



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.

a message from Janelle Dixon

During the past two years, you've likely seen discussions in Animal Humane Society communications about community and community engagement – references to the greater community of people in which we all live, work and socialize, but also to the community of individuals who care about companion animals and their welfare.

To achieve long-term success on behalf of animals, it is essential that AHS succeed in creating understanding about the challenges facing animals. We also need to create understanding about the benefits of



being engaged in a positive force for change, and what the larger community -- and each of us as individuals -- can do to positively influence the lives of animals, and the community itself.

AHS works to ensure that we reflect the values of our community. Alternatively, our work influences and shapes the values and behaviors of the community. As we all evolve and do more, we expect more. On this foundation we have seen great changes in the ways animals are welcomed in our community and in our homes, and in what AHS and organizations like ours are able to do to care for and place animals.

In this way, we have been working together to affect positive change. Many animals that would have lived outdoors 20 years ago now sleep inside with us each night. Cities have passed ordinances allowing animals on outdoor patios at restaurants. Shops welcome pets. The animal economy is flourishing because of the clothes, beds, toys and premium food we buy. In that same timeframe, AHS moved from offering basic care and core services to providing spay/neuter before adoption, advanced medical care, behavior modification programs and a host of services that build the human-animal bond.

As we move forward, AHS is being more intentional about community and engaging a larger group of people in changing the story for animals. Likewise we would like to see individual community members more intent on purposeful engagement — in being a part of the solution to the challenges impacting animals. We need each of you as individuals, and collectively as the community, to be actively involved.

A few small changes can have a big impact. There are three simple things you can do and encourage others to do: adopt, spay/neuter and ID your pets. It is the choices and behaviors of people that determine the fate of animals. These choices are simple and save lives.

Imagine where we can go from here, together as a community, and envision how we can work together to get there. I look forward to continuing to grow and develop a partnership that builds on our shared values and vision for the stature and welfare of animals in our community.

Sincerely,

-JANELLE DIXON, PRESIDENT & CEO

Animal Tracks Spring/Summer 2013

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On the cover:

Legacy was surrendered in August 2011 to the Leech Lake Tribal Police. He was fostered and then adopted by Marilou Chanrasmi, co-founder of Leech Lake Legacy, and became the organization's official spokesdog.

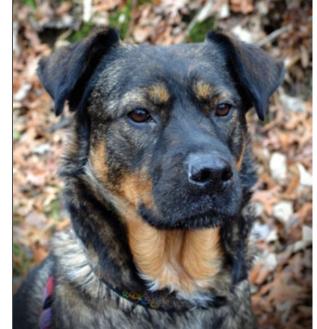


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(763) 522-4325

www.animalhumanesociety.org



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 loss services, 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 our Animal Admissions Center at (763) 412-4969 for an appointment to surrender an animal. Appointments are available 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday - Friday and 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday & Sunday.

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

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.

Surrender

Companion animals may be surrendered at any of our five open admission locations where we provide safe refuge for thousands of animals each year.

Appointments 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 Kindest Cut mobile clinic, high quality, low cost spay/ neuter services are available to the pets of people in need. Visit www.kindestcutmn.

Pet boarding

We offer two options for pet boarding. There's Animal House at AHS in Golden Valley [763] 489-2222 and Now Boarding near the Minneapolis St. Paul Airport (612) 454-4850. 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. 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.

Youth programs

From Unleashed Summer Camp and projects for Scouts, to PetSet Youth Club there is a lot for kids to do at AHS. Call [763] 489-2220 or visit

www.animalhumanesociety.org/youth.

School programs

We offer interactive classroom programs for students in grades K-12. For information on selecting a program for a child's school call (763) 489-2220 or visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/classroom.

Microchip and nail clinics

Microchip and nail trim clinics are offered monthly at our five 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/wildlife.

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/

Behavior helpline

Need some advice regarding your pet? We're here to help. Call (763) 489-2202.

Online library

lostandfound.

Visit our online library for help with pet training and behavior.

www.animalhumanesociety.org/library.

Therapy animals

Animal Ambassadors, AHS's animalassisted therapy teams, visit hospitals, nursing homes and other facilities. For more information call (763) 432-4825.

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 available. Call [763] 412-4969 or visit www.animalhumanesociety. org/petloss. 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.



Like us on Facebook:

facebook.com/animalhumanesociety



Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/Animal_HumaneMN April - November 2013

Walk for Animals

Saturday, May 4, 2013 Golden Valley AHS, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

You love animals. You know what a difference they have made in your life. You also care about animals less fortunate than your own.

The Walk for Animals is your opportunity to help the thousands of companion animals that will come through Animal Humane Society's doors this year. For more information visit www. animalhumanesociety.org/walk, email walk@animalhumanesociety.org, or call (763) 432-4841.

Wine Dinner

Friday, November 1, 2013 The Saint Paul Hotel, St. Paul – 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 live auction items, but most importantly, you'll support the programs, services and animals of Animal Humane Society. Seating is limited. Please make your reservation early to guarantee your seat at this premiere 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 by 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 in Minneapolis. 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.

April 7 • Coon Rapids • 3 p.m. April 25 • Woodbury • 7 p.m. May 15 • Golden Valley • 7 p.m. June 12 • St. Paul • 7 p.m. July 17 • Golden Valley • 7 p.m. Aug. 22 • Woodbury • 7 p.m. Sept. 18 • Golden Valley • 7 p.m. Oct. 9 • St. Paul • 7 p.m. Nov. 13 • Golden Valley • 7 p.m.

Dogs

Canine Good Citizen Test

This certification program is 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.

Save

the

dates!

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

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.

Wallflowe

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, your dog might be a Wallflower. Contact our Training School at (763) 489-2217 for individual training sessions to help your shy and fearful dog.

