

Animal Tracks

Animal Humane Society | Spring/Summer 2017

INVESTIGATIONS INSIDER

A look at the work of
AHS humane agents





Animal Humane Society (AHS) engages the hearts, hands, and minds of the community to help animals. Every year AHS cares for more than 23,000 companion animals in need and helps thousands more through programs for people and pets.

As the leading animal welfare organization in the Upper Midwest, AHS is transforming the way shelters care for animals and engage their communities. From innovative medical and behavior programs to investments in outreach and advocacy, AHS is advancing animal welfare and creating a more humane world for animals everywhere.

AHS receives no federal, state or government funding and relies solely on private donations, special events, adoption and program fees, and merchandise sales.

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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

The human-animal bond provides a foundation for the important work we do.

It inspires us to do the best we can for every animal that comes through our doors. It encourages us to deepen our partnerships within the community.



Given the importance we place on this incredible bond, it can be hard to comprehend how anyone could mistreat an animal. But hundreds of animals face abuse and neglect in Minnesota each year.

Animal Humane Society humane agents investigate cases of abuse and neglect throughout the state. From overcrowded homes with unsafe and unsanitary conditions, to abandoned farms where animals are left to fend for themselves, our agents work with local officials to remove animals and bring them to safety at AHS.

It might seem tempting to respond to these cases with frustration and anger. But our response is guided by the compassion inherent in the human-animal bond.

We continue to do the best we can for every animal, dedicating the time and care required for animals to overcome unique behavioral and medical challenges. And, even when it's hard — especially when it's hard — we continue to partner with people. We connect well-meaning owners with the resources and information they need to provide a happy, healthy life for their pets. We hold abusive owners accountable.

Thanks to your support, we have watched weak animals become strong. We have watched animals who were carried into our shelters in agony walk out with their tails wagging in delight.

That's the power of the human-animal bond.

Best,
Janelle Dixon, President & CEO



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Animal Tracks

Spring/Summer 2017

Director of Brand and Communications

Paul Sorenson

Editor

Carrie Libera

Associate Editor

Shanna Haugland

Designers

Jackie Lehmann

Kelsie Young

Contributors

Rose Miller

Zach Nugent

Zoe Clarke

Animal Tracks is published twice a year.

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.

On the cover:

In April 2016, AHS partnered with the ASPCA to seize nearly 50 labs from a substandard, unlicensed breeding facility in Wisconsin.

Petcetera



Rescue Readers bring comfort to animals

Do you ever find yourself having a one-sided conversation with your dog or cat? It's okay! We all do it from time to time. There's something comforting about talking to your pet, and believe or not, it can be comforting to your animal too.

That's why we've launched a new program that encourages both children and adults to do more talking to animals — through reading! Rescue Readers is a one-hour reading program where you can visit the shelter and read to the animals in our adoption centers — cats, dogs, even the critters!

Research shows that reading has a calming effect on animals. Rescue Readers provide soothing company to animals as they await adoption, and as a bonus, the students gain confidence and improve their reading skills!

Participants first complete an orientation session where they learn about AHS and the Rescue Readers program. After orientation, participants can sign up for scheduled one-hour reading sessions. AHS provides books to read and blankets to sit on, but readers may also bring their favorite books from home. Every student also receives a special Rescue Readers bookmark, reading log, and certificate.

The cost of the Rescue Readers orientation is \$15, and each hour-long reading session is \$10. Registration covers the cost for one reader and one parent or guardian.



ASPCA calls on AHS for assistance



After helping law enforcement with several large-scale animal cruelty seizures, the ASPCA called on Animal Humane Society and other groups to help shelter and care for the more than 200 seized animals. AHS responded and sent six expert staff members to support their efforts.

Our staff assisted the ASPCA in caring for hundreds of dogs from four states and seven separate cruelty cases, including dog fighting and animal hoarding situations. AHS staff were determined to help provide these animals with the love and care they deserve.

AHS employees administered daily medications and treatments, provided first aid, and ensured each dog received exercise, enrichment, and a comfortable place to rest their head. They even began the process of weaning

a litter of puppies. It takes a great deal of work to care for more than 200 animals, but the responders worked together to form a seamless operation. Every individual knew their role and committed to it wholeheartedly.

