Unforgettable
Sweet Girl
Bert and Ernie
A conversation
with Janelle Dixon
Animal Humane Society is the leading animal welfare organization in the Upper Midwest dedicated to engaging and serving local and regional communities of people and animals. Our mission is to engage the hearts, hands and minds of the community to serve more animals.

Through comprehensive programs and services, the Animal Humane Society provides resources that compassionately serve all the stages of an animal’s life. As a private non-profit organization, we receive no federal, state or government funding and rely totally on private donations, merchandise sales and adoption fees.

ON THE COVER

A favorite of the Now Boarding staff, Raven was a frequent guest. Sadly, she passed away this spring.

Photograph by Krista Erin Nelson
a message from Janelle Dixon

Animal Humane Society has been providing service to animals in our community for nearly 135 years. In that time we, and organizations like ours across the country, have offered our services as the answer to the problems facing companion animals. As a result there has been a lot of positive change in the care of animals in shelters, decreased euthanasia and an overall elevation in the status of companion animals and the place they hold in our homes.

Unfortunately, there are still many challenges facing animals and a key component in the equation has, for too long, been minimized or overlooked. We have not adequately engaged the community as a partner to be part of the solution for animals.

Animal Humane Society can lead the efforts to ensure better lives for animals, but we need the community with us on this journey. It is the behaviors, actions and choices of the community that ultimately influence what happens to the animals. Every day individuals make choices about surrendering animals, adopting a pet from a shelter rather than buying from a breeder or a pet store, whether or not to spay/neuter a pet, and the use of collars and identification tags. These choices have life altering implications for the companion animals in our community, especially those at Animal Humane Society and other animal welfare organizations.

You are a part of the community that understands and cares about the plight of companion animals. In response, you volunteer your time, you donate resources to aid the animals, you spay/neuter your pets, you adopt from organizations like ours and you encourage friends and family to do the same.

We realize we need to do more and with your help we can. We need you — and each and every community member — to be our partner for positive change that dramatically and sustainably alters the lives of animals. We envision and are striving for a community where fewer animals are surrendered, every adoptable animal finds a home and euthanasia in our community is dramatically reduced.

Thank you for all that you do to aid animals and support the work of Animal Humane Society. We’re all in this together and we’re grateful for your support.

Janelle Dixon, CEO/President
locations

**BUFFALO FACILITY**
4375 Hwy. 55 S.E.
Buffalo, MN 55313
(763) 390-3647
*Pet adoption and surrender, memorial garden, microchip and nail clinics, pet loss services, retail area, shelter tours, youth programs*

**COON RAPIDS FACILITY**
1411 Main St. N.W.
Coon Rapids, MN 55448
(763) 862-4030
*Pet adoption and surrender, dog training, microchip and nail clinics, pet loss services, retail area, shelter tours, youth programs*

**GOLDEN VALLEY FACILITY**
845 Meadow Ln. N.
Golden Valley, MN 55422
(763) 522-4325
*Pet adoption and surrender, dog playgroups, microchip and nail clinics, pet boarding, pet training, retail area, shelter tours, wildlife rescue, youth programs*

**ST. PAUL FACILITY**
1115 Beulah Ln.
St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 645-7387
*Pet adoption and surrender, microchip and nail clinics, pet loss services, retail area, shelter tours, youth programs*

**WOODBURY FACILITY**
9785 Hudson Rd.
Woodbury, MN 55125
(651) 730-6008
*Pet adoption and surrender, dog training, microchip and nail clinics, pet loss services, shelter tours, retail area, youth programs*

**NOW BOARDING**
6002 28th Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55450
(612) 454-4850
*Pet boarding and doggy day care, grooming and dog training*

hours

**ADOPTION CENTER**
Monday through Friday: 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**INCOMING ANIMALS**
*Through December 31, 2010*
Monday through Saturday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

*After January 1, 2011*
Please call for an appointment to surrender an animal.
*Closed November 24, December 24, 25, January 1 and 17.*

contact

**MAIN PHONE NUMBER**
(763) 522-4325

**WEBSITE**
www.animalhumanesociety.org
our services

ADOPTION
Let an animal choose you! Cats, dogs, rabbits, birds, ferrets, guinea pigs and other small critters are available for adoption at our five locations. View the animals available today at www.animalhumanesociety.org.

SURRENDER
No animal is ever turned away at any of our five open admission locations where we provide safe refuge for thousands of animals each year. Beginning in January 2011, we will be offering appointments for surrendering an animal. Call the shelter location or visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/surrendering.

PET BOARDING
We offer two options for pet boarding. Our Animal House in Golden Valley (763) 489-2222 and Now Boarding near the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport (612) 454-4850.

PET TRAINING
We speak fluent animal. More than 40 classes are offered weekly at our Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, Woodbury and Now Boarding locations. Check out www.animalhumanesociety.org/training or call (763) 489-2217 for more information.

PET FOOD AND SUPPLIES
Purina One dog and cat foods and treats as well as Tidy Cat litter, collars, leashes, toys and grooming supplies are available at our five Adoption Centers.

HUMANE INVESTIGATIONS
Our humane agents work with law enforcement and respond to thousands of reports of animal neglect and cruelty each year. Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/prevention.

YOUTH PROGRAMS
From Unleashed Summer Camp to PetSet Youth Club and our extensive programs in the classrooms, there is a lot for kids at AHS. Call (763) 489-2220 or visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/youth.

MICROCHIP AND NAIL CLINICS
Microchip and nail trim clinics are offered at our locations. Check the calendar in this magazine for specific times.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES
Have your birthday party at an AHS location and invite up to 15 guests. Call (763) 489-2220 for more information.

WILDLIFE REHABILITATION
Injured and orphaned wildlife are treated at our Golden Valley location. For information call (763) 489-2223.

LOST AND FOUND PETS
We offer a Lost and Found Online Bulletin Board for you to post missing or found pets. Also, review stray animals in our care at www.animalhumanesociety.org/lostandfound.

BEHAVIOR HELPLINE
Have a question regarding your pet? Call our helpline at (763) 489-2202.

ONLINE LIBRARY
Visit our online library for help with pet training and behavior at www.animalhumanesociety.org/training/library.

THERAPY ANIMALS
Animal Ambassadors, AHS’s animal-assisted therapy teams visit hospitals, schools and nursing homes. For more information call (763) 489-2220.

TOURS
Tours of our facilities are available to students or other groups by appointment. Maximum group size is determined by location. Our Golden Valley location also offers evening volunteer-led tours. See the Calendar on page 30 in this magazine for specific times. To schedule a tour at any of our locations call (763) 489-2220.

PET LOSS
Humane euthanasia and cremation services are offered. Call (763) 489-2203 or visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/lossofpet. Pet loss support groups are offered on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in Golden Valley.

MEMORIAL GARDEN
Visit the peaceful perennial garden at our Buffalo location where past pets are honored with memorial plaques throughout the garden.
A new way to take in animals, to help more animals

In this issue you’ll learn more about Bound for Home, an effort underway at Animal Humane Society that will open the door to increased adoptions, continued reductions in euthanasia and a new ability to do more for animals in need (read all about it on page 10). A crucial component of Bound for Home is a change in the way we take in animals from the public.

