



# Humanely Speaking

## Bangor Humane Society Newsletter

### Winter 2018

#### Features

New Year, *Your* Impact

Your 2017 Happy Tails

You Made 2017 a Great Year

*Help Us Reach Our 2018  
Life-Saving Goals*

*Inside: Donor Survey*

#### In Every Issue

*From the Director*

*Ask the Vet*

*Shelter Highlights &  
Upcoming Events*

*Our Guiding Principles*

#### Our Mission

The Bangor Humane Society champions the humane treatment and adoption of companion animals, provides quality care for homeless pets, and promotes animal welfare through education and advocacy.

Bangor Humane Society  
693 Mt. Hope Ave.  
Bangor, ME 04401  
207.942.8902  
[www.bangorhumane.org](http://www.bangorhumane.org)  
License # F136



Visit us on Facebook!



*BHS is proud to  
feed our pets  
Hill's Science  
Diet food!*

Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.



## New Year, *Your* Impact

Thanks to support from friends like you, nearly 2,700 animals were saved in 2017.

Because of *you*— our donors, our volunteers, our adopters, and our community partners—we were able to meet important goals in 2017 that continue to drive our life-saving mission forward.

Together, animals that desperately needed medical attention, rehabilitation and second chances received the quality care they deserved and found their way into new hearts and families.

You help us change the lives of every human and every animal that comes to our doors.

You help us create families. You grant new beginnings. And you inspire us to move forward.

Thousands more will need our help in 2018 — that's where you come in!

This newsletter edition highlights some of

the amazing stories you've helped us write happy endings for last year. It also outlines our goals and vision for 2018.

At the center of our vision is you. This year, we want to inspire *you*. Please help us give your gift a voice by completing and returning the enclosed survey.

We want to know what you find most important about our work, what inspires you to give, and how you feel we can do better.

Whether you supported us last year with a monetary gift, by volunteering or adopting one of our guests into your home, we hope you will celebrate with us as you read about some of the amazing lives you touched in 2017.

As you have helped us prove year after year, the animal-human bond effects us all in incredible ways. Therefore, as we embark on a new year, we hope you will join us to help us deliver a greater impact to both the humans and animals in our community that need us. ■

## From the Director



Every year we strive to advance animal welfare and to improve the lives of the animals in our community— whether from our own backyard or across state lines. But, we don't do it alone. The collaborations and partnerships that we build with you— our supporters, our donors, our volunteers, our adopters, our fellow animal welfare advocates — are the reason we can achieve our goals and save more lives every year.

As we look back on some of our amazing happy tails and accomplishments of 2017, I want to thank you. I celebrate each and every one of you that believe so deeply in the work that we do, that

it moved you to action in 2017— to donate, to adopt, to volunteer, to collect shelter items for our guests, or to participate in one of our events.

Made possible because of friends like you, we launched an out-of-state transport program to bring dogs from overcrowded shelters in the Southern United States to be matched with new families in Maine. Through transport, we also helped nearly 20 shelter dogs from Texas find homes in Maine so displaced pets from Hurricane Harvey could be reunited with their owners. We are investing in harder medical cases, like some of our featured happy tails, to deliver the specialized care these special pets need in order to be adopted by a new family.

We collaborated with shelters across the region and nation to save every life we could. We welcomed more adopters into our extended family.

But as we set our vision ahead on 2018, I ask you to remember that while we have said goodbye to 2017, many more animals still need us, which means, we still need *you*.

Please help me give your gift a voice by completing our first donor survey and telling me what will inspire you to be moved to action in 2018— to donate, to volunteer, to adopt, or to advocate.

As we strive to lead animal welfare initiatives in our community through our collaborations, I ask you to lead with us. Please give. And please give your gift a voice that will continue to drive our life-saving mission forward.

Sincerely, 

## Donations Help Save Animals Like Mistro



For those who want to help us provide care to our animals all year long, our Kennel Sponsor Program and Golden Paw Society allow you to do just that. It's easy and makes a big impact.

Monetary gifts help save the lives of animals like Mistro, who was homeless, starving, sick and in pain when he arrived at our doors. He received weeks of medical care and staff attention. Your Kennel Sponsorship or Golden Paw Society donation, which can be paid monthly or annually, saves sweet dogs and cats, like Mistro, ensuring that they'll receive the immediate and ongoing care they need during their shelter stay with us.

Visit [bangorhumane.org](http://bangorhumane.org) to learn more.



## Hours of Operation

Monday — Friday: 12:00 p.m.— 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday 10:00 a.m.— 6:00 p.m.

