

Pawprints



The “Rescued” becomes the “Rescuer”

Written by Irene Leyson



In June 2013 I lost my beloved service dog, Cody, to cancer. Two weeks later, my mother passed away from cancer as well and I spent the next 3 months helping my elderly father learn to cope with his loss. After returning home to Seattle in late October, I was hospitalized for a severe asthma attack and a stroke. So much loss in such a short time took a toll on my body. When I was well enough to go home in February 2014, I fell to pieces. Being home without Cody, my service dog of over 11 years, was completely overwhelming and depressing. My best friend, Amy, knew that I needed to get a new dog to train to help me not only with my rehabilitation but to also get back to my “happy self”.

I am a disabled Veteran with a traumatic brain injury, multiple physical problems and PTSD. It was my friend Amy who discovered Buzzer through Rimrock Humane Society's posting on their Petfinder.com page. My heart fell immediately for this boy as he looked so much like my dearly departed service dog, Cody. Buzzer's story stated that he had been found at the age of 3 months on the outskirts of the Reservation and was not only thin but had dog bites on his head and stomach. RHS had rescued him and he had been in their foster care system for several months. Buzzer was in dire need of socialization with other dogs due to his trauma of being bitten by other dogs as a pup. Luckily I had chosen to be a service dog trainer through the VA's educational system for disabled veteran's. I wanted a young dog and Buzzer was getting close now to

being 8 months old, perfect for me. I was excited to begin the adoption process and RHS President, Sandy Church, was very helpful in walking me through the steps. After all of the background checks were completed, I was absolutely thrilled to learn that I would be Buzzer's new Mom.

I happily flew from Seattle, WA to Billings, MT to go get my new boy. I couldn't afford a rental car, so Sandy was gracious enough to pick me up and take me to Big Sky Dog Training where Buzzer was currently being boarded. I was so impressed that the RHS was having Buzzer assessed by Marty Golden, a dog trainer, who was helping Buzzer with manners and socialization skills prior to his adoption. Watching Marty do some training with Buzzer made me realize that this boy was truly going to be a great fit for me to train as my own service dog. It was then that I sensed that Buzzer was going to fill that hole that was left when I lost Cody. I brought food, toys and training equipment along with me for Buzzer and I stayed in Billings for a few days to bond with him and start training so he could go with me on the airplane as my service dog. He learned so much in what little time we had that I was already totally in love with this smart boy. Taking pity upon me as I had no means of transportation, Sandy arranged to have RHS volunteers Doug & Ranae Parker take me to the grocery store for food, water and snacks for our trip home. On top of that, the Parker's loaned me a vehicle and a GPS unit so I could take Buzzer all over Billings and subject him to new situations and better train him before our trip home. Sandy saw Buzzer one more time when she dropped off the final paperwork before our trip home and Buzzer gave Sandy a ton of hugs and kisses. It was as if he was thanking her for rescuing him and giving him a second chance at life. I truly cannot thank RHS enough for helping make this adoption go smoothly and preparing Buzzer and I for the plane ride home together, side by side.

Training Buzzer to be my service dog has been a delight—he acts as though he has been a service dog his whole life. In June this year, I fell and broke several ribs, which put me in a wheelchair. Buzzer, being part Husky, was super easy to train to pull me in my wheelchair to help me get around. He LOVED that part of his service work and truly missed it when my ribs healed and I was back on my feet. Buzzer helps me with my physical problems and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and also lets me know when my blood pressure is getting dangerously high. For a stroke survivor this is critically important. Buzzer loves working as a service dog but he also enjoys being off duty to play with his two and four legged friends. Buzzer is continuing his service dog training and is progressing well. He has tons of wonderful energy! This year alone Buzzer has traveled by plane and car with me to Seattle, Palm Desert in California, Chicago, Wisconsin State, Michigan State, Crater Lake in Oregon and Grays Harbor in Washington State. We go everywhere together—he even recently went to his first concert at the Seattle Symphony and behaved very well. Buzzer and I will forever be working together hand and paw. Thank you again to the Rimrock Humane Society for allowing me to adopt such an awesome best friend and service partner. 🐾





A Note from the Prez

I am truly not sure where time goes anymore. It seems to pass in a flurry of pet hair, vet appointments and happy adoptions. If you are wondering whatever happened to two years worth of Newsletters, well, let's just say that it is still nestled in my brain pan and never made it to paper. For that we do apologize. Please sign up for our new e-newsletter on our website and Facebook. We promise to do better!