In January, AHS will implement an animal surrender by appointment process. By taking animals in by appointment, we’re able to better address each owner’s reason for surrender and provide them alternative solutions, such as training and behavior tips that might help them keep the pet in their home. For those animals that are ultimately surrendered, we’ll be better able to gather information regarding the pets’ health history, behavior, personality traits and more. This information will aid in our evaluations and future placements. To help owners make the best decision for their pet, they will be given the results of their pet’s health and behavior exam during the appointment.

Veterinary and behavioral staff from AHS consulted with organizations from around the country that have made the transition to intake by appointment. Oregon Humane Society, San Diego Humane Society and SPCA and the Erie County SPCA in New York have seen decreases in number of animals surrendered to their facilities—with no increases in in the number of strays found in the community.

This change in the way we take in animals is still in line with our mission, values and open-admission philosophy. AHS will continue to accept any animal regardless of its breed, age, color, behavior or health.

For more information or to schedule an intake appointment, please contact the AHS location nearest you. Phone numbers can be found on page 4.

Top chefs sharing culinary talents to benefit animals

Some of the most renowned chefs in Minneapolis-St. Paul are coming together on Friday, November 5, 2010, to share their talents with you at Animal Humane Society’s Fall Wine Dinner. Each chef will prepare a culinary delight to be paired with wines presented by Ray Zemke from The Cellars Wine & Spirits. In addition to these culinary selections, you’ll have the opportunity to bid on exclusive auction items carefully selected to thank you for supporting the work and animals of AHS.

For reservations, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/winedinner or call (763) 432-4842.

Where a kid can be a kid — and help animals

PetSet Youth Club is more than just a place for kids to learn about animals. It’s a place where a kid can be a kid, meet new friends, learn about important animal welfare issues and develop volunteer and community service skills.

This enhanced form of community service ensures that youth play an active role in choosing, developing, implementing and evaluating the work they do for their communities. Registration for the upcoming semester is open and available to kids in grades 5–8 and 9–12. Learn more by visiting www.animalhumane society.org/petsetyouthclub or calling (763) 489-2220 for more information.
$50 to save a life

On busy summer and fall days up to 70 cats can arrive at our shelters. We need help finding them homes.

Now through the end of December we are reducing the adoption fees for adult cats to $50! As with all of our adoptions, this fee includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, microchipping and more. For only $50 you can help give an adult cat a second chance and gain a special friend.

In addition to discounted feline adoption fees, we’re extending our Double the Love program. When you adopt one feline, the adoption fee for a second adult cat is waived.

Please help us find these loving cats a home. Consider bringing one into yours and tell your friends and family about these cat adoption programs.

Minnesota Viking Ben Leber hosting Whisker Whirl

Every year we invite you to dress to the canines and party with your dog at Whisker Whirl. We’re inviting you to join us again this year, but this time we also extend the invitation from Minnesota Viking Ben Leber and his wife Abby who are honorary co-hosts of the event. This year Whisker Whirl will be held on February 19, 2011 at The Depot in Minneapolis.

Winter is the perfect time to get out with your dog and mingle with fellow animal lovers. We’ll provide everything you need to make the most of your evening... a gourmet meal for you and your dog, experienced dog sitters and plenty of fun for everyone, including an opportunity to meet the Lebers. All proceeds help us provide for the animals in our care.

Join us even if you don’t have a canine friend. This is a great event for all animal lovers! For ticket information, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/whiskerwhirl or call (763) 432-4842.

Helping build a compassionate world for animals through education

It’s important that we teach youth about the importance of compassion toward animals. We’ve made it easy by offering our humane education programs to local schools for students in grades K–12. Programs cover many topics from the basics of pet responsibility (Grades 1-3) to more in-depth presentations including anti-dog fighting workshops (Grades 9–12). Perhaps there is a program that is right for your child’s class. For more information visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/schools/classroomvisits or call (763) 489-2220. Presentations are $50 per program and can accommodate up to 70 students.

Save the date for the Walk for Animals

Mark your calendars for the largest walk for animals in the country. The 37th Annual Walk for Animals is scheduled for April 30, 2011. Join us at this larger-than-life celebration of the human-animal bond that goes miles and miles for the animals given a second chance at Animal Humane Society.

For more information and to get started on your fundraising for the animals, check our website at www.animalhumanesociety.org/walk in early February!
Calling all cute and entertaining cats

We’re always looking for new and exciting ways to tell the community about the incredible nature of cats and why they make such great pets. You can help Animal Humane Society cats get adopted into new homes by sending us your favorite video of your feline friend. We’ll let others see how much fun cats can be and the difference they make in our lives. Your video might just be the one that sends the next family to AHS to adopt their own feline friend. Email us your videos today at animalstories@animalhumanesociety.org.

Do-it-yourself fundraising

Animal Humane Society is fortunate for the great generosity and support of people and organizations throughout Minnesota. Often, people spend their own time, money, and effort organizing a fundraiser to benefit our shelters. These fundraisers vary in type and size, but include lemonade stands, backyard festivals, car washes, golf tournaments and more.

If you are interested in organizing and hosting your own event to benefit Animal Humane Society, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/DIYfundraising for tips and a do-it-yourself fundraising toolkit to help make your event a success or call (763) 489-4842 for more information.

Stop puppy mills

Are you interested in learning more about the effort to stop puppy mills? In 2011, we will once again be holding information sessions for the public to gain a better understanding of the need to pass legislation that will stop inhumane breeding practices in Minnesota. At the sessions you will:

- Learn firsthand about the bill and its importance to the welfare of thousands of neglected animals in Minnesota.
- Understand how requiring licensing and inspections of breeding facilities in the state will protect animals from breeders engaging in inhumane breeding practices.
- Have the opportunity to ask your questions about inhumane practices and what the bill will accomplish for companion animals in Minnesota.
- Gain useful information on how you can be a voice for animals and let others know what they can do.

Session dates are to be determined. Watch our website at www.animalhumanesociety.org/puppymill or call (763) 489-2251 for more information.

A fond welcome for Rachelle and Save our Strays

The morning of August 17, 2010, did not start like any other day at Animal Humane Society in Golden Valley. It began with many staff, volunteers and AHS supporters standing in the driveway, holding up signs that read, “Welcome to Minnesota. Welcome home.”

The crowd was anxiously awaiting the arrival of our friends Connie and David Guthrie of Save Our Strays of Oklahoma. The arrival marked an incredible milestone for the couple—they were bringing the 2000th dog to Animal Humane Society to receive a second chance at life in Minnesota.

Many years ago, Connie and David began rescuing dogs with their daughter, Stephanie, who always held a special place for the welfare of animals in her heart. They worked with shelters in Oklahoma and neighboring states to give dogs that had not yet been adopted and were scheduled for euthanasia a second chance at life in another part of the country. The family worked together in their rescue efforts for many years until Stephanie suddenly passed away on one of the transport trips. Despite their loss, Connie and David continued on their journey in honor of Stephanie. Today, they transport dogs to many northern states, including Minnesota and Illinois where there are homes for them. And on that warm, sunny day in August, they arrived with Rachelle, the 2000th dog transported to Animal Humane Society. The beautiful black Lab had been abandoned in the median of an interstate in Arkansas with several other dogs and was rescued by a local shelter there. When the shelter was unable to find Rachelle a new home, Save Our Strays brought her to Animal Humane Society. She was adopted only four days after arriving in Minnesota.

