AHS reaches underserved communities through outreach efforts

Also Inside:

Jim Westby safeguards memories for owners of departed pets

Animal Humane Society Report to the Community
Fiscal Year 2014
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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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.

**Mission**
To engage the hearts, hands and minds of the community to help animals.

**Vision**
To compassionately and responsibly create a more humane world for animals.

**Core Values**
Be good to animals. Partner with people. Lead responsibly with compassion.

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**a message from Janelle Dixon**

Over the last few years we have shared with you several strategic advances that have helped strengthen Animal Humane Society’s position as a leader in the animal welfare community. These changes have also allowed us to embrace a proactive approach to our work.

This shift has resulted in new and enhanced services that meet the needs of animals and the people who share in their lives. What’s more, it has led to inspirational work that is evolving the field of animal welfare, allowing us to use resources to do more for animals, and most importantly nurturing the human-animal bond and saving animal lives.

In 2011 we moved to managed admissions, a change that has helped us to better understand the reasons for surrender and – in thousands of cases – provide alternatives that keep pets in homes. Later that year we launched Kindest Cut, collaborating with a private practice veterinarian to make low cost spay and neuter services widely available and accessible. In 2013 the Melrose Animal Clinic opened, expanding the Kindest Cut collaboration, bringing affordable and accessible wellness services to the public.

As we continue to evolve services for people and animals at our five shelter facilities, we’re also developing new opportunities to engage and assist people and animals where they live and work. As a result, we’ve expanded our Community Outreach program to create a more significant impact in previously underserved communities.

Community Outreach has put boots on the ground in neighborhoods where there is limited access to services and limited resources to pay for them. We are currently focused on Frogtown, East Saint Paul and North Minneapolis. Our goal is to understand the needs within the communities and partner to meet those needs. Our initial work is focused on developing relationships as well as earning and building trust. The cover story in this edition of Animal Tracks highlights this work.

Our mission is to engage the hearts, hands and minds of the community to help animals, and all of these proactive approaches do just that.

Thank you for caring and engaging in this important work. Your trust, support, and enthusiasm ensure that great things happen for animals.

Sincerely,

Janelle Dixon, President & CEO
AHS reaches underserved communities through outreach efforts.

Honoring their memory
Jim Westby safeguards memories for owners of departed pets.

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Fiscal Year 2014

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Note: On pages 20-23 of this magazine, you will find the 2014 AHS Report to the Community. We’re including it here to make the information more easily available to our supporters and friends, and to play at least a small part in reducing the amount of material you find in your mailbox. Please let us know if you like this method of receiving the report by sending an email to giving@animalhumanesociety.org. Thank you.

On the cover
11-year-old Angel and his mother, Magali, sit with 1-year-old Papillon/Chihuahua mix Papi outside their home in Frogtown.

On the ground
PAWS on the ground

Golden Valley center renovations
Breeder bill becomes law
Bottle Babies & Hidden Gems
Rescue in Carlton County
locations

Buffalo
4375 Hwy. 55 S.E. • Buffalo, MN 55313
(763) 390-3647

Coon Rapids
1411 Main St. N.W. • Coon Rapids, MN 55448
(763) 862-4030

Golden Valley
845 Meadow Lane N. • Golden Valley, MN 55422
(763) 522-4325

St. Paul
1115 Beulah Lane • St. Paul, MN 55108
(651) 645-7387

Woodbury
9785 Hudson Road • Woodbury, MN 55125
(651) 730-6008

Now Boarding
6002 28th Ave. S. • Minneapolis, MN 55450
(612) 454-4850
www.nowboardingpets.com

hours

Adoption Centers
Monday through Friday Noon – 8 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Animal Humane Society is closed New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Easter,
Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day,
Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day.

Incoming Animals
Surrender by Appointment
Please call our Animal Admissions Center at (763) 412-4969 for an appointment to
surrender an animal.

Appointments are available
Monday through Friday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
and Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

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

Surrender
Companion animals may be surrendered at any of our five open admission loca-
tions where we provide safe refuge for thousands of animals each year. Ap-
pointments are required to surrender an animal. Call (763) 412-4969 or visit www.
animalhumanesociety.org/surrender.

Kindest Cut low cost spay/neuter
Through our partnership with Kind-
est Cut, we offer high quality, low cost spay/neuter services to the pets of people in need through a mobile clinic and at Melrose Animal Clinic. Visit
www.kindescutmn.com or call (763) 489-7729 for more information.

Pet boarding
We offer two options for pet board-
ing – Animal House at AHS in Golden
Valley (763) 489-2222 and Now
Boarding near the Minneapolis-St.
Paul Airport (612) 454-4850. Visit
www.animalhumanesociety.org/boarding.

Pet training
We speak fluent animal! More than 50 classes are offered weekly at our Coon
Rapids, Golden Valley, Woodbury and
Now Boarding locations. Classes include
Introduction to Dog Training, Reactive
Rovers, Puppy Kindergarten, Therapy
Animal classes, the Canine Good Citizen
certification as well as Dog Playgroups.
Programs for rabbits including Hoppy
Hour and Rabbit Agility are offered at
AHS through Minnesota Companion
Rabbit Society. To learn more about
all animal training opportunities, vis-
it www.animalhumanesociety.org/training
or call (763) 489-2217.

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

Youth programs
There is a lot for kids to do at AHS! Op-
opportunities include Unleashed Camps,
projects for Scouts, PetSet Youth Club,
birthday parties, preschool story times
and classroom programs for students in
grades K- 12. For information on all
AHS has to offer kids, visit www.anim-
althumanesociety.org/youth or call (763)
489-2220.

Humane investigations
Our humane agents work with law en-
forcement and respond to thousands of
reports of animal neglect and cruelty each
year. Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/
prevention for more information.

Microchip and nail clinics
Microchip and nail trim clinics are of-
fered monthly at our five locations.
For specific times and locations vis-
it www.animalhumanesociety.org/
microchip.

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

Like us on Facebook:
facebook.com/animalhumanesociety
Follow us on Twitter:
twitter.com/animal_humannm
Follow us on Instagram:
twitter.com/animalhumanemn
Subscribe to us on YouTube:
youtube.com/animalhumanesociety
Lost and found pets
We offer a Lost and Found Online Bulletin Board for you to post missing or found pets. You can also review stray animals in our care. Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/lostandfound.

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.

Pet behavior help
Need some advice regarding your pet? We’re here to help. Call our free Behavior Helpline at (763) 489-2202. Or visit our online library for help with pet training and behavior at www.animalhumanesociety.org/library.

Pet loss
Humane euthanasia and cremation services are available to the public and a pet loss support group is offered on Mondays at 7 p.m. in Golden Valley. Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/lossofpet or call (763) 412-4969.

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

save the date!

Whisker Whirl
A gala to benefit Animal Humane Society
The Depot Minneapolis, 5 p.m.

Where can you dress to the nines, hold a glass of wine in one hand and your dog in the other, and enjoy delicious cuisine, all while benefiting animals? At Whisker Whirl – an evening of fun for you and your best furry friend! For ticket information email whiskerwhirl@animalhumanesociety.org, or call (763) 432-4842.

