



CAPITAL HUMANE SOCIETY

# SHELTER SHARING

SPRING 2010

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

Capital Humane Society  
2320 Park Boulevard  
Lincoln, NE 68502  
402.441.4488  
[www.capitalhumanesociety.org](http://www.capitalhumanesociety.org)

## Articles

From the Executive Director

Staff Profile

Volunteer Spotlight

Helping Hands

HO-HO-HO-Holiday Run


Thank You Maggie


Furry Friends Wish List


Prepare Your Pets for the Summer

Stand By Me: Protection or  
Partnership?

## Upcoming Events

 **Tails 'n Ties Annual Dinner**  
May 20th  
Holiday Inn Downtown

 **Blessing of the Pets**  
June 19th  
Raising Cane's Chicken  
Fingers

 **Tails 'n Trails Pet Walk**  
September 19th  
Haymarket Park

## Kind News in the Classroom

Alisa Eichorn, Director of Education & Volunteers

The Capital Humane Society receives countless thank you cards each year from students in the Lincoln area who are enjoying their **KIND NEWS** publication. **KIND NEWS** is a supplementary newspaper published each month, which teaches children the value of kindness toward one another, animals and the environment. Each teacher who signs up receives a free subscription to **KIND NEWS** for the school year, compliments of the Capital Humane Society.

**KIND NEWS** is published by the National Association for Humane and Environmental Education (NAHEE). This gift is provided through participation in the Adopt-A-Classroom program, a national partnership program. The newspaper is used as a cross-curriculum teaching aid that encourages reading, critical thinking skills and the value of kindness. Teachers have responded to the use of this newspaper with praise, and have found students to have great interest in all features in **KIND NEWS**.

The emphasis in **KIND NEWS** on pet care, wildlife appreciation, and environmental conservation grabs students' interest and teaches abstract values like compassion, citizenship, and responsibility. Projects like donating clothing and toys, cleaning up parks, and collecting change for animal shelters enable children to become active, productive members of the community. Teachers using **KIND NEWS** observe improvements in their students' behavior toward their peers. A 2004-2005 survey showed that nearly 85% of teachers think **KIND NEWS** improves their students' treatment of one another.

Pet safety is of great importance to the shelter. It is a topic that we highly stress to children while they are touring the Capital Humane Society or if we are visiting them. **KIND NEWS** helps us to teach pet safety to the students we can't always reach. No pulling on the ears, face or tail. No riding the dog like a horse. Some children are taught this, while some are not. Some children choose to ignore the advice. We just don't want the family pet taking matters into their own paws.

## 2010 Spring Phonathon

Thank you for taking our call during the 2010 Spring Phonathon. Your generosity will allow us to continue caring for the lost and homeless animals that enter the shelter.

Thanks to the following for their generosity in providing food for the phonathon calling staff. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

Russ' Market  
Randy's Donut Shop  
Pizza Hut  
Raising Cane's

Papa John's  
Kentucky Fried Chicken  
Alisa Eichorn

Godfather's  
Runza  
Little King's Deli & Subs

## Board Officers

Jon Gross, President  
Becky Veak, Vice President  
Nancy Mitchell, Secretary  
Ryan Sailer, Treasurer  
Sherri Wimes, Member-at-Large

## Directors

Bill Barnett  
Barb Bettin  
Robert Dean  
Nancy Fuchs  
Bob LeZotte  
Jeanelle Lust  
Roger Moody  
Seanna Sumalee Oakley  
April Rimpley  
Ann Ringlein  
Darcie Ross  
Kelli Stanley Smith  
Scott Vyskocil

## Administrative Staff

Robert Downey  
Executive Director

Pat Williams  
Director of Operations

Donna Bode  
Director of Development  
and Fundraising

Alisa Eichorn  
Director of Education/Volunteers

Lindsay Wallasky  
Administrative Assistant

## Office & Kennel Staff

Brendan Berve  
Carolyn Freeman  
Lynette Hansen  
Erica Harker  
Ashley Lewis  
Matt Madcharo  
Chrissy Mattox  
Dan Milius  
April Cruse  
Carlos Paez  
Lindsey Pratt  
Bethani Salizar  
Lisa Saltz  
Jenny Stager  
Teresa Stanley

# From the Executive Director



I would like to tell you a story about Tyson, one of my boxers, who passed away a few years back. This is not a sad story. Tyson lived to be around fourteen years of age, a very full life. If you are knowledgeable about boxers you would agree he was on borrowed time to have lived that many years.

