

SE Minnesota's Premier Animal Magazine

Summer 2014

wagazine

wags, whiskers, hooves and fins

WHEN DOGS FLY

THE SPORT OF
CANINE DISC

CELEBRITY
PET MATCHUP

ALTERNATIVE
THERAPIES FOR PETS
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WHEN A LOST PET
STOPS YOUR WORLD

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what's inside... summer 2014

Q&A

6

Animal Wonders
Pet questions answered.

YOUR PHOTOS

7

Pets on Parade
Reader-submitted photos.

LIVING WITH PETS

8 & 30

Celebrity Pet Matchup
Can you tell who owns whom?
BY BOB FREUND

LIVING WITH PETS

16

Nauti Cats
The water-faring cats in Lake City.
BY ALISON RENTSCHLER

LIVING WITH PETS

18

Finding Mason
When a pet goes missing
the world stops.
BY PAT GARRY

LIVING WITH PETS

32

Bella the Hairless Terrier
The challenge to find a hypoallergenic dog was met in minutes.
BY NANCY CROTTI

TRAINING

10

Socializing your Dog
An infographic.
COURTESY OF SARA REUSCHE
AND LILI CHIN

IN THE BUSINESS

12

Dogs Just Wanna Have Fun
Leashes & Leads Dog Park.
BY AMY BRASE

RESCUE

14

One of a Kind Pet Rescue
BY KL SNYDER

RESCUE

15

**Mission to
Pine Ridge Reservation**
Thousands of dogs need help.
BY KL SNYDER



on the cover

20

WHEN DOGS FLY
The sport of canine disc
soars high in wow factor.
BY KL SNYDER

COVER PHOTO BY KELVIN ANDOW

you'll always find...

- 5 FROM EDITOR
- 35 RESCUE DIRECTORY
- 37 GET THE SCOOP
- 37 INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

VET CHECK

27

**Alternative therapies
on the rise for pets**
Dogs, cats, even horses may
benefit from chiropractic,
massage and other treatments.
BY JENNIFER GANGLOFF

BOOK REVIEW

34

**What dogs can teach us about
good and evil, and tales from
a boy and his many canine
companions.**
BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

HAPPY TAILS

38

Springing in to Action
Rescuing a litter of Springer
Spaniels and their mama.
BY ELLINGTON STARKS



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Elsa, who was lost, is now found.

There is a team of volunteers at www.lostdogsmn.com who work for lost dogs in Minnesota. They respond to lost and found dog reports within minutes and ask for nothing except the safe return of thousands of dogs who go missing each year. Read about them and about the return of lost dog Mason on p. 18.

This issue showcases several other people who work to make life easier and better for our pets.

The article on alternative therapies for pets (p. 27) discusses how veterinarians, massage therapists and certified rehabilitation practitioners help pets recover from accidents, gain confidence, restore range of motion and improve circulation.

The folks at Leashes & Leads (p. 12) have worked to create a private dog park that offers exercise, variety, open land, fun equipment and a pond that makes dogs crazy with excitement. We are lucky to have such a place in our community.

We highlight people who work to make their dog's exercise routine fun for both dog and spectator – the disc doggers (p. 20). Anyone who falls asleep planning freestyle disc routines in her head, like Amanda Sharp, president of the Minnesota Disc Dog Club, is doing her pet and the high-energy-dog community a great service. The disc dogs will perform June 21 and 22 at the June Dog Jam. I can't wait to see those dogs fly.

Finally, we present One Of A Kind Pet Rescue (p. 14), which does the important work of saving the lives of dogs and cats who would not otherwise make it out of shelters. Their work on the Pine Ridge Reservation is heartbreaking and breathtaking.

We did find our foster pup, by the way. A neighbor had scooped her up and called the vet listed on her tag. We were lucky that so many people were willing to stop what they were doing to help us. It takes that kind of community to keep our pets safe.

We hope you have a great summer with your pets!

Ellington

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send us pictures, stories and questions about the wags, whiskers, hooves or fins in your family!



Photos by Kelvin Andow.

Kelvin, Kate, Penny, Mike and Ellie.

ANIMALWONDERS

Got a question or something you've always wondered about? Send **WONDER WOMAN** an email at wonders@thewagazine.com and watch for her response in an upcoming issue.

DEAR WONDER WOMAN:
Is there a natural way to prevent fleas and ticks that work as well as Frontline Plus for dogs?



WW: There's quite an assortment of natural alternatives to the popular commercial flea treatments. They range from delivering a daily dose of brewer's yeast (makes the dog's blood too acidic for a flea's taste), spritzing with a mixture of apple cider vinegar and water, and, because fleas are repelled by citrus, spritzing with water and fresh lemon. However, Dr. Tom Radtke, Quarry Hill Park Animal Hospital veterinarian, says there are none that work as well as Frontline Plus.

DEAR WONDER WOMAN:
I see people taking their dogs to fairs, festivals and parades. I'd like to start taking my dog but I'm not sure if I should. Your thoughts?

WW: Because they're our companions, we want them with us. You'll need to assess the event, your dog's behavior and what provisions need to be considered.

Whenever you're going public with Fido, be sure he's mastered his social skills. It won't be fun for either of you if there's fear, anxiety or misbehavior.

Parades offer scores of sounds, costumes and sometimes animals. They're a great venue for socialization, but keep in mind your dog's tolerance for the abundance

of sensory stimulation and how he'll react.

Fireworks are another story. Seems like dogs are either unphased or scared to death by the sounds. If the latter, best to leave him in a place where he'll feel safe and unafraid.

Whatever the event, remember to bring water and food if timely, and plan appropriately for accommodations of potty needs.

DEAR WONDER WOMAN:
I take Boze, my 3 year-old Giant Schnauzer, almost everywhere with me including my morning run, bike rides and fishing. Should I use sunscreen on him? Are sunscreens appropriate for all dogs or just certain breeds with shorter hair?



WW: Good question, especially during the summer when many pets are enjoying a shorter "do." Unfortunately our canine companions can get sunburned and suffer the same harmful UV effects of ol' sol as we do, including skin cancer. The most vulnerable areas on a dog are those that lack pigmentation: nose, tips of ears, skin around lips and skin that is exposed if your dog has been shaved or where there's a loss of hair. Fur that is short and light-colored is most easily penetrated by the sun.

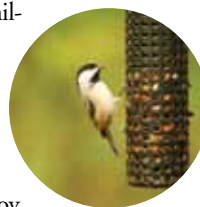
Rather than sharing your sunscreen, use a protection made specifically for dogs. Some products that we use may be dangerous, even toxic, to your pet. Ask your veterinarian for information or recommendations.

DEAR WONDER WOMAN:
Dear Wonder Woman: Is it really necessary to wash bird feeders and birdbaths?

WW: Since feeders and baths can harbor bacteria, mold and other elements that contribute to disease transmission, it is important. Both should be cleaned regularly.

Feeders: Sanitize feeders with a solution of one part bleach to nine parts hot water, mild unscented dish detergent or commercial bird feeder cleaning solutions. Clean all the nooks and crannies (toothbrushes work great here) and rinse thoroughly. To prevent mold and mildew, allow the feeder to dry before adding seed.

Birdbaths:
Since birds enjoy the same vessel for drink and bathing, it's important for them to have clean water. Empty the existing water and use a small scrub brush and a mild detergent or birdbath cleaner to eliminate droppings, organic buildup and scum. Then hose out the bowl and refill with fresh water. You can also purchase commercial drops to keep the birdbath fresh between cleanings.



Our fine-feathered friends will appreciate a cleaner cuisine and will likely spread the word!


DEAR WONDER WOMAN:
What should I do if when it's warm outside, I see a dog alone in a car with the windows up or slightly cracked open?



WW: Take action. Call the police. If the car is at a location that makes it easy to do a "shout-out" or announcement to find the owner, do so. Remain until the police arrive and/or the owner appears so you know the dog has reprieve.

Leaving the windows cracked open will not stop the heat from increasing. Even if the outside temperature is a pleasant 70 degrees, the inside of a car can be as much as 20 degrees warmer. On an 85-degree day, the temperature inside a car can reach 102 within 10 minutes causing a pet to suffer heatstroke, irreversible organ damage or death.

You can find many "Hot Car" flyers online. Several address how to manage canine heatstroke.

Try: www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/pets/hot_car_flyer.pdf
www.asPCA.org/sites/default/files/pets-in-hot-cars.pdf. 



This is how Cody, a Cavachon (Cavalier King Charles + Bichon) almost 3, enjoys his favorite TV shows.
Deanne Breitenbach



Good buddies:
Isis, 7-year-old English Cream Golden Retriever and Reno, 10-year-old English Setter with Ellie Radel, 8 and Alyvia Engler, 5.
Nicole B. Engler

This is Fern. She is an Ibera Greek tortoise and is 9-months-old. Fern is stubborn and full of sass but is forgiven because she is so adorable. Fern is very much loved and even has her own fan base on Facebook.
Erin Reynolds



{ Pets on Parade }

{ Want to see your pet in print?
Send photos to kate@thewagazine.com. }



Kitty collage. Clockwise: Peanut and Teddy, Kitten, Motley, Teddy and Medea.
Theresa French

My little Cavachon buddy, Gavin, is not a morning dog. After 3 p.m. he is ready to play fetch, tug of war or practice the tricks we've been learning. (Bottom pic) Gavin with his anti-woodtick hair cut. My granddaughters helped me pick out Gavin from several other dogs at Camp Companion. Gavin has been a great companion.
Lucy Armstrong



Cooper, "very handsome... 101 pounds and lean." *Jane Barnas*

Izzabella is a 7-year-old Puggle (PugxBeagle). Izzy's whole life is oriented around food. Left alone she has eaten a whole 7lb turkey breast, 2lbs of M&Ms, a couple loaves of bread, she was brought to the ER for eating grapes. The list goes on and on. She is 2% sweet and 98% mischievous but she is ours! *Doug and Jen Pierceness*



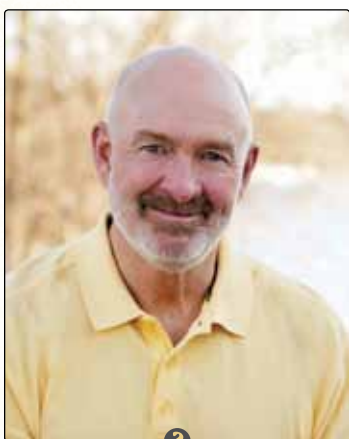
Willow was a Merle Great Dane. Our favorite memories are taking him cross-country skiing, swimming, and most of all our morning snuggles in bed each day. He was the best lap dog, too! I loved reading a good book with him sprawled on top of me. He always kept me warm. He gave us the greatest gift - unconditional love. He will forever be in our hearts. *Christine Detert*



"If love could have saved you, you would have lived forever."

CELEBRITY PET MATCHUP

IT'S NO SECRET THAT SOME OF THE AREA'S WELL-KNOWN FOLKS ARE ALSO PET OWNERS AND ANIMAL LOVERS. BUT DO YOU KNOW WHO BELONGS TO WHOM? **SEE P. 30** TO SEE IF YOU GUESSED CORRECTLY.



