Santa Paws is Coming... to Tri-County Humane Society!

32nd Annual Santa Paws Holiday Portrait Fundraiser

Friday, November 17th: 2-8 p.m.
Saturday, November 18th: 10-4 p.m.
Sunday, November 19th: 10-4 p.m.

What’s Included:
* 5 Minute Session
* 5 Portraits on a Disc
* Printing Rights
* Pet Stocking Stuffers
* Cookies with Santa

Sponsored by:
Country Gallery Photography

KLOSTER Commercial Resources
MISSION STATEMENT
We believe in the human-animal bond and exist to support Central MN by practicing and promoting quality adoption services and humane education programs.

Incorporated Dec. 11, 1974

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Desktop Publisher
Marit Ortega
Kate Kompas
Kayla Koscielniak

Editors
Vicki Davis

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Tri-County Humane Society
735 8th St NE St. Cloud, MN 56304
P. 320.252.0896  F. 320.252.1325
pets@tricountyhumanesociety.org
www.tricountyhumanesociety.org

Shelter Hours:
Monday—Thursday 12-6 p.m.,
Friday 12-8 p.m., Saturday 11-5 p.m.,
Sunday 12-5 p.m.

Message From the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This is my favorite time of year for so many reasons. For starters, what's not to like about free air conditioning? And what's not to love about a holiday around the corner that comes without expectations beyond hanging out with good people, good food and giving thanks? For me, every day at Tri-County Humane Society (TCHS) reminds me of Thanksgiving because every day I'm surrounded by good people and am given numerous opportunities to say thank you.

Bountiful thanks to the incredible TCHS staff. I'm so proud of their knowledge and compassion and willingness to work as hard as they do. They are genuinely kind and compassionate to customers (no matter how many animals have come in that day), they help adopters celebrate the new addition to the family, and they can get goose bumps and shed tears with me over happy endings or other good news. We're truly blessed. Please thank them the next time you have an opportunity.

Speaking of good people, I am thankful for you, my friend to animals. As I count my many blessings, know you're high on the list! Without your financial support and donations of time and talent, we would not be able to help as many animals as we do. To date this year, you have helped us achieve a 96.7% placement rate — AMAZING!

Despite all of the good people in our midst, donations are down - $20,600 below what we anticipated to date this year. We've heard this from fellow nonprofits so we know we're not alone in this, but it's still worrisome as donations and fundraising make up close to half of our annual budget. Please consider increasing your annual giving if it's in your means.

If everyone who receives this newsletter gave just $4 more than usual, we would make up the difference!

We are doing so many amazing things for local animals, and we really don't want to go backwards. It takes a village to move a mountain — and to save the lives of thousands of animals. Tell your friends why you support TCHS and maybe we can increase the size of our small but mighty village.

Thank you for reading my letter, and for being there for us when we've had an influx of cats/kittens, or worse yet, faced a set-back because a stray cat came in with Feline Distemper. You've offered us moral and financial support when we've needed it the most. Thank you for believing like I do, that TCHS offers a much needed service to our community.

As you give thanks to the many blessings in your life this season, please remember the animals needing care and medical attention at TCHS.

THANKS-for-GIVING!

For the animals,

Vicki Davis, CAWA (Certified Animal Welfare Administrator)

Executive Director, Tri-County Humane Society

P.S. We have big plans for a new shelter in the works, and they come with a big price tag, as most do. It'll be a challenge to raise funds to support the building project and still maintain the income needed for normal operations. With your help we'll do as suggested by General George S. Patton: “Accept the challenges so you can feel the exhilaration of victory.”
All who donate items from our wish list, including cash, pet food, cat litter, toys, treats, pet bedding, office supplies, bleach, laundry detergent, hand soap, etc...

All who celebrated their birthdays at TCHS, including Bella Moorefield (8), Alivyah Gruba (12), Stella Holstrom (8), Skylar Nordquist (12), Allie Meyer (11) and Bryelle (6).

All who drop their loose change into TCHS donation banks at local businesses, and the local businesses that allow our banks on their counters.

Jessica Meyer, for representing TCHS at Capital One for National Mutt Day.

Scarlette Revolver and Revolver Studios, for hosting a Kitten Yoga event and Down Dog Yoga event, raising $355 for TCHS.

Volunteers Erin Bloch and Molly Caron and dogs Marley and Cody, for taking part in Revolver Studios’ Down Dog Yoga event.

All TCHS Book Buddies who read to the shelter animals.

Callan Furniture, for collecting $625 for TCHS through its 2017 Donate to Save event.

The Good Earth Food Co-op, for their donation from their customer reusable bag credit program.

