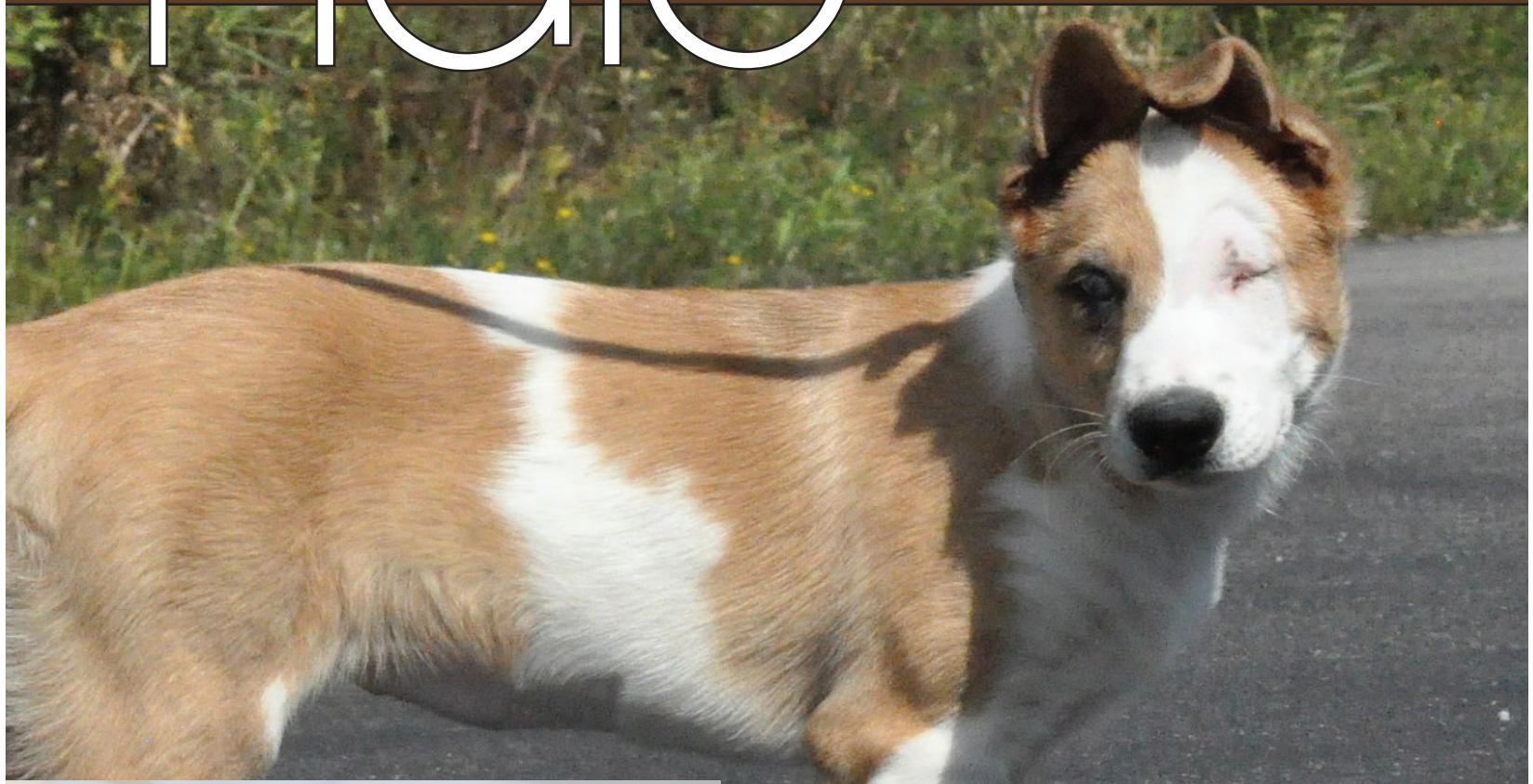


Winter 2025

# halo



ANGELS for ANIMALS



## *A Perfect Match*

*Sometimes You Know  
Things Are Just Meant To Be*

**Second Chance Angel & Veterinary Technicians**  
Our Heroes at Angels for Animals

**Keeping Pets Safe During the Holidays**  
Hidden Dangers During the Holidays for Our Furry Friends

**Dr. Rocco Mele, DVM**  
An Anniversary to Celebrate

**Donor Willing To Match Up To \$50,000**  
Karen McBurney's Efforts to Renovate the Dog Shelter

**A Year Round Store Front For Angels**  
Find Us - Booth #50 - The Landing at Lawsons - Salem  
**Shy Cats Need A Chance Too!**  
The Best Cats So Often Overlooked

The Halo is published 1 to 2 times per year.

Current circulation is 5,000 per issue.

Angels for Animals is a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

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Promote your business with an ad in the Marketplace. Funds help publish the popular Halo magazine. Contact Kimberly Moff at [Kimberly.moff@angelsforanimals.org](mailto:Kimberly.moff@angelsforanimals.org) for more information.

#### MEMORIALS

Call 330-502-5352  
Memorials are listed on our website under "Tributes"

## Earthly Angels

by Diane Less

Hi Angels!

Yes, that's all of us! The Angels here on this earth trying to help all these poor, helpless cats and dogs have a decent life. Actually, if possible, we hope to provide a great life with a caring, responsible human. When you think about it - cats and dogs can't do anything about the state of their lives!

If I hear another person, especially a mature adult, say "let nature take its course," my head may explode! Cats and dogs, like chickens, cattle, and pigs are domestic animals. They were developed by mankind. Whether you believe in creation by the Lord, or evolution, these animals are the product of selective breeding and development by humans.

Have you ever wondered why dogs have a higher status in our society than cats? Dogs have been living with us for 27,000 years. Our species are

interlocked. How many "feral" dogs have you ever seen? In 35 years, I've seen less than 3. Dogs are pack animals. Often we are just part of their pack. Cats, on the other hand, are relative "new comers" to the human society.



3,000 years ago, the Egyptians figured out that cats, developed from the small African Sand Cat, could keep rodents under control in their granaries. Cats

are solitary carnivores, they do you a favor to be your friend. They are often considered aloof and even snooty. Hey, maybe you aren't good enough for them! HaHa! If cats are not handled (imprinted) by a human before 6 weeks of age, they are difficult, if not impossible, to make human friendly. Sadly, tame or feral, their population gets out of control quickly!

After 35 years, we have done a great job, offering services to allow all the "earthly angels" to take great care and keep these populations under control. Just ask anyone you know from outside this area. Do you have anything that compares to Angels for Animals?

I can tell you by the reactions of the people that I give tours to the "Wing," they are just blown away! Because the Lord has blessed us with a caring, loving community, we have the most awesome animal welfare facility anywhere! Congratulations all of our angels! We have been working together for over a third of a century, and look at what you have accomplished for our beloved furry friends!

