

Newsletter of the Lakes Area Humane Society

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Pet Health Alert

Dog Obedience

Alexandria Community
Education is offering
Basic Dog Obedience
Training Classes

To Register:

Go to Alexandria
Community Education
Website or call for
more information:

320-762-3310 Ex. 4272

The Barker!

Newsletter of the Lakes Area Humane Society Fall/Winter 2021

Greetings from the shelter! By: *Christin Klimek, LAHS Director*

We have all seen that evasive cat that lives under a garden shed, in an unoccupied out building or even seen daily walking across the yard. Here at the shelter, we receive dozens of phone calls asking for advice regarding feral cats that are living under decks, in outbuildings or seen hanging around the caller's yard daily.

It is estimated that there are 60 to 70 million feral cats living throughout the United States. While it is hard to truly determine the exact number in Douglas County; based on human population, rural and urban demographics, and other factors, there may be as many as 4,000 to 6,000 feral cats residing here. By definition, feral cats are those that have been born and raised in the wild, or who has been abandoned or lost and turned to wild ways in order to survive. While some feral cats tolerate humans near them, most are too fearful and wild to be approached.

Many of these callers have no problem with the cat being there, but are very concerned about the cat's health and welfare especially when winter approaches. Here are a few ways that you can help these cats and also lead to long term reduction of ferals in our community.

- Create a winterized shelter for them, they can be simple and inexpensive to construct. There are many different plans available on the internet, Google "Feral Cat Houses" or you can call the shelter and we can provide instructions as well.
- Provide food throughout the year to help them through the long winter months. It is recommended to use either timed feeders or feeding on scheduled times during day time hours so as not to entice other unwanted wildlife onto the property.
- If a feral cat has kittens, there is a good chance of socializing them if you spend some time each day with them once they are moving about. Typically, the kittens can be taken from the mom at 6-7 weeks, at that time they can be surrendered to an animal shelter or rescue organization to be prepared for adoption. Once at the shelter, their socialization will continue and they will be tested for diseases, vaccinated, dewormed, treated for external parasite and spayed or neutered. Doing so, will ensure that they will have safe, life-long homes and will not have to endure the dangers and difficulties of growing up as feral cats.
- Lastly, the most important thing you can do for a feral cat in your community: Utilize a live trap to capture the cat and have him/her spayed or neutered. This not only reduces the chances of unwanted kittens contributing to the overpopulation problem, but can increase the cat's life expectancy. Doing so reduces deaths due to birthing, territorial fighting in males with subsequent injuries and diseases found in intact cats. There are low-cost options available through the mobile spay/neuter clinics that LAHS shelter hosts every couple of months. Many individuals have taken advantage of this service and it has made a measureable difference. **If every household in Douglas County altered either one male or female feral cat, it would easily prevent the birth of thousands of new kittens.** Wow, what an impact that would have!



Fundraising Success...

Motorcycle Ride Fundraiser



The West Central MN Prometheus motorcycle club organized and held a motorcycle ride on Saturday, August 28th, to benefit the Lakes Area Humane Society (LAHS). The approximately 100 mile ride began at the Lakes Area Humane Society shelter and ended near Miliona. While the weather wasn't completely cooperative, the riders still enjoyed a safe ride that included a hog roast, live entertainment provided by Rocking Horse Peter and camping that evening. A great time was had by all and the club raised \$500 for the animals cared for by the shelter and also donated a commemorative sign to mark the occasion. We wish to sincerely thank the WC MN Prometheus motorcycle club and all those who participated in the ride.

Paw Print Fundraiser

This past summer, Elden's Fresh Foods held a "paw print" fundraiser for the LAHS! Customers could add any monetary amount to their order when checking out to be donated to LAHS. They were provided a paw print to write their name on to be posted at the store to show their support, if they wished to do so. We are thrilled to announce that Elden's was able to raise a total of \$3,485.22 for the shelter animals! The LAHS Staff and Board of Director's extend our sincerest thanks to Elliott, Dennis, JR, the all of the staff and customers who donated.



Kids Making a Difference!



Special thanks to **Brooklyn & Erica!** They held a garage sale and asked for donations for LAHS and the animals we care for.



Huge thank you to **Archer & Aikin** for donating all these wonderful cleaning supplies and food for our adoptive animals!

About LAHS...

Mission

To promote responsible care and training for household pets through education and public awareness and, when appropriate, to provide a safe and sheltering haven for lost and abandoned animals pending placement in suitable permanent homes.

