



Humanely Speaking

H I N S D A L E H U M A N E S O C I E T Y / F A L L 2 0 1 6

HOWL-O-WEEN BALL

ALL ABOUT DOGS & PUPPIES

Making A Difference

PET THERAPY

HHS READ Program
Expansion

OUR NEW LOOK!

Renovations To The
HHS Shelter!

PAWS FOR APPLAUSE

Giving from the Heart



For more information go to our website at www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org or call 630-323-5630

Howl-o-ween Ball at Room & Board



All Howl-o-ween Ball Photography by Ken Ashley of K. Francis Media

An Unforgettable Night of Fun for Friends of HHS

With two shakes of a tail, HHS' Howl-o-ween Ball brought out hundreds of friends and supporters eager to help the shelter's mission of rescuing animals in need, adopting them out, and providing programs and services that support the community.

Supporters showed up in costumes designed to impress, many taking home prizes for their innovation. But the biggest prize of the night was the funds raised to help the shelter continue its work. Through ticket sales, an amazing assortment of silent and live auction items, a paddle raise and raffle, attendees were able to raise \$85,000 in one evening.

There was no shortage of fun along the way. As guests came together to raise funds, they got to enjoy cutting edge dance music from DJ Betty Nguyen of Fig Media, and listen to a motivating presentation shared by national television host and Howl-o-ween Ball M.C., Erika Vetrini, who brought down the house with her compelling words.

With plenty of great small plate foods from Taste of Home, wine tastings from Hinsdale company, Backpack Wines, a signature Poison Apple Mule from Twisted Shrub, and fall-inspired mini bundt cakes from Nothing Bundt Cakes, there was no shortage of festive food and

drink to help celebrate all things Halloween.

"It was a spectacular night both for our guests, and for HHS," said Mistie Lucht, Howl-o-ween Ball Co-Chair and Ambassadors Chair. "But none of it would have come together without the hard work of our Ambassadors who brought all of their unique talents to the table to make this both an amazing night to remember, and a successful fundraiser to help the shelter." (See page 3 for volunteers who helped make the event possible).

Premier sponsor and friend of HHS, Room & Board, provided a spectacular venue for this evening of spooktacular fun. This event truly could not have taken place without their support and the support of all of the generous sponsors and media members who helped make this fundraiser come to life. (See page 3).

With very few tricks and a bounty of treats, we say a huge thank you to our staff, volunteers, Ambassadors, Jr. Board, Hinsdale Central Care Club members, our Board of Directors and all of our wonderful sponsors. It takes a village to maintain the shelter and we are truly grateful to our village of passionate, caring individuals and businesses.

We could not do what we do without you. Boo!



"It was a spectacular night both for our guests, and for HHS," said Mistie Lucht, Howl-o-ween Ball Co-Chair and Ambassadors Chair.

Our Thanks to Ambassadors, Jr. Board and Board of Directors

We are so fortunate to have the power of volunteers behind us, helping us achieve things we couldn't do on our own.

Our group of Ambassadors and Howl-o-ween Ball Chairs shared their creativity and talents with us through our Silent Auction Committee (Committee Chairs, Walker Rediehs, Laura Glosniak and Sarah Vossoughi), and our Décor Committee Chairs (Reem Hassaballa and Kristen Venetsanopoulos).

The guiding force behind the entire event was our Howl-o-ween Ball Co-Chairs, Mistie Lucht and Alison Jenzen. Mistie has been heavily involved with HHS since 2013 and continues to amaze us with her energy, enthusiasm and passion for her work. Her Co-Chair Alison has been helping Mistie throughout the planning process, and

consulting on social media initiatives via her company So Chic Life.

A sincere thank you to ALL of our Ambassadors and Honorary Chair members who supported us throughout the preparation of this fundraiser in so many ways.

Thanks are also due to our wonderful Junior Board, made up of a talented group of passionate high school-aged individuals, who dedicate their talents and drive to fundraising events at HHS like Howl-o-ween Ball. Never to be forgotten is our wonderful Board of Directors, always there providing encouragement, support and ideas, while leading the organization to greater heights each year. We are so grateful to all of them for their tireless work on our behalf.

Director's Desk

In three words I can sum up everything I know about life: It goes on.