Tyson came to the shelter as a stray and was probably close to being thirty five to forty percent underweight at the time. He had obviously been on his own for quite a while. He was a gentle dog but had an incredible energy level for the condition he was in. He touched a spot in my heart right away. I told my wife Sheri about him and convinced her to visit the dog at the shelter. Upon seeing him Sheri immediately said with surprise, "That's the dog you want?" I insisted it was. Tyson had difficulty gaining any weight and x-rays showed that his stomach was full of plastic bags and corn cobs. After addressing these issues Tyson began gaining weight and became a very healthy dog weighing about eighty pounds.

He was a very different dog in that he did not get into a lot of the trouble I have grown accustomed to with other dogs who have trained me. His only flaw was being a food thief which probably was ingrained in him after being as malnourished as he was. Other than that he just loved life, loved to be with us and loved the other dogs in our family.

A connection developed between Tyson and Sheri and I think this particular dog had more impact on her than any other we have lived with. It did not take me long to figure out who trained this dog that he had his own shelf in the refrigerator. When you would pull the door open he was allowed to remove whatever had been put there for him. He did have a good full life, he was loved and he gave love back.

Tyson left us with many memories and stories I could tell but that is not the point I really want to make.

Tyson was not a puppy when we adopted him. He was approximately three to four years of age. He was an adult dog, something shelters are full of. I have had puppies before but probably never will again. I like adult dogs and older dogs. There are many advantages to adopting them.

Many times they come already housebroken and if not are easier to train in a shorter period of time than puppies. Often they are already use to walking on a leash and have learned basic commands such as sit, stay and down. They are out of the higher energy phase of life and will be calmer. Their socialization is more advanced and they tend to get along better with people, other pets and noises. The fact that they are fully grown is a bonus because you know what you are getting and you can readily gauge their temperament.

It always seemed to me that Tyson put us on a pedestal where we did not necessarily belong. Shelter dogs do that. It is a good feeling. There is an adult dog at Capital Humane Society waiting to elevate you. Give one a chance.

Thank you.



## Staff Profile – Pat Williams



*Pat & Kip share a day at the office*

Pat Williams joined the Capital Humane Society's staff as the Director of Operations in January. Pat has been a Corporate Attorney at a local life insurance company for many years. She has also been a devoted volunteer with CHS for over a period of 20 years! Pat has helped CHS by participating in Pet Therapy, Foster Care, serving on the Board of Directors and the most important...Matchmaking!

Pat has a knack at matching CHS pets with loving families. Pat has found 3 dogs of her own at CHS, Kip a Papillon as well as Tessa & Violet, both Chihuahuas.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time at her cabin with her husband Jim, who is an organic farmer.

Pat is happy to have the opportunity to follow her heart and work full-time for the welfare of animals.

## Volunteer Spotlight – Jill Morstad



*Jill Morstad FYI she celebrated 10 years of teaching the Puppy Kindergarten class at CHS.*

Over the past ten years, every Monday night puppy after puppy and family after family have walked through the doors of the Capital Humane Society to learn a few commands from Jill Morstad. As teacher of the Puppy Kindergarten classes for a decade now, Jill has shared her expertise as a trainer and teacher of dogs and people. In addition to teaching dog obedience classes at the shelter and elsewhere, she and her own dogs compete actively, earning bench, tracking and obedience titles. They have won numerous awards, including the AKC's highest

achievement - The Obedience Trial Championship.

Jill is also an active member of an advisory group for the Cesar & Illusion Millan Foundation; she has served on the shelter's board and other committees over the years and is the host of "Canine 360", a program about dogs and people that can be heard on KZUM radio each Monday morning.

In her spare time, Jill enjoys putting her running shoes on and taking Lark and Quinn, her Belgian Shepherds, with her. The rest of her family includes her husband, Andy, and ten-year-old daughter, Maren. The head of their household is their CHS shelter cat, Fiona.

Jill says, "I'm grateful for every puppy, every family and every moment. I'm looking forward to the next ten years." With a full plate to juggle, we are so grateful that Jill always finds the time to spend some of it with us. You can thank her for having a hand, or a paw, in keeping more dogs in their homes.