Walk for Animals
Golden Valley Animal Humane Society

As our largest fundraiser, raising nearly $1 million for animals less fortunate than your own, Walk for Animals is your opportunity to help the tens of thousands of companion animals that will come through AHS’s doors this year. For more information visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/walk, email walk@animalhumanesociety.org, or call (763) 432-4841.

contact us
(763) 522-4325
www.animalhumanesociety.org
After extensive research and planning, AHS has rolled out an improved adoption process designed to better meet the needs of our customers.

The new process debuted in August alongside renovations to our Golden Valley adoption center. The updated space provides improved housing for adoptable cats and a more home-like and cheerful atmosphere that encourages people to interact with animals.

The renovation was funded in part by a grant from the Purina Cat Chow “Building Better Lives” program, which is committed to improving the lives of cats across the U.S.

New technology gives staff and volunteers instant access to each animal’s electronic records from anywhere in the adoption center. As a result, customers complete much of the adoption in new comfortable seating areas before finishing the final transaction in a new area in the main lobby.

The goal is to provide a personalized adoption experience that feels both celebratory and fun. We are committed to providing our adopters with a hands-on experience that is organized, timely and delivers pertinent information about the adopter’s new pet and how to be successful in the future.

While the new adoption process and renovation began at our Golden Valley location, our goal is to make the same kinds of changes at our four other locations.
Bottle Babies program provides crucial services to fragile animals.

Animal Humane Society’s new Bottle Babies program took off in 2014, providing critical care services to nearly 140 neonatal kittens.

Of the 139 kittens that qualified for the program this year, 127 found placement with our foster volunteers. Twelve more were transferred to Angel of Hope Animal Rescue, a rescue partner that was our only resource for these fragile kittens prior to the Bottle Babies program.

This inspiring program relies on a cadre of volunteers who are willing to foster the kittens in their homes, a significant commitment of time and effort as they must be fed as often as every two hours. This year, 28 volunteers fostered neonatal kittens in their homes, and the number of volunteers who attended the Bottle Babies training increased 53 percent.

“The volunteers are fantastic; they love helping these kittens and really enjoy seeing them develop from little creatures that need so much time, attention and care, to rambunctious active kittens ready to find their new homes,” said Kelly Anderson, AHS foster coordinator.

If you are interested in learning more and volunteering with Bottle Babies next season, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/volunteer.
Breeder Bill becomes law

A long-awaited change to Minnesota law protects animals in breeding facilities.

In May, Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton signed into law a bill that at long last establishes a dog and cat breeder regulation program in Minnesota. AHS and other animal welfare advocates worked for seven years to win approval for the legislation, which aims to protect the health and well-being of cats and dogs in commercial breeding facilities.

The law became effective July 1, when the Minnesota Board of Animal Health began registering commercial dog and cat breeders. Within one year, those breeders must be licensed and inspected annually to ensure they meet the law’s requirements. Those who violate the law may face civil, administrative, and criminal penalties.

Under the new law:
• Breeders must keep identifying and medical records on each animal.
• Breeders must develop and maintain a written veterinary protocol for disease control and prevention, veterinary care and euthanasia.
• Animals must be provided daily enrichment and must be provided positive physical contact with human beings and compatible animals at least twice daily.
• Breeders must provide adequate staff to maintain the facility and observe each animal daily to monitor its health and well-being and to properly care for the animals.
• All animals sold must be accompanied by a veterinary health certificate completed by a vet no more than 30 days prior to sale or distribution.
• Puppies and kittens may not be sold, traded or given away prior to 8 weeks of age.

AHS and other animal welfare advocates worked for seven years to win approval for the legislation

Cases like the Pine River seizure, in which 133 dogs and puppies were removed from neglectful conditions, helped galvanize support for the bill.
Shining the spotlight on Hidden Gems

Animals who don’t thrive in the shelter atmosphere have another option in our Hidden Gems program.

Animal Humane Society's adoption centers can be overwhelming for some animals, and while we do our best to get them into homes as quickly as possible, the stress of being in a shelter can be too much for them to handle. Our new Hidden Gems program allows for those special animals to be housed away from our public adoption centers in the calm and quiet environment they need.

Bhaji came to AHS from a home with three other cats that he did not get along with. While in our adoption center, he continued to be very reactive and growled at other cats. As part of the Hidden Gems program, he was moved to a staff member’s office where he could have time to be alone. Within hours, he was a completely different cat! He quickly found the highest perch and spent his time playing with feather toys and sitting with staff members.

Relaxed and at ease in his quiet space, Bhaji met his new family and was adopted just four days after his photo was posted on our website and Facebook page.

Bhaji is one of more than a dozen Hidden Gems placed in homes through this program in the past year.

Carlton County breeder turns dogs over to AHS

Humane investigations team rescues 49 dogs.

In June, 49 Labrador Retriever dogs and puppies arrived at Animal Humane Society after being surrendered by a breeder in rural Carlton County.

AHS Humane Investigations Senior Agent Wade Hanson and Carlton County sheriff’s deputies went to the breeder’s farmhouse in response to complaints about the health of a dog purchased from the owner of the property. They discovered a breeding operation where they observed substandard animal living conditions and dogs that showed signs of neglect. The owner agreed to surrender the animals, which included several litters of puppies.

The dogs and puppies were brought to AHS in Golden Valley where they were examined and given medical care. While one puppy was old enough to be put in the adoption center almost immediately, the other puppies were too young and were placed with foster volunteers for temporary care. Most of the adult dogs went through our Adoption Preparation program for additional one-on-one confidence building and behavior help before being made available to the public.

Forty-five dogs and puppies from this case were adopted into new homes. Additionally, two of the puppies died from complications due to Parvovirus, and two dogs were transferred to our rescue partners for placement.
On an overcast Saturday in early August, Danielle Sanders stands at the entrance to Ryan Park in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul holding her 3-month-old terrier mix puppy, Duchess. Though it’s only 7:15 a.m., the area is beginning to come alive with activity. The two watch, Duchess’ small black ears alert, as Animal Humane Society volunteers and staff carry tables past the quiet swing sets, and assemble small tents on sun-scorched grass that will later host more than 300 pets and their owners.

Sanders and Duchess are the first in line for a wellness event that AHS is hosting in Frogtown. Sanders saw a flyer about free vaccinations and veterinary exams being offered to the pets of area residents, and came hours early to take advantage of this opportunity for her puppy to receive care. Later in the day, Duchess would also be registered for a free spay surgery by Kindest Cut at Melrose Animal Clinic.

In the past few months, AHS has hosted two community wellness clinics in Frogtown. Residents can bring their animals for free wellness exams, rabies shots, and other basic vaccinations, and sign them up for free spay/neuter surgery. More than 100 AHS employees and volunteers have staffed each clinic, vaccinating about 600 dogs and cats and signing up more than 90 pets for sterilization.

These events are just a small part of the work that a new Community Outreach team has been doing in the neighborhood and in other Twin Cities communities.
Community Outreach became an organizational priority in 2011, when Animal Humane Society set out to determine which areas of the Twin Cities weren’t using its services and why. “We decided it was important to go out into communities that historically haven’t engaged with us to hear directly from them what they want and need from AHS,” says Kathy Mock, chief government affairs and community engagement officer.