## Board of Directors 2017-2018

Lani Naihe, President  
Buddy Angst, Vice-President  
Bob Williams, Treasurer  
Susan Reisman, Secretary  
Amy Faircloth, Past President  
Patricia Bixel  
Earl Black  
David Cloutier, DVM  
Meaghan Duffey  
John Kenney  
Russ Maynard  
Jeff Russell

## Our Staff

*Executive Director*  
Suzan Prendergast

*Shelter Operations Manager*  
Chris Young

*Director of Development & Public Relations*  
Stacey R. Coventry

*Bookkeeper/Office Manager*  
Sheila Knapp

*Adoption Counselors*  
Alicia, Bethany, Biz, Julia, Alissa, Chelsea, Ashley

*Animal Technicians*  
Alicia, Roxanne, Stacey, Sarah

*Veterinary Technician*  
Allen Batchelder, LVT

*Foster Care & Volunteer Coordinator*  
Katelyn Murphy

*Animal Care Coordinator*  
Sam Carruth

# Your 2017 Happy Tails

By: Stacey R. Coventry

## A Rescue for a Hero



Photo Credit: Three Beas



Nyx, a 2 year old Shepherd Mix, was brought to BHS from the Maine Animal Welfare Department for extreme neglect. When she arrived, she was malnourished and Lyme positive.

Because of you, Nyx received the veterinary care she needed and was able to be placed into a new home through our Pets 4 Farmer Vets Program. Healthy and happy, this summer she was adopted by a veteran who had been long searching for a canine companion. Together they completed obedience training and regularly debate the age old shelter adage, "Who Rescued Who?"

## Building a Barn Squad

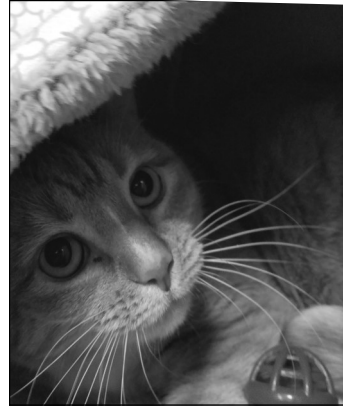


In 2017, your support helped us place 50 felines through our Barn Buddy adoption program.

Thanks to adopters like Megan Tewhey, who has adopted nearly 10 of our Barn Buddies, we have been able to give more special residents a second chance.

Many of the Barn Buddies Megan has adopted have also had special needs, which she is able to manage as she is a licensed veterinary technician at Penobscot Veterinary Services. Our Barn Buddies adopters, like Megan, understand that these cats need a warm, safe place to live outdoors where they have the freedom to move in and out of varying weather elements as well as have daily food and water and annual veterinary exams provided to them.

## A Quiet Retreat for Darla



Darla was a special resident at BHS twice during 2017. Darla, an extremely shy feline, did not adapt easily to the stressful confines of a shelter kennel or a busy household. During both stays with us, it took several months to find Darla a match. While she waited to be adopted, we provided her with respite and special enrichment to ease her stress.

Your generosity helped provide her with a comfortable, temporary place to stay for as long as she needed. In November, Darla's purrrfect adopter came along; a single human with a quiet household that had no other pets. We're told she's settling in well.

## Third Time's a Charm for Dixie

Finding a perfect match for every animal in our care is more of an art than a science. Sometimes it takes us a try or two (or more) to find our shelter guests the right new home.

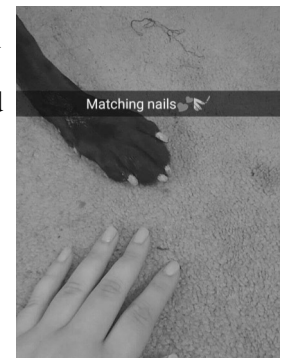


Photo Credit: Three Beas

Dixie was surrendered to us because she wasn't adjusting well to the new baby in the home. A typical energetic, goofy black lab, she attracted a lot of adoption suitors. She was placed twice into new homes with families that couldn't keep up with her energy and couldn't manage her quirky personality traits.

Finally, a young teenager named Mara and her family proved that sometimes the third time's a charm. A recent update told us that Dixie is successfully settling into her new home and is never more than a few steps behind her girl, Mara. We are also told she is being treated like the princess she deserves to be.

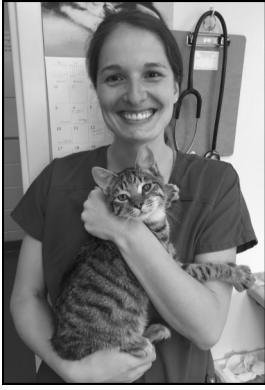
The ongoing generosity of donors like you gives guests like Dixie a space in our shelter for as many days or times it takes to find them a new home.



