

# The PAW PRINT



## ADOPTING A CHALLENGING PET

By Nick Lansing



Our family quit counting how much Ronan cost when the vet bills hit \$8,000. At that point, it was like checking the temperature during an Alberta Clipper. Who cares if it's -10 or -25? Cold is cold. Why measure your pain?

We met Ronan during an Alberta Clipper. February 2021 was brutally cold when we walked him behind Animal Allies. Ronan came to Animal Allies as a stray puppy with a wonky leg and no

backstory. The best guess was his left front leg was damaged when he was very young. Ronan could touch his paw to the ground, but it supported no weight and the paw stuck out to the side. His right leg did all the work.

Ronan is one of those challenging animals in the shelter system. They're often described in web listings as "Prefers a home without cats" or "Sometimes eats UPS drivers." Ronan impressed us on every visit. He's a goofy galoot. Ronan smothers you with so much love and charm you forget about the slobber, farts, and hair. We were smitten. We'd make room for this 65 lb.



**Ronan the 100-lb lap dog**

Great Dane / Shetland pony mix. We were aware of his challenges, but we felt up for it. Ronan came home in late winter.

In our defense, we had no ideas how much surgeries cost. Our previous experience with vets was mostly checkups with the occasional crossing of the rainbow bridge. Now we were in the world of veterinary orthopedic care. Latin is the language of this world. Carpus. Valgus. Bi-oblique proximal ulnar ostectomy.

Why so much Latin? Ronan's injury stopped his radius from growing but not the ulna right next to it. One end of Ronan's growing ulna pushed his paw to the side (valgus) while the other end was dislocating his elbow. His swollen elbow warned of trouble. Dr. Lisa Jeanetta performed an urgent surgery at Dougherty Veterinary Clinic in Duluth on April 2nd. That saved his elbow from popping apart. At the end of the month, we road-tripped down to Blue Pearl in Arden Hills. Dr. Kathryn Kaufman cleaned out his elbow, did an ulnar ostectomy and fused together the wreckage of Ronan's wrist. The worst was to come.



**Not too happy about his cone**

Our growing hound-beast had to be restrained for eight weeks. No walks. No stairs. No furniture. No romping with our other dog. YOU try keeping a now-90 lb. puppy still for two months.

This is where it all paid off. The pain, boredom and drugs didn't dampen Ronan's charm. He should hate us for keeping him tied indoors during spring. Instead, we remain his Glorious Givers of Food and Scratches.



# A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



very best wishes for you in the New Year! Thank you for your steadfast support of Animal Allies. Because of you, we are able to successfully carry out our mission to ensure a loving home for every pet. The last year and a half has been anything but ordinary and unfortunately required us to cancel almost all of our in-person fundraising events. As we approach the end of our fiscal year, we need your support more than ever. To make your gift, please mail a check with the enclosed envelope, or to donate online, go to [animalallies.net/give](http://animalallies.net/give).

Gratefully yours,

Julie Wattenburg  
Executive Director  
T: 218-722-5341, Ext. 215  
E: [juliewaltenb@animalallies.net](mailto:juliewaltenb@animalallies.net)



## December Greetings, Dear Friends!

December brings cooler weather, the holidays, family meals and endless gratitude. On behalf of all the cats, dogs, kittens, puppies and staff at Animal Allies, we wish you a very happy holiday season and our



**FREEWILL**

## Two smarter ways to give back

As we recognize the family, friends, and pets that have enriched our lives this holiday season, Animal Allies has partnered with FreeWill to offer you two simple ways you can give back to them all — and ensure your donations work in your favor. If you have appreciated stock, consider donating your stock to Animal Allies in 10 simple minutes today and save on two different types of taxes, at [FreeWill.com/Stocks/AnimalAllies!](http://FreeWill.com/Stocks/AnimalAllies!) Or, protect your loved ones and pets forever by creating your legal will for free at [FreeWill.com/AnimalAllies](http://FreeWill.com/AnimalAllies).

