

PAWS CHICAGO®

# ANGEL TALES®

MAGAZINE

Fall/Winter 2008

The Legacy of

## Miss Kitty

Senior Cat Room at PAWS  
Adoption Center helps cats  
find their forever homes.

## PET LOSS

Stories of love lost  
and how to cope

## Maddie's Fund

Awards Purdue Vet School  
and PAWS Chicago  
\$2.3 million grant

*Miss Kitty at Six Months*

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# about PAWS CHICAGO



PAWS Chicago (Pets Are Worth Saving) is the city's largest No Kill humane organization, focused on alleviating Chicago's tragic pet homelessness problem. Since PAWS Chicago's founding, the number of homeless pets killed in the city has been reduced by more than half – from 42,561 pets killed in 1997 to fewer than 20,000 last year. PAWS Chicago envisions a No Kill Chicago and that dream is within reach because of important lifesaving work that is being done every single day.



## A National Model.

People from across the nation are visiting PAWS Chicago every month to see how they can bring No Kill success to their communities. Only 11 years ago, PAWS Chicago was a fully volunteer grass roots organization. Now, PAWS Chicago's programs are recognized nationally.

- PAWS Chicago's Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic is the largest free spay/neuter clinic in the nation, focused on assisting low-income families in Chicago who cannot otherwise afford the procedure.
- PAWS Chicago's Phippen Fasseas Adoption & Humane Center is the first cageless, No Kill shelter of its kind in the Midwest. Located in highly-visible Lincoln Park, this state-of-the-art Adoption Center is leading the way in cutting edge programs and design.
- PAWS Chicago has been recognized as one of the best-run charities in the nation. Every year, PAWS Chicago has received the highest four-star rating by Charity Navigator, the nation's largest independent charity evaluator, for efficient use of donor funds. Your contributions go directly to saving animals' lives.

## Volunteer and give of yourself to the animals.

PAWS Chicago was founded as a volunteer organization and has stayed true to its roots with more than 3,000 volunteers who work in intake, socialization, animal care, dog walking, adoption counseling, follow-up calls, site managing, fundraising, fostering homeless pets in need, event support, and in every other capacity to help the animals. Without these caring, dedicated individuals, PAWS Chicago would not be possible.

## Adopt a homeless pet and save a life!

Visit PAWS Chicago's Adoption & Humane Center at 1997 N. Clybourn. New puppies, kittens, dogs and cats arrive daily from PAWS Chicago's Admissions & Recovery Center. If you do not find what you are looking for at PAWS Chicago, please visit Chicago's Animal Care and Control or another No Kill shelter or rescue group.

## Foster a homeless pet in need.

PAWS Chicago utilizes its foster network for sick or injured pets who need healing, or a little time, before they are able to be adopted and for kittens and puppies who are not old enough and do not weigh enough to be spayed or neutered. By placing these special needs pets in foster homes, space is available in PAWS Chicago's Admissions & Recovery Center to save more homeless pets.

## Spread the word.

Without the public's involvement, homeless pets will continue to die in silence. Become an advocate and voice for homeless pets. Get involved in your community and learn about what is happening to homeless pets. Inform your family, friends, and neighbors about the reality that homeless pets face and why it's critical to spay/neuter pets and adopt from shelters.

## Support No Kill efforts.

By donating to No Kill shelters, you will support life-saving work. Private resources should go to saving, not taking, lives.

**Adoption & Humane Center**  
1997 N. Clybourn  
Chicago, IL 60614  
773-935-PAWS

**Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic**  
3516 W. 26th Street  
Chicago, IL 60623  
773-521-SPAY

**Admissions & Recovery Center**  
3516 W. 26th Street  
Chicago, IL 60623  
773-521-1408

## Adoption Events

PAWS Chicago's Lincoln Park Adoption & Humane Center is open for adoptions five days a week at 1997 N. Clybourn, Chicago.

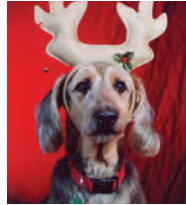
**November 23, 12-3 p.m.**  
Adoptions at Bloomingdale's  
Old Orchard Center, Skokie

**December 7, 12-3 p.m.**  
Adoptions at Bloomingdale's  
Oakbrook Center, Oak Brook

**December 21, 12-3 p.m.**  
Adoptions at Bloomingdale's  
Old Orchard Center, Skokie

## Special Events

Visit [www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org) for Event Registration.



## December 4

**Santa PAWS**  
Adoption Center  
1997 N. Clybourn Avenue

# Angel Tales Magazine is Online!

If you love *Angel Tales* magazine, you'll be excited to know that you can now connect with your favorite stories 24 hours-a-day. That's because we've just launched a brand new website at [AngelTales.org](http://AngelTales.org) that's designed to provide you with everything you love about *Angel Tales* magazine and much, much more!

### Just point your web browser to [AngelTales.org](http://AngelTales.org) and you can:

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**Subscribe** – Get updates delivered by e-mail so you never miss out on the latest news. Plus, you can also subscribe to our RSS news feed which delivers *Angel Tales* updates to your favorite newsreaders, including: My Yahoo!, Google Reader, and Bloglines.

**Get Involved** – Learn how you can become a PAWS Chicago volunteer or make a donation to support PAWS Chicago's mission to create a No Kill Chicago.

### Subscribe and Win!

Subscribers to [AngelTales.org](http://AngelTales.org) will have the chance to enter monthly contests to win one of 100 \$25 gift cards to your choice of 12 select retailers including: Macy's, Best Buy, CVS Pharmacy and more! Monthly contests kick off on January 1, 2009!

Watch your e-mail or RSS feed for all of the details.

\*No purchase necessary.

# Your Support Saves Lives

Homeless pets' lives are dependent upon the support of the animal-loving public. You can save lives! Here's how:

**Help fund PAWS Chicago's lifesaving efforts.**

Return the enclosed envelope, or mail donations to:

PAWS Chicago  
1110 W. 35th Street  
Chicago, IL 60609

Be sure to include your name and address so you get on our mailing list!\* PAWS Chicago receives no governmental support and relies on individual supporters. *Donations can also be made online at [www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org) or by calling (773) 475-9510.*

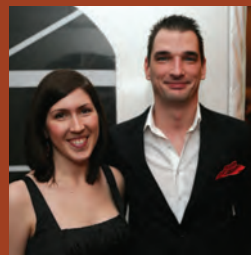


**Volunteer to help homeless pets in your free time.**

Sign up for an orientation at [www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org) and give of yourself for the animals.

**Attend PAWS Chicago events to support the cause and meet other Chicago pet lovers.**

Consider joining the PAWS Chicago Development Board or Professional Board to help plan these special events. Email [dchapman@pawschicago.org](mailto:dchapman@pawschicago.org) for more information on board responsibilities.



**Support PAWS Chicago sponsors and *Angel Tales* advertisers!**

Let the businesses and retailers who sponsor PAWS know that you appreciate their support! With such little corporate funding for companion animals, be sure to thank the advertisers in this magazine and the corporate sponsors of PAWS events for their support of homeless pets.



**Leave a Legacy for the Animals.**

Consider making a bequest to PAWS Chicago, and join the growing roster of Guardian Angels. Email [guardianangel@pawschicago.org](mailto:guardianangel@pawschicago.org) or call (773) 843-2508 for more information.

\*PAWS Chicago has a strict privacy policy and will never sell your information.



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MAGAZINE

*All Angel Tales creative contributors (writing, photography, editing and design) have volunteered their services.*

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To advertise in *Angel Tales*, contact Deborah Chapman at 773.843.2508 or email [dchapman@pawschicago.org](mailto:dchapman@pawschicago.org)





# 36 HOUR ADOPT-A-THON

PAWS Chicago Adoption Center  
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*through*  
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Join in the festivities  
and ensure that  
many more precious  
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"home" for the  
holidays.

This holiday season, don't forget homeless pets in need. Consider adopting at PAWS Chicago's first-ever, 36-Hour Adopt-a-thon on December 6th and 7th, where hundreds of pets will be looking for new homes.

In these difficult economic times, cats and dogs are being turned into shelters in alarming numbers. You can help give them a second chance.



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Start the year off right with a PAWS Chicago calendar. In addition to adorable furry faces, each month takes you through the life-saving work happening at PAWS Chicago throughout the year.



## FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Supporters,

The holidays are upon us once again and we have so much to be thankful for at PAWS Chicago. This year, our supporters, volunteers, and media friends have once again reached new heights for the cause of homeless pets. As a result, PAWS Chicago has been able to help more pets than ever before.

More than 3,000 homeless pets will find new families through our new Adoption Center this year, not including several hundred adoptions that PAWS Chicago has facilitated through our Angels with Tails adoption events, through the rescue partners we welcome to showcase their pets in our Adoption Center each weekend, and through our website, which promotes pets of rescue organizations that do not have a permanent shelter.

Additionally, PAWS Chicago's Lurie Clinic will spay or neuter more than 15,000 pets this year, preventing future unwanted litters that ultimately end up in shelters. Affordable or free spay/neuter is the most important component of building No Kill communities, since a single cat or dog

and her offspring are capable of birthing thousands of kittens or puppies in only a few years.

Another event I am excited to share with you is PAWS Chicago's receipt of a Shelter Medicine Grant from Maddie's Fund. (Read about this on page 9.)

In this issue we also feature a section on pet loss—one of the most challenging experiences that pet lovers must endure.

A huge thank you to all of our supporters for their ongoing dedication to PAWS Chicago.

Paula Fasseas  
Founder and Chair

## DEVELOPMENT BOARD LETTER

Dear Friends,

As always, there is much going on in the PAWS Chicago world. We are working harder than ever to raise funds needed to save even more of our homeless pet companions. With economic difficulties, more and more people are forced to give up their pets because they can no longer afford to care for them. With a surge of pets coming into Animal Care & Control, PAWS Chicago is working to take in even more pets. We transfer more pets from Animal Care & Control than any other rescue organization, but we need to do more.

We need your help to afford this life-saving work. Please consider making a year-end donation to PAWS Chicago, or help by supporting one of our many events this coming year. Santa Paws is coming to town on December 4th at our Adoption Center. Animal Magnetism will take place in February, and we will have our Second Annual Viva PAWS Vegas later in the spring. (Read about the first casino night and poker tournament on page 51.)

We look forward to seeing you soon. Have a wonderful holiday season.



Suzie Glickman  
President, Development Board



# Maddie's Fund<sup>®</sup>

Awards Generous Grant to

Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine

PAWS Chicago

By Pam Carey



Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, in collaboration with PAWS Chicago, has been selected as a recipient of a Maddie's Fund Comprehensive Shelter Medicine Program Grant.

In September of 2008, the first three years of Purdue's Maddie's<sup>®</sup> Shelter Medicine Program was funded in the amount of \$1.1 million. Should the Program meet expectations, another \$1.2 million will be given in 2011, bringing the total grant to \$2.3 million. This is one of the largest Shelter Medicine Programs funded by Maddie's since its inception.

As a result of this program, Purdue will be able to dramatically expand its shelter medicine educational program and PAWS Chicago will benefit from significantly increased medical and behavioral resources at the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic, the Admissions & Recovery Center and the Pippen Fasseas Adoption Center. Purdue veterinary students, veterinary technology students and graduate students will support the PAWS Chicago team in all aspects of the organization's medical and behavioral operations. This involves working on the full spectrum of activities at the fast-paced, high-volume environment of the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic, including the initial exam, surgical prep, spay/neuter surgery and recovery. The

students will also be a valuable resource to PAWS Chicago's adoption program, assisting with the initial health assessments and exams, vaccinations, micro-chipping, diagnostic testing, and the daily care of the many sick and injured animals that are part of the adoption program.

Research initiatives will focus on minimizing the spread of disease in a shelter environment; how to prevent and/or shorten the recovery times for common shelter illnesses through innovations in technology, medical protocols and disease prevention; and the prevention of the deterioration of behavior that is sometimes seen in a shelter environment.

There are three principal objectives of the Purdue University program: 1) to educate and train future leaders in the field of Shelter Medicine, 2) to conduct research in the areas of Shelter Medicine and Pet Homelessness, and 3) to develop leadership in public education, dissemination of information and continuing education in Shelter Medicine.

When asked why they chose PAWS Chicago as a partner to collaborate with on this grant, Annette Litster, Director of the Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program at Purdue responded: "PAWS Chicago is a wonderful example of what can be done when dedicated and smart people work together to achieve something that they are passionate about. The facilities at both the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic and the Pippen Fasseas Adoption Center are state-of-the-art and they set a new benchmark for what can be achieved for pets in a shelter environment. These factors make PAWS an ideal learning environment for our students and I feel there is a real meeting of minds between PAWS and Purdue regarding the importance of our work and the areas we need to pursue to help improve the lives of shelter pets all over the USA."



*Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine*

Maddie's Fund is a family foundation funded by Workday and PeopleSoft Founder David Duffield and his wife, Cheryl. Maddie's Fund is helping to create a No Kill nation where all healthy and treatable shelter dogs and cats are guaranteed a loving home.

To achieve this goal, Maddie's Fund is investing its resources in building community collaborations where animal welfare organizations come together to develop successful models of lifesaving; in veterinary colleges to help shelter medicine become part of the veterinary curriculum; in private practice veterinarians

to encourage greater participation in the animal welfare cause; and in the implementation of national strategies to collect and report shelter statistics. Maddie's Fund is named after the family's beloved Miniature Schnauzer who passed away in 1997.

Purdue University is one of the top Veterinary Schools in the country, and is one of only two educational programs in North America that integrates the education of the veterinarian health care teams by training both veterinary technicians and veterinarians and incorporates animal behavior. This comprehensive team approach is ideally suited to advancing shelter medicine in this relatively new field. PAWS Chicago is looking forward to working with and proud to be partnering with Maddie's Fund and Purdue University in shaping, positively influencing and setting a new standard for the future of Shelter Medicine.

Laurie Peek, DVM, Maddie's Fund Veterinary Program Director is excited to see the results from this new partnership. "The wealth of new knowledge that will result from the collaboration of Purdue University and PAWS Chicago is incredibly exciting. We are glad to be able to bring these outstanding organizations together to advance shelter medicine for the benefit of homeless pets throughout the nation."



Pam Carey, CPA, MBA, is a regular contributor to *Angel Tales* magazine, and is the President of PAWS Chicago. Prior to joining PAWS in 2003 as Executive Director, Pam served in numerous management roles at BP Amoco, one of the world's largest energy companies.

### Some of the expected outcomes of the Purdue University program include:

- Two Maddie's PhD Students in Shelter-Based Population Medicine. These positions will result in two PhD theses with associated journal publications and potential contributions to national animal welfare policy development.
- Two Maddie's Animal Behavior Residents who will develop and publish uniform animal behavior guidelines to maximize shelter animal welfare and adoptability. Part of their research will be conducted at PAWS Chicago's Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic, Admissions & Recovery Center and Pippen Fasseas Adoption Center.
- Maddie's Post-DVM Fellows in Shelter Medicine – one-year fellowship positions. These training positions will enable experienced veterinarians to go out into the shelter community and advance the standards of medicine and animal welfare practiced in shelters throughout the USA. Nine months of the year long fellowship will be spent at PAWS Chicago.
- Fourth year veterinary students and second or third year veterinary technology students from Purdue will be given the opportunity to pursue a clinical rotation in shelter medicine at either PAWS Chicago or the Humane Society of Indianapolis. These opportunities for hands-on experience in state-of-the-art shelter environments have the potential to inspire and inform veterinary students and veterinary technology students at a critical stage in their professional education.
- Veterinary students will be given the opportunity to participate in Maddie's summer research experience. This experience is designed to stimulate and encourage future leaders in shelter medicine research.



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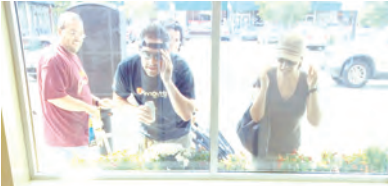
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## Pippen Fasseas Adoption & Humane Center nominated for Construction Award



On May 28, the Chicago Building Congress recognized the Pippen Fasseas Adoption Center as a finalist in its Best Construction Under \$10 Million category at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Merit Awards Dinner. The event, held at the Union League Club of Chicago, is the trade association's biggest event of the year, and honors outstanding construction projects in greater Chicagoland built during the past two years. Merit Awards are given for construction in four categories: New Construction—Chicago; New Construction—Suburbs; Rehab Construction; and Construction Under \$10 Million.





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# New Grant Dangles

## \$75 Million

### for Nonsurgical Pet Sterilization Research

By Kris Garvey



Dr. Gary Michelson, a spine surgeon turned medical inventor, has more than 900 issued or pending patents on devices and instruments that have enhanced complicated back and neck surgery. Now, the 60-year-old billionaire is devoting his life and his fortune to homeless pets. On October 16th at the SPAY/USA Conference in Chicago, his Found Animals Foundation announced *The Michelson Prize in Reproductive Biology*.

The Michelson Prize is designed to encourage researchers from a wide variety of scientific fields to take on the challenge of non-surgical pet sterilization. \$50 million in grant funding will be available for projects that show promising research in pursuit of a safe, effective, and practical non-surgical sterilant for use in cats and dogs. A \$25 million prize will go to the first innovative entity that produces a

sterilizing product that is: a single dose and is non-surgical; safe and effective in male and female cats and dogs; suitable for administration in a field setting, either orally or by injection; a viable pathway to regulatory approval; requires reasonable manufacturing process and cost.

With millions of pets killed every year in the United States because of pet overpopulation, a simple sterilization procedure could prevent unwanted litters of dogs and cats and save lives. Since pets reproduce exponentially, a single female dog or cat and her offspring can produce thousands of puppies or kittens in only a few years.

Sterilization is the most effective way to end the killing of homeless pets. In fact, it has been shown that in most cities, populations of cats and dogs stabilize when 70% of pets are spayed or neutered. As Dr. Michelson has said,

“We are killing millions of pets annually in the U.S. for the simple lack of a home, and sterilization programs are the only viable solution.”

According to Found Animals Executive Director Aimee Gilbreath, “Surgical spay/neuter procedures are just too expensive and inconvenient for many pet owners—we need a better solution.” A Stanford MBA, Gilbreath is now applying her business skills to the creation and development of sustainable business models within animal welfare after a corporate career in R&D at Motorola and as a Principal at Boston Consulting Group.