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 (no rabbits in class please). 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 4 • Woodbury
April 8 • Golden Valley
May 2 • Woodbury

May 2 • Woodbury
May 13 • Golden Valley
June 6 • Woodbury
June 10 • Golden Valley

June 10 • Golden Valley
July 8 • Golden Valley
Aug. 1 • Woodbury

Sept. 9 • Golden Valley
Oct. 3 • Woodbury
Oct. 14 • Golden Valley
Nov. 7 • Woodbury
Nov.11 • Golden Valley

Aug. 12 • Golden Valley

Sept. 5 • Woodbury

Hoppy Hour

This social hour for rabbits and their owners is held at 1 p.m. every other Sunday in Golden Valley. \$3 per rabbit. For exact dates, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/events or contact rabbitagility@mncompanionrabbit. org for more information. All rabbits must be spayed or neutered.

Rabbit Agility

Rabbit Agility is an opportunity to help your rabbit learn a skill at which most of them excel. This class provides rabbits with a fun way to get exercise and mental stimulation and will help you and your rabbit be comfortable and confident in different settings. For more information, please visit the website of our partner, Minnesota Companion Rabbit Society at www.mncompanionrabbit.org or email rabbitagility@mncompanionrabbit.org. Classes are \$25 for five weeks and held in Golden Valley. All rabbits must be spayed or neutered.

Tours, clinics & groups

AHS Group & Family Tours

Ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes at AHS? Join us for a tour of any of our five facilities led by one of our professional humane educators. 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 (\$15 minimum). Participants must be at least 6 years of age. Tours are offered throughout the year by appointment, and can also be combined with an AHS classroom program. Advanced reservations are required for all tours. Call (763) 489-2220 or email education@animalhumanesociety.org to register.

People Training at AHS

AHS announces a new series of Humane Education seminars for adults, but suitable for the entire family. Classes begin fall 2013 and will be held Mondays from 6-7 p.m. in Golden Valley with a new topic each month. Cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family for each seminar. All children must be at least 7 years of age

and accompanied by their parent. For more information and specific dates, or to register online, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/people.

Animal Ambassadors

Animal Ambassadors are teams of volunteers and their pets who have been trained and registered as therapy animal teams. They provide animal-assisted therapy in nursing homes, memory care facilities, assisted living homes and other senior centers. These special teams unleash the power of pets to enhance the lives of the people they touch. To become an Animal Ambassador, you must become an AHS volunteer, you and your pet must pass the Canine Good Citizen Test (dogs only), and you and your pet must complete training to become a registered animal therapy team. To learn more visit www.animalhumanesociety. org/animalambassadors or contact email bcooney@animalhumanesociety.org.

Buffalo AHS Open House

You're invited to Animal Humane Society's Buffalo location on **Saturday, June 29** from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. for an Open House. It's an opportunity to tour the facility located along Highway 55, visit with animals available for

adoption, and enjoy refreshments and family activities. The event is free and everyone is welcome, but please leave your pets at home.

Microchip and Nail Clinics

Microchip your pets for their safety in the event they are lost. Nail trims also available. Microchipping is \$30 plus tax and nail trims are \$15 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 Sunday 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.



Programs for kids

Pawsome Pet Picture Show

The Pawsome Pet Picture Show is a youth movie night hosted at Animal Humane Society. It is a two-hour program, from 6-8 p.m. in the Education Room at Golden Valley. AHS will show an animal-themed movie (complete with popcorn and juice boxes) and have a special intermission featuring time with an AHS animal. Families are welcome, but all attendees must be at least 7 years of age. Coming Soon: Dolphin Tale on April 12; Born to Be Wild on June 11; How to Train Your Dragon on July 16; and Rio on August 20. For more information, or to register online, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/pawsomepet.

Unleashed Summer Camp

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 3-10. Camps run from mid-June to mid-August. For more information or to register online, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/camps.

Girl Scout Badge Program

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

Classroom Programs

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 audience's ages and interests. These presentations are available for groups of any kind, including schools, clubs, homeschool groups and community organizations. For more information, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/schools.

PetSet Youth Club — Fall session begins September 10

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 5-7 on Tuesday in Woodbury or on Wednesday and Thursday in Golden Valley. New members can join at any time! For more information, or to register online, visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/petset.

Unleashed Fall Break Camp - October 17-18

Come to Unleashed Fall Break Camp for a fun-filled animal experience! Our Pawsitive Character camp includes a variety of animal-related activities, with a special emphasis on character traits such as integrity, respect, responsibility and compassion; as well as how we should treat people and animals. Camps will be held in Golden Valley, Coon Rapids and Woodbury. For more information, or to register online, visit www.animalhumanesociety. org/camps.

petcetera







Breeder regulation bill gets boost from governor

A nimal Humane Society has been working in support of a bill introduced at the Minnesota Legislature that would to require licensing and inspection of commercial dog and cat breeding operations, legislation that is necessary to prevent inhumane breeding practices. AHS's effort has been as part of a coalition of animal welfare groups, Speak Up for Dogs and Cats.

The bill (H.F. 84, S.F. 36) received a boost in late February when Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton expressed support for the legislation at a rally of bill supporters who jammed the State Capitol Rotunda in St. Paul. "We're not going to stand idly by while innocent animals are being tortured," Dayton said.

AHS President & CEO Janelle Dixon also addressed the crowd. "This bill is critical to the health and welfare of the animals in this state," she said. Many of the animals AHS takes in each year have been bred in inhumane conditions, according to Dixon, and "these animals are ill,

have serious health, behavior and socialization issues. They don't receive or feel the touch of an individual human being while they are in this care—and we need to stop it."

At the time this issue of Animal Tracks went to press, the House version of the bill had been approved by the Civil Law Committee, the Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee, and the Government Operations Committee, but a necessary hearing by the Agricultural Policy Committee had not yet occurred, making its prospects uncertain for the rest of the session.

