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*Rescued by police, Duncan was referred to Pet Haven by Animal Control.*

## The Rebirth of Duncan

*By Patricia Johnson and Marilou Chanrasmi*

Neglected. Severely dehydrated and malnourished. Barely surviving in an approximately six-square-foot kennel strewn in filth, urine and feces. This is Duncan's life before a series of caring individuals stepped in to show compassion and provide a brighter future for this abandoned eight month old pitbull puppy.



Duncan was discovered during a Minneapolis police investigation at a Richfield apartment in late summer. Because of the appalling conditions, the concerned Minneapolis police officer alerted Richfield Animal Control. Animal Control removed Duncan, who was transported to an animal impound facility. It was determined that his condition was grave enough to require hospitalization and he was moved to a local veterinary clinic for treatment. Concerned about returning Duncan to the impound facility following his hospitalization, Richfield Animal Control supervisor Charlie O'Brien contacted Sally Morton, also an employee for the City of Richfield, to inquire about housing for Duncan once he was released. Thankfully Sally had previously shared with Charlie her association with Pet Haven of Minnesota as its vice president, and

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## Pet Haven's Inaugural Benefit A Runaway Success

*By Marilou Chanrasmi*

Pet Haven held its first annual Tuxes and Tails benefit on Saturday, October 13th, 2007 at the Millennium Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. The event was sold out with 207 attendees and raised \$14,000, which will go to our adoption, spay/neuter, education and advocacy programs. The evening festivities included a silent auction, full course meal, dog/cat fashion show presented by Lulu and Luigi, and emceed by Jill Cordes of petstyle.com, and concluded with music by local singer/songwriter Jane Plank.



Thirteen dogs and three cats each had their moment of fame as they were accompanied by local celebrities in the pet fashion show. Most of the animals in the fashion show were either Pet Haven adoptable animals, or recently adopted companions. Murphy, the one-eyed beagle, wore a hand-knit Peruvian sweater with a monkey design on the back, topped off with a Burberry plaid tie. Moxie, the 7 year old maltese, looked chic in her metallic plaid taffeta bubble dress. Bowser, the 25 pound cat, wore

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*Producer Keith of KS95 with his dog Roxy as they relax after the fashion show.*

## The Story of A Puppy Named Duncan

*Continued from page 1*

the organization's commitment to re-home dogs and cats into safe and nurturing environments. Sally connected Charlie to Paula Vest, dog adoption director of Pet Haven.

With skin and bones and listless eyes, Duncan was one of the worst cases of animal neglect the veterinarian had ever seen. As he received nutrition, fluids, and loving attention during his hospital stay, Duncan's future was still uncertain.

Within a few days, Duncan left the hospital during which time Animal Control posted notice at the apartment building of his seizure. Uncertain of the outcome, Sally hesitated placing Duncan with a foster parent, a temporary situation for both at best, if the owner were to step forward. And worse yet, there were no available foster homes knowledgeable about pitbulls. Paula, familiar with the breed and having two five-year-old pitbulls of her own, took him under her wing in early August. "He is adapting well," Paula says. Deprived puppies develop mentally at a slower rate. Potty training is still in progress along with house manners, and although they have some

bad days, overall Duncan is doing very well. He plays and plays and has his good days, she says. He has also put on weight and is a shadow of his former self and personality. Once he was barely surviving. Now he is thriving.



Paula describes the ideal adopter for Duncan- a responsible dog owner who would train him, socialize him, and be an ambassador for his breed. Passion and love are important, too. Not surprisingly, these are the very values that Pet Haven stands for, and the same compassion that these "lifesavers" have shown in the rebirth of a puppy named Duncan.

*After a few months of great food and loving care in his foster home, Duncan has recovered nicely and waits patiently for his forever family.*

## All Dogs Deserve a Fair Chance

*By Sheila Goeken*

If you own a Rottweiler, an Akita, a Chow Chow, a "pit bull," or a wolf hybrid next year at this time, you may be breaking the law. In the 2008 legislative session, Rep. John Lesch (D-St. Paul) plans to introduce a bill that would ban these five breeds of dogs from the state of Minnesota.

