Capital Humane Society SHELTER SHARING Winter 2018

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 6500 S. 70th Street Lincoln, NE 68516

402.441.4488 www.capitalhumanesociety.org

Articles

Peggy's Journey From The President & CEO Winter & Our Pets Dog Bite Prevention Animal Care: It's All In A Day's Work Volunteer Spotlight Staff Profile

Upcoming Events

Basic Obedience Classes -Call for dates & times

Holiday Bulbs -Available Now

Dine at Don & Millie's -January 15th

Spring Phonathon – February 2019

Peggy's Journey

By Matt Madcharo, Director of Fundraising

In late August, Lincoln Animal Control received a call regarding a 4-month-old Boxer puppy that had been found by a concerned citizen. When the puppy arrived at our Admissions & Assessment Center her left front leg was dangling and she wasn't putting any weight on the limb.

Our veterinary team sent her for radiographs to determine the damage to her leg. The radiographs showed a clean midshaft transverse fracture of the radius and ulna. They splinted her leg and prescribed her medication to ease as much pain as possible. After her required holding period, she moved to one of our foster homes.

She was named Peggy and she stayed in her foster home for almost two months as her leg healed. During this time, she was



able to hang out with her foster family, which included other dogs, cats, and children. It was also during this time she found her new home! One of her foster families' friends fell in love with her and decided to adopt her!

Follow-up radiographs were done in mid-October and Peggy had healed! She was adopted by her foster families' friend and now has a happy, new life!

From The President & CEO



When the holiday season rolls around it is common to take time to reflect on the good things in your life and to be thankful for them.

One of the good things in my work life is the staff at Capital

Humane Society. They are very dedicated people who care about helping animals. Not every aspect of their work is glamorous.

Cleaning kennels, washing dishes, and doing laundry can be a bit tedious but contributes to providing good care for pets at Capital Humane Society. The work of the staff falls into many areas. Tracking pets through the shelter, working to reunite lost pets with owners, caring for the pets, providing veterinary services to pets, moving unwanted pets to the adoption center, and ultimately matching those pets with adopters. Every employee plays an important role in what happens at the shelter and in the success of Capital Humane Society.

I wish all of our employees a wonderful holiday season and hope they all achieve their own dreams.

Robert A. Downey President & CEO

Dog Bite Prevention

By Shelby Backhus, Animal Behaviorist

eing involved in a dog bite situation can be a scary time. Learning how to act around dogs and act as a responsible dog owner can potentially prevent a scary situation. For people who own dogs, the key is training. Start when the dog is young and continue training throughout the dog's life. Proper socialization and training will create a well-rounded dog. As a dog owner, you should never place your dog in a situation that makes them uncomfortable. Always have your dog on a leash when you are in public so you are in control. Pay attention to your dog's body language. If you observe signs your dog is uncomfortable, calmly remove your dog from the situation. You are responsible for your dog and should act as an advocate for them.

Education is another key in dog bite prevention. Even if your household does not own a dog, educate everyone in the house on how to interact with dogs safely. When approaching a strange dog remain calm and always ask to pet the dog. Never run up to a dog, as you may spook them. Be prepared for owners to say no if their dog is not a fan of strangers. Children should be taught to never approach a dog without an adult present. If the owner allows you to pet the dog, first present your hand in a fist so the dog can sniff you. When petting a dog, never reach over the dog's head.



As a dog owner, you are responsible for your dog and should act as an advocate for them.

.

Instead, try to come from the side and pet the dog on the chest or neck. Remember to never hug a strange dog or put your face near the dog's face. Observe the dog's body language. A scared dog might have their ears back, tail tucked, head lowered, big dilated eyes, or tension in their body. An uncomfortable dog may lick their lips or yawn a lot. An aggressive dog may show their teeth, growl, lunge, or snap. If a dog is displaying these signs do not pet him or her. You should never pet a dog that is eating, sleeping, has a bone or toy, or is nursing babies.

If you feel a dog bite is about to happen, try to remain calm and frozen. Call for help immediately. Never run from a dog as he will most likely chase you. If you are knocked down by an unfriendly dog curl into a ball (similar to the tornado drill pose) to protect yourself. Seek medical attention immediately, if you are bitten.

Winter & Our Pets

By Kelly Anderson, DVM, Director of Veterinary Medicine

nce again Mother Nature has decided to use Nebraska as her playground for jokes. The early snowfall quickly told us winter could be just a day away. This reminds us to think about our pets and their special needs and concerns the changing weather causes.

Fall causes people think about their vehicles and checking antifreeze levels. Antifreeze can be very toxic to our pets. Even licking their paws can cause kidney failure if antifreeze is on them. You can prevent a lot of pain and heartache by being cognizant of any spills on the ground, as you walk your pets. Exercising your pets in the changing seasons can cause issues for some older pets. Be aware of what your pet is telling you as you walk and exercise. Lack of energy or stamina may be an indication of a medical condition and warrant an exam by your veterinarian. During this time of year weed stickers are more prevalent as well as ice buildup in their paws. Checking your pet's feet is doubly important this time of year.

Lastly, don't forget about the wild critters and the neighbor's cats as warm vehicles provide a nice spot for these creatures to rest. A little noise before you get into your car, like tapping on the hood, prior to starting your vehicle can potentially save a creature's life.

Buckle up Nebraska, this might be a crazy winter! Here's to hoping for an early spring!

