



BLUE EARTH NICOLLET COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

September 2016

What is BENCHS?

It's easy to think of BENCHS as a place. A place where homeless cats and dogs find love and shelter while waiting for new homes. But, we are also people and partnerships. We rely on our staff and volunteers to provide care, raise funds to pay for that care, and manage the business side of being a non-profit organization. We have found strength in partnering with other shelters and rescues. And have received support from local business and individuals. It is only with the time and financial commitment of all of these people, that BENCHS will be able to succeed in our goal of rescuing over 1,000 animals in 2016. So perhaps the question is not *What* is BENCHS?, but *Who* is BENCHS?

We hope you enjoy learning about a few of these partnerships and plan to participate in one or more of our upcoming events.

"If we are together nothing is impossible. If we are divided all will fail." Winston Churchill.



Partners in Rescue



Texas, and a few other states are in desperate need of help. They have shelters and impounds that are overcrowded and dogs who are on death row.

Diane Lucantonio lived in Texas for over twenty years and

In This Issue



[What is BENCHS?](#)

[Partners in Rescue](#)

[PAWS Walk for the Animals](#)

[Cool Cats and Hot Diggity Dogs](#)

[Hands on Sushi Class](#)

[Senorita](#)

[Happy Tails](#)

[Donate](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Vital Statistics](#)

[Treasury Notes](#)

[Painless Giving](#)

[Donate](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[The Texas Dogs](#)



[Donate](#)

recognized this need. When she moved to Mankato a few years ago, she saw the success the Northern states were having in placing dog. Diane sends reputable and no-kill shelters a resume and a letter of what she does. She is in constant contact with a Representative from each shelter or rescue in the Midwest that she chooses to partner with. In addition to masterminding the transporting of these dogs, Diane organizes funds to ensure each dog is vaccinated so it can be transported. She will only send dogs that have been approved to travel by a vet. The dogs are placed through networking and a list of which shelter has agreed to take on which dogs is prepared. In one transport dogs may go to 8 Midwest shelters/rescues. Diane has a partnership with a car dealership in Texas which provides the large vehicle to accommodate every transport. Diane's only pay for her work is the satisfaction she gets from saving lives.

When a dog is "tagged" by a specific rescue through Diane- then she networks to find the dog a foster home until the next transport date. The largest area of need is in the Corpus Christi area, where many dogs are displaced flood victims facing euthanasia at overcrowded shelters. Five of our current shelter dogs were struggling in being adopted at rural shelters where the adoption price is \$25.

BENCHS starting working with Diane several months ago and has already received 25-30 dogs from 3 of these transports. Terri Hanson, our Adoption Specialist, reserves a certain amount of kennels and chooses which dogs will come to BENCHS based on pictures and videos Diane shares with her of the dogs that are in the most danger. Volunteers have been a tremendous help. Two weeks ago we took in 11 dogs. Within an hour, ten volunteers responded on Facebook to a request for help. They assisted staff in providing baths, comfort and walks to the dogs that had just made the journey from Texas.

During this last transport, Diane was able to spend some time touring our shelter. She was extremely impressed.

Terri is interested in creating a special team of volunteers to help during monthly transports. If you are interested in helping, please contact Terri through Facebook. Make sure to include your cell phone number!



PAWS Annual Trick or Treat Walk for the Animals Oct. 8

[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
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



Upcoming Events

PAWS Trick or Treat Walk for Animals

Oct. 8
9:30 - 11:30am
Mill Pond Park
St. Peter

Is Your Pet The Star? Photo Contest

Oct 8 - Nov. 8
Online

Prizes- 1st Prize
Winning pet's 8 x 10 printed photo mounted on the lighted star on the BENCHS Xmas tree at Kiwanis Holiday Lights. January 1 the star

BENCHS will be partnering with PAWS by offering volunteers for the photo booth with great costumes for your pet as well as providing information about our programs and upcoming events. We'll also be kicking off our "Is Your Pet the Star?" photo contest.



PAWS (Providing Animals with Shelter) is dedicated to providing temporary shelter for lost or surrendered animals in the Saint Peter area until adoptive families can be found.

The walk takes place on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at Millpond Park in St. Peter. Registration begins at 9:30 AM and the walk takes place between 10:00-11:30. Pets and Humans are encouraged to dress up in costumes and at 11:45 prizes will be awarded for the best costumes and top fundraisers. In addition to the walk, there will be food, games, and entertainment at Millpond Park. Proceed. The proceeds from this fundraiser will benefit PAWS.



Cool Cats and Hot Diggity Dogs Volunteer Thank You Event Sunday October 16, 3:00pm

Did you hear about the "mystery donor" who recently left 400 twenty dollar bills in the donation bin at he Pasadena Humane Society? Obviously, the anonymous person with a "heart of gold" didn't want a thank you, but you can bet the staff (and animals) are certainly grateful for the \$8,000 gift.



Few people have the means to make such a generous one-time donation, but the combined generosity of many people giving their time and talents add up to equally sizeable gifts. Did you know, for example, that BENCHS has nearly 300

volunteers? Some are at the shelter every day, cuddling our cats, walking our dogs, or greeting our visitors. Others devote many hours tenderly fostering kittens and puppies. We also have volunteers who work a few hours at their favorite fundraising event, like the upcoming Musical Revue of the Fabulous '60s called "Cool Cats and Hot Diggity Dogs" on Sunday, October 16 at 3pm at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 222 Pfau St., Mankato.

