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The Golden Post June 2009



Monte's Story

Monte had his cataract surgery at Midwest Veterinary Referral Center in Chesterfield and can now see out of both eyes. We took him back for his recheck and they could not be more pleased with his progress. We cannot wait to reunite him with his handicapped owner J.P. Monte even made it to MSNBC.COM

Quilt

We still have chances available on this gorgeous quilt. We are only going to sell 100 chances at \$20.00 and then pick one coupon for the winner. The quilt is very large 90" X 92". Either go on line to send your donation or mail it to Dirks Fund 11321 Cragwold Road St. Louis, Mo. 63122. Good Luck !!



Three Beautiful Golden Girls Undergoing Heartworm Treatment

Heartworms are preventable and still we have Molly, Abby and Dina in our rescue that are going to have to get heartworm treatment. The treatment is expensive and painful. The disease is totally preventable by giving your critters a pill once a month. The pill also kills other parasites that some critters get.



Maui's Story

Maui's becoming full of himself and enjoying life. You would not know that he has a serious heart condition. We took him to Mizzou and there is nothing that we can surgically do for him. He has been diagnosed with a Grade 5 Heart Murmur. He will not see his second birthday. He is the sweetest puppy and LOVES to cuddle. Maui is another reason to stay clear of Puppy Mills.

Bloat

Bloat is one of the top three killers of large dogs. You need to know the signs of bloat. Please take the time to [read this article](#).

● Every Saturday & Sunday from 10A-2P we are at the shelter in Pacific playing with our critters. Please come out and get to know our Adoptable kids.

● Friday June 12th We are Bowling at Brunswick Zone 1254 Dougherty Ferry Road Valley Park, Mo. from 7-9PM 270-Dougherty Ferry Road West-Big Bend-SW Corner is Bowling Alley Come out and show us your bowling skills. Bring a date, the family or a large group of friends. We have 20 lanes with up to 6 people for each lane from 7-9PM. \$100 donation includes one lane, a Pitcher of

Soda and your shoes. There will be Silent Auction Items available.

● Friday November 20th Trivia Night at The Kirkwood Community Center. We already have 8 tables reserved. Remember-Friday November 20th Trivia Night-Kirkwood. Tables are on \$120 and \$300. The \$300 Tables comes with food and dessert.

Our website gets around 1,000 hits every day and we are a very popular place to spend some safe quality time.

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent and making a difference in a critter's life please contact us at critters@dirksfund.com.

WISH LIST:

- Old or New towels and blankets
- Purina One Large Breed
- Purina One Large Breed for Puppies
- PetCo Gift Card
- PetsMart Gift Card
- Dog Treats
- OdoBan
- Paper Towels
- Collars
- Leashes
- Toys
- Cotton Balls
- Benches for the play-yards
- X-Large and XX-Large Crates
- Office Supplies
- Plastic boxes and baskets
- Trash Bags
- Children's outside play equipment
- Monetary Donations for Veterinarian Expenses



Thanks to all of you that have signed up for the eScrip cards from Schnucks. When you are grocery shopping and check out, they scan this card and donate up to 3 % of your total to Dirks Fund. This program costs you nothing and if you live in the Illinois Metropolitan area - it works there also. Please let us know if you want a card and if you want to give some to friends. We will mail them to you.



The next time that you are in PetsMart and/or Petco, please purchase us one of their Gift Cards. When our critters need something, we can use the cards to get them food, treats, crates, and whatever else they may need. If you want a donation letter, please let us know. Thanks to all of you that can help!!

You can donate using a credit card & PayPal from our website or mail your donation to: Dirks Fund 11321 Cragwold Road, St. Louis, MO 63122

"To the world you are just one person;
to a rescued pet you are the World"

WE ARE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU! THANK YOU!



Hot Weather Tips

In summertime, the living isn't always easy for our animal friends. Dogs and cats can suffer from the same problems that humans do, such as overheating, dehydration and even sunburn. By taking some simple precautions, you can celebrate the season and keep your pets happy and healthy.

- A visit to the veterinarian for a spring or early summer check-up is a must; add to that a test for heartworm, if your dog isn't on year-round preventive medication. Do parasites bug your animal companions? Ask your doctor to recommend a safe, effective flea and tick control program.
- Never leave your pet alone in a vehicle—hyperthermia can be fatal. Even with the windows open, a parked automobile can quickly become a furnace in no time. Parking in the shade offers little protection, as the sun shifts during the day.
- Always carry a gallon thermos filled with cold, fresh water when traveling with your pet.
- The right time for playtime is in the cool of the early morning or evening, but never after a meal or when the weather is humid.
- Street smarts: When the temperature is very high, don't let your dog stand on hot asphalt. His or her body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.
- A day at the beach is a no-no, unless you can guarantee a shaded spot and plenty of fresh water for your companion. Salty dogs should be rinsed off after a dip in the ocean.
- Provide fresh water and plenty of shade for animals kept outdoors; a properly constructed doghouse serves best. Bring your dog or cat inside during the heat of the day to rest in a cool part of the house.
- Be especially sensitive to older and overweight animals in hot weather. Brachycephalic or snub-nosed dogs such as bulldogs, pugs, Boston terriers, Lhasa apsos and shih tzus, as well as those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.
- When walking your dog, steer clear of areas that you suspect have been sprayed with insecticides or other chemicals. And please be alert for coolant or other automotive fluid leaking from your vehicle. Animals are attracted to the sweet taste, and ingesting just a small amount can be fatal. Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435 if you suspect that your animal has been poisoned.
- Good grooming can stave off summer skin problems, especially for dogs with heavy coats. Shaving the hair to a one-inch length—never down to the skin, please, which robs Rover of protection from the sun—helps prevent overheating. Cats should be brushed often.
- Do not apply any sunscreen or insect repellent product to your pet that is not labeled specifically for use on animals. Ingestion of sunscreen products can result in drooling, diarrhea, excessive thirst and lethargy. The misuse of insect repellent that contains DEET can lead to neurological problems.
- Having a backyard barbecue? Always keep matches, lighter fluid, citronella candles and insect coils out of pets' reach.
- Please make sure that there are no open, unscreened windows or doors in your home through which animals can fall or jump.
- Stay alert for signs of overheating in pets, which include excessive panting and drooling and mild weakness, along with an elevated body temperature.