~Robert Frost

By the time you read these words, the election will be over. Some people will be thrilled with the choice of the American voters. Some will think we've picked the lesser of two evils. And some will truly not care, as long as the sun comes up tomorrow. No matter who is sitting in the White House, life goes on.

This is especially true for the animals in our care. Some have come from terrible circumstances – abuse, neglect, abandonment. Some have been almost casually discarded when previous owners felt they had too little time to meet their needs... or one of the worst excuses we ever heard... when someone said they had new furniture and the pet's hair would show too much.

But sometimes, pets are surrendered under the most heart wrenching situations. A loved one who has passed. A nursing home which does not allow pets. People who have lost their jobs and their homes. And amidst the tears and uncertainty as those pets are surrendered, we know that for those who come to Hinsdale Humane Society, life goes on.

Perhaps you know we receive hundreds of animals annually from high-kill shelters. These are facilities that have too many creatures, too few adopters and too little space. For pets under these circumstances, their only chance at survival is being transferred to Hinsdale Humane Society. Life goes on, because the only alternative is death.

The cats and dogs move on to new homes and new human friends.

continued on page 8

Thank You to Our Sponsors



The Booth Family



Nate & Mistie Lucht



Lorsbach

Sharon Foley

John & May Haarlow



Additional Sponsors: Linda Feinstein Homes | Normandy Remodeling | PetPeople Enterprises | Jeanne & Trey Van Dyke | Willow Grove Pet Clinic | Hinsdale Bank & Trust Great Hearts Initiative | Twisted Shrub | Mark Hickman Homes | Elaine Jans Media Partners: ABC-7 | Erika Vetrini | Fig Media | Hinsdale 60521 | Hinsdale Living Hinsdalean | Suburban Life Media | West Suburban Dog Magazine

Room & Board

Friend of HHS, Room & Board Contemporary Furniture Showroom in Oak Brook, has been so generous to our shelter, not only hosting our READ events each year, but now also taking on hosting duties for our entire Howl-o-ween Ball. We cannot thank them enough as an organization, and more specifically, their Oak Brook staff, namely Francesca Andrews and Jennifer Barhorst, for their continuing support and encouragement of all that we do at the shelter and through our fundraising efforts. Our thanks to Room & Board for being a pet-friendly store and for being such a good friend to HHS!



Celebrity Video

If you didn't make it to Howl-o-ween Ball to see the Hinsdale celebrity video in support of HHS, please visit our website to watch it there. We are so grateful to all of the wonderful individuals who took time out of their busy schedules to let us capture them talking about what it is we do. Our thanks to: Pam Lannom & Jim Slonoff of The Hinsdalean, Chef Paul Virant of Vie & Vistro, Judy Hsu and Ben Bradley from ABC-7, Coach Michael Wiggins from Hinsdale Central, Susan King of Hinsdale Hospital Foundation, Dr. Jeffrey Weller and Tina Weller of Weller Dental, Erika Vetrini, national television host, and our own Ambassador, Alison Jenzen of So Chic Life.



Paul Virant

PAWS FOR APPLAUSE

Giving from the Heart



We are so thankful to these young, compassionate individuals, for taking time to think about homeless animals. Through lemonade stands, allowances, birthday money, creating blankets and gathering supplies, and so many other ways, these giving individuals donated from their hearts to help keep our animals comfortable.

Thank you to these children who are now all members of our Big Hearts for Little Paws Club.

Claire E. | Stella B. | Lucy S., Kayla S., Annie C., Lilja W. | Mae Hamilton, Elise B., Bridget C., Kate K. | Leah & Lainey Ostericher | Jessamyn & Bennett Westerberg | Aiden Athy | Eve, June & Peter | Julian & Gabriella Toczylowski | Rob & Olivia Mansfield | Kendall McCain & Ella Gray | Andrew Peto | Girl Scout Troop #51867 | Alexa & Emma Salzman | Sophia Jiotis, Karina S., Avery P. and Marrison P. | Caden and Conner Schwartz | Matea Hewitt, Jackie Eberspacher | Amy Sakalosky, Grace, Emma, Madeline, Bobby, Abby | Brady Krumpfes | Ally Furey, Sydney N. | Emily Timotic | Aubrey & Amelia H. | Meredith Lee | Alita Folkening | Alexa, Jordyn & Taylor Hoffenberg | Poppy Hickman | Calla M. | Harper Carroll, Anne, Amelia & Adeline G. | Melena Lim & Anna | Gabriella, Mia and Teagan Gehrisch | Elisha Glover | Kayla Daze & Sophia P. | Maralin & James Clapacs with Monroe School 1st and 2nd grade | Sarah Bryan & Allie H. | Michael Francis | Elena Quinonez | David Waight | Colin & Kaitlin O. | Brandon, Roland, Ben, Emma | Anna & Maya Werab | Armaan S.

