



DAWG Unleashed

Douglas Animal Welfare Group

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SUMMER 2024

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DAWG Mission Statement:

To better the lives of Douglas County animals by improving their adoptability and thereby increasing the adoption rate while at Douglas County Animal Care and Services, educating the community about responsible pet ownership, and engaging in other projects and activities that may come available that will yield positive benefits to the animals, owners and citizens.



Derek's Story: From Foster Care to a Forever Home

Derek was a 4-month-old kitten with a missing limb when he and his littermates came to DAWG needing foster care. He stayed in foster care while his siblings left for their forever homes by New Year's Day.

In early February, Dr. Jim Nelson at Carson Valley Veterinary Hospital performed Derek's neuter and identified an abscess in the stump of his missing limb. He cleaned out and repaired the abscess and recommended the removal of his scapula and the remaining piece of his humerus to prevent further complications and infections.

DAWG agreed to cover the cost of the surgery, which was successful.

Derek was adopted by Andy and Melissa, a wonderful couple with a gentle dog. Here is their story:

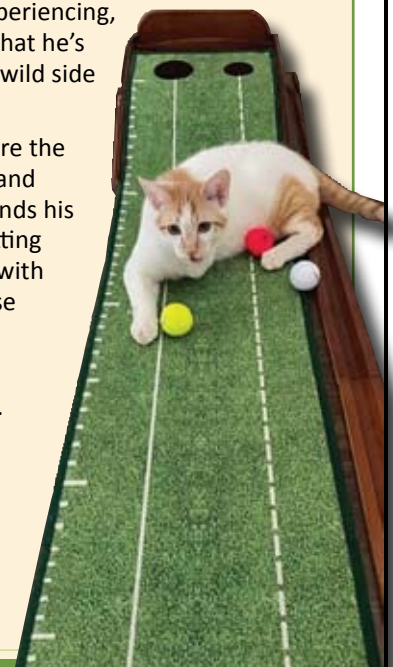
When I first found Derek (now Sonny) on DAWG's website, I read he was missing a leg and worried what limitations he might have in life. After some research and meeting him in person, there was no question he was the perfect addition to our family. When we welcomed him into our home, he was preparing for surgery to remove his scapula. Despite the pain he had to be experiencing, his sweet demeanor and playfulness led us on. Now that he's fully recovered from his surgery, he has shown us his wild side and there are no limits for him.

He and his senior dog sibling, Coach (also a rescue), are the best of friends. Watching him experience new sights and sounds is both comical and heartwarming. Sonny spends his days golfing on the putting green/rearranging the putting green/stealing golf balls, basking in the sun, hanging with his brother, watching TV, and racing through the house just before bed.

We want to thank DAWG for covering his surgery and his foster mom, Gwen, for being his biggest advocate. Please don't let a disability or age deter you from adopting a pet. ❤️

- Andy and Melissa

*Above: Derek with his new canine brother, Coach.
Right: Derek loves helping his new dad improve his golf game!*



by Alison Grey, DAWG member



Wendy with Molli and Buddy

In the realm of animal search, rescue and recovery, there are few individuals as dedicated and accomplished as Wendy Jones. As the founder and Executive Director of Tahoe PAWS and TLC 4 Furry Friends, Wendy has dedicated her life to locating and rescuing lost pets. Her extensive training and 35 years of experience have proved invaluable in locating and rescuing lost pets.

One of the key elements of Wendy's success lies in her collaborative approach. She recognizes that teamwork is paramount in achieving her goals, and she frequently works hand in hand with pet owners, community members, volunteers, and various animal rescues and agencies. Wendy's extensive network includes sheriff's departments and animal welfare and animal services organizations in Douglas, Washoe, El Dorado, Alpine, Nevada and Placer Counties.

Wendy's track record speaks volumes about her expertise and effectiveness. From working with DAWG in locating an elderly woman's missing cat to capturing in mere hours a runaway Douglas County dog that had evaded capture for over a month, her accomplishments are nothing short of remarkable. Perhaps one of her most daring rescues was orchestrating the retrieval of Russ, a dog missing for four months following the Caldor wildfire in 2022. Braving steep terrain and deep snow, Tahoe PAWS volunteers on snowshoes located Russ and brought him down the mountain on a sled. Wendy and her team's efforts led to Russ's safe return to his grateful owner, showcasing the power of determination and collaboration in the face of adversity. But Wendy's contributions extend beyond individual rescues. Recognizing the need for organized animal emergency response during disasters, her Tahoe Paws Community Animal Response Team (CART) has worked with animal emergency response teams across multiple counties in two states. Her training, certification and experience in rescue and recovery have equipped her to provide invaluable training for emergencies and disasters, ensuring that communities are prepared to protect their beloved pets in times of crisis.

