HGTV's Alison Victoria crashing kitchens, saving lives

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North Shore Adoption Center Opens!

The Next Step to a No Kill Chicago
Englewood door-to-door outreach
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PAWS CHICAGO MISSION IS TO BUILD NO KILL COMMUNITIES – STARTING WITH A NO KILL CHICAGO – WHERE PETS ARE NO LONGER DESTROYED JUST BECAUSE THEY ARE HOMELESS. Since our founding in 1997, a year in which a staggering 42,561 dogs and cats were killed in Chicago, the number of homeless dogs and cats euthanized annually has dropped significantly, down 77 percent by 2014. But this drop does not mean our work is done: In 2014, 9,817 animals were still killed in Chicago and nearly 60,000 animals were killed in the state of Illinois.

When will Chicago be considered a No Kill city? When we are saving every healthy and treatable animal. To reach that goal, PAWS Chicago is implementing a comprehensive No Kill model to build a No Kill Chicago.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community is at the core of everything we do. Engaging the public in the cause of homeless animals and providing them with the information to make lifesaving choices, like adoption and spay/neuter, is what has brought about such transformation in our 17 years. When people find out what pets are facing in a community’s sheltering system, they respond. They are inspired to donate, to volunteer, to adopt and to spread the word. It’s through that mobilization that we will achieve a No Kill community.

SPAY/NEUTER & OUTREACH

PAWS Chicago’s Lurie Clinic – the city’s largest provider of free and low-cost spay/neuter surgeries – and its mobile extension, the GusMobile van, work to bring spay and neuter services to neighborhoods challenged with pet overpopulation. The Lurie Clinic is located in and serves Chicago’s most at-risk and under-resourced communities where the majority of stray pets originate. Through PAWS for Life Englewood, we are reaching under-served families where they live, going door-to-door and providing free spay/neuter services and transportation.

• 2014 Spay/neuter surgeries: 18,290
• 2014: Program initiated in Englewood

ADOPTIONS

PAWS Chicago has revolutionized the sheltering of Chicago’s homeless animals through its cageless No Kill Adoption Center in Lincoln Park and our newly opened North Shore adoption facility. These centers, in combination with more than 50 off-site adoption events each year, enable PAWS Chicago to find new homes for thousands of animals.

• 2014 Adoptions: 5,952

HEALTH & BEHAVIOR

Part of the commitment to guaranteeing life for all PAWS pets is keeping them happy, healthy and continually moving toward new loving homes. In order to achieve this goal, we have built a state-of-the-art shelter medicine program and an onsite training center to treat and rehabilitate sick, injured, shy, undersocialized and behaviorally challenged animals.

• 2014 Save Rate: 97.5 percent

VOLUNTEERS & FOSTERS

Volunteers are the life-force behind PAWS Chicago. This dedicated workforce is made up of thousands of impassioned community members who make it possible to provide homeless pets with the quality care and love they deserve.

• 2014 Volunteers: 103,718 hours, equalling 50 full-time employees
• 2014: 3,467 animals placed in foster

FINANCIAL HEALTH & SUSTAINABILITY

Every year, we strive to grow our programs to save more lives. As with everything we do, we make sure to view it through a lens that is focused on making long-term, sustainable change. We believe strong fiscal management is key to optimizing and leveraging resources.

For 13 years in a row, Charity Navigator, the nation’s largest independent charity evaluator, has awarded PAWS Chicago its highest 4-star rating – a designation achieved by less than one percent of charities evaluated. PAWS Chicago is also the highest rated charity in the Animal Rights, Welfare & Services category.

Some things are a natural fit. Like Subaru owners and their four-legged copilots, Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive and confidence on the road, and the proud partnership between Subaru retailers and PAWS Chicago. Because anyone willing to give pets a little love deserves some back. Love. It’s what makes a Subaru, a Subaru.
ON THE COVER: Alison Victoria, pictured with Domer, a dog she rescued from the streets of Chicago.
PHOTOGRAPHY: Bob Coscarelli

SAVING BABY GEORGE
Temperatures were way below zero when a teenage boy found a tiny nine-week-old kitten in a garbage can in Chicago’s Brighton Park neighborhood. He was clinging to life. His fur was matted and he was underweight and congested, but still alive. The boy rushed the kitten to PAWS Chicago where our veterinarians provided immediate medical care to warm up the kitten and began treating him for an upper respiratory infection. Once stable, the kitten, now named Baby George, was welcomed into a loving foster home where he grew strong. After his neuter surgery, Baby George made his way to the Lincoln Park Adoption Center where he was quickly adopted into a loving home.

SAVING COQUI
At 15 years old, Coqui’s life was turned upside down. His owner went into a nursing home and was unable to take his beloved dog with him. Instead, Coqui ended up at Chicago Animal Care & Control (the city pound) and was scheduled for euthanasia that day. PAWS Chicago rescued Coqui after finding him shaking and coughing in his cage. His sweet personality shone through. In addition to cataracts and masses on his body, Coqui was diagnosed with pneumonia and began receiving immediate medical care from PAWS veterinarians. Coqui will need several weeks to recuperate but is doing so in the comfort of a loving foster home. Once he is medically cleared, he will be available for adoption.
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Dear Friends,

In May, I had one of the most moving experiences attending the inaugural PAWS for Life Englewood Community Day. We commonly hear about Englewood in the news—at the most dangerous neighborhood in Chicago. But we at PAWS Chicago have a completely different experience. We know it to be the most loving community you will ever experience, where neighbors look out for one another. Englewood is about families, friends, community—and also a deep affection for pets.

I had the opportunity to talk to countless families who were lined up around the block for free vaccinations for the pets they adore. In total, more than 300 dogs and cats came to Bethsaida Missionary Baptist Church, where our GusMobile was parked, to receive free medical care. We opened our new North Shore Adoption Center in December 2014 in Highland Park to save more than 6,000 pets. We have dedicated this Summer 2015 issue to the idea of home. Home is a place to live and belong, a retreat and a refuge. It is also the biggest dream and aspiration for homeless pets.

In this issue, you can read about new targeted programs like PAWS for Life (page 14) and Adopt-a-Bull (page 16) that will continue to move us toward a No Kill community. We are on track this year to find new, permanent homes for more than 6,000 pets. In our centerpiece article, “HGTV’s Alison Victoria: Crushing Kitchens, Saving Lives,” we chat with the HGTV and DIY host, who happens to be a Chicagoan and a passionate animal lover, rescuer and dedicated PAWS Chicago supporter (page 24). Alison explains how her pets make her house her home. I hope you enjoy the issue.

Warmest regards, and thank you for all you do for homeless animals,

Paula Fasseas
Founder and Chair
SMITH LOVES HIS CATS. His affection for them is obvious—when he rubs them between the ears, cradles them in his arms, and fills their bowl with a generous amount of food.

It’s just the four of them, in a one-room basement apartment in Englewood, one of the most underserved neighborhoods in Chicago. Buddy, a black-and-white shorthair, was born right in the basement. The second cat, Hop-Along, was a stray who couldn’t stay away from the comfort of Smith’s warm apartment. And Mama, a small, friendly calico tabby, was left behind when another tenant in the building moved out.

Together, they’re a tight-knit family. But Smith also lives on a tight budget: “I just can’t afford three cats,” he said.

A new PAWS Chicago program launched late last year in Englewood, PAWS for Life, is giving Smith and other pet owners in the neighborhood the resources and support they need for their animals.

Designed to reach deep into the city’s underserved communities that are the source of pet overpopulation and finding solutions to save the lives of cats and dogs, nearly 10,000 homeless pets are still euthanized each year.

