The Paw Print Commandation May 2019 May 2019 The Paw Print Commandation Humane Society Bringing Pets and People Together

A TRANSPORT TALE

Excerpted from "Shelter dog transports to Minnesota" in the Best Friends Animal Society newsletter.

By Kelli Harmon

Doc is living the best life a dog can have: He not only has a loving, comfortable home, but his new family brings him along on camping and boating outings. At night on these trips he cuddles up in the tent, nestled between the family's two kids. Doc's family adopted him from Animal Allies Humane Society.

The reason the big white dog and thousands more dogs of all shapes and sizes are in happy homes is an incredibly busy network of shelters and rescue groups — first saving pets in Minnesota and then opening their doors to shelter pets from other states whose time and luck have run out. It's a growing trend in animal welfare over the past decade, and it's making life better for shelters near and far.

How to save shelter pets

A growing number of communities in Minnesota have made outstanding progress down the path of lifesaving. These communities have programs to help people keep their pets, trapneuter-return programs for cats and low-cost spay/neuter, as well as many foster-based rescue groups taking in pets from shelters and placing them in homes. Things began to shift in Minnesota about a decade ago, and they've only gotten better since.



Meanwhile, shelters in other areas don't have the same programs that save lives.
They still struggle with massive numbers of pets coming in and not enough ways to help them get out alive. "The disparity between communities is a distinct area of need," says Anne. "They are euthanizing healthy adoptable dogs for lack of space."

Grants for pet transports

Best Friends Animal Society supports transport programs to Minnesota, as well as other places throughout the country, and maximizes lifesaving by



awarding grants to Best Friends Network partner organizations. With 39 network partners in Minnesota, Best Friends is able to award transport grants that help save lives within the state.

Michelle Dosson, regional specialist at Best Friends, says, "We focus our grant-giving on organizations that go above and beyond in their work. We want to fund programs that maximize impact and reduce shelter deaths of the most vulnerable pets at overcrowded shelters."

Remember Doc, the sweet dog living a charmed life with his new family? He's alive and well today — in part because of a \$10,000 Best Friends grant awarded to Animal Allies Humane Society in Duluth, Minnesota. The grant supports bringing in pets from both instate and out-of-state shelters that need help.

"Transports are important because we are saving lives," says
Lindsay Snustad, director at Animal Allies. "Not every community
has the resources or the support that we have in Duluth and greater
Minnesota. It is absolutely our job and within our power to think
beyond our small pocket of the world."

Continued on Page 10



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SPRING GREETINGS!





Spring Greetings Dear Friends,

Once again the sun begins to shine and baby kittens are being born all around us. As I write this, our teams are busy nursing a mom and her eleven babies born just three days ago. I am not sure that I have ever seen anything more adorable than the natural response of a mother's care and concern for her precious young ones. These particular kittens, along with their mom, will be placed in a warm, cozy and safe foster home where an incredibly dedicated volunteer will watch over them as they develop their tiny immune systems, open their eyes and learn how to eat on their own. Once they are big and strong enough, our medical team will vaccinate and spay/neuter them, and our adoption team will place each one in a loving home.

As precious as new life is, a major piece of our mission is to address overpopulation concerns across our ever-expanding service area. The kittens that come into our care are the lucky ones. Many others are abandoned in ditches and live their lives hiding under porches and scratching out an existence in the streets. Our Programs & Operations committee is comprised of skilled professionals who think proactively. Tasked with identifying strategies to reduce suffering and prevent our neighborhoods being overrun by stray and feral cats, the team

has identified TNR as a proven method to gradually decrease the size of cat colonies. Trap-Neuter-Return captures stray and feral cats, vaccinates them, spays and neuters them to stop breeding, then returns the ones that are not adoptable to their group.

The good folks at Critter Harbor have been leading a local program on the Wisconsin side of the bridge for a decade and have seen a significant reduction in the number of unwanted litters at the Douglas County shelter. An 11-year study of TNR at the University of Florida reduced the number of cats on campus by 66%, with no new kittens being born after the first four years of operation. Scientific studies have shown that trapping and euthanizing feral cats is a never-ending cycle. Other cats occupy the space and continue to produce litters of newborns who may not get a chance to live a happy and healthy life. As much as we love to care for kittens, it is our duty to do everything we can to keep their numbers in check so that everyone gets a chance to find a loving home.

Life-saving work like this is only possible because of loyal supporters, like you, who are committed voices of compassion for the animals. Thank you for everything you do for Animal Allies.

