

# paw PRINTS

Spring 2021

CAPITAL AREA  
HUMANE  
SOCIETY  
New Home. New Hope.

A publication of the Capital Area Humane Society

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*Miah - Adopted February 2021*



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**Capital Area Humane Society** is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The shelter receives no tax dollars, government funding, or donations made to national humane organizations. A local, private, and independent animal welfare organization, the Capital Area Humane Society was founded in 1936, and all donations and gifts directed to CAHS are used to assist the animals in the greater Lansing community.

**Mission:** To promote the humane treatment of companion animals through protection, placement, education, and example.

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## from the president



Eighty-five years ago, in downtown Lansing, a frightened stray kitten was discovered during a thunderstorm by a caring woman named Mrs. Warren Hosmer. The kitten was huddled up against a building and obviously needed the help of a kind stranger. Mrs. Hosmer scooped up the kitten, took him home with her, and the rest is (our) history.

In 1936, Mrs. Hosmer founded the Capital Area Humane Society. Motivated by that stray kitten, she vowed to care for homeless animals with the support, kindness, and generosity of our community. While our organization, today, looks very different than it did all those years ago, it continues to operate under the same principle.

This year, we celebrate eighty-five years serving the Greater Lansing Region. This milestone represents countless lives saved through adoption and spay/neuter, as well as multiple programs and services to benefit animals and pet owners. We are very proud of the fact we are a local and independent animal welfare organization.

We are so grateful for everyone who has supported CAHS and made our good work possible over the past eighty-five years. As we rely solely on donations, your generosity is the heart and soul of our mission at the Capital Area Humane Society. We truly exist because our community cares so much about homeless animals (admit it, you would have scooped up that stray kitten, too!).

Thank you for your kindness. We look forward to what the next eighty-five years will bring for the animals. We know the future is bright for them, because of you.

Julia Willson, President & CEO

## BECAUSE OF YOU : 2020 Year in Review

As we reflect on 2020, and the many challenges faced as an organization and as a country, we cannot forget all of the wonderful things that did occur. The most important being our amazing community stood by us, fostering animals when we closed, providing needed items when we re-opened, and making monetary donations to ensure we could continue saving lives. Words cannot express how truly grateful we are for you!

In 2020, we had the most successful adoption year in our history, with 4,018 pets finding their forever families! This included 1,217 cats, 1,163 kittens, 1,013 dogs, 414 puppies, 75 guinea pigs, 54 rats, 48 rabbits, 13 hamsters, 8 birds, 7 gerbils, 3 pot-bellied pigs, 2 mice, and 1 chinchilla. This is truly amazing considering CAHS was closed March 24 through April 29. You have made this possible, and we couldn't do this important work without you! Thank you for being a hero to all of these animals!







## Taz : FROM ABANDONED TO ADOPTED

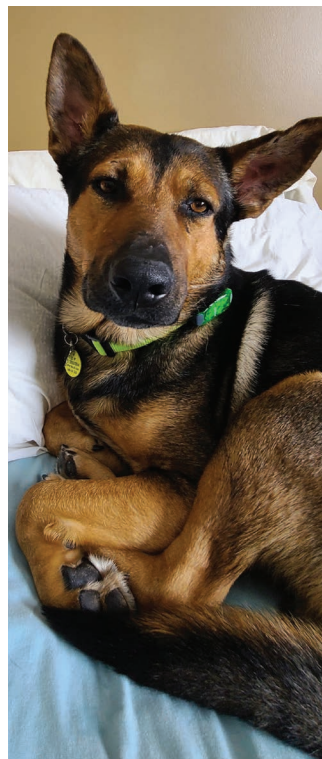
Taz is an 8-year-old small dog, who was transferred to CAHS from an animal control facility in Michigan, after she was found as a stray. Upon arriving at our shelter, our veterinary team discovered two large masses on her tiny 5-pound body, and saw most of her teeth were either broken, loose, or rotten. She was immediately scheduled for surgery to remove the masses, as well as for a dental cleaning. Luckily, the masses were benign, but unfortunately, all of Taz's teeth had to be removed.



Taz found her forever home in January 2021, and because of you, Taz now has a second chance to live a beautiful life. Her new poppa recently sent us the following:

*"I wanted to update everyone on baby Taz! She is doing well and follows me wherever I go. She immediately wanted to sleep on my lap while driving to our home in Holland, OH, and wanted on my lap once she checked out my place a bit.*

*This dog is a lover, doesn't bark, or show any aggressive behavior at all! I tried doing selfies with us, but she hasn't cooperated for those yet, and just wants to kiss her poppa. She is truly a little sweetheart, and I let her roam while I am at work (of course leaving a quiet TV show on), and she sleeps in bed with me at night. I will take good care of her and provide her the home she deserves finally! Thanks, again, for all you do!"*



