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# ACCENT

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SECTION **C**

## Soon-to-be seniors reel at receiving AARP card

Association trying to woo younger members

By CYNTHIA HUBERT  
SACRAMENTO BEE

Sacramento blues musician Rick Estrin learned that he was officially old five years ago, when he got his first invitation to join AARP in the mail.

He promptly tossed it in the trash. "Maybe it's denial, but I don't want that AARP card," said Estrin, 55, lead singer for Little Charlie and the Nightcats.

Baby boomers are less likely than previous generations to acknowledge they are getting older, according to the AARP.

"Everyone in America hates getting that first AARP letter," admitted Steve Slon, editor of the group's slickly redesigned magazine.

So AARP is wooing them gently. The organization, founded in 1958, counts about 35 million people as members. The organization typically sends its first solicitation to people around the time they turn 50.

It's even more disturbing when AARP jumps the gun, said Kathleen Lenkeit, a systems analyst who lives in California.

"I started receiving invitations to join when I was in my early 40s," she said. "That was offensive."

AARP has long recognized it must change its image to accommodate boomers. Besides adopting AARP as its moniker to remove the word "retired," it changed the name of its magazine, formerly Modern Maturity, to AARP the Magazine.

"It's not exactly ESPN the Magazine, but it evokes the same kind of boomer hipness," Slon said.

The magazine now publishes three editions, one for members between the ages of 50 and 59, a second for 60-somethings and a third for people 70 and older.

The language differs in some of the stories, Slon said.

"It's an 'in your face' kind of tone that we feel is more geared to the boomer sensibility," he said.



SCRIPPS HOWARD PHOTO

AARP is gearing ads toward younger members.

## Survey lauds, lambastes celeb hairdos

By LAMONT JONES  
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Which celebrities have the most terrible tresses? Whose are loveliest?

The American public identified the hottest and most horrific hairstyles of 2005 in the 12th annual "Best Tressed" survey conducted by Sally Beauty and Harris Interactive.

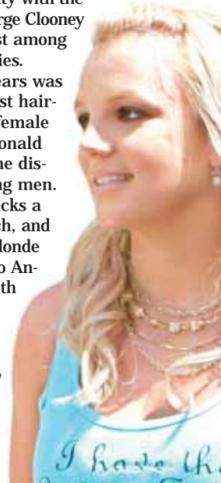
In the poll of 1,028 U.S. adults, Catherine Zeta-Jones was voted the female celebrity with the best hair. George Clooney ranked highest among male celebrities.

Britney Spears was rated the worst hairstyle among female celebrities. Donald Trump won the distinction among men.