Friends of HHS

Thank you to the following libraries for their ongoing support of our humane education and pet therapy programs and for donations from summer R.E.A.D. and reading programs: Clarendon Hills, Indian Prairie, Oak Brook Village and Western Springs Library Friends.

Petco Foundation continues to be a wonderful partner to HHS. The Foundation believes that every animal deserves to live its best life. Since 1999, they have invested more than \$170 million in lifesaving animal welfare work to make that happen. We are proud and honored to have worked with the Petco Foundation this year and are so grateful to them for their continuing

donations that help support our work. Urban Mutt kindly donated to us through a pet food promotion from Middle West Distributors.

We have so many wonderful media partners who help spread the word about our organization. One we'd like to call out in this issue is Brooke Keene, editor of West Suburban Dog magazine. Brooke's publication is very mindful of Adopt Don't Shop, never having pet shops advertise, and going even further by offering very low advertising rates to rescue organizations like HHS. She helps educate with stories about puppy mills and does all she can for homeless animals by sharing their stories in the pages of her magazine. Our thanks to Brooke for being a champion for homeless animals everywhere.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: PUPPY PARTY & ADOPT-A-DOG MONTH



Our 2nd annual Puppy Party held at the shelter on October 1, brought out more than 150 attendees and supporters who were there to make a difference in the lives of our animals. The fact that they were able to sneak in some puppy cuddles was the icing on the “pup”cakes. The event kicked off Adopt-A-Dog Month and included face painting, children’s activities with prizes, balloon animals, pupcakes and lemonade. Highlighting it all was a litter of charming 9-week old Boxer/Lab mix

and Terrier mix puppies who appeared to enjoy puppy playtime as much as attendees.

This family-friendly event generated much-needed items from the HHS Wish List, as well as generous donations to our Medical Fund. All donations to that Fund throughout October were matched by a donor/supporter up to \$5000. The Fund is used to provide heartworm treatment, specialized diagnostic assessments and eye care, radiographs, and emergency or corrective surgery for “special needs” animals. Puppy Party attendees brought in more than \$400 (equivalent to more than \$800 in matching funds) and supplies to help with animal care in the months ahead. We are hopeful through the compassion and generosity of donors, that our \$10,000 goal will be reached.

Attendees who donated, automatically received Puppy Party Raffle Tickets. Prizes donated by friends of HHS included a glass pet toy/treat-filled jar donated by Petco in Hinsdale, a 10" decorated cake from Nothing Bundt Cakes in LaGrange, and a LaGrange Theater gift package for six people.

The puppies featured at the party ended their day happily curled up on blankets in their kennel, sound asleep and likely dreaming about their adoption and loving home that awaits each of them.

Humane Education Animal Tales

HHS’ Humane Education programs are designed to offer a wide variety of instructor-led sessions that teach important life skills including kindness, compassion and respect for all living things.

One recently launched new program called “Animal Tales,” merges literacy and humane education.

HHS Humane Educator, Jessica Lamb, created this new literacy program in an effort to engage our youngest animal lovers. This story time program in local libraries, serves to introduce pre-school age and younger children to animals and environments of all kinds through age appropriate stories and activities.

“Our goal is to teach compassion at an early age and give children a better understanding of the world we live in through animals and nature,” said Jessica Lamb, HHS Humane Educator. “Reading from books that introduce children to new animals they don’t see in their everyday lives, gives that message a greater context.”

Please join us for this ongoing program with story times coming up at Clarendon Hills Park District on February 23rd, March 2nd, and 9th at 6pm. Visit our website for more information.

Have books you’d like to donate or want more information about our programs? Contact our Humane Educator, Jessica Lamb, by email at humane.ed@hinsdalehumanesociety.org



Two Paws Up!

We are so fortunate to have the support of so many wonderful individuals and companies like the ones below.