### Diane Less

We can only do what we can do with **YOU!**

*Visit us soon!*

*Tours of the "Angels Wing" continue every Saturday at 1 p.m.*



## Mission Statement

Angels for Animals believes that animals, as living creatures, have value beyond economic measure. Our mission is to educate the people of our community about pet overpopulation and regular veterinary care for pets; cultivate an awareness and responsibility toward the needs of companion animals; provide for the well-being of our community's animals that are abandoned or otherwise in need; and instill respect for and appreciation of all living things.



**Angels for Animals Annual Gigantic Garage Sale** dates will be April 17th, 18th and 19th at the Canfield Fairgrounds! Mark your calendars and watch for more details at [www.angelsforanimals.org](http://www.angelsforanimals.org)

## Second Chance Angels Fund

Make sure to read our article, "Second Chance Angels" in this Halo magazine. The article discusses the heroic measures that our doctors at Angels for Animals go to provide a second chance for animals that may otherwise be forgotten or left to suffer.



We have established a fund that will support their efforts in helping to cover the costs! To donate to this fund, simply scan this QR code or go to the website, [www.angelsforanimals.org](http://www.angelsforanimals.org). Click on the donate button. You will be able to choose this fund on



the one time donation form. Or you may also contact our office at 330.549.1111, press #5 and request to donate to this fund. These donations will go directly to cover the costs of shelter animals needing special surgeries to have quality life. Become a Second Chance Angel today!

## In this issue

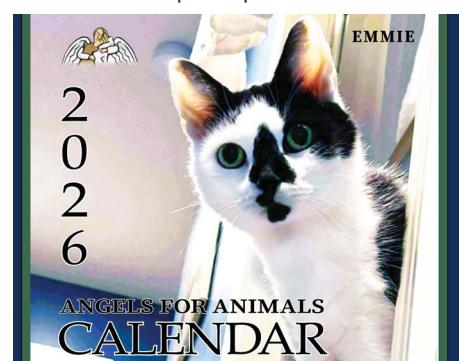
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## Calendars Make Great Gifts

Pick up the ANGELS FOR ANIMALS 2026 CALENDAR at the shelter for just \$12.00, or you can order online to have it delivered for \$16.

Interested in having your pet in the 2027 calendar contest? After April 12, 2026 go to [www.angelsforanimals.org](http://www.angelsforanimals.org) and find the link for the calendar contest. Your photos can be submitted from April 12, 2026 to September 20, 2026. We look forward to seeing your best photos of your furry friends!

Emmie, owned by Cathy Shelton, was the winner of the 2026 Calendar Contest. Emmie belonged to Lois Pennell, Cathy's sister. The calendar is dedicated in her memory. The 2026 Calendar Contest brought in over \$18,000! A BIG THANK YOU to all that participated.



# The Perfect Match

by Reagan Bailey, Assistant Dog Manager

Rescuing dogs can be a thankless and heartbreaking endeavor. You see things you wish you never had.



You encounter dogs who have been through so much that they cannot be saved. You also run into people that make you so very aware that evil does exist in the world. It can also be the most rewarding and healing adventure that you ever undertake. Watching a dog who had given up blossom and thrive with your

help, seeing people give all of their extra time at the expense of their families and social lives, seeing the sick and starving animals change to healthy and hopeful; that is what makes this all worth it. Then, out of nowhere, along comes a story that is almost too good to be true and makes you realize that you really are making a difference.

On Labor Day weekend, 2025, I received a call regarding a mama dog and a litter of 5 twelve-week-old puppies surrendered to the pound. County dog pounds are routinely full to the brim with unwanted dogs whether strays or owner surrenders. In short, too many dogs, not enough space, not enough money, not enough help. In this case, they realized that the pound wasn't the best place for this little family, hence reaching out to Angels for assistance. After a few phone calls, shared videos, and logistical considerations, we gave an emphatic YES, and started to rearrange our intake area to house Mama and her five puppy girls. We coordinated with our amazing shelter vet to give them all intake exams, and to make sure our kennel staff was up to the job. This mom and puppies were the most amazing little family groups ever: all super social, incredibly friendly and outgoing, and ALL GIRLS! They appeared to be a very cool mix of German Shepherd, Australian Shepherd, Border Collie, Collie, and a few teaspoons of this and that (since that time, DNA tests have proven us 100% correct!). Mama was named Violet, and her kids - Penelope, Francesca, Eloise, Charlotte, and Daphne.

Interest was HUGE in these pups and their mom. Once Violet and four of the pups were posted, applications came flying in. There was one baby who had to wait a little longer for her moment in the sun - Eloise.

Apparently, Violet (mom), who is a fawn merle, had been bred by a boy who was also merle. Generally speaking, in a litter of double merle puppies, 1 in 5 is affected by being "double merle". While most of the pups were perfectly normal, our little Eloise had some issues related to that unadvisable cross. It is often characterized by a lot of white coloring (Eloise was the only spotty pup in the group), and can also affect eyes as well as hearing. Eloise could hear just fine, but one of her eyes just wasn't really an eye and certainly didn't perform

the function of an eye. Our amazing vet decided immediately upon examination, that in order to avoid problems later, her eye would need removed. So, as it happened, Eloise wasn't posted as available for about a week or so after

her sisters. From there, the story became, in a word, "magical" - just meant to be.



We had received upwards of 30 applications on the various pups and were busy setting up meet and greets with their likely families. Mom was cleared by medical and adopted immediately by the first (but 100% amazing) woman who had met her. Each puppy met their perfect match and made their way to their new homes. It was in the middle of the puppy mayhem that Eloise's first application came in. It was from a local family, a good application for certain. A big brother dog for Eloise to play with and learn from, and two young kiddos to grow up with. Even before I could contact the family, Mom sent an email about their unique situation that was equal parts a punch in the gut, and evidence that perfect matches DO exist.

## The Perfect Match (continued) by Reagan Bailey, Assistant Dog Manager

It involved her very young daughter, and the reason why she felt Eloise was exactly what was missing from their family. The story of an incredibly brave young girl as told by her equally brave mom.

"Aubriella (Aubie) a 3-year-old little girl, had dealt with some scary things in her short life. At just 2-years-old, just 2 weeks after her 2nd birthday, she was diagnosed with a rare childhood cancer known as retinoblastoma. After further testing, it was discovered not only had the cancer affected her left eye, but that there was also a tumor in her right eye. Because of the tumor's advanced stage in the left eye causing the retina to become completely detached a decision was made that she



would need to have her eye removed to prevent any further damage or metastasis to further organs. The focus now was treating the smaller tumor in the right eye and saving the remaining vision she had with that eye. This would be done through radial plaque therapy, 6 rounds of systemic chemotherapy, as well as intravitreal treatments to the right eye. Over the last year and a half, Aubie went through chemotherapy, various exams, procedures, and treatments at Cleveland Clinic Children's. Aubie is so full of life and personality, and will brighten any room she enters, while also being the bravest most resilient child I know. So, when I saw Angels for Animals Facebook post about Eloise, the last of the Bridgerton themed puppies, who also had to have her left eye enucleated due to a condition that was beyond her control, I just thought this was a perfect match for us. When I showed Aubie the picture of Eloise her first response was "Awe look at the cute puppy!" which was then followed up with "Look she has one eye like me!" At that moment I knew not

only did our family need this sweet puppy, but most of all Aubie needed her. To have a best friend who was like her, and to teach her that it is okay to be different, and sometimes go through scary things; but you shouldn't let that define who you are or what you can do."