## Capital Humane Society Out & About

### Critter Corner

Time Warner Cable, Ch 13

Wednesday, 6:30 pm

Thursday, 5:30 pm

Saturday, 4:00 pm

Sunday, 7:30 pm

### Lincoln Journal Star

Pet of the Week – Friday

### Neighborhood Extra

1st Saturday of the month

### KOLN-TV 10/11

Thursday, 12:15 pm

### KLKN-TV 8

Every Wednesday, 11:50 am

### KZUM 89.3 AM

Saturday, 10:00 am

### KLIN 1400 AM

Thursday, 6:45 am

### KFOR 1240 AM

Tuesday, 6:50 am

Thursday, 8:45 am

### KFRX 106.3

Thursday, 9:00 am

[www.FROGGY981.com](http://www.FROGGY981.com)

Click on Pics/Videos to  
find Frogs for Dogs

### Web Site

[www.capitalhumanesociety.org](http://www.capitalhumanesociety.org)



# Helping Hands



Richard Marcoux and Dick Pruitt presented Bob Downey with \$300 from the proceeds of the **Omaha Volkswagen Club** Car Show held at Van Dorn Plaza last Fall. Members from Omaha, Lincoln and Ashland chose to help the animals at the Capital Humane Society. The donation will help with general care, including food and veterinary care.



Richard Marcoux and Dick Pruitt with Bob Downey

invited to donate old blankets and towels to the Capital Humane Society. Towels and blankets are very welcome during the year, but especially when the weather is cold. The extra warmth for the dogs and cats is very much appreciated! Thanks to Jodi Sudik from LifePointe for organizing this drive.

**Old Navy** at South Pointe participated in the region wide "You're in Good Paws with Barker". This donation drive encouraged shoppers to bring in a donation for the shelter to receive 10% off items purchased in the store. The shelter animals thank Old Navy and Barker!



Sue Adair Sturgis presents Bob with the first check from Cause for Paws one year ago

Congratulations to **Sue Adair Sturgis** and **Cause for Paws** on their first anniversary of being open to the public. Each month a donation from the proceeds of the sales is made to the Capital Humane Society and other animal agencies and rescues. Your support is greatly appreciated!

The **Malcolm Girl Scout Troop 128** treated the animals during the Holidays with gifts of blankets, dog food, toys, treats, cleaning supplies and other

items from the wish list. The troop also learned more about the shelter and animals during their visit.



Girl Scout Troop 128 from Malcolm collected many items needed to care for the shelter animals

**LifePointe** participated in Operation Blankets of Love during the month of January. During this time, members were



Tom Ryan and Duane from Camp Bow Wow bring donations collected under the Angel Dog Tree.

**Camp Bow Wow** sponsored the Angel Dog Tree prior to the holidays. Day campers helped to fulfill the wishes of the Capital Humane Society dogs. Donations included dog food, toys, treats, bleach and shampoo. Thanks to the dogs and their families who attend Camp Bow Wow!

Thanks to **Kyleigh Aldrich** for sharing her birthday with the shelter pets. Birthday gifts given to the shelter included toys, treats and food.



Kyleigh with adoption dog Cecelia

**Nathan Linke** recently received \$20 as a gift. Nathan chose to purchase paper towels, soap, bleach, chew toys and plastic baggies to be used at the shelter. Thanks Nathan!

## HO-HO-HO-Holiday Run!

Once again, it was proven on Sunday, Dec. 6th, that runners are crazy, driven, yet genuinely good hearted people! Nearly 300 runners showed up at Pioneers Park on a less-than-perfect morning to run a difficult 5k cross country course, with the proceeds going to the Capital Humane Society. The Humane Society Director, Bob Downey and his boxer Arnold, were on hand to witness the event and to cheer on Bob's wife Sheri. It was so gratifying to announce at the start of the race that this year's Holiday Run raised nearly \$3,000.00 for the Capital Humane Society.

If you haven't made this race a part of your Holiday traditions... you need to! The one thing you don't need to worry about is the weather - it's always cold, but this run always warms your heart knowing you have done a good deed for the Humane Society!

Recently the Capital Humane Society received a letter from a 6th grade student from a Lincoln school. It reads as follows:



Maggie(r) and her sister Sophie(l) brought items for the dogs and cats at the shelter.

