

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

We are at the end of 2021. The Northwoods Humane Society held their annual Board Meeting the first of December and the committee heads presented their reports and we discussed upcoming challenges and needs. The Board members that guide our organization are Barbara Hoeft, Lori Butala, Kim Kral, Steve Menke, Vallie Szymanski, Shirley Armstrong, Gil Zych, Linda Graham, Michelle Forrester, Chuck Newton and myself, Deanna Persson. We had to say goodbye to Regina Petty who moved to Florida and we will be welcoming Susan Sams in 2022. Our officers for the organization are President – Deanna Persson, Vice President – Lori Butala, Treasurer – Marcia McIntosh, Recording Secretary – Barbara Sealey and Corresponding Secretary – Charmaine Metzinger. Each of us bring different talents to the table and we work collectively along with our staff and volunteers to accomplish our mission.

The following is an excerpt from my Board Report and Winter 2021 newsletter which should be in your mailbox this week. “The Mission of the Northwoods Humane Society (NHS) is to provide a sheltered environment for unwanted animals. NHS will work to find appropriate homes for animals, provide medical care as needed and work to socialize and train to increase their success in a home situation. The Northwoods Humane Society will actively work to promote responsible pet ownership with an emphasis on the need for spay and neutering of pets. NHS will work with all factions of the community to address the needs of animals in the community.”

This year, November 1 thru October 31, 2021, we served 642 cats and dogs, one bunny and 3 guinea pigs. We had a 1% loss and euthanization rate -2 parvo deaths, 4 rescued puppies died, 1 cat died and 2 aggression cases. Through the work of shelter staff, the care given in foster homes and time and caring by our volunteers the animals in our care have been readied for their new homes.



This past fiscal year we met our financial needs through the generosity of members, donors, adoption fees, fundraisers, thru grants and bequests and from the NHS Thrift shop. The Thrift Shop volunteers saw their best financial year ever. Over 32 volunteers work diligently to make the shop successful. This year we were honored to have been voted the “Best Thrift Shop in the Northern part of Wisconsin.” The other part of the success of the shop are the great donations that donors share with us. If you have questions about donations or are unable to bring the items to shop, please give me a call at 715-634-4543. Thank you to everyone who is a part of the shop – the volunteers, the donors and the customers.

The fundraisers for 2021 included: Dining for Cats and Dogs at Lynn’s Custom Meats and catering was sponsored by OCSA and Armstrong Insurance Memorial Day Weekend, NHS had booths at Musky Fest and Cranberry Fest this year. In September we had our first Dog Walk sponsored by OCSA and NHS with all proceeds going to the care of the animals. In October we had our second on-line Art For Animals provided by Kubarek’s Auction House. This December, My Villa has invited us to be their guest for Christmas in Cable weekend. OCSA raised awareness about ovarian cancer at the Farmers Market and promoted the Northwoods Humane Society – the animal/human bond. The cash raffle was success – booths were at Musky Fest, Fall Fest and Cranberry Fest.

The Northwoods Humane Society continues to work with rescue groups throughout the United States. Because of our excellent adoption rates, we are able to not only meet the needs of our area animals, but embrace those that would otherwise be euthanized due to over population. Area shelters also help one another when needed. Rescuers are dedicated and selfless people.

Community Outreach to families with pets in our area is still a high priority. Through various resources we are able

to provide pet food to area food shelves as well as pickups directly from the shelter. Housing for outdoor pets is made available, free spay and neutering of owned animals and a grant was written for medical assistance for emergency situations.

While we look forward to 2022, we are aware of some challenges such as replacing one or all three of the furnaces at the Thrift Shop and needing to replace the 25 year old fence for the shelter dogs' play yard which is falling apart. We know that our mission of caring for animals in need is a 24/7 challenge – that is why we exist. Board Members will begin the planning for promoting our Endowment Fund that was established two years ago by Dave and Carolyn Cleveland.

As a Board, we thank each of you that support NHS in one or many ways. It is a group commitment – a group of individuals and businesses that care about the well-being of animals and those that care for them. The animal/human bond is a healthy part of life. Caring and sharing and working to end the suffering of animals in need, will put joy in your soul and a wag in their tail. [www.northwoodshumanesociety.org](http://www.northwoodshumanesociety.org)