

# TAIL'S TALES

News from the Nebraska Humane Society | Spring 2020

*Your Help  
Became Hope  
for an Animal  
in Need.*



## King's Journey

A badly burned, tabby cat was brought to the Nebraska Humane Society in need of lifesaving care. This remarkable cat underwent groundbreaking treatment on his road to recovery.

Read inside about **King's Journey** on page 4.

# A Message From the CEO

Dear Friends,

The healing miracles taking place daily at the Nebraska Humane Society are mesmerizing.

This past year, we were blessed to witness a cat named King (aka “cat-fish”) overcome all odds and respond to burn treatments using Tilapia scales to repair his skin; a heroic rescue and remarkable recovery of five emaciated mares extracted from flood waters; and a tremendous victory for a tiny pup named Lippy, born with a cleft lip, who required hand feeding to survive. Read more about their individual journeys in this issue of Tail’s Tales.

**These true, lifesaving stories, and many like them, would not be possible without you.**



Nancy with her dogs Monty and Jackie.

**Your compassion, support and generosity are sincerely appreciated, with heartfelt gratitude.**

**Thank you for loving the animals!**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Hintz".

Nancy Hintz  
President & CEO  
Nebraska Humane Society



## Golden Girls

Dorothy, Rose, Sophia, and Blanche are looking for a pal and a confidant.

Animal Control rescued these old gals from the spring flooding of 2019. As malnourished senior horses, they were especially vulnerable to the cold water. They were in desperate need of a dry paddock, good nutrition and veterinary care. After being in our care for nearly a year, these 4 horses are now looking for their retirement dream as pasture pals.

**Can you provide a home for a senior horse? You can find complete information on these girls on our website at [www.nehumanesociety.org/adopt/horses](http://www.nehumanesociety.org/adopt/horses).**

**Thank you for supporting all animals at NHS. Your donations made it possible for these gentle souls to get the second chance they deserve; but there are so many more. If you can help, others need the same hope.**

# We're Better Together

## Your 2019 Impact



**2,828**  
Lost Animals Reunited  
With Owners



**10,319**  
Animals Found  
Adoptive Homes



**7,024**  
Wildlife Calls  
Answered & Coordinated with  
Wildlife Rescue Groups to Relocate/  
Release Animals as Needed

## Volunteers

**500+**  
Community Members Volunteered

**56,514** Hours to the Care  
of NHS Animals

**268** Foster Homes Cared for  
**2,092** Fragile Animals  
Until They Could be Adopted



## Humane Education

**8,000+** Children  
& Adults  
Attended School/  
Community  
Presentations or  
Shelter Tours



**440** Youth Participated in  
Camp Kindness or Humane  
Hands Programs

**265** Girl Scouts Earned Badges

## Training & Behavior

**1,130**

Calls Responded to by NHS  
Behavior Helpline

**1,284**

People Attended NHS Dog  
Training Classes

**286**

Fearful/Unruly Dogs Placed  
in NHS Molly Project  
(Behavior Modification  
Program) Were Adopted

## Animal Control

**34,919**

Calls Were Responded  
to by NHS

**109**

Strays, Who Were  
Microchipped, Licensed,  
& Current on Rabies  
Vaccinations, Received a  
"Free Ride Home"



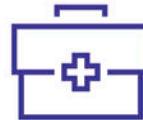
## Community Services



**630** People and **3,653**  
Pets Were Provided  
Emergency Pet Food by  
NHS Pet Food Pantry

**6,330**

Surgeries Were  
Completed at the NHS  
Low-Cost Spay & Neuter Center



Animeals Program  
Delivered Pet Food &  
Supplies to **19**  
Low-Income Senior  
Citizens, Owning **32** Pets  
(Partnering With ENOA)

**4,940**

Grieving Pet Owners  
Were Served by Rainbow Bridge  
After the Loss of Beloved Pets



## Project Pet Safe Assisted

**31** Domestic  
Abuse Victims **41** Pets of Domestic  
Abuse Victims  
by Arranging Short Term Pet Sanctuary  
(Partnering With Domestic Violence Agencies)



## Animal Medical

**18,263** Diagnostic Tests

**7,285** Animals Microchipped

**6,459** Spay/Neuters on Adoptable Pets

**1,317** Specialized Surgeries & Dental Care Procedures



## King's Journey (Continued from cover)

King, a young tabby cat, came to NHS on December 21, 2019. He had been pulled from a house fire and was suffering from burns on nearly 50 percent of his body. The same fire had taken the family's beloved Great Dane, Chico, and their home.