Warm Regards,

Lindsay Snustad

Lindsay Snustad, Executive Director T: 218-722-5341, Ext. 215

E: lindsay@animalallies.net





Mission Statement

Animal Allies Humane Society strives to ensure a loving home for every pet.

Vision Statement

Animal Allies Humane Society recognizes the importance of pets in people's lives and is guided by a humane ethic to serve the community through:

- Educating the public about humane treatment and responsible guardianship of companion animals.
- Reducing overpopulation by altering all animals who are in our care.
- Intervening to help animals overcome medical and behavioral issues.
- Providing safe, temporary care for animals while they are readied for adoption.
- Providing people the opportunity to invite pets into their lives.
- Saving lives by transporting animals from shelters that are overcrowded.
- Contributing to our community by engaging with students at all levels, the elderly and others to share
 the importance of the relationship of animals to society.

4006 Airport Rd, Duluth, MN 55811 • (218) 722-5341 • animalallies.net

WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SHIRT

We love our members, and we love Big Frog Custom T-Shirts for helping us thank members with an exclusive t-shirt!

The 2019 Annual Allies Member's Only t-shirt is ready, with an adorable design showing a dog and a cat peeking out to give thanks. If you're an Animal Allies member at any level, you've earned this shirt.

HOW TO GET IT

Request a t-shirt coupon from Animal Allies when you begin or renew your membership, then take the coupon to the Big Frog store in the Burning Tree Plaza. They will print the shirt for you while you wait. A fun way to show off your support.





MEET FINANCE MANAGER: JACLYN PRIOLO



How long have you been with Animal Allies?

It will be two years in August.

What is your role?

I am the Finance Manager, so I keep us in check with our finances. I make sure we pass our audits and that we are diligent with our financials.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Duluth and went to Denfeld and Central.

What keeps you in Duluth?

I just couldn't picture myself anywhere else. It's the perfect balance of outdoorsy things with a big city feel. It's just cool. I love Enger Park and the Duluth Grill.

What do you like best about working for AAHS?

It led me to my puppy. All the







animals and the people make it a fun place to be. If you ever have a stressful day, you can go pet a kitty.

What do you do after you leave work?

Go back to work. Just kidding. I golf, I ski, I watch UMD hockey games. I go hiking. I just got engaged so I am busy planning a wedding.

Do you have any animals?

Yes. Nala is adorable and she's a handful and she keeps our house very interesting. But she is always so happy to see us. She's the ultimate sock stealer. She likes to rip holes in them.

Who has been your favorite animal here at the shelter?

Bernice the Bulldog. She's a Bulldog. I think Bulldogs are the coolest.

Lasting words of animal wisdom:

Don't sweat the small stuff. Just don't. Life's too short to worry about the little things.



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Summer's almost here, which means it's time to Walk for the Animals! Once again, Animal Allies invites you to usher in the season of outdoor adventures with our major fundraiser, the Walk for Animals and Furry 5K.

This year will be the 27th annual Walk for Animals, and the second annual Furry 5K. On Saturday, June 1, our supports will gather at Bayfront Festival Park in Duluth to walk, run, and enjoy time outside with their pets.

Last year, the weather decided not to cooperate. Just as the Furry 5K runners were crossing the finish line and the walkers set out on the course, the heavens opened. Rain poured down, followed by a few flashes of lightning and rumbles of thunder. For the safety of people and pets, we had to call it a day and ask everyone to run for cover. However, in spite of the storm, our supporters still participated and raised money at a record level. The Animal Allies community doesn't give up easily!

This marks two years of terrible weather for the Walk for Animals: drizzly fog in 2017 and a dramatic downpour in 2018. So we are confident that this year will be warm, sunny and beautiful: third time's the charm!

One of the first big outdoor events of the summer for animals and the families who love them, the Walk for Animals & Furry 5K is a community event with fun activities for all. This family-friendly event is free and open to the public.



THE FURRY 5K

The Furry 5K, introduced last year in response to demand from the running community, allows people and dogs to get a serious workout for a good cause. Due to continued construction on the Lakewalk, the course will be the same as last year, following Railroad Street onto Jeno's Walk over the freeway and then along Michigan Street and back.

RAISING FUNDS FOR THE ANIMALS

Any attendee (whether they participate in the Walk or not) who raises \$40 or more earns a Walk for Animals & Furry 5K t-shirt. Attendees who raise \$100 or more earn a t-shirt and a pet bandanna. You can start fundraising with the enclosed envelope or register online to gather donations. Many participants join teams with family, friends, or colleagues.

