Summer 2020 Edition

HOMEWARD BOUND

A NEVER-ENDING VOYAGE OF LOVE AND HOPE

Animal Ark
NO-KILL SINCE 1977
RESCUE • REHABILITATE • REHOME

Generosity During a Time of Crisis.

Animal Ark supporters wow us with their giving spirit.
But we still need your help!

To say that life has been turned upside down the past several months would be an understatement. Things we took for granted as recently as last winter have been replaced by a whole new reality. The same holds true at Animal Ark. About the time this newsletter lands in your mailbox, we were supposed to be holding our biggest fundraiser of the year, the Annual 3K Walk. Animal Ark made the difficult decision to cancel the event. Our goal this year was to raise $40,000. With the cancelation of the walk, Animal Ark's financial future suddenly became very uncertain.

Photo credit:
Jon Madsen

To recoup lost revenue, Animal Ark solicited donations via multiple avenues including a fundraising drive specifically intended to recoup 3K Walk revenue; participation in Give at Home MN in May; and a memorial fund in the name of Max, our dearly-departed mascot (see page two). As a result of these efforts we raised approximately two-thirds of our revenue goal. During unprecedented times of crisis like these we're pleased with these results, but we are asking our faithful supporters to please continue donating. Your support helps Animal Ark provide a temporary stop for animals while they await their forever homes. Page three of this newsletter features many success stories!

Animal Ark is touched that even when financial uncertainty precludes cash donations, our supporters contribute generously via Amazon Smile and the Friends of Animal Adoption Amazon Wish List. Items like cat and dog food, cat litter, toys and cleaning supplies have arrived on our doorstep, even during quarantine. And now that Animal Ark is once again open to the public, you can drop supplies off at the shelter!

On behalf of the staff, volunteers and residents of Animal Ark, **THANK YOU** for your support even during the most challenging times!

To learn how you can support Animal Ark's no-kill mission, visit

animalarkmn.org/donate

Items donated thru our Amazon Wish List.

Generosity During a Time of Sorrow.

Max, Animal Ark's mascot, crossed the Rainbow Bridge

In March, Animal Ark bid farewell to our beloved German shepherd and mascot, **Max**.

Max was representative of Animal Ark's mission to help the most needy and deserving of animals. Max was found injured by the side of the road. A friendly passerby took Max in and cared for him as best he could, but Max was eventually surrendered to Animal Ark.

Max and his wheelchair were a familiar sight around Hastings.

Animal Ark's staff and veterinarians toiled ceaselessly caring for Max's special needs. Max received hydro-therapy and laser treatments to lend some comfort to his damaged body. And of course, there was Max's trademark wheelchair, provided thru the generosity of our donors.

In speaking with people who grew to know and love Max, one word resonates: Relationships. Max was the catalyst thru which countless relationships blossomed at Animal Ark. Donors, visitors, volunteers, staff, veterinarians...if we created a flow chart illustrating how we all work together, Max would be at the top. We were left without our head honcho during a very trying time, and many tears have been shed while looking at that large, empty dog bed behind the front desk. Max's patented silent bark is missed.

On behalf of Animal Ark, we thank everyone who volunteered with Max. We thank the families who brought their children to visit Max, illustrating how exhibiting kindness toward a special need animal makes the world a better place. We are indebted to the vets who cared for Max and the donors who supported him.

We started a memorial in tribute to Max. If you would like to make a donation in memory of Max, please visit animalarkmn.org/donate or send a check in the enclosed envelope with "In memory of Max" written in the memo section.

From the Estate of Bradley D. and Peggy S. Baker

The following is text from a letter sent to Animal Ark by Paul W. Baker informing us of a generous bequeath. We are touched by the family's generosity.

Dear Staff of Animal Ark,

I am writing this letter in accordance with the wishes of the late Bradley D. and Peggy S. Baker. Per their wishes, they are donating $1,000. Bradley and Peggy were great animal lovers. On February 3, the staff was kind enough to take time out from their busy schedule to give my brother Collin, my wife Kim and I an insightful tour.

On behalf our our family, thank you for all that you do.

