

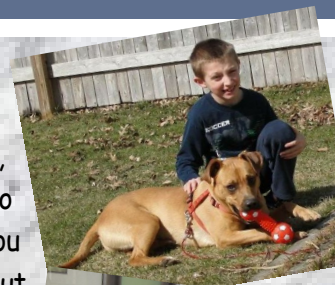


Where Happy Endings Begin!



Thank you!

Whether you adopted a pet this year, fostered a "fur kid," or sent a donation to help with food and medical expenses, you helped us get hundreds of cats and dogs out of shelters where they face euthanasia. Dogs who were sleeping on concrete floors and cats confined to stainless steel cages, many of whom had been abused or abandoned, are now lounging on beds and sofas or curled up next to someone's feet, safe and warm for the holidays, and you helped get them there. Sometimes it seems like we can't make a difference because there are so many that need help, but believe us, it makes a difference! Just look at these pictures we've received and you'll see what we mean. Thank you again. We look forward to your continued support and help, and we wish you all the best of holidays. Enjoy good food, enjoy your families and especially enjoy your "fur kids."



Holiday Happenings!

(also known as having fun while raising money for the “fur faces”)
Here’s an inside look at some of the fun events we’ve been involved with, raising funds to pay vet and food bills. Any time you can think of or help with an event, just call or shoot us an email.

Santa Pictures

Children aren’t the only ones who love Santa, and when you have a Santa who loves animals the way ours does (as does our wonderful photographer), then getting great photos is a certainty!

Even camera-shy dogs (or cats), who start out a little timid, are soon rolling over for tummy rubs after just a few minutes with Santa.

This year our Santa pictures event was twice the fun, as our crew set up at Tractor Supply in Lowell AND Ionia. We expect our total number of photos this year to be close to 100!

Many thanks to Tractor Supply Company for being such kind and generous hosts.



Wreath Sale



Thanks to Amee and Tom Trechter of Mathisen Tree Farms for providing such high-quality wreaths for our annual wreath sale, which was once again a huge success.

Every year people ask us in advance if we’re selling the wreaths again—they’re anxious to get one (or two).

This year we sold over 400 wreaths, including some gorgeous large wreaths donated by Tom and Amee.

In total our fresh, fragrant fundraiser brought in almost \$3,000!

We cannot forget to thank the hard workers at Ellis Elementary School who toiled over fastening bows on many of the wreaths sold at the school. Thank you kids!

And the winner is . . .



ArtRicia Dunn & Bailey Yonkers made this Gingerbread Safe Haven Humane Society house for the Lakewood Christmas 'Round The Town 2011 Gingerbread House Contest. They took in 4,000 votes and ended up coming in 2nd place. The total amount they earned for their charity of choice (Safe Haven Humane Society) was \$40.00 (4,000 votes), plus \$10.00 for winning second place, for a total of \$50.00 total! Way to go, girls! And thank you so much for choosing Safe Haven Humane Society, Where Happy Endings Begin!



Mrs. Claus Bazaar

Every year on the first Saturday in December, Ionia Middle School is the setting of one of the largest Christmas craft bazaars in the area. And every year, visitors help make the Safe Haven booth fun and productive for our animals.

Many animal lovers stop by to purchase treats, toys, and beds for their pets and to share their pet stories with us—an amazing number of people have pictures of their pets on their cell

phones. It’s a long, fruitful day for all who volunteer, and some specific thank-yous are in order.

Thanks to Mike Anderson for the homemade dog treats and providing the photo of the booth. Special thanks to Tom Snyder for making the giant ten-foot candy-cane banner for our booth. Thanks to Eileen Burr for all the wonderful catnip toys and beds. They were all a big hit! And thanks to everyone who helped in any way.





What did you like best about this issue? What topics would you like to see in an upcoming issue? Put your comments below.