Returning home, AHS employees reflected on the trip, the dogs they fell in love with, and the homes they hoped they would one day find. They couldn't have asked for a better experience, a sentiment that often results when organizations come together to help animals in need.

Cats in need find shelter thanks to the Pack

Members of the Pack, Animal Humane Society's young professionals group, gathered at our Golden Valley location in January to build shelters for outdoor cats in our community. The shelters provide lost and homeless cats with protection from the winter elements and refuge for the night.

Young professionals got to work cutting entrances in large plastic bins and lining them with Styrofoam and straw for insulation and warmth. By the end of the night the group had built 12 temporary sanctuaries for vulnerable cats. The shelters will be used in AHS's Community Outreach program, which supports pet owners in Frogtown and East St. Paul. Community members from these areas can request the shelters for stray cats in their neighborhood.

We're so grateful to the Pack for lending their time, passion, and creativity to community cats in need.

You can make your own outdoor shelter for cats in your community. Take your pick from online tutorials for in-depth instructions. Here are some tips:

- Use straw rather than hay for insulation. Hay can grow moldy when it becomes wet.
- Check your shelter daily to ensure other critters don't make it their home.
- Cats are much less likely to use a shelter for the first time if it has a door, but once a cat gets comfortable using your shelter, you can add a door made of fabric or tarp, which will provide additional security.

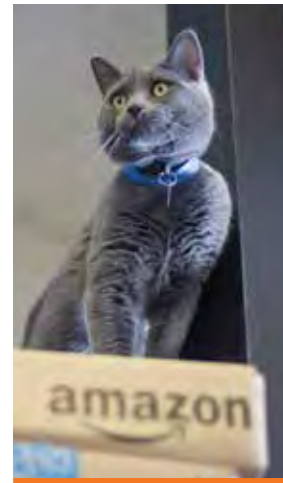


Helping animals has never been easier

Do you love Animal Humane Society but feel like you don't have enough time to get involved? You don't have to choose between your busy schedule and animals in need. Here are three ways you can support animals by incorporating AHS into things you're already doing!

1. Take a walk. It's true, contributing to AHS can be as simple as walking your dog. Download the free "Walk for a Dog" app on your phone and choose Animal Humane Society as your local shelter, and a small donation will be made to AHS each time you walk. Those small donations add up to make a difference, so lace up your shoes and take a stroll. Each step you take will benefit animals at AHS, and your own dog is sure to love the exercise too!

2. Shop Amazon Smile. Chances are, you're already using Amazon to shop for something you need. Amazon Smile donates a portion of each of your orders to the nonprofit of your choice. Designate Animal Humane Society as your charity of choice on smile.amazon.com, and 0.5% of all eligible purchases will be donated directly to animals in need. After the busy holiday shopping season, AHS received more than \$800 through Amazon Smile thanks to supporters who put their shopping to good use. To put a smile on the faces of animals in our shelters, shop on smile.amazon.com.



3. Spread the word. Whether your social media platform of choice is Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or Instagram, you can follow Animal Humane Society to receive important (and fun) animal updates. When you share your favorite AHS posts, you not only increase awareness about our work, you can actually help homeless animals find new families. So spread the word! Someone in your network might just be waiting for their new best friend.

Animal Transport Alliance

In the last issue of Animal Tracks, we introduced you to our expanded transport program and the new Animal Transport Alliance, a partnership with Wisconsin Humane Society in Milwaukee and the Anti-Cruelty Society in Chicago, which allows us to do even more to help animals in need.

Since it began in September of last year, the Animal Transport Alliance has traveled more than 69,000 miles, transporting nearly

1,800 animals among the three partner shelters. This is in addition to AHS's larger transport program, which coordinates the intake of roughly 8,000 animals per year from shelters in Minnesota and beyond.

Transporting animals has so many benefits for the communities we partner with. More animals are able find homes, euthanasia is reduced, and shelters are able to divert resources to strengthen their communities in an effort to break

the cycle of pet overpopulation.

The receiving shelters also benefit as they have a greater variety of animals for adopters to choose from, which encourages pet adoption and increases placement of local animals due to higher shelter traffic.

Additionally, we partner by sharing ideas and advice from our own programs so our partner shelters can learn from our experience and expertise.



Rob doing what he loved, volunteering at AHS.



