Mission Statement
We believe in the human/animal bond and exist to support Central MN by practicing and promoting quality adoption services and education programs.
Message from the Executive Director

Dear friend and animal lover,

Those of us who’ve ever experienced being “had” by a pet reflect to those pets we’ve owned every time we hear the term human/animal bond. Which makes me wonder, who really owns who? Technically, “own” describes something that belongs to oneself. I think it’s safe to say when it comes to our pets, we own each other.

But what about those who are in between owners - both the pets and people yet to be owned or re-owned? Where do they go? Hopefully, they make it to Tri-County Humane Society.

We had a tremendous year of helping animals find the people who will love them in 2011 and you were the driving force in making that happen! Over 4,500 animals came to the shelter last year. I’m quite sure you don’t have the resources or room in your basement to take in that many animals – nor would I want you to!

So if you are the kind of person who wants to help every stray animal that crosses your path, take comfort in knowing you actually are, by contributing to Tri-County Humane Society. Thank you for being a pushover for sad eyes, a wagging tail and the purring cat who brushes up against your leg. Thank you for caring and reaching out in whichever way you do. Leave the big numbers to us; we’re better equipped to handle all those litter pans and let-outs!

In summary, I don’t really know if my dog believes she’s on the other end of the leash to make sure I don’t get lost, or if she rolls her eyes every time I throw the Frisbee away that she just brought to me. What I do know, is that she considers me her own. That’s what I want for all the animals that come to the shelter and it’s what they deserve. Please help me keep Tri-County Humane Society as Central Minnesota’s favorite meeting grounds and continue to support the work we’re grateful to do!

Vicki Davis, Certified Animal Welfare Administrator
Executive Director
2011 Financial Snapshot

Sources of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shelter revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budgeted reserve</td>
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Total Sources: $795,031

Uses of Funds

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<th>Use</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Wages/Benefits</td>
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<td>Veterinary</td>
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<td>Other shelter</td>
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<td>Other expense</td>
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Total Uses: $795,031

Assets and Liabilities

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<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Properties &amp; equipment</td>
<td>$638,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
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</table>

Total Net Assets: $1,775,646

I have been involved with the Tri-County Humane Society in various capacities since its inception. It has been a very gratifying experience to witness how it has transcended in so many ways through the years. From the former small shelter on Lincoln Avenue to the beautifully designed and constructed shelter we have today along with a very professional staff. Many thanks to dedicated board members, staff and volunteers who so graciously give of themselves to help those who cannot help themselves. The organization has sustained a professional yet personal stance in our community. Love comes in many forms but none so unconditional as that of an animal.

Thank you,
Jan Ritsche,
Long time supporter, former board member and volunteer

I’m feeling down....
I do appreciate...

2011 Highlights

Companion Walk Woofstock: Over 400 walkers and 250 companion animals strolled along the 5k trek and then returned to Wilson Park to partake in the games, food, exhibitor booths, prizes, and silent auction. Congratulations to our dedicated Companion Walk committee and walkers for raising $43,420.52!

I continue to assist and support the Tri-County Humane Society because I see the effectiveness of their efforts. They work hard to make every donated dollar go as far as possible to help companion animals and I am proud to be a small part of their many successes. The lives of countless animals and adopting families have been made better because of TCHS.

Matthew Larson, TCHS Board Treasurer

206 volunteers participated in the 2011 gift wrapping fundraiser, raising a total of $9,659.98. One fun team of volunteers even made their own t-shirts to wear during their shift that read "Wrapping for a good "paws!"

We brought adoptable kittens and a puppy to Wine, Kibbles & Bids and made the rounds through the crowd while auctioneer Col. Frank Imholte auctioned off spays and neuters for the shelter animals. $6,400 was raised for the spay/neuter fund (at $50 per spay), bringing the total to $33,100, making this year's event the most successful to date!

Our amazing volunteers blessed us with the gift of 38,073 hours of time in 2011. 719 new volunteers were trained in 2011. TCHS provided 218 humane education visits that reached 4744 people. We gave 28 tours of the shelter and brought TCHS to 30 community events.
In the News....

Sale frees up some cat space at humane society

by Dennis Dalmat
newstheneaders.com

Thanks to a Friday cat sale, as of Monday there was a bit more room in the cat-and-kitten quarters at the Tri-County Humane Society.

However, the overcrowding problem is bound to happen again unless people everywhere start learning the importance of spaying and neutering their cats.

This week some cats who were on a waiting list were finally able to move into the humane society’s shelter, hopefully to be adopted. Before last Friday, there was no room whatsoever for cats at the shelter; it was plumb-full.

