



Capital Humane Society

SHELTER SHARING

WINTER 2015

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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From the President & CEO



As the holidays come around again I am once more reminded of how generous the community is to Capital Humane Society. We are truly a fortunate organization.

As support has grown over the years I have seen here programs have been put in place that make a difference for animals and people who care about them. Some of that support comes from children who have chosen to help animals at the shelter through different activities. It might be a garage sale, a lemonade stand, or a birthday party where the gifts brought are donated to the shelter. The undertakings of these young folks speak well of their generation. I am impressed by their sharing.

I want to thank all of you who have supported Capital Humane Society in 2015 by giving, by volunteering, or by adopting from the shelter. I also want to thank the shelter board who stands by me and supports my efforts to achieve our mission.

I especially want to thank the staff of Capital Humane Society for the work they do day in and day out to help animals entering the shelter. The physical and emotional stamina they have for their work is amazing. I wish them all the best for the holidays and new year.....and I wish you the same.

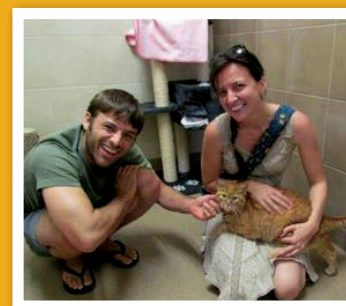
Ginger's Success!—How One Couple Gave a Special Needs Pet a Happy Ending

By Shana Perry, Director of Fundraising & Development

Ginger, a beautiful orange tabby, entered the Capital Humane Society adoption program in January of 2014. An owner surrender, she waited patiently for her forever family. As months passed, she became stressed and showed signs of a urinary tract disease. She was placed into the foster program to address and reconcile the situation, and after the disease was under control, she returned to the adoption program.

Once she returned to adoption, she was listed as a special needs adoption. We have many pets enter our doors who may need additional care than the average animal. This can range from purchasing a special food, to monitoring the pet as they are deaf or blind, to keeping up with a specific medication throughout their lifetime. Ginger quickly became a staff favorite and required additional attention to keep her urinary issues at bay.

We publicized her any chance we had. She was a happy feline, always excited for a belly rub and a good play with a fluffy toy. After eight months, her adopters walked through the doors at the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center looking for a new furry friend. They met Ginger and decided to give her a chance.



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Crate Training 101

By Shelby Backhus, Animal Behaviorist

Crate training is a great tool to have ready anytime you need it. Especially in an emergency situation when a crate or carrier is the safest option for your pet. Some folks are against crate training; while others think it is the best thing in the world. Numerous owners kennel their pet for safety and peace of mind. Others kennel their pet because he or she can become destructive when left alone. For some animals it can be a natural instinct to find a den or a hiding place, so using a kennel or carrier can mimic that feeling. The key to crate training is to make it as positive as possible.

When crate training, never put a pet in a crate when he or she is in trouble or brutally force a pet into a carrier. Always make entering a kennel positive. If your pet is reluctant about entering the kennel, throw some treats or toys in first. Then the pet will have to enter the kennel to retrieve the reward. Another tip is to feed your pet in the kennel. The more positive items that are associated with a crate, the better off you and your pet will be.

If your dog goes into the crate but becomes anxious when you close the door, or when you leave, try giving him or her an activity to do in the crate. Some options are treat-filled KONGS, nylabones, or toys that your dog will not choke on. This will keep your dog busy and focused on something other than you leaving. If your pet likes to sleep on a bed or a blanket, place that in the kennel. Just keep an eye on your pet at the beginning to make sure he or she will not eat the bedding. If your pet is one that does not like to be left in the crate, start with baby steps. Begin with a small amount of time, such as while you eat dinner. Then graduate to a larger time, such as going to the grocery store. If you start off with eight hours in a kennel, your pet may become too overwhelmed and anxious.

A good tip is to also practice crate training while you are home. Work on you coming and going. Have your pet in the crate for an hour or two and if he or she is behaving well drop a cookie in the crate and leave the room again. One thing to keep in mind is to not make getting out of the crate a huge ordeal. If you make a big deal out of opening the kennel door, your pet will focus on getting out of the kennel. Release your pet from the kennel when both of you are calm.

Crate training is not just for dogs! Training a cat to be comfortable in a carrier is a great idea. Many owners only put their cat in a carrier when he or she needs to see a veterinarian. If the cat does not like the vet, he or she will start to associate the negative vet visit with the carrier. As a result the cat will hate the carrier. Let the cat interact with the carrier more than just to go to the vet. Leave the crate out with some toys and treats in it. You can also feed your cat in there to make a positive association with the carrier. This will help if your cat runs and hides the instant he or she sees the carrier. Crate training can ease the stress on you and your pet if you make it positive.



Ginger's Success!—How One Couple Gave a Special Needs Pet a Happy Ending

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We are happy to report that after they had owned her for a week, they told us, "It was like she was meant to be here!" Congratulations to the always patient Ginger for finding her forever home!

We thank all of the families that give special needs adoption pets a chance. With a little extra love these animals flourish and make wonderful companions.

