

Welcome to *Pet Talk*, an occasional column about homeless pets and related topics.

Today's story is about the many unfortunate homeless pets that are now crowding the Flathead County Animal Shelter. As of this writing, the shelter is near capacity, and it desperately needs your help.

Calling all big-dog lovers!

Below is just a sampling of large-size dogs currently available for adoption at the shelter. Just look at these adorable photos if you need any convincing to adopt!

First up is cute sad-faced **Reuben**, who we highlighted in a previous column. Although he's currently being fostered by a gracious local pet lover, Reuben needs a permanent home. So how about yours?



Next up, **Lucas**. How about that happy wagging tongue!



And we can't forget **Rhett**, another handsome bloodhound – with the deepest, and melodic baritone voice!



Below is **Friend**, who wants nothing more than to be yours! Looking a bit sad, eh?



In contrast, here's **Arlo**, a happy looking Shepherd cross:



Below is **Harper**, who just loves to chase birds out in the exercise yard!



OK, how about sad-faced Punky Brewster:



Here's **Tucker**, who has the striking electric blue eyes of the Siberian Husky (just one of several such dogs at the shelter).



Now, who could resist **Goose**, who seems to be giving us a bit of the old side-eye here!



And how about **RJ** – is he belly laughing or just August-hot?!



And on, and on . . . just a few of the many adoptable pets at Flathead County Animal Shelter. And bear in mind that some of them have been there for several months now!

So if you're an animal lover who just can't resist those sweet, desperate faces, please help a homeless pet today. By adopting, you can enrich both your life and that of a lucky animal in need. So if that's you, please call the shelter ASAP to schedule a meet-andgreet soon. Well, that's it for today's Pet Talk. As you can see, pet homelessness is a very serious issue – both locally and nationally. So please support animal shelters in any way that you can.

And remember the generous adoption incentives at Flathead County Animal Shelter. First, a gracious donation from a local animal lover has allowed the shelter to substantially reduce its adoption fees. Flathead Shelter Friends also offers a Senior Pet Voucher, which pays up to \$350 toward veterinary care for 7+ year-old adopted pets.

For more information, please contact Flathead County Animal Shelter, phone number (406) 758-1310, or visit the website at <u>https://flathead.mt.gov/department-</u> <u>directory/animal</u>.

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Personal donations are always appreciated! For more information, see www.flatheadshelterfriends.org