NHS veterinarians were deeply concerned for King and were uncertain if he was going to survive. They knew his best chance to get home to his family was going to require a unique and cutting-edge approach.

Veterinarians at UC Davis in California created techniques to save pets burned in California's wildfires by suturing disinfected Tilapia skin to form an "organic bandage" onto burned areas. NHS vets decided to attempt this surgery for the first time, and sutured the skin onto King's back, tail stump and legs. The Tilapia skin helped provide protection, pain relief and transferred protein and collagen to promote skin regeneration and healing. This procedure also cut down on King's pain and risk of infection, as no bandages would need to be replaced.

Over the next couple of weeks, King underwent several more surgeries. Slowly but surely, this young cat started showing signs of healing. The possibility of King being returned to his family inched closer to reality. This was only possible because of the generosity of NHS donors.

On January 26, 2020, King, the "cat-fish", was able to leave the NHS medical center. It was such a bitter-sweet moment for the medical staff. He was with them every day during his recovery process, often hanging out on their shelves; however, they knew the best place for him was home with his family. King is continuing his recovery with the love of his family at home. He will continue to receive medical treatment and may require an additional surgery.

**Healing takes time, but knowing that so many people are rooting for King and have contributed to his medical care is heartwarming. King is nothing short of a miracle. Thank you for helping King make his way back to his family.**



*Lippy living her best life because of you!*



## Your Legacy. Their Life.

Your personal legacy will help save the lives of animals and drive transformational change. Please consider making a legacy gift and ensure NHS is a place of shelter, healing and new beginnings beyond your lifetime.

### **Beneficiary Designation**

The most straightforward and simplest way to make a long-term impact is by listing NHS as a beneficiary in your will. A will is essential to ensure your estate is distributed according to your wishes. It's as easy as 1-2-3!

### **Life Insurance Policies**

Are your kids grown and on their own? Yay! If you have an insurance policy that is no longer needed to provide for dependents, consider making NHS the beneficiary. You can also include us as a secondary beneficiary.

### **IRA Charitable Rollover**

Are you 70 ½ or older? Lucky you! You can give up to \$100,000 to NHS from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Avoid taxes, satisfy your required minimum distribution, reduce taxable income and save more lives!

### **Donor-Advised Fund (DAF)**

You set up your donor-advised fund and you received your tax benefit. Now, it's time to make a difference! Recommend a grant to the NHS animals. You can even use DAF Direct on the NHS website to start giving today!

**We encourage you to talk with your financial advisor and then contact us for lifesaving opportunities! Call Kathy Roum at 402-905-3435 or [kroum@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:kroum@nehumanesociety.org). NHS Tax ID# is 47-0378997.**

## A Tiny Puppy Named Lippy

Lippy was the last of 4 pups born to a young, stray dog in NHS foster care. Veteran foster mom, Laura, immediately noted she had a cleft lip which would make nursing impossible. This hungry, growing puppy needed to eat. But how? Her foster family began syringe feeding her, relying on medical supplies and formula donated by donors like you.

A week in, Laura noted Lippy's stomach was rock hard and she was having trouble breathing. After an examination by NHS veterinarians, it was determined it wasn't another birth defect, just gas! Lippy was a determined puppy and still tried with all her might to nurse. Unable to get milk, she would suck in lots of air, causing her tummy to fill up, making her heart pound and breathing difficult.

**Because of you, Lippy received the X-rays, medications, milk supplements and around-the-clock attention she needed.**

She is now growing, thriving and getting to act like the young puppy she is. She may still need surgery down the road, but for now, she is living the best life as a "foster fail" with her mom, Laura. Stay tuned for an update on Lippy!