The Hausers, Rob's sister Jean, and the Wilders.



Lilly and Molly spent time with the Wilders while waiting for a permanent home.

Team effort ensures Lilly and Molly are loved for life

Long-time volunteer and supporter Rob Johnson's February passing sent a wave of shock and sadness through Animal Humane Society. Rob was a familiar face and friend to many in the organization.

Rob volunteered at AHS for nine years, donating more than 2,600 service hours by facilitating adoptions, walking dogs, providing foster care, and helping shy and fearful dogs in our Adoption Preparation program. He also cared for cruelty case dogs, assisted at AHS events, and mentored new volunteers.

Family and friends took comfort in knowing that Rob's beloved black labs, 9-year-old Lilly and 14-year-old Molly, would find care through AHS. Rob had included AHS in his estate plans and, as a member of our Legacy Circle, was able to enroll his dogs in our Loved for Life program.

Rob's sister Jean reached out to AHS when she learned of his involvement in the Loved for Life program, which provides

personalized rehoming for the pets of Legacy Circle members who pass away or are no longer able to care for them. Jean informed us that Rob's childhood friends, Greg and Ann Hauser, were willing to adopt his dogs, however they were wintering in Florida so Lilly and Molly needed a home for eight weeks until they returned. AHS picked up the dogs and they spent nearly a week with an AHS staff member before friends of Jean's, Tom and Anne Wilder, offered to care for the dogs until spring. Lilly and Molly returned to AHS for one last time on April 8, when the adoption to the Hausers was finalized. "The way all of this came together is nothing short of a miracle. I know Rob is looking down with such gratitude that everyone played such a huge part in making sure Lilly and Molly have the best care for the rest of their lives," says Jean.

"Rob was such a beloved part of the AHS family and we will miss him dearly," says Melissa Peacock, AHS planned giving advisor. "It was touching to see so many people step up to help Lilly and Molly, and we're glad we could be there to assist these dogs during such a vulnerable time."

"Rob was such a beloved part of the AHS family and we will miss him dearly."

— Melissa Peacock

Loved for Life
planning for your pet's future

Learn more about enrolling your pet in Loved for Life at animalhumanesociety.planmylegacy.org



Humane investigations team coordinates large single-home surrender in Pine County

In late November, Animal Humane Society Senior Humane Agent Wade Hanson worked with a rural Pine County couple to remove 93 animals from their home. The couple could not provide adequate care for the growing number of animals and agreed to release them to AHS.

The 79 dogs, eight cats, and six guinea pigs were mostly allowed to roam freely within the home, resulting in unsanitary living conditions for both the humans and animals. Many of the animals were unsterilized, leading to an overpopulation problem that the homeowners could not remedy on their own.

Once at AHS, the animals were examined and found to have varying degrees of health and social issues due to a lack of consistent medical care, poor socialization, and uncontrolled breeding.

After receiving much-needed medical care and behavioral treatments, 53 animals from this case were adopted into new, loving homes through AHS adoption programs. An additional 37 animals were placed with partnering rescue organizations around Minnesota.

Additionally, three animals from this case were humanely euthanized due to severe health or behavior issues that were untreatable.

We're so grateful for the incredible outpouring of support from the community that helped us change the lives of nearly 100 animals in need.



27 cats removed from condemned home find second chances

In early February, Animal Humane Society's humane investigations team removed 27 cats from a home in Crow Wing County. They were rescued from a house so filthy it was deemed uninhabitable and later



condemned. The cats were brought to AHS where they were given examinations and much-needed care.

Cats removed from these types of conditions often arrive at AHS with grim health problems and feral-like behavior that is difficult to rehabilitate in the shelter. While we make every attempt to re-home cats through our adoption programs, these cases often require alternative placements. Cats that are not suitable for adoption may be able to

find placement through our barn and business cats program, or through our rescue partners who are able to provide a non-shelter environment while working with difficult behavior needs.

Fortunately, the cats from this case made exceptional progress. After just a few weeks in our care, all 27 cats are living better lives: 23 were adopted into new homes, three were transferred to rescue partners, and one was placed through our barn and business cats program.

Hospice program expands to all AHS locations



Shelby with Lisa Neumen and her son, Sam.

