Mid-year Update  
Page 3

A Hero Memorial  
Page 3

Bella’s Story  
Page 2

Plus: Summer Safety Reminders, Featured Pets, and more!
Roxy, a 3-year-old cattle dog mix, has been spending time with one of our Behavior staff members while waiting for an adopter to take her home. Even though she enjoys hanging out in the office, we know she’d prefer cuddling on the couch while binging the latest television series with a family.

Milo the 12-year-old black beauty arrived at HSU early January of this year. He’s been patiently waiting for someone to notice him and his friendly demeanor. Milo has an odd but endearing little tongue flick that makes us wonder if he’s part lizard.

Both Roxy and Milo are available for adoption. Visit them at HSU or view other adoptable pets online at:

www.utahhumane.org/adopt

Sudden and unexpected emergency veterinary costs are one of the most stressful responsibilities pet owners face. Unless you have established an emergency savings fund for your pet, there are limited options to handle unforeseen medical expenses. Owners may either purchase pet health insurance, apply for a credit card or CareCredit, or pay out-of-pocket at the time services are rendered. Unfortunately, most veterinary hospitals do not offer payments plans, although some have funds for elderly pet owners to receive financial aid. Animal shelters like the Humane Society of Utah (HSU) keep their veterinarians busy caring for shelter animals, and typically do not have the equipment and staff to provide full hospital services to the public. Lacking affordable options or alternatives, some pet owners may be faced with the devastating decision to put a sick or injured pet down. Sometimes, as a last resort, owners may surrender the pet to the HSU if they cannot afford emergency care and the animal is suffering. In these cases, the animal’s well-being is our primary concern, and we do not want them to needlessly suffer. Our veterinary staff will always make the best decision on behalf of the animal in these cases, whether it be humane euthanasia or medical treatment.

Bella, an 8-month-old female Husky, was surrendered to the HSU in late June 2017 with a severely fractured front leg and shoulder that her owner could not afford to treat. She had been taken to a private veterinary hospital where an orthopedic surgeon diagnosed her injury and recommended amputation as the best treatment. Suffering radial nerve damage, Bella would not have use of her leg even after the bones mended if casting had been performed. Amputation services through a private veterinarian can be cost-prohibitive to many people, as was the case with Bella’s owner.

When HSU veterinarian, Dr. Paul Chapin assessed Bella upon her intake, he confirmed the diagnosis that a leg amputation was the best option for Bella, and that she would be highly adoptable following her recovery. Dr. Chapin performed the amputation surgery in our Clinic, and Bella was sent to Foster Care to recover for five weeks. During this time, Bella was kept on cage rest as her wound and bruises healed, swelling decreased, and to prevent a seroma — a collection of fluid that builds up under the surface of the skin after a surgical procedure. After healing from the amputation for several weeks, Bella was spayed and placed into a foster parent’s home to fully recover before adoption. At the time when this story was written, Bella was available for adoption. Visit our website at www.utahhumane.org/adopt to check her availability.

Life-saving medical procedures for shelter animals that would otherwise been euthanized, and finding them second chances in happy new homes, is all possible thanks to members like you!
Mid-year Update

by Gene Baierschmidt, HSU Executive Director

I’d like to take this mid-year opportunity to share an update on the Humane Society of Utah’s progress as we have finished our second quarter and look towards 2018. Every department has been working hard this year as we continue to make internal renovations and improvements to efficiently save more animals every day. These changes may be occurring behind the scenes, but the results are impressive and warrant recognition.

The following information is based on year-to-date statistics obtained through the month of June.

Lives Saved: A total 6,243 dogs, cats, and other pets have received positive outcomes through adoptions, returns to owners, or rescue placements. This is a 91.12% overall live-release rate, meaning that no pet has been euthanized due to a lack of time, space or resources. By nationwide standards, including the No Kill Utah (NKUT) Coalition standards, it is expected that 10% of animals that enter a shelter may be suffering from an irreparable medical or behavioral condition and deserve humane euthanasia as a mercy; however, the goal is to save 90% of animals that enter a shelter, which we are currently exceeding. This is an extraordinary accomplishment for us since the HSU is the largest and the only open-admissions animal shelter in the state — our doors are always open to any animal that we can legally accept, regardless of their condition. Our team works tirelessly to remedy any medical or behavioral issues through the many life-saving programs and services that we offer to improve an animal’s chance for adoption. We’ve also seen a reduced number of returned adoptions and owner surrendered animals coming into the shelter, demonstrating that our intervention and retention efforts are working.

