



Issue #4

Spring 2016

## **MIDWEST PETS FOR LIFE REALIZES A DREAM**

**with Clinton County Development Association Grant money**

Midwest Pets For Life is thrilled to announce that they have purchased a utility trailer with grant money from the CCDA and matching funds from a very generous donor. The trailer will be used to store MPFL equipment until a building and piece of land can be secured. This enclosed trailer will allow MPFL to move their equipment from one location to another for spay/neuter clinics, wellness clinics, fundraising events and Animeals deliveries.

The trailer is also large enough that it may be possible to hold small clinics within the trailer itself. We are ecstatic about this acquisition and look forward to more good things in the near future. We would like to take this time to thank the CCDA and the anonymous donor for believing in our organization. We look forward to continuing to serve Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois with our many programs, including but not limited to low-cost spay/neuter/vaccination clinics, wellness clinics, dietary rescue bank and Animeals, educational information and programs, behavioral and training referrals, emergency in-home care, foster homes, re-homing assistance, and medical care assistance. Some of our programs are open to the public and some programs require a prospective client to meet certain specific eligibility requirements. If you know of anyone who has fallen on temporary hard times



and could use our assistance, please contact us with information. All client information is strictly confidential and will not be shared or sold. We look forward to increasing our client base and being able to keep the pets with the families who love and need them most!!

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KEEP CALM AND LET  
MIDWEST PETS FOR LIFE  
HANDLE IT!!



## MPFL Board of Directors

### Board President

Paul Sparks

### Board Vice President

Jessica Bielema

### Board Secretary

Jessica Alvarez

### Board Treasurer

Dana Sparks

### Board Directors:

Rachel Anderson

Sandi Bartels

Kim Bielema

### MPFL Veterinarian

Dr. Jeanne Hedges

We are in the process of developing the following positions:

- **Volunteer Coordinator**
- **Fundraising Coordinator**
- **Enrichment Coordinator**
- **Grant Writer**

If you would be interested in filling one of these positions, please contact us.

### Mission Statement

Midwest pets For Life is dedicated to assisting the elderly, the disabled, and low-income pet owners in times of need by offering pet retention programs, services and education, while implementing sustainable programs and services that enhance companion animal ownership. And in doing this, we keep pets in their homes...with the people who need them the most!

Visit our website and keep up to date with Midwest Pets For Life

[www.midwestpetsforlife.org](http://www.midwestpetsforlife.org)

And follow Midwest Pets For Life on facebook!!





# MIDWEST PETS FOR LIFE AND HEARTLAND PET WELFARE FELINE WELLNESS CLINIC



DATE: THURSDAY MARCH 10TH, 2016

TIME: 2:00pm - 6:00pm

LOCATION: 2720 WACKER ROAD, SAVANNA, ILLINOIS 61074

Midwest Pets For Life and Heartland Pet Welfare have joined forces, in a combined effort, to bring area pet owners our first Cats Only Walk-In Wellness Clinic. Clinic services will be provided by attending veterinarian, Dr. Jeanne Hedges, DVM, of Buffalo, Iowa. Owner of One Spay At A Time, Dr. Hedges has worked exclusively in Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, helping to control the cat population explosion by offering low-cost spay/neuter surgeries to area residents. She has partnered with Midwest Pets For Life for the last two years and continues to work with the animal welfare non-profit group, providing much needed low cost services.

Clinic services to be offered are as follows:

• Wellness Check		• Microchips	\$20
• Rabies Vaccination	\$10	• Ear Mite Treatment	\$ 5
• Distemper Vaccination	\$10	• Nail Trim	\$10
• Wormer	\$13	• Soft Paws Nail Caps	\$20

There may be a small amount of flea prevention available. Prices to be determined.



No appointment necessary.



Doors open at 2:00PM.



Cats and kittens **MUST** be in a pet carrier to be admitted.



Visibly sick or injured cats will be referred and not admitted.

Please consider taking advantage of this cost-saving clinic to bring your furry felines up to date on their vaccinations and any other services you may be interested in. One day only to receive these deep discounts!!

# CITY OF CLINTON PET TAGS NOW AVAILABLE FROM MPFL

Midwest Pets For Life is now selling City of Clinton Pet Tags to Clinton residents. Tags are \$10 per animal and a current rabies certificate must be provided at the time of purchase. Tags can be purchased from MPFL at our spay/neuter clinics or we are willing to deliver the tags if that makes it easier for the pet owner. Please call us at 563.243.3106 or 563.249.2206 to make arrangements to purchase your pet's city tag. For each \$10 tag sold by our



organization, MPFL receives \$5. So it's a win-win for everyone!! Please consider purchasing your tag today!! Thanks for supporting our animal welfare organization.