By analyzing organizational data and speaking with local animal welfare organizations such as St. Paul Animal Control, AHS identified three urban neighborhoods in the metro area under-utilizing AHS services: North Minneapolis, Frogtown, and East St. Paul. All three of these communities are low-income in comparison to the rest of the Twin Cities, with many residents born outside of the United States, high rates of foreclosures, and youth comprising the highest percentage of the population.

Outreach Coordinator Brianna Darling held focus groups and conducted interviews with neighborhood residents and leaders. She found that, while animal welfare problems differed slightly in each area, some of the most common were limited access to affordable pet care, aggressive dogs, cultural differences in animal care, and dogs and feral cats allowed to run loose.

According to Corrie Schueller, director of community engagement, Darling’s research also shed light on the reasons community members weren’t using AHS services. Most simply didn’t know about AHS or the services offered, or thought AHS was the same as animal control. Residents also didn’t realize that there were options at AHS available for those with low incomes. Another barrier was location, with residents unable to find bus routes to AHS shelters and unsure which taxi services accommodated animals. Many residents in these communities also had a perception of AHS that excluded them. “They had misconceptions of what Animal Humane Society was. They saw it as a place where only middle-class white people were welcome,” says Schueller.

But Darling also witnessed the true love and compassion residents had for animals. “There is a deep bond between people and their pets. I heard many stories from community members about the commitment they have both for their pets as well as for dogs and cats that are living in the community without an identified owner,” she says.

With all of this knowledge in hand, AHS began building a Community Outreach Program to deliver community-based services and provide resources for pet owners in the target communities. The Outreach team adapted strategies from Pets for Life, a successful model developed by the Humane Society of the United States.
States that incorporates ongoing neighborhood outreach, community-wide events, and free or very low cost services for pets such as dog training, humane education, spay/neuter surgeries, and wellness care.

Grassroots outreach and direct connections with neighborhood residents became a main tenet of the team’s strategy. Outreach staff and volunteers distribute free dog and cat food, work to connect people to resources they need for their pets, and talk about spay/neuter, providing information on low-cost sterilization and wellness services available through Kindest Cut.

The Outreach team’s philosophy is that big change comes slowly through genuine connections with others. “Our outreach work is driven by a soft, gentle and nonjudgmental approach,” says Darling. Starting with something small, such as giving people free pet food or supplies and showing genuine care for their pets, helps relationships begin to form.

“Once the relationships are in place, the spay/neuter surgeries – and everything else – will follow,” Darling adds.

**Focus on Frogtown**

The Outreach effort got a significant boost in 2013, when AHS received a PetSmart Charities grant to fund 1,175 free spay/neuter surgeries in the Frogtown neighborhood. AHS donors stepped in to fund free vaccinations with every surgery, and the AHS Outreach team now provides door-to-door transportation to and from Kindest Cut for Frogtown residents.

Bordered by University Avenue on the south, the Pierce Butler Railroad Tracks on the north, Lexington Parkway on the west and Rice Street on the east, Frogtown is among the most diverse communities in St. Paul. For more than 150 years, the neighborhood has been one of the first places immigrants settle in the city, in part because of the relatively inexpensive housing prices. In the 19th century, that mostly meant newcomers of German, Irish, or Scandinavian descent. But over the last three decades, the neighborhood has been strongly influenced by new waves of immigrants, particularly of Hmong, Latino and Somali heritage.

According to data collected by the American Community Survey, 33 percent of Frogtown residents are of Asian descent and 33 percent are...
African American. Over a quarter of residents were born outside the United States and almost half speak a language other than English at home. The area is economically and educationally varied as well.

Though they love their pets, the significant financial, social, and healthcare hardships that Frogtown residents face mean that animal care can’t always be their first priority. “The reality is that 50 percent of the households in Frogtown have an annual household income of under

“We go door-to-door letting people know AHS is in their community, we are here for them, and we’re here to stay.”

Brianna Darling, outreach coordinator

Duchess

If you looked up the word “energetic” in the dictionary, you might find a photo of a little Chihuahua mix named Duchess. The 1-year-old dog loves to play. Melissa Vaughn surprised her son Alijah with Duchess for his eleventh birthday, and she has been a welcome addition to the household.

Alijah has ADHD, and having Duchess helps him and the family to get outside and stay active, Melissa explains. “It’s nice for our whole family to be outside and moving with her. We walk around Como Lake and go to Crosby Farm Park when we want to be in nature,” she says.

A Frogtown resident for nearly two years, Melissa attends Century College and works part-time at a call center. The financial responsibility of caring for Duchess can be difficult at times. “Getting her shots and routine stuff can be expensive, and sterilization surgeries can cost hundreds of dollars,” Melissa says.

After hearing about the free spay/neuter surgeries available to Frogtown residents, Melissa called and made an appointment for Duchess to be spayed. Though the idea of trusting Duchess with strangers was scary at first, Melissa is thankful that AHS could provide this option, because otherwise Duchess’ surgery would have had to be delayed while the family saved enough to cover it. “The grant really helped us financially lift that burden. It’s really just a blessing. She’s like a kid to us.”
$35,000. People are struggling to feed themselves, let alone their pets,” says Schueller.

With the new grant, AHS expanded its outreach team and began canvassing more intensely in Frogtown. Developing relationships with social service agencies and community groups in the area has also helped AHS establish trust and create referral relationships, as well as build acceptance in the community.

Darling began staffing a table at Sharing Korner food shelf in 2012 and built a strong relationship with owner Mary Brent, who now lets her clients know about AHS services whenever possible.

Outreach volunteers also table at Loaves and Fishes, a meal program housed in the basement of Frogtown's Faith Lutheran Church. Beyond just a place for a warm meal, Loaves and Fishes is somewhere people come to learn about jobs and other resources available to them through Ramsey County and private organizations.

Before AHS’ presence, site coordinator Diane Heitzinger had no resources to provide to pet owners struggling financially. “It was very nice when Animal Humane Society contacted us about coming down here because they can talk to the guests and see what their problems are and help them if they can,” she says. Residents have come to rely on AHS for their animal care needs, Heitzinger adds.

Meeting residents through intensive boots-on-the-ground efforts, the team has formed relationships with residents who in turn have become some of AHS’s greatest community ambassadors.

Francis Marvala has lived in Frogtown for two years with her daughter Sophia. A self-proclaimed animal lover, she has become a resource to neighbors and family alike, temporarily caring for friends’ pets and then often taking them in permanently. Marvala has told many of her family and friends about the free spay/neuter surgeries available through AHS and Kindest Cut, and uses AHS services regularly herself in caring for her pets. “Sometimes feeding them is hard,” she says. ‘But Brianna has helped with fixing them and giving them their shots so they don’t reproduce. And she’s given me advice.”

Another resident, Patricia Ohmans, was instrumental in connecting AHS with a local organization offering rescue and relief to homeless and endangered cats. Kindest Cut now sterilizes feral cats trapped by this organization every week, helping to control the feral cat population in Frogtown.

