



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 help animals.

Through comprehensive programs and services, 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.

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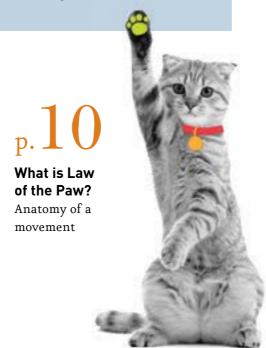
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Animal Humane Society is a member of the National Federation of Humane Societies and Pets Across America, a consortium of humane organizations throughout the country that raise funds to care for animals in local shelters.

Animal Humane Society is a founding member of Minnesota Partnership for Animal Welfare (MnPAW) and the Minnesota Horse Welfare Coalition.



On the cover:

Eddie is all set for the Walk for Animals. Photo by Miroslavich Photography

There has been so much excitement and celebration over the past year as we've seen the outcomes flow forth from the initiatives of Bound for Home. We've shared that with your help we've reduced the length of stay for cats by 75%, increased the placement rate for animals to 81% and reduced the rate of euthanasia by 41%. As we celebrate these successes with you, we seek to further



our success by building upon the tremendous momentum we have had initiating life-changing and life-saving efforts for animals.

Currently, we're developing new behavior modification programs for cats and continuing to expand our dog programs. In April we will begin to collar and ID tag all of the animals that come into our care, including felines and canines adopted from us, stray animals we're able to reunite with families, as well as the animals that receive our Kindest Cut low-cost spay/neuter services — and we're not stopping there.

As you know, Kindest Cut currently provides services through a mobile unit. We're continuing to raise funds for a community spay/neuter clinic in Golden Valley to ensure the services Kindest Cut provides become increasingly far-reaching. Once built, the clinic will provide an additional 15,000 spay/neuter surgeries each year. You can learn more about this effort on page 16.

This spring we are launching Law of the Paw, a community awareness campaign to inform and encourage people to take three actions that will directly impact and help animals in our community — adopt, spay and ID all of their current and future pets. Commitment to these three simple actions can dramatically impact the numbers of animals in shelters in the future. You can learn more about this effort on page 8.

It is amazing what we can do when we pursue a single vision and truly employ our mission to engage the hearts, hands and minds of the community to help animals. Thank you for your support and continuing on this journey with us.

Sincerely,

Juij

-JANELLE DIXON, CEO/PRESIDENT

locations

Buffalo

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

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

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

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

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 • www.nowboardingpets.com

Pet boarding, doggy day care, grooming, dog training

hours

Adoption Centers

Monday - Friday: 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday & Sunday : 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Incoming Animals

Surrender by Appointment

Please call for an appointment to surrender an animal. (763) 412-4969 Monday - Friday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

AHS is closed Easter, Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day.



www.animalhumanesociety.org

our services

Adoption

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

Surrender by appointment

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. Appointments are available to surrender an animal. Call (763) 412-4969 or visit

www.animalhumanesociety.org/surrender.

Behavior helpline

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

Low cost spay/neuter

Through our partnership with Kindest Cut, high quality, low cost spay/neuter services are available to the pets of people in need. Visit www.kindestcutmn.com for more information.

Pet boarding

We offer two options for pet boarding—Animal House at AHS 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 50 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.

Pet food and supplies

Purina One dog and cat food and treats as well as Tidy Cat litter, collars, leashes, toys and grooming supplies are available at our five locations.

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 for more information.



There are many ways to get involved. You could foster animals not quite ready for their new homes, volunteer at the Walk for Animals, or help shelter animals find their forever homes.

Volunteers are integral to all aspects of our work. For more information and to apply, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/help/volunteer



Animal Humane Society thanks Purina ONE for its ongoing support



Purina ONE feeds all of Animal Humane Society's cats, dogs, kittens and puppies.

Youth programs

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

Microchip and nail clinics

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

Wildlife rehabilitation

Injured and orphaned wildlife are accepted at our Golden Valley location. For information call (763) 489-2223 or visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/wildliferescue.

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 our facilities at www.animalhumanesociety.org/ lostandfound.

Online behavior library

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

Therapy animals

Animal Ambassadors, AHS's animalassisted 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. To schedule a tour at any of our locations call (763) 489-2220.

Birthday parties

Have your birthday party at an AHS location and invite up to 15 guests. Call [763] 489-2220 for more information.

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.

Ways to help

Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/help to find out about the ways in which you can help AHS, from volunteering in our shelters or as a foster volunteer, to donating or contributing to our wish list.

Online store

AHS's online store Sit Stay Shop has all the apparel and accessories you need to show your pet pride. Visit www.sitstayshop.org.



Like us on Facebook:

facebook.com/animalhumanesociety



Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/Animal HumaneMN

Ready. Set. Go for summer!

Learning doesn't end with the school year

A nimal Humane Society has everything your animal-loving kid needs to stay active and learning this summer. Check out these great offerings:

Class programs. Learning doesn't stop just because the school year is over. Consider bringing humane education classes and workshops to your child's summer youth and community groups. Learn more about the education programs offered at www. animalhumanesociety.org/schools.

Unleashed Summer Camp. This week-long adventure for kids grades 3-12 is never-ending fun for kids to get away and immerse in the incred-

ible world of animals. Camp sessions are available at all five AHS sites and registration is now underway.

Learn about Unleashed and other youth programs at www.animalhumanesociety.org/youth.

And don't forget to consider one of these great ways to connect with Animal Humane Society:

Training. We speak fluent animal at Animal Humane Society and through our comprehensive training classes we can help you bond with your dog, cat or small critter. Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/training to see what you, your child and your pet can do together next!



Shelter tours. If your kids have ever wanted to know anything and everything about Animal Humane Society, come in for a guided tour. They'll learn about the animals, what services we provide in the community and so much more! Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/sheltertours for more information.

Happy birthday!

Kindest Cut is nearly a year old!

In just 11 months, Kindest Cut has left an incredible impression on the community. Dr. Meghann Kruck has led her team through more than 6,000 surgeries at various locations throughout the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area.