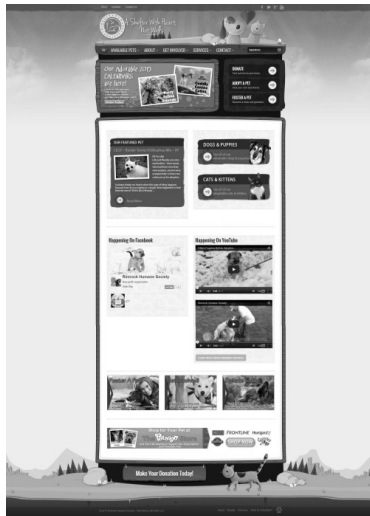
We are going to mark 2015 as the year of the "cat". In the 18 years I have been involved in rescue, I have never before experienced the overwhelming number of people needing assistance with their cats; both indoor and feral cats. Just when it seems we are making headway in controlling the pet overpopulation issues within our communities a year like 2015 comes up and smacks us right upside the head. With our limited fostering situation, the RHS did our best to assist owners with their cat challenges. In speaking with other animal welfare organizations, we were not the only ones observing the cat explosion of 2015. None of us are sure as to

why but we can urge all of you to please spay/neuter your feline! For every human born there are 45 cats — do the math.

Looking back at 2015, I couldn't be prouder of the Rimrock Humane Society. We not only assisted over 130 animals find new, loving homes but also gave quality of life to so many special needs animals. Every year, we ponder how to wrap up a busy year within 8 pages of Newsletter; to share every happy ending, every victory and sometimes our defeat. Within these pages, we have chosen to share the stories of our special needs animals who came to us over the last two years requiring not only top notch veterinary care but loving homes to facilitate their happiness and health. Our vet bills totaled over \$35,000 in 2015 which was daunting but with that also came great joy watching these animals flourish under our care. We know deep in our hearts that we could not accomplish any of this without the kindness and caring of special people like YOU. For that we thank you deeply! (I am pictured here with the infamous Morning Star; all grown up!)

Myself and all of us at Rimrock Humane Society wish you a wonderful year filled with abundance, joy, and treasured moments. May 2016 be the best year ever!

Sandy Church ~ President



Have You Seen Our New Website?

We have a new "home"!

For us here at the RHS, our website is our "home" as we do not have a physical facility — being a virtual shelter means you get to meet us on our webpage. Having that page be a safe place for folks to look at animals and review our information is more than just imperative, it is a necessity.

In mid 2014, we were introduced to Gerrick Phillips from DEV406 web design. From the first meeting to the final walk through, we were handled with professionalism and care. Designing a web page is a lot like designing a home. You have to decide on the major framework, choose number of pages (rooms), color schemes and then decide what information (furniture) will go inside.

It took almost six months of constant communication between Gerrick and us as many designs were considered and re-considered. Thank goodness Gerrick is patient; he walked us competently through every step along the way. The final result is a page that we are incredibly proud of but will be constantly tweaking to provide new and improved features to assist the user. Just like any home, the design work is never done and we will continue to strive to give our web page visitors the best visitation experience ever! Thanks again to Gerrick!

Please stop by at www.rimrockhumanesociety.org to visit our new home! 🐾



Find us on
Facebook

follow us on
twitter

We are continually amazed at how social media has opened so many doors for our homeless pets. The idea of a "virtual" shelter never would have been successful in a world without the internet and now more than ever, the ever growing and widely popular social networking. The RHS's following on Facebook has grown leaps and bounds over the last few years with over 5,500 people following our page. The insights into our FB page demographics are so incredibly interesting! 87% of our fans are women and 13% are men. We have fans following our page from all over the world like Australia, UK, France, Philippines, Mexico, Thailand, etc. We are newbies on Twitter but are learning and have many "tweeters" there as well. All of this social sharing has not only brought us adopters from all over the U.S. but has also helped us in finding owners for lost pets, transports and we have even assisted renters with finding animal friendly housing. If you haven't already joined our crusade, we sure would love to have you join us! 🐾

