

Newsletter of the Lakes Area Humane Society

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Avian Flu 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 Winter/Spring 2022

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

According to the American Society for the Protection of Animals (ASPCA), pet adoption soared during the pandemic, with 1 in 5 families bringing a new pet into their home. As COVID restrictions have eased and many people are heading back to the office to work, many shelters throughout the United States have seen an increase in pet owners seeking surrender placement for their pets. While cat intakes have always been high due to continued overpopulation problems, most shelters are experiencing more significant increases in dog surrender requests, in some cases the requests have more than doubled. The most common reason for a surrender request is that the owners no longer have time for the dog (such as providing training, walking and attention). Studies have shown that the most common age for a dog surrender request is one that is between 10 months to 1 ½ years.

While returning to work and resumption of previous social activities play a part in the number of dog surrenders, there are other factors as well. Many animals were placed with rescues/foster homes as shelters had to reduce their animal population due to COVID restrictions. Once the restrictions were lifted, staff shortages have limited the number of animals that they could take in, especially when those in foster homes were brought back as the number of available fosters dropped. In addition, basic veterinary services such as spay/neuter were not available for an extended period. This resulted in an increase in unwanted puppies/kittens. We work with a large network of rescue partners who assist us in placement of pets that do not do well in a shelter environment or have other special needs that we are unable to provide care for. These rescue partners have let us know that they have long placement and transfer wait lists. So shelters are unable to transfer as many animals as they had previously, which means they are unable to assist as many animals as they had previously.

Here at the Lakes Area Humane Society, we have started seeing the same increases in the number of surrender requests for unwanted dogs over the past few months. We are also finding that the common reason for surrender is that the owner no longer has enough time for the dog(s). Ultimately, our goal is to try to help owners identify the underlying reason(s) for surrendering their pet, so that those issues may be addressed so the pet can remain in the home. For instance, the owner may state that they no longer have time for their dog; however, the actual underlying cause may be that the dog is too difficult to control on walks, isn't housetrained or other unwanted behaviors. The owners feel that they don't have time to address these issues and wish to surrender instead. In some cases, our staff is able to provide the owners the tools they need to succeed. We can offer advice on housetraining or refer them to trainers or behaviorists. We will also recommend they have their dog examined by their veterinarian to rule out medical related issues if they haven't already done so.

We are very hopeful that this trying time and the current state of animal welfare will improve over the next few months. In the interim, the LAHS will continue to promote responsible care and training for owned pets and provide a safe, sheltering haven for lost and abandoned animals until they are reunited with their owners or appropriate placement is found.

Fundraising

“Angry Chefs” Fundaiser

The Angry Chefs, a group of people who a passion for food and doing goodwill for our community, held a Lasagna Feed Fundraiser for the Lakes Area Humane Society. On Saturday, November 20th, the Chefs put on an amazing lasagna feed at the VFW here in Alexandria. The feed featured both traditional lasagna and seafood lasagna, accompanied with giant slices of delicious garlic toast for a donation of \$10 a plate to eat in or order to go!. The meal was fantastic and the Angry Chefs raised \$500 for the LAHS animals! Huge thank you to the Chefs and the volunteers who assisted!



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



Join us on Facebook and we will keep you updated on pets that are available for adoption, upcoming events and other opportunities!

Kids Making a Difference!



Special thanks to **Julia, Violet and Lillie!** They donated monies in memory of Betty White for LAHS and the animals we care for.

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

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
Dawn Thorstad, Secretary
Michelle Kelly

Shelter Staff

Christin Klimek
Joan Becker
Raelin Bothun
Madison Walvatne
Ann Bertram
Melena Scott
Halle Bak
Megan Hinman

Letters From Home...



"Adelaide" Adopted by the Pullis Family



"Pumpkin" and "Rocky" Adopted by the Saathoff Family

We adopted both Pumpkin (cat) and Rocky (dog) in October of 2021....they are doing really well with us! Rocky wasn't so sure about the winter cold, so he's definitely ready for more outdoor time! Pumpkin is a little snuggle buddy and loves her perch to watch outside! Both get lots of loving from the kiddos and do so well with them! Thank you!



"Gus" Adopted by Allie W.

Hi there,
We just wanted to give you an update on Archie. As you can see, he is the “centerpiece” of our world! He has adapted quite well to our dogs and absolutely adores his feline big brother! They party all night and sleep all day, LOL! We recently lost our beloved cat Oliver and Archie has helped us heal. We are so in love with this ginger sweetheart! He completes this family! Thank you!