After providing care to pets in need, staff at Kindest Cut often hear from their clients on the Kindest Cut Facebook page:

- I want to thank Kindest Cut and its staff for helping me afford to get my cat Izzy spayed! They did an EXCELLENT job!" Dan Olson
- Thank you so much for the reasonable price for Stuey's surgery. Your work is wonderful and it helps to keep the pet population under control. No animal should ever be born unwanted. Thanks again!"
 - Luann Zappa

- Thank you for taking such good care of my pup. He's home, after being neutered, vaccinated, microchipped... all safe and sound. Wonderful friendly staff! Terrific program for those who are on a limited income!"
 - Tammy Oestreich



Stay in the know and meet some of the animals Kindest Cut is able to help by liking its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/kindestcutmn.

Kindest Cut continues to make a difference for animals in need. Plans are being developed to open a clinic at Animal Humane Society in Golden Valley. Fundraising efforts are still underway for this groundbreaking project and donations can be made at www.animalhumanesociety.org/boundforhome.

Preparing for the inevitable

Helping a lost pet find its way home

It's bound to happen at one time or another — your pet goes missing or you find a lost pet. Despite our best efforts these things happen and the best way to be ready for any inevitable event is to be prepared.

The following are the best things you can do to help a lost pet:

Your pet goes missing. Ensure that your pet returns home safely by making sure s/he has a collar and ID tags on at all times. This one very simple thing will allow your animal to be immediately returned to you rather than being brought to a shelter.

Microchips are also important, but should be secondary to a collar and ID tags.

You find a lost pet. Beyond calling the number on any ID tags the pet may have, the most important thing you can do is to let your community know that you have found the lost animal. Post its picture, location, and identifying information on lost and found bulletin boards, including online on Animal Humane Society's website, Facebook and other well-known sites.

If you're able, take the pet to a veterinary office to have it scanned for a microchip.

For more information on how to help lost and found pets, please visit the Animal Humane Society Online Lost & Found Bulletin Board at

www.animalhumanesociety.org/lostandfound.



George's story

Care of 107 dogs rescued in a hoarding case is possible through support of the animal welfare community

In late January, George, a 10-month-old Chihuahua mix, was rescued with 106 other dogs and two cats from deplorable conditions found at the home of a hoarder in Bemidji, Minn. When George arrived at Animal Humane Society he looked to be in good health, but since then has been in and out of treatment.

Upon examination, it was discovered that George had a corneal ulcer in addition to neovascularization (a blood vessel disorder often created during the healing process after a direct trauma), fleas and bleeding ulcers on his paws.

"We often see animals on the news that come from these situations and think they look relatively healthy," says Animal Humane Society Animal Services Director Kathie Johnson. "But as it is with our pets at home, we can't judge their health just by looking at them. It's the same for these dogs, but much more concerning given the conditions they were found in."

In mid-February the cost to care for the 109 animals rescued had already surpassed \$33,000. "This does not include the extra medical work or additional surgeries some of the animals needed," explains Kathie. "But because of the ongoing support from the community we were able to place most of them."

As of March 19, 43 dogs and both cats had already been adopted. Forty dogs that needed additional care to learn how to be great pets were transferred to Animal Humane Society rescue partners where they can adjust to life outside of the shelter, oftentimes in a home environment.

THINK OF ITAS the Golden Rule FOR ANIMALS.

It's a promise you make to your pet.
It's a promise to live by the Law of the Paw and do these three simple things:

- to adopt from a shelter or rescue.
- to spay or neuter your pet.
- to collar and id your pet.

When you commit to the Law of the Paw, you are helping all animals.

Join the movement to do right by all pets.

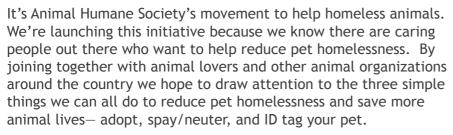
INTERESTED IN SPREADING THE WORD AND LEARNING MORE? VISIT

law of the paw.org









Think of it as a little bit like reduce/reuse/recycle. Thirty-five years ago it was revolutionary. Now, it's the way we all live. That's what our hope is with Law of the Paw. We want these three simple actions to be the way we all live with the pets in our world.



GET TAGGED!

Beginning in April all dogs and cats that are adopted at AHS will receive a free collar and ID tag. However, we want to give folks who already have a pet but don't have a collar and tag a chance too! Bring your pet to any of our five locations—Buffalo, Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, St. Paul and Woodbury to receive a free pet collar and ID on these dates.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22 NOON - 4 P.M. • TUESDAY, APRIL 24 4 - 7 P.M.

For more information call (651)788-4649.

Make sure your pet can find his way home!

WHY ADOPT?

Only 10-20% of family pets in the United States come from shelters or rescues. So when you adopt a pet, you're saving a life. Every year millions of animals are euthanized in this country simply because there is nobody stepping up to adopt them.

At Animal Humane Society adoptable animals are already spayed/neutered and up-todate on their shots so you save on costly fees from breeders and veterinarians.

And, you'll find purebreds at a shelter. (Some 25% of the animals found at shelters are purebreds.)





WHY SPAY/NEUTER?

When you spay/neuter your pet you are preventing unwanted litters - many of whom end up in America's shelters.

Neutered animals can live longer, happier lives than unaltered animals because they tend to have fewer health issues. Plus they are calmer and less likely to roam. Early spaying can reduce mammary gland tumors and ovarian and uterine cancers.

Think about this: One pair of cats can lead to 11 million cats in just nine years. One dog and its descendants can have 67,000 puppies in six years.

If everyone sterilized their pet four million animals in the U.S. could be saved every year.



Help us spread the word about Law of the Paw.

