



Capital Humane Society SHELTER SHARING

Summer 2019

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

Capital Humane Society
Pieloch Pet Adoption Center
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Lincoln, NE 68516

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Alexa's Litter

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

Earlier this year, Alexa, a Siberian Husky, was surrendered to us by her previous owner because they no longer had time for her. Upon arrival, we learned she was pregnant and an ultrasound confirmed she was indeed carrying a litter of puppies!

Alexa was moved into our foster care program so she could be comfortable, as she carried her pups. About a month after she arrived,

she gave birth to seven puppies! Over the next two months, Alexa nursed and raised her puppies in her foster home until they were big enough to find homes of their own. **We are extremely grateful to have amazing foster parents willing to provide care for animals like Alexa and the puppies!**

In late April, the puppies were ready for adoption and went to our Pieloch Pet Adoption Center. They all found new, loving families in no time at all! About two weeks later in early May, Alexa also went up for adoption and quickly found her new family! **Because of support from people like you, we can help pets like Alexa and her puppies!**

Tails 'N Taps

Capital Humane Society is very excited to announce our newest event, Tails 'N Taps! Join us on Saturday, July 13 from 12:00 - 4:00pm for a beer tour of some of Lincoln's best local breweries! Purchase a "License to Taste" for \$25 and you will enjoy a free pint of beer from each participating brewery including White Elm Brewing Company, Zipline Brewing Company, and Backswing Brewing Company. Plus, you will receive a Tails 'N Taps pint glass to take home! You will visit all three taprooms the day of the event and will be notified of which brewery to start at 7-10 days prior to the event.

Tickets for this event are *limited to 250 people* so purchase your "License to Taste" right away before they are sold out! If any remain, tickets the day of the event will be \$35. You won't want to miss this fun afternoon!



Visit CapitalHumaneSociety.org to purchase your ticket! Food will be available at each brewery from Big Luv's BBQ, Gilded Swine, and Rutabagas Vegan Comfort Food! Plus, Beer Paws will be at the event with all their awesome products!

Please note this is a human only event so please leave your pups at home. Must be 21 years or older to purchase a ticket.

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Beat The Summer Heat

By Shannon Alfer, Animal Behaviorist

Now that the cold weather has let up we are ready to race outside with our beloved pooches! Even though the warm summer temperatures can be fun, they can also be very dangerous to our pets. There are many ways you can beat the summer heat and give your pet the exercise they need.

Here are some tips for Fido's fun in the sun:

- The best time to exercise pets is during the morning or late evening. This will help you avoid the higher midday temperatures.
- Before heading out on any walk the concrete or asphalt temperature should be checked. These surfaces absorb the sun's heat and can cause painful burns on your dog's pads. The best way to check if the pavement temperature is dangerous for your pet is to hold the backside of your hand to the pavement for 5 seconds. Make sure to use the backside of your hand because it is more sensitive than the front side.
- Bring cold water for your dog when participating in activities outside.
- Do not leave your dog in the car even with the windows rolled down. Temperatures in a car can easily skyrocket and could be fatal to your dog. Let Fido stay home and enjoy the air conditioning!
- Know the signs of heat stroke: excessive panting or drooling, vomiting or diarrhea, discomfort, disorientation, and seizures. If you notice these signs call your veterinarian immediately! Sometimes these signs can take a few days to appear.



From The President & CEO



The possibility of weather disasters is something we all would rather not think about. However, given we reside in an area of the country where weather events such as tornados and floods can have a devastating impact on our community it is important we be prepared.

Every person should have their own plan in place for themselves, their family, and their pets when it comes to disaster preparedness.

It is not a matter of if, but when. Make a plan for evacuating and taking care of pets in the event of a disaster. Animals need emergency supplies

too. You should always plan to evacuate with your pets. Pack a kit to sustain yourself, family members, and pets for at least 72 hours, and remember to rotate kit stock often.

