



The Dish

SUMMER 2024

Farewell!

With love,
appreciation and
gratitude - a special
announcement from
Jan, inside!



Dear loyal friends,

Many of you know that I've recently announced my retirement as the CEO of the Humane Society of Boulder Valley (HSBV) - effective at the end of this year - after 25 incredible years of service to HSBV, and 40 years dedicated to the welfare of the animals I love so dearly. It's been an incredible journey filled with heartwarming successes, inspiring challenges and experiences I'll forever cherish. Throughout my time at HSBV, I have worked alongside the most talented and dedicated team members, and of course, YOU, our unwavering supporters. It's your love and contributions that have truly made the difference.

This summer's newsletter is another opportunity to express my deepest gratitude, once again, for what you make possible. Because of your compassion, we have achieved remarkable milestones and transformed the lives of countless animals. I hope you'll take some time to reflect on the lifesaving work you're making possible.

Introducing Kat Burns, our new CEO Designate!

I'm thrilled to announce that the HSBV Board of Directors has selected Kat Burns, CVPM, CAWA, as CEO Designate! Kat will officially assume the role of Chief Executive Officer following my planned retirement at year-end.

Passionate about animal welfare – having held various leadership roles in the field for more than 25 years - and dedicated to HSBV for 19 years, Kat has a solid foundation of knowledge about the organization's services and culture.



A Seamless Transition and a Bright Future

Over the next several months, Kat and I will work together to ensure a seamless leadership change. During this time, Kat will continue to oversee veterinary services while guiding the transition in hospital leadership.

Please join me in warmly congratulating Kat on this exciting new chapter!

With gratitude, for your years of support!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan McHugh-Smith".

Jan McHugh-Smith, CAWA
CEO

Meet Kat

An Animal Champion with a Big Heart

Kat joined HSBV in 2005 and became Director of Veterinary Services in 2006. She oversees HSBV's full-service veterinary hospital, facility operations and workplace safety initiatives. She is a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator and a Certified Veterinary Practice Manager. Kat is also the proud guardian of two HSBV alumni cats, Bowtruckle and Marcus.

Kat brings a wealth of knowledge to the CEO role. From expertly navigating veterinary operations during the pandemic to leading the charge for our hospital expansion and renovation in 2022, Kat's journey and contributions to HSBV are wide-ranging and invaluable.

Kat can't wait to meet you! Stay tuned for opportunities to get to know Kat as she transitions into her new role.



Bowtruckle
and Marcus



Kat Burns

CVPM, CAWA, HSBV CEO Designate

"I am so honored to be named the CEO Designate of HSBV. I look forward to working closely with Jan, our board and the entire team to build on our strong foundation and mission."

Lives Saved by Your Support

We're so happy we could play a part in these heartwarming tales, each one shining a light on the extraordinary bond between humans and animals, a love that knows no bounds. We couldn't have done it without all of you - our compassionate community and supporters.



Barley

After 10 months in our care, we are thrilled to report that Barley has been adopted! The HSBV team was incredibly impressed by this dog's resiliency. Despite being in the shelter for such a long time, Barley still greeted every person he met with a huge smile and full-body wag. While it is always a collaborative effort between shelter volunteers, shelter staff, and the veterinary and training and behavior center teams to keep the animals in our care mentally stimulated and healthy, Barley is the true hero of his own story. He maintained his upbeat, goofball disposition throughout his long stay with us. We are so happy for Barley and his new family!

