



# Heartland Heroes

www.heartlandhumane.org

A Newsletter for Heartland Humane Society Volunteers

January/February 2004

## Introducing Heartland Heroes - A New Newsletter Just For YOU!

Welcome to the first edition of Heartland Heroes, a newsletter designed just for Heartland Humane Society Volunteers. We are excited to provide this resource as a means to keep you informed of all the latest Heartland Happenings, Volunteer Opportunities, Trainings, and more! We'll also reintroduce you to Heartland Staff and Programs. And, of course, we'll have fun! In every issue there will be a trivia section and the selected winner will get a prize and his/her profile printed in the next issue! We hope to get our volunteers involved in all of Heartland's programs, and we're sure that Heartland Heroes will be key to making that happen. If you have any ideas, input or if you'd like to contribute to upcoming issues of this newsletter, let Laura know. Enjoy!

### Kiwanis Kids Club

Heartland and the Sunrisers Kiwanis Club of Corvallis are teaming up to create a Kids Care Club for Youth Volunteers. This Club will allow Youth Volunteers to help out at Heartland's Animal Shelter under the supervision of trained Kiwanis Club members. For safety reasons, volunteers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at our shelter. In an effort to encourage busy families to allow their children to volunteer, The Kiwanis Kids Club was created to support our Youth Volunteers by providing a fun, safe, supervised volunteer opportunity, relieving parents of Youth Volunteer supervision duties. Any youth who has attended the Youth Volunteer Orientation and Training can participate\*, and we are always looking for more Adult Volunteers to help support this valuable new program. *Please see our list of future orientation and training dates for details.*

**\*The Kiwanis Kids Care Club does have limited space, so reservations are required.**

#### **The Kiwanis Kids Care Club will meet:**

- Sat. January 10 -- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Tue. January 20 -- 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Tue. February 10 -- 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Sat. February 21 -- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Wed. March 10 -- 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Sat. March 20 -- 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Call Laura at 760 - 7704 to sign up or email her at [volunteer@heartlandhumane.org](mailto:volunteer@heartlandhumane.org)**

### The Purr-fect Opportunity: Volunteer at The Cat's Meow

Most of you are probably familiar with Heartland's beloved Thrift Shop, The Cat's Meow. But did you know that The Cat's Meow Thrift Shop is run completely by volunteers? That's right! From picking up donations to sorting through what to sell and what to donate to other charities, volunteers are involved in all levels of The Cat's Meow. We have volunteers who redecorate the big window display every week (isn't it gorgeous?!), test the electronics (nothing gets sold if we can't stand behind it!), paint, build shelves, and even mend some of the clothing items that are donated. And we can't forget our dedicated shop manager and assistant manager (both full-time volunteers) and all their helpers!

Such a dedicated team of volunteers is what makes The Cat's Meow the best Thrift Shop in town. But there's always room for more! *The Cat's Meow is in dire need of more friendly folks to help in all areas of the thrift shop.* Currently there are more than seventy-five active Cat's Meow volunteers, from High School students to retirees. If you'd like to help the animals in the fun and social atmosphere of The Cat's Meow Thrift Shop, contact Shop Manager Judy Brazee at 757-0573.

The Cat's Meow is located at 110 S.W. 3rd St., Corvallis  
Hours are Monday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**www.heartlandhumane.org**

## Try Something New

At Heartland Humane Society, we're always looking for new ways to get our volunteers involved to help us better serve the animals and people who come through our doors. We have created some new volunteer positions to facilitate operations in our Front Lobby and help with animal adoptions, and we will highlight some old familiar positions where we really need some extra hands. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, come to the next training! **See p. 4 for schedule!**

**Lobby Host** -- We're looking for friendly and outgoing volunteers to greet our customers with a smile and direct them around our shelter. Help the public find their way and answer basic questions about Heartland.

