



February 2019

# **Eli's Journey**

None of us know exactly when Eli's joumey started but we met him on a freezing cold Monday afternoon with 17° weather and bitter cold wind. A small boy spotted a pink nose sticking out of a bale of hay on the side of the highway. He said, "Mom, I think there is a dog in that bale of hay!" She stopped to investigate and sure enough, there was this shivering emaciated

Pit mix looking out at her. There was no food, no water, and just some straw to try to shelter in. Social media kicked in and we received a call at the Effingham County Humane Society asking if we could help. Judi Bone headed out to the described location and



Bill Hammer and Mark Clineff jumped in Mark's truck to join her. When they arrived at the scene, Judi was already building trust and making friends, feeding



him by hand out of a can of dog food. They bundled him up and took him to an Effingham vet to be checked out. He did not look good and most likely

would not have survived the night had he not been spotted. The vet said he was at least fifteen pounds underweight and you could count every rib. He was also suffering from skin infections due to fleas. Judi, Bill, and Mark decided to name him Eli and brought our new friend to the ECHS where a special cage was built to keep him safe and warm. Since arriving at ECHS, Eli has received the incredible loving care of our many volunteers. Eli was cautious around people at first but that is changing rapidly now as he gets to know us. Mark took him to the vet for a check-up and he gained three pounds within the first two weeks at ECHS. He was playful with the other dogs there and at one point jumped into Mark's lap and gave him a big sloppy



kiss to say, "Thanks for taking such good care of me!"

Winter is far from over so if you are out and about and see a dog or cat by itself in distress due to the harsh weather, please say something. There are new laws that have been enacted by the State of Illinois that protect these animals. You can call ECHS at (217) 536-9001, Effingham County Animal Control at (217) 347-5695, or EARS at (217) 500-0231 for assistance.

So that's Eli's journey as we know it. We're confident that the journey will end with Eli being adopted by a loving family who will care and provide for him in the years to come. In the meantime, the volunteers at Effingham County Humane Society will continue to love on him and keep his tail wagging!



## **HOW TO REACH US!**

Our shelter is located in the OLD FUNKHOUSER SCHOOL BUILDING 12073 N. 1000th Road (Mailing Address: P.O. Box 321) Effingham, IL 62401-0321

## **SHELTER HOURS**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday Closed for cleaning Sunday Closed

Telephone: 217-536-9001 Fax: 800-558-4485 Email: 4pawsechs@gmail.com Website: www.effinghamcountyhumanesociety.org www.facebook.com/effinghamcountyhumanesociety Newsletter design donated by Amy Jo Kingery

## EFFINGHAM COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## 11th Annual Mardi Gras Gala

**Friday, March 22** Effingham Event Center (formerly Effingham Knights of Columbus)

## Garage Sales at the Shelter

Spring Sale: Friday-Sunday, May 31-June 2 Fall Sale: Friday-Sunday, October 4-6

## Battle of the Barktenders

Saturday, June 22 • 2:00-7:00 p.m. Ping's Tavern, Teutopolis

## WISH LIST

Looking for something to donate? The shelter is in need of the following items:

- Plastic 8' & 6' tables
- Wal-Mart gift cards
- Latex/non-latex/nitrile exam gloves (large or one-size fits-all)
- Menards gift cards
- Paper towels
- Bleach/bleach spray/bleach wipes
- Volunteers!!!
- 45-gallon trash bags
- Rural King gift cards
- White kitchen bags
- SCOOPABLE cat litter
- Gel dishwasher detergent
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Toy mice for cats
- CANNED dog food
- FRISKIES CANNED cat food
- CASH DONATIONS!!!
- Copy paper
- File folders
- KMR powdered kitten formula
- Pocket folders (for adoption paperwork)
- Carabiners
- Dog treats

## 11th Mardi Gras Gala Friday, March 22, 2019

Once again our major fundraiser for the year is just around the corner. It will again be held at the Effingham Event Center (former Effingham K of C Hall). The night will start out with great music by LP and The Honey Bee. Social Hour starts at 5:30 p.m. Incredible hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and renowned Creole dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. Make sure you save room for the fantastic homemade New Orleans desserts from the loving kitchens of ECHS volunteers! Many wonderful and unique items will be available to bid on in our silent auction and 50/50 tickets will be available for purchase that evening.

