



## BLUE EARTH NICOLLET COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

July 2015



### **Please Do Not Disturb**

Have you ever wondered why the parking lot at Riverside Regional Pet Shelter is full of cars, but the doors are locked? Have you been disappointed to have an answering service pick up your call to the shelter rather than hearing the voice of a staff person or volunteer?

There are times during the week when we politely have to ask the public "Please Do Not Disturb." That's because we are busy preparing shelter animals for their move to forever homes. In order to give our dogs and cats the best possible care, we need to keep them on a regular schedule for feeding, cleaning, exercise, and medical care. Our dedicated staff strives to complete these tasks efficiently each day, but budget limits determine how many hours they may work. For that reason, we simply have to keep our doors closed for part of the day.

The public is welcome to visit for adoptions Thursday through Saturday. Beginning August 2, additional adoption hours will be added on Sunday.

If you are unable to visit us during our regular adoption hours and would like to visit one of our dogs or cats, please email us at [rps@hickorytech.net](mailto:rps@hickorytech.net) or call the shelter at (507) 625-6373 and leave a message requesting an appointment. If you call, please leave your email address with the operator. Meetings with the management team may also be scheduled based on staff availability.

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Please be considerate and respect the hours the shelter is open to the public. "Please Do Not Disturb" simply means we are busy providing the best care possible to the animals temporarily living in the shelter.

Thanks!

### SHELTER HOURS

Adoption Hours Thurs - Sat 2 -6 pm  
Beginning Aug. 2 Sun 1-3 pm



### Painless Giving

Would you like to make a donation to BENCHS using someone else's money?

Watch for information in our newsletters, website and Facebook page for ideas.

First in the series: **AmazonSmile**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support BENCHS every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to BENCHS.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

BENCHS received 5% of the purchase price of every Amazon purchase that is eligible. Look for this symbol when shopping:

Eligible for  donation.



### Sponsor A Pet

If you've fallen in love with a pet at the shelter, but adoption isn't an option, please consider sponsoring them. A sponsorship also makes a great gift for that pet lover who has everything! Sponsorships have been

### Past Events

#### ◆ Old Town Art Fair

**\$1,007**

#### ◆ ArtSplash

**\$120**

#### ◆ Air Show

**\$885**

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked concessions to help raise money for BENCHS. Our volunteers are the best.

#### ◆ Garage Sale

**\$17,595 as of  
7/20/15**



Friday

Thanks to all the volunteers who spent hours and hours making this event so successful.



Sunday @ 4:30pm



### Upcoming Events

given in honor of birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries. For your donation of \$30 or more, you will receive a photo of your favorite shelter animal, a certificate of appreciation and the knowledge that you have helped the pet who stole your heart. Click here to donate: [Special Funds](#)  
If you prefer a form you can print and mail, [Click Here](#), download the form on the right side of the page and print.



## Priceless Cats

We're happy to report that all but one of our Priceless Cats have moved from the shelter to their new forever homes. Hadley is a one year old Japanese Bobtail. She came to us as a stray. The perfect home for her would be one where she was the only pet. Japanese Bobtails are typically deaf and this is true for Hadley as well. So small children and other pets may upset her when they try to interact with Hadley.



## Summer Pet Safety

Summer is a terrific time to be a dog owner. It lets you run, swim, and play with your dog in nicer weather than any other time of the year. However, summer also brings unique risks to your pet's health that you should keep in mind throughout the season. These summer dangers include:

### 1. Heat stroke

Heat stroke occurs when your pet's body temperature rises dangerously high. It is most common when pets are left in a car for too long.

Heat Stroke Symptoms: [Cats](#) [Dogs](#)

### 2. Sunburn

Dogs and cats can burn in the sun just like people can. To prevent sunburn, apply a waterproof sunscreen formulated for babies or pets. Be sure to cover the tips of your pet's ears and nose, the skin around its mouth, and its back.

### 3. Burned foot pads

Sidewalks and other surfaces can burn your pet's footpads. Press your hand onto a surface for 30 seconds to test it before allowing your pet to walk on it.

### 4. Dehydration

## ► Bark in the Park July 28 Franklin Rogers Park

Buy tickets at the shelter

## ► Barnes & Noble Book Fair August 29 & 30

Benefit the shelter by shopping any Barnes & Noble store or online.

Watch the website for details

## ► The Great ArfWalk Festival Sept. 26

Land of Memories Park

## ► Give to the Max Day Nov. 12

## ► MSU Pucks for Paws Hockey Raffle

Date to be determined



## □ Vital Statistics

June Adoptions

Cats & Kittens - 12  
Dogs & Puppies - 25



## □ SuperKids

Thank you to Tabitha V. who donated the money she made at her lemonade stand to BENCHS.



Prevent dehydration by providing your pet with access to fresh and cool water both indoors and outside.

**5. Campfires and barbecues**

Keep your dog away from barbecues and campfires unless it is on a very short leash. Burning sticks, food stuck to barbecues and lighter fluid are all hazardous to your dog.