PAWS for Life is the next step to reaching deep into underserved communities and have limited access to spay/neuter information, services and transportation. By reaching people in their neighborhoods and going door-to-door, PAWS for Life is providing free services and information to help families care for their pets. Across America, 80 percent of pets are spayed or neutered, but in Englewood, only five percent of pets have received the important surgery. PAWS for Life is changing that.

PAWS Chicago’s No Kill model has helped slash the city’s euthanasia rate by 77 percent since the organization’s founding in 1997. While PAWS Chicago’s robust adoption, shelter medicine, animal behavior, volunteer and spay/neuter programs have been successful at addressing the cause of pet overpopulation and finding solutions to save the lives of cats and dogs, nearly 10,000 homeless pets are still euthanized each year.

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Continued on page 8
workers and volunteers focus on people who bring their pets to the city pound, or Chicago Animal Care & Control (CACC).

PAWS representatives are stationed inside the city pound, at the front desk, ready to provide information and resources to people who come to CACC planning to give up their pets. Because many pets are being relinquished due to lack of resources for food, training or medical care, PAWS representatives are there to talk with pet owners and offer support at the time of critical need.

Already, the CACC outreach part of the program has helped keep more than 19 percent of pets from being relinquished to the pound.

This outreach has helped people like DeMarcus, who brought his dog to the city pound. As Outreach Advocate Kris Badillo spoke with DeMarcus, it was evident how much he cared for the puppy. But he couldn’t afford a crate, which was essential for training.

Kris provided DeMarcus with a crate and supported him with additional information about free spay/neuter, vaccines and basic training that PAWS Chicago could provide. Because of this program, another dog was kept from entering the city pound.

The work PAWS is doing in Englewood and at CACC is changing lives, said Billie Shropshire, a resident of Englewood who has received services through PAWS for Life.

Shropshire and her daughter, Ravin Baldwin, took in a young cat, Black Girl, and her four kittens. Although they initially planned to surrender the kittens, they fell in love and kept the whole brood.

“Laurie is like a daughter to me now, I love this girl,” Shropshire said. The program has allowed PAWS to reach what Maxwell calls “the last frontier of pet owners.”

Those pet owners – like Smith, who Maxwell approached as he walked by while she was canvassing in the neighborhood – deserve the same love from animals as people in neighborhoods with more resources, and can offer pets loving homes in return.

“We were put on this earth to take care of those who can’t take care of themselves. I’m happy to do that,” Smith said.

PAWS for Life Outreach Manager Laurie Maxwell
We know how important your pet’s health is to you. We also know you need to maintain your health to maximize the time you can spend with your pet. Immediate MD is an urgent care center designed to treat YOU in a timely manner so you can get back to the important things in life like playing with your pet. Walk in or schedule your appointment online at immediatemd.com.

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DOGS RESCUED FROM PUPPY MILL BREEDING OPERATION

EIGHTY-ONE DOGS AND PUPPIES WERE RESCUED FROM A BREEDING OPERATION IN ST. ANNE IN KANKAKEE COUNTY ON APRIL 7. The animals were housed, some for years, in small, dirty pens with wire floors. They lived in a windowless room, never seeing the light of the sun or feeling the texture of grass. The stench of ammonia was so strong that rescuers required masks to protect them from the fumes.

The rescue operation was organized by Animal Rescue Corps (ARC), a Washington, DC, based organization, which reached out to PAWS Chicago to help provide transportation, volunteers, medication and care for the animals. The animals were living “in inhumane conditions and are treated as nothing more than breeding machines,” said ARC President Scotlund Haisley. “Dogs have been suffering here for a long time but they are finally reclaiming their lives.”

PAWS Chicago volunteers, including Joan Marie Dauber, carried Chihuahuas, Shih Tzus, Yorkshire Terriers, Poodles and other small breeds out of these appalling living conditions: “I was among the first group of volunteers to bring dogs out,” Dauber said. “Many people asked me if it was hard to be a part of this rescue mission. I said that it is different from watching an ad on TV – here, I knew we were taking them away from this terror forever.”

PAWS Chicago took in 24 of the rescued dogs, where they received loving attention and medical care for untreated eye infections, respiratory conditions and dental issues. The dogs and puppies that needed more time to recover were placed in PAWS foster homes until they are ready for adoption.

Stories like this are proof of the resilience of man’s best friends. Despite never experiencing the joy and tenderness of the canine-human relationship, the dogs were immediately responsive to their rescuers. “On the day of their rescue, many of the dogs were asking for human contact in their new surroundings, wagging their tails and even licking our fingers,” Dauber said.

“My thoughts often go to all the dogs who weren’t rescued from this puppy mill over the last decade,” Dauber said. “I tell everyone who asks about my experience that if they ever have a chance to take part in a puppy mill rescue, do it – it gave me such joy and peace at the end of that long day to know I helped so many animals.”

“It is because of volunteers like Joan Marie that PAWS can provide the life-saving support to animals in urgent need,” said Paula Passeas, PAWS Chicago’s founder and chair. “Thanks to their efforts, the precious dogs who were rescued that day will never live in fear and sadness again.”

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“We are always looking for foster families for life, PAWS Chicago is making the cost of microchipping your pet affordable.”

BARNABY: LOST & FOUND

Microchip reunites stolen dog with owner

BARNABY HAD A PRETTY TOUGH WEEK, BUT HIS STORY HAD A HAPPY ENDING BECAUSE HE WAS MICROCHIPPED. The 6 1/2-year-old West Highland Terrier was stolen from his apartment in the West Loop on May 18.

Surveillance video from the building showed a man leaving with a white dog under his arm. A car pulls up to the sidewalk, and Barnaby and the suspect pull away. Why Barnaby’s home was forcibly entered and he was taken, while nothing else in the condo was stolen, remains a mystery and the case is still under investigation.

When Barnaby’s owner, Adam Johnston, got home and found the dog missing, it was “just total panic – I first thought he must be hiding and may be sick or even worse, but when I couldn’t find him and I saw that the door had been broken into, I was just completely freaked out, confused and scared,” Johnston said. “I had no clue what had happened or if he was safe.”

Johnston, did everything he could to find his dog. He started a “Find Barnaby” Facebook page, hung up posters, offered a reward and contacted local media. By the next day, Chicagoans were out in force looking for the little white dog. After a possible suspect was spotted at a local pet store, Barnaby was dropped off at the PAWS Chicago Adoption Center in Lincoln Park on May 27.

PAWS Chicago was quickly able to reunite the dog with his dad because Barnaby was microchipped and his chip was properly registered to Johnston. When Johnston and Barnaby were reunited, “I had the biggest smile on my face and it was just so much relief. I can’t think of a happier feeling,” Johnston said.

About six months before the dog was dropped off, Barnaby’s vet had placed a tiny electronic chip about the size of a grain of rice under the animal’s skin between the shoulder blades. The microchip, which can be scanned at a veterinarian’s office or shelter, holds information that leads back to a pet’s owner.

Johnston’s advice to all pet owners: Get your animals microchipped. “Do it. As soon as possible. It’s not that expensive and it’s incredibly important. When you find your dog is gone, you’ll thank yourself for having done it – especially when you get the call from the microchip company telling you your dog is found. If I hadn’t done it, I think I’d still be hating myself.”

Barnaby was one of the lucky ones. Each year, more than 12,000 animals come into Chicago Animal Care & Control, the city’s pound, without owner identification. In 2013, less than one percent of stray cats and 10 percent of stray dogs who came in without identification were claimed by an owner. Lost cats are nine times more likely and dogs are five time more likely to get back to their homes if they have a collar and tag or microchip, according to Chicago Animal Care & Control.