To view video from the day Rachelle arrived visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/ATFall10.
**Wine Dinner**
A benefit for the Animal Humane Society
Friday, November 5
The Saint Paul Hotel
www.animalhumanesociety.org/winedinner

This extraordinary evening includes a five-course meal prepared by well-known Twin Cities chefs paired with exquisite wines by Ray Zemke of The Cellars Wines & Spirits. Bid on exclusive live auction packages with proceeds benefiting homeless animals in our community.

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**Whisker Whirl**
A Party for People and Pups
Saturday, February 19th
The Minneapolis Depot
www.animalhumanesociety.org/whiskerwhirl

A party for you and your pup! The only event in town where you can dress to the canines and dine with your dog, all to help the animals of the Animal Humane Society. Cocktails, dinner and silent and live auctions.
AHS has embarked on this multi-year initiative called Bound for Home. What exactly is Bound for Home?

For far too long humane societies, the Animal Humane Society being one of them, have put themselves out there as a solution to the problem of pet homelessness and most of the issues related to the welfare of animals. The reality is that we can’t do it alone. We can provide leadership, but the community must be a partner in the solutions to the challenges faced by animals.

AHS has been in this community for more than 130 years and our organization has done much to advance how the community treats companion animals, but the reality is that unwanted animals and homelessness still exist in our community. At AHS, we still receive far more animals surrendered to us than the community is providing homes for — not enough people are choosing to adopt. Because of this disparity, euthanasia exists. Bound for Home is a series of initiatives we have launched to do things differently for animals — with the community as our partner. We are asking for the community’s help to alter this imbalance.

What are you doing differently as an organization?

We brought in outside counsel — experts from the University of California-Davis Shelter Medicine program who reviewed our operations. We heard that there were a lot of areas in which we were doing extremely well, which was wonderful, but we definitely had some areas which could be improved. Of course, that is always difficult for organizations that strive to do their best to hear. But we took a hard look at the situation for animals in our community and we were committed to take the next big leap for long-term, sustainable change.

Since that time, all of our staff has been working on initiatives that reduce the intake of animals, shorten the length of stay for animals, provide greater enrichment for animals while they are with us, and reduce our rates of euthanasia. This last year, we saw a seven percent rate of reduction in euthanasia and we expect to see further decreases as we implement all the operational aspects of Bound for Home.

Bound for Home
A conversation with Janelle Dixon

Animal Humane Society CEO/President Janelle Dixon sat down to talk about the work of Animal Humane Society — including new initiatives to improve the quality of life for more animals.
Can you give us an example of one of UC Davis’s recommendations?

The footbaths in and out of our adoption centers are a great example. Why were we making people step in and out of footbaths everywhere, hindering their ability to access animals and adoption? We were reminded by the consultants that we were attempting to prevent disease from our least likely source, people coming into our shelters to adopt, and that we were actually setting up barriers for people to access the very animals we wanted them to adopt. As a result, we have removed the footbaths.

Housing for cats is another area in which we received recommendations. Rather than having more cat kennels we are looking at decreasing the total number and putting our resources toward increasing the size of each cat’s current space. This will result in less stress and reduced illness for the animals in the shelter reducing their length of stay and facilitating quicker placement.

How do you, as an organization, get a new mindset to approach the care for animals in a different framework?

I think change is never easy. It takes a special effort to engage an entire organization in thinking differently, looking at issues from different perspectives and coming up with new and different solutions — and then having the courage to implement them. You have to have a really strong belief that what you’re doing is the right thing and be guided by that. Fortunately, we are united in our enthusiasm and optimism for what we are doing — board members, employees and volunteers alike.

Would more people choosing to adopt a shelter animal solve all of your problems?

It would certainly help but the solution is multi-faceted. Right now it is not about there not being enough homes in the community, but the fact that there are not enough homes choosing to adopt. But we need to look at the issue from a variety of perspectives. We need to see more people spay and neuter their pets to prevent unwanted litters. We need people to provide pet identification for their pet so if their pet is lost the community can get that pet back home without it ever needing to come to AHS or any other animal welfare organization for care.

This last year, we saw a seven percent rate of reduction in euthanasia and we are looking to see further decreases as we implement all the operational aspects of Bound for Home.
This new process will mean we can improve our capacity to provide care for the animals that need more, need something special. It also means we can move animals more quickly to the adoption centers.

Next January you are going to change the intake procedures for surrendered animals and move to intake by appointment. What is that and exactly how will that work?

As a staff we have examined the areas where we have the greatest potential to affect the overall outcomes for animals. One is by reducing the number of animals that come in the door. A critical part of intake by appointment is a pre-intake process where before an individual even comes to surrender an animal we find out why, what is the issue. And hopefully for a percentage of those animals we can direct pet owners to resources that can help them solve the problem in a different way other than surrendering.

Can you give us an example?

So it might be a cat that’s scratching the furniture and they don’t know how to fix the problem and it may seem that the simple solution is to surrender it and start with a new cat. But scratching is a natural behavior and there are methods people can use to discourage undesired scratching and encourage scratching in the appropriate place. There might be a cat that’s suddenly not using its litter box. It’s very possible there’s a medical problem and people might not know that. There could be a dog that has some nuisance behaviors related to barking. Our Training and Behavior department could assist with that. The things that help animals and people live together, that is what we can facilitate.

Also, through intake by appointment we have some measure of the flow of animals coming into the shelter and can better control that. We will know exactly when an animal is coming in and why. This allows us to provide what is needed at the point of intake. Right now we have no control over when animals come to us. In addition, we will be able to get more detailed information about a pet regarding their behavior, health and personality which will really help our efforts with prospective adopters.

This new process will mean we can improve our capacity to provide care for the animals that need more, need something special. It also means we can move animals more quickly to the adoption centers.

But, whether we like it or not, there will always be animals that have very serious aggression issues or very serious health issues that are not appropriate for us to place with an individual or a family or another rescue.

Sixty-two percent of the animals AHS receives are cats. How will Bound for Home benefit cats?

In this community we have been fortunate to see changes that have benefited dogs in the past 20 years. Leash laws and an emphasis on sterilization have had a positive impact for dogs and because of that we have seen a significant reduction of dogs coming into our shelters.

Frankly, it hasn’t had an impact for cats yet and we want to see that changed. For many people in the community, spay/neuter is an unattainable need for their animal. There are many families or individuals with animals they care for deeply, but they may not have the financial capacity to afford the surgery. But it’s important that we make it attainable for them.
How will you measure your success and outcomes?
Success to us means that we see a reduction in the number of animals coming into our organization, a continued reduction in euthanasia and a dramatic increase in the number of animals we spay and neuter through the public program. It will also be measured by the number of people taking advantage of the supportive services we offer and by those choosing not to surrender their animals. The most important measure will be if every animal in our community has a home.

These efforts will take some time and we will need the community’s help every step of the way.

Anything else?
The other day an AHS donor said to me, “Living in the shelter is like living in a hotel as compared to living in a home.” And that’s exactly true. It’s not quite as nice in a hotel and you can make do, but it’s not like living in a home. And at some point you want to be home. Bound for Home is going to help us make that happen for more animals.
For more than five years I have been volunteering with the dogs at Animal Humane Society. This is a story about a special dog that came into the society. I called her Sweet Girl.

The Animal Humane Society had taken in multiple Labs (well over 20) from a breeding operation which became unmanageable for the breeder. The dogs were surrendered at the Golden Valley shelter in late February of 2008.