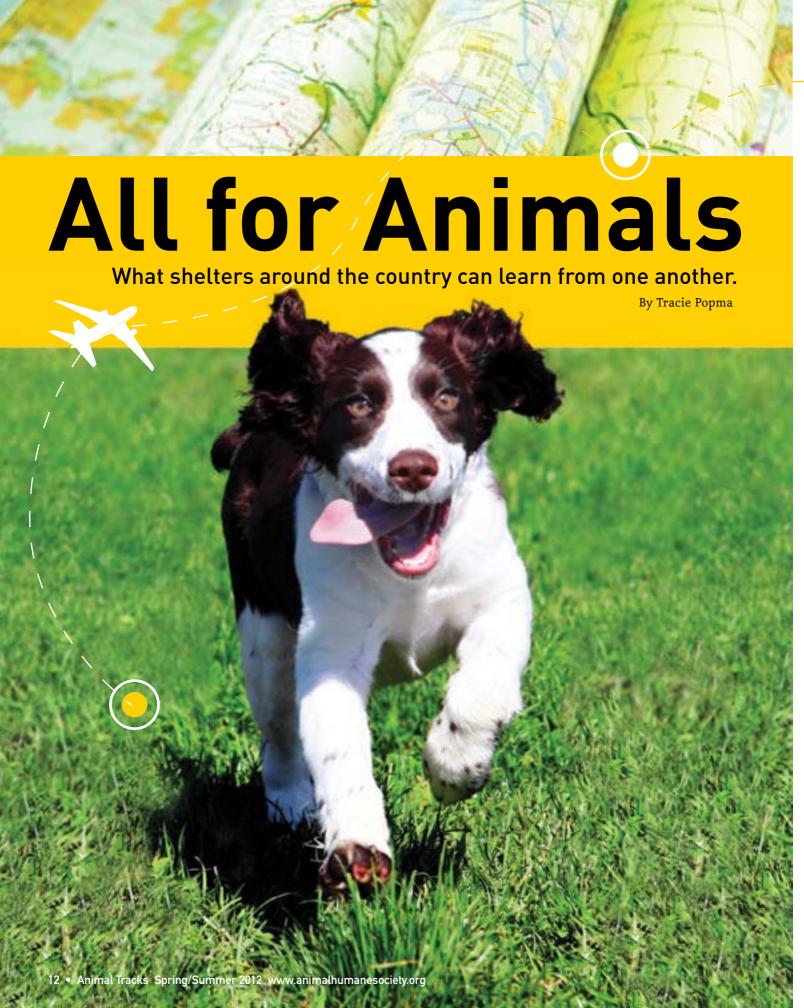
lawofthepaw.org

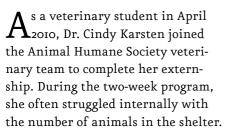
WHY COLLAR AND ID **YOUR PET?**

Stray pets account for nearly 75% of the animals that come into shelters. If every dog and cat wore an ID tag with the current owner's contact information, we could cut the number of animals in shelters in half.

You say you have an indoor only cat? Don't take a chance on the one time your cat does get out. More than 40% of lost cats are indoor only pets. And less than two percent of stray cats in a shelter are reunited with their owners. The presence of a collar and ID tag means folks will try to contact you directly when they find your missing pet rather than taking it to a shelter.

They're just like dogs! Research shows that most cats adjust to wearing a collar within a few days and that buckle collars are best. Start your cat with a collar when he's a kitten.





When it came to a big Lab named Rocco, it was particularly difficult for Dr. Karsten. Rocco needed hip surgery, but his surgery was delayed due to the high volume of animals in the shelter and the priority level of his condition.

"He was too nice," she says. "And I didn't want him to be in the shelter for too long where he would begin to deteriorate and no longer be adoptable."

Before 2011, Animal Humane Society was often faced with this difficult set of circumstances — far too many animals exceeded the resources available at the time, creating obstacles for staff as they tried to move animals out of the shelter and into new homes. Now, because of the advancements made with AHS's Bound for Home initiative, cases like Rocco, who was later adopted by Dr. Karsten, are nearly a thing of the past.

During a visit to Animal Humane Society this past December,
Dr. Karsten discovered this new and promising reality for animals coming into Animal Humane Society shelters.

"It was awesome. I loved that an animal could come in and on the same day be on the adoption floor. He could even go home that day!" she exclaimed. When she learned about the decreased length of stay for cats, the average of which was just 11 days in 2011 down from 32 days in 2010, she responded, "That is unheard of! Shel-

"If they can hear from a place like Animal Humane Society and be shown proof that it works — that is huge."

—Dr. Cindy Karsten Koret Shelter Medicine Program



ters are excited when they can get it down to just 30 days."

Dr. Karsten is now a veterinary resident at the University of California-Davis in Sacramento, working under Dr. Sandra Newbury in the Koret Shelter Medicine Program. Dr. Newbury is one of the veterinarians who consulted with Animal Humane Society in 2009 to help the organization evaluate its processes for improvement and to save more animals.

It was from the findings of that evaluation, consultations with other animal welfare organizations from around the country, and an internal staff review of operational protocols that Animal Humane Society was able to develop its Bound for Home initiative. This program, implemented in 2010, has yielded results almost unheard of in animal welfare. Without ever turning animals away, Animal Humane Society reduced its rate of euthanasia by 41%, increasing

its placement rate of animals into new homes or with rescue partners to 81%. Overall, it euthanized 5,750 fewer animals in 2011 than it did in 2010 and aspires to one day reach a 90% placement rate.

"There were things that could be improved upon, and they did it," says Dr. Karsten. "That is going to help other shelters. If they can hear from a place like Animal Humane Society and be shown proof that it works — that is huge."

Sharing the success

The effort put forth by Animal Humane Society and the subsequent success for animals hasn't gone unnoticed. Since late last year, the organization has been contacted by other animal welfare organizations from around the country and even international veterinary committees. They want to learn more about the details of Bound for Home and how Animal Humane Society's internal evaluation and resulting program development allowed it to save thousands more Minnesota animals — all within just one year of starting an intake by appointment animal admissions process.

Earlier this year, Animal Humane Society's Director of Animal Services Kathie Johnson was invited by Dr. Newbury and the University of California Koret Shelter Medicine



"We learned that we love the process of being able to sit down and talk with the people bringing their pets in."