## Buddy Is Now Living His Best Life

Buddy, a 5-year-old mixed breed, was transferred to CAHS from an animal control facility in Texas. They were out of space and desperately needed help, so we partnered with the Bissell Pet Foundation to have him brought to us. He was heartworm positive, and had extensive scarring and scabbing on his face and legs. After he completed his heartworm treatment, Buddy went up for adoption. Unfortunately, we have no idea what his past entailed or what he has been through. What we do know is, because of you, and your continued support of CAHS, Buddy is now living his best life! He was adopted in January 2021, and his new family sent the following:

*"My family and I adopted Buddy (previously known as Bradley). We were finally ready to open our hearts to another furbaby, after we lost our Lucy two years ago, after 14 wonderful years together. We fell instantly in love with our happy guy when we met him at CAHS.*

*Today, Buddy is thriving in his new home and is a happy addition to our family. He absolutely loves going outside, playing in the snow, going for walks around our neighborhood, running along the fence line with his newly befriended furry neighbor, and getting lots of belly rubs. We look forward to the warmer weather so we can take him to our favorite park for some hiking.*

*We are so delighted to share our love with a new furbaby and hope he knows how much joy he has brought and continues to bring to our lives."*

- The Peek Family

## New Year, New Space

Prior to COVID-19, we began the “silent phase” of a building campaign, and started fundraising for renovations. Unfortunately, fundraising was halted by the pandemic. We felt it was best to honor the gifts we received for the project prior to COVID-19, and move forward to improve the shelter.

Construction started on a very outdated animal isolation space. These renovations will provide a safe haven for the animals, with bright and warm spaces designed to reduce stress and prevent disease.

Although we are very excited about these improvements, it is just a portion of the renovations that need to be made, including our dog, puppy, and kitten adoption areas. We hope to relaunch our campaign in the future, as these renovations are made possible through donations from our wonderful supporters. If you have any questions, or would like to make a donation toward our building campaign, please contact Jamie at [jfuhr@AdoptLansing.org](mailto:jfuhr@AdoptLansing.org) or (517) 626-6060 ext. 120. We are so grateful to our donors for making this possible. Together, we are building a stronger future for the homeless pets in our community.



## URGENT SHELTER NEEDS WISHLIST

Martingale Collars (Medium)

Break-Away Cat Collars

Soft Dog Treats

Breeders' Edge Feline Powdered Milk Replacement

PetAg KMR Kitten Milk Replacement Formula (Liquid and Powder)

Electric Heating Pads

Miracle Nipple

Miracle Nipple Mini for Pets

## Bert and Ernie FIND THEIR HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Bert and Ernie were transferred to CAHS from Arkansas, where they were rescued from a horrible situation. They lived in a house with 28 other cats. The owner would stop by the house and dump a bag of food on the floor. They lived this way for over a year. When Bert and Ernie were rescued, they had missing fur, and were emaciated and terrified of people. They went into a foster home, where they grew healthy and learned to trust again. Once ready, they were transferred to CAHS. We knew after all they had been through; they definitely couldn't be separated. They found their loving home together in September 2020, and their family sent the following update:

The phone finally rang. We had waited most of the afternoon for the call, but the voice on the other end did not give us the news we wanted. “There is no cure and no treatment.” This was the second time in three weeks that our vet had given us such a dreaded message. Our triage of cats was now down to one — a shy one-eyed feral black cat, named Pirate, that we had rescued a year earlier.

The day after our second loss, I asked my wife, amid our tears, if she would be willing to visit CAHS to see if we could find a companion for Pirate. She agreed, and we had no idea how our lives were about to change.

We arranged to meet Sue Karr, a dear friend and CAHS volunteer, at the shelter. The three of us wandered about CAHS looking at the cats. As we walked by one room, Sue

said, “I know you just want to replace one cat, but you guys really should meet Bert and Ernie.”

We walked into the room and were met by two nearly identical cats that resembled miniature Holstein cows. Approximately 7 minutes after experiencing the antics of Bert and Ernie, and their affection for us and each other, we adopted them.

We quarantined Bert and Ernie from Pirate, so the newcomers were assigned to an extra room. It was Ernie that violated the sequestration on the third day, leaping over the three-foot barrier, wanting to meet Pirate.

It is now six months later. Bert and Ernie are extraordinarily close and often hug and lick one another. Both of them have adopted Pirate as a member of the clan and have become playful buddies. Pirate has never seemed happier! The most incredible moment came shortly after New Year's, when Bert and Ernie apparently noticed a family picture on a bookshelf. Wanting to make sure that we understood that they were now a permanent part of the “family”, they created a picture for the ages!

Certainly, we miss the two guys that we lost six months ago, but Bert and Ernie have converted our grief into pure joy. Pirate totally agrees!

- Larry and Jane