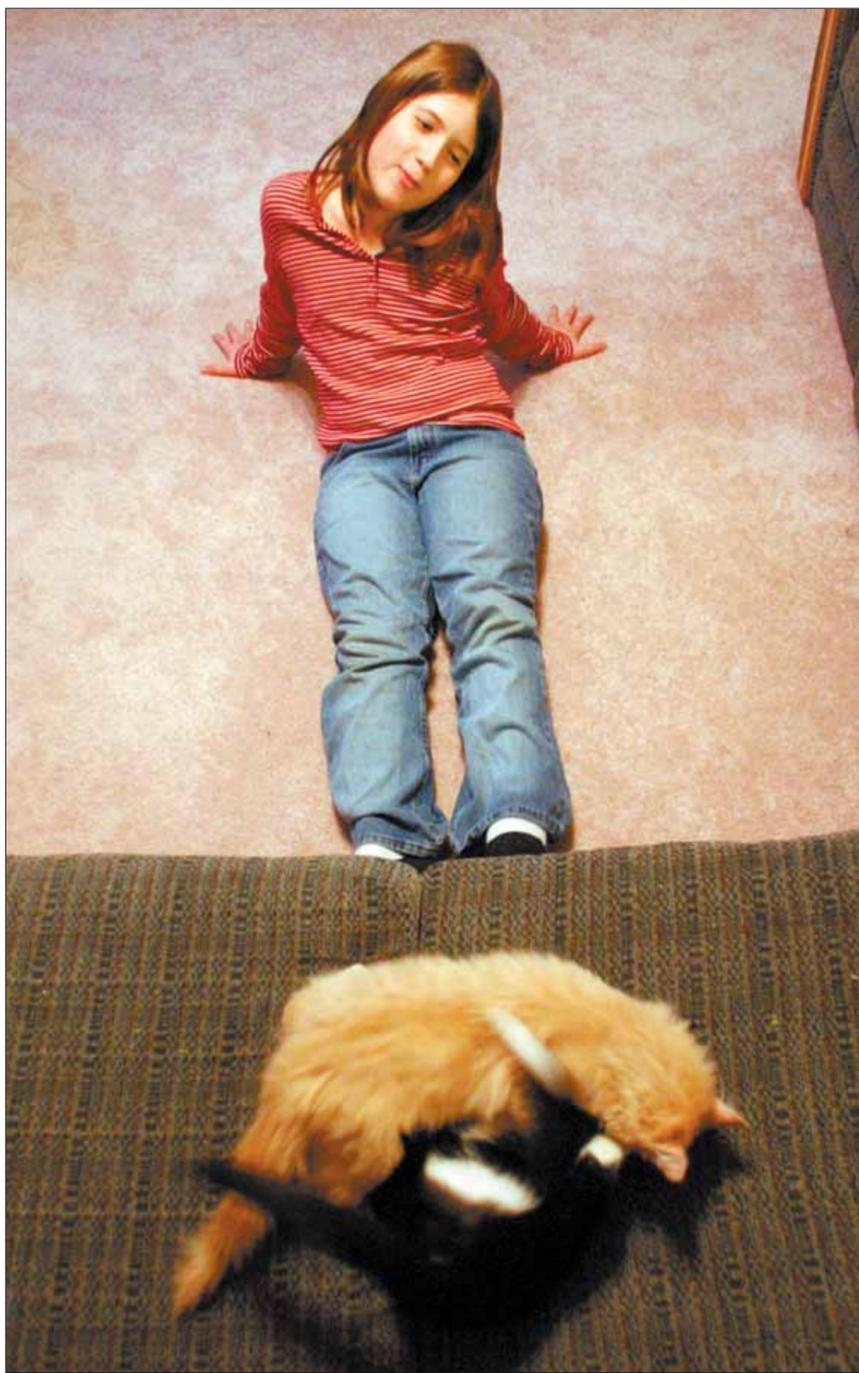
Peroxide packs a powerful punch, and worst bottle-blond honors went to Anna Nicole Smith and Hulk Hogan.

Britney Spears' hair was voted worst among celebrities.

AP PHOTO



## PET FOSTER CARE



Bailey Mitchell, daughter of Christie Killinger of Bargersville, watches as Nicholas, an orange cat, and Lightning play on the couch. The two animals available for adoption are in foster care with the family.

STAFF PHOTOS BY MATT OOLEY/mooley@thejournalnet.com

# Permanent soft spots for pets yield temporary homes

By ANNETTE JONES  
DAILY JOURNAL FEATURES EDITOR  
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Families provide loving care for homeless animals awaiting adoption

Christie Killinger's roomy new house near Bargersville is home to seven cats and a lone dog.

The felines can be found scampering through the living room, hiding behind furniture or lounging on the sofa.

Five of the cats, Lightning, Thunder, Nicholas, Dexter and Dee Dee, are foster animals who need a home.

Two other cats, Toes — he has six of the digits on each paw — and Bert, are permanent members of the family. Jordan the dog, a sharpei, also has been adopted.

All of the animals made it to the Killinger residence through the work of the Humane Society of Johnson County. The nonprofit group started a foster program for pets waiting to be adopted, called Shelter Without Walls, in July.

Killinger, a member of the humane society board, says she can't adopt any more pets. She wants to save room for animals without a permanent home.



STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

Bob Ellett gets a friendly nuzzle from a puppy he and his wife are fostering at their rural Franklin home. One of the puppy's sisters heads over for her own hug.

With a soft spot in her heart for furry friends, Killinger believes her resources are best used in a fostering role.

When she takes in an animal, "I feel I've saved a life," Killinger says.

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Nicholas rests on a couch in the Bargersville residence he shares with four other cats waiting to be adopted.

### FURRY FRIEND SUPPORT GROUP

Humane Society of Johnson County

Where: 550 E. Jefferson St., Suite 205, Franklin

Hours: 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

Information: 346-7001

#### What it does

The humane society promotes animal adoption, supports spay/neuter programs and educates the community about responsible pet ownership.

The society does not operate a shelter but assists other groups with food purchases, supplies and vaccines.

The group also provides limited funds for low-cost spay and neuter services and emergency veterinary assistance.

#### When it meets

Meetings are conducted at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month, except during July and December, at the humane society office.

#### How to find a pet

Visit the humane society's pet adoption event at Tractor Supply on U.S. 31 in Franklin from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursdays.

Adoption fees are \$75 for cats and \$100 for dogs.

"Sometimes they're hard to give up, but I know they are getting a good home."

Sherri Ellett of rural Franklin, on opening her home to foster animals