Andrea Thome Booksigning

Author, adopter, and friend of HHS, Andrea Thome, made a very generous donation to HHS from a recent Barbara’s Bookstore Burr Ridge booksigning of her new novel, “Walland.” Andrea is a former broadcast journalist, married to retired White Sox player, Jim Thome. We cannot thank her enough for the support and encouragement of what we do, and we wish her great success with her novel.



Classic Kids

Our longtime friends at Classic Kids donated generously to HHS once again with the funds collected for us through their annual Dog Days of Summer photo sessions. We love to see the creativity they put into the beautiful work they do and we are so grateful for their continued support.

Razny Jewelers

Our thanks to Razny Jewelers in Hinsdale for their generosity in donating a luxury ring from their Dog Fever line, to our Clear the Shelters event this past summer. One of our lucky adopters was able to take home a dog as well as a gorgeous dog ring that day. We were thrilled to be able to share the exciting news with the winner of the ring and are so thankful to Razny for their support of our work.

Citadel Shred4Rescues

Citadel Information Management in Westmont continues to support and encourage adoption through their annual Shred4Rescues event that offers attendees the option to have their personal documents shredded safely in exchange for donations to local shelters like ours. We were thrilled to be presented with a generous check from our friends at Citadel. Thank you to the shredding experts!

Rotary Run

Our thanks to the Rotary Club of Hinsdale for once again, including us as a beneficiary of their Rotary Run Charity Classic held on Sunday, October 16. The scenic race winds through the historic streets of Hinsdale and surrounding neighborhoods with festivities during and after the race for participants. Thank you to this wonderful organization for continuing their work in the community.

Village Cellar

On August 27, The Village Cellar in Hinsdale opened their doors to dogs during their Third Annual Dog Days of Summer Wine Tasting, donating all tasting fees from the event, to our shelter. While humans tasted wines, dogs were able to enjoy their own ice cold water beverages and tasty homemade treats fit for pampered pooches. Our thanks to The Village Cellar for their ongoing support of our organization!

Vineyard Vines

Our thanks to the Oak Brook Vineyard Vines store for raising funds for us from their "Shop and Support a Cause" program. Ten percent of proceeds from the evening of Sept. 21, were donated to our shelter. Additionally, Vineyard Vines kindly donated to our silent auction for Howl-o-ween Ball. We are so grateful to them for their support and encouragement of the work we do.

Roberto's Ristorante

Roberto's Ristorante in Elmhurst recently hosted a food and wine pairing event, donating proceeds from the event's silent auction to HHS. Proceeds totaled more than \$1,000. HHS CARE Volunteer, David Ore, worked with proprietor Pasquale Moreci to secure this generous donation event for HHS. The evening featured a six-course meal. Each course was paired with a wine produced by Pio Cesare vineyard of Alba, Italy. The evening was moderated by Casare Benvenuto, a fifth generation owner of Pio Cesare.



David Ore and Rico Suave, HHS Executive Director Lori Halligan and Pasquale Moreci and Nala.

NEWS FROM PET THERAPY



LaGrange Hospital visit.

We love our pet therapy teams. They've been hard at work over the past few months and here are the highlights of the wonderful work they do in our community.

In June, Laura Poad & Remington made an inaugural visit to the Westmont Public Library, expanding our HHS READ program to a total of eight local libraries now.

Pet Partner Teams Ann Marie Casper & Lilly, Jan Forster & Grover, Charlotte Keane & Sláinte, and Rose Krogh & Diva took on a special assignment "Celebrating Seniors" in July. Our HHS READ partner, Brookfield Public Library, hosted an event at Cantata Adult Life Services for resident seniors along with participants from the Brookfield Eagle SEASPAR group (a community-based program that incorporates therapeutic recreation to help adults ages 18-50 with developmental disabilities).

In early August the Scottish Home senior care facility in North Riverside celebrated its 100th Annual Picnic. This facility has hosted HHS Pet a Pet Teams for many years. Jean Trzos & Mr. Max, Rose Krogh & Diva, and Joyce Nemeč & Lucky represented HHS and joined in the festivities with residents, their families and the community.

In late August, Pet Therapy Teams David Ore & Rico Suave, Jan Forster & Grover, Jean Trzos &

Mr. Max and Nancy Woodard & Ernie visited the Wellness House for their Children's Bereavement Support Group to provide some comfort from furry friends. The Oncology Child Life Specialist was quick to say, "thank you so much to you and your teams for coming to our group last night. The kids loved meeting the therapy animals!"