“Archie” Adopted by the Shafer Family



“Baby” Adopted by Brittany W.



“Arnie” Adopted by Jane E.

Arnie is such a wonderfully happy little guy couldn't imagine my life without him!

More Letters From Home...

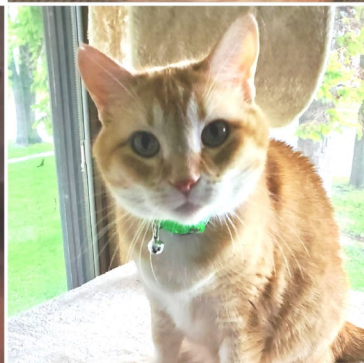
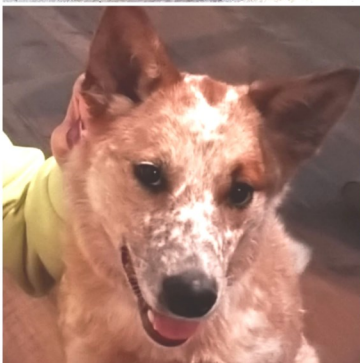


*"Dusty"
Adopted by the Woodford family*

Thanks so much for sharing Dusty with me and my family. He fits in perfect. He's so smart and we all love him so much. Thanks again!



"Sage" Adopted by Bobbie S.



*"Zuko", "Zuri", "Roxy" and "Trouble"
Adopted by the Stark family*

In Loving Memory...

Persons who donated money in Memory of... November 2021 thru March 2022

Karen & Stephen Samek in memory of Betty White
Galen & Kari Huizinga in memory of Betty White
Sheila Peterson in memory of Betty White
Jessamyn & David Greiner in memory of Betty White
Julie & Michael G. Lohrman in memory of Betty White
Gweneth Peck in memory of Betty White
Betsy Nordgaard in memory of Betty White
Annette Sletto in memory of Betty White
Joyce Lanus in memory of Betty White
Susan Uhde in memory of Betty White
Catherine Berglund in memory of Betty White
Julia Luepke, Char Disrud, Violet, and Lillie Ogdahl in memory of Betty White
Kyle & Diane Pearson in memory of Betty White
Tracey & Kevin Wiseman in memory of Betty White
Lori Padilla in memory of Betty White
Jeffrey Conkling in memory of Betty White and Coco
Linda Auran in memory of Betty White
Michael & Mary Gillespie in memory of Betty White
Patricia Manthei in memory of Betty White
Deborah Schmidt in memory of Betty White
Sandra Dreger Wussow in memory of Betty White
Cheryl Glasser in memory of Betty White
Stephanie Heseltine in memory of Betty White
Macaille Mahoney in memory of Betty White
Amy Hinman in memory of Betty White
April Schaack in memory of Betty White
Cindy Hjelm in memory of Betty White
Kaci Johnson in memory of Betty White
Danielle Thompson in memory of Betty White
Macaille Mahoney in memory of Betty White
Cindy Carpenter in memory of Betty White
Misty Tracy in memory of Betty White
Adrian Darkow in memory of Daisy May
Kristin Schmidt in memory of Archie and Betty White
Marry Bess Biegner in memory of Miss Bentley
Mary Butler in memory of Emma
Alfred Lunak in memory of Dezi
Barbara Cook in memory of Lady and Crystal
Shirley & Daryl Saathoff in memory of Hailey
Kevin & Diane Quisberg in memory of Baby
Steph Boersma in memory of Oliver & Fred
Kelly Emmons in memory of Coco, the best companion
Lori West in memory of Skruffy
Sue Risbrudt in memory of Abbie
Megan Denne in memory of Paige
Solveig Dahl in memory of Phyllis Tucker
Steve Ray in memory of Izzy
Kristin Adamek in memory of Alice Olson