## ECHS Celebrates 40 Years in Effingham County

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Effingham County Humane Society.

In 1979, a small group of concerned citizens who saw a need to help homeless and neglected pets in Effingham County founded ECHS. There was no shelter building, so animals were fostered in the homes of volunteers until they could be adopted. Many years later ECHS was provided with a space in the Village Square Mall to house cats, but dogs continued to be fostered.

In 2009, fundraising allowed the purchase of the old Funkhouser School building as a permanent shelter for both cats and dogs. Since then, ECHS has made many improvements to the building and greatly increased the number of volunteers involved in caring for the adoptable pets at the shelter.

ECHS could not have survived for the past forty years without the support and generosity of so many in our community and we hope to continue for many more. Many thanks to all who have contributed to our efforts throughout the years.

## Visit ECHS at Effingham Rural King!

Want to meet some of our furry friends but can't seem to make it out to our shelter? You're in luck! Every second Saturday of the month, from now until May 11, ECHS volunteers take some of our adoptable dogs and cats to Effingham Rural King for their monthly adoption event. Here, you can meet some of our dogs and cats currently available for adoption and ask our volunteers questions about the animals, our shelter, and how to go about adopting your new best friend! You can also fill out a volunteer application or pick up an adoption application. Come see us March 9th, April 13th, or May 11th from 10:00 a.m. until noon at Effingham Rural King—and grab a bag of popcorn while you're there!

## **Event Coordinator, Redoux!**

Our November newsletter introduced Leah Goldstein, our new Event Coordinator. Shortly after the newsletter was in the mail, Leah had to leave her new position due to extra classes at school and a newfound lack of time to commit to this project.



Luckily, we reached out and contacted a lively duo who are active volunteers and often help out with projects outside the shelter. Together, they have decided to share the responsibilities—they have many great ideas in the works! Please welcome our new Event Coordinators, McKenzie Allen and Taylor Miller!

Hello! My name is McKenzie Allen. I have been an ECHS volunteer for about a year now. Previously, I volunteered at exotic animal sanctuaries across the state of Oklahoma. Presently, I am a full time employee at Heartland Dental supporting our affiliated dental offices in Oklahoma and Kansas! Personally, I am engaged to Anthony Michael and we have three fur babies that we have rescued over the years: Marley (Red Nose Pitbull), Bleu (Australian Shepard Lab mix) and our newest ECHS rescue – Olive (grey tabby). My goal as event coordinator is to discover new and exciting ways to get the shelter the publicity it needs to find more amazing volunteers and, of course, to find fur-ever homes for all of our great animals.

Hi, I'm Taylor Miller. I live here in Effingham with my husband Stefen. When I am not working at Heartland Dental, I spend my free time with friends or enjoying quiet time at home. I started volunteering at the Effingham County Humane Society with McKenzie about a year ago. I love dogs, so getting the opportunity to take care of them a couple evenings a week is very rewarding. I really enjoy being a part of the extra activities that the Humane Society engages, so helping with the events was a great way to do even more. McKenzie and I are excited to see what we can do to get the animals out there and welcome any ideas as well!



## **Bring on the Bottles!**

Abandoned as a newborn. We see this every year! Kittens found! Over the years there have been hundreds taken into our shelter alone; this does not count the cats and kittens we haven't known about or weren't found! We have all heard of stories of people finding these poor souls of abandoned kittens and



nursing them back to health and giving them a good home. We at ECHS thank you! In the last couple of years we have taken in over 200 of these little souls. Our staff's arms go out, warm bedding is found, bottles are prepared, and calls are made to our foster families! Who can take the babies in for the next 8 weeks? Just last spring one of these newborn litters, (a litter of 5) was found in a ditch full of water, in a clear plastic bag. It was touch-and-go with these babies, due to the bacteria-filled water. Another litter of six was also found in a boot box on one of our county roads. The young lady who fostered these fur babies became her nieces' and nephews' favorite aunt! Here's a short story of just one rescue kitten: She was found on a cold April morning, on the edge of the pavement along Route 33 in Beecher City. She still had afterbirth stuck to her wet fur! The young lady who spotted her knew just the person who could help this precious newborn. Needless to say, by noon she was in the hands of one of our volunteers, safe, warm, and being fed around the clock. She made it through the first forty-eight hours! After that, it became easier-feedings were cut back to every two hours. By her second week, as she continues to improve, she explored her surroundings, just as those eyes began to open. The foster mother said, "She was one tough little cookie" and one of the coolest things for her (the foster mother) was watching this little fur baby, no bigger than a mouse, go from a shaking little 'alien creature' to developing into a normal kitten and all those kitten behaviors! The kitten's name is Alisa. Here at the shelter, we still have almost forty of these kittens looking for their forever home. Does anyone have room in their heart to give them a forever home? They are so looking for a warm lap! We all know, it's been a cold winter—who couldn't use a good lap warmer?