# Thanks to You, We are Sheltering Hope, Healing Hearts.

## Judy Varner Adoption and Education Center (JVAEC) – Renovation Project

The Nebraska Humane Society's first major renovation in 20 years is nearly complete! This exciting project will not only transform housing for the homeless animals in our care, but will enhance the way the public views and interacts with them. This project was funded entirely by private philanthropy and was only possible because of donors like you!

On pace to open in May 2020, this \$14.1 million project will reduce animal stress and length of stay, encourage

speedy adoptions and improve the flow for staff and visitors in the shelter. The redesigned, state-of-the-art 30,000+ square foot space will produce efficiencies achieved through new HVAC, sound, lighting and waste management systems. Enhanced technology will not only aid in streamlining the adoption process, but also provide educational opportunities for the public; all benefiting the animals, adopters and NHS staff. We couldn't have done this without you!

### #1 Cats

**Our renovated feline housing is the cat's meow!** Now, with more room to roam, scratch and perch, our cats will be purring! Taller condos will allow for instinctive vertical movement, lowering stress and providing a natural living environment. Immersive group rooms will change the way the public views and interacts with cats, facilitating greater connections and more adoptions!



### #2 Dogs

**Every dog will (soon) have his day!** Renovated adoption kennels will feature technology that improves acoustics and lighting to reduce stress. Dogs will be grouped by size and temperament. For the first time ever, potential adopters will also have access to see and interact with dogs that are "diamonds in the ruff". Since these dogs have historically been housed away from the public to reduce their fear or anxiety, they tend to stay at the shelter for way too long. All these state-of-the-art updates will result in better outcomes for dogs!



### #3 Critters

**Small but mighty (and oh so cute)!** The JVAEC will provide new and separate accommodations for prey species who are currently housed too close to predatory species. Mammals and exotics will have their own enclosed adoption space. No longer will they be stressed from the smells, sights and sounds of their natural predators.

### #4 Humans

**A wealth of animal knowledge!** Educating children and families on how to properly interact and care for animals is at the forefront of our new education initiative. Interactive education stations will promote and support responsible pet ownership, animal care, training tips and more!

**Your contributions helped us reach our fundraising goal! We can't thank you enough for your support in making this incredible, lifesaving endeavor possible!**



## Scout

We walked into the Nebraska Humane Society in early November 2018 and spotted this beautiful cat behind the glass. She was a unique cat with special needs, and we knew adoption was the answer. She is a loving, cheerful cat with a playful personality and has become a very special part of our family. **A big thanks to the NHS for the outstanding care they provided during her stay.** She is such a wonderful cat and we are so happy she is now in her forever home.

– L.B.

## Kobe

It took a torn ACL for my boyfriend to slow down enough to think seriously about adopting a dog. As he crutched around the kennels, five-month-old “Ray” came to the end of his kennel, laid down and locked eyes on my boyfriend. This sweet boy was surrendered three times to NHS before making it to our home — his forever home. **This just goes to show it takes the right family for every dog.** We renamed him Kobe and he brings so much joy to our lives every single day. We love seeing him play with his squeaky toys, slurping puppuccinos and giving us the best kisses and cuddles any dog could give.

– Summer



## Tails of Success



## Waverley

Waverley was found wandering around as a tiny kitten and fostered by a remarkable NHS foster Mom, Lindsay R. We adopted her in May 2019. It’s a JOY to come home to this little furry animal ... especially after not having a pet for two years. We never thought we could love another cat as much as our beloved Nat the Cat, who crossed the rainbow bridge in 2017. We learned there is always room for more love in your heart for another animal. **We’re thankful for NHS and its foster program.**

– Wendi Lu

Still waiting  
for her  
forever home



Baby

**Baby is a mixed breed who has been waiting for her forever home since November 2019.** She came to NHS as a stray and was extremely emaciated. After months of rehabilitation, we’ve learned she is a fun-loving, energetic girl who loves to play with other dogs. She does have a rowdy side, so she needs a home with children closer to their teens and the time and patience to work on her manners. **Will you be the one to give Baby her forever home?** You can learn more about Baby and fill out an application to meet her (Baby #A1297680) at [www.nehumanesociety.org/adopt/dogs/](http://www.nehumanesociety.org/adopt/dogs/).

