

Bringing people and animals together to enrich each other's lives.



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## CALENDAR

### MARCH

18TH CAT SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC  
*Call 549-HSWM for more info*  
19TH VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
21ST DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*

### APRIL

3RD DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
9TH HSWM BOARD MEETING  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
16TH VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
18TH DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
KEN SHUGHART HUMANITARIAN AWARD  
*6 pm Holiday Inn Downtown*

### MAY

2ND DOG SPAY/NEUTER CLINIC  
*Date subject to change*  
DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
14TH HSWM BOARD MEETING  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
16TH DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
21ST VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*

### JUNE

6TH DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
11TH HSWM BOARD MEETING  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
16TH-19TH CRITTER CAMP  
*Day Camp for 7-9 year old kids*  
18TH VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
20TH DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
23RD-26TH CRITTER CAMP  
*Day Camp for 10-12 year old kids*

### JULY

3RD DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
7TH-10TH CRITTER CAMP  
*Day Camp for 7-9 year old kids*  
9TH HSWM BOARD MEETING  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
14TH-17TH CRITTER CAMP  
*Day Camp for 10-12 year old kids*  
16TH VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
18TH DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*

### AUGUST

1ST DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
13TH HSWM BOARD MEETING  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
15TH DOG WALKING ORIENTATION\*  
*11 am HSWM's Education Room*  
20TH VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION  
*6 pm HSWM's Education Room*  
28TH BONE BALL  
*6 pm Caras Park*

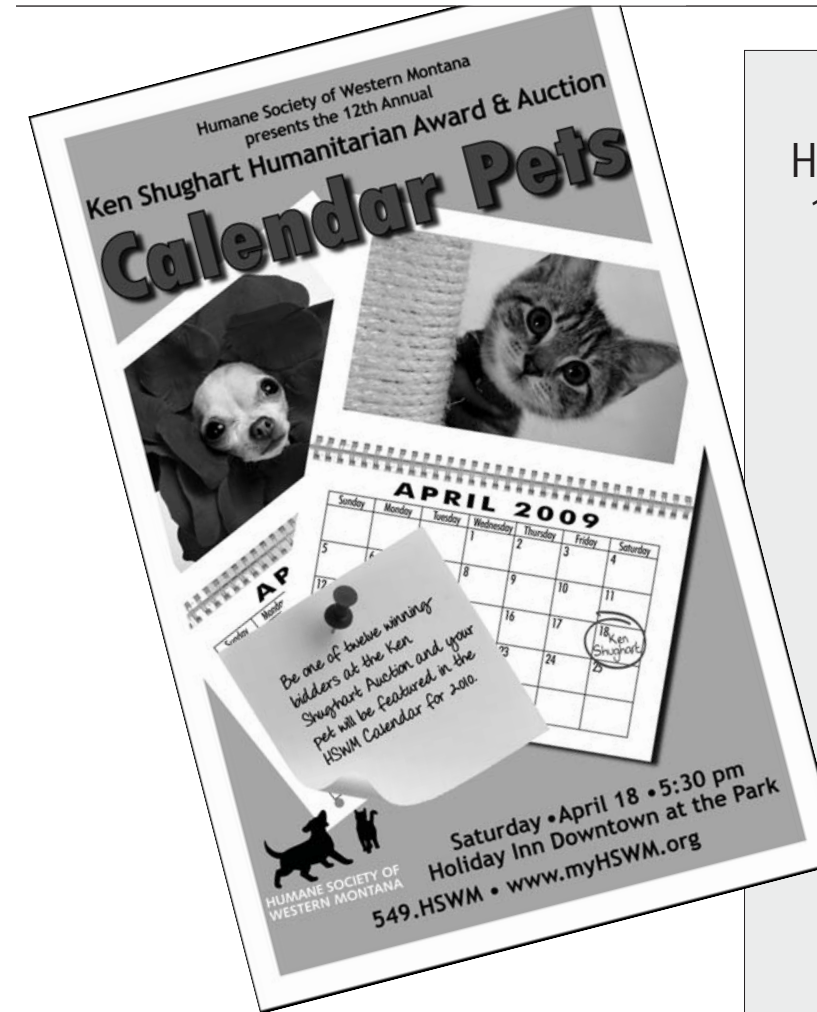
*\*Please attend a Volunteer Orientation before coming to the Dog Walking Orientation*