STEVE BORCHARDT

Olmsted County Sheriff, 1991-2008; currently a development officer for Rochester Area Foundation and private consultant for public safety radio



JENNIFER KOSKI

Associate editor of Rochester Magazine; columnist ("Jen's World" and part of the trio in "The Chat") for Post-Bulletin (Rochester) newspaper; author of "50 Ways To Calm Your Fussy Baby"



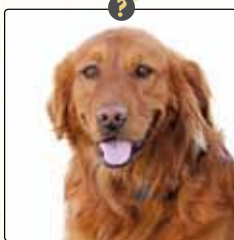
TOM OVERLIE

Anchor/reporter for KTTC-TV in Rochester



ROBIN WOLFRAM

Anchor, producer and reporter at KTTC-TV in Rochester



CHET THE JET

Golden Retriever, age 3



DAISY

Mixed-breed dog with likely heritage of Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, about 6 years old.



GRIFFIN

Red Golden Retriever, age 7



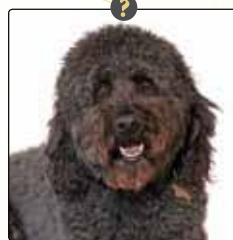
MR. MAGOO

Silky Terrier, age 15



RASCAL

Golden Retriever, age 8



WILLIS

Goldendoodle, age 7

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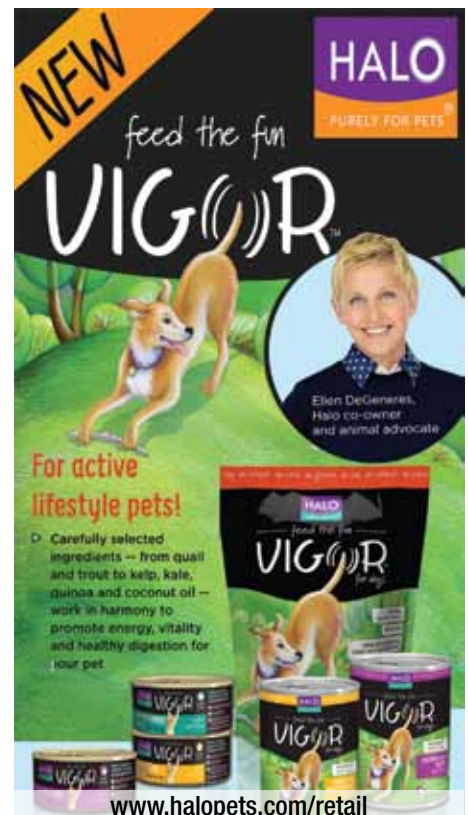
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Make sure puppies are gently & positively exposed to different people.



Visit parking lots and other busy places just to watch the people, animals, vehicles, etc. and feed your dog treats.



other animals

Always check that the other animal is friendly & tolerant of dogs before you let your dog approach.



Teach your dog how to act politely around other animals by rewarding him for good behavior. Redirect him if he's pushy or overly excited.



If your adult dog doesn't want to play with unfamiliar dogs, that's okay. Adult people don't want to play with every other person we meet either!



new things & environments

To prevent **noise phobia** (eg, fear of thunder), feed your dog a tiny treat every time the noise happens.



Visit the vet & groomer's just for treats and petting.



Remember: EXPOSURE alone isn't socialization!

If your dog isn't having a great time, you could do more harm than good. Dogs don't just "get over" issues by themselves, so if your dog is shy, worried, or overly excited, leave the situation and work with a professional who can help both of you. If your dog is having a blast and is happy and comfortable, you're doing a great job of socializing him!

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DOGS JUST WANNA



Leashes & Leads Dog Park

By Amy Brase

There's nothing quite like a romp around the dog park with a few buddies to tucker out our canine friends. The fresh air, exercise and socialization is so important for good health and happiness (not to mention long snoozes!). Finding the perfect park and the right time to go is key in creating a safe, comfortable experience for dogs and their owners.

Leashes and Leads Country Pet Store & Pet Resort, a one-stop pet facility in Byron, offers a large, welcoming dog park right outside their store. If it happens to be your first dog park experience, you'll surely be ruined for all others. From the road, the beautiful landscaping, picnic table and clever obstacles are sometimes

mistaken for a people park. Dog owners are delighted to discover that this fenced 3+acre oasis is intended for canine friends and their favorite humans.

EVERY DOG HAS ITS PLAY

"Two summers ago, we added more equipment, large rock piles, tires to climb on, walking paths and shade to rest under on hot days," says Kim Radke, store manager, and owner of five rescue dogs, including a Boxer, Poodle, Pit Bull, and two Chihuahuas.

The playground is perhaps one of the most unique features of the Leashes and Leads Park, but it's not the only thing that gets the puppies

excited. "Our swimming pond is definitely a favorite," says Radke. "Many people like to let their dogs jump off the dock. Swimming is so healthy for dogs."

There's no need to worry about hauling home a muddy friend because there's a special cleaning station in the park made for just the occasion.

Currently, the park has two sections separated by a gated fence: one side with the the pond and the other with the agility equipment. Soon, there will be a third section for small or elderly dogs that don't want to mix with the larger ones.

BEAT THE CANINE CROWDS

As for safety, the park is relatively quiet and

HAVE FUN



Opposite page: True to their breed, Springers Sven and Budder love to spring off the dock. *This page:* Brothers Sven and Freddie share a water toy. Mira and Levin enjoy the tires. All dogs sleep well after a day at the park!

rarely overcrowded. It's a private park so guests are asked to sign in at the store and submit vaccination records for DHLPP, rabies, and bordatella. It costs \$4 for a family day pass and each person can take two dogs into the park. Yearly membership for unlimited access is \$75.

"We gladly give free passes to people who would like to try out the park for the first time if they just stop into the store and ask," says Radke. "Warm days and weekends are the busiest times but other times are very quiet. Since it's a membership park, it's a little less

populated, which can be very good for certain types of dogs."

There are a few important guidelines that help to keep the Leashes and Leads Park a favorite destination.

1. Sign in at the store and take your vaccination records.
2. Be watchful of your dog and courteous to others.
3. Pick up your own dog's poop.

"Our guests are very respectful and we've made it easy with poop bag stations," says Radke.

The dog park's hours are sun-up to sun-down. Go for an hour or stay for the day. Take the kids and don't be surprised if they have just as much fun as the dogs! 🐾

Amy Brase is a local writer and the mama to Bentley and three of his two-legged friends. They all love trips to the Leashes & Leads dog park.

One Of A Kind Pet Rescue

By KL Snyder

Photography by Kelvin Andow



ESTABLISHED: 2012

LOCATION: Statewide, with foster homes all around Minnesota

MISSION: "To rescue, rehabilitate and rehome unwanted dogs and cats; to prevent overpopulation through spay/neuter; to restore dignity, trust and quality of life for neglected, abused and homeless dogs and cats; to find the best home for each dog and cat in our care; to educate adopters and our community on pet care, spaying/neutering, training and suitable animal selection for their lifestyle; to provide a network of resources, volunteers and fosters for animals, animal shelters/pounds and the community."

www.oakpr.org

WHO THEY ARE:

A no-kill, volunteer-run, foster-based rescue that believes in looking at each pet and each home on an individual basis.

One Of A Kind rescues dogs of all descriptions but specializes in mixed and bully breeds, puppy mill stock and canines with special medical needs – "the ones that many times never make it out of shelters," says Amber Knott, president/executive director/founder.

PASSION:

"The numbers of dogs and cats sitting in shelters is heartbreaking, and we felt the need to do more to allow more homes the ability to adopt," she says. "We don't believe in blanket policies for the most part, such as not allowing bully breeds or small dogs in homes with young children. We look at each pet and each home to decide if it's a good match."

IN ACTION:

One Of A Kind regularly holds adoption days at Leashes and Leads and this summer and fall will host several outdoor adoption

events. Also on the summer/fall agenda are a wine tasting, a red carpet affair and a beauty pageant for dogs. Check the website or Facebook page for the latest news.

One Of A Kind is among several rescue groups working to help abused, neglected and stray dogs on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota. (See accompanying story.)

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT:

The organization has approximately 85 volunteers and fosters and is steadily

growing. Assisting Knott are Vice President Jessica Haire, Director of Operations Emily Randolph, Director of Intake Emily Rohady, Adoption Coordinator Terena Pahl, Foster Coordinator Carrie Rahm, Vet Coordinator Lisa Mcalister, Transport Coordinator Kari Jones, and Inventory/Supply Coordinator Tracy Bakken.

BY THE NUMBERS:

From its start in 2012 through mid-April 2014, One Of A Kind Pet Rescue has placed 484 dogs and 12 cats.

HOW TO HELP:

Foster or donate. Fostering is free – One Of A Kind provides the supplies. Cash contributions help cover veterinary bills for major-medical-needs dogs. The group also appreciates donations of food, leashes, collars, crates, bedding and other canine necessities. PAW

KL Snyder loves reading, writing, swimming, golfing, long walks, dogs and The Wagazine.

Tammy Fordahl, Emily Randolph, Amber Knott and Jenna Behnke.



MISSION TO PINE RIDGE RESERVATION

By KL Snyder

THOUSANDS OF DOGS NEED HELP

The day a tiny, three-weeks-old, homeless puppy breaks his leg and gets stuck in a toy in a trash-littered yard on an impoverished Indian reservation doesn't sound like his lucky day.

It was.

The pup, soon to be named Nugget, got retrieved that day by rescuers who saved his life.

PINE RIDGE ROUNDUPS

Nugget wasn't the only dog delivered by One Of A Kind Pet Rescue and several other Minnesota groups that headed west when they heard about the doomed dogs of South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Thousands of stray dogs roam the rez. And the rez is destitute. "Pine Ridge suffers from poverty that rivals the Third World," says Amanda Knott, executive director of One Of A Kind. Abundant assistance is available to the residents but not to the canine population – the canine overpopulation, a problem dealt with by tribal police who round up the dogs, take them to the dump and shoot them.

TO THE REZ-CUE

Pine Ridge Reservation has a small rescue agency, LightShine Canine (<http://kcwillis.blogspot.com>), whose email SOS alerted humane groups about the roundups. One Of A Kind, Second Chance Animal Rescue, Camp Companion and others hustled into action.

Knott has made two trips to Pine Ridge and will go again in June. "It's borderline traumatizing," she says. Dogs and puppies lay dead in yards. Rescuers crawled under porches to fetch canines mired in mud and feces. They saved a dog who had porcupine quills in his face and shotgun pellets in his rear. "Many dogs have gunshot wounds."

THE MOST LOVING DOGS

The rez-cued are in foster care now, awaiting permanent homes. "Dogs from the rez are the best and most loving dogs," Knott says. "They're a little shy, but that goes away when they know they're safe."

Nugget relishes his newfound security. Cute as a plush pup, he loves snuggling on a shoulder. His favorite shoulder? *Everybody's*. 🐾

Photos this page by AmberKnottPhotography.





