

The Pet Gazette

Winter 2015

From the Shelter

"Animal Shelter" - these words probably invoke in you a vision, a feeling, a memory. The thought may make you feel sad or helpless. You're not alone. I admit that years ago these words would invoke the same memories and feelings in me. However, I wanted to take the time now to give you a new memory, a new vision and a new reaction to these words. Because now, after eight years working at UPAWS and living in the Upper Peninsula, the word 'shelter' means so much more to me, and I hope it will for you. Now when I hear animal shelter, I think of hope, joy, love and kindness.



Fostering feels good in so many ways.

smile to my fa

UPAWS staff and dogs have fun exercising and playing.

Why? I feel love when I remember the kitty cat that was reunited with her family after being lost for three months and saw the relief and smiles on their faces. I think of the dog that came to us scared and unsure, who finds his perfect match with a new family. I picture the 1100 animals that came to UPAWS for help this year and found it. I feel joy when I remember girl-scout troops and volunteers giggling over kitten antics during a visit. I feel hope when a community member makes a donation to provide for a dog's knee surgery. I see kindness when a caring person decides to adopt two cats instead of one. My heart is warmed to know of the relationships we have developed with other animals shelters and the community because I know we are a wonderful team making the Upper Peninsula a No-Kill community and safe haven for all companion animals.

These are things I think of when I hear 'animal shelter'. These are the memories that warm my heart and bring a smile to my face. These are the reasons why I donate my

money, volunteer my time and work for UPAWS. These are the reasons I am writing this today. Because I hope your new reaction to the thought of an animal shelter will be of hope, love and kindness. Instead of tears of sadness, you'll have tears of joy. Because your animal shelter, UPAWS, is all of those things and more.

I hope you will support your local No-Kill Animal Shelter by volunteering, donating and adopting. And I hope you will always remember that you are supporting love. Thank you!

~ Lareina Van Strien, UPAWS Manager



Joyful adoptions! Happy dog going home with her new happy Mom!



Young volunteer feels the joy of giving back.

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From the President

When we think about the holidays, at the top or near the top of most our lists is spending time with family. For most of our pet-loving community, family includes our pets. We buy them gifts, dress them up in elf costumes and reindeer antlers, give them special treats and include them in family photos. They crash with us on the sofa after a big meal and snooze while we go nuts over football games. We can't imagine excluding them from our traditions and festivities. And our pets? While to them some activities may seem like human nonsense and barely tolerated, others they seem to enjoy every bit as much as we do. But beyond the activity itself, what I think our pets really enjoy is simply being with family and feeling safe, secure, and loved. It all boils down to being part of a family.



Reva with her dog Thunder

Our pets know where their people are, they have familiar routines, they learn our rules, and can sleep soundly in comfortable and familiar surroundings every night. They are the lucky ones. Sadly, not every pet is so fortunate. Those in shelters are often confused. They have been uprooted from what they thought would be their forever home. They are in a world of new routines, strange noises and smells, and a constant stream of different people. These pets don't know if they will ever see their families again. Sometimes they have not only lost their homes and people but also other pets they lived with – some for their whole lifetime.

If I could have one wish for the holidays, it would be to see an empty shelter; to know that every one of our animals was receiving the same care and love as my own. They would be getting hugs, pets, kisses, an extra treat, long walks, playtime and toys, car rides, and all those things that make them happy. While my wish may be out of reach (although there are other shelters that do accomplish it), I do hope you will think of the homeless pets at the shelter this season. Maybe bring them an extra treat or stop by and give them an extra walk or playtime. Or better yet, if you can, think about making one a permanent part of your home. Adopting a pet is not only a gift for the animal, but it is also a gift you give yourself, and one that just keeps giving.

~ Reva Laituri, Board President

Happy Holidays! ~ Thank You from UPAWS & the Shelter Pets

The UPAWS staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, and especially the animals, wish to thank all of you who have supported, volunteered and adopted from us this past year. By reaching out and touching the lives of the animals, you have given them the priceless gift of a second chance.

There is still time to make a difference!

Please make your 2015 Tax-Deductible Gift to UPAWS today! Your donation can help do so much for all our shelter pets in need, today and the upcoming year!

Thank you, we are so grateful for such a caring community.