Nationally, more than 10 million dogs and cats are lost or stolen in the United States every year, according to the American Humane Association. Between six and eight million end up in animal shelters, and only 15 percent of dogs and two percent of cats without tags or chips are reunited with their families.
PAWS CHICAGO GLENN L. FELNER
NORTH SHORE ADOPTION CENTER OPENS!

PAWS Chicago’s first satellite adoption center opened in December 2014. The PAWS Chicago Glenn L. Felner Adoption Center, which is located within a bustling Highland Park Petco, is PAWS Chicago’s latest initiative to save more lives. The new center expands the geographical reach of the No Kill mission, and helps hundreds more homeless pets each year by providing convenient, local access for foster and adoption families.

In the first five months of 2015, 343 animals were adopted through the new facility, and PAWS Chicago is reaching high and aiming for 500 more adoptions in 2015!

CORGAN ADOPTS FROM NORTH SHORE

The North Shore Adoption Center has already had its first celebrity adoptions! Angelface and Diamond Baby went home with long-time PAWS Chicago supporter Billy Corgan in June 2015. Both kittens came to PAWS Chicago with special challenges. Diamond Baby required a hernia surgery. Angelface had an upper respiratory infection when she arrived in a cardboard box with the rest of her young littermates. With dedicated medical care from our veterinary team and a lot of love from volunteers and staff, these spunky kittens recovered, and are now settling in at home with their new brother, PAWS Chicago alumnus, Mr. Thom.

CHANDLER HEADS NORTH, HOME

Chandler, a Beagle mix who came to PAWS Chicago with kidney complications and severe dental problems, smiled his way into the hearts of a family who met him at the North Shore Adoption Center.

URGENT NEED FOR FOSTER FAMILIES!

Everyday we see homeless pets at risk that we cannot help because of a shortage of foster homes.

Please become a PAWS foster and help us increase the number of dogs, cats, puppies and kittens we can save by placing them in temporary homes. Our foster families provide nurturing, warm, stress-free environments that help our homeless pets heal, grow, learn basic manners and develop socialization skills. Foster homes prepare our animals for the transition to their new adoptive homes.

Visit online at pawschicago.org/northshore.

Visit online at pawschicago.org/northshore.
WHEN DANIELLE COLBY ADOPTED HER LOVABLE BULLY BREED, VIDA BOHEME, FROM PAWS CHICAGO, she thought the dog would act as a security guard, helping her feel safer in her home and while out running. She soon found that she’d gotten not only the gentle protector she expected, but also a new best friend and life partner.

Although her job as the co-star of The History Channel’s American Pickers keeps her busy, when Colby is home, she and Vida are inseparable, running regularly, playing games and cuddling together. Vida also occupies a prime sleeping spot in Colby’s bed.

Colby and Vida showed off the many benefits of bully breeds during Adopt-A-Bull, PAWS Chicago’s newest signature adoption event, designed to enlist celebrities to advocate for the commonly maligned breeds, often mislabeled as “Pit Bulls.” Pit Bulls, a combination of multiple breeds such as Staffordshire Terriers and American Bulldogs, are also the most commonly euthanized dogs in shelters. “Bully breeds have been mislabeled and widely misunderstood for too long,” Colby said. “It’s time to educate folks about these breeds so that they can see this type of dog without the initial stigma of fear attached.”

Adopt-A-Bull launched April 4, 2015, at the Double Door in Wicker Park and was attended by hundreds of local dog lovers. In addition to Colby and Vida, the event featured pet-friendly vendors, information for visitors and – the stars of the event – bully breed mixes available for adoption from PAWS Chicago and Chicago Animal Care & Control (CACC). PAWS is CACC’s largest bully breed transfer partner. Six beautiful dogs found loving homes at the event.

“We think if we can get more people to adopt these bully breeds, we’ll certainly see the kill rate go down. That’s really one of our last steps to making Chicago a No Kill community,” said Paula Fasseas, founder of PAWS Chicago. “Events like Adopt-A-Bull help raise awareness in the public and help show people how they can get involved.”

“Bully breeds have been MISLABELED and WIDELY MISUNDERSTOOD for too long”

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ADOPT A BULL

PAWS Chicago’s bully breed adoption event raises awareness

by Megan Lee

DRAFT DAY IN CHICAGO

Chicago Bears Jay Feely and Alex Brown select their Puppy Bowl picks on the draft board.

THIS SPRING, THE NFL DRAFT CAME TO CHICAGO for the first time in more than five decades. But the most adorable action was found at PAWS Chicago’s Lincoln Park Adoption Center where the first-ever Road to the Puppy Bowl Draft was held.

JOINED BY ANIMAL PLANET AND THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION (NFLPA), four-legged players from PAWS Chicago, including Mutt Ditka, Charles “Peanut Butter” Tillman, and Barkus Allen, were added to the draft board by current and former NFL players. Jay Feely, Eric Winston, Anthony “Spice” Adams, Alex Brown and Thomas Davis. The crowd roared with each selection as rookies joined Team Ruff and Team Fluff.

The draft event kicked off MVP Week at PAWS Chicago. Animal Planet generously covered the adoption fees for each Most Valuable Pet, helping connect even more families with loving cats and dogs. By the end of the event, 92 homeless animals were united with adoring families.
CREATURE COMFORTS

Incorporating functional, stylish pet-friendly designs into your home

by Elaine Markoutsas

And toss out those raggy toys—don’t your children deserve the very best? Not only are there fabulous looking balls to fetch or squeakers to poke, but also tasteful totes to stash and carry.

Even more important, new trends have pet stuff focused on function as well as fashion. Meaning what holds up, what’s easy to clean.

Performance materials have been quite revolutionary in home design, offering protection from sun, spills, mildew, mold and bacteria. Outdoor fabrics such as Sunbrella (which last year introduced a totally waterproof fabric—water just beads up and doesn’t penetrate) and Crypton Super Fabrics now have growing competition among designer names like Trina Turk as well as to-the-trade sources like Donghia, Kravet and Schumacher. Softer textures, some even channeling silk, chenille and velvet add to the appeal.

There are outdoor rugs with polypropylene fibers that feel convincingly like lush wool and weaves that rival the best indoor styles—in fact, many designers are specifying them in homes with high traffic areas populated by kids and pets. No wonder. Patterns range from wide stripes to geometrics and florals.

Last year, Pottery Barn sold outdoor rugs that looked convincingly like vintage kelims: Liora Manne for Trans-Ocean (transocean.com), Loloi (lolo.com), Surya (surya.com) and Couristan (couristan.com) are among the leading outdoor rug stylemakers.

Add to all of this, ink jet printing, which not only allows gorgeous realistic images but a wider range of hues and techniques that mimic painting.

At the recent Maison et Objet, a chic home fashions event in Paris held twice a year, a booth drew showgoers to a clear Lucite dog bed, with an oval navy reverse-painted backrest imprinted with a crown. But the ooos and aaahs were generated by the fluffy pillow, printed with the most lifelike image was digitally printed, and the company can personalize with your pet’s face.

One newcomer to pet products is an established name in outdoor furniture—Brown Jordan (brownjordan.com), which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Their collection of comfy pet beds offers three sizes in 11 popular outdoor fabrics, including a kicky stripe.

