

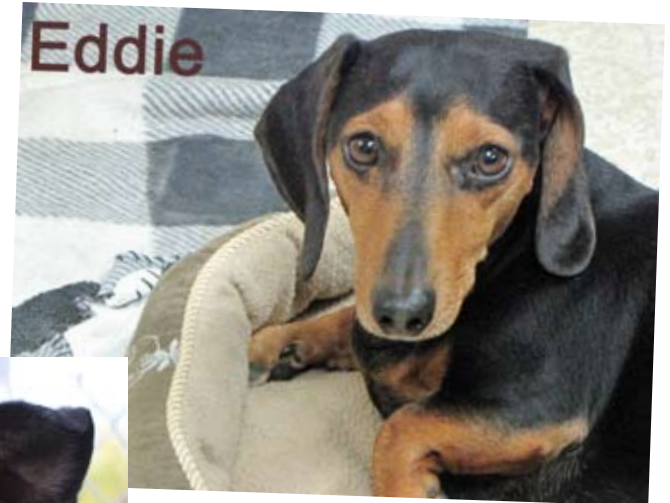
PAW

Bitter Root Humane Association

PRINTS

Volume 11,
Issue 1 Winter 2011

"We're Adopted!"



Shelter hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri - 1-6pm; Wed - CLOSED; Sat - noon-5pm; Sun - 2-5pm



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& many contributors of stories

2010 where did it go?

It has been so fun to put together this quarter's newsletter. I had been collecting the emails that come in regularly from adopters. We always tell new pet adopters "send us pictures and stories!" as they go out the door with their new 4-legged friends.

When I started retrieving them from a saved folder, I started grinning and giggling at the joy of these new pet families. In this collection of great adoption stories is one of our favorite sets of twins. Teddy and Angel were an elderly pair of border collies that came to us with what was immediately discovered to be a very contagious skin condition. An attentive staff member questioned the intake information and followed through with an immediate skin scraping (thank you to the local vet who rapidly responded with the test), This quick action saved the shelter from a probable widespread outbreak. Teddy & Angel began their long rehabilitation with timed treatments to their skin while we got hopelessly attached to these sweet dogs.

How hard was it going to be to get these two seniors a home? They had been together since birth and really needed to stay together. Along came the Barnings. They wanted to give the girls a home together and had another old dog for a friend. Here is their story....

Hello staff and volunteers at the BRHA!

Jack and Mandy Barnings here. We wanted to let everyone know that Teddy and Angel are doing AWESOME! They are some of the sweetest dogs we have ever had. Teddy loves to walk along the sides of beds and couches. She leans at a 45 degree angle into them and walks with her mouth open and makes a moaning noise. Angel is the giver. Every night, in the middle of the living room floor, she faithfully licks the eyes and ears of Teddy until they are completely clean. Teddy lays on her side lazily while this happens.

Just this last weekend we put them up on the bed with us one morning. MISTAKE! They both took up so much room laying and stretching sideways....kicking us in the kidneys so we would get out of their way. After about 15 minutes, I got up to carry them off the bed (we have a very high bed). Both dogs refused to get up. As soon as I would approach either one of them, they would dead weight on their back legs straight in the air and kick at me while I tried to get them to the side of the bed. I did win, but they looked at me sideways afterward.

Angel's hair continues to grow back and the "rag a muffin" look will soon be a thing of the past. They get daily fish oil over their food and exercise. Angel has dropped a few pounds already. Car rides are interesting. Angel has to be hoisted due to her weight yet. Teddy stays in the back politely (usually sitting in my five year old neice's booster seat..it looks hilarious) for the first few minutes and within five minutes she has all four paws crammed on top of my tiny console between the two seats balancing with great precision on the 6x8" square. She loves to act all bad ass and growl and bark at any dog we pass while balancing on the console yet! After the dog is passed, she looks at me and licks my cheek or chin. Lovely.

These two elderly sisters have been a great gift for us. We truly feel like we raised them since they were pups. We were made for each other. Thank you for not giving up on these two gems. They are loved greatly and are very content.