Sandra Benson in memory of Keiko & Cali
Lona Neubarth in memory of Audrey Roth
John & Fannie Snowberg in memory of Gucci Akkerman
Kim & Sandy Davis in memory of Linda Mock
Mike & Linda Ogg in memory of Sasha, Fonzo, and Spider
Linda Cole in memory of Phyllis Tucker
The Vetsch Family in memory of Sharyn Roquette
Shelley Anderson in memory of Jessica Julig-Weedman
Bob & Jennifer Wegner in memory of Chance Wegner
David Christenson in memory of Dana Christenson
Susan Lyman in memory of NikONik, Naartjie, Jasper
Douglas County HRA in memory of Ellen Schiffman
Sharon & Bill Bursch in memory of Beau, Blue, Button
Carolyn Binnebose in memory of Rudy, Stanley, Lolly
Kay Karye in memory of Joe Bergstrom
Duwayne & Angela Lund in memory of Bud and Spencer
Dennis & Bonita Miller memory of Crystal Dougherty
Bryan & Beth Carlson in memory of Nola Carlson
Darrell Neilsen in memory of Carol Neilsen
Kathleen Miske in memory of Benny
Darrell Lorsung in memory of Lexy
Helene Morrell in memory of Nicholas
Linda Namur in memory of Bailey
Edith Waller in memory of Missie, Lisa, Pammie, Charlie
Carlene Ness in memory of Pupster
Jade Liebl in memory of Flo
Lee Saeugling in memory of Jan Saeugling
Mary & Jim Pohl in memory of Derby and Chomsky
Richard & Karen Hardine in memory of Parker
James Montgomery
Joanne Gust in memory of Kirby and Meep
In memory of Riley and Sophie (pets) and
Steve Emblom
Roland & Kathryn Kortlever in memory of Scooter
Susanne Engstrom in memory of Kora
Laurel & Arlene Linder in memory of Darlene Daniels
Kathy Farnes in memory of Molly
Jim & Pam Peterson in memory of Gracie Scarcy
Rita Winters in memory of Albert
Linda Fiebelkorn in memory of Rosie
Sandy & Francis Kouba in memory of Raspberry Bert
N. Jeanne Cannady in memory of Gary Ruehmann
Sandra Benson in memory of Callie Beri
Marilyn Dietz in memory of Cotton (Olson)
Patricia Jepsen & Antonio Llopis in memory of Beauty
Fred & Wanda Klimek in memory of Mollie
Mitchell Linder in memory of Koda
Richard & Sharon Hadash in memory of Raechel

Thanks ...for Helping Us Make a Difference!

Persons who donated money in Memory of... November 2021 thru March 2022 Continued...

Deanna McCashin in memory of Patrick McCashin
Marcia Weisel in memory of Lilly
Tom & Linda Akenson in memory of Mousey, Tabby,
and July
Tierney Helmers & Phil Galchutt in memory of
Cheryl Anderson
Gordon & Donna Ziegelman in memory of
Brandy & Pepper
Jane Holmquist in memory of Sheila Hanley
Joan Akkerman in memory of Gucci
Barry & Georgia Wahlberg in memory of
Randy Gilbertson

Charlotte Myhre in memory of Kyra Myhre
Ana Pavan Suchy in memory of Karma
Holly Glade in memory of Ruth Christenson
Shelley Anderson & Family in memory of Fred Bursch
Neil Peterson & Shelley Anderson in memory of
Newton Earl
Tom & Jan Broten in memory of Virginia Torgerson
Laureen Feeken in memory of Ted Salto
Cathie & Al Glasemann in memory of Al Haugland

Persons who donated money in Honor of...November 2021 thru March 2022

Stephanie Heseltine in honor of LAHS Volunteers
Pam Waldorf in honor of Betty White's Birthday
Christine Guhlke in honor of Betty White's 100th Birthday
Nancy Heuer in celebration of Abby for Cassie Carlone
& Family
Bonita Gilbertson in honor of Gibson and Ollie
Bert & Audrey Points in honor of Ember
Clayton & Sue Lewis in honor of Deb & Gale McIntosh
Roland & Kathryn Kortlever in honor of Sparky
Desmond Homann in honor of Nimue
Heather & Nick Simonson in honor of Maple
Linda Fiebelkorn in honor of Beamer
Sandy & Francis Kouba in honor of Paisley Park and Prince
Saundra Benson in honor of Keiko
Mitchell Linder in honor of Salliz
David & Michelle Olsen in honor of Woody & Doro
Robert Hobus Jr in honor of Aasta Richards
Wayne Haugen in honor of Stacy for the Betty White's
Birthday Challenge
Michael & Kathy Ranweiler in honor of Betty White
Brent Boraas in honor of Hannah Boraas
Katherine Cirilli in honor of Betty White and Jade

**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!**



*"Winnie" Adopted by the
Wilkey Family*

Thanks ...for Helping Us Make a Difference!