Elegant gear has been a mainstay of brands like Ralph Lauren (ralphlauren.com). One of its leashes with equestrian-inspired hardware even comes in pink for the girls. A collar that your fashionista pups will be craving is a red number at Lap of Luxury (lapofluxurydogspa.com), studded with colorful stones, concha style.

Harry Barker (harrybarker.com) also is a fab find for equipment and toys. It’s one of our faves because every product sold is sustainable: canvas, fibers, hemp, natural rubber, eco-friendly fills—as well as nutritious treats sans preservatives, artificial flavors and colors.

In case you’re wondering: Pet products are close to a $60 billion per year industry, according to the American Pet Products Association. In fact, overall pet spending has not fallen off since tracking began, and the figure, no doubt, will continue to grow with more innovations in design and style.
SATIATING HIS ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT WHILE LEVERAGING HIS TENACITY FOR HIGH-STAKES CORPORATE LITIGATION, Joe Siprut has a proven track record of success in multiple areas of legal practice. Since founding Siprut P.C., Joe has led his team to achieve favorable rulings in areas from class actions and consumer litigation, to personal injury and civil rights.

Most recently, you may recognize him as the lead counsel in the class action lawsuit against the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) on behalf of all college athletes who suffered head injuries. His diligence and precision throughout the case yielded a $75 million settlement, and a significant revision of the NCAA concussion protocols, changing college sports forever.

Having grown up with dogs his entire life, Joe Siprut has been passionate about the welfare of his canine friends with the same fervor he brings to his law practice. Aiming to spread awareness about homeless pets in Chicago while raising much-needed resources, his annual Siprut P.C. Charity Golf Outing solely benefits PAWS Chicago. He has personally committed to fund and name the Joe Siprut Reception Area at the Lincoln Park Adoption Center. He finds satisfaction knowing that “because of that pledge, dogs will be rescued and saved and will live out very full and happy lives who otherwise wouldn’t be able to.”

Joe and his children—Lana (9) and Joe, Jr. (6)—have devoted themselves to providing the fullest and happiest life to Sammy, a sprightly Border Collie mix who arrived at PAWS Chicago by way of an Oklahoma rescue organization that could not provide the medical care that Sammy needed. The poor puppy had a severely damaged back leg due to a nasty gunshot wound. The veterinarians at PAWS Chicago swiftly amputated Sammy’s leg, and under their watchful eyes, he began his road to recovery.

Now, Lana and Joe, Jr. are enamored with their darling companion and Sammy has a newfound freedom to run painlessly on his three legs. “Sammy wants for nothing and gets more love than he knows what to do with,” says Joe.

“Sammy wants for nothing and gets more love than he knows what to do with.”
ANDREW TOBIN
A HERO FOR HOMELESS DOGS

by Susanna Negovan

RETIRING TWO YEARS AGO AT AGE 52 LEFT ANDREW TOBIN LOOKING FOR A MEANINGFUL WAY TO SPEND HIS FREE TIME. "The more I learned about PAWS Chicago’s mission and everything we do ... I couldn’t dedicate enough time to it," says the former law firm finance director.

Andrew serves on PAWS Chicago’s development board and is co-chair of the annual Beach Party fundraiser. But it’s his work as a trained “Gold Star” volunteer — which allows him to interact with every type of adoptable dog — that has proven to be most rewarding.

Volunteering three days a week, Andrew estimates he’s had a hand in adopting out about 150 dogs. “I always go to the website and download images of all the dogs I’ve interacted with, and every couple of months I go through the photos. There are times when I feel like I will cry when I see them again — and then I see an alumni photo with them lying in a comfy bed with someone who loves them ... there’s nothing like it.”

“Counseling potential adopters is about making a connection and matching up a lifestyle,” he says. “When I talk to somebody and they say, ‘I live in a single-family home with a big fenced-in yard,’ I’ll think about a dog that we have that is looking for a situation like that.”

The dogs range from homeless puppies to older and owner-relinquished — a situation that can be particularly hard on the animal, Tobin says. “There is no doubt that dogs grieve, dogs get depressed. Even though the Adoption Center is beautiful, it’s still a shelter. When I see dogs that have clearly been in homes, they’re just looking for the safety and love and affection they had at one point in their lives. I say, ‘We are going to find you a good home. You’re safe here, and we’re going to find you someone who is going to love you and keep you forever.’”

Andrew and his partner of 18 years, development board member Gary Haut, found a special way to commemorate their shared devotion to homeless animals last year. “When we got married, we didn’t need pots and pans, so we asked people to make donations to PAWS instead. Being a financial person, I look to see how efficiently the money is being used. I know our labor force is such a big part of our volunteer program that I’m always confident the money is going to be used well.”

YOU’RE SAFE HERE, AND WE’RE GOING TO FIND YOU SOMEONE WHO IS GOING TO LOVE YOU AND KEEP YOU FOREVER.

ANDREW TOBIN
“DON’T LOOK UP. WHATEVER YOU DO, DON’T LOOK UP,” warned her crew. It was too late. Alison Victoria, interior designer and host of HGTV and DIY Network’s popular show, Kitchen Crashers, looked up just as her crew’s van pulled into a restaurant parking lot in Chicago to see an emaciated pit bull trying to lick up any scraps of food it could find on the ground.

“I have tunnel vision, I don’t even think about anything else,” admits Alison, who says she freaked out when she saw the dog literally on its last legs, all skeleton and skin. “I went inside and I got some chicken and French fries. I was trying to feed him. He was so timid and so scared.”

She immediately told her crew that she couldn’t continue to build anymore that day.

Alison followed the emaciated pit bull around for three and a half hours, through empty alleys on one of the coldest days on record, until he finally calmed down and laid on the lawn of a run-down house.

This wasn’t the first time she’d halted production to rescue an animal. There was the time she saved a raccoon (which caused production to stop for five hours), another time it was a bird.

“I black out when it comes to animals,” she says. “When I need to save an animal, nothing else is in my brain. It’s like fight or flight kind of energy. So if I see anything like this, they know production will stop for a little bit. ‘Alison has to go save an animal.’” she jokes.

Alison is passionate about a lot of things and while animals have a special place in her heart, her work keeps her busy and traveling around the country regularly.

She knew she wanted to become a designer ever since she was a little girl. She and her best friend decided to redesign her bedroom one afternoon as a project. “We ripped up her carpet. We got to the hardwood flooring. We painted all of her furniture peach. We laid the room out differently, changed out the lighting. You know, we made pillows,” she explains, nonchalantly. That’s where it all started and that drive and passion for design has been part of her DNA ever since.

Alison left Chicago to attend college at the University of Nevada Las Vegas and became the youngest designer at Christopher Homes in Las Vegas upon graduation. Later she would take the helm at creative director of the Silverton Casino Hotel in Las Vegas, overseeing its $160 million expansion.

When HGTV approached her to do a show along the Crashers theme (Yard Crashers, House Crashers, Bath Crashers), she would become the first female crasher and host of Kitchen Crashers.
“I often hear people who say ‘I want to get that sofa but I don’t want my dog to sit on it,’” Alison explains. “First of all, we need to be smart about selecting fabrics that work for our lifestyles. There has to be a sofa or something that we share with our dogs.”

Selecting your furniture or building materials – whether it’s fabric for a sofa or the type of flooring – should be done thoughtfully when you have a pet. Alison says. Thinking it through before investing will save money, time and aggravation in the long run.

When Alison found Domer, he was a severely malnourished stray in need of urgent care.

Today, Domer is a healthy, happy boy who is loving life with his new family.