Beaver Island Brewing Co., for hosting a Tending for a Cause event that raised $400 in tips for TCHS.

Toppers Pizza, for donating 50% of their pizza sales to TCHS at the Beaver Island Tending for a Cause event.

Doctors and employees of St. Cloud LASIK, for organizing and working the taps at the Beaver Island Tending for a Cause event.

Albany Girl Scout Troop 759, for using recycled materials to make dog and cat toys for the shelter animals.

Ann and Mark Thelen Fund of Central Minnesota Community Foundation for their donation.

Kimberly Ann Ritsche Memorial Fund of Central Minnesota Community Foundation for their donation.

Leo T. Henkemeyer Fund of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation for their donation.

All who donate ink cartridges, cell phones and small electronics for recycling. We have raised $1,724 through Planet Green Recycle to date!

All who choose Tri-County Humane Society as their charity when shopping with AmazonSmile. We receive 5% of each Amazon purchase!

All who designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to TCHS.

Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it. ~William Arthur Ward
Your Shopping Guide:

The holidays are almost here, so it’s time to come and visit the newly re-modeled, re-named “Re-Tail Shoppe” - your one-stop-shop for pet presents and supplies! Want to treat OUR pets? Look for the “Buy Me 4 Shelter Pets” sticker!

We carry a wide variety of treats, toys and pet supplies as well as items for the pet-loving people in your life. Don’t see your favorite product? Ask us about special orders.

Some items we carry:
* Taste of the Wild, Solid Gold, Canidae & Diamond
* Frontline
* Kong products
* Pet Odor Exterminator Candles and room sprays in fall– and holiday-themed scents
* Made in the USA Treats
* Tasman’s Natural Bison Rawhides
* Yeowww!!! Catnip toys
* Cat Attract 100% Guarantee litter
* Pet-Opoly games
* TCHS T-Shirts

Our Holiday Wish List:

TCHS Amazon Wish List: http://amzn.com/w/21QR28QARKN1R

For The Animals
- Homes!
- A new shelter!
- $$$ for vet expenses
- Clay, non-clumping cat litter
- Dry kitten food**
- Dry cat food**
- Weiss Walkies

**Food Note: We try to make sure that a meat protein source is the first ingredient in the food we feed our shelter pets, and we avoid food with a lot of dye in it. Thank you for considering the health of our pets.

Homes for Barn Cats
On occasion, we receive cats that would not make good indoor pets. These cats still have claws, are spayed or neutered, and are given a rabies vaccination.

Call us at (320) 252-0896 to see if we have any available or to be put on a waiting list.
*Name your own adoption price for all barn cats.

Volunteer Needs
- Pet foster homes
- Behind-the-scenes cat enrichment helpers
- Animal transporters
- Surgery assistants (18+ years)
- Birthday party hosts/ hostesses
- Gift wrappers! We need volunteers to help with our gift wrapping booth at Crossroads Center on December 9-24! Sign up online at: http://signup.com/go/ZHMABBy.

For The Office
- Postage stamps (Forever and post card)
- Canned air
- White/color copy paper
- Scotch brand thermal laminating pouches
- Pink & blue highlighters
- Clorox cleaning wipes
- Batteries (9-Volt, AAA, AA)
- Scissors
- Tape (all types)

Recycled Items for $$
- Aluminum cans
- Used cell phones
- Used ink cartridges
- Small electronics

Misc.
- Milk Moola
- Paw Points from Fresh Step cat litter

For The Shelter
- Gift cards to local businesses for pet/office/shelter supplies
- Laundry detergent
- Dish/hand soap
- Hot/cold water hoses
- Clear Rubbermaid storage containers
- Dehumidifier
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- 2XL—4XL scrub tops

Volunteer Needs

Shop for a cause! Select Tri-County Humane Society while shopping online using these sites:
- iGive.com
- Goodshop.com
- AmazonSmile.com

TCHS Amazon Wish List: http://amzn.com/w/21QR28QARKN1R

All proceeds when you shop our Re-Tail Shoppe benefit the animals in our care.
Upcoming Events

Now through November 30: Online Fundraiser for TCHS Apparel
*Shop Now: https://stores.krillan.com/tchs
Check out our winter apparel with this online fundraiser! Online orders may be placed now through November 30th and items will be delivered to the shelter in mid-December for pick-up, or you may pay an extra $6.00 to have them shipped directly to you. Get your holiday shopping done for the pet lovers on your list, or treat yourself!
*TCHS T-shirts and caps available year-round in our Re-Tail Shoppe for $15 each.