Dear Humane Society,

This past year I was thinking a lot of donating to a shelter that I know a lot about. I have recently lost my dog and have gotten a new one. My new puppy is very hard to keep up with and you guys have tons of animals so you must be very busy and I thought these (donations) might help a little bit.

On New Year's Day I made a promise to myself that I would donate at least 1 thing every month. I hope your shelter will do very well this year. Happy New Year 2010!

Sincerely,  
Maggie



Gift Certificates are available for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Special occasions



## Furry Friends Wish List

- Bleach
- Shoe Boxes
- Aluminum Cans
- Collars & Leashes
- Grooming Supplies
- Kitten Milk Replacer
- High Quality Pet Food
- Non-Clumping Cat Litter
- Rubber Gloves
- Cat & Dog Treats
- Dish Soap
- Washable Cat Toys
- Hard Rubber Chew Toys
- Paper Towels
- High Efficiency (HE) Laundry Detergent
- Wooden Chewing Blocks
- Blankets/Towels
- Flea Combs
- Dishwasher Detergent
- Aspen Bedding for Small Animals
- Puppy/Kitten Canned Food
- Purina Kitten Chow
- Little Critter Food
- Shirt Boxes
- Batteries (AA or 9 volt)
- Cotton Balls
- Dryer Sheets
- Isopropyl Alcohol
- Zip Lock Sandwich bags
- Purina Dog Food
- Purina Puppy Chow
- Purina Cat Chow

## Prepare Your Pets for the Summer

Lynn Fry-Collins, DVM

It's been a long, cold, snowy winter in Nebraska. Most of us, along with our pets have spent a lot of time on the couch. The snow has melted and it's time to get outside and enjoy a beautiful spring and summer.

Spring is a great time to make sure our dogs are ready for all the summer activities they, and we, love so much. This winter they have been outside less, have gotten fewer and shorter walks and less trips to the dog park or just walks around the block. So, just like us, they need to be eased back into strenuous activity.

The first step is a thorough check-up with your vet. Now is a great time to make sure all your pets vaccinations are up to date, that their joints are in good shape, and to discuss with your vet whether your dog is on a good nutritional plan. Your dog will enjoy all those walks and activity a lot more if you lay a foundation of good health for them.

Now that they've been checked out, you can start to ease them back into activity. It sounds obvious but start small. Instead of a 10 mile hike, start with a mile walk, or a couple of laps around the block. Try and stay away from back to back days of heavy activity for the first few weeks until their stamina (and yours) has been built back up. Start gradually lengthening your daily walks, (or start daily walks, which will be great for both you and your dog), and mixing in more strenuous play. The most important thing is to not assume that your dog can just flip a switch and become the amazing athlete you remember from last summer. They need to work back into it just like us.

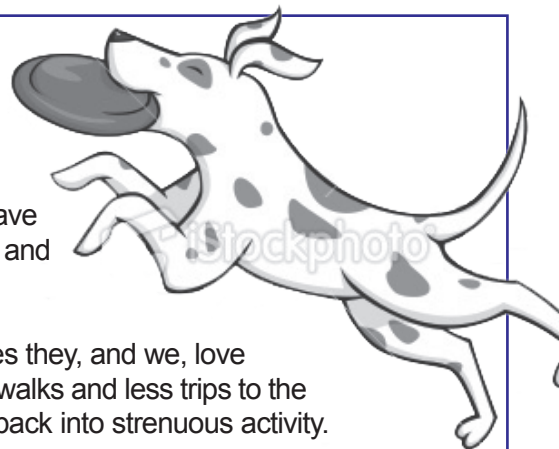
Another important point is to give your dog adequate cool down and recovery time. By July or August they will be able to go all day, every day. In March and April they will probably need a break between big days.

Also, don't forget spring grooming and parasite prevention.

Warmer temperatures bring about the "Big Shed" we all know so well. Getting your dog groomed in the spring is vital. They will be more comfortable, more active, look great, and less susceptible to parasites.

This brings us to parasites. A well groomed dog is less likely to get parasites but is in no way immune to them. These include ticks, heartworm, intestinal worms, and fleas. The good news is that all of these can be easily prevented or treated. Have your veterinarian recommend the best product for your pet. You might consider getting your dog vaccinated against Giardia and Leptosporosis as these are more prevalent in warmer weather and in forested or rural areas. As always, your vet is your best resource and can guide you in making sure your pets have all the protection they need.

