



# purrfect mews

ISSUE 11

February, 2011

## CAT MEWS

*Dogs come to you  
when called. Cats  
take a message  
and get back to*

**YOU.**

Mary Bly

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## Celebrating Russell Harbach

“The Flying Geek” is not the only title that makes Russell unique! He is our only “Virtual Volunteer”.

Volunteering his website development expertise is not hampered by his Florida residence. Virtual volunteering means volunteer tasks completed, in whole or in part, via the internet and a home or work computer.

Virtual volunteering allows agencies to expand the benefits of their volunteer programs, by allowing for more volunteers to participate, and by utilizing volunteers in new areas.

“My daughter volunteered at Purrfect Paws and contacted me to assist in the web development as Purrfect Paws needed a new “presence” on the web. Volunteer-

ing gave me the opportunity to expand my understanding and programming skills with HTML language.

I am fortunate that Jinna is understanding regarding our communication differences and we work together to create and maintain a website to fit the goals and needs of the organization.



There have been some challenges such as having an idea portrayed in an e-mail. Even with a template sent by Jinna creating the “code” to emulate the requirements of the page, or the intent of the information can be challenging. I have exposure to new opportunities allowing me to learn by experience which I find quite rewarding. This entire experience has helped me learn new coding,

innovative developments for web pages and has increased my overall knowledge of programming.”

Russell stays very involved and active with numerous titles....Pilot, Extreme Distance Swimmer, IT Field Technician, Husband, Animal Lover, and Webmaster for three nonprofit websites.

*Purrfect Paws is grateful for Russell's patience and expertise in developing and managing www.purrfectpawskansas.org*



*“Many Meows” to Russell from Purrfect Paws!*

## Missoula Goes “Home”

They just couldn't imagine how I belonged to them.



Fortunately the Martins opened their hearts. Well, that's all it took along with some dog hugs, kisses and embraces for a smooth transition into the family.

I arrived just in time to enjoy the Christmas tree!

So many places to sleep! I must say one of my favorite activities is slumbering with my canine pals, Olivia and Tigger in front of the cozy, warm fireplace.

Recently I slipped outside for

the first time and frolicked in the snow! I'm anxious to take in all the smells and explore the outdoors some more.



and adore me. I can't imagine anything more “purrfect”!

The boys, well, all the family, love

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# A Quiet Place



Tiger



Bridgette

You live in a quiet place inside my heart. I find you there when I least expect it. You sit in the rooms inside my unconsciousness. You swim in a river inside my soul. I turn a corner and I see you there. I expect you.



Sweet Momma Kitty

I wait for you even when I try not to. I hold you in the silent memories that I keep in a basket beside my bed. You live there with me. We are together in all those places for we are one forever.



Olive

Much love to Olive, Tiger, Bridgette, Buddy and Sweet Momma Kitty who transitioned to another dimension. We are grateful for the lessons they taught and for the time we shared.



Buddy

May your journeys be complete.

Declaw Remedy has helped me deal with strong emotions as a result of declawing.



Fiedo

## Featured Spirit Essence

Spirit Essences are the first and only line of essence remedies formulated by a veterinarian and an animal behaviorist. Spirit Essences provide a safe, effective, natural way to help your animal companions lead healthier and happier lives!

These formulas are designed to heal the mental and emo-

tional imbalances, which if left untreated, manifest in the physical body causing specific behaviors/conditions.

**“Declaw Remedy”** is this month’s featured Spirit Essence.

**“Declaw Remedy”** helps heal the physical and psychological wounds from declaw

surgery, no matter how long ago it was done.

The formulas are easy to use and can be administered topically, orally, placed in the water dish, or used as a spray in the environment.

Check out all the Spirit Essences!  
[www.spiritessence.com](http://www.spiritessence.com)  
[www.littlebigcat.com](http://www.littlebigcat.com)

## Presenting “Savannah”

Quite the Southern Belle, Savannah spends her time wondering when she’ll find you. She knows everything will make sense when she smiles at you in loving adoration.

A lap generates a purrfect perch for Savannah to soothe one with healing purrs. She is adored and respected by all felines.

Savannah was born in August of 2010. She is cur-

rent on vaccinations and has been examined by a veterinarian & tested negative for FeLV/FIV.

Call *Purrfect Paws Today!*

785-494-8480

# February is Dental Month

by Dr. Jean Hofve

February is National Pet Dental Health Month! How much do you know about your cat's dental health? Well, here's a little refresher for you!

The normal adult cat has 30 very sharp, highly specialized teeth. In the wild, these teeth would perform a variety of tasks such as grooming (the 6 small incisors at the front of each jaw), grasping and killing prey (the 4 long canines, also called "fangs"), and crushing and shearing the meat off the prey's bones to eat (the pointed molars and premolars along the sides of the jaws, also

called "cheek teeth").

In the wild, the cat's diet and eating habits keep the teeth clean and strong. However, the typical diet of a domestic cat – commercial cat food – does not. Therefore, proper dental care throughout the cat's life is essential to optimal health.

Dental disease is the #1 most common health problem seen by veterinarians. By the age of 3, virtually all pet cats have some degree of dental disease,

ranging from a mild accumulation of tartar to severe infection and tooth loss. Most pets would benefit from an annual dental exam and cleaning, but it is also important for you to take care of your pet's teeth at home.