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Nauti CATs



The water-faring cats in Lake City

By Alison Rentschler

If you visit the Lake City Marina in the summer, you will see boat owners relaxing with their families on their boats, sometimes with their dogs along for the ride. But on one sailboat, a cat relaxes on a shelf at the bow, paws hanging over the edge, basking in the sunshine and watching the people go by.

Scoots, a 5-year-old cat owned by Dan Streiff, spends many summer weekends on the sailboat that Streiff shares with his brother, Matt. “People stop and they’re kind of amazed to see a cat,” said Streiff.

Streiff began bringing Scoots along for weekends on the sailboat soon after he got him about five years ago. “I never owned cats, so I treated him like a dog,” said Streiff. “I thought, why not?”

CAT-VENTURES

Scoots has had his share of adventures on the sailboat, aptly named the Nauti Cat. Streiff described how Scoots once was sitting at the back of the boat, watching the water. Some fishermen scared him by casting their lines nearby. Scoots fell off the boat into the water. He swam to the dock, and Streiff pulled him out of the water. “He’s not curious about the water now,” said Streiff.

When the boat is docked at the marina, Streiff said, “Scoots loves to jump off when I’m not looking and go visit other people.” Scoots, he explained, is friendly and gets lots of attention from people. He sometimes explores and has jumped in open entrances or trapdoors of neighboring boats.

“The cat enjoys the boat and the environment. He likes to sit outside on the top deck and watch people and watch the birds,” said Streiff. “The seagulls sweep down and swarm near him, toying with him.” Scoots also likes to look at the ducks in the water, Streiff said.

When the Streiffs take their sailboat out on the water on Lake Pepin, Scoots stays down below in the boat. “He’s never been out on the water.”

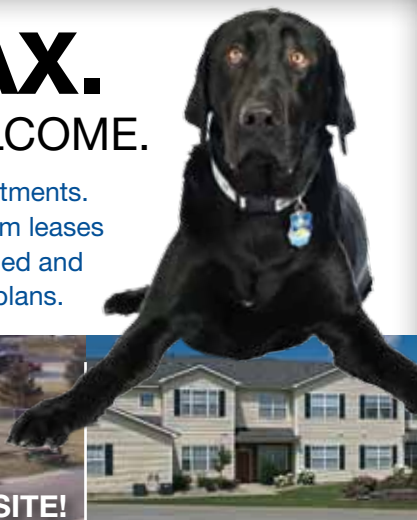
Besides Scoots, two other cats regularly visit the Streiffs’ sailboat. Matt began bringing his cats Theo and Max on weekends too. The cats take turns visiting the sailboat. “When he first brought one of his cats on the boat, his cat got seasick,” Dan Streiff remembers. But the cats seem to have gotten their sea legs and often come along for weekends on the sailboat. PAW

Alison Rentschler is a writer and editor living in Rochester with her cat and two dogs.

Photos courtesy of Dan Streiff

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FINDING MASON

When a pet goes missing, the world stops

By Pat Garry

WE GOT HIM! – “Mason’s adventure is still pretty emotional,” says Julie Burkholder. “My son told me when I didn’t know if I could continue (the search for Mason): ‘Mom you can’t give up on Mason; he hasn’t given up on us!’ That still stays in my head, and I think of how true those words resonate. Mason continued his loop daily...because he hadn’t given up on us.”

Julie Burkholder and her daughter Kristen Wangen had rehomed Mason the English Mastiff with another family. They own two Mastiffs, Mason’s parents, and they wanted Mason to have a home of his own. The new family returned Mason, and in the confusion on February 21, Mason escaped.

Burkholder and her family sprung into action. She wasn’t returning home without him.

HARD SEARCH

It took two weeks of handing out flyers, taking sighting calls, tracking Mason’s travel patterns (a 5-mile “loop”), following tracks in the snow, setting up a feeding station, and strategically placing a trap – all in the bitter cold and snowy conditions – to rescue Mason on March 5.

Having a pet go missing is a helpless feeling, and it takes the efforts of many to aid in the search. Mason’s search party included family, friends, strangers, Animal Control and area humane societies and rescues. A “cyber-family” of networkers helped to keep communication accurate.

“Kim Ferguson was Mason’s angel,” says Burkholder. “Without her help and advice, I don’t know if we would have Mason ... I don’t want to think of that.”

A volunteer with NBRAN (National Brittany Rescue & Adoption Network), Kim Ferguson devotes much of her time to finding and networking lost dogs. “Whenever the

opportunity is present, I will do what I can to help those lost/scared dogs.”

Ferguson was instrumental in the rescue of Mason. “I knew we needed a large, live trap so I requested the use of Mower County Humane Society’s trap. Kristen and Julie had prepared a trail of bacon gravy leading into the trap. At 10:14 p.m. I received a text from Julie: ‘WE GOT HIM!’”

“Every hour that passed was an hour too much.” -Kim Ferguson

HELP FOR LOST DOGS

Sometimes, despite every precaution you’ve taken, unfortunate and unplanned things happen—and your faithful pal becomes Houdini. Should your pet go missing, it’s comforting to know that a pet recovery service like Lost Dogs Minnesota (lostdogsmn.com) exists to help extend your reach and assist in getting your pet back home.

Lost Dogs Minnesota is a volunteer-run organization. Tammy Humphries, president, has been with the group since 2010, when the website had about 800 followers.

“Today, we’re over 35,000 followers and climbing. More folks are helping us get the word out about lost pets in Minnesota. It’s exciting and challenging, happy and sad, all at the same time.”

This free service is made possible by caring, devoted people who love their own pets and understand the burdens of losing them.

JULY 4

Historically, July 4 is a busy time for pet escapes. Many dogs are scared by the sound


of fireworks and try to escape their yards, or they are on vacation with their family and in unfamiliar surroundings when they get scared and run. July 5 is notoriously the busiest day for shelters and impounds because folks turn in dogs at large. This triggers Minnesota’s 5-day stray hold law, which means families have only five days to find their dog. Then the dog can be placed for adoption.

“That’s where our lost dog Facebook pages (and websites) come in,” Humphries says. “Although lots of folks don’t know we exist until they’ve lost their pets, we’re trying to change that.”

NEVER GIVE UP

Nothing can compare with the feeling of being reunited with a pet that has gone missing. It’s a time of feeling uplifted, relieved and thankful. And because stories of those reunions are so wonderful, they touch us all—even people who have no connection to the lost pet or its family.

Your pet is an integral part of your family, and assuring its safety is as vital as guaranteeing a secure safe haven for your family members. If your pet goes missing, concentrate on turning your feelings of guilt, fear and sadness into positive energy, and take immediate action. Whatever you do, do not give up. Animals have tremendous will and resiliency that keep us humans confident that they will find their way back home ... even after months.

As for Mason, Burkholder decided that her home is his home and says he will never leave again. “Mason will grow old with Grandma.” 

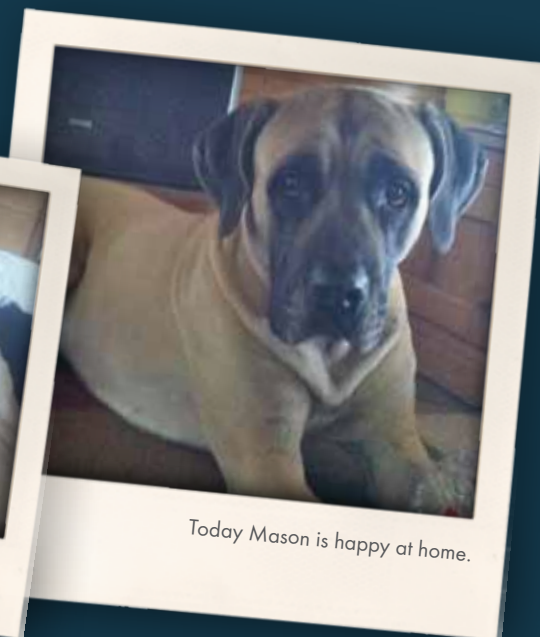
Pat Garry is a Rochester freelance writer and retired educator.



Mason's search party included his own English Mastiff parents.



Mason is reunited with family member Sarah, thin but safe.



Today Mason is happy at home.



If You See A Stray Animal: lostdogsmn.com/sightings

If You Have Lost Your Pet: lostdogsmn.com/lost-dog-action-plan

If You Have Found A Pet: lostdogsmn.com/file-a-found-dog-report

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WHEN DOGS



FLY

The sport of canine disc soars high
in wow factor

By KL Snyder | Photography by Kelvin Andow



The Minnesota Disc Dog Club shows off some of their many tricks in the sport of canine disc.

CAUTION: Canine disc is addictive.

The sport hooked Amanda Sharp of Rochester almost a decade ago. Now she serves as Minnesota Disc Dog Club (MNDDC) president, calls herself “a diehard disc-dogger” and falls asleep with freestyle routines dancing in her head.

Canine disc leads other dog sports in wow factor, she says, and its flash, fun and razzle-dazzle have won it worldwide popularity.

DISC DOG GAMES

Every year MNDDC holds approximately six competitions, including Rochester’s upcoming June Dog Jam. Contests feature a toss-and-catch tourney and freestyle games.

In toss and catch, each team, dog and dogger, gets one disc and 60 seconds. The handler’s task is to stay behind a line and throw with precision. The dog’s is to dash, jump, snag, return, repeat.

Distance and accuracy determine scores. Long tosses and catches earn more points, as do four-paws-off-the-ground grabs.

Freestyle, too, has a time limit and a set number of discs – “lots of discs,” Amanda says. “And then it’s whatever you can imagine, anything you can think of that’s safe for your dog.”

Handlers choreograph freestyle routines (sometimes in their sleep). Freestyle highlights

acrobatics, whirligigs, feats of flight. “It’s dogs jumping off their handlers’ backs and flipping 380s,” Amanda says. “It’s creative and fun and incredibly free.”

Handler performance counts, too. Judging is half-and-half. “The more ways you throw, the higher you get scored, and there are a hundred different ways to throw.”

Routines are set to music, but when she and her dog are performing, Amanda doesn’t hear it. “There are other things to think about – Frisbees on the ground, my dog running at me at 30 miles per hour. In freestyle it’s just my dog and me.”

OH, THOSE CRAZY DISC DOGS

The elite athletes are often Border Collies, Australian Shepherds and Australian Cattle Dogs. But any dog who likes toys will dig dogging for discs.

“Probably the majority of disc dogs are shelter dogs,” Amanda says. “We like the crazy ones, the really active ones.”

Because crazy canines come in all sizes, so does the gear. Diminutive dogs get to chase diminutive discs.

TRAINING AND SAFETY

Ironically, this aerial activity begins with grounders. “A rolling disc increases drive, teaches eye-mouth coordination and amps up the dogs,” says Amanda.

ASHLEY WHIPPET

The first disc dog

He didn’t quite jump over the moon, but he sparked the disc dog craze.

Canine disc’s national debut disrupted a baseball game and launched a new sport.

