

Humane News

By Kit Belcher, Executive Director
Beltrami Humane Society

“Fireworks and Pet Safety!”

“Happy Birthday U.S.A.!” It’s time once again to celebrate the birth of our nation! If you are a patriotic person, the 4th of July fireworks can be an exciting experience. But, what if you are a pet?

In the pet world, the 4th of July events and festivities can be stressful and chaotic. The noise and commotion can be extremely frightening and distressing for any animal.

Beltrami Humane Society would like to remind everyone to keep their pets safe during the 4th of July holiday festivities. The loud noises and flashing lights caused by fireworks can spook household pets and cause wildlife birds and animals to flee their natural habitats, possibly leaving their young behind. Some pets have been known to become so frightened during a fireworks show that they have jumped through plate glass windows to run away.

Here are a few tips to help keep all animals safe this 4th of July:

**Leave your pets at home. Most pets don’t enjoy the crashing and flashing caused by fireworks and even the most trustworthy pet could become scared and run away.

**Don’t leave your outdoor pets unattended, even in a fenced yard. The chaos may cause them to panic and try to escape.

**Be sure that your pets are wearing proper identification in case they DO become lost during the events. IDs can help your pet find its way home to you again. Microchips are the most reliable forms of ID possible. You can contact your veterinarian about getting one for your pet, or contact Beltrami Humane Society for more information.

**If you know your pet usually becomes scared at loud noises, such as during thunderstorms, be sure to keep them in a safe room with lots of treats and favorite toys to help them alleviate any anxiety caused by the exploding fireworks. You may also like to speak with your vet to find some herbal remedies safe for your pet to help keep them calm during stressful times.

**Do not set off any of your own fireworks near raptor or any bird refuge areas. The bursting noises and flashing lights may disturb them—causing them to leave their natural nesting areas. And, any stray sparks caused by the careless use of fireworks can cause serious damage by starting a forest fire.

**Enjoy our holiday, but watch out for the domestic animals, birds and wildlife around you as they have “nowhere to run”. We can all help to keep their habitat safe!

Beltrami Humane Society would like to introduce two special cats who recently were featured at the Pet Expo. Their names are Finnegan and Carlos! Finnegan is a long haired, brilliant orange neutered male who is approximately 8 years old and what a “lush!!” He loves to be held, groomed, pet and cuddled. He’s an “easy boy” to handle even by a child. He doesn’t mind really anything to include dogs. He has a sophisticated, “lion-look” about him. Carlos is a 1 ½ yr old white and orange long haired, blue-eyed playful, curious boy who is also neutered and doesn’t seem to mind kids or dogs. He too loves grooming and attention. He loves to give hugs and will

stand on his back feet to rub up against you and give kisses! Both boys ride well in a kennel and enjoy the scenery.

Visit these awesome “Maine-Coon-X” boys waiting for adoption at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN. If you are unable to visit... see them on our website photo gallery at www.beltramihumane.com or on www.petfinder.com. Shelter Hours are 12-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Our phone number is (218) 751-7910. We have numerous other cats/kittens waiting for adoption. A cat or kitten may be adopted for \$75.00. If they have been at the shelter for 90 days, their fees are reduced to \$60.00 each. If you adopt two or more together, their fees are again discounted. This adoption fee includes: spaying or neutering, all basic vaccinations, de-worming and de-fleaing. You will also receive a free rabies certificate to be honored at Animal Care Clinic or Busby Vet Clinic. We have many cats and kittens available right now with gorgeous colors. This includes Siamese with blue eyes, Maine Coon-X, Tabbies, Grays, Oranges, Peaches, Torties or Black. Are you looking for a great mouser for your home or farm? We have a good selection waiting to help you get rid of your pesty mice! Give us a call and we can give you help or suggestions! We invite you to come in today and find yourself a “SPECIAL COMPANION!”

Special Events: Watch for us along the July 4th Jaycees Parade route on Sunday! You may even see us at the Beltrami County Fair or at the Triple B Rodeo Event coming up at the end of July!

Come in and visit us as we work on our “Shelter Make Over Project” giving the shelter a new facelift. See our new colors and meet our volunteers! We send a huge “THANK YOU” to the Valspar Paint Corporation for their donation of paint supplies!

Shelter Wishes: KITTEN CHOW, CAT LITTER, CAT FOOD, CAT BRUSHES, CAT TOYS