

# Pet Talk

**SUMMER 2021**

LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org / 402.817.1168

## Our mission

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is addressing the root causes of Animal Homelessness in Lincoln and the surrounding communities.

## Donate

### Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program

### Pet Food Bank

### General Funds

**Mail to:** PO Box 67072,  
Lincoln, NE 68506

### Donate through our website

**LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org**

### Ask your employer if they have a donation matching program

### Pet Food Bank drop off locations:

Petco 48th & O Street (*bin in front entry*)

Petco 56th & Old Cheney (*bin in front entry*)

Super Saver 27th & Cornhusker Hwy (*barrel at Customer Service*)

St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th Street (*leave near office*)

*Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible.*

Like our  
newsletter?

**Become a  
sponsor!**

Contact us at **info@**

**LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org**

## Lincoln Animal Control update

*By Steve Beal, Animal Control Division Manager*

Lincoln Animal Control experiences some of the busiest months from June-September. This year is no exception.

The highest number of calls for service include the following:

- Stray dogs and dogs running off leash with no owner nearby
- Feral cats
- Dog and cat bites and attacks
- Animal neglect and cruelty cases
- Coyote and other wildlife calls
- Bat calls
- Rabies testing for high-risk exposures from bat bites and other wildlife
- Dangerous and Potentially Dangerous Dog calls
- Pet Licensing defect follow-ups

These make up most calls to the Animal Control Office. The public can call Animal Control 7 days per week and 24 hours per day.

In addition to the regular animal services Animal Control assists people that may need to get a pet spayed or neutered but can't afford the cost. People in Lincoln are fortunate to have organizations like Lincoln Animal Ambassadors that also assist pet owners in so many ways with spay/neuter assistance being just one example. Anyone that has questions about spay/neuter assistance from Lincoln Animal Control can simply call us at 402-441-7900 and ask for Sarah. We have a simple process to determine eligibility and it can often be done onsite at our office on 3100 'O' Street.

**Continued on page 4**

## The A Bee Cs of stings

*Courtesy of Taste of the Wild®*

Bees (and wasps and hornets) are helpful to the environment, which is why we plant bee-friendly gardens replete with nectar-filled blossoms to attract them. But to most dogs, bees are not so helpful! Bees won't hesitate to sting any pet that noses about, paws at or otherwise disturbs their crucial pollinating work. For pets, especially those dogs who can't leave well enough alone, it's a painful way of being told to "buzz off."

Pain, however, can be the least of the worries for some dogs. Bee stings may lead to a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction that can lead to shock and even death. Here's what you need to know when curiosity stings the pet.

Curious dogs are often stung on the face or in the mouth, resulting in a flurry of yelping and pawing at the muzzle or other affected areas. Other signs can range from mild to severe, depending on the location of the sting, the number of stings and whether your dog has an allergy to the bee venom.

Lucky dogs will get by with just a local reaction: redness, mild swelling, heat and potentially itching at the sting site. This usually goes away on its own within a day or so.

Signs of a potentially serious reaction usually develop within 10 to 30 minutes of the sting and include swelling of the eyes and face, which can lead to difficulty breathing. Other signs include drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness and collapsing.

**Continued on page 4**

# Thank you Wine & Howl Volunteers!

Pauline Balta  
 Connie Beckman  
 Kyndall Bedell  
 Linda Cady  
 Cherished Images by Beverly  
 Deb Defruiter  
 Mary Douglas  
 Amy Gilchrist  
 Blake Gilmore  
 Allison Hunter Frederick  
 Jeanie Imler  
 Donna Kavanagh  
 Jane Nelson  
 Warren Nelson  
 Dave Scoby  
 Karl Skinner  
 Val Stehlik  
 Denise Tinsch  
 Layne Wahlen  
 Deb Wood  
 Mary Yager  
 Jennifer Yeager

## 13th Annual Wine & Howl

Another successful Wine & Howl Fundraiser was held for LAA on July 25th at Deer Springs Winery.

For the first time, it was held on a Sunday. It was a warm, but comfortable, day in the shady surroundings of Deer Springs Winery. The wine was pouring in the wine tent, approximately 250 attendees and their dogs tapped their toes, wagged their tails, and enjoyed the music of Aunt Bunny's Parlor and the KGB band from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Karl Skinner emceed the event. Vendors lined the tree line with pet related items and rescue animals up for

adoption. Swimming pools were out for the dogs to splash in for the dog friendly event. Hy-Vee had a great selection of food for participants to enjoy. Deer Springs did not disappoint keeping their wine slushies pouring along with all of their other favorite wine options. Attendees browsed the 80 raffle baskets and took their chance at winning! A \$100 grand prize was donated and was drawn from the non-winning tickets! A great event all around.

Thank you to all the attendees and especially the volunteers. We could not have done it without you!



# Volunteer Spotlight: Renee Saxton

## Where did you first learn about LAA?

I found Lincoln Animal Ambassadors while searching the internet for a volunteering opportunity that would fit both my love for animals and my work travel schedule.

## Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I grew up in Nebraska but have lived in the southwest most of my adult life. About 10 years ago I returned to Nebraska and started looking for an opportunity to volunteer. During my time being back in NE I found LAA. A few years ago, I moved to Virginia for a job and am enjoying exploring the Northeast but was very fortunate that I was still able to continue my work with LAA. I enjoy traveling and have gotten to see much of not only the United States but the world. I have been to 5 continents and hope to get to the last 2 at some point during my life.

## What are your LAA volunteer duties?

Especially now that I live outside of Nebraska and travel so much, I mainly do data entry for the pet food bank.

## What do you find rewarding in your volunteer activities?

Volunteering for me is rewarding knowing that I am helping a very worthwhile organization fulfill their mission.