## March is Poison Prevention Awareness Month

March is poison prevention awareness month. Here is a handy site to search for many different household substances and it also has the animal poison control center helpline phone number: http://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/poisons.

Please visit the site to become familiar with how to navigate it and put the emergency phone number in your phone, on your fridge, and with your pet's health records. Having the number handy will save precious moments if there is ever an emergency.

The "For Owners" section along the top of the website has some great information about creating a first aid kit, knowing the signs of poisoning in dogs and cats, and how to poison-proof your home and yard. There is lots of great information on this site – even if you think you know it or will never need it, it is good to refresh your mind and take a look around your home to see what you can put away out of your pet's reach.

Here's to the safety of our pets! May we never need that emergency number, but may we always have it close at hand just in case!



*From owners Christie Shepherd and Airk Ross:* It's been two years ago today since we brought our sweet girl Phyllis Marie home. She has brought so much love and laughter into our home and into our lives. She loves playing outdoors, going on new adventures, meeting new people, cuddles, and she still loves having her belly rubbed. We just wanted to give everyone an update on Phyllis and to thank everyone at the Humane Society for taking such good care of her until she found her forever home with us.

If you have adopted a pet from ECHS and would like to share how they are acclimating to their new home, please feel free to share info and pics via email at 4pawsechs@gmail.com. Type "Success Story" in the subject line and keep a (cat's) eye out for future issues—your pet may be featured!





## **Games Dogs (and Kids) Love to Play!**

# Fun and safe games for kids and dogs to play together with adult supervision

Dogs and kids seem like the perfect combination of fun, but their play together can very quickly get out of control and things can go south. How can you encourage your children to play appropriate games with the dog? By modeling appropriate games and play. If you model wild and crazy games involving a lot of running, chasing, jumping, and mouthing, that is how your children will want to play with the dog too, and that is how the dog will expect to be played with. This can lead to injuries and hurt feelings, because dogs play with a much rougher play style than most children. Here are some fun and safe games that children can play with dogs while being supervised by a responsible adult.

**The shell game:** Use empty flower pots or yogurt cups with a hole in the bottom. With several pots, hold the dog while the child places a treat under one of the upside down pots. She can move them around to mix them up a bit, and then have the child give the dog the find it cue as you release the dog. It won't take long for your dog to learn to enjoy this game!

**Find it:** This is a progression of the shell game. The child can progress to hiding the treat in new and easy places around the room for your dog to find. It might be helpful for you to give the child suggestions of easy places, then medium, and finally harder places to hide the treat. Hold the dog until the child gives the find it cue.

*Hide and seek:* Hold your dog and give the child a plastic cup with some dog treats in it. Have the child get the dog's attention by rattling the treats inside the cup a bit, then moving quickly to an easy hiding place. As soon as the child gets hidden, release the dog and tell him to "find Lucy" (or whatever name you choose). Because your dog saw the child hide and knows there are treats involved, he will probably hurry to find the child. The child can then praise the dog and feed him treats with the cup. Using a cup is helpful to keep small

fingers away from the dog's mouth while he's eating treats, so they don't accidentally get nipped. Dogs can easily lick treats from the cup, or the child can dump the treats out of the cup onto the floor for the dog to eat. With practice, the child's hiding spots can get harder and harder.

**Tricks:** Older children can help you teach the dog some tricks and will delight in showing off the tricks to anyone who will watch. This can be a great activity for children and dogs to do together, but again, be nearby and supervising. It is easy for a dog to get confused, or for a child to get frustrated, and you may need to intervene and call for a short break for them both to regroup.