The Friday cat sale, the fourth in 2011, made cat adoptions available for only $10—a genuine bargain considering all cats sold were spayed and neutered. Friday, 15 cats found new homes, including some kittens that were sold for 50 percent off. Some people adopted two kittens at once for $75. They, too, had been spayed and neutered.

"Spay-and-neuter" is a constant piece of advice from the staff of the Tri-County Humane Society—and with good reason. While the population of unwanted dogs remains fairly steady, that of cats and kittens continues to skyrocket out of control. That is because cats

In the News....

Stolen pup back at humane society

By Amy Bowen
abowen@cloudtimes.com

Benton, the pit bull puppy reported missing Monday from the Tri-County Humane Society, has been found. According to Vicki Davis, the humane society’s executive director, St. Cloud police returned him Wednesday afternoon.

Tips from the public led authorities to the 43-pound dog at a home in rural Benton County, according to a police report. The family was given the dog by another person and was unaware that the dog was stolen.

Benton’s identity was confirmed by his microchip.

"It was a very happy day," Davis said. "He’s a little tired, but a happy, happy dog.

The police officer who returned Benton asked for Danielle Hyde, the shelter’s front desk load staff who discovered him missing Monday night. He brought her out to his car where she reunited with the dog. She gave Benton a belly rub and hugged him.

PAWS-ITIVE LISTENERS

Event pairs youths with animals in reading event

By Ron Katizer
meaningsofviolence.com

When it comes to interactions between books and animals, the results sometimes center on war for some and the quiet of a bed. But at the St. Cloud Public Library on Tuesday, children were invited to read their favorite stories to a handful of animals brought in by Tri-County Humane Society members as part of the inaugural Paws to Read event. The idea behind the initiative is to help kids improve reading to an audience that might be less intimidating than reading to a person.

The event ran for two hours and in the first hour alone, more than 30 children sat down to read with a cat.

Ready to go home

by Amy Bowen

Local humane societies are dealing with an influx of dogs. The Tri-County Humane Society, in St. Cloud, has 30 adoptable dogs ranging from 4 to 6 years old that are waiting for Forever Homes.

The Humane Society of Benton County, Luke York, has 30 people on a waiting list for new pets. York said the shelter usually has six to 10 people in the shelter at one time. He said the shelter has seen a lot of dogs, but it is still moving right along.

The sheriff’s department and the Benton County Humane Society have seen a lot of dogs and puppies in the past month and have had to quarantine some. York said the shelter has seen a lot of dogs, but it is still moving right along.

The shelter received a number of dogs from Hamilton County last month, and has several more dogs waiting in the shelter.

"There’s no way to put a price on a dog," York said. "They’re like our children."

Space is getting tight at area humane societies

by Amy Bowen

Local humane societies are dealing with an influx of dogs. The Tri-County Humane Society, in St. Cloud, has 30 adoptable dogs ranging from 4 to 6 years old that are waiting for Forever Homes.

The Humane Society of Benton County, Luke York, has 30 people on a waiting list for new pets. York said the shelter usually has six to 10 people in the shelter at one time. He said the shelter has seen a lot of dogs, but it is still moving right along.

The shelter received a number of dogs from Hamilton County last month, and has several more dogs waiting in the shelter.

“Thank you for your support,” York said. “Without it, we’d be in a lot of trouble.”

you being ‘round....

Benton is ready for adoption, Hyde said. His adoption fee is $200.
Help me get my paws...

Success Story

JACK & JILL—THE PUGS’ STORY
When these two dogs were brought to the Tri-County Humane Society they were emaciated, suffering from malnutrition, and showed signs of major neglect. It appeared they had been kenneled most of their lives, with relatively little contact with people. We know their purpose was for breeding, not companionship. With severe medical and behavioral issues, and not being house trained, their road back to health and adoptability wouldn’t be easy. With loving care and attention of TCHS volunteers and many weeks of patience, Jack & Jill gained weight and have regained their trust in people. Though they’ll always need extra patience and close supervision, they are now adopted and with the right human companions living a better life.

TCHS is an open-admission shelter that accepts any animal brought to us, regardless of size, age, temperament or location from which it was found. Most of the animals we see are dogs and cats, but we do accept birds, ferrets, rabbits and other small animals. On an annual basis the shelter gives refuge to approximately 4,500 pets and indirectly serves over 65,000 animals and their owners from mostly the Central Minnesota area.
At the State Level

**MnPAW (Minnesota Partnership in Animal Welfare)**

Our mission is to encourage collaboration among Minnesota animal welfare organizations and engage the community to ensure a home for every companion animal in Minnesota and to advocate for responsible pet ownership.

