

The Companion

**November
2024**

How Love and Understanding Gave Boog a second chance

Boog's gray muzzle, short-cropped ears, lumpy face, and crooked tail told the story of a dog who had seen some rough times. At nearly 10 years old, Boog arrived at our shelter unneutered, with chronic ear infections, and in need of a home where he could be the only pet.

The kennels were a stressful environment for Boog, so we decided to transition him to an office foster situation. Here, he revealed his calm and easygoing nature and soon became a favorite among the staff.

However, as the months passed without any interest from potential adopters, Boog's spirits began to fade. It became clear that what he truly needed was a foster home. Enter Trip, Boog's foster dad, who stepped in and soon discovered the remarkable spirit of this gentle dog.

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A Message from the President



In our fast-paced and ever-changing environment, our team's resilience shines. I can think of so many examples of our capacity to always bounce back and forge ahead, but one stands out.

Early this year, our Humane Law Enforcement team collaborated with local authorities to save over 100 animals from an unlicensed rescue organization. Though our kennels were full, we needed to find a way to remove them from their dire conditions.

With strategy, creativity, and the help of many friends, we saved all of them from suffering and gave them the hopeful new starts they deserved. We were able to change their lives thanks to the incredible generosity of our supporters, like you.

In September, we were honored by Best Friends Animal Society with **The Save Them All Changemaker Award**, which celebrates animal shelters that have achieved a 90% or greater save rate. (Ours is 93%.) We were recognized for resiliency and creativity in ensuring the well-being of the animals we serve while making a positive impact in our community.

Many know Best Friends for their animal sanctuary in Utah, founded in 1993. Since that time, their lifesaving influence has extended far beyond the sanctuary borders. Through their nationwide partnership network, they have become a leading resource for shelters and rescue groups, all seeking to save more precious lives.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Best Friends and *all* of our supportive friends. Your generosity fuels our resilience. Your commitment enables us to transform every life we touch.

Sincerely,



Ashley Jeffrey Bouck
President & CEO

• Our heartfelt
• gratitude to
• Best Friends
• and all of our
• supporters.

2024 Impact Through September



1,434
adoptions



179
animals rescued
from cruelty



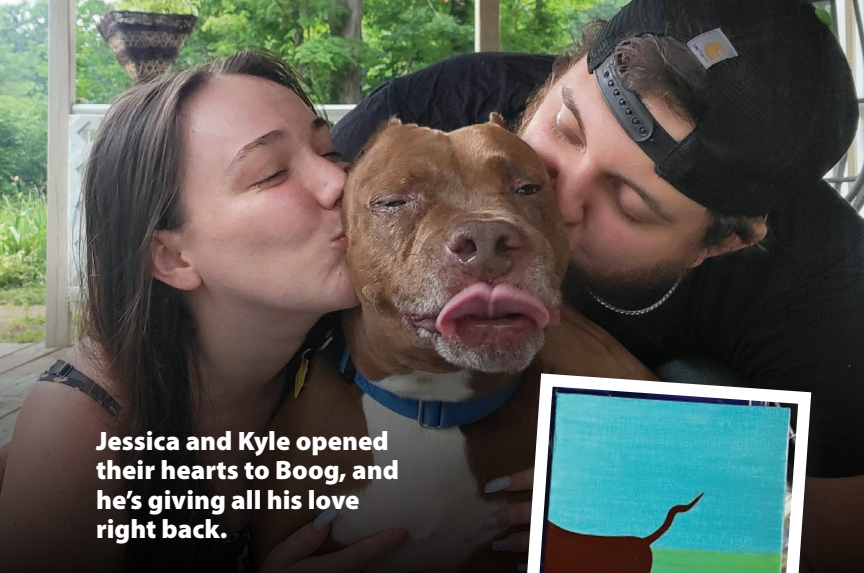
573
animals in
foster care



208
animals reunited
with owners



1,418
spay/neuter
surgeries



Jessica and Kyle opened their hearts to Boog, and he's giving all his love right back.