With an enticing financial incentive, Michelson, Gilbreath and all animal lovers have hope that the best and brightest scientific minds will rise to the challenge and develop an innovative product that will relieve the suffering of so many millions of pets.





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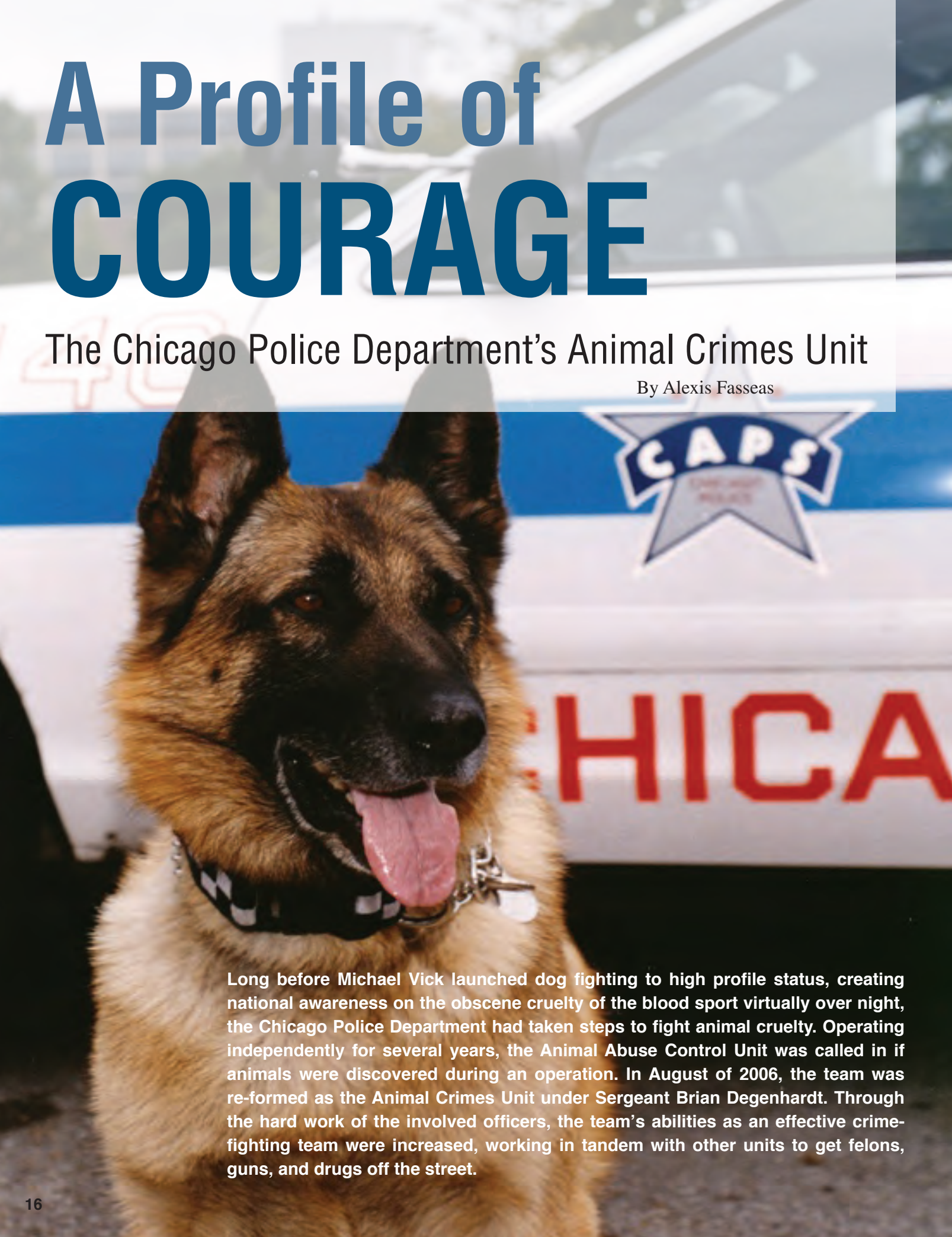
Chicago Dog Walkers



# A Profile of **COURAGE**

The Chicago Police Department's Animal Crimes Unit

By Alexis Fasseas



Long before Michael Vick launched dog fighting to high profile status, creating national awareness on the obscene cruelty of the blood sport virtually over night, the Chicago Police Department had taken steps to fight animal cruelty. Operating independently for several years, the Animal Abuse Control Unit was called in if animals were discovered during an operation. In August of 2006, the team was re-formed as the Animal Crimes Unit under Sergeant Brian Degenhardt. Through the hard work of the involved officers, the team's abilities as an effective crime-fighting team were increased, working in tandem with other units to get felons, guns, and drugs off the street.



**A**t first, Degenhardt was uncertain about the prospects of the Unit. Coming from the Hostage Barricade Team, he was unaccustomed to dealing with a small, undeveloped unit and he had no experience with animal-related crimes. But as a dedicated officer committed to doing whatever it took to fight crime and criminals in Chicago, he accepted the challenge and immediately began exploring his options.

Without any exposure to animal issues and without any guidance or expertise from predecessors, Degenhardt started with the basics: “I had to find out what an animal crimes offender was, so I pulled the criminal history of everyone arrested for an animal crime between 2001 and 2004, the only data that was available.” From the information compiled, he developed a profile of an animal crimes offender: narcotics dealer, narcotics user, gang member, generally convicted of other crimes such as domestic violence and child abuse, and 30% of the time caught with possession of a handgun used in other felonies. With the profile in hand, one month after assuming leadership, he was able to present a proposal to the Superintendent, showing how his team, if changed to the “Animal Crimes Unit”, could be effective at combating human violence as well. He was authorized to proceed.

Establishing the Unit’s credibility was no easy task; the new Animal Crimes Unit (ACU) had to prove that they could help reduce crime and get violent offenders behind bars.

**I**n the next seven months, the ACU began targeting the dangerous criminals who were also likely to be involved in animal crimes. The Animal Crimes Unit began to show that they could effectively reach criminals that other units could not by pursuing the animal angle of the case. For example, Tommy X\*, the Inca (leader) of the “26ers”, a subgroup of the Latin Kings, was highlighted as the number one target on the Department’s weekly bulletin because of his involvement with recent shootings. The Animal Crimes Unit was able to obtain a search warrant because of the condition of his Pit Bulls. The ACU was able to see the dogs were kept on short chains for countless hours each day and throughout the night. One dog did not have water. Another emaciated dog was starving to death. Barking inside alerted the Unit that there were also dogs inside the home. After obtaining the search warrant, they found two pounds of marijuana and ten dogs in total. Tommy was charged with 10 counts of felony dog fighting and possession of narcotics with the intent to deliver. They were able to take away the dogs and the Unit called the Building Department and Health Inspectors, who condemned the house. Thanks to the hard work of the Animal Crimes Unit, the gang leader was off the streets and they interrupted the cycle of violence by permanently removing him from the neighborhood.

In total their hard work in only eight months resulted in the execution of 19 search warrants, more than 70 arrests, and the recovery of more than 250 dogs. Over time, and thanks to the hardworking officers who made up the team, the ACU gained credibility and respect throughout the police department.

\*Name has been changed.

Unfortunately, Brian became sick, contracting the Cocksackie B virus. Eleven months later, defeating all odds after committing himself to intensive rehabilitation and receiving support from dedicated family, friends and coworkers, Brian Degenhardt returned to the Department.

Recognizing the importance of animal crimes to the Police Department’s efforts against gangs, guns and drugs, Superintendent Jody P. Weis transferred the Animal Crimes Unit to the Gang Investigations section of the Organized Crime Division in August 2008. At the same time, he placed Brian Degenhardt back in the Animal Crimes Unit.

In its new location, and under the direction of Commander Leo Schmitz, the Animal Crimes Unit executed its first search warrant the very next day, after Sergeant Degenhardt received information from a People’s Gas employee who had gone into the basement of a home and witnessed dogs in rancid condition. One female Pit Bull was near death. “They hadn’t been feeding her and she was breast feeding her six puppies,” Degenhardt recalls. “Without nutrition she was withering away. And both of the male Pit Bulls showed scarring around their muzzle, ears, front legs, and neck—indicative of dog fighting.” The team also recovered a handgun. “Our gang crimes unit has found that tracking a dog fighting ring in the city is no different than tracking down a dangerous gang member because dangerous dogs are like dangerous weapons,” said Commander Leo Schmitz of the Organized Crime Division. “Animal fighting has surfaced as a nationwide crime problem and the Chicago Police Department is taking aggressive steps in dismantling this criminal enterprise,” he added.

**I**n the two months since the Animal Crimes Unit was reconstituted, the team has executed nine search warrants, resulting in the arrest of nine criminals, the rescue of 57 dogs and confiscation of 25 grams of crack cocaine, seven handguns, three rifles, a box of .22 caliber magnum round hollow-point ammunition that pierces body armor, and dog fighting paraphernalia.

But this is only the beginning for the unit. Superintendent Jody Weis has recognized the realigned unit as a major component in the Department’s crime fighting strategies. “By taking the necessary steps to reinvigorate the Animal Crimes Unit, I believe the department has taken a positive step to attack the problem of gangs, guns, and drugs, that plague many of today’s cities,” Weis stressed. “While it is sad and cruel that many gang members use these helpless animals to pursue and satisfy their blood lust, this activity does allow law enforcement another option to combat this threat to our way of life.”

With the new Superintendent, Jody Weis, committed to developing a state-of-the-art Animal Crimes Unit, Chicago will be a much safer place.



Alexis Fasseas is Editor-in-Chief of *Angel Tales* and helped found PAWS Chicago in 1997. She is currently pursuing her JD-MBA at Northwestern University.



## PAWS Chicago Adoption Aims to Dispel Pit Bull Myth by Adopting Ambassadors for the Breed

By Vicki Smith Doyle and Rochelle Michalek

Today, virtually every Pit Bull in America that ends up in an Animal Control facility is given a death sentence. The Pit Bull is not a specific breed. Rather, “Pit Bull” is a term encompassing three or four breeds of dogs including the Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, the American Staffordshire Terrier, and the Staffordshire Bull Terrier—breeds known for being particularly well-suited for children and families. But now maligned by stereotypes and people who misuse and abuse them for protection and profit, thousands are killed each year without being given the chance for adoption.

PAWS Chicago continues its own fight to dispel the myth of the Pit Bull as a “vicious dog” by successfully finding happy homes for many loving Pit Bulls and Pit mixes each year. Through a preliminary evaluation to ensure a temperament well-suited for a companion pet, PAWS Chicago places wonderful Pit Bulls up for adoption and works with prospective adopters to ensure they understand the breed and know how to care for and train them – thus setting them up for life as ideal companions.

Combining K9 University training expertise with its own Meet Your Match Program, PAWS Chicago pairs the needs of each pet with those of potential adopters. Initially, PAWS Chicago uses the Safer Testing program to gauge the temperament of the dogs it admits to the adoption program. In the case of Pit Bulls, K9 University conducts an additional assessment and offers guidance on the best type of home environment, activity levels, and enrichment the dog will need. New adoptees also receive K9 University training post adoption.

The following stories, each a PAWS Chicago success story, show that Pit Bulls make wonderful companions.

### Porter’s Story

Porter, originally found as a stray, came to PAWS Chicago from Animal Care and Control. Although he needed some help with his manners, PAWS Chicago found him to be a friendly and active guy. He loved to play and seemed like a quick learner. In time, two PAWS Chicago visitors, Chris and Maura, were also taken with Porter’s good looks, energy and happy temperament. Their recent update proves that with the right training and love, these stigmatized animals can become loving family members. They write:

“Porter is an athlete and an adventurer at heart. He is always on his toes when we are outside, spotting squirrels and rabbits from a mile away. He leads a busy life, attending the dog beach on the weekends, where he usually finds a friend to race. Porter is unaware of his 50-pound stature, and often jumps onto our laps to cuddle. Although he is never short on showing his affection, Porter also enjoys peaceful solitude. He is independent, but stays in tune with the rest of his family. He is an explorer in the woods, but always stays within ear shot. He is well-rounded, almost to the point where we feel like he is our friend instead of our pet.”

Chris and Maura had such a wonderful experience with Porter, that after living with him for about six months they came to PAWS Chicago to adopt another dog. They adopted Benson, a male Pit Bull-mix puppy. They quickly became affectionate and protective brothers.



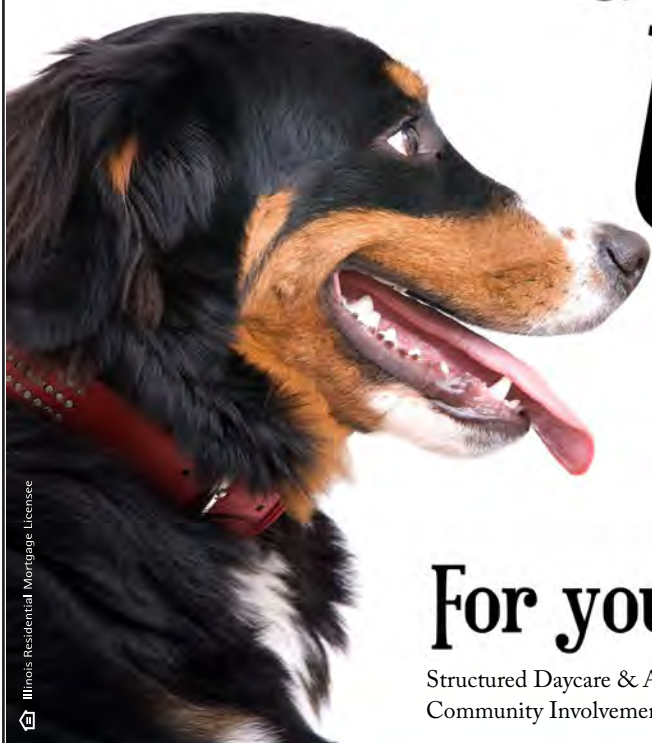


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According to his new family, “Porter is always aware of where his little brother is and what kind of trouble he is getting into. Porter has been a good influence on his little brother, Benson, because he is patient and so well-mannered. When another dog approaches, Porter sits and waits patiently for him to give him a good sniff. He has never met a dog, man or child that he hasn’t loved.”

## Luna’s Story

Luna was another Pit Bull who came to PAWS Chicago from Animal Care and Control after being seized in a cruelty case. Despite her emaciated body, which was covered with scars, she seemed, to the PAWS Chicago personality evaluator, to be sweet and docile. In fact, Luna scored a “Purple”, the PAWS Chicago Meet Your Match program label meaning she would make a devoted and constant companion for a lucky adopter. Visitors were soon drawn to Luna’s funny, wiggly body and her charming underbite. Although her body showed evidence of mistreatment, her demeanor was positive and happy—just the type of dog that adopters Natalie and Samir were searching for. The couple adopted Luna, and recently sent PAWS Chicago the following update:

“Other than knowing that Luna was a cruelty case, we know very little about her past. However, judging from the scars that mark her face, neck, legs and back, we can tell that, prior to coming to us, her life was far from easy. Luna seemed to know very little about the world outside. She didn’t know how to go up and down stairs and she was afraid of walks. She did not know any commands and was fearful of everything.

After a few weeks with us, Luna built up confidence. She even learned how to tell us she needed to go outside. We enrolled in an obedience class and suddenly Luna became a new dog. She learned to sit, lie down and shake. She also learned self-restraint and now knows how to stay and to wait. More importantly, Luna also started to learn how to be around other dogs. While Luna still cannot play with other dogs off leash, she can now meet other dogs while she is on a leash and knows how to check in with us. She loves meeting other dogs and wags her tail the minute she sees them.

In the house, Luna is our constant companion. She loves to be where we are. She spends afternoons sleeping in Samir’s office while he works and keeps me company in the kitchen when I make dinner. At night she snuggles up on her pillow next to the couch as we watch movies.

She has a basket of toys that she occupies herself with for hours. We are planning to enroll Luna in an advanced class this spring so we can work with her on off-leash skills, and would also like to complete the Canine Good Citizen Program.”

## Sam’s Story

Sam came to PAWS Chicago extremely under-socialized with people and other animals. He was terrified and kept his head and tail down, likely a victim of neglect and abuse and clearly in need of a patient, loving home. Like the PAWS Chicago volunteers and staff, Jonah and



Vicki were drawn to him. They adopted him and soon discovered the joy of owning a Pit Bull. They write:

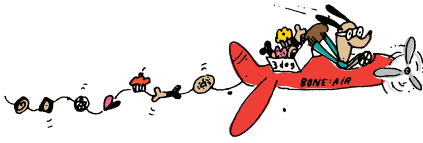
“We adopted Sam from PAWS Chicago back in January. He had been abused and abandoned – (we) could only imagine how nervous and scared he was. His tail couldn’t have been further tucked up underneath him. It was obvious that in his (first) three years he had limited socialization with other animals or humans.

Since we’ve had Sam, he has opened up tremendously, not only with us, but with our friends and family members, and ever so slowly with other dogs. He has started to play and has shown such a sweet and caring side. His tail is always wagging now. Sam is a perfect example of the resilience of the Pit Bull breed. After clearly being raised in a horrible situation, Sam has learned that it’s OK to trust and feel comfortable with humans.”





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## VCA Animal Hospital and PAWS Chicago Partner for Homeless Animals

VCA Animal Hospitals and PAWS Chicago have joined forces to give newly adopted pets the healthiest possible start. The program is especially beneficial to homeless animals—especially puppies and kittens, whose immune systems are underdeveloped—that have been surviving on the streets since birth. Street life has forced these animals to scavenge for food and a place to sleep, while exposure to the harsh Chicago weather further weakens their immune systems. For this reason, shelter animals become particularly susceptible to disease including upper respiratory infections, kennel cough, diarrhea and vomiting of infectious origin, internal parasites, common skin disorders, and

urinary tract infections.

This is where the VCA/PAWS Chicago partnership comes into play. VCA has committed to providing all animals adopted from PAWS Chicago with a healthcare program of complimentary treatments up to \$500, for the first weeks following the adoption. This includes an Overall Wellness Exam and 14-day follow up care for common shelter illnesses. Treatments must begin within five days after the adoption to be complimentary.

Through the VCA/PAWS Chicago partnership, homeless animals get a fresh start and a healthy “welcome home” from their new and loving families.