# MICROCHIPPING REMAINS VITAL IN REUNITING FOUND PETS WITH THEIR FAMILIES



*We are grateful to the  
Duluth Superior Area  
Community Foundation  
for the \$10,000 grant to  
support our microchip  
clinics for the next year!*

As part of our Return to Home initiative, in 2021 Animal Allies focused on one of the simplest ways to keep pets in their homes: microchipping!

Dogs and cats that get lost can travel long distances. There are many ways to get the word out about missing pets, from the traditional flyer on a telephone pole to social media posts that can reach thousands. However, because its unique number offers a direct way of contacting the owner, microchipping remains vital in reuniting found pets with their families.



All animals adopted through Animal Allies are microchipped. Shelter medical staff also offers microchipping of owned animals by appointment for \$25 throughout the year. In further efforts to make sure this service is accessible to all community members, we have been expanding our public chip

clinic work. This year, businesses and organizations like Ursa Minor Brewing, Thirsty Pagan Brewing, the Damiano Center, and Miller Hill Subaru helped us host over ten clinics offering free microchipping to local dog and cat owners, with no appointment required. We are so proud of this work and look forward to expanding further in order to ensure more missing pets can return safely to their homes.

During the course of chip clinics and appointments, we have come across some common misconceptions about how pet microchips work. Here are the most common myths many pet owners believe about microchips:

**Myth:** Microchips are tracking devices.

**Truth:** Unfortunately, chips have no GPS tracking capacity. A microchip only works as an identifier when read by a chip scanner. In order to check for a chip, stray pets should be brought to your nearest shelter or vet clinic to be scanned. Once the number is scanned, the owner's contact information can be retrieved and they can be reunited with their pet.

**Myth:** Microchipping is painful for pets.

**Truth:** It only takes a few seconds to implant a chip, and pets often don't even notice it's happening. More sensitive dogs and cats may flinch momentarily, but it is effectively the same as getting a shot. Microchips go under the skin behind the shoulder blades.

**Myth:** Microchips expire and need to be replaced.

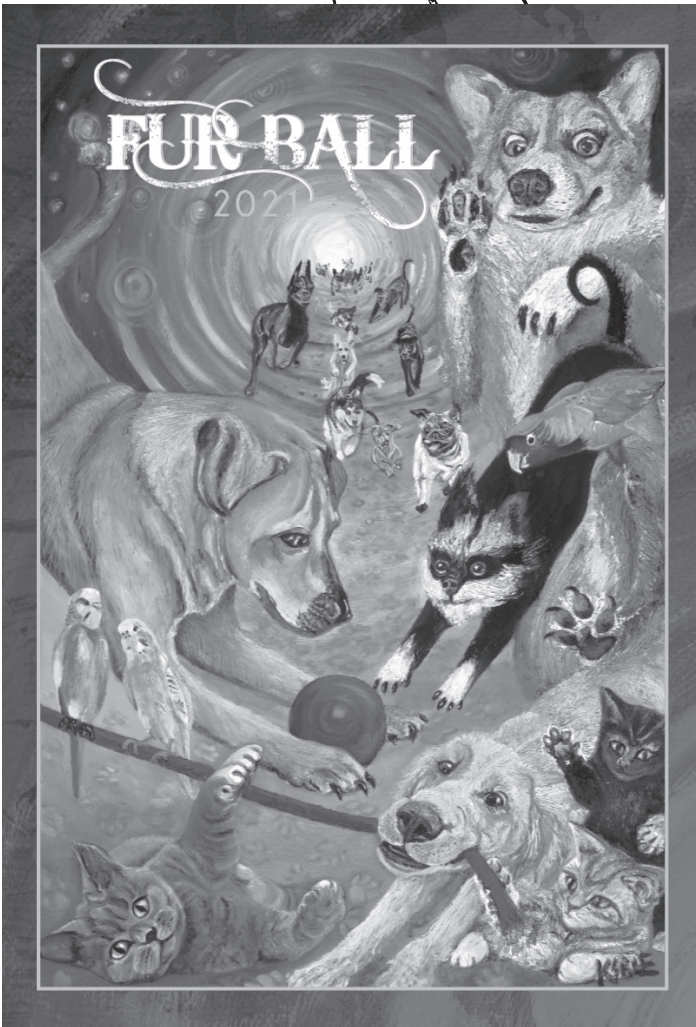
**Truth:** Chips are designed to last for a pet's entire life. While you can enroll in annual programs through the microchip company for additional benefits, there should never be a need to replace, reactivate, or change a microchip once implanted.