Boog's crooked tail inspired a staff member to paint "Boog's Butt" as a gift for his new parents.

Boog's Story continued

"Despite the hardships he had faced, he remained incredibly sweet, smart, and loving. His resilience and affectionate nature were evident from the start," Trip shared.

Over the course of nearly 10 months together, they embarked on hikes, runs, and outdoor adventures that not only helped Boog thrive, but also created countless cherished memories for Trip.

Meanwhile, Jessica and Kyle were on the lookout for an older dog. They had been following Boog's journey online, and although they were still months away from moving into their new home, they hoped to meet him if he was still available. To their surprise, eight months later, Boog was still waiting.

We arranged a meet at our Lisa Mitzen Animal Care Center, where Trip and our staff introduced them to Boog, sharing all the qualities that made him so special. The connection was instant, and they were eager to give him the chance he deserved.

Today, Boog is thriving in his home and surrounded by love. Jessica and Kyle say Boog seamlessly became part of their family. He is sweet, cuddly, happy, and affectionate. They say that the dog who was passed over for more than a year is "amazing."

Boog's journey is a beautiful reminder that, like many animals with rough beginnings, he simply needed time, love, and someone willing to see beyond his age and imperfections. **His story is one of so many that play out here at MHHS, made possible by our amazing community of supporters. It's a story of hope, showing how time, patience, and kindness can transform a life.**

From Broken to Boss: Toad rules the roost

Teonna was found wandering on a busy street by some kind-hearted people. They noticed her hind leg was in bad shape and brought her to us. X-rays showed her ankle was broken and too close to the joint to fix. To prevent her from having chronic pain, we amputated her leg.

Teonna handled the surgery like a champ and was soon ready for a foster-to-adopt home. This three-week period is for pets and adopters who may need a bit more care or support from our staff before making it official.

Maggie and Alex saw Teonna's photo online and knew they had to meet her. They were smitten within minutes and took her home with instructions to limit her activity while she healed. After a re-check and suture removal, Teonna, now called Toad, showed her true colors.

Toad quickly became the boss of her new home — running, climbing, and even taking over her canine brother's crate. Her missing leg didn't slow her down one bit! Her new family loves her spunky personality, even if she is a little bossy.

Your support helps transform the lives of injured and abandoned animals like Toad, giving them the expert care they need to thrive in their new homes. Thank you for making these happy endings possible!



Toad, formerly Teonna, doesn't let a missing leg slow her down.

MHHS Peace Officer honored

Earlier this year, MHHS Peace Officer and Operations Specialist Bree Seltzer was honored as a Humane Professional of the Month by the National Animal Control Association (NACA). Bree joins an elite group of individuals across the country to be recognized for their professionalism, dedication to public safety, and character in carrying out their role to protect animals.



Help us keep pets Loved for Life

As the costs of pet food and essential wellness care continue to rise, many loving pet owners face the heartbreaking possibility of having to give up their beloved companions. Our Loved for Life program is here to help. This collection of free or reduced-cost services is designed to keep pets at home, where they belong, and with the families who love them.

Your sponsorship can make a world of difference. By supporting our program, you help sustain these vital services, which are in higher demand than ever. We offer a range of resources, including vaccinations, spay and neuter surgeries, microchipping, behavior support, and essential supplies.

If you or your company would like to learn more about sponsoring our Loved for Life program, please call our President & CEO, Ashley Jeffrey Bouck, at 518-434-8128, or email her at ajbouck@mohawkhumane.org.

Are you in need of assistance? Visit lovedforlife.org for more information.

Together, we can help ensure that pets stay with the families who cherish them.



mission

Transforming the lives of animals and people through partnerships, protection, and hope

contact us

Mohawk Hudson Humane Society
Lisa Mitzen Animal Care Center
3 Oakland Avenue
Menands, NY 12204
518-434-8128

To learn more about MHHS and ways to help, please visit

mohawkhumane.org

