the company of other dogs and humans. House-trained, he likes nothing better than to spend every moment by your side. He likes stuffed toys and has a special toy he has latched on to at his foster home. He takes great pleasure in carrying around that special toy. Buster was born with hip dysplasia. He was previously on pain meds, but due to having measured, consistent daily exercise and time to romp and play he currently is med-free. Buster requires access to relieve himself at least every 4 hours. Busters forever home should be committed to his regime so



he can continue his healthy, happy, peaceful life. Buster needs a doggy door into his secure yard, consistent daily exercise in measured amounts, and lots of time with his family. If you are willing to give an extraordinary gentle dog with a small birth defect a compassionate, loving, forever home, please e-mail POPP and come meet Buster.



Prevent a litter....Spay or Neuter your Critter

6th Annual Fur Ball – Fun, Food & Frivolity

The 6th Annual Fur Ball Dinner and Auction was held Saturday, April 16, 2011 at the Three Rivers Convention Center. Approximately 400 guests attended this gala affair to raise their paws for a great cause!

The Fur Ball is one of POPP's major fundraising events which supports the spay/neuter assistance program to our community, as well as foster/adoption and education programs. This premier event started with social hour at 5:00 p.m. followed by a gourmet dinner at 6:00 p.m. Big compliments to the chef - the food was outstanding! A special thank you to Oakwood Cellars and Sleeping Dog Wines for providing the delicious table wines. The Dirty Rivers Blues Band played soft music before dinner and proceeded to rock the house once the Auctions were closed.

Silent and Live Auction items filled the great hall. All were graciously donated by individuals and businesses throughout the Mid-Columbia. Highlights of the evening included a tribute to Chocolate, the pup the community rallied around to save after being abandoned and hit by a car. Chocolate's family attended the Fur Ball with an update on what life is like for Chocolate today. All I can say, is "I wish Chocolate's family would adopt ME"! Chocolate is doing fantastic and is living the happily ever-after life POPP volunteers strive to provide for all abandoned pets.

Patricia LaBelle once again graced the Fur Ball with her talented psychic readings. An enormous attraction were the mini-massages provided by Michelle — poor girl didn't have a moment to relax herself! All donations generated by both Patricia and Michelle were generously donated to POPP programs. Marjorie Shelver, the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing, kindly donated her winnings to POPP as well - thank you Marjorie!

The support POPP received from businesses, individuals and the media was incredible! Special appreciation is extended to the Tri-City Herald, KONA radio, Allison Crawford, John Clement, Patricia LaBelle, Michelle Fridley, Team Battelle, the Three Rivers Convention Center and The Dirty Rivers Blues Band for offering their services to make this special fundraising event for homeless pets a gigantic success. We live in an amazingly generous community, and all people who call the Tri-Cities their home make this community a very special place to live. It truly does take a village!

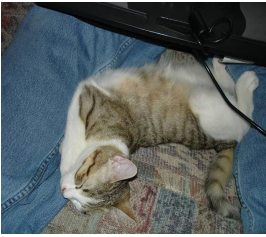
We could not do it without you ! A big thank you goes out to the more than 400 guests who attended the 6th Annual Fur Ball to show their support for Pet Over Population Prevention's efforts in our community to raise awareness about the importance of spaying and neutering pets.

These generous donations of money, time and personal commitment will further the goals of POPP to accomplish an end to senseless euthanizing of perfectly healthy, adoptable pets in our community.

Thank you, everyone. We hope to see you all at the 7th Annual Fur Ball 2012!



Happy Tails...Waggin' Round-up



Well Gabe didn't stay named Hoover for very long. It didn't just roll off the tongue, you know? So in short order his name was changed again, this time to his permanent name, "Bubba". Since his nose and ears are so pink, Bubblicious and Hubba Bubba bubble gum came to mind. Is he getting Big? Oh yes! Still a high squeaky voice. Yes he's everything we imagined, and many things we'd forgotten about kittens — everything is a toy, everything is fair game, curtains are for climbing, dogs are for tormenting! It's amazing how much of that stuff you forget when you have an adult cat. It's all good though.

Bubba is definitely a treat to have around and by far has the biggest motor of any cat we've ever had. We're so glad to have him, and very appreciative that you entrusted us with his care.