Once a microchip is implanted in your pet, it should be set for life, without any maintenance or additional payments. However, microchips are no use in returning pets to their homes if they are not registered to the owner's current contact information.

Any time you move or change your phone number, it is vital to contact the microchip company to update this information. This can usually be done online or by phone.

Microchipping is becoming recognized as a basic component of responsible pet ownership. Through education and public outreach, Animal Allies hopes to help ensure that Northland pets have access to the important safeguard..

# FUR BALL VIRTUAL AUCTION



**2021 Auction Painting by Karen Savage Blue**

For the second year in a row, concern for our supporters' health and safety led us to make the difficult decision to take the Fur Ball virtual. After missing out in 2020, we had looked forward to gathering in person for Animal Allies' annual gala, which has traditionally been our trademark event and best opportunity to gather and celebrate our work while eating, drinking, dancing, and participating in a fast-paced auction.

However, in light of increased regional COVID cases and in accordance with health guidelines, our leadership chose to put our community's safety first and move this year's gala online, as well. Much of Fur Ball's magic comes from the festive atmosphere and the joy of gathering in a beautiful space with fellow animal lovers, a feeling that can hardly be recreated virtually. Our team faced the challenge of how to generate some of that Fur Ball excitement without the classic gala trappings.

Ultimately, we decided to focus on our spectacular auction prizes by holding a three-day online auction. As they have every year since the gala's creation, generous individuals and businesses contributed the best they have to offer as prizes to inspire vigorous bidding. Throughout the weekend of October 15, 16, and 17, Animal Allies supporters (even the technologically challenged among us) took to the internet to bid on unique items and fantastic package deals. In addition to the auction, two lovely videos of Animal Allies alumni reminded attendees of the reason behind the event. Featuring Ursula, a beautiful black cat who gave birth and raised her family under Animal Allies' care, and Doc, a Bulldog who travelled from Texas, underwent extensive surgery, and is now supporting his adoptive family through life challenges with his loyalty and love. These beautifully told stories highlight the real magic that happens in animals' lives because of funds raised at the Fur Ball.



**One lucky bidder won this sunset cruise package featuring a three-hour ride for 12 guests on Brian Maki's 65' Viking Sportfish with a charcuterie board provided by Yes, Cheese and libations and deck crew courtesy of Twin Ports Pet Sitters.**

But although sponsors, contributors, and bidders all demonstrated their support of this online event, there was no recreating the energy that is born from physically gathering in a party atmosphere. The Fur Ball is Animal Allies' largest source of funds all year, but this year we came up short. Without the momentum of a live auction and the thrill of a uniquely festive gala ambience, we fell short of our fundraising goal by more than 50%.



**In a still from her feature video, mama cat Ursula nurses her thriving litter in the comfort of a foster home.**

Yet counting as ever on our loyal supporters and on animal lovers everywhere, we are confident that your generosity will allow us to make up this deficit and keep transforming the lives of homeless pets.

## OUR FUR BALL SPONSORS



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# THE 29th ANNUAL WALK FOR ANIMALS



**Youth Allies at their booth**



**Meeting new friends**



**The Animal Allies retail team**



**Pat Castellano works the crowd**



**Emcee Bonney Bowman in action**

In an uncertain year, where we never seemed to know what traditions we would be able to uphold and how we might have to adapt, Animal Allies staff, volunteers, and supporters were thrilled to be able to return to our signature outdoor event, the Walk for Animals! After 2020's virtual walk, meeting in person felt like such a treat and a celebration. And, as a further return to tradition, the event came back to the site where it started: Leif Erikson Park!

On the afternoon of Thursday, July 15th, an array of pets and their people gathered at the beautiful lakeshore park to visit vendors, compete in contests, try their skill at the agility course, and walk the Walk. Mingling outdoors with old friends and new, we met many animals who have attended in past years as well as new participants, some of whom had been adopted since the pandemic began. It was a great opportunity to socialize, both for our human community and for pets who got a chance to interact with a large group of people and other animals, all in a lively yet safe outdoor environment.