Winter Weather Words of Wisdom

By Shana Perry, Director of Fundraising & Development

We are in the heart of winter, and with the frosty season comes new challenges facing our pets. Keep these five tips in mind as the temperatures drop so you can provide your pet a happy and safe winter.

- 1. Take a trip to the veterinarian.** Your dog or cat may seem up to playing in the chilly weather, but your veterinarian will let you know if your pet is safe to participate in winter activities. Both the young and old animals do not regulate their body temperatures as easily and may need to come inside quicker.
- 2. Don't forget about the paws.** When the snow and ice pack the roads, salt and often other chemicals are needed to thaw the ice. Keep an eye on your pup's paws to make sure they are clean after each walk. A simple dip in the bath will keep your pet's paws hazard-free.
- 3. Patience is key.** Whether you're acclimating your dog to the freezing temperatures, or attempting to exercise them during the winter months, keep in mind you have to start slowly. Do not leave your dog outdoors or expect a strenuous workout in a sub-zero climate. Start small then add more time outside each day to condition your dog for the winter months.
- 4. Don't be surprised by Mother Nature.** Stay up to date on the weather report each day. This can tell you if the weather will drop substantially or if dangerous conditions arise. If you live near a body of water, keep your pets away from thin ice.
- 5. Always have easy access to a canine first aid kit.** The definition of an emergency is, "a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action." You don't want to be caught off guard if an unexpected situation occurs. Head to your veterinarian or pet supply store to buy a first aid kit today.



Capital Humane Society staff and animals send our warm wishes for a safe and happy holiday season. Your kindness and support throughout 2015 is very much appreciated and we look forward to a new year and our continued friendship with you.

Wanted:

A Temporary Roommate.
Become an animal foster parent with Capital Humane Society!
For more information call our foster coordinators at 402-477-3270 or email foster@capitalhumanesociety.org.



**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-TV 8

Every Wednesday,
11:50 a.m.

KZUM 89.3 AM

Saturday, 10:15 a.m.

KLIN 1400 AM

Thursday, 6:55 a.m.

KFOR 1240 AM

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

KFRX 106.3

Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

FROGGY981.com

Click on Pics/Videos to
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Web Site

capitalhumanesociety.org

Volunteer Spotlight: Scott Harrison

By Charleen Engberg, Director of Education & Volunteers

Kind-hearted, upbeat, compassionate, and dependable are words that staff used to describe Scott Harrison, a volunteer at Capital Humane Society.

For several years, Scott has been volunteering to help in a variety of ways. As an adoption counselor, his principle contributions include assisting families who are considering a new companion animal and showing the pets for adoption at the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center.

"I really enjoy meeting so many different people and hearing their stories about the pets they have had and why they are looking for a new one," he said.

During his conversations with potential adopters, Scott helps people understand that caring for a new pet takes time and patience. Sometimes after discussing all that is involved, a family will realize they aren't quite ready to make a commitment to a pet. "An important part of my job is to provide a reality check," he explained.

For people that are ready for a new furry friend, Scott is willing to assist however he can. He always strives to improve his knowledge of the different animals available for adoption and their unique care needs.

"I did the adoption for a tortoise; I knew nothing about tortoises, but the adopter knew everything," he said. "She taught me that day, and she and her family continue to be regular Sunday visitors to the adoption center."

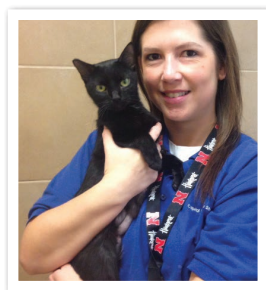
He praises the hard work of the staff and said, "I have watched them provide so much information to callers and visitors about pet care, and they all really care about the animals."

Capital Humane Society serves thousands of people and pets in our community each year. The thoughtful support and commitment of volunteers such as Scott is invaluable and a vital part of our ability to do our work well.



Staff Profile: Amanda Carson

By Shana Perry, Director of Fundraising & Development



Amanda Carson is not only a lover of animals, but a shelter for those in need. She is one of our wonderful Animal Care Staff associates who joined the team in September of 2014. Making her way from Fremont, Nebraska, she attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Business.

Outside of work you can find Amanda reading as often as she can and attending concerts with friends and family. Her overwhelming passion for animals led her to Capital Humane Society. She has three cats at home, Tilly, Story, and Bill Murray, the latter two of which are CHS alumni.

While Amanda has three wily and loveable felines at home, she is one of our many foster parents who welcomes and tends to animals that need a little extra care before entering the adoption program. In the last year she has fostered 2-week-old kittens that require a feeding and burping every four hours, to a large cat named Dexter who was under behavior modification, to a mother cat and her five 2-week-old kittens.

While the foster kittens can be rambunctious, it can be hard to let them go. "It's hard to say goodbye, but it's rewarding seeing them go to their new homes," Amanda explained. She is happy that her latest addition to the family, Bill Murray, has turned into the den father, always ready to take care of and groom the new fosters.

What is the best aspect of fostering? Amanda's experience is, "I enjoy seeing the kittens grow and learn to play." She also is responsible for naming them, which is not a task she takes lightly. Among her foster animals her favorite names have been Nana, Kermie, and Calvin. We are so pleased to have such a caring and compassionate individual on our Animal Care Staff.