Officers

President

Sandy Church

Vice-President

Rochelle Hatter

Secretary

Stephanie Moncalieri

Treasurer

Raedawn Pasco

Board of Directors

Warren Church

Debi Hawkins

Stephanie Moncalieri

Rochelle Hatter

Raedawn Pasco

Sandy Church

Brock's Incredible Journey

As the saga continues

Brock, an approximate 5 year old purebred pit bull, came to us in March 2015 with severe raw, bleeding wounds on both of his front legs. He had been advertised on a local lost/found page and the pictures made the hair stand up on the back of our necks. Had this poor boy been made to fight, dragged behind a truck, have mange??? As the RHS is always ready to take on special needs animals, we readily agreed when asked to take him.

Following protocol, Brock was turned over to the Yellowstone County Animal Control Officer (ACO) who recognized Brock immediately. The ACO had picked up Brock numerous times and the condition of his legs had been ongoing for over a year. Brock's owner worked out of town and although there was a caretaker, Brock was not happy being alone and continually escaped. The ACO talked to the owner who then agreed to surrender Brock to RHS. And so began our long journey.

In addition to the horrible condition of his front legs, Brock was very thin and not neutered. Brock immediately went to our veterinarian for a thorough exam. No one knew what was wrong with his legs and the veterinary staff was aghast at this obviously painful condition. Initially we tried to rule out the easy stuff. Skin scrapings were negative for mange and mites but a swab and culture revealed a secondary bacterial skin infection which required antibiotics. During the 10 days it took to get the results of the tests, Brock had to wear the "Cone of Shame" as he would continuously lick his legs without it. Hmmm....

Two weeks into his hospitalization, we moved Brock to another veterinarian who would do laser therapy to help the leg wounds heal faster. Before starting treatment our veterinarian wanted to rule out skin lymphoma as laser therapy would only increase the growth rate of a cancer. So, Brock underwent surgery to do skin biopsies and be neutered. The veterinarian reported to us that she found a white scar running around the bottom of his snout in a perfectly circular pattern. It seems Brock had not had an easy life; it looks like he was either cut around the snout or perhaps had a wire wrapped around his nose. The veterinarian also realized that Brock had a canine tooth broken off at the gum line, exposing the nerve and potentially becoming abscessed. So Brock endured oral surgery as well that day..

After 2 weeks, the results of the skin biopsies were negative for cancer (WHEW) and Brock's laser therapy treatments could finally begin. The report stated that Brock's skin issues were either an allergic dermatitis or a psychosis of some sort. Psychosis? At this point, we began to believe that Brock started licking himself out of boredom/separation anxiety or had a skin issue and this behavior became a habit. Unfortunately this is a real possibility and is called a "lick granuloma". Brock's case was very severe.

After another month of laser treatments, in addition to some steroid treatments and antibiotics, Brock's long term skin problems finally started to heal and look better. However, this came at much cost to poor, sweet Brock who lived for 2 months at the vet clinic wearing a cone of shame unless he was 100% supervised.

On May 6, Brock moved into an incredible foster home. We hoped to learn what "made this boy tick" and allow him to de-stress so that we could ascertain his personality and behavior. It has been a long process but we now believe we understand Brock. He is ... complicated ...and will take an experienced dog owner to help him continue his progress. Here is what Brock's foster parents say about this boy:



"Brock has been in foster care with us for the past 9 months. From the beginning of Brock's journey he has had pain and hardships. He has gone through everything from X-rays, laser therapy, allergy tests, rehabilitation-- you name it this boy has been through it all, but he has persevered and has become a big lover. There has been so much love and dedication put into this boy to find him a forever home, but sadly that home has not found him yet. We are using all of our resources to help him find a family of his own, to love and see his true goofball personality. We have done everything that we can to help this boy out, and know he would thrive in a home of his own. He is totally house-trained, and has NEVER tried to mark in the house. He is very food-motivated and will do anything for peanut butter!

SOME OTHER THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT BROCK:

- No small children
- No cats, or small dogs
- He would do best as an only dog
- He has a condition called "severe lick granuloma," or self-mutilation
- He is easily over-stimulated, and would do best with an experienced owner
- He is prone to chronic infections, and must be kept on high quality natural food, immunity supplements and flower essences for emotional support.