**A proud raffle winner and her human**

The weather cooperated, allowing two- and four-legged Walkers to enjoy a perfect day along the perfect shoreline as they followed the scenic Lakewalk out and back.

In addition to our awesome vendors, the Walk featured activities from face painting and free pet microchips. Leif Erikson Park's stage offered the perfect setting for contests and performances led by our amazing emcee, Bonney Bowman.

Continued on page 7



# LOVE A PET SUBARU. ADOPTION EVENT

Animal Allies was excited to return to our biggest annual offsite adoption event, Love-A-Pet at Subaru! This year, the Miller Hill Subaru dealership hosted Animal Allies and four other rescues for a weekend of playing matchmaker between people and pets. And it was a huge success! Over the weekend, a total of 106 animals went to their new homes.

Animal welfare from throughout the region was represented: The Babinski Foundation of Pequot Lakes; Contented Critters, based in Makinen, MN; Lake County Humane Society from Two Harbors; and Ashland, WI's Chequamegon Humane Association.

Reduced adoption fees for the event help motivate those undecided about whether to adopt, and help bring more people in the door where they might fall in love with a pet.

In addition to lower fees, Love-A-Pet helps clear shelters by bringing increased traffic, especially to smaller rescues who don't have as many in-person visitors at their facilities. With several rescues gathered together, adopters could see more different pets and choose the best fit for their lifestyle.

On November 6, "Caturday," an amazing 76 cats and kittens from all five organizations found new families.

On Sunday, November 7, 30 dogs and puppies found were adopted (including senior yellow lab Omar, who had become a favorite during his two months at Animal Allies.)

Animal Allies retail and adoption staff were on hand, as well as our Youth Allies. MIX 108's Jeanne Ryan showed up both days to entertain visitors and hype the event. This year, we moved into the 21st century for our popular holiday photobooth: instead of the traditional print copies, finished photos were shared through a digital link. We are so thankful to our amazing Santa, Craig, and to photographer Liz of Bark Barn and Amy Louhela for continuing this festive tradition.

Local vendors manned booths to reach out to local animal lovers. Among them were Twin Ports Pet Sitters, Canal Bark, Riley Rue Pet Spaw, and Crank & Dasher Ice Cream.

It was a privilege to watch the animal rescue community come together to save over one hundred pets in one weekend—and have fun doing it!



## LOVE-A-PET BY THE NUMBERS:



- 30 dogs and puppies were adopted
- 76 cats and kittens were adopted
- 44 families took their holiday pet photos with Santa
- 30 owned pets got microchips
- 45 volunteers gave their time and talent



# THE 29th ANNUAL WALK FOR ANIMALS



Volunteer extraordinaire Dan Leslie

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the 2021 Walk for Animals, our sponsors, vendors, and the tireless volunteers who made it all possible.



# FEEDING OUR VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you to our friends at Fleet Farm and Little Debbie! Fleet Farm store manager Paul donated water for our Walk for Animals volunteers, while Brett from Little Debbie contributed snacks to keep them going! In addition, Paul presented Animal Allies Executive Director Julie with a check for \$1200.



# TRIBUTES

The following tributes were received in April, May, June, July, August & September.  
 If you do not see your listing in this issue, look for it in the next.  
 If you see an error regarding your donation, please call and let us know: (218) 722-5341, Ext. 214.

