

# THE DISH

A bimonthly newsletter from the Humane Society of Boulder Valley

## The Best Holiday Present Ever

By Vanessa Volin, Development Manager

In early December, our Upper Respiratory Infection ward was full of cats and kittens. Each one desperately needed a foster home to provide the time they needed to receive treatment and become healthy before being placed back in our Adoption Center. I decided that a cat could definitely benefit from spending some time in my office with me and I went to pick one out. I opened a cage and Adam, a slender 18 month-old solid black cat, gingerly reached out his paws, wrapping them over my shoulders, falling limp like a doll against me. I had found my foster cat! Adam and I would share my office for the next 14 days.

Adam had a high fever, was very weak and malnourished. He spent all of his time in my lap or in his cat bed on my desk. He loved to be held and to give and receive kisses. With his bronchitis-like symptoms, Adam could not smell his food and was

not eating. I tempted him with all kinds of aromatic canned foods and soon he began to eat – but only if I was watching. With individualized veterinary treatment and all the love and attention he craved, Adam's respiratory condition improved quickly.

In just 14 days of foster care, Adam went from suffering from a myriad of health problems – including a respiratory infection, tapeworms, ticks and mites – to blossoming into a happy, healthy cat.

Adam was ready to find a new home and moved into a cat condo in our Adoption Center.

I visited him and his three feline

roommates everyday, waiting for a new guardian to find him. Finally, on December 23, a family read the story I had posted on his condo and they called me to hear more. They wanted to adopt him! Just in time for Christmas, Adam went to his new home.



## Dear Friends,

Welcome to the new Dish! We are excited about our new format that will now be published every other month so you don't have to wait to hear about the programs and services you support. Each edition will include stories about the animals you have helped to save and will keep you aware of events and things you can do to assist the homeless animals we serve.

Our new format is a cost-effective way for us to bring you all of this information so more of your dollars can go directly to animal care. We hope you enjoy this new newsletter and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

In gratitude,



Jan McHugh-Smith  
Chief Executive Officer



# FEBRUARY

## Click. Treat. Register.

Starting February, you can register for all our Training and Behavior classes on-line. Just visit [boulderhumane.org](http://boulderhumane.org) to learn about all the different training classes available. From Puppy Kindergarten to Agility, we offer something for every ability. Register on-line, check class schedules, learn about our trainers – it is all available to you 24 hours a day!

## No More Doggie Breath!

Healthy Teeth Make a Healthy Pet – February is Dental Month. Call our Veterinary Clinic at 303.442.4030 x680 to schedule your pet's dental appointment today!

## Animal Transfer Program with Mexico

By Vanessa Volin, Development Manager

With poverty rampant in Mexico, money and programs for animals are of low priority. Thousands of homeless animals roam the streets and every day large numbers of healthy, friendly dogs and cats are euthanized. The Humane Society of Boulder Valley aims to change this scenario in a partnership with The Summerlee Foundation with a grant to support shelters in Mexico to advance their development.

The Summerlee Foundation works in alliance with Saving Animals Across Borders (SAAB) to curb animal overpopulation and end euthanasia by electrocution in the State of Nueva Leon, Mexico. SAAB trained local veterinarians in Monterrey on the latest sterilization surgical techniques and euthanasia by injection. The veterinarians now operate a state of the art hospital on wheels – the first of its kind in Mexico – 5,000 dogs and cats are now sterilized each year and receive rabies shots free of charge. The State estimates that 70,000 animals come through their shelters annually. Sadly, few animals in the shelters are adopted, and an estimated 95% of the animals in the shelters are euthanized.



The Summerlee Foundation award a grant to the Humane Society of Boulder Valley to share our expertise with Monterrey shelter staff and veterinarians in animal sheltering and assist with adoption protocol. The ultimate goal is to create an environment and infrastructure allowing for animal

adoption in Mexico. In addition, Continental Airlines offered to donate flight services so Monterrey will begin to be able to provide some of these healthy animals the opportunity to be adopted into a new home. Approximately fifty dogs will be transported from

Monterrey to the Humane Society of Boulder Valley for adoption in 2006. This transfer will serve as a pilot program for the Summerlee Foundation to explore the viability of a transfer program with Mexico and the possibilities for other animal welfare agencies in the US to participate in assisting with adoption and easing the euthanasia burden. We look forward to sharing our practices with Monterrey, working together on a mutual mission that has no borders – saving more animals.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to Lauren Grimditch and Jennifer Benshoof for becoming Certified Pet Dog Trainers. They have earned this prestigious credential by demonstrating their knowledge and experience in dog training. They both have the dog training skills as well as instructor skills to enhance the experience and success for you and your dog.



For more information on the Training and Behavior Center call 303-442-5995 or visit [www.boulderhumane.org](http://www.boulderhumane.org).

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF BOULDER VALLEY PROUDLY PRESENTS

# KING MUTT

PUTTIN' ON THE LEASH 2006

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday April 22, 2006 · 6 PM  
Coors Event Center, CU Campus

Contact Elissa Sale at 303.442.4030 x634  
for more information.

## Zorro the Chihuahua

By Vanessa Volin, Development Manager

Just days before Thanksgiving, an Erie police officer noticed a small ball of fur on the side of the road and stopped to investigate. The little Chihuahua lay broken on the side of the road, apparently hit by a car and unable to move. The police officer took him straight to the Humane Society of Boulder Valley Veterinary Clinic where he was treated for a broken pelvis and lacerations on his back.

On the eve of Thanksgiving, Zorro, the two year-old Chihuahua, was placed into foster care with volunteer, Heather Shea. Veterinarians prescribed cage rest for Zorro to give his bones time to heal. After four weeks of care and love, Zorro was able to walk again and was very much a part of the Shea household. With two Cairn Terriers to wrestle with and Sam the cat to sleep with, Heather describes Zorro as "a little ball of fire."

"He is such a happy, funny dog," Heather says. Zorro loves his new sweater that Heather knit him for Christmas and enjoyed hiding under the blankets on their bed. "He's just a big dog in a little dog's body," says Heather, "and we love him." Zorro has made a full recovery, has settled into his temporary home with Chihuahua rescue, and is awaiting adoption.



## Dear Humane Society:

I wasn't sure who to contact, but I wanted to thank all you guys at the Humane Society of Boulder Valley. In November, I adopted a new member of the family from your facility. Lola is the perfect dog for us! She's treated like a princess, and whatever Lola wants, Lola gets! She loves to hike with us in the mountains, and play with other dogs at the dog park. I'm sure she was VERY hard to give



up, and if possible, I wanted her previous owner to know how loved she is, and she's getting all the attention and exercise she can take! I attached a

picture of Lola and Brian having a lazy afternoon on the couch. We love her to death! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Sincerely,  
Kristin and Brian Lee



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Some exclusions apply.  
Expires Feb. 15, 2006*

## TRAINING TIP #486

### Sick of Being Walked by your Dog? Teach your dog not to pull on the leash.

Is your dog pulling you around every time you try to walk him on a leash? A simple cure for that is not to move forward until the dog stops and stands still. Once he is quiet then you may advance forward but the second he pulls again you must stop. The first time you try this you may not get very far, however the dog will quickly learn that pulling means that he isn't getting to go anywhere. Stick with this simple method and your dog will be a perfect gentleman in just a few sessions.

Humane Society of Boulder Valley  
2323 55th Street, Boulder • 303.442.4030  
[www.boulderhumane.org](http://www.boulderhumane.org)

For a complete list of our hours, Training and Behavior Center, Veterinary Clinic and Thrift Shop information visit [www.boulderhumane.org](http://www.boulderhumane.org)



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