By starting now you can make sure that even the biggest couch potato has a safe and active summer of fun.



# Stand By Me: Protection or Partnership?

Jill Morstad, CHS Puppy Kindergarten Teacher

When I talk to people at parties about my dog-training work, many people tell me they got their dog for 'protection'. The stories they use to illustrate their notion of protection often give me cause for concern. I get concerned about how they want to define 'protection', and what kind of responsibilities we're assigning to our dogs, relative to the responsibilities we need to assign to ourselves for seeing to our own personal safety. The truth is, I think there's a difference—a dramatic and important difference—between a dog who will alert to a stranger, and a dog who makes an independent decision to menace or bite. Furthermore, in my experience far too many people seem to be of the opinion that all they need to do is go out and buy one of the guardian breeds and *voilà* — it will be instantly, responsively and responsibly protective. After all, isn't that what these dogs were bred to do?

The truth is that **training** is what makes it so. Responsible owners willing to accept the role and the work of leadership where the dog is concerned make it so. Wishful thinking, quoting a breed standard or playing around with a few clever tricks doesn't make it so.

I think most of us who own or have owned guarding breeds feel this way. If I am ever put in a situation of danger (and I have 'been there, done that') I want a dog whose presence protects me — but that dog **MUST** be under my control. Realistically, the training necessary to get a dog properly protection-trained is so extended, and so intense as to be out of the reach of most dog-owning folks I know.

Let me give you an example. My trainer friend Christine has a large protection-trained male Doberman. Recently, she wrote me a letter about him:

"Last winter I was stopped for speeding...Astro was in the back seat and watched as the police officer approached the car and reached into the passenger window for my driver's license...I could see this look on Astro's face like *oh yeah...I know this scenario...bring it on*. Even though he had The Look on his face, he never growled, barked or even got up. He just waited quietly in the back seat for my direction. The simple truth is that my dog can't be 'going off' and making the decision on when he needs to protect me. That decision **must** come from me."

Now, think hard and honestly about your own dog — how does he behave when a stranger approaches your vehicle? What kind of control — realistically — do you have over your dog? It seems the

public perception of the personal protection dog (often mistakenly referred to as an "attack dog") is of an aggressive dog that growls and barks without allowing anyone near the owner. The absurdity of this perspective is clearer when you consider that first and foremost a personal protection dog should be able to accompany its owner anywhere, anytime — on the street and at home. **To do so, the dog must be very social, stable, extremely controllable and completely trustworthy in public and around strangers. Without these characteristics the dog presents nothing but a liability, and it is useless as personal protection.**

I've never been mugged or burgled, even though I've lived in neighborhoods where people got mugged and burgled all the time. And all the years I lived in the roughest part of northwest Denver, I was adequately protected by a Golden Retriever, and later, by a Rough Collie. The dogs didn't do a darned thing to protect me other than cause any potential malefactor to choose a victim who didn't have a dog. They achieved this by barking at noises in the hall and appearing with me in person out on the street.

And these weren't even dogs with a protective image. Honestly, I once dog-sat a friend's Doberman while I lived in Denver, and people would cross the street when I took him around the neighborhood. The dog was perfect wagging, wiggling silliness, but people crossed the street before they'd pass him on the sidewalk.

Law enforcement and other experts say that burglars or muggers choose the easiest victims. A victim with a dog is more work than a victim without one. So the bad guy chooses somebody else. To put it another way: my TV is no more valuable than my neighbor's TV, so the burglar chooses the neighbor without a dog in the living room. My wallet has no more money in it than anybody else's wallet, so the mugger chooses a victim out walking alone, leaving my dog and I in peace.

I understand the need for a serious cop dog if you're a cop. But for most of us, any dog (large or small) who is obedient enough to go everywhere in public, and will bark at noises in the hall is all the canine protection we ever need.

copyright 2003 Jill S. Morstad



**A Fashion Show and Dance was held at the Holiday Inn Downtown on February 13th. Clothing provided by Cause for Paws was modeled and auctioned to the highest bidder. Dance music provided by Complete Music was enjoyed by those attending, along with different contests and a silent auction. Proceeds of the evening benefitted local animal agencies and rescues. We extend a big thank you to Dr. Shari Hier-Duffin who sponsored the sweetheart evening!**