Last year, Animal Humane Society introduced a hospice adoption program to help animals with terminal illnesses who are healthy enough to live comfortably in a home for end-of-life care. The pilot program proved so successful that it was expanded to all five AHS locations in May.

During the pilot at our Coon Rapids location, 19 animals found homes through hospice adoption — animals like Loretta, a 10-year-old cat with kidney failure among other health issues; Shelby, a 5-year-old dog with

cancer who was adopted by a cancer survivor; and Stella, a 5-year-old guinea pig with a large, inoperable cyst.

AHS staff share the details of each hospice case with potential adopters, who agree to provide the comfort and care the animals deserve. Committing to an animal with a terminal illness can be an emotional undertaking. AHS staff work with adopters to ensure they are ready to take on the emotional and financial aspects of caring for a hospice animal. We also offer support when the time comes to make end-of-life decisions.

Remarkably, animals in the hospice program find homes just as quickly as healthy animals.

"Our adopters really embrace these special animals," says Anne Ahiers, an AHS supervisor who helped manage the pilot program. "We are so grateful that people are willing to open their hearts and homes to animals with terminal illnesses. Their time together may be short, but every moment is filled with love."



Loretta and Sandra Daniloff



Princess and Stephanie Means



A home away from home

Pets are part of the family, and leaving them for extended periods of time can be stressful. Choosing the right boarding facility for your pet shouldn't create additional stress. The next time you're looking for a place to care for your furry friend, remember the following tips and enjoy peace of mind knowing you've made the right decision.

1 Service

You know your animal best. Seek out a boarding facility offering expertise in animal care, while welcoming the opportunity to learn about your pets from you. Boarding facilities should keep you in the loop while your pet is in their care and reach out when questions or concerns about your pet arise.

2 Cleanliness

Sanitation should be one of a boarding facility's top priorities. When scoping out a boarding facility, take a look at the materials used in the space. Can the areas be fully and easily sanitized between animals? Keep in mind plush, porous materials are harder to sanitize than glass, plastic, and sealed floors.



3 Health and safety

It's what we all want most for our pets — to keep them safe and healthy. You should be encouraged to bring your pet's regular food as changes in their daily diet can cause digestive upset. Your pet should also have the opportunity to maintain the level of exercise they are used to, through walks or individual play. Playgroups should be overseen by experienced staff, with a low staff-to-pet ratio and policies to ensure every animal's safety.



4 Transparency

A good boarding facility should welcome visits from potential guests anytime, any day, with no appointment necessary. An "open door" policy — even behind the scenes — ensures you'll receive a realistic preview of all the facility has to offer. Additionally, employees should be able to answer your questions and speak clearly and honestly about the facility's policies. Visiting a potential facility and asking questions about what's important to you will help ensure your pet is happy and healthy while you're away.



5 Customization

Does your pet love to play, or would they rather lounge all day? Does a fun toy help them pass the time, or are they happier when going for a stroll? Whatever your pet's temperament, it's important to find a facility that can cater to their needs. Rather than choosing a boarding facility with a "one-size-fits-all" approach, choose one that offers a la carte services. From group play to calming cuddles, peanut butter Kongs to nail trims, by adding only the services your pet will love, you'll save money and your pet will have a better experience.



Animal Humane Society has two boarding options to fit your budget and personal style. Both Now Boarding in South Minneapolis and Animal House in Golden Valley are staffed by dedicated animal care experts, so you know your pet is in good hands. Proceeds from these boarding facilities help support AHS and its programs. So whether your pet enjoys some group playtime after a grooming session at Now Boarding, or likes to snack on a delicious treat after a walk in Theodore Wirth Park near Animal House, you'll feel great knowing you're also supporting animals in need.



INVESTIGATIONS INSIDER

A LOOK AT THE WORK OF
AHS HUMANE AGENTS

By Carrie Libera

Helping animals escape abuse and neglect, healing their wounds, and helping them find loving homes is among the most important — and most rewarding — work we do.

It's also more complex and challenging than you might expect.

Animal Humane Society's humane agents respond to more than 1,700 reports of possible animal cruelty or neglect each year. From reports of individual animals that are lacking proper food, water, or shelter, to larger cases of aiding law enforcement agencies with on-site investigations and seizures, their work takes them across nearly every inch of the state.