Clinic Services: Our veterinarians and veterinary staff have performed 4,801 sterilization surgeries on dogs, cats, and rabbits in our shelter as well as the community. A record 54,179 dog and cat vaccinations have been administered to community pets by our highly-trained Clinic staff. We have also performed 333 other medical procedures on our shelter pets and 646 extractions of irreparably decayed teeth. These medical procedures make a world of difference for the health of our animals, improving their chances of adoption and saving more lives. By the end of this year, we expect our spay/neuter, vaccination and surgical procedure statistics to reach record highs.

Animal Transfers: Our Transfer and Rescue Department has brought in over 1,400 animals to the HSU that were at risk of euthanasia, could benefit from a change of location, or were in need of medical care that our Clinic could provide. We have also established many new relationships with partnering organizations to transfer cats out of our shelter during periods of overpopulation in Kitty City. Believe it or not, there are areas of the country with shelters that do not have enough cats available for interested adopters. On the other hand, many shelters like our own have too many cats that have been patiently waiting for a home for six months to a year. These felines can now be transferred to a different shelter where they will be adopted much sooner thanks to a high demand in those communities. These relationships have helped reduce the burden of housing older cats who tend to stay with us longer during the summer months when younger kittens are more readily adopted.

Advocacy: We have seen some tragic stories involving animal abuse this year, and we have offered rewards as an incentive to gather information to help authorities arrest and convict these heinous criminals. Through increased media attention regarding these cases, the HSU has tried to spread awareness about the link between animal abuse and other criminal activity, including drug use, child abuse, and domestic violence. We are also continuing work on banning gas chamber euthanasia in Utah shelters and investigating animal welfare issues.

Foster Care: Join us in bidding a fond farewell and thank you to Barbara Conrad who recently retired from the HSU in June. Barbara initiated our foster care program and had dedicated the past 14 years to the loving care of thousands of animals in need. We congratulate Juli Ulvstead, another long-time volunteer and employee, in her new position as Foster Care Manager. The Foster Department has already saved over 1,000 animals in need of special attention this year. All of these departments and others work together to save lives through financial planning and development, marketing and public relations, animal enrichment and training, humane education, adoption counseling, animal care and operations, and of course, the crucial work of volunteers and generous donors who help us Change Their World. We look forward to what the rest of this year will bring, and thank you for your continued support and contributions to save so many animals!

Please join us as we commemorate a Hero Memorial

Our community was shocked to hear news of Jeremy Hardman’s death June 7, 2017. This brave hero stopped to defend a helpless Chihuahua as it was beaten by a man on the sidewalk of 4100 South and 3600 West. Jeremy and his friend confronted the man, who drove off with the dog only to make a U-turn and hit Jeremy while he was in the crosswalk. Jeremy paid the ultimate price for attempting to stop animal abuse and died at the scene. The man was later arrested and the dog returned to his owner. Jeremy’s sacrifice will not be forgotten. We will be commemorating a Hero Memorial for Jeremy Saturday, August 26 from 7:30-8 p.m. at the Humane Society of Utah. August 26 is National Dog Day. Visitors are welcome to attend and pay their respects to Jeremy, his friends and family.
Every year, we hear the warnings not to leave a child or pet unattended in a vehicle during warmer weather, yet each summer, we hear the unfortunate news that a dog or child has suffered a heat-related injury or tragically lost their life. Endy, a Cache County Sheriff’s Office police K-9, tragically lost his life when left unattended in a hot patrol car this past July. Stories across the country report similar situations: someone left the window rolled down, parked in the shade, or left the air conditioning running while they only stepped away for a short period and assumed their pet would be fine.

We believe that under no condition should a child be left unattended in a vehicle, yet it still happens. Pets are especially at risk in extreme cold and hot weather because when temperatures change quickly, animals can not regulate their body temperature fast enough to compensate. The temperature inside of a car may increase 20-30 degrees Fahrenheit within 10 minutes in some situations; and a dog or cat does not have the ability to cool down or sweat the way a person does. Research has shown that rolling windows down or parking in the shade does not make a substantial impact on the inside temperature and the risk of overheating — a car becomes a greenhouse even on a cloudy day.