The Unbreakable Bond between a Child and Their Pet

Every morning in elementary school I would watch cartoons side-by-side with my best companion, Clowdy. I'd stroke his grey fluff, look into his glowing green eyes and in great detail whisper in his ear all my recent dreams. I could always count on Clowdy to peacefully purr in my lap and listen to my every word. Clowdy taught me how to be gentle and love something more than myself.



Abagail and adopted kitty cat, Huckleberry aka Mr. Casual, are best pals. Huck actually picked Abagail to adopt him and she picked him too!

Currently, I am a nursing major at Northern Michigan University. To be a nurse, I must be kind, trustworthy, passionate, and sympathetic. Growing up with Clowdy, I feel he helped contribute to my sensitivity and kind-heartedness to others. Every day I looked forward to getting out of school to run around the house and play hide and seek with Clowdy. No matter what I always let him win, even if I knew where he was. After every seek, Clowdy would push his damp nose against my forehead, leaving a little tickle from his whiskers.

Kids love animals and animals love kids. Clowdy offered me a special kind of companionship nobody else could offer me. Pets, like siblings, are life-long friends to children. I always felt Clowdy looked up to me, almost as if I were his one and only hero. Clowdy may have been teaching me how to love and show compassion, but I was giving Clowdy the same thing in return without even realizing it, love.

Families with children can only benefit from adding a furry friend to their home like mine did. Not only will the child benefit but so will the furry friend added to the family. Animals just like humans need guidance and love too. One study showed that family households with pets led to higher self–esteem in young children and greater cognitive development. Experts believe animals have the ability to decrease stress because they offer love and affection unconditionally.

Families today are on the go, but an animal can come into a family, help slow down the pace of life, and remind families to take a step back to enjoy the time they have together. Pets are there for every member of a family, and will especially connect with children. Having a pet gives children someone to always count on, a life-long playmate to stay active with, and the best listener and secret keeper a child could ever ask for, just like Clowdy was for me.

~ Kendra Kemp-NMU Technical Writing Class EN111

Give the Gift of Love All Year Long



Gifts from UPAWS provide your loved ones with the warm feeling of caring and sharing. UPAWS Gift of Love gifts make perfect gifts for the pet lovers in your life.

Adopt a Pet ~ Gift Certificates

UPAWS will be offering gift certificates to adopt a pet this holiday or anytime. You can purchase a gift certificate today and then bring the lucky gift recipient to the shelter at a later date so that they can help choose their new addition to the family.

Gift Donation: Make a charitable gift donation in a family or friend's name to UPAWS. A Holiday card will be mailed to the gift recipient acknowledging your gift in their honor.

Sponsor a Shelter Pet - Gift Sponsorships: Give the gift of a "Shelter Pet Care or Adoption Sponsorship" by sponsoring a shelter dog or cat or small pet. Your sponsorship can help homeless pets in our care. We will send the gift recipient a special card with the picture of the pet that you are sponsoring for them.

Learn more by visiting www.upaws.org or calling us at 906-475-6661.



Holiday Pet Tips

Sponsored by local business members

- Holiday food can be bad for your pet. Tryptophan in turkey can cause intestinal problems, and garlic and onions can cause anemia in dogs & cats.
- ♦ Keep pets from chewing on electrical cords by spraying bitter apple on the cord to make it unappealing.
- ◆ Burning candles should be placed on high shelves or mantels, out of your pet's way -there's no telling where a wagging tail may end up.
- When gift wrapping, be sure to keep your pet away. Wrapping paper, string, plastic, or cloth could cause intestinal blockages.
- Be aware that holly, mistletoe, and poinsettia plants are poisonous to dogs or cats.

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Hi, I'm Trudyl I am a very sweet, quiet, front declawed, unassuming kitty, who would love nothing more than a warm lap to snuggle on forever. I've been waiting over a year for a loving home. Please visit me at UPAWS and hopefully we'll make a great match! ~ Kitty Kisses, Trudy

Happy Tails—Carmel

Carmel is cone-free!!

Nine months after we adopted sweet and sassy Carmel, an 8 year old orange tabby with a chronic skin condition that required she wear a cone to keep from exacerbating it, her wound is healed and a protective patch of thick fur covers the area.

It has been a long journey for Carmel and one she couldn't have made without the caring support of many along the way.

Carmel came to UPAWS in August 2012 with a left flank skin wound, later diagnosed as Eosinophilic Granuloma Complex. UPAWS had her treated by a local veterinarian and she improved over the next several months. In January 2013, she was adopted to a new home. Eleven months later she was back at UPAWS with a large raw sore in the same affected area.