We have gotten to know this boy inside and out, and are more than willing to help anyone that adopts him as much as possible, to help them understand all of his quirks. So please share his story with EVE-

RYONE and let's work together, to help his forever home find him and give him the doggy life he deserves. If you are interested in adopting him or have any questions at all please contact Britney Doely (406)670-4203 or Rimrock Humane Society (406)323-3687. Brock is located in Billings, MT, but transport is available." 🐾



Just in the Nick of Time

Tyson ain't no chicken!



The RHS received a phone call in late June 2014 from a concerned citizen located in Glasgow, MT. She knew of a 12 week old Boxer/Lab pup who had been hit by a car four weeks prior and was not receiving any veterinary care. We expedited Tyson's transfer down to us in Billings and immediately got him into the capable hands of Dr. Ken Brown and staff at Animal Clinic of Billings. It was discovered after an extensive exam including x-rays that Tyson had a fractured elbow which was not repairable as too much time had elapsed since the accident—amputation was the only recourse. He had an incredibly large hernia in his tummy that was filled with liquefied fat (the fat pad from his liver) that was becoming necrotic and had to be removed carefully by dissection and then the hernia hole had to be closed. Our vet told us that had it been another day or two, this poisonous fat would have killed him. On top of all of that, Tyson also had a raging bladder infection which was successfully treated with antibiotics. Tyson came through his extensive surgery on 6/30/14 with flying colors and then his priority was healing and learning how to live life as a three legged dog. He didn't miss a beat!

In July, Amy and Andrew had been watching little Tyson's plight on our Facebook page and put in their application to adopt. They passed with flying colors and this happy boy moved on to the next step of "forever" with this awesome couple. Tyson's dad played on the Billings Mustangs last summer and when Tyson attended the games his momma reported that people would approach her and say that they recognized Tyson from Facebook. He had his own fan club! Tyson is now living in Ohio with Amy and Andrew and they report, "He is doing awesome! He has grown so much! He now weighs about 45 pounds. Tyson LOVES snow and he absolutely loves playing outside in it. He is trained for an invisible fence so he has the whole yard to run in and he also very much enjoys car rides and watching out the window."

The cost of Tyson's surgery, treatment and rehabilitation totaled over \$2,000. Giving high quality care to ALL of our animals through our very experienced veterinarians is RHS's forte but it does come at a high cost even with the discounted costs that our veterinarians so graciously provide. We are totally reliant upon the kindness of our donors to ensure we are able to help animals like Tyson have a second chance for a wonderful forever life. Big thanks to the Animal Clinic of Billings, Tyson's adoptive parents and all of our donors for such a happy ending! 🐾



Down the Gullet

Puppies eat the strangest things!

Reina, a sweet 15 week old terrier mix, was brought to our veterinary clinic in July of 2015 by her current owners. They were complaining that she had been throwing up and lethargic for over 5 days. An x-ray later, it was determined that Reina had a foreign body in her intestine and required immediate surgery. Her vitals were getting thready and she needed help NOW! The family could not afford the surgery so the Rimrock Humane Society was called and we took this girl on.

Upon surgery, our vet found a dog toy that was still wrapped in it's netting package straight from the store. This obstruction was basically causing the bowel to die off and it was becoming necrotic. It is our veterinarian's opinion that Reina would not have lived much longer had this portion of diseased bowel not been removed. The bowel was then sectioned and reattached — all went well with the surgery! Then we all held our breath to be sure the new bowel was going to work as it should so a celebration was had when Reina produced her first poo!

After several weeks of recovery, Reina was adopted by the Frandsen family in Sidney, MT. She is a trucker's doggie by day (with her new daddy) and gets loved on by the children at night. Big thanks to the staff at Billings Animal Family Hospital for their great care! Aren't happy endings just the best?





Broken Bones To Happy Life

Odie makes a full recovery!