Don't get me wrong - the adoption application was excellent, but THIS? This made it truly special. A once in a lifetime kind of placement that makes your heart sing. The day came when the family, including their current dog, Chase, came to meet Eloise to see if it was a fit. It was love at first sight. They all loved Eloise, and, admittedly, the moment Aubie turned her attention on me, and plopped herself in my lap, I fell in love as well. Aubie is an amazing, resilient, brave little girl who can charm the socks off of anyone. The first thing she did was pick out a few toys for her new pup. She renamed her Nala.

In all the years that I have placed dogs into new homes. I have made some incredible friends and have met some of the most interesting people. I have to say, this placement ranks up there with the top of the top. When it is right, it is right. Once again, finding a special place for a special dog has led me to meet people I consider myself so very lucky to now count as friends. As for Eloise/Nala, Aubie's wonderful mama

sums it all up: "Flash forward to now. Aubie and Nala (previously Eloise) are the best of friends! Aubie loves to lay on the floor with her and watch movies on the tablet together. Aubie has even started giving Nala



eye exams with her play medical kit while dressed up as a doctor. Telling her that everything is okay and not to be scared. I truly believe these two girls can do everything and anything they want to together while not letting their disability decide for them. They needed each other. Together they will take on the world together and conquer it all!"

## Second Chance Angels

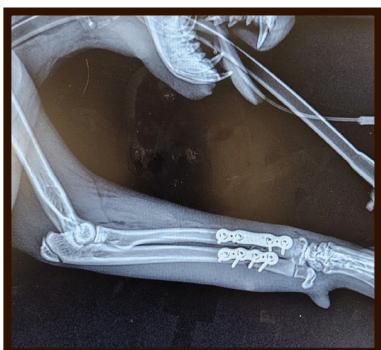
by Sherry Bankey, Cat Manager

Statistics for the number of homeless dogs and cats in 2024 are estimated to be a staggering 5.8 million. Rescue/shelters/pounds are doing their best to care for them medically/mentally, and find them permanent loving homes. Every year, Angels for Animals, with the much needed and appreciated donations, raise funds to help offer low cost medical wellness and spay/neuter programs. The goal is to make it possible for pets to get the vet care needed



to be able to keep their pets happy and healthy. But, there are still many who can't keep their pets, don't spay/neuter, and leave their pets behind, becoming homeless strays that find their way to us. Many cats and dogs this year, have come in with outstanding personalities, but with some medical issues. Our vets not only do our intake exams for shelter cats and dogs, but provide extra surgeries to make them feel better, medicate when needed, and do so much more with the ultimate goal of finding a forever home. Roughly 60 animals (mostly cats) have needed extra medical care :

- A young cat fell from a tree. There were fractures



to one leg, that were aligned and a plate was installed to stabilize the leg.

- 50 plus cats had dentals including extractions
- 2 Kittens - Limb amputations: Two kittens came in

with broken legs that were beyond saving. One needed a tail amputation.

- 3 dogs - Entropion: The upper or lower eyelids are rolled inward. The eyelids then irritate the cornea and the end result is pain and eventual corneal ulceration.
- 2 cats so far this year - Eye enucleation - some cats have come to us with eye infections that did damage that could not be reversed. To relieve the pain, the eye of the cat was removed.
- FHO surgery on a young cat: Femoral Head Osteotomy, is a surgical procedure that aims to restore pain-free mobility to a diseased or damaged hip by removing the head and neck of the femur (the long leg bone or thighbone).

In a nutshell, our vets are not only taking care of your pets, they all pitch in to care for the shelter dogs and cats in between their spay/neuter surgeries, dentals, wellness/sick appointments, etc.. We appreciate them all more than ever and want you all to know how much they do for all of us! Go to page 2 to read about how to donate to the Second Chance Angels Fund.



A Big  
**THANK  
YOU!** *ta*

Dr. Mike Sabihi, DVM      Dr. Parker DeWitt, DVM  
Dr. Jennifer Clipse, DVM      Dr. Janelle Martin, DVM  
Dr. Rocco Melle, DVM      Dr. Mary Bryant, DVM

# Veterinary Technicians - Their Roles in Animal Care

by Kim Smith, Veterinary Technician, Angels for Animals



Just as human doctors have their support staff, veterinarians also have support staff to keep things running smoothly throughout the day. We are going to focus today on the veterinary technician. As stated in the March 5, 2020 American Animal Hospital Association publication, Veterinary Technicians are educated professionals that help veterinarians by providing nursing care, advocate for the patients in their care, assist in anesthesia and surgery and perform diagnostic procedures. While it is true that they get to see and cuddle the occasional cute puppy or kitten, the veterinary technician's job encompasses much more than that.

Veterinary Technicians attend a 2 to 4 year college program where they receive training in radiology, microbiology, pharmacology, surgical assisting and parasitology. They must then, after college, pass a standardized test called the VTNE, veterinary technician national exam. This test makes sure the technicians have the appropriate knowledge and skills needed to perform their job effectively. Veterinary Technicians have a license that must be

maintained by taking continuing education classes to keep their license current. Veterinary Technicians continually have to stay informed about the new drugs that are being used and

new surgical procedures that they may need to assist with. Just like human nurses Veterinary Technicians can specialize as well. The specialties include anesthesia, internal medicine, behavior, nutrition, clinical practice, surgery, emergency and critical care, equine care, pathology, dentistry and zoology. These specialties require 3 to 5 years working in that area of specialty, along with case studies and additional continuing education. These are highly trained professional medical staff.

As a veterinary technician, a typical day in a wellness and surgical practice involves working with the owners and obtaining information as to the pet's health. This usually involves getting weights, temperatures and a history on why the patient is seeing the vet. They then will draw up vaccines, or medications and can calculate the drug dosages needed as requested by the veterinarian. They are the phlebotomists that draw the required samples of blood to run the tests requested by the veterinarian. They also are trained in radiology to take quality x-rays. They are the dental hygienists that clean the teeth, and assist the veterinarian with surgical extractions.

Veterinary technicians are also advocates to assure their patients are getting the best quality of care possible. They sit with their patients during recovery from surgery, and make sure they are comfortable and monitor their pain control.

