



THE MANY COLORS OF AUTUMN - AND RESCUE

Fall has a way of reminding us just how beautiful variety can be. Step outside and look around—the trees don't all turn the same shade at the same time. Some leaves glow fiery red, some golden yellow, some hang on to their green a little longer. Together, they create a season that feels warm, welcoming, and full of wonder.

At the rescue, we see that same kind of beauty every single day. Our cats come in every pattern and color you can imagine—sleek black cats, bold orange tabbies, calicos painted in patches, and striking Siamese with their soft voices. Our dogs, too, bring their own rainbow of coats: fluffy and brindled, white as snow, black as night, spotted, speckled, and everything in between. And of course, we meet all kinds of breeds and mixes along the way—from the tiniest terrier to the biggest shepherd, and everything you could dream up in between.

The truth is, there isn't one that's "better" than another—just like autumn leaves, each one adds to the magic. A goofy brindle pup makes you laugh, while a gentle black lab leans in for the perfect snuggle. A curious calico kitten brightens the room with her antics, while a shy orange tabby quietly steals your heart. A purebred pup is no more deserving of love than a scrappy mixed breed with a wagging tail.

Rescue life teaches us this simple truth: love doesn't come in one color, size, shape, or breed. It comes in all of them. And that's what makes it so special.

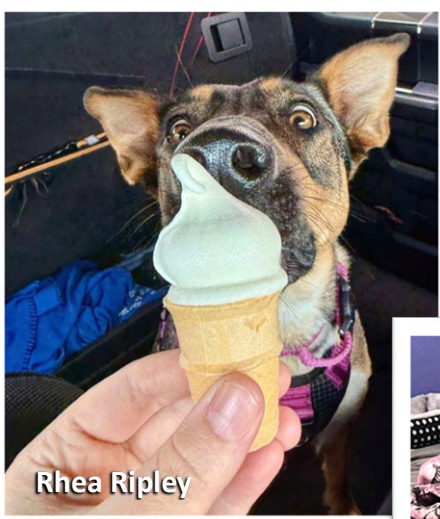
So as you enjoy the beauty of the season—the crunch of leaves underfoot, the cozy evenings, the colors painting the trees—we invite you to look for the same wonder in the animals waiting for homes.

Each one is unique, each one is wonderful, and each one is ready to add a little extra color (and a lot of love) to someone's life.

After all, autumn wouldn't be autumn without every shade on the trees. And rescue wouldn't be rescue without every wag, purr, quirk, and cuddle. So, if you've been thinking about adding a furry friend to your family, now is the perfect time. Meet the dogs and cats waiting for their forever homes—you just might find your own little piece of autumn magic.



HAPPY TAILS



FALL IN love



BUILDING BALANCE, BUILDING HOPE

Rescue work is never simple. Many of the dogs who come through our doors have been through more than we'll ever truly know. Some arrive shut down, others fearful, and some come with behaviors that make everyday care — and especially the dream of adoption — seem like an uphill climb. But at our rescue, we believe every animal deserves the chance to succeed, and we're always open to learning new ways to help them get there.

That's why we were so grateful when Julie, our Executive Director, invited Steph — a trusted friend in rescue and an incredibly talented trainer and behaviorist from Wisconsin — to spend several days with us. She worked not only with our dogs but also with our team, imparting wisdom that has already made a lasting impact.

One of the biggest takeaways? The art of balanced walking.

It might sound simple, but it's so much more than just putting a leash on a dog. Balanced walking is about structure, trust, rhythm, and communication. It's about teaching dogs that they are safe, that leadership exists, and that they can let go of the chaos inside them. And the results? Remarkable.

Dogs who had been nearly impossible to walk became calm, steady companions on the leash. We gathered our "shop dogs" together in a circle — something we usually avoided out of fear of conflict. To our amazement, even two dogs we were certain disliked one another walked together peacefully, side by side. It was proof that with patience and guidance, incredible transformation is possible.

