## The Gift of Giving

Animals are a special gift, but should not be given as gifts without the new owner being involved in the choosing. If the person giving the animal as a gift doesn't take into consideration the commitment and lifestyle changes that accompany owning the animal, the animal will eventually end up in a shelter.

The holidays are very busy and stressful on people so imaging adding a new animal into that environment, along with the hazards that come with the season like poisonous plants, lots of chocolate – toxic to dogs, coming in and out, electric cords, and tinsel or lights.

Some dogs might actually like the constant attention. But then when everyone returns to their normal routine there is the possibility of separation anxiety and boredom. A puppy or dog might act out with whining, digging, and chewing. Cats, on the other hand, can get stressed very easily and become sick.

If you are thinking about adopting a pet for someone else please purchase a dog or cat toy and wrap that with a note in a box to say, "Let's go together and you choose the dog or cat and I will pay the adoption fee".

Pets are a lifetime commitment. We love to see another life saved but it must be because it is a good match. There must be that special chemistry between the two.

Happy Holidays from CARE