**A recap of MnPAW’s focus in 2011:**

- In May, a grassroots effort emerged to help the dogs at Leech Lake Reservation. Several MnPAW partners actively got involved to help and partnered with Leech Lake Legacy. Since this partnership, a total of 200 animals have been helped. Free spay/neuter clinics for Leech Lake residents were provided by some MnPAW partners and more are planned for 2012.

- The Great Minnesota Pet Together was MnPAW’s 2nd super adoption event. Held on October 1st at the International Bazaar at the MN State Fairgrounds, 24 shelters and rescues from across the state participated. A total of 47 dogs and 31 cats were adopted.

- The 2nd Feline Fix event was held on Friday, Sept. 23rd. Several MnPAW members arranged to offer subsidized surgeries and vaccinations. Sterilizing 87 cats is another step in the right direction as members work together to reduce the numbers of animals surrendered to shelters and rescues in our state.

- North Minneapolis Spay Neuter Day. On July 29, MnPAW members collaborated to sponsor and host a free spay/neuter day in North Minneapolis. In total, 35 pets were spayed and neutered (8 dogs and 27 cats), micro-chipped and vaccinated ... with a few being treated for ear mites.

Vicki Davis finished her 2nd year as MnPAW President in 2011.

**10th Annual Minnesota Animal Welfare Conference**, hosted by TCHS, was May 26th. Over 100 attendees from rescues and shelters gathered to learn how to save more lives. Nationally known speakers graced the podium offering insight on issues from fundraising to keeping pets in their home.

With the support of the community, TCHS works tirelessly to make the world a better place for animals in need, which in turn, makes the community a better place. We all can be proud to be part of such a strong and successful shelter.

Cydney Reuter, TCHS Board President
Won’t you please...

Surgery

617 Cat spays (520 in 2010)
565 Cat neuters (501 in 2010)
207 Dog spays (86 in 2010)
226 Dog neuters (98 in 2010)
18 Rabbit spays (7 in 2010)
15 Rabbit neuters (12 in 2010)
11 Hernia repairs (4 in 2010)
11 Dentals (8 in 2010)
4 Cherry eye removals
2 Tumor removals
1 Eye removal
1 Fixed broken jaw
A total of 1,678 surgeries
(1,248 surgeries in 2010).

In 2010, we were happy to report we added 3 volunteer veterinarians to our surgery room. Consider us ecstatic to report in 2011 our list of assisting veterinarians has grown to 19!

Dr. Lois Harmon, TCHS
Veterinarian
Heidi Loch, TCHS
Animal Care Technician

For the animals in our care we provide:

- Vaccinations, micro-chipping, de-worming, an overall health check and any required medication or surgery.
- Healthy food, water, a comfortable place to sleep, and toys.
- Enrichment opportunities such as love, walks, play time, and basic training.
- Grooming, baths, brushing, and bandanas.
- Behavior assessments on all dogs available for adoption.
- Advertising to promote those available for adoption.
- A website with photos of animals available for adoption.
- Foster care for animals in need.

In 2011...

4551 animals came to the shelter.
627 animals received care in foster homes.
363 dogs and 1468 cats were euthanized. For dogs, aggression is the most common reason for euthanasia. For cats, the most common reason is illness.
At the National Level

The National Federation of Humane Societies (NFHS) is a trade federation dedicated to representing and advocating for the interests of local animal welfare organizations, animal shelters, rescue groups and animal care and control agencies. The members truly believe this federation for the animal welfare community has tremendous potential to improve animal sheltering and make a real difference in the lives of companion animals. Vicki Davis is a member of the NFHS and works on the best practices committee.

A recap of the NFHS’s focus in 2011:

- To lead the national animal welfare organizations in opening a dialogue with the Association of Shelter Veterinarians to discuss their *Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters* and eventually having the six national organizations endorse the Guidelines and begin to promote their adoption throughout our field.

- Work with several other national organizations on the creation of a national database initiative to collect shelter operational data from a broad base of sheltering organizations nationwide with the intent that having this data in a common format will enable our industry as well as the public to gauge the state of animal welfare and allow us to benchmark performance and raise the level of effectiveness again, nationwide. PetSmart Charities has been instrumental in organizing this effort which includes the NFHS, SAWA, HSUS, ASPCA, NACA, AHA, Best Friends and Maddie’s Fund.

The Society of Animal Welfare Administrators (SAWA) is a non-profit individual membership organization of professionals in animal welfare, care and control, dedicated to the growth and prestige of our industry.

SAWA strives to advocate humane ideals through professional advancement of members. Animal welfare leaders network with peers, establish mentor relationships, share best practices, form successful collaborations, and advance the field.