**Adoption Assistant** -- Get to know the animals at Heartland and help people find their new best friend! Answer questions about the adoption package and process as well as answer questions about specific animals and their needs; help people find the right lifelong animal companion.

**Administrative Support** -- Behind-the-scenes volunteer opportunity that really makes things happen! Volunteers help update various databases, our website and website links, operate the Volunteer Program, Foster Program, Events and development; also help with donations and bulk mailings.

**Diamond Dog Training Team** -- Train dogs at the shelter to understand basic obedience commands by using Positive Reinforcement. This new position is key to helping the dogs in our shelter find new homes and enjoy their stay with us.

**Small Animal Care** -- Give our rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, rodents, and other 'pocket pets' the TLC they need. Socialize, exercise, groom and clean up after them.

**The Cat's Meow Thrift Shop** -- Heartland's very own Thrift Shop is operated 100% by volunteer efforts. We are always looking for dedicated folks to sort, price and sell the items that are donated to our shop. Last year, The Cat's Meow earned over \$80,000 for Heartland's animals and programs!

**Don't forget to look at the Orientation and Training calendar on page 4 to find out how you can get involved in any of these areas!**

## Are Our Records Current???

**Have you moved recently?** Have you been volunteering here so long that you filled out one of our old applications, which didn't include your **email address** and **medical/emergency contact information???** PLEASE help us keep our records accurate, and let us know this important information!! We want to be able to stay in touch!

[volunteer@heartlandhumane.org](mailto:volunteer@heartlandhumane.org)

## Staff Spotlight on . . .

### Jamie Fitzpatrick

#### **What is your Job Title?**

Animal Care Tech. & Foster Care Coordinator

#### **How long have you worked at Heartland?**

Two years

#### **What made you decide to work for Heartland?**

I have always loved animals, and after graduating from college with a degree in Math, I was ready to try something new.

#### **What's your favorite part of your job?**

Learning new animal care skills, like the day I learned to do a blood test on young kittens.

#### **Do you have any pets at home?**

- 2 1/2 year old Husky X named Dante (male),
  - 2 year old Rott X named Loki ( male),
  - 11 year old cat named Whisper (female),
  - 3 year old cat named Bagheera (male),
  - 2 1/2 year old cat named Nugget (male),
  - cockatiel (whose name I haven't figured out yet),
- and a rotating assortment of foster kittens!

*All of my animals are from animal shelters!*

#### **Tell us something interesting about yourself...**

Since I couldn't have pets in my over-priced, cockroach-infested studio apartment in Boston, I had an inflatable goldfish named Herman who lived suction-cupped to my bathroom mirror!

#### **Anything else you'd like to add?**

FOSTERING IS FUN!!!!

Ask me how to get involved!

Find out if Foster Care  
is right for you!

#### **Foster Care Orientation Dates:**

Jan. 21 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 18 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.



Jamie Fitzpatrick, bottle-feeding one of her many, many, many foster babies.

## Happy Tails, Happy Tails

There is no short supply of happy endings for the animals that come through Heartland's doors. These Happy Tails are possible because of the caring and compassionate hands of our many volunteers, from Foster Families to Veterinarians. From the bottom of our animal-loving hearts, THANK YOU!

This particular story is not unlike many of the stories that any kitten who as brought to Heartland could tell. What makes it so special is that from a dark and desparate situation, life was given another chance. Who says cats don't really have nine lives?

Found lost and hungry out in the country on November 8, 2003, a momma cat and her four four-week-old babies were brought to the shelter by a concerned citizen. The kittens were too young to stay here and still nursing and learning from their mother, so all five went into Foster Care with one of Heartland's many wonderful Foster Parents, Margaret Lubkin. Margaret kept the kitties warm, safe, well-fed and socialized for six weeks, bringing them back to the shelter periodically for treatments and checkups. Of course, one of the 'treatments' the kitties received was surgical sterilization by a generous volunteer, local licensed veterinarian Dr. Marilyn Waters, DVM. (Thanks, Marilyn!)



