



Aberdeen Area Humane Society

# NEWS BITES

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2025 EDITION

## Shelter Spotlight: 715 Animals Adopted in 2024!

What a tremendous year of pet adoptions we had in 2024. The shelter is still full with pets but finding homes for 715 pets is so rewarding. This goes to show how dedicated the shelter staff is in finding the right home for each and every pet.

Without the support of this great community we would not have the successful rescue operation that we do have. Thank you to each and everyone who supports us through monetary donations, volunteering, attending our events and adopting from us.

Community Support comes in many variations so let's discuss:

**Monetary:** Monetary donations can be made by making a yearly donation in an amount on the Membership Rate List. Recurring monthly donations, whether by bank draft, check, or as a Kennel Sponsor is also a great way to support us and will qualify you as being a member. If you are at the shelter please notice the TV Screen behind the front desk. This is a display of the people who donate through Sponsor a Kennel program and many include a favorite picture of their lovely pet or other picture along with their name. If you would like to donate in this manner and be acknowledged on our display please leave a message and a Board Member will get back to you. Donation boxes are located at several businesses throughout Aberdeen and are collected on a monthly basis, this is a quick easy way to lighten your pockets and clear out your change and make a difference to our pets. Honorariums & Memorials, what a great way to honor and remember a loved one.

**Volunteering:** What can I say about our great volunteers? Without them donating their time and talents we could not exist. The shelter staff is forever grateful to volunteers who come out to the shelter to walk dogs, socialize with cats and brush them, clean pet dishes, provide ground maintenance assistance, and whatever the shelter manager needs help with. Volunteers must come for an orientation that takes place on Wednesdays at 2:00. Volunteers 12-16 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, volunteers 16-17 years of age must have signed parental permission. If you or a family member are interested in becoming a volunteer please contact the shelter for further instruction.

For our Bow Wow Boogie event we can't have a bake sale without our baking volunteers who make such delicious goodies and those who donate items for the silent auction. Of course our biggest event that happens twice a year is the 2nd Paw Sale. This event relies on hundreds of hours of volunteer time but the outcome is rewarding and covers a month of our operating expenses. We can always use more volunteers for this event so if you have an hour or two and have friends check out our Facebook page where we will post the volunteer times. We love our Volunteers.

In addition to the Bow Wow Boogie and 2nd Paw Sales we also host a Puttin' for Paws golf tournament in July so if you are a golfer be on the lookout for our golf tournament post and register your team.

If you have a love for cats & dogs and are looking to play a bigger part in the welfare of lost/surrendered pets then consider becoming a Board Member. We have a few open spots.

### 2025 MEMBERSHIP RATES

Become a member or renew today! Here are examples of how far your dollars can go to help animals in need:

**\$50**

**Mini Oodle:** Feed 1 dog & cat for 1 month

**\$75**

**Cuddly Kitty:** Vaccinate 1 pet

**\$100**

**Howling Hound:** Cover 2 weeks garbage bill

**\$250**

**Fat Cat:** Cover 1 spay or neuter

**\$500**

**Top Dog:** Cover 1 month water or gas bill

**\$700**

**Fancy Feline:** Cover 1 month accounting

**\$1000**

**Posh Pooch:** Cover 1 emergency surgery

**\$1500**

**Grand Poopaw:** Cover 1 month pet meds

### YEAR-TO-DATE SHELTER REPORT

JAN 1 – DEC 31, 2024

**Adoptable Dogs** (on Dec 31): **30**

**Adoptable Cats** (on Dec 31): **85**

YTD Dogs In: 231

YTD Cats In: 477

YTD Other Critters In: 34

YTD Dogs Out: 223

YTD Cats Out: 458

YTD Other Critters Out: 34

# Recent & Upcoming Events!

Here is a look at our recent and upcoming events. If you would like to volunteer to help with any activities, please contact a board member directly or email [aahsboard1200@gmail.com!](mailto:aahsboard1200@gmail.com)

## Recent

### Calendar Contest

The eighth annual calendar contest was held between October 27 and November 10. The 12 photos with the most votes are featured in our 2025 calendar. The winner is featured both on the cover and month of their choice. This year's winner was our first ever feline winner. Reginald and Milo. In addition to being on our cover they also are featured on the month of May. The May picture speaks a thousand words about this loving duo. In the picture you can't see where one cat starts and the other one ends as they are all tangled up in the coziest hug. For anyone who wanted to show their pets on a specific date we offered them the opportunity to purchase a specific date on the calendar to memorialize their pet. This is a fun and friendly competition and we LOVED seeing everyone's pet photos. If you missed out on this fun competition be sure to keep an eye out for a post towards the end of October for our 2026 calendar contest.