Did you know...

Cats purr at about 26 cycles per second, the same frequency as an idling diesel engine. Domestic cats purr both when inhaling and exhaling.

Cats respond most readily to names that end in an "ee" sound.

Cats lose almost as much fluid in the saliva while grooming themselves as they do through urination.

Cats should not be fed tuna, exclusively, as it lacks taurine, an essential nutrient required for good feline health and vision.

Both humans and cats have identical regions in the brain responsible for emotion.



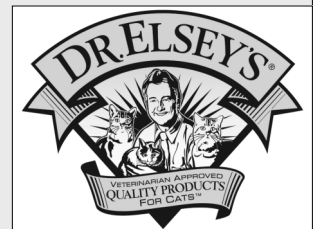
**Monetary Donations are extremely necessary in keeping our programs available. If you can find it in your heart to make a monetary donation, they can be mailed to:**

**Midwest Pets For Life  
P.O. Box 3205  
1854 410th Avenue  
Clinton, Iowa 52733-3205**



\*\*\*All donations will receive a receipt for tax puposes.\*\*\*

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



# MEMORIALS

We are honored when individuals choose to remember their family members, friends, and pets through a gift in their loved one's memory to Midwest Pets For Life . The donations listed below have been received and are greatly appreciated.

<b><u>In Loving Memory Of</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>In Loving Memory Of</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>
Ron Clouse	Antionette Evans-Clouse Colleen Dunn Lindsey Clouse Vicky Kelly Carolyn Cox Shannon Budd James Quinn Harold & Debra Cox Michael & Rondi Kinney Pete & Maria Paris Judith Kauffman	Ron Clouse         Don Krambeck	Carolyn Hingst Roger & Sue Hammel Robert & Mary Duax Brad & Betty Wilkerson Kevin & Christina Murphy Thomas W. Olson, DDS  Don & Sandi Bartels Phyllis Luckritz

## Heartland Adopt-A-Cage

Please consider supporting the cats at Heartland Pet Welfare by becoming an Adopt-A-Cage sponsor. The funds raised assist us with extra medical treatment, grooming, special food, care, and outreach for neglect and abuse cases.

**You can sponsor a cage for only:**

**1 YEAR—\$100**

**3 MONTHS - \$25**

**6 MONTHS - \$50**

**1 MONTH - \$10**

Heartland cats receive over \$20.00 worth of medication and treatment before adoption

**MONETARY OR IN-KIND DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT  
DON'S JEWELRY, 200 Main Avenue in Clinton, Iowa.**

**Or you can call the numbers below to schedule a pickup.**

**KIM - 563-321-2247**

**SANDI - 563-243-3106 OR 563-249-2206**

# Kids and Dogs: How Kids Should and Should Not Interact with Dogs

by Dr. Sophia Yin

**How Kids SHOULD Interact with Dogs**  
Use common sense.

Be polite and kind to pets

Learn to recognize when your dog is scared or anxious

Play appropriate games with pets, such as:

Fetch

Training tricks (like roll over, shake, beg, etc.)

Walking and running with a dog

Playing hide-n-seek

Always remember:

Supervise all interactions. Accidents can happen in a split second.

Train your dog to associate the kids with positive experiences so he'll be more likely to tolerate your child in case she accidentally interacts inappropriately.

Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS  
The Art and Science of Animal Behavior  
For local area free dog bite prevention resources and more dog care articles and products, visit [www.dogsophia.com](http://www.dogsophia.com).

When a child is bitten by a four-legged family member, it can turn the household upside-down. Owners feel puzzled and confused. "They sleep together all the time," they might say, or, "He's always been really good. He even lets Timmy sit on him." In a majority of cases, the bite seems out of the blue. The humans can't fathom why their once-trusted companion would bite an innocent child. But anyone who reads "dog" or can see life from the pet's point of view would most likely say, "I'm surprised it didn't happen sooner."

The fact is, a quick perusal of YouTube or a thorough investigation of a bite reveals that often the bite occurs because humans, especially children, are extremely rude. Parents may view their kid's behaviors as cute and assume that because their dog is tolerating the behavior now, he will have an endless fuse and always put up with it, rather than eventually exploding. In other words, parents expect dogs to behave like saints, even when they are pestered to the point that would try the average human's patience and cause her to blow up!