Odie came to us the end of March 2014 from Wolf Point, MT as a stray. He was a 5 month old terrier mix pup whose right foot was broken severely. He was rushed down to Billings and our orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Ken Brown, did immediate surgery and Mr. Odie ended up with all kind of pins, plates & screws. This was not only a tricky surgery but an incredibly tough rehab/foster situation and we give tons of thanks to our foster mom, Barbara Robinson. Barb spent almost 3 months not only trying to keep this young pup "quiet" (yeah right), but also had to take Odie in EVERY week for a splint/bandage change. We are incredibly proud of the fact that due to her diligence, Odie made a complete recovery! Even Dr. Brown commented on the fact that because of our foster mom's excellent care, she basically saved Odie's foot/leg. Otherwise, he may have ended up like Tyson with an amputated leg. As you can see by the one photo, Odie's right leg was smaller than his left due to non-use, but once the pins and screws were removed, Odie more than made up for his months of confinement! Once again, we are thrilled we could help this sweet boy — we feel every pet deserves a chance at a happy and healthy life. Odie's surgery and after care cost

the RHS over \$2,000 but we adore our little special needs pets and truly would not have it any other way!

Our "wonder dog", Odie, went off to spend the rest of his amazing life with the Johnson family. There couldn't be a more deserving dog and we do believe his new family thinks they have won the doggie lottery! He has two human children who adore him and they spend hours playing together. The Johnson family then adopted another little RHS dog named Max so Odie now has a canine brother to share playtime and hang out with when the family is working and at school. A huge shout out to not only Dr. Ken Brown and the staff at Animal Clinici of Billings but also to Odie's foster momma, Barb Robinson. 🐾

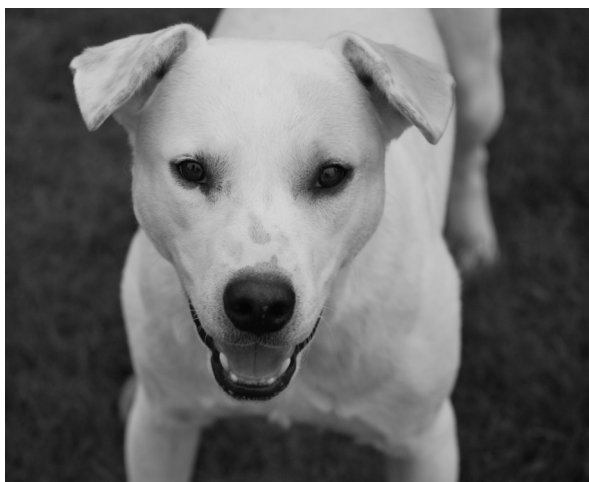


No Heart Beat Truer

Saying goodbye is never easy

Early in the morning on December 1, 2014, we received a call from Fergie's foster mom that our sweet "special needs" girl had passed away only moments before.

Fergie came to us in April of 2011 at 6 months of age. Our veterinarians diagnosed her with subaortic stenosis and tricuspid valve dysplasia. They did not believe that Fergie would live past her first birthday in October of 2011. Because we have a fabulous foster care program with the BEST foster folks around Barbara decided that Fergie should spend the rest of her days in her loving home.. The RHS promised to take care of all of Fergie's physical needs plus vet care, and Barbara promised to love this girl like her own. Which she did!



Fergie astounded both us and our veterinarians by living past her 4th birthday. This sweetie may have had major physical issues with her heart but there was NOTHING wrong with her spirit. She taught us all valuable lessons on how to live life to its fullest and to live each day with gusto.

Fergie passed away on the sofa, wagging her tail, surrounded by those who loved her. RHS had her cremated and she was returned back to her foster momma who loved her unconditionally.

There is no way to properly thank Foster Mom Barbara for all she did for Fergie. We are so blessed to have incredible people like Barbara on our "team" -- it is what makes our program so incredibly successful. As we have proven time and time again, the RHS is thrilled to be able to help those special animals who might not possibly make it in any other shelter situation. We are thrilled that, with our donors assistance and caring foster homes, we can care for dogs like Fergie and make their lives, no matter how long, full of love and happiness and caring. In return, the lessons they teach us two footed creatures are beyond imagination.

Run fast and free, Fergie, until we meet again dear one! 🐾

RHS Awarded \$10,000 Grant

Jumping for joy—much needed funding for our CSNiP Program!