If you would like to purchase a 2025 calendar, they are available at the shelter, but in limited quantities. If you pre-ordered and have not picked up your calendar yet please swing by when you have a chance.

### Giving Tuesday/SD Gives

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. It is celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, after Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Giving Tuesday is meant to kick off the charitable season. South Dakota holds their own very special Giving Tuesday initiative called South Dakota Gives. South Dakota Gives specifically helps local nonprofits set up and organize the day of giving and awards prize pool

money to various nonprofits who participate. If you are a social media user, we hope that you were able to follow along with the stories the staff told of their favorite pets that were adopted out in 2024. We cannot thank our donors enough for allowing us to help animals and help our community.

### Feline Fine Adoption Festival

On November 16th we hosted our very first Feline Fine Adoption Festival. On this Saturday we stayed open an extra hour and the wonderful foster's brought in their kittens for all to come and socialize with. A huge shout out to all the wonderful people who foster our kittens. We cannot thank you enough for getting our kittens through their first few months of life.

## Ongoing & Upcoming

### Bow Wow Boogie & Pianos

Save the date - March 8th for our Bow Wow Boogie. This is one of our largest fundraisers for the Aberdeen Area Humane Society and a GREAT way to help out our beloved shelter pets. Invite your friends and family members to attend. It will once again be held at the Ramkota Convention Center in Aberdeen. Happy Hour starts at 5:30 pm and there will be a wonderful dinner, silent auction and games! Oh and we must mention our slide show of adopted pets, this is always a favorite. Following the dinner and auction the Dueling Duo will entertain us. They are two performers with two grand pianos who will play any song you request. Tickets will be sold as dinner & auction only, pianos only, or dinner & auction & pianos. The latter is definitely the best option. You can plan to bring enough friends and enjoy your own table of eight. Tables can also be reserved in advance including package deals with drinks and/or deserts. Can't make it? Your business, family or organization can pay for a table and we will invite

guests of honor to attend in your place. It's a great way to show your support to the Aberdeen Area Humane Society.

Tickets will be available soon at [www.anewleashonlife.net/bowwow](http://www.anewleashonlife.net/bowwow).

Tickets will also be available from any board member. Contact us for further information or any questions you may have. If you have an item you would like to donate for our silent auction or bake sale please contact us. We appreciate any donation big or small. Hope to see you there.

### Spring 2nd Paw Sale

We will be heading back to the Expo Building at the Brown County Fairgrounds on Saturday May 3, 2025 for our 2nd Paw Sale. Our much-loved rummage sale and Aberdeen's largest one day second-hand sale. This will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm BUT for a \$20 donation, if you want to avoid the crowds we have a "1st pick" shopping day which is held on Friday May 2, 2025 from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. We want your donations!! Donations can be dropped off at the Expo Building starting April 21-25 from 3pm-7pm and April 26-27 from 1pm-4pm. No clothing, large appliances, magazines, encyclopedias, metal desks, exercise equipment or old TV's accepted. If you have questions, contact Jan at 701-471-9616.

### Building Happenings

We continue to enhance our outdoor space. This fall more trees were planted thanks in part thanks to Tyler Walters who was working on his Eagle Scout Project. He and his fellow Scouts removed some fencing which added more space to the agility park and they added a sitting bench. The older part of the old building has been torn down and the remaining part which is still functional will be used for storage purposes. This has opened up the space for the agility park area. Our long term vision is to have a nice outdoor area. If you would like to help with this project or any others, let us know. Please reach out to any board member to designate money for building/grounds projects.