Excellent dental health requires help from your veterinarian as well as a commitment to home care from you. If your pet already has dental disease, the first step is to have his teeth cleaned under anesthesia by your veterinarian. While no surgery is risk-free, modern anesthetics, together with appropriate

monitoring and supportive care, make this a very low risk procedure, even for older animals (who usually need it the most!). The best way of removing plaque and preventing dental disease at home is brushing the teeth. Brushing removes plaque on the outside of the crown (above-gum portion) of the tooth, and stimulates the gums to keep them healthy. Learn how to brush your cat's teeth at

<http://www.littlebigcat.com/health/dental-care-for-cats/>

## Myth or Fact?

February is spay/neuter month and the facts are simple. There are too many felines and not enough homes. Consider the following statistics for a prolific feline.

1st year	3 litters = 12 offspring
2nd year	144 offspring
3rd year	1,728 offspring
4th year	10,736 offspring
7th year	370,192 offspring

Spaying/neutering helps felines live longer, healthier lives by eliminating or reducing the incidence of a number of health problems that can be very difficult and or expensive to treat.

It's better to spay your female pet before she goes into her first heat. This reduces the risk of breast cancer and eliminates the risk of uterine and ovarian cancer.

Neutered males will not develop testicular cancer and their risk for developing prostate cancer is greatly reduced.

**Myth: My pet will get fat and lazy.**

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**Fact:** The truth is that most pets get fat and lazy because their owners feed them too much and don't give them enough exercise.

**Myth: It's better for my feline to have one litter first.**

**Fact:** Medical evidence indicates just the opposite. In fact, the evidence shows that females spayed before their first heat are typically healthier. Many veterinarians sterilize felines as young as eight weeks of age.

**e the the miracle of birth.**

**Myth: My children should experience the miracle of birth.**

**Fact:** Even if children are able to see a pet give birth - which is unlikely, since it usually occurs at night and in seclusion - the lesson they will really learn is that animals can be created and discarded as it suits adults. Instead, it should be explained to children that the real miracle is life and that preventing the birth of some pets can save the lives of others.

**Myth: But my feline is a purebred.**

**Fact:** So is at least one out of every four pets brought to animal shelters around the country. There are just too many felines - mixed and purebred alike.

**Myth: I want my feline to be protected.**

**Fact:** Spaying or neutering does not affect a feline's natural instinct to protect home and family. A feline's personality is formed more by genetics and environment than by sex hormones.

**Myth: I don't want my male feline to feel less of a male.**

**Fact:** Pets don't have any concept of sexual identity or ego. Neutering will not change a pet's basic personality. He doesn't suffer any kind of emotional reaction or identity crisis when neutered.

**cat to feel like less of a male.**

**Myth: But my feline is so special. I want a kitten just like him/her. (or kitten) just like him/her.**

**Fact:** A feline may be a great pet, but that doesn't mean her offspring will be a carbon copy. In fact, an entire litter of kittens might receive all of a pet's (and her mate's) worst characteristics.

**Myth: It costs too much to spay/neuter.**

**Fact:** Whatever the actual price, spay or neuter surgery is a one-time cost - a relatively small cost when compared to all the benefits. It's a bargain compared to the cost of having a litter and ensuring the health of the mother and litter.

**neuter. r. neuter.**

**Myth: I'll find good homes for them. puppies and kittens.**

**Fact:** You may find good homes for all of your pet's litter. But each home you find means one less home for the felines in shelters who need good homes.

**THIS MONTH SPAY & NEUTER!**

THE ANIMAL RESCUE SITE  
**\$300,000**  
SHELTER+ CHALLENGE OF 2011  
with Petfinder.com



 TheAnimalRescueSite.com

**Help Purrfect Paws Inc win prizes this year with The Animal Rescue Site \$300,000 Shelter+ Challenge of 2011 -- with Petfinder.com!**

**Type in Purrfect Paws Inc when prompted and vote!  
Voting starts Monday, January 10th! There are 69 prizes in the first voting round that ends March 20th.**

**Help Purrfect Paws Win**  
**\$10,000**  
together with



Beginning January 5, pet parents are invited to enter photos of their pets weekly for a chance at the grand prize. The public will vote on their favorite pets, and the grand prize winner will have their pet pictured on a BISSELL box, receive a BISSELL product and a \$500 pet shopping spree. Plus, the grand prize winner will choose a pet charity to receive a \$10,000 donation and we want that to be **Purrfect Paws, Inc.**

Enter the contest at

<http://www.bissell.com/petcontest>  
and select **Purrfect Paws, Inc.** as the pet charity.

Purrfect Paws, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization with the goal of feline placement with appropriate committed caretakers. The holistic sanctuary provided by Purrfect Paws for unwanted, abandoned, and abused felines is a cage free environment and has been approved by the State of Kansas as an official animal shelter. Felines are assessed prior to and upon entry for emotional, physical, and nutritional needs. They are examined by a veterinarian, tested for Feli/FIV, vaccinated, and, at the appropriate time, spayed/neutered. Nutritional needs are met through all natural and organic food products. Purrfect Paws draws from a wide variety of Holistic services to meet specific needs resulting from transitions, emotional, sexual, and physical abuse as well as individual physical conditions. Holistic services that have been effectively used in enhancing the positive traits of each feline include: Homeopathy, Spirit Essence Therapy, Reiki Energy Therapy, Massage, Jin Shin Jyutsu, Pet Intuitive Readings, Emotional Freedom Technique, and TTellington Touch. Perhaps the most important ingredient in the rehabilitation of each feline is the loving home environment and the 24 hour daily attention provided.