The Rimrock Humane Society was contacted several months ago by the Stepping Forward Foundation (Billings) to see if we would like to submit a grant for any of our programs. Wow! A Foundation pursuing us? Ok ... we'll bite ... so we asked for grant monies for our Community Spay/Neuter Program as the funding for that program has slowly been dwindling. It only took a week or two and here is an envelope in our P.O. Box from the Foundation. It looks thin like it is a "thanks but no thanks" letter. We get a lot of those. So we open it up and out falls a check for \$10,000. That's right ... 10,000 smackaroos!

After we picked ourselves up from the floor, we did the dance of joy, called all of our board members, did more dancing, thanked the Foundation profusely, danced some more ... well, you get the picture. We cannot emphasize enough how far this money will go in helping control the pet overpopulation problem in our area and we simply cannot thank the Stepping Forward Foundation enough for believing in our organization and our highly successful spay/neuter program. 🐾

(DISCLAIMER: The Stepping Forward Foundation does not accept unsolicited grant applications - THEY seek out applicants as their funding permits.)



Shop and Help the Rimrock Humane Society

Amazon Smile supports the RHS



Did you know that you can donate to the Rimrock Humane Society while shopping online? This is possible through a service called AmazonSmile. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Though this may not seem like much, it is a simple way to donate and will benefit the lives of many animals in the long run.

It is the same Amazon you know and loved with the same products, prices and service. All products that are eligible for donation will be marked "Eligible for Donation" on the product detail page. There is no need to create a new account; you can use your existing account. Your shopping cart, wish list and all other account settings stay the same.

Click on this link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0531128> to get started or go to smile.amazon.com and login to your account with your regular Amazon email address and password. After you have logged in, it will allow you to select the charity of your choice. Type in "Rim Rock Humane Society" then click search. On the next page you will see a list of organizations with similar names. Rimrock Humane Society should be at the top of the list. Click select. You will now see a prompt confirming that you have selected the Rimrock Humane Society. Whenever you go to smile.amazon.com you will see us listed along the top of the screen. That's all it takes to get set up with AmazonSmile. We encourage you to bookmark AmazonSmile so that you can help animals anytime you purchase through Amazon. 🐾



\$1,000 Spay/Neuter Grant

More monies for this very vital fund

Back on June 3rd, the Rimrock Humane Society was so incredibly honored to accept a grant from the Billings Community Foundation and the Clocktower Inn Animal Fund at their 2015 Annual Awards Dinner. We were gifted \$1,000 for our very important and vital Community Spay/Neuter program. Instituted in 2006, this program has assisted in altering 1,553 cats and 782 dogs!

Steve Wahrlich, owner of the Best Western Clocktower, established the Clocktower Inn Animal Fund to support domestic pets in need. The RHS is thrilled to be one of the organizations entrusted with a grant this year. Pictured to the left is Vice President of the Billings Community Foundation, Sara Becker and RHS President, Sandy Church. Huge thanks, again, from all of us at the Rimrock Humane Society! 🐾



Not All Endings Are Happy

No matter how hard we try

The Rimrock Humane Society often helps out the rez dog rescuers along the highline in Wolf Point and Glasgow. Back in early August, we got a call that Cheena (a 1 year old Shepherd mix) had jumped out of his owner's vehicle (back window) and severely broken his back hips/pelvis. The owner could not afford any treatment and neither could the rescue in Wolf Point. The vet in Wolf Point felt that Cheena had a fighting chance so they called the RHS for assistance. We have happily taken many special needs animals from this organization and given them the 2nd chance on life that they deserved. We channel all orthopedic cases through Dr. Ken Brown at Animal Clinic of Billings. So Cheena made the trip from Wolf Point (heavily sedated) to Billings.

After reviewing the x-rays, Dr. Brown felt that Cheena might have a fighting chance but we needed to get his vitals stable and keep him comfortable before he could have restorative surgery. After 4 days of intensive care, Cheena's vitals continued to plummet. The x-rays just couldn't show us the extent of organ damage that Cheena had suffered during his accident. Four days after his arrival, Dr. Brown and our president made a tough decision that it was best for Cheena to be euthanized and given peace.

Cheena received over \$2,300 in supportive care and still we could not extend his life. We want to thank the volunteers and veterinary staff in attempting to help this boy. Run fast & free sweet boy, until we meet again! 🐾



We here at the RHS are so excited that we will be going on-line with our newsletters! Not only is it more cost effective due to printing costs but it also saves paper which in turn means it saves trees as well!