If you go to our website and click on the news and events option, then current news, you will be able to download and print a document on how to prepare. This document will provide you with a supply checklist and a form listing other important information you should know about your pet in the event of an evacuation.

If you don't have the ability to download and print the document call the shelter and we will be happy to mail you one.

Have a safe and fun summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Downey".

Cats With Jobs

By Shelby Backhus, Director of Operations –
Pieloch Pet Adoption Center

Did you know we have the Capital Humane Society Working Cat Program? This program provides a placement option for felines not suitable for an indoor lifestyle due to temperament or inappropriate litter box behaviors. This program's purpose is to find appropriate outdoor homes for these felines with owners that reside outside of Lincoln city limits but within Lancaster County. Qualified homes are ones that provide the cats with a place to stay in a structure that is a free standing building, safe from the elements, and is a place the cat can get in and out of easily. Ideal places are barns, stables, shops, or outbuildings where the cats have a "job" and a better quality of life.

Working cats in Capital Humane Society's Working Cat Program can be feral, semi-feral, or social cats with behavior issues. Feral and semi-feral cats can be accustomed to some human contact but prefer to keep their distance. Over time, a feral or semi-feral cat may become more accepting of human contact and become more social, as they settle into their new outdoor home. Cats currently in our Adoption Program are not eligible for adoption through the CHS Working Cat Program, as this program aims to provide a placement option for felines not suitable for an indoor home.



Hotsumie and Thelma, pictured, are two CHS working cats who were placed in 2017. Their adopter says the duo is doing well and she really enjoys their company. Hotsumie is a very silly cat who loves to play in water. She "inspects" every water container she finds, which includes horse stall buckets that are hanging up!

To apply to adopt from Capital Humane Society's Working Cat Program, please visit our website at capitalhumanesociety.org, click on the 'Adopt' tab, and then click on the 'CHS Working Cat Program' tab. CHS working cats are available for adoption at a reduced fee of \$50 plus tax per cat. All cats part of the CHS Working Cat Program are provided with medical care prior to adoption. This includes spay/neuter, microchip, dewormer, flea/tick treatment, combo test (FIV/FelV), FVRCP one-year vaccination, and a Rabies one-year vaccination.

What You Need To Know About Ticks

By Kelly Anderson, DVM, Director of Veterinary Medicine



They are creepy, crawly, and seemingly everywhere. I'm talking about those nasty things we call ticks. Not only are they gross but they can also potentially spread diseases to our pets, as well as us. Thankfully Nebraska does not have the level of tick-borne diseases as some of our nearby states but here are some of the major ones.

Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is probably the most recognized disease that can affect our pets, as well as us. It is caused by the organism *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted by the tiny deer tick. It is a complex

disease that can cause among other signs, a polyarthritis, which can happen months after being exposed to the organism. There is a vaccine available for this disease. Consult your veterinarian to see if this is a good option for your pet.

Ehrlichiosis

Ehrlichiosis is another disease lurking out there. The brown dog tick spreads it and it too may not show symptoms for months after exposure. Symptoms like fever, loss of appetite, weight loss, and swollen limbs can all be signs of this disease.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever is another disease present but is less common. It is caused by the organism *Rickettsia rickettsii* and can be transmitted by several tick species. Once again symptoms vary but this disease cannot be spread dog to dog or to people.

All of these diseases can be treated with antibiotics (usually for extended periods) but, as is always the case, prevention is more effective. Fortunately for our pets, technology and innovation has greatly expanded our preventative choices and greatly improved their effectiveness. **Consult with your veterinarian as to what product might be best for your particular pets. Have a happy, tick free year!**