You can keep up to date on the progress of the bill by visiting www. animalhumanesociety.org/speakup or www.speakupmn.org.





"These animals are ill, have serious health, behavior and socialization issues. They don't receive or feel the touch of an individual human being while they are in this care—and we need to stop it."

-JANELLE DIXON, AHS PRESIDENT & CEO

Kindest Cut expands service with new Melrose Clinic

Kindest Cut, the low-cost spay and neuter service operated in partnership with Animal Humane Society, will significantly expand its capabilities this spring when it opens the Melrose Clinic at AHS's facility in Golden Valley. Until now, Kindest Cut has

worked exclusively from mobile units that travel across the Twin Cities and the state. Expanding into the 3,200 square-foot space in the southwest corner of AHS's Golden Valley location will allow Kindest Cut to perform another 10,000 additional surgeries each year, "addressing a significant need in our community," said AHS President and CEO Janelle Dixon.

Kindest Cut, led by licensed



From left to right: Donor Ken Melrose, donor and AHS board member Lia Melrose, and AHS President & CEO Janelle Dixon.

Veterinarian Dr. Meghann Kruck and geared toward pet owners with limited incomes, has done more than 13,500 spay/neuter surgeries since it opened in May 2011.

The new facility will be known as the Melrose Clinic in recognition of a

generous lead gift from the Kendrick B. Melrose Family Foundation that made the endeavor possible. The clinic is expected to be ready for occupancy sometime in May.

In addition to the Kindest Cut expansion, the new site will include two surgery suites that are part of a new AHS partnership with the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine. One of the suites will be utilized by the university to teach an

elective senior surgery rotation for veterinary students. A third part of the project will include a new X-ray room for AHS.

Keep up to date on the clinic's opening plans by visiting www. kindestcutmn.com.

Dozens of emaciated horses removed from Fillmore County property

In what an Animal Humane Society humane agent called one of the largest cases of its kind he'd ever seen, AHS in late November seized 55 horses, ponies and donkeys from a farm property in southeastern Minnesota. Following a complaint about the property, an investigation by Senior Humane Agent Keith Streff found animals suffering from untreated wounds, severe emaciation and other health issues. Numerous carcasses in various states of decomposition were also found on the property.

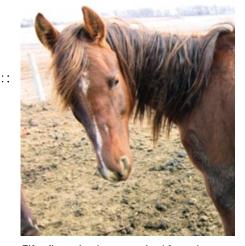
The resident of the property, Wilbur Eugene Schmoll, was later charged by Fillmore County officials with 25 counts of animal cruelty and one count of improper disposal of dead animals.

"It was one of the largest and more $\,$

complex operations involving horses I've seen in 25 years at AHS," Streff said. "It involved multiple agencies from the area and required a major effort to remove and relocate the animals."

A dozen horses considered to be in the most acute condition were transported from the farm property to the University of Minnesota Large Animal Hospital in St. Paul for forensic examination. Six of them had to be euthanized due to severe health complications.

AHS worked with the Minnesota Hooved Animal Rescue Foundation (MHARF) to treat, care for and place the remaining animals removed from the property. MHARF also took the horses from the animal hospital when they were well enough to be trans-



Fifty-five animals were seized from the property in southeastern Minnesota. The owner was charged with 25 counts of animal cruelty.

ported. Because of the large number of animals involved, efforts were still going on this spring to find permanent placement for some of the horses.

AHS received a \$15,000 grant from the ASPCA to help our work on this case. AHS transferred those funds to MHARF to support its care and rehabilitation of the horses.



Summer adventures start at AHS

A nimal Humane Society is the place to be this summer! Check out these great opportunities for animal-loving kids and their families to have fun while learning:

We speak fluent animal at Animal Humane Society and our training classes are family-friendly!
We encourage kids to attend class with their parents and together learn to bond with the family pet.
Visit www.animalhumanesociety.
org/training to find the class that's right for you.

If your kids are curious about what goes on behind the scenes at AHS, bring them in to any of our five locations for a **guided shelter tour**, led by our professional humane educators. Come explore AHS while learning about the animals, what services we provide in the community and so much more! Visit www.animalhumanesociety.org/tours for more information.

Unleash your child's love for animals at our popular **Unleashed Summer Camp**. This week-long

camp is for kids entering grades 3-10. Campers spend a full week immersed in animal-themed fun including educational activities, animal interactions, visits from special guests, field trips, and more. Camp sessions are available at all five AHS locations and registration is now underway. Learn more at www.animalhumanesociety.org/camps.

Lights, camera, action! Bring the family to Animal Humane Society's **Pawsome Pet Picture Show**, an animal-themed youth movie night at our Golden Valley location. The cost is only \$5 and includes snacks and a special intermission with an AHS animal. Families with children 7 years of age or older are welcome and supervision will be provided for children attending without their family. View upcoming dates and movies at www.animalhumanesociety.org/pawsomepet.

More information about these programs, including dates, times and locations, can be found on page 7.

Strike a pose! Put your pet's photo on a greeting card

You already know your pet is a star — now it's time to share that adorable face with the world! Animal Humane Society has formed a new partnership with Red Stamp, an app that allows you to send personalized photo cards right from your Apple iPhone or iPad.

The AHS collection contains 12 exciting designs that you can use to show off your furriest friends. Cards can be sent through email, text, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or for \$1.99 you can send an actual card in the mail. Proceeds from the collection come back to AHS to support our programs and services.

If you have already installed the Red Stamp app on your phone, be sure to upgrade to the newest version to see the AHS collection.



AHS team helps Superstorm Sandy pets and their families

In October 2012, Superstorm Sandy hit the East Coast leaving behind a path of destruction. Many people suffered catastrophic losses and struggled to get back on their feet. For those with pets, dealing with the aftermath of such a devastating storm proved to be even more difficult.