Carmel is now cone-free, happy, healthy and living the good life.

Over the next 13 months, while residing at UPAWS, Carmel received medical care from a coalition of veterinarians that further diagnosed and treated the causes of her symptoms including allergy testing and surgery to remove the affected skin. Recovering from surgery at the small, busy shelter can be stressful for an animal, so Kaitlyn, a former UPAWS animal care tech took Carmel into her home to provide a better atmosphere for healing.



Carmel's before photo in her pink cone. Carmel wore a cone for 13 months while UPAWS staff and veterinarians worked on finding a cure for her chronic skin condition.



Carmel enjoying the fresh air, taking a leash walk with Tom.

In January 2015, we saw Carmel's photo on UPAWS' website and knew she was meant to be with us. We immediately remembered her from a visit to the shelter back in 2013. At that time, you couldn't miss her! She was sporting a large cone around her pretty face to restrict her from licking or rubbing her skin wound. But that cone could not restrict her ability to connect with people. For all she had been through, she was extremely social, sweet and looking for love.



Carmel is living like she is making up for lost time—she certainly deserves it!

Carmel was still healing and wearing her pretty pink cone when we took her home in January 2015 to meet her new fellow feline Ripley (adopted from UPAWS in 2002). Our goal was to get Carmel's wound healed so she could be free of the cone. Progress was slow with the current treatment plan. Carmel's vet, Dr. Kelly Mead, researched and found a better medication to try. Within 2 months, Carmel's condition improved dramatically.

Today she is living like a cat who is making up for lost time.

Carmel is healthy and happy today because of the mission of UPAWS and the care and commitment of its staff and

volunteers. And to the talented local veterinarians and people like Kaitlyn who provide foster homes to reduce animal stress while they wait for their forever homes.

Thank you to all!

~ Tom & Kathy Leone

Pink Lady—Hope for Healing Vet Fund: Carmel was helped through the UPAWS Pink Lady—Hope for Healing Vet Fund Program. This program is grant and donor funded. It provides for the homeless pets of UPAWS that arrive in great medical need. Due to the large amount of homeless pets that arrive at UPAWS in need of vet care, the fund is always in urgent need of donations. If you would like to help pets like Carmel heal, please donate to our Pink Lady—Hope for Healing Vet Fund. To help, visit www.upaws.org/get-involved/donations/make-donation/ or phone 906-475-6661. Thank you.

Looking for Pet Behavior Answers?

Does your dog jump on people?

Does your pet get upset when you leave the house without her and get into things she shouldn't?

Is your dog walking you instead of you walking your dog?

Is your cat going potty outside of the litter box?



Cat keeping you up all night crying or running around? What to do?

Did you adopt a kitty cat and she won't come out from under the bed?

Does your current cat not like your new adopted kitty cat?

Many of us struggle with understanding what our pet is trying to tell us. Most of the problems you are facing have solutions, so if you need a little guidance, some new ideas or support, please review our UPAWS Pet Behavior Resource Library for a multitude of topics and advice (see link below).

Can't find what you are looking for? Contact UPAWS! Our dedicated staff will do their best to help you find the answers you need to keep both you and your pet happy, healthy and together. It's always best with pet health or behavior problems, to see your

veterinarian to rule out any health related issues.

UPAWS works hard to keep pets in stable homes through the education of both pets and their owners, further reducing the number of homeless pets in our community and strengthening the human-animal bond.

Visit UPAWS Pet Behavior Resource Library at www.upaws.org/educationbehavior/ or telephone 906-475-6661

UPAWS Be Kind Kits

UPAWS Be Kind Kits are designed to allow teachers, youth leaders and parents or guardians an in-depth exploration of humane themes with their classrooms, youth groups and children (ages 4 to 10 years). Each kit contains a featured book along with lessons and activities, which focus on good moral character, pet ownership, kindness, and responsibility.

UPAWS has four UPAWS Be Kind Kits in which the books can be borrowed from UPAWS to teach the

lesson plans. Lesson/activity plans are in PDF format and can be downloaded and printed off of our website link for each Be Kind Kit book, or UPAWS can print the lesson and activity plan for you.

To learn more visit www.upaws.org/teacher-resources/ or please email: abrownell@upaws.org or phone 906-475-6661.