—Theresa Geary, vice president of Denver Dumb Friends League

Program to present Bound for Home to its National Shelter Rounds Committee, which includes veterinarians from as far away as Australia. The response from the committee was so incredible that Kathie has been asked to present at the Fifth Annual Maddie's Shelter Medicine Conference in Florida this August. There, the message of Bound for Home will reach more than 300 shelter professionals.

Others have taken notice too. Late last year, Animal Humane Society hosted visits by the Denver Dumb Friends League and Nebraska Humane Society in Omaha. Both organizations approached Animal Humane Society to learn more about the details of Bound for Home in order to consider what works best for their shelters, which are similar in size and have similar intake numbers.

"Getting to see other facilities is an incredible opportunity for our team," says Theresa Geary, vice president of operations at Denver Dumb Friends League. "Each shelter is so different and to see how each operates is an incredible learning experience. You learn from the simplest things."

Theresa and her team were interested in seeing how intake by appointment worked in a similar-size shelter and the benefits that came from it. "The one that always sticks in everyone's minds is how to achieve fewer upper respiratory infections in cats and how to better manage the flow of animals coming in — those are two big battles that every shelter faces." Animal Humane Society has been able to overcome both battles with its Bound for Home initiative.

To date, Denver Dumb Friends League is still considering doing evaluations at the time an individual or family surrenders an animal.



They've started testing evaluations at the point of intake for some animals and have found that those animals are able to move through the shelter much more quickly.

"We very much like the interaction that the staff has with the patrons bringing in the animals," she explains. "It makes sense to get a good idea of who you're working with and the more information you have about each animal the better."

Similar sentiments are shared by Kiley Maddux, vice president of operations at Nebraska Humane Society. "We learned that we love the process of being able to sit down and talk with the people bringing their pets in," she says. "We've been discussing the possibility of doing intake by appointment or even just the behavior evaluations on intake so we could be up front with people and let them know what is going to happen to their animal. Our hope is that if people knew their animals weren't going to pass that they would find better options for them."

Nebraska Humane Society has begun testing different aspects of an intake by appointment animal admissions model. They feel the slow and steady approach is going to work best for their shelter because they are also the local animal control agency, a function they don't share in common with Animal Humane Society.

Currently, they are having their dispatch department go over a short questionnaire with people who call about surrendering their pet and they are occasionally scheduling appointments. Although they don't have the staff to fully implement an intake by appointment animal admissions process, they are taking advantage of the slower winter months to gauge the response from the public.

Learning more for continued improvement

During the visits at AHS, the visiting shelters weren't the only ones learning. As the groups discussed best practices, Animal Humane Society was introduced to ideas that it wanted to know more about. In particular, ideas it felt could be implemented in its efforts to do more for animals that are not healthy, but who are likely to become healthy or at least maintain a satisfactory quality of life if Animal Humane Society is able to provide them with extended care.

In its first year of implementing an intake by appointment animal admissions process, Animal Humane Society was able to save thousands more of these animals than the previous year. This was possible because of the resources freed up by proactively working with the community to take in fewer animals. Those resources were then put toward life-saving programs, such as the canine food bowl



"It's inspiring that we can come together as different organizations and learn from each other to make a difference for animals."

—Kathie Johnson,AHS Director of Animal Services

modification program that provides rehabilitation for dogs with resource guarding issues. These dogs would not have been considered for adoption prior to Bound for Home.

Leadership at Animal Humane Society wanted to expand on those efforts and formed a committee of staff to develop new programs that address the special needs of many of the animals that come to its shelters. To begin that process, a small team from Animal Humane Society that included Ray Aboyan, the organization's chief operating officer, Paula Zukoff, behavior and training manager and Kathie Johnson traveled to Denver Dumb Friends League. There, the team gathered ideas and learned new ways of thinking that are already beginning to shape new programs.

"We've always wanted to do more for cats that weren't using their litterbox," explains Paula. "But it was difficult. First, we knew from years of experience that people don't adopt cats that they think are going to use areas of their house other than the litterbox as the bathroom. Second, up until last year we were taking in



A new litterbox program, gleaned from a visit to the Denver Dumb Friends League, is helping to prepare more cats for new homes.



more than 20,000 cats a year and didn't have the resources to do more."

During the trip to Denver the AHS team learned that there is an alternative solution to help these cats, one that leadership at Denver Dumb Friends League has put into place with great success.

The new litterbox program is governed by the theory that many of the litterbox-challenged cats brought to shelters aren't averse to using the litterbox, but rather are reacting to something in the environment in which they lived. Once they are removed from that environment and placed into a new home where the owners utilize good litterbox habits, the cat begins to use the box again.

Animal Humane Society implemented the litterbox program earlier this year, and is still moving forward with additional programs that the committee is developing. Current programs in development include additional behavior rehabilitation programs for shy and fearful animals,

including a training program for cats that will help alleviate the stress they experience in the shelter.

"Fortunately, our supporters have stood behind us through Bound for Home and our continued progress," says Paula. "Because of their support we're able to hire additional staff to help us work with animals in new and upcoming programs."

Excitement around these new programs, the continued success of Bound for Home and the continued interest from other shelters about the initiative has everyone at Animal Humane Society walking with a little more spring in their step.

"It's inspiring that we can come together as different organizations and learn from each other to make a difference for animals," says Kathie. "Bound for Home was the result of our reaching out to learn a better way — and we were absolutely blown away by the results. Now, we're excited to share that information with others, while continuing to learn from them so we can make the most of the new positive circumstances we've created for ourselves."

Writer Tracie Popma has two pets — Moose, a small 13-year-old cat and Kate, a bouncy four-year-old boxer mix adopted from Coon Rapids.



For far too long, there were too many homeless animals in our community and not enough people choosing to adopt. Bound for Home has forever changed that dynamic and today 81% of the animals in our shelters find loving homes!

This success is incredible, but we're not stopping there. Our long-term goal is to provide homes for 90% of the animals in our shelters.

The best way to ensure a brighter future for animals is to reduce unwanted litters. Plans are underway for a community clinic where Kindest Cut will provide an additional 15,000 spay/neuter surgeries annually, but we can't break ground until we've fully funded the project.