Relationships with community organizations and community members will be crucial in continuing the work in Frogtown and future target communities for the long term. “We want to make this work sustainable in each community,” says Schueller. “Our goal is to work with community organizations, leaders, volunteers, and members to be able to keep this work going as we put our resources into other communities.”

Looking ahead
As of October 1, more than 600 Frogtown animals had been spayed or neutered at Kindest Cut, and between the surgeries and the wellness events, close to 1,000 had been vaccinated. By mid-November, the team hopes to be doing 47 surgeries per week in Frogtown and East St. Paul.

The team has found that a persistent presence in the community over time gets people thinking more
about how they care for their animals. Their goal is to make several small changes in the lives of animals, which eventually will create a large, community change for animals.

Darling stresses that the work is about empowerment and information-sharing for neighborhoods that otherwise lack a place to turn to for affordable pet supplies, training, and healthcare. “The point of our work isn’t to take care of their animals ourselves. Right now as we are just trying to make it as easy as possible. Over time, we see the community carrying the torch. Access to resources and information will become embedded in the culture,” she says.

The team already refers community members to AHS’ humane education programs, behavior helpline, and Melrose Animal Clinic. In the future, they will be integrating community-based dog training classes and adoption events in Frogtown, and adding a dog trainer and veterinary technician to the canvassing team. They plan to visit more Pets for Life cities in 2015 to see the work others are doing and share their experiences implementing the program.

Work in Frogtown will continue, but the team’s focus will eventually transition to East St. Paul and beyond. “We’re excited to go out into more communities. There is a lot of need out there,” says Mock.

The Community Outreach Program is a clear extension of the values that AHS embodies, from partnering with people, to leading responsibly with compassion, to being good to animals. Mock says, “We really have an opportunity to make a big difference on the whole continuum of an animal’s life.”

Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/frogtown to see a video about the Community Outreach program in Frogtown.

**Pooah**

Frances Marvala adopted Pooah, a 5-week-old American Bulldog mix with a shiny white and grey coat, from a friend. “He was the only one that survived out of his litter.”

A social butterfly, the puppy has a special bond with Marvala’s 13-year-old daughter Sophia in particular. Sophia is a natural at obedience training, working with Pooah on sit, mouthy behavior, and crate-training. The two are obviously attached, and he follows her every move with rapt attention.

Marvala has been one of Animal Humane Society’s biggest advocates in Frogtown and believes in the importance of spay/neuter, but her son had other ideas when it came to having Pooah fixed. “He wanted to mate Pooah with a female he had in mind to make money off of the puppies,” she says. Marvala scheduled Pooah for a free neuter surgery at Kindest Cut anyway.

“It’s good there’s these types of events going on that the Humane Society can help with vaccinations and with preventing unwanted litters. To us people [of limited means], it helps us a lot,” Marvala says.
Honoring their memory

Caretaker’s work pays tribute to decades of pets

By Carrie Libera
On a warm spring day, clusters of colorful flowers speckle the otherwise lush green field of Memorial Pet Cemetery in Roseville, Minn. Bouquets rest against headstones, old stone pots display blooming hues, and weathered statues are adorned with bright new life. Perched above one headstone every spring for the past 23 years is an arrangement of beautiful geraniums.

Mr. Dog, an 11-year-old Schnauzer, passed away in 1992 and his owner faithfully visited each spring with flowers to fill the large stone pot above his final resting place. “She came every year with the nicest geraniums for her dog, but I suspect she’s had health issues and now it’s been a couple years since she’s come,” explains Jim Westby, caretaker of the cemetery. “The first year there were no geraniums, I waited in case she was just late. But by June there was nothing there, so I put the geraniums in place for her. For whatever reason she can’t make it here anymore, so I’ll continue to bring them.”

Jim Westby is a thoughtful man with an infectious laugh and a genuine smile that spreads ear-to-ear. He’s a retired police officer, husband for 50 years, father of four children, and animal lover. You’d never guess he’s 77 years old, especially when you learn he spends two days a week playing hockey. Perhaps what keeps him looking and feeling so young is his desire to stay active and busy, both on the ice, and in his role as caretaker of Memorial Pet Cemetery.

As the oldest pet cemetery in the Twin Cities, Memorial Pet Cemetery has been in existence since the early 1920s and was formerly known as the Feist Pet Cemetery. In the late 1980s, the cemetery was donated to Animal Humane Society.

Jim’s father-in-law, Ken Fabianske, began working as the cemetery’s caretaker in 1970 when the original caretaker retired. Ken worked until 1982 and after a few caretakers came and went, Jim took over responsibility of the cemetery in late 1986.

Thousands of headstones dating as far back as 90 years dot the roughly two acre plot of land that rests between a highway and a quiet neighborhood. Jim pauses to do the math in his head and estimates around 8,000 pets are buried there. The very first headstone, he points out, belongs to Zelo, a Boston terrier buried in 1924. While most of the animals buried are dogs, there are several cats as well as a few critters including guinea pigs, birds, a turtle, and even a hedgehog. Records indicate a horse was buried on the land in 1928.

For 28 years Jim has turned caring for the cemetery into a labor of love. He takes great pride in maintaining the beauty of this hallowed land, and has helped hundreds of people through the final stage of their pets’ lives. “I’ve met some good people doing this work,” says Jim. “It’s very sad when you’ve had a pet for so many years. But when they come here and their pet is buried, they feel happier
Jim Westby, Memorial Pet Cemetery caretaker

“When they come here and their pet is buried, they feel happier having them in a nice spot. And they can come back and visit in a beautiful surrounding. I’m happy to do that for them.”

Each animal Jim helps deliver to its final resting place is treated with the utmost respect, and he makes sure the families’ needs are always met. “When a pet dies, people want closure as soon as possible, so it’s important to take care of it quickly and Jim always accommodates,” says Anne Ahiers, customer service supervisor at AHS. “Jim is amazing. He’s super helpful, kind and caring. He helps when people are grieving and we always receive notes from people saying how nice Jim is.”

In his first full year as caretaker in 1987, Jim completed 153 burials at the cemetery. That number has slowly declined over the years, and in the early 2000s, the cemetery closed to new clients due to space constraints. Existing clients who purchased plots prior to that time are still able to use those plots as their pets pass away, resulting in 15-20 new burials each year.

Over the years Jim has met hundreds of people and heard just as many stories about their pets. He’s watched people grieve for animals in the same way we grieve for deceased friends and family. He’s witnessed the joy that having a pet has brought to people, and even a few comical moments.

“One time I was burying a dog, and the family brought their other dog along to say goodbye,” explains Jim. “The ground was covered up and the grass put back on top, and the lady says to the dog, ‘go say goodbye to your brother.’ The dog goes over, lifts his leg up, and pees on it! We all had a good laugh.”

In addition to providing memorable burials, Jim meticulously maintains the grounds of the cemetery, everything from mowing grass and planting and watering flowers to trimming, cutting down, and planting trees. He’s grateful to have help from his son, Joe, whose time in the cemetery goes all the way back to when he was a little boy and would help his grandfather when he was the caretaker.

