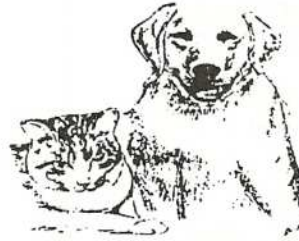


SPRING 2003



**2nd annual
Canine Capers
@
Veterans Acres
Scheduled for June 29th
(Details on Page 3)**



Fox Valley
HELPING PAWS
Animal Welfare Association

SHELTER HOURS

12:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Monday, Wednesday through Saturday
(Extended Sunday summer hours
during kitten season.
Call shelter for more information)

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT
JOANNE ANDERSON

VICE PRESIDENT
ISIE MORTIMER

TREASURER
MARK DANIEL

SECRETARY
DONNA MATEJKA

CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY
MARLENE MUGAVERO

DIRECTORS
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LUCY MCFEE
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SUE THOMSON, HONORARY DIR.

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DR. SANDRA YI, DVM
VALEREE MAREK, ATTORNEY

STAFF
MARY LANGE
JOY CURRENT
CHERYL DEVENNY
SUSAN ENDRES
LAURA SPOHN

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS
- TOO MANY TO LIST -
OUR SINCERE THANKS TO ALL OF
THEM FOR THEIR GREAT HELP
THROUGHOUT THE YEARS!

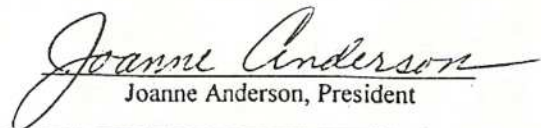
Dear Friends of Paws,

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” Written by Charles Dickens almost 150 years ago, this quote could easily be applied to our time and circumstance. We live in a wonderful, prosperous country, yet there isn't one of us who hasn't suffered, both emotionally as well as economically, over the trauma occurring these past few years. In times of such stress, even for the most kind hearted, it is difficult to choose who and when to help those less fortunate.

Though blessed by many generous benefactors, our shelter is constantly struggling to keep its doors open. **Direct donations and our annual fundraisers** are our primary means of *paying the bills*. Ongoing expenses for such basic needs as veterinarian care, maintenance, supplies and utilities have to be met to assure our ability to care for so many of the community's needy dogs and cats. It is you and other “Friends of Paws” that enabled us to adopt out over 500 cats & kittens and 150 dogs & puppies last year. *We couldn't do it without your generosity and concern*, and for this we thank you so much.

Without facilities such as Helping Paws, the abused, abandoned, neglected animals would have **no hope**. Their eyes would not sparkle with new life when they realize that not all humans are inhumane. We see those lifeless eyes light up with **new-found hope** time and time again. **All any of them want is a chance to love and be loved.** Your support helps the continuation of that **circle of love!**

Thank you, and best wishes for a safe and happy summer.


Joanne Anderson, President



**SPECIAL THANKS TO
OUR ANNUAL SPONSORS**

Invisible Fencing Hartland Vet Clinic
Fox Valley Animal Hospital Woodstock Farm & Lawn Center



MY SPIRIT CRIES

by Mary Lange

I've been waiting here, waiting.

No one comes!

I hurt, I'm cold, I'm scared.

No one comes.

I've curled my body close.

No one comes.

I've passed now, alone, in pain.

No one came.

I've left my body, lifeless, still.

No one came.

I watch from above now,

My beautiful body lays.

No one comes.

I heard a passerby - "poor kitty".

No one came.

My once soft full body,

now only bones and dirty,

unkempt fur, still lays.

No one came

I listen, still no one calls my name.

No one comes.

My spirit cries, no one comes.

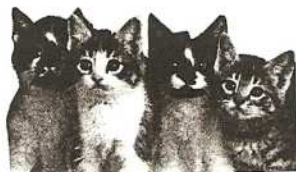
NO ONE COMES

A big *thank you* to all our volunteers, the Board of Directors, adopters, and supporters. Unlike this sad forlorn kitten, because of all of you our animals are safe, healthy and happy.

I wish everyone and their pets a wonderful summer. Don't forget to come to our annual events... Canine Capers, "Paws in the Park" Walk-a-thon, Flower Sale, Garage Sale and the Spaghetti Dinner. See you then!