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BUD & MARY WELSH  
Martha Bjornson  
JACK WELSH  
Dwight Coursey  
Susan Engstran  
Kathy Heltzer  
Daniel & Mary  
Ann Marks  
Michelle Nikkola  
Gene Sauter  
Mary Tomsich  
Jean Welsh  
H & C Wiklund  
BETTE WIESEN  
Wayne & Lynn Iepak  
TYLER WILLIAM  
Anneka Kastelic  
CHOLE WOLFF  
Jill Hoag  
STERLING WRASE  
Lynn Beechler  
SUSAN WYNNE  
Susan O'Connor  
Dave & Shelley Plumb  
Heidi Walters  
JAN ZIGICH  
Kevin Anderson  
George Balach  
Robert & Donna  
Beaupre  
Tracy Bennett  
Bonita Beste  
Kathleen Bottoms  
Tom & Jean Brozic  
James & Linda Busker  
Deanne Butorac  
C.Cigalio  
Gwen Curran  
Lana Desanto  
Duluth Police  
Department  
Robert & Teresa Falsani  
Sara Floerke  
Kandise Garrison  
Jim, Stephanie &  
Olivia Gottschald  
Diane Gould  
Sharyl Gurovitsch  
Mary Hagen  
Adele Hartwick  
Chuck & Barb Haslerud  
Edith Hill  
Doreen Johnson  
Katherine Johnson  
Catherine Kurtz  
Cheryl Larson  
Cindy Lillegaard  
Anne Lindquist  
Louise & Steven Litman  
Janice Makowski

Jim & Diane Miner  
Brian & Linda Mirsch  
Arnelle Monson  
Shirley Nicoliason  
Nancy Norr  
Curtis Oberg  
Frank Olsen  
Sam & Barbara Perrella  
Karen Pervin  
Dave & Nancy Phillips  
George & Lucille Priley  
Larry & Lynn Rappana  
Debra & William Roach  
Michael & Anne Robb  
Daren & Lori Saari  
Jack & Cindy Seiler  
Raymond Sink  
Gloria Sorenson  
Fred Sowl  
John & Linda Spencer  
Sundby Construction  
Elizabeth Swanson  
Robert &  
Jennifer Swanson  
Carol & Seth Taran  
Lawrence & Kim Tessier  
Martin & Teresa  
Theobald  
Lori Ulvi  
Darrel Youngblom  
Lynn & Dane Youngblom  
BILL ZELEN  
Ben & Barry Wolfe

**IN MEMORY OF PET**

ABBY  
Eileen Schantz-Hansen  
ACESON  
Valerie Koepsel  
AKSEL  
Laurie Johnson  
ANGEL  
Gene & Peggy  
Vanderscheuren  
ANNIE, BONNIE, CLYDE,  
BUDDY & BUBBA  
David & Sarah Klitsch  
ARIEL  
Debra Hill  
BAILEY, KASEY & MOSE  
David & Maydith Delisle  
BAKER  
Matt Kraska  
LYNDA BARKER JOHN  
JACK  
Richard Degolier  
JACKSON  
Lucia & Randy Marnich  
JANE  
Julie Jago  
JASMINE & OPHELIA  
Animal Kingdom  
JEFF  
Robert Knighton  
JULIE  
Lea & Rosie Schoenrock  
JUNE PEA & RUBY  
Andy & Lynn Wiemann  
JUNE & RUBY  
Carrie & Duane Battisti  
KATIE  
Anne Hovde  
KAZ  
John & Cathy Ameal  
KODAH  
Sara Hendrick  
KRAMER  
Lance Randall  
LAZER  
Linda & Ron Oberg  
LEIBY  
Diane Black  
LENNON  
Tom Cytron-Hysom  
LILY  
Pamela Jacobson  
LITTLE CAT  
John & Christy Wenberg