Persons who donated money, supplies & services... November 2021 thru March 2022

Gary Anderson	Paul & Amy Amundson	Kellie Tatge
Jan Pray	Beth Telander	Nicole Pachan
Erika Baker	The Mellgren Family	Nancy Doebbert
Teresa Veraguth	Todd Skramstad	Kathy Kangas
Shay Holland	Mandi, Ryder & Paige Bachmann	Mills Fleet Farm
Jeff Peterson	Patti Thompson	Spartan Nash
Rich Akkerman	Wendy Peterson	Dave & Jackie Feil
Lacie Cole	The Bark Barn & all their clients	Wanda Schmidt
Jul Feuling	Kay Rooney	Julie Perez
Mike Jost	Jennifer Hildberant	Lynn Ransom
Gloria Watson	Carol Feldmann	Jeff Schulke
Kevin Haglund	Rick DeRosier	Brian & Jamie Kakach
Christie Wieberdink	Denise Hoppe	Emily Benesh
Linda & Chuck Churchill	Stacy Faith	Jodi Garrett
Kay Rooney	Erin Guenther	Jamie Treischel
Lori West	Justin Buse	Jolene Boelens
Brandon Arvidson	Kayla Oplinger	Mali Morken
Scott Farmes	Gayle Myrh	Outreach Food Shelf
Nan Hill	Joann Gust	John Steinbring
Ruth Schlangen	Nathan Zabel	Chad Schueller
Kristy Eastlund	Wesley Thompson	Art & Bard Smallbrock
Tammy Thull	Jodie Baumann	Sonja & Allen Starry
Hailey Evjen	Siegel Greta	Zimny Insurance
Barbara Cook	Lisa Hammond	Target
Betsy Moga	Emajeon Hanson-Ford	CJ Juenger& Jerry Daas
Beverly Gronos	Heidi Miller-Sutton	Jeremy & Renae Smith
Kevin King	Taylor, Audrey, & Zoey Garin	Erin Saathoff
Dawn Huntington	Carlene Ness & David Hoppe	Kathy Ortloff
Deb Silis	Tim & Kathy Schoonhoven	Carolyn & Eugene Binnebose
Nancy Anderson	Sheila Clemens	Becky Bruyere
Jody Moen	Amy Vail	Thomas Obert
Chris Ley	Julie Perez	Beth Housen
Marcia Warren	Diana Nelson	Pat Kirwan
Roger Wambhim	Macaille Hafner	Raymond Raml
Fred & Cathy Hemquist	Heidi Stark	Barbara & Paul Flykt
Jean Otte	Marlene Schoneck	Betty Sue Lee
Michael Davis	Kathy DePorter	Frank Nelson
Rick DeRosier	Chris Wieberdink	Sandi & Tom Hedstrom
Kevin Klimek	April Schaack	Kevin Klimek
Don Jaski	Tony Johnson	Faith Savitt
Kelly Johnson	Reonne Johnson	David & Lynne High
Wayne Holck	Curves of Alexandria	Angry Chefs (Patty Sherod)
Shauna Loxtercamp	Steph Boersma	Ellen Bangston
Deb Eull	Shelly Vedbraaten	Marilyn Myers
Rhonda Huls	Diane Bushey	Milton Beaman
Alexandria Vet Clinic and Hills Shelter Program	Coni McKay	David Ostrander
Nicole Pachan	Sue Lewis	Wells Fargo Advisors
	Linda Sletto	Bev & Wayne Quernemoen

Thanks ...for Helping Us Make a Difference!

Persons who donated money, supplies & services... November 2021 thru March 2022 Continued...

Harold Wells
Gerald & Kathy Nordos
Sheila Peterson
Donna Seela
Sandy Kouba
Karen Cossette
Brian & Sue Artz
Wayne & Cindy Anderson
Tom & Rebecca Wilkinson
Jean Otte
Michael Baldwin
Kathryn & Michael Koppy
Marge & Stanley Pasche
Arlene Linder
Carol Ladwig
Jacqueline Feil
Dan & Tammie Quiggle
Bill McQuade
Nancy Plecas
SEI Giving Fund
LaDean Moen
Tom & Judy Green
Lee & Barton Becker
Shelly Lynn
Brad & Dawn Thorstad
Steven & Mary Steinle
Manly & Helen Johnson
Tammie Leverson
Duane & Connie Shelden
Byron Youngmark
Kristi Henslin
Lynne Bowman Bolles
Irene Morse
Bonnie & Dennis Miller
Marlys Benson
Linda & Bob Stehberger
Mary & William Moeller
Nancy Carroll
Jerri Timmins
N. Jeanne Cannady