Mary Lange with
Daisy Troop #1499 touring shelter



OVERCOMING COMMON BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS IN KITTENS

You can eliminate or even prevent many kitten behavior problems. Here are some common challenges and the steps you can take to lick 'em

Inappropriate Perches... Its normal for kittens to explore their environment and perch on high surfaces. If you want to teach your kitten to stay off kitchen counters and dining room tables, first you must provide alternative vertical perches, such as commercial scratching posts or shelving near those off-limit surfaces, encouraging their use by treats and praise. Next, make the unacceptable surfaces undesirable, especially in your absence, by placing on those surfaces double-stick tape, a motion-detector type alarm, or aluminum foil. Also, be sure not leave attractive items on them, such as food, plants, flowers.

The nighttime circus... Most kittens spend a lot of their day sleeping, and are quite active at night. In the evening try playing with your kitten, using chasing toys to tire him out. During the night don't scream, chase or feed him. Try using a remote punishment, such as a squirt of water. Remember, consistent disregard on your part will eventually extinguish this behavior.

Another fine mess... Scratching is normal and provides many benefits to cats. Target the scratching at acceptable items, such as scratching posts, in prominent locations. Make unacceptable targets aversive (i.e., double-stick tape or aluminum foil). Also, trim your kitten's nails weekly and kitten-proof your house (keep plants out of reach, unplug cords or place them out of reach, use a commercial deterrent spray or bittering agent, attach a motion alarm, etc.). Be sure to provide acceptable items to chew.

Not all fun & games... play-related aggression needs to have appropriate daily interactive play with remote toys. Initiate those play periods and avoid any activity that results in your body being the target of the play. Do not give any type of reward for inappropriate aggression. Interrupt such aggression with a remote punishment (i.e., squirt bottle or an alarm), or leave the room. Adding another cat of a similar age and energy level to your household is also an option.

Litter-box basics... Most kittens are naturally attracted to a litter box for elimination. Be sure it is easily and safely accessible, clean and attractive. Other than medical urinary tract diseases, dirty litter boxes are the most common cause of inappropriate elimination. You can never keep a litter box too clean or have too many. In multiple cat homes, it is recommended that there be one more box than there are cats.

Jeffrey Chemelewski, D.V.M
Fox Valley Animal Hospital

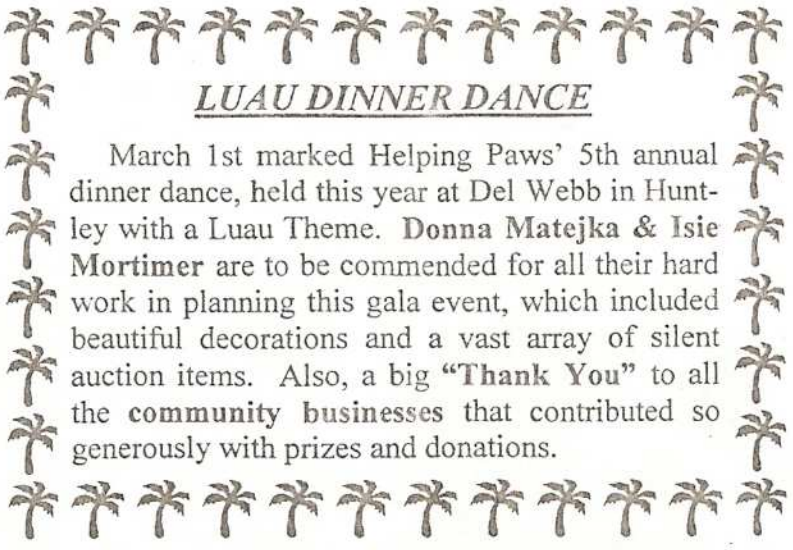


June 29th marks our 2nd annual Canine Capers... Games / Contests / Prizes. Don't miss this summer's best Sunday outing... fun for the whole family and your "best friend".

Last year there were over 60 participants in our first Canine Capers and we all had such a great time. This year will be even bigger & better!

A "Registration Form" is included in this newsletter. Be sure to mail it in as soon as possible to help us adequately prepare for the event. Entry fee is \$20 if paid in advance or \$25 paid at the event. Check-in time will be 10:30 a.m.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU AGAIN THIS YEAR!