Animal Ark Adoption Alumni

Send your adoption photos/stories to arknews@animalarkmn.org

Dazey
In memoriam

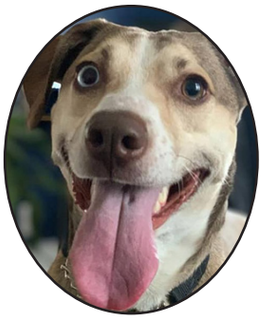
Finn

Georgie

Watson

Alina

Lily



Ontari

Bella

Dazey was adopted from Animal Ark in 2005. She nearly succumed to parvo when she was a baby, but we were blessed and privileged to have her in our lives for 15 years.

Finn is our silly, long-legged talker boy. He drools when he sits on our laps and purrs.

Georgie was adopted around 2008 after his owner surrendered him due to allergies. He's a very sweet boy who loves people, food, the sun and boxes. He's very loved and very spoiled.

Watson was adopted in September and is adapting well to his forever home.

Alina is so happy these days. Such a sweet and cuddly kitty.

Lily loves sleeping in the sun after a day of play. She adjusted well and loves being outside at the cabin and the dog park! We can't say enough wonderful things about her.

Ontari was a shy and timid dog, especially around men. She's now such a happy family dog. She is still timid when it comes to strangers but a lot more eager to warm up. She loves the attention and cuddles with the kids.

Bella has been with me for four years. I love her dearly and she is certainly a diva.

Animal Ark
2600 Industrial Court
Hastings MN 55033-3600

Special Need Animals

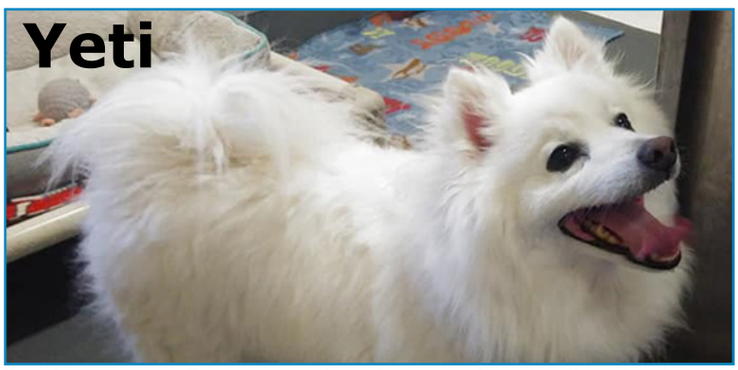
and Animal Ark's Mission

Animal Ark's no-kill mission means that we often take in animals that other shelters will not. Many of these animals exhibit behavioral issues that could be corrected with time, but owners and shelters have determined they're not worth the investment.

Yeti, pictured here, is just such an animal. Yeti was in a household with small children and had developed a nipping habit when over-stimulated by the kids. The owners surrendered Yeti to another shelter that planned to euthanize him.

Animal Ark took in Yeti and found him to be a wonderful, if anxious, dog. Yeti found a new home almost immediately with a patient family that knows the quirks of the American Eskimo breed.

Animal Ark maintains a significant Special Need Fund dedicated to the care and training of dogs like Yeti. Your contributions ensure that adoptable animals like Yeti find the patient, loving homes they deserve. Please consider sending a check in the enclosed envelope with "Special Need Fund" in the memo section.



"He's so cute!" says Yeti's adoptive family. "And what a well-mannered dog!" This despite being slated for euthanization at another shelter.

NO-KILL SINCE 1977
Animal Ark
RESCUE • REHABILITATE • REHOME

Special Meeting to Amend By-laws and Articles of Incorporation

Members in good standing are welcome.

July 13, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Animal Ark, 2600 Industrial Court, Hastings 55033

OUR MISSION:

RESCUE

We work with animal control facilities and rescue organizations to take in stray and unclaimed companion animals that have been slated for euthanasia.

REHABILITATE

Our animals receive comprehensive medical and behavioral care to help prepare them for successful adoptions. Our Volunteers play a critical role in that.

REHOME

We believe that there is a loving Forever Home for every animal who enters our shelter. Our job is to help them find it.
animalarkmn.org/adopt