August 5, 1974, Dodgers vs. Reds, Dodger Stadium: With the home team about to bat in the bottom of the eighth, **Alex Stein, then 19, and his highflying hound, Ashley Whippet**, dashed out of the stands and into centerfield.

And there they put on a show.

Stein sent Frisbees soaring, and Ashley soared, too, displaying airborne athleticism that dazzled watchers. He chased at 35 mph, leaped nine-foot verticals and nabbed Frisbee after Frisbee. NBC turned its cameras on the fleet-pawed dog, and announcer Joe Garagiola gave commentary.

Wouldn’t you think the Dodgers would’ve seized the opportunity to sign pitcher Stein and catcher Ashley on the spot? But no. Instead, Stein got arrested for trespassing.

This ended well. He paid the fine and retrieved Ashley, and the pair went on to disc dog celebrity.

They performed (by invitation) at the Super Bowl and the White House and on television.

Ashley was the first nonhuman invited to the World Frisbee Championships where his prowess inspired the addition of dog events to the competition. At the Rose Bowl, he raced the length of the football field and snagged the Frisbee just before it could hit the ground.

Disc dog superstardom wasn’t his only success. Amidst the leaps, sprints and circus catches, Ashley Whippet found time for romance – he fathered 60 sons and daughters.

For more about Alex Stein and Ashley Whippet, see www.ashleywhippetmuseum.com.

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Freestyle highlights acrobatics, whirligigs, feats of flight. "It's dogs jumping off their handlers' backs and flipping 360s," Amanda Sharp says. "It's creative and fun and incredibly free."

Handlers, of course, must learn the art of disc toss in which the throw sets up the stunt. How do you teach a dog to flip? "You don't. You throw the Frisbee a certain way and eventually the dog catches on."

Throwing technique also affects the sport's safety, as does doggy fitness. Workouts, using stability balls designed for canine core strengthening, help dogs run faster and longer and protect their bones and joints. "As the sport has progressed, it's gotten higher, faster and more intense," Amanda says, "but conditioning is stressed so emphatically, I have never seen any injuries."

YOUR INVITATION TO A DISC DOG PLAYDAY

MNDDC's Rochester group meets weekly

during the season and in winter, occasionally at Leashes and Leads. "We have a great community in this club," Amanda says, "a community revolving around fun and talking about our dogs."

If you're interested in finding out more about the sport, she invites you and your dog to a playday. You can check the schedule at www.mndiscdog.com. "Just show up," she says. "We'll be more than happy to help. A disc-dogger who sees someone new wants to help."

"And when you see how much fun you and your dog are having together, you'll want to keep playing." 🐾

KL Snyder loves reading, writing, swimming, golfing, long walks, dogs and The Wagazine.

PET-A-PALOOZA

PET-A-PALOOZA JUNE 28, 2014

No topcoats required, but tails are good.

Pet-A-Palooza, a celebration of pets, is for humans, too. So, party animals, bring your people.

This pet fest, **June 28 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds**, will bustle with activities, exhibits and fun. Among the highlights: live music, games, a kids area, a cutest pet contest, demonstrations and more than 30 pet adoption and rescue groups.

Do you have health questions about your pet? You can Ask the Vet from the University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center.

You can also ask students from the center to give your dog a bath – and she'll forgive you if afterwards you take her to the Pet Buffet.

Demos will include agility, nose work and tracking, flyball, Basic Animal Rescue Training (BART) and St. Paul Police K-9 canines.

DockDogs Northern Stars will be there, too, showing off their skills in all three dock dog disciplines – Big Air (long jump, splash), Extreme Vertical (high jump, splash) and Speed Retrieve (run, jump, splash, swim, retrieve).

Here's a Pet-A-Palooza tip: If the weather is hot, seek a spot in the dock dog "splash zone." But unless it's really hot, you'll probably want to avoid the shake-off zone.

CBS RADIO'S PET-A-PALOOZA 2014

What: A festival for people and their pets

When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. June 28

Where: Minnesota State Fairgrounds, 1265 Snelling Ave. N, St. Paul

Admission: No charge and free parking

Info: www.minnesota.cbslocal.com/pet-a-palooza



JUNE DOG JAM JUNE 21 & 22, 2014

Rochester's biggest disc dog competition, June Dog Jam, has been a Rochesterfest favorite since 2006. The 2014 jam, June 21 and 22, will kick up its paws at a new site, Lincolnshire Park, with more wide open spaces for disc dogs' distant dashes.

And long chases and faraway flings there will be. On jam's second day, the extreme distance challenge will have handlers airing out discs like NFL quarterbacks hurling Hail Mary passes. And dogs, tearing downfield like wide receivers, will haul in the flying objects.

Extreme dog and handler teams have topped 100 yards, says Minnesota Disc Dog Club president Amanda Sharp. "In Rochester, we will likely only see 50 to 60 yards, although we may get some out-of-state players who can throw farther than that."

She expects 40 to 50 teams to enter June Dog Jam. Four-legged contestants will outnumber two-leggeds. "Most disc-doggers have three or four dogs."

Jam rocks. It's also a serious competition that offers a chance for teams to qualify for the world championship tournament.

9TH ANNUAL JUNE DOG JAM

What: Flying discs and flying disc dogs. Handler/dog teams from Minnesota and beyond will vie for a chance to enter the world championship competition

When: June 21 & 22

Where: Lincolnshire Park, 5276 Members Parkway, Rochester. Lincolnshire is across West Circle Drive from the north dog park

Info: www.mndiscdog.com

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ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES on the rise for pets

Dogs, cats, even horses may benefit from chiropractic, massage and other treatments

By Jennifer Gangloff | Photography by Kelvin Andow



Photo courtesy of The Bluffs Pet Clinic of Red Wing.

ACUPUNCTURE



CHIROPRACTIC



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Gentling.

MASSAGE



HYDROTHERAPY

When a stray dog named Jack was rescued after being struck by a car, his treatment didn't end with surgery. He also received canine rehabilitation therapy and even chiropractic treatment. These alternative treatments — adjuncts to his traditional care — helped Jack recover more quickly and with less pain, says Katie Nosbisch, a certified canine rehabilitation practitioner at Meadow View Veterinary Clinic in Byron who guided Jack's rehabilitation.

Rehabilitation therapy and chiropractic treatment are among the increasingly popular alternative therapies that pet

owners are seeking out for their companion animals, along with massage and even acupuncture. These alternative pet therapies, typically used in conjunction with traditional treatments, can help heal and treat animals with a wide range of conditions, including joint pain, allergies, anxiety, muscle disorders, disc problems and cancer. Alternative therapies also can be used on animals who may need to get back in shape after a long winter, such as hunting dogs or show horses, or on animals whose owners simply want to round out their care with different options.

"It is amazing how this industry has exploded," Nosbisch says.

Here's a look at four common nontraditional therapies for pets.



Photo courtesy of The Bluffs Pet Clinic of Red Wing.

ACUPUNCTURE

Anxiety can be debilitating in pets as well as in people.

Dr. Darlene Cook, D.V.M., who owns The Bluffs Pet Clinic of Red Wing, had a young dog in her practice that was so anxious its owner couldn't even take it on walks. But after just three treatments with acupuncture, the dog gained so much confidence that it was able to accompany its owner not only on walks but to her grandson's noisy baseball games.

The Bluffs offers a range of nontraditional holistic services, including acupuncture, herbal therapies and nutritional counseling. "One of the greatest benefits of Eastern medicine is that it opens up a whole other



Left to right: Animals benefit from acupuncture, chiropractic care, massage and rehabilitation therapy.

modality of treatment for animals,” says Dr. Cook, a certified veterinary acupuncturist who has been performing acupuncture on her animal clients since 2008.

Dr. Cook says that Eastern medicine like animal acupuncture can help with a variety of problems, including arthritis pain, muscle and tendon issues, allergies, behavioral concerns and neurological disorders. “Just about anything you treat with Western medicine you can also treat with Eastern medicine,” she says. “Working with the pet owner, together we decide on the best treatment protocol for their pet.”

CHIROPRACTIC

Veterinarian Laurel Bjornson, D.V.M., co-owner of Broadway Veterinary Hospital in Rochester, has provided animal chiropractic care for dogs and cats since 2001. Dr. Bjornson, who is certified in animal chiropractic by the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association, says the main goal of chiropractic

care for pets is correcting misalignment and restoring normal range of motion to all joints, which in turn improves nerve function and coordination of body systems so that animals can enjoy optimal alignment and mobility throughout their life.

At Broadway, Dr. Bjornson provides chiropractic care for a number of reasons, including pain, disc and joint problems, injuries, performance improvement and post-surgical care. In fact, it was Dr. Bjornson who worked on Jack the stray after his surgery.



“A veterinarian’s goal is to improve quality of life for every patient, and chiropractic care is

one more method we can use to improve function and mobility and reduce pain and suffering,” Dr. Bjornson says.

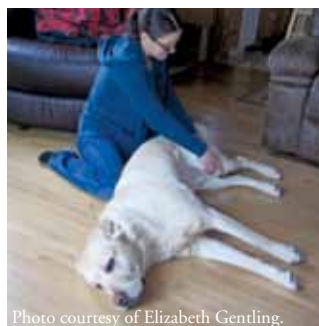


Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Gentling.

MASSAGE

Elizabeth Crane might need a chiropractic adjustment herself after working on her half-ton clients – mainly horses in need of a massage. Crane, who owns Gentle Hands Equine & Canine Massage in Rochester, travels around the region performing massage therapy on horses and dogs.

“Most horses are athletes in one way or the other and we ask them to do many different things that can strain their muscles and ligaments,” Crane

notes. “We may ask them to jump or to run around barrels very fast, or sometimes they just go for very long periods without much exercise.”

Crane may spend as long as two hours doing a horse massage, starting at the head, and then working the muscles along the neck and down the back and hind quarters. Massage, she says, helps improve circulation, eliminate waste buildup in muscles and promote relaxation.

So how do you know when a horse might benefit from a massage? Horses may seem ornery when you put on a saddle or tighten the cinch, or they may even try to bite you. They may switch their tail frequently or toss their head when riding, or they just may not be working up to par.

“Horses can hold in a lot of pain and still try their best to perform for people,” says Crane, who is a certified canine sports massage therapist and a certified equine sports massage therapist.

Dr. Laurel Bjornson has provided animal chiropractic care for dogs and cats since 2001. *Above*, Elizabeth Crane massages Louis, 7, of Rochester.



REHABILITATION

At Meadow View Veterinary Clinic, Jack the stray dog is just one of many animal clients who have benefited from rehabilitation therapy. The clinic provides

customized rehabilitation and conditioning programs in a facility that features a padded exercise area, fitness balls and other exercise equipment, cold laser therapy for pain relief and wound and tissue healing, and an underwater treadmill.

The clinic's rehabilitation program caters mainly to dogs and focuses on surgical recovery; elderly, arthritic, neurologically weak dogs; and athletic, performance and hunting dogs that could benefit from conditioning.