BUDDY  
Jerry & Shirley Pommerville  
BUDDY  
Craig Scherf  
BUDDY BOO  
Darlene Mickelson  
BUTCHY  
Jeanette Harden  
CALI MAE  
Jacinta Roth  
CALLIE  
Jean Royer  
CALVIN  
Debbie Davis  
CAT THE CAT  
Beth Kaiser  
CHARLEY  
Kala Pedersen  
CHOLE  
Colette Davis  
COCO  
Anonymous  
COCO  
Lindsey & Seth Peattie  
COCOA & ZOEY  
Elynn Wiens  
CODA  
Sue Soderholm  
CODY  
Clem & Gale Solarz  
COOKIE  
Marcia Hyatt  
COXY  
Anneli Wacrenier  
CRICKET  
Kitty Harvey & Linda Lane  
DARBY, RIGBY & RUBY  
Wayne & Lynn Iepak  
DELILAH  
Don & Deborah Johnson  
DIESEL  
Tayler Porter  
DUKE  
Patricia Wellberg  
DUNCAN  
Renee Capra  
ELLERY, O'MALLEY, TAG A  
LONG & TIRZAH  
Darrell & Carol O'Day  
GEORGIE  
Norma Prosser  
GOOBER  
Sandra Kushman  
HALLE & WINDSOR  
David Longsio  
ICE  
Susan E. Anderson  
JACK  
Lynda Barker John  
JACK  
Richard Degolier  
JACKSON  
Lucia & Randy Marnich  
JANE  
Julie Jago  
JASMINE & OPHELIA  
Animal Kingdom  
JEFF  
Robert Knighton  
JULIE  
Lea & Rosie Schoenrock  
JUNE PEA & RUBY  
Andy & Lynn Wiemann  
JUNE & RUBY  
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Anne Hovde  
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John & Cathy Ameal  
KODAH  
Sara Hendrick  
KRAMER  
Lance Randall  
LAZER  
Linda & Ron Oberg  
LEIBY  
Diane Black  
LENNON  
Tom Cytron-Hysom  
LILY  
Pamela Jacobson  
LITTLE CAT  
John & Christy Wenberg

LITTLE HONEY  
Ben & Yvonne Smith  
LUCKY  
Cassandra Dinehart  
LUCY  
Eileen Schantz-Hansen  
LUNA  
Emily Dockendorf  
MABEL  
Joyce Braaten  
MADDIX  
Kim Wolfgram Salz  
MATTIE  
Anonymous  
MAVERICK  
Erin Webb  
MAXINE  
Sue Slattery  
MISS MAWLEA  
Sherri & Charlie Fedora  
MISTY  
Lisa & Jason Holliday  
MOCHA  
Sherie Wedin  
MOLLY  
Michael & Cheryl Abramson  
MOLLY  
Elaine Killen  
MOLLY  
Jerome Miner  
MOLLY  
Janet Murphy  
MOLLY  
Roberta Vose  
MRS. AURORA MEOW  
Britt & Nate Robb  
MAYA LOU  
Ben Anderson  
NELLIE  
Martha Firling  
OJ, SCOOTER, SAMI & RUDI  
Lynn & Marylou Gressman  
ONNA  
Robert & Linda Plucinak  
PENNY  
Jared Strasburg  
PERRY  
Annie Opseth  
PIPER  
Jennifer Webb  
PIXIE  
Darlene Weidendorf  
PUNKY  
Melissa Leungdorf  
PUTZ & SQUEEKER  
Karen Hansen  
RAMBO  
Lucia & Randy Marnich  
RANGER  
Sydne Westorff  
REESE  
Carlye Sherrill  
RICHIE  
Ann Sudoh  
ROBERTA  
Mary Rothe  
ROSIE  
Richard Degolier  
RUBY  
Frances Wittenberg  
RUCKUS  
Ben & Barry Wolfe  
RUNT  
Arlo Olson  
RUSTY  
Jack Schade  
RUSTY  
Joseph Strauss  
SAMANTHA  
Joann Lisiecki  
SAMMY  
Patricia Rossetti  
SIERA  
Susan & John Menart  
SLUGGO  
Helen Julius  
SVEN  
Trudie Schmies  
SYDNEY  
Jaimi Johnson  
TASHA  
Mary Hill  
TATER  
Jenna Pernu

TATER  
Jesse Trelstad  
TEEMU  
Steve Johnson  
TOBY  
Michael Kilian  
TOBY  
Donald & Lisa Kozlovski  
TOBY  
Peter & Pamela Leone  
TOVA  
Michael & Susan McKinney  
TRIPP  
Laurie Johnson  
TRIXIE  
Harold Nordin  
TUCKER JAMES  
Kathleen Seguin  
TUCKER OLDS  
Margaret Evavold  
TURBO  
Karen Flynn  
VALENTINO JOE  
Joan Oswald  
VANESSA  
Janet McCoy  
ZACH  
Frank & Mary Gerard  
ZEUS  
Jason Dammann  
**IN HONOR  
OF PERSON**  
CAROL BOTTEN  
Bonnie Chapman  
KEN HANSON  
David Hanson  
WESLEY MICKELSON  
Darlene Mickelson  
DYLAN PEARLMEN  
Abigail Clarke-Sather  
DAVID ROBSON  
Joanne Robson  
JULIE SOSNOWSKI  
Peter & Donna Sosnowski  
MARIE SUPRI  
Juanita Gilmore  
BEVERLY & LOWELL  
VENBERG Todd  
& Cyndi Venberg