For instance, I recall one tragic case where an infant was left at home with the babysitter and the family pitbull. The infant was allowed to

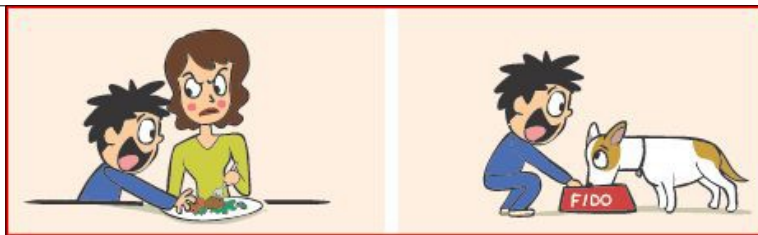
incessantly crawl after the dog, tailing the dog as if she was an armed criminal. He followed her from corner to corner as she kept trying to get away from the baby, but the dog had no escape. While the parents were able to take a "vacation" from their child by hiring a babysitter and leaving the house, the dog was left at home to fend for herself. Ordinarily, a person being pestered this way with no way to escape would eventually turn and yell and possibly even resort to violence. A dog might do the same—turn and bark, snarl, or growl. But when all of these early signs are ignored, escalation to a bite can be the next step. Unfortunately, a bite by any large dog at her wits end can cause serious damage to a child, and in this case it resulted in death.

More often than not, cases where the dog bites a young child are tragic—often more so for the dog. The dog may be relinquished to a shelter, where he has a low probability of safe adoption. Or he may be euthanized after a quarantine period. The worst part of the story is that these bites could often have easily been prevented just by understanding the types of actions that drive a dog to feel bullied or pestered so much that he feels he has to bite.

## Understanding What the Actions that Might Cause the Family Dog to Bite are Common Sense

In fact, understanding what can drive a dog to bite the family kids is pretty simple. They are the same things that drive humans to need a break from their kids.

**Reason 1:** For instance, most people dislike it when others stick their grimy hands in their meal. Similarly, dogs want to eat in peace.



**Reason 2:** We teach children that it's clearly wrong to steal toys from each other. It's also rude to steal toys from the dog. Kids should be taught to leave Fido's toys alone. To build in a tolerance in case the child makes a mistake

when your attention has lapsed, dogs should be trained to give up their toy for a reward or even a sequence of rewards. That way, they will willingly give the child the toy instead of feeling possessive.

**Reason 3:** Kids frequently can't help but get in your face. They often have to be trained to maintain the appropriate social distance. Similarly, putting your face into a dog's face, even if it's all in the family, can be irritating to the dog, especially when the dog has no control over the child's behavior.



**Reason 4:** Most people dislike being disturbed when they are resting or sleeping. But fortunately for us humans, we can often close or lock our bedroom door. Similarly, dogs need a safe location where they can be away from kids and excitement. Kids should avoid bugging them in their "private" location or any time they are sleeping or resting. If they call

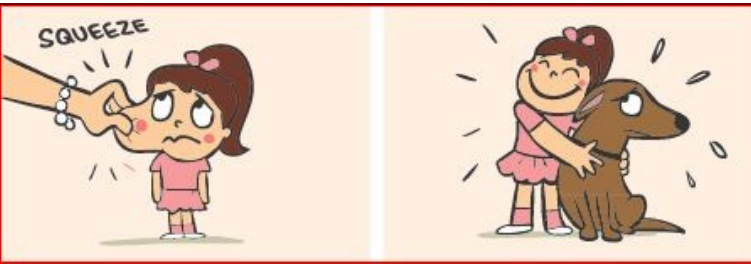
the dog from far away and the dog chooses to get up and come over to the child, this type of interaction is okay. But if the dog chooses to be left alone, he should be.

**Reason 5:** Kids dislike being handled roughly, and so do dogs. Dogs can be trained to tolerate or sometimes even enjoy this handling, so that they are not reactive when an accident occurs, but in general children should be taught to be polite.



**Reason 6:** It's rude to climb on, step on, or otherwise invade someone's personal space. It's also rude to do the same things with dogs.

**Reason 7:** Loud screaming can frazzle humans, imagine its effect on the more sound-sensitive dog!



**Reason 8:** We often forget that even some friendly gestures, such as pinching a child's cheeks, may be irritating. In general, dogs dislike being hugged, even by family members. You can tell by the expression on their face. You can train dogs, especially as puppies, to enjoy cuddling and hugging and other close handling. But even so, it's important for

children to know the types of interactions their pet likes and also to realize that other dogs may not have the same tolerance as their dog does.