# Animal Talk

SPRING 2009 • VOLUME 25, NUMBER 1

*A newsletter to the friends and members of HSWM*



Please join us!  
HUMANE SOCIETY OF WESTERN MONTANA'S  
12TH ANNUAL KEN SHUGHART HUMANITARIAN  
AWARD & AUCTION

Honoring Patti Prato, DVM,  
The 6th grade class of Corvallis School  
&  
Kendell Lincoln and Kate Bullock

SATURDAY APRIL 18, 2009 @ 5:30 PM  
Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park  
200 S. Pattee St.

Silent Auction and No-Host Bar  
Dinner at 7 pm followed by Live Auction

SPECIAL GUEST EMCEE MAYOR JOHN ENGEN  
AUCTIONEER DWIGHT GAPPART

Tickets are \$40/person or \$300/table of 8.  
Save time and register online at  
[www.myHSWM.org](http://www.myHSWM.org).  
For more information please call 549.HSWM.

## Live Auction Preview

- An August weekend at E Bar L Ranch including meals, activities and lodging
- A day at Raptors of the Rockies with Kate Davis
- 'Ethereal,' an original Lane Timothy oil painting
- An opportunity to showcase your pet(s) in the 2010 HSWM calendar

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## HUMANE SOCIETY OF WESTERN MONTANA

*Providing shelter, care and advocacy for animals in need.*

### SHELTER HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday 12 - 5

### COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

HSWM Director  
P.O. Box 1059  
Missoula, MT 59806  
www.myHSWM.org

### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Timothy, President  
Jan Brocci, Vice President  
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Jim Helmer  
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board.directors@gmail.com

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Nicole Nolte  
*Operations Manager/Bookkeeper*  
Mariah Scheskie  
*Floor Manager*  
Gail Miller  
*Volunteer Coordinator*

### Animal Specialists

Brian Foley  
Isabel Presse  
Jessie Jannuzzi  
Christiona Toney  
Katy Huffman  
Elena Contreras  
Sandi Simmons

## Note from the Director

### KEN SHUGHART HUMANITARIAN AWARDS 2009

*New to HSWM? Go to <http://myHSWM.org/documents/newsletterspring2007.pdf> to read an article about Ken Shughart by Ginny Merriam.*

*For whatever happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected.* This quote is engraved on a cat pod plaque sponsored in memory of Ken Shughart. It's not surprising who lives in this sponsored pod. Sam, a medium-haired white and tiger cat, was surrendered when his family was moving. Tootsie, a one-eyed calico, was an injured stray before being brought to HSWM. They met here, became fast friends, and because of this generous gift, can be housed and hopefully adopted together.

Each year the Humane Society of Western Montana honors those in the community who have made a difference in the lives of animals, in memory of Ken Shughart. Please meet the 2009 honorees:

#### ADULT CATEGORY ~ Patti Prato, DVM

The Humane Society of Western Montana is proud to honor Patti Prato, DVM with the 2009 Ken Shughart Award. Patti Prato is widely recognized for her holistic veterinary practice, her participation in low-income spay/neuter clinics, her assistance helping sick shelter animals and, most recently, her involvement in legislation for commercial breeding facilities. Dr. Prato cofounded *Montana Cause for Paws* with another animal activist, Margaret Ambrose-Barton, and has been involved in seeking better conditions for the animals exploited in puppy mills.

Dr. Prato gives her valuable time, skills and financial and in-kind support to help care for animals in need. She 'never says no to making an extra effort on behalf of animals.' She is described as 'an exceptional ambassador for the humane treatment of animals and to humane objectives – supporting grassroots activities whenever and wherever she can.' Congratulations, Dr. Prato!

#### YOUTH CATEGORY ~ Corvallis School, 6th grade class

The 6th grade class of Corvallis School organized a fun run to help pay for the Ravalli County abused horses' care while their fate was being decided in court. The Bitterroot Humane Association was stunned to receive \$2,200 from the children for the benefit of Able, Diamond and BRHA. Congratulations to the 6th grade class of Corvallis school!