Pets should have access to fresh, cool water at all times. Pets should have access to adequate shelter. Reduce outdoor activity during extreme temperatures. Walk or exercise your dog in the early morning and/or evening. Place the back of your hand on the asphalt for 10 seconds. If it’s too hot for you, it’s too hot for your dog’s paws. Provide pet-safe frozen treats to help cool your pet. Ensure that your pet wears a collar with ID tag at all times. Microchip your pet and keep owner contact information current. Keep your pet current on vaccinations and regular vet health checks. Keep your pet inside during fireworks activity. Keep your pets on their normal diet. Make sure your pets do not consume the following items: grapes, raisins, garlic, onions, guacamole, chicken wings, cooked bones, chocolate, Xylitol (artificial sweetener common in sugar-free foods), alcohol, sunscreen, insect repellent, citronella or fireworks. Prevent your pet from falling out of open windows and do not leave them on balconies or high patios unobserved. Some dog breeds have a double fur coat that provides insulation and should not be shaved. Shaving can damage the inner coat and risk skin sunburn.

Leaving a vehicle running with the air conditioning turned on also poses risks, including but not limited to: the vehicle accidentally being knocked out of gear by a pet or child, increased pollution and breaking of an anti-idle ordinance in some cities, or someone jumping into the running vehicle and driving off with children!

A shelter swap held Saturday, July 29 multiplied efforts to help other shelters and rescue groups in Utah. Extra donations made to the Humane Society of Utah that we felt could not be properly utilized, such as items that could not be used by an expiration date or an abundance of goods, were shared among other animal welfare organizations that brought extra supplies of their own to trade.

“We’re all here for the animals, and we can’t do it alone,” said Kelsey Reimink, HSU Transfer and Rescue Manager. “We need to work together to optimize our efforts and save as many animals as possible. This is why we partner with other great shelters and rescue groups to transfer animals in need to and from the HSU. We’re very thankful for the good relationships we have and the support we offer one another.”

The Humane Society of Utah transfers almost 3,000 animals to our facility from other shelters and rescue groups each year. Many of these animals may be at risk of euthanasia due to limited space, time or resources at other organizations, and receive a second chance to find homes at the HSU. Some animals come to us that are in need of medical attention that our Clinic can provide. There are even some breeds that get overlooked in one area but are in demand in another. Through a partnership with shelters and rescue groups, the HSU can bring animals to our facility and send others in need of special attention out to rescue groups that provide specialized medical or behavioral care.

“We work hard to foster beneficial relationships with our partners, and this shelter swap was a great way to not only share supplies but enjoy socializing with each other,” said Reimink. “When donors support the HSU, they’re also helping other reputable animal welfare organizations across the state!”
Raising $180,000 for pets!

We are grateful to everyone who supported or attended our 5th Annual Wags to Wishes Gala. It was our largest crowd ever, and we hope that the four hundred people on board enjoyed their adventure with us! Our travel-themed event featured hors d’oeuvres from around the world with a sensational dinner from Utah Food Services and libations supported by Young’s Market Company. For the fifth year in a row, our gala was presented by the American Dog Rescue Foundation and Arthur E. Benjamin Foundation. Our signature sponsor for the second year was the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation. Other generous sponsors included Fox 13, Mountain America Credit Union, Wasatch Front Subaru Retailers, In The Event and AllFilters.com.

Presenting sponsor Arthur E. Benjamin showing off some tricks with his service dog, Charlie. Arthur’s brand new book “Barking up the Right Tree” describes his journey in animal welfare, including training service dogs and raising millions of dollars for charities like the Humane Society of Utah.

We humbly extend our deepest gratitude to the hundreds of generous individuals and businesses in the community who helped us raise $180,000 to support animals in need and Change Their World. We believe this was the best gala we have ever held, and we are already excitedly making plans for next year. We hope you can join us then! ✶

H.E.R.O. Kids Camp

We strongly believe that to Change Their World, we must teach children the importance of empathy, compassion and proper pet care. Every day of the year, our Humane Education team visits schools and conducts field trips, and in 2016 over 10,000 children were taught about animal welfare. In addition, last year we held our inaugural H.E.R.O. (Humane Educators Reaching Out) Summer Camp for two weeks and educated 70 children. Because of the great success and interest, and thanks to a generous grant by the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, we extended this year’s camp to four weeks! The Sorenson Legacy Foundation also provided grant funds allowing for eleven scholarships to be offered to students in need of financial assistance to attend the camp.