During the Caldor Fire, Wendy's leadership shone brightly as she assumed the role of director of the animal response team for the Tahoe area. Under her guidance, a disaster shelter was established at the Douglas County fairgrounds, providing a safe haven for pets displaced by the raging inferno. Wendy's tireless efforts ensured that these beloved companions received the care and attention they needed until they could be reunited with their families.

In a world often fraught with challenges, Wendy Jones stands as a testament to the difference that one person can make. Her unwavering dedication, selflessness, compassion, and remarkable achievements serve as an inspiration to us all, reminding us of the importance of kindness and empathy in making the world a better place for both animals and humans alike. She truly is a beacon of hope for animals and their human companions. ❤️

DAWG is thankful to have a partner like Wendy! If you're interested in getting involved with CART (volunteers are always needed), or for more information about Tahoe PAWS and TLC 4 Furry Friends, please visit tahoePAWS.org or call 775-721-DOGS (3647).

If you find yourself in the distressing situation of losing a beloved pet, start by contacting your local animal shelter to file a report.

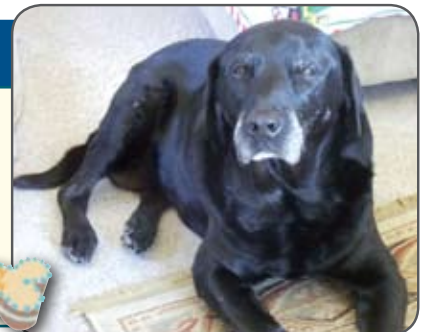
You may also reach out to Wendy directly at 775-721-DOGS (3647) for specialized assistance and guidance to ensure the best possible outcome for both you and your furry friends.

Tank Turns Twelve

By Vernon Boyes, Tank's Adopter

We just celebrated Tank's 12th birthday. We headed down to my dad's in Yerington. Tank had twice as much love on his special day! I got him some frosted and sprinkled cookies from Pet Station. He got one for breakfast and one for dessert after supper. He loved them! Not to mention he spent 4 hours looking for my dad's cat, Baby. Tank got a lot of exercise on his 12th - more than I have ever had on any of my birthdays.

Editor's Note: When Vernon adopted Tank in late 2022, he was 10 years old and overweight. Today, Tank is 12 years young and definitely slimmer! Thanks to Vernon for giving this senior dog a second chance.



DAWG to the Rescue with Community Assistance

By Morgan B

When my dog Nollie suddenly developed severe intestinal issues, it was a race against time to save her life. Rushing her to the emergency vet, we were informed that emergency surgery was the only option.

With a heavy heart, I consented, feeling the weight of uncertainty and fear over how I was ever going to afford this. I was in a head-on collision with a gentleman who passed out behind the wheel only three months earlier. I was out of work healing with no leave pay.

I reached out to the DAWG resource center and Lori went above and beyond for me. She kept in close contact with me throughout the whole situation. Finally, I got a phone call informing us that the procedure had been successful.

I was so overwhelmed with gratitude for DAWG's Community Assistance program and northern Nevada SPCA's Todd's Fund, which together help pay Nollie's medical bills. I vow to cherish every moment with Nollie more deeply and do anything I can to give back to these resources. ♥



Roger is Ready!

When Roger came to the Douglas County Animal Shelter nearly a year ago, he was admittedly a handful. The handsome Akita mix, now about 2 years old, didn't seem to know how to act around people or in a home.

But that has changed, thanks to the dedication of shelter staff and DAWG volunteers, who take Roger to training classes and on field trips.

"He doesn't get enough credit for how lovable he is," said volunteer Dwayne Dennis. "I sit on the bench and brush him, and he nuzzles and kisses me."

Roger is a regular visitor at Dwayne and Tina Dennis' home, where he plays happily with their dog Misty. Dwayne also took him to Wind Down Wednesday at Heritage Park, where the pair spent three hours walking around enjoying the activities. "Little kids came up to pet him, and other dogs walked by, and it was all fine," said Dwayne.

While Roger seems to favor female dogs, cats are absolutely not a good match, added Tina.

Roger is exceptionally smart. He learns quickly – especially if treats are involved – and has mastered the Shelter's agility course. He's also a complete water baby who loves playing in the wading pool at the Shelter.