The Hinsdale Hospital Ice Cream Social is a long-time end of summer tradition. HHS CARE Teams Jan Forster & Grover, Ann Marie Casper & Lilly, Nancy Woodard & Ernie and Jamie Altman & Bowzer helped to promote our mission of dedication to the care and adoption of homeless animals, community outreach, and, of course, showcase our alliance with the hospital's healing arts initiative with our HHS CARE program visiting patients in the hospital.

HHS CARE program has expanded to include the Adventist La Grange Hospital campus of AMITA Healthcare. After a successful calendar of visits at Hinsdale since March of 2015, we were pleased to be so welcomed by the Spiritual Care and Volunteer Services staff in La Grange. CARE Team Jan Forster & Grover kicked off the regular program which rolled out in September.

Our thanks to the dedicated Pet Therapy teams of HHS. We are so proud to offer this healing service to the community.



Grover, part of HHS' Pet Therapy program.



IN MEMORY OF NANCY HURD BASSETT

Nancy Hurd Bassett passed away on June 5 after a brave battle with melanoma. Nancy had been a loyal supporter of HHS for almost 25 years, often attending Pet Walk. She was a professional dog groomer and was the owner of The Galloping Groomer. Her many clients, both dogs and humans, appreciated her kind disposition and her outstanding grooming skills.

Nancy is survived by her husband of 35 years, Jeff, her two sons, Ben and J.R. Also two sisters, Judy Hurd Penticoff and Janet Hurd Kelsheimer as well as several nieces and nephews. The staff of HHS sends our appreciation to the Bassett family for the numerous donations in memory of Nancy Hurd Bassett to further our mission of caring for homeless animals.

HHS Memorials, Tributes and Bequests

Celebrate a life. Improve the lives of our shelter animals. Your memorial and tribute gifts support the operational needs of our shelter, including animal care and medications. You can:

- Give a memorial gift in memory of a departed pet or person.
- Request memorial donations to HHS when a loved one has passed away.
- Give a tribute gift to honor or thank a living pet or person, or to acknowledge a special event such as a Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation or holiday gift.
- Purchase an engraved Memorial Brick for our Carla Fisher Memorial Garden. (Installed in summer, 2017)

Unless otherwise requested, your gift is acknowledged:

- A card sent to the surviving family or honoree.
- A Thank You card sent to you from the Shelter.
- A listing in our Winter and Summer Quarterly Newsletters.

Hinsdale Humane Society is deeply appreciative for the families of these departed individuals who designated memorial gifts to help our homeless animals in the past 6 months: **Nancy Bassett, Mark Cunningham, Matas G. Indreika, Genevieve Quagliani, Otto Schlesinger, Allison Taylor, Stephen Walsh, Tiger Lily Wayman, Gertrude Zis.**

Many of our supporters desire ways to commemorate the life of a loved one and to make a lasting legacy in their honor. A bequest or other planned giving instrument is often the ideal method to make a gift of such significance. If you'd like more information about leaving a bequest to HHS, please contact Lori Halligan, Executive Director at 630-323-0251.

Hinsdale Humane Society respects the privacy of our donors. We do not sell or exchange any individual donor information.

IN MEMORY OF STEPHEN WALSH



Stephen Walsh of LaGrange passed away in August of this year. He was one-of-a-kind, and his big presence, silly sense of humor, and beautiful smile will be missed by all who loved him.

Guitar virtuoso. Teacher. Painter. Leader of the band. Son. Brother. Uncle. Friend.

All these titles describe Steve, but another title represents him well: compassionate animal lover. Steve's sister Laurie Walsh shared these words: "Steve felt strongly about the good work your team does at the shelter, and he would be honored to be recognized. His friends and family understood Steve's love and concern for animals, and their generosity has been heartwarming for us."

Hinsdale Humane Society gratefully acknowledges the memorial gifts received in memory of Stephen Walsh and sends our condolences to his family and friends.

Sometimes with new names, but always with the promise of food, comfort and love. Life goes on, only better than before.

In the past year, Hinsdale Humane Society had the best live release rate ever. This means that more animals were saved through adoption, strays returned to owners, transfers to qualified breed rescue organizations, and foster caretakers. It is a measurement in which the organization and the community should take great pride.