Lastly, they help with euthanasia, and are a shoulder to cry on and a hand to hold during the hard times of pet ownership. There are many times they have to wipe away the tears for a long-loved patient they had to say good-bye too. Veterinary technicians are in this job field because they have a love for animals and the desire to help them. So, THANK YOU to all the veterinary technicians for taking on this job! If you are currently a Veterinary Technician or are enrolled in a Veterinary Technician program, or thinking about pursuing this as a career, and would like a tour of Angels for Animals contact Diane at 330-502-5352.



# Keeping Pets Safe During the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

by Kimberly Moff

The holiday season brings sparkling lights, family gatherings, delicious meals, and festive décor, but for our pets, it can also bring a surprising number

of hidden dangers. At Angels for Animals, we see firsthand how quickly a joyful celebration can turn into an emergency when a curious dog or cat crosses paths



with a hazardous decoration, food, or plant. By understanding the risks and taking a few simple precautions, you can ensure that your home stays safe for every member of the family, furry ones included.

## 1. The Temptation of Holiday Foods

For many pets, the biggest holiday hazard sits right on the dining room table.

### Toxic Treats

Dogs and cats are naturally drawn to rich smells, and holiday meals offer plenty of tempting options. Unfortunately, many holiday favorites can cause serious harm:

- **Chocolate:** Contains theobromine, which is toxic to pets even in small amounts. Dark chocolate poses the greatest risk.
- **Xylitol:** A sweetener found in sugar-free baked goods, candies, and peanut butter. Even tiny amounts can cause life-threatening hypoglycemia in dogs.
- **Onions, garlic, and chives:** Common in stuffing and casseroles, but extremely toxic to both dogs and cats.
- **Alcohol:** Spilled cocktails or unattended drinks can lead to dangerous intoxication for pets.



- **Fatty foods:** Ham, turkey skin, gravy, and buttery dishes may lead to pancreatitis, a painful and sometimes fatal inflammation of the pancreas.

**Safe Alternatives:** If you want your pet to join in the celebration, offer plain cooked turkey, unsalted green beans, or pet-safe holiday treats. Better yet, prepare a special holiday chew or puzzle toy to keep them occupied during mealtime.

## 2. Dangerous Holiday Decorations

Festive decorations transform a home, but they also present risks that many families overlook.

- **Christmas Trees:** A decorated tree is irresistible to many pets, especially cats.
- **Tree Water:** Often contains fertilizers, bacteria, or preservatives that can upset a pet's stomach.
- **Ornaments:** Glass ornaments can break and cause cuts. Glitter-coated, dangling, or edible ornaments tempt curious paws and mouths.
- **Tinsel and Ribbons:** Cats, in particular, love to bat and chew on shiny strands.

Ingesting tinsel can cause intestinal blockages requiring emergency surgery. To pet-proof your tree, secure it to prevent tipping, place fragile



ornaments up high, and skip tinsel entirely. A simple tree skirt or a barrier around the base can also prevent access to water and lower branches.

- **Lights and Electrical Cords:** Chewing holiday lights or cords can lead to electric shock, burns, or even fire hazards. Tape cords to baseboards, use protective cord covers, and unplug decorations when you're out of the house.
- **Candles:** Open flames and wagging tails don't mix. Opt for battery-powered LED candles for a safer glow.

## 3. Toxic Holiday Plants

Many traditional holiday plants are beautiful, but not pet-friendly.

# Keeping Pets Safe During the Most Wonderful Time of the Year (continued) by Kimberly Moff

- **Poinsettias:** Low toxicity, but can cause drooling, vomiting, or skin irritation.
- **Mistletoe:** Highly toxic and ingestion may lead to cardiovascular problems.
- **Holly: Berries and leaves** can cause severe stomach upset.
- **Lilies:** Extremely dangerous for cats. Even a small amount can cause kidney failure.

If you love the look of holiday plants, consider pet-safe alternatives such as rosemary, Christmas cactus, or high-quality artificial options.

## 4. Guests, Stress, and New Routines

While the holidays are full of social gatherings, your pet may not share the enthusiasm.

- **Overstimulation and Anxiety:** New faces, loud voices, suitcases, and changes in routine can make pets anxious. Signs of stress include pacing, hiding, whining, or unusual clinginess. Provide your pet a quiet "safe zone", a separate room with water, bedding, and toys. Consider using calming aids such as pheromone diffusers, slow music, or enrichment puzzles.
- **Open Doors, Escapes, and Lost Pets:** With guests coming and going, doors are often left open, giving pets easy opportunities to slip outside.  
During events:
  - Use baby gates to create barriers.
  - Keep pets in secured rooms.
  - Ask guests to be mindful of entrances and exits
  - Ensure microchip/tag information is current.

## 5. Cold Weather and Outdoor Risks

Not all dangers are indoors. Winter weather brings its own challenges, especially for pets that spend time outside.

- **Cold Exposure:** Even breeds with thick coats can struggle in freezing temperatures. Hypothermia and frostbite are real risks. If it's too cold for you, it's too cold for your pet.
- **Antifreeze:** Ethylene glycol, commonly found in antifreeze, is highly toxic and has a sweet taste that

attracts animals. Clean spills immediately and store containers securely.

- **Ice-Melt Chemicals:** Salt and ice-melt products can irritate paw pads or cause illness if licked. After walks, rinse or wipe your pet's paws thoroughly.

## 6. Holiday Travel with Pets

If your holiday plans include travel, extra preparation is key.

- Use a secure carrier or seat-belt harness.
- Pack familiar bedding or toys to reduce anxiety.
- Keep your pet's medical records and emergency contacts handy.
- Never leave pets unattended in a vehicle during winter—temperatures drop quickly.

Boarding or pet sitting may be safer for pets that are anxious travelers or easily stressed.

## 7. When in Doubt, Call for Help

Accidents can happen even in the most careful homes.

If you suspect your pet has ingested something dangerous or is acting unusually, contact:

- Your veterinarian
- The nearest emergency animal hospital
- The Pet Poison Helpline (24/7): 855-764-7661

Prompt action can make all the difference.

## A Safe and Joyful Season for All

At Angels for Animals, we believe that pets are family, and the holidays are the perfect time to celebrate the unconditional love they bring into our lives. By staying aware of the hazards and taking a few simple precautions, you can ensure your holiday season is filled with warmth, joy, and wagging tails. From all of us at Angels for Animals, we wish you and your furry companions a safe, happy, and love-filled holiday season and beginning to your new year.



# Donations Can Make All of the Difference

by Janet Flynn

It's never too soon to make your end-of-the-year giving plans. There are many ways to donate to Angels for Animals. Some might benefit you through tax savings and others are new digital donation ideas.

## Consider Donating a Portion of Your IRA Required Minimum Distribution

If these funds are donated directly to Angels for Animals, which is a 501(c)(3) organization, they are not treated as income to the donor by the IRS. If your tax consultant determines this is appropriate for your situation, please contact Janet Flynn at 330-716-0697 to make the necessary arrangements.