Roger's ideal adopter is someone who is active and willing to give him the time and attention he needs. Ideally, his adopter will continue with his training classes.

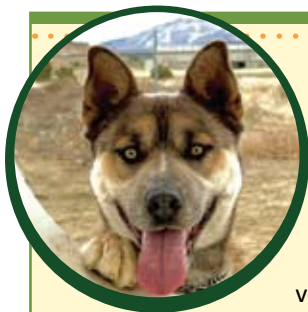
"When the right person comes along who has the time, energy and compassion Roger deserves, he will be the perfect dog," said Dan.

If that person sounds like you, or someone you know, COME MEET ROGER!

The Douglas County Animal Shelter is at 921 Dump Road, Gardnerville. It is open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and closed on Sunday. Call 775-782-9061 to make sure this handsome boy is still available.

Top left: Roger looking through the agility course tube at the Douglas County Animal Shelter.

Top right: Roger loves playing in the wading pool at the Douglas County Animal Shelter.



PAWS OF THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT [January - March 2024]



THANK YOU

We wish to acknowledge the following special donations.

- **SHARON AND ROSS BARNETT BOWMAN** for outstanding support of the Holiday Appeal.
- **MARK AND BONNIE DILLON** for their steadfast support.
- **EJW CHARITABLE FOUNDATION** in honor of Emil Joseph Wachtel, who created a foundation for the care of animals held in shelters and to promote adoption of animals to good homes.
- **DIANNE EDMONDS** for being a true Friend of Felines.
- **ELLEN GOLDSMITH** for making the dreams of countless shelter animals come true.
- **PAULA AND DON LAWYER** for celebrating the adoption of L'Girl with a generous gift to DAWG.
- **ORSMBY ASSOCIATION OF CARSON CITY** for their exceptional contribution.
- **SUSAN PIPPIN** for her gracious gift.
- **THE FAMILY OF SUSAN JACOBSEN JACKSON**, who asked that people honor her memory with a donation to DAWG.

January - March 2024

Bev Anderson	Charles & Terri Luettgerodt
Cindy & Al Burrill Austin	Stefeni Luman
Ray & Julie Bacon	Inc. M. Scott Properties
August & Ila Bellas	Lisa Magnotta
Christine Blackburn	Oliver & Roxanne Manfredi
Dale Bohlman	Dayla Marsh
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Larna Hoyt	Annette Shannon
Don & Jacklyn Hunt	Cary & Susan Sharp
Jon & Joy Ignacio-Yip	Donna Theriault
Mariann M. Jackson	Judith Thran
Tina Johnson	Jennifer Villalobos
Betty & Chuck Kaminski	Richard & Clyda Walker
Grant Kaye	Sally Wilke
Kelsey Keppner	Judy & Gary Williams
Eric Klesitz	Larry Wooton
Katherine Koepke	Barbara & James Yeager
Lonnie & Jan Lee	Joe & Doris Zielinski
Giselle Lewis	Craig & Stacey Ziglar
Derek & Danette Lowe	

Donations with Dedications

Kathleen Ayers – *in memory of Susie Jackson, a beautiful lady who is going to be missed*
 Joyce Brown and Family – *in memory of Stan Jones*
 Margaret Crowley – *for Fix-a-Family Pet*
 Kenneth Dressler – *in memory of Susie Jackson*
 Adam Endel – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Lynn England – *in memory of Susie Jackson*
 Diane P. Ferree – *in memory of Wayne Ferree*
 Elizabeth Fiattarone – *in memory of Jackson Watts*
 Dick Flanagan – *in memory of Toby*
 Candace Harker – *in memory of Maddie dog*
 Randall & Karen Harrison – *in memory of Susie Jackson*
 Marlena N. Hellwinkel – *in memory of Susan L. J. Jackson*
 Robert D. Hellwinkel – *in memory of Susan L. Jackson*
 Diane Jackson – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Lance Jackson – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Jeanne Jenkins – *in memory of Mike Ferrill*
 Pamela Johnson – *for Senior Dog medical needs*
 Karen & Edward Keller – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Jackie Korbholz – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Kelsey Olsen – *in memory of Bogart*
 Loraine Littlefield – *in memory of Teddy*
 William & Rebecca Mabray – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Jolie & Dennis McDuffee – *in memory of Susan Jacobsen Jackson*
 Minden Fortnightly Club – *in memory of Susan Jacobsen Jackson*
 Beatriz Morales – *in honor of my boys, Patrick & Oliver*
 Mark & Jonel Neddenriep – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Donald Otomo – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Sandra Paul – *in memory of Chester, Chelsea, & Cooper*
 Louis W. Scheel – *in memory of Cleatus & Tyson*
 Suzy Stockdale – *in memory of Susie L. Jacobsen Jackson*
 Norman Streeter – *in memory of Sally Streeter*
 Lynda Streifel – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Jim & Nita Summers – *in memory of Susie Jacobsen Jackson*
 Alex Uribe – *in memory of Toby, Lucy & Daisey*
 Ken & Sandra Ward – *for cats' needs*
 Wayne & LaVern Warner – *Shelter Medical needs in memory of Remo*
 Noeleen Wilcks – *in memory of Susan Jackson*
 Eileen Zanto – *in memory of Susie Jackson*