Thanks again.

Mandy and Jack Barnings

(see Teddy & Angel's pics on top of page 5)

Vicki



Foster Homes

Be Part of the Solution

Imagine being able to save a life simply by opening your heart and your home. This is the answer to a four-pawed prayer for the pets who are surrendered to The Bitter Root Humane Association. Perhaps the best part of pet fostering is knowing that you are helping that animal become much more likely to be adopted and not euthanized, which sadly, is the reality of life in any open admission shelter situation. We desperately need more volunteers willing to offer temporary haven to the homeless companion animals in our care.

Most animals coming into the BRHA are not brought in because of serious behavioral problems. Most are animals that were surrendered because their caretakers were moving, divorced, developed allergies or died. Some of these dogs or cats are recovering from short term medical issues and need a quiet haven to recover.

After too long in the stressful environment of the shelter, some of our dogs can begin to exhibit signs that we call 'kennel craziness.' They may cower in the back of their kennels, or they may start chewing on themselves, or sometimes they become overly energetic and frighten off potential adopters. After a short while, this behavior may become irreversible and these dogs will never be adopted. Cats, after too long in the shelter, may become withdrawn and lethargic, or aggressively antisocial. These animals are bored and depressed. They need socialization and exercise. They simply need a break. Foster homes nurture in them the trust of humans they have lost in the shelter environment. Becoming part of a family, even temporarily, restores their personalities and gives them a new outlook on life.

Other animals needing foster care include:

- very young kittens (some not yet weaned and needing bottle feeding) or nursing mothers with litters
- puppies under 8 weeks of age
- animals recovering from illness or surgery
- dogs with minor behavioral issues (training help)

Many of you may be reluctant to consider becoming a foster parent because of the emotional attachment you'll almost certainly develop with the pet. Although never easy, the knowledge that you are helping to save a life is a great comfort and reward. Plus there are always those slobbery kisses! We are flexible in working with our foster families. Some animals may be adopted very quickly, some may take many months to find a 'forever home.' Although we prefer that the not yet adopted foster animals be brought back to BRHA after 60 days (there are always others waiting

to take a needed vacation), you may request keeping an animal for a longer time. You may also return your foster pet at any time, for any reason.



For more information & FAQ on our Foster Program, please visit our website: www.bitterroothumane.org.

If you are interested in becoming a part of our Foster team, please send an email to Susan Behrman: marknsusan@accessmtwildblue.com.

Giving Options

There are many options for supporting the Bitter Root Humane Association, from writing a check to volunteering time, organizing a fund raiser, sponsoring an animal space or prepaying for an adoption of an animal that strikes your fancy.

Donations: all checks should be made payable to BRHA. All donors receive a note of gratitude and tax receipt.

Fundraisers: many individuals and organizations organize events with proceeds going to BRHA. Examples are Quality Supply's Pet-O-Ween, Sapphire Animal Hospital/Burnt Fork Vet Clinic "Santa Paws". Canyons Athletic Club "See Spot Run" Fun Run, Naughty Moose Restaurant "Guest Bartender Night"...just to name a few.

Animal Space Annual Sponsorship: A \$150 donation sponsors a space for a year; the donor is acknowledged with a plaque on a kennel or cat space.

Prepaid Adoptions: fall in love with a particular animal but don't have room for another fuzzy family member? You can prepay the adoption fee for one of the guests of the shelter. Imagine the nice surprise when a family decides on an animal, qualifies to be adopters, then finds that the fee has already been paid!! Everybody wins!

Memorials and Gifts: Many folks who pass on have requested that memorial donations in their memory be made to BRHA in lieu of flowers. Others make donations to the shelter as gifts to friends and family members, or simply to honor someone highly regarded. Both parties receive written notice of thanks and these gifts are noted in the newsletter.

These are just a few examples of ways to support BRHA. And we're always open to new suggestions.