I had the opportunity to work with some of these dogs as part of our Adoption Preparation program. They were all very timid, unsocialized and fearful of interactions with people. They were small in stature, tails tucked between their legs, and heads lowered, but not at all aggressive. Because of the large number of dogs received at once, the dogs that were doing the best were placed on the adoption floor first—after about a week. Although they were doing "okay" they still had many fear/socialization issues and potential adopters were advised of the challenges of adopting these dogs and their special needs.

Sweet Girl was one of these rescued Labs. She was one of the first group to be placed on the adoption floor in early March. She was adopted and taken to a home more than 15 miles from mine, but after just three days in her new home she escaped and ran away (very typical of these
dogs who seemed to have a flight response). After nearly three weeks on the run and navigating multiple major freeways, Sweet Girl found her way to my neighborhood and my backyard. Coincidence? I don't believe so. I live in a neighborhood of condos, apartments and businesses surrounding a neighborhood park. One evening, about the third week in March, I was sitting in my living room and saw a streak of yellow which looked like a dog. I jumped up to look but it was gone. Over the next couple of days I had periodic sightings of a yellow dog that really resembled the posture and stance of the rescued Labs from AHS.

I started putting milk bones out on my patio and overnight they would disappear. Because I work during the day and it would be dark when I'd get home, it was not until the following Saturday that I really got a good look at Sweet Girl. There she was at the other end of my building. I came out armed with hot dogs, but after I took two steps in her direction she was off like lightning. That dog was fast!

Several more times over the weekend she was “hanging around.” I would go outside and sit on the ground with my back to her, toss a small piece of hot dog or cheese in her direction and glance out of the corner of my eye to see if she was interested. Ever so slowly she would approach and eat the goodies. Very gradually I’d rotate my body until I could toss it facing her—always a little closer to me. By the end of the weekend she was even taking things from my hand—albeit with her neck outstretched and her body as far back as she could stand from me.

Needless to say, it was a very slow and intermittent process but we were making progress in getting acquainted, and over the coming week she was showing up more frequently near my patio. However, she still would not let me touch her.

Every night I would leave out dog food, milk bones, and water for her. By morning she’d have faithfully cleaned her plate. During the next weeks as she was hanging out in our park, more and more people became aware of her. With good intentions some were trying to catch her, but that was only making her more skittish. Other well meaning neighbors were doing as I was and leaving food out for her. As I walked through the park I would find containers of cat food, dog food, Chex mix, cereal, deli meats, etc.

Continued on next page.
in various places. I even talked with one woman in a second floor apartment who told me she had “rolled a ham” off her balcony for the dog! Sweet Girl had a virtual smorgasbord going on in the park! (I later found out that she gained over ten pounds while on the run.)

One evening I was sitting in my living room, looking out the window, as a gentle snow was falling. All of a sudden, I saw Sweet Girl streak past the window and across the park. Her tail was uncharacteristically high in the air and she seemed very happy to be running free. There was a part of me that was happy she could, probably for the first time in her life, run free and just be a dog. Part of me didn’t want to be able to catch her. I just wanted her to be our “Park Dog.” There was the other part of me, however, that realized that being free is also very dangerous and there were a lot of things lurking out there (traffic, hostile people, weather, unhealthy foods, etc.) that she needed protection from.

As the days went on, I watched Sweet Girl observing the world around her. It really seemed like she was trying to figure things out. There is a walking path that runs in front of my patio area and connects to the park. Sweet Girl would lie under a tree and just observe as people would walk by. She was particularly interested when people would walk by with their dogs on a leash.

After a while I noticed that if someone was walking alone and passed by she would run off and follow them at a distance. She never did this when someone had a dog with them. Perhaps she had come to the conclusion that dogs were supposed to accompany walkers, and if someone was alone it was her job to accompany them. She would walk a few steps behind, but started following people all around the park. There was one woman whom I believed Sweet Girl accompanied to the bus stop every morning.

In addition to our meetings on my patio for food, I started walking out into the park several times each day. I would say, “Where’s my Sweet Girl,” and before long she would appear out of nowhere. She never did this when someone had a dog with them. Perhaps she had come to the conclusion that dogs were supposed to accompany walkers, and if someone was alone it was her job to accompany them. She would walk a few steps behind, but started following people all around the park. There was one woman whom I believed Sweet Girl accompanied to the bus stop every morning.

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closed her eyes. Once back at the shelter we were able to scan her microchip, confirm she was one of the group of rescued Labs as I had suspected, and piece together the rest of her history. The previous adopters opted not to reclaim her so she was again in the care of AHS.

As I was scheduled to be volunteering that day, I was able to check in on her several times that afternoon. I was so glad that I could give her the consistency of being able to see someone she was familiar with now that she was in a different environment. I believe that for the first time in more than four weeks this precious dog got some good sleep, knowing she was safe and secure.

For the next two weeks I went off to work in the morning and at 5:30 p.m. would head straight to AHS to check in on my girl. I knew other wonderful staff and volunteers were attending to her during the day, but I needed to be there to see her in the evenings. Each day she was doing better and better—unbelievable for a dog that just a week or so before would not even let me touch her.

The first week she was back at the shelter she was kept downstairs for rehabilitation and socialization. By the end of the first week she was placed back in the Adoption Center. I can't even begin to tell you how hard I prayed for this dog to find just the right owner.

On Thursday evening while I was sitting in her kennel, a nice young man in his 30s, named Edward, came in and began talking very gently to the dog directly across from us. When he noticed us I explained a little bit about Sweet Girl's history and asked if he was looking for a dog. He was thinking about getting a dog, but as we talked more it seemed that given various factors, it might not be the best match. We had a very nice conversation and he proceeded to look at some of the other dogs.

The next evening when I returned, guess who was sitting in front of Sweet Girl's kennel? Edward. He stated that he had done a lot of thinking and really wanted to give it a try. We discussed the potential issues from the prior day and he outlined solutions he had come up with for these issues. He spent more time visiting with Sweet Girl that evening and then put an adoption hold on her until he could come back and adopt her the next day.

Several weeks after he adopted her, Edward brought Sweet Girl and her big sister Babe (a Shepherd mix he had previously adopted from the Animal Humane Society) back over to my place. She got to sit on the patio again, show off to some of the neighbors who had also been so concerned about her, and she finally got to walk through the park on a leash with her very own master.

Editor’s Note

Now, more than two years later, Edward Fulton and Sweet Girl (now named Bean) and Babe (now 13-years-old) live in Reno, NV. Edward reports that Bean has learned how to be a dog from Babe. “Bean looks to Babe on how to react to new situations and gets a great deal of comfort from her,” says Edward. “This spring, after all of this time, I think Bean finally made the decision to adopt me.”

Bean loves spending time at a lakeside dog park swimming and retrieving and being a crowd favorite. When she has been off-leash and has had the opportunity to run off, she never has — instead, it’s at Edward’s side where she wants to be.

“The thing about adopted dogs is that they have a level of love for you that is unbelievable, says Edward. “It’s as if they really understand where they came from and know that they are safe now. It’s a tremendous gift.”

The Sweet Girl story is part of a Christian devotional book – Creatures One & All, Devotions from a Dog Shelter, by Kathy Kuehner. This story has been adapted for Animal Tracks and is used by permission. To obtain a complete copy of Creatures One & All please email: creaturesoneandall@comcast.net.