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# RESCUE WORK IN EGYPT

American news often focuses on the Middle East, and the reports are usually bad—war, political and religious extremism, and authoritarian regimes feature prominently in our media. A story of hope, compassion, and courage comes from the Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals (ESMA), located in Cairo, Egypt, and offers a chance for Chicagoans to directly support these Egyptians working to help animals in almost impossible circumstances.

by Kristen Stilt



Unlike in America, Cairo's animal welfare issues are forced into the public eye at every turn. Images of dogs and cats living and dying on the streets in huge numbers, and malnourished horses and donkeys pulling excessively heavy carts confront tourists and residents every day. Despite a long history of attention to animal welfare in Islamic law, modern Egypt has failed to care properly for its animal citizens. The Egyptian government's idea of animal population control consists of poisoning and shooting homeless dogs and cats.

United by a sense of outrage about the situation, and a passion to make a difference, a group of Egyptians formed The Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals (ESMA).

Headquartered in Cairo, ESMA currently provides a home to 179 dogs and 123 cats, and focuses on emergency rescue cases, rehabilitation, and adoption. ESMA Vice President Mona Khalil, who runs the day-to-day operations at the shelter (in addition to her full time job as a broadcast journalist) says that, "education is the key to the future of animal welfare in Egypt. Ignorance produces this cruelty that we see on a daily basis; ignorance about the many ways in which even a poor society can do much better for its animals."

ESMA teaches proper animal care and compassion. "We have made huge progress within the semi-rural community in which our shelter is located," Khalil explains, "because



we provide the only source of care people have for their animals.” ESMA provides animals in need with free spaying and neutering, as well as free medical care.

With animal welfare a new field in Egypt, ESMA faces challenges that range from a lack of veterinarian medical supplies to difficulty finding employees to work at the shelter. Graduates of veterinary school have never worked with cats and dogs, since vet schools focus mainly on animals for consumption. ESMA has begun offering vet students internships that provide them with hands-on experience with companion animals, generating interest in this new field of vet care. “Vet students can face ridicule from their families and peers for wanting to work with dogs and cats,” Khalil explains, “We have to help them understand that their work is essential and honorable.” ESMA hopes to be able to send its vets for short training courses in the U.S. in the future.



Misunderstandings of religion also challenge ESMA in its work. Under some interpretations of Islam, dogs are considered ritually impure, and handlers are required to wash the part of the body or clothing that has been in contact with the dog

The Egyptian government’s idea of **animal population control** consists of **poisoning and shooting** the dogs and cats **on the street**.

before prayer. Unfortunately, many Egyptians take this purity issue and its accompanying rules to the extreme, harming dogs on the street despite its reprehensibility in Islamic law. ESMA has helped to produce a primer on Islamic law and animal welfare, which will be widely distributed this fall. ESMA has undertaken a capital campaign to raise the funds to buy land to construct its permanent shelter and medical center. Currently it operates on rented land, and so is limited to the existing infrastructure.

Visit [www.esmaegypt.org](http://www.esmaegypt.org) to find out more information about how you can help.



Kristen Stilt is an Associate Professor of Law and History at Northwestern University School of Law. She helped found the Egyptian Society for Mercy to Animals.

## FROM REVERENCE TO REVULSION

The plight of Egyptian cats wasn’t always bleak. In ancient Egypt, cats were not only revered, they were worshipped and fiercely protected. The Egyptian god, Bast, “the protector” was depicted in the



form of a wild cat. Cats in Egypt were placed in high standing, not only for their job of protecting crops and killing vermin and snakes, but for the spiritual mystique that surrounded them. In exchange for their protection, the cats lived lavish lives, often eating at human tables, and sleeping in human beds. Citizens went out of their way to protect cats, and it became a capital crime to harm or kill a cat, whether intentional or accidental.

Statues were created to honor them, with amulets used for their eyes, which were looked upon as “all seeing, protective and all knowing”. When cats died, they were often mummified to allow their spirits to unite with their earthly bodies. Today, tombs of Egyptian leaders and royalty are still discovered with mummified cats inside.

As time passed the image of Bast softened and the feline god came to represent fertility and beauty. Bast statues were created showing the cat surrounded by kittens, and women began imitating the feline look of almond-shaped eyes that turned up at the edges.

The worship of cats ended sometime in 390 AD, when the worship of Bast was banned.

# Marley & Me

by Karen O'Shaughnessy

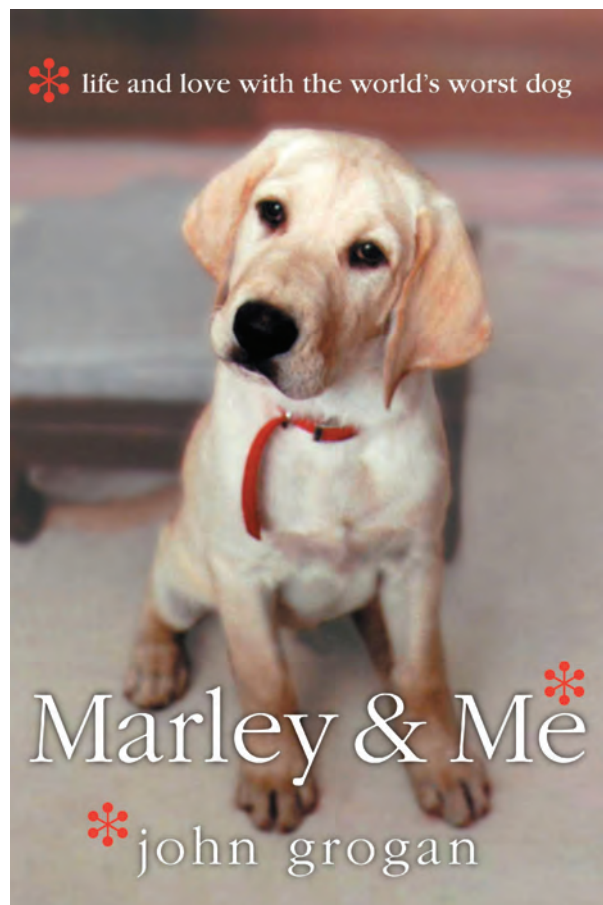
“*I have this theory... that people can learn a lot from their dogs. Lessons on how to lead happier, more fulfilling lives. Lessons for successful relationships. Think about it. Many of the qualities that come so effortlessly to dogs – loyalty, devotion, selflessness, unflagging optimism, unqualified love – can be elusive to humans.*”

**John Grogan, Author of *Marley & Me***

If human beings find the moral fabric of their lives through example, then loveable Labrador Retriever Marley, is The Great Teacher. Although Michigan-born author, John Grogan's journalistic career in newspapers and magazines provided him with countless stories and opportunities to experience life and all its lessons, the most important lessons seem to come from a dog he acquired “for a bargain” during the first year of his marriage. Through Marley, Grogan and his wife, Jenny, learn to navigate through the freedom and independence of newlywed life to the deeper side of love—through compromise and acceptance, in good times and in bad.

As Grogan and Jenny move through life's challenges (changing jobs, relocating, conceiving a child, miscarriage, post partum depression and illness), Marley faithfully moves with them. When their hearts break after a miscarriage, Marley's head hangs in sympathy. And when they discover they've conceived again, it is Marley who steals the pregnancy test results then gives himself away by dancing his signature “Marley Mambo”—tail-wagging so vigorously it shakes his entire back half!

In no way, however, is Marley the perfect dog. An obedience school reject, his dirty deeds test the couple's patience and good will as much as his unconditional love teaches them! Although totally without malice, Marley is, as Grogan describes him, “the



world's worst dog"! So bad, that the obedience class instructor, whom Grogan refers to as Miss Dominatrix, uses Marley as an example of “what not to do” before expelling him. He is neurotic, with a fear of thunder so intense that the vet describes him as mentally ill and prescribes doggie Xanax to keep him from hurting himself during storms when he plows through drywall and chews off doorknobs in the Grogan household. He shreds screen doors, gouges couches, and ingests fine jewelry.

And Marley is social, if not socially skilled, as the Grogan's horrified neighbors witness one sunny afternoon as the 97-pound wrecking ball drags a food-laden restaurant table half a mile down a crowded Florida beach to his canine friends. The dog brazenly goes after what he wants in the name of fun, (nearly ousting himself from the Grogan family in the process), forcing the couple to redefine their idea of a “loveable” dog.

This redefined idea of what it means to love and be loveable is the message *Marley & Me* drives home. Marley is easy to love, not because he's cute and entertains, but because his misdeeds and weaknesses make the end result of loving him so sweet – because they become better people.

*Marley & Me* is now a major motion picture, scheduled to be in theaters on December 23, 2008.



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# A Healing HEART



By Emily Alexander Strong

Lab with a wise old  
soul helps family  
navigate loss





## There was little discussion of who would keep Tag,

---

my brother's young black Labrador retriever, after John's death. Tag was a living connection to John, and though a grief greater than my own was unfathomable, I knew my mother needed him most. She had lost her broad-shouldered, broad-grinned son.

---

She needed Tag, if only to curl up with when death's demons haunted.

Tag and my mother mourned together. During their first year, a solid rap on the door would send Tag into the full-body wagging frenzy he reserved for his master's return. In the seconds before rationality reigned, Mom, too, hoped my brother was about to bound into the house. She had hung John's Carhartt jacket and ratty baseball cap on a hook above his cowboy boots in her mudroom. It deluded her into thinking that he would be coming back from Colorado for Christmas vacation, with another semester of veterinary school under his belt, on the days when denial was her only method of survival.

John and I had often booked the same flight from Denver to Chicago to descend on Mom in unison for the holidays. On this winter morning I sat alone, squeezed between strangers. I dreaded Christmas without John. Uncovering the ornament he had made in first grade or his knit stocking, stretched out from our tradition of flooding each other with gag gifts, promised to reignite anguish that would feel new and raw all over again. At least I had Tag to look forward to. I couldn't wait to see that dog.

I was approaching our prearranged meeting place outside O'Hare when I saw them – the unmistakable combination of my stylish mother behind the wheel and a slobbering, yet regal, Tag, straining out the back-seat window. My mom and I greeted each other cautiously, not out of animosity, but restraint. We instinctively knew that if we held each other's gaze the sorrow of another holiday without John would overwhelm our weak levee.

"I'll sit in back with Tag," I said in a desperate attempt to throw sandbags between our grief. "How's my boy?" I asked into his eyes while ruffling

his ears and scratching him under the collar, where he liked it best. As we pulled away from the airport, Tag straddled my lap to resume his position at the window. Breathing his freshly shampooed scent, I rested my head on his side and hid my burning eyes from Mom's glances in the rearview mirror.

Despite the lapses between visits to my mother's house, Tag and I were inseparable when we were under the same roof. He slept at the foot of my bed, trotting down the stairs after my slipped feet, waited as I fixed my coffee, and even crowded into the bathroom as I showered and blew my hair dry. What made this unusual was that Tag was generally aloof. While my mom adored her dog, she complained that he wasn't cuddly, that he'd always give her his rump to scratch instead of his muzzle.

I couldn't help remembering that John was the same way. As the only male in our household for many years, John would often put the brakes on touchy-feely stuff. He told my mom he would give her backrubs – he on the couch, she sitting in front of him on the floor – only if she refrained from pleasurable noises. An "ooh, that feels good," and his hands were in the air. "I'm outta here," he would say and be off the couch heading to the kitchen to pour himself a Coke.

My practical self attributed Tag's uncharacteristic affection to my resemblance to John. Like me, John had been fair-skinned with honey-colored hair; perhaps we even had a smell or pheromone in common. But my spiritual self believed it was more than that – that part of John's soul was with Tag, and when Tag and I were together, John and I were too, in some way.

In fact, until this trip home for the holidays, I had sometimes wondered if I should have inherited Tag. Tag's adjustment would have been less jarring if he had stayed with me in Colorado and had an owner who was closer to John's age and lifestyle. Yet, I knew my motivations were primarily selfish, and now I was witnessing how beautifully Mom and Tag were piecing their lives together.

Mom had resumed her work as a photographer; and Tag now chased water birds along the shores of Lake Michigan rather than the chickens John kept on his property near the Rocky Mountains. Tag now heeled alongside Mom, though to her right side, the way my left-handed brother had purposely trained him so that he'd be away from the rifle on their occasional hunting trips. Tag's stellar behavior evoked a pride in Mom, not only in Tag, but also in her son's fine ability with animals. Mom glimpsed John through Tag the way one sees a deceased loved one in a child who bears her likeness.

As Mom and I sipped coffee in front of the Christmas tree on my first morning home, she invited me to witness a pet assisted therapy program that she and Tag had become involved with over the last year. She was introduced to the program by a stranger who had remarked how well trained Tag was.

"Yes, he is wonderful, but that credit really goes to my son," Mom had explained.

During the brief conversation that followed, the man said he volunteered with a group that helped others through the use of dogs. Then and there, Mom had resolved to sign up. The next day, however, she'd questioned whether she had the emotional strength to work with people who had disabilities. We were grateful John's departure from this world had been quick and peaceful. His girlfriend had smiled between sobs as she recounted that she and

## Canine Therapy Corps

Canine Therapy Corps is a Chicago-based interactive rehabilitation program that uses a network of dogs to help motivate people who face physical, emotional and/or cognitive challenges. The free, animal-assisted therapy uses canine "volunteers" to foster a unique bond with those patients who are difficult to reach through traditional forms of therapy.

Therapy dogs in the animal assisted therapy program (AAT) are an integral part of each patient's individually prescribed rehabilitation process, which combines the expertise of physicians, psychotherapists, counselors, and rehabilitation therapists with a trained and certified dog to help improve cognitive, physical and emotional function.

**For more information on Canine Therapy visit [caninetherapycorps.org](http://caninetherapycorps.org)**

my brother had been goofing off on the mountain just moments before John, an expert skier, inexplicably collided with a tree, rupturing his aorta. John had, at least, not suffered—unlike those whom my mother would train Tag to assist. Despite her hesitations, Mom summoned the courage to contact the organization.

"Canine Therapy Corps," a cheerful woman answered.

"My name is Mary Ann Alexander, and I have my son's dog. Well, he's my dog now," she began.

The compassionate voice interrupted. "I know about your son, Mary Ann. My husband works with John's father. I was at the funeral. My name is Carole Hunt." This was an almost eerie coincidence in a city the size of Chicago. My mother's resolve to train Tag in pet-assisted therapy was restored. Tag was hers for a reason. Maybe this was it.

When Mom received the Canine Therapy Corps brochure in the mail a few days later, she settled on the rug beside Tag to read it. The literature emphasized that, more than providing companionship, these therapy dogs helped with the rehabilitation of patients. The dogs needed to be not only well-trained but also gentle enough to work with children and energetic enough to engage a person with a disability. They must be patient and unbothered by wheelchairs, walkers, back braces or helmets as well as the awkward movements and vocalizations of some of the patients. Few dogs pass the rigorous obedience screening on the first try. The test date was only two weeks away.

"You'll do it, Tag," Mom said, as she slid onto her side to lock eyes with her best friend. In a rare but increasingly frequent show of affection, Tag covered her face with kisses. When the time came, Tag obeyed every instruction with an attentiveness that would have made John proud. Tag and my mother were invited into the program.

Now, sitting in Mom's kitchen a year later, I saw no trace of the initial butterflies she'd had, as she saddled Tag with his official work vest in preparation for tonight's session. I, however, was nervous,



## Tag with John



even in my limited role as an observer. Then I remembered Mom commenting that Tag's omniscient look had allayed her fears. When I saw the pure intention in his eyes, I felt my internal compass needle, haywire for over a year, regain its bearings.

Tag looked handsome, even cocky, as he leaped into the back seat to be driven to the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC). From the front seat I turned to tell him, "You know John wants you to do this, don't you, smart boy?"

Mom's eyes smiled – the sandbags between us long gone as we pulled onto Lakeshore Drive. The RIC elevator door opened to a large recreation room milling with patients, therapy dogs and their owners. Mom's preeminence in the program showed as she was swallowed by the group to answer last minute questions before the therapy began. Eventually, all the dogs and volunteers, paired with their patients, were spread throughout the room. In one corner, a young man negotiated trading his walker for a leash, while a teenage girl pressed her dormant vocals cords into service to command a dog to sit.

For Mom and Tag, this was the last night of a six-week partnership with a seven-year-old girl named Samantha. In an automobile accident on Christmas Eve, Samantha had lost her little sister and been partially paralyzed on her right side. She was in a wheelchair and had lost much of her speech. An older sister and both parents, who had survived the wreck with minor injuries, were there to cheer Samantha on.

Sam had fallen in love with Tag the first night they worked together. Initially, Sam would pet Tag only with her left hand, until my mother, remembering her training, urged Sam to pet him with her right hand. As Sam fought to communicate with her right side, Tag nudged her hand with his wet nose. Tag's touch made Sam giggle, evoking a gasp from her mother, who hadn't heard her laugh since before the accident. Slowly, Sam's hand obeyed her brain's signal. She extended her clenched fist enough to knock on Tag's shoulder. It was a tremendous achievement.

Every Tuesday night for six weeks, Tag helped Samantha overcome her paralysis. Sam learned to uncurl her fist to accept a tennis ball and then to throw it to Tag, who retrieved it and

begged for more. Their favorite game involved Sam balancing a dog biscuit on Tag's nose while he waited for the command to nod his head and catch the biscuit. Now, Sam's actions with Tag were almost fluid, and she said his name clearly.

Samantha's mother, Julie, told us that every time they got into the car, the little girl would ask, "Tag?" – hoping they were on their way to the RIC. I listened as my mother shared with Julie her story of losing her son. My mother hadn't wanted to burden Julie with our loss. Tonight, though, as Julie presented my mother with a bouquet of flowers for all she had done, it seemed appropriate. Upon hearing about John, Julie commented, "Your son was going to be a veterinarian so he could heal animals, but now his animal heals people."

With Christmas behind me, I boarded my flight back to Denver. As I buckled my seat belt, I noticed Tag's straight black hairs covering my beige corduroy pants, and smiled. Brushing the hairs from my lap, I thought how Tag was with me in more ways than just his shedding coat. Tag has taught me, my mother and even Samantha's mom Julie that there is hope after tragedy.

In the days after John's death, I had fearfully asked Mom, "Will we ever be okay again?" She responded that she did not know how we ever could be. Yet, we are okay – due in large part to a huge-hearted black Lab with a wise old soul.