### Types of Child-Dog Interactions That are Appropriate

With all of these DON'Ts, it must seem like kids can't interact with pets at all. In reality, they just need to be taught to be polite and kind to pets, instead of treating their companion like he's stuffed animal. Parents should also teach their children to read the signs that Fido is fearful or anxious, so that the child knows to back-off.

Once the children understand that they should be kind to their pet, they can be taught appropriate games to play. For instance, fetch where the dog willingly gives the toy and remains polite before it's tossed is fun for dogs who love to retrieve. Kids and pets love to learn tricks that result in rewards such as yummy treats or bits of the dog's meal/kibble. All dogs need their exercise, and kids can be a part of this too if the dog is well-trained. Hide-n-seek is a great way for dogs to learn to have fun, and the dog is practicing his search and rescue skills.



Adults should ensure that the dog has lots of positive associations with the kids. The kids can regularly give food rewards for the dog's calm, polite behavior, such as automatic sits.



Even if the child is generally well-behaved and the dog very tolerant, it's essential for all interactions to be supervised. Accidents can happen in a split second.

### A Final Take-Home Message

The key is to teach both the dog and the children to be polite. Make sure your children interact with your dog the same way you want them to interact with you. Follow these simple do's and don'ts and everyone will be safer and happier.



## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SPAY DAY U.S.A.

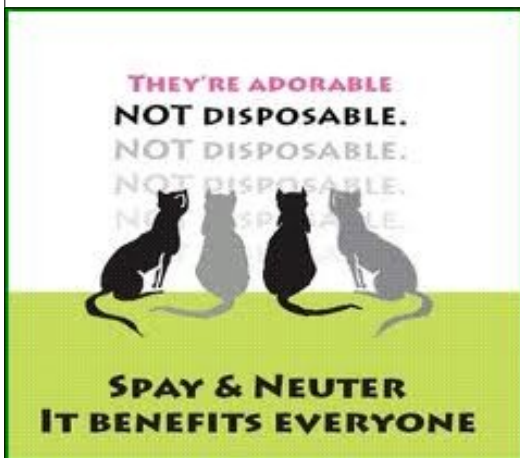
This February, Midwest Pets For Life (MPFL) will once again be hosting a CATS ONLY low-cost spay-neuter clinic, in recognition of Spay-Day-USA. Our animal welfare non-profit is trying to make a difference in the area's exploding pet population by teaching responsible pet ownership.



The citizens of eastern Iowa and western Illinois have been very receptive to this program and last year, we hosted two clinics due to demand.

Dr. Jeanne Hedges of One Spay At A Time provides the spay-neuter services and also offers low cost vaccinations, wormer, flea treatment, ear cleanings, and nail trims at the clinic. We will also offer City of Clinton licenses for those with current rabies certificates. The price of this license is \$10 and the City donates \$5 of each license sold to our organization.

If we are able to get enough sponsorship for this event, we can do a second spay-neuter clinic, also in the month of February.



When the vet performs the services, she charges \$50. for a spay and \$25. for a neuter. We would like to be able to offer our customers \$5.00 spays and \$5.00 neuters for Spay Day U.S.A. If we charge each client \$5.00 per alteration, that means we still have to cover the rest of the vet fees.

At this rate, it will cost \$65.00 in sponsorship money to offer one spay and one neuter at the \$5.00 price. The vet feels she could do 15 spays and 15 neuters at each clinic. This means we need to come up with sponsorship money in the amount of \$975.00 for one clinic or \$1,950.00 for two clinics.

Please consider the impact this event could have on the area Pet Population this year and in future years. Hopefully, you will decide it is worthy of your sponsorship. We would be grateful for any amount of help you could provide to sponsor this clinic.

Thank you for supporting Midwest Pets For Life and the programs we offer, in order to keep pets with the people who love and need them most.

And remember, all donations are desperately needed, extremely appreciated, and tax deductible.

All donations for this event can be sent to:

**Midwest Pets For Life**

**Spay Day U.S.A event**

**P.O. Box 3205**

**Clinton, Iowa 52732**

# MPFL CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SPAY-NEUTER CLINICS FOR 2016

3rd Thursday of each month

February 18

April 21

June 16

March 17

May 19

July 21

Midwest Pets For Life Spay / Neuter clinic is held the 3rd Thursday of each month.

**\*\*The Depot\*\*    \*\*56 - 25th Avenue North, Clinton, Iowa 52732\*\***

Don't delay! Call us today to schedule an appointment!!