Balanced walking teaches us that:

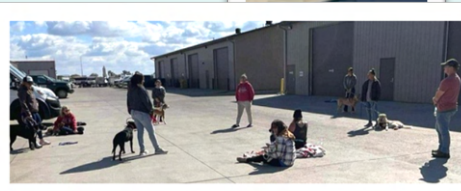
- Every dog deserves leadership, structure, and the chance to succeed.
- Walking builds trust and bonding — it's where dogs learn to follow, listen, and believe again.
- Consistency and accountability matter — for both dogs and humans.

Perhaps the most beautiful part of this lesson is that it isn't about perfection. Rescue never is. It's about progress, patience, and purpose. Every calm step forward brings dogs closer to being adoptable, safe, and stable. And every lesson learned makes us stronger as handlers, fosters, adopters, and as a rescue community.

Our role is to bring balance where trauma once lived. Together, we are building better dogs, better humans, and brighter futures — one walk at a time.



**Walking
isn't just
exercise -
it's trust,
balance,
and a
positive
step
toward a
forever
home.**



PREPARING FOR THE COLD: HELPING STRAYS SURVIVE WINTER



How you can help -

- **Donate a Shelter:** We're collecting dog houses and cat shelters to place in high-stray areas.
- **Provide Straw:** Straw is the safest and warmest insulations - it keeps animals dry and cozy.
- **Give Food:** Extra food helps strays maintain body heat during frigid nights.
- **Sponsor Medical Care:** Mange treatment and vaccines save lives before winter hits.
- **Be a Watcher:** Keep an eye out for strays in your area and let us know if help is needed.
- **Together, small acts add up to big changes** for animals who have no one else to rely on.



ADOPTED DOGS

Stitch, Sweetums, Coal, Robbie, Dory, Riley Green, Astro, Carter, Milo, Willow, Buttons, Saffron, Pig, Katie, Rooster, Chaim, Cricket, Gracie, Cola, Chase, Maple, Otto, Dakota, Nixie, Red, Chonk, Cruz, Dutch, Toto

ADOPTED CATS

Aspen, Radley Jr, Jeeves, Cheezy, Juliana, Nala, Indi, Honey, Tongs, Lady Marmalade, Harry, Leopold, Brutus, Tigie, Zoe 2.0, Muffin, Waffle, Fantasia, Maynard, Yara, George, Spatula, Brillo, Parker, Rolo, Maynard, Poppy, Poptart, Rudee, Midge, Tiny, Beans

ROUGH START – BRIGHT FUTURE

Meet *Laverne*,

Some stories stop us in our tracks. Laverne's began in the most heartbreaking way—she was found abandoned in a tote on the side of the road, left with her seven newborn kittens. (Yes... a tote. Who does that?! 🐱)

But here's where her strength shines: instead of giving up, this brave mama turned lemons into lemonade. She raised her babies with love and grace, proving she is every bit the queen she deserves to be.

Now that her mom duties are complete, Laverne is ready to step into her own spotlight and finally live her main character era. 🎬

FROM SHADOWS TO SAFETY

Sometimes we get photos of dogs we may never see again—dogs too frightened, too fragile, too lost in their struggle to be reached. For weeks, Elliot was one of those shadows. At about four months old, he had already learned how to disappear and to survive in a world that hadn't shown him much kindness.

Things changed for him when our volunteers—determined not to give up on him—made it their mission to bring Elliot to safety. With patience, persistence Elliot was finally rescued. One of the volunteers who helped save him opened her home and her heart, becoming his foster mom and giving him a name that marks the start of a new chapter: Elliot. 💙



Elliot has a long road ahead. His body must heal, and so must his spirit. For now - likely for the very first time - he is safe. He is loved. He is feeling hands that comfort instead of harm. 🐾❤️

Elliot's little body reveals the truth of his fight for survival. He has lost nearly all of his fur to mange, and every bone in his frame seems to tell a story of hunger. Yet even with all he's been through, he hasn't given up.

Very quickly after rescue he was started on antibiotics, given mange and flea treatment, dewormer, and vaccinations. He had a soothing medicated bath to ease his skin, his first hearty meal in a long time, and fresh water with electrolytes to help his body recover. To bring him further relief, Elliot was treated with a healing cream made locally at Dakota Pharmacy & Dakota PrecisionRx Labs—proof that community compassion surrounds him in every step of his journey.