November 16: Give to the Max Day
*Go to: GiveMN.org and search for “Tri-County Humane Society”
Minnesota’s largest online giving day keeps getting bigger and better, with amazing giving incentives to give your favorite MN charities and schools a chance to win HUGE prizes! Your donation of as little as $10 could turn into $10,000 for TCHS, which would go a long way towards helping us with our mission. Each hour on Give to the Max Day, one Golden Ticket of $1,000 will be awarded through a random drawing of all donations transacted during the previous hour. Additionally, two Super-Sized Golden Tickets of $10,000 each will be awarded. Split your total donation up into frequent $10 increments to help improve our chances of winning! Afraid you’ll forget? Schedule your donation for Give to the Max Day beginning Wednesday, November 1st. *Interested in offering a matching grant? Contact Marit Ortega at (320) 252-0896 ext 28 or give@tricountyhumanesociety.org.

November 17, 18, 19: Santa Paws Holiday Portrait Fundraiser
For $39, receive five professional portraits on a disc and full reproducing rights with this benefit for animals—just in time for holiday cards or gifts! Pets are welcome, of course, and you may choose to have Santa in a few pictures if you like. Special thanks to Lisa Crayford of Country Gallery Photography for donating her time, talent, lights and set props and to Brooke Strassburg and Kloster Commerical Resources for creating our set each year. With their help and the help of our dedicated volunteers, 100% of the proceeds benefit animals at TCHS. Call (320) 252-0896 to schedule your appointment before our schedule fills up!

December 9—December 24: Wrapping for a Good Paws
Get your presents wrapped at our gift wrap booth at Crossroads Center and enjoy the gift of giving TWICE with each gift! We will be located inside the mall near the Target entrance during mall hours every day from December 9th-24th. Our minimum suggested donations for gifts ($2 for small, $4 for medium, and $6 for large) are less expensive than most gift bags and tissue wrap, and your loved ones will be impressed that you not only thought of them but also supported a great community cause. Best of all, 100% of your donations will benefit animals at TCHS, thanks to the help of our wonderful volunteers! Want to pick up a shift? Sign up online to wrap for a good paws at: http://signup.com/go/ZHMABBy.

January 27: Bloody Mary & Chili Contest
Submit your vote for the best Bloody Mary and best chili in our second annual Bloody Mary and Chili Contest to benefit TCHS. From 2-4 p.m. on January 27th, find out who makes the best Bloody Mary and chili in town at the Red Carpet Event Center. Tickets are $10 in advance or $15 at the door, available at the shelter or online at www.tricountyhumanesociety.org.
Are you interested in submitting your Bloody Mary or chili into the contest and/or sponsoring the event? Contact us today—booth space is limited! give@tricountyhumanesociety.org * 320.252.0896

Thank you to the over 575 people and 225 pets who joined us this year to support TCHS and celebrate the loving bond between humans and animals!

Net profit of $50,728 raised!

Visit our Facebook page to view our 2017 Woofstock 5k Companion Walk photo album: www.Facebook.com/tricountyhumanesociety.

Volunteers help power Tri-County Humane Society 365 days of the year, but perhaps no day is as volunteer intensive as our Companion Walk, also known as Woofstock. On Sept. 9 at Wilson Park, more than 100 volunteers turned out to help with everything from face painting to pizza baking to poop scooping to ensure Woofstock was a success! We wouldn’t be able to pull off one of our biggest celebrations of the year without their help. A big “paws up” to the volunteers for everything!
Our heroes of the day – thank you for raising funds with us!