Location/Contact

3811 Nevada Street SW
Alexandria, MN 56308
320-759-2260
lahs@gctel.net
www.lakesareahumanesociety.org

Shelter Hours

Monday, Wednesday
Thursday & Friday
12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Saturday
11:00 am to 3:00 pm
Closed Tuesday/Sunday

Board of Directors

Misty Tracy, President
Brian Kakach, Vice President
Bob Bordeaux, Treasurer
Jamie Kakach, Secretary
Dawn Thorstad

Shelter Staff

Christin Klimek
Joan Becker
Raelin Bothun
Madison Walvatne
Ann Bertram
Mariah Anderson
Halle Bak
Megan Hinman

Letters From Home...



*"Reggie"
Adopted by
Brenda S.*



*"Smokey" Adopted by
the Klimek family*



*"Nimue" Adopted by the
Homan Family*

Hi LAHS!

I just wanted to reach out and say that Nimue has been the sweetest addition to our home! She has been very talkative but so polite and playful. She loves to nap in any blankets or clothes she can get a hold of but most of all she loves to play with our other cat, Turtle! Thanks again!



“Spring” Adopted by the Smith Family

Hello Lakes Area Team,

Spring has been the most delightful addition to our family. After a couple days of warming up she would quietly snuggle and look for playtime with our children. A month in her personality had really come out - she is equal parts sweet and kind as well as playful and just a bit fiesty. She climbs over my keyboard to interrupt my work day for pets. She waits outside our kids’ bedroom doors to wake them in the morning (and heaven forbid she ends up in there with them - we have caught them awake late at night in the middle of a giggling play session with her). My daughter has become her personal chariot, carrying her throughout the home.



We couldn’t be happier and hope she finds just as much joy and comfort in our home as she brings to us.

“Carson” Adopted by Lauren S.



“Sammi” (pictured right) with her new siblings, Lucy Lemon and Eleanor the Basset. Adopted by The Edwards Family



More Letters From Home...



"Sushi" Adopted by the Stark family



*"London" & "Paris"
Adopted by the Somsen family*



Special Thank You!

We had the pleasure of meeting some of the UPS Midwest Managers team when they came to the shelter for a day of volunteering!

They worked super hard on a very warm day in July taking apart and moving several large outside dog kennels and runs that were in desperate need of replacement and repair. In addition, they helped pull weeds and clean up around the outside of the shelter.

When finished, they came inside for some welcomed air-conditioning and to meet some of our adoptable cats and kittens.

We truly can't thank them enough for the all of the help they provided!

In Loving Memory...

Persons who donated money in Memory of... June thru October 2021

Linda Diedrich in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Nancy Plecas in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Joanne Hertwig in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Vergene Henning in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Marlene Hansen in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Jane & Jean Seykora in memory of Phyllis Tucker
LoAnn Simonson in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Mary Oberg in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Pat Knox in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Paul & Maureen Diedrich in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Jody & Neil Ryan in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Julie Duberwoski in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Stark Family in memory of Phyllis Tucker
John Zimmerman in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Connie & Neal Zappe in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Bob & Barb Frederichs in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Linda Olson in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Sherrie Law in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Greta & Tony Price in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Donavon Diedrich in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Mary Springer in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Solveig Dahl in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Karen & Steve Ellis in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Delores Gilbertson in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Kathy Zimmerman in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Pat & Lee Ronhoude in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Viola Freudenberg in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Marlyns Olson and Garden Club in memory of
Phyllis Tucker
Judy Steidl in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Jeanne Stamness in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Barb Helgeson in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Harvey & Loann Simonson in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Patricia Knox & Heidi Deboer in memory of
Phyllis Tucker
Karen Cook in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Diane Cvitko in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Patrick & Julie Andrews in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Karen Kaehler in memory of Phyllis Tucker and Kitties
Margaret Armstrong-Law in memory of Sue Seltz
Margaret Schroeder in memory of Sue Seltz
Linda Engebretson in memory of Sue Seltz