DAWG Welcomes New Business Members

By Adrienne Chaney, Membership Coordinator

At the March 2024 meeting, DAWG approved the launch of a Business Membership program.

Business Members have an interest in the objectives of DAWG, pay annual dues of \$100 and have voting rights. Business Members may be actively involved in DAWG activities such as fundraisers, general membership meetings, cat fostering, Trap/Neuter/Return, and other DAWG programs. Business Members receive regular communication from DAWG program managers, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. All Business Members will receive and can be listed or featured in "DAWG Unleashed" newsletters.

DAWG wants to foster businesses to support our organization and bring in expertise and ideas for reaching out to the community that we have not had in the past. It is also a way for these like-minded businesses owners to connect with our DAWG community through the Quarterly newsletter.

Please welcome our first two Business Members, Samaria Brugger with Dog Coach Academy, and Kelsey's Groom Shop and Boarding.



Samaria is a Professional Trainer and owner of The Dog Coach LLC. She is a Certified positive reinforcement trainer through the Animal Behavior College. Her goal is to help you bond with your pet and support your happy relationship together. Follow her on FB at Dog Coach Academy or visit her website at DogCoach.Academy. **Welcome Samaria!**

Kelsey's passion for pets began at a young age. She purchased the groom shop in 2018. In 2021, she took over the boarding side because she wanted to continue serving our wonderful community's pets in a greater capacity. At Kelsey's Groom Shop and Boarding, your pets are our family too. Learn more at Kelseysgroomshopandboarding.com. **Welcome Kelsey!**



For more information about DAWG's Business Membership Program, contact Adrienne Chaney at dawgmembership@gmail.com



TALENT WINNER



Singer Kim Johnson won the Talent Show.

Talent Judges



Judging the talent show were Dr. Shane Sheets (Carson Calley Veterinary Hospital), Tara Addeo (Record-Courier), and Ana Pedrojetti.

"DAWG's Got Talent" a Howling Success!

"DAWG's Got Talent," our first formal fundraising event since 2018, took place on Saturday, May 18 and was a huge success! We welcomed 203 attendees who enjoyed food from Cocos "N" Moes and six talent show acts. The event raised more than \$23,000 for DAWG's programs and services. Kudos to the Event Committee – Nikki Perry (chair), Rebecca McMillion, Lori Paxson, Tondra Vees and Gayle Youngs.

Special thanks to our Event Sponsors:

AlSCO Uniforms; Building Concepts; Carson Event Rentals; CoCos "N" Moes; William Costa; Dianne Edmonds; Douglas County Community Services Parks & Recreation; Guild Mortgage; Roxanne & William Hart; Howliday Inn Pet Resort; Kelsey's Groom Shop and Boarding; Stacy Sawyer, Sawyer & Williams Inc.; Swarn & Wayne Scarpaci; Sequoia Wealth Advisors.

Talent Shelter Staff



The Douglas County Animal Shelter team reading a poem about caring for shelter animals during the talent show.

Talent Committee



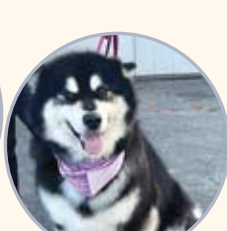
The Event Committee (from left) – Tondra Vees, Gayle Youngs, Rebecca McMillion, Lori Paxson and Event Chair Nikki Perry.