Immediately after Sandy hit, the ASPCA began assisting in affected areas by rescuing animals, reuniting them with their families, distributing supplies and providing veterinary care. They opened an emergency boarding facility in Brooklyn for pets that were unable to immediately return home. The free temporary shelter lessened the burden on storm victims and helped keep hundreds of families together as they worked to get their lives back in order.

The ASPCA contacted Animal Humane Society in December, asking if we could assist in caring for the animals over the holidays, a time when volunteer support can be challenging to find. Four AHS staff graciously volunteered to spend a week in New York at the emergency boarding facility, cleaning, feeding and caring for more than 100



Nearly 280 animals were cared for at a temporary shelter after Superstorm Sandy.

displaced animals.

"We know what an important part of family our pets are so it was rewarding to help these animals and their families during this difficult time," says Sara Hirschfeld, animal services supervisor at Animal Humane Society. "We were able to spend a lot of one-on-one time with the animals and provide special treats and enrichment to make them as comfortable as possible while they waited to return home."





A legacy of love

Working together for a community in need

By Carrie Libera

Kiki was discovered in July 2012, living among the ashes and debris of a burned-out abandoned house on the Leech Lake Reservation with her four puppies by her side. The 1-year-old Shepherd mix was injured and weak, emaciated and dehydrated. She was limping and her face was swollen from numerous porcupine quills embedded in her skin. Despite the obvious pain she was experiencing, she was using what energy she had left to care for her pups.

No one knows what would have happened to Kiki and her puppies had they stayed in that house, but luckily that didn't happen thanks to Marilou Chanrasmi and Jenny Fitzer, co-founders of Leech Lake Legacy, an organization providing support to the Leech Lake community through animal transports,

Safe at home | Mary Phelps and Kiki, a true success story from the AHS/Leech Lake Legacy partnership.

spay/neuter and vaccination clinics, and education for pet owners.

Responding to a call, Rory Haaland, Community Services Officer of Leech Lake Tribal Police, found Kiki and her puppies and brought them to

the Leech Lake Impound. Without sufficient resources to care for

all the animals in need, the Tribal Police are grateful they can rely on Mar-

ilou and Jenny to help.
Rory immediately
contacted the two
women who arranged
to bring Kiki and her
puppies to Animal
Humane Society. Here
they would receive
much-needed vet care

and be adopted into new homes where they would be safe, well-fed and loved — a far cry from their previous situation.

This lifesaving partnership between Leech Lake Legacy and AHS began in the spring of 2011. Through their connections in animal welfare, Marilou and Jenny became aware of the plight of animals on the Leech Lake Reservation. Affordable spay/neuter services were not readily available, leaving the population of unwanted animals out of control.





Kiki's beginnings | Found in this burned-out house (above, left) Kiki was in critical health, suffering from dehydration and numerous embedded porcupine quills (above, right).

Some were living without food, water or shelter. Injured animals were not receiving the medical attention they desperately needed.

The Leech Lake Impound was consistently full of animals that had no place to go. Resources were scarce and there wasn't a program in place to re-home the stray or surrendered animals. It was common for adoptable animals to be shot to make room for the steady stream of incoming animals.

These dire conditions could not be ignored; Marilou and Jenny knew they needed to help. Meanwhile, the Leech Lake Tribal Police were eager to improve life for animals on the reservation. They were thrilled at the prospect of working together and welcomed Marilou and Jenny into the community.

While planning their first trip to meet with the Leech Lake Tribal Police, Marilou and Jenny learned of nine impounded dogs at risk of being shot if they didn't leave the facility soon. So three days before they were scheduled to make the trip to Leech Lake, they reached out to AHS, hoping to find a place for the nine dogs to go.

"It was such short notice but we couldn't leave them there," says Marilou. "I remember the conversation with Kathie Johnson at AHS so clearly. She said they would take them and we could just figure out the details as we go. It was such a relief."

"Time was up for these dogs so we couldn't wait," says Kathie, director of animal services at AHS. "We both had the same goal, to save as many animals as we could, and the specifics could be worked out later."

The 'figure it out as we go' strategy worked, and blossomed into a successful partnership. Shortly after their first transport to AHS, Marilou and Jenny officially formed Leech Lake Legacy. Each week the organization's network of volunteers transports homeless animals from the reservation and surrounding communities to AHS and other rescues and shelters in Minnesota. "We have rescued

dogs that have been hit by cars or shot, animals with serious eye or head injuries, and animals with faces riddled with porcupine quills," says Jenny. "These animals need us, and it's only by working together that we can fully help them."

Between May 2011 and March 2013, Leech Lake Legacy transported a total of 1,220 dogs and cats from the reservation and surrounding communities to shelters and rescues groups for placement. Seventyfive percent of those animals, 915 dogs and cats, were brought to AHS where they received veterinary care, vaccinations, and spay/neuter surgery before being adopted into new homes.

Once they were in the safe hands of Leech Lake Legacy, Kiki and her four puppies – Kachina, Kai, Koko and Kodiak –

spent a few days being cared for at the Animal Care Clinic in Bemidji and were then transported to AHS in Buffalo. The puppies were examined, spayed and neutered, and adopted within days. Kiki's injuries required more care and she underwent surgery to be spayed and to have the porcupine quills removed from her face. She also received

"We both had
the same goal,
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later."

—Kathie Johnson, AHS director of animal services



X-rays to determine the cause of her limp.

"Kiki was so patient during the whole process and completely won over everyone she came in contact with," says Marilou. "I am continually amazed at how sweet these animals are even when they are in so much pain."

X-rays revealed that Kiki's limp was due to an injured hip, most likely the result of a gunshot wound. AHS arranged for an orthopedic surgeon to further evaluate her. During that time, Kiki stayed with Mary Phelps, an AHS foster volunteer who also happens to work with the surgeon evaluating Kiki.