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## A Note from the Author

A theme in "A Healing Heart" is the serendipity that brought my mother and Tag to The Canine Therapy Corps. In yet another act of serendipity, *Angel Tales* contacted me for permission to reprint this essay shortly after our dear Tag had passed away, quite suddenly, from liver cancer. As expected, the grief that followed was heightened by Tag's prominence, both physically and symbolically, in my mother's life. She is still struck by his loss in those moments when, lost in habit, she is surprised he hasn't come running at the sound of keys lifted from the table. In some ways, Tag's passing brought closure to a difficult chapter. Once again, my mother's resiliency awes. And perhaps now, Tag is again heeling on my left-handed brother's right side.



Emily Alexander Strong's essays about motherhood and family have been published in *It's a Girl: Women Writers on Raising Daughters*, the *Cup of Comfort* series, *Mothering Magazine* online and *The Bark*. She and her family, including Georgia, a black lab of her own, live in Ashland, Oregon. This essay was previously published in *The Bark* magazine and *A Cup of Comfort for Dog Lovers*.

# Hershey

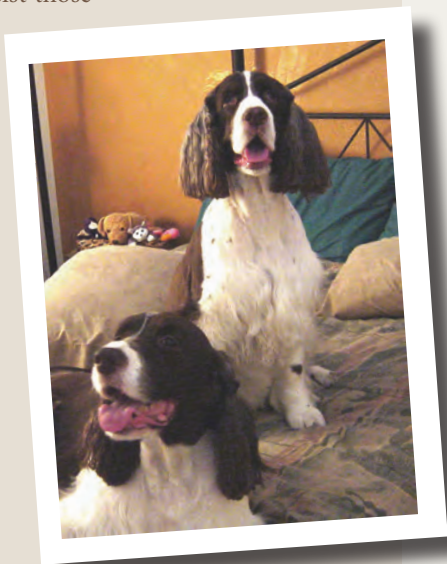
I have been a volunteer with PAWS Chicago for over six years and I am now a Professional Board member.

Hershey was the sweetest, best friend a girl could have. He was a beautiful Springer Spaniel that I shared my life with for 16 years. One day we were far from home and he was having a hard time breathing and making odd noises. I took him to the nearest vet I could find. After an X-ray it was found he had a large mass attached to his liver that was altering his breathing. A little over three weeks later I found myself sitting on the floor dribbling water in his mouth. I told him it was okay to go, I would miss him but he needed to rest. He refused. My vet opened on Sunday morning and I took him in. His eyes told me that he understood and it was okay that I helped him. He went away quietly.

The hole he left in my life was huge. Reilley, my other Springer who I had rescued a few years earlier, and I sat and cried for a long time. Though it was the most difficult thing I had ever done, I was glad that I made the decision. I found consolation in relieving him from pain. Unfortunately, three months later Reilley passed in his sleep. I was devastated. I couldn't go home. I hated to walk in the house alone. I went into a local shelter while waiting for my car to be repaired and found a quiet beautiful female Tri-Color Springer that had been relinquished only a day before. She came up and licked my hand. I felt warmed by the experience and I recognized that doors close in order to allow others to open. She came to share my home.

Each person is different. Many ask, "how could you volunteer at PAWS Chicago or English Springer Rescue so soon?" I couldn't stop helping. I wasn't sure when/if I wanted another pet. It just happened. You have to know in your heart what you are ready for. Sometimes it helps the pain to assist those that are here. Assist them to find others like the loved one you lost fulfilled yours. You never know what you'll find along the way.

**Cathy Skortz**



# Cherish

For many people, the death of their pet comes with many difficult decisions. Because each pet is different, as are his or her owners, options, feelings and coping mechanisms vary. Experts predict that over half the human population has a pet at home. The average life expectancy for pets is 15-16 years. Given these statistics, it's safe to say that a great number of people will experience the death of a pet at least once in their lifetimes.

The relationship between humans and their pets is often described by psychologists as a simple one—free of the complications that people experience in dealing with each other and full of unconditional love. This can often make the grieving process more intense when a pet dies. A pet is a constant companion, and facing its loss can be devastating. Angela, who is facing the impending death of her own cat, says, "Stones is my baby. I got her as a kitten and raised her, right after I moved out of my parents' house. She has lived my adult life with me and this is, by far the most 'adult' decision I've ever made. It's terrible and nowadays I can't look at her without apologizing or crying."

Dr. Amir Shanan, DVM, who runs the Compassionate Veterinary Care facility and is one of the country's leading veterinarians on hospice practices, euthanasia and end-of-life conversations, urges grieving "pet parents," as he calls them, to consider all the options. "We don't have a lot of control over the fact that we're losing our pet," Dr. Shanan explains. "We still have control over a lot of things and having that control can make a really big difference in how we experience the grief."



# Dealing with the death of a Loved Pet

By Christine Fugate

Dr. Shanan feels that working with a vet to explore options is the best course of action, such as providing pets with hospice care at home, acupuncture, and exploring holistic medicines to provide comfort to a pet with an illness. Dr. Shanan's Lincoln Park practice offers human-friendly hospital rooms for ailing pets that require constant vet care. The individual rooms have sofas for pet parents to sleep on overnight to be near their pets.

Only in extreme cases does Dr. Shanan allow for euthanasia. Dr. Shanan provides an at-home euthanasia service for geriatric pets, and people who feel that their pet might feel more comfort remaining at home. His at-home euthanasia clients are largely not a part of his practice and are mostly referrals from other veterinarians who are hoping to give their clients the option to euthanize at home. This service, Dr. Shanan feels is "ideal" but cautions pet parents to think ahead, as at-home euthanasia can be costly. "Once you have a full list of options, the choices you make should be made with the idea that you have to live with that choice after the fact."

Michelle, who currently has two cats adopted from PAWS, says, "On the two occasions I've had to have a pet euthanized, one of the worst parts of the experience was knowing they were frightened by being plucked out of the only home they've ever known into an antiseptic room where nothing good ever happens to them." Given the choice, I would definitely opt to have a pet euthanized at home."

*Continued on next page*

I'd never known the kind of love I shared with my boxer Bentley, the first dog of my own. She had so much fire and such a huge personality. We did everything together. Took naps, played, visited friends, even watched movies. Within a year of getting Bentley, I got married and my husband took a job in Chicago.

Neither Bentley nor I took to Chicago well, but we would go to the dog park and enjoy our time together. In August, Bentley began to have seizures. Her vet placed her on medication, but she got sicker and sicker. I stayed home with her everyday, cleaning her after her many accidents and feeding her baby food. After about a month of very few good days and many bad ones, we took her to get an MRI. She had a tumor in her brain and we had to put her down that very night. She wasn't even two years old.

I was devastated. She was my whole world here and my best friend. There were days I didn't think I'd go on. My heart was so broken. My husband was worried sick about me but couldn't miss work. Unfortunately, to many, the death of a pet is not considered as big of a deal as it truly is. I had friends and family call me, but I didn't want to talk. I couldn't talk about her, think about her, look at any of her favorite spots in the house without breaking down.

But if I tried to stop thinking about

her, I felt even worse. I felt guilty. With no family here, I felt that no one would even notice that someone so special was gone.

To keep her memory alive, I wanted to make something to send to the people who loved her. Similar to the memorial cards at funerals, with loved ones' pictures, prayers and stories, I set out to create a pet memorial card for Bentley. I was surprised how much it helped me to

pick a picture, a prayer and think of the positive things she gave me.

## Bentley

After receiving positive feedback from family and friends, I have decided to try to make these memorials for others who have lost a pet. I have found this work is a great way to remember Bentley and to share her love and memory as I help others share the memory of their beloved pets. It helps to know other people are thinking of those we love when we are going through the difficult time of saying goodbye.

Darcy Goeken



The grieving process during the end of a pet's life is different for everyone, but may include some of the complex emotions of the grief cycle, which are guilt, denial, anger and depression. Experts recommend speaking to others who understand pet loss and can provide support to pet parents.

In addition, many online sites have chat rooms and message boards for grieving pet owners to utilize. Dr. Shanan says that his practice receives many phone calls from grieving pet parents and his well-trained staff will stay on the phone as long as needed, even if there are clients in the waiting room. "When you're at a point as a pet parent and you have a decision that many people say is the most difficult in their life, being heard, being validated, the message they get from us is, of course, you're sad," Dr. Shanan says. "That alone gives the caller some strength that they didn't have five minutes earlier."

Memorializing a pet can be a healthy part of the grieving process. Dr. Shanan recommends reminiscing about the pet's life with friends and family. Writing a letter to a pet may help clarify a pet parent's grief. A framed photo or a photo album can help remind a pet parent of their pet.

Some people keep the ashes of their pets and bury them in a spot favored by their pet.

Many pet owners wonder if they should get another pet, but can feel guilty about "replacing" their pet. Most animal lovers enjoy the pet relationship so much that they do adopt another pet when they feel the time is right. Michelle says, "I knew I could adopt again because every pet has a distinct personality. My son and I waited about a year until we could handle young cats and then we looked for months for the right cats for us."

Losing a pet can be one of the most devastating things to happen to a pet owner. Sometimes the loss is sudden, but more often it is the result of an illness or condition that has worsened over time, facing the pet owner with the difficult decision of whether to euthanize or let the animal die naturally. The fact that it is difficult to gauge how much a pet may be suffering, makes the decision all the more difficult. Support and understanding are especially important to seek out. For Angela, whose cat Stones has been a steadfast friend for nine years, life without her seems empty. "I can't imagine walking through this door and not hav(ing) her here."

## Resources:

[www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org)  
PAWS Chicago

[www.compassionforpets.org](http://www.compassionforpets.org)  
Compassion for Pets

[www.pet-loss.net](http://www.pet-loss.net)  
Pet Loss Support

[www.aplb.org](http://www.aplb.org)  
Association for Pet Loss and Bereavement

[www.mypetloss.com](http://www.mypetloss.com)  
My Pet Loss



Christine Fugate is a writer who hails from Chicago. She is pictured here with PAWS adoptee, Missy (formerly Dallas), one of her pet sitting clients.

Balou, our beloved Chocolate Lab passed on July 2, 2008. He was 13 1/2 years old and this has been the hardest loss we have ever had to deal with.

Balou was diagnosed with lung cancer in June and the vet told us we would have about a month to spend with him. During that month, of course, we spoiled him even more than usual and spent all of our time with him. My husband, who travels extensively for work, even held back on his travel schedule so he could be home for Balou. It seemed like Balou regressed back to a pup again. He was chasing squirrels and hunting for tennis balls in our local park. He was eating *everything* and we just could not wrap our minds around the fact that he was sick and we were going to soon lose him.

In honor of Balou, for the PAWS 8K race, I named my team Balou's Babes and recruited a few girlfriends to join in the race with me. Together we came in 3rd overall in donations and I believe raised over \$4,000 for PAWS Chicago, all in honor of our best friend Balou.

# BALOU

I have to say that Balou had an incredible life. He has lived in Singapore, New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago. He has driven to and from Chicago to Los Angeles a couple of times and had his photos in all the states along the way. He was our only "child" and now our home seems empty and boring without him. He was such a character and made us laugh on a daily basis.

I know we have a lot of love to give another dog and in due time we will search out a special dog to share our home with. Right now, I just can't go there. I still cry over him often and have yet to put his favorite toys away. This has been a real struggle to get through. The only thing that helps is that I know he had one amazing life and that we did everything for him throughout his life. We miss him so much and not a day goes by that we don't think about him. I only hope the tears will turn to laughter soon.



Jerri Hatch and Larry Traxler





I adopted a tabby cat from my coworker who had picked her up from the street in River West. My vet told me she was about one-year-old and I had her spayed. Although she was a female, I named my cat after the street "Irving Park". Irving gained an adoring dad when I got married in 1988.

# Irving

We had many good times and even held a birthday party in Irving's honor when she turned 21. Despite some illnesses, Irving was generally in good health. People marveled at her advanced age. In May 2007 Irving suddenly collapsed at home during dinner. We rushed her to the emergency vet and were told she had an erratic heart rhythm. They offered to put her down but we refused and requested her release. The next morning we consulted our vet who went along with our wish to give her more time. However, day by day, Irving grew weaker and I realized it was time to let her go. We spent precious time with her and prolonged our goodbyes.

At first I was squeamish about witnessing euthanasia, but I realized it would be cowardly to abandon Irving during her last moments. We were with her until she found peace. During my grieving process, I read a tip that made an impact on me. It said one of the best ways to honor your pet is to find a way to help its four-legged friends.

Soon after, I found a brochure promoting the Seventh Annual PAWS 8k Run/4k Walk. I had two weeks to raise money. With many generous donations from family and friends, I brought in four times the amount I had originally anticipated. In January, we went to a local shelter and "were adopted" by a playful male cat who took a liking to us. He gives us great joy. This year, I again participated in the PAWS 8k Run/4k Walk. And because of Irving, I will be taking a course in fundraising for non-profit organizations. This is the legacy of my dear cat Irving.

**Mary Moy**

## Guardian Angel Program Offers Animal Lovers **PEACE OF MIND**

No one likes to think about death, or what life will be like when he or she is gone. The PAWS Chicago Guardian Angel program offers peace of mind to pet owners who want to ensure not only that their own pet is guaranteed life and love when they're gone, but that homeless animals are saved for years to come.



A planned gift or bequest to PAWS Chicago will help provide shelter, food, veterinary care, medicines and loving homes for thousands of animals for years to come, leaving a legacy of love in the donor's honor. In addition, PAWS Chicago will care for the donor's own beloved pet when he or she is no longer able, providing for all medical needs and working to find the pet a new, loving and forever home. For more information on making a bequest or planned gift, please contact PAWS Chicago's Planned Giving Specialist (773) 843-2508 or email [GuardianAngel@pawschicago.org](mailto:GuardianAngel@pawschicago.org).

# REDJI

I adopted Redji from a shelter in Rockford in 2003. She was about a year and a half. She was wonderful. Everyone fell in love with her. She loved to talk. She even reset the outgoing message on my answering machine to be her talking. Twice! You'd call, and get a cat talking so long no one could leave a message. She was definitely a "momma's girl" and I was smitten.

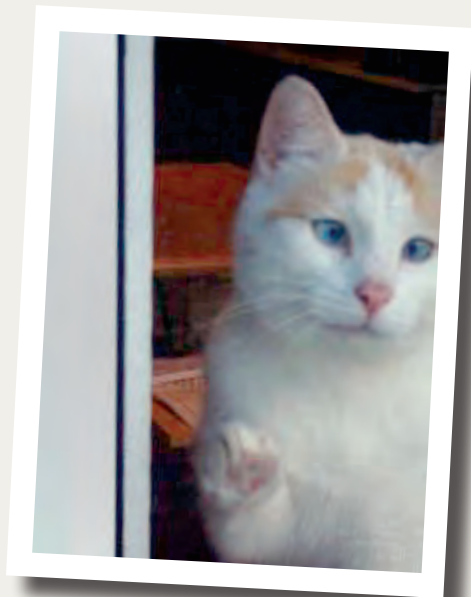
In 2004 she was diagnosed with cancer. After two surgeries, trips to the University of Illinois vet school, and specialists, the answer was the same. Chemo and radiation would give her maybe another year. Without treatment she had eight to ten months. The radiation and chemo would require her to be in the hospital for at least a month, sedated daily, and there were no guarantees. It was a very hard decision but I decided it was best to keep her home. I had professional pictures taken of her, so I would have something beautiful to remember her by. Then, she beat everyone's expectations. I finally had to make the decision to put her to sleep in October of 2006, a full year and a half longer than the best estimate!

I read an article that talked about the seven stages of grief when you get a terminal diagnosis for a pet. It mentioned the bargaining stage, where if you bargain and are lucky to get extra time, you should use it. I kept that in mind. If Redji wanted extra pets in the morning I didn't rush to work. If she wanted to cuddle but I was trying to work, I'd stop and give her some "luvin".

When the end came, it was a hard decision. She had started to go downhill, and I knew that she wasn't going to get better. I made the appointment for a Friday, and took Thursday off from work. I laid on the couch with Redji all day cuddling and watching TV. I was lucky that my vet came to my house and she passed away in my arms, in her favorite blanket with me on the couch. The decision was hard, but the actual "act" was as good as it could be and I knew that I was lucky enough to get the extra time with her and I didn't waste it. I knew that she got as much love and cuddles as I could give her (and she gave me the same.)

She was a very special little girl. (And she was tiny!) but she had a huge impact. I laugh that it took three kitties to replace her. I actually just got a pin custom designed of her to wear on my apron when I'm volunteering at PAWS. I can't wait to tell people about the amazing kitties you can find in a shelter.

Mindy Baker



Pablo spent the last days of his short life outside, where he enjoyed listening to the sounds of the night, with the people who loved him petting and brushing his decimated body with a soft brush. His family and friends gathered the night before he was to be euthanized at the veterinarian's office. To many people who have never experienced a pet relationship, this get together might not be understood, but for the people who loved Pablo, it made perfect sense. It was a way to say goodbye and share our grief with each other. It was our way of coping with the loss of such a vibrant cat.

Christine Fugate

# Pablito



# The Legacy of



By Patty Donmoyer

**J**udith Blazer never considered herself a “cat person”. She’d never owned a cat, had only vague memories of cats from her childhood, and if she were told a cat would one day change her life, she would have laughed out loud. That is, until Miss Kitty introduced herself on a bitter March night in Northern Wisconsin. The story of Miss Kitty is not about an unusual cat and her owner—Miss Kitty was *not* a cat one possessed – but rather a story of a bond between two friends *who found each other*. Miss Kitty’s journey lasted sixteen years, but the legacy of hope she leaves for homeless animals continues on at PAWS Chicago.

Judith describes that March night as especially cruel, with howling winds and rain so hard and raw the snow-covered ground refused to melt. Safely inside her home, Judith suddenly heard the unsettling cry of an animal in severe pain – a pitiful last cry for help. Then she heard the distinct sound of scratching at the door. Nervous, she slowly opened the door to find a kitten, most likely not more than

four or five months old, thin as paper, and huddled in the doorway, shivering from cold and fright. She’d seen plenty of cats around — there were hundreds of wild cats that roamed the woods of Northern Wisconsin, but she’d never seen anything like this little heap of bones. The two locked eyes. “Remember that moment in the movie ET, where Drew Barrymore’s character meets ET for the first time and they both shriek, scaring each other to death? That was this cat and I, both staring at each other. I knew without a doubt it needed my help. It was starving.”

