



# Critter Talk

Volume 4, Issue 2

Spring 2007 (April-June)

[www.colliergov.net/pets](http://www.colliergov.net/pets)

## WINK 96.9 FM BENEFIT FOR DAS

(Camden Smith, Happy Tails Host)

Dozens of pet owners participated in a mini-fundraiser for Domestic Animal Services (DAS) with WINK 96.9 FM Radio in March.

Pet owners donated several hundred dollars to DAS at *WINK FM's Pet Stravaganza* to secure the shelter's efforts to help homeless animals in the Naples, Florida area.

WINK 96.9 FM chose DAS as its charity of the month for March 2007, because the station believes strongly in the need to

rescue homeless animals from public animal shelters and reduce euthanasia.



Jeff and Liz from the WINK in the Morning Radio Show hosted the event at Ruff-N-It Doggie Daycare in Bonita Springs. Liz said,

"This was so awesome to see pets and their owners competing in a fashion show and felines trying to win the 'fattest cat' title."

DAS Director Margo Castorena said she was surprised and excited to hear her shelter had been chosen as the March WINK 96.9 Charity. "We are so thankful to have the support of the public and the help of radio supporters like WINK Radio who are helping educate pet owners and reduce the homeless pet population."

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Make award-winning *Happy Tails* the best half hour of your day! *Happy Tails* is a pet adoption TV program airing on Collier Television (Ch. 11 or 16, depending on your location). Tune in and find a new pet each night at 7 p.m.!

#### Upcoming Shows:

- Apr. 4-17, 2007
- Apr. 18-May 1, 2007
- May 2-15, 2007
- May 16-June 5, 2007
- June 6-19, 2007
- June 20-July 3, 2007

# Weathering Pets

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(By Camden Smith  
Happy Tails Host)

## Heating Things Up

If you see a pet locked in a car, call 9-1-1. It's that time of year, when leaving pets in vehicles is not only dangerous but can be deadly.

Loving pets, means protecting, loving and caring for them.

**Did you know?** Vehicle temperatures can rise above 100 degrees in just 10 minutes during the summer months?

Pets left in vehicles can not only suffer heat exhaustion but in the worst case scenarios pets experience heat stroke and sometimes death.

Going out shopping and making an unplanned stop to a business that doesn't allow pets? Take your pet home first, even if it's inconvenient. Leaving a pet in a vehicle can be a criminal offense.

## Water Your Pets

Generally, when we think of our pets, we don't think of watering them, literally. BUT, if you leave your pets outside in a fenced-in area, as the weather warms up it is important to keep your pets cool.



We all remember to water our lawns during the summer months, so pets should be an even higher priority.

Although pets are considered property and do not have the same rights as human beings, they are live beings and deserve to have proper food and water.

If you have a larger breed dog such as a Labrador or German Shepherd, this size of dog should be provided with two or three big bowls of water during the day if left outside. For smaller dogs such as Chihuahuas, one large, oversize bowl should suffice unless your pet experiences extreme dehydration regularly.

Whatever you do, make sure your pet has free access to fresh water and food. Summer heat reaches 90 degrees or higher and if the heat is tough for us, just think about your furry friends.

## Reporting Pet Abuse & Neglect

If you see a pet outside without water or food access, call DAS immediately at (239) 530-PETS (7387).

Afraid your reaction could be an over-reaction? It's better to be safe when protecting animals than sorry.

# Education to Save Animals

by Officer Anita Martindale

As an officer for Domestic Animal Services (DAS), it is a privilege to take on a new job responsibility as an education outreach specialist.

From the time I was a small girl, animals followed me home. Some followed me home in cardboard boxes much to my mom's chagrin. Others just showed up at our door step. But, I didn't always get to keep the animals, even though I wanted to.

I've spent much of my life working with animals of all kinds. Horses, dogs, cats, cows, roosters, emus, goats, pigs, rabbits, deer, squirrels and a Bald Eagle have all shared time with me. The animals have taught me that there is always something new we can learn from and about them.

I am very excited to be working on the development of several educational programs for the citizens of Collier County and their companion animals. One of the programs will promote safety for our families (pets included). Proper care of our pets is

imperative to the lives of animals.

Our pets fulfill many of our needs. Sometimes, however we are not totally aware of our pets' needs. I hope through education DAS will bring about better understanding of animal behavior and improve pet care in our community.

Most of us want to do the right thing by our animals, however we may not always know what the 'right thing' is. It is our goal educate the public about the right and wrong of animal care.

Preventing animal bites is a topic DAS will address with the educational programs. Bites are preventable with the proper knowledge, which we will share with the public. Monitor your children and pets when they are together and separate them if necessary.

Young students will learn about animal safety using creative games. Did you know that two cats and all of their offspring can produce up to 420,000 cats if none are



spayed or neutered? Whoa!

DAS has charged me with adult education responsibilities visiting home owners associations and working at public events. adults will learn about County Ordinances and other animal issues.

DAS's plan is to make all of these new educational programs entertaining and informative. My goal is to have a better educated community concerning animal issues because with education we can take action rather than stand on the sidelines.

Remember, spay and neuter your pets. If you are interested in DAS bringing an education program to your association, call DAS at (239) 530-7387.

# LOST PETS

Every day a pet is lost, searching for a way back home.

Every day, Collier County Domestic Animal Services picks up animals wandering the streets and most of the time the pets have no ID and cannot be returned home.

Therefore, every day, animals come to DAS's shelter wondering when their family will come to pick them up.

DAS's staff asks you to micro chip and license your animals. Register the micro

chips, so that your information is accurate and DAS can return your pet to you in minutes.

**Pets returned home are happy pets. Their owners are relieved.**

Protect your family by searching for lost pets at DAS's Naples shelter located at 7610 Davis Blvd.

or visiting DAS's kennel search online at [www.colliergov.net/pets](http://www.colliergov.net/pets).

DAS allows pet owners to post Lost Pet Posters in its lobby, call (239) 530-PETS (7387) for information.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



7610 Davis Blvd.  
Naples, FL 34104

Phone: 239-530-7387  
Fax: 239-530-7775

E-mail: [Camdensmith@colliergov.net](mailto:Camdensmith@colliergov.net)

*Growing Families One Pet At A Time.*



[WWW.COLLIERGOV.NET/PETS](http://WWW.COLLIERGOV.NET/PETS)

<p><b><i>DAS Advisory Board Monthly Meeting:</i></b> Location: DAS Naples Shelter at 7610 Davis Blvd. <b>Call 530-PETS for info.</b></p>	<p>May 15, June 19 July 17, 2007 6:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b><i>Volunteer Orientations</i></b> are scheduled monthly—call for details and ask for Hailey Alonso at 530-PETS (7387).</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p><b><i>Ice Cream Family Social</i></b> by Parks &amp; Recreation with DAS as a guest. At Sugden Regional Park, 4284 Avalon Dr. in East Naples. Call 254-4000.</p>	<p>July 28, 2007 1-4 p.m.</p>
<p><b>HOWL-A-DAY JUBILEE PET FESTIVAL:</b> The Jubilee raised more than \$4,000 last year. This year's goal is \$7,000 with raffles, fashion pet competitions, pet and pet owner games and more! <b>YOUR PET WILL HAVE A BALL!</b></p>	<p>Saturday Nov. 17, 2007 2-7 p.m.</p>