$9,219.45 Vicki Davis
$1,660.00 Emily Bezdzieck
$1,364.00 Jerry Kenning
$1,280.00 Colleen DeGroat
$1,210.00 Jan Hovda
$727.00 McKenna & Macy Welk
$700.00 Kristi & Dan Bergin
$630.00 Kari Cedergren
$570.00 Melody Moore
$520.00 Kim Lutz
$510.00 Dorein Johnson
$500.00 Eileen & Annika Dauer
$470.00 Kris Stewart
$435.00 Tracey Worzala
$410.00 Angie Koshiol
$400.00 Kathy Huben
$400.00 Janice Ressemmann
$385.00 Claire & Ted Hotvet
$334.00 Keller-Wright Family
$330.00 Heather Fahnhorst
$330.00 Rose Hegerle
$330.00 Sue Kadlec
$320.00 Linnea Lang
$302.00 Heather Swanson & Brigit Wuolle
$300.00 Cindy Tepley & Lilly & Helena Kutz
$300.00 Chris Newman & Mike Romanski
$300.00 Moya Wang
$290.00 Peggy Murphy
$280.00 Ron Brandenburg
$276.50 Connie Roberts
$260.00 Lexi Noble
$250.00 Ryan Waring
$235.00 Deanna White
$226.00 Peggy Dinndorf
$205.00 Deb Metcalf
$200.00 Kelly Hanke & Rhea Stephens
$200.00 Amy Studanski
$177.00 Tom & Katie Longfield
$175.00 Melanie Ashfeld
$170.00 Dana Ferry
$160.00 Judy Vosen
$150.00 Bambi, Cameron & Olivia Holloway
$150.00 Audrey Schepper
$150.00 Doug & Sharon Schmid
$150.00 Kim Weikert & Amber Gave
$145.00 Ciera Davis
$134.00 Brenda Mayer
$130.00 Angie Trulson
$130.00 Gwen & Jeff Cloutier
$129.00 Mary Wenker
$125.00 Tasha Maland & Eugene Clark
$125.00 Ida Wade
$125.00 Nancy Johnson
$118.00 Marit Ortega
$110.00 Jan Madsen
$110.00 Kandy Hochstedler
$110.00 Kendall Stiles & James N.
$105.00 Katrina Crouse
$100.00 Brady duMonceaux
$100.00 Ryan & Grace Boatz
$100.00 Jason Hallonquist
$100.00 Aaron Josephs & Ella Doeden
$100.00 Hailee Kempert
$100.00 Alicia, Kyle, Brody & Kennedy Mages
$100.00 Stacy Olson
$100.00 Cindy Schultz
$95.00 Rayni Haugen
$80.00 Haley & Jenna Abel & Caleb Jones
$78.00 Colleen Jeffrey
$75.00 Becky Coulter
$75.00 Hannah Van Derveer
$72.00 Tammy Pintok
$70.00 Emily & Kate Holt
$70.00 Laurel Malikowski
$60.00 Brad Babcock
$60.00 Kendra Berg
$60.00 Linda Dirks
$60.00 Joel Miron
$60.00 Niesha Olson
$60.00 Denise Schaefer
$55.00 Grace & Audrey Rajikowski
$53.00 Layne Schmitz
$51.00 Diane Miller
$50.00 Becca Dezurik
$50.00 Cheyenne Sprague
$50.00 Roger Olson
$50.00 Judy Polipnick
$50.00 Diane Deters & Judy Wesenberg
$50.00 Jody Wheeler
$50.00 Scott & Lisa Mattson
$50.00 Jason Barkley & Nichole Tilton
$50.00 Avianna Bishop
$50.00 Mark & Kim Hoff
$50.00 Beckie Spence
$50.00 Thomas Mayers
$50.00 Tracy Mayers
$50.00 Jennifer Ness
$50.00 Kaety Rainer
$50.00 Kim Redetzke
$50.00 Aryn Sand
$50.00 Oliva Schwitalla
$50.00 Aimee Spielman
$50.00 Jenna Tonneslan
$50.00 Megan McNair
$50.00 Sharon Welke
$50.00 Nerrissa Nguyen
$40.00 Carley & Cathy Bates
$40.00 Melissa & Brady
$35.00 Barb & Chuck Seefeldt
$35.00 Sarah Solinger
$30.00 Viv & Kristen Kloskin
$30.00 Brooke Strassburg
$25.00 Courtney Bergeson
$25.00 Chris Bernard
$25.00 Nathan & Hilary Brezinka
$25.00 Julie & Maya Herbst
$25.00 Betty & Jim Schmidt
$25.00 Crescence Valentaine
$25.00 Sara Johnson
$20.00 Christa Althaus
$20.00 Nikoas Berger
$20.00 Tracy Beyer
$20.00 Dalton Calfas & Maddie Hansen
$20.00 Emma & Christina Gustafson
$20.00 Leslie Lemke
$20.00 Kristi Merdan
$20.00 Holly Murphy
$20.00 Diane Weigle
$20.00 Lynn Parker
$15.00 Tabitha Wood
$5.00 Dannica Peterson
$3.00 Jill Herr

*Special thanks to all who gave monetary gifts, prizes, and silent auction items to help make Woofstock a success! See all of our event contributors at http://tricountyhumanesociety.org/2017-woofstock-5k-companion-walk/2017-woofstock-5k-companion-walk.html

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Advanced Care Pet Hospital
PINE CONE PET HOSPITAL

Mix 94.9 FM Country Gallery
TODAY'S BEST MIX Companions NC'S DOGG HOUSE

Woofstock Food & Beverage Sponsors:

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IN MEMORY OF PEOPLE...