Judith followed her instincts and found a long, flat box, stuffed it with clean rags and placed it in the corner of the porch. Within seconds, the kitten crept along its emaciated belly into the warm box. She ran to find something the kitten could eat and rounded up a can of white tuna, turned the can over on a plate and placed it near the box. “The kitten did not stop eating the can of tuna, juice and all, until it was completely gone. The plate

was clean. And the can of tuna was bigger than she was.” The next morning the kitten was still there, so Judith upgraded the box to a larger one, “And that became ‘Miss Kitty’s’ new home,” she adds, naming her “temporary guest”.

give her away,” said Judith, dabbing tears, “and she became my best friend. The best friend I have ever had... of every living being I’ve ever known.” Judith allowed the vet to do everything she could for the sick kitten, including treating her for the mites that poured from her ears.



## When you let an animal be itself, to be independent, it speaks to you in its own way. You communicate.

Judith arranged for someone with a farm nearby to take her as a “barn cat or mouser”. But before taking her, the person insisted the cat be spayed. When the two arrived at the vet, Judith received some bad news. Miss Kitty was starving to death. Despite the food Judith had given her, Miss Kitty barely had the strength or nutritional sustenance to survive. “It was that moment, when Miss Kitty lay huddled on the examining table that I fell in love with her. I couldn’t

When the vet released Miss Kitty, Judith had special cat doors installed for her so she could come and go as she pleased. But before long, Miss Kitty was soon enjoying the best of both worlds—the run of the wild and the luxury of Judith’s comfortable home. Judith even had a special bed made in Paris for Miss Kitty – a tiny version of Judith’s own bed, with pillows and a bedspread. Most importantly, Miss Kitty had the comfort of a good friend in Judith. The unlikely pair had developed their own unique and collective definition of what it meant to be best friends, through mutual respect and common ground.

“When you let an animal be itself, to be independent, it speaks to you in its own way. You communicate. Miss Kitty had things to tell me. She’d come home to me at night like a spouse or roommate and tell me about her day,” said Judith.



Miss Kitty also had a flair for the dramatic, and often “entertained” at inopportune times. One such display occurred during a dinner party for sixteen. As guests settled in to eat, Miss Kitty sprang onto the giant table, strolling languidly in and out of the rows of candles that formed the centerpiece, flicking each flame with the tip of her tail. Sixteen pairs of astonished eyes watched as Miss Kitty finally halted between two guests, flopped onto her back, and swung her head over the side of the table. “That was Miss Kitty. She was theatrical!”

**M**iss Kitty’s abilities also included her knack for accurately judging the character of those who entered Judith’s life. Each day, as the caretaker of Judith’s home set out to check the surrounding property Miss Kitty hid in one of the Cedar trees nearby and watched. As the caretaker neared the tree, Miss Kitty would drop like a ninja onto to his back, clinging hard to his shoulders and scaring the starch out of him. “And it wasn’t just one tree,” Judith insists, “Miss Kitty varied the trees she hid in so he’d never know where she’d drop from. The caretaker ended up being fired for cause within the year. She knew he was up to no good before I did, and she was giving me a message.”

About this time, Judith hired a gardener, Laurie, who moved into an A-frame house Judith had built down a steep bluff near her home. Now in her teens, Miss Kitty began showing signs of arthritis, making



it difficult for her to climb the bluff to Judith's home. So she began to spend the majority of her time with Laurie in the A-frame house, and Judith missed her best friend. "I was lonely without her," she admits.

When Laurie told her about a local vet who said the clinic had "three, *very ugly cats* that needed homes" Judith was infuriated, "how could a kitten be ugly?" Judith threw on a coat and drove to the clinic, where she found not three, but four cats in need of a loving home. Judith adopted all four. "I couldn't have taken them in if it weren't for Miss Kitty," said Judith, "She reminded me that these cats are all little souls that need love." Her beloved cats Ava, Magda and Halle live with her today. The fourth cat, Trixie, developed serious medical complications and died very young.

Judith and Laurie eventually moved to the Windy City. Laurie had become Miss Kitty's official "Nanny and Roommate". Miss Kitty was nearly 16-years-old and her failing eyesight and painful arthritis had forced her indoors full time, and she'd become much less mobile, so Laurie kept her at her home across the street from Judith. Shortly before Miss Kitty died, Laurie snapped a series of pictures of the orange tabby. As Judith describes those final pictures, tears well up again. Gone from the pictures was the aging, "voluptuous" pet with arthritis and a limp. The cat in the picture appeared as healthy and majestic as she did in her "glory years" in Northern Wisconsin – coat shining, bright-eyed and alert, her playfulness still evident. *And that is the way Judith will remember her best friend forever.*



Miss Kitty passed on this year, but her legacy continues at PAWS Chicago's Adoption and Humane Center in Lincoln Park. Judith Blazer dedicated a special room for senior cats where two pictures of Miss Kitty are displayed. The Senior Cat Room is located in a sunny area at the very front of the Center—the first room visitors see when they walk in. "I wanted people to know that the senior cats they see when they walk in are as cute and precious in old age as they were as kittens. Miss Kitty was the first thing I saw on the porch that rainy night, and look how she changed me."

In addition, Judith Blazer donated the Judith Blazer Community Room, which accommodates many of PAWS Chicago's educational training and advocacy events, is dedicated to Miss Kitty's memory. Judith Blazer continues to be a treasured friend of PAWS Chicago.



Patricia Donmoyer is Senior Editor of *Angel Tales* magazine. She is also a member of the PAWS Chicago Marathon Team. Her cat, Buddy, is also PAWS supporter!





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# PAWS Chicago to the Rescue!

## Rescue Missions to Cedar Rapids, Iowa & Quincy, Illinois Save Pets from Flood Ravaged Region



*Gus, a Golden Retriever, was rescued during the Iowa flood and brought to PAWS Chicago where he was adopted by Phil and Janice Beck. He is now living in Winnetka.*

In July, dedicated volunteers and staff members rushed to Southern Illinois and Iowa in response to the devastating aftermath of extreme flooding that left hundreds of animals abandoned or relinquished to overcrowded shelters when their owners lost everything.

PAWS Chicago was one of the only animal welfare organizations in the city that took on the task, which combined the efforts of volunteers, staff members, and a medical team to bring 35 animals to safety and still maintain their intake from Animal Care and Control. The PAWS Chicago Flood Rescue Mission set out to take in dogs from areas hit hardest by the flood, leaving early in the morning on July 2nd, and arriving back

at the Lurie Spay/Neuter Clinic in Chicago close to midnight with three vans of homeless dogs. Rescued animals received necessary medical treatment, baths, and plenty of comfort and kindness. The following Saturday, the animals arrived at PAWS Chicago's Adoption and Humane Center in Lincoln Park, rested, healthy and ready for a fresh start in new and loving homes.

Rochelle Michalek, Executive Director of PAWS Chicago summed up the energy of the mission, "This is exciting – we are saving the lives of those animals most in need due to the floods in the Midwest, while ensuring our commitment to Chicago's own homeless dogs!"

## PAWS Chicago, HSUS and Kankakee Animal Control help an overcrowded breeder

In early October, PAWS Chicago got a call from the Humane Society of the United States, Illinois State Director, Jordan Matyas. Jordan was working with Kankakee Animal Control to inspect a local dog breeder. The breeder had around 100 dogs in her house and after some discussion, the breeder came to agree that she could no longer adequately care for so many dogs and agreed to surrender 12 of her dogs.

PAWS Chicago jumped into action and with only a few hours notice a team of staff assembled



all the supplies needed to care for 12 very scared dogs. The dogs included chihuahuas, daschunds, a schipperke, a puggle and a few other mixes. The dogs ranged in age from just a few weeks old to eight years old. The oldest of the dogs was a chihuahua who had only one tooth left and a very bad heart murmur. For all the dogs, their new temporary home at PAWS Chicago represented many firsts, including their first time sitting on a blanket, the puppies first experience with toys and for all of the dogs it was their first time standing on solid ground. As with many breeding operations, these dogs had lived their lives on wire floors, and many of these dogs found walking and standing on solid floor to be unusual and challenging.

The dogs were all medically evaluated, spayed and neutered and will be adopted out of the PAWS Chicago Adoption Center. PAWS Chicago, HSUS and Kankakee ACC will continue to work with this breeder as she seeks to reduce her numbers.



**For more information on breeders and legislation you can visit [www.stoppuppymills.org](http://www.stoppuppymills.org).**

# Foster Families

## Saving Lives

### Sandy & Moses

Sandy Lynch attended a volunteer orientation session at PAWS Chicago one year ago when she started a new job down the street from PAWS Chicago's new Adoption & Humane Center. She signed up for the foster program and was surprised that she received a call the very same day. "I was very impressed with the organization and great attention given to contacting volunteers right away," Lynch said. Since then, she has fostered 10 dogs and participated in two of the high-profile Angels with Tails Adoption events. (See page 46.) "I find the whole experience very rewarding and feel that I am really helping these wonderful animals."

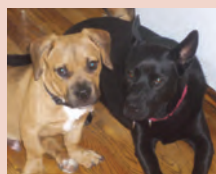


When she began with PAWS Chicago, she had two dogs of her own. Then Greta came into her life as a foster, and never left. A medical special needs dog, Greta needed a long term foster who could care for her through her surgery and recovery from Entropia, a medical condition that compromised her sight because her eyelids were turned inward and her eyelashes were scratching her corneas. Roscoe Village Animal Hospital was kind enough to donate their services to correct the

condition and now she has perfect eyes and perfect vision. "I was also very impressed again with PAWS determination to get her the help she needed," she said.

Now, Sandy is helping long-term foster pup Moses, a spunky little Boxer mix, heal after an amputation. Moses, born with a hind-leg deformity, came to PAWS Chicago as a puppy with his littermates, who were quickly adopted. Until Moses grew out of puppyhood, medical specialists could not determine whether amputation was necessary. Sandy took in Moses and has raised him the past seven months. In early October, Moses had surgery to remove the leg and he is healing with Sandy, waiting for the chance to find his permanent home.

"Having a Foster for many months is difficult because it is so hard to let them go, but I know he will be placed in a wonderful loving home," Sandy said. She truly is a lifesaver.



Moses & Greta

### Adrienne & Heidi



Living the life of a transient student has not kept Adrienne Schmoeker from her love of cats. She has taken advantage of PAWS Chicago's foster program to get her kitty fix while maintaining her freedom, knowing PAWS has a place for her foster should an out-of-town internship surface. "The foster program is a great way for me to have a pet without the commitment of adoption," Adrienne says.

Focusing on harder-to-adopt, special needs cats, Adrienne has taken to fostering cats with the Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV). Since they pose a risk to uninfected cats, PAWS Chicago prefers to keep FeLV+ cats in foster homes rather than risk exposing cats at the Adoption & Humane Center to the disease that can compromise immune systems. Though available on the popular PAWS Chicago website, it can take anywhere from a few weeks to many months for them to be adopted. As a result, long-term foster care is the perfect temporary solution.

Adrienne took in Heidi many months ago and was surprised a how quickly she became attached to the four-year-old shy, yet curious feline who is fascinated by plumbing.

"It was hard for me to bring her back to PAWS this past summer when I had to go to London for two months. I was so happy to have her back in September!"

Committed to fostering as long as she remains in Chicago, Adrienne recognizes that she receives as much as she gives: "Taking care of Heidi is a joy! She helps remind me to stop stressing out and to sit back and enjoy the little things in life."

The tragic reality is that in many shelters, cats like Heidi would be killed. But at PAWS Chicago, dedicated foster parents like Adrienne enable many more lives to be saved. According to Heidi's temporary mom, "The best part about fostering is knowing that you're helping such a great organization—PAWS Chicago."





# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## Melissa Ziberna



After spending years in corporate America Melissa Ziberna found out that her true calling was helping animals. Ziberna, a Senior Director of Risk Management at Bally Total Fitness always wanted to give back, but the job, family commitments and lack of time prevented her from diving in. Finally, in January, Ziberna decided, “it was now or never, bit the bullet, and went part-time at my job so I could pursue this next phase in my life.” Ten months later, Ziberna is happier than she’s ever been, volunteering four days a week at PAWS Chicago.

Rescuing animals is nothing new to Ziberna, whose two beloved cats; Jeremiah and Sammy NO are both rescues. Ziberna started at PAWS Chicago in Kitty City – where all the cats in the Adoption and Humane Center reside – cleaning up, helping potential adopters and greeting newcomers. She quickly moved on to Dog Town, where she cared for, socialized and walked the dogs. But she wanted more

responsibility. She began working on new volunteer orientations, eventually finding her niche as an adoption counselor. Ziberna explains that this was the first time she ever felt that she was really making a difference in animals’ lives. “Truly, the first time I completed my first adoption on my own, I felt a part of the process, a part of the whole,” says Ziberna. “I am still going strong being an adoption counselor, and am about to lend a hand to the head of the adoption program”. Today, the adoption events are her favorite part of working at PAWS Chicago.

The animals themselves top the lists of both her favorite things and the hardest parts of volunteering. Ziberna describes three of her favorites – a dog, Missy, who reminded her of her long-deceased, and beloved German shepherd; a blind cat named Sheridan; and the fat-and-sassy cat, Shakespeare. The drawbacks of volunteering, she insists, are few and far between, but Ziberna says the hardest part of her work

is “...when an adoption does not work out and the animal is returned.”

Her eyes tear up as she describes the most difficult area of adoption counseling.

“It is difficult not to take this personally, and to see the dear little creature back again in search of a family. But as Robin likes to remind me, it is just not the right home for them, PAWS will take care of them and they will all eventually make that perfect match.”

When Melissa isn’t dedicating herself to PAWS Chicago, she loves spending time with her husband and working out at the gym. Ziberna also loves spending time with the people at PAWS Chicago, who she describes as exceedingly talented, and who’ve made a conscious decision to follow their passion to help animals.

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# An inside look at **ANIMAL HOARDING**

Animal hoarding is an often misunderstood and extremely complex public health and community issue. That's why PAWS Chicago continues to work hard to educate Chicagoans about the importance of spay/neutering and responsible pet guardianship.

By Riley Alverson

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## Hoarding Stories get a **Happy Ending** with Planning and Cooperation

Not every hoarding story has a tragic ending. Taking the right action can not only save animals' lives, but allow the hoarder to gain a sense of control over a bad situation. PAWS Chicago works with the animal caretakers in hoarding incidents, helping to stabilize the situation and prevent recurrence.

An elderly woman cared for the cats that people "dumped" in her yard, in addition to the strays she took in. Before long, she was caring for over 45 cats, becoming more overwhelmed with each passing day. PAWS Chicago worked with her to have all of her cats spayed and neutered, transferred some to nearby farms and took in some at its Adoption and Humane Center. Today, this woman owns just a few cats, and alerts PAWS Chicago when new cats arrive so they can be spayed and neutered, and eventually become a part of its adoption program.



## What Is Animal Hoarding?

According to The Hoarding of Animals Research Consortium (HARC), one of the nation's leaders in animal hoarding research, the following criteria are used to define animal hoarding:

- More than the typical number of companion animals
- Inability to provide even minimal standards of nutrition, sanitation, shelter and veterinary care, with this neglect often resulting in starvation, illness and death
- Denial of the inability to provide this minimum care and the impact of that failure on the animals, the household and human occupants of the dwelling
- Often associated with obsessive-compulsive disorder and obsessive-compulsive personality disorder

"The effects of hoarding are far-reaching and encompass mental health, animal welfare and public safety concerns," states HARC.

According to the Center For Disease Control, the lack of sanitation in some hoarding situations can cause a variety of diseases to become a concern. The following diseases can be transmitted between animals and people: toxoplasmosis (cats), campylobacter (dogs and cats), cat scratch disease (cats), ringworm (cats) and cryptosporidium (cats, dogs, and farm animals).



## What is overcrowding?

It is important to clarify that not everyone who owns multiple animals is considered an animal hoarder. HARC defines non-hoarders as individuals that have more than the typical number of animal companions, in which, all the animals are spayed and neutered and provided with regular vet care and a sanitary environment.

The phase between hoarding and non-hoarding can be defined as overcrowding. Overcrowding occurs when the number of animal companions becomes overwhelming for the owner and is often a precursor stage to hoarding situations. A person may feel that they are helping rescue stray animals, but if the animals are not spayed or neutered they can rapidly reproduce and the owner can quickly find themselves unable to care for all their animals.

For example, one female cat and her offspring can produce roughly 420,000 cats in just seven years. This phase becomes an ideal time for PAWS Chicago to help educate and support individuals before they find themselves in a truly out-of-control hoarding situation.

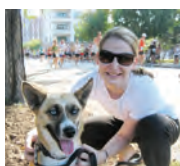
## Creating a Support Plan

Rochelle Michalek, Executive Director of PAWS Chicago, explained that the first part of the process in dealing with an overcrowding situation is to set up a meeting with the individual and other members of the community working to help that individual. Neighbors or family members often call PAWS Chicago to assist them with the problem. During this time, PAWS attempts to learn as much as possible about the individual and his or her situation.

Success in these situations has been due to the ability to build trust, create a plan of action, and present the individual with options. PAWS Chicago works to educate the individual on the importance of spaying and neutering and show them they have a support team in place.

“These can be extremely compassionate people that love their animals,” stated Michalek. “We strive to ensure that the person recognizes that by working with PAWS Chicago that their animals are not going somewhere bad.” Not all hoarders are “crazy people” as they are often stereotyped. Many are animal lovers with limited resources. Neighbors are usually aware of their compassion and will sometimes dump animals on them. Without the resources to spay and neuter the animals continue to procreate and the situation gets out of control.

According to HARC collaborative efforts of independent groups and agencies are typically the most successful in rehabilitating an overcrowded situation. PAWS Chicago might work with social services, local law enforcement, neighbors, health and mental departments, legal aid and the Department of Agriculture in an overcrowding situation. It is imperative to recognize that a varied support team is necessary as each overcrowding or hoarding situation is unique in its severity and in its rehabilitation.



Riley Alverson is a public relations professional, PAWS Professional Board Member and volunteer.