Every case is unique, and our agents work tirelessly to provide positive outcomes for all involved. It's not work for the faint of heart — it can be demanding, frustrating, and heartbreaking. But ask anyone on our humane investigations team, and they'll tell you there's no other job they'd rather do.

ANSWERING THE CALL

In early 2016, the Carver County Sheriff's office was contacted by the owner of a rental property seeking help with dozens of dogs left behind by an evicted tenant. The tenant refused to move his animals from a hog barn on the property, leaving them with nowhere to go and no one to care for them.

When local law enforcement agencies get this type of call, they often turn to Animal Humane Society for help.

Senior Humane Agent Keith Streff first tried to work with the dogs' owner to find a solution and proper housing for the animals. But after an extended relocation deadline expired, Streff worked with the sheriff's office to obtain a warrant, and organized a team to seize the dogs and bring them to AHS where they would receive the care they deserved.

As our critical response team pulled onto the property, they could hear the chorus of barking as it echoed from the barn. Inside the cold, dim barn they found hounds, setters, and pointers of all ages. Some of the dogs roamed free in the feces covered barn, while others were enclosed in makeshift stalls. Two mothers with litters of nursing puppies sought refuge in old crates. Members of the team nestled the shivering puppies inside their coats as they brought them to the vehicle that would transport them to safety.

The dogs, including more than 20 puppies, were brought to our shelter, where AHS staff provided food, safe housing, and compassionate care while the case unfolded in court. Eventually, 44 dogs and puppies from

this case found new homes through AHS adoption programs and rescue partners.

Streff and his partner, Senior Humane Agent Wade Hanson, are the only two full-time humane agents in Minnesota. They answer dozens of calls each week from private citizens, law enforcement agencies, and veterinarians who are concerned about an animal or group of animals, and assess the level of intervention necessary to ensure the animals are properly cared for.

Working closely with local law enforcement is a crucial component to aiding animals in critical situations, says AHS President & CEO Janelle Dixon. The legal authority granted to humane agents varies by state, and humane agents in Minnesota do not have the same legal authority as law enforcement officers.

"Our agents have the authority to investigate cases, but they have to collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to issue corrective orders or seize any animals," says Dixon. "Without those relationships, our ability to help animals is limited."

GOOD INTENTIONS, BAD OUTCOMES

Aiding animals in crisis is a core part of Animal Humane Society's mission. Of the more than 1,700 requests our humane agents fielded last year, nearly 450 formal cases were opened, impacting the lives of 5,304 animals in need.

The most extreme cases — overcrowded puppy mills, sadistic dog fighting rings, filthy hoarding situations — represent only a fraction of the humane agents' work.

"A lot of what we see are not deliberate, malicious acts of abuse," says Streff. "A lot of times it's a lack of communication, a lack of education, or the fact that people's standards of care vary greatly. On occasion there is malicious intent, but not usually in the cases we see."

Many cases can be resolved through education. "I spend a lot of time talking with folks on how to care for animals," says Hanson. "I let them know all the legal requirements for food, water, shelter and how to maintain the animal's normal body weight. In many cases, that's enough to turn things around. Most people want to do the right thing."

But even good intentions can lead to catastrophic conditions. A few unsterilized pets reproducing freely can quickly get out of control. There's often a financial component as well — the pet owner simply can't afford to properly care for their animals, or even themselves.

And then there are hoarding cases where people will collect animals with the misguided belief that they are saving them. In those cases, the person may be suffering



“Countless animals have come to our shelters from tragic situations and have transformed into wonderful family pets.”

from mental health issues, says Hanson. “It’s truly an illness, and they can’t see they are actually harming the animals.”

“People often ask, ‘How did it get this bad before someone intervened?’” says Hanson. But these conditions don’t develop overnight — and aren’t always immediately visible, he says.

“When an individual begins to realize their care is not acceptable, they often become embarrassed by the situation,” adds Streff. “They isolate themselves and keep this dark secret as long as they can. It’s a slow process, but at some point the conditions become so dire that others will recognize it, realize the person needs help, and step in.”

TAKING ACTION

When cases cannot be resolved through education and collaboration — or when conditions warrant immediate intervention — Streff and Hanson work with law enforcement agencies to remove the animals.