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Adoption "Tails"



I adopted **Rajah** from your shelter last winter. I was just writing to let you know everything is going great with her. Her and my other dog get along great and she also gets along well with our cat. I've attached a couple pictures of her for you to enjoy. She has been a wonderful dog and she gets better all the time the more we work with her. Thanks alot and I hope you like the pictures!

Nate

Dear BRHA:

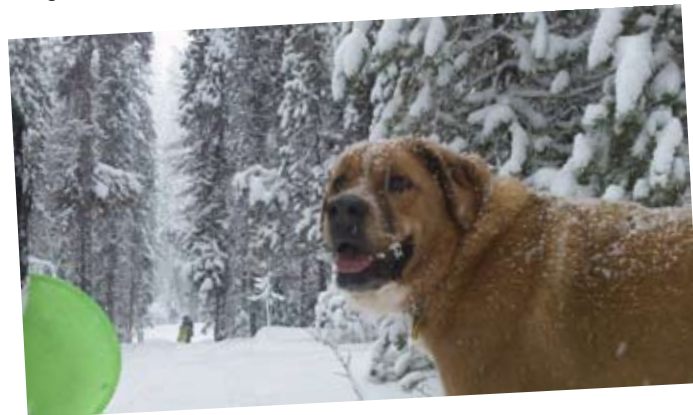
Gadget (formerly 'Doc') says "Thanks for finding me such a warm, friendly home."

We are so blessed with the world's best dog that we adopted from the Bitter Root Humane Assoc shelter !

Happy Thanksgiving,

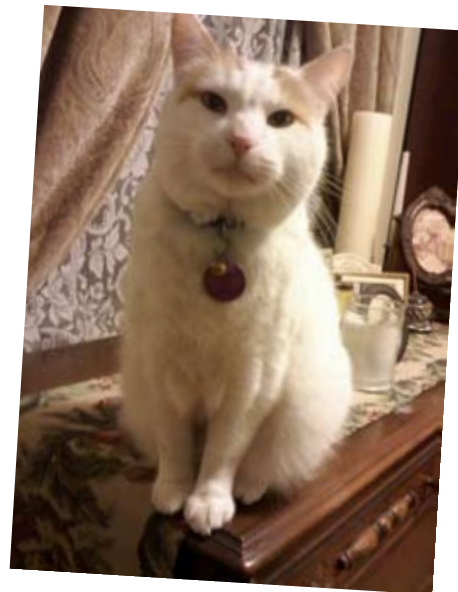


As an update on Nellie;
 She Loves the snow and sledding with the family.
 Thinks deer are fun to chase only when they run.
 Same thing with birds and squirrels.
 She is protective of her property. Oh and insists on riding anywhere.



Hi, I was just scanning your website and notice you have a Happy Endings section. If it's OK, I'd like to send you mine. My life has been so blessed with this amazing cat, I can't imagine life without him:

This handsome boy's shelter name was Remington, and came home with me a few years ago. He pushed all the other kittens off my lap when I came to adopt and followed me around the entire shelter, meowing loudly. He had clearly made his choice. His siblings are a pack of small dogs; and he eats, sleeps and plays with them. I call him **Chairman Meow** because he truly believes he's the Boss of Everything. He runs to greet me when I come home from work, and then settles in for some serious lap time. The Chairman is a snuggler, likes to lick my nose when I'm not looking, and purrs like an idling deisel truck. I'd intended to get a dark, female kitten when I came that day. I came home with this white, male cat. He is very persuasive.