## Holden and Holland: *Survivors of a Tragic Situation*

When a woman abandoned her tiny apartment, leaving 26 cats to fend for themselves, the building landlord called PAWS Chicago for help. PAWS Chicago sent representatives to the apartment building to survey the situation and stabilize the environment. Six of the cats were diseased and had already died by the time they got there, so PAWS Chicago took the remaining 20 cats and provided them with needed medical treatment. As the cats' health improved, PAWS Chicago brought them to the Adoption and Humane Center for socialization and adoption.



Removing animals from a hoarding situation and medically treating them doesn't solve the whole problem. The cats have socialization challenges. They are essentially feral, or wild cats that happen to be living in an apartment. Socialization is often a very difficult task, as cats have had to fend for themselves, fight for food, and have been conditioned to fear human contact.

PAWS successfully found homes for the cats that survived this tragic situation. Two cats remain at the Adoption and Humane Center, patiently waiting for new owners. Holden and Holland hope that one day soon, they'll find homes with love to last the rest of their little lifetimes.



# Anixter Volunteers Help Socialize PAWS Chicago Animals

by Sharyn Hosemann

With smiling faces, a special group of volunteers report to PAWS Chicago's Adoption and Humane Center every other Thursday at 9 a.m. sharp. They jump right in and eagerly help with administrative projects while anxiously awaiting the next step. For their time, they get to play with the Center's resident felines in Kitty City, helping to socialize them so they can become adoptable pets. Socializing animals is a crucial step in the sheltering process, providing positive human exposure to animals who need to gain confidence and trust.

To watch the group of volunteers assembling humane education bags for the PAWS Chicago Community Outreach Program, adoption folders and volunteer packets, one would be hard-pressed to guess what makes them unique. But each of these volunteers is a recipient of services from Chicago's Anixter Center, and each of these individuals is living with a significant physical, or mental disability – and many have more than

one disability. Through the resources Anixter provides, each of these individuals is given the tools necessary to live life to the fullest.

PAWS Chicago's partnership with Anixter gives them yet another opportunity—to develop their individual skills while working with the animals they love. The group spends the first part of the day working on PAWS Chicago's special projects. Once they are finished, the cats and kittens of PAWS Chicago are in for a treat! The group is allowed to spend the rest of their time with cats in Kitty City, brushing them, playing with them and giving them lots of cuddles! It's often tough to tell who is having more fun as the always enthusiastic group works with the animals by offering a gentle hand and a kind voice to an animal in need of love.

To learn more about Anixter Center's mission go to: <http://www.anixter.org/mediaroom/about/index.htm>



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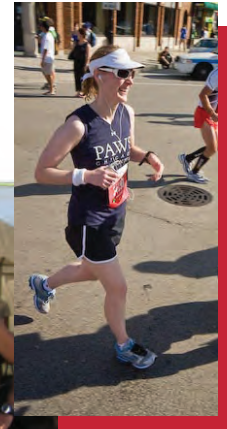
# PAWS Chicago Marathon Team goes the distance in the Bank of America Chicago Marathon

Nearly 200 runners dedicated their summer training to the PAWS Chicago Marathon Team, raising over \$130,000 for homeless animals. Team members agreed to collect \$600 each, in return for a host of “perks” including motivational CDs, a Pawsta dinner, running shirts, seminars, fun runs with shelter dogs, a training log, and complimentary membership with the Chicago Area Runners’ Association. In addition, team members got V.I.P treatment among the race’s 45,000 runners in the PAWS Chicago charity tent, where they enjoyed food, free massages, private bathrooms and their own gear check. Most importantly, runners ran knowing that the money they raised and the effort they put in would help to save lives and find homes for Chicago’s homeless pets.

As if running the 26.2 miles on the unusually warm October day wasn’t enough, many team members raised well over the required minimum. Congratulations to the PAWS Chicago Marathon Team for their hard work and commitment, and to PAWS Chicago volunteers, staff and sponsors for

making this year’s team effort such a success. A special thanks to PAWS Chicago’s top fundraisers: Steven Davis, Matt and Anna Bluhm, Rachel Ittner, Allyson Behm and Emily Streit.

**Put your best paw forward and run for PAWS Chicago in 2009!  
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## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT **Patty Smith**

Patty Smith didn’t let her building’s “No Dogs Allowed” policy stop her from spending time with her four-legged friends. Although her two senior Birman cats, Ulee

and Holly, remain the loves of her life, Patty couldn’t stop wishing for a dog of her own.

Her wish was granted when PAWS Chicago opened the doors to its new Adoption and Humane Center last September. The cageless, No Kill shelter depends on volunteers and Smith seized the opportunity to use her sunny disposition to help homeless animals. Little did she know when she walked through the doors of the Adoption Center over a year ago that the time and love she dedicated to PAWS Chicago would be returned three-fold by the animals she helped and the people she met.

“I’d hoped that being at PAWS on a regular basis would help this fixation (with having her own dog). Well, it works!”

Smith, who has lived in the Chicagoland area for over 44 years, began her volunteer work at the Adoption Center as a dog walker. But her can-do attitude and charisma made her a prime candidate to be a greeter. She now also serves as an adoption counselor on weekends, and lends her time and expertise at PAWS Chicago’s off-site adoption events. The one area of service Smith has not

yet explored? The organization’s rescue missions. “I missed out on the rescue trip to Iowa because I had out-of-town guests, but would do it if it came up again,” says Smith.

Smith is an active volunteer and her list of rewards for the work seems a mile long. Perhaps her favorite thing about working at the Adoption Center is seeing the sheer happiness on the faces of families who’ve adopted an animal. She also lists the positive attitudes and quality of people she meets through her volunteer work and loves the chance to spread the word about PAWS Chicago’s No Kill mission.

She admits still feeling the sting of not being able to rescue a dog herself, but adds that her time around the animals at the shelter helps. She’s excited about getting the Spay/Neuter Ordinance passed, and the huge number of animals it will affect. And Smith understands that all non-profit organizations, including PAWS Chicago must operate on a tight budget, but adds, “I see (PAWS Chicago) from all views and it’s very expensive (to run). But it’s so amazing what they *can* do with so few paid employees who work so hard.”

In between the hours she dedicates to her volunteer work at PAWS Chicago, Smith enjoys boating during the summer, needlepoint and spending time with her children and grandchildren.



# Angels with Tails®

Michigan Avenue & Armitage



Power shoppers received a special welcome when they entered the upscale retail stores on Michigan Avenue in June. Over 350 furry faces filled the fronts of 56 stores surrounding the Magnificent Mile as PAWS Chicago hosted its Eleventh Annual Angels with Tails event. By day's end it became evident that bringing homeless animals out of shelters and face-to-face with the public opens hearts. Over 140 dogs and cats, from dozens of local rescue groups and shelters cuddled, wagged and purred their way into new and loving homes as PAWS Chicago volunteers counseled prospective adopters, answered

questions, and passed out information about the No Kill movement and the plight of homeless pets.

On May 30, 1997, PAWS Chicago held its first Angels with Tails, breaking the silence surrounding the animal overpopulation by taking the No Kill message to the streets and the boutiques along Michigan Avenue and Oak Street. Every year since then, Angels with Tails continues to grow and gain more support, brightening the future for animals in need. First time participants this year included Nine West, Preggers, David Yurman, George Greene, Lester Lampert, Me & Ro and Prada.



PAWS Chicago continued the momentum with an August Angels with Tails event on Armitage Avenue in Lincoln Park. Fifty-five retail stores and 27 rescue groups and shelters teamed up for the event, including newcomer South Suburban Humane Society, who brought ten dogs to the event, nine of which were adopted! Unable to resist the furry felines showcased in his store, Dan Griffin, manager of L'Occitane en Provence adopted a cat for himself! By the end of the day a total of 90 animals were placed in new and loving homes.



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## PAWS PROFILE

# Deborah Chapman

Few people can say with confidence that they are right where they are meant to be in their career, and in life. For Deborah Chapman, PAWS Chicago's Director of Development, her way with people and love of animals speak volumes about her career journey, leaving little doubt that she is exactly where she should be.

From an early age, Deborah felt the importance of people and animals in her life. Her father's job with Exxon meant her family moved from city to city, including Boston, New York, Texas and Maryland. Growing up, she'd always wanted a dog, but her family's frequent relocating made it difficult. But her cats were always close. Deborah and her sister always had one or two cats that made the moves with her family. In fact, Deborah's cat Rajah was a regular visitor at the office when Deborah joined PAWS Chicago.

In 2003, Deborah felt the need to combine her love for animals with her desire to do more philanthropic work. She joined the PAWS Chicago Development Board and quickly combined her experience in advertising, journalism and retail with her people skills to recruit the help of her Michigan Ave. contacts to secure sponsorships.

As Deborah continued to volunteer on the Development Board, her interest in a PAWS Chicago goal of creating a state-of-the-art, cageless, No Kill Adoption Center deepened. During her time working for *Chicago* magazine, she came across an article contrasting PAWS Chicago's No Kill mission with other traditional shelters' objectives. Her commitment to saving the lives of animals was solidified.

Landing a full-time job at PAWS Chicago, Deborah dove into the Capital Campaign to raise money for the Adoption and Humane Center. "My greatest reward that brought tears to my eyes was seeing the pets coming in to the new Adoption Center for the first time. We have inspired many other rescue groups and shelters throughout the country."

Having helped to make PAWS Chicago Adoption and Humane Center a reality, the self-described "people and pet" person fulfilled another dream – adopting her first dog – a stray terrier. "Rania" was a handful in the beginning, needing training, but Deborah ignored her doubts and rose to the task, entering Rania in K-9 University, where "Rania and I both had training...It made a world of difference. Now Rania goes everywhere with me: the office...dentist...even the hair salon."

Asked about her favorite part of working at PAWS Chicago, Deborah describes what gives her the most pleasure. "Recruiting and cultivating new members and helping them find their 'niche' on our Development Board. Each member brings a special talent to our organization." And where will she be in 20 years? "I'll still be loving pets and wanting to help save them. I'm sure I'll be a PAWS Chicago volunteer and loving every minute of my time at the Adoption Center."

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*We are happy to  
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*Mention this ad  
at your purchase  
and 10% of the  
proceeds will be  
donated to  
PAWS Chicago*

Owned by Angie DeMars, PAWS Chicago Development Board



# PAWS Chicago's 6th Annual *Beach Party*

PAWS Chicago let the dogs out on July 17th, proving that when it comes to partying on the beach, four legs are double the fun! Over 450 guests and 150 pups dropped anchor at Castaways at the North Avenue Boathouse for PAWS Chicago's Sixth Annual Beach Party. Guests enjoyed cool summer cocktails, a beachy buffet, dancing, and a silent auction while pets donned their tropical best (some even wearing swimsuits), lapped up bowls of special doggie ice cream and devoured gourmet dog treats! The event, emceed by NBC5's Anna Davlantes, raised over \$157,000 for homeless pets, making it PAWS Chicago's most successful Beach Party to date. Presenting sponsors included The Chicago Spire and the John R. Walter Family.



presented by:  
 THE CHICAGO SPIRE  
 INSPIRED BY NATURE  
 IMAGINED BY CALATRAVA  
 &  
 THE JOHN R. WALTER FAMILY



**1.** Tanya and Tara Noronha with Atticus **2.** Beach Party Co-Chairs Lindsey Walter and Michael Marrison **3.** Kristin Shea from *Chicago* magazine with Lincoln **4.** Sven Asmus, Director of Marketing; Chicago Spire, with his dog Lily **5.** Sally and Jonathan Kovler with Dexter





On September 28th, over 4,000 participants and their four-legged friends ran, walked or just took in the fun, making the Eighth Annual PAWS Chicago Run for Their Lives its biggest to date, and raising over \$400,000 for homeless animals.

A colorful array of pets and their people strolled along Chicago's beautiful lakefront in a 4K walk, while humans only took their mark for an 8K race beginning at Montrose Harbor. Highlights of the event included Lisa Dent of US99.5 as the event MC, a dog agility course created by K9 University, an animal communicator, pet and owner massages, "doggie yoga" hosted by Lakeshore Athletic Club, and breed testing conducted by Canine Heritage.



# Eighth Annual Run for Their Lives



**PRESENTING SPONSORS** **NORTH COMMUNITY BANK** **PETCO** Where the pets go.

**AIRLINE SPONSOR:** American Airlines  
**MEDIA SPONSORS:** 101.9-FM THE MIX • Chicago Magazine

**MAJOR SPONSORS:** Flair Communications • Heartgard • Frontline • Independent Forms Services • Animal Ark Veterinary Clinic • Shefsky & Froelich • Chicago Office Technology Group • Roscoe Village Animal Hospital • Out-U-Go • Bansley & Kiener, LLP • Lakeshore Athletic Club

**SUPPORTING SPONSORS:** K9 University • Fleet Feet Sports • Luna Bar • Ann Sathers • Gannon Graphics • Intelligentsia • Ice Mountain • Kefir • G2 • Treasure Island • Canine Heritage Breed Testing

**1.** PAWS Chicago Alumni  
**2.** Madison Semler **3.** 8K Run Winners (from left to right): Ann Detmer, Julius Rotich, Jeff Jonaitis, Alona Banai, Lisa Johnson (not pictured, Emisael Favela) **4.** Lisa Dent from US99.5 **5.** Co-Chairs Rodger Kadet with Junior, Anne Boyle and Patricia Spratt



# VIVA PAWS VEGAS

## Casino Night & Poker Tournament

Presented by **Tweeter** **ARHAUS**  
FURNISHING A BETTER WORLD®  
**North Community Bank** **Majestic Star**  
CASINOS & HOTEL



More than 300 animal-loving high-rollers hit the tables for PAWS Chicago's First Annual Viva PAWS Vegas. The June 13th event brought in over \$116,000 through poker tournaments, blackjack, roulette and other casino games, a silent auction, cash raffle and jackpot drawing. Guests kept the games going until the wee hours, energized by a delicious dinner buffet, desert, and the chance to win high-end prizes. Winners took home trips to Cabo San Lucas and Monte Carlo, a Vespa scooter, Sony high definition, flat screen TVs, Beach Boys VIP tickets, David Yurman jewelry, and more! Many thanks to PAWS Chicago's presenting sponsors: Majestic Star Casino, Tweeter, Arhaus and our generous Anonymous Donor!



**1.** Co-Chairs David Klaskin, Irene Michaels and James Feldman **2.** Poker Winners (from left to right) Sam Shelist, Sean Downey, Geoff Atlas **3.** Natalie Paldrmic with friends Shannon and Tana **4.** Suellen Klaskin and friends



## Gifts made between April 16, 2008 and September 30, 2008 in **memory** of the following people

**Viola Arp Brown** by Virginia Arp, Margaret Arp, Virgil Arp, and Glenn Arp

**Samantha Batjes** by Kathrine Batjes

**Janet Buchholtz** by Joanne Borck

**Geraldine Bunna** by CTU Online

**Katherine Cerullo** by John and Joann Bacino, Edward and Susie Mkrdichian, Sharon and Mitchell Sheinkop

**Betty Collier** by Cheryl Anderson, Jerome Byrd, Marne McKinnis, Jacqueline Marcusto Joy Nazarian

**Darris Coyle** by Colleen's Friends

**Mary Lyse Crellin** by The Signature Room  
Debbie by Penny Carroll

**Reva Edberg** by Laura Sadowski

**Robert A. Elorzin** by Emily Hurn and Robin Rothman

**Susan Faul** by Ann Nowotarski

**Stuart Goldberg** by Judy Bronowski, Hyatt Regency Woodfield, Brian Murray, Portfolio Hotels & Resorts LLC

**Linda Grotkowski** by The Blackwell Williams Fund, a fund of the Indianapolis Foundation

**Mary Jane Hannan** by Kathleen Moore

**Esther James** by Kenneth James

**Johnny** by Esther Loth

**Richard Jones** by Audrey Jones

**Rhonda Klimczak** by Angela Anello, Dan Craig, Steven Goldman, Phil and Beth Klein, Joe and Angie Lewandowski, Rich and Sue Lindsten, Mo Orzechowski and Lindsay Romack, Rebecca Pauly, Pfizer Inc., Christina and Brandon Wilke

**Adeline Kolakowski** by David Cole and everyone at The Warranty Group

**Andrew C. Koval** by Betty Balling and Betty Strylowski, Jeanne Hokens, Millicent Lentz, Grace Tampa, Leo Vietz

**Toni Koval** by Midwest Foreign Commerce Club of Chicago

**Michelle LaBudde** by Joseph Beatty, Carol Bible, Natalie Blinderman, Cynthia Calderwood, Gary Detmer, Melissa Hurt, Sue Kibler, Wendy Kirkpatrick, Joe Malta, Gloria Miller, Christine Neesley and Eugene Binder, Christine Olson, Daniel Poole, Deborah Simpson, Florence Wagner

**Sonia Layne** by Ellen Kaplow

**Bella Lazarus** by Danielle Pearl

**Jennifer LeVesque** by Artemins Anos, Joanna Anos, Niki and George Anos

**Ethel Lewis** by Joanna Mallers

**Denise Lizen** by Patricia Hughes

**John Lopinski** by Friends in Mission & Spiritual Care

**Steve Lucero** by Melanie Lucero

**Tadd Luthey** by Kayle Luthey

**Deena Mansfield** by Shawn and Annie Mansfield and Aaron Block

**Elisabeth Maynard** by Katherine Boynton, Bratschi Plumbing, Cheryl Fisher Schneider, Theresa Hellmuth, Erica and Steven Jones, James and Joan Maynard, Eli Okman, Patricia Parro, Gunilla Walstad

**IL State Representative Larry McKeon** by Doug Stull and Skyler

**Christoph Memet** by Timothy Memet

**Dorothy Miles** by Beth Stoneburner

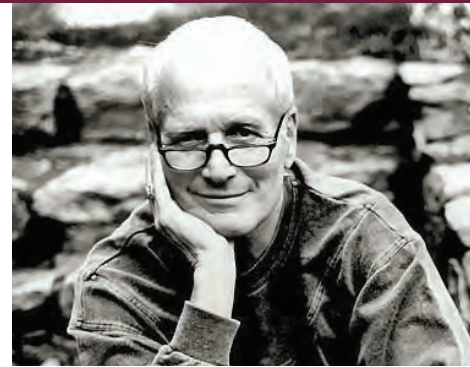
**Mary Ann Naftzger** by Kim Naftzger, Bette Stack, Mae Pearson, Marianne Mills, Marilyn Dorcek, Grace and Wilbur Lippert and Mary Ann Riccio

**Julia V. Nausieda** by Georgia Vidmont, Helen Nausieda, Shirley Nausieda, Helen Hruban and Family

**Norma** by Technical Recruiters Network

**Dr. John W. O'Donnell** by Kent Vlautin and Clay Fogarty

**Helen Ondrly** by The Ronald Bernard Family, Joseph and Vivienne Botsch, Paula Illich, Doris Jacobson



## In Memory of Paul Newman

Paul Newman left his mark on American culture through his movies, Oscars, racecar driving and organic food line, Newman's Own. But the actor and philanthropist's heart held a giant soft spot for animals. In addition to his creation of a line of organic foods, the proceeds of which were given to a number of charities, Paul Newman and his daughter created a line of organic cat and dog food, donating all profits to animal hospitals, shelters and humane organizations nationwide.