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*TERESA ZUEHL

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. "John F. Kennedy"
IN MEMORY OF PETS...
ALL MY 4-LEGGED FAMILY MEMBERS
..........................ANNETTE & DAVE GASSER
ANNE, TESSA & ROONEY ...BARB & BOB ANDERSON
AZRAEL & LUNA ...........LUKE & VAS WOJTANOWICZ
BARON, PUPPUP, BRUCEBETH, TOBY, JUPITER .................."M" L. LENARZ
BELLA ...................................JILL SAKRY
BENNY ..................................JIM KLOSTER & VICKY ERNST
BLAXEY ..................................MICHELLE LASHINSKI
BOBBY BOY ....................NELDA DEHN
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BRUCE & COPPER ..........JOAN BAUMGART & NELDA DEHN
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BUDDY BOY FOREVER ........ROBIN OLSON
BUSTER ..................................LUN FUNK
BUTTONS & CURLEY .................DELORES DENGUER
CHARLIE ..................JAN CRIMANDO
CHASE, GUNTER & TIMBER ...............SCOTT & LAURIE BAMMANN
CHUCK, JUDY, IZA, BRANDON & MADELINE ..................JAMEY FUCHS
COCOA ..................................LISA LARSEN
CODY ..................................RICHA & PATRICIA HARP
CODY ..................................CHUCK & JONI KOEHLER
COCOA & CURLEY .................BOB & SUE JENKINS
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EMMA ..................................JULIE KANTHAK
EMMIE LIEBLING ..................JEANETTE HANNEKAMP
FLASH WEIMAN (RABBIT ADOPTED MAY 2007, DIED JULY 2017) ....BOB WEISMAN
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JACK ..................................GRAYCE SCHREIFELS

In loving memory of Sammy, who always appeared to have a smile on his face. Sammy will be remembered for the special way he took care of me, by sleeping on my head. He was much loved and cared for, but then... so was I. Thank you, TCHS, for bringing us together! ~ Cheryl Wagner

RAINYE .........................BILL & JUDY ATKINSON
REED ..................................ZACH CEDGERDEN
REES & GHOST ................ZACH CEDGERDEN
REMY ...............................DEE WHITLOCK
REX ..................................SUZANNE FINCH
ROCCO TRENZ .....................HERB & LINDA TRENZ
RUGBY, LOVING DOG OF JAN STANLEY ..................DANIELLE BUNTING
RUFUS ..................................MIKE & GREGORIA THIENES
RUFUS, SAUL, MISS FIT .................MARY PUTERBAUGH
RUMBIN ................................MARianne CASSIDY
RUSTY ................................FRAN FELDSEGE
SADIE ..................................CELE O'BOYLE
SADIE KITTY ......................REEBEKA GLASMANN
SADIE, ABBE, L.C., RUBY, & RITA ..................BARB & CHUCK SEEFEELDT
SASSY ..................................JUDY & BILL ATKINSON
SANDY ..................................JANICE PATON
SCATTER & MITTERS ..............JULI KOMETZ
SCATTLIE & LEISEL ..................JOHN & CHRISSANDRA THORNTON
SHADOW ................................MARGARET SCHLANGEN
SIMBA & SAILOR ..................CATHERINE SCHMIDT & HOMESTEAD & LAWRENCE TUGLIO & LL & BILL & JUDY ATKINSON
SNICKERS & MILO ..................JOYCE SOLT SNOOKS & EVAN BARTLETT SNIPPOY, SAMMY, VIOLET & CHEAL & ROSEMARY KATHY CALVIN
SONNY, JUDY, & ZOE ..................AUDRA JOHNSON
SPRITIE THE CAT ..................KELLY KIRK & SUE & GEORGE & EMILY & DAVID CRILL & TIGER & BECKY & RANDY TENVOORDE TIGER & SHADOW ..................ELAINE THRUNE TINA, ROBERTA & JOHN SCHIEL TINA, WOODY & GUS ..................................DEBRA OGLESSY
TINKER, TIGGER, TIMBER, BANDIT, BUDDY ..................JIM & KAREN HOWARD TITUS I ......................CURT & SUSHAN SAYER TOBY EPLAN .....................MARIE EPLAN TOBY, WINSTON, BROCK, NATTI, & EMMET ..................DAN & ECelia THABITON TOSUI & TAGGER ....................DICK & JUDY PIKE TUNA CORSON .....................BARB CORSON TUXEDO, BRUCEBETH, TOBY, MERLIN, TROUBLE, JUPITER, JOY T, VINNY ..................Kenna CONLON WINNIE (BELLA) ..................KIM & MARK ZIMMER YANG ..................................JACELYN GOERING ZEPULIN ..................................CAROL LIEN ZOE ..................................CHA DHEIN

IN HONOR OF PETS...
ABBY ..................................JOY BOWE

DAISY ..................................JANICE PEARSON
DIAZ ..................................KELLY SAYRE
DIXIE & 3 KITTIES ..................LOIS SOILINGER