Animals can be removed from the care of uncooperative owners through a legal process known as a seizure. But seizing animals can pose other challenges, says Kathy Mock, Chief Government Affairs & Community Engagement Officer at AHS.

“When we work with law enforcement to seize animals against the wishes of the owner, we have to hold those animals while the legal process unfolds,” explains Mock. “These animals may be in limbo for weeks, occasionally even months, and during that time we’re only allowed to provide essential medical and behavioral care.”

Humane agents can often convince those involved in cruelty or neglect cases to release the animals to AHS voluntarily, says Mock. “A custodial release means that we can immediately proceed with providing the animals the care they need, and begin placing them in new homes.”

HEALING AND HOPE

Last year, 528 animals seized or surrendered through cruelty cases found refuge at AHS. Each one received specialized rehabilitation and care.

“These animals have survived horrible conditions, but we never know what to expect, and that’s what makes these cases so complicated,” says Dixon. “Many of them have been living in filth, without natural light, ventilation, or fresh water. Some come out of those conditions relatively healthy while others are ill beyond belief.”

Some of the deepest wounds are psychological. Many of these animals have never had human contact, and they

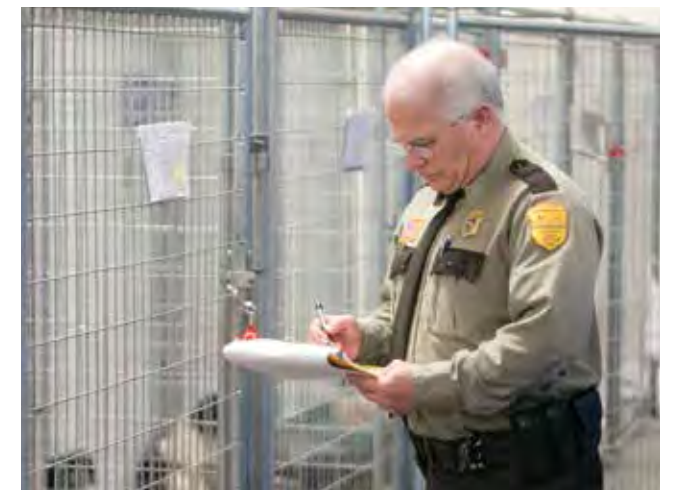
often have severe behavior issues that make rehabilitation especially challenging.

But animals are remarkably resilient. “It’s amazing to see them respond to kindness and care,” says Dixon. “Countless animals have come to our shelters from tragic situations, seemingly hopeless, and have transformed into wonderful family pets. It’s an incredible feeling every single time.”

PURSuing JUSTICE

Cases of animal abuse and neglect elicit strong emotions — and demands of swift retribution — from the public. When people hear about wrongdoing to animals, it can be easy to demonize the person responsible, says Streff. But it’s not that simple.

“Prosecution doesn’t always lead to a more desirable outcome,” says Hanson. “There are many cases, like animal hoarding situations for example, where this is an illness. Convicting someone of a crime won’t address the mental illness.”





Ultimately, it's up to a county attorney to determine whether or not to prosecute based on the evidence gathered by Hanson, Streff, and their law enforcement partners.

"In some cases we can do a better job of protecting animals without pursuing charges," says Streff. Courts can charge an individual with a crime, levy penalties, and even order jail time, but under Minnesota law they can only prohibit them from acquiring more animals for a limited time.

"It goes back to that educational approach — if we can persuade people to take better care of their animals without legal action, we find it produces a more effective, long-term result."

Of course, the most serious cases demand criminal charges, says Mock. "There are absolutely cases where intentional, criminal, cruel conduct has taken place, and we have no sympathy for that."



In those cases, Mock believes Minnesota law doesn't do enough to protect animals. "The penalties for animal abuse and neglect are far too lenient. We would like to see more consequences that show this behavior is taken seriously."

REPEAT OFFENDERS

Unfortunately, some offenders return to their previous behavior despite the consequences they've received from a past offense. In these cases, AHS must start from scratch to begin helping new animals in need.

"We can't just go back to someone's house and force them to let us look around because of their history," says Hanson. "There has to be a new formal complaint, there has to be probable cause, and we have to go through the whole process from the beginning."

"It's just like any other crime — we intervene, we work

that case, we process that case, and then that case is over," adds Streff. "Having a history doesn't take away their constitutional rights, and we have to work within those rights to investigate the basis of any subsequent reports of abuse."