# Save the Date



## Black Tie and Tails Saturday, April 25, 2020



This spectacular event only happens every two years! It's a night of sipping, bidding, socializing and raising the 'paw-ddle' to save the lives of animals! Don't miss your opportunity to join other animal lovers on this fun and special night. Only 600 tickets available – get yours today at [www.nehumanesociety.org/blacktieandtails](http://www.nehumanesociety.org/blacktieandtails).

## Walk for the Animals Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020



Don't miss the largest dog-friendly event in the city! Walk, eat, drink and more – all to help homeless animals. This year, the Walk for the Animals will have everything longtime fans have come to expect – like fun vendors with lots of giveaways, activities, a beer garden, kid's zone, silent auction, rescue groups and more! Form a dog or cat pack today and start raising funds to save lives.

- › 1,000+ participants (2- and 4-legged!)
- › Sponsorships available – contact Gordon Krentz at 402-905-3438 or [gkrentz@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:gkrentz@nehumanesociety.org)
- › Register today at [www.nehumanesociety.org/walk](http://www.nehumanesociety.org/walk)

## Camp Kindness June-July 2020



Is your child crazy about animals? Give them something to talk about when they go back to school! If they are between the ages 6-13, you can help them become "junior veterinarians," care for adoptable critters, receive a kennel buddy and so much more at NHS Camp Kindness! Spaces fill up quickly! Register today at [www.nehumanesociety.org/campkindness](http://www.nehumanesociety.org/campkindness).

## Adoption Events

NHS will be hosting several of adoption events this year! These events will offer a variety of benefits for those looking to expand their family, including pricing specials, increased interactions with animals and so much more! Be sure to check out our website and follow us on social media to learn when these events are going to pop-up! Don't miss out on letting your future family member choose you!



## You = Lifesaver

Change the lives of the homeless animals in your own backyard. We work locally in the neighborhoods you care about.

## Web & Social

**Website:** [www.nehumanesociety.org](http://www.nehumanesociety.org)  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/nebraskahumanesociety](https://www.facebook.com/nebraskahumanesociety)  
**Twitter:** [twitter.com/nehumanesociety](https://twitter.com/nehumanesociety)  
**Twitter:** [twitter.com/nhscats](https://twitter.com/nhscats)  
**Instagram:** [nehumanesociety](https://www.instagram.com/nehumanesociety)  
**Snapchat:** [nehumanesociety](https://www.snapchat.com/add/nehumanesociety)

## Location & Hours

8929 Fort Street | Omaha, NE 68134  
Phone: 402-444-7800

**Adoption Application Hours:**  
Monday - Friday | 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Business Hours:**  
Monday - Friday | 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday | 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## NHS Staff Contacts

**Main Line:** 402.444.7800  
[nhs@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:nhs@nehumanesociety.org)

**Adopt:** 402.444.7800 ext. 2206  
Yasmine Nuwwarah, Lead Adoption Coordinator  
[adoptions@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:adoptions@nehumanesociety.org)

**Donate:** 402.444.7800 ext. 2235  
Kathy Roum, VP, Development  
[kroum@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:kroum@nehumanesociety.org)

**Volunteer:** 402.444.7800 ext. 2222  
Holly Kaffenberger, Volunteer Program Manager  
[hkaffenberger@nehumanesociety.org](mailto:hkaffenberger@nehumanesociety.org)

## 2020 NHS Executive Team

**Nancy Hintz**, President & CEO  
**Steven Glandt**, VP, Field Operations  
**Lindy Hess**, VP, Finance  
**Kiley Maddux-Weisbeck**, VP & Chief of Shelter Operations  
**Kathy Roum**, VP, Development  
**Sara Schmidt**, VP, Business Operations  
**Michele Tetreault-Mertes**, VP, Human Resources  
**Pam Wiese**, VP, Public Relations and Marketing



NEBRASKA  
HUMANE  
SOCIETY

Where help becomes hope.

**Please note:** honor and memorial gifts will now be recognized in our online Annual Report which will be published by June of each year.