To Infinity and Beyond One Dog's Journey to Healing

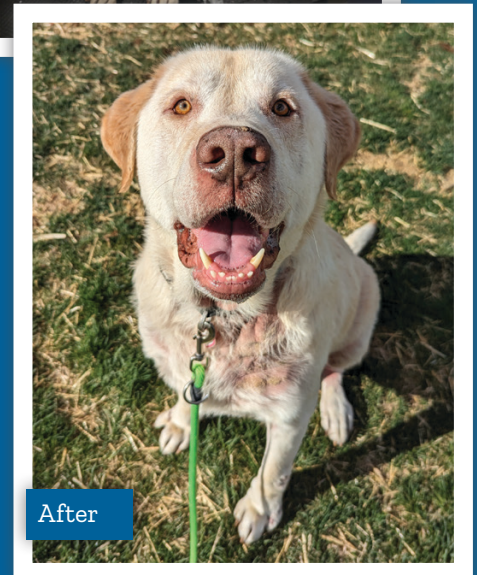
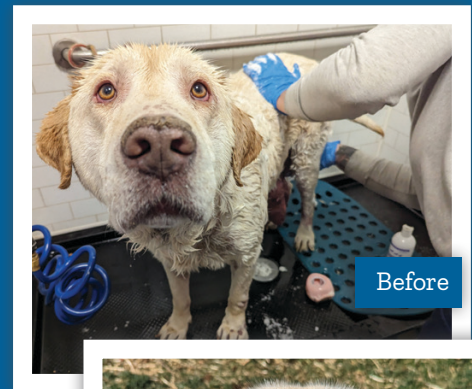
Buzz arrived at HSBV in desperate need of help and hope. Diagnosed with hypothyroidism, Buzz's skin and ears were red and itchy from infection. He'd lost fur in multiple places, leaving him uncomfortable and exposed. To make matters worse, a heavy benign growth was causing him constant discomfort. It's difficult for us to imagine how he felt carrying that weight around.

Behind his sad eyes, we knew this was a special boy ready for a new lease on life.

Our dedicated veterinarians created a treatment plan for Buzz's hypothyroidism and worked with our friends at Flatirons Natural Pet to give him a much-needed spa day! Feeling better, Buzz underwent surgery to remove the growth that had been such a burden.

Now Buzz couldn't be happier! His fur is growing back healthy and he's full of joy with his newfound freedom from discomfort. He especially loves rolling around in the grass and feeling the sun on his belly.

Buzz's story is one of amazing transformation, but we see animals like Buzz - who need critical medical care, behavioral support and a second chance - every day. Your support helps us say 'yes' to these animals. **Thank you.**



Make a plan for the future and help generations of pets to come.

We proudly celebrated National Make a Will Month in August, as a time to reflect on priorities and plan for the future. HSBV partners with FreeWill to provide a free online will-writing platform, simplifying the estate planning process and making it easier to document your wishes.

Making your will and naming a guardian for your beloved pets ensures that they will always be cared for. If you wish for your animals to come to HSBV should they outlive you, you can include that plan in your will and enroll your animals in Companion Care for Life.

As you make your will, please consider including a legacy gift to the Humane Society of Boulder Valley. Your support costs nothing today and helps us continue programs to save and improve the lives of thousands of pets.

Learn more at:
boulderhumane.org/legacy-gifts

FREEWILL 

Hope for Holly

YOUR GENEROSITY GAVE HER A SECOND CHANCE

At HSBV, we see many vulnerable animals come through our doors. But every now and then, there's a story that grabs ahold of your heart and refuses to let go. That was the case with a little seven-year-old dog we've named Holly.

A good Samaritan found and brought sweet Holly to our shelter for help. Blind and in pain, she still managed a weak wag of her tail and leaned in for pets when she heard our voices – a testament to her incredible spirit.

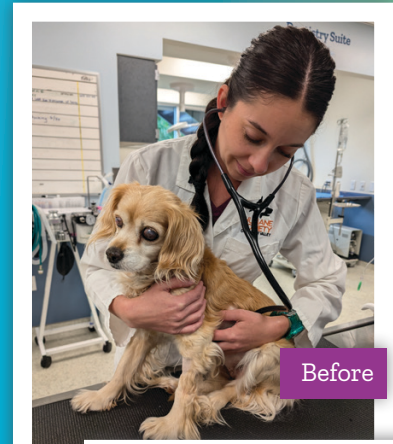
After a thorough examination, our veterinarians discovered she needed multiple surgeries just to have a fighting chance at a pain-free life. Our hospital went to work right away. During her first surgery, they removed an entire mammary chain due to tumors and spayed her.