That's where relationship building pays off, says Hanson. Sometimes he and Streff are even welcomed back with open arms.

"One of the most rewarding things is to see how well they are doing, how effective our efforts were," says Hanson.

"There's a woman I still visit in St. Paul — it's been almost 20 years since I took 60 cats out of her home — and today she's got two sterilized cats and her house is spic and span. She's doing great all these years later. That's why I do what I do."

THE FUTURE OF HUMANE INVESTIGATIONS

AHS is working to strengthen its humane investigations efforts by adding agents and continuing to build strong relationships with prosecutors and sheriff's departments in every one of the 87 counties in Minnesota. We're also working with those counties to remove barriers that might prevent them from pursuing humane cases.

"Counties may be reluctant to pursue cases involving large numbers of animals due to the costs involved in housing and caring for those animals," says Mock. "As a result, AHS covers all the expenses incurred during humane cases. This gives them the flexibility to investigate more cases without having to worry about the financial aspect of it."

AHS is expanding its efforts at the capital as well. "We're working to bring additional attention to the recently passed Breeder Bill to ensure it's as effective as possible," says Mock.

"Like any bill, there were compromises made during its passage, so while it's not perfect, it's a good start. We continue to work with the Board of Animal Health and the Governor's office to influence the interpretation of that statute and how it's used."

AHS is also working on a bill to increase the penalty for egregious acts of cruelty against companion animals.

Public support for these efforts is critical, says Mock. "One of the most important things you can do to advocate for animals is to contact your local legislators to let them know which animal welfare issues concern you. The more vocal people are about their support for laws that protect animals, the more our lawmakers will hear them."

No matter what the future holds, Animal Humane Society's commitment to protecting animals from cruelty and neglect will remain steadfast.

"I'd keep doing this work forever if I could," says Hanson. "Every morning I'm excited to get on the road and make a difference for animals. They are such an important part of people's lives and they deserve to be treated properly. And when they're not, I want to be there to help, simple as that."



JOIN US

Receive updates on bills we're working on, and alerts on how and when you can best support these efforts.

➔ animalhumanesociety.org/animaladvocates

THANK YOU!

Thousands of animal lovers and their pets came together to donate, walk, and celebrate, making the 2017 Walk for Animals a monumental success!

Together, we raised more than **\$1 million** to support animals in our community in need of second chances. Every dollar contributed helps Animal Humane Society provide lifesaving treatment and attentive care to the thousands of animals that come through our doors each year. **Thank you for supporting animals and Animal Humane Society.**

ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY
**Walk FOR
Animals**
2017



There's no place like home

There is nothing we love more than reading updates about animals adopted from Animal Humane Society. We are thrilled to hear about their new lives and see how happy (and spoiled) they are in their new homes.

Visit animalhumanesociety.org/happytails and prepare to have your heart warmed!



Rocko



Gigi



Ellie



Beans



Ralphie



Daisy



Gabi



Lola



Kady



Toothless



Rita



Flynn



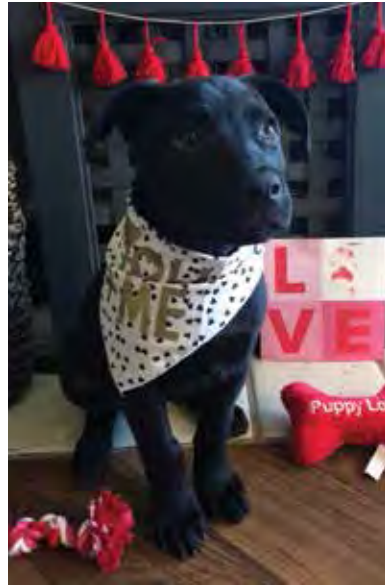
KC



Kai and Vera



Nana



Zuko

Submit your adoption story and photos at animalhumanesociety.org/stories. You may be featured in our next issue!