LUAAU DINNER DANCE

March 1st marked Helping Paws' 5th annual dinner dance, held this year at Del Webb in Huntley with a Luau Theme. **Donna Matejka & Isie Mortimer** are to be commended for all their hard work in planning this gala event, which included beautiful decorations and a vast array of silent auction items. Also, a big "Thank You" to all the **community businesses** that contributed so generously with prizes and donations.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Cheryl Devenny received this year's "Volunteer of the Year" award for her exceptional dedication & love of the animals. She's been volunteering for the last 1-1/2 years. Congratulations, Cheryl!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 16, 17 & 18 — GARAGE SALE at 1237 Fernleaf in Crystal Lake. Loads of "gently used treasures" will be on sale. Don't miss this one! (If you have any items you would like to donate for this fundraiser, please call the shelter at (815) 459-2641.
- May 17th — FLOWER SALE (annuals, perennials and vegetables)... order forms will be mailed to you upon request. Call either the shelter (815) 459-2641 or Sue (847) 639-1867. Your order should be picked up at the shelter between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Additional plants will also be available that day.
- June 29th — CANINE CAPERS @ VETERANS ACRES. The Registration Form is included in this mailing. Registration fee (\$20 if paid in advance or \$25 paid at the event) includes doggie games, contests, prizes... and a free lunch for the registrant. Check in will be at 10:30 a.m.
- September 14th — Our 4th annual "PAWS IN THE PARK" WALK-A-THON at Veterans Acres. A great outing for you, your family, and your "best friend". Registration forms will be available by mid-August. Call the shelter (815) 459-2641 for further details.
- October 19th — SPAGHETTI DINNER at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Cary. This will be our third annual Spaghetti Dinner and every year it gets better and better. Guaranteed delicious! Mark your calendars -- bring family and friends for a great get-together.
- December 7th—HOLIDAY PARTY at the shelter. Great time to tour the facilities and meet with all the volunteers and caregivers along with all the "residents". Refreshments & Door Prizes!

HAPPY TAILS



MITZI was adopted November 17th into the home of her dreams... no children or other cats. She is "one very happy kitty."

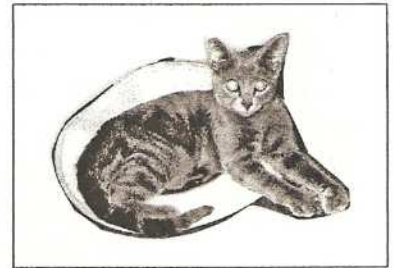
We are ecstatic to have her. We just love her so much...!"
Jeanette & Mary



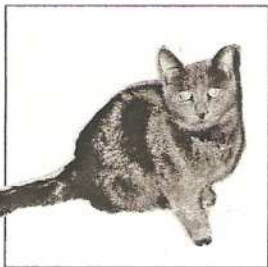
JUDO



FROSTY

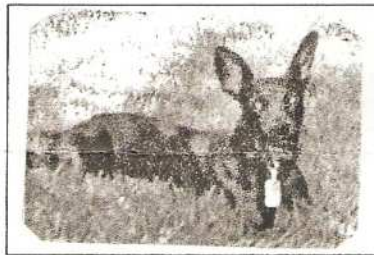


SHADOW is a "friendly, sweet cat who loves to play and he gets into everything" says his new parents. He got his name by the way he followed Stephanie around, like a "shadow". Stephanie & Bill Sharp

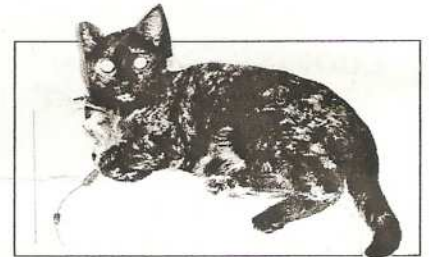


GRAVIS is described by his new adoptive family as "happy-go-lucky" who enjoys all his toys and plays with them for hours every day. "We could not be more happy with him! He's got a great disposition, is extremely affectionate and loves to snuggle..."

Mark Witczak & Cheryl Nally

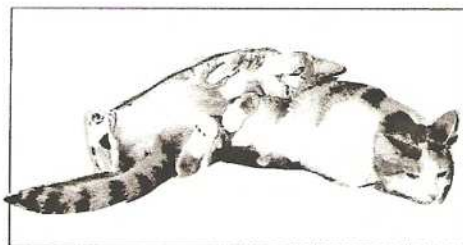


SHADOW, a little, 5lb. Miniature Pincher mix, was adopted last May, "an absolute joy and delight... She makes us laugh and smile every day, what great therapy!"
Bridgette Pelka



HARLEY, according to her owner, "loves talking to the birds... and loves all her toys and sometimes we just can't figure out what to play with first when I get home from work... She's the light and love of my life."