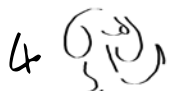
Chris

MONTANA
COMPANION ANIMAL NETWORK

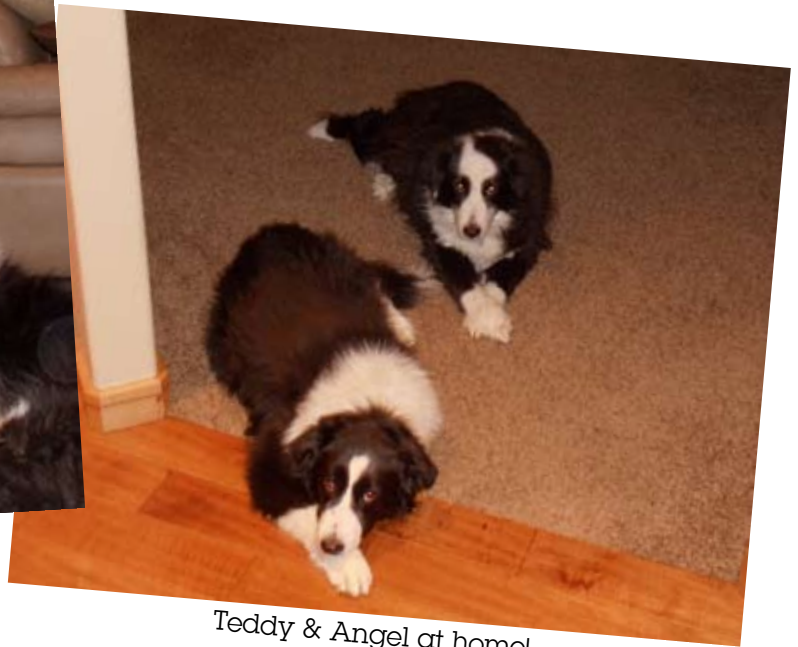
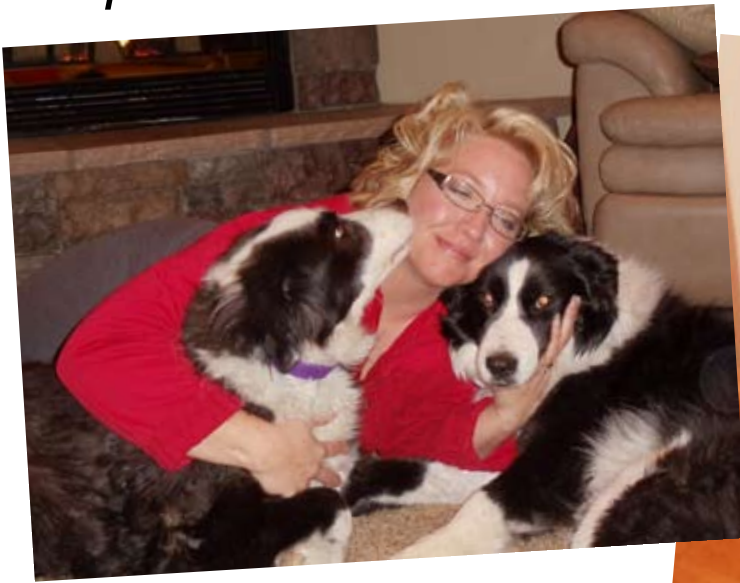
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On Facebook: Bitter Root Humane Association



Adoption "Tails"



Teddy & Angel at home!

Dear Shelter Friends,

Well, I'm settling into my new home very well. I love my new golden retriever friend Sasha, although I'm not sure she knows quite how to take me sometimes. Don't worry she'll figure it out. There is another cat here and frankly, he's a bit of an ass - all he wants to do is growl and hiss. Fortunately, I've been through this before so I'm being very patient with him.


As for the accommodations, she has lots of stuff for me to make pies on and boy have I been busy! Mostly I've been hanging out on the couch, but there is a rocking chair that's nice too. In a little bit, Beth and I are going to watch a movie together. And tomorrow she has promised me a manicure. She says it has something to do with making pies - I'm so excited! She pets me a lot and talks to me too, so I rub on her and sit with her and purr and it's working. She has already fallen in love with me - she says I'm perfect! And after growing up with 43 siblings and spending 2 years in the shelter, she says I've paid my dues. I think that means I get to lay around and let her love on me.

Gotta go. I think this is going to work out well.
Hugs to all, Yuri

Thank You so much for looking after me at the shelter and finding me a forever home!