When possible, Nosbisch tries to teach owners some

rehabilitation skills they can use at home. "When I send home exercises, I give them lots of written directions and photos so they can learn it and be successful with this dog and future dogs."

FINDING HELP

If you're interested in trying an alternative therapy for your pet or companion animal, do a little homework first. Get references and referrals from trusted sources. Find out what accreditation is required and seek out qualified practitioners, Nosbisch says. For instance, a vet qualified to practice

animal chiropractic treatment should be certified by either the American Veterinary Chiropractic Association or the International Veterinary Chiropractic Association, Dr. Bjornson notes.

Prices for alternative therapy vary widely depending on specific services. In some cases, alternative therapies may be covered by pet insurance. 🐾

Jennifer Gangloff is a freelance writer and editor based in Rochester and the owner of a 7-year-old chocolate lab.

Meadow View uses fitness balls and other exercise equipment to provide customized rehabilitation.

RESOURCES

The Bluffs Pet Clinic of Red Wing – www.bluffspetclinic.com • Broadway Veterinary Hospital – www.broadway-vets.com
Gentle Hands Equine & Canine Massage – www.ghanimalmassage.com • Meadow View Veterinary Clinic – www.meadowviewvetmn.com



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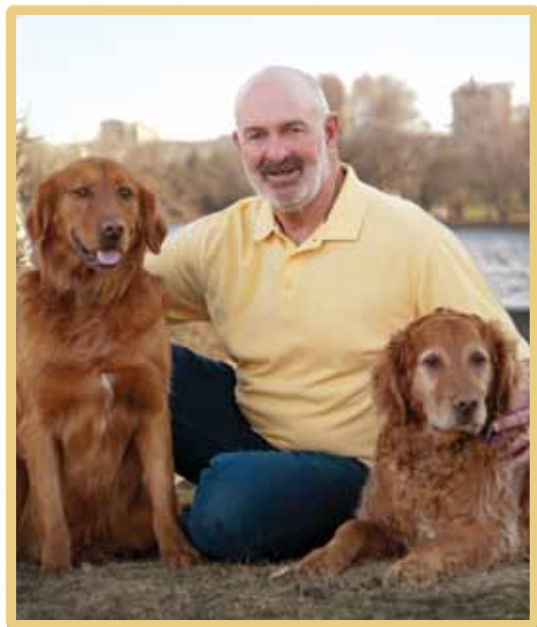
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CELEBRITY PET MATCHUP

...CONTINUED FROM P. 8

HOW WELL DID YOU MATCH OUR AREA
CELEBRITIES AND THEIR BELOVED PETS?

By Bob Freund | Photography by Kelvin Andow



NAME AND CLAIMS TO FAME: **Steve Borchardt**, Olmsted County Sheriff, 1991-2008; currently a development officer for Rochester Area Foundation and private consultant for public safety radio.

PETS' NAMES: **Rascal**, 8-year-old Golden Retriever, and **Chet the Jet** ("Chet" for short), 3-year-old Golden Retriever.

RASCAL'S STORY: Acquired as a pup from Frisbie Kennels of Waverly, Minn., a breeder known for raising Golden Retrievers that are skilled as field and hunting dogs. Weighs in at 85-90 pounds.

CHET'S STORY: Acquired as a pup from an Elbow Lake, Minn., breeder trying to further the Frisbie bloodline. Weighs in at 70 pounds.

FAVORITE ACTIVITY TOGETHER: The breed says it: retrieve. "They want to play...run and chase the toy, and run and chase the toy, and bring it back to me," the sheriff says.

FAVORITE TREATS: Cheese curds. "They're lousy at catching pop-ups, but they're really good at catching line drives!"

TOGETHER: What type of pet attracts a county sheriff? Steve Borchardt is the real deal, and he's no lap dog man. He lives with two, high-energy Golden Retrievers. "I just love the breed," Borchardt says. "They're typically outgoing, yet typically laid back. They train easily; they tend to be smart."

Rascal is the mischievous one and a very aggressive retriever. "He thinks he should get all of the retrieves," Borchardt says. Chet – whose name came from the hero of a book series written from the perspective of a police dog – is face-licking sociable and a good hunter. They hunt game birds with him near Pine Island; they sail with him on Lake Pepin. "They're just my buddies," Borchardt says.



NAME AND CLAIM TO FAME: **Jennifer Koski**, associate editor of Rochester Magazine; columnist ("Jen's World" and part of the trio in "The Chat") for Post-Bulletin (Rochester) newspaper; author of "50 Ways To Calm Your Fussy Baby."

PET'S NAME: **Daisy**, a mixed-breed dog with likely heritage of Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, about 6 years old.

DAISY'S STORY: Rescued and made available by S.A.F.E. Sanctuary in Faribault, Minn. "We really got her because my boys (Christian, 14, and Bergen, 12) really wanted a dog," Koski says. Christian latched on to Daisy through Internet site www.petfinder.com.

PET'S FAVORITES: Tennis balls. Indoors, outdoors, everywhere. She chases them, fetches them and "uses them like chewing toys, too." How many has Daisy gone through? "It would be (in the) hundreds," Koski says.

FAVORITE TREAT: Rawhide stick, especially outdoors.

FAVORITE ACTIVITY TOGETHER: You probably guessed it. Playing ball. "She will run herself to fatigue chasing tennis balls all day long," Koski says.

TOGETHER: Daisy barely can contain herself when Jennifer arrives home. The dog shakes with excitement at the door. Every day, "It's like I've been gone for a month," Jennifer Koski says. Daisy wants to jump up and greet her. But once Koski gives a "stop" signal with the palm of her hand, the dog obediently waits for the big reunion.

Daisy shares the house with Stripes, a female cat about 10 years old, who “merely tolerates” the exuberant dog. Possibly an abused puppy, Daisy now gets “a lot of attention” from Koski, husband Jay and their sons. Daisy has the energy to chase tennis balls with them and the patience to softly paw at the patio door for a trip outside. Some strays are a gamble. With Daisy, “we lucked out,” Koski says.



NAME AND CLAIM TO FAME: **Tom Overlie**, anchor/reporter for KTTC-TV in Rochester.

PETS' NAMES: **Griffin**, red Golden retriever, age 7; Miss Alice, common black cat, about age 10; Miss Lucy, ordinary cat possibly with longhaired (Turkish) Angora heritage. Also about 10 years old.

GRIFFIN'S STORY: A truck driver found the retriever nearly frozen and wandering on a freeway near Charles City, Iowa, in February 2008. The dog was skin and bones and “his tail was broken in four places,” Overlie says. A month later, Griffin was featured on KTTC news and “I knew he was supposed to come home with me,” Overlie says. He adopted the dog from Camp Companion, a Rochester rescue where Griffin had recuperated.

MISS ALICE'S STORY: Overlie's sister found the jet-black cat as a kitten in the parking lot of an Iowa movie theater, saving her from a menacing dog. Overlie took her in.

MISS LUCY'S STORY: Overlie's larger black cat was among a litter of 10 kittens needing a home at Safe Haven Pet Rescue, where he found her in 2004.

FAVORITE ACTIVITIES: Griffin's daily, late-morning walk. “He's got to sniff and smell everything,” Overlie says. Chasing the red dot of light from a laser pen captivates both cats, he says.

TOGETHER: Griffin, Miss Alice and Miss Lucy were strays until Tom Overlie befriended them. “I've always had multiple pets and almost all of them have been strays,” he says. Many KTTC viewers have seen Griffin in station promotions. “Griffin has been on the air hundreds of times,” Overlie says.

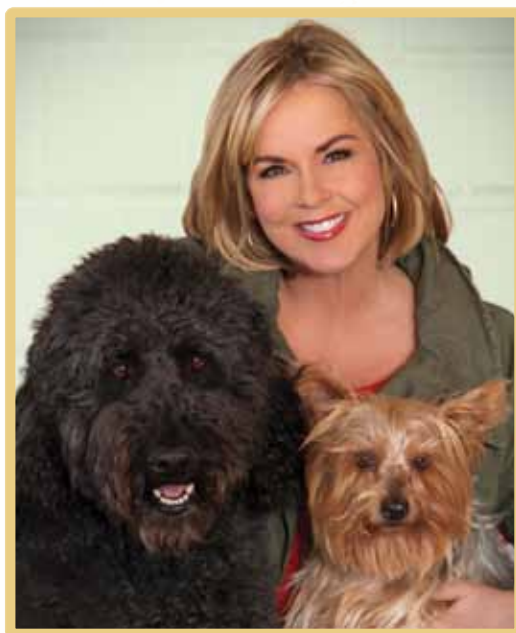
In what's become a daily ritual, he and Miss Lucy chat over the day together. “Every night I come home from the news and she's up at my (bathroom) sink, talking to me,” Overlie says. Some of his greatest comfort in low moments has come through his pets, the broadcaster says. “I honestly can't imagine my life without a four-legged friend.”

NAME AND CLAIM TO FAME: **Robin Wolfram**, anchor, producer and reporter at KTTC-TV.

PETS' NAMES: **Mr. Magoo**, Silky Terrier, age 15; **Willis**, a Goldendoodle (hybrid of a Golden Retriever and Poodle), age 7; Cinderella (Ella), “very mixed” breed cat, about 10 months old.

MR. MAGOO'S STORY: Had been returned to a Twin Cities shelter twice for “behavioral issues.” Wolfram says she vowed: “You'll never have to come back here, Mr. Magoo!” And the Terrier hasn't.

WILLIS'S STORY: “The only dog I ever bought.” Found in a classified ad from Mayo Clinic.



ELLA'S STORY: Offspring from a stray's litter. Cinder-colored.

PETS' FAVORITES: Both dogs like big chew bones. The small dog has one more exotic taste. “Mr. Magoo loves to eat the insoles (the linings) out of my shoes,” Wolfram says.

FAVORITE ACTIVITIES: “I love to take them to the dog park,” she says. Willis loves to chase and fetch the chew bones. Mr. Magoo often follows her around the house. Willis will cuddle with Wolfram before sleep. “He thinks he's an 85-pound lap dog,” she chuckles.

TOGETHER: Like many owners, Robin Wolfram regularly talks to her pets. And, at times, she also will talk for her dogs, voicing what she imagines they would tell her. She gives Willis a voice that is deep and a bit husky. Mr. Magoo's is different. It's “goofy, with a lisp,” she says. Wolfram knows them that well.

“When I was growing up, we always had a dog,” she says. “I ... seriously love, love my animals. I can't imagine never having them.” As a news anchor, she helps feature pets that need homes. “I'm really big about adopting instead of buying animals,” Wolfram says. Her pets bring her “a lot of joy and a lot of contentment.” 🐾

Bob Freund is a freelance writer in Rochester.

Bella the hairless terrier



The challenge to find a hypoallergenic dog was met in minutes

By Nancy Crotti

Bella's baths are followed by a skin moisturizing treatment for American Hairless Terriers.

I should have known better. My daughters had been asking for years if we could adopt a dog. My answer was always the same: We can't. My allergies are too severe.