She’s also not only the face of Cabinets To Go, but she used the company’s cabinets when she crashed her own Las Vegas kitchen recently. Besides her professional accomplishments and accolades received over the years, including being recognized as one of Crain’s Chicago 40 Under 40, how she spends her very limited free time means just as much to her. She only aligns herself with two charities: PAWS Chicago and Habitat for Humanity because she wants to feel like she’s making a real difference and not spread herself too thin.

Alison has been a supporter of PAWS Chicago for 10 years, volunteering, helping host events, and encouraging friends to get involved and attend events or foster pets whenever possible. She even considered starting a similar shelter in Las Vegas. And then, the pit bull Domer came into her life in that restaurant parking lot and her appreciation for PAWS, its mission.

The following day, Domer found a loving foster that had clearly suffered neglect from living on the streets. Although Domer affectionately licked the rescue worker Jorge’s hand before he jumped into the car to get warm. And then, Alison says she lost it.

“I could not keep myself together,” she says. “Even though I knew he was safe, I was bawling. I was so depressed by his condition and what he lived through, but so happy at the same time.”

The following day, Domer found a loving foster that would eventually become his permanent home.

Since that day [Domer was rescued], there is nothing I can do to repay PAWS,” says Alison. “That experience proved to Alison just how much the organization believes in, and carries out, its mission.

“I’m pretty hard core,” she says. “I’m a tough chick and I can handle my own. But when it comes to animals, any animals in need, it melts my heart. It makes me feel so human. It’s a love that’s unconditional!”

Alison considers Paula Fasseas, founder and chair of PAWS Chicago, an inspiration for working toward making Chicago a No Kill city and educating people when it comes to spaying and neutering their pets. Alison may work on others’ homes on a daily basis and her home may be where her heart is — but that’s only because that’s where her dogs are waiting for her at the end of her workday. She shares her home with a Westin Terrier named Wesley and a Maltese named Kennedy. She calls them her life.

“Everything is more important if you have a pet,” she notes. "I don’t know how people manage without them. They’re the one real thing and one real constant happiness in my life.”
ALISON’S PICKS
HOT FOR THE HOME

1. PET PORTRAITS BY ELIZA ROSEN
Chicago-based Eliza Rosen’s gift is not just being able to use paint brushes well, it is her ability to take a pet’s personality and make it come to life on paper. Through her company, Eliza Rosen Illustration, she works directly with her clients to design custom art pieces that highlight their pet’s true personality in a whimsical, completely one-of-a-kind fashion. Clients send a well-lit photo of their pet and share a bit about his or her personality before she begins on the first stroke. By the end, clients have an 8” x 10” piece of art, printed on heavy weight, premium archival paper, making it easy to add their own personal touch with a frame. Add a set of 10 correspondence cards featuring the pet portrait for $22 more. ELIZAROSEN.COM, $150 FOR ONE PET; $200 FOR TWO PETS

2. V-HIGH LOUNGE
It’s the kind of thing you might expect to see in The Jetsons’ home. The V-High Lounge, part of the new Vesper V-Line, has a modern, curved design and includes a soft cushion made of faux fur. Although made with our feline friends in mind, I’m told even our canine friends are welcome at this elegant rest stop. Just released this spring, it’s available at independent pet retailers throughout Chicago and suburbs. USA.HAGEN.COM, $64.99

3. ALOTA DOGS PET BOWL
A personalized pet bowl is a nice touch in any home, even if your pet can’t read. Suburban Chicago based The Stationery Studio offers a host of personalized items, including the Alota Dogs Pet Bowl (don’t let the name fool you, it can be used for any type of pet that drinks from a bowl), which can be customized using almost two-dozen font choices. The fact that it’s also made of ceramic makes it harder for spills to occur from accidentally bumping. THESTATIONERYSTUDIO.COM, $38

4. LEELOO CAT SCRATCHER
San Francisco-based P.L.A.Y. (Pet Lifestyle and You) designs eco-friendly and durable pet bedding and toys that are stylish for owners while safe for pets, and healthier for our planet. We’re coveting its Leeloo Cat Scratcher for its sleek infinity shape. When not in use as a scratching post or napping haven, it looks like a piece of art. It’s both good looking and supports a cat’s natural scratching behavior. Currently available at local boutiques around the city. PAWNATURALS.COM/PETPLAY.COM, $39

5. DOZER DONUT BED
Pets need their own space, even when it seems they already own the joint. Give them a place they can claim completely their own like the stylish Dozer Donut Bed by Chicago-based PetEgo, known for its high design pet accessories. The Dozer Donut round bolster bed lets your pet curl up to take a nap but also looks adorable in any home décor. It comes in three sizes and the pillow cover is removable and machine washable, making clean up a breeze. PETEGO.COM, $62-134
PROTECT YOUR PET
Avoid these common household risks

by Amy Williams Bernstein

Cats and dogs are naturally curious, which can lead to trouble. “As you animal-proof your home, remember that their sense of smell is so much better than ours,” cautions Dr. Barbara Royal, veterinarian at Royal Treatment Veterinary Center. Here’s a room-by-room guide to making your home safe for your pets.

KITCHEN

FOOD Some people foods are toxic to pets, including onions especially for cats, chocolate, coffee, grapes and raisins. To avoid accidentally giving your pets food that will harm them, clean up food spills immediately and don’t feed them table scraps.

TRASH CANS Invest in covered trash cans and recycle bins. “People say, ‘But my dog never gets into the trash,’” says Dr. Royal. “But there could be that one time that there’s bacon grease on top of coffee grounds.”

COUNTERS Cats that like to jump on counters should be trained to avoid the stove and oven. Use a spray bottle to discourage them from exploring those areas.

BEDROOM

WINDOWS Tie up long cords on window drapes or blinds. Puppies and cats are especially at risk of getting tangled up and strangled.

CORDS Protect electrical cords from being chewed to prevent electrocution or burns. Consider flexible protective cord covers that keep cats away from the cord.

LIVING ROOM

PLANTS Make sure your house plants and flower arrangements aren’t toxic. You can find a list of dangerous plants by going to pawschicago.org/toxic.

REMOTE CONTROLS Put remote controls away. “We touch food and then we touch the remote, and we don’t realize it might smell good,” says Dr. Royal. Dogs who chew on these can ingest small plastic parts or be exposed to battery acid.

BATHROOM

TOOTHPASTE Some toothpastes contain xylitol, which is extremely toxic to cats and dogs. Xylitol is also used in some sugar-free gums and candies. Be sure to keep these where pets can’t get to them.

MEDICATIONS Don’t leave medicines out. Clean up any spilled medicines immediately.

TOILET PAPER Some pets eat toilet paper and other cotton products, which can cause an obstruction in the intestines. If you can’t keep these products away from your pets, keep bathroom doors closed to keep pets out.

Wellness Products Picks

Dr. Barbara Royal, veterinarian at Royal Treatment Veterinary Center recommends these products to help keep your pet safe and healthy.

SIMPLEHUMAN 45-LITRE RECTANGULAR STEP CAN
A simple slide lock on the lid keeps pets out of this trash can, no matter how alluring the contents. It also has an extra-strong pedal mechanism to keep the lid opening and closing smoothly even with heavy kitchen use.

GRANNICK’S BITTER APPLE TASTE DETERRENT
Apply this bitter-tasting liquid to electrical cords, furniture, or anything you want to keep your pet from chewing. Grannick’s has different versions for cats and dogs, and you can choose from a dabber top or spray.