Just a few weeks ago, the police brought us an emaciated stray cat with a severe injury. Kelsey, our staff member, cradled him in a blanket and gently examined his wounds. We quickly determined this fragile feline needed immediate veterinary care. In spite of the vet's greatest efforts, along with antibiotics and IV fluids, this particular kitty did not survive. But for the last 24 hours of its life, the cat received comfort and care. Hopefully, he knew he was loved, however briefly. He did not die alone.

I've been thinking a lot about life, what is important and what is not. I try not to worry about things I cannot control such as healthcare costs and the weather. But I know my life is better because of the people who are in it: my family, co-workers, friends, and people who care about animals.

And my life is blessed beyond measure by the animals who have crossed my path. The pets who have gifted me with their unconditional love and the shelter animals I've known just briefly. As those shelter pets begin their new lives with their new families, isn't it beautiful to say "Life goes on."

Lori Halligan, Executive Director

Ongoing Education for HHS Staff Members



Alan Lis, HHS staff member

Relevant professional development opportunities are made available to all HHS staff members. Recently, two staffers took advantage of educational seminars to help with their development and growth. Alan Lis, Animal Care Technician/Adoption Counselor, attended a two-day seminar in Austin, Texas entitled "Next Generation Leadership." Emancipet, a non-

"I now have a greater understanding of fundraising, cultivating donor relationships, solicitation of gifts and how they all work together," said Fisher.

profit dedicated to low cost spay/neuter and affordable veterinary care, offers training and consulting programs to animal welfare organizations, and sponsored this seminar. The interactive sessions focused on developing effective leadership skills that are inherent to animal welfare organizations.

Participants learned ways to maximize their own leadership and communication styles to achieve a balance between managerial and leadership authority. "It showed me ways to work more effectively with other staff members and also potential adopters, to reach a decision through collaboration and leadership," said Lis, an HHS employee for 5 1/2 years.

Development Director, Jennifer Fisher, who joined the HHS staff earlier this year, enrolled in two classes offered by Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management in Chicago. An intensive three-day class entitled "The Essentials of Fundraising and Marketing" focused on the principles of fundraising, understanding donors, and engaging the board in fundraising and marketing. The second program was "Major Gift Solicitation Strategies." This seminar focused on gift solicitation, and ranged from outlining current trends to developing a successful program. "I now have a greater understanding of fundraising, cultivating donor relationships, solicitation of gifts and how they all work together," said Fisher. "I was really impressed with the material covered, the professors and speakers."

HHS encourages staff to attend professional development workshops, seminars, and classes. These forums enable staffers to hone their skills and abilities and stay current with best practices in animal care and shelter related topics, all for the benefit of the animals.

John Haarlow Completes Board Term



HHS bids farewell to John Haarlow, as he completes two 3 year terms on the Board of Directors. For the past three years, Haarlow has served as Vice President in addition to being a member of the Governance Committee. He has also assumed the Chairmanship of both the Development and Strategic Planning Committees. During his tenure, board members have become more involved through leadership and participation in committees that are dedicated to specific tasks, such as marketing and operations.

Haarlow cites his involvement with Strategic Planning as a significant contribution to HHS. According to Haarlow, "The Strategic Plan is a working document that provides direction, but is subject to change as needs change and/or circumstances dictate." Establishing both short and long term goals aids in decision-making processes.

The need for more shelter space is a primary objective and these aspirations will impact the future of HHS. "A larger space will allow HHS to care for even more animals, to improve upon the design of the current space, for example a better air filtration system in the kennels, and to reunite the shelter and administrative staff in the same space." Haarlow sees additional work, such as increasing HHS visibility and reaching out to the community and donors to better familiarize them with the HHS Mission, as necessary components to helping more animals. "HHS has an exciting future, and I'm glad to have been involved thus far," said Haarlow.

As his six-year term ends, Haarlow reflects on the additional opportunities he has had as a Board member to support the HHS Mission, and the privilege to know the staff whose dedication and passion he admires. Haarlow will continue to have a link to HHS via Jessie, his male chocolate Lab, now two years old, adopted from HHS in 2015. In addition to being a long-time donor, Haarlow believes there may be other ways to continue his involvement with HHS.

HHS deeply appreciates John Haarlow's work and commitment as a Board member and leader.