There is just \$800,000 remaining toward our \$3.1 million goal for Bound for Home. Your special gift for this one-time funding initiative can create a better future for animals in need. Consider how you'd like to help and visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/boundforhome for more information and recent updates on the initiative or to make your gift today.

If you have questions about Bound for Home or would like to discuss your gift, we're here to help. You can reach our donor relations team at (763) 432-4525 or giving@animalhumanesociety.org. Thank you!



To view a video on our successes with Bound for Home, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/

for animals at Animal Humane Society will:

- Protect the lives of 35 cats and dogs with a rabies vaccination.
- Neuter a rabbit. Because rabbits breed like, well, you know, rabbits!
- Tag and collar 23 dogs and cats so that if lost they can be returned home quickly.
- Twenty-five kids in a local classroom will learn how to be kind to animals and keep themselves safe by understanding animal communication.
- Purchase a month's supply of bleach (42 gallons for just one site alone). Every day we wash and disinfect towels, leashes and toys to keep our animals healthy.

\$100 will go even farther to:

- Shelter and feed a dog or cat for 6 days before it finds a new home.
- Give 4 cats basic medical treatments as part of their intake evaluation.

Your support of programs and services at Animal Humane Society helps sweet and loving animals just like yours find new owners to spoil them. Until then, we need your help to keep them healthy and get them ready for new homes.

Will you help animals with your gift of \$50 or even \$100? Please send your gift today in the envelope provided in this magazine or put your gift to work even faster by giving at

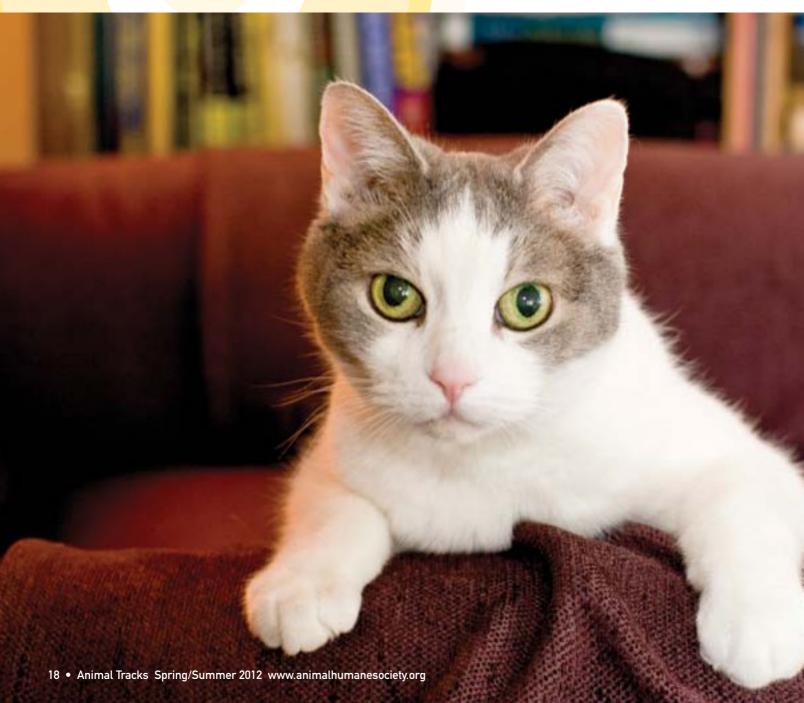
www.animalhumanesociety.org.





© Kadmy - Fotolia.com

is in the eye of the adopter By Michael Sapiro



While most visitors at Animal **Humane Society** head straight for the kittens or puppies, some kind souls gravitate toward the guys and gals with a bit of grey in their faces. These folks know how wonderful a senior pet can be and often talk about their experience with evangelistic fervor. Pam, Heather and Kristin all took the leap with an old-timer at **Animal Humane** Society.

Pam knows a thing or two about health and aging. She's a cardiovascular epidemiologist by day, but her life-saving efforts don't stop when she's off the clock. In addition to making humans healthier, Pam loves to care for cats. "I am almost strangely attracted to old fat cats," Pam said, her eyes twinkling.

Pam remembers her first meeting with her cat Kliban. She was just about to embark on a trip to Turks and Caicos. Her previous cat, Kendall, had recently passed away and she needed some distance to clear her mind. However, before leaving, Pam wanted to visit a cat that had caught her attention on the Animal Humane Society website. That cat was Kliban. The eight-year-old tabby was drastically overweight and had licked away large patches of fur from her body. "Some people might not have found Kliban beautiful, but when I saw her I said, 'Oh, my gosh — this is a gorgeous cat.'"

Although Pam was smitten, she left the shelter alone. However, she could not get Kliban out of her mind. "I worried that night that someone had snatched her up. She was so incredibly desirable to me." The next morning Pam cancelled her vacation and came to Animal Humane Society to adopt Kliban.

Always thinking of ways to improve health, Pam immediately placed Kliban on a strict regimen of portioned food and laser pointer led laps up and down the stairs. All this hard work eventually paid off. Now Kliban zips around the house at a healthy weight and her fur has regrown into a lustrous coat. Kliban's self-esteem even seems to have been given a boost thanks to Pam's care. "I have a little table in my kitchen next to a big picture window. Kliban loves to sit in that window. One day, I looked at her and she was kind of posing. When I looked out the window, there was a cluster of people standing on the sidewalk waving to her." Pam smiled as she ran her fingers through Kliban's fur, "She's a flirt."



Kristin's story is a bit different. She had Lottie when she was just a pup. Life was good for them, living on seven acres, but when circumstances forced her to move into a small apartment Kristin had to leave Lottie with a friend. "I had kind of given up on ever getting her back," she said.

When that friend called Kristin nearly six years later to alert her that Lottie, now eight years old, was being surrendered to Animal Humane Society, Kristin had to search her soul. "I just didn't know if it would be fair to her," she said. Kristin works as a nurse and at times is gone for extremely long shifts. Initially she decided to leave Lottie at Animal Humane Society, but after reflecting on it, she changed her mind and took Lottie back into her life.