Nancy Becker



LILO & STITCH ... "They are getting so big and they're always together as you can see from the picture."

Jeff & Karen Fredrickson



CHEYENNE, pictured here in May, 2002. He asked his new owners to let us know how well he's doing in obedience class. He also tells us of all the toys he has, his favorite being a stuffed goose. Thanks for the note, Cheyenne, and hope to see you at Canine Capers again this year.

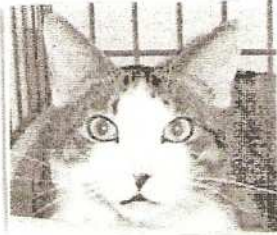
Emily Schlick & Jeff Wanka



LACY (6 mo's) shown here on the left with Webster (13)... "She's the first cat I've ever seen 'fetch'! She is sweet, spirited, and has a loving purr-sonality. Thank you for rescuing her first."
Pamela Meeder

OUR APOLOGIES TO ALL THE OTHER WONDERFUL ADOPTERS WHO ALSO SENT IN GREAT PICTURES AND LETTERS ON THEIR PETS. SPACE BEING LIMITED, WE JUST COULDN'T PRINT THEM ALL... BUT WANT TO LET YOU KNOW HOW APPRECIATIVE WE ARE THAT YOU KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US. THANKS SO MUCH.

**HERE ARE JUST SOME OF MANY
AVAILABLE
FOR
ADOPTION**



DILLON is one of the "Cashere's Hope" cats. (See Page 6 about that rescue.) Was adopted recently, but unfortunately returned due to allergies. Must be confined to a cage as he does not get along well with other cats. His sad eyes cry out for love and attention. Stop by and give him a chance to win your heart!



MISTLETOE was abandoned at Christmas time, left in a box in the freezing cold. He's safe and warm with us now! Though quite affectionate, he unfortunately does not get along with other cats and must be kept caged. Longs for the day he'll be able to run free in a loving home of his own.



SADIE MAE is a cuddly, beautiful green-eyed tabby approximately 5 years old. Abandoned, she's been at the shelter for over a year. Probably one of our most playful adult cats. She'll tolerate other cats and dogs. Older children okay too. She's a charmer!



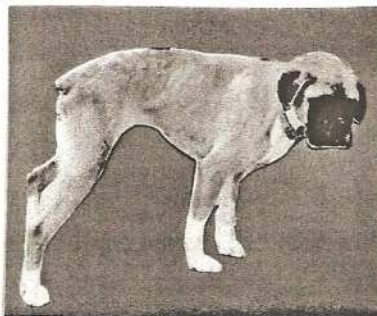
MINNIE was rescued from "death row," brought to us with her 3 week old kittens. That was more than a year ago and she is ever so patiently waiting for that perfect someone who will pick her out from all the rest and never let her go.



QUAIZAR is a handsome, golden eyed white cat who has a rather loud, distinctive "meow." He can't hear himself nor the other cats to know what he should sound like because he's deaf. Inquisitive, intelligent, and affectionate... what more could anyone want!



MARSHALL, another one of those 12 cats rescued last November (See Page 6), is one of the most affectionate of those cats. Does not get along well with other cats, so he must unfortunately be caged at the shelter. He has an exceptionally sweet personality, a guaranteed cuddler and lap warmer.



CAROLINE (5), rescued just a few weeks ago, is one of the most emaciated, neglected dogs we've ever seen. Normal weight for her size and shape should be over 60 lbs. yet she was only 35 lbs. Starving not only for food, but for companionship and love as well. Is there a place for her in your home & heart?



MURPHY could be Marshall's twin brother. Not only does he look like him, he also has the same loving personality. One of the Cashmere group, he adores people and craves attention, but does not get along with other cats. He desperately needs someone to bring love and security into his life to replace his memories of years of neglect.



UPDATE ON



CASHMERE & HER BUDDIES

Last November we took in 12 of the most distressed, neglected cats any of us had ever seen. These unfortunate animals had been rescued from a "cat collector" along with 12 more that were placed in other shelters. They had been kept in carriers so small they could barely turn around... without any litter pans and often fed and watered only *once a week*. Some had been in that deplorable condition for years! They are safe now... with hope for the future! Of those 12 cats, 2 passed away from diseases far too great to overcome, 2 are still under convalescent care, 2 have been adopted into a loving, caring home with a bright and happy future, and 6 have been integrated into the adult Cat Room available for adoption into *specially qualified households* with no other cats or children.