All proceeds go to help homeless animals.

If you cannot attend but still want to participate in spirit, you can "run" in the Virtual 5K. Register online to receive your registration packet by mail. Virtual 5K "runners" can raise funds just as you would for the physical 5K.

DOGS AND MORE!

Most animal participants in the Walk and 5K are dogs, but other pets are more than welcome! Over the years we have seen cats, tortoises, geese, and alpacas. As long as they are safely restrained and feel comfortable in crowds, all creatures great and small can join in the fun.

GRAND MARSHALS

Participants who raise \$300 or more earn the title of Grand Marshal. These extraordinary fundraisers earn a place in the front at the starting line of the Walk or Furry 5K, a professional portrait with their pet, and entry into exclusive drawings.

IS YOUR PET TALENTED?

Is your pet stellar at shaking a paw, an especially good speaker, or have a trick that we've never seen before? Or are they just extremely cute? Enter one of our contests to show off their skills and earn

prizes! Contests include Cutest Puppy, Best Wag, and Best Trick. The event also features a timed obstacle course, similar to those used in competitive agility shows—though here, dogs of all skill levels are welcome to give it a try. Start preparing now, we know a lot of talented pets and competition is sure to be tight!

FUN FOR EVERYONE

Young or old, runner, walker, or watcher, non-pet-owner: the 2019 Walk for Animals has something for everyone. The event will feature food trucks, a bouncy house, a photo booth, and many vendors selling crafts, pet supplies, and gifts.

Start your fundraising efforts today! Register as an individual or start a team at **www.thewalkforanimals.net**.

Use the enclosed envelope to start collecting donations from friends, family, and co-workers. Pledge donations can be delivered to the shelter or submitted on the morning of the event.

WALK FOR ANIMAL SPONSORS

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OH, BABIES!









Thanks to spay and neuter initiatives, we are seeing many fewer unwanted litters come to the shelter. But when dogs and cats are living stray, nature will still take its course—and Animal Allies is here for the little families! This winter, a young cat and a young dog each came to us with their babies, and we are so proud that we could help these brave mothers raise their litters in safety and comfort.



ROANA AND HER KITTENS

Roana the Calico was living outside when she gave birth during one of the coldest weeks last winter. Fortunately, a good Samaritan found the young mom and her three newborn babies and took them in from the bitter weather. The next day, she brought the little family to Animal Allies. Momma and kittens were miraculously all healthy, without any frostbite or signs of starvation. We named the brave little mother Roana. There were two little girl kittens, a Calico and a grey Tabby, and one orange Tabby boy. After they had been examined and vaccinated, the whole family went to live with a foster while the kittens nursed. From little mewing balls of fur, they grew into playful, curious mini-cats. When they had been fully weaned and were comfortable eating solid food. Once each kitten weighed two pounds, they were big enough to be spayed or neutered safely. Roana stayed in foster for a little while to "dry up" from nursing and just relax after all her hard work as a mother. Then all four were ready for new homes. They are now all happy pets in loving homes—they've come a long way from that cold winter's day when they were found outdoors.





ISLA AND HER PUPPIES

Sweet lady Isla arrived at Animal Allies from Lightshine Canine Rescue in South Dakota in late January. At about two years old and 40 pounds, this lovely tan Corgi mix appeared to be a normal, healthy young dog. But while completing her intake exam, vet staff found that Isla had been hiding a secret: she was pregnant!

Isla went to the home of one of our dedicated foster volunteers to spend the rest of her pregnancy and labor in comfort and privacy. Three weeks after arriving at Animal Allies, Isla gave birth to five puppies: three girls and two boys. They grew happily in their foster home, coming in for regular checkups with the shelter medical staff, until they were old enough to be spayed, neutered, and put up for adoption.

Now all six dogs—mom and her five babies—are happy in their forever homes.







MEMBERS

Thank you to all who became a new or renewing annual member in January, February, and March.

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The following tributes were recieved in January, February, March. If you do not see your listing in this issue, look for it in the next. If you see an error regarding your donation, please call and let us know: (218) 722-5341, Ext. 214.