The threat of dangerous dogs has become an issue across the country. Many cities are resorting to similar breed-specific legislation (BSL) and are finding stiff opposition, as well as proponents, to making it illegal to own a certain breed of dog.

Here in Minnesota, the problem of dangerous dogs has made headline news in recent media accounts. According to a report by the Minnesota Department of Health published in July 2007, dog bites increased by 40 percent from 1998 to 2005. During this seven-year span, 849 people were hospitalized and 24,584 people were treated in emergency departments for dog-bite-related injuries. One dog-bite-related death was reported during this time. There have been other reports of dog attacks, and even one death, in Minnesota since 2005. The question is what to do about it.

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## First Annual Tuxes and Tails Gala

*Continued from page 1*

a black hoodie sweater embellished with a peace sign. The fashion show's grand finale was Tala, the 7 year old rottweiler, who came out with angel wings, and sat perfectly at the end of the runway, posing for photographers. Her debut appearance resulted in her meeting her new forever family.



We are grateful to everyone who supported us in our inaugural Tuxes and Tails event and for making it a runaway success. Many are already asking us about next year's event and pledging support. We will announce the 2008 date soon, so that you can "save the date!" If you attended our 2007 event and have any feedback or suggestions, I would love to hear from you (Marilou@pethavenmn.org). In the meantime, please continue to help us get the word out about Pet Haven.



*Left: Murphy, our one-eyed beagle with a permanent wink, has captured the heart of his foster mom. Murphy is still looking for his forever home.*

*Above Right: Pogo, a Pet Haven alumni, was rescued from a pound at four months of age. She has a spinal cord injury of unknown origin and has minimal use of her back legs, but that doesn't slow her down on the runway.*

## Pet Haven's Spay/Neuter Initiative: Helping Smaller Shelters

*By Frieda Wilson*

Pet Haven's Spay/Neuter Initiative (SNI) Program has been very successful in helping smaller shelters and rescue groups to increase and fund their spay/neuter efforts. In 2006, Pet Haven SNI awarded 8 grants. As a result, 66 dogs and 321 cats were altered. Of the 387 total, 35 were pediatric surgeries and 17 were large breed dogs. This is significant because spaying/neutering at an early age prevents any "accidental" births and with the current trend toward "designer dogs", large breed dogs are much harder to place.

Pet Haven was featured in BENCHS (Blue Earth-Nicollet County Humane Society) Summer 2005 Paws for News: "BENCHS' Pet Haven program has been a public service for families in our area. Many of these families live on less than \$600 a month, while others

live on disability and only have their beloved pets as company. They are so appreciative of this program, which helped them pay for a service they had previously been unable to afford.

Rice County Humane Society used the grant received through Pet Haven's SNI program to fund an Outside Cat Spay/Neuter Program. The requests for funding for altering have reduced

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***The SNI program assisted in altering 66 dogs and 321 cats in 2006.***

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from an average number of 8 cats per application, to an average number of 2 - 3 cats per application as the program is becoming better known, and people are having strays altered before the extra kittens arrive. The cost of \$20 - \$25 per application makes the program affordable to everyone.

Too often, rescue and shelter groups see only the results of broken human-animal relationships, such as abandoned and abused dogs and cats. It was rewarding to find out that some people who have feral cats on their property would not only be willing to pay toward having them spayed and neutered, but that they had named them, and, in some cases, were willing to pay for shots.

Another grant recipient told us that it was surprising and amusing to find out that some people were terrified that spaying their cats would result in an overwhelming number of mice and rats. To overcome this fear in a humorous way, their ad campaign slogan is: "How many mice would you catch if you were always pregnant and lactating?"

# Celebrating 55 Years of Helping Homeless Animals

By Marilou Chanrasmi

This year, we are celebrating 55 years of rescuing and re-homing dogs and cats. The passion, dedication and spirit of our volunteers, and the generosity and support of our partners, members, and donors is what makes it possible – four paws at a time. Beatrice is one of thousands of dogs and cats Pet Haven has rescued and re-homed over the past 55 years.



*Beatrice celebrates her first birthday and the 55th anniversary of Pet Haven, who helped her reach that milestone.*

Beatrice, an olde English bulldog was adopted to her forever home at 8 months of age, and just as Pet Haven is celebrating 55 years, she got to celebrate her first birthday this past summer. Beatrice loves going for walks, playing with her “cousin” boxer, chewing on Nylabones, watching TV and lounging on the bed.