## Naming Angels for Animals in Your Will

Over the years Angels for Animals has received bequests from long time volunteers, donors and animal lovers. These generous people paved the way for the beginning of the Angel Wing project by committing funds from their estates to be used for specific rooms or buildings, spaying/neutering stray dogs and cats and more. Please contact your estate planner or Diane Less at 330-502-5352 to learn more about leaving a gift to benefit the future of Angels.

## Set Up a Facebook Birthday Fundraiser

This is an easy and fun way to invite your friends, co-workers and family to make a gift in honor of your birthday directly to Angels for Animals.

## List an Item on Ebay for Charity

Angels for Animals is an approved charity with Ebay and has been receiving funds from supporters all over the country who list items and designate a percentage to go to Angels. Go to <https://charity.ebay.com/charity/Angels-For-Animals/1734188> for information on items listed and how to list your own items.

## Transferring Securities

Donating stocks directly might allow you to increase the net amount of your gift significantly. Questions about stock donations can be answered by your broker or by calling Janet Flynn at 330-716-0697.

## Giving Gifts of Personal Property and Real Estate

Angels for Animals is able to accept gifts of personal property such as collectible items, jewelry, coins, artwork, vehicles and residential or commercial property. Please contact Diane Less at 330-502-5352 if you would like more information.

## Matching Gifts and Payroll Deductions

Many employers now offer a matched percentage to donations made by their employees to non-profits. Contact your human resource department to find out if such plans are available to you. One website designed to help you search for employers who offer matching funds can be found at <https://www.matchinggifts.com/search/ritsituation>.

## Amazon Wishlist

Amazon has made it easy to contribute to the everyday operations of the shelter! Go to [www.AngelsforAnimals.org](http://www.AngelsforAnimals.org) and click on the Amazon wishlist button.



## Donate a Raffle Basket or Gift Card

Many special events held by Angels for Animals offer raffles.. If you or your business would like to donate a basket, gift cards or money to one of these events please contact Robin at 330-506-2839.

## Memorial Donations

by Robin Helscel, Angels for Animals Office Manager

Many families request donations to Angels for Animals, in lieu of flowers, when a loved one dies. It is a wonderful, lasting tribute that benefits the shelter in so many ways.

When we receive a memorial donation, the front office will send the donor a thank you letter. They will also send the deceased's loved ones a family letter. They wait about a month to ensure all the people who donated are included in the family letter. The names of donors will be posted on our website at [www.angelsforanimals.org](http://www.angelsforanimals.org).

It is a wonderful, final and loving tribute to those animal lovers who have passed. These donations help our shelter by affording us the resources we need to get our furbabies permanent loving homes.

Memorial bricks are also available for purchase and are placed in our walkway between Andrews Hall and the Angels for Animals Shelter. Brick forms can be found online or you may stop in the shelter office at Door B to complete an order form. Flowers eventually wither away but a memorial donation to Angels keeps our much needed mission going in our community and beyond.



Care2

## “Warmth & Comfort” Campaign

*Our shelter has provided a temporary home for many homeless, unwanted and abandoned dogs and cats and has been well loved over the years, but it's age is beginning to show. We kicked off The “Warmth and Comfort” Campaign last year. With the support of many dedicated and generous donors, we have been able to complete and begin many critical repairs needed to keep our shelter and facility safe and comfortable for our animals, volunteers, and staff.*

*We have repaired our roof and the heating and cooling system in the shelter. We have begun renovations on our cat and kitten rooms so we can have more space. The old shelter grooming room will be getting a facelift to be a perfect place to groom the shelter dogs. However, we still need to evaluate our original dog kennels and cages to determine the needed updates to improve the dog environment. With all of these improvements still needing attention, we are very excited to announce that we have had a donor step forward with a generous offer!*

***Karen McBurney, a long-time donor and volunteer, who has a passion for animals has stepped forward with a donation challenge. Her dream is to help make the necessary renovations in the dog wing that will create a more comfortable and welcoming environment for the shelter dogs. Karen has offered to match all donations up to \$50,000 to help with this campaign. No donation is too small. Join in these efforts, and join Karen to help this dream come true. We are continually working to improve, update and repair our facility to care for shelter animals as well as privately owned pets. We cannot work toward these goals without YOU!***

*We have been very lucky to have such a generous community to help create such a unique and beautiful facility. Your donations today will continue our pathway to the future! Go to [www.angelsforanimals.org](http://www.angelsforanimals.org) to donate and make a difference or contact us at 330-549-1111, press #5. Contact Diane Less directly to match Karen in her efforts at 330-502-5352.*

Sponsor a square foot in the new Angel Wing and multiply the ways we care for all animals in the future.

*Just fill out the information below and send it in an envelope addressed to Angels for Animals, 4750 W. South Range Road, Canfield, OH 44406.*

I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ square feet of Angel Wing @ \$200 per square foot for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to pay

now  
 monthly in payments of \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
 quarterly in payments of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

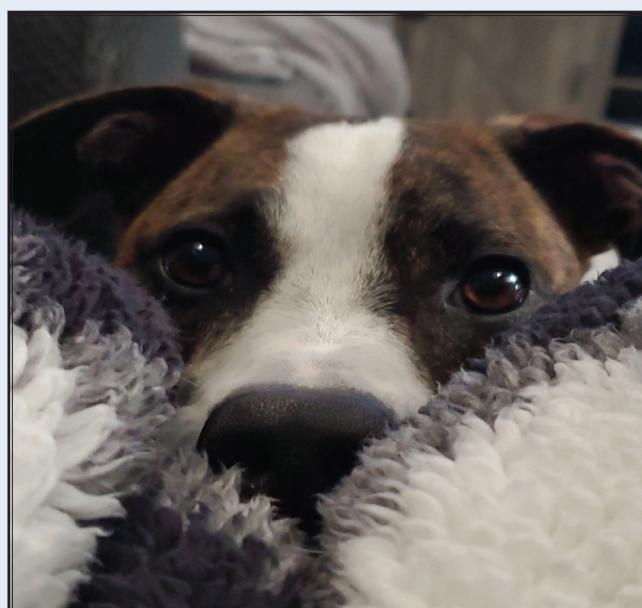
Credit card (info below)  Check (enclosed)

CREDIT CARD# \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_

For questions, call 330.502.5352.

All donations are tax-deductible.



*A shelter has an endless circle of needs, and your support is both appreciated and continually needed to keep our mission alive!*

## Dr. Rocco Mele - An Anniversary to Celebrate

We are preparing to celebrate Dr. Mele's 1 year anniversary at Angels For Animals. In that year, he has performed several amazing surgeries: mass removals, amputations, orthopedic surgeries and many innovative procedures including, oral fracture reconstruction, oral cancer and dental implants.

Dr. Mele is a Youngstown, Ohio native and graduated from The Ohio State University. He has practiced in Florida, Hawaii and Arizona for the past 45 years.