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IN HONOR OF PET

ALBA Cindy and Jim Brown AVI LÚX, BELLATRIX the BEAN, and CASEY the PIE Andie Kantor **BELLA** Allford Investments BELLA and BANDIT Carla Boyd **BETSY** Jane Waltenburg CECIL Richard DeGolier CEDAR and MURPHY Lori WIlliams CRUMPET LaDonna Bergum DAHLIA Shirley Jezierski The DOGS of PAINE FARM ROAD Dr. Graf and Jill Lesavage **ELEANOR** Karen Amistadi North Shore Paw Patrol **ELLA** Marty Sozansky **ELLIE** Mary Ann Sironen

Brenda and Jeremiah Graves

Äshley Manuson Brian

The Raduege/Viken

Family ICORICE

Brenda Uecker



The following tributes were recieved in January, February, and March. If you do not see your listing in this issue, look for it in the next.

TRIBUTES

If you see an error regarding your donation, please call and let us know: (218) 722-5341, Ext. 214.

Mari Anne Isakson FUJI aka SHOOTER Linda Hinners GEMINI

Kent And Jody Richards JAZZ

LaDonna Bergum

KATIE and ROSIE S J McKusick LOKI Kathleen Holbeck

LUTHER John and Frannie Snowberg MEEF

Amanda Johnson

MILLIE Sue Soderholm MOLLY and TAFFY LaDonna Bergum

MOLLY Cordelia Kochmann RASCAL Dave O'Conner

SASSY Don Leslie SPOT

James Monge STRAYS in CLOQUET Carolyn and Richard Gilbertson

Deborah Swenson TOMMY, MAX, NIMBUS, and FREDDY Catherine N Podeszwa

TRAVIS Diane Klepatz

Kim Franckowiak ZOEY and PUMPKIN

Jean Esler IN HONOR OF **BIRTHDAY**

Nana Burns Jonathan Burns

Much to Celebrate



2018 was another successful year of saving lives.

Over 1,300 dogs and cats got the second chance they deserve thanks to your support!



96% Live Release Rate

25 day average length of stay

450 Cats Saved

service area growth

1 million pieces of pet hair swept

95 pets returned to their families

1343 Shelter Pets

893 Dogs Saved

Microchip Clinics

530 spay and neuters in shelter

Review

walks

snuggles

33,590 volunteer hours

15,000 people reached through **Humane Ed**

36 special medical cases

76 dental procedures 5800 toy mice batted

A TRANSPORT TALE

Local organizations partner to transform the lives of people and shelter pets.

Animal Allies frequently works with Rockwall Pets, an organization that helps Dallas Animal Services by taking in dogs and either placing them locally or getting them to out-of-state shelters with capacity. A 2016 Best Friends grant enabled Rockwall Pets to purchase its first van, which has logged thousands of miles saving hundreds of pets. This year, Rockwall Pets received another Best Friends grant, and now a second larger van helps save even more pets in support of Dallas Animal Services.

Christina Arriaga, executive director of Rockwall Pets, says, "Our partners and friends around the country want to help. It breaks their hearts to hear how many great dogs are still dying here due to lack of space. They have empty kennels and eager adopters. It's a winwin for everyone to send as many as we can, as fast and frequently as we can."

Christina was out of town on a transport when she saw the urgent plea about Doc from Dallas Animal Services. The pit bull-terrier-type dog needed medical care, but the shelter was full. Rockwall Pets contacted Animal Allies in Minnesota to try and save him.

"Doc literally needed Animal Allies to approve taking him within minutes or he would not have survived," says Christina. "We were in tears when we got the yes, and we had a local foster pick him up that day from the shelter." Soon, Doc was on his way north — one of many dogs who, thanks to a transport, got a second chance.

How Doc went home

When Doc arrived at Animal Allies from Dallas, Texas, the shelter raised funds for two surgeries that he needed. While



recovering at Animal Allies, Joe Carpenter and his six-year-old daughter, Adeline, went to the shelter on a whim. Joe says it was Doc's classic "puppy-dog eyes" that first made him take notice, but it was the big white dog's gimpy leg and mopey face that captured his heart.

Joe says that Doc's mopey demeanor disappeared as soon as they met. "He jumped up on the bench next to us and licked our faces. Then he spotted a toy on the floor, grabbed it, rolled over onto his back and held it above his head with his front paws. He was comfortable with us immediately, and I knew that he was going to be our boy."

The rest, as they say, is history. Doc no longer has a reason to look mopey, because he's in his forever home. Doc is only one example of the many dogs who started life in places where the local shelter couldn't help them. But thanks to partnerships across state lines and a willingness to go the extra mile, these dogs have long, happy lives ahead of them.