Mary was determined not to get attached to Kiki, but like everyone

else she fell for her. Unfortunately while she was being evaluated for surgery, vets discovered that Kiki had kidney disease which would drastically shorten her life expectancy. The new diagnosis meant Kiki would need special care to make the most of the time she had left, and Mary decided the best option for Kiki would be to adopt her

"When I first had her at my house, she wouldn't leave my four-season porch so I put a big dog bed out there for her," says Mary. "A week later I was sitting on the couch and she decided to come in, hopped up on the couch with me, and has stayed by my side ever since!"

Mary brings her to work every day and Kiki does weekly water treadmill

"Kiki is a perfect example of just how drastically this partnership is changing the lives of individual animals."

—Jenny Fitzer, co-founder of Leech Lake Legacy

work to keep her hip muscles strong.

"She loves it so much, she can hardly walk past the treadmill without jumping in," says Mary. "She acts like a crazy puppy and scoots all around with excitement when she's done."

Kiki also gets acupuncture and laser therapy for her hip when needed.

"She has such a great attitude about everything, and she makes friends everywhere she goes!"

To see Kiki now, you would never know she is the same dog found in such deplorable conditions in the abandoned house. Her coat is now soft and shiny, her spirit is full of life, and her presence fills the room with joy. She also goes by a new name, "She Dog" or "She" for short. "She is a perfect example of just how drastically this partnership is changing the lives of individual animals," says Jenny.

The animals Leech Lake Legacy has transported to AHS have affected so many people along the way. Each has their own special story, touching the hearts of staff and volunteers from both organizations.

There are animals like Edwina, who are scared and in need of reassurance to feel safe again. The 6-month-old Lab mix was chained to a tree during a storm. Her mother was

Free from fear | Edwina (now called Winnie), a Lab mix who had been chained to a tree during a storm, bonds with AHS employee Melissa Carlson upon her arrival at AHS.

killed when lightning struck the tree, but Edwina survived. "She really captured my heart," says Marilou. "I remember when we brought her to AHS and Melissa Carlson met us outside. Edwina was so afraid and wouldn't come out of her kennel. It was simply amazing to watch how gentle, patient and kind Melissa was with Edwina; I knew she was in good hands."

After Edwina had spent just four days in the AHS adoption center, Tim and Katherine Horn were walking through and looking at all the dogs. When they passed Edwina's kennel, she ran up to them wagging her tail with excitement. When the next group of people passed, she went back to her bed. "That was it, she picked us!" says Tim. Edwina is now named Winnie and enjoys chasing birds and squirrels around her spacious fencedin backyard. "We have a lot of fun with her, all she wants to do is play and she loves attention," says Tim. "She's just a joy to have, we love her a lot."

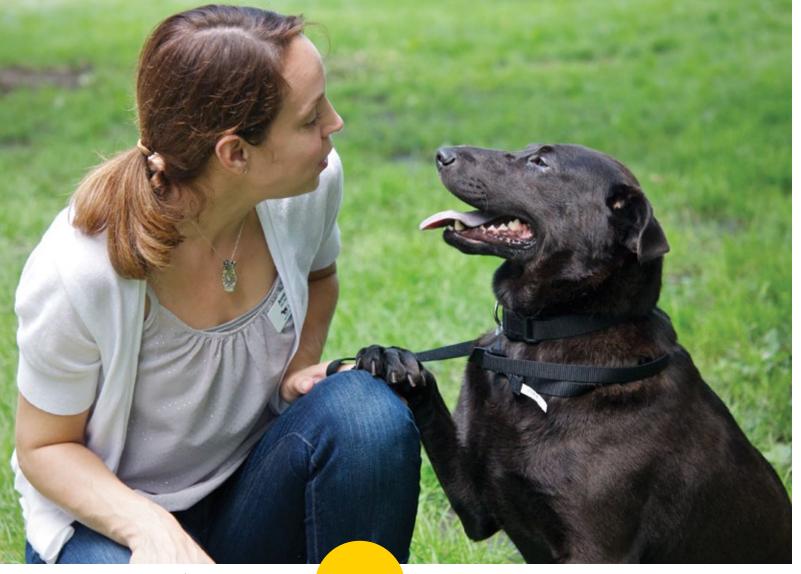
And then there are animals like Joyce, whose incredibly sweet personalities make them impossible to forget. The 85-pound Lab/Chow Chow mix came to AHS with entropion, a condition in which the eyelid is rolled inward causing great discomfort. She stayed for several weeks, undergoing two surgeries and patiently waiting to be adopted. You'd be hard pressed to find staff or volunteers in Golden Valley who don't remember Joyce — the way she would gently set her paws on anyone she met, slowly roll over in hopes of a belly rub, and convince visitors to stay just a few



It was simply amazing to watch how gentle, patient and kind Melissa was with Edwina;

I knew she was in good hands."

—Marilou Chanrasmi, co-founder of Leech Lake Legacy



A memorable sweet nature | AHS employee Anne Johnson with Lab/Chow Chow mix Joyce, whose new forever home includes lots of walks and a feline friend.

more minutes by resting her head in their lap.

Joyce was adopted by Bryan Sletten and can often be found curled up by the patio door with her new feline friend Dori. Bryan and Joyce's daily walks have allowed him to find a balance between work and home while helping Joyce become more active. "She is still the sweet lady she always was who loves belly rubs and snuggle time, but now she can also run with the best of them," says Bryan. Joyce often travels to work with Bryan, bringing joy to his colleagues and clients. "She truly is one of the best

You'd be hard pressed to find staff or volunteers in Golden Valley who don't remember Joyce — the way she would gently set her paws on anyone she met, slowly roll over in hopes of a belly rub, and convince visitors to stay just a few more minutes by resting her head in their lap.

gifts I could have ever imagined. Her unconditional love and ability to make us smile is just priceless."