To view a video of Kathy Kuehner working with a dog in the Adoption Preparation program visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/ATFall10.
In this season of giving, when you help all animals

The animals in our lives can give us joy, love, and even a sense of peace. They get us to laugh through our anger and they teach us to slow down and enjoy the simple things. Sadly, in our community there are too many animals brought to shelters and not enough caring people choosing to open their hearts and homes to help them.

But, Animal Humane Society will be there for animals in need to provide them with warmth, shelter and care this holiday season. You can remember the animals that are less fortunate than your own by supporting Animal Humane Society during this season of giving.

Humane Leader Barbara Osadcky reflects on the rewards of giving

Giving feels great. But I look at my dog and what he provides in my life and I want to do even more.

My first dog brought me great joy and contentment. He came into my life when he was already an adult and was a wonderful gentleman. As I became aware of the abuse and neglect some animals endure, I needed to do something, so I signed up to raise funds for the Walk for Animals.

At first I felt embarrassed to ask for money. But over the years I’ve realized that it is my commitment and passion for this cause that makes the difference. I believe in the efforts of Animal Humane Society.

As I have become more involved, I’ve had the most amazing experiences. My dog Pembroke even joined in the fun of helping animals at the Whisker Whirl event.

It is like anything you set your mind to... once you believe in something you need to tell everyone about it. I set goals for myself, sometimes beyond what I think I can do, but I make that commitment and let everyone know. People that I approach sense my commitment and they want to make a difference, too.

The thrill now is encouraging others to raise money for AHS. As I meet other fundraisers, I love to challenge them. I encourage them to do more and to share their enthusiasm with others. We all need to do what we can to help. Take it one contribution at a time, but stretch yourself. Making a little bit of a difference is a great feeling. But it’s never enough... so keep aiming higher!

For more information on becoming a member of the Humane Leaders Circle please call (763) 432-4325.

honor someone special

Wondering what to get for the animal-lover on your list or the person (or pet!) who has everything? Consider making a gift in honor of your friends, family or favorite animals this year. You will help make wishes come true for animals still waiting to find loving homes in our community—and your loved ones will feel they’ve been part of the magic of creating happy new beginnings for animals in need.

For more information go to www.animalhumanesociety.org/tributes.

To contribute to Animal Humane Society visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/holiday or use the envelope in this magazine to make your gift.
put stock in animals

Putting stock toward helping animals puts cash in your stocking!

With gifts of stock held more than 12 months, your investment earnings can provide support for the animals and significant tax savings for you. Your gift will qualify you for a tax deduction based on the full market value of your stock—plus you avoid the capital gains tax that would otherwise arise from selling it. Donate a gift of stock this holiday season to help the animals in our care and gain a little extra cash in your stocking!

If you would like more information or have made a gift of stock, please contact Amy Olsen at (763) 432-4528 or aolsen@animalhumanesociety.org. The broker does not automatically notify us when transfers are made.

Instructions for Stock Transfer
Brokerage Firm: Wells Fargo Advisors
Contact: Abby Dority, (612) 342-0500
Name on Account: Animal Humane Society
Account #: 4547-5660
DTC #: 0141
Federal ID #: 41-0693842

make a year-long difference

PAW ( Planned Account Withdrawal) Partners is a group of generous donors who want to contribute to animals in need all year long! Many donors find they can do more for animals through PAW, as it allows you to budget your giving across the year. You choose how much you would like to donate and PAW automatically deducts your gift each month from a credit card or checking/savings account.

For more information or to sign up, contact Laura Minette at (763) 489-2213 or go to www.animalhumanesociety.org/paw.

“We’re a couple of pushovers who want to take in every stray and find them a home! The Animal Humane Society can do that more effectively than we can, so we want to further their cause. For us, PAW is a quick and easy way to remember to give animals the help they deserve.”
– Pat and Marcus Sampson
(with Dillon, Mr. Moto & Yoyo)

“Our experience with how Animal Humane Society cares for animals has had a profound impact on us. Now we have the ability to help by donating stock that has done well in the market and getting a charitable deduction and tax savings in return.”
– David & Vicki Fagerlee with Daisy

“Putting stock toward helping animals puts cash in your stocking!”

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Snow Angel Stocking Stuffers
Back by popular demand

For the person (or pet) who has everything!
This year we’re bringing back our popular Snow Angel Stocking Stuffers—a sponsorship package that makes a great gift for the holidays. When purchasing a sponsorship in a loved one’s name, you help shelter, feed and provide medical care for animals in need.

Snow Angels are available online at www.animalhumanesociety.org/snowangels at any of our five sites or by calling (763) 489-1589.

A limited number of sponsorships are available so order early to ensure your preferred Snow Angel!

In appreciation of your support, the gift recipient will receive:
- Special card with their Snow Angel’s photo and personal story
- A certificate of care
- Gift envelope to present or put under the tree
- Warm fuzzies that last much longer than a gift card

It’s a great way to send a gift that both you and your recipient can feel great about! We have five new angels to choose from, and we’re bringing back your favorites from last year. Plus this year some Snow Angels will have bonus video content so you learn more about their story and see your furry friend in action.

What folks have to say about their Snow Angels

“What a great idea! I bought for my friend who is an animal fanatic, and she LOVED it! A wonderful gift that won’t end up being returned or stuck in a closet somewhere. I will purchase again next year!!"

“Excellent idea! I gave them to five people and all of them thought it was great!”

“My nieces and nephews loved the standing photo and the certificate. I thought all of it was done really well.”

“I give what I can throughout the year but the Snow Angels was a really fun way to give and surprise family & friends at the same time. I thought it was a great idea and will definitely do it again next year.”

Due to production time, these featured Snow Angels have already found loving new homes—some the same day we took their photo for this program. While we understand the desire to have Snow Angels that are currently available for adoption, the last thing we want to do is delay an animal from their chance at finding a new home. To see the animals that your funds will support, please visit us online at www.animalhumanesociety.org
It is often said that human siblings share similar qualities. They may look alike, talk alike, even act alike. The same can be said for animals, minus the talking part of course. This is certainly true for beagle brothers Bert and Ernie; they have the same floppy ears, the same sweet demeanor, they even move and turn their heads in unison. But Bert and Ernie share one shocking similarity that no one could have imagined.

Two-year-olds Bert and Ernie came to Animal Humane Society in April 2010. They were found as strays in rural Iowa and were brought to People for Animal Welfare (PAW), a small non-profit organization located in northeast Iowa. Without an actual shelter and with limited foster homes, PAW did not have room for them so they brought them to Animal Humane Society. Upon arrival, veterinary staff immediately noticed that both beagles were limping, each keeping weight off one rear leg. They were given medication for the pain, but in order to determine the cause they would need X-rays. Unfortunately, AHS does not have the equipment or funds to do X-rays on each injured animal that is received. That is when AHS relies on the generosity of private veterinary clinics and teaching organizations that help with some of the more specialized cases.

In the case of Bert and Ernie, Animal Humane Society turned to Dr. Norman Purrington, owner of North St. Paul Animal Hospital, a veterinary clinic that donates X-rays once a month. The X-rays showed a disturbing discovery—both Bert and Ernie had been shot with a gun and both had badly broken legs as a result. The thought of these precious pups enduring the pain of what appeared to be an intentional injury overwhelmed the Animal Humane Society staff with feelings of sadness. “The second Bert and Ernie crawled into my lap, licked my chin and looked up at me with those sad little eyes I knew we had to do anything and everything to help them,” says AHS Veterinarian Dr. Erin Cunningham.