## HONORARIUMS (OCT-DEC)

Chelsea Lund In Honor Of Dan & Michelle

Serah Morrissey In Honor Of Heidi Morrissey

Rex & Norma Johnson From Gemma

Susan Gillilan Honor Ty & Ann Hanson

Andrew Caven In Honor Of Mary E. Caven

Gary & Wanda Morehouse In Honor Of Aahs Employees

Robert & Lynn Heupel In Honor Of Charlie Ray

Nancy Wiedmeier In Honor Of All Animals Needing Good Homes

## MEMORIALS (OCT-DEC)

Carlyle E. Richards Memorial: Bob & De J Basham, Lynn Hanson, Sheila Richards, Amy Richards, Arvilla Ingerson, Shannon Mcgee, Barbara Ingerson

Pen Pearson In Memory Of Dr Jessica Warns-Carrick

Dale Geist In Memory Of Pheobe Geist

Comfort Hauck In Memory Of J.J. Gese

Jason Henslee In Memory Of Jessica Warns & Colin Carrick

Gary & Wanda Morehouse In Memory Of Dale Wein

Comfort Hauck In Memory Of Jasmine Prater

Roy & Burnie Burt In Memory Of Moe (Schroeder), Beloved Dog Of Pat Schroeder

Anita Brewer In Memory Of Shirley Dornbush

Debra Stoley In Memory Of Bullet

Melissa Rohrbach In Memory Of Blossom

Michael Markley In Memory Of Adaleena Ann Austin

Jack & Diane Thompson In Memory Of Sonya Fouts

Ron & Penny Boulais In Memory Of Jim Stoecker, A Terrific Neighbor & A Valued Friend To All That Knew Him, He Will Be Greatly Missed

Alan Murphy In Memory Of Adaleena Austin

Caroline & Delbert Lowe In Memory Of Lori Lowe-Nerland

Ralph & Debra Neu In Memory Of Estella Neu

Carson Storm In Memory Of Kelly, Lady, & All My Other Dogs

Steve & Cheryl Cameron In Memory Of Cricket & The Goat, Also Bella Ann, Beloved Dog Of The Hardy dBoys

Mike & Kelly Grieben In Memory Of Evelyn Grieben By Her Family

Chad & Mechelle Lang In Memory Of Evelyn Grieben

Anita Brewer In Memory Of Sherrel Lapointe

Curt & Lynn Brewer In Memory Of Gus Adopted 12/2004

James Bopp In Memory Of Loretta Bopp

Sherry Markve In Memory Of Carol Osterman From Groton

Jolynn Crowe In Memory Of Loretta Bopp

Pen Pearson In Memory Of Partner, Tinkerbell, & Napoleon

# An Adoption Story

Every now and then we receive emails or letters that warm our hearts and remind



us why we do what we do. Miss Sadie. was adopted from the Aberdeen Area Humane Society by Deb

and Jim Nelson who agreed to have their letter shared. Here is what they said:

"Sadie, our Aberdeen Humane Society rescue dog, passed away November 17, 2024 (her name was Roxy when we adopted her on July 10, 2014). Late hours of November 16th, Sadie started panting heavily and we couldn't calm her. We rushed her to the All City Pet Hospital ER here in Sioux Falls. The Vet took an x-ray and ultrasound which found fluid around Sadie's heart. She wasn't sure what we would find if she was able to remove the fluid with IV meds and a minimum two day hospital stay. She was concerned that the fluid

was hiding a tumor that would show if they were able to remove the fluid, a cancerous tumor. With a tearful difficult discussion with the kindest caring Vet, we decided we couldn't put Sadie through any of those treatments with no idea that her health would be restored. Jim and I made the hardest decision we hoped to never have to make; we did the last thing we could do for our little Sadie, and let her go. The Vet administered the medications and Sadie passed away quickly and peacefully on my lap. Nancy, please use this as a Memorial in Sadie's name wherever you feel it is needed. We will always be thankful to Aberdeen Humane Society for trusting us with Sadie's care; we loved and spoiled her every minute of every day. We only wish there would have been more minutes and more days, we miss her terribly."

Thank you to the Nelson's for their memorial. So many of us can relate to this story. The love and joy that our rescues bring to our hearts is immeasurable. Though they only spend a short time with us, we learn so much from them and they fill our hearts.

