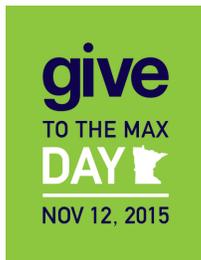




BLUE EARTH NICOLLET COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

October 2015



Give to the Max Day November 12

Give to the Max Day is 17 days away.

Each year, generous supporters like you celebrate Give to the Max Day by making an online donation on GiveMN.org. Your generosity on this day makes a difference far beyond the 24-hour giving event.

This has been an expensive year for BENCHS with veterinary costs of \$94,000, almost double what they were last year. Every day dogs and cats come to us with unique medical needs and we make it our goal to get them healthy so they can be adopted and find homes with loving families. We are fortunate to have so many generous givers at this time of year and have an even larger amount pledged as matching dollars for Give to the Max donations.

GiveMN offers **Golden Tickets** as an incentive to donors. Each hour on Give to the Max day, one Golden Ticket of **\$1,000** will be awarded through a random drawing of all donations transacted online during the previous hour.

Additionally, two **Super-Sized Golden Tickets** of **\$10,000** each will be awarded. The first will be drawn randomly from all donations scheduled through GiveMN.org between 12:00 am November 1, 2015 and 11:59 pm on November 11, 2015. The second will be drawn randomly from all gifts transacted on November

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12, 2015.



Giving to BENCHS is easy. Donors can simply go online to GiveMN.org between Nov. 1 and Nov. 12, find [BENCHS](#), and make a donation. Donors

who would like to make their donation in person can come to the building on November 12 with cash, check or credit card and the board of directors of BENCHS will be there to thank them. Watch the website for more information about BENCHS Give to the Max Day activities. Please help us continue to care for the hundreds of animals we place in forever homes every year.



Kiwanis Holiday Lights

Once again, Benches will be participating in the Kiwanis Holiday Lights set up, staffing, and parade. This will be our third year taking part in this marvelous community tradition which takes place Friday Nov. 27 through Thursday, Dec. 31, 2015. We are seeking volunteers to set up the displays and staff the event during visiting hours each night. BENCHS will have a tree decorated in a long row of non-profit trees. Donations collected from guests are shared by the non-profits; the percentage earned is based on the amount of hours dedicated. Working on set up and helping during the event makes for a great holiday experience for the entire family.

Set up dates are Nov. 7, 8 & 15.

If you would like to volunteer, [click here](#) for more information and sign up. Or contact Susan at susan.kroon@gmail.com



Home for the Holidays

During the month of November, adult cats can be adopted for \$50.00 with an approved application. The original price is 100.00. There are so many beautiful cats waiting for forever homes!

[Donate](#)

[BENCHS Logowear](#)



Past Events

The Great ArfWalk Festival

Many thanks to our sponsors for supporting the 2015 Great ArfWalk held on Sat. September 26. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time.

Sponsors:

- Calpine
- Overhead Door
- Heinz Toyota
- Radon & Basement Solutions
- WEB Construction
- Kato Glass
- MN Valley Credit Union
- Nicollet Veterinary Clinic
- Mr. Monogram
- KEYC
- Digity Radio
- Z99 - KYSM - 105.5 The River
- 95.7 The Rock Station
- Dr. Gala Beckendorf
- SCC Culinary Arts students
- Mankato Independent Originals
- Nicollet Co. Sheriff Dept
- City of Mankato





Dr. Elin Ringstrom Memorial

On September 26, Dr. Elin Ringstrom, an emergency medicine doctor at Mayo Health System in Mankato and a strong BENCHS supporter, passed away after a brief battle with cancer. Her friends and family have created a fund in her memory to help BENCHS revitalize our surgical suite. You can read more about [Elin](#) and her passion for people and animals on our website.

Donations are being accepted online at [Dr. Elin Ringstrom Memorial Fund](#) or can be mailed to the the shelter - BENCHS, 1250 N. River Dr., Mankato MN 56001. Please note "Elin Ringstrom Memorial" on any checks. We are proud to name the surgical suite in Elin's memory.



BENCHS Holiday Bake Sale



Thank You, Downtown HyVee

Many thanks to HyVee for supporting BENCHS. Each donated bag contained food and toys for dogs or cats. This was the best promotion ever!



Upcoming Events

Kiwanis Holiday Light Set Up

Nov. 7, 8, or 15

[Volunteer Here](#)

Give to the Max Day November 12

In 2014, BENCHS raised \$27,906 on Give to the Max Day! Our goal for 2015 is \$45,000.