Showing gratitude is one of the simplest yet most powerful things humans can do for each other. ~ Randy Pausch
Pet Safety

DON'T LEAVE YOUR PET OUT IN THE COLD
We prefer that pets live comfortably in the home with their people rather than outdoors year-round, but on extremely cold days or nights, it really is necessary! Minnesota winters are simply too harsh for even the most well-equipped breeds. Please follow these tips to help your pet remain safe, comfortable and happy:

Bring pets inside when the temperature is below freezing. Dogs with well-insulated doghouses should be brought inside when the temperature drops below 5 degrees. Hay can be used as an insulator. Do not use blankets as they can get wet and freeze. Doghouses must be large enough to allow the dog to sit and lie down comfortable but small enough to hold in body heat. Doorways to doghouses should be facing away from the wind. When outside, make sure your pet has the proper shelter and fresh water. Don’t let their water freeze! Staying warm in the winter requires extra calories, so adjust your pet’s diet accordingly. Some pets may even require a warm sweater for quick potty breaks or walks.

HOUSING: KNOW THE LAW
It’s Minnesota law (343.40) that “a person in charge or control of any dog which is kept outdoors or in an unheated enclosure shall provide the dog with shelter and bedding as prescribed: The shelter shall include a moisture-proof and wind-proof structure of suitable size to accommodate the dog and allow retention of body heat. It shall be made of durable material with a solid, moisture-proof floor or a floor raised at least two inches from the ground. Between Nov. 1 and March 31, the structure must have a windbreak at the entrance. The structure shall be provided with a sufficient quantity of suitable bedding material consisting of hay, straw, cedar shavings or the equivalent to provide insulation and protection against the cold and dampness and promote retention of body heat.”

GROOMING AND DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER
Outdoor dogs need to be kept well groomed to remain warm because a matted coat of fur loses its insulating ability. Dogs prone to hair growth between the footpads should have their foot hair trimmed regularly so snow and ice melt compounds do not collect around the toes. Cold tolerance varies by breed and body condition: Shorthaired breeds may need a layer of fleece to deflect the chill. Owners should be reminded that very young and senior pets, those with pre-existing medical conditions, and some breeds are more susceptible to cold temperatures.

HYPOTHERMIA AND FROSTBITE
Animals that are left outdoors in freezing temperatures with inadequate protection are prone to hypothermia (low body temperature) and frostbite. Some signs of hypothermia that owners can look for include shivering, slow and shallow respirations, and mental dullness. If hypothermia is suspected, owners should be instructed to bring the pet to the clinic immediately. If the owner does try to warm the animal (with blankets, a heater, etc.), it is essential that only the pet’s abdomen and thorax are warmed; warming extremities first can cause the animal to go into shock. Frostbite occurs most commonly on paws, ears, and tails. Affected body parts are unlikely to have sensation until thawing begins. They become red, swollen, and very painful. Treating hypothermia or frostbite requires prompt attention from veterinary professionals.

ICE MELTS
Most pets become exposed when they groom the compounds off their feet and fur. Salivation and mild gastrointestinal signs often ensue. Most problems can be prevented by wiping a pet’s feet with a damp towel or bathing a pet soon after it has walked or rolled in areas with ice melt. Using sand or cat litter to help with traction in icy spots is a safe option. If pets must walk over ice melt compounds, paws can be pretreated with a thin layer of nonstick cooking spray. Booties can also help if pets tolerate them.

ANTIFREEZE
Ethylene glycol is found most commonly in greenish colored antifreeze chemicals used in motor vehicles, but it is also in rust removers, film-processing solutions, and some solvents. Because of its sweet taste, even a small radiator leak of fluid can attract animals. A single lick can be deadly! Keep advised chemicals well sealed and out of reach. If ingestion is suspected, prompt veterinary intervention increases the chances of a favorable outcome.

HOLIDAYS
The holidays can be a wonderful time, but they also pose dangers to pets. Possibly poisonous plants can include Christmas cactus, mistletoe, holly and poinsettia plants. Watch out for decorations such as lights, breakable ornaments, artificial snow, tinsel, string and ribbon.
What’s a ‘no kill’ shelter — and is TCHS one?

Animal welfare is an area that stirs emotions. Tri-County Humane Society clearly understands this; we’ve been saving animals for more than 40 years. Terms like “no kill” can inflame those passions—and cause a lot of confusion. TCHS strives to operate with transparency, and that’s why we want to take a minute to talk about what “no kill” really means.

Is TCHS a “no kill” shelter? It may seem like a straightforward question, but this issue is full of complexities. The answer is no, but there’s more to the story than just that simple word.

