



Mary Jones with Cookie and Dusty

Animal Rescue

Mary Jones, President and co-founder of Support Our Local Animal Shelter (SOLAS) spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on July 14. Mary grew up in Treynor.

Mary and her husband created SOLAS 19 years ago. It is a non-profit, providing public awareness, medical and food support, and fundraising for pets.

SOLAS has 30-40 volunteers, including board members and foster parents. Foster parents assist with recovery of animals after surgery and when pets at the shelter are having babies. SOLAS raises about \$60,000 a year to provide medical support and food for pets from the animal shelter. Their main fundraiser is Santa Paws at Christmas time. SOLAS mainly works with cats, about 500 each year. The address for the organization is Mary's home. Other organizations work with dogs and other animals.

The animal shelter now has a \$120 fee for adopting pets. That works for dogs, but is high for cats. Therefore, SOLAS works with local vets to spay and neuter the cats. They then take them to Pets Mart for adoption.

Mary has a busy week. On Tuesday she takes pictures of new animals at the animal shelter. On Wednesday she writes a column about them for the Nonpareil. She is on TV with them on Thursday at 6:10 a.m.

On another topic, Mary Jones grew up near the Treynor Community Center. In the early 1900s her grandmother and grandfather ran a saloon in Treynor, which was the same place as the Community Center is today. Her grandfather also owned a Ford dealership in Treynor. Mary brought and shared pictures and newspaper articles of Treynor. She has an article from August 13, 1931, when the floor fell through on the hall in Treynor. There was a wedding dance with about 800 people in attendance. Several people were injured.