Kiki, her puppies, Edwina and Joyce are just a few of the hundreds of animals whose lives were forever changed by the collaboration, hard work and passion of everyone involved. "It's an honor for AHS to be a part of this team," says Kathie.
"It's really an ideal partnership, we
respect each other and work really
well together, and it's astonishing to
see how many animals we've saved
together."

Carrie Libera is on staff at Animal Humane Society. She and her husband have a daughter named Alexis and a Husky/Shepherd mix named Foxy that they adopted from AHS.



Covering the Basics | Leech Lake Legacy and Kindest Cut hosted two spay/neuter clinics in 2012, altering 184 cats and dogs.

Leech Lake Legacy teams up with Kindest Cut for spay/neuter clinics

Leech Lake Legacy is dedicated to working with the local community to help reduce the number of unwanted dogs and cats on the Leech Lake Reservation. One crucial component is providing low-cost spay and neuter services, like those offered by Kindest Cut, which offers this service to the public in partnership with Animal Humane Society.

In 2012, Leech Lake Legacy teamed up with Kindest Cut to host two low-cost spay/neuter and vaccination clinics. The two-day clinics were held on a first-come, first-served basis and residents began lining up as early as 5 a.m. to ensure a spot for their pet.

"There are so many residents who love their pets but are unable to provide even basic care for them," says Jenny Fitzer of Leech Lake Legacy. "Through our partnerships with AHS and Kindest Cut, and using the spay/neuter clinics as an opportunity to reach out to pet owners, we are able to provide them with basic necessities for their pets including vaccinations, wellness checks, food and most recently, dog houses."

A total of 184 cats and dogs were altered at the two clinics. An additional 126 animals received vaccinations, and 92 cats and dogs were surrendered during the clinics and transported by Leech Lake Legacy to Animal Humane Society for placement.

"The community is so grateful to have us there," says Dr. Meghann Kruck of Kindest Cut. "Providing these services in an easy and affordable way allows them to do what's best for their pets, and ultimately make an impact on the amount of unwanted animals in their community."

"There are so many residents who love their pets but are unable to provide even basic care for them."

—Jenny Fitzer, co-founder of Leech Lake Legacy

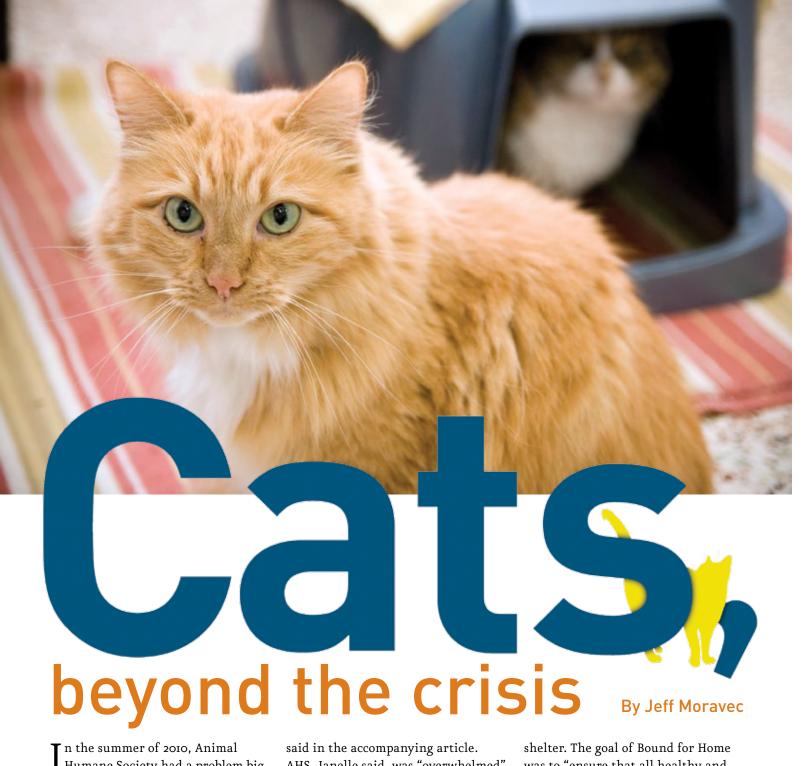
to the popularity of the clinics, Leech Lake Legacy and Kindest Cut will continue to provide this much-needed service to the community. Four spay/neuter clinics are scheduled for 2013.

Visit <u>www.animalhumanesociety.</u>
<u>org/leechlakevideo</u> to watch a video
from the August 2012 spay/neuter
clinic at the Leech Lake Reservation.



Affordable care | A dachshund waits for spay/neuter services from Kindest Cut. Families in Leech Lake began lining up at 5 a.m. to secure low-cost services for their nets.





Tn the summer of 2010, Animal ■ Humane Society had a problem big enough that it landed on the cover of Animal Tracks. And there was nothing subtle about the photo of an orange tabby in mid-yowl and the headline: Cats in crisis.

There was good reason for alarm. "Cats are being born at such an incredible rate each year that all five of our facilities struggle to keep up," AHS President & CEO Janelle Dixon

said in the accompanying article. AHS, Janelle said, was "overwhelmed" with cats.

But even as she was uttering those words, the seeds of change were being planted.

Near the end of that story was a brief mention of Bound for Home, a program launched a few months before, intended to provide better care to animals at AHS and to move them more quickly through the

shelter. The goal of Bound for Home was to "ensure that all healthy and treatable animals that come through AHS's doors are placed with caring families."

In a note to readers in that issue. Janelle called Bound for Home the kind of initiative that could "soon begin to make a difference in the lives of thousands of felines."

And she was right.