Advanced dentistry and oral surgery has been a major focus of his career. Dental care is very important and has many benefits to prolong the life of your pet. Plaque forms on the teeth after eating, attracting bacteria. If plaque is not removed quickly it will turn to tartar which attaches to the teeth like cement. Once the hard tartar forms, it causes tissue regression, bone damage and eventual loss of teeth. Some signs of dental disease that may indicate your pet needs medical attention are oral pain, bleeding gums, bad breath, dropping food and swelling below the eyes. Untreated dental disease can lead to kidney, liver and heart valvular damage.

So, what happens if you think your pet needs dental care? At Angels for Animals, we complete a dental consultation and comprehensive oral exam developing a tentative diagnosis and treatment plan. The treatment plan will be discussed at length and any questions will be answered at that time. During the consultation an estimate for the procedure will be given and an appointment can be made. When you bring your pet in on the day of surgery, we will draw a pre-surgical blood panel to evaluate the animal to make sure they are

healthy for the procedure and their liver and kidneys are able to handle anesthesia. Once we have the bloodwork results, we sedate the pet and maintain them on anesthetic gas throughout the procedure. Dental x-rays are taken of the entire mouth and all teeth are evaluated to ensure that we are only removing teeth that have problems. After dental x-rays are taken, Dr. Mele calls the owner to discuss extractions and procedures needed while the registered veterinary technicians perform the cleaning and polishing of the teeth. Then, Dr. Mele will perform the dental surgery and extraction of problematic teeth. When the dental procedure is completed the patient will be removed from the anesthetic machine and is monitored very closely while recovering. The patient will be discharged later in the afternoon with home care instructions, and any post surgical medications needed. If there is ever a question about a surgical procedure, it is always wise to have a consultation, and that way the pet can be evaluated and we can let you know the best way to treat them.

During a professional dental cleaning, the veterinarian thoroughly examines and evaluates your pet's entire mouth and oral structures. They also clean your pet's teeth. Steps involve:

- **Conscious oral exam** — The veterinarian will examine your pet's mouth, looking for dental disease signs and any abnormalities.
- **Blood work** — A professional veterinary dental cleaning requires anesthesia, so the veterinary team will perform blood work to ensure your pet has no underlying health issues that would complicate the procedure.
- **Anesthesia** — The veterinary team will place an intravenous (IV) catheter and induce anesthesia, monitoring your pet closely throughout the procedure until they are fully recovered.
- **Dental X-rays** — More than 50% of a tooth's structure is below the gumline and can only be seen on X-rays.



## Dr. Rocco Mele - An Anniversary to Celebrate (continued)

- **Teeth scaling** — The veterinary team uses specialized dental instruments to remove plaque and tartar from the tooth surface above and below the gumline.
- **Polishing** — Scaling leaves microabrasions on the tooth surface, and the veterinary team will polish your pet's teeth so bacteria cannot adhere to these lesions.
- **Periodontal probing** — The veterinary team will probe around each tooth, looking for abnormally deep areas and pockets.
- **Extractions**
  - In some cases, dental disease damages the tooth and the supporting structures, and extractions are necessary.



### Why does my pet need anesthesia for a veterinary dental cleaning?

- Have you seen advertisements for anesthesia-free dental cleanings? Have you been tempted? It's important to know that these services do not effectively address your pet's dental health.
- Emily Singler, VMD, a veterinarian and AAHA's Veterinary Content Specialist, said "without anesthesia, there's no way to fully assess and address your pet's dental health. Non-anesthetic dental cleanings may make your pet's teeth look and smell better in the short term, but they create a false sense of security and don't really make your pet's mouth healthier."
- Anesthesia is necessary for several reasons:

**Less stress** — From your pet's perspective, a dental cleaning involves a team of strangers using sharp, pointy instruments near their face. Anesthesia helps prevent unnecessary stress and anxiety.

**Stay still!** — The veterinary team needs your pet to remain perfectly still so they can thoroughly examine their mouth and remove plaque/tartar.

**Going the distance** — If your pet is not anesthetized, the veterinary team can't remove the bacteria under the gum line, where the most

damage occurs. For a complete dental cleaning, which is needed for your pet's health, they need to be anesthetized.

- **Safety first** — Anesthetizing your pet helps prevent injury to your furry pal and the veterinary team. Even the best-behaved pet may lash out or respond negatively due to fear, stress, and anxiety.

### How can I take care of my pet's teeth at home?

At-home dental care is also necessary to keep your pet's mouth healthy. Plaque starts to accumulate only hours after your pet eats, so yearly dental cleanings aren't enough to prevent dental disease. Ways you can promote your pet's dental health include:

- **Daily brushing** — Brushing your pet's teeth daily is the best way to help reduce plaque accumulation. Use a pet-specific toothbrush with soft bristles that will not irritate your pet's gums, and never use human toothpaste, which is often toxic to pets. Pet-specific toothpaste comes in flavors such as poultry, beef, seafood, and peanut butter.
- **Dental chews** — Chewing can help remove some plaque from your pet's teeth. Choose dental treats and chews with the Veterinary Oral Health Council's seal of approval that guarantees the product is effective.
- **Water additives** — Additives that you put in your pet's water can help reduce plaque accumulation.
- **Dental diets** — Dental diets are specially formulated to help remove plaque and reduce accumulation. Ask your veterinarian if this food type would benefit your pet.



The next time your pet gives you a sloppy kiss, pay attention

to the smell  
of their  
breath.

Contact Dr.  
Rocco to  
schedule  
a dental  
exam to

see if your pets teeth need clean at  
330-549-1111, Press #1



# Angels for Animals Taps in to Year Round Store Front

*Outlet for Year Round Donations Adds to Christmas Antique Sale & Gigantic Garage Sale*

by Susie Cope, Angels for Animals Volunteer

Angels receives donations of wonderful items from generous donors throughout the year. Until late August, there are only two opportunities to turn the items into something that helps homeless cats and dogs: the



Annual Gigantic Garage Sale at the Canfield Fairgrounds in April, and the Annual Christmas Show held in Andrews Hall on the shelter campus in December.

Therefore, several volunteers approached Diane about

renting a space in a newly minted mini-mall in Salem, The Landings at Lawson's. The space provides the opportunity to liquidate special donations throughout the year. Not only does the booth provide a selling point, it gives Angels the ability to sell things seasonally. What does that mean?

Until now, seasonal items were not hitting their mark. For example, cherished Easter merchandise on display at the Fairgrounds sale (usually late April)

is not at the top of shoppers' lists. Easter is over. Halloween items are forgotten too, unless someone is an avid collector of Day of the Dead merch. (Guilty!) Lawson's provides us a much-needed, year-round selling stage.

Storage for items at the shelter is severely limited. Even in the best of circumstances, storage is hugely problematic for several reasons:



- Critters love to nest in textiles and upholstered furniture.
- Moving items from location to location is always a risk—things are broken; the physical demands on our employees and volunteers are tremendous, and more. Whole items become displaced and/or parts that belong together are separated

And the list goes on. Now, we have a year-round outlet to move carefully selected donations.

