

Northwoods Humane Society – Deanna Persson, President

The Northwoods Humane Society is always planning and preparing for the knowns and resourceful when the unknowns happen.

As animals come to us, we get to know them – their needs, their personalities, their likes and their dislikes. Sometimes we know their history and sometimes we know nothing other than they are in need of love and care.

A week ago this past Saturday, 8 puppies were brought to the Northwoods Humane Society, they were one week old. We were told that the mother had run off several days ago and that the puppies had been in an outdoor doghouse since then without warmth and nourishment. Two puppies were very cold and the others were marginal in terms of body heat. The staff went into action. They were able to bring the body temps back up some. A plea went out to our foster families and that afternoon four families showed up and each took two tiny puppies and supplies. Orphaned puppies should be fed on a strict schedule, preferably every 2-4 hours. Puppies up to two weeks old can generally consume their daily intake in 4-5 meals per day.

During this past week, all of the puppies have passed away. The foster families knew that these little creatures had a small chance of surviving. Our thanks to those wonderful people for trying. They knew the challenge and have known success but the odds were too great for this group of babies. They puppies died knowing warmth, a full stomach and caring hands.

Lucy is going to her forever home today. Who is Lucy? Well, Lucy is a dog that came to the Northwoods Humane Society from Texas. She was a street dog that was terrified of everyone and everything. She did not like other dogs, she was a flight risk, she was not socialized. Now you may ask why we embraced her? First of all we believe that all of the animals that come to us deserve the best care we can give them. Secondly, she is wonderful and loving once she gets to know you. Lucy was at the shelter for over 1,600 days. I have people say – ‘oh, that’s so sad’. No, it wasn’t sad. At this point it is the very best life Lucy has ever had. Her ‘people’ at the shelter taught her trust, gave her love, walked and played with her. She was a happy camper.

The staff did not give up hope that a perfect family was out there for Lucy. Alecia Austin, our shelter manager, created posters about Lucy that were posted around the area, Facebook postings were frequent and followers donated to increase the ads for Lucy, articles written, business cards with Lucy’s picture on them and her contact info were handed out.

The perfect family has been found or rather they found Lucy. The husband is a truck driver. He stopped to fill up his tank at a gas station in Menomonie – a station that he hadn’t stopped at before. He saw the poster about Lucy at the station, took a picture of it, called his wife and said we need this dog. Who put that poster in that gas station? Whoever you are – THANK YOU!

They live several hours from Hayward. They did the application and interview on the phone, they drove to Hayward to meet the staff and then to meet Lucy. They spent several hours with her, they returned for a day with her three more times and on one visit they brought the soon to be ‘grandparents’. Today the couple will again spend time with Lucy and she will be going to her ‘forever’ home.

Help Needed! The shelter is in need of an office volunteer for either Thursday, Friday or Saturday. The hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you can help on one of these days, please call Alecia at the shelter – 715-634-5394. The office volunteer job puts you in the middle of a lot of activity. It is fun, educational and very meaningful.

Dates to Save:

Dates to Save: Bingo at Powell's – March 28, April 11, April 25 and May 9th – starting at 6 pm – best to get there early.

April 27th – Spay-Ghetti and No Balls plus Baking competition – Hayward Veterans Center