**Obstacle course:** You can create an obstacle course with objects you have around the house. Construct low things to jump over, or crawl through. Cardboard boxes can be cut and taped into just about any shape. Use different things for the dog to safely walk over, around and through. Make sure your dog is comfortable doing all the obstacles with you first, before you add the child into the picture. Then turn this into a game of follow the leader. The child can carry a cup of dog treats to lead the dog through the obstacles - over, around, and through. You can make it a game where you hold a clicker or a small bell and when the child hears that sound, she should stop and offer the dog a few treats either from the cup or tossed to the floor. This will allow you to pinpoint good behavior from the dog as a bonus (not jumping, doing an obstacle correctly, etc.) and will keep the dog focused on following the child because he knows he will be getting treats along the way! You can even take turns and hold the dog while the child does the obstacles first, to "show the dog how to do them," and then have the dog follow the child through.

An important rule is to always supervise children and dogs when they are together. If you need to leave the room, take one or the other of them with you. Children move fast, dogs move fast, and they don't speak the same language. It is very easy for one of them to misinterpret something the other one does. It is when these misunderstandings happen, that one or the other can get hurt. Neither the dog nor the children can be expected to be able to make appropriate judgment calls. That is a responsible adult's job. With appropriate supervision, a dog and child can become best friends. I hope you find that together they can enjoy some of these games safely!



## **Protect Your Pets from House Fires**

House fires are disastrous and dangerous. Fires can grow and spread very quickly, causing serious damage to a house in a short period of time. The heat and smoke can be harmful and deadly to both humans and pets.

Every year, about 40,000 pets die in house fires. Fires are even started by pets about 1,000 times a year. Many house fires are easily preventable, and there are many preparatory safety measures to ensure that our pets have a chance to make it out safely in the event of a fire.

**Preventing fires:** The best thing you can do for your home, your pets, and your own safety is to put conscious efforts into preventing fires in the first place. This places every household member out of harm's way and is not only easier but also cheaper than dealing with the aftermath of a house fire.

**Extinguish open flames:** You should never leave open flames unsupervised, but this is especially important if you have a pet who can knock things over or pass their tail through the fire. Consider using flameless candles or other electronic alternatives.

*No climbing in the kitchen:* Discourage your pets from playing around in the kitchen. There are many hazards here including sharp objects, open flames if you have a gas range, and dangerously hot surfaces.

*Put covers on stove knobs:* Some pets (especially cats) tend to be curious about surfaces and knobs. Prevent possible fires started by stove knobs turned on by pets by placing an inexpensive stove knob cover whenever you are not using the kitchen. Also, many new stoves have a stove-top lockout feature, so even if a knob gets turned, the stove top will be prevented from heating up.

*Eliminate loose wires:* Go through your home and make sure that any electric wiring is tucked away and inaccessible by any pets or children.

*Secure cords neatly:* Any exposed cords that you are using to power your appliances should be neatly secured and placed out of pathways. Curious pets can get tangled in messy cords, and some animals (particularly rabbits and cats) may try to chew through them.

**Ceramic over glass:** If you leave food or water bowls outside on a wooden deck, don't use glass. Glass bowls can create a magnifying effect, starting a fire from the sun's rays. Ceramic bowls are safer and just as sturdy.

Unfortunately, some fires can not be prevented. Here are some ways that you can prepare your pets for the worst case scenarios.

*Window cling:* Place a window cling on all entry doors or windows notifying firefighters that there are



This is just one example of a window sticker/cling. You can find one that best suits your needs at Amazon.com.

pets inside. Detail how many pets you have and what kind of animals they are. This will inform the firefighters of their presence even if you are not home. Window clings are sometimes available through your local fire department. They can also be purchased at hardware stores or at Amazon.com (search for pet fire window sticker).

*Emergency plan:* Every household should already have an emergency plan for their members so that everyone knows how to get out and where to meet. Include your pets in this equation, designating specific people to be in charge of specific pets so that as many people and animals get out alive as possible.

*Monitored smoke detectors:* Using monitored smoke detectors is absolutely crucial if your home includes pets. Traditional smoke detectors will only sound an alarm when fire is detected; it will not notify you or the local authorities. When your house is on fire, every second counts; the smoke, heat, and flames threaten the well-being of any person or animal inside. Monitored smoke detectors alert you and the local authorities as soon as it detects a fire.