Winning!!! Please, come visit. Diane has created a fantastic sign that sits high above our space. You can't miss it. Browse, shop, spread the word. Donate! Call Diane (330-502-5352) or Susie (234-567-0862) for questions about donations.

Booth #50 at The Landings at Lawson's  
514 East State St., Salem, OH 44460  
Hours: Wed-Sat : 10:00 to 5:00, Sunday 10:00 to 3:00  
Mon-Tues      Closed

Our other donation opportunities are still well in the planning. The date for our Annual Antiques, Collectibles and Christmas Sale is always the first weekend in December. Our team of volunteers take donations the week of Thanksgiving, and very quickly turn Andrews Hall into a unique Christmas shopping experience. For the community, this is a perfect opportunity to clean for the holidays and turn your unwanted items into money for



Angels! Our Christmas Sale is geared more toward antiques, specialty items, and Christmas.

# Angels for Animals Taps in to Year Round Store Front

*Outlet for Year Round Donations Adds to Christmas Antique Sale & Gigantic Garage Sale*

by Susie Cope, Angels for Animals Volunteer

Christmas items include garland, tree ornaments, home decor, yard ornaments, figurines, nativity sets, lights and more. We also take pride in the beautiful costume and quality jewelry. What a great way to donate items you no longer use or to find a special gift, and the monies go to make a better Christmas for the animals waiting to find a home!

Our Christmas Sale begins with our Early Bird on Friday night at 5:00 p.m. For just \$5, the public can take advantage of the Early Bird Evening on Friday and get the first chance to buy, listen to music, and snack on appetizers and refreshments. The sale continues during that first Saturday and Sunday of December and continues through at least one additional weekend.

Pictures with Santa usually take place the second Saturday of December:

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The planning of the 2026 Garage Sale will also be underway! From giving just a few hours, to working from the beginning of the collections, to selling every last item, our volunteers are the only way we can handle such an undertaking. Volunteers begin setting up the buildings two weeks before the sale by



putting tables and racks into place. The next step in the process is drop off weekend, when our generous community begins bringing donation items to the Canfield Fairgrounds. This requires an army of volunteers to help unload vehicles and begin sorting through the thousands of boxes and bags full of every type of item you can imagine. Countless hours are

spent moving items to the proper building and arranging displays so the public can easily see what items are available. The sale opens on Friday and closes Sunday afternoon with a big "all you can carry for one price" sale. During this entire time, volunteers are manning the buildings, helping customers and making it a one-of-a-kind shopping experience. Both events are truly exhausting, but we have a lot of fun too!

Mark your calendars! Donation times are listed for both events below. Because of a limitation on storage space, we can only take donations during these days. If you would like to volunteer, please call or volunteer coordinator at 330-502-3796.

**2026 ANGELS FOR ANIMALS 32ND GIGANTIC  
ANNUAL GARAGE  
SALE**

**April  
17, 18, 19  
CASH ONLY**

**AT THE CANFIELD FAIRGROUNDS**

BOOKS, TOYS, SMALL APPLIANCES, ANTIQUES,  
CLOTHING, GLASSWARE, JEWELRY, FURNITURE,  
LINENS, TOOLS, OUTDOOR ITEMS & MORE  
(PLEASE BRING CLOTHING ON HANGERS OR FOLDED IN BOXES)

Friday: Early Bird  
9 a.m.—Noon: \$10  
Buildings Open at 9:00 a.m.  
Wristbands on Sale 7 a.m.

Friday: Noon—5 p.m.: \$3

Saturday:  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: \$3

Sunday  
10 a.m.—2 p.m.: FREE  
Most Items 50% Off

Sunday  
2:15 p.m.—4 p.m.: \$20  
All You Can Take.  
**WRISTBAND REQUIRED**  
Until 4 p.m.

**NO PETS,  
STROLLERS,  
CARTS OR  
WAGONS  
permitted in  
buildings during  
the Garage Sale!**

**DONATIONS WELCOME**  
April 11 & 12, 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
at the Canfield Fairgrounds  
Call Amy at 330-549-1111, Option 5 or Ext. 146 for Large Item Pick Up  
To drop off items, enter the main gate of the  
Canfield Fairgrounds on Route 46 and follow signs.

**NO TV'S, COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, TV/COMPUTER  
MONITORS, LUGGAGE, SOFA BEDS, SAFES, TIRES,  
ENCYCLOPEDIAS, CHRISTMAS TREES, BOX SPRINGS,  
OR MATTRESSES, CRIBS, CARSEATS & ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS**

Volunteers needed  
Call  
330-502-3796  
or  
330-549-1111  
Press #5

ITEMS SHOULD BE  
READY TO SELL. DO  
NOT BRING BROKEN  
OR DIRTY ITEMS.

VISIT ANGELSFORANIMALS.ORG  
FOR MORE INFO OR TO VOLUNTEER

**SPONSORED BY**  
**DiRusso's**  
**Kidz  
Spas**

## Shy Cats Need A Chance Too

by Sherry Bankey, Cat Manager

When people come to find a new furry friend at the shelter, they always tend to be attracted to the animals that seek their attention immediately. However, there are many animals that may simply be shy, the quiet



type. At the shelter, we have noticed that the shy cats are quite frankly the most overlooked.

Fleetwood (now Oliver) came to us as a kitten in August of

2022. He was the shyest and all his siblings were adopted out quickly. He stuck to himself, found a few volunteers he welcomed pet from, but stayed back when potential adopters came to his room. On July 30th, 2025 someone finally decided he deserved a forever home and was willing to give him time to adjust. Afterall, he had pretty much grown up here and a real home would need some adjustment time. His new mom gave him that and they are both very happy!

His new mom wrote the following for me to share her experience with him finally adjusting to a real home:



After 8 weeks of staying under my bed in my spare bedroom, and then hiding under the couch, Oliver finally allowed me to pet him one evening! That made

me so happy and honestly, he couldn't get enough attention! He still hid during the day and overnight, but I would hear him zooming around and playing with his toys. Slowly, he came out earlier and earlier each evening. Then, one morning, he appeared in the living room.

I still gave him his space and with little coaxing, he came over to me and walked back and forth for me to pet him! After that, he has been the absolute sweetest boy! Oliver loves attention, watching



out the front door at the birds and squirrels and is so happy! I did question myself early on in his being here. I would talk and talk to him, trying to reassure him that this was home, and that he was safe and loved. After 8 weeks we both made it! It was quite a journey, but we are both content and happy now!



# Holiday Shopping for the Animal Lover



During the holidays or anytime of the year, finding a gift for friends or family that our animal lovers can be a challenge. Angels for Animals has a retail store on-site filled with all kinds of goodies for pets and pet



lovers! Enter Door B Monday thru Friday, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. We have a large assortment of leashes, collars,



treats and toys for dogs and cats. We carry a variety of sizes of animal carriers and crates. For the felines we have a large array of cat trees, huts. We carry pet odor eliminating candles and air fresheners to help make your house smell lovely.