First of all, “no kill” isn’t a technical or precise term. It’s a marketing term, meant to sway an opinion before the issue is even explored. And “kill” is misleading on its own—to kill is a violent, inhumane action. It’s not euthanasia, which is what TCHS does in limited circumstances. Euthanasia is a humane act meant to alleviate suffering or prevent it.

Many “no kill” shelters actually do euthanize, but in limited circumstances. So does TCHS—but we refuse to use that term because we refuse to mislead people. To be designated “no kill,” many facilities or rescues must hit a certain adoption rate—say, 90 percent. Well, TCHS is proud to share that in 2016 it had a 96 percent adoption rate, and to date in 2017 we are at 96.7 percent.

This would be a staggering accomplishment in and of itself, but it’s made even more impressive because we accept animals in need regardless of age or physical condition. Many “no kill” facilities have limited admissions, thus inflating their adoption rates by taking in only the animals with the best chances of adoption. TCHS doesn’t pick and choose; it’s a shelter for every animal.

So, when does TCHS euthanize an animal? TCHS performs euthanasia when an animal is so ill it won’t recover and it’s suffering, or when the animal is so aggressive it poses a risk to public safety. That’s an extremely small percentage of our cases, we’re happy to say.

A 96 percent adoption rate didn’t happen overnight. It took a committed and caring staff, equally committed and caring volunteers, and especially the donations and support of our friends, friends like you. Thank you for being our friend. And remember when you hear a term such as “no kill,” nothing is that simple.

TCHS Book Buddies to last through school year

Good news: Tri-County Humane Society’s new Book Buddies program is a hit, and has been extended throughout the school year! Book Buddies is intended for ages 5-15 and offers a chance for youngsters to read to our shelter animals. It’s beneficial for both sides: The children get a chance to practice their reading to a nonjudgmental audience, and the pets get to hear a soothing voice. TCHS staff and volunteer have seen the results: Dogs that once wouldn’t stop barking quiet down when they’re being read to, and sometimes even fall asleep! More than 40 Book Buddies are part of the program.

Registration fee to attend the orientation and get a Book Buddies pass is a one-time cost of $5 per household. This program is intended to be open to all, so if this fee is a hardship, please ask about a Book Buddies program scholarship.

Book Buddies Guidelines

⇒ The program is intended for ages 5 to 15, but anyone is welcome as long as they follow protocol.
⇒ All participants must attend a 30-minute program orientation prior to beginning the program. Adults must attend orientation, too. After that, Book Buddies participants are welcome to bring in favorite books to read aloud to dogs or other animals in our shelter during designated hours.
⇒ Designated reading hours are 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Fridays.
⇒ Adults must accompany readers at all times during designated reading hours.
⇒ Youth will wear a Book Buddies nametag at all times and sign in before they read. They must sign out, too.
⇒ A maximum of three youth are allowed per room at one time. If there is a line of youth waiting, reading time will be limited to 30 minutes per youth.
⇒ Youth are asked to follow shelter rules at all times as well as the guidelines outlined in the Book Buddies orientation. Scheduled orientations are limited to 10 participants at a time (including adults).

For more information, contact Kate Kompas at volunteer@tricountyhumanesociety.org, (320) 252-0896 ext. 27.
Feline Distemper—What You Should Know

Tri-County Humane Society recently grappled with a shelter’s worst nightmare: an outbreak of Panleukopenia, better known as Feline Distemper. It was a harrowing experience, but we’re proud to say that thanks to our extremely diligent staff and the support of our volunteers and friends, TCHS has come through this situation stronger and with the vast majority of our feline population healthy.

Here’s what happened: a stray cat that had been in our care since Aug. 25 was found deceased in its cage. A test confirmed Feline Distemper. Because the disease is extremely contagious and can spread easily in shelter settings, all cats and kittens were put on immediate quarantine. Our shelter staff worked hard to try to contact everyone who had recently adopted, and we had to temporarily turn away cat surrenders while we turned certain areas into a make-shift cat room for emergency intakes only (strays). People who had to surrender kittens and cats were put on a waiting list.

TCHS staff consulted with ASPCA animal welfare professionals and shelter medicine veterinarian Dr. Sandra Newbury and Dr. Rebecca Stuntebeck to assess our practices. With their assistance and expertise, TCHS developed a plan to determine which cats were the most at risk and which should have been protected thanks to prior vaccinations. Dr. Newbury’s team graciously offered to help us analyze blood samples on the high-risk cats. Our staff worked extremely hard to obtain almost 100 blood samples, which were sent to Newbury’s team at the University of Wisconsin. The blood was analyzed to which cats had titers for Feline Distemper (antibodies to protect them), and which cats were still at risk. The majority of the cats were cleared for adoption because their titers were high enough to protect them from contracting Feline Distemper thanks to our vaccination protocols and impeccable disinfecting and cleaning process.