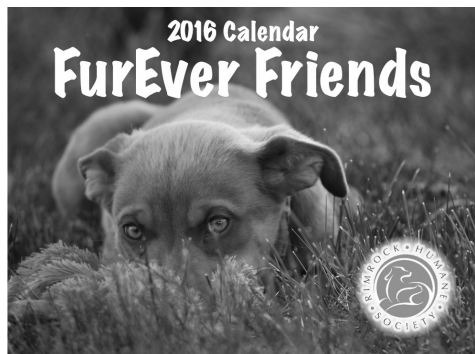
The RHS is hopeful that we will then be able to stay in touch more often with perhaps quarterly newsletters instead of an annual periodical as has been currently the case.

Also, we will be able to share important event information with our readers as well!

Please go to our website at www.rimrockhumanesociety.org and sign up for our on-line newsletter. You can also sign up via Facebook as well ... just go to our page on Facebook at Rimrock Humane Society. We are so excited to be joining the 21st century and being able to stay closer in touch with our supporters! Sign up today! 🐾

Get Your 2016 Furever Friends Calendar

Check these out! Great cause—save a life—buy one today!



We are now offering our 2016 Furever Friends calendars for purchase! The beloved faces on these calendars are a selection of the sweet puppies and kittens who found new forever homes in 2015 thanks to our very successful adoption program. Proceeds from the sale of these calendars will benefit the animals in our care. Calendars are only \$15.00/ea. plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. You can purchase your calendars several different ways: Purchase on-line by going to our website www.rimrockhumanesociety.org, send us a check made payable to Rimrock Humane Society, PO Box 834, Roundup MT 59072, or give us a call at 406.323.3687 and give us your credit or debit card number (we accept all major credit cards). These make great gifts - your thoughtfulness will be appreciated 365 days a year! OR ... just order one for yourself to enjoy day after day - these adorable faces will surely make you smile! Either way, we so appreciate your support and all of the critters send slurpy kisses and happy tail wags your way! (Our calendar pets for this year are Ziggy, Gordon, Niko, Gabel, Guppy, Miss Daisy, Bubba Crunch, Jeter, Jethro, Lucy, Willow and Renzo.) 🐾



P.O. Box 834, Roundup, Montana 59072
406-323-3687 • www.rimrockhumanesociety.org

NON-PROFIT ORG
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 88
Roundup, MT

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Check out our new website at
www.rimrockhumanesociety.org
or join us on



Open Your Home & Your Heart

Become a pet foster guardian today!

There is no greater gift you can give a homeless pet than a warm bed, a roof over their head and the love in your heart! The Rimrock Humane Society is only successful as a virtual shelter because of the kindness and caring of our dedicated foster homes. Our pets are blessed to live out their stay with us in the comfort of the circle of loving families while a new forever family is found. The key to this equation is the more foster families we have, the more animals we can assist!

RHS will supply all of the veterinary care, food and litter — the requirements for a foster family are a fenced yard for dogs and indoor living only for cats. The family will be instrumental in assisting with training (house or obedience), running the pet back and forth to vet appointments and also observant of the animal's health. The RHS also allows the foster home to be very instrumental in the adoption process —interviewing the adoptive family and doing home visits (barring any distance constraints). This truly lends itself to giving the foster folks some closure with the ability to now visualize the pet in its new environment.

Foster home applicants go through the same screening process as our adoptive homes — phone interview, application process, reference checks and a home visit. If we are going to be careful where that pet will spend it's life, we certainly are also going to screen the animals temporary home. There is no greater gift for an adoptive family to not only get a calm, well adjusted pet but to also have the opportunity to speak with the foster parents so they can get the full "scoop" on their new pet i.e. likes, dislikes and any important information that would make the transition into the new home easier. Plus, they are viewing the animal in a safe and quiet home environment where they are actually witnessing the true behaviors of the pet in a stress-free living situation.

Are you sold? We would be thrilled to speak with you about possibly signing up to be a pet foster guardian! Please give us a call at the number above or you can email us at wschurch@midrivers.com. Truly, you will not find a more rewarding pursuit in life ... be careful though, it's addicting! 🐾