$6.49 FOR 8-OZ DABBER TOP
FOR CATS AT PETCO.COM

VETRI-SCIENCE LABORATORIES VETRI REPEL SPRAY
This natural flea and tick repellent is made from essential oils that mask the scent of animals’ skin, so fleas and ticks aren’t attracted. Since it doesn’t contain any synthetic chemicals or toxic ingredients, it’s safe if pets lick it off.

$22.20 FOR 16 OZ AT WAG.COM

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One per household. Coupon must be present at time of visit.

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Elizabeth Czerwony DVM
Mariah Foss DVM
Daphne Thompson DVM
773-539-9080
www.cathospitalofchicago.com
2851 W. Irving Park Road
Chicago, IL 60618
ON NOVEMBER 14, 2014
PAWS Chicago hosted the 13th Annual Fur Ball at The Drake Hotel, co-chaired by Stephanie & Jake Henry and Anne Marie & Murray Peretz. Honorary Chairs Janice & Philip Beck were celebrated for their commitment in helping save the lives of homeless pets. The event was attended by more than 750 people and 275 pets, and was presented by A. Marek Fine Jewelry, Chopper Trading and the Drake Hotel. Dogs enjoy the festivities with their owners, from walking the red carpet to dancing late into the night.

The gala featured a rousing appearance by Smashing Pumpkins' frontman Billy Corgan. As a dedicated supporter of PAWS Chicago’s work, Corgan hit the auction block to offer a once-in-a-lifetime, music lover’s dream experience with a personal, in-home Smashing Pumpkins concert for 20. In addition to remarkable vacation destinations, sports packages and a fine wine collection, one of the highlights of the evening was a bid to sponsor PAWS Chicago’s next transport van. These vans will be utilized to take homeless dogs and cats from high kill shelters to PAWS Chicago’s Medical Center every day.

The gala also featured the Smashing Pumpkins’ frontman Billy Corgan. As a dedicated supporter of PAWS Chicago’s work, Corgan hit the auction block to offer a once-in-a-lifetime, music lover’s dream experience with a personal, in-home Smashing Pumpkins concert for 20. In addition to remarkable vacation destinations, sports packages and a fine wine collection, one of the highlights of the evening was a bid to sponsor PAWS Chicago’s next transport van. These vans will be utilized to take homeless dogs and cats from high kill shelters to PAWS Chicago’s Medical Center every day.

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Janice & Philip Beck
Co-Chairs
Stephanie & Jake Henry and Anne Marie & Murray Peretz
Auction Chairs
Kimberly Gleeson and Cheri Lawrence
Jewelry Raffle donated by A. Marek
Goshwara Moonstone Teardrop Cage Earrings with 1.45 diamond carats

Bid to Save Lives Donors
Medicine for Kittens ($20,000)
Dina Kinnan
Batens Family in Honor of Alfredo Cotto
The Mamelak Family
Dr. & Mrs. Kurt Miller Winnetka Animal Hospital
Arlington, IL Pet Supply
Northwestern University
Anne Pearson
The Professionals Moving Specialists, Suzanne Prysak
Mitch Segal & Co., Mark Flitfall
Maria & Bill Smithburg
Bonne & James Spurlock
Lynne Styles
Thompson Colburn
Judith & Howard Tullman
Heather & Mark Weisler
Charles Leonard
Emily & Andy Mullen
Barbara & Richard Rinella
Dr. Steve Stephens & Andrea Schwartz
1 Patrick Welch

Event Sponsors
The Drake Hotel, co-chaired by Stephanie & Jake Henry and Anne Marie & Murray Peretz

Special Thanks
Auction Results
Auctioneer David Goodman of Auction Results

The Drake Hotel
Fur Ball
November 13, 2015

PAWS Chicago
dedicated to the well-being of homeless pets and their owners, is committed to helping save lives.

Gold Benefactors
Business Valuation Group, Inc.
Rita & John Canning
Pam & Ed Carey
Deborah & Bruce Crown
Susan & Michael Frank
Pat Garrison
John & Carol Walter
Family Foundation
Shari & Keith Johnson
Linda & Charlie Johnston
Ann Lure
The Lynn Cooper Hotel, co-chaired by Stephanie & Jake Henry and Anne Marie & Murray Peretz

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PAWS Chicago
dedicated to the well-being of homeless pets and their owners, is committed to helping save lives.
Nearly 500 animal lovers and their canine companions rang in the first day of spring by celebrating homeless pets at the sold out 9th Annual PAWS Chicago Animal Magnetism event, held Friday, March 20 at Venue One. The evening was emceed by 103.5 KISS-FM’s morning host, Fred, and co-chaired by HGTV and DIY Network’s Alison Victoria and Professional Board member Lex Culer. This dog-friendly event was presented by The Professionals Moving Specialists and proceeds raised will help fund critical life-saving programs for homeless animals.
PETIQUETTE
Three steps to a well-mannered dog

Charlie, a two-year-old German Shepherd, Bully breed mix “has a great spirit and personality,” says Melissa Footlick, who adopted Charlie with her fiancé David Blake at the PAWS Chicago Lincoln Park Adoption Center last summer. “She was the life of the party,” says Footlick. “At the park, all the dogs wanted to play with Charlie.”

Then Charlie suffered an accident while playing in a backyard. She got a stick embedded in her side and had to have it surgically removed. After the incident, some new troubling behaviors emerged, and some already existing ones got worse.

At home, Charlie was easily startled and fearful of unknown objects. On walks, she pulled on the leash and didn’t listen to commands. At the park, she growled and snapped at other dogs.

Charlie had been to an obedience class, but “we weren’t as committed to the training,” says Footlick. Now, she and Blake realized they had to do something about Charlie’s behavior.

They enrolled Charlie in a PAWS obedience class with Joan Harris, Director of Canine Training and Behavior, and also began private in-home training.

“I believe in having a well-mannered dog before you even have the dog. “Where people go wrong is they let the dog set the rules,” says Harris. “Instead, before you find your dog, decide what kind of behavior you want.” Harris suggests talking to a PAWS Chicago adoption expert. “They can help you decide what you want in a dog,” she says.

Before your new pet arrives, dog-proof your house to remove temptations. “So many problems can be fixed by not letting them start in the first place,” says Harris. Keep shoes in the closet, don’t leave food on the counter, and keep garbage cans tightly closed. Use baby gates and close doors to areas you want to be off-limits to your dog.

The three-step plan

1. THINK AHEAD

Having a well-mannered dog begins before you even have the dog. “Where people go wrong is they let the dog set the rules,” says Harris. “Instead, before you find your dog, decide what kind of behavior you want.” Harris suggests talking to a PAWS Chicago adoption expert. “They can help you decide what you want in a dog,” she says.

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2. MANAGE BEHAVIORS

Begin managing behaviors immediately so they can’t turn into bad habits. Harris uses the example of Pilot, a Doberman Pinscher she has been fostering for a few weeks. “When I’m there to watch him, I can interrupt unwanted behaviors. When I can’t, I crate him.” At first, she crated him even when she was going to step out of the room for a minute, but she has gradually given him a little more freedom.

3. BE CONSISTENT

“If you want consistent results, you have to have consistent behavior management,” says Harris. For example, if you relax the rules when company comes over, letting the dog jump on the couch or take food from the table, he’ll continue to behave this way. It’s better to put him in a crate or another room than to have to change bad behaviors later.

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Jackson Galaxy’s Guide to CATIFICATION

by Danielle Gordon

WHY CAN’T CATS JUST HAPPILY SIT ON A COUCH WITH THE REST OF US AND FEEL COMFORTABLE? Why do we need to adapt our environment for them?