Jim adds his own personal touches to the cemetery, like the recent garden of dahlia bushes that he planted as a special place for cremated pet remains. Many of the fresh flowers found around the cemetery are placed there by Jim. “I don’t run into a lot of visitors here. For some it’s too far to travel, or life just gets busy; I suspect many people bury their pets and don’t come back,” says Jim. “But I am a visitor. And I want to see nice flowers when I come, so I bring them.”
Animals have always played an important role in our society, but our relationship with them and their role in the family structure have transformed over time. In this new age of pet ownership, animals have become integrated members of the family. People do not view themselves as pet owners, but rather pet parents.

Though pets may now experience an elevated household status, a strong human-animal bond has always existed and a walk through Memorial Pet Cemetery in Roseville, Minn. reveals 90 years of relationships with beloved family pets.

Memorial Pet Cemetery traces its history back to the 1920s when a few acres of farmland were sold to a veterinarian named Dr. Arnold Feist, who then split off an area of the land to be used as a new pet cemetery. The cemetery was privately owned and known as the Feist Pet Cemetery until it was donated to Animal Humane Society in the 1980s. The name was changed to Memorial Pet Cemetery and is one of two pet cemeteries in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

Tattered three ring binders tucked away at Animal Humane Society hold the original type-written records from the cemetery’s first few decades. The aging and discolored pages divulge the types of breeds most popular during the 1920s and 30s. Boston Terriers, Poodles, Bull Terriers, Airedales, Fox Terriers, Collies, and German Shepherds dominate the pages.

The thousands of headstones in Memorial Pet Cemetery illustrate the evolution of pet names that people have chosen for their faithful companions. Names like Teddy, Ginger, Joker, King, and Mitzi from the 1920s. And more recently Puddy Tat, Oreo Cookie, Big Foot, BItsy Buttons, and Sir Marco III from the 1990s.

Many of the tombstones are inscribed with loving epitaphs honoring the deceased pets, with reoccurring words like beloved, protector, loyal, sweet, devoted, companion and best friend. Versions of the message “until we meet again” adorn several of the stones. Some are engraved with images of various breeds while others have actual photographs which have weathered over time. There are statues scattered throughout, both of domestic pets and of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals.

Memorial Pet Cemetery offers a unique opportunity for animal lovers to take a historical stroll through several decades of furry companionship in a peaceful setting. Due to space constraints, new burials are no longer offered, but the site is open daily for visitors. Memorial Pet Cemetery is located at 694 Cope Avenue, Roseville, MN, near the intersection of Highway 36 and Dale Street.
Our mission is to engage the hearts, hands and minds of the community to help animals.

Thank you for your generous support in helping us achieve the results outlined in this Report to the Community.

In the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2014, we continued to focus on reducing the number of animals coming into our shelters, increasing the number of animals placed in the community, and reducing the rate of humane euthanasia. This has been our ongoing goal and we remain encouraged by our progress – with the understanding that much work remains.

The advances we’ve made to date have allowed us to focus on helping even more animals become adoptable, often through extensive behavior programs or advanced medical treatment. Thanks to this effort, our humane euthanasia rate decreased by 10 percent, and our overall placement rate rose to 82 percent.

We continue to aspire to finding loving homes for 90 percent or more of the animals that come through our doors. We are grateful for your commitment to our shared vision as we work together to create a more humane world for animals.

Geographic area served

Animal Humane Society serves animals and people in the seven-county metro area and beyond from its facilities in Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington and Wright counties. The Humane Investigations unit provides services throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

Animal Outcomes

- Remained in Our Care: 328 • 2%
- Euthanasia: 3,498 • 16%
- Placement: 17,627 • 82%

Animals surrendered for owner requested euthanasia (2,405) are excluded from the animal outcomes calculation.

Find Us Online

- animalhumanesociety.org
- facebook.com/animalhumanesociety
- twitter.com/animal_humanemn
- youtube.com/animalhumanesociety
- instagram.com/animalhumanemn
AHS receives both companion animals and wildlife that need care and assistance. Figures on this page include companion animals only. Wildlife statistics are reported on the next page.

**Animal Intake**

**Intake Total**
23,858

**Intake by Reason for Surrender**

- **Owner Surrender** 9,658 • 40.5%
- **Cruelty Case** 522 • 2%
- **Transfer from partner animal welfare agency** 6,774 • 28.5%
- **Stray** 4,499 • 19%
- **Owner Requested Euthanasia** 2,405 • 10%

Total intake (23,858) includes both animals admitted for placement consideration (21,453) and animals euthanized at the owner’s request (2,405). Animals surrendered for owner requested euthanasia are excluded from the animal outcomes calculation.

**Animal Placement**

AHS provides homes and second chances for dogs, cats and domestic critters.

**Placement Total**
17,627

**Placement by Type**

- **Adoption** 15,878 • 90%
- **Reunited with Owner** 1,153 • 7%
- **Release to partner animal welfare agency** 596 • 3%

**Placement by Species**

- **Feline**
  - 11,724 • 49%
  - 7,490 • 43%
- **Canine**
  - 10,118 • 42%
  - 8,014 • 46%
- **Domestic Critter/Bird**
  - 2,016 • 9%
  - 1,673 • 11%
AHS is an open admission organization with a strong belief in providing services for all animals in need. Sadly, some animals come to us that we cannot safely and responsibly place in homes, and as a result, AHS staff make the very difficult decision to euthanize some companion animals. There is no time limit that animals can remain in our shelters. Animals surrendered by their owners for end-of-life services are not included in these figures.

### Euthanasia Total 3,498

### Euthanasia by Reason

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatable Manageable</th>
<th>Treatable Rehabilitable</th>
<th>Unhealthy/Untreatable</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,032</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>1,302</td>
<td>3,498</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Euthanasia by Species

- **feline:** 2,452 • 70%
- **canine:** 883 • 25%
- **domestic critter/bird:** 163 • 5%

### Adoption and Surrender

Our surrender by appointment process started in January 2011. Last year, our animal admissions staff handled a total of 27,816 calls for general information and surrender appointments.

Our Adoption Preparation program helped 720 dogs overcome shyness and fear to be more comfortable in new surroundings.

There were 166 cats adopted after participating in our Fresh Start program for cats that have a history of not using their litter box. In addition, 144 dogs were adopted after participating in our Chow Hounds or Resource Guarding programs, which help dogs that show aggressive behaviors over resources like food.

### Partnerships

Partner rescue groups assist us with special needs animals. A total of 596 animals were released to 68 rescue organizations, giving these animals a chance to become beloved pets. And when other animal welfare facilities in Minnesota and elsewhere are too crowded or are unable to place animals, they call AHS for help. In 2014, AHS took in 6,774 animals from 95 organizations.

In all, AHS collaborates with more than 140 animal welfare organizations in Minnesota and other states, including the University of Minnesota Veterinary School, animal rescues in Oklahoma, Georgia, Alabama, Missouri, Indiana and California, private veterinarians, and municipal animal control authorities throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

### Outreach

AHS’ Community Outreach Program works toward engaging more communities in the organization’s work through community-based service delivery and by providing resources for pet owners not historically engaged with AHS or other animal welfare programs. In 2014, the Outreach Team engaged with 2,603 people and visited 1,301 houses in Frogtown. In addition, 402 free spay/neuter surgeries were provided for the pets of people in that community.