Richard & Sharon Fields in memory of Sue Seltz
Brian & Gayle Adair in memory of Sue Seltz
Mary Oberg in memory of Sue Seltz
Linda Fiebelkorn in memory of Rosie
Tara Jensen in memory of Merle
Linda Kroening in memory of Chubby
Barb & John Rollins in memory of Tuffy
Katie & Kelsey in memory of Clifford Peterson
Brenda Hinrichs in memory of Scooby
Michael & Kristi Waschull in memory of Buttons
Mische. Beloved dog of Craig Mische who
passed on 9/8/2015.
Cynthia Olson in memory of Gucci, Joan and Rich
Akkerman's furry friend.
Joan & Rich Akkerman in memory of Gucci
Brad Brejcha in memory of Jersey
Kris Walsh in memory Rachel Trandahl
Barbara Cook in memory of Lady & Crystal
Laura Keller in memory of JD
Deb Schmidt in memory of JD
Mary Juelke in memory of Linda Hirschet
Mary Butler in memory of Emma
Geri Zabrosky & Mary Jane Keith in memory of
Lhyne Campion's beloved dog Mary
Lynnae Zieske in memory of Vicki Sparby
Richard & Karen Hardine in memory of Justin
Olson Bullis
Neil Peterson & Shelley Anderson in memory
of Warren Stefanski
Keri Mohror in memory of Sassy
Bob Johnson in memory of Thelma Yamasaki

♥
IN LOVING
memory

Thanks ...for Helping Us Make a Difference!

Persons who donated money in Memory of... June thru October 2021 Continued...

Lee Saeugling in memory of Jan Saeugling
Marilyn Myers in memory of Ray
Dr. Rita Winters in memory of Albert
Gladys Jobe in memory of Webster, Molly, & Maurice
Shelley Anderson in memory of Lola Anderson
Irene Morse in memory of Dorothy Jennissen
April & Roger Schaack in memory of Winnie
Jeanne Cannady in memory of Gary P. Ruehmann
Edith Waller in memory of Missie, Lisa, Pammie,
& Charlie
Donna & Gordon Ziegelman in memory of
Pepper & Brandy
Carlene Ness in memory of Fritzie
Wendy Peterson in memory of Callie & Baby
Mark & Rebecca McCabe, Mike & Peggy McCabe
in memory of Pancake
Sandy & Francis Kouba in memory of Reno "Bubba"
Richard & Brenda Derosier in memory of
Scott Doucette

Milton Beaman in memory of Ed Lembroski
Helen Glade in memory of John & Bev Braaten,
Virgil & Clarine Warkenthien
Mary & Jim Pohl in memory of Chomsky and Derby
Kay & Steven Karyein memory of Joe Bergstrom
Harold & Jeanne Wells in memory of Shelby
Tom & Linda Andert in memory of LaVonne Hilde-
brandt, Dave Elton, and Christine Steidl
Linda Fiebelkorn in memory of Rosie
Linda Freeman in memory of Phyllis Hullett
and Marsha Andrade
Todd & Sandy Emmons in memory of Socks
Carol Nustad in memory of Loki
Dennis & Bonnie Miller in memory of Larry Bartl
Darrell Lorsung in memory of Lexy
Clayton & Sue Lewis in memory of Carole Hammond
Gerald & Kolleen Rota in memory of John Ritter
Anita Anderson in memory of John Ritter

Persons who donated money in Honor of...June thru October 2021

Joshua Sinning in honor of Andrew Johnson
Evelyn Drumm in honor of Ninja & Geisha
Jonathan & Rebecca Dehart in honor of
Raelin Bothun and Jamie Kakach
Linda Fiebelkorn in honor of Beaner
Daniel & Mary New in honor of Maggie,
Henry, & Teddy
Wendy Peterson in honor of Lexi
Bert & Audrey Points in honor of Ember
W. Ketterling & D. Carlsrud in honor of
Oskar Magnus
Sandy & Francis Kouba in honor of Julius Kouba
Keith & Kay Zempel in honor of Oliver & Daisy
Linda Miner in honor of Michael Miner
James & Sharon Hauschild in honor of Jeff Schulke
Tom & Linda Akenson in honor of Patricia Perdue
Harold & Jeanne Wells in honor of Dusty
Linda Fiebelkorn in honor of Beaner

Ingrid Richards in honor of her birthday
Jeffrey & Terra Anderson in honor of Ingrid
Richard's Birthday
Luann & Peter Lang in honor of Ingrid
Richard's Birthday
Cynthia Dahm in honor of Riley, Murphy, Charlie, Sim-
ba, Molly, and Oscar, fur babies of Grace
& Larry Lambert

**While we strive to ensure that all
donors are acknowledged, we want to
extend a THANK YOU to anyone who we
may have inadvertently omitted.
We sincerely appreciate any
and all donations!**

Thanks ...for Helping Us Make a Difference!