Thanks to all of you for your generosity and support. Without you we would not have been able to care for these and the hundreds of others that come to our door with those frightened, sad eyes pleading for help.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Helping Paws holds its monthly meetings on the 2nd Thursday of every month. If interested in attending, please call the shelter (815) 459-2641 for time and place. The May 15th meeting will include election of officers... all members welcome.

... JUST FOR LAUGHS ...

A woman took a litter of puppies to a local veterinarian for their inoculations and worming. As the look-alike pups squirmed around in their box, the vet realized it would be difficult to tell the treated pups from the rest.

He turned on the water faucet, wet his fingers, and moistened each pup's head as he finished with it. After the 4th one, he noticed that the owner looked very perplexed. She said to him: "I didn't realize that they had to be baptized too!"

HELPING PAWS "WISH LIST"

Friskies Wet Kitten Food
Clay or Clumpable litter
Paper towels
Mops, brooms, dust pans
Dish soap, laundry soap, Bleach
Scrubbies, rubber gloves
Large plastic garbage bags
Dog and Cat toys
6 inch paper plates

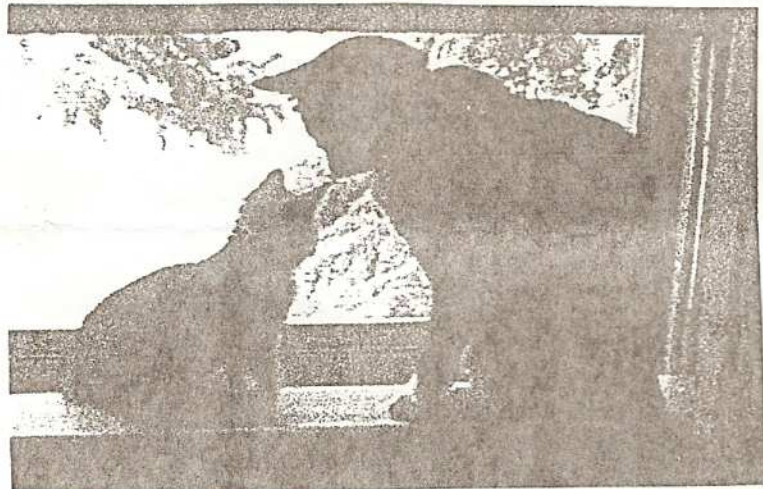


JESSIE

A special thank you to Isie Mortimer, who introduced us to Jessie, our beloved cat, who we adopted from Helping Paws a little over three years ago. She gave us joy in her loving way, she was a blessing that came from above. A special and beautiful treasure to love.

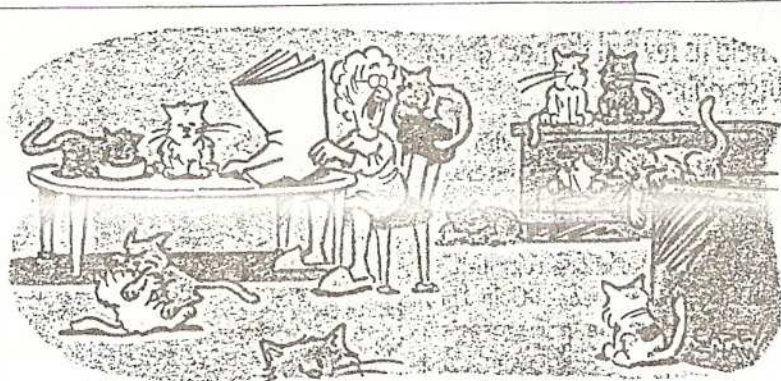
In loving memory of Jessie.

Louis & Ann Forman



A Sill-o-ette of Love

This beautiful picture was dropped off at the shelter a few months ago. It was simply titled... "Timber and her new sister".



"Looky, Punkin, they cloned a little cat. More kitties! That's what the world needs!"

KIDS KORNER

Here are just a few of some really nice letters and pictures sent to us from Mrs. Gillien's 4th grade class (Three Oaks School) just prior to their visit to our shelter last winter. We just wish we had the space to print them all! Hope you enjoy them as much as we did.

Dear Mary,

My name is Mary and I have a 23 year old cat her name is Stevie and she is soo cute. I hope she beats the world record 28.5 more years! My cat had her claw in her paw one time so my dad used a nail clipper and cut it out of her paw the he had to put some medicine stuff on her paw. It was bad because she meowed really loud. I hope the cats feel better! See you on Saturday!