Now Kristin and Lottie are picking up right where they left off. "She is so happy, and I am so happy to have her," said Kristin. "She loves to roll



Kristin and her daughter Maddie with Lottie.

around in the snow. When she comes in, we have a whole bunch of Lottie snow angels in the back yard."

Having a senior pet has afforded Kristin deeper insight into her own life. "We're not all going to stay

young and have perfect bodies. We're going to age, but there is still a lot of joy to life," she reflects. "Lottie has taught me to simply be in the moment."

For some adopters, one senior pet is not enough. When Heather and her husband entered Animal Humane Society they knew they wanted to adopt a pair of cats, but never would



have guessed that they would walk out with thirteen-year-old sisters Boo and Bailey.

"To be honest, I didn't even want to meet them at first because of their age," said Heather, carefully thinking over her words as she spoke. "Having just lost a 14-year-old, 13 scared me. We kind of glanced at them and then walked around to meet the other cats." Yet Heather couldn't shake the two sisters' faces. "I kept thinking about it, and eventually said to my husband, 'Let's take them into a visiting room and meet them."

What happened in the room surprised them. "They may have been thirteen, but they didn't look or act it. We thought these two can't possibly be this old." After only a few short minutes, they knew that they

would adopt both of the girls. "Age didn't really mean a whole lot after we met them," she said with a laugh. Upon adoption, Heather and her husband were twice pleased to learn that Boo and Bailey were the 2,000th cats adopted under AHS's two-for-one Double the Love program.

Life with the cats started great from the get-go. "Their adjustment was amazing. They were comfortable right away." Although Heather admits there is one issue. "In the morning, they always want to cuddle right before my alarm goes off. They're not very good at motivating me to get out of bed." Despite this complication, Heather and her husband insist that their lives have never been happier thanks to their new duo.

Writer Michael Sapiro and his wife are the proud owners of two cats named Howard and Montgomery.

Heather with Boo and Bailey.

Next time you visit the pets at Animal Humane Society, consider those old timers who calmly wait as puppies and kittens leave with new loving families. Perhaps Pam said it best. "You can give them some of their best years. I think they deserve that. They are old, dignified creatures. With any luck you will have them for 10 years. But if you don't, you'll have given them a second chance at a good life."

Chances are they'll give you one too.

CARING FOR A SENIOR PET

- 1. Have your pet checked regularly at least once a year by your vet to monitor any health changes. Changes in vision, hearing, mobility and pain levels are common among senior pets, and your vet can tell you what, if any, adjustments need to be made so that your companion is as comfortable as possible.
- 2. Continue to provide gentle exercise, even if your pet is inactive much of the day. Senior pets still benefit from mild activity, such as gentle leash walks for dogs or interactive play for cats. This keeps their minds sharp and their bond with you strong.
- 3. Protect your senior pet from activities that are too noisy and stressful, such as children's birthday parties or busy dog parks. While young dogs may enjoy rowdy environments, older pets typically find them overwhelming or even painful, particularly if jostled or handled roughly. Just as our own preferences change as we age, so do those of our pets.

4. Watch for housetraining lapses, such as dogs soiling bedding or cats missing the litterbox. Bowel and bladder control tends to diminish as animals age, and painful conditions like arthritis can make it more difficult, for example, for cats to climb in and out of their litterbox. Talk to your vet first to rule out physical causes of housesoiling, then contact our Behavior Helpline for assistance at (763) 489-2202.

5. Just as you "puppy-proofed" the house when your pets were little, "senior-proofing" it now can make it easier for your dog or cat to negotiate, particularly if hearing or vision loss is present. Shut doors to seldom-used rooms, provide bedding at floor level (so no one has to jump or climb up to it) and gate off dangerous areas where a pet might fall, such as staircases.

For a video on keeping your senior pet healthy and happy, please visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/ATSpring12









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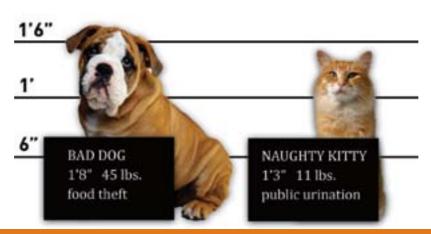




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No matter what he's done this time, we can help.

Call our free behavior helpline at (763) 489-2202 to speak to a behavior specialist or visit our online behavior library at <u>animalhumanesociety.org/training/library</u>

Need some face time? We offer private, one-on-one sessions with an AHS trainer (hourly rates may apply). Trainers can work with you and your pet on anything from basic obedience to tackling a tough problem. Call (763) 489-2217 for more information.



memorials and honorariums

July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011

e 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, due to the volume only pet memorials of \$100 or more will be listed in this publication.



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Priscilla Iudith Harrison

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Nancy Johnson Quinn & Itty Bitty Dawn Glaser Falk

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Thelma

dog Breezer. Breezer was adopted from your shelter almost 17 years ago. My husband picked her out of a litter of seven. She was in the

Please accept this donation in

memory of my dear mother

Pat Sappa and our faithful family

back corner of the kennel hiding while her brothers and sisters yipped and tumbled around her. She was a small ball of black and white fuzz with a kind face and bright eyes. Breezer was a gift to my daughter and in spite of the fact that she chewed up her beloved sock monkey and Michael Jackson doll, they were best friends.

As my daughter grew up and moved out and into college, my mother moved in with us due to failing health. Breezer became her constant companion. We could hear Mom chatting to Breezer and treating her with numerous dog cookies. Not long after Mom moved in, Breezer came charging up the stairs and began to pace back and forth. I finally realized something was wrong and ran downstairs to discover that my mom was in need of help.

I lost my Mom a few years ago and just recently Breezer, both to cancer. I know in my heart that they have been reunited and are in a better place. Please continue the wonderful and selfless work that you do for animals and the families that adopt them.