Holly also needed both of her eyes removed due to severe glaucoma, her other mammary chain removed and dentistry care.

It was a lot for such a small body to endure, but Holly was determined to fight.

We needed your help to give Holly the surgeries and critical medical care she needed for a chance at a happy, healthy future. Thanks to your incredible generosity, her surgeries were successful, and she's bravely adjusting to life without her sight. It's a testament to her spirit and we're overjoyed to share that she has been adopted and is enjoying her new life and family!

Your kindness gave Holly a second chance. **Thank you, for being her champion.**



Training Center: Service Spotlight!



Play Yard Rentals

Don't have your own yard? Having a hard time finding a safe, secure area for your sensitive or dog-reactive dog to stretch their legs? You can now rent out HSBV's securely fenced, private outdoor yard for only \$10 for 30 minutes! In our yard, you and your dog can enjoy these beautiful, light-filled nights playing together without having to worry about sharing your play space with other dogs.

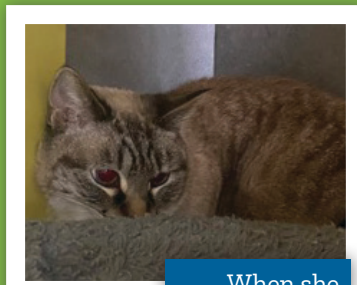
Learn more at:
boulderhumane.org/play-yard-rentals

Sweet Pea

Sweet Pea, a gentle senior cat, arrived at HSBV after her guardian passed away. Although another family member tried to take her in, she unfortunately became overwhelmed by the other dogs and cats in their home – so they turned to HSBV for help – hoping to give Sweet Pea the best of life in a new, comfortable home.

When Sweet Pea first arrived at our shelter, she was scared, hid under her blanket and didn't want to eat. Our expert shelter and behavior teams worked with her, slowly, to gain her trust and show her the love and kindness she deserved, using soft voices and lots of treats.

Gradually, she warmed up to our staff and volunteers and started welcoming strangers to pet and snuggle with her in our adoption center. Soon, Sweet Pea was adopted by a loving family and now enjoys being the center of attention in her new home!



When she first arrived



After our team helped her

All for Animals

A Community Celebration



TO BENEFIT

HUMANE SOCIETY
OF BOULDER VALLEY

WHEN:
Sunday, Sept. 29

WHERE:
Humane Society of
Boulder Valley
2323 55th Street
Boulder, Colorado

More info
and tickets
coming soon!

boulderhumane.org



We invite you to join us for our special community event to celebrate our shared commitment to animals in need and a behind-the-scenes look at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley. Discover the heart of compassion at All for Animals, a first-of-its-kind movement that unites our community.

Featuring:

- Experiences in our state-of-the-art Veterinary Hospital.
- Demonstrations by our renowned Training & Behavior Team.
- A community expo, with food trucks, special vendors and hands-on activities for the whole family to make a difference – All for Animals will be a day of discovery for all ages.

Our shelter is so much more than meets the eye!

The incredible work we do each day is only possible with help from our entire community. Join us and see your compassion in action!





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**Best
OF 2024
BOULDER**



**HUMANE
SOCIETY**
OF BOULDER VALLEY

Thank you, Boulder!

Our tails won't stop wagging with gratitude to our community for voting HSBV "Best Nonprofit" in the Best of Boulder awards! This wouldn't be possible without the generous support and compassion of YOU, amazing animal lovers. Together, we're making a lifesaving difference for 16,000+ animals each year.

Your partnership fuels our mission by finding loving homes, providing critical veterinary and behavior care, and giving safety net services to animals and families in need. With grateful hearts (and happy tails!), thank you for believing in us!

Donate your wheels
Help the Animals

Learn more at: boulderhumane.org/car