Beginning in 2004, Newman's generosity found its way to PAWS Chicago, where to date, he has donated over \$15,000 in support of the organization's mission to save the lives of all homeless animals and ultimately make Chicago a No Kill city.

On behalf of PAWS Chicago and the countless animals he has helped save, thank you, Paul Newman.



## In Memory of James "Jim" Sloan

James Sloan worked as an executive in the retail industry for over 30 years with Carson's, Marshall Field's and Saks Fifth Avenue. While working as a store manager at the Saks in Old Orchard Shopping Center, Jim was approached by PAWS Chicago in its very first year in existence. When asked if he would let PAWS Chicago bring homeless dogs to the store to try and get them adopted by shoppers, he happily obliged.

Married to his wife Liz for 36 years, the Sloans were surrounded by a loving family. They had two daughters, Amanda and Lauren. Jim's "best buddy" was his Shih Tzu, Misha. Inseparable, Jim and Misha shared a special bond and cherished their walks together. When Misha passed away at age 12, Jim decided to have her cremated so their ashes could one day be intermixed.

When Jim became ill with cancer, he was touched by a unique Animal Assisted Therapy program offered at Edward Hospital while he stayed there in March. Volunteers

would visit patients and bring their dogs with them. Jim looked forward to his visits from these dogs and told his wife in lieu of receiving flowers at his funeral service, he wanted donations to go to help the homeless animals at PAWS Chicago.

Fifty-nine years old, Jim passed away on September 8, 2008. At his memorial service, Jim's sister Kathy decided to say some words about why Jim chose to have his friends and family make donations to PAWS Chicago. She talked about the organization and how Jim became affiliated. She also spoke about the Animal Assisted Therapy program at Edward Hospital and how much the visits from the dogs meant to Jim. Copies of *Angel Tales* magazine were displayed at the service so visitors could learn more about the organization. By choosing to have these donations made to PAWS Chicago, Jim has helped save the lives of many animals and ensured they will find loving forever homes.



**Julia Pacanowski** by Stephen D'Iorio

**Mary Perina** by Dean Bemis, Virginia Croan, Sherryl Fox, Cindy and Jerry Huber, Mark Lambin, John Lanzendorf, Sally Palazzo, Janet Stein, Mary Ann and Otto Vent, Timothy and Mary J. Vent

**Tony Pipitone** by Kent Vlautin and Clay Fogarty

**Lucy Rasmussen Pitts** by Mary and Joseph Arrigo, Florence Brunger

**Charles R. Riddle** by CCC Information Services Inc.

**Joseph Edward Riley III** by Tommy and Maureen Mitchell

**Jim Reiser** by Helen and Sam Zell

**Jose Rolon** by Jennifer Lichner, James Roseen, Helen R. Smith, Kathryn Tyner, Margaret Tyner

**Morris Roth** by Anonymous, Maryann Abrahamson, The Frenzels, Peter and Carolyn Barrett, Elizabeth Kahn, Stephen Stack

**Linda Schmutzler** by Brownell Travel, Peter Carideo, Ian and Bonny Chick, Michele Cook, Chaitanya Daiya, Mollie Fitzgerald, Patricia and Ronald Gengler, Emil and Nancy Goellner, Betty and Joe Hardenburg, Art Koenig, Julie Lemish, Christine and Anthony Looper, Linda's Neighbors and Friends, Poe Travel, Yvonne and Angelo Sangiacomo, William Schuh, Vera Steinfelds, John and Becky Strange, Lynne Styles, Pamela and Thomas Vincent

**Elaine Schranz** by Pat Popp

**Gloria J. Shoff** by Leslie Carver, Norman E. Shoff

**Antoinette Sienko** by Phil and Rita Lopata, Roseann and Mike Narbutas, Janice Maximovich, The Horneck Family and The Saunders Family

**Kira Simonian** by H. Ronald Kaufman

**Lorraine Marie Skiba** by American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, Rick, Randy, Ron and Russ Skiba, Jack and Sheila Weinberg

**June Maid Skoff** by Charles & Mildred Berg, Pam and Ernie Codilis, James De Young, Libuse Havlik, Laura Kaufman, Gladys and Randy Maid, Jeffrey Maid, Therese Prochaska, Frank Skoff, Ray Skoff's coworkers

**James Sloan** by Kristi Baer, Matt and Beth Bauer, Deborah Black, Keith Brennan, Cathleen and Roy Czapplewski, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Daniel, Marie DelVesco, Peter and Paula Fasseas, Marlo and Michael Gaal, Cheryl Hammelmann, Karen Knight, Jill Lisinski, Florence Loster, Diane and Eric Loughmiller, Lucile McGloin, Mary Ellen and George Middleton, James and Kathy Milkert, Nichols Check Out, David Neuman, Phyllis Prokof, Kert Rosenkoetter, Cynthia Roza, Steven Straka, Tom Taylor, Elizabeth Tromp, George Westerman, Katie White

**Dolores Steger and Dolores Firnsin** by Darlene Kirschbaum

**Tony Stillo** by Jane Petros

**Jo Ann Suchy** by Sharon and Hal Bergen, Patricia Donegan, Julie Fitzgerald Quaid, James Foley and Ted Johnson, Maureen Markase

**Stanley Sutryk** by Diane Sutryk

**Ralph Tite Sr.** by Richard Stranahan

**Donald Weld** by Mannie and Joe Arrigo

**Sidney Weldon** by Scott Zettek

**Jack Wirth** by Linda and Ivor Edmunds

**Jeanne M. Wolf** by Thelma Yee

## In Memory of Elisabeth "Betsy" Maynard



Betsy Maynard was a kind, compassionate woman with a great love for cats. Betsy was the proud guardian of three cats and she loved them dearly. Betsy's sister, Tracey Silver, remembers her devotion to them. "They were safe with her as I think animals can sense. Betsy talked to them like they were her children; actually, they were".

Nearest and dearest to Betsy's heart was her beloved cat Brandy. When Elisabeth was ill and hospitalized, Brandy was able to visit her in the hospital several times. When Betsy saw Brandy her whole face would light up, it was the highlight of her day. After Betsy's passing, her family found a way to help other cats receive loving care. In lieu of flowers, they requested donations be sent to PAWS Chicago in Betsy's memory.



## In Memory of James Edward Rieser

There were many things in life that Jim loved. As a pilot, he "lived to fly" says Joanne Burrus, his loving companion of 20 years. After a trip, he was anxious to come home to the dogs he rescued, adopted and loved. The dogs would hear him coming up the driveway and waited for him either by the window or in the garage. Another important part of Jim's life was riding his motorcycle. Jim was fortunate enough to pair his love of flying and his passion for motorcycle riding through his work as a pilot for real estate entrepreneur Sam Zell. Jim was able to fly and ride with the "Zell's Angels" motorcycle group.

Joanne and Jim met through their aviation jobs. They not only shared their aviation professions, but shared a strong bond with their dogs. Jim's dogs were his "babies". Pictured with Jim on the left

is his first rescue dog, Holly, a silver and black shepherd. Holly was adopted in 2002. Two years later, another shepherd they named Blitz entered their family. Joanne says, "This big gentle boy has a real goofy sense of humor." Next came Shane, a yellow lab (in Gaelic, the name means God's gift). Shane was adopted as a 10-week-old pup. She came with an attitude and pneumonia. Today, she is healthy and bosses the big dogs around! Joanne is so grateful to have these dogs with her now, especially in her time of need when she misses Jim.

To honor Jim and his love of dogs, Helen and Sam Zell have generously donated to the PAWS Chicago Sick & Injured Animal Fund for Dogs. This fund enables PAWS Chicago to save even more pets and gives them a second chance at life.

## Give a Tribute Donation

For any occasion—birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, or memorials—honor someone special and help save lives by purchasing a PAWS Chicago tribute card. Orders can be placed online at [www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org) or by calling (773) 890-5116.

Suggested donation is \$50, but donors of \$100 or more may have their names posted on the PAWS Chicago website honoring or memorializing the special person or pet. Honors or memorials totaling more than \$1,000 will receive a special tribute or memorial feature in *Angel Tales*.

## Gifts made between April 16, 2008 and September 30, 2008 in honor of the following people

**Julie Adamek** by Matt and Lisa Pope  
**David and Suzanne Aho** by Pat and Teri McAllister  
**George Andrews** by Niki Anos  
**Friends at Animal Medical Center** by The Letchinger Family  
**Nancy M. Baird** by Mary Reynolds  
**Joyce Barrett** by Gail Barrett  
**Maya Blackstone's Bat Mitzvah**  
**Brooke Blair** by Anna Jackson  
**Julie Brandies** by Kelly Kenyon  
**Jackson Brewer** by Caroline Vanderoef  
**Jennifer and Patrick Burke** by Amy Thomas  
**Bridal Shower Guests of Darcy Riffman** by Sandy Capsuto  
**Chris and Kate Carder** by Erica Carder and Christopher Beeson, Susan Carder, Lisa Douville, Jeffrey and Clarice Duckworth, Shantell Feeser, Jackie and Dave Godic, Macky and Larry Kane, Joseph Katzenberger, Kim, Nora, Shannon and Bridget Katzenberger, David and Krista Rivers, Merle and Jim Styer, Nathaniel Volchenboum, Denise and David Whitney, Bernadine Yardley  
**Steve and Jill Carlson and Andrea** by John Draper  
**Emily Cassidy** by Kirsten Hills  
**Gaby Chagoya** by Bill Froelich  
**Joanne Charron** by Deborah Chapman  
**Chelsea and her sisters** by Roberta Clark  
**Chris and Charles** by Gay Guthrey and Associates  
**Anabelle Ciancuillo** by The Cairns, Irene Merwin, Julia and Dominic Mosca, The Witcoff Family  
**Pam Cipkowski** by her friends at the R&B Libraries  
**Gabriella Conforti** by friends and family  
**Cyndi Connolly** by WJHS Staff  
**Samantha Conrad** by Jordan Dolin  
**Mary Cooper** by Cheryl Cook  
**Keith Cornell and Mark Duebner** by Charles Wilkinson  
**Scott Crepeau and Kyleigh Rasmussen** by Elizabeth McAlister  
**Justin and Julia Douglas** by MaryKate McCutcheon  
**Howard and Caroline Draft** by Jack M. Cohen, Suzanne Welling  
**Sister Bernadette Eaton** by Daniel Rosengren  
**Wedding Guests by Kathleen Eichhorn and Michael Basil**  
**Jennie Entress** by Jonas Broner  
**Dr. Ramin Esfandiari** by Alaleh Mazhari  
**Peter Fasseas** by Deborah Chapman, Rhoda Davis Sweeney, James Foley and Ted Johnson, Jim and Sidney Golman, Patricia Spratt  
**Holly Fishel** by Frosty Fishel  
**Bruce Florine** by Friends of Streeterville  
**Elizabeth Friedel** by Pam Cipkowski  
**Michelle Frost** by Lynda Nielsen  
**Doug GeBraad** by Sherry and Dick Frenzel  
**Don Geren's Retirement** by Sharon and Earl Lichtenstein  
**Patricia Gibbs** by Christopher Gibbs  
**Rachel and Kailie Gilmore** by Karen Maurer  
**Jayne Glaser and Joe Futhey** by Jessica Lillie  
**Wedding Guests** by Vanessa Glynn and Christopher Breit  
**Dr. Emily Gottlieb** by Nancy Nierman, Catharine Regan, Lila Trotsky, Marjorie Weinstein, Betty Zinn  
**Daniel Greenblatt** by Elaine Huang  
**Olivia Hamilton** by Susan Voss  
**Amie Harrington** by Mary Lynn Moseley  
**Charlie Harris** by The Wales  
**Dori Harris** by Rocky Harris  
**Olivia Harris** by The Wales  
**Ken Hayes** by Carl Stern  
**Janet Herlehy** by Jeff and Julie Kime  
**Rhoda Herzoff** by Betty L. Volkmar  
**Maris Herzog** by Shelly Fisher  
**Dan and Marcie Hilligrand** by Rebecca Tollefsen  
**Stephanie Hlywak and Gabe Estill** by Jonathan Goetz

**John Holland** by Sheila Swist  
**Wedding Guests** by Joe and Hallie Jacob  
**The Guests of the Jaskula/Hortin Wedding** by Jason Hortin  
**Laura Kehoe** by Donna Lee  
**Jim Kelly** by Rhoda Herzoff  
**Katie Kidd** by Pam Pafford  
**Carrie Klima** by Stephanie Murman  
**The Kortas/Smithka Wedding** by Amy Kortas  
**Michelle Laiss and Brian Lipner** by Dana Salvatore, Ron, Jan and Shelbi Taylor  
**Barbara Lake** by Sandi Berger, Bonnie Friend and Donna Pomerance, Diane Frisch, Brook Horwitz and Holly Edelman, Brenda Lake, Ellen Reiter, Aviva Tauman  
**Wedding Guests** by Aidan Lally and Alison Harris  
**Robin Levinson** by Janice Zeid  
**Dr. Paul Lisnek** by Steve and Marla Cowan  
**Dr. Paul Lisnek and Brian Lozell** by Kay and Haskell Pitluck  
**Mary Littlefield** by Alicia Harden  
**Denise Lizen** by Jon and Suzanne Cordes  
**Susan Loring** by Kristi and Andrew Naidech  
**Robert Lunn** by Stephen Lunn  
**Judy Maierhofer** by Denise VanSickle  
**Jeanne Malkin and Harvey Schaffner** by Benn Feltheimer  
**Margaret Mancoff** by Anne Richardson  
**Liam Mann** by Debra Samuels  
**Tatiana Massa** by Suzanne and Pete Breyer  
**Max** by Anne Rea and Kenneth Bigg  
**Megan McGregor** by Kari Litoborski  
**Jeff and Averi Meadian** by Mike Roeck  
**Evan Michelson** by Kathleen Hayes  
**Emily Moe** by Douglas and Karen Dirks  
**Marya Morris and Andrew Miller** by Kevin Limberg, Mary Zerkel  
**Michael Mundo** by Kathleen Mundo  
**Wedding Guests** by Jessica Noonan and Matt Millis  
**Kristi North and Matt Lantz** by Laura Rahilly  
**Friends of Andrea O'Reilly** by Andrea O'Reilly  
**Henri and Max Pavalon** by Anonymous  
**Lynn Pavalon, Scott Phillips and Hailey Phillips** by Anonymous  
**Scarlett True Pencak** by Peter Pencak  
**Scott Phillips and Lynn Pavalon** by Terry Nicola  
**Bill Pierson** by Richard Campbell, Sandy and Tom Collins, Jan and Rich Edgley, Krystyna Kozak, Marion Pierson, Nancy Sanneman  
**Bernice Pink** by Craig Andree, June Shulman  
**Polly** by Bill Froelich  
**Wedding Guests** by Travis and Brenda Raebel  
**Terri Reed** by Shari Szerbat  
**Dan Roin** by Julie Roin and Saul Levmore  
**Pamela Rosenbaum** by D. Ben Flynn  
**Sylvia Ryba** by Hon. and Mrs. Roger G. Fein  
**Lauren Samuels** by Pearl Shless  
**David Saunders** by Lynn and Doug Jackson  
**Harvey Schaffner** by Rick Ashman, Paula Diethrich, Laurie Lovett, Lorraine Schaffner, Stacy Slavin  
**Rachel Schor** by Ian Leonard  
**Wedding Guests** by Luann and Paul Segerstrom  
**Catherine Sharp** by Nicole Golub, Elizabeth Taylor  
**Dr. Charles Slack and Family and Wrigley** by Ruth Swislow  
**Bill Smithburg, Peter Fasseas and Julia Mickelson** by Jeffrey and Sidney Golman  
**Bunny Snyder** by Caroline Druker  
**Marc Sokol** by Nancy O'Leary  
**Patricia Spratt** by William J. Bauer, Freebear Rizzio, Dan Roberts  
**Linda Tamblyn** by Emily Tamblyn  
**Howard Tullman** by Penny Brown and Jeff Rappin  
**Dr. Robert M. Turf** by his office staff



## In honor of Dr. Donna Solomon and the Staff of Animal Medical Center of Chicago

PAWS Chicago would like to honor Dr. Donna Solomon and the entire Staff of Animal Medical Center of Chicago. Dr. Solomon is a charitable veterinarian with an incredible bedside manor, not only for the pets she treats, but for their human companions as well.

When a patient of Animal Medical Center of Chicago passes on to the "Rainbow Bridge" above, Dr. Solomon makes a donation to PAWS Chicago in memory of the beloved pet. PAWS Chicago then sends a beautiful tribute card to the family of the dog or cat being honored. Dr. Solomon has received a tremendous response of gratitude from her clients, touched by the exceptional above-and-beyond care for her patients. Animal Medical Center of Chicago is located at 1618 W. Diversey Parkway.