563.321.2247

563.249.2206

**Services offered for cats are:**

- Spays - \$50
- Neuters - \$25
- Rabies vaccination - \$10
- 4-way vaccination - \$12
- Ear Mite TX - \$5

**Services offered for dogs weighing 30 pounds or less are:**

- Spays - \$75
- Neuters - \$50
- Rabies vaccination - \$10
- DA2PP vaccination - \$12
- Nail Trim - \$5



If you know of someone who needs to spay or neuter their pet and you'd like to help, you can purchase a MPFL spay/neuter gift certificate!! The cost for services is listed above. Just send us a note telling who the gift certificate is for, along with your check, money order, or credit card information. There is a \$3 service fee for credit card transactions. If you would like to purchase a spay/neuter gift certificate for someone you don't know but is in need and can't afford it, we will see that it goes to someone who needs spay/neuter assistance.

From: \_\_\_\_\_

*Gift Certificate*

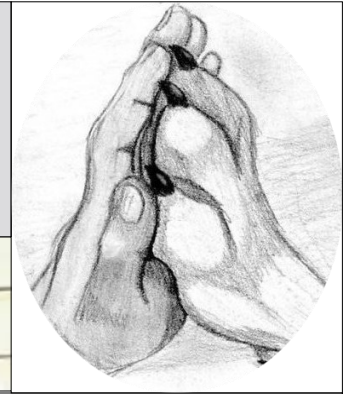
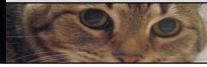
This gift entitles \_\_\_\_\_ to the services listed: \_\_\_\_\_

Midwest Pets For Life  
P.O. Box 3905, 1859 410th Avenue  
Clinton, Iowa 52732  
563.243.3106 or 563.291.2247

**MIDWEST PETS FOR LIFE**  
A HELPING HAND...NOT A HANDOUT.

Gift Certificate No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Certificate Code: \_\_\_\_\_

# MPFL WISH LIST



## Dog & Puppy Items

- High Quality dog Chow
- High Quality Puppy Chow
- Leashes
- Treats and Toys
- Kongs and Nylabones
- Kuranda Beds
- Dog Crates

## Cat & Kitten Items

- High quality Cat chow
- High Quality Kitten Chow
- Cat Litter
- Treats and Toys
- Cat Beds and Scratching Posts
- Pet Crates

## Operational Supply Items

- Towels & Blankets
- Hand Sanitizer
- HE Liquid Laundry Detergent
- Bleach
- Aerosol Air Fresheners
- Trash Bags (Tall kitchen and 50-gal. Heavy Duty)
- Lint Rollers
- Oster Clipper & Clipper Blades
- Latex Gloves (small, medium & large)
- New Spray Bottles

## Office Supply Items

- 8.5" x 11" White Printer Paper
- Colored Printer Paper
- Post-It Notes
- Avery 5160 Mailing Labels 1" x 2 5/8"
- Postage Stamps
- Paper Clips
- Permanent Markers & Highlighters

## Gift Cards

- HyVee
- Farm & Fleet
- Wal Mart, Target, Paul's
- Office Max, Office Depot, Staples
- PetSmart, PetCo
- Gas Cards
- Amazon

## Large Items

- Pallet Jack in good condition
- Animal Stretcher in good condition
- Hav-A-Hart Traps in good condition
- Extra Heavy Duty Shelving
- Stainless Steel Cage Banks
- Large Storage Shed

WON'T YOU HELP  
US IF YOU CAN??



Midwest Pets For Life  
P.O. Box 3205  
1854 410th Avenue  
Clinton, IA. 52733-3205



**MIDWEST PETS FOR LIFE**  
**A HELPING HAND...NOT A HANDOUT!!**



## **UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **February 13th and 14th PETSMArt NATIONAL ADOPTION WEEKEND**

Come visit us at both the Sterling and Davenport PetSmart locations!

### **February 18th SPAY DAY U.S.A. LOW COST CLINIC**

Clinics are held at the Lyons Depot, 56 - 25th Avenue North, Clinton, IA  
Please call today to schedule your appointment. The Feb. clinic is for  
CATS ONLY!!

### **March 10th WELLNESS CLINIC CATS ONLY!!**

This clinic will be held at the Heartland Pet Welfare location.  
2720 Wacker Road, Savanna, Illinois 61074

### **April - Date to be announced HOG WILD B-I-N-G-O**

Event will take place at the Moose Family Center  
1936 Lincoln Way, Clinton, Iowa Watch for details