

Capital Humane Society

SHELTER SHARING

Spring 2016

Mission: To fulfill the promise of animals, Capital Humane Society shelters animals, protects animals and teaches compassion and respect.

Capital Humane Society
Admissions & Assessment
Center
2320 Park Boulevard
Lincoln, NE 68502
402.441.4488
www.capitalhumanesociety.org

Capital Humane Society Pieloch Pet Adoption Center 6500 S. 70th Street Lincoln, NE 68516 402.441.4488

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A Day of Fun and Fundraising—Join Us for Our Tails 'n Trails Pet Walk & Festival

By Shana Perry, Director of Fundraising & Development

Picture this: You are enjoying a beautiful spring day with your canine companion. There are dozens of vendors, live music, a silent auction, and an opportunity to take a leisurely walk through the lush Fallbrook Town Center. You can make this idea a reality by joining us for our 2016 Tails 'n Trails Pet Walk and Festival on May 21!

The day begins at 11:00 a.m. and you can expect great activities such as a bouncy house, pupcake walk, cutest costume contest, bobbing for hot dogs, man vs. dog peanut butter licking contest, mutt mutt golf, and more! The walk will begin at 12:30, with the option of strolling for half a mile, or the full mile.

Our goal is to raise \$60,000, with 750 participants. We need YOUR help to achieve this goal! You can start fundraising early and know that every little bit helps the animals! Registration is \$25 per person. Proceeds will benefit a number of programs at Capital Humane Society



including the Foster Care Program, Humane Education, Animal Adoptions, and the Spay/Neuter Program.

With or without a dog, everyone is invited to event! We have a great time and can't wait to see you there. It's the biggest party for people and pets!

Are you ready to register and start fundraising? Head to our website, CapitalHumaneSociety.org or call Shana at 402-441-4481.

What Pet is Right for Me?

By Shelby Backhus, Animal Behaviorist

So, you have decided you want to adopt a pet—that is great! Discovering a pet that best fits into your lifestyle is half of the battle. When you adopt an animal, it is a commitment to care for him for the rest of his life. A few questions and a little research will help you find that perfect pet.

The first question is, how much responsibility do you have time for? If you desire a pet with a small time commitment, a small critter, such as a rabbit or guinea pig, could be right for you. These guys need daily food and water, and a good cage cleaning when it becomes dirty. If you would prefer low maintenance, but would like someone to greet you as you come home, a cat could be right for you. Cats require fresh food, water, and litter daily. Cats have varying personalities, which allows you to either adopt a cat who loves to be your constant companion or one who is an independent soul. If you are someone who goes on

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What Pet is Right for Me?

By Shelby Backhus, Animal Behaviorist

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daily walks and loves activity, a dog may be just what you need. Dogs require daily food, water, and exercise. Some dogs are satisfied with a walk around the block while others love a long run in the park. Finding out how much time and responsibility you are ready for is a good start.

A second question to ask is, how much of a financial commitment are you willing to make? All animals require food, shelter, toys, and vet bills. According to the adoption contract at Capital Humane Society, a single cat cost can begin at \$300 per year and increase from there. A large dog could cost \$1,000 or more per year. Financial responsibilities for pets can include food, toys, cages or kennels, vet bills, monthly medications, litter, bedding, treats, leashes or collars, and boarding or a sitter for when you are away from home. Looking at your financial situation is one thing to consider before adopting a new pet.





A third idea to consider is, what is your household is like? A busy and noisy house would not be the ideal home for a pet with a very shy personality. A household where no one is home during the day would not be good for a dog that needs potty breaks. If there are small children in the home, a pet who is tolerant of kids is a must. Talking with adoption counselors about your household, your financial situation, and the level of responsibility you can manage will help you find the perfect pet. Head to the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center today to meet your potential new best friend!

Orphaned Puppies Find Homes

By Matt Madcharo, Director of Operations - Admissions & Assessment Center

On November 10th, 2015 eight newborn puppies found their way to Capital Humane Society. A concerned citizen found the abandoned puppies in a dirty clothes basket outside of a local store, knew they deserved a chance to survive, and delivered them to our Admissions and Assessment Center. Unfortunately, one was deceased at the time of arrival. The seven remaining puppies were two days old, if that, and were orphans, as their mother was never located.

Members of our compassionate and caring staff decided to foster the puppies. These staff members cared for them each day and night; the care included bottle-feeding the puppies every few hours. The puppies came to work with the staff everyday so they could be properly cared for and bottle-fed on a regular schedule.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our staff and foster parents, the puppies grew into big, healthy boys and girls. They returned to the shelter right after the New Year to finish their medical treatments and to get spayed and neutered. We are happy to announce they were all adopted into great homes!

Thanks to the support of people like you, we can make stories like this possible! It takes a village to make stories like this happen including our staff, foster parent volunteers, adopters, and donors. We are grateful for the support of our community!













Kayla Rebounds

By Matt Madcharo, Director of Operations - Admissions & Assessment Center

On November 11th, 2015 two concerned citizens brought in an emaciated puppy they found running around their neighborhood. The puppy's rib and hip bones were exposed along with overgrown nails and scabs on her head. She only weighed 13.8 pounds and her body condition score was a 2/9 when she arrived, yet her adult teeth were already coming in. Animal Control was contacted about a possible neglect case, but unfortunately the person responsible for her condition was never located.