Lois Roers
Jerry & Linda Jakes
Thomas & Janice Broten
Dean & Amy Grabinger
Amanda Dahmes
Dale & Karen Wibstad
Delores Gillan
Susan Thoen
Anita Anderson
Roger & Maureen Podany
Todd Hyatt
Robert Hauser
Alexandria Smiles
Duane & Judith Doucette
Lynne Hendrickson
Karen Burr & Anthony Tigges
Jerry & Judy Klein
Todd Skramstad
Tastefully Simple
Mandi Bachmann
Bill & Melody Thoennes
Wendy Peterson
Mark & Amy Allen-Opp
Jeanne Eastland
David & Bonnie Fulghum
Denise Hoppe
Julie Allen
Robert & Khande Hauser
Katy Mohabir
Steven Steinle
Judy Mahoney
Teresa Ash
Michelle Iveland
Thomas Sinning
Ronald & Camille Trandahl
Judy & Brian Bennett
Renaë & Jeremy Smith
Kacie Nelson
Jeffrey Meland
Paul Amundson

Debbie Kaufman
Mark & Lee Ann Sticha
Ted & Geri Zabrosky
Kristen Pederson
Shelby Thesing
Sheila Spartz
Jessica Ranweiler
Bethel Manor No. 2
Joan Martell
William Cain
Diane Strehlow
Patricia Jepsen & Antonio Llopis
Barbara Maciver
David & Nancy Anderson
Linda Frisell
Barry & Georgia Wahlberg
Dick & Sandra Susag
Beverly Bales
Jeff Morse
Deb Schmidt
Keith & Kay Zempel
Dorothy Farnberg
Pryce Score
Jane Kasmaker
Gary & Suzanne Kakach
Ardell & Melvin Klimek
Ali Rochel
Dennis Schmidt
Edward & Deanna Anderson
Galen & Kari Huizinga
Beverly Gallup
Joyce Lanus
Steven & Bonnie Frahm
Butch Blake & Lilly Barthle
Debra & Gordon Holden
Eugene & Michele Benting
Michael Cowdery
Cathryn Elverum
Dan & Barbara Gehle



In the Know.... Allergies and Asthma

Experiencing asthma and allergy symptoms can quickly put a damper on a perfectly good spring day. Most people know the signs of allergies in humans. However, recognizing symptoms in your cat or dog may be harder to distinguish. May is Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month — the perfect time to brush up on dog and cat seasonal allergy symptoms, so you can quickly identify potential problems. Knowing the signs can help you make sure your furry friend receives the treatment they need right away.

Allergies are an overreaction of the immune system to foreign substances. Just like their human counterparts, our furry friends can experience unpleasant allergy symptoms. Allergy season for dogs and cats is typically in the spring, summer and early fall months. Common allergens for dogs and cats include fleas, pollen, plants, house dust mites, and ragweed. The symptoms of your furry friend's allergies may vary on a case-by-case basis.

However, some of the main signs of allergies for both cats and dogs include:

- Itchiness
- Constant licking
- Coughing
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Dry flakey skin
- Hair loss
- Bumps/rashes
- Chronic ear infections
- Itchy and runny eyes



Pets can also suffer from asthma. Asthma is an allergic disease that occurs due to an allergic reaction in the airways, which then causes inflammation. This inflammation causes the passageways to constrict, making it very difficult to breathe.

An asthma attack can quickly turn into a life-threatening situation. That's why it's essential to recognize the signs of an asthma attack in its early stages.

Symptoms of an asthma attack for both cats and dogs include:

- Coughing
- Wheezing
- Gagging up foamy mucus
- Panting with a wide mouth
- Blue lips and gums

Treatment for both allergies and asthma will depend on the severity of the condition. If you notice any of these symptoms, it is important to make an appointment with your veterinarian as allergies can be very uncomfortable for your pet and may lead to other secondary infections and issues.



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

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ALEXANDRIA, MN

Return Service Requested

1

Poultry OwnersContagious Disease Alert

The United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal confirmed several findings of the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in wild waterfowl in the Atlantic flyways in January 2022. In February, APHIS confirmed H5N1 HPAI in a commercial turkey flock in Indiana. Since then it has been confirmed in multiple states and flock types. The first cases of H5N1 in Minnesota were confirmed on March 25, 2022.

HPAI can infect poultry (such as chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, domestic ducks, geese, and guinea fowl) and wild birds (especially waterfowl). This virus strain is extremely infectious, often fatal to chickens, and can spread rapidly from flock-to-flock. While this disease is of great concern to commercial poultry flocks, it can be transmitted to small domesticated “back yard” flocks. For more information on how to protect your chickens or other domesticated birds go to the USDA’s “Defend the Flock” webpage:

<http://healthybirds.aphis.usda.gov>. or
the University of MN Extension webpage:

<https://extension.umn.edu/poultry/small-scale-poultry>.