We also carry an assortment of nail trimmers and grooming brushes for every four legged friend. You will find shampoos and conditioners for bathing as well as sprays and cleaners for when our pets have accidents.



We take pride in our terrific assortment of t-shirts and hoodies and zip up jackets.



Volunteers make special occasion cards, blankets, scarfs, gloves, necklaces, earrings, catnip sticks, coasters and more! There is also a unique gift shop that has jewelry, magnets, household decor and many unusual items available if you are looking for that special gift.

We have also added retail items in the lobby of the Angel Wing and in the Spay and Neuter Clinic for your convenience.

If you need to remember a pet, to the right of the desk in the Veterinary Clinic, we boast an urn room filled with many beautiful styles of urns to place your beloved pet's cremains in when the time comes for end-of-life services.



We have really tried to make Angels a one stop animal center! Come on out to visit our retail area to see the huge variety of items we offer!



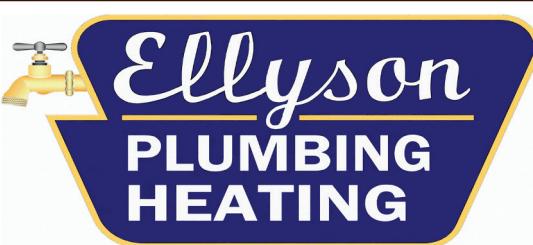
# the marketplace



**Pet Lodge USA**  
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**BY CINDY**  
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PET PORTRAITS  
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6385 State Route 165  
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**Spotted Horse Studio.com**



**GROUP CLASSES**  
**PRIVATE TRAINING**  
**DROP OFF AND TRAIN**  
Now offering limited classes at Angels for Animals  
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Poland, OH 44514  
Satellite location in Hermitage PA  
330-707-4160  
[www.dogsmartzunleashed.com](http://www.dogsmartzunleashed.com)

**RENTAL FACILITY AT**  
**ANGELS FOR ANIMALS**



**Andrews Hall**  
A great place for your next event  
Newly Renovated • Seats up to 160 • Full Kitchen Facilities  
Full Bar Area • Hourly Rental Available  
330-549-1111 Press #5  
4750 State Route 165, Canfield, OH



**VET**  
Angels for Animals welcomes you to its  
**Advanced Dental Medicine**  
**Oral & Facial Surgery**  
Call 330-549-1111, Press #1 to schedule an appointment



**Rek's Auto Body**  
Where quality is no accident!  
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Girard, Ohio 44420  
[Reksautobody@yahoo.com](mailto:Reksautobody@yahoo.com)

## END OF LIFE SERVICES

### **IT'S NOT GOOD-BYE. IT'S UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.**

One of the most difficult decisions in owning an animal is deciding when it is time to say good-bye. We have a private entry with spacious quiet rooms for euthanasia.

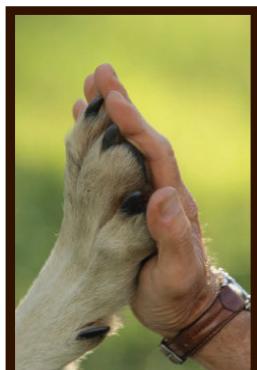


Rooms were designed to give families a comfortable place to say good-bye to their furry friends.

Euthanasia can be one

of the last loving gifts you can give to your pet or any animal that is suffering. Angels for Animals believes that no animal should suffer. When the time comes to make the decision for euthanasia, we are here for you. Our caring staff will assist with your pet's transition to the Rainbow Bridge.

Cremation is one way to keep your pets memory with you. We have our very own onsite crematory. Your pet will be in our care until you come to take them home. We can also assist with decisions regarding providing a final resting place for a forever friend.



Angels for Animals offers a wide selection of urns from metal to ceramic to wooden. We have a variety of memory boxes, some with a place for a picture of your special

friend. Stop in and see the beautiful necklaces and bracelets allowing your furry friend to be with you always. Memorial items can be found in the "Sweet Pea" Lariccia Pet Memorial Room (Enter Door C) or in our Angels for Animals Gift Shop (Enter Door B.)



**Purchase your animal's preventative treatment supplies at Angels for Animals. Stop in at the Veterinary Clinic or call 330-549-1111 Press #1.**

## **Angels for Animals Services**

### **Lariccia Animal Adoption Center Business Office & Angel Store**

330-549-1111

#### **Dog & Cat Viewing By Pre-Approved Application**

Sunday	CLOSED
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Friday	Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### **Mitchell Veterinary Clinic**

#### **Call to schedule an appointment**

Sunday	CLOSED
Monday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	By Appointment

### **Flynn Spay & Neuter Clinic**

#### **Call to schedule an appointment**

Sunday	CLOSED
Monday	By Appointment
Tuesday	By Appointment
Wednesday	By Appointment
Thursday	By Appointment
Friday	By Appointment
Saturday	CLOSED

### **Cecil Crematory**

Diane Less: 330-502-5352

Call to schedule an appointment

### **Grooming Services**

Cindy Kingston: 330-651-4666



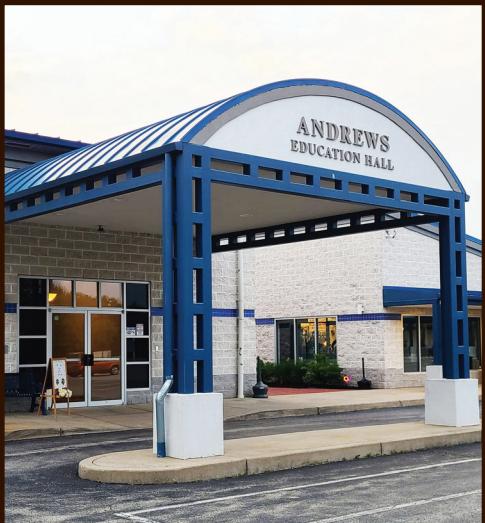
ANGELS for ANIMALS®

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330.549.1111  
[www.angelsforanimals.org](http://www.angelsforanimals.org)

## ANDREWS HALL **THE PERFECT RENTAL FACILITY**

Andrews Hall is a hidden feature available at Angels for Animals that many people do not know even exists. Andrews Hall is a beautiful rental facility located right next to our animal shelter at door A. The hall features a spacious dining/hall area that holds 160, full commercial kitchen with refrigerator, ovens and plenty of counter space, separate bar area with coolers and ice machine, coat room, and restrooms.

With your rental comes the use of (30) 6' rectangular tables and chairs. Our hall is perfect for any celebration or family/group gathering including weddings, showers, anniversary parties, graduations, memorial services, meetings and the list goes on.



Weekend rentals are booked for the full day. Events during the week can be scheduled as a half day rental.

If you would like more information, or would like

to inquire about available dates for Andrews Hall, please call: Amy at 330-549-1111, Option #5.