I was not allergic to our family dog while growing up. In our early 20s, however, my now-husband and I took in a couple of stray cats. I ended up with asthma and allergies to all furry creatures, whom I love.

Ever since, my modus operandi upon meeting a dog or cat has been to greet it, pet it if I have permission, and wash my hands as soon as possible. Daughter Hannah knows this, but when she made the perennial request last summer, I set out the dumbest challenge ever: "If you can find a hairless dog, I'll think about it."

Within minutes, a photo of Bella, an American Hairless Terrier (AHT) in need of rescue in Goshen, Indiana, appeared on Hannah's laptop screen. Bella was four years old, afraid of big dogs, and bowlegged, possibly the result of being born in a puppy mill. Bella might not do well with young children, but ours are 21 and 18, so it sounded like a perfect match.

I really didn't "think about it," as promised. I'm a complete sucker for small creatures who need rescuing.

I couldn't stop looking at her photos and watching her videos. I fell hard for her liquid chocolate eyes, felt her agitation when approached by other dogs at her foster home (where she was safe, just nervous).

BRINGING BELLA HOME

Hannah contacted her foster mom, Carole Mitchell of Tiny Luv's Rescue (<http://tinyluvs-rescue.rescueme.org>), and we began the surprisingly in-depth application process. Paperwork, references, a home visit — it felt like we were adopting a child! Carole mailed us one of Bella's t-shirts to see if anyone in our family had an allergic reaction.

We each spent a night sleeping with the t-shirt (presciently emblazoned, "I'm the Boss"). After my husband's and my night with the shirt tucked between our pillows, I felt slightly allergic, so I contacted Carole. She said Bella slept wherever she wanted, including in other dogs' beds, while wearing the shirt. It wasn't the most scientific experiment.

I didn't let on how allergic I felt, and forged ahead with the adoption process. Hannah and I would be in Chicago for a convention the last weekend of October, and I let the rescue

organization (Xolo Rescue League, now defunct) know that we could pick her up then if we they approved us. A few days before we left for Chicago, I received THE phone call. We'd passed all the tests. Bella would be coming home with us.

The Mitchells met us in a parking lot in Gary, Indiana, 45 minutes from our Chicago hotel. Carole introduced us to the tiny, squirming, 10-pound bundle of ... skin. Yep, just skin, like a baby. Hannah held her on the six-hour ride home. At a rest stop, Bella seemed interested in a drink of milk, so I gave her one. She promptly puked. What had we gotten ourselves into?

LIVING WITHOUT FUR... OR FEAR

A very interesting situation, as Jimmy Stewart famously said in the movie "It's a Wonderful Life." Bella was so freaked out by the move that she stood in our kitchen, motionless, for what seemed like hours at a time. She refused to drink water, so we resorted to warming her grain-free kibble in chicken broth. AHTs, which were bred from rat terriers in the 1970s, have sensitive skin. Regular dog food tends to cause problems.

Slowly, her personality began to emerge. She guards me as if I am in imminent danger, cuddling up on the couch, warily eyeing the rest of the family, waiting outside the bathroom door or at the bottom of the stairs until I emerge.

She loves visitors (especially pizza deliverymen), and tries to bite their ankles to keep them from leaving our house. This was cute in winter, when everyone was wearing boots, not so much when spring arrived. Taking her for

a walk on-leash was more like taking her for a stand. She would stop every few feet, staring and sniffing, immobilized. With practice, she's getting better at "walkies."

Distressingly, whenever my husband entered the living room, Bella would attack any nearby piece of furniture, biting the couch or the armrest of our leather recliner. Six months later, the furniture attacks have lessened; she greets him with a happy wag and has begun to lay next to him.

When she barks, her little forelegs lift off the ground. She loves to be held, wrapped in blankets, ride in the car (in her booster seat) and feels deeply passionate about cheese. We now refer to it as The Substance, lest she catch on.

MEETING MINNESOTA WINTER

As a (mostly) hairless dog, Bella has to wear clothing most of the time, whether for warmth or protection from the sun. Her only significant fur is on her face and paws, including delightful, little brown eyebrows. I learned it was not only a dog's dander but its saliva that I reacted to,

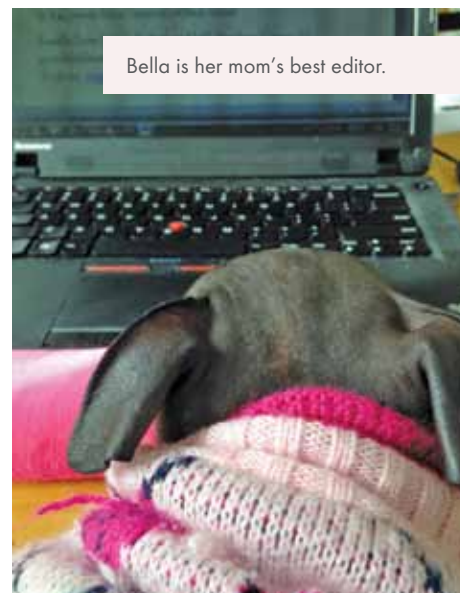
and now use a nasal spray and take vitamin C and zinc, on the advice of my doctors. So far, so good.

Our sweetest moments are receiving her greetings upon her awakening and our arriving home. She heads straight to the couch and races up her little stairs, all wiggly and pleased. She has more nicknames than we can count (and doesn't answer to any of them), and gets more kisses than anyone would imagine. Her smile is a long, straight, black-lipped grimace.

She loves her bath, which we follow with an AHT spa treatment – gently melted coconut oil to moisturize her tender skin. We rub it in and leave a little in the pan for her to lick.

Bella's first Minnesota winter was a challenge. She hated wearing boots and walking bare-pawed in the snow. We resorted to puppy pads – many, many puppy pads, placed strategically about the house. We found ourselves wishing she had eyes in her behind, or a rear-view mirror. I invested in plenty of clean-up spray.

I am not complaining – far from it. We adore her. She's our sweetums. She keeps me company



Bella is her mom's best editor.

when I work at home and sleeps in Hannah's bed at night. When we're out, we wish we could call her on the phone to let her know we'll be home soon. Not that she'd answer. 🐾

Nancy Crotti is a freelance writer, editor and (allergic) dog-lover based in St. Paul.

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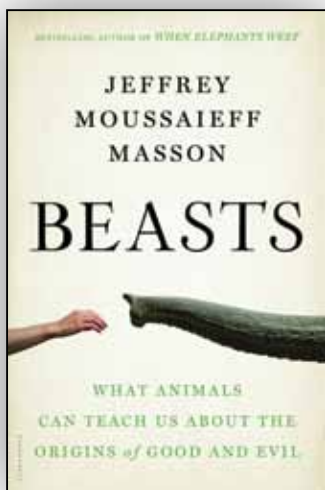
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Beasts: What Animals Can Teach Us About the Origins of Good and Evil

by Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson,
c.2014, Bloomsbury,
\$26, 224 pages

What a dirty rat.

That guy's such a dog, cheating on his wife like some tomcat. He's a pig. And her? She acts like she doesn't know, the dumb cow. He's nothing but a shark and she's too chicken to confront him. She should never have trusted the big skunk, the slimy snake. She's a silly goose to think she could.

In the English language – and, says author Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, in French, German, and Spanish, too – we often display our displeasure through animal epithets. But are we just being catty? Read his new book, “Beasts,” and you’ll see how you’re barking up the wrong tree.

Call someone “a beast” sometime, and people know what you mean. You’re likely indicating aggression, brutality or even danger, and it’s not necessarily complimentary. But is it fair? Masson says no because, truth is, “Beasts... have few of the failings we, as a species, have.”

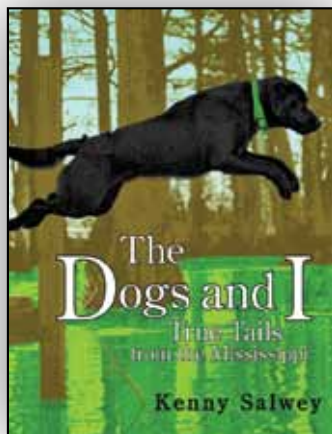
For instance, humans wage war, usually because of “artificial and arbitrary distinctions” of race, language, tribe, or culture – which is something animals don’t do. It’s true that animals fight but they don’t generally “perpetrate mass violence against” their own kind. And though it may seem like cats with mice are capable of it, animals are not cruel and they do not practice torture.

But getting back to war: our propensity for it might be because we love hierarchy. We like to think we’re superior to others we perceive as lesser, which gets us into trouble when faced with someone who’s unlike us. We wage battles over religion, something animals don’t do. We fight like... well, like cats and dogs – even though cats and dogs usually get along quite well.

But is it all bad news? Not really: we (and our canine friends) are the only species that care about “the well-being of other species...” And we’re finally beginning to recognize any negative aberration in animal behavior as the effects of trauma we’ve perpetuated.

Author Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson argues that animals are kinder and more tolerant than we are, and that we could learn a thing or two from them.

Though I wouldn’t consider this to be a sit-and-read-for-fun book, “Beasts” is great if you love animals or studying humans – or both. Pay close attention, pause for pondering and, much like an elephant, you’ll never forget it.



The Dogs and I: True Tails from the Mississippi

by Kenny Salwey, c.2013,
Fulcrum Books,
\$15, 179 pages

The whole world is your living room.

That’s how it feels sometimes because you don’t know any better place for relaxing than the outdoors. With a shady tree as your easy chair, birdsong as your music and your dog nearby, you could be outside 24/7.

You and your furry best friend do everything together: hunting, fishing, exploring, observing. And in this new book, you’ll see that man + dog + outdoors = a pretty good life.

When Kenny Salwey was about four years old, he was attacked by a dog – in a good way. Salwey remembers coming around the corner of his parents’ house as Brownie knocked him to the ground and “thoroughly washed my face, which no doubt needed it anyway.” That was the first dog Salwey remembers loving, and far from the last.


Rover, Teddy, Pepper followed in his childhood as Salwey’s hunting, flushing and fishing pals.

Once he got out of the army in the 1960s, Salwey got a dog as soon as he could. Old Spook

was almost a throwaway, but he became a once-in-a-lifetime dog for Salwey: they were hunting companions, fishing buddies, and “inseparable” best friends for 16 years. It broke Salwey’s heart when Spook died, but “Old Spook helped me better understand the great Circle of Life.”

While it’s true that anybody can read “The Dogs and I,” there’s no doubt in my mind that outdoorsy teens – particularly boys – will love this book best.

That’s because author Kenny Salwey speaks the language of a lover of the land. Salwey’s words are thoughtful and earth-kind, evoking old-time sentiments mixed with modern sustainability. Every duck or pheasant hunter who owns this book will think of his favorite hunting spot as he reads; every fisherman will recognize the feeling of knowing something’s been hooked; and both will remember their own four-legged companions, without whom the sport is just no fun.

I think outdoorsmen (and women) ages 13-to-17 will love this book, and they can easily share it with their dads and granddads, too. For hunters, fishers and lovers of Labs, “The Dogs and I” is a world of good reading. 