Here are some ways you can help Safe Haven animals:

☐ Donate: My check made payable to Safe Haven Humane Society is enclosed for

☐ \$20 ☐ \$30 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other _____

(you can also donate online at www.shhspets.com)

☐ Foster. Please send me information about fostering cats or dogs

☐ Become a member of Safe Haven: \$10 individual or \$18 family

☐ Other:

☐ Help transport animals

☐ Hold or help with fundraiser

☐ Other _____



Thank
you for
helping
us!

cut out

and mail this form to:

Safe Haven Humane Society

P.O. Box 55

Ionia, MI 48846

Your Comments. Thank you. _____

Cats, tinsel and ribbon -No, no, no!

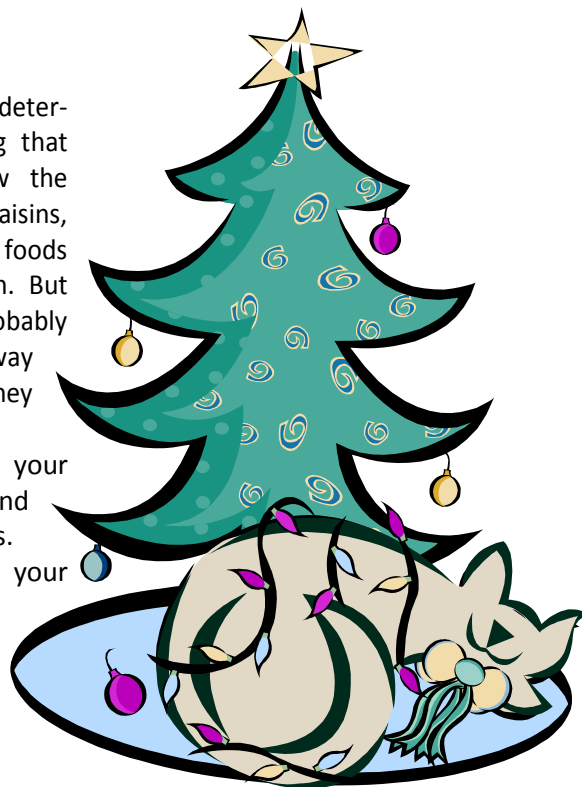
That little shiny string on the tree, waving gently with each passing waft of warm air is beckoning to your cat. It has all of her attention, and she really wants to grab it and chew it 'til it's all gone. But wait, now she spies a floppy, curled red ribbon on a package under the tree....how about a gnaw on that? It'll be up to you to make that decision for her. Take the tinsel off the tree and forego the thin ribbons (the kind you curl with scissors). Both of those trims can severely damage your kitty's intestinal tract if ingested.

People often overlook bits of tinsel and ribbon that are attached to other decorations, so check carefully as you unpack and place each item.

Cats are very curious AND determined when it comes to getting that thing they want. We all know the taboos concerning chocolate, raisins, alcohol, mistletoe, and onions...all foods that can harm your pet if eaten. But even though tinsel and ribbon probably aren't appealing taste-wise, the way they attract cats, you'd think they were soaked in gravy.

Just take a look around your decorated home and keep in mind any possible hazards to your pets.

Enjoy, but enjoy safely for your pets.



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www.shhspets.com

"Where Happy Endings Begin!"

If you would prefer not to
receive future copies of our
newsletter, please call or email
us and let us know.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Big Snip Or Let's Fix Those Cats!

Spaying or neutering one cat can prevent the birth of 55 kittens over the life of the parent. Safe Haven Humane Society is very excited to announce a two-year spay/neuter project aimed at reducing shelter intake and euthanasia of cats and kittens in Ionia County.

Our research found that 44% of the felines brought to the shelter are from the Ionia and Belding zip codes. Using this information and forming a specifically targeted plan, Safe Haven applied for and was awarded grant funding from PetSmart Charities®, an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that creates and supports programs that save lives of homeless pets.

With partial funding from PetSmart Charities®, Safe Haven is able to offer spay/neuter surgeries to residents of Ionia (48846) and Belding (48809) zip codes for only \$10. Our goal is 950 surgeries during each of the next two years, preventing thousands of unwanted births and homeless pets in the area. Thank you PetSmart Charities®!