### Education

AHS believes that education is a critical component of creating a more humane world for animals. In 2014, our education programs served 12,289 people. AHS educators provided 96 school and off-site programs to 3,307 students, and 49 kids took part in PetSet Youth Club. In addition, 140 kids held their birthday parties at AHS, with 1,940 people joining the celebrations. Fifty-one Unleashed camps provided 810 young people the chance to experience life at AHS.

### Humane Investigations

AHS’s two humane agents, the only full-time humane investigators in the state, received 2,184 reports of neglected or harmed animals. Working in 62 counties with local law enforcement officials, our efforts in humane investigations helped 4,381 animals, including 1,138 horses, 1,047 dogs and 587 cats.

### Pet Services

Animal House, our pet boarding facility in Golden Valley, was home last year to 3,600 pet guests, including dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets and other small animals.

Providing spay/neuter surgery continues to be a core program of our organization. All previously unsterilized animals put up for adoption, nearly 10,240 in 2014, received this surgery at our five locations.

Kindest Cut, operating in partnership with AHS, performed 10,600 spay/neuter surgeries and treated 709 patients in their wellness clinic, all at reduced costs for people in need.

Our obedience and training classes attracted 1,245 participants. We held 452 private training sessions, and our behavior helpline received 1,998 calls.

### Volunteers

Volunteers are critical to AHS’s success. A total of 2,128 volunteers contributed 134,809 hours at all five of our sites to help AHS achieve its mission. Volunteers who worked in our foster program cared for 1,913 animals during the course of the year.

### Wildlife

In addition to domestic animals, AHS operates a wildlife program. Through our partnership with Wildlife Rehabilitation and Release, animals are treated and released back to the wild after rehabilitation. In 2014, a total of 2,008 wild animals received services.
**Animal Humane Society Statement of Activities**
For the 12 months ended June 30, 2014

### SUPPORT & REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adoption fees and program revenue</td>
<td>4,731,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>6,266,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wills and estates</td>
<td>2,505,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind contributions</td>
<td>288,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events and promotions</td>
<td>968,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment gain (loss)</td>
<td>644,553</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividend and interest income</td>
<td>74,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>208,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUES</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,689,095</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENSES

**Program services:**

- Rescue: 368,223
- Adoption and surrender: 8,637,442
- Pet services: 670,496
- Outreach: 471,828

**Supporting services:**

- Management and general: 759,867
- Fundraising: 3,014,269
- Total supporting services: 3,774,136

**TOTAL EXPENSES**
13,922,125

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS**
1,766,970

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**Fiscal Year 2014 Board of Directors**
Carolyn Smith, Chair
Tom Hoch, Vice Chair
Maureen McDonough, Secretary
Scott Schroeper, Treasurer
Scott Aebischer
Barb Colombo
Lisa Goodman
David Gutke
John Huber
Don Jacobsen
Paul Kaminski
Sheila Kennedy
Jim Lane
Cyndi Lesher
Lia Melrose
Teresa Morrow
Dr. Ned Patterson
Boyd Ratchye
Damon Schramm
Tim Taffe
Tina Wilcox
Donna Zimmerman
Janelle Dixon, President & CEO

---

**Fiscal Year 2014 Animal Humane Society Leadership**
Janelle Dixon
President & CEO

Eileen Lay
Chief Operating & Financial Officer

Katie Nelsen, CFRE
Chief Advancement Officer

Kathy Mock
Chief Government Affairs & Outreach Officer

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The Minnesota Charities Review Council’s Standards of Accountability state that at least 70% of an organization’s annual expenses should be for program activity with not more than 30% for management, general, and fundraising expenses, combined. Animal Humane Society exceeded this standard by directing 73% of our expenses back into programming for the animals and our community.
A significant change

When Alice first came to Animal Humane Society, our veterinary staff performed a biopsy on a large, open wound on her leg. They discovered it was caused by compulsive licking. The stress of being confined in a tiny cage caused her to lick the same spot so much she created a painful sore. She underwent surgery for her wound and to be spayed so she wouldn’t have to birth any more pups. After her initial recovery, Alice stayed in the shelter’s administrative offices with staff. She was so used to being housed in confined spaces, she was usually found sleeping in the recycling bins!

Alice then went to live with a foster family for a few months to help her overcome her extreme anxiety. Six months after Alice was brought in, one of our volunteers fell in love and adopted her. Alice was the last of the rescued Pine River dogs to find a happy new beginning. It was an emotional, exciting moment for everyone.

Your compassion transforms lives

At Animal Humane Society, we are committed to creating a more humane world for animals. Through your kindness, we will continue to give specialized care to animals that need extra care and attention and will remain steadfast in taking a stand against animal cruelty in our community. Your compassion allows us to give animals like Alice the second chances they deserve.

Conditions no dog deserves

On a hot summer day, our humane investigations team and animal care staff traveled to northern Minnesota to rescue a group of dogs and puppies from inhumane conditions at a breeding facility. These dogs were suffering in sweltering heat with little shade and no clean water. We couldn’t bear to see them living in such heartbreaking conditions.

Alice was rescued, along with 132 other animals, from a puppy mill in Pine River, MN. This beautiful white Labrador retriever had been confined to a small kennel where she was forced to give birth to litter after litter — causing her to be scared in open spaces. You can imagine how frightening it was when she was freed from her cage and held by humans for the first time.
A significant change
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Cost of Care
Because of the generosity of Animal Humane Society supporters, we are able to help animals that have special circumstances. We care deeply about every animal that comes to us and to ensure Alice had the best outcome, she stayed in our care for almost six months. Here’s what your contributions do for animals like Alice:

- $90 for Alice’s spay surgery, vaccinations and microchip
- $750 for her medical treatments
- $2,700 for six months in our care to regain her health
- $3,540 total cost to find Alice her happy new beginning

Make a difference for animals like Alice
As we approach the end of the year, your support is more important than ever! During this season of giving, please make a year-end gift to continue supporting lifesaving services for animals in our community.

Email: giving@animalhumanesociety.org
Phone: (763) 489-2210
Online: To see a video of Alice’s story or make a gift online visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/alice or use your smartphone to scan the QR code
memorials and tributes
January 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014

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

In Memory of a pet
Remembered by...
Abby & Sydney
Linda Roehl
Amigo
Lori Rupprecht
Ana & Lili
Susan and Alice Pitra
Angel & Silky
Robert and Lynell Anderson
Annie & Daisy
Sue and Larry Clausen
Bailey
Jolene and William Servatius
Bandit & Timur
Judith Beaumont

Basil
Sharon Bonasoni
Basil
Donn M. Wallin
Bogie
Gordon and Susan Heruth
Booee & Hunter
Kathleen and Thomas Martin
Bubba
Patricia Beithon
Butter
Judy and Peter Obermeyer
Buttons
Patricia Brown
Canterbury
Virginia Panich
Cappy & Big Sam
Jill Tarant
Cassie
Douglas Moat

Cassie & Bean
Stephen and Judith Johnson
Chanel
Karen Olson
Charger
Paula and Thomas Quinn
Chloe
Rochelle Tudor
Cliffopt
Carolyn Mueller
Cricket
Jan Dahl
Cuddles
Gary Glinz
Daisy
Betty Brooking and Margaret Neilling