Capital Humane Society Out & About

Lincoln Journal Star
Pet of the Week – Friday

Neighborhood Extra
1st Saturday of the month

KOLN-TV 10/11
Monday, 5:50am
Thursday, 12:20pm

KLKN-TV 8
Wednesday, 6:40am
Wednesday, 11:50am

KZUM 89.3 FM
Saturday, 10:15am

KLIN 1400 AM
Thursday, 6:55am

KFOR 1240 AM
Monday, 6:15am
Thursday, 8:35am

KFRX 106.3 FM
Monday, 6:25am
Thursday, 8:50am

FROGGY981.com
Click on Pics/Videos to find
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Web Site

capitalhumanesociety.org

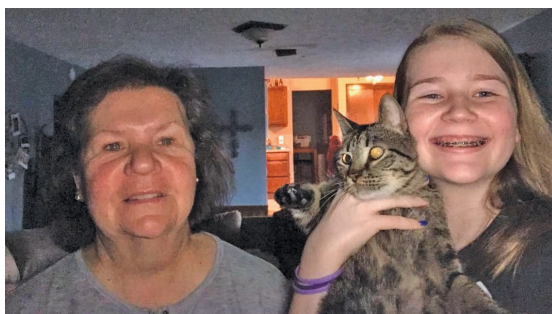


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Volunteer Spotlight – Pam Brunke

By Charleen Engberg, Director of Education & Volunteers



"I enjoy doing the cleaning jobs as it is a necessary task and frees the staff up to do the important work of caring for the animals," said Pam Brunke, an outstanding volunteer at Capital Humane Society. "The staff are so appreciative of volunteers and always take the time to acknowledge your time there."

Pam recently retired and likes to stay productive. Among her many wonderful qualities is her willingness to help wash pet dishes and toys at our Admissions and Assessment Center. And she encouraged her granddaughter, Ashlynn, to volunteer with her. "It gives me the opportunity to spend time with her and teach her the importance of giving back to the community," Pam explained.

In addition to helping with cleaning tasks, Pam and Ashlynn have received additional training to help care for the cats in the adoption program. "It is fun to work with the cats and see their different personalities," Pam commented. Pam's ability to read and respect the unique temperament of each feline is appreciated. "They each have a personality of

their own and are clear as to whether they want you in their space," she noted. "Some are hard to stop petting because they are soaking up the attention. Others could care less and prefer to be left alone."

Ashlynn and her family adopted a cat, Charles, from Capital Humane Society last fall. "It was a little bumpy at first for Charles and his adopted family, which includes two American Bulldogs," Pam said. "Charles did a lot of hiding at first. The one dog just wanted to be friends and the other one was jealous of all the attention the new kid in the house was getting."

"Charles is a very social cat and provides daily entertainment to the household," she added. "The dogs wagging tails are constant objects to swat at and putting your jacket on can be a challenge with Charles trying to grab the draw string on the hood or swatting at the sleeve as you try to put your arm in."

"If someone is missing a small personal item, Charles is usually the guilty party," she added. "The case of the missing cow from the nativity scene is still a mystery, but we are all sure Charles is holding it hostage somewhere."

We know there are many ways to enjoy one's retirement years and are very grateful Pam chooses to invest her time helping others. Her warm and witty personality brings so much joy to those around her. Capital Humane Society can continue to provide compassionate care to thousands of animals every year thanks to the generous support of dedicated volunteers, such as Pam.

Staff Profile – Shannon Alfer

By Michaela Ashby, Administrative Assistant

Shannon Alfer joined Capital Humane Society in January of 2019. She works primarily at our Admissions and Assessment Center as our Animal Behaviorist. She has a passion for animals, choosing specifically to work with dogs and cats that have behavioral issues.

Helping these particular animals by socializing them with people and other animals, as well as finding their forever home, is what Shannon says is the best part of her job.

Shannon grew up in Illinois but moved to Lincoln to attend school in 2013. She graduated from UNL with a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science with a focus in companion animals. She has also been teaching

various training classes for the past two years.

In her spare time, Shannon shows her dog, Joker, in obedience and agility events and has enjoyed participating in these events for approximately ten years. The duo attended the AKC Rally Nationals Obedience this March and took sixth place out of 69 contestants. She also enjoys teaching her cat, Sly, new tricks, such as giving a handshake and jumping through hoops. We are happy to have Shannon and her passion for animals on our team!