Take Good Care—Thom & Tamara B

I was looking for an older dog to rescue. Every time I thought I had found the dog, someone else adopted it. I have always had dogs and about a year ago I lost my beloved Zip to an accident. So, it was time to find a dog that needed a good home. It was my first day at POPP (Pet Over Population Prevention) volunteering and I was told there was a 1 year old lab/terrier mix coming into the program and that I should look at her. She was in a cage when I got there. I kept telling myself she was still a puppy and I wanted a dog that was out of the puppy stage. However, she saw me and started wagging her tail and every time she couldn't see me, she would start whining. I ended up sitting with her in her cage, telling myself if no one adopted her, I would. Well, that day I took her home! She has such a personality...a real comedian; she keeps us laughing all the time. She is a quick learner, hardly ever barks and is my constant companion. If you are looking for a dog, please consider the shelters. There are so many great dogs that just need a second chance.

—Sharron W.



Scamper is doing well in his new home. He is terribly spoiled as he had to choose from which 3 beds to take his daily naps in. He has had a haircut and looks much more gentlemanly. He wears his new coat when it is really chilly out and we go to the park for a walk. He has had his rabies and kennel cough vaccination as Anna could never get the papers from the previous people. After he had his haircut he had to have some eardrops for 5 days because the groomer noticed his ears were inflamed.

All in all he has fit right in and gives and receives lots of love and hugs.

Enjoy the picture,
Stephanie B.

I wanted to let you know how happy and wonderful the 2 cats, Patricia and Kristine are. They lay on my daughter's lap, and are friendly, they are just awesome! My daughter jokes they do have 20/20 vision, it just takes the two of them together! They even responded well to the youngsters that came over. Shy at first, but when they found they were getting attention, they were right there. My daughter loves them, and you can tell, looking at them they love her too. Isn't that awesome!

(Patricia & Kristine were issued in the Winter 2011 Issue and found a terrific forever home!)

Snickers, or Mr. Lickers as we affectionately call him, came to join our family after we said "yes" to babysitting him for the day. Snickers' foster mom just needed some help for the day and we were more than happy to be back up foster care. When he arrived at our home, he immediately started his snuggling and constant kissing -- thus his nickname Mr. Lickers-- and we found ourselves asking to step



(Continued on page 5)

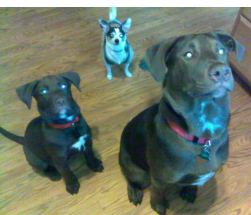


Prevent a litter....Spay or Neuter your Critter

(Continued from page 4)

in as his foster home. My four children were tickled to be caretakers of this little 5 lb Chihuahua mix. And so was I, despite the fact that I thought I would never like a Chihuahua. When the call came to put Snickers on Petfinder to find him a permanent home, I knew that he belonged with us. So we decided to adopt Snickers from POPP. Recently as we walked the dogs, a friend commented that we have a dog in every size...from little Snickers to a little bigger Harriet (mix) to a little bigger Snowball (poodle mix) to a much larger Daisy (yellow lab&golden retriever). We feel very lucky that the POPP volunteer saved him the day his owner decided to throw him out of the car. Our family would like to say Thank You to this POPP person and to all of you who help these dogs and cats in need. You are incredible in your generosity of time and work. You are impacting the Tri Cities in an incredible way. And you are giving these dogs and cats a brand new life with people who care about them.

With deep respect, The Killoys



I just wanted to thank you again for giving my family the chance to give our wonderful boy a loving home. He is very precious and dear to my heart. Hes become a major mama's boy. He is a wonderful addition to our already

wonderful family.

I wanted to let you know he is doing very well. Growing like a weed. He's a smart lil guy. I love him dearly.

We adopted another chocolate lab mix about two weeks ago so he has a friend to play with that's more durable. They've become like two peas in a pod so to speak. Our newest addition is three months younger than Charlie (aka chocolate). They get along great. He seems happier to me being able to play with another furry kid every day rather than waiting for our lil peanut man to play with him every now and then.

I hope life has been treating you and your loved ones kind.

Sincerely, Anastasia Z



Just wanted to drop you a quick note to let you know that Junior is settling in nicely. He really is such a sweetie! He spent

yesterday and last night out of site. He ventured out this afternoon and had his first surprise encounter with one of our dogs. He immediately ran to the window ledge out of reach. I picked him up and calmed him down, took him to where the food was and kind of "hovered" around him for a while. Then, I went on with what I had been doing. He spent the rest of the afternoon playing with all the toys and exploring. Right now, he is asleep on the foot part of my husband's recliner next to him. It was like a light switch turning off when he crashed and went to sleep! LOL He is still getting used to the other kitties. My oldest cat, Simon, just sniffed him and then walked away. The one that is jealous is my baby cat Ivan. He is the one that I showed you the picture of that was such a strange kitten! Everytime he gets near Jr. he growls. No fights, just establishing the pecking order I suspect!