Dr. Erin noted that Bert and Ernie’s injuries were severe, and if they were going to walk normally again, the pair would need treatment from a specialist trained in orthopedic care. With help from a private practitioner, Bert and Ernie could get the second chance they deserved.

Continued on next page.

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**Beagles Bert and Ernie have a friend in Dr. Razz**

*By Carrie Libera
Photos by Miroslavich Photography*

*My goal is to never give up on an animal. I want to do what’s best for them, even if it takes a lot of time.*

– Dr. Razz
Enter Dr. Lara Rasmussen, a board-certified surgeon who works with Veterinary Surgical Specialists in Inver Grove Heights, MN. Dr. Razz, as she is affectionately called by AHS staff, specializes in orthopedic surgeries, making her the ideal person for Bert and Ernie’s case.

Since 2005, Dr. Razz has been donating her time and expertise to help AHS veterinarians diagnose and treat special cases. She realizes that the number of shelter animals that need special medical care is endless, so she takes on as many cases as she can, generally fitting in three surgeries and three exams at each weekly visit to AHS’s Golden Valley facility. “I value the hard work Animal Humane Society vets put in and I want to be an extension of that,” says Dr. Razz. “First and foremost it’s about the animals, but it’s also about working with people I respect at an organization that has stepped up and made it possible for me to help.”

She follows the cases from diagnosis all through recovery. According to Kathie Johnson, AHS director of animal services, Dr. Razz has devoted nearly 2,000 hours of her time and talents to AHS free of charge. “Her contributions alone have amounted to approximately $750,000 worth of medical services for shelter animals which is just beyond amazing,” says Kathie.

Throughout the summer, Dr. Razz spent time each week with Bert and Ernie, splinting their legs and examining their progress. When it became apparent that Ernie would not heal with a splint alone, she performed surgery, removing bullet fragments and fusing the joint with a metal plate, screws, and synthetic bone grafts. The wounds were slow to heal,
but Dr. Razz never lost hope that they would recover. "My goal is to never give up on an animal," says Dr. Razz. "I want to do what's best for them, even if it takes a lot of time."

Over time Bert and Ernie grew to know and trust her. After a few weeks they no longer required sedation for the re-splinting; they would simply climb into her lap as she sat on the floor and wait patiently while she re-wrapped new orange and green bandages around their delicate legs.

In mid-July, Bert and Ernie's splints and bandages were removed for the last time. They spent one more week recovering in the foster home they had lived in for two months, learning how to walk without the splints to which they had become accustomed. (See the adjacent article for more information on fostering.)

Finally, after three months of treatment, Bert and Ernie were back on all fours and ready for adoption. After all they'd been through, AHS staff knew they needed to be adopted into a home together.

After a few days at the Adoption Center, a woman and her 12-year-old son spotted the pair and fell in love. They brought the dogs home where they settled in immediately — going for walks, relaxing by the patio door window and sleeping in the same bed. Their new family says, "We're going to take good care of them. After all they've been through they finally have a place to call home for good."

Bert and Ernie's story is all too common — thousands of injured companion animals arrive at Animal Humane Society's five locations each year. "Whether it's a surgery, a dental treatment, or even the occasional X-ray, these services go a long way in giving shelter animals a second chance," says AHS Veterinarian Dr. Susan Spence. "With the help of generous private practitioners like Dr. Razz we are able to make a big difference in the quality of life for animals in need."

Carrie Libera is on staff at Animal Humane Society. She and her husband Jason would like to dedicate this story to Lucky Lou Von Schnauzer, their rescued collie/coonhound who recently passed away.

It's not just the folks in surgical masks and scrubs that make a difference in the lives of shelter animals in need of medical care. Bert and Ernie needed months of treatment for their broken legs, and during that time they needed a home to live in while they healed. Animal Humane Society Volunteer Katy Shannon took them into her home and cared for them, bringing them in for weekly check-ups and helping them get around with their splints.

Without people like Katy, animals may not get the treatment they need. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of foster volunteers willing to take in medical recovery cases, something the AHS staff of eight veterinarians struggle with every day. "The need for post-surgical foster volunteers creates a bottleneck in the process," says AHS Senior Veterinarian Dr. Melanie Sharpe. "We need to have a foster home in place prior to surgery to ensure that the rehabilitation takes place with the individual attention and quiet setting provided best in a home. If we cannot find a foster home, the animal is forced to wait."

Veterinarians and veterinary technicians are great candidates for medical foster care, but anyone can learn how to care for animals while they recover. AHS's foster volunteer program is continually in need of foster volunteers. According to Kelly Anderson, who coordinates the program, foster volunteers receive complete instructions on the care needs related to that specific animal — whether it be physical therapy in the home, activity restrictions, daily medications, or shelter visits for rechecks on a weekly or biweekly basis. The recovery time in a foster home is generally a month or two before the animal is ready for adoption.

It's not just post-surgical cases that need a home to recover. There is also a great need for foster homes for dogs being treated for heartworm. The treatment lasts a little more than a month, and during that time the dog needs a quiet home, limited activity, and as much rest as possible. If foster volunteers have any questions or concerns while caring for medical recovery cases, they can call AHS veterinary services at any time.

"Every foster volunteer I've spoken with that has given time and care to these animals in need says they get more back, knowing in some small way they've made a huge difference in one animal's life," says AHS Veterinarian Dr. Susan Spence.

If you are interested in becoming a foster volunteer, visit www.animalhumane.org/help or call (673) 432-4833.
HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION.

-I went to doggy school.-Lucky

-I met some new friends.-Buddy

-I climbed to the summit.-Cleo

-I got a new haircut.-Sophie

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Our Golden Valley pet boarding location is a second home to dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, fish, even a pig or two. Personalized pet care from a staff that knows all about caring for animals.

animal house
pet boarding at animal humane society

"It's the only care for our dog, Buster, that we will even consider when we go on vacation.

We know he is in good hands, will be well cared-for and LOVED!"

- Deb Anderson

Mention this ad to receive your choice of a complimentary dog walk or two hours when you board your pet between
October 1 - November 30, 2010.
how you can help

There are a variety of ways in which you can help Animal Humane Society.

Volunteer  We rely on the contributions of our wonderful volunteers. If you are interested in helping with shelter activities or special events we have many opportunities for you to consider. Volunteers assist in many ways, with customers on our adoption floor, surgery, education, special events and more. We request a minimum one-year commitment and approximately six hours per month. For more information, call (763) 432-4833 or email volunteer@animalhumanesociety.org

Contribute to our wish list  We appreciate donations to our wish list. At this time we are in need of the following: bath towels, newspapers, cat and dog brushes and combs, gift cards for animal and shelter supplies (PETCO, PetSmart, Cub, Rainbow), cat bedding (fleece fabric, rugs, blankets,) cat toys, canned food (cats, dogs, puppy and kittens), food bowls, bleach, spray bottles, Timothy hay and Kleenex and paper towels. We gladly accept donations at any of our five campuses.

Become a foster volunteer  We need individuals to provide temporary loving homes to dogs and cats still nursing their babies, or litters of kittens and puppies too young for adoption. The required time commitment may be a few days or several weeks. For more information, call (763) 432-4833 or email volunteer@animalhumanesociety.org

Double—or triple—your gift through a corporate match  Hundreds of companies will match the charitable gifts made by their employees or retirees. Both large companies and small businesses match. Simply completing a short form from your employer's human resources department can mean another gift to the Animal Humane Society. Learn more about matching gifts by contacting your employer's human resources department.