We are already planning on extending the camp next year to accommodate even more children! Registration will begin in February 2018. ✶

Additional Sponsors:
- Advanced Veterinary Care
- ASET
- Best Friends/NKUT
- Candi Wadsworth
- Children’s Academy Preschool
- Dog Lodge
- Edelman Financial Services
- Elena Cook, Real Estate Broker
- Foresight Wealth Management
- KeyBank
- Lala Kent
- Mark Miller Subaru
- Merck Animal Health
- Nuzles & Co.
- Ronald McDonald House Charities
- Sarah Woolsey
- Spavia Sandy
- Stoel Rives
- The Krystko Foundation
- The Rafati Foundation
- Tracy Thomas — Dog Friendly Agent
- Utah Food Services
- Young’s Market

Presented By:

Signature Support By:
George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation

Further Support By:

Presented By:

Signature Support By:
George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation

Further Support By:
Registration is open for our Summer Pet Portrait event Saturday, Sept. 2 and Sunday, Sept. 3! Compliments of Scott Gianchetta and The Photo Box Photography, 100% of proceeds benefit the homeless animals at the HSU. For a $25.00 donation, you will receive a personal 10-minute photo session with your pet and one 8x10 print on the spot! Humans are welcome to attend and pose with their furry friends. Additional 8x10 prints may be purchased the same day during your session for an additional $25.00 each. Additional size options and canvasses are available directly through The Photo Box Photography following your appointment.

Visit www.UtahHumane.org/SummerPhotos to register for your session. For questions, contact our special events manager, Jessica Linville at 801-506-2410 or JessicaL@utahhumane.org. Online registration is preferred to see current availability.

Happy 5th Birthday, Kitty City!

We can’t believe that it’s been five years since our 2012 Grand Opening of Kitty City! Thousands of cats and kittens have resided in our condos, villas, and townhomes while they waited for their chance to be adopted. When Kitty City was designed, we envisioned a home-like environment where visitors could sit, relax and meet each potential new family member. With the capacity for nearly 170 cats, Kitty City was built to offer the best in physical and emotional enrichment for our feline friends.

Please join us Saturday, Aug. 12 from 11-5pm and help us celebrate Kitty City’s 5th Birthday “Pawty!” There will be food trucks, family-friendly activities, Course A’ Lure, and more.

While you’re here, consider adopting a new feline family member of your own! All adult cats one year and older will have a reduced adoption fee of $5 and are spayed/neutered, microchipped and have their first set of vaccinations. Our regular adoption process applies.

We hope to see you there!

Sit, Stay, Say, “Cheese!”

Registration is open for our Summer Pet Portrait event Saturday, Sept. 2 and Sunday, Sept. 3! Compliments of Scott Gianchetta and The Photo Box Photography, 100% of proceeds benefit the homeless animals at the HSU. For a $25.00 donation, you will receive a personal 10-minute photo session with your pet and one 8x10 print on the spot! Humans are welcome to attend and pose with their furry friends. Additional 8x10 prints may be purchased the same day during your session for an additional $25.00 each. Additional size options and canvasses are available directly through The Photo Box Photography following your appointment.

Visit www.UtahHumane.org/SummerPhotos to register for your session. For questions, contact our special events manager, Jessica Linville at 801-506-2410 or JessicaL@utahhumane.org. Online registration is preferred to see current availability.

Volunteer for Utah’s Largest Beer Festival

Benefitting HSU

Salt Lake City Weekly’s Utah Beer Festival is coming up fast! For the 4th year in a row, the Humane Society of Utah is the beneficiary of the festival, receiving 25% of all proceeds! This year features expanded grounds at the Utah State Fairpark (155 N. 1000 W.), more beer and cider selections from over 60 local, regional and international brewers, and a TWO-DAY schedule spanning Saturday, Aug. 19 and Sunday, Aug. 20. Not into beer? No problem, there will also be live music, a karaoke stage, local food vendors, games and more, all to benefit the Humane Society of Utah!

As the benefitting charity, HSU provides all of the volunteers for the festival to operate, and we need YOUR help! To sign up for a volunteer shift at the Utah Beer Festival on Saturday, Sunday or both days, please visit www.UtahHumane.org/BeerFest to fill out the application. In addition to helping the HSU raise funds for the animals, volunteers will receive a custom 2017 Brew Crew T-shirt. Saturday volunteers will receive free access to the festival on Sunday, including a taster mug and four drink tokens. Sunday morning/afternoon volunteers can enjoy Sunday evening at the festival with a taster mug and four drink tokens, and Sunday evening volunteers will be invited to a special City Weekly and HSU party approximately one week after the festival.

Just want to attend the festival and benefit the animals through your ticket and beer purchases? Visit www.utahbeerfest.com to purchase your ticket — don’t delay, this event has sold out in the past!