Please consider making an end of year donation to Pet Haven. As an all-volunteer organization, your donation goes directly to helping homeless animals in need. If you aren't already a member, please consider becoming a member. To compensate for ever increasing costs, membership dues for 2008 have been increased to \$25 per year. Your membership dues entitle you to our quarterly Pet Haven Ink newsletter. You can learn more about Pet Haven at [www.pethavenMN.org](http://www.pethavenMN.org).

Homeless dogs and cats continue to need our help. And we need your support. On behalf of Pet Haven volunteers, the Board of Directors, and the thousands of homeless furry friends who have found refuge through Pet Haven, over the past 55 years, we thank you.

## Advocacy For Dogs With a Bad Rap

*Continued from page 2*

Pet Haven has started a task force to educate the public about dog safety and to promote alternative solutions to the problem of dangerous dogs. The Stop BSL in Minnesota Task Force is writing letters to community newspapers, creating flyers and brochures, and contacting magazines, newspapers, TV, and radio sources around the state to get the word out. The group is also drafting an alternative plan to present to legislators and talking to neighbors, friends, coworkers, and others to bring a grassroots awareness to the issue.

For more information, visit [www.pethavenmn.org/advocacy.php](http://www.pethavenmn.org/advocacy.php), or contact Pet Haven at [advocacy@pethavenmn.org](mailto:advocacy@pethavenmn.org).



*Lacy, a rottweiler/german shepherd mix up for adoption, is one of many dogs who would be impacted by BSL.*



## Paw Tawk

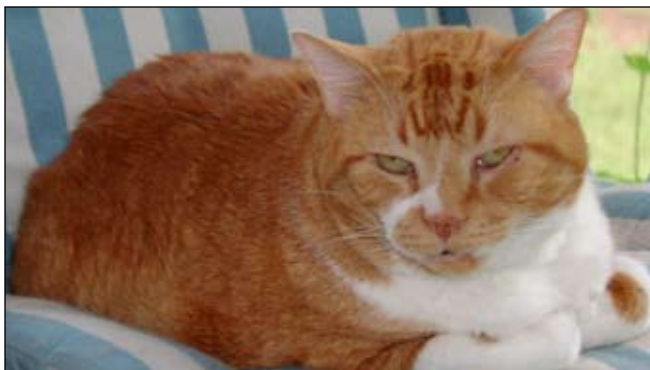
By *Bernie and Becky Sheldon*

Momma says winter is coming. Momma's been busy putting the garden to bed and raking leaves while I've been "busy" napping in the sunshine. But life wasn't always this easy for me.

I remember when I was outside all the time and some kind person put me in their garage and called Pet Haven. I was sick but Pet Haven took me in and cared for me. After a couple of foster homes and failed adoptions, I decided to stay right here. It took momma awhile to get used to my bitey, crabby ways-guess not everyone appreciates these "endearing traits" but in spite of it all she loves me just the way I am!

But momma says that not all cats and dogs are as lucky as I was and they need our help now. She says there are many

ways to help. Momma and I provide a foster home for other cats but more homes are needed so that more cats and dogs can find a family of their own,



just like I did. If you can't foster, check out the website, [www.pethavenmn.org](http://www.pethavenmn.org) to see what other volunteer opportunities might fit your lifestyle.

Momma says this is a good time of the year to start your holiday shopping. You can make a donation in honor or in memory of a favorite person or furry friend. Your tax-deductible donation will go directly to helping homeless dogs and cats. Also check with your employer to see if they have a matching gift program.

And don't forget your favorite pet this Holiday season - maybe a new catnip strawberry, a fuzzy mouse or for my dog friends, a nice chew toy or a new fancy collar. Bernie's momma says: He is right again and even if he has been a little naughty, Bernie will have a nice Holiday!