Persons who donated money, supplies & services... June thru October 2021

Gate City Bank
Christy Perseon
Arlene Linder
Marge Gritzke
Nita Drews
Gina Pohlen
Kathy Midtredt
Gary Hanson
Brianna Carlson
Nicole Hachmann
Bryan Acshe
Sandy LeVahn
Sherry Bruckner
Brenda Levitc
Steve Deitz
Karen Marthaler
Jill Anderson
Mike Hardig
Brandon-Evansville 3rd-5th
Graders & 6th-8th Graders
Amanda Halverson
Teresa Ross
Drew Spencer
Josh Jorissen
Katelyn Tracy
Nancy Tanselle
Jeff Morse
Barb Dehne
Archer & Aikin
Michelle Lenertz
Madison Strand
Kathy Olson
Anita Anderson
Eric Zenner
Bernice Berg
Tara Bitzman
Lori Donovan
Pam Ellison
Alan & Rochelle Telander
Sara Mettler
Ginger Maynard
Mary Evjen
Brooke Strand
Bonnie Wagner
Frank Helseth

Girl Scout Troop #229
Alexandria Shriners Club
Hannah Doherty
Shannon Kluat
Carol Swenson
Pam Nordmark
Jane Johnson
Dick & Donna Carlson
Kelly Vanderbroek
Tracy Wahlin
Sheila Ficenc
Mike Kettler
Steve Schabel
Barb Baldwin
Chuck Carlson
Ron & Mary Ellen Lyman
Tom Akenson
Lana Crafthefer
Jennifer Meyer
Adam Greve
Deanne Moritz
Kylie Larson
Peter Mulder
Dick Chancellor
Nicole Pachan
Judy Owen
Stu Mackechney
JR Christensen
Ed Timm
Katie Brand
Lisa Berglund
Julie Lohrman
Nicki Taylor
Bethesda Lutheran Church
Jennifer Dero
Dawn Vanderbroek
Lori & Jeremy Symanietz
Linda Miner
Mary Jo Johnson
Kristi Henslin
Tim & Kathy Schoonhoven
Robertta McCay
Tim Aarsvold
Gloria Rumohr
Annie Johnson

Karen Larson
Lynn Freudenberg
Gina Pohlen
Nicolle Loosbrock
Madison Walvante
Sharon Funk
Rhonda Huls
Carmon Watkins
Susie Leigh
Tiffany Brown
Paul Welchert
Deanna Robertson
Allen Lund
Kathy DePorter
LaVonne Schildt
Joyce Leslie
Nancy Heuer
Ruth Illies
Bruce & Karen Larsen
Doreen LaFone
Denise Dougherty
Nancy Anderson
Steph Bauer
Patty Bracey
Heather Olson
Bonnie Peterson
Chad Schueller
Bio Girls (Megan Peikert)
Lisa Seanger
Alesha Klimek
Tami Caparas-Hildahl
Ashley Mason
Michelle Olsen
Christy Meier
Lori Perreault
Sheila Clemens
Erin Tauer
Cheryl Jodoin
Kristy Simonson
Jim Peterson
Bob Gibson
Tammy Jahnke
Outreach Food Shelf
Jeff Shulke
Veda & Finley Struchen

Thanks ...for Helping Us Make a Difference!

Persons who donated money, supplies & services... June thru October 2021 Continued...

Gloria Rosenberg
Brenda Trisko
Carter, Connor, & Addison
Gouche
Karla Petermann
Jessica Nelson
Carly Walsh
Gary Anderson
Jan Pray
Erika Baker
Teresa Verguth
Shay Holland
Callie & Connor Bruss
Jeff Peterson
Zoe Wiegers
Janice & Thomas Broten
Joseph & Debra Walker
Michael Neumann
Linda & Bob Stehberger
Kristen Hoffman-Chock
Joanne Gust
Wendy Peterson
Dan & Tammie Quiggle
Daryl & Shirley Saathoff
Kathy Johnson
Fleet Farm
Susan Manthey
Ellen Bangtson
Nicole Leitch
Carol Giroux
Rick & Sandy Paulsen
Jamie Klug
Donna Cabana
Leslie Jacobson
Jeanne Kittelson
Robert & Peggy Block
Jane Holmquist
Diversified Foundations
Patrick Falk
Tina & Robert Bosma
Tim Certain