It’s all about understanding how a cat sees the world, according to feline behaviorist Jackson Galaxy, host of Animal Planet’s show Cat From Hell. In the book CATIFICATION: Designing a Happy and Stylish Home for Your Cat (and You!), Galaxy and coauthor Kate Benjamin explain: “In nature, cats are the prey, not the predator. They hunt for their food. Your little cat now does not have to compete for space or resources.”

There are various locations where particular cats may feel more confident and comfortable: A cat’s elevated feeding area, their “hot spots,” or the “Tree Dweller” and “Bush Dweller.” Each cat is different, and the environment should be tailored to match their specific needs. Galaxy says, “And you can accommodate a cat’s need to run, climb, perch and relax using design elements that make both you and your cat happy.”

There are various locations where particular cats may feel more confident and comfortable: A “Bush Dweller” is comfortable in more open spots. And then there’s the “Tree Dweller,” hanging out somewhere in the vertical space of a room like a leopard in a tree. Galaxy cautions that “unconfident” cats may end up in similar spots, like under a couch, but for very different reasons. They are “trying to disappear or get away.” Unconfident cats tend to be more stressed and may have behavioral problems. So how do you help a cat move from hiding out of fear to becoming a confident bush, beach or tree dweller? Through “Catification,” according to Galaxy.

You need to create an environment where your cat feels both comfortable and self-assured. Catification can reduce stress for all humans and animals involved. You allow the territory to become his ally. You add features that allow your cat to move around with confidence first in his “comfort zones,” and then, over time, encourage him to come out and join the rest of the world.

HIGHWAY TO HARMONY

Planning out a “cat superhighway” is the main feature of a Catification plan, according to Galaxy. “A cat superhighway is a path that allows cats to navigate a room without touching the ground. This is the key to creating good traffic flow and providing your cat with access to the vertical world.”

But before you jump into building your superhighway, Galaxy and Benjamin suggest you first identify the “traffic flows” within your space, taking special note of “hot spots” where conflicts may occur. Once Galaxy and Benjamin first had to identify the “traffic flows” within this small space, taking special note of “hot spots” where conflicts may occur. Once Galaxy and Benjamin had identified the areas of concern, they chose the starting point. They built the superhighway along a wall.

Galaxy suggests creating a “traffic flow” in every room in your home that allows the cats to move around comfortably. Galaxy and Benjamin developed multiple lanes to optimize traffic flow. They integrated the floor, sofa and ottoman to accommodate the traffic of multiple cats; on/off ramps to allow for access and provide escape routes; and destinations or rest stops to give cats good reason to use the highway.

But what if you build a super-highway and it doesn’t solve the issues you were trying to address? Especially when working in new spaces or with new cats, it’s tough to know who may be more of a tree dweller than a cave dweller. Galaxy recommends keeping your design open and flexible while you figure out the individual and communal needs of your cats. “It goes to show you that Catification is a journey, not a destination, as well as the process need to be given the room to breathe and as the inhabitants cross their challenge lines and become more and more confident.”

Adapted from CATIFICATION: Designing a Happy and Stylish Home for Your Cat (and You!) by Jackson Galaxy and Kate Benjamin with the permission of Tarcher, an imprint of Penguin Random House. Copyright 2014 Jackson Galaxy and Kate Benjamin.

Practical Catification
Galaxy catifies his 500-square-foot home

Before you conclude that Catification sounds great, but is only for big homes with big budgets, hold on and see how Galaxy and Benjamin were able to catify Galaxy’s tiny, 500-square-foot guest house in Los Angeles, where he lived with his three cats, Velloura, Chuppy, and Caroline, and his dog, Rudy.

“I walked into this space and immediately panicked,” Galaxy said. “My cats have extremely big personal space bubbles and needed enough room to get away from each other.” Galaxy and Benjamin first had to identify the “traffic flows” within this small space, taking special note of “hot spots” where conflicts may occur. Once Galaxy and Benjamin had identified the areas of concern, it was time to start mapping out an orderly traffic flow that would work for the felines and their canine and human companions.

Galaxy and Benjamin developed multiple lanes to optimize traffic flow. They integrated the floor, sofa and ottoman, and two levels of shelves into their design, pointing out that since your cats are probably going to use your furniture as a traffic lane, why not plan for it?

“All these lanes incorporate both animal use and human use; for instance, the desk is for Galaxy to work at, but it’s also incorporated into the superhighway. The credenza holds the TV as well as the cats’ elevated feeding area. The sofa and furniture are part of the superhighway,” Benjamin said.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Have you catified your home? Send us your stories and photos at animalstories@pawschicago.org and they may be featured on the PAWS Chicago website or in a future publication.
Welcome to the ALL-NEW Urban Pooch Training & Fitness Center!

Unique to Chicago, our spectacular, state-of-the-art 10,000-s.f. facility offers training, fitness and agility – with many classes you won’t find anywhere else. We’re proud to provide the city’s largest team of differentiated, award-winning trainers, who can solve any behavior issue. And we’re thrilled to introduce the world’s first FitPaws Dog Activity Monitor program, awarding weekly prizes to top performers.

- Puppy Preschool & Kindergarten
- K9 Nose Work
- Agility classes taught by professional competitors
- Workshops, personal training & group classes
- FitPaws classes with certified Master Trainers

Register at UrbanPoochTraining.com/PAWS and receive a Special Offer just for PAWS Parents!

Come see how strengthening the bond between you and your pooch – and helping your dog achieve their personal best – is what we’re all about!

In May 2014, Chicago lost a truly generous man. Throughout his life, Paul Lutter worked tirelessly – professionally, as a legal advocate for his clients and personally for many organizations whose missions closely aligned with his passions.

Paul graduated magna cum laude from Carleton College in Minnesota with a degree in economics, then earned his J.D. at Yale Law School in 1971. Throughout his legal career he worked with individuals and nonprofit organizations on matters relating to tax and estate planning. He was an industry pioneer, working with same-sex couples on estate planning long before the Defense of Marriage Act or legislation surrounding same-sex marriage.

Paul’s passion extended to human rights, animal welfare and the arts community. In his estate planning, Paul provided for cats and dogs by creating the Lutter Fund, founded in honor of his mother Lois and two of his beloved dogs, Ruby and Cricket.

The Lutter Fund – Helping Animals

The Lutter Fund will help pets and pet owners in need by supporting PAWS Chicago’s PAWS for Life program, which was inaugurated in November 2014. The program provides counseling to individuals looking to give up pets at the city pound. By providing resources and information, it helps families keep and care for their pets, preventing animals from entering the already crowded shelter system. Through this PAWS program, basic needs such as medical treatment, pet food and supplies, training and behavioral modification are available.

The Lutter Fund will help support these important services for under-resourced pet owners, in addition to providing operating support to the PAWS for Life program.

A Life of Community

Paul was extremely generous with his time, serving on numerous boards and committees including the Board of Directors for the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Illinois, the Roger Baldwin Foundation, the Chicago chapter of Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA), and Dance for Life, an organization that raises awareness and funds for HIV/AIDS care, education and prevention while promoting the art of dance in Chicago. He served on the Board of Directors of Howard Brown Health Center from 1998 to 2002, including four years as president. During that time, Paul spearheaded the first-ever capital campaign for an LGBTQ organization in the Midwest, raising more than $4.5 million dollars for a state-of-the-art health and wellness facility located in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood. Included was the first in-clinic, full-service Walgreens with pharmacists specializing in HIV/AIDS, ensuring that Howard Brown clients received compassionate care onsite – a priority for Paul.

