

Northwoods Humane Society – Deana Persson, President

This past week, Sharon Goodacre, a NHS volunteer at the Thrift Shop, shared a story with us. Sharon was returning from helping a loved one thru a major surgery. On her way back to Hayward she saw a little white 'something'. She got off at the next exit and looked for the creature. She saw that the 'something' was a little, very frightened white Chihuahua. Sharon was able to wrap the dog in a towel, put it in the car and called the area police. The police took the dog to the Black River Falls Humane Society. The dog was physically okay but very malnutrition. Sharon has been in contact with the humane society and knows that the dog is doing well. The little dog she described reminded me of this poem which was written in 1998 by a woman named Arlene Pace.

Once I was a lonely dog, just looking for a home.  
I had no place to go, no one to call my own.  
I wandered up and down the streets, in rain in heat and snow.  
I ate whatever I could find, I was always on the go.

My skin would itch, my feet were sore, my body ached with pain.  
And no one stopped to give a pat or a gently say my name.  
I never saw a loving glance, I was always on the run.  
For people thought that hurting me was really lots of fun.

And then one day I heard a voice so gentle, kind and sweet,  
and arms so soft reached down to me and took me off my feet."  
No one again will hurt you," was whispered in my ear.  
"You'll have a home to call your own where you will know no fear. "

You will be dry, you will be warm, you'll have enough to eat.  
And rest assured that when you sleep, your dreams will all be sweet."  
I was afraid I must admit, I've lived so long in fear.  
I can't remember when I let a human come so near.

And as she tended to my wounds and bathed and brushed my fur,  
she told me about the rescue group and what it meant to her.  
She said, "We are a circle, a line that never ends.  
And in the centre there is you, protected by new friends. "

And all around you are the ones that check the pounds,  
and those that share their home after you've been found."  
And all the other folk are searching near and far  
to find the perfect home for you, where you can be a star."

She said, "There is a family, that's waiting patiently,  
and pretty soon we'll find them, just you wait and see."  
And then they'll join our circle they'll help to make it grow,  
so there'll be room for more like you, who have no place to go."

I waited very patiently, the days they came and went.  
Today's the day I thought, my family will be sent.  
Then just when I began to think it wasn't meant to be,  
there were people standing there just gazing down at me.

I knew them in a heartbeat, I could tell they felt it too.  
They said, "We have been waiting for a special dog like you."  
Now every night I say a prayer to all the gods that be.  
"Thank you for the life I live and all you've given me."

But most of all protect the dogs in the pound and on the street.  
And send a Rescue Person to lift them off their feet."

Date to Save: January 15 – "Our Pet Tales" deadline has been extended – Please see the NHS website for guidelines and application. This project is a great way to celebrate your pet. Write a short story about your pet and include a photo.