This special event is a heartfelt way of thanking the

will be delivered to the pets human

2nd & 3rd prizes- Pet's 5 x 7 photo and mounted as ornament at the top of the Sibley park tree

Any pet that brings in \$25 will also have their photo be placed on the tree

More info at BENCHS events during the month of October.

Cool Cats and Hot Diggity Dogs

Volunteer Recognition Event

Sunday Oct. 16
Christ the King Lutheran Church
222 Pfau St.
3:00 PM

Fundraiser at Chipotle

Tuesday Oct. 18
4-8pm
1400 Warren St. Mankato

Tell the cashier that you are supporting BENCHS and a portion of your meal cost will be donated to the shelter.

Hands On Sushi Class

Friday Oct 21
6 - 9pm

Central Square Apartments
301 Washington St. Peter

hundreds of volunteers who make it possible for us to care for the nearly 1,000 animals that have come through our doors this year. Whether you are a BENCHS volunteer, or think you may help out in the future, you are sure to enjoy this musical extravaganza provided by XYZ Live. This theater group features performers at or above the age of 55 from the Greater Mankato Area. The show features groovy tunes from the 1960s. It's a fanciful tale of Flower Children on their way to San Francisco to recreate the 1967 Summer of Love but end up stranded and take shelter at BENCHS.

BENCHS volunteers receive a complimentary ticket to this outta sight performance. For everyone else, tickets are a mere \$10 (half a Jackson; a single Hamilton; less than .03% of the Pasadena donor's gift) and include delicious intermission desserts. Tickets are available on line at www.benchs.org, at the shelter after October 1, or at Christ the King one hour before the performance.

As they said in the '60s, this show is boss, groovy, hip -- in short, a gas. It'll blow your mind. You'll be bummed out if you miss it.



Hands on Sushi Class - Level 1 Friday October 21 6:00pm



SUSHI does not mean RAW fish or seafood. Let Sushi Bob teach you to become your own Sushi Chef. Impress your family and friends by learning the techniques necessary to prepare attractive, healthy, inexpensive and delicious MAKI ZUSHI (Sushi rolls) at home. This beginning class also covers Sushi rice preparation, food safety, knife skills and etiquette. This is a 3 hour "Hands On" class, so get ready to roll.

Bob Peterson, a trained Sushi Chef, has volunteered to teach Sushi classes for BENCHS. This is the Sushi Bob who donated Sushi parties for our Silent Auctions.

Our first class is **Friday, October 21 from 6-9pm at Central Square Apartments. 301 S. Washington Saint Peter, MN.** The fee for the class is \$50. Bob is donating his time and all the supplies for the class so the full registration fee can be used to help the BENCHS cats and dogs.

Register at www.benchs.org Class size is limited. Pre-registration is required.

\$50 fee
Registration is required
www.benchs.org

Give to the Max Day

Thursday Nov. 17
Check the October issue for BENCHS activities

Stay up to date on what's happening at the shelter on our website.

www.benchs.org



Vital Statistics

August Adoptions

Cats & Kittens - 45
Dogs & Puppies - 29
Total - 74



Treasury Notes

August Income Statement
Operations Income: \$17,697
Operations Expenses \$27,869
Net Income (Loss) (\$10,173)



Painless Giving

[Amazon Smiles](#)

Are you an Amazon addict?
Click the link above to register for Amazon Smile and 5% of your purchases will go to BENCHS.

[WoofTrax](#)

Add this app to your mobile phone, turn it on whenever



Senorita



This stunning beauty is Señorita! She was transferred from another shelter because they didn't have the resources to handle her disability. She was born deaf and is currently learning sign language! She understands the "sit" sign and we would love for her to master other signs such as "bed" and "stay". Deaf dogs can learn many many signs and she is extremely attentive to her handler. She is an absolute beauty, is fun loving and is a people pleaser. If you are interested in Senorita, please familiarize yourself with deaf dog basics and stop by and meet her! You're guaranteed to fall in love!



Happy Tails

Thanks to Terri Hanson for these great stories and pictures.

Miss Abby

Miss Abby went from a dangerous craigslist situation to a safe forever home today!



Joy



Joy (our longest resident of over 4 months) is off to school for a month! Lacey, family and friends helped raise funds to cover a little over 1/4th of the cost. That has helped us tremendously! She will be learning how to walk properly on a leash, have better reactions to other dogs and much more! Improvement in these areas will help her to become more adoptable. We are

you take a walk and BENCHS will receive a donation for every mile that you walk. Great for your, your dog and BENCHS.



Apply to Volunteer

Dog Walkers

Orientation Session at 3:15pm on dog walking days. All dog walkers are required to attend a session. Sign up for Dog Walker Training during orientation

Front Desk Receptionist

Data Entry

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

Last minute requests for volunteers are posted on [Facebook.](#)



The Texas Dogs



Amara arrived as part of the Sept. 10 transport from Texas.

She was scheduled to be



so thankful for this help and can't wait to update you all on her progress! Have fun at school Joy!

Nolan, Groot and Stacy



euthanized the day after she was selected to be transferred to us. She has found a new home!



Howard is a great boy. Sweet and very playful. He just loved to explore my backyard. If you lay on the ground he just smothers you with kisses and tries to lay on you. Thank you!!



Katie is

enjoying her new family



Herman and Humpry both have pending adoptions.

Blue Earth Nicollet County Humane Society

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

[Sign up to receive Paws for News e-newsletter](#)

Like us on Facebook 