

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

This has been a very 'joyful' week for several reasons. I feel like I have been embraced by so much positive energy that it tickles in a good way.

I have noticed countless number of moments this past week when someone has said "Do you need a hand? Can I help you do that? Here, I can get that for you!?" If you need me to help, just call." These generous words were not just directed towards me, but they echoed at the NHS Thrift shop and at the NHS Shelter.

At the NHS Shelter, the week was marked with "Beagle Mania"! Thirty beagles arrived at the shelter at 8:30 am on Tuesday and left for their new homes on Saturday. The beagles were housed in our Training Center. The staff creatively made 10 enclosures, filled them with wood chips, elevated beds, lots of toys, water buckets and food bowls attached to the fencing. This joyful rescue took weeks of planning and preparation. Whenever I was at the shelter or on the phone with them, I never heard a moan or a complaint. More often it was 'we've got this'!"

When the beagles came out of the van and they were individually embraced by staff and volunteers, no one cared that they were soaked in urine. Each dog was kissed multiple times and held tightly. Again, throughout the room you would here 'Let me help you with that' and 'they are so precious'. Anyone helping with 'beagle mania' felt grateful to be a part of such a joyful occasion.

I also had the opportunity to work at the NHS Thrift Store this week. My husband, Mike, and I picked up donations from a supporter that is downsizing. Walker and Parker Farley helped us with the physical part of the journey and again, it was 'here, let me get that!'" Working with the pricing committee in the Thrift area was the same. Shirley Redmond, Barbara Hoeft Jeanne Hornak, Rob Taite, David Nemece, Linnea Forsell, and Carol Kemp worked to help one another. Greta Schunzel was up front. There is a lot of lifting, moving around and cleaning – tasks that were fun to do because we worked as a team! Pat Brummel, Patty Van Landshoot, Susan Cudden and Sharon Goodacre were working in the boutique area. I called the shop this Sunday morning to see if I was needed Barbara Hoeft told me Sue Killinger and Shirley Girard had it covered in the back and Chris Czbelka was at the cashier station. I stayed in my robe and worked at my desk – a perfect day. There are about 30 volunteers that make the shop happen throughout the week. So you can see that I only named a few of them.

The shelter staff is busy getting the Training Center back in order. The staff continues to care for all of the other creatures at the shelter. NHS Board members Susan Sams, Shirley Armstrong are heading the NHS dog walk meeting on Tuesday, Cherie Arzola is working on spreadsheets..... There are so many great people that have asked 'how can I help' and wonderful people that see a need and say 'I can do that' or 'I can make that happen'.

You may get the sense from this article that I am feeling very warm and fuzzy inside. I truly am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the Northwoods Humane Society and all the giving loving people I get to spend time with.

Date to Save: September 11 – Sunday – NHS 1K Dog Walk and Ice Cream Social – 12:30 – NHS Shelter grounds