Vern Goers "Deck The Halls" Shop-N-Share

Hinsdale Humane Society **Nov. 22nd through Dec. 23rd**
Poinsettias | Wreaths | Gifts | Ornaments | Holiday Garland | Christmas Decorations

Name _____

Date _____ Sales Total _____

Vern Goers Greenhouse: 5620 S. Oak St. Hinsdale **630-323-1085**

Hours: M-Sat 8am-6pm. Closed Sun.

Vern Goers generously donates 10% of purchases to help HHS animals.

HHS Board Term Comes to an End for Dr. Ann Marie LoPiccolo



Dr. Ann Marie Piccolo is proud and thankful for her time as an HHS Board member for the past six years. Dr. LoPiccolo, a veterinarian and owner of WillowGrove Pet Clinic, has shared her knowledge and expertise in many ways to benefit homeless animals at HHS.

LoPiccolo served as Secretary for one year and was a member of the Development committee for three years. During the past five years, LoPiccolo has been the Chairperson of the Operations Committee. She helped develop plans to maximize standards of animal care and decrease the length of stay for homeless animals prior to adoption.

According to LoPiccolo, one of the major accomplishments of the Operations Committee was "creating

medical protocols to treat ill animals, and establishing processes to increase wellness and prevent infectious diseases." LoPiccolo is also responsible for having developed strategies to increase awareness of the shelter's No Kill Policy and Community Outreach Programs.

As a Board member, LoPiccolo cites efforts made on behalf of animals, from individual care to improvements in feline housing, as significant accomplishments. As a result, "hundreds of homeless animals at HHS are adopted annually and are well-cared for until they are united with their families," said LoPiccolo. She commends those working with HHS animals, saying, "kind, caring, and compassionate staff and volunteers are dedicated to the protection and adoption of homeless animals." She looks to an HHS future that includes improvement and growth of the adoption center.

LoPiccolo says, "I look forward to my continued involvement with a truly exceptional charitable organization." She will be an ongoing member of the Operations Committee in addition to volunteering to examine HHS animals and develop therapeutic plans for them as needed. Serving as her "personal cheerleader" for all animal-related activities is Bella, her four-year old Lab mix and HHS alumni.

Our sincere thanks to Dr. Ann Marie LoPiccolo for her work and commitment to making HHS a better place for homeless animals.



*Humanely Speaking
is published quarterly for
friends of Hinsdale*

Humane Society,
22 N. Elm Street,
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521.
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FAX 630-318-7930
www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org

Shelter Hours:

Tuesday 2 - 8pm; Wednesday -
Friday 12 noon - 6 pm;
Saturday & Sunday 10am-4pm;
Closed Monday

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*Thank you to our Graphic Designer,
Katrina Garagiola, who artfully
designed this newsletter.*



Ask Jenny...

*HHS Operations Manager, Jenny Vlazny answers
pet-related questions and offers advice.*

Q. I have a senior pet in declining health and I'm struggling with how I will know when it's time to say goodbye.

A. There is no more emotionally conflicting time in our relationship with our beloved pets than during the end of life phase. This time is usually fraught with a roller-coaster of emotions and indecision knowing the inevitable is coming, but wanting to hang onto every precious moment of life together. For some, this experience may come at a much earlier than anticipated age due to illness or injury, while for others, the pet has lived a long life and age-related changes are slowly taking over what was once a vibrant, healthy companion. The changes usually occur slowly, so much so that you barely notice, until one day you become aware of the cloudiness in the eyes, how short and deliberate your outdoor walks have become, and you realize how much time your pet spends sleeping so soundly you sometimes have to look closely to see the rhythmic rise and fall of his sides as he breathes.

Most importantly, if you haven't already, your pet should receive a thorough health examination and diagnostic testing by your veterinarian who is best able to determine your pet's current medical status and future health prognosis. In partnership with your veterinarian, you can formulate a plan of care based on your pet's individual needs. While your vet will be able to tell you what care your pet may benefit from medically, only you, as a result of knowing your pet better than anyone and caring for him on a daily basis, however, can determine his emotional status and physical well-being. Many times a clear indicator of further decline is that the pet will stop eating and thwart all attempts of culinary enticement. A once housebroken dog may become very stressed by having accidents indoors and laying in his own excrement due to physical immobility and lack of control. Animals are adept at being able to mask when they are in pain, and excessive panting and frequent whining and/or crying out are signs of distress. And sometimes even good-tempered, loving animals can become less tolerant of handling and may begin exhibiting aggressive responses to regular everyday routines. There may come a time when there are far many more bad days than good ones.