Thank you for believing in rescue. Thank you for giving Elliot, and so many others, the chance to step out of the shadows and into the light.



THE MAGIC OF BLACK CATS

Spooky myths aside, these beauties are full of love



Black cats have carried a lot of myths through history—sacred in ancient Egypt, feared in medieval Europe, and cherished by sailors as symbols of good luck. Yet today, they're still too often misunderstood.

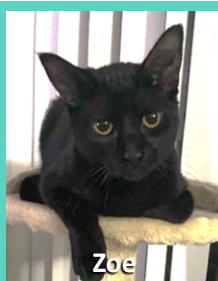
October can be a dangerous month for them, thanks to lingering superstitions and their association with Halloween. That's why many rescues, including ours, take extra care to protect these sleek companions.

The truth? Black cats are anything but unlucky. Their glossy coats are elegant, their jewel-like eyes shine with personality, and their goofy, affectionate nature makes them wonderful companions. Sadly, they're often overlooked in shelters due to "black cat bias," waiting longer than other cats for forever homes.

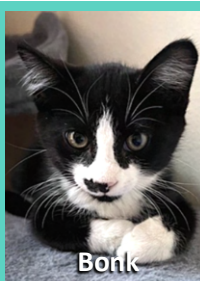
This Halloween season, let's celebrate black cats for what they really are: loyal, loving, and a little bit magical. Who knows? Your own good-luck charm may be waiting for you right now. ❤️



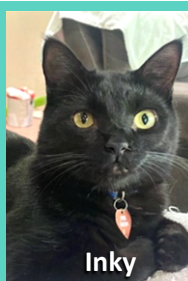
Franklin



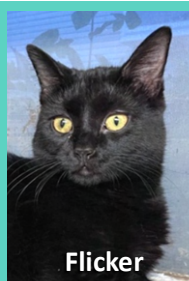
Zoe



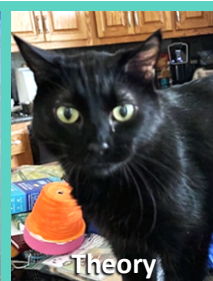
Bonk



Inky



Flicker



Theory

UPCOMING EVENTS

MUTTS & MARYS/MEET & GREET

Sunday, Oct 5 | 9am-12pm
Breakfast, Bloody Mary Bar, Adoptables
Main Street Liquor, Mandan

CORNHOLE FOR KITTENS &
DARTS FOR DOGS

Nov 15 | Details to come
SEND-IT! 24/7 Cornhole, Mandan

B-I-N-G-O

Every Thursday, 6 p.m.
GIDEON's BREWING COMPANY
Great Prizes | Cash Play only

BLACKJACK

Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays | 6 p.m.
DJ's Pizza & Lounge | 70 Santee Rd |
Lincoln

PETSMART MEET & GREET

Every Saturday | 11am – 2pm

DOG TRAINING CLASSES

With Trainer Nancy Gerhardt
Basic | Intermediate | Advanced
Visit Eventbrite for details



FOSTERING SAVES LIVES

Every time someone opens their home to a foster animal, they create space for another life to be saved. It's not just temporary care - it's the bridge between suffering and safety, fear and trust, abandonment and love. Fostering is how rescue happens. **It's how hope begins.**

These adorable faces are waiting for their forever families.



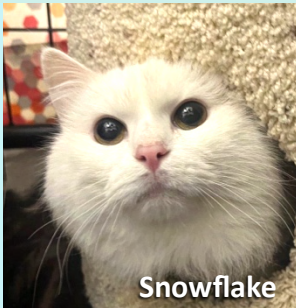
Delilah



Dorian



Kala



Snowflake



Jerry



Andie



Nix



Greta



Butterscotch



Reggie



Runner



Lance



Carrot Top



Shasta



Hildy



Pepper



Your kindness makes **ALL** the difference. Let's keep working together to turn compassion into action—one rescued life at a time.