To be sure, many of the conditions

Kitten season | (opposite) Though May through September still tests shelters' kitten capacity, the Bound For Home program has made significant strides in managing the

Social animals | (right) AHS employee Jenna Nikodym holds Cherub Cheeks, a successful graduate of the Fresh Start program.

of the "cat crisis" described in that issue of the magazine still exist. A cat overpopulation problem remains. Not enough felines are being spayed and neutered. The time of year known as "kitten season" still stresses the capacity of shelters across the state and around the country.

But Bound for Home has made a significant difference. "The impact it has had on improving quality of life for animals in our community is more than most of us could have imagined," Janelle wrote in Animal Tracks six months ago. And that was before the results of new innovations in caring for cats at AHS began to show results.

A key to the impact Janelle referred to is the effort to better manage the intake process at AHS. The Surrender by Appointment process implemented in January 2011, has reduced both the number of animals coming to AHS and their length of stay in the shelter. It's done that by emphasizing alternatives to surrender and by allowing AHS to better regulate the flow of animals into its shelters. It also has improved AHS's ability gather more information about the animals being surrendered, a significant factor in placing more animals, and placing them more quickly.

The reduction in animals coming into AHS has occurred across the board, but has played a large part in alleviating the cat crisis in the shelters. The number of cats taken in by AHS declined from 20,873 in 2009 to 13,017 in fiscal 2012. During the kitten season (May through September) in



Three years ago, it took an average of 40 days for a cat to be adopted. That figure is now down to about 14 days.



Courageous Kitty | A clicker training program designed to bring shy cats out of their shells has improved these cats' chances for adoption and decreased the time they have spent in our

particular, the number of incoming cats fell from 10,413 in 2009 to 5,909 in 2012.

When the "Cats in Crisis" headline appeared, it took an average of 40 days for a cat to be adopted. That figure is now down to about 14 days.

But the decline in surrenders and the more predictable (and therefore more manageable) flow of animals into the shelter has had an impact beyond the numbers. Bound for Home has allowed the organization to look at ways it could help animals that weren't possible before, making advances that should save even more animals.

In September 2011, AHS staff began identifying new opportunities for programs that could enrich the lives of animals in the shelter and increase adoptions, with a significant emphasis placed on the cat population. Several of those programs are now in place, and are already making important contributions to the Bound for Home results.

Courageous Kitty

Courageous Kitty was implemented in

July 2012 for cats that had a history of being social in the home but when surrendered did not adjust well to the shelter environment. Many of those cats, according to Kathie Johnson, director of animal services at AHS, "are shell-shocked and frightened." These are cats that would rather hide out in the back of the cage than step out front and offer a paw to a potential adopter.

The problem, not surprisingly, is that cats that show little interest in making a new friend are a lot less likely to attract the attention of a potential adopter, and that can increase the amount of time it takes for them to find a new home.

"Behavior is the most important consideration for people when they are looking at animals they are considering for adoption," Kathie said. "Animals that 'present' better to potential adopters are simply going to be adopted first."

Those suddenly shy felines that come to AHS are now enrolled in Courageous Kitty, a program that makes use of clicker training. The cats are offered food to entice them to the front

of the cage, a clicker is sounded and the cat receives the food. Most cats quickly learn to associate the click with a positive reward, a "conditioned response." Perhaps more importantly, in the process the cat learns that a person standing right outside the cage is not "a scary thing," Kathie said. "It helps them understand that people are something positive, and they can relax and settle in."

After a few days of clicker training, two or three times a day for a few minutes each time, most cats come out of their shells, interact better with visitors to the adoption center, and are soon on their way to a new home.

In just the first few months of the program, more than 400 cats who took part in Courageous Kitty were successfully adopted into new homes.

When Courageous Kitty was introduced, AHS staff handled the clicker training, but in March 2013, volunteers who work in the adoption center were trained do to the clicker training, which will allow Courageous Kitty to continue to grow.

Fresh Start

Fresh Start, introduced in March 2012, is a program that gives a second opportunity to cats that do not consistently use the litter box.

Because part of Surrender by Appointment is helping people avoid surrendering an animal when possible, some people who have cats with litter box problems end up keeping their pet after receiving advice by AHS staff about solutions to litter box issues.

"Cats will stop using a litter box for a lot of different reasons," Kathie said, "but if you can rule out a medical issue, such as a urinary tract infec-



In just the first few months of the program, more than 400 cats who took part in Courageous Kitty were successfully

tion, most of those reasons are related to stress. It could be a new baby in the home, or the introduction of another animal, even construction that is going on at the house. Whatever the case, they deserve another chance."

The cats that are surrendered with litter box issues are already at an advantage over those felines that came in prior to Surrender by Appointment. Until that program was implemented, AHS often took in animals without being able to get any information about them, so a cat could be surrendered and no one would know

it was because of litter box issues. Now, armed with knowledge, AHS can determine if a medical problem is present and, if not, enroll the cat into the Fresh Start program.

adopted into

new homes

A main component of Fresh Start is clicker training, although it is not used to directly change litter box behavior. Instead, it is done with these cats in much the same way it is done with Courageous Kitty participants, with the goal of reducing anxiety and stress. Getting cats more comfortable in their new environment simply results in more consistent use of the

that come through AHS's doors each year in need of critical care services that in the past AHS has not been equipped to provide.

litter box.

necessary.

Bottle Babies

In the first 10 months of Fresh

Start, AHS was able to adopt out more

than 130 cats that were in the pro-

gram. Adopters who are considering

a Fresh Start cat are provided infor-

tools to help them properly introduce

the cat to the home and tips on good

litter box habits to help the cat be

successful in its new environment.