#### JUNIOR CATEGORY ~ Kate Bullock and Kendell Lincoln

Kate and Kendell were nominated for their amazing initiative and generosity. They host an annual 4th of July dog show, and last year featured HSWM as the beneficiary. Through the sale of handmade t-shirts, picture frames, dog bandannas, biscuits and donations, Kate and Kendell raised nearly \$600 for the homeless animals in HSWM's care. Well done, Kate and Kendell!

~ Lora O'Connor, Interim Director

## Tribute Gifts

### IN MEMORY OF...

"Cassie"  
*Arnold and Pauline Kober*  
"Cle" & "Dawny"  
*Glynis Golden-Potts*  
"Cody, Nicky, Casper & Alex"  
*Doug and Jane Swartz*  
"D.A. Kota"  
*Beverly Gutman*  
"Esther Williams"  
*Mary and Jud Moore*  
"Franny"  
*Donna Ridgeway and Alan Okagaki*  
"Miss Julie"  
*Anonymous*  
"Nutmeg"  
*Carol Barker*  
"Quality" & "Zenda"  
*Laura Mae Jackson*  
"Reggie"  
*Rebecca Goddard*  
"Rowdy"  
*Marta Pierpoint and Ross Tillman*  
"Sammi"  
*Patrick Wilson*  
For all Family and Friends Lost This Year  
*John Swanson*  
Maxine "Punk" Alley  
*Kathy and James Miller*  
"Belleduena" Anderson  
*Torian Donohoe*  
David Lee Butler  
*Barbara Ervin*  
*Friends of the Fourth Floor*  
*Sandra Larson*  
*Ronald and Maureen Rundle*  
Rich Cannon  
*Brent and Jan Birkemeier*  
Margaret Chaffin  
*Lori Davidson and Martin Baker*  
*Gregg Ireland and Cathy Ireland*  
Dan Johnson  
*Flanagan's Jeep-Mazda*  
Chelsey Martin  
*Chloe Goodman*  
*Debra and Darryl Watson*

"Duncan" Parock  
*Torian Donohoe*  
Don Pettit  
*James Lillethun*  
Gregory Reichelt  
*Deborah Young*  
"Emma" Schemm  
*Torian Donohoe*  
Betty Schulee Lindsay  
*Diane Jerhoff*  
Rolland Stenberg  
*Judy Stenberg*  
Diana Wivell  
*Janet Guffin*  
Bruce  
*Ann and Paul Miller*

### IN HONOR OF...

Dean Ickes & Bonnie  
*Renee Valley*  
"Maggie"  
*Timothy Brown*  
Beege, Daphny, Natalie, Quincy, Rolf & Sharon Tandberg  
*Bob Presthus*  
Beverly Aguirre  
*Angela Cavallini*  
Sheila Coy  
*Robert McWilliam*  
Mary Anne Flockerzi  
*Ethel MacDonald*  
"Penny" Layne  
*Alice and Tom Layne*  
Maureen Lennon  
*Susan and Tom Roy*  
Adrienne McKelvey  
*Robert McKelvey and Mavis McKelvey*  
Dr. Sandy Moore  
*Patrick Wilson*  
Ali Nordlinger  
*Alexis Nordlinger*  
Dave & Autumn Spletto  
*April Spletto*

*These memorials & honors reflect donations made before 3/1/09. Due to space considerations, only tribute gifts of \$50 or more are published in the newsletters. All tribute gifts are greatly appreciated and go a long way towards helping the animals at the Humane Society and in our community.*

*Thank you.*

## Ponderosa

### NO LONGER 'UP A TREE'



The sun was just beginning to slip behind the mountains and Katy and I stood shivering hopelessly beneath the large Ponderosa pine in front of the shelter, straining our necks to keep watch of the adorable grey kitty stuck way at the top. We had been out there for several hours and after exhausting all our options, we were starting to run out of ideas. Just then Jeff (Cat in a Tree Rescue Service) arrived on the scene. He happens to be a fully equipped expert tree climber, who volunteered his time to "help [our] kitty out of the tree!" In five minutes flat Jeff and the kitty, appropriately dubbed 'Ponderosa' were safely back on the ground. Ponderosa, now available for adoption, is a year old short haired cat.