After their surgeries, the momma and her babies went back to Margaret's home to recover in a stress-free environment. Due to prior engagements and with the holiday season right around the corner, Margaret had to bring the kitties back from her home earlier than ideal, so Heartland found yet another fantastic Foster Parent to take over until the kitties were ready to be adopted. Foster Mom Rene Jones gave Mimi cat (the mother) and her four sweeties (Mr. Pink, Mr. Blonde, Gertie & Alfredo) some more TLC for a couple of weeks in *her* home.

On January 3, 2004 the kittens were ready to go to new permanent homes. Rene brought the kitties back to the shelter and as kittens were given their final check-ups, folks from the public were asking about adopting them! The kittens were so cute, healthy and well-socialized that they didn't even make it into any of our kitten playpens! Three were adopted straight out of their travel kennel into loving homes!

At time of print, Mimi and Alfredo are still available for adoption. Why don't you help us close the book on this happy tail and tell all your friends about these kitties. They've been through so much already, and deserve all that life has to offer.

### It's a Quizzicle . . .

Okay, here's how it works. Below you'll find three questions about Heartland and animals in general. Answer each of the three questions, and send them in via email ([volunteer@heartlandhumane.org](mailto:volunteer@heartlandhumane.org)) or put them in the answer box in the Volunteer Center at the shelter.

**Don't forget to include your name and contact information with your answers!**

1. What year was Heartland founded?
2. How many people volunteer at The Cat's Meow Thrift Shop?
3. What do you call a cat with more than five toes?

**Last day to receive answers: 6:00 p.m. Wednesday February 18, 2004.**

A winner will be selected randomly from all entries with the correct answers, and will **win a fantastically fun prize** from our prize basket! Also, the **winner's profile will be printed in the upcoming issue of Heartland Heroes!** The answers to these questions will be printed in the next issue and posted in the Volunteer Center after March 1st.

### Electronic Delivery

How did you receive this newsletter? Did you know that you can receive it via your email account or download it off of our website?? That sure would save Heartland a lot of money! Make sure we have your electronic information!!

[www.heartlandhumane.org](http://www.heartlandhumane.org)

*Our Mission: To build a more compassionate community by teaching humane messages to our youth, caring for homeless animals, and strengthening the human-animal bond.*

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## **Upcoming Orientations and Trainings**

You're invited!! Join us for a refresher course OR try something new!!

### **January Trainings\***

- 5 **Adult Orientation**, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- 12 **Youth Orientation**, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
*with parent/guardian, please!!*
- 13 **Lobby Host Training**, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- 20 & 27 **Diamond Dog Team Training**, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Prerequisite: Shelter Dog Care Training  
*Volunteers must attend both DDT trainings!*
- 21 **Shelter Cat Care Training**, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- 21 **Foster Care Orientation**, 6:30 - 7:30p.m.
- 24 **Shelter Dog Care Training**, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.  
*Dress appropriately for muddy conditions!*
- 27 **Adoption Assistant Training**, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m
- 28 **Shelter Pocket Pals Training**, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- 31 **Pet Outreach Training**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

### **February Trainings\***

- 2 **Adult Orientation**, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- 9 **Youth Orientation**, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
*with parent/guardian, please!!*
- 10 **Lobby Host Training**, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- 10 & 17 **Diamond Dog Team Training**, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Prerequisite: Shelter Dog Care Training  
*Volunteers must attend both DDT trainings!*
- 18 **Shelter Cat Care Training**, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- 18 **Foster Care Orientation**, 6:30 - 7:30p.m.
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- 25 **Shelter Pocket Pals Training**, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
- 28 **Pet Outreach Training**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

*\*All trainings take place at Heartland's Animal Shelter.*

*Please call Laura to RSVP for any upcoming events, trainings or activities (541-760-7704)  
or email [volunteer@heartlandhumane.org](mailto:volunteer@heartlandhumane.org)*