- Kathy White

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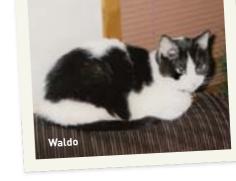
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Abby Nancy Zingale and William Flanigan

Alex & Max John and Michael

All Our Pets Linda and Paul Yakshe

All the pups
John and Michael
Allie Williams
Doug Collison

Anna & Johnny Matthew and Elizabeth Monarski

Arthur Barbara Walters

Asta Lisa Birchen

Baby & Tigger Coleen and Bradley Severson

Bea & Pearl Cassidi Benson Bear & Peanut

Berit Francis

Kim Johnson Beau Lori Van Wechel and Dan

Pederson

Becky Pohlad

Becky Pohlad Kathleen and Dusty Bowling

Becky Pohlad Kathleen Bowling

Becky Pohlad Mr. and Mrs. David Gregerson

Beejer Catherine Tolman

Bella Paul Hewitt

Bernie David and Sara Kostek

Bowser Bryan and Mary Trandem

Brandy John Barker

Brett's Dogs & Cats Today & Yesterday Ann and Mark Schulze

Cali

Caroline and James Guthrie

Cat

Kip and Lucy Heegaard Charlie Johannes and Melissa

Johannes and Melissa Huijbers Charlie & Veronica

Katie Fokken Charlotte

Jane Ann Hamann

Chaser Janet Dahl Chaser & Dude Donna and Timothy Dahlheimer

Chloe & Fletcher Alison Constant

Cinnamon & Ginger Julie and Steven Bunde Ernie Andrea Godbout Figaro Susan and Daniel Spoden Fluff James Taylor



Clicquot & Grgich John and Michael

Bonnie Waller

Cody & Lucy Twyla Van Beusekom Cody, Torri, Cehsie &

Cotti Tyler Bowman

Coincy Susan and John Hill

Cooper Kevin Hood

Cosmo Melody and Jeremiah Zortman

Cuddles & Mollie Patrick and Judy DiLauro

Danny Tiffany and Timothy Weber Denali Leesa and Alan Soderlind

Denali Walter and Carol Schmidt Diasy & Sibley

Diasy & Sibley
Mary and Neil Sibley
Dotty

Thomas Malone

Duchess & Comet

Carmen and Robert Bell

Eliza Barbara Doore Frankie John and Michael Franny

Neil Davis Frosty Allen and Elaine Kruse

Gollum Kim Jessen

Gus, Taquito, Axel, Molly Malone, Runt & Pancho Jensina Rasmussen

Harley Craig Kruckeberg Henry Yardly Art

Holly Katherine, Annie Oakley, Belle Starr & Casey

Judith Miller

Jake & Schatze

John and Michael

Jett Deborah Kloss

Joe Roxanne Berg-Ingvalson and Dean Ingvalson Julia

Bonnie Christensen

Julie Glee Hansen

Kady Kat & Murphy Scott and Theresa Spencer Kiko Marie B. Zwack

Kliban & Tonto Pamela Schreiner

Latka, Sheba, Charlie & Brandy Barbara Stillman

Lisbet, Tuxedo & Kalle Anita and Jon Young Lizzie, Leo & Max

Shari Christopher Logan, Charlie & Jack Bridget and Derek Wortman

Louise, Tasha, Joey, Oscar & Miller Lisa and M.R. Pasqualini

Maddie & Otis Deborah and Thomas Walsh

Maggie John and Michael

Marley & Maddie Nadine and William McGuire

Max Charlotte Herman

Max & Lola Adam Boyadjis and Elizabeth Roeike

Max John and Michael

Mazzy Joni Johnson

Meece, Daisy & Charlie John and Michael

Millie Jacobson Kristin Jacobson

Mimi John and Michael

Mokei, Sally, Kliene, Wilamenia & Sabbath Lorraine Berger

Molly & Stella Alison Walsh

Mrs. Tews "Kittywampus" Megan Becker

My 3 Adopted Cats
Colleen and Jerry Bourdon

My 3 Great Shelter Dogs Cristine Almeida and Brian Gorecki

Naya Scott Hammel Niko & Leo Scott Sawyer Nyssa, YoYo, Ezzy &

Tulio Rachel and Chris Gilchrist

Our Wonderful Cats Dennis and Dianne Olson

Owen
John and Michael

Parker Catherine Nojiri

Patches, Buffy & Gabby Helen Peterson

Pearl Christine Mistretta

Pepper, Lady & Brandy Kathleen and Douglas Geier

Pippen Amber Genetzky Pixel & Dale

Kathy Hagen Pokey Ryan O'Neill

Princess & Fluffy Greenhaven Marketing Corporation

Richard, Amey & Scruffy
Fayette Shore

Riley Lori Schlottman

Riley Robert and Carolyn Goedken

Rocket Tracy and Sam Tabaka Rockv

Rocky Cynthia Klein Rocky

Jane and Edward Phillips
Sal
Meghan and Sterling Black

Skeeter Judy McElheney Skye Arlene Nadeau Sox Kathi Johnson Taffey Nancy and Martin Menzia Tawnie Joanne McClain Tennie Larry and Barbara Brandt Toby Mary Erhard Tom & Oscar Robert D. Sandercock Tommy & Buddy Carole Weatherby Tonka

Simone

Hoppesch

Joseph and Kristin

John and Michael
Trina
Erika Flores
Vinnie
Jessica Kliche

Leif Taubenberger

Tucker

Violet
Sue and Mike Danisch



Sassy John and Michael Sassy Peter Sanders

Scoopy
Karen L. Winge
September M.

September M.
Elizabeth Daniels
Shadow
Cheryl Wall

Simmy Beth and Mark Smith Wawona Nancy and Bryce Rosenbower

Wendy John and Michael Willow Kristin and Aaron Johnsen

Yetti Maren Mahowald Yoko

Sally and Gary Larson

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 and celebrate the special animals in your life. 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.

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!