Pictured below: Cooper and Dewey





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Our Services

Adoption

Visit the cats, dogs, rabbits, birds, and small critters available for adoption at our five locations.

animalhumanesociety.org/adoption

Humane investigations

Our humane agents work with law enforcement officers and respond to thousands of reports of animal neglect and cruelty each year.

animalhumanesociety.org/prevention

Lost and found pets

Post missing or found pets or view stray animals in our care on our online lost and found bulletin board.

animalhumanesociety.org/lostandfound

Low-cost spay/neuter and wellness

High-quality, low-cost sterilization, dental, and wellness services are provided to pets of people in need through our Kindest Cut mobile surgical unit and at Melrose Animal Clinic in Golden Valley.

763-489-7729

kindestcut.animalhumanesociety.org

Microchip and nail clinics

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

animalhumanesociety.org/microchip

Outreach

AHS offers free or low-cost animal services that empower low-income pet owners and improve the lives of pets in underserved communities.

651-788-4685

animalhumanesociety.org/outreach

Pet boarding

We offer peace of mind pet boarding at Animal House in Golden Valley and at Now Boarding near the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport.

763-489-2222

animalhumanesociety.org/animalhouse

612-454-4850

nowboardingpets.com

Pet food and supplies

Stock up on all your pet needs — from Purina One® dog and cat food and treats and Tidy Cats® litter, to collars, leashes, toys, and grooming supplies. Available for purchase at all five locations.

Pet Helpline

Our free Pet Helpline at 952-HELP-PET will connect you to caring, compassionate advice and resources for whatever animal issues you may be experiencing.

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

animalhumanesociety.org/pethelp

Pet loss

Humane euthanasia and cremation services are available to the public, and a pet loss support group is offered on Monday evenings in Golden Valley.

animalhumanesociety.org/lossofpet

Pet training

Think you can't teach your dog new tricks? Think again! We offer more than 70 classes a week in Coon Rapids, Golden Valley, Woodbury, and at Now Boarding.

763-489-2217

animalhumanesociety.org/training

Surrender

Companion animals may be surrendered by appointment at any of our five open admission locations. We provide a safe refuge for thousands of animals each year and no animal is ever turned away. Appointments are required.

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

animalhumanesociety.org/surrender

Tours

Tours of our facilities are available by appointment. Maximum group size varies by location.

763-489-2220

animalhumanesociety.org/tours

Youth programs

We offer fun, educational experiences for kids who love animals, including camps, scout programs, story hours, and more.

763-489-2220

animalhumanesociety.org/youth

Ways to Give

Donate

AHS relies on the generosity of individuals like you to care for thousands of animals every year. Your donation helps provide food, shelter, medical care, and most importantly, the love animals deserve while they await loving new homes.

animalhumanesociety.org/donate

Become a Sustainer

By making an ongoing monthly gift, you're providing a reliable source of funding that enables AHS to help animals all year long. Sustaining gifts are an easy and convenient way to make a big impact every month.

animalhumanesociety.org/sustainer

Match your gift

Many companies match their employees' charitable donations. Double your contribution through a matching gift from your employer.

animalhumanesociety.org/matchmygift

Make a memorial or tribute gift

Remember or honor a loved one or pet with a memorial or tribute donation.

animalhumanesociety.org/donate

Leave a legacy

Make a lasting impact on animals by including AHS in your will or estate plan.

animalhumanesociety.org/legacy

Contribute to our wish list

With more than 20,000 animals to care for every year, AHS needs a substantial amount of supplies. You can donate needed items any time.

animalhumanesociety.org/wishlist

Donate a vehicle

Donate your car to care for animals in need. Your vehicle will be towed free of charge and you'll be eligible for a tax deduction.

animalhumanesociety.org/vehicle

Volunteer

Help make the world a more humane place for animals by volunteering with AHS. From walking dogs, to assisting with adoptions, volunteers are integral to the work that happens every day at AHS.

animalhumanesociety.org/volunteer

Foster

From the comfort of their own homes, our foster volunteers provide essential care for animals that aren't yet ready for adoption.

animalhumanesociety.org/foster

Contact Us

952-HELP-PET (952-435-7738)

info@animalhumanesociety.org
animalhumanesociety.org

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
763-489-2201

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

Hours

Adoption Centers

Monday through Friday 12 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Incoming Animals

Please call 952-435-7738 to make an appointment to surrender an animal.

Appointments are available:

Monday through Friday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.



animal humane society

845 Meadow Lane North
Golden Valley, MN 55422

animalhumanesociety.org

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Animal Humane Society.


animal humane society

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