

## METRO



JIM FROST / SUN-TIMES

**PAWS founder Paula Fasseas holds living proof that Pets Are Worth Saving: Daisy and Pippin, stray dogs that her family adopted. Fasseas hopes Chicagoans will follow her example.**

## Stores to put doggies in windows

**BY BRENDA WARNER ROTZOLL**  
CITY REPORTER

Abandoned animals will fill the windows of posh stores along Oak Street and North Michigan Avenue Sunday as Pets Are Worth Saving launches a campaign to encourage people to adopt dogs and cats from animal shelters.

The "Angels with Tails" walking tour past Barneys New York, Atlas Gallery, St. John Boutique, In Chicago for Men, Elements, Ann Taylor, Billy Hork Gallery, Ralph Lauren, LaSalle Bank, Pavillon Christofle, Escada and FAO Schwarz will feature hundreds of cats and dogs from the city pound and every pet shelter in Chicago.

"People think animals from shelters are damaged," PAWS founder Paula Fasseas said. "The vets on our board will tell you mixed-breed animals from shelters are the healthiest animals, and they are not damaged animals."

On-site adoptions will be available at Barneys New York and FAO Schwarz, Fasseas said. Buyers must

be prepared to prove their building allows pets.

Fasseas got into the pet-saving business in 1996, when a stray dog adopted her family during a vacation on the Greek isle of Crete. The children took Pippin into their hotel room, and after five days decided they couldn't leave without him. At Christmastime, the family went to the city pound to find Pippin a companion, a basengi mix named Daisy.

Fasseas decided to get more people in on the pet-saving act after reading a Sun-Times story about the 40,000 homeless animals killed each year in Chicago. She roped in friend and fellow pet rescuer Leslie Shearer as president of PAWS and sought out business people who had not been pet advocates before.

"Killing is not an acceptable management tool," Fasseas said.

PAWS' next mission is to provide free or discounted neutering of pets to people who otherwise can't afford it. Target neighborhoods include Pilsen, Little Village and Humboldt Park, where large numbers of animals are turned in to the city pound each year.