Board Officers

Chair Jason Otto Vice Chair Frank Savage Secretary Wendy Birdsall Treasurer Matt Roberts Executive Committee Member Clark Bellin

Directors

Mary Abel Dustin Bauer Lori Hampton John Hyland Kayla Muhleisen Sue Quambusch April Rimpley Ann Ringlein LeRoy Sievers

Administrative Staff Robert Downey President & CEO

Kelly Anderson, DVM Director of Veterinary Medicine

Charleen Engberg Director of Education & Volunteers

> **Dean Frey, DVM** Veterinarian

Matt Madcharo Director of Fundraising

Jenny Stager Director of Operations Admissions & Assessment Center

Vickie Sundquist Director of Operations Pieloch Pet Adoption Center



IT'S ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

he animal care staff at the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center have an array of duties throughout the day. Between cleaning, feeding, medicating, providing enrichment, customer service, and adoption counseling - it's go, go, go!

The first duty of the day is morning rounds. With attention to detail, animal care staff observes and records health status, eating habits, and behavior of each animal in the adoption center. Health issues are reported to our veterinary staff and our animal behaviorist is consulted if temperament issues arise.

Cleaning: A lot of scrubbing goes on here. Animal care staff adheres to a strict cleaning and disinfection protocol to ensure each dwelling is free of germs before a new animal is housed in each space.

Medicating: Some animals come into the shelter with health issues. The inherent stress of being in a shelter can cause their immune system to weaken and not as easily fight off certain germs.

Directed by the veterinary staff, the animal care staff administers medications and adds a bit of their own TLC.

Play time: A set schedule of toys and scents are provided each day to enrich the animal's environment. On "Noise Maker Mondays" cats get a toy that jingles and the scent of peppermint is in the air. The dogs love Wednesdays as each of them get a Kong toy filled with treats and the scent of jasmine is lightly spritzed.

Adoptions: Animal care staff also serve as adoption counselors. They get to know the animals they care for day in and day out. This is what makes them so good at finding potential adopters the right pet for their home environment and lifestyle. An adoption counselor visits with each potential adopter in an interaction room. They start by reviewing the animal's medical history, behavior history, and general information about the pet. Then it's time for the meet and greet! The animal is brought into the interaction room and introductions begin. Sometimes it's love at first sight and a match is made!

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 AM 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 Frogs for Dogs

CapitalHumaneSociety

O

capitalhumanesociety



@capitalhumane

Web Site capitalhumanesociety.org



Proud member of Community Services Fund of Nebraska Nancy Andersen joined the Capital Humane Society in April of 2018 and works at our Admissions and Assessment Center as an office clerk. She chose CHS because she grew up on a farm with a love for animals and knew this would be a great fit for her. She loves being able to answer customer questions when they call or come into our facility. She enjoys helping people understand the decisions they have made about their pets and making them feel better about those decisions.

Nancy grew up in Ord, Nebraska and moved to Lincoln to attend college. She received a computer programing degree through Lincoln School of Commerce. Nancy and her husband of 31 years, Keith, lived in Lincoln for five years before moving to Nancy with her beagle, Bubba, and her corgi, Copper. She also has two cats not pictured, Mittens and Pebbles.



an acreage north of Adams. She has two daughters, Kirstin and Keri. Of course she has pets as well! She has a beagle named Bubba, a corgi named Copper, and two cats, Mittens and Pebbles.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading and getting together with family to watch Husker football, volleyball, and softball. We are happy to have Nancy in our front office at the Admissions and Assessment Center. She is a great addition to our staff!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT – NANCY BAKER

By Charleen Engberg, Director of Education & Volunteers

"Nancy is a cherished volunteer," said Amanda Carson, a staff member at the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center. "She is very dependable and always willing to go the extra mile to help during busy times."

Nancy Baker volunteers each week to help with adoption counseling. Her composed, productive presence is always welcomed and appreciated. More than once she has been referred to as "a lifesaver" because she comes in to help when lastminute needs arise.

"She has a positive attitude with staff and potential adopters," Amanda added. "Her love for the animals is very apparent."

Nancy first volunteered as a dog walker about 15 years ago. "Now, I really enjoy working as a volunteer adoption counselor," she said. "It is extremely rewarding, especially when someone comes in and finds just the perfect match."

Nancy performs a variety of important tasks as an adoption counselor, including promoting responsible pet care, processing contracts, and informing potential adopters about the pet's health, behavior, and history. She also educates adopters about the necessity of proper exercise, training, and care.

"There is not a time when I work at the shelter that I don't find an animal or two that I would really like to take home," she said. "I have adopted 3 Nancy has helped with hundreds of adoptions and each one means that one more shelter animal has found a loving family.



wonderful dogs in the last seven years."

One of Nancy's pets is a pit bull. She said, "I like to spread the word that pit bulls can be very sweet and loving dogs." But she also likes small dogs. "I always thought I was a big dog person but my Pomeranian has taught me small dogs are awesome too."

Nancy helps canines of all sizes find homes, and has processed adoptions for many cats and aritters, too. As a volunteer adoption counselor, she has helped with hundreds of adoptions and each one means one more shelter animal has found a loving family.

To everyone at Capital Humane Society, Nancy is a quiet hero who swoops in to provide much needed assistance and support. By putting her love of animals into action, like our other wonderful volunteers, she greatly benefits the animals in our care and our community as a whole.

4