ADOPTION FOLLOW-UPS

We are happy to report that between January 1 and March 30, 2024, DAWG facilitated the adoption of **45 dogs, 14 puppies, 22 cats and 22 kittens!**



Angie



Aspen



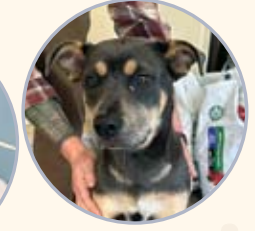
Bella



Benny



Borgie



Bumblebee

ANGIE is doing pretty well. I am taking her to training class on Wednesday because she has a problem with men. But she is OK with the man next door. She is perfectly housebroken and loves the snow. **ASPEN** (now Zeva) doesn't eat regular food. She eats vegetables and I cook for her. I do put a little ground turkey and rice in it but just a little. She's a really awesome dog. **BELLA** loves going for car rides and walks. She's great with our other dogs. They are like sisters. She is learning her house manners. She had a few accidents, but she has taken to the doggie door. She's a very loving dog and we enjoy her personality. She is perfect. **BENNY** is doing very well. He's settled in with all the animals (one other dog and 2 cats). **BORGIE** is the most perfect fit for my dogs. They are always playing together, and it is fun to watch because they both have short, tiny little legs. I took him to work, and he was great with my bosses' Beagles. He gets along with everyone. **BUMBLEBEE** is the smartest puppy we've ever had. She is also the most intuitive. We're hoping she stays small.



Cinnamon



Dozer



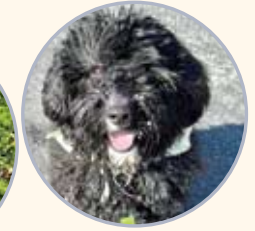
Forest



George



Honey

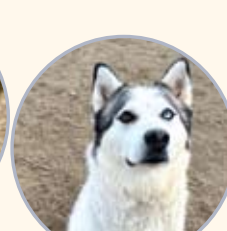


Hugo

CINNAMON (now Daisy) is too cute, and I just love her to pieces. She fits in 100% here. **DOZER** has adopted one of the small rag rugs and when he gets nervous and anxious he drags it into his large jumbo-sized crate and seems quite happy. He is smart as a whip. The other day at about 2-3 p.m. he went to his food bowl and put his paw in it to let us know it was time to eat. He has lots of personality. He really is a good dog. **FOREST** is working out beautifully. He's getting his sea legs here at the house and sniffing everything new to him. He's very funny and he's turning out to have such a good personality. We're just loving this dog. **GEORGE** At the shelter they said he didn't bark and the first few days he didn't, but let me tell you he does know how to bark and he is very vocal. But we have no complaints. He's wonderful and we love him to death. **HONEY** is my love, and she goes everywhere with me. Today, I am taking her to Petco to buy her a pink sweater. She does love to play ball 24/7. If I'm asleep she comes and pushes the ball into my face until I wake up and play with her. She has a forever home with me. **HUGO** (now Teddy) is amazing, cute, and fun. We have named him Teddy because he looks like a Bear. We're working on training and manners and his nipping. He sleeps in bed with us and he has bonded really well with my husband.



Kona



Luna



Odin



Pepe



Rosie



Ruby

KONA (now Odie) is magnificent. She has adapted exceptionally well. She goes for a 3-5 mile walk every day. We are monumentally happy with her. **LUNA** (NOTE: Luna was pulled by a veteran who has a foundation that finds and trains dogs for Veterans.) She is an amazing dog. We normally do not take a dog directly to a veteran, but this vet is experienced with dogs, so we took her directly to him and there was immediate bonding. **ODIN** (now Odie-Wan-Kenobi) My daughter had actually found him and we took him to the Vet to check for a chip. He was with us for 2 weeks and I really bonded with him. When I found out my daughter had to give him up, I was thrilled to get him back from the shelter. He is very strong for me and pulls me, but I love him. **PEPE** was so skittish at first, I thought he needed emotional support even though he is my emotional support dog. But he's doing very well now. **ROSIE** has been renamed TAZ short for the Tasmanian Devil, but she is the sweetest thing. She gets on with Breezy, our 13-year-old cattle/shepherd dog. They love to wrestle and play with one another and have become the best of buds. I take her to the mailbox, to the neighbors, all fun things. Rosie and I were meant to be. **RUBY** is just spoiled to death. She is laying at my feet right now and if I move, she moves. I put in a doggie door and she went right through it like an old pro. She has adapted amazingly fast.



