

OPINION

||| LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Officials sprang to action to save dog

As executive director of Hinsdale Humane Society, and witness to an emergency involving a lost pet on Halloween morning, I had to share a story with you about what a wonderful community we live in.

The Hinsdale Police Department, and the Department of Public Services in Hinsdale and Burr Ridge, are all to be commended for their quick-thinking and team work when confronted with a difficult situation.

A 115-pound Bernese mountain dog named Sammy was swept away by a rainwater stream at Katherine Legge Memorial Park. The dog was carried into a drainage pipe and travelled about 1,000 feet underground, headed towards Burr Ridge to an area near the Hinsdale Oasis.

The police officers and public works officials sprang into action to search the areas where the pipe would discharge. The dog was located just east of the park shortly thereafter by the officers, with only minor injuries to her paws.

At moments like this, you really see what people are made of. All of the responding officers, crew members, and caring dog owners present at the park that morning, illustrated the genuine kindness and compassionate nature of people.

It was a frightening Halloween morning that came to a quick and positive resolution for both Sammy and her family. We are very blessed to live where we do live and to be surrounded by such good people and strong community ties.

*Lori Halligan
executive director
Hinsdale Humane Society*

Thanks to dog rescuers

Our family is forever grateful to the police officers of the Hinsdale and Burr Ridge police departments, as well as Lori Halligan and her staff from the Hinsdale Humane Society, for their quick actions in the rescue of our dog, Sammie, from the flood waters at Katherine Legge Memorial Park on Halloween morning.

Officers Matt Miller, Tom Yehl, Louis Hayes, Tony Maraviglia, as well as Mark Wodka, were dispatched at about 9:15 that morning, through an emergency phone call from Ms. Halligan, whose office is located at KLM. Through their emergency response, and "hands-on" tactics in wading through rising flood waters, the officers located Sammie in the back of the Laurie Lane housing development, dirty, paws bloodied, and very scared. She had been swept into the drainage tunnel at KLM, and was found where the tunnel empties into the small lake in the Laurie Lane area.

By 9:50 a.m., they had brought her back to us at the park, and we were home with her by 10 a.m. A dramatic rescue for sure, and one that we'll never forget. Through the quick and heroic actions of all involved, we got our dog back and we are very grateful.

God's blessings to the wonderful and caring community in which we live. Our heartfelt thank you again to the police officers, the Hinsdale Humane Society, and everyone involved.

*Linda Lozier
Hinsdale*