Nita C.



Everything is going great, thanks for asking. We got a kick out of the pictures and we shared them with all our friends and family...letting them know our dog is famous. :) And he is doing awesome. He

seems to be adjusting well. He of course does not like us out of his sight but this seems to be getting a little better. At first when I would open up the back door to let him go potty, he would stand right outside the door unless you walked out there with him. Now he runs around in the back yard without even paying attention if I am there and comes back in when he is ready. Only problem is that he is a good jumper so he likes to jump into the neighbor's yard or wander to the front of the house. And we did rename Chance...his new name is Tex short for Tejas which means friendship. We thought this was appropriate because of his attachment to his people. It is also a shout-out to Texas...as this is where Jack is from. :) Thanks again for everything and bringing such a joy into our lives!

Take care and I will keep you updated. —Keyna





POPP Salutes Our Helping Hands!

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they are priceless." - Sherry Anderson

This year's Fur Ball included a special Volunteer Appreciation presentation and how fitting—as the Fur Ball was on April 16th. POPP is continually thankful, appreciative and grateful for the many hands which help us with the day-to-day work it takes to care for foster pets, assist the community and manage the administration for an all-volunteer non-profit! So from POPP to all our volunteers— young and old— Thank you from the bottom of our paws and hearts!



Thank you to all our donors that continue to leave paw prints on our hearts and enhance the lives of pets within our program and the community!

POPP volunteers extend a special thank you and heart-felt gratitude to KNDU Television, The Tri-City Herald, KONA Radio and Meadow Hills Veterinary Center for their solid and continued support of our major events which fund POPP's Spay/Neuter Assistance and Foster/Adoption programs to our community. Thank you's also go out to the citizens of this community who so generously donate money, time and personal support to ensure homeless pets are cared for.

Donations in Memory of:

- Punkin, 15 yr old Chihuahua
- Jeannie Smith
- Bev Jochen
- Marion MacMillan

Continued sponsors:

- Meadow Hills Veterinary Center
- KNDU TV
- KONA Radio
- Tri-City Herald
- Artistic Portraits

A huge thank you to:

- PetCo
- PetSmart
- Pet Ad donors



11th Annual Pooch and Pal Run & Walk

On March 26th at 9am over 400 people with their furry family members in tow came out to attend the Pooch and Pal Run & Walk at Columbia Point Marina in Richland. It was an amazing morning to see so many dog lovers out supporting Pet Over Population Prevention, and, showing off and talking about their ADORABLE dogs!! Participants were wearing their red and white t-shirts with race numbers pinned to themselves or their pooches to walk or run the 1 mile, 5K or 10K course along the beautiful Columbia River. Cookies and dog biscuits were waiting for all at the finish line along with lots of terrific give-away items---like dog tag necklaces, dog noses and dog collar bracelets!! \$6300 was raised to help homeless dogs and cats in our community. Thank you to all of the volunteers, those that helped advertise the event, and all who participated! We hope to see you again next year! Check out the photos on POPP's Facebook Page (<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Pet-Over-Population-Prevention/173893467266>)! They will make you smile!



Prevent a litter....Spay or Neuter your Critter

Spay & Neuter Myths Debunked

Most of these myths have been passed along for years without any basis in fact. People still believe false statements like: *"It will calm my female down to have a litter"* and *"My male needs to sow his oats,"* or *"Intact pets make better watch dogs/protectors."*

These are **all inaccurate viewpoints** and flat nonsense. Here are a few more:

"My pet is a purebred so it's ok if I breed" The fact is that 25% of all pets found in a shelter are AKC or UKC purebreds. Know what that means? NOT MUCH! Those letters just mean they belong to a club and are registered to it. There is no guarantee of quality. In fact, most times those pets have some serious medical and behavioral problems. There are very few really good responsible breeders. When breeders are good, they are REALLY good and screen potential owners very closely. They also are careful about the pets they sell, their health and often pay for their training, neutering, or will take them back if they do not work out in the home.

"My pet is a male; I won't have any litters" These pets are a very big part of the pet overpopulation problem since they escape and breed with females in heat. They roam more, are more aggressive and sire hoards of litters for someone else to raise.