Include the Animal Humane Society in your estate plan and plan for your pet's future, too  Making a gift to the Animal Humane Society through your will or estate plan can be a rewarding way to show you care. Your generosity will ensure that we remain a force for good in the lives of animals and people for years to come. As a benefit joining the Legacy Circle, members can enroll their pets in the Loved for Life program and we will re-home your pet if you should become incapacitated or predecease them. Our Legacy Circle members have made a commitment to the Society and we, in turn, make a commitment to finding a new home for their beloved pet based on their instructions. Learn more about planned giving options at www.animalhumanesociety.org/plannedgiving or contact Melissa Peacock at (763) 489-1575 or mpeacock@animalhumanesociety.org.

Purina ONE feeds all of the Animal Humane Society’s cats, dogs, kittens and puppies.
memorials and honorariums

January 1, 2010 through June 31, 2010

We are grateful for your generous support of the animals through memorial and tribute gifts and are pleased to acknowledge these gifts in this magazine. We are committed to providing quality content with information about our programs and services and want to ensure that your donations are directly supporting the animals in our care. We sincerely appreciate every gift made in honor or memory of a loved one or pet, however, only pet memorials of $100 or more will be listed in this publication.

All memorial and tribute gifts will be acknowledged on our website at www.animalhumanesociety.org/memtrib and will be updated monthly. Thank you.

IN MEMORY OF A PET

REMEMBERED BY...

ABBY
Kimberlie M. Brown
Mary Wahlstrand
and Mark Bohnhorst

ABBY
Patrick and Karen Larver
ADDIE, LUNA, ZZ & MAC
Robert and Joan Klober

AJAX
Anonymous

ALL OF MY PETS
Tama and Vernon Krause

AMY & DAISY
Peggy and William Trebesch

ASCOT
Gillette Childrens Foundation

Steffi Power: Bill, Jon, Lynn,
Andrea, Bonnie, Bech, Judy,
and Jenny

ASHES
Marcia Brun

BABY DOLL
Mark Lespche

BARNEY DOLL
Gloria King

BELLA
James Schreiber
and Karen Klyczek

BETSY & BUNNY
Lisa Friedlander

BRANDY
Lyne Kasper

BRANDY
Julie and Marc Jensen

CALEB
Pamela Lowe

CALLIE
Karen Baker

CANDY, NAMEEE & MUFFY
Annette Novak

CASEY
Susanne Johnson

CHAMP
Lea and Susan Hegt

CHARLIE
Mary Jo and Dean Lindholm

CHESTER
Nancy and Steve Radaw

CHI CHI, CHELSEA & SHOWBIZ
Joan Olsen

CHLOE
Kathryn Davis-Messier
and Jeffrey Messier

CHLOE
Thomas Senn

CHLOE
Andree Girard

CINDER, PENNY, PEPPER, PENNY II
and PENNY III

Velerie and John Sparrow

COSETTE
Lydia and Daniel High

CUDDELS
Gary Glunz

DARBY
Megan Arnold-Wright
and Kevin Wright

DARRYL
Susan and Robert Ostraw

DIEZEN & JURGEN
Barbara Johnson

DUCHESS
Larry Higley

ECHO & MENNIE
Janet and Michael Halmquist

EDDE
Corinne Wright

ERAY, KELLY, RASCAL, PENNY,
POKEY, MOOKER & MANGO
Dorothy Swenson

JILL
Dr. Michael McGowan
and Kathy Angel

JOE
Debra and Ben Behrens

JOEY
James Schreiber
and Karen Klyczek

KARLIE
Shauna Paul

KATE
Susan Hackney

KATE
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Richard Gibson

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Joy Braun

MAGGIE
Patricia Biebach

MAGGIE
Janethon Franzen

MAJOR & DASTY
Carole and William Reichert

MAPLE
Linda, Jerry and Rosie

MARRY, SODER & GELPIN

Anne and Sten Glad

Max
Gail Vanderwaal

Max
Poty Falardeau

Max
Barbara Merrl

HOBY, KELLY, RASCAL, PENNY,
POKEY, MOOKER & MANGO
Dorothy Swenson

JILL
Dr. Michael McGowan
and Kathy Angel

JOE
Debra and Ben Behrens

JOEY
James Schreiber
and Karen Klyczek

KARLIE
Shauna Paul

KATE
Susan Hackney

KATE
Annamarie and Rick Schat

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Joy Braun

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Patricia Biebach

MAGGIE
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MAJOR & DASTY
Carole and William Reichert

MAPLE
Linda, Jerry and Rosie

MARRY, SODER & GELPIN

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Gail Vanderwaal

Max
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Barbara Merrill

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Sally Roscoe

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Gregory Menzel

MISHA
Judith Foley

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Suzy Stone

MINNIE
Marcia and Joseph Lantta

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MOKHA
Neal Jeffee

MOLLY
Avriam and Aviva

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Richard Sweet

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PRINCESS
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PUCK
Terri Miller

PUDGE
Stacy Seiberlich

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& EDITTEE ‘MEX”

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Randall Fuller

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ANGELINA
Rabin Garman

ANNE
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ANNE
John Stein

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James Lovelock

BENNY
Donna Daniels

BERNIE
Jonalyn and Bill Lipka
In remembrance: Frances Young Welke

Frances “Frankie” Welke was a loyal volunteer at our St. Paul site who died suddenly on April 30th of a rare stroke. Though only 18 years old, she loved the Animal Humane Society and the time she spent volunteering, and animals were a big part of her life. As a fitting tribute, her classmates at St. Paul Academy donated dozens of soft fleece blankets that they made especially for the cats that she had devoted so much kindness to as a volunteer.

Friends and family also gave generously to the Animal Humane Society in remembrance of Frankie. The Frances Young Welke Memorial Endowment has been created to support the needs of the animals at our St. Paul facility in honor of this sweet young woman who cared deeply for the animals in our care and was an inspiration for the people who knew and loved her.

The following donors contributed $100 or more in her memory:

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memorials and honorariums

WENNEE
Susan Atwood
YOGI
Barb Dare
YOSHI
Paul Keck
ZIGGY
Victoria Lincoln
ZOE
Kay Dobb
ZOEE
Sandy Bjerga

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Kari Boardman and
Stephen Swenson
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Roxanne and Tim Peterson

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Jerry and Jackie Palmer
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NICK
Tracy Jennings
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Cindi and Westley Days
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Ellen Timpe
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Rhonda Roth
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Genna DiBrell and
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Geoffrey Fleming
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Peter Tressel
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Make your next gift in memory or in honor of an animal you love

Your support of Animal Humane Society can also be a wonderful way to remember the special animals in your life. Instead of spoiling them with treats and toys, demonstrate your love by helping animals less fortunate than your own. Gifts of $100 or more made in memory or tribute to an animal will be listed here in Animal Tracks. All memorial and tribute gifts will be acknowledged on our website at www.animalhumanesociety.org/memtrib and will be updated monthly.