Our veterinary staff developed a strict feeding schedule to prevent re-feeding syndrome, which is a serious concern for emaciated animals. Kayla spent her first few days hanging out with our front office staff and loved to rub up on staff members' legs, much like a cat. After the Thanksgiving holiday, an amazing foster home was located, and Kayla moved in to continue her weight gain and to become a healthy, active puppy.

Over the course of the next five weeks, she steadily gained weight and made herself right at home with the foster parent's pets. Kayla returned to the shelter during the first week of January 2016 and weighed in at almost 30 pounds! Her rib and hip bones no longer exposed, she looked like a new pup! Kayla went up for adoption and was adopted by a new family on January 8th, 2016 after making the media rounds with our President and CEO the previous day!

The transformation of Kayla is amazing and once again shows how resilient our companion animals can be. Even though she was in poor condition when she arrived she never once hesitated to seek attention from anyone especially, if she could rub on their legs like a cat!

Volunteer Spotlight: Leslie DePeel

By Charleen Engberg, Director of Volunteers & Education

"I love creating images that show off the best features of different animals," said Leslie DePeel, who has been volunteering as a photographer for Capital Humane Society since 2011.

Those of us who have deleted numerous blurry images of our furry family members certainly understand that getting a great shot is far from easy. We are always impressed that Leslie manages to capture the unique cuteness of every pet she meets.

"One of the hardest parts of getting a photo is catching their attention and having them stay still," explained Leslie.

"One of the ways I get a cat's attention is using a long feather wand and just playing with the cats until they look at me," Leslie said. "Or I make random noises to get their attention, which results in amused glances

from other volunteers sometimes, too. As for the critters, it's all about patience and just being quick to get that shot."

Leslie is a professional photographer with her own photography business. "I have always loved photography and so when I went to college, really learning my craft was essential to me, so I earned a bachelor's degree in photography at Morningside College," she said. She has a very busy schedule yet kindly makes the time each week to volunteer.

Leslie comes in to take pictures with her roommate, April Parkison. April takes photographs of the dogs for adoption and Leslie takes the pictures of cats and critters. Photographing the animals is just the start. They also promptly resize, label, and send them to us to be posted on our website at www.CapitalHumaneSociety.org.



In addition to their commitment to taking awesome images for the website, they also are essential to the success of fundraising efforts such as Pet Photos with Santa. Additionally, they volunteer their time to help at special events like the pet walk and annual dinner.

We are thankful for the caring people who support our work, and we think generous, skilled, smiling volunteers, such as Leslie, are picture perfect.

Capital Humane Society Out & About

Critter Corner

Time Warner Cable, Ch 13 Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 4:00 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m.

Lincoln Journal Star Pet of the Week - Friday

Neighborhood Extra

1st Saturday of the month

KOLN-TV 10/11

Monday, 6:20 a.m. Thursday, 12:20 p.m.

KLKN-TV8

Every Wednesday, 11:50 a.m.

KZUM 89.3 AM

Saturday, 10:15 a.m.

KLIN 1400 AM

Thursday, 6:55 am

KFOR 1240 AM

Monday, 6:50 a.m. Thursday, 8:45 a.m.

KFRX 106.3

Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

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Web Site capitalhumanesociety.org

Staff Profile: Beth Sloup

By Shana Perry, Director of Fundraising & Development

Beth's journey with Capital Humane Society began on a beautiful day in late May 2010. She was attending school at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, studying companion animals. Beth's internship allowed her to familiarize herself with the intricacies of the humane society, shadowing animal care staff as they medicated, fed, cleaned, and adopted out animals. Beth also learned the ropes of the office staff, filing lost reports, fielding phone calls, and completing out reach calls. She completed her internship and graduated from UNL with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science.

A permanent position at Capital Humane Society was Beth's next move. She joined the Animal Care Staff at our Admissions and Assessment Center in July 2013. The Pieloch Pet Adoption Center opened July 2, 2013, and after being open for a year, Beth became Lead Animal Care Staff at the Adoption Center.

When asked about her favorite part of working at CHS, Beth responded with, "Working with animals is a calming experience." Beth has also had the calming presence of 22 foster kittens. Extremely young kittens are her specialty. She often fosters felines that are one to four weeks old. Fostering such young pets can be tiring as they require bottle feedings every two hours until they can eat wet food.

Beth can be found cheering on the Huskers and Steelers. She's an Omaha native, attending and graduating from Yutan High School. She also enjoys binge—watching Netflix with her CHS alumni cat, Bubba.



Upon reflecting on her time at CHS, Beth's favorite adoption story was of the orange tabby named Ginger. This beautiful cat had special needs and was in our care for many months. One afternoon a nice, young couple popped into the adoption center and met Ginger. They knew she was the one for them. Beth was elated to see Ginger go to such a loving and caring home after she had patiently waited to be adopted.

We are thankful Beth decided to choose Capital Humane Society as her internship location, and we are proud she is now a Lead Animal Care Staff member at our Pieloch Pet Adoption Center!

Upcoming Basic Dog Obedience Classes

We want to provide individuals with the tools they need to train their dogs to be polite pets. The training classes provide knowledge about proper techniques to modify inappropriate behaviors and teach new skills. Our Basic Dog Obedience Class is available for all canines over 6 months of age. Each session runs for five weeks and is \$60 plus tax. Classes are at the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center on Tuesdays from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

We have spots available for the following sessions:

March 1st - March 29th

April 12th - May 10th

For more information or to sign up, contact our Animal Behavior department, at 402-441-4490 or animalbehavior@capitalhumanesociety.org.