The quarantine on cats at Tri-County Humane Society was officially lifted October 2nd, 2017.

For cat owners: The stray cat’s death illustrates that feline distemper is in the St. Cloud area. Unfortunately, it can survive in the environment for up to a year, and freezing temperatures do not affect the virus. The best way to protect your cats is to make sure they are up to date on their Distemper vaccinations. This vaccine is extremely effective and cats will be fully protected in as little as three days following their vaccinations. Even if your cat rarely goes outside, please get him or her vaccinated.

Help still needed: Quarantines can be very expensive for animal shelters because adoption income drops while expenses rise. TCHS is thankful for all the people who gave money or in-kind donations such as new litter boxes during the quarantine. But even with the quarantine over, its effects still linger – and we are always grateful for those who offer their friendship, prayers, thoughts, and financial help. We’re happy to say that we came through this experience stronger as a shelter, and that so many kittens and cats emerged healthy and ready for their new homes.

Donation envelopes have been included for your convenience in this newsletter. To donate by phone, call (320) 252-0896. To donate online, visit www.tricountyhumanesociety.org.
Celebrate your birthday at the Tri-County Humane Society!

Looking for a fun way to celebrate a child’s birthday? Book a party with the animals at the Tri-County Humane Society! Children will have fun seeing and interacting with a variety of pets available for adoption while learning invaluable lessons about being kind to animals.

FEE: $50 + $5 per guest
(birthday boy/girl is free!)

What’s included:
- Guided educational tour of the shelter.
- Interaction with a variety of adoptable pets.
- Use of party room and kitchen (bring your own cake or food).
- Birthday boy/girl’s name displayed on outdoor sign.
- Naming rights to one of the shelter pets.
- Service learning project (optional).
- Animal-themed game or craft project.
- Clean up.

My dog is a genius. I asked him what 100 minus 100 was and he said nothing.
See your ad here in 2018!

TCHS publishes four newsletters annually. Our mailing list consists primarily of people in Central Minnesota. Mailings go out to a minimum of 6,000 households and are also published on our website. Advertising in our newsletter is a great way to show the local community that you support our work for animals in need!

◊ Annual ad subscription price for all four newsletters: $300 ($40 savings).
◊ Individual newsletter ad price: $85.

Contact Marit Ortega for more information at give@tricountyhumanesociety.org, (320) 252-0896 ext. 28.
Who Rescued Who?

Lily: Adopted July 29, 2017

One of our longtime supporters and cat adopters, Mark Thelen, wrapped up what we do at Tri-County Humane Society in three words. “Happiness happens here,” he said. Such a simple and yet profound statement. Isn’t this what we all strive for, after all? Sure, it would be nice to win the lottery, but we all know that happiness can’t be bought... or can it?

Perhaps there is one exception to this rule if you are adopting a pet.

The picture to the right embodies happiness in its purest form, and it was taken at our adoption counter. Here’s a message from the family one day later:

“Yesterday we added to our family by adopting Amelia who we renamed to Lily. We came in a few days ago and she had a deposit on her already and came back Saturday to find out she no longer did. We were so thankful as she has made our oldest daughter so happy! She has been the perfect addition to our family! Thank you TCHS!”

“Our daughter wanted a kitten that would cuddle with her. I would say it is pretty safe to say he got that with Lily. We love how happy she makes her!”

Share your adoption stories with us by messaging our Facebook page or emailing us at: pets@tricountyhumanesociety.org. We’d love to hear from you!
TCHS makes connection with Florida rescue!

Tri-County Humane Society has some new friends from the Sunshine State. We received 10 dogs from Redland Rock Pit Abandoned Dogs Project in Florida recently, helping them free up much needed foster homes for displaced pets following Hurricane Irma. These dogs were all abandoned near the Everglades and left to fend for themselves before being collected by Redland Rock Pit. They had actually been scheduled to be transported to our shelter the week before Hurricane Irma, but their trip was delayed while rescue workers prepared for the worst. Special thanks to the wonderful Florida foster homes that stepped in to love and care for these dogs, and to the amazing transporters who drove them safely to St. Cloud. As of this printing, some of the animals already have found new homes! We are proud to belong to such a supportive community where pets in need are adopted so quickly. Sadly, this is not the case in most parts of the United States.

*Tri-County Humane Society serves dogs in Central Minnesota first and foremost. Dogs from Minnesota rescues are our next priority, and if there’s no direct need there and we have empty kennels, we are happy to help other states.

From left: Peanut, Addison, Romeo, and Goliath were all part of the transfer from Florida.