*Always secure puppies and kittens:* Young animals should be restricted to a safe, enclosed space. This makes them easy to locate and also protects them from getting into hazardous and dangerous situations.

**Collar and chip:** If your pet is able to wear a collar, make sure that their name and your contact information is on the collar or tag. If your pet is able to be microchipped, keep the chip updated and registered. These steps will increase your chances of being reunited with your companions if you are separated during the fire.

**Emergency supply kit:** Creating and maintaining an emergency supply kit will really make a big difference in the case of any emergency evacuation. Keep these kits in easily portable containers or bags, and place





them near exits, where they will be easy to grab and go. Keep perishable items like food and medication updated so that you aren't left with expired goods during an emergency.

Pet food and water	Pet medication
Carrier	Toys, treats, or other comforts
Food or water bowls	Collars and leashes
Medical records	Identification tags
Vaccination tags	Pet description
A blanket or towel	A photo of your pet
A soft muzzle	Heat lamp or heat source

In the event of a fire, stay calm. Evaluate the situation. If the fire is still relatively small, grab a fire extinguisher and aim it at the base of the flames. If the fire is out of control, decide what exit paths are still

safe and available. If you can reach your pet through that exit path, bring them with you as you leave the house. Grab your emergency kit, too, if there is one near your exit. However, if you cannot find or reach your pet through a safe exit route, prioritize your own safety by getting out of the house. Let professionals take care of the house and rescue.

If you have already evacuated, tell firefighters what animals are inside and where they can be found. Once rescued, keep your pets close by and within your sight so they don't get lost.

If you will be relocated or out of your home for an extended period of time, take your pet to an appropriate place for them to stay and be reliably cared for during this time.

Portions of the above taken from: https://www.protectamerica.com/pet-fire-safety.

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## National Pet Dental Health Month

By Debbie Bauer

February is National Pet Dental Health Month. Do you know how to brush your dog's teeth? You should brush your dog's teeth every day, ideally, or at least a couple times a week according to the AVDC (American Veterinary Dental College)



There are many types of dog toothbrushes. You can use finger toothbrushes, which are small rubber brushes that fit on the end of your finger. There are toothbrushes sold to use for pets. You can buy a regular human toothbrush (the toddler

sized brushes are good for smaller dogs and puppies) or use a battery operated toothbrush. There are even toothbrushes that have bristles to brush three tooth surfaces at once. Choose whatever works best for you and your dog. You may have to try a couple different ones before you find the right fit.

Begin to teach your dog that touching her face and mouth is a good thing. Do this gradually while you are petting her and she is relaxed. Use long strokes as you pet gently along the sides of her face and mouth. Then gently scratch an ear or her neck. Then do another long stroke lingering near her cheek and lips. Get her comfortable with you petting all around her muzzle and face gently.

When you can easily pet along the sides of your dog's face and mouth, begin to move your finger in a circular motion on the outside of her lips. Her lips will probably move when you do this. That's ok. Start with just a quick circle as you are petting, then progress to

website. They say it is the best way to remove plaque—that thin layer of bacteria that hardens into tartar and can lead to tooth decay and gum disease. We often tend to overlook our dog's dental health

we often tend to overlook our dogs dental health until one day we realize there is a problem. Will you set a goal with me to brush your dog's teeth at least twice a week for the month of February? Hopefully by the end of the month, this will be a new habit that we can continue on for the lifetime of our dogs.

To start out, you need to gather the right equipment for dog tooth brushing. There are many flavors of dog toothpaste for sale. You can choose any flavor that your dog likes, but make sure it is a toothpaste made for dogs—not for humans! Human toothpaste foams and is not meant to be swallowed. Most dogs that I know really like to swallow things and don't understand the concept of spitting things out! Plus, many human toothpastes may contain Xylitol and other sweeteners that are dangerous to pets!



doing more circles in a row along the outside of her lips on both sides of her face.

When this is going well, gently slip your finger under her upper lip while you are making circles so you gently and briefly touch her gums. Then continue with the normal petting. By integrating short periods of gum touching, you can get your dog used to the sensation gradually while continuing a nice petting session she will continue to enjoy. It helps as you get to this stage to wet your finger with a bit of water first so it doesn't stick to her gums but will glide across them easily.