~ Jessie Jannuzzi, Adoption Specialist

## Wish List

Digital Camera(s)  
Copy Paper  
Baby Pools  
Markers  
Camp Supplies  
(pet-related art/ scrapbooking supplies)  
Stiff-bristle push broom

## Behavior

### HOT DIGGIN' DOGS

Digging comes naturally to almost every dog, and some dog breeds excel at it – for example, terriers are hard-wired to dig and can quickly destroy a yard. It's incredibly difficult to stop a natural behavior. In fact, you can make yourself crazy trying to extinguish it. So if your dog is digging to China, instead of trying to get rid of the behavior, the best thing you can do is redirect it somewhere else - to his/her very own digging pit.

### The Best Place

Choose an area in your yard and designate it the digging pit – it is best if it's an out of the way area, like the corner of your yard. Now add some sand to the earth - this will help water drain through the soil and prevent the pit becoming a mud bath in the winter. You can build an actual sandbox structure around the area if

you're handy, but it's not necessary. And if you don't have a good spot in your yard, you can also put sand in a baby pool.

### Retraining

Once you have set up your digging pit you need to encourage your dog to use it.

- Let him/her watch you bury a few treats and/or toys in the pit, then call your dog to you and point to the ground. As he digs, use a phrase such as 'go digging!' to name the behavior, and give him/her lots of praise once he/she finds the treat or toy.
- Repeat this a few times each day, and your dog will soon associate



## Happy Tails



Mo in her backyard.

By her constant barking, Mo 'told' everyone in earshot that she needed to belong to someone again. She came to the Humane Society after several months of an unfruitful search for a new owner at Animal Control. Cooperation between the two shelters sometimes can find a forever home for an otherwise down-on-their-luck pet like Mo.

A few days into her new 'digs' a Humane Society volunteer saw her, and decided her overweight condition required some walking. So a relationship began. Mo believed the volunteer was her new person, and would 'tell' everybody within earshot that when the volunteer wasn't with her. More months passed, and as fall turned to winter, she finally convinced the volunteer that she needed Mo.

Once in a home setting, her demeanor relaxed and she became a different dog. Mo Mo (her new name) now has new hope and a new home complete with a new sister.

'go digging' with the digging pit.

- Restrict access to those parts of the garden where frequent digging had occurred.
- Once your dog has learned how rewarding digging in the pit is, allow access to the whole yard and continue to verbally praise your dog for only digging in the pit.
- Supervise trips in the yard until he/she consistently uses the digging pit in preference to the flowerbeds, garden, etc.
- If your dog wanders off towards the flower beds, say 'oops' and redirect to the digging pit with a 'go digging' in a happy tone-of-voice.

### How Long?

The amount of time it takes to get your dog to use the digging pit consistently will depend on how prolific a digger your dog is, and how long your dog has been used to digging in the flower beds. The key to success, as with most training, is consistency. Go digging!

Mo Mo, a couch potato at heart, walks every day off leash with her family, rarely barks, enjoys mind-stimulating games of 'fetch' and 'hunt up the treat' and has learned many new commands. Some of her greatest joys are rolling on her back in the green grass and putting her nose in the wind on a car ride. Giving her a purpose, a routine and a secure home has allowed her gentle, loving personality to shine through. Mo Mo is a gift to her new family – one where she will be cherished for the rest of her life.

## Adopt-a-thon a Success!

Thanks for helping us empty the shelter during our third annual Valentine's Day Adopt-a-thon! Over 100 people were lined up outside when our doors were opened on Saturday, and we had a steady stream of visitors all evening. Forty-five dogs and cats found permanent homes through adoptions at both Macy's and the Humane Society!

A special thanks to all the volunteers and event sponsors who helped make this year's adopt-a-thon so successful!