April - November 2012



Saturday, May 5 • Golden Valley 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Help raise funds for animals less fortunate than your own plus join the people-pet fun. You'll be a part of helping us help thousands of animals this year. Visit animalhumanesociety.org/walk or call (763) 432-4841.

Get Tagged!

Sunday, April 22 noon – 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 24 4 – 7 p.m.

Collar and Pet ID Tag Events

With Law of the Paw we want to make sure your pet has a collar and ID tag. Stop by any of our five locations at these times and we will provide a free collar and ID. Pets welcome! For more information call (651)788-4649.

Fall Wine Dinner

Friday, November 2 • Saint Paul Hotel, 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy exceptional courses prepared by outstanding local chefs and paired with exquisite wines by Ray Zemke of 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. Seating is limited. Please make your reservations early to guarantee your seat at this premier Twin Cities dining event. For reservations, call (763) 432-4842 or email winedinner@ animalhumanesociety.org.

Training & Playgroups

Introduction to Dog Training

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

Intro to Therapy Animals

Are you interested in learning how you and your pet (dog, cat, guinea pig, rabbit, and more) can become part of a visiting animal 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) 489-2217 or email training@animalhumanesociety.org.

May 9, Golden Valley • 7-8 p.m. June 14, Woodbury • 7-8 p.m. August 15, Golden Valley • 7-8 p.m. September 12, Saint Paul • 7-8 p.m. October 17, Golden Valley • 7-8 p.m. October 28, Coon Rapids • 3-4 p.m. November 15, Woodbury • 7-8 p.m.

Cats

Kitty Kindergarten

This innovative two-week class covers play socialization, crate training, handling skills, grooming tips, litter box know-how and basic training. Kitty Kindergarten is for kittens 7-12 weeks of age and costs \$30 per kitten. Preregistration is required. For more information, call (763) 489-2217 or email training@animalhumanesociety.org.



Canine Good Citizen Test

A certification program designed to reward dogs with good manners at home and in the community. The program stresses responsible pet ownership. \$10 per dog. Registration is required. For more information and to register, visit www.akc.org or call our Training School at (763) 489-2217.

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Golden Valley • one Friday per month at 6 p.m. For exact dates, please visit www.animalhumanesociety. org/events.

Coon Rapids • the third Wednesday of the month at 8:15 p.m.

Dog Playgroups

We offer several playgroups and socialization opportunities for your pet at our Golden Valley facility. Playgroups are offered for small dogs and for puppies younger than one year. For a description of the playgroups available and a schedule, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/dogplay or call (763) 489-2217.

Reactive Rovers

This class is designed for dogs that bark, snark, or growl at other dogs. We will help you learn to walk your dog past other dogs and teach your dog to greet other dogs politely. This class is not appropriate for dogs that are aggressive toward people. Space is limited. For more information, call the Training School at (763) 489-2217.

Wallflower

Does your dog cower when guests come over? Does he hide in the bedroom when the doorbell rings? Does he try to run away when he hears children playing outside? If so, Animal Humane Society's Wallflower class might be for you. This class is for shy and fearful dogs. Call our Training School at (763) 489-2217 for more information.



Rabbits

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.

April 9 • Golden Valley
May 3 • Woodbury
May 14 • Golden Valley
June 7 • Woodbury
June 11 • Golden Valley
July 5 • Woodbury
July 9 • Golden Valley
August 2 • Woodbury
August 13 • Golden Valley
September 6 • Woodbury
September 10 • Golden Valley
October 4 • Woodbury
October 8 • Golden Valley
November 1 • Woodbury
November 1 • Woodbury

Hoppy Hour

A social hour for rabbits and their owners held at r p.m. every other Sunday in Golden Valley. \$3 per rabbit. For exact dates, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/events or contact rabbitagility@mn.companionrabbit. org for more information. 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 at 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.



Tours, clinics and groups

AHS Tours

Ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes at AHS? Join us for a tour of our Golden Valley 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 are held from 7–8 p.m. on the dates below and can be combined with an AHS classroom program through our humane education program. Call (763) 489-2220 or email education@animalhumanesociety.org to register.

September 18 November 6

Microchip and Nail Clinics

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

Buffalo • Second to last Sunday of each month Coon Rapids • Second Sunday of each month Golden Valley • Second Sunday of each month 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.

Youth programs

Unleashed Summer Camps

Registration is now underway!

Unleashed is an animal-themed summer day camp. Campers spend a full week immersed in animal learning and fun. Each week includes animal-related educational activities, animal interactions, visits from special guests, field trips, and more. Unleashed is available at all AHS facilities for kids entering grades 3-12. Camps run from mid-June to mid-August. For more information, including a complete schedule, or to register online, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/unleashed.

PetSet Youth Club New sessions begin June 11 and Sept. 11

Be a part of the PetSet Youth Club! Youth members meet twice a month to learn from animal experts, examine animal-related current events, develop community service projects to help animals and more. The club is open to students in grades 5-8 on Wednesday and Thursday in Golden Valley or on Tuesday in Woodbury. New members can join at any time! For more information, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/petsetyouthclub or contact the Education department at (763) 489-2220 or education@animalhumanesociety.org.

Unleashed Express Mini Day Camps, October 18-19

Looking for something to do while school is out during the Education Minnesota teacher's conference? Unleash your child's love of animals with our Unleashed Express Mini-Camp. This two-day camp program features a variety of animal-related activities with a special emphasis on service projects to benefit shelter animals. For more information, visit www.animalhumanesocierty.org/services/youth/unleashedexpress.

New Classroom Programs

This fall bring humane education programs to a child's school or a meeting site! Our classroom programs offer interactive presentations provided by AHS professional educators at your location. Each program is tailored to the ages and interests of audience members. These presentations are available for groups of any kind, including schools, clubs, homeschool groups and community organizations. For more information, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/schools.

Pet Badge Program for Girl Scouts

AHS offers a Pet Badge program for Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies and Juniors. Our comprehensive two-hour program features a shelter tour and other educational activities which meet all the requirements to earn a Fun with Pets Badge. This program is available at all AHS facilities. For more information, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/services/youth/scoutprograms.

animal tracks



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