If you are using a finger brush, you can wear it now on the finger that you use to touch her gums. Begin just as you always do, with petting her face and



neck gently. Make some quick circles on the outside of her lips with the finger brush. She will probably want to sniff it and lick it – that's ok. When you're both ready, use the finger brush to gently touch her

gums and teeth. As you both get used to this, begin to make small circles on your dog's teeth and gums as if you are brushing them. Build up the time gradually.

You can begin the same thing using a toothbrush by holding the brush in your hand near the bristle part, so there isn't a lot of handle showing. This way the bristles will be close to your hand and easier to use to brush her teeth and gums. We're not using toothpaste yet to keep things a bit cleaner for you and your dog while you're still learning the mechanics of brushing and are getting your dog used to the sensation of brushing.

Most plaque and tartar form on the outside surfaces of a dog's teeth, on the part nearest her cheeks. This is good, since this is the easiest area for us to brush! A toothbrush that has three sides will brush the outer as well as the inner surfaces of the tooth at the same time. But a regular toothbrush or finger brush can only get one surface at a time. Ask your dog's veterinarian if it is necessary for you to brush the inner surfaces of her teeth as well.

Now let's add the toothpaste! Do this in a place in your home or outside that will be easy to clean, since it may get a little messy! Put a small amount of toothpaste on the brush and begin to gently brush one side of your dog's teeth and gums in a



small circular motion like you've been practicing. Your dog will probably start to try to lick the toothpaste. That's ok. It's made to be safe for dogs. Beware if you are using a finger toothbrush that your dog doesn't chomp down on your finger while trying to taste the toothpaste! That will hurt!

Don't worry about brushing all her teeth all at once on this first try unless she is being very cooperative. Just do a few and then stop and go do something that your dog likes. The next time, work on the teeth on the other side, so all the teeth end up getting brushed. With time and practice, you can build up to easily brushing all your dog's teeth in one session. Be sure to rinse the toothbrush well, as the toothpaste will dry and harden in the brush and that is not good.

There are other dental products out there for dogs – there are additives you put in your dog's drinking water that may help prevent plaque from sticking to your dog's teeth. There are dental wipes that already have dental cleaner on them. There are oral sprays and rinses and gels. Check with your veterinarian before trying any of those to see what is the best product for your dog.

Dogs like to chew, and chewing can be good for your dog's teeth and gums, but some bones are too hard and may chip or crack your dog's teeth. It's important to find healthy and safe things for your dog to chew for his emotional and physical health. We use Kongs and other hard rubber toys here, with a few deer antlers thrown in. Ask your vet about safe chew toy alternatives for your dog. And while you're there, let your vet know that you will be starting to brush your dog's teeth regularly. He/she may have some more great tips for you on getting started!

Debbie Bauer is a certified Healing Touch for Animals<sup>®</sup> practitioner, a certified Tellington TTouch<sup>®</sup> practitioner, a published author, and a professional holistic dog trainer. She has over 28 years of training and consulting experience working with dogs and their people. Debbie has trained dogs in a variety of fields including therapy and assistance dogs, print ad and media work, obedience, agility, and scent work. www.yourinnerdog.com.





# The Effingham County Humane Society would like to thank the following sponsors and donors for their contributions to our Mardi Gras Gala 2018. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts—we couldn't have done it without your support!

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The Effingham County Humane Society would like to thank the following donors for their contributions since the last issue of *Paw Prints*. This list includes donations received from 7/1/18 through 12/31/18. To the many individuals and businesses who donated goods and services, thereby reducing our cost over all, WE THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!

ECHS regrets the omission of several donors from the previous issues of *Paw Prints*. These names are indicated with a \* preceding their name/names. Please accept our sincere apologies.

Additionally, beginning in this issue of *Paw Prints*, we have added several new levels of donors: Emerald Second Chance at Life (\$10,000 and above); Ruby No Place Like Home (\$5,000 to \$9,999); and Sapphire Fulfilling Dreams of Hope (\$2,000 to \$4,999). We have also renamed our other levels: Diamonds Are Forever Homes (\$1,000 to \$1,999); Platinum Healers of Trust (\$500 to \$999); Gold Angels of Compassion (\$250 to \$499); Silver Moon Rays of Hope (\$100 to \$249); and Bronze Ribbons of Love (up to \$99).

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