Love, Sadie



House of Insurance

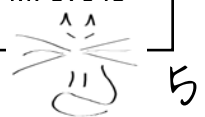
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President's Corner

Kathy Good, BRHA President

Happy New Year to All

Let us hope for everyone's sake, including all our four-legged friends, that the new year will yield a better economy. Vicki's newspaper article in December lamented the plight of "throw away dogs". BRHA received generous support for our current residents, as well as support for the BRHA Food Bank which exists entirely to help out folks by providing food for their pets. Many thanks to all for your generosity and for your support to help us care for the ongoing numbers of animals continuing to arrive at our doors.

On an especially happy note, I want to tell you that I recently talked with the proud new fosterer-cum-owner of "Magic", one of the Georgia horses. Magic is very happy living and running with other horses in his new herd and enjoying the expanse of pasture and the extent of loving care he now receives.

Also, a note of congratulations to Theresa Loya on her appointment as Ravalli County Animal Control Officer. We look forward to working with her, as we have had the opportunity to in the past, and wish her the best of luck and help in dealing with our county's animals.

Wishing you all the best for 2011.

Kathy

Thank You's

Thank you to the Rapp Foundation Board for a donation that will purchase our 8'x20' storage container. This water-proof, mouse-proof container will store our shelter food and food bank donations. Merchants Delivery is helping us find the best container and the best price.

Thank you to Ann Bachman and her sewing group helpers for another successful "Paws For Comfort" sale at Frosty Paws event in November 2010. Thanks Ann for all the hard work and dedication to this project. What beautiful quilts, table runners, napkins, T-towels, aprons and more! The creative ideas and beautiful fabrics just never end!

Newsbriefs

Here are some highlights of happenings that have occurred since our last issue:

The photo contest at our booth at the County Fair was won by Doris Adams with a picture of her adorable schnauzer looking very cute and funny. The contest raised over \$300 for our Precious Companions Program. Thanks to all the entries and the voters.

The "Ribbons for Life" cash raffle in the last issue was won by the following members:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st place | Madelline Pragnell |
| 2 nd place | Don Anderson |
| 3 rd place | Peggy Tolliver |
| 4 th place | Peter Samulevich |

Our thanks to all of you who bought raffle tickets and joined in the fun

Recent "Animal Space" Sponsorships

In our last issue we mentioned our space sponsorship program: for a \$150 donation a space can be sponsored for one year. Recent donors to this program are: Linda Looser of New Horizons Physical Therapy, Jennifer Lange, Charles and Inge McCormack and Ruth McCormack. Thanks to these donors from all the furry guests at BRHA.

Annual membership dues for 2011 are due now. If the label on this issue of your newsletter shows anything other than "2011" as an expiration date, you dues should be sent in for renewal.

Our community Pet Food Bank for families in need who have pets is always accepting donations of dog and cat food, litter, treats, etc. These items can be delivered to the shelter any time during open hours. A pet can help a family get through a difficult time. Thanks to all those who keep giving.

A forever home
is what our furry friends here
patiently long for.



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All Proceeds Benefit the Bitter Root Humane Association



Memorials

BRHA gratefully acknowledges the support and generosity of so many who wish to honor the memory of loved ones. We are humbled by the dedication and love of animals that those departed loved ones exhibited, and are truly grateful to their families for suggesting that memorials be sent to the BRHA for the benefit of the animals.

In Loving Memory of Pets ...

To: Tucker
To: Magic & Woody
To: Tag, Griz & Paca
To: Chance

To: Jimmy
To: Kirby
To: Bounce & Rosie
To: Grace
To: Rosie
To: Riley
To: Baby
To: Bunkie
To: Sophie
To: Tucker
To: Murphy

From: Samantha Wood
From: Sue & Dave McCormack
From: Esther Foss
From: Diane and Kent Myers
From: Amy Arnold
From: Marsha Dandridge
From: Helen Volden
From: Dick & Cindi Hayne
From: John & Ann Marie Carbin
From: Brian & Ann Bachman
From: Jim & JoAnn Whitlock
From: Steve & Jean Butler
From: Piggy
From: Larry Lund
From: Samantha Goddess
From: Connie Johnson

In Loving Memory of People ...