## A Special Thanks

- John Koerner Estate
- Donald Flens Estate
- Tyler Walters and his scout troupe
- Kens & Tractor Supply for Adopt A Dog Month
- Dakota Bank "Give Where We Live": Vania Malsam, Kendra Hengen, Peggy Boulais, Cindy Shorley, Carey Gross, Jamie Beckius, David Skinner, Shaina Earnest, Grace Malsam, Jan Symens, Jess Swanson, Wendy Nehlich, Kelly Kucker, Brianna Humphries, Heather Beitelspacher, Tyler Wenbourn
- NVC, faithful monthly adoption sponsor!
- Vircks Trust
- Svarstad Trust
- Sandvig Family Fund
- Individual Donors: Kay Dixon, Tom Lang, Mike & Kelly Grieben, Georgia Ramos, Mark & Stephanie Ford, Ka P Squire, Jody Stanton, Jayne & Brad Herther, De J Basham, Lisa Mentele, Robert & Lynn Heupel

## Kennel Sponsors

The "Sponsor a Kennel Program" is a recurring sponsorship with a minimum commitment of \$20 a month. We will display your business or family name in our building. Please reference Kennel Sponsorship with donation.

Mark Mehlhoff Insurance	Todd & Peggy Mann	Brian & Jennifer Bengs	Deb Gardner
Webster's Paws Walk	Deb & Fritz Maddock	Gemma Jean Johnson	Kim Hall
Danette Marohl	Jewell Steiner	Keith & Kathy Sprinkel	Frank & Jan Hill
Joe & Peg Coutermash	Darren & Monica Ptacek	Richard & Jackie Kahre	Larry Coulter
Marsha Wienk	Scott Mehlhoff	Dawn Rux	Stephanie Mastel
Ronnie & Mary Kost	Jessica Medori	Craig & Laura Millett	Hluchy Family
Cindy Herr	Anita Brewer	Jerry & Susan Brick	Elizabeth Sanderson
Mona Smith	Morgan Hluchy	Kristina McDonald	Kris Fliehs
Patricia Tollefson	Michele Hudson	B&R Truck Repair	
Jody Stanton	Bobbi Wiek	(Devin, Rhonda & Brandi Beitelspacher)	

# Aberdeen Area Humane Society

2511 385th Ave.

Aberdeen, SD 57402-1013

NON-PROFIT  
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ABERDEEN, SD  
PERMIT #76

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Annie Stenvig—President
- Kelly Serr—Vice President
- Jan Hill—Steiner —Treasurer
- Anita Brewer—Secretary
- Nancy Upton
- Mona Smith
- Pam Monaghan-Geernaert
- Todd Jordre
- Jody Stanton

AAHS has four board member seat available as of December 31, 2024. If you are interested in joining our Board of Directors, please contact any board member or email [aahsboard1200@gmail.com](mailto:aahsboard1200@gmail.com).

## AAHS STAFF

- Elaine Schaible
- Stephanie Glover
- Diane Schaeffer
- Carissa Aman
- Summer Smith
- Elizabeth Wolfgang
- Kathryn Wanous

The Aberdeen Area Humane Society is a non-profit organization. We operate solely on donations and fundraisers, and all monies are used locally. No money is sent to state or national organizations. All donations are tax deductible. This newsletter is free to our supporters. To become a member, fill out and mail the form below, sign up online [www.anewleashonlife.net/membership](http://www.anewleashonlife.net/membership) or visit the AAHS.

## Aberdeen Area Humane Society—Membership

PO Box 1013

Aberdeen, SD 57402

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mini Oodle: \$50.00

Fat Cat: \$250.00

Posh Pooch: \$1,000.00

Cuddly Kitty: \$75.00

Top Dog: \$500.00

Grand Poopaw: \$1,500.00

Howling Hound: \$100.00

Fancy Feline: \$700.00

Other Amount (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the building fund

In addition to my membership, I would like to assist with: grounds maintenance (mowing, trimming, snow removal, etc.), fundraising, working with animals, baking for various activities, etc., (please specify below):