"It cost too much" It will cost you a lot more to care for the puppies created by the pet! If you have a litter and take proper responsibility and care for it, your cost factors are much more than this procedure could ever be. It will also cost less than the vet bills incurred from your male running after the female in heat up the road, and getting injured by a car. *Note: Each stray pet costs taxpayers approximately \$100 each to catch, feed, and destroy.*

"My children should see the miracle of birth" School programming, virtual computers or films can convey the same information in a more compassionate way. Visiting the local zoo or science center are other options also. Children can experience the birthing process other ways and enjoy it more. Almost all mothers hide when they give birth to their puppies or kittens. So they won't actually see it, and when something goes wrong, will you have the monetary resources to pay for the emergency vet visit and treatment to save the mother and puppies lives? And what about all the hassles you will have to deal with through the process; the birth, raising all those babies, and the veterinary bills, finding "good" homes for the kittens and puppies, etc.

"She needs to have at least one litter" Does a woman need to have at least one child? Having a litter does not in any way improve or change a pet's disposition. It will however drain her body of nutrients, make her thin, can weaken her bones, and teeth.

"Spaying & neutering is painful for the pet." How painful is giving birth? Have you ever watched a female die in giving birth? **I have.** Have you ever spent days trying to save dying puppies? **I have.** Spay/neuter procedures are performed under anesthesia and pets are usually back on their feet into normal activities within 24 to 72 hours. This slight discomfort is not harmful and prevents the suffering and death of hundreds of unwanted pets that could be born if you do not spay or neuter your pet.

"If I neuter him, he won't be as protective." Instinct is not affected by hormones. In fact, most pets will actually be more effective at protection since they will have stabilized hormones. They are usually easier to train. Altered pets are protective and loyal to their family and will have reduced desires to wander, mark territory and fight with other pets.

"They'll get fat and lazy". Not so. They need exercise just like they always did, but spaying them actually changes nothing as far as weight gain. Don't over feed your pet, that is the primary reason for weight gain, as in humans.

"A litter will calm my pet and having a litter will be better for her" Veterinary medical science and evidence says otherwise. **This is just not true.**

"Only females need to be spayed, it's not my responsibility" As we all know it takes two to tango. Would you feel that way if it were your daughter? The female may end up with the litter, but it's just as much his doing as hers. In the media we hear all about family values, this applies to responsibility for all life, not just humans. Not to mention if a male impregnates the "wrong" female, her owner has grounds to sue.

"My pet is special" Every pet is special. They will never be duplicated. Think of all those special pets that are killed daily. Adoptees are very special pets.

"I paid good money for my pet, so I need to get my money back" Most people do not realize the cost and responsibility involved in having a litter of kittens or puppies. Reputable breeders are not in it for "the money". They know there is usually no money, except "maybe" if or when you might have a Champion pet. They breed for the love of the breed. To enhance the breed. If you purchased your pet from a "back yard" breeder or a pet store, you will most certainly not "enhance" the breed and will most likely lose money on vet bills. Plus, you will be adding to the over-population of pets in this country

If this information still has not convinced you to spay or neuter your pet, go visit a shelter. I challenge you to spend some time there. Ask when they euthanize pets & witness how the pets cringe, defecate in fear, and act when they are taken out to be killed. Look them in the eyes and explain to them why you do not want to spay or neuter your own pet.

Mathematical Quiz: One female dog has a litter of four puppies. She has the same number of puppies twice a year for six years. If every puppy born from every litter during those six years has four puppies each, how many puppies will have been produced during that six year period?

Answer: One female dog can cause the production of 67,000 puppies within six years!

**PLEASE! Spay and Neuter your pets.
You will be doing a good thing.**

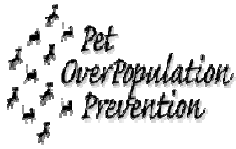


Spaying or neutering is the single most important thing you can do to prevent animal cruelty!

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Prevent a litter...Spay or Neuter your critter



POPP's Mission: "POPP promotes responsible pet ownership by educating the public regarding spaying and neutering their pets, providing spay/neuter assistance, and caring for and finding homes for abandoned and/or homeless pets."

POPP is a local, no-kill, non-profit, all volunteer organization.

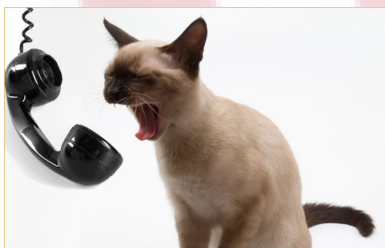
**Because your pet cannot phone home
And has no map reading skills..**

POPP Microchip Clinic **at the Ameri-Canine Idol**

Saturday, May 21, 2011

10:00 am—3:00 pm

Columbia Park Bandshell



\$20 per pet *while supplies last!*