Our pets count on us to not only love and care for them during the good times, but to have the emotional and mental fortitude to be able to make end of life decisions with their best interest in mind above all else. While it is not uncommon for conflicted pet owners to unconsciously turn a blind eye and not want to accept reality, the greatest gift I believe we can give our beloved animal family members is to know when it is time to ease them from their suffering, to thank them for loving us, and to say our final goodbye.

A NEW LOOK FOR HHS

We are excited to share photos of the renovations to the shelter! The reception area, adoption counseling rooms, shelter office, volunteer area, restrooms and lobby cat suite received a much-needed upgrade in September.

HHS is grateful to volunteer Kristen Venetsanopoulos, an interior designer, who offered a variety of innovative design ideas. A new color scheme of gray tones and white,



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with pops of red, along with warm wood accents enhances the space. Most significantly, new ceramic tile with non-porous grout has been installed, which is easily cleaned and very durable.

“So much was accomplished in a short time and the outcome is quite a transformation,” said staff member Kym Iffert who coordinated the project with minimal interruptions. Iffert shared that the project was not without its challenges of

scheduling and expediting the renovation within a very stringent time parameter, all while caring for a shelter full of animals.

Once flooring and walls were completed, HHS volunteers began the task of painting. While “under construction,” shelter staff members continued caring for animals and working wherever a temporary table and chair, computer, and phone were available. New office furniture was purchased and installed, while other existing items were re-purposed under a limited budget. There are plans for additional upgrades in the next few months, including improved lighting and enhanced graphics.

Coinciding with the building’s new look, is also an update of the HHS logo. The decision was made to refresh the iconic heart within the paw, to give it a vertical as well as horizontal application, and a modernized type font.

For those wanting to visit the animals up for adoption, now is an ideal time to also see the brand new shelter look.



Photos with Santa Returns

Mark your calendar and save the date: Family photos with Santa, **December 3, 1:00PM - 3:00PM, at HHS**

Santa will be visiting for Christmas photo opportunities with pets and/or families with their furry family members. Photographer Nikki Kuchenbecker from NMK Photography will be capturing holiday memories with Santa and your pet. A suggested \$10 donation will be used to brighten the holiday season for the homeless, adoptable canines and felines at HHS.

Santa will also be presenting his WOOFshop holiday boutique at the shelter featuring a selection of gift items for pet lovers. These will be available for purchase and all proceeds will benefit HHS shelter animals.

PetPeople Photo Shoot



HHS is so fortunate to call PetPeople in Western Springs a friend and partner. The store has kindly donated its conference room space within the store to HHS on a number of occasions, most recently for a photo shoot of our Pet Therapy teams.

Volunteer photographer Nikki Kuchenbecker of NMK Photography, kindly spent a day embracing the love of our Pet Therapy pets while capturing incredibly compelling photos of each of them. Her kind demeanor throughout the day, and her willingness to be knocked over and slobbered on by exuberant pets, put everyone, including the animals, at complete ease.

Our thanks to Nikki for donating her time and talents to the shelter. We enjoyed our day of pet therapy fun with you!



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Save the Date

Photos with Santa & Holiday Boutique: December 3, 1-3pm

Dover's Story



Dover came to HHS in January as part of the Tennessee Twelve, after being rescued from an old abandoned store. But this dog was totally “shut down.” In human terms, he was catatonic... almost paralyzed... even to the point where guests to the shelter were concerned that he was no longer alive.

Obviously, Dover needed more care than what could be given in the shelter. He needed a patient foster family who could try to find a real dog inside the vacant eyes and unmoving body.

Now try to imagine the next steps... carrying Dover because he was incapable of walking. For the next several months,

Dover only got up to eat, drink, and use the bathroom on a plastic tray in the middle of the night, out of sight of all humans.

Fast forward 9 months. Dover is still in foster care, but now he can go outside or walk around the home without feeling terror. He plays with the family's other dogs. He holds eye contact. He will take a treat from a human – especially his favorite snack – goldfish crackers.

While Dover still has a long road to recovery, he no longer “simply exists”...he is living a dog's life and learning to enjoy the comforts that a forever family will someday be able to offer.