For: Juanita Carl

& families
For: Charles Reed
For: Bob Maxey
For: Todd Sherwood
For: Ralph Rizzo
For: Frank Popiel
For: Ada Zoski
For: Al Shook
For: Allanya Thorning

For: Chris O'Brien

For: Robert Blum
For: Steve Johnson
For: Peggy Lowman
For: Margaret Oliver

For: Sophie Redjou

For: Dorothy Franklin
For: Mary Carol Lankford
For: Niece Elizabeth
For: George Marchant

From: Mrs. Theo Fullerton
From: Barbara & Earl Verduyssen
From: Vivian LaSalle
From: Bette Thraikill
From: Walter & Vickie Stewart
From: John, Joe, Jeff, Jay McGraa

From: Virginia Simmons
From: Barbara June
From: Mark Annin
From: Judith Reese
From: Anna Robbins
From: Anna Robbins
From: Anna Robbins
From: Melinda Read
From: Kathryn Lauer
From: Laura Rottmayer
From: Dick & Cindi Hayne
From: Brian & Ann Bachman
From: Pauline Lovitt
From: Dollie Griffin
From: Dollie Griffin
From: Naidine York
From: Betty Fullerton
From: Margaret Landre
From: Barbara Lee
From: Virginia Simmons
From: Mary Simmons
From: Meredith & Stephen Leatham
From: The Country Step Cloggers
From: Ken Bell
From: Mark Annin
From: Robert & Terri Roeper
From: Larry and Mabel Pyle
From: Alice Foster
From: Virginia Simmons

For: Willie O'Bagy
For: Eddie Meuchel
For: Jessica Collar
For: Bret Rouse

For: Janie Canton Thompson
For: Fern Robinson
For: Verna Bowers

From: Joyce & Dave Ferrie
From: Alice Foster
From: Valerie Collar
From: Marvin & Louise Parker
From: William & Virginia Kindzerski
From: Gregory & Carrol Karlsgodt
From: Vera Defienne
From: Jack & Linda Pfau
From: Deanna Raisl
From: Bill Bowers

In Honor of ...

For: Tammy Troxel & Gary Bedey Wedding
From: Dick Henry & Carol Meves
From: Carol Meves Birthday
From: Mable McKillop
For: Justine Rosa & Joey Vlasto Wedding
From: Patricia Rosa & Paull Policastro
For: Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Parker, 50th Wedding Anniversary
From: Carol Meves & Richard Henry
For: Merry Christmas to Steve and Phyllis Kenley
From: Bill and Judith Rummel
For: Happy Birthday, Steve Shook
From: Robert & MaryEllen Schmidt
For: Merry Christmas, Mary Rodriguez
From: Mary Pernichele
From: Christy Chandler
For: Linda Chandler
From: Jackie & Don Briggs, Norma Gilmore,
Glenn Gilmore, Doug Gilmore, Nancy & Rodger Dehaan
Merry Solstice!!!
From: Luisita Loveridge
For: Diane & Kent Myers
From: Susan & Bruce Bissell
For: Bill and Judith Rummel
From: Steve and Phyllis Kenley

A wagging tail
takes you to a better place
when nothing else can.

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and the love that is
returned
will leave you
breathless.





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PASS IT ON

to a friend when you are finished reading your newsletter. By increasing readership and awareness you will be performing a valuable service for the animals we're trying to help. You can assist us in cutting costs by advising us of your change of address or duplicate mailings. We would appreciate your help in updating our records.

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New Membership & Renewal Application

Every membership helps the animals & gives you a voice in our association!

Please check your address label for date your membership expires. 2011 dues due soon. Thank You!

Seniors: \$7 each _____, Individuals: \$15ea _____, Business: \$30 _____, Pets: \$2ea _____.

Please Print

Your Name/s _____ Email _____

Pets Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Extra Donation _____



- Please send me information on the Kennel/Cage Sponsorship Program
- Please have the Volunteer Coordinator Contact Me
- Please contact me with information on the Foster Program