Faithful Friends Your love and compassion for homeless animals can live on....



In working together, we can secure the future of UPAWS, while also fulfilling your own financial goals and objectives.

Let your generosity leave a lasting impact on the lives of UPAWS pets.

For more information on including UPAWS in your planned giving:

Phone: (906) 475-6661 Email: info@upaws.org

BECOME A UPAWS GEM

In giving a monthly pledge, you are directly impacting the lives of our shelter pets



Contact UPAWS at 906-475-6661 or info@upaws.org to learn about our givers every month program.

Special Thank You to:

Iron Range Employees for their 'casual Friday' fundraiser.

Ishpeming High School National Honor Society Students for their help.

Marquette Sr. H.S. class of 2015 for their generous help.

Public Service Garage for donations from their Classic Iron Car Show.

Superior Contact Employees for their casual Friday fundraisers.

Superior Family Chiropractic & Wellness for their fundraiser.

In Honor of:

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UPAWS 40th Birthday From: Diane & Jim Asikainen

Lareina VanStrien From: Nancy Coulter Harry Wiberg From: Jane Dolney

Kids Helping

Addisyn & Olivia and Erin, Marin & Erin and Paitlyn, Ainsley & Maia for holding lemonade stands to help us.

Sydney for donations from her birthday party. **Taylor** asked for birthday gifts for our shelter instead of personal gifts.

Vera & Miya collected money to help us. Daisies & Brownies Troop #5001, Girl Scout Troop #5035 for their help and donations. Junior Girl Scout Troop #5073 for sponsoring shelter pets!

In Memory of:

Sandee Allis From: Janet & Terry LaForest Blayne Andresen From: Betty Gustafson Earl Anderson From: Lani & Nancy Duquette Matthew Attalai From: Christine Kosikmaki-Attalai, Linda S. Bradley

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Scuttle From: Susan Blomgren

Sparks From: Ron Hill Tim Bit From: Dave Dickson

Remember, Honor and Celebrate

If you are a regular reader of our newsletter and support UPAWS, then you have probably noticed the listing of memorials, honorariums and special thank you made to our shelter. This is more than just a lot of names; it's a testament to the kindness of those who donated, and also to the people and pets that are



Tribute Gifts

Celebrate Your

Love

remembered and honored in these lines.

Once a donation is made, that gesture of kindness continues. Because of the generosity represented by these gifts, we have a caring staff to care for our pets every day of the year. We are able to keep the pets warm and safe and receive any care that they might need. Sometimes it is a visit to a vet; sometimes it is insulin to help a diabetic cat or dog, and sometimes it is checking in a newly arrived pet and giving comfort where it is sorely needed. Your gift could also help our foster families care for the pets that they have taken into their homes with food and supplies. But your gift doesn't stop there. Because you helped with a donation, the pet that received the care that he or she needed will find a new home with a family and bring joy into their lives.

A Tribute Gift is a great option to honor or remember a person or pet, celebrate an anniversary, birthday, work promotions and holidays! UPAWS will send a notification to the person or family of the pet you are honoring, or the family of the loved one being remembered.

Visit www.upaws.org/get-involved/donations/make-tribute-gift/ or call UPAWS at 906-475-6661.

Did You Know?

Did you know you can get your Pet Gazette via email? Not only will you get a full-color issue in your e-mailbox in advance of mailed copies, but you also help the environment and save UPAWS the cost of

printing and mailing! Everyone wins!





To switch your method of newsletter delivery to e-mail, just shoot us a quick note at info@upaws.org to let us know.

Thank you for helping us help the pets!

Upcoming Events & Activities

<u>UPAWS Holiday Booth</u> Westwood Mall Marquette Now through end of the year P.O. Box 968 Marquette, MI 49855 NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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Pet Photos with Santa Mares-Z-Doats Pet Supply Store MQT December 12, 2015

Current Resident or

<u>UPAWS Home for the Holidays Open House</u> December 19, 2015

Raise the Woof Comedy Event NMU Michigan Room January 22,2016

Spay Day USA February 2016

For more information, phone (906) 475-6661 or visit www.upaws.org.

Regular Meetings and Events

Board meetings are held the fourth Monday of each month at 6 PM at the Peter White Public Library. Open to the public.

For other listings please visit <u>www.upaws.org</u> or call (906) 475-6661.

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Your gift DIRECTLY impacts the lives of the pets of UPA WS!

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