Eddie
Greta Schmalz
Ember
Lisa Melrose
Emma
Jane and Christopher Jenkins
FlipMasterFlash
Kari Smith
Fox
Alice Smyinski
Frenzy
LuAnn and Chip Berglund
Gizzy
Michael Miller
Gromit
Mary and Robert Stacke
Gustino J GoodPuppy
Jenina Rasmussen
Haley
David O’Hara
Hannah
Barbara and Dana Tickner
Harley
Gary Glinz
Hazel & Carlee
Ted Bair and Harvey Filister
Heidi Elizabeth Ann
Barbara Stettner
Henry
Dick and Diane Hanson
Henry
Helen and Thomas Isberg
Hobie Cat
Marilyn and Marvin Carlson
HoBo, Kelly, Rascal, Penny, Pokey, Mookie, Mango & KWI
Dorothy Swenson
Jake
Ted Bair and Harvey Filister
Jet
Gordon and Deborah Olson
Joey Cocker
James and Darryl Weivoda
Jurgen & Dieter
Barbara Johnson
Kodiboo
Joanne and Tim Sather
Little Dipper
Sam Carrington
LouLou & Sophie
Betsy and Richard Duff
Luxie
Victoria Elmer
Lucie Vaaler
Shelby Braden Vaaler and Bryan Vaaler
Lucky Bishop
Michael Bishop

Lucy & Murphy
Grandma and Grandpa Carlson
MacDuff
Jane and David Blond
Maggie Mae
Sara Wogman
Maggie Mae
Urnsula Nelson
Mali
Phyllis Martell
Marley & Hunter
Jeanne and Kullen Birkeland
Misha
Sylvia Adams
Miss Abby
Carol Steffensmeier
Miss Podwer ‘The Poo’
Christin Tackett
Misty
Terisa and Thomas Campbell
Miz, Punkin & Shadow
Beverly Hanson
Molly
Jean and John Mandeville
Mr. T
Roger Newton
Murphy
Kathryn Duhl
Nana
Susan K. Thompson
Navy Pittaway
Valerie Beaudoin

Oscar
Dennis and Dianne Olson
Oscar
Robert D. Sandeckov
Oscar
Mary Jo and Dean Lindholm
Pedro
Barbara and David Hughes
Pami & Lola
Urnsula Nelson
Mali
Phyllis Martell
Marley & Hunter
Jeanne and Kullen Birkeland
Misha
Sylvia Adams
Miss Abby
Carol Steffensmeier
Miss Podwer ‘The Poo’
Christin Tackett
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Terisa and Thomas Campbell
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Beverly Hanson
Molly
Jean and John Mandeville
Mr. T
Roger Newton
Murphy
Kathryn Duhl
Nana
Susan K. Thompson
Navy Pittaway
Valerie Beaudoin

Rocky
Kathleen and Thomas Martin
Rocky
Scott Knutson
Rose
Linda Molitor

Sam
Nishant and Lesley Khattar
Samie
Alice and Donald McCauley
Sammie
Nicolai Lewis
Sammie, Muff & Huey
Nancy Courtright
Sammy
Ted Bair and Harvey Filister
Scamper
Edna B. Ellington
Scarcey Cat
Toni Yeomans
Schnooey
Gloria and Glenn Gaster
Scooter Higgins
Cindy Thompson
Shamus
Marilyn and Tom Miller
Shane (Bubba)
Sue and Delilah
Shep Griffith
Mary Choi
Sidney
Robert Thayer and Nancy Meade-Thayer
Sigurd Rector
Wendy Heflerstedt
Sirius
Donna Dumbeldrek and Robert Samuelson
Slick & David
Joan Broughton
Snickers
Mark and Karen Stoffерahn
Sophie
Bree Gagey
Sophie
Ted Bair and Harvey Filister
Stanley
Peter Lee
Stewie
Paul Braun
Sushi
Tamra Trig
Taffy
Barbara Erdahl
Tanner
Bernie and Donna Waibel
Ticki & Lucy
Richard Gilson
Tigger
Carolyn Beacon
Valentine
Mary Borntrager
Vanilla
Ellen Geiser
Winnie
Marcia and Robert Rinek

Basil
Sharon Bonasoni
Basil
Donn M. Wallin
Bogie
Gordon and Susan Heruth
Booee & Hunter
Kathleen and Thomas Martin
Bubba
Patricia Beithon
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Buttons
Patricia Brown
Canterbury
Virginia Panich
Cappy & Big Sam
Jill Tarant
Cassie
Douglas Moat

Daisy
Erica and Tim Wenzinger
Daisy
Julie Chouinard
Daisy & Annie
Sue and Larry Clausen
Day-zee
Sharon and Robert Dodds
Deano
James E. Tripp
Dottie
Kenneth Zieminski and Amy Short
Dudley
Kellee Sjaahem
Duffy
Stephan Schneider
Dutchie
Nancy Sittard
Dyna & Sheela
Carol Feldman

Neko George
Johanna and Peter George
O Henry
Margaret Kirick
Olivea & Taylor
Judy and James Sinclair
Oscar
Brian and Lori Milbrandt

Daisy
Erica and Tim Wenzinger
Daisy
Julie Chouinard
Daisy & Annie
Sue and Larry Clausen
Day-zee
Sharon and Robert Dodds
Deano
James E. Tripp
Dottie
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Dutchie
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Dyna & Sheela
Carol Feldman

Neko George
Johanna and Peter George
O Henry
Margaret Kirick
Olivea & Taylor
Judy and James Sinclair
Oscar
Brian and Lori Milbrandt
When we found our cat at the Woodbury Animal Humane Society, his name was Poirot (due to his cute little mustache). For almost nine years we would call him Folsom.

My wife and I got married in October 2005. Four days after we returned from our honeymoon, we stopped by the shelter just up the road from our house to see if there was a cat there for us. Folsom was a relatively new arrival in the room where the other cats get their play time. We got to let him out and play with him in a separate room and it didn’t take much convincing after that: Folsom came home with us that night. We named him after the Johnny Cash song, “Folsom Prison Blues” (the stripes on his back fit a prisoner motif). Even though his name evoked thoughts of hardened criminals, Folsom was such a softie. We have many memories of our kids tackling him, hugging him, combing him, and even dressing him up as a princess. Folsom rarely seemed to mind. His vocalizations made him sound like a grumpy old man, but he was friendly enough to almost always come when called. Folsom seemed to know who wasn’t feeling well or who had come home from a rough day at work and always sought to comfort them.

I could go on forever about Folsom, but let me close with this – Folsom was the best cat I ever knew. I cried more at the end of his life than I’ve ever cried for just about anything. I loved that cat. I’m relieved that he only had a day and a half of suffering instead of a slow decline of months or years, but he still left us far too soon.

Please know that you made an immeasurable difference in our family. Folsom was part of our family right from the start and through the addition of another cat and three children. I miss him more than I ever thought I could miss anything. I loved that cat. I’m relieved that he only had a day and a half of suffering instead of a slow decline of months or years, but he still left us far too soon.