AHS Behavior Helpline staff follow up

with adopters periodically to assist as

The Bottle Babies program was just

to help the 150-200 neonatal kittens

getting under way as this issue of Ani-

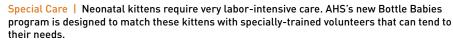
mal Tracks went to press. It's designed

mation about the litter box issues,

The program involves identifying and training volunteers willing to foster these "bottle babies" in their homes, a significant commitment of time and effort given that these kittens need to be fed as often as every two hours. "This is a very labor-intensive endeavor" Kathie said. "It takes a special kind of volunteer to do it, but the rewards are immense as well."

Courageous Kitty, Fresh Start and Bottle Babies are the kinds of programs that have helped turn Bound for Home, according to Janelle, "from a dream to a reality." But just as things have changed for the better since the "Cats in crisis" article three years ago, AHS aspires to keep improving. The goal, in Janelle's words, is simply to "positively impact more and more animals' lives with each passing day, month and year."

Jeff Moravec is director of communications at Animal Humane Society. He and his wife have a pair of cats, Caly (adopted from AHS in 2012) and Bou, and a springer named Molly (adopted from AHS in 1998).





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memorials and tributes

July 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012

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Donald and Cynthia Chloe Bruce and Diane Vandersall Pat Heine Chuli Thelma Johnson C_0C_0 Pete Nallick Pat & Dana Hamilton Cooper Chris and Eastman Watson Cuddles Pat Russell Curdle Daisy Jennifer Brace DC Jon Holcombe Dexter Roger and Kay Dobbs Dodger Paul Smorhers

Dutchess

Sandy Vincent



Winston Betty and Richard Duff Winston Elaine and Gary Jarrett Nathan Nielsen 7inner Betty Roy

Zorba & Eddy Eddy Dr. Io-Ida C. Hanse

Callie Louise Hill Cally James Nelson Charlie Tony Shidla Charlie Steven Waishrer Charlie Charles and Susan Olson

Carolyn Bloom Grandma Maya Haskies John and Amy Nymarl Honey Thomas Broon

Dear Animal Humane Society,

Casey and I had searched high and low across the Twin Cities for a new pet during the spring of 2009. We had moved to St. Paul the summer before and had just bought our first home, complete with a fenced-in yard. Although we visited with many dogs in need of a home, we both felt that we had yet to find "our" dog. As we walked through Animal Humane Society in Golden Valley yet again, we nearly walked past the handsome golden lab lying quietly on a blanket. He had just been made available for adoption after his family needed to move and could not take him. It still makes me tear up thinking about how difficult that must have been for them, and how scared and lonely he must have felt there at AHS. My husband knelt beside him and asked Toby if he would like to come home with us. When Toby put his paw in Casey's hand, we knew our search was over.

When we adopted Toby, we were warned about adopting a senior dog, as Toby was already 9 years old. I tried not to get attached, but although the first couple of months were hard on all of us, it didn't take long for us to forget what life was like before Toby entered our lives and his "retirement home," as we called ourselves. Toby literally became the center of our universe, and we would not have had it any other way.

I wish that I could tell Toby's first family how grateful we were for taking such good care of him and teaching him so much. I wish that I could reassure them about how much he was loved and pampered during the last three years. And I wish that I could tell them that when he became sick and tired enough that he lost that special spark in his eyes and there was nothing more we could do to keep him comfortable, Casey cooked him his very own T-bone steak and homemade French fries, and then the amazing people at MN Pets came to our home and helped us end Toby's suffering peacefully while he laid on his own bed, in our arms, in our home.

Months later, I still listen for his tail thumping on his bed when we come home. I still wait for him to come into the kitchen to stick his head in all our grocery bags looking for goodies when we come home from the store. I miss eating dinner with him on the couch, where you could tell how good the meal was by how far Toby encroached on your lap as he sat down next to you. We still aren't sure what to do with all our free time, especially in the evenings when Toby used to insist on an 8 p.m. snuggle with me and our cat, Orion, followed by falling asleep with Casey after kitty and I went upstairs to bed.

We are so grateful to Animal Humane Society for helping us find Toby. I would encourage anyone that has to give up an animal to visit this organization and give your animal the best chance at finding a new forever home. And I would strongly encourage anyone who is considering the adoption of a senior pet to jump at the chance. We will be forever spoiled by the fact that our first dog came completely trained and (usually) impeccably well-behaved. Although we only had three short years with Toby, our lives were forever changed as a result.

> Sincerely, Amy & Casey Godwin



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Kelly Dale Sappenfield Kody Elaine Wittman Lucky Brett Schulze Lucy Annie Schilling

Susan Gray Jennifer Halligan

Mary John Nightengale Max Barbara Fischer

Mary Minenko Missy Laura-Gail Templeton

Iane Dany Mittens Kay and Howard Wither-

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Monte Deb Comstack Debra Little and Tom Smith Shadow

Dan and Diane Overby Gemini Matt Perry and Karen Ginger Bud and Kris Roberts Graci Thomas and Beverly Webber Todor and Latinka Braianov Hunter Scott and Wendy Neisen Vicki Hansen Kissy Kat James and Karen Glander Michael and Charlotte Polad Lobo Jay and Ann Wendt Logan Melissa McIntyre



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Simon

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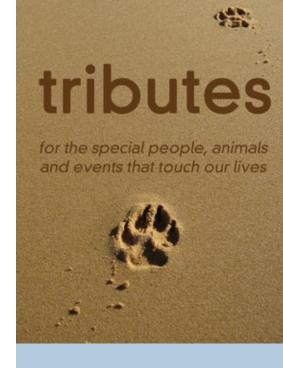
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Vour support of Animal Humane ■ Society can also be a wonderful way to remember the special animals in your life. Instead of spoiling them with treats and toys, demonstrate your love by helping animals less fortunate than your own. Gifts of \$100 or more made in memory or tribute to an animal will be listed here in Animal Tracks.

To make a memorial or tribute gift, you

- · 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) 489-2210

Thank you!







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