### EVENT SPONSORS

Macy's  
South Avenue Market  
Med ID  
Torian Donohoe  
Ten Spoon  
Science Diet  
Cherry Creek Radio  
Go Fetch!  
Quick Paws  
Dogs Inn

## Cherry Creek Radio

### FURRY FRIDAYS

Join us for Furry Fridays with Cherry Creek Radio every Friday morning from 8:00 am to 9:00 am, where a dog from the shelter gets to be the star of the show! Tune into Cherry Creek Radio stations Eagle 93, StarFM, Z100, and Oldies 106.7! Whether you're driving to work, or listening from home, this is a great way to connect with homeless pets in Western Montana.

## Missoula County Seniors of the Year Award Celebration

### HSWM VOLUNTEER AWARDED SENIOR OF THE YEAR

Lois has a sense of responsibility and loyalty to the Humane Society. She is consistently on site daily to sit with and love the dogs in our Real Life Room. The staff has a great deal of respect and appreciation for her and how she makes life better for so many of the dogs. She is a very kind person. You can easily tell how much she loves the animals and how devoted she is to them and the Society. She is a huge asset to the Society and the animals.

~ Gail Miller, Volunteer Coordinator



Volunteer, Lois Lyall, with Isabel Presse, HSWM's receptionist at the awards ceremony.

In November 2008, our very own senior, Lois Lyall, was one of the many seniors honored at the Missoula County Seniors of the Year Award Celebration. This award ceremony celebrates all seniors nominated for their commitment and loyalty to the non-profit organization to which they donate their valuable time. Lois was nominated by our Volunteer

Coordinator, Gail Miller. The staff at the Humane Society of Western Montana respect and appreciate Lois for her many hundreds of hours donated to the tender loving care of the dogs here at HSWM. Lois comes in almost on a daily basis to love and care for the dogs, making their stay here a happier one. We want to thank Lois for being the kind and loving person that she is!

~ Isabel Presse, Receptionist

## Spay Day USA

### 90 CATS AND 23 DOGS (14 PIT BULLS) IN THREE DAYS



At the spay/neuter clinic in our sterile surgery suite.

Spay Day USA is an annual campaign of HSUS to inspire people to save animal lives by spaying and neutering pets and feral cats. HSWM participated this February with the help of Fox Hollow Animal Project and Dr. Applebury, Missoula Animal Control, Animeals, Dr. Zirbel (Animal Blessings Pet Hospital), Dr. Prato (Four Paws Veterinary Clinic), Dr. Wood (Five Valleys Veterinary Clinic) and our amazing volunteers.

## Every Day is Tag Day™

APRIL 4TH, 2009 KICKS OFF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF WESTERN MONTANA'S TAG DAY

Without a voice, and without a tag, how is your lost pet supposed to find his way home?

Join the Humane Society of Western Montana and American Humane Association in celebrating "Every Day is Tag Day™" by encouraging all pet owners to tag and microchip their companion animals. Pet care is more than providing food, water and shelter. Pet care also includes tagging your pet.

It's a big world out there. Especially if you're eight inches tall, like Chad the cat. There are lots of places to explore and hide, and before you know it, you can't find your way home. All you wanted was to smell the lawn or chase that squirrel. You slipped through the door, let your curiosity take you, and now you're far from home.

Chad was brought into the shelter with a collar on, but he was not wearing an ID tag. He was obviously owned because he was in great health, neutered and declawed, but unfortunately, Chad's family was never found.



Adoption specialist Brian Foley's dog wears multiple tags.

Chad's story is not unique; approximately 8 to 12 million companion animals are admitted to shelters across the country each year. Sadly, only 15 percent of those dogs, and 2 percent of those cats are reunited with their owners. Why? Their owners failed to put identification on their animals. Even the most responsible pet owners can be accidentally or unexpectedly separated from their pets. Thankfully, after a few weeks Chad was lucky enough to find a new family.

A collar and tag is the first thing most people think of when they have a pet, but we also have high tech options to ensure that your friend is returned to you if he ever becomes lost. Microchipping is a

great and permanent way to help your pet find his way home.