SAWA members benefit from targeted education and professional certification. SAWA Certified Animal Welfare Administrators (CAWA) possess well rounded experience and unique animal welfare knowledge to support agency missions and long term growth. Vicki Davis is currently the only animal welfare administrator in MN to pass this certification.

SAWA members collaborate to rescue, shelter, rehabilitate and find good homes for animals.

The Tri County Humane Society represents the heart of Central Minnesota. I’ve always been impressed with their professionalism, accountability and how much they accomplish with such a small budget. I encourage everyone to volunteer time or contribute dollars. They will be thoughtfully grateful, all the helpless critters will be grateful, and you will feel a sense of pride with your support.

Sandra Brakstad, Long time supporter and volunteer.
2011 Volunteer Appreciation Party:
Over 100 volunteers attended our volunteer appreciation party on April 18th, at which we honored all of the time, dedication and services donated by our volunteers in 2010.

2010 Above and Beyond Award:
Bob Erickson donated 155 hours of his time in 2010 doing a huge range of volunteer duties. Bob took our education animals for pet therapy visits, transported animals for spays and neuters at local vet clinics, MN School of Business, and as far as the University of MN. Bob also used his truck running a multitude of errands for the shelter. To make this even more impressive, Bob never asked for mileage reimbursement! When we started talking about who should be awarded the Above and Beyond Award, Bob's name was the first out of everyone's mouth!

Adult Volunteer of the Year Award:
Angela Mundis volunteered a total of 210 hours in 2010, assisting in a wide variety of areas. Angela also opened up her home to numerous foster animals (see pug story on page 6). Angela participated on the event committees and also volunteered at the events. She volunteered at the Foley parade, spring garage sale, brat sale, Crispin' Cider event, Benton County Fair, Santa Paws fundraiser, and gift wrapping fundraiser. She improved our offsite adoption events by putting together eye-catching educational material with different themes for each month. Angela has become an essential part of our team and we are lucky to have her on board as a dedicated volunteer!

Junior Volunteer of the Year Award:
Megan Lovitz volunteered a total of 106 hours in 2010 as an animal caregiver. Her dependability and willingness to do the less glamorous jobs, such as laundry and dishes, in addition to working with the animals did not go unnoticed. The demands of helping customers, cleaning animal cages, doing laundry and dishes, grooming, exercising, and socializing animals is no small task, and Megan does them all with a smile on her face and keeps coming back for more! We hope to see just as much of her in years to come!
Vision for the Future

2012...

• We want to bring low cost spay neuter to our community to assist people who would otherwise not be able to afford it.

• Concentrate on shortening an animal’s length of stay, lowering euthanasia of treatable animals, and offering more enrichment during their shelter stay.

• Your gifts will help the goal achieved in 2011 of 100% animals being spayed or neutered before adoption to carry on in 2012. That’s been on our bucket list for many years. Help us keep it off the list and we can begin another step of this fine organization’s growth!

Kennel Sponsorship...

Stepping through our kennel doors can be a frightening moment for the homeless animals. But it also signals the first step on their journey to a loving, permanent home. Kennel sponsorship provides a great opportunity for individuals, families, communities, group organizations and companies to make sure our homeless animals have the best care and stay at the shelter. Sponsorships provide the shelter, handling, basic medical and vaccine expenses and kennel needs of our animals. Donations will directly benefit the animals.

A personalized plaque on a kennel displays the sponsorship and generosity for an entire year and also encourages others to consider their own sponsorship. It’s a great way to publicly recognize a commitment from the community to helping homeless animals.

Sadie Traulich joined the Fund and Friend-raising Committee in 2011. She was the driving force behind the creation and launch of this kennel sponsorship program. It’s been a great fundraiser and in its first year generated $11,300!!

Reciprocal Advantage sums up the story of TCHS. Dogs and cats in need are connected with people who want to share their homes with these homeless animals. A WIN WIN arrangement, but only possible with steady, creative leadership, devoted volunteers and sufficient income.

As personal example, I needed a dog as a companion for my remaining dog and for myself. I selected, from TCHS, an older herding dog named Blue. He was aloof for a time but eventually Blue has become an inseparable pal. I am so glad to have him.

TCHS, through good days and through trying times, performs top calibre service in bringing together people and homeless dogs and cats. Our lives are much better from the uniting.

Dee Whitlock, Long time supporter and adopter.
Do you need anybody?

Tri-County Humane Society
Central Minnesota’s independent nonprofit animal shelter
735 8th St NE P.O. Box 701 St. Cloud, MN 56302-0701
Phone: (320) 252-0896 Fax: (320) 252-1325 E-mail: pets@tricountyhumanesociety.org
Website: www.tricountyhumanesociety.org

They Found Love...

I need somebody to love!