Sampson



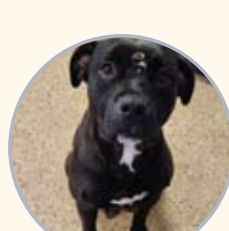
Talac



Toast



Tyra



Valkyrie

SAMPSON (now Tank) is working out great. Maybe it's because he is in a home and he's an only dog, so he's healthy and happy. I leave him alone when I go to work, and he is asleep on the couch. I come home and he's asleep on the couch. He doesn't tear anything up. He's doing just great. **TALAC** At first, he didn't want to eat, didn't bark, or anything. Just looked sad. But he is getting better. He likes to sit in your lap, on the couches and on the bed. We are working on that. He is a sweet, sweet boy. **TOAST** is starting to settle down. We are working on the potty habits as he has had a few accidents. We take him for a walk every few hours. We're still experimenting. I just bought him 5 new toys. **TYRA** (now Ty) is a great addition with her personality, calmness and protectiveness. She has her forever home. **VALKYRIE** (now Piper) is just great with our other dogs, horse and donkey.



Aisha



Arizona



Cheddar



Eddie



Geno



Gidget

AISHA is doing beautifully and is a gorgeous cat. She is a real help to the family. She sleeps on the owner's chest. **ARIZONA** has gained a lot of weight. He is affectionate and likes to purr. **CHEDDAR** is doing great and is an excellent cat. **EDDIE** (now Sphynx) is a fun cat. He is having a good time with the owner's 8-month-old cat. **GENO** (now Gypsy) is a doll baby and adapted after the first two days. He loves to be brushed. His owner just loves him. He is the third cat she has adopted from the shelter. **GIDGET** is amazing.



Gretta



Hemi



Ivy



Judy



Pumpkin



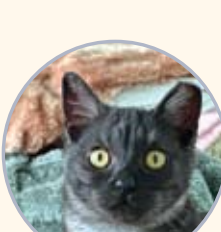
Manilow

GRETTA (now Snicker Doodles) is a cute cat and doing great. **HEMI** (now Ivy) is really attached to one of the children. She's sweet and is making friends with the dog. **IVY** (now Nugget) was originally found in the sagebrush at the owner's house as a kitten. The owner raised her but decided to give her up for adoption because she was going to travel. However, once she had turned her into the Animal Shelter she realized she had made a mistake and came back and got her. Now she would not give her up for a million dollars. **JUDY'S** owners love her and say she fit in right away. It was their pleasure to adopt from the shelter. **PUMPKIN** (now Gracie) has settled in well and plays a lot. While she isn't cuddly, she loves to be combed. Her owner likes her a lot and is glad she got her.

MANILOW (now Jiggs) is a devil with lots of energy – that's a good thing!



Mickey



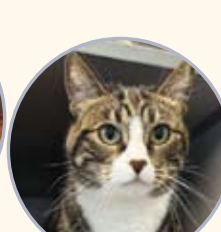
Minxie



Owen



Sox



Tiger



Scarlet

MICKEY is living his life as a barn cat outdoors because he is aggressive. He has a kennel he can go into. **MINXIE** is fantastic and a terror. **OWEN** (now Jonesy) is doing well and just went to the vet for neutering. **SOX** is a nice kitty. Everything is going well. **TIGER** and **SCARLET** are doing great.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DAWG's Officers for FY 2024:

President

Kathryn Dodge

Vice President

Heidi Sandvik

Secretary

Shay Williams

Treasurer

Adrienne Chaney

Member-at-Large

Linda Miner

DAWG'S Board of Directors:

Chair

Eloise Reed

Secretary

Mary Doran

Gwen Blanc, Sharon Mead and Leslie Morefield

County Commissioners approve seed money for new Cat Facility

By Kathryn Dodge, DAWG President

Great news! The Douglas County Board of County Commissioners recently approved a \$40,000 capital project as seed money to replace the cat facility at the shelter. The current cat cottage was a temporary facility when it was installed 12 years ago. It is too small and failing structurally.

In addition, cats who are quarantined before being available for adoption are currently housed in an interior room in the dog facility. A new cat facility will make it possible for cats to spend their quarantine period away from barking dogs.

While many people were involved in securing this funding, we want to recognize some key people: Commissioner Danny Tarkanian; Commissioner Mark Gardner; Scott Morgan, Assistant Douglas County Manager; Brook Adie, Community Services Director; and Bill Iverson, a local architect volunteering to help with the design. If you bump into them, please tell them thank you!

We will be working closely with the County to develop the design, obtain funding and build this important new facility. There are many ways you can be involved in this project – stay tuned!