Watch you mailbox for more information.

Donations received

BENCHS has the best bake sales! True statement! Who ever heard of a bake sale raising more than \$1000? BENCHS Bake Sales do!

How can that be?

We have amazing supporters who bake the most delicious treats.

How can I help?

Glad you asked. **Our Holiday Bake Sale will be December 5 at Pet Expo.** Plan now to do some baking. Make your favorite cookie, bar, cake or bread etc. Then on Friday, December 4 bring your treats to Riverside Regional Pet Shelter between 11 am and 6 pm. You can also bake Friday night and stop at Pet Expo after 9 am on Saturday to drop off your fresh items.

Have the items packaged and wrapped securely. Some of that plastic wrap is tricky!

Label the food you bring. If you have brownies with walnuts, please write that on the label. If you have created a delicious gluten free cupcake, please let us know. Our shoppers are going to ask us so it will be great if you provide this information. Some people make copies of the recipe and tape it to the bottom of the plate. Great idea!

You do not need to price your items. The staff at the sale will take care of that for you.

And, tell all your friends to come and buy also. Every cent of this sale goes to taking care of the homeless cats and dogs at the shelter and we need your support.

So bake or buy or bake and buy! Tell everyone and we will have a great sale again!



Happy Tails

Every cat and dog at BENCHS has a story. We hope you enjoy some of the stories about animals that have been adopted this month.

Jasmine

About a month ago, the City of North Mankato Police

between from 11/1 - 11/12 will be eligible for the Magic Ticket drawings and available matching funds.



BENCHS Holiday Bake Sale

Dec 5
Pet Expo

Plant Sale

As you put your garden to bed this fall, think about the plants that you would like to donate to our annual plant sale next May.



Vital Statistics

September Adoptions

Cats - 24
Kittens - 24
Dogs - 12
Puppies - 1
Total - 61



We Need Your Story

If you have a story of what BENCHS has done to impact your life, please drop us a note. We need your stories to share our story! Stories may be mailed to BENCHS - Paws for News, 1250 N. River Drive, Mankato, MN 56001 or emailed to info@benchs.org.

Department called the shelter to ask for assistance with a dog. While they were on a welfare check, they found a deceased woman and a dog; the dog would not leave her side. Terri and Allison from BENCHS went to the home and with gentle coaxing, treats, and warm smiles, were able to bring the dog to the shelter. Because the family of the deceased woman could not take the dog, she was put up for adoption. Within a week, she was adopted and we are happy to report that she is doing well!



John Doe and Sadie



John Doe, a very active and funny cat who has been at the shelter a long time, and Sadie, a special needs dog, were both adopted by the same family. The family came in looking for a cat and when they indicated that they were also looking for a dog, specifically a dog that was hard to place, we introduced them to Sadie and they fell in love! John Doe and Sadie went to their forever home together.

Raleigh

Raleigh, a Staffordshire Terrier and one of our longest residents, finally found his forever home this month. When the family came in to meet him, he went right up to the man and put his head in his lap!



Painless Giving

[Amazon Smiles](#)

[WoofTrax](#)



[Apply to Volunteer](#)

Dog Walkers

Orientation Session at 3:30pm on dog walking days. All dog walkers are required to attend a session. Sign up for Dog Walker Training during orientation

Front Desk Receptionist

Scribe

Work with staff to enter data into our ShelterManager database during animal intake.

Cleaners

Yard Work, Snow Removal

Check "Groundskeeping/Gardening" on the volunteer interest form



Donate

[Become a Member of BENCHS](#)

Membership - \$35 individual/family

[Kibble Klub Sustaining Membership](#)

Sustaining members begin at \$10 per month

[Special Funds](#)

Sponsor a Pet Spay/Neuter Fund



Pauley

Pauley, one of the oldest cats at BENCHS, was adopted by one of our volunteers this month!

Vet & Vaccine Fund

[SOS - Save our Smiles](#)

Help cover the cost of dental care for our animals

[Make a Contribution](#)

Support the shelter with a donation or memorial



BENCHS Logowear

Did you miss your opportunity to order a T-shirt or sweatshirt with the BENCHS logo? No problem! We are planning on placing an order later in November. Just in time for your Christmas shopping needs. Watch your email and the website for an order form and information on new products that will be available.

Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society

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

www.benchs.org