Continued on page 5



## Ask the Vet



*Dr. Laura Tardiff, DVM  
Veazie Veterinary Clinic*

### COLD WEATHER TIPS FOR COMMUNITY CATS

This winter has been very cold with lots of snow, wind, rain and ice. We have to make sure we are remembering to think about the animals that live outside, especially the feral cat population, and how we can help them survive these below zero temperatures.

*Here are some tips for providing the best chances during these extreme circumstances for those cats:*

- When trying to find shelter from the snow, wind and rain many cats crawl under the hood of cars. It is best to bang on the hood of your car, or honk your horn, before starting your car.
- If there are feral cats living in your neighborhood then you may want to put together a shelter for them. These can be made out of many materials you may already have. Using a Rubbermaid storage bin (with Styrofoam as insulation) or a foam cooler you can create a safe, warm and dry place of these cats to rest. There are also options for buying heated cat shelters and/or heated cat beds online.
- Providing food and water can save the lives of these outdoor/feral cats. Do not put water in the shelter because it will spill easily and cause the bedding to freeze. It is best to make two shelters, one for the cat, and another one very close by containing the food and water. Insulated, or solar-powered water dishes are available to keep the water from freezing.

### WINTER INDOOR PLAY FOR PETS

A lot of us, and even our dogs, experience ‘cabin fever’ this time of year. Since it is hard to tire our dogs out physically without their regular amount of exercise during the winter we can shift gears and work on using their brains! It is amazing how much using their brain, through playing fun games, training and enrichment, can really tire them out, strengthen the human- animal bond and teach them new tricks.

- (1) There are many food and puzzle toys (like Kongs) that will make a dog think and use their brain to figure out how to get food or treats out of them. By feeding them or giving them treats this way it causes them to slow down while eating, and to be more engaged and mentally stimulated while eating.
- (2) The crinkling of an empty water bottle can be very fun and entertaining for a dog to play with. You can put the water bottle in an old sock to make it more like a toy or cut holes and add treats for them to retrieve. You can do the same thing with an empty paper towel roll.
- (3) It is recommended to have a rotation of toys (whether new or old) to help keep your pets interested in and excited for play.
- (4) Hiding food throughout the house can stimulate the hunting instinct of indoor cats and it can also be engaging for dogs as well. This “Find It” game can be fun to play with your dog if you hide food in one of several empty boxes or under one of multiple Frisbees and make them sniff out which one the food/treats are under. ■

*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*



## Shelter Highlights & Upcoming Events



Haven and 13 other BHS canine guests were featured onstage for our 6th Annual Partnership with **Penobscot Theater** during their holiday performances of *Beauty and the Beast*. Thank you!

*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*



Thank you **Diversified Ink** who hosted a fundraiser for us in January raising over \$4,600 for us!



This year, in lieu of gifts to each other and from other people, Chad and Kristen Stanley asked family, friends, and coworkers to instead collect items from our wish list for Christmas. They got everything we asked for on our wish list! Thank you Chad and Kristen and to all of you who donated this holiday season, making it merry and bright for our guests!

**SAVE THE DATES!**  
**Rabbit & Friends 101**  
**March 17th**



**SATURDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 29TH**  
on the Bangor Waterfront  
<http://support.bangorhumane.org/pawsonparade>

*Visit our website and Facebook for more details*

Continued from page 3

## Macy's Special Gift



When Macy was surrendered to BHS, our staff were told that the seven-year-old black golden doodle had a special gift. She arrived underweight, Lyme positive, and in need of a good grooming, but Macy also knew American Sign Language (ASL). Knowing this, the staff felt Macy's best match would be a hearing impaired owner who could benefit from Macy's skill.

Meanwhile, the Ouellette family had been looking for a dog for their 19-year-old daughter. She was going to be living on her own for the first time and she also happened to be hearing impaired. She had been approved to have a service dog in her new apartment, but she was yet to find a canine companion that could be trained in ASL. When they heard Macy's story featured on Pet of the Week segment they contacted BHS staff to set up a visit. Upon meeting, the Ouellettes knew that Macy was going to be a wonderful companion. They clicked right away. Today Macy knows seven different ASL commands and has been inseparable from her new owner ever since she brought her home.

Your support creates new families and facilitates life-long bonds that enrich the lives of both humane and canine alike.

## A Healing Touch

One of our most valuable human resources is our volunteers. Every single volunteer who walks dogs, cleans kennels or fosters makes a huge impact on our mission. But, volunteers like Stephen Kazmierczak, who bring a unique set of skills, provide an impact that is immeasurable. Soon to retire from a local car dealership after a 25



Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.

year career, Stephen has been pursuing a lifelong passion to become a pet massage therapist. To complete his internship hours, he chose to offer his talent to our shelter dogs to help them destress during their stay. When an adopter visits with an animal after its relaxed through massage, they can show their best selves and let their true personality shine.