**IN HONOR OF PET**

ABBY & HEIDI  
Cheryl Van dell  
ARCHIE  
Pam Myhrman  
BART, BETTY & MILLIE  
Jennifer Robinson  
BELLA  
Joyce Braaten  
BELLA & ZEUS  
Kristin Mosher  
BIANCA  
Regina Lafond  
BLAZE, SHILO & SKEETER  
Susan & John Menart  
BUDDY  
Peter & Donna Sosnowski  
CALVIN  
Maureen Wick  
CRICKET  
Kitty Harvey  
COCO  
Matthias Wappes  
COCO PUFF  
Judy O'Day  
COOPER  
Shirey Baker  
DAHLIA  
Shirley Jezierski  
DAISY  
Debra Hill  
ELEANOR  
Donald Casina

EVIE  
Jewel & Paul Gruwell  
FRANKIE  
Richard & Vickie Carter  
FUZZ & PATCHES  
Karen Hansen  
GABBY  
Norma Prosser  
GABBY & GUS  
Tammy Townsend  
GRACIE & MOLLY  
Kathy Anderson  
GRAHAM & GRACIE  
Sharon Scott  
HEIDI  
Bonnie Sisto-Higbee  
HONEY  
Martin & Laura Glorvigen  
ISABELLE  
Jan & Dale Jones  
JASMINE  
Brian Block  
KORBY  
Jeff & Laurie Josephson  
LOKI  
Ann Glumac  
LUCKY  
Gloria Oja  
MANDY CAT  
Gayle Salmela  
MILLIE  
Sue Soderholm  
MUDDY & SCOOPY  
Margaret & Paul Scinocca  
MURPHY  
Carrie & Lynn Sordal  
NIKKI  
Anneka Kastelic  
NINJA  
Rich Carlson  
OLIVIA  
Marion Zbaracki  
PUDDY CAT  
Juananita Gilmore  
SAM  
Joseph Strauss  
SAMMEY  
Lynn & Wayne Iepak  
SHADOW & RUSTY  
Kathy Beecroft  
SONNY CORLEONE  
Helen Abbott  
SULLY  
Sue Slattery  
SUNNY  
Linda Trela  
SUSIE  
Tim & Lynette Carlson  
TONY  
Jack Schade

**IN HONOR OF RESCUE**

BOOKER TREE SERVICE  
Marla Levitt

**IN HONOR OF MARRIAGE**

MARTY ANDERSON &  
MARY DAILEY  
Bruce & Rhonda Holmen

**IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY**

CARLEEN HEMINGGER  
Connie Saaristo



# ADOPTING A CHALLENGING PET



***Cuddling with Mom makes everything better***

cost us so much. Dollars. Stress. Time. Disruption. An emergency vet visit on Memorial Day meant holiday plans and \$400 gone. Our backyard fence had to be replaced with something strong enough to keep out the Walking Dead.

We're lucky we can do this. A couple of years ago with sons still at university, we would have scratched Ronan's floppy ears, fended off his licks and bid him a sad goodbye.

Ronan should hate vets. Nope. Ronan forgets the pokes and pain. He bounds in, shakes the walls with his woofs and licks any staff member he can.

I want to tell you that all challenging pets are worth it. I want this to be a movie like Lady and the Tramp. It's not. We don't know if we'd adopt Ronan if we knew what was ahead. Ronan



***A champion couch potato***

Challenging pets can be worth it. Ronan is. He's over 100 lbs. now yet tries to be a lapdog. Ronan's barks are terrifying yet our friend's Yorkshire Terrier bosses him around. Ronan drags home every fallen branch in the neighborhood. Or eats them. We caught him eating all the birdseed in the backyard last week. Our family simply can't imagine life without Ronan (except the day he filched a blueberry pie off the counter, dragged it into the living room and ate it on the carpet).