*Happy Holidays to all from Bernie, his momma, and the rest of the gang at the Red Tabby Rest Home!*

## Garage Sale Raises Money For Homeless Animals

By *Amy Salo*

The annual Pet Haven garage sale was held in Bloomington in late September. This was the biggest sale in the event's eight year history, raising \$1,200 to help Pet Haven's adoption program. Signs at the sale told shoppers that proceeds would benefit Pet Haven, and many customers kindly told the cashiers to, "Keep the change."

As with most garage sales, the first day was crazy with bargain hunters seeking the best deals, but good buys remained through Saturday. Items for sale included garage sale staples such as children's clothes, household objects, and holiday items, but the Pet Haven sale also included some out of the ordinary things, including two pieces of exercise equipment, adult clothes, a computer

desk, an entertainment center; and unlike most garage sales, these items sold!

A storm on Thursday night added excitement – luckily the volunteers were able to quickly move all the items inside the garage before the rain started. Volunteers also helped in the mornings putting items on display, working the sale and greeting shoppers, and putting items back into the garage each evening. Thanks to everyone who donated items and to the volunteers who worked the sale. A special thanks to Becky Sheldon, long-time Pet Haven volunteer and foster, who hosted the garage sale. Becky's greatest garage sale fear is that one day she'll see an item she sold on Antiques Roadshow – so let's plan on shopping the sale next year to look for that gem.



*Funds raised from the garage sale go directly to helping homeless animals like Nolan, who is patiently waiting for his forever family.*

## Happy Tails

*Do you have a Happy Tail to report? Email editor@pethavenmn.org with your story and a photo, and your story could be included in the next issue of Pet Haven Ink!*



### Kaylee

Kaylee became a part of our family at the beginning of summer and loves being out in the country with her new family. She enjoys helping me take care of our horse every morning and helps me wake up the kids for school everyday. She loves playing fetch and most days can be found carrying her football around, always ready for a quick toss. She also enjoys swimming and exploring the horse pastures. We love her very much and are very glad we adopted her.



### Bullwinkle and Carl

Bullwinkle and Carl were adopted together from their foster home. Bullwinkle loves to play with the ball in a ring toy and became fast friends with Carl when he came to the foster home. Carl is the lover, Bullwinkle likes to be around you and help with everything - his specialties are looking in cupboards, opening drawers, finding straws to play with in the waste basket and generally being a clown.



### Mister and Henry

Mister and Henry were adopted into a family with another Pet Haven alumni (Missy, the three year old lab/pit/rottie mix) and an older cat. Mister, a six month old lab/spaniel mix began his days in a ditch in Iowa, but that's now a distant memory for him. His big sister Missy taught him how to play with Henry, a playful, feisty kitty. After a good round of play you can catch them cuddling on the couch.



### Crash

Crash has been adopted into a home with two dogs and no other cats - a situation he really loves. He was tired of the other cats in his foster home and has both dogs in his forever home willing to play with him. It took awhile to convince one of them that he was a good playmate. He has been known to be called 'Crash Underfoot' since he enjoys rubbing around the ankles of his owners - pretty lucky fellow after the way his day began back in December 2006 when he was hit by a car and seriously injured!



### Bosco

Losing a pet is hard on the entire family; even other dogs miss the companionship. Bosco, a nine years young boxer/bullmastiff mix, was just the dog to ease everyone's pain. This little "old man" looks after his new sister who is going blind and is always eager to get "smushed" with a big hug from his new Mom (whom he is never far away from). Bosco may be older, but he sure doesn't act it. He is always there to greet Mom by showing her a big jump with all four paws airborne! No wonder his Mom says "everyone loves him". After all, he is "Bosco-liscious".

