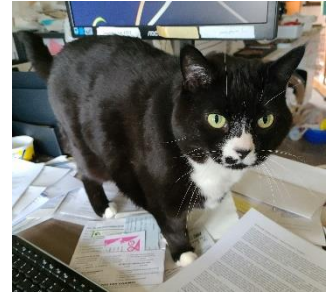


Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

As I start to write this, our cat Belle is laying on my desk, fully stretched out with her paw occasionally resting on escape key or the 1 key. This is going to be a challenge. Now she is purring, but her tail is swishing back and forth. Belle can go from the most loving cat to “I am going to rip your face off in a nano second.” Thus, I do all that I can to not irritate her. She is our cat, our responsibility and we adore her and I have leather gloves to use if I am forced to remove her from my desk.



Yesterday morning, we had a big black lab show up at our door. He has come to our home before and we call his owners and they come and get him. He is a fabulous dog but loves to take excursions. The dog was greeted by our two dogs, Chip and Lola. Lola was not impressed. Chip pretends that he is not a 13 pound dog and lets him know that this is his house. The lab is not impressed or intimidated. Our cat, Belle just stares at him and doesn't move a muscle. She just is not going to show any fear. The dog acknowledges her power and retreats.

It is a big day for our dogs as our neighbors from Illinois are up for a long weekend and they have Frankie with them. Frankie is a good friend of Chip and Lola. He is a Northwoods Humane Society alumni. He is big and playful and he and Chip have a great time together. Lola, again, is not impressed and chooses to remove herself from the action.

This morning, I wake up and Chip and Lola are all wound up and staring out the window. I think “Frankie is up and out already.” No, it wasn't Frankie, it was a dog I have never seen before. The dog was grey, black and tan, tall ears, medium sized and he looked to be an older dog. When I went out to talk to him, he took off. We do not live in a populated area so it is unusual to see stray dogs. I guess it is spring fever and even our pets are tired of being isolated because of Covid.

I know there are those that blame the owners for not keeping the animals under control – but we all know that sometimes it is beyond our control and they exercise their independent streak. What we all can do is to make sure our pets have a microchip ID or ID tags on so that if they wander into strange territory and happen upon a caring individual, the owners can be contacted and reunited with their pet.

When you pet disappears, there are some immediate things you can do. Call Sawyer County Animal Control or the LCO Animal Control and report your pet missing. If it is at time when they are not taking calls let the LCO Police department or the Sawyer County Sheriff's office know. Contact your neighbors, post your dog's picture on Facebook – you will get a bigger audience seeing your pets picture and know that the pet is in need of help. Notify your local animal shelter and provide them with a full description, location of where the pet was last seen and a picture of your pet for posting on-line. The Northwoods Humane Society works cooperatively with LCO Animal Control and the Sawyer County Animal Control. Also on-line, post on Lost Dogs of Wisconsin (Coordinated by Esther Maina in our area). Make posters, make small index cards with your pet's picture, the word 'LOST' and your contact information and distribute to all the homes in your area. Ask people to check their barns or out buildings. Your pet may be frightened and hiding.