The Bookworm is Terri Schlichenmeyer. Terri has been reading since she was 3 years old and she never goes anywhere without a book. She lives on a hill in Wisconsin with one pampered pooch and 13,000 books.

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info@luvachinrescue.org
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marnie@northstargreatpyrs.com
612-379-0010

Dedicated to providing rescue/rehoming, breed education and fun activities for Great Pyrenees and their owners.

NORTHSTAR SHIH TZU RESCUE

facebook.com/
NorthStarShihTzuRescue
tzuresq@gmail.com
612-209-4502

We rescue Shih Tzu and Shih Tzu blend dogs, evaluate them in foster homes and then match them to their perfect family.

NORTHWOODS ANIMAL RESCUE SANCTUARY & ADOPTION CENTER "NARS" (Andover)

northwoodsrescue.org

NORTHWOODS HUMANE SOCIETY (Wyoming)

northwoodshs.org
Info@northwoodshs.org
651-982-0240

Serving Chisago County and surrounding communities by caring

for animals in need and helping them find a home.

ONE OF A KIND PET RESCUE

www.oakpr.org
507-400-3100

Foster-based, no-kill, non-profit rescue.

PAWS AND CLAWS HUMANE SOCIETY (Rochester)

pawsandclaws.org
info@pawsandclaws.org
507-288-7226

To promote and provide humane protection and shelter for abandoned or lost companion animals, seek adoptive homes, provide public education regarding the societal problem of animal overpopulation, promote responsible companion animal care, and advocate the spaying and neutering of all companion animals.

PAWS=PRECIOUS ANIMALS WORTH SAVING

pawsofjackson.com
pawsofjackson@gmail.com
507-841-1834

Working together to save as many animals as possible in the Jackson County area.

PET HAVEN INC. OF MN

PetHavenMN.org
admin@pethavenmn.org
952-831-3825

Created in 1952 to rescue, rehome and advocate for companion animals.

PRAIRIE'S EDGE HUMANE SOCIETY (Faribault)

prairiesedgehs.org
admin@prairiesedgehs.org
507-334-7117
Serving Rice County. Mission to promote the value of animals through care and education

RESCUED PETS ARE WONDERFUL

rpaw.org
info@rpaw.org
763-757-8204

To rescue companion animals and find them loving forever homes.

RETRIEVE A GOLDEN OF MINNESOTA (RAGOM)

ragom.org
rescue@ragom.org
952-946-8070
Rescuing and re-homing Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes in MN, IA, ND, SD and western WI.

RUFF START RESCUE

ruffstartrescue.org
info@ruffstartrescue.org
763-355-3981

SAFE HAVEN PET RESCUE (Rochester)

safehavenpetrescue.org
safehavencat@yahoo.com
507-529-4079

Committed to finding safe, loving and secure homes for lost, abandoned and stray companion animals.

S.A.F.E. SANCTUARY (FARIBAULT)

safesanctuary.org
safeanimalsanctuary@hotmail.com
507-334-7901

Foster-based, no-kill rescue

SAVE-A-BULL RESCUE

saveabullmn.com
Dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and re-homing of American Pit Bull Terriers and other Bull breeds.

SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL RESCUE

secondchancerescue.org
651-771-5662

Foster-based dog and cat rescue organization dedicated to rescuing, caring for and adopting out homeless dogs and cats.

SECONDHAND HOUNDS (Minnetonka)

Secondhandhounds.org
SHHAdoptions@gmail.com
952-322-7643

SHIH TZU RESCUE OF MINNESOTA

shihztzurescuemn.org
All-volunteer organization with a mission to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome Shih Tzus and Shih Tzu mixes.

SMALL DOG RESCUE OF MINNESOTA

smalldogsmnnesota.org
info@smalldogsmnnesota.org
All-volunteer group committed to the rescue, rehabilitation, and placement of dogs 20 pounds and under.

SOUTHWEST METRO ANIMAL RESCUE

swmetroanimalrescue.org
swmetroanimalrescue@hotmail.com
952-368-PAWS (7297)
Non-profit organization committed to the rescue of abandoned, abused and stray domestic animals.

STEELE COUNTY HUMANE

SOCIETY (Owatonna)
steelecountyhumane.org
adoptapetschs@yahoo.com
507-451-4512

Foster home based rescue helping stray and abandoned animals in greater Steele County.

SOUTHERN STAR MINPIN RESCUE

ssmpr.org
lshutch@aol.com
Dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and re-homing of Miniature Pinschers (minpins).

TRI-COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

tricityhumane.org
pets@tricityhumane.org
320-252-0896

We believe in the human/animal bond and exist to support Central Minn. by practicing and promoting quality adoption services and education programs.

WAGS & WHISKERS ANIMAL RESCUE OF MN

wagsmn.org
wagswhiskersmn@gmail.com
Volunteer 501(c)(3), non-profit animal rescue organization dedicated to saving the lives of homeless animals and educating the community on responsible pet ownership.

WASECA COUNTY ANIMAL HUMANE SOCIETY

wcahs.petfinder.com
wcahsadoptions@gmail.com
507-201-7287

501c3, no-kill organization that helps homeless animals of all types in numerous counties in South Central Minn.

WINONA AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

winonahumanesociety.org
507-452-3135

LOST AND FOUND PETS

Report lost and found pets of Southeast Minnesota:
facebook.com/SEMNLost.Found

Report lost and found dogs of Minnesota: facebook.com/LDoMN

STOP OVER-POPULATION SPAY AND NEUTER YOUR PETS

GET THE SCOOP

Yappy Hours at Wildwood Sports Bar and Grill, watch for dates and details on the Wagazine Facebook page and wildwoodsportsbarandgrill.com

JUNE

Brat wagon fundraisers for Safe Haven Pet Rescue at Silver Lake Foods. See our Facebook page for dates.

An engaged couple is climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise awareness and funds for the animals at Winona Area Humane Society. Follow them at facebook.com/Climbing4paws.

June 1-29 Free Feline Rescue Cat Claw Clippings, Check dates at various Chuck & Don's locations, felinerescue.org

June 7-8 Paws and Claws Annual Rummage Sale. Olmsted County Fairgrounds Bldg 35, Sat. 7-4, Sun. 8-noon bag sale. Donations taken June 1-5, check website for drop-off times, pawsandclaws.org

June 7 Save-a-Bull Rescue Adoption Event, Noon-2pm, Minnehaha Falls Park, saveabullmn.com/events

June 8 Mounds Dog Fest, Angell Park (Sun Prairie, WI), 10am, gdromn.org

June 12 Yappy Hour at Wildwood Sports Bar and Grill, 5pm, wildwoodsportsbarandgrill.com

June 14 Small Dog Rescue of MN "Canine Chic" beauty event, 11am-2pm, Salon Chic (River Center Plaza, 1625 N Broadway) in Rochester, smalldogsminnesota.org

June 14 Minnesota Pet Expo, 10am-6pm, Minneapolis Convention Center, minnesotapetexpo.com

June 14 Riding for Rover & Friends for safe Haven Pet Rescue. Registration 10am at the North Star Bar in Rochester. For more info, call Doug & Dona Kessler at 507-287-8561.

June 14 Brown County Humane Society at Mankato Moon Dogs baseball game, Humane Society receives \$3 of each ticket, brownchumanes.org

June 21 Birds and Bees! Meet the bees, learn hive structure, beekeeper dress and bee identification. Taste their gift while learning of their contributions to the world. Meet the owls, hometown birds who do not migrate, 9-11am, Assisi Heights, \$8, rochesterfranciscan.org

June 21 Save-A-Bull Rescue Run Motorcycle Event, River City Saloon, Anoka, 9am-6pm, saveabullmn.com

June 28 K-9 Carnival sponsored by Rochester Mn Kennel Club, Cooke Park, 9am-3pm, all dogs welcome on leashes. Dog games, kid games, prizes, learn about Rochester Mn. Kennel Club, fly dog demos, Brother Wolf dog communicator, vendors, therapy dog, meet the breed, food available, rmkc.8m.com or rochesterfest.com

June 28 Petapalooza, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, 10am, gdromn.org

June 28 Meet & Greet Great Pyrenees, 1-3pm, Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet, Eagan, northstargreatpyrs.com

June 28 & 29 Save-A-Bull Rescue at Twin Cities Pride Festival, Minneapolis, saveabullmn.com/events

June 29 NorthStar Great Pyrenees Rescue of MN picnic & annual member meeting, Noon-3pm, East Bush Lake Park, pavilion #3, Bloomington, northstargreatpyrs.com

JULY

Brat wagon fundraisers for Safe Haven Pet Rescue at Silver Lake Foods. See our Facebook page for dates.

July 5-28 Free Feline Rescue Cat Claw Clippings, Check dates at various Chuck & Don's locations, felinerescue.org

July 5 Save-a-Bull Rescue Adoption Event, Noon-2pm, Minnehaha Falls Park, saveabullmn.com/events

July 12 Wags and Wheels Motorcycle run for Wags and Whiskers Animal Rescue of MN, 9am, River City Saloon in Anoka, wagsmn.org

July 12 Save-a-Bull Garage Sale, Minneapolis, saveabullmn.com/events

July 14-15 Brown County Humane Society at CashWise Brat Stand, 10am-5:30pm, brownchumanes.org

July 19 Small Dog Rescue of MN "Small) Dog Days of Summer" event, 11am-2pm, Rochester Feed & Country Store (5 11-1/2 St SE) in Rochester, smalldogsminnesota.org

July 19 Save-a-Bull Rescue Adoption Event, Noon-2pm, Minnehaha Falls Park, saveabullmn.com/events

July 25 NE Minneapolis Dog Parade, northeastminneapolis.com/event/dog-parade

AUGUST

Brat wagon fundraisers for Safe Haven Pet Rescue at Silver Lake Foods. See our Facebook page for dates.