Jeanne Eastlund
Steve & Bonnie Frahm
Jacqueline Feil
Beverly Gallup
David Ostrander
Butch Blake & Lilly Barthle
Lynn Glesne
Bill Anderson
Patricia Jepsen
Kurt & Kathy Fischer
Brian & Michelle Diekman
Sunrise Sprinkler &
Landscape Lighting
Donna Seela
Manly & Helen Johnson
Bruce & Tammie Leverson
Bob & Linda Stehberger
Wilma Triebenbach
Debra Holden
Sonja & Allen Starry
Monica Wesen
Ron & Mary Ellen Lyman
Mark & Lori West
Phyllis Hullett
JoAnn Udem
Sue & Clayton Lewis
Duane & Judith Doucette
Duane & Connie Shelden
John & Corinn Gromatka
Nancy Carroll
Bill Mcquade
Nancy Anderson
Lauren Feeken
Gary & Suzanne Kakach
Kathleen Miske
Bruce Bergs
Christine Padalino
CJ Juenger & Jerry Daas
Marlys Benson
Jodi Ehlenz
Annette Sletto

Joan Martell
Jeff & Idelle Day
Barbara Gehle
Nancy Rademacher
Ann & Jim Koehler
Glen Sorenson
Lynne Hendrickson
Lori Symanietz
Amber Hvezda
Sheila Peterson
Zimmy Insurance
Vincent & Charlene Bettermann
Jhane Pappenfus
Linda Cole
Colleen & Marc Ouimet
Deb Schmidt
Wendy Craig
John & Nancy Creek
Francis & Sandra Kouba
Susan Manthey
David Ostrander
Lance & Melani Beebout
Prometheus Motorcycle Club
Joan & John Huseth
Jeffrey Vosburgh
Curtis & Bonnie Ulvestad
Colleen Ebert
Kacie Nelson
Guido Niedercest & Patricia Bouta
Reenie, Pat and the cats
Barbara Hartmann
Emily Struchen
Sue Lussenhop



Thanks ... Making a Difference

LAHS is Seeking Dedicated & Passionate Individuals!

The Lakes Area Humane Society is actively seeking members of the community who are committed to making a difference for animals to serve on our Board of Directors!

Prospective candidates should have a desire to give their time and expertise to promote LAHS and its services through community outreach and fundraising events. In addition, they will be an important part of the creation and execution of strategic plans to uphold the mission and ensure future sustainability of the organization.

For more information, please contact
Christin at 320-759-2260



Huge thank you to **Callie & Connor** for donating food and other pet supplies for our adoptive animals!

Wish List

- Postage Stamps (both postcard & 1st class)
- Kitten Food - Dry (Purina)
- Bleach
- Paper Towels
- Copy Paper
- Post It Notes
- H3 Laundry Detergent
- Lysol-Fresh Scent Floor Cleaner
- Break-A-Way Cat Collars





Lakes Area Humane Society
3811 Nevada Street SW
Alexandria, MN 56308
320-759-2260
lahs@gctel.net

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #29
ALEXANDRIA, MN

Return Service Requested

1



Rabbit Owners...Contagious Disease Alert!

The MN State Board of Animal Health reported that two indoor rabbits died suddenly in September from a highly contagious rabbit disease detected for the first time in Minnesota. The U of MN Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (VDL) performed a necropsy to investigate the cause of death. Samples sent to the USDA's National Veterinary Services Lab, confirmed Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus 2 (RHDV2). The owner reported the rabbits were indoor pets and had no contact with other rabbits. RHDV2 is a highly contagious virus affecting domestic and wild rabbits. There is no known risk to humans.

Sudden mortality in otherwise healthy rabbits is characteristic of RHDV2. Infected rabbits may be lethargic and reluctant to move, and typically die between 1 to 7 days after becoming infected. 70 to 90 percent of infected rabbits will not survive. Deceased rabbits may have bloody discharge from the nostrils and/or mouth or have no external signs. Unusually high mortality in wild rabbits should be reported to the Dept. of Natural Resources.

RHDV2 is highly contagious and spreads through contact with infected rabbits or indirectly through blood, urine, and feces. The virus can also be present on contaminated clothing, footwear and surfaces such as cages, feed, water, and bedding. Insects, scavengers, and predators can also spread the virus by contact with infected rabbits. RHDV2 is very persistent and it is resistant to extreme temperatures and can survive freezing.

The Board of Animal Health has announced that there is vaccine that is being made available in MN. For more information, you can visit their website to view the press releases at https://www.bah.state.mn.us/news_release/. Rabbit owners should contact their veterinarian for recommendations and vaccine availability.