**Joan Uth** by Charles and Alexandra Uth  
**April Victor** by Lynn and Mark Gentleman  
**Mr. and Mrs. James Vrbancic** by Diane and Norman Vrbancic  
**Dolly Walsh** by Jennifer Arellano  
**Wedding guests** by Melissa and Daniel Webber  
**Elizabeth and Jonathan Weiswasser** by Harold and Bobbi Stotland  
**Anastazja Wieckowski** by Samir Warty  
**Matt Wilkinson** by Sarah Wool  
**Oprah Winfrey** by Elme Medical/SmoothShapes



## Gifts made between April 16, 2008 and September 30, 2008 in **memory** of the following **pets**

**Lady Martha** Alger by Mara Baumgarten  
**Alice** by Scott P. Lafas  
**Oskar Anderson** by Ann Anderson  
**Andre** by Merrilee Lytle  
**Baxter Annella** by Tamar and Elan Jacoby, Laura Pennock  
**Bear Auer** by Meredith, Eric and Josh DuBrow  
**Gizmo Aumann** by Nichole Aumann  
**Barreta** by Lynda, Rick, Jordan Klinger and the staff of Davis Imperial Cleaners  
**Layla** by Gary and Faith Baxter  
**Bella** by Spencer Stuart  
**Virgo "The Virge" Berman** by The Malkin Family  
**Big Guy** by Gretchen Wehmhoff  
**Zorro Bilsky** by Florence Dry  
**Blackie** by The Grahams  
**Max Bloodworth** by Robert and Dorothy Hernquist  
**Spunky Boehm** by The Cardoza's  
**Wrigley Boyce** by Kathleen Boyce  
**Breezy** by Diane Rigley  
**Sundance "Sunny Bunny" Breitbarth** by Cindy and Lee Masover  
**Heidi Brown** by David, Colette and Bailey Budvitis  
**Guinness Bryan** by Chicago Dog Walkers  
**Tyson Bryant** by Heather Poitras  
**Buddy** by The Houndry  
**Bigi Carson and Maggie Iska** by Mary K. Carson  
**Casey** by Mitch Spivey and John Altman  
**Gaby Chagoya** by Bill Froelich  
**Charlie** by Joseph Winiecki  
**Liza Cheeseman** by Alexis Grund  
**Carly Clarke** by Debbie, Steve, Rachel, Max and Eli Gordon  
**Jibe Clawson** by Patti and Blake Carver  
**Maggie Colletti-Hudson** by Christine Brazill  
**Kaliki Collins** by Tom and Mary Griffin  
**Lakota Conroy** by Kathleen Gzanowicz  
**Court and Jacks** by Beverly Keys  
**Reggie Croft** by Sheri Weisbaum  
**Hawkeye Damolaris** by Jennifer Masuda  
**Jessie Debb** by Betsy Johnson

**Dizzy** by Claire Schneider-Jacobs  
**Cuddles Dominguez** by Mike and Michelle Sheehan  
**Casey Drews** by The Drews/Johnson Family, Jessica Hierbaum  
**Kimberly Dubblestein's pet** by Richard Cronin & Friends from Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts  
**Keesha Eldridge** by The Baechle Family  
**Kirby Eversman** by Eileen Newlin  
**Rutty Famigletti** by Pat, Heather, Hannah and Aiden Hughes  
**Snoopy Fitzsimons** by Kelly Fitzsimons  
**Winston Frank** by Pat and Gunther Polak  
**Jenny Fuller** by Julie Rand  
**Gus Garland** by Friends of Gus (Scott, Julie, Meg, Tera, Mike W. and Kelly A)  
**Paris Garrido** by Paula and Peter Fasseas  
**Zermatt Glazebrook** by Paula Halfman  
**Goldie** by Ruby  
**Barney Gonzalez** by Janelle Jones  
**Lucas Grassel** by Michelle Manke  
**Casey Gross** by Gregory and Christine Benz  
**Zelzah Gurian** by Renee Beam  
**Gus** by Jill, Bruce, Alexander, Sydney and Petunia Chanen  
**Zori Gustafson** by Kara's friends  
**Gracie Hajek** by Selma Rehm  
**Mookie Halpin** by Emily and Mark Johnson  
**Harry Harris** by Sharon Binker  
**Princess Hegarty** by Sandra Cerkleski  
**Henry** by Claire Schneider-Jacobs  
**Misty Holden** by The McNiff's  
**Honey** by Peter Weinberg and Ellyn Sisser  
**Smokee Hoovert** by Theresa Hoovert  
**Precious Horton** by Caroline Nash  
**Frankie Hubbard** by Stephanie Slonski  
**Kylie Janicek** by Carola Hoffmann  
**Ace and Chip Jellinek** by Nancy and Jeffrey Manasse  
**Kemet Jewell** by Jennifer South  
**Pugsly Kae Cornwall** by Cheryl Abbott  
**Sam Kaplan** by Shari Ribordy  
**Scout Katz** by Patricia Hefter

*Continued on next page*



**Snoopy Fitzsimons**



**Casey Drews**



**Cassie Sachsel**

## In Memory of Nell Tetzlaff Perlmutter



"We will always have a big and very special place in our hearts for Nell. She was beautiful, good natured, and never once growled in her life. She was accepting and tolerant of all the rescue dogs we brought into our home and always knew they needed her help. Her friendliness attracted many admirers and friends. She met and charmed celebrities, musicians, actors, chefs, athletes and adventurers.

She always, always loved a good party and thought that everyone was there for her. And I did my best to keep her thinking that. Polar Bear, Social Chairman, Sweet Pea, and Nelly Belly were some of her nicknames and her sweetness will remain with us forever. We loved her very much. Nell passed away on March 8, 2008. She was 18 years old."

- Jackie Tetzlaff and David Perlmutter

# 2008 Memorials & Tributes

*Gifts made in memory of pets continued*

**Murphy Katz** by Ed and Sandy Schonfeld  
**Kenya-Brandy** by Iris and Leda Golden  
**Crosby Kerndt** by Kristine Homan  
**Killian** by Mr. and Mrs. Carroll  
**Kirby and Ryan** by Martha Martin-Drevant  
**Tilly Klinger** by The Jones  
**Finnegan Konrad** by The Hronek Family  
**Cayla Kraus Schwarz** by Krysten Ryba and Susan  
**Tabby Landahl** by Eric Landahl  
**Morgan Lane** by Carol Ransom  
**Roger Lawrence** by Cynthia Hardie  
**Layla** by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Baxter  
**Graci Lindstrom** by Cheryl Luria  
**Lucy** by Amy Bransfield  
**Bear Lynch** by Katrina Derhake  
**Mulligan Maaske** by Susan Lee  
**Madison** by Edward White  
**Maggie** by Scott Multack  
**Maggie** by Laura, Steve, Bloomberg and Buttercup Anderson  
**Riley Mahoney** by Michele Morris  
**Buddy Malic** by Judy O'Malley  
**Mango** by Inde Hayes  
**Marlon** by Andrea Forsyth Telling  
**Snoopy Martin** by Julie Bartholomae  
**Priscilla Masliansky** by Much Shelist Litigation Department  
**Max** by Kelly Kennoy and Lynette Vosen  
**Killian McCaffery** by Friends at McCaffery Interests  
**Oscar McGeehan** by Stuart Schweidel  
**Maggie McGinnis** by Mary Kieffer  
**Fauna McNear** by Thomas and Rebecca McNeil  
**DW Mehta** by Supriya Mehta  
**Jim Mershon** by Steven Pflaum  
**Cookie Milak** by The Parker Family

**Miles, Daisy and Dizzy** by Sharna Fetman  
**Miss Kitty** by Paula and Peter Fasseas, Christina Gilberti, Steve Kadlec/Kadlec Architecture & Design  
**Lucy Moffett** by The Park Farmily  
**Tommy Moffett** by the Staff at Norwood Park Animal Hospital  
**Fontana Moon** by Brian Stinton  
**Babes Morgenstein** by Stephen Morgenstein  
**Malkovich Navarro** by Kathleen Navarro  
**Sparky Nesta** by Susan Ferris  
**Winston Nortman** by Julie, David, Jonathan and Danielle Shorr  
**Pet of Tess Nyka** by Gina Anselmo  
**Buddy O'Brien** by Kathleen Kinsella  
**Thatcher Olschan** by Linda and Leo Gordon  
**Paco** by Joseph Stokes  
**Bronte Parsons** by Joan and Dave Parsons  
**Angus Pennington** by Mike, Jena, Jack, Cady and Jersey Kinney  
**Snipper Perel** by John and Sheila Evans  
**Nell Tetzlaff Perlmutter** by Peter and Paula Fasseas  
**Champion Pich** by Roberta Rick  
**Mr. Cakes Plotkin** by Jennifer South  
**Polly** by Bill Froelich  
**Pretty and Shadow** by Patricia Crawford  
**Princeton** by Kasey Miller and Dan Radaj  
**Mia Rangarajan** by Allison Walk  
**Lucy Reey** by Mark Robertson and Mike Sullivan  
**Bentley Bob Risch-Welch** by Bonnie and Jim Spurlock and Family  
**Tucker Rogoway** by Jamie Komen  
**Indy Rudoy** by Kathleen Hardy  
**Cassie Sachsels** by Peter and Paula Fasseas  
**Sammy Sakowski** by Rosanne and Eugene Parsill  
**Sammy** by Christine DiGangi-Hughes  
**Brownie Sanders** by Pam Kasper

**Sasha** by Paula and Mike Halfman  
**Scruffy Schloeman** by Nancy Snead  
**Schnapps** by Janet Barkell  
**Billy Schramm** by Jolie Schwartz  
**Owen Sewell** by Barbara and Jim Kompare  
**Silky and Heidi** by Mary Lewis  
**Daisy and Suki Silverman** by Tina Wayne  
**Snowy** by Christine Nolan  
**Max Stevens** by Rhonda Maimon  
**Larry Stowers** by Beth Bollenbach  
**Shelby Sullivan** by Jennifer South  
**Susie** by Karen Breen Elia  
**Suzzie** by Jayne Bazos  
**Fritzie Sweeney** by Michelle Sweeney  
**Sydney** by Carolyn Cekal  
**Tabasco Wilneff** by Patty Garvy  
**Tess Taliaferro** by Katharine Almirall  
**Ozzie Targonski** by Anonymous  
**Tater and Coltrane Omary** by Dylan Omary  
**Abe Taylor** by Andrea Bergquist  
**Pugsly, Callie, GE and Golden Boy** by Pamela and Aubrey Templeton  
**Maize Thorstenson** by Greg Desmond  
**Tierney Family Pets** by Nancy Tierney  
**Balou Traxler** by Dan and Kara Perlis  
**Trekker** by Beth Rubin  
**Finbar Walls** by Steven Abraham  
**Wanda** by Vicki and Barry Kaufman  
**Kitty Pants Whinna** by Stephen Sowley  
**Jasmine Wiencek** by Don, Christy, Izzy and Bree Agee  
**Zackey** by Bonnie Rawitz  
**Sidney Zimny** by Amelia Huntington  
**Zorro** by Karen and David Goodman  
**Maggie Zumph** by Stephen and Dottie D'Iorio



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## Hinsdale Animal Cemetery and Crematory

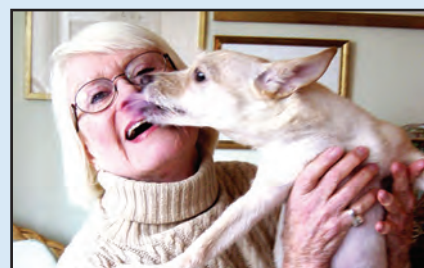
6400 S. Bentley Avenue  
Willowbrook, IL 60527

630-323-5120

[www.PetCemetery.org](http://www.PetCemetery.org)



## PAWS Chicago Guardian Angel Program



A bequest to PAWS Chicago, the city's largest No Kill humane organization, is a wonderful way to save the lives of homeless cats and dogs long after your lifetime.

PAWS Chicago also has a program that enables you to provide for your own pet after your death.

*For information on planned giving through the PAWS Chicago Guardian Angel program, please call Deborah Chapman at 773-843-2508.*



PAWS Chicago - An organization you can trust.



## Gifts made between April 16, 2008 and September 30, 2008 in **honor** of the following **pets**

**Dudley Albertini** by Ezequiel Agosto, Karen Diamond, Peter Norvid, Joe and Melva Turner

**Angus, Malcolm, Annie and Lady** by Jonathan Goetz

**Briar** by Susan Becker and Todd Wambold

**Buster** by Gene Goldring

**Chewie** by Joel Koster

**Saffy and Dakota Collicoat** by Allisun Duncan

**Dizzy** by Claire Schneider-Jacobs

**Figgy and Pornbeans Dunlap** by Dr. and Mrs. Jim Dunlap

**Pupcake Guzman** by Celia Jones

**Hana** by Ke Kumu

**Harrison Hardy** on behalf of Kevin and Kate Hardy's Wedding Guests

**Henry** by Claire Schneider-Jacobs

**Rumple Hoyt** by Lauren and Garrett McKinney

**Domer Jacobs** by Thomas and Loretta Jacobs

**Jake and Jesse** by Jillian James

**Karma** by Neal Greenwald

**Katie and Bell** by Sarah DuCoin

**Lily, Bella, Basil and Mr. Bojangles** by Cassandra Coffel

**Luther Morriss-Holan** by Tain Balfour, Judith Biancalana, Sharon Brunstein, Jane Burchfield, Carol Dorf, Sharon Eillis, Jacquie Gibbons, Eileen Jacobs, Jeanne Kovach, Catherine Moran, Annemarie Patterson, Daniel & Donna Rhodes and Mary Beth Sommer

**Jerry and Ben Matarasso** by Lynn Pavalon

**Roger Miller** by Lou Bank

**Mollie** by Christopher and Devra Glancy

**Molly, Bert and Guinness** by Meredith Wilson and Chris DeZutter

**Opus and Bob** by Lisa Marino

**Henri and Max Pavalon** by Anonymous

**Lynn Pavalon, Scott Phillips and Hailey Phillips** by Anonymous

**Patsy Roels** by Katherine Ponce de Leon

**Saki** by Cary Filsinger and Scott Yerkey

**Harley Shiffman** by Roger Shiffman

**Sienna and Emma** by The Fisher's

**Suki** by Margaret Mancoff

**Tramp** by Pamela Myerson-Gratz

**Yofi** by Aaron and Sheila Tam

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## In honor of Harrison

We are so grateful to PAWS for rescuing Harrison from Waveland, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina and bringing him into our lives. Over the past two years we have witnessed a shy, nervous, skinny puppy blossom into a confident, boisterous, loving dog. We tied the knot this spring and we were happy to be able to give back by making a donation to PAWS on behalf of our wedding guests. We hope our donation will help PAWS find loving homes for dogs who will bring as much happiness to others as Harrison brings to our family each day.

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# Kids' Corner

Children and animals share a special bond. Many Chicago kids are now helping homeless pets by encouraging their friends and family to support PAWS Chicago's efforts to build a No Kill community.

Animal lover Rachel Schor asked family and friends to support PAWS Chicago in honor of her Bat Mitzvah.



For Chase River Michaels' 5th birthday party, all of his friends from Resurrection Pre-School brought gifts for the dogs and cats.



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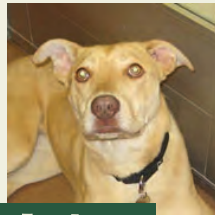


PAWS rescues, Simba & Nala

# ADOPT a Homeless Pet

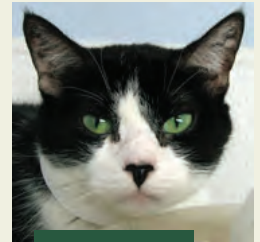
These precious homeless dogs and cats are looking for new families to open their homes and hearts to them. To see all the available PAWS Chicago pets in need of new homes, please visit [www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org)

This American Staffordshire terrier is an intelligent and independent lady! Amber is looking for a human companion to give her plenty of mental stimulation as she is always looking for a job to do.



Amber

Sivvy, a sweet, 10-year-old girl with beautiful green eyes, loves to be scratched under the chin and behind the ears. Sivvy would love to go to a quiet home with someone who is willing to be patient with her.

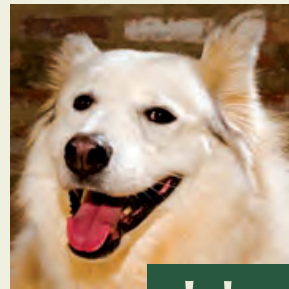


Sivvy



Bella

Ciao, Bella! This glamorous calico has a personality as bold as her looks; she is quite the conversationalist and enjoys engaging in talks with the volunteers and visitors. She'd love a home where she will be the only princess. Bella absolutely adores affection and attention from the humans in her world.



Lobo

Intelligent and independent, Lobo will be loyal and devoted to his human companion. He is true to his breed characteristics and will need consistent and firm handling with an active owner who wants a large, strong dog. Sturdy and untiring, Lobo enjoys long walks.

## PAWS ALUMNI

Stay Committed to the PAWS Cause



PAWS rescue, Huey

PAWS alumni dogs and cats, and their adoptive families, often stay in touch and continue to support PAWS Chicago. Whether it's attending events or alumni parties, keeping in touch with siblings and foster parents, or updating the Alumni page at [www.pawschicago.org](http://www.pawschicago.org), there is a life-long bond: once a PAWS dog or cat, always a PAWS dog or cat. Please keep us updated and stay a part of our family.



### Baby & Samson

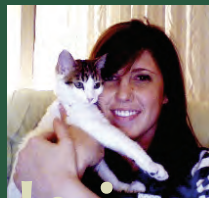
Since adopting Baby (now Molly) and Samson we have had so much fun! I am so happy I adopted these two boxers, they

are wonderful dogs and I couldn't have asked for anything better. They make my day and we always seem to be smiling around each other. Thank you so much for bringing us all together. I love them so much.

- Stephanie

I adopted Lexi (PAWS named her Mopsy) and she is doing great. She has adapted very quickly. She is super playful and extremely curious, but also a great snuggle buddy. She is a treat to come home to!

- Ashley



Lexi

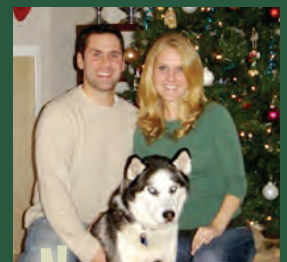


### Elizabeth & Bette

The kitties, Elizabeth and Bette, are both doing good. They sleep all day and party all night. Bette likes to run as fast as she can across the apartment and leap like a frog, while Elizabeth is much less nervous around people. - Katie

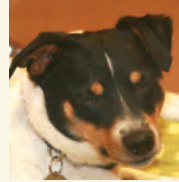
Nanook (now Norman) is doing great. Actually, my husband is playing hide and seek with him right now (one of their favorite games), and then we're going for a run. We start training classes tomorrow, which I think will be good for everyone! We love little Norman and couldn't imagine our lives without him.

Sincerely, Emily & Mike



Norman

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# Terri McAuley

Real Estate Expert & Dog Lover

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