August 2-31 Free Feline Rescue Cat Claw Clippings, Check dates at various Chuck & Don's locations, felinerescue.org, acfacat.com/show_schedule.htm

August 2-3 Granite Kitty Cat Club Cat Show, Mayo Civic Center

August 2 Annual Dog Walk, Brown County Humane Society, 1301 South Valley, New Ulm, 9-noon, brownchumanes.org

August 2 Save-a-Bull Rescue Adoption Event, Noon-2pm, Minnehaha Falls Park, saveabullmn.com/events

August 3 Paws on Grand, 11am-4pm, Grand Avenue, St. Paul, grandave.com/events/paws-grand

August 11 Paws and Claws Golf Tourney, Rochester Golf and Country Club, 1pm shotgun, pawsandclaws.org

August 23, Big Hogs for Small Dogs, 10am, Roosters Barn and Grill, www.smalldogsminnesota.org

SEPTEMBER

Look for the **Fall issue** of the **wagazine!**

Sept 6-30 Free Feline Rescue Cat Claw Clippings, Check dates at various Chuck & Don's locations, felinerescue.org

September 6 Super Adoption Event, Rochester Fairgrounds, gdromn.org

September 6 Woofstock, 10am-3pm, Linden Hills, explorelinden hills.com

September 6 & 7 Ye Old Pet Fest, Minnesota Renaissance Festival, Shakopee, renaissancefest.com

September 12 Moonlight Memorial, Companion Animal Walk, Starts near Fat Willies, campcompanion.org

September 14 Goldzilla, Retrieve A Golden of MN, Long Lake Regional Park, New Brighton, ragom.org

September 20 Save-a-Bull Rescue Adoption Event, Noon-2pm, Minnehaha Falls Park, saveabullmn.com/events



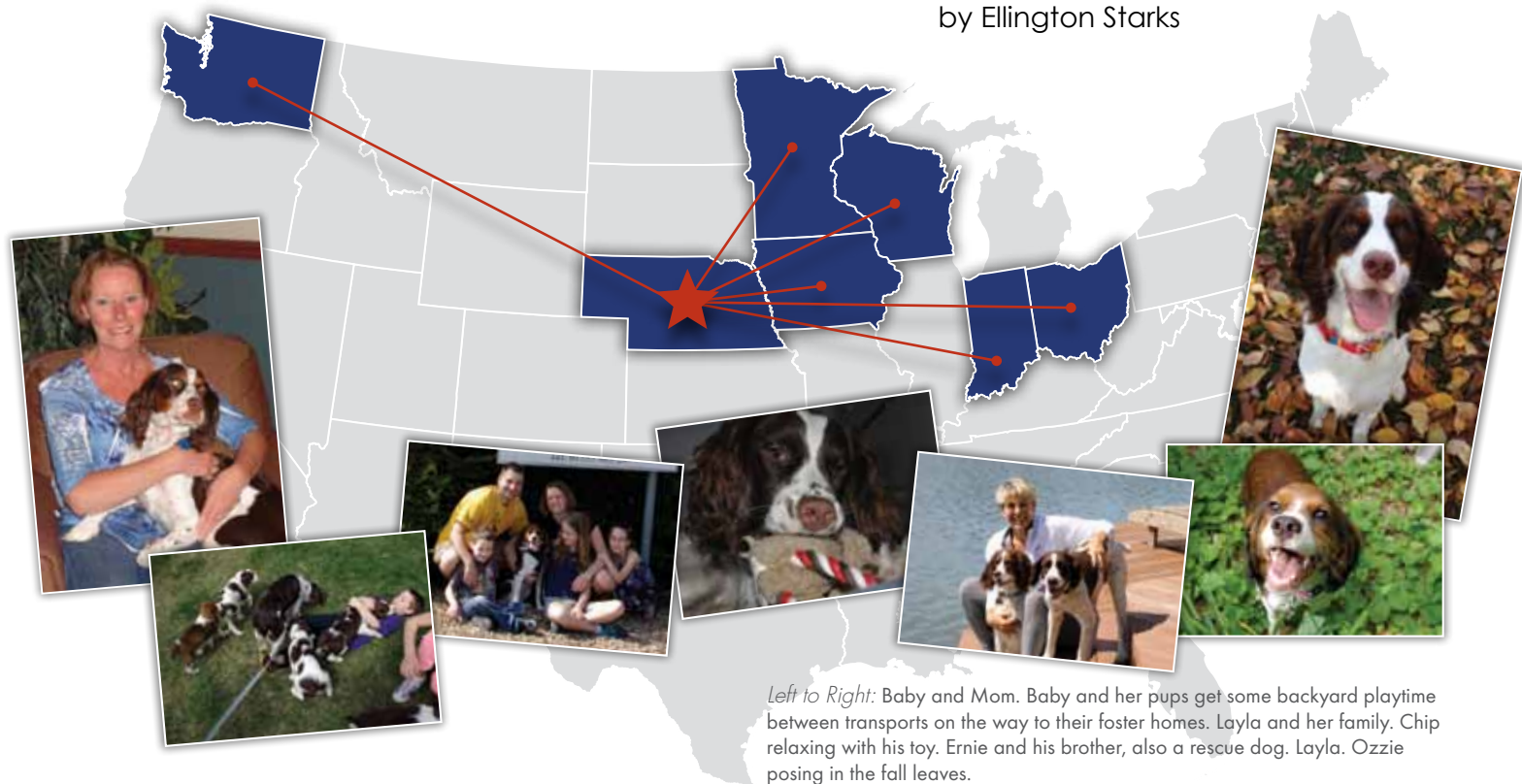
INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

A-1 All Brand Vacuums of Rochester.....	11
Affiliated Emergency Veterinary Service.....	25
American Cat Fanciers Association.....	25
The Bluffs Pet Clinic of Red Wing.....	29
Camp Dogwood.....	25
Cascade Animal Medical Center.....	IFC
Crossfit Progression (CFP).....	23
Doo Crew.....	19
Grandville at Cascade Lake.....	17
Hank & Purl's Creative Nook and Knittery....	17
Hauser Chem-Dry.....	15
Heritage Pet Hospital.....	17
Irish Fest MN.....	23
Kelvin Andow Photography.....	IBC
Leashes and Leads.....	26
The Loop.....	23
Meadow View Veterinary Clinic, LLC.....	26
Minnesota School of Business.....	9
Northern Valley Animal Clinic.....	29
Paws & Claws Humane Society.....	11
Pints for Paws.....	33
Quarry Hill Park Animal Hospital.....	17
Rochester Feed and Country Store.....	4, 9
Edina Realty.....	BC
Riverwood Veterinary Housecalls.....	9
Sonja's Dog Walking/Pet Sitting.....	15
Struve's Paint.....	11
Turn Crest Stable.....	9
Vanity Fur.....	IFC
Wildwood Sports Bar & Grill.....	19

SPRINGING in to ACTION

Rescuing a litter of Springer Spaniels and their mama

by Ellington Starks



Left to Right: Baby and Mom. Baby and her pups get some backyard playtime between transports on the way to their foster homes. Layla and her family. Chip relaxing with his toy. Ernie and his brother, also a rescue dog. Layla. Ozzie posing in the fall leaves.

On April 7, 2013, I responded to an ad on Craigslist.com in Nebraska. A litter of 10-week-old Springer Spaniels and their mother were listed as “free.” I am a state coordinator, based in Minnesota, for English Springer Rescue America, Inc. (ESRA), and our rescue, like many others, responds to ads to offer assistance to dogs being given away.

“The most amazing thing about connecting with the other adopters has been the discovery of so many behaviors that are similar among the littermates. I feel honored to have one of Baby’s amazing puppies!” --Ozzie’s owner

Often we receive no response at all, but a few hours later, this email: “If you can come and get them today they are yours.”

We sprung in to action. The closest ESRA member was two hours away, but she didn’t hesitate. When she returned home, she had a 2-year-old mama and six of her 11 pups. Five had already been sold.

“Pups have docked tails, and the dew claws are removed. No shots,” she relayed. “Mom has had no vet care and no shots.”

Working with the ESRA-Nebraska coordinator, we put out the call for foster homes for the seven dogs. By April 10, we had foster homes

in Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota lined up, and on April 13, volunteers from all three states were helping with transportation.

The dogs settled in to their foster homes – three in Minnesota, one in Iowa and three in Nebraska – and got the vet care they needed. Soon, they were adopted to homes across the nation: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Indiana, Ohio and Washington.

I have always said it takes a village to rescue a dog, and in this rescue, more than 30 people collaborated to transport, house, foster, coordinate and adopt these seven Springers.

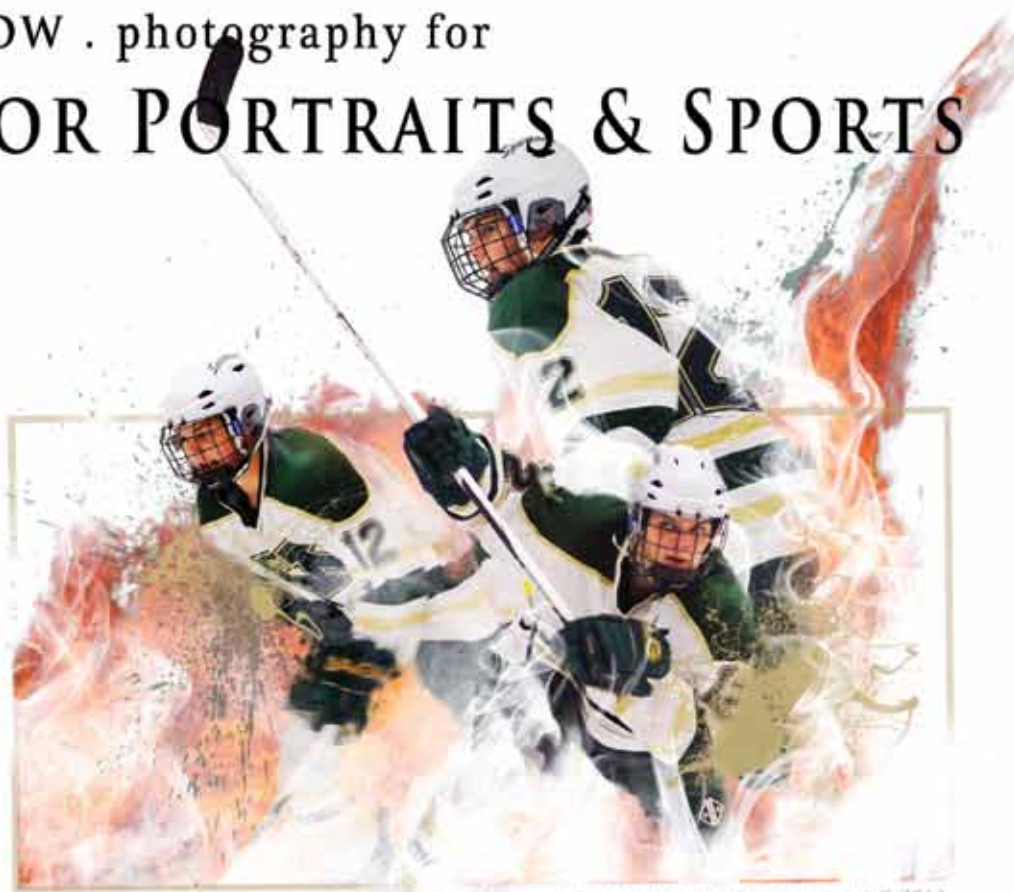
“The best thing about being from a rescue litter is the contact that continues between the owners of the known pups,” said Ernie’s owner. “We send puppy gifts to each other and correspond via the internet. We compare stories, funny details and health and behavior training information. We truly have become a family of very happy owners.”

Baby’s owner had similar sentiments. “This has been a wonderful experience to be able to keep in touch with six of Baby’s pups. Layla, Chip, Ernie and Baby have gotten pretty close considering the miles between them. They share treats and toys. I myself am addicted to my Baby and ESRA – a good thing.” PAW

Ellington Starks is editor of The Wagazine and a volunteer coordinator for English Springer Rescue America, Inc. She is passionate about Springer Spaniels.



KELVIN ANDOW . photography for H.S. SENIOR PORTRAITS & SPORTS



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