CELEBRATING TWO YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP WITH ROCKWALL PETS







In March of 2017, Animal Allies joined forces with Rockwall Pets to rescue dogs from overcrowded shelters in Texas and bring them to loving families in the Northland. A team of volunteers drives these pups over one thousand miles from the Dallas area to their new home in Duluth. Each transport brings an amazing array of different dogs: we have welcomed Chihuahuas, German Shepherds, and every possible mix of breeds in between. These southerners usually get a little bit of a shock when they step outside in Minnesota—but they adapt quickly. Mostly, they're just grateful to be given a second chance at life. We are so proud to have helped Rockwall Pets rescue 164 dogs from Texas since March 2017.

SAVE A LIFE BECOME AN MEMBER

Membership levels

■ Miriam Carlstedt Society \$5,000 Annually / \$400 Monthly*

This level provides spay/neuter services for all the animals in our shelter for one month.

Additional Donor Benefits: Four (4) complimentary tickets to The Fur Ball Gala (\$400 value), recognition on the Spay/Neuter Donor Wall, kennel sponsorship, membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

■ Animal Champion

\$3,000 Annually / \$250 Monthly*

This level provides extra care for an animal to treat ailments such as heartworm, specialty surgical procedures, medical conditions or broken bones.

Additional Donor Benefits: Two (2) complimentary tickets to The Fur Ball Gala (\$200 value), personalized paw on the donor wall, kennel sponsorship, choice of membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Hero \$1,000 Annually / \$80 Monthly*

This level provides in-house dental procedures for 4 shelter dogs.

Additional Donor Benefits: Two (2) complimentary tickets to The Fur Ball Gala (\$200 Value), personalized kennel sponsorship, membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Angel

\$500 Annually / \$40 Monthly*

This level spays/neuters a mother and her litter of 6 puppies.

Additional Donor Benefits: A personalized kennel sponsorship for one year, membership incentive and 2019 Animal Allies Membeship Family t-shirt.

■ Animal Protector

\$250 Annually / \$20 Monthly*

This level provides food for 4 dogs for one month at the shelter.

Additional donor benefits: Membership tote bag and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Friend

\$100 Annually / \$10 Monthly*

This level vaccinates 10 dogs against disease.

Additional donor benefits: Membership tote bag and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

☐ Family/Business - \$50 Annually

This level feeds 15 cats for one week.

Additional donor benefits: Membership tote bag and 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

Animal Ally - \$30 Annually

This level microchips 3 pets to help them return home should they become lost. Additional donor benefits: The 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

☐ Student/Senior - \$25 Annually

This level feeds a mother and her 7 kittens for one week.

Additional donor benefits: The 2019 Animal Allies Membership Family t-shirt.

*Become a Monthly Sustaining Member!

Same great membership benefits, one monthly payment. For more information, or to become a Sustaining Member,

visit www.animalallies.net/member or call (218)722-5341 Ext.214

All Members Receive:

- 10% off Adoption Fees
- 10% Retail Discount

Name

- 10% off Humane Education Activities
- Continued Subscription to The Paw Print
- 2019 Membership T-shirt
- "Third Thursdays" Membership Appreciation Day Save 20% on adoption fees and retail purchases.

HUMANE SOCIETY

*Additional benefits earned with increased membership levels!

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In memory of Person, name
In honor of Pet, name
In memory of Pet, name
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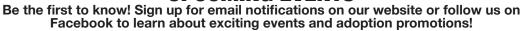
Address







UPCOMING EVENTS





Saturday, The Walk for Animals & Furry 5k

June 1st The 27th annual Walk for Animals & Furry 5k race happening at Bayfront Festival Park in Duluth. Individuals and teams can

register today. Visit www.TheWalkForAnimals.net.

Thursday,
August 1st

Humane Society Night with the Duluth Huskies for a night with the Duluth Huskies for a night with H

Animal Allies Humane Society joins the Duluth Huskies for a night of ballpark fun! Get your tickets and we'll see you at Wade Stadium.

Saturday, The Fur Ball Gala

October 19th Northland Country Club hosts the annual Fur Ball Gala for shelter pets. Save the Date!

Visit AnimalAllies.net for upcoming Humane Education activities and volunteer trainings.



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Muriel Whiteside and the trustees of the Muriel Whiteside Charitable Trust who provide a generous annual gift to help the homeless cats and dogs we serve. We are humbled by the ongoing support and could not achieve our mission without you. Thank you!