Here are some tips for pet owners:

- Make sure your pet wears a collar with a current ID tag, rabies tag and city license. Include a contact name, address and day and evening phone numbers. Consider providing a phone number for an alternate contact, like a neighbor or family member.
- Keep information on your pet's license and tags current, and make sure your pet's collar is secure and in good condition.
- If you would like to offer a reward for returning your pet, put that information on the tag.
- When moving or traveling, place a temporary tag on your pet with the phone number of someone who knows how to reach you.
- Remember that even indoor pets need tags. Many strays in shelters are indoor pets that escaped and became lost.
- Give your pet a permanent form of identification by microchipping them in addition to their ID tag.

## Identification is your pet's ticket home!

The Humane Society of Western Montana is excited to celebrate Tag Day! We are asking everyone to make sure all pets, even inside-only ones, are wearing collars with tags.

- HSWM will be offering \$20 microchips at GoFetch! (Reserve St. location) from 12-3 pm on Saturday, April 4th
- HSWM will be offering 25% off all collars and tags March 31st- April 4th
- Neff's is offering 50% off collars on April 4th
- GoFetch! (Reserve St. location) will be offering 30% off collars and leashes

## Finding Mina

My husband, Steve, and I have two teenagers, three dogs and four cats. Because some of them have special needs we have a pet door that allows our dogs and cats immediate access to the large fenced backyard. So when Mina, our five year old tuxedo cat, didn't come in for the usual feeding frenzy one Friday



Mina at home.

Mina at home. Monday morning, I wasn't alarmed. She was probably visiting our neighbor, Betty, or perhaps mousing in the alley. Evening "tuna time" rolled around, she still wasn't home and I began to worry. Beginning with Betty, I spoke to a number of people while searching the neighborhood. No one had seen Mina. Steve tried to reassure me that she was probably in someone's house or garage. I was unable to sleep that night and found myself wandering around the block at 3 am, peering in garages and car windows, calling for her. I didn't find her.

Saturday morning I put an ad in the Missoulian's lost and found section, called Animal Control, Animeals and the Humane Society of Western Montana. Because bad things always seem to happen on weekends I had to wait until Monday for any results. Patience may be 'power' but it's not easy to pull off when a beloved pet is missing and a life is at stake. We live between Hellgate High School and the University of Montana, so our street is very busy. As I walked around the blocks

and alleys looking for Mina, I began kicking leaves in the gutter, examining every dark shape on the road that turned out to be shoes, gloves, shirts, chunks of ice and garbage. The thought of finding Mina dead sickened me, but not knowing was worse.

Monday morning I called a couple

of radio stations and checked the paper for my lost ad. It was disturbing to read more lost ads than found ones. I read and re-read the found pet descriptions but none fit Mina. Steve drove out to Animal Control and I drove to HSWM. We were told it is better to check the shelters in person as some descriptions aren't accurate. There were a lot of tuxedo cats, but none were Mina.

I was so grateful to have friends at HSWM who were supportive. No one criticized me or made me feel guilty for not having a collar and tags on Mina. They were there to help and encourage me not to give up. We found a web site with tips for finding lost pets and got to work making thirty posters with Mina's photo and description. I went home feeling optimistic because I now had a plan. That evening I laminated the posters to protect them from the weather and pasted them onto large sheets of fluorescent paper to make them more visible.

Visit [www.myHSWM.org](http://www.myHSWM.org) to read the rest of Mina's amazing story

## Humane Society Hero

[We] just wanted to let you know that Dinah is now a bona fide hero. This morning the overnight staff [person] at the group home passed out and had a seizure. What we didn't know at the time was that we had a carbon monoxide leak. Dinah licked the staff (who, by the way she didn't really know; it was only his second night on duty) until he woke up. The staff eventually needed to be life-flighted to Spokane due to carbon monoxide poisoning. Because she woke him up and he alerted the on-call, no other staff or clients were admitted to the hospital. Dinah was checked out that morning and is okay too. Opportunity Resources owes a debt of gratitude to Dinah and to the Humane Society for sticking with us and with Dinah in the beginning. I want to thank you so much for working with us to find the right dog for the group home and being patient with us during the transition. We're hoping to spread the word of her heroism far and wide. Thank you again, and again, and again.

~ Amy Hevener



Dinah, a 5 year old Lab mix, was adopted in 2006 after being brought in to HSWM for escape issues.