To make a memorial or tribute gift, you may:
• use the donation envelope provided in the center fold of this issue
• visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/donate and select the honor/memorial option
• or call our Development office at (763) 489-1589

Create a personal fundraising webpage to honor the special people, animals and events in your life at:
www.animalhumanesociety.org/tributes

Thank you!
special events

Fall Wine Dinner
Friday, November 5
The Saint Paul Hotel, St. Paul
Enjoy exceptional courses prepared by outstanding local chefs and paired with exquisite wines by Ray Zemke from The Cellars Wine & Spirits. You'll have the opportunity to bid on exclusive auction items, but most importantly, you'll support the programs, services and animals of Animal Humane Society. For ticket and silent and live auctions benefiting the organization, call (763) 432-4842 or email whiskerwhirl@animalhumanesociety.org

Investing for Retirement Seminar
Thursday and Saturday, November 11 and 13
Retired financial advisor Erica Whittlinger will share her expertise with Animal Humane Society donors on how to simplify your finances, guarantee lifetime income and ensure care for your pets after you've passed away. As an avid supporter of AHS, Erica can also demonstrate how you can develop a financial plan with your humane values in mind. Join us on Thursday, November 11 at 7 p.m. at AHS's Golden Valley location or Saturday, November 13 at 9:30 a.m. at the Como Park Lakeside Pavilion at 1360 Lexington Parkway North, St. Paul. There is no charge for the seminar, but space is limited. RSVP to giving@animalhumanesociety.org or (763) 432-4525.

Whisker Whirl
Saturday, February 19
The Depot, Minneapolis
Dress to the canines and party with your dog—and Minnesota Viking Ben Leber and his wife Abby—at Whisker Whirl! This party for you and your pup will be an unforgettable evening of doggy fun complete with cocktails, dinner, and silent and live auctions benefiting the animals of Animal Humane Society. For ticket information, call (763) 432-4842 or email whiskerwhirl@animalhumanesociety.org

training & playgroups

Introduction to Pet Dog Training
Find out about the dog training classes offered at Animal Humane Society. People only at this first session please. All classes are held from 6:30–8 p.m. No registration necessary. Classes are available in Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, Woodbury and Now Boarding. For exact dates and a schedule of all our dog training classes, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/training or call (763) 489-2217.

Introduction to Therapy Animals
Are you interested in learning more about how you and your pet (dog, cat, guinea pig, rabbit, horse and more) can become part of a visiting therapy team? Join us to find out more about what therapy animals do, what training you and your animal will need, and how to become a registered therapy animal team. This session is free, but registration is required. For more information, call (763) 489-2220 or email education@animalhumanesociety.org. If your dog has already received a Canine Good Citizen certificate, call the AHS Training Center at (763) 489-2217 for information on therapy dog classes.

Yappy Hour!
Well-behaved dogs are welcome with their dog-loving owners at this event. Admission is $10 for the public and $7 for enrolled Training School students. Dog owners need to bring vaccination records (rabies, bordetella, distemper, and parvovirus). Two sessions are held at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in Golden Valley. For exact dates, please visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/training or call (763) 489-2217.

Bunny Basics
This is a class for people interested in getting a rabbit or those who already have one and want to know more about their care. (Please, no rabbits in class.) The class is free, but donations to the Minnesota Companion Rabbit Society are welcome. Register by calling (763) 489-2234. All sessions are held from 6:30–8 p.m. on the dates below.

- October 7, Woodbury
- October 11, Golden Valley
**youth programs**

**PetSet Youth Club**

Be a part of the PetSet Youth Club! Members learn from animal experts, examine animal related current events, develop community service projects to help animals, and more. Groups are available for youth in grades 5–8 and 9–12 in Golden Valley and grades 5–8 in Woodbury. PetSet groups meet twice a month. New members can join anytime. For more information visit [www.animalhumaneorganization.org](http://www.animalhumaneorganization.org)/petsetyouthclub, call (763) 489-2220 or email education@animalhumaneorganization.org.

**Unleashed Express Mini Day Camps**

Looking for something new to do on those no-school days? Unleash your child's love of animals with Unleashed Express Mini Camp. These day camp programs include a variety of activities. Kids will learn about responsible pet ownership, create items to make shelter animals more comfortable, spend some time with shelter animals, and more. Camps are available for kids in grades 3–7 and run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and are not a repeat of summer camp. Look for more information on our website at [www.animalhumaneorganization.org/unleashed](http://www.animalhumaneorganization.org/unleashed) or call (763) 489-2220.

**October 21-22, Golden Valley and Woodbury**

**tours, clinics and groups**

**AHS Tours**

Ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes at AHS? Join us for a tour of our [Golden Valley](http://www.animalhumaneorganization.org) facility. You'll learn more about AHS and the animals we serve, and get a guided tour through the working areas of our shelter. Cost is $1 per person. Participants must be at least 6 years of age. Space is limited, and registration is required. All tours held from 7–8 p.m. on the dates below. Call (763) 489-2220 or email education@animalhumaneorganization.org to register.

- **October 5**
- **December 8**
- **February 1**

**Microchip and Nail Clinics**

Microchip your pets for their safety in the event they are lost. Nail trims also available. Microchipping is $40 and nail trims are $12 plus tax. Clinics are held from 1–3 p.m. at the locations and on the dates listed below. For more information visit our online [Events Calendar](http://www.animalhumaneorganization.org/events) or call (763) 522-4325.

- **Buffalo**, Second to last Sunday of each month with exceptions
- **Coon Rapids**, Second Sunday of each month
- **Golden Valley**, Second Sunday of each month with exceptions
- **St. Paul**, First Sunday of each month
- **Woodbury**, Third Saturday of each month

**Pet Loss Support Group**

This support group is an informal and ongoing support group led by a trained facilitator for those dealing with the grief caused by the loss of a pet. There is no admission charge or reservation required. The group meets in Conference Room D across from the Training Center in Golden Valley, Mondays at 7 p.m., except for holidays. For easy and convenient access, please park in the North parking lot. For more information, please call (612) 730-6016.

- **November 4, Woodbury**
- **November 8, Golden Valley**
- **December 2, Woodbury**
- **December 13, Golden Valley**
- **January 6, Woodbury**
- **January 10, Golden Valley**
- **February 3, Woodbury**
- **February 14, Golden Valley**
- **March 3, Woodbury**
- **March 14, Golden Valley**

**Hoppy Hour**

A social hour for rabbits and their owners held at 1 p.m. every other Sunday in Golden Valley. $3 per rabbit. For exact dates and information, please contact our Training School at (763) 489-2217 or rabbitagility@mn.companionrabbit.org. All rabbits must be spayed or neutered.

**Rabbit Agility**

An opportunity for caged and house rabbits to explore and get exercise and mental stimulation at the same time. For more information, please visit the website of our partner, [Minnesota Companion Rabbit Society](http://www.mnhouserabbit.org) at [www.mnhouserabbit.org](http://www.mnhouserabbit.org) or email rabbitagility@mn.companionrabbit.org. Classes are $25 for five weeks and held in Golden Valley. All rabbits must be spayed or neutered.
$50...What does it get you?

- A month at the gym that you never use
- 10 bags of cheese curds and the loss of your self respect
- 5 minutes at a casino
- A happy hour you’ll never remember

Or a loyal, devoted friend who loves you unconditionally and makes you laugh?

We’ve reduced the adoption fees on all adult cats. We want them to find homes! Adopt any adult cat for $50 (already sterilized, vaccinated and microchipped!) and you’ll help save a life.

See who is waiting for you at animalhumanesociety.org