## Spotlight on Adoptable Animals

By Mary Ann Cameron and Virg Viner

### Koda

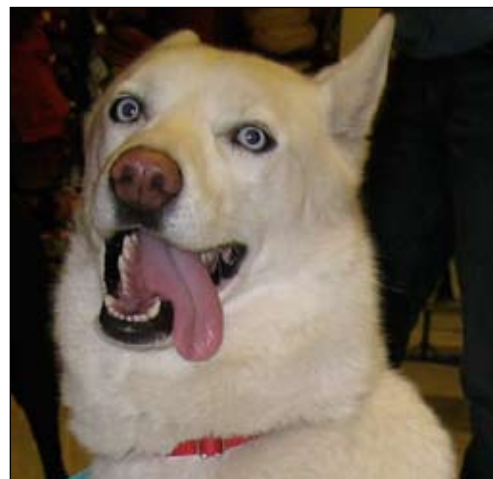
Koda may be a Husky-mix, but he is all Husky at heart. He loves to hunt and always has his nose to the ground or in the air in search of prey. He likes to find a spot that is higher than the rest of the yard so he can always keep a watchful eye; his chosen spot is the picnic table atop his fosters' deck, overlooking the yard as well as their neighbor's. Given the opportunity, Koda will run and run and run. He's fast, agile and has been seen jumping 15 to 20 feet off a seven-foot wall at full speed without missing a beat.

Koda has recently required extra expenses for the evaluation and treatment of a serious infection of his left front paw, including weekly visits to the vet office. Pet Haven welcomes donations to help defray such extraordinary veterinary costs. You can make a contribution in Koda's name through the Pet Haven mailbox, or the website with PayPal.

### Checkers

Checkers is a sleek and shiny black girl. She isn't demanding but likes attention and will come to you and lay on your lap or you can pick her up and carry or hold her too. She has a quiet and gentle manner and a nice motor for you to listen to. If you have a screened porch, she'd like that option but also loves bird and squirrel watching from inside the house. Checkers is on a low allergen special diet purchased through a vet clinic. She has a little canned food each day with some water added, and about 1/2 cup of dry food to keep her girlish figure. She was born in the fall of 2005 so is about two years old.

*Right, from top: Koda and Checkers are searching for a home of their own. Could your family be the one they've been waiting for? Or maybe you can make a donation to help Pet Haven pay for the care Koda and Checkers, like all other Pet Haven animals, receive while waiting for a forever home.*



## Bringing Back More Than Rescued Dogs: Red Lake Rosie's Rescue

By Sarah Patterson

At Red Lake Rosie's Rescue, there is always work to do. On the last weekend in September, Ann Savage, Emily Savage, and I made a trek up north to Red Lake Indian Reservation to help Karen Good, founder of the rescue. In the past, Pet Haven has re-homed several great dogs from Rosie's Rescue, so we were thrilled to meet Karen and to provide assistance.

Karen runs Red Lake Rosie's Rescue on her large rural property, with the cat house and the dog kennels in the woods of her land. Karen usually completes daily chores single-handedly, so she gladly accepted a few extra hands

for the weekend. Saturday began with morning chores. Kennel by kennel, we filled water and food bowls and cleaned up accidents. Next we headed on to the cat house, where we cleaned litter boxes and replenished food and water.



We cleaned crates and delivered over 50 bales of straw, stacking them near the kennels in preparation for winter's cold months. The day ended as it began, with chores for the cats and dogs.

We were blessed to witness first-hand Karen's tireless devotion to animals. Not only did we bring back 29 animals to the Twin Cities, we brought back an even stronger commitment to help Karen, and the animals in her care.

*Left: Reba, currently in Pet Haven's foster program, is one of the lucky ones rescued by Karen.*



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## Board of Directors

President	Marilou Chanrasmi
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Cat Adoption Director	Mary Ann Cameron
Director	Kristen Denzer
Director	Frieda Wilson
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## Pet Haven Ink

*Quarterly Newsletter for Pet Haven Supporters*

Articles: Mary Ann Cameron, Marilou Chanrasmi,  
Sheila Goeken, Patricia Johnson,  
Sarah Patterson, Amy Salo, Becky Sheldon,  
Virg Viner, Frieda Wilson

Newsletter Editor: Marilou Chanrasmi

Newsletter Layout/Design: Elissa Lindberg

## About Pet Haven

Pet Haven, Inc. of Minnesota was founded in 1952 and is a charitable non-profit organization. Your donations to Pet Haven are tax-exempt. Pet Haven's mission is to rescue and re-home cats and dogs, spay and neuter to reduce overpopulation, promote responsible guardianship through educational programs, and advocate on behalf of companion animals.

Pet Haven has no staff. Volunteers do all of the organization's work. Volunteers are always needed and there are a variety of ways you can help. We currently have a tremendous need for foster homes. Please read more about our foster home program on our website and contact us to volunteer. You'll be glad you did!