If you're interested in a wonky cat or dog on AnimalAllies.net, there's no checklist to help you decide if you should adopt. I can only offer this advice: If you or your family can cope with nasty surprises and still have love at the end of the day, you can give a challenging pet the home it deserves.

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## AN EXCEPTIONAL NEWBIE

Elise Harriman has been around dogs most of her life. Her dad is a K9 Officer with the City of Superior Wisconsin, so she has been exposed to dogs with strong personalities and has learned training techniques in handling and obedience from watching her dad.

Elise came to Animal Allies as a Youth Allies Summer Camp Counselor. Nicole Facciotto, our Humane Education Manager, noticed Elise's natural talent right away and encouraged her to become a Dog Buddy.

Elise went through Dog Buddy training this summer and quickly climbed the ranks to a Level 2 Dog Buddy, and then a Level 3!

This exceptional young lady has some real talent and we are thrilled to have her on board here at Animal Allies!



# SAVE A LIFE BECOME AN ANIMAL ALLIES MEMBER



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*Animal Allies Humane Society does not sell or give contact information to any other organization.*

## Payment Method

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed

- Check or Cash  
 Credit card  
 VISA     MasterCard     Discover

ACCT # \_\_\_\_\_

CVV \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- I'd like to join other supporters who have made gifts of appreciated stock. Please contact me with the Animal Allies account and DTC numbers. I prefer to be reached by \_\_\_\_\_

You can also **Access Transfer Information** online at [animalallies.net/give](http://animalallies.net/give) then click on the **Give Stock** button

Create your legal will at [freewill.com/animalallies](http://freewill.com/animalallies).

## Thank you for your donation

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of Person, name \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of Person, name \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of Pet, name \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of Pet, name \_\_\_\_\_

## Send acknowledgment to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership levels

- Miriam Carlstedt Society - Animal Lover**  
**\$400 Monthly\* / \$5,000 Annually**  
 This level provides spay/neuter services for all the animals in our shelter for one month.
- Animal Champion**  
**\$250 Monthly\* / \$3,000 Annually**  
 This level provides extra care for an animal to treat ailments such as heartworm, specialty surgical procedures, medical conditions or broken bones.
- Animal Hero**  
**\$80 Monthly\* / \$1,000 Annually**  
 This level provides in-house dental procedures for 4 shelter dogs.
- Animal Angel**  
**\$40 Monthly\* / \$500 Annually**  
 This level spays/neuters a mother and her litter of 6 puppies.
- Animal Protector**  
**\$20 Monthly\* / \$250 Annually**  
 This level provides food for 4 dogs for one month at the shelter.
- Animal Friend**  
**\$10 Monthly\* / \$100 Annually**  
 This level vaccinates 10 dogs against disease.
- Animal Rescuer - \$60 Annually**  
 This level provides our life saving transport van with a tank of gas.
- Animal Ally - \$30 Annually**  
 This level microchips 3 pets to help them return home should they become lost
- Student/Senior - \$25 Annually**  
 This level feeds a mother and her 7 kittens for one week.

## All Members Receive:

- 10% off Adoption Fees
- 10% Retail Discount
- 10% off Humane Education Activities
- Continued Subscription to *The Paw Print*
- 2021 Membership T-shirt
- "Third Thursdays" Membership Appreciation Day  
*Save 20% on adoption fees and retail purchases.*

## \*Become a Monthly Sustaining Member!

For more information, or to become a Sustaining Member, visit [www.animalallies.net/member](http://www.animalallies.net/member) or call (218) 722-5341 Ext.214



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Duluth, MN 55811

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Be the first to know! Sign up for email notifications on our website or follow us on Facebook to learn about exciting events and adoption promotions!



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Muriel Whiteside and the trustees of the Muriel Whiteside Charitable Trust who provide a generous annual gift to help the homeless cats and dogs we serve. We are humbled by the ongoing support and could not achieve our mission without you. Thank you!