Leaving a Legacy

When not working, Paul enjoyed spending time at his vacation home in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and would frequently travel with Abbie and Colby, his much-cherished dogs who were the light of his life. Abbie and Colby are now full-time Santa Fe residents, joining the family of two of Paul’s dearest friends.

Paul was often asked to speak at celebrations, galas, and fundraising events because of his ability to capture important moments with dry wit, an eloquent manner and an uncanny memory for detail. His soft-spoken demeanor commanded a room, and his humor was long remembered.

Because of Paul’s kindness, more of Chicago’s pets will have a home, and although those who receive support through PAWS for Life will never know the man behind the program, his legacy lives on in the smiles of families whose lives are brighter because they are able to keep their pet through challenging times.

Because Every Dog Is A Champion.
Especially Yours.
Sarah Goldberg rescued her two dogs, Daisy and Bucket, when she was working as an actor in California. She was committed to these dogs, going to the ends of the earth to care for them.

Her first rescue, when she was about eight years old, was a cat she named Tootsie. On a trip to Wisconsin, her family stopped at a farmstand. Sarah ran into the barn and a few minutes later, emerged with a little kitten–black with a white forehead–cradled in her arms. The farmstand’s owner said minutes later, emerged with a little kitten–black with a white forehead–cradled in her arms. The farmstand’s owner said

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In February 2014, iHeartMedia launched campaigns for PAWS Chicago, providing extensive pro bono airtime to inform the Chicagoland community about PAWS Chicago’s free and low-cost spay/neuter Clinics and extensive adoption programs. iHeartMedia radio talent also came together at PAWS Chicago’s ‘12 Strays of Christmas’ open house to help adopters at our Lincoln Park Adoption Center find their perfect match. Chicago’s homeless animals would like to thank the iHeartMedia team for raising awareness and helping to build a No Kill community.
IN MEMORY OF

by Scott Kulpins
Kulpins
Samantha Korkosz
by Ronald Korkosz
Catherine Wolf
Kimberly Vander,
by Ellen Kelleher
Sarah Killebrew and Tony
by John and Char Kazmer
by Terri Cribb
by Koula Kagan
Benjamin, Joey & Sammy
Kabakoff
by Robert Bakewell, Rosemary &
Rhonda Krienheder, Rita Michael Jutovsky, Noriko &
John Ptak, Micaela F.
Beese-Mandice, Maria
Ishiwata, Laura Lynn
Joyce Neumeyer, Justin
Goben, Joseph Sheridan,
Lopez, Fritz Allgaier,
Denise & Thomas Renville,
Deborah & Glen Mordecai,
by Charlton Harper
Thomas and Marie
Ryan Marks
Adam Markey
Heather Prach
Mark and Dena
Louis Marcheschi
Cynthia OLeary
Jennifer Berg
Lorraine
and Veronica Edwards.
Mary Castellano, Marybeth
Kelly Kirby, Lisa Hessel,
Jordan Furlett, Kelly Kanter,
Jane Rogers, Karen and
Evans, George and Molly
Mrs. Feldman, Emily
Bruce Marx, Christa Nick,
Surber, Alex Millunchick,
by Addie
by Scott Pearson
Baldridge and Lorrie Little
by Julia
by
by
by Lizzie
by James Pszanka
by Robert

Mr. D. Van Witzenburg
Ms. S.E. Parker and
Shirl and Casimir Paw
by
Olivia Pahl
& Barbara Amen
by Janice Vondrasek
Katie & David O'Donovan
George Musielak and
Vodicka and Alexander May
by Patricia Spratt
Joanne and Michael
by Louis Cohn
by Michele Choe
Matthew Costerisan
by Gail
by Edward Dyer
Eric Kincaid
Katie Pollak
by
Kim & Jerry Pohl
by Caroline Briggs
Michael and Laura
by
Joanne and Michael
by
of the following
Gifts made between August 1, 2014 and
February 28, 2015 in memory of the following pets

of all your spirit. You’re with Gracie
soft fur, your tenderness and most
new legs. Run, my little one, run
Love, Mom

IN MEMORY OF

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PAWS Chicago ALUMNI

Your support makes these stories possible

We love him more than I can express

Oden [PAWS name Sosy] is our pride and joy, a source of immense happiness and the only thing that stopped me from crying daily over the loss of another pet. He LOVES to be woken up with kisses. Every time my hubby and I are having a bad day, we just send each other pictures of him. It works instantly as a cheering up device. We love him more than I can express. - Kelly Harrild

Samantha and Zev were best friends

We adopted Samantha the Bichon Frise [PAWS name Sal] in 2006. This photograph shows Samantha sitting on the bench we donated to the Debbie Gottlieb Beitler Dog Park in Highland Park. The bench is in memory of our son, Zev, who passed away in 2009. Samantha and Zev were best friends and Zev’s dream was to have a small dog park where Samantha could play. After years of planning, a group of dog lovers opened this amazing off-leash dog park. - Audrey and Daniel Weinberg

Calling all PAWS Adopters!

Send us photos and updates of your adopted PAWS Chicago animals and you might see your pet in our next issue!

> Email your high-resolution photos to animalstories@pawschicago.org

The purest love at first sight

When I visited PAWS, I will never forget one of the volunteers saying, “Hey, what about the little Basset Hound, Susie Q?” My eyes got excited with tears while thinking this because that was the moment my life changed forever. I’ve fallen in love a few times in my life, with dogs and animal alike, but I’d never felt punched in the gut the way I was when I first laid eyes on my Susie. Through a really rough patch in my life a few years ago, burying my face in her soft fur made me certain everything would be okay. And everything was. - Melissa D’Lando

Memorials & Tributes

Gifts made in memory of the following pets continued

by Charlie Gantz

by Beth Mannino

Linda England

by Jonathan Disner

Brady Disner

by Otto Betts

Bow Wow and Miau

by John E. Mulaney

by Virginia Paynton

Styles Tkachenko Weaver

Alysa

by Michelle Allie

by Kathleen Graf

Aldo

by Beverly McCaskill

Charlie Saslow

Joshua Gantz

by Sandra de Luis

SABRINA PROUSIS

IN MEMORY OF

PAWS

IN MEMORY OF EMMA DAMATO

IN MEMORY OF LAKOTA NELSON

Gifts made between August 1, 2014 and February 28, 2015 in honor of the following pets

48 / PAWSCHICAGO
PAWS Chicago Guardian Angel Program

A bequest to PAWS Chicago, the city’s largest No Kill humane organization, is a wonderful way to save the lives of homeless cats and dogs long after your lifetime.

Donna & Mike Bell Leave a Legacy for the Animals

The Guardian Angel program at PAWS Chicago was created to offer planned giving opportunities to those interested in saving homeless pets for years to come. A bequest made to PAWS Chicago through this program provides for the shelter, food, veterinary care, medicines and support required to help homeless pets find loving new homes.

Mike and Donna Bell decided to secure the future of PAWS Chicago through a planned gift after learning about the Guardian Angel program. “We were moved by the No Kill model and wanted to do our part to help homeless pets for years to come,” said Mike Bell. And, according to Bell, the process was as easy as meeting with their attorney to create the trusts.

“We hope that through our gift, PAWS Chicago will be able to continue to grow and save more lives,” Bell added.

For PAWS Chicago, it’s not just a hope but a small step that will make a difference in the lives of homeless pets long into the future.

Through the Guardian Angel program, and in honor of their beloved cat, Amy, Donna and Mike have ensured the futures of homeless cats and dogs for years to come.

Please visit pawschicago.org/guardianangel for more information and sample language, or call (773) 475-4240.