Please know that you made an immeasurable difference in our family. Folsom was part of our family right from the start and through the addition of another cat and three children. I miss him more than I ever thought I could miss anything. I loved that cat. I’m relieved that he only had a day and a half of suffering instead of a slow decline of months or years, but he still left us far too soon.

Thank you for introducing us to this magnificent cat. Folsom was one-of-a-kind.

Marc A.
On September 17, 2003, my family adopted Don. He chose my wife in the cat colony room. Don reached out from the top of the spiral stairs and gently touched her shoulder. In the private room, he let her hold him on his back like a baby and he fell asleep. It was love at first sight and she was hooked. Soon we all were, and I’d always been a dog guy!

The reason he was surrendered:

The reason he was surrendered:

- Three years ago Don was diagnosed with feline diabetes and was given six months to live. He fought hard. We thought we had lost him several times but he kept snapping back. Eventually the diabetes deteriorated his bladder, kidneys, and finally his mind to the point that he was in constant distress. It was heartbreaking to see him like that.

- On June 6, 2014, we had to make the hard call and put him to rest.

- We thought you guys might want to know. You can chalk this adoption up as a huge success story. Thanks for introducing us to our little man.

The Wright Family
Colleen Hazel
Mowgli
Chad and Kim Potratz
Morgan
Monigold
Timothy and Melinda
Moose
William and Valerie DuFour
Molly
Sari and Tom Meissner
Misty
Scott and Cheryl Wallin
Maddy
Jeanne Laqua
Maddy
Lance and Barb Witschen
Luna
Barbara Cook
Maddie
Julie Ziemer
Marley
David Finger
Max
Erdman and Sheila Vail
Masey
Suzanne and Don Frank
Misty
Kathy Vujovich
Misty
William and Valerie DuFour
Missouri
Timothy and Melinda Monigold
Morgan
Chad and Kim Potratz
Mowgli
Colleen Hazel
Nemo
John Albrecht
Opie
Karen McGilivary
Ozzie
Liz Pitts
Sammy
Bridget and Matthew Hemenway
Scout
Kathryn Bohn
Scyla
Larry Sarringe and Linda Ziskovsky
Shadow
James Trad
Shay
Joyce Wilhelmy
Sidney
Galen Peck
Sierra
Cameron Littel
Snickers
Debbie Bibeau
Snoopy
Bart Volkman
Sofia
Ellen and Cullen Suss
Sonny
Ruth Lunda
Star
Derek and Laura Patterson
Stella
Linda and Richard Walstrom
Targa
Becky and Doug Heitkamp
Tess
Chris Ficcadenti
Tessa
Tara McCord
Theresa
David Flake
Tiger Lily
Marcia Palme
Toby
Bill Van Essendelft
Topaz
Todd and Kris Larson
Trouble
Bill Axelrod
Trouble
Albert and Yvonne Loeffler
Tucker
Eric Christian
Vanessa
Colleen Bruski
Vicky
Kenneth Marks
Wally
Ardis Koteke
Willy
Sally Dougherty
Wilma
Mary Hauser
Wylee
Patti Herrick
In Tribute to a pet Recognized by…
All our Beloved Pets
Debra Mursich
Atticus
Anna Youngerman
Big Red & Mama Kitty
Jonneth Schwartz
Buddy & Tommy
Carole Weatherby
Cessi
Rebecca Forman
Cody
Jan and Thomas Solei
Daisy & Annie
Sue and Larry Clausen
Emma
Pamela Anderson
Figgie the Cat
Linda Krafthefer
Finley
Jason Woggner
Jack & Eddie Broat
Pamela and Philip Broat
Jazzmine Rose Marquez
Michelle Marquez
Joe
Geraldine B. King
Kitty Melvin
Glyn Northington and Stan Kolden
Kliban & Tonto
Pamela Schreiner
Kona
Peter and Lidianna Gustrie
Kyra
Neil Winston
Lexie Slippers
Veronica Karlinsky
Libby
Richard Speltz
Max
John Schwartz
Missy
Richard and Nancy Killmer
Moxie & Murphy
Ellen Doherty
Muffy
Beverly Hanson
Nikki & Tobby
Eric and Colleen Zilley
Ozzie
Christine and Michael Lyons
Puzzles
Jessie Dahl
Quiero
Koia and Niko Scholtz
Rascal
Clark Miller and Sabra Waldfogel
Rocky & Tessie
Bill and Pat Klempke
Rudy
Ruth and Peter Keneck
Runway
Dan Pakulski, Envision Plastics and Design
Sadie Rose
Arls and Myron Welrey
Scooter & Chessie
Dorene Ekland and Jan Skoever
Shadow & Ashley
Juliette and John Geisen
Shelby
Joanne and Dennis McCarr
Shelby
Tina and Richard Raisanen
Sidney
Vicki and William Kolb
Sparty Tuttle
Pamela and Scott Grossman
Spencer
Michael Connly
Sport & Ike
Kristi and Bob Brownson
Suki, Molly, Grover & Nomar
Sandra and Steven Holmstroem
Tash, Hannah, & Sydney
Rebecca and Robert Pohlad
Vinnie, Pete, & Rafael
Alice and Charles Burgos
Bresgahan and Pamela Berends
Willow & Shadow
Cheryl Bailey and Dan Humes

Lollipops
Kathy Fogerty
Luce
Karen and Dwight Azen
Lucy
Michael and Sheila Vail
Luna
Barbara Cook
Maddie
Jeanne Laqua
Maddy
Lance and Barb Witschen
Maggie
Julie Ziemer
Marley
David Finger
Max
Erdman and Sheila Vail
Masey
Suzanne and Don Frank
Max
Loriann and Jesse Anderson
Max
Katie Philippi
Mickey
Donna Spielman
Minnie
Scott and Cheryl Wallin
Misty
Kathy Vujovich
Molly
William and Valerie DuFour
Moose
Timothy and Melinda Monigold
Morgan
Chad and Kim Potratz
Mowgli
Colleen Hazel
Paris
Jodie Hughes
Pavlov
Richard Gerten
Princess
Steve and Roni Mathias
Princess
Linda and Richard Walstrom
Targa
Becky and Doug Heitkamp
Tess
Chris Ficcadenti
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Colleen Bruski
Vicky
Kenneth Marks
Wally
Ardis Koteke
Willy
Sally Dougherty
Wilma
Mary Hauser
Wylee
Patti Herrick

animal groups

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<tr>
<td>pride of lions</td>
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<td>crash of rhinoceroses</td>
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animal sounds word search

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hidden animal sounds
Can you spot the 16 animal sounds hidden in this puzzle?

The Playpen

animal groups
Do you know the names of these multiples?

quite a tangle
Which giraffe is which?

O B C I T T R K T G  bark
L B O A B W C K O S  meow
K U C R A A E B S K  roar
N K K Q U S B E C J  gobble
O T A Q U L B G T B  oink
H I D I E G R O W L  quack
X I O S S S S S S I  honk
R A O R G A T T K F  ssssss
W H D K U E Z I I S  heehaw
growl
purr
ribbit
tweet
moo
baa
cockadoodledoo

flamboyance charm bed flock pride crash pack clowder

Answers are on page 29
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