## Homebound!



Photo Courtesy of the ASPCA

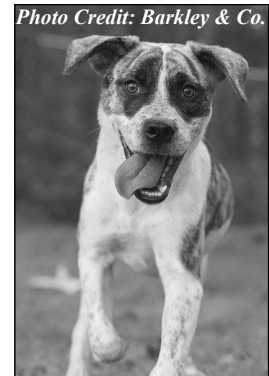


Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.

Last year, in addition to our ongoing relationship with RoadTrip Home Rescue out of Georgia, we began a transport partnership with the ASPCA and the Greater Androscoggin Humane Society to bring dogs from overcrowded shelters in Southern shelters to Maine.

Additionally, after Hurricane Harvey hit Texas, nearly 20 shelter dogs from Coastal Texas that were already in search of new homes before the hurricane, made their way to Maine in order to make room for displaced pets in hopes to reunite them with their owners in post hurricane relief efforts.

Because of your support over 90 dogs from Southern shelters were adopted in to new Maine homes in 2017 through our shelter, not only saving more lives but allowing us to help a community in need during post disaster relief efforts.

## Big Hearts for Small Animals

Friends like you helped us find homes for 158 small animals last year.

When you make a gift it also supports our humane education efforts, like our Rabbit 101 workshop that we hosted in March.

It also ensures that every one of our rabbit guests are spayed or neutered at one of our local veterinary partners before adoption. ■



Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.

# You Made 2017 a Great Year!



## 2,774

**Animals Served by BHS during 2017**



## 2,698

Total Lives Saved



## 1,386

Rabies shots administered

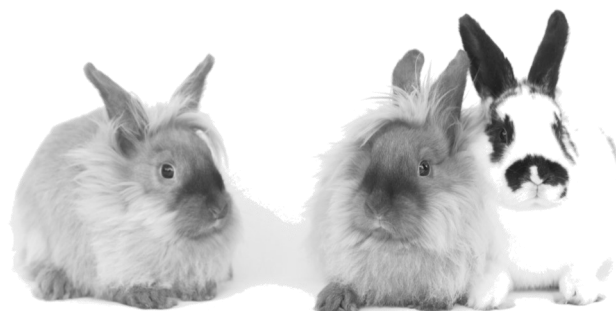


*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*



## 1,385

Spay/Neuter Vouchers Distributed



*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*



**1,562**  
Spay/Neuter Surgeries

**IMPACT:**

**1,562** animals spayed/neutered

**X 14** average puppies/kittens  
per unaltered animal per year

---

**21,868** fewer potential homeless animals  
from unwanted births



**220**  
Youth Served through  
Humane Education &  
Outreach



**70**  
New Volunteers



*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*



**310**  
Furry Lives Saved  
from Foster Care



*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*

**\$80,000**  
Raised from  
Paws on Parade



**\$107,500**  
In Grant Awards



## Help Us Reach Our 2018 Life-Saving Goals

- Partner with community canine trainers to meet the behavioral needs of our canines.
- Upgrade our office technology to increase workplace efficiency.
- Focus our outreach efforts by strengthening the community's relationship to us and our animals through innovative onsite outreach programming.
- Expand our canine transport out-of-state partnerships.
- Purchase an agency transport vehicle to meet the capacity of expanded transports.
- Partner with the Community Spay/Neuter Clinic to help support an ongoing mobile Spay/Neuter program in the Greater Bangor Region.
- Recruit more Foster Parents and volunteers to fill niche roles like: transport drivers (local, regional and out of state), targeted enrichment, and feline photography.
- Strengthening our internal staff capacity through employee wellness initiatives and staff training and development.
- Expand Team Involvement in Paws on Parade and our Major Donor Society (annual giving \$1000+).



## Our Guiding Principles

- **Treat** all animals and people with respect, dignity and integrity.
- **Work** diligently to end companion animal overpopulation by increasing awareness of spay and neuter programs.
- **Promote adoption** of physically and mentally healthy companion animals.
- **Educate and train caretakers** to develop fulfilling and lifelong relationships with their companion animals.
- **Serve as responsible stewards** of our resources.
- **Hold ourselves to the highest standards** of safety, care and cleanliness.
- **Raise public awareness** with regard to the humane treatment of all animals.
- **Use euthanasia** only as a last humane option when in the best interest of an animal.



*Photo Credit: Barkley & Co.*

Thank you for  
your support!