From: Mary and Stevie



Dear Mary!

I really like how we get to help the shelter because I love animals and I have 3 dogs they love when we let them outside and play with them. The kinds of dogs we have are 1 Great Dane, Irish Setter, and a little guy that is a toy poodle the Great Danes name is Sockes because her feet are white and the rest of her body is black the Irish Setters name is Cary and of course the toy poodles name is Tuffy he is so cute and he loves to play soccer. I love that shelter and I have like 20 role models you would be one!

From: Megan Gillie
4-6 Straumann
2002



Dear Mary,

I hope the cats make it. I was on your web site. I read all of the animals notes. Some of them were very sad. I read Cashmere's. I feel really bad for the 12 cats. I read one of the dog ones out loud to my parents. My parents said they really want one but it can't live with kids. I love animals. I really want to come on Saturday. This is really

fun getting stuff for the animals. We are expecting a lot of food and more things. We want to bring a lot of stuff in. We (our family) found out where Helping Paws was so we knew where it was for Saturday. The Junior High is doing it, too.

Love,

Sammie
Mere

Helping Paws
Every dog there is cute
Loving place
Puppies are cute
Injured cats
Not mean to animals
Getting a lot of animals
Pleasant
Awesome
Wonderful
Saving Pets

Continued on next page! ➡

REMEMBER
Always have your pets
spayed or neutered

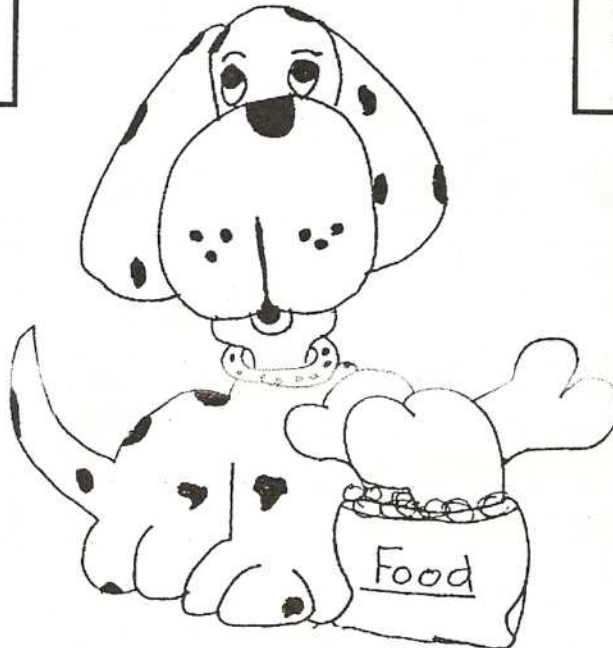
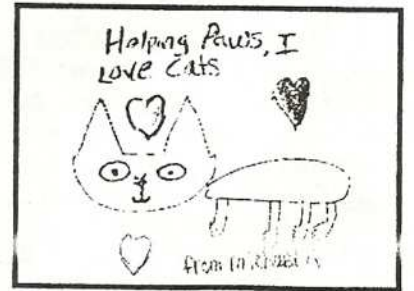
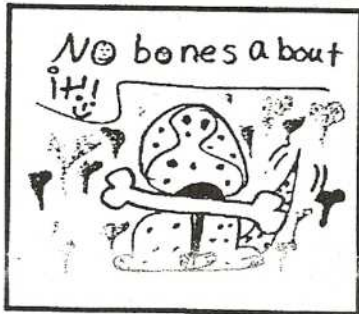
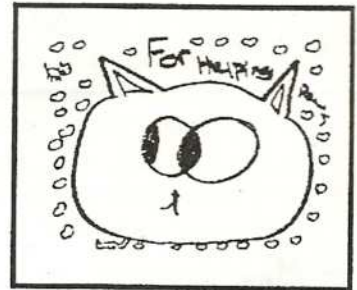
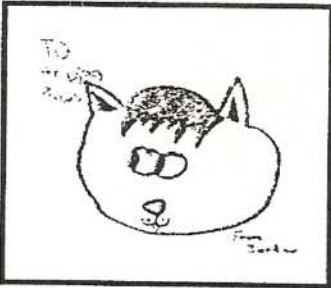


Fox Valley
Helping Paws
Animal Welfare Association
257 King Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 459-2641
helpinpaws.net

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Kids Korner

(continued from Page 7)



From: Kalee and Xan