Keep alcoholic beverages away from pets. Similarly, remember that the snacks enjoyed by your human friends should not be a treat for your pet as they may cause severe digestive ailments.

**6. Fireworks**

Some fireworks look like sticks, which makes your dog think that they are toys. The loud noises and sudden flash of fireworks can disorient and startle your dog.

**7. Parasites**

Ticks, fleas, mosquitoes, flies, and other insects are at their peak during the summer months. Talk to your veterinarian about appropriate protection such as collars, sprays, shampoos, dips, and other products.

**8. Chemicals in the water**

It is no secret that most dogs love to swim. However, chlorine can irritate a dog's skin and upset its stomach. Standing water, such as puddles, can also be dangerous for dogs to drink due to the presence of antifreeze or other chemicals. Provide your dog with fresh water whenever possible.

**9. Seasonal allergies**

Mold and other potential allergens are common during summer. Keep your pet away from allergy triggers when possible, especially if you know it has a particular allergy.

**10. Getting lost**

Take care when traveling with your pet during the summer to prevent it from becoming lost in unfamiliar surroundings. A collar with a contact information tag should be considered the minimum safety precaution. Microchip your pet if you desire more reliable identification.

Excerpt from [www.cesarsway.com](http://www.cesarsway.com)

More summer safety hints at:

[ASPCA](#) [Petfinder](#) [WebMD](#)



**Kitten Shower Donors**

Thank you to:  
Tami Bergemann  
Kathleen Felt  
Laurie Lloyd  
Cathy Rieff

Survival Kits are now available for our orphan kittens.



**Painless Giving**

[AmazonSmile](#)

Received in 2015 - \$45.27

[WoofTrax](#)

[Thrivent Financial](#)

Received in 2015 - \$69



**Apply to Volunteer**

**Great ArfWalk Festival**

Looking for people interested in working on committees to organize this event. Contact [Susan](#)

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**Paws for A Photo**

Last year this event raised over \$2000 for the shelter. If you are interested in setting up this online fundraiser, contact [Susan](#)

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**Dog Walkers**



## Happy Tails

### Anana

We were called to rescue Anana from eight years at the end of a chain on a cold day last winter. Her teeth were worn down from gnawing at the chain day in and day out. She carried signs all over her body of abuse by man, animals, and the weather. "Please take her off that chain and give her to me," Jean Parker of LightShine Canine Dog Rescue implored the family. And they did.



Anana was called to inspire all who came in contact with her since the day she was rescued. In dogs like Anana we can see all that we could ever hope to be. Grace and forgiveness were offered at every turn. She was able to trust the human animal again and relished that trust. Anana loved without hesitation. A wagging tail on an abused dog can show us how to move on into love.

**Note from BENCHS staff:** Anana passed away on June 19th from cancer. She had an incredible family within the shelter walls and was adored by the amazing family who adopted her. She lived a lifetime of love during her last year on this earth and will never be forgotten!

Anana's story has not only reached people all over the U.S. but also in the United Kingdom, South Africa and Columbia. A counselor has asked if she can share her story with the abused kids she works with. Amazing.

#### **Note from: Traci and Matt (Anana's parents)**

Traci and I are amazed by all the lives Anana has touched, including our own. We've experienced a lifetime of highs and lows in the nine short weeks we were Anana's parents. We are so sad and devastated by her loss but wouldn't trade it for the world. She was such a good girl with a strong spirit and a huge capacity for love and forgiveness as well as the ability to trust again after all she had been through. The house seems so quiet now but I know she's still here in spirit. I want everyone to know she went peacefully, surrounded by people who loved her. She fought hard and lived life to the fullest. After her surgery, it was such a joy watch her playing fetch, wrestling, and most importantly running! When we got her home from having the stitches removed we took her to the back yard and she ran, grinning ear to ear! We will always love her and she will forever have a piece of our hearts. Thanks to everyone at LightShine and BENCHS and to all the kind words spoken of Anana. It means so much to

Volunteers are need to take the training to become Certified BENCHS dog walkers. Summer dog walking hours are 3:30 - 6:00pm, Sunday - Wednesday. [Apply to Volunteer](#) and we will notify you when the next training session is scheduled.



### Donate

#### Shelter Wish List

- Gently used washcloths
- Bleach
- Laundry Detergent
- Hefty Drawstring 30 gal garbage bags
- Gallon zipper plastic bags

[Become a Member of BENCHS](#)

[Kibble Klub Sustaining Membership](#)

[Special Funds](#)

[Make a Contribution](#)



#### **Note from the Board of Directors**

Welcome to Sue Paulson, who is the new Board Secretary.

The Board generally meets the 1st Monday of each month at 5 pm in the Apollo Room at the shelter. Our meetings are open to the public.

know that so many people cared for her.

I'd like to thank Laurel at BENCHS for making the incredible videos of Anana. She will be a dog that made a lasting impression on everyone that met her.

RIP Anana. [Read more](#) and watch the videos.

Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society

Happily at home at 1250 North Drive, Mankato, MN • 507.625.6373

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<https://smile.amazon.com/>