## Do you do other volunteer work in Lincoln?

Since I no longer live in Nebraska, I do not volunteer anywhere else, but am looking for opportunities in Northern Virginia.

## What would I recommend for someone wanting to volunteer?

This is a great organization and any assistance whether donating or volunteering will also always be appreciated and LAA can always use volunteers.



# WE NEED YOU!

If you have ever considered volunteering for a worthy cause, we would love to talk to you. LAA has no paid employees and relies on volunteers to accomplish its mission. Fill out a Volunteer Questionnaire on our website at [LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org](http://LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org), call our phone line at 402.817.1168, or email us at [info@lincolnanimalambassadors.org](mailto:info@lincolnanimalambassadors.org).

## Pet Food Bank Distribution Volunteer

Assist recipients at pet food pickups loading pet food into vehicles and work with a small group of committed volunteers to collect what is needed for each recipient.

- 2 hours per week
- Must be available during our Wednesday distribution hours, 6:15-8:15 p.m.
- Must be able to lift 30 pounds

## Phone Line Volunteers

Pick up voicemail messages and return phone calls to schedule pet food pickups, arrange for spay/neuter vouchers to be issued and give resource information for other pet related matters.

- 30 minutes to 2 hours per week
- One training session required

# Thank you to our Give to Lincoln Day donors!

Katherine Haskins  
Zen O'Connor  
Harolynn Vroeger  
Karri Sanderson  
Joann Kaczor  
Peggy Barner  
Jennifer Lorenz  
Steven Swanson  
Janet Chung  
Melissa (Mitsi)  
Money-Beecher  
Julie Felzien  
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Lincoln  
Pinnacle Bank  
Runza  
Joe W & Ruth K  
Seacrest Fund  
Talent Plus  
US Bank  
West Gate Bank  
WRK Family  
Foundation  
Mail Management  
Services  
Mae Whitmer

# By the numbers

## Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

3,403 total animals

1,747 dogs

1,645 cats

11 rabbits

## Pet food distributed so far in 2021

### Dry food

13,224 lbs.

Approximately 1,889 lbs. a month

Since inception: 521,885 lbs.

### Canned food

8,093 cans

Approximately 1,156 cans a month

Since inception: 171,540 cans

### Litter

2,764 lbs.

Approximately 395 lbs. a month

Since inception: 89,461 lbs.

**Number of families helped so far in 2021:** 135

## Thank you to our donors

Capital Humane Society

Jeanie & Earl Imler

Kelle Brandt

Mary Douglas

Nature's Logic

Paula Einemann

Petco - North

Petco - South

Andrew & Renee Benson

Target

Tractor Supply Company

Vicki Miller

Walmart

Kayla Rappi

Tom & Karen Bassett

Arnie's Pet Food

Kim Gilliland

Joyce Behrends

Kent Nutrition Group

Lisa Bradley

## Continued: The A Bee Cs of stings

Serious signs can develop quickly, so it's important to watch your dog and be prepared to seek veterinary care immediately. In rare instances, these signs may occur 12 to 14 hours after the sting.

### BEES, WASPS, HORNETS AND YELLOW JACKETS

Are all stings the same? Not exactly. Bees have a barbed stinger that detaches from the bee and remains in the pet's skin. For several minutes after the sting, the venom sac on the stinger can continue to pulsate, injecting venom into the area. Wasps, hornets and yellow jackets (which are specific types of wasps), however, don't have barbed stingers. They retain their stingers and can sting multiple times. This can be especially problematic if your dog uncovers a wasp nest in the ground, because the stings can increase exponentially in number.

### TREATING MILD CASES

For bee stings, if you can find the implanted stinger, remove it by scraping a credit card along the skin. Avoid using tweezers, because you could inadvertently squeeze the venom sac, forcing more venom into the skin.

For both types of stings, help reduce swelling by applying a cool compress to the area, made by wrapping a towel around ice or a bag of frozen vegetables. You can also mix baking soda with water to create a paste that can be applied to the skin to help

neutralize the acidic venom. If possible, bandage the area to prevent your dog from licking the paste.

Do not give your dog any medication without consulting your veterinarian first. If you're concerned about your pet, contact your veterinarian for advice.

### SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS

If your dog experiences more severe signs, such as facial swelling or difficulty breathing, it's important to get to the veterinarian as soon as possible.

Depending on your dog's condition, your pet may need to be hospitalized and the veterinarian may administer medications such as antihistamines, steroids and epinephrine as well as intravenous fluids and oxygen.

### FUTURE STINGS

For pets that have a history of severe allergic reactions to bee stings, your veterinarian may recommend keeping an EpiPen (an epinephrine automatic injector) on hand. However, an EpiPen must be properly dosed to the size of your pet. Although the EpiPen Jr. delivers a smaller dose, it may still be too much for small dogs and cats. Talk to your veterinarian about options for your pet.

***If you have questions or concerns about your pet's health or nutrition, please talk with your veterinarian.***

## Continued: Lincoln Animal Control update

Pet owners can be eligible for the following:

- Cat Neuter Male, \$80.00
- Cat Spay Female, \$100.00
- Dogs Neuter Male, \$155.00
- Dogs Spay Female, \$160.00

We have nearly 64,000 licensed Dogs and Cats in the City of Lincoln. Most all the owners are responsible pet owners and regularly vaccinate and license their pets. Lincoln Animal Ambassadors and other similar organizations make it possible for people to obtain resources to help them through difficult times so their pets can stay with them. Thank-you to all of you for your help in making our job at Lincoln Animal Control easier.

***The Lincoln Animal Control spay/neuter voucher can be used in conjunction with the LAA spay/neuter voucher. Ask LAA how this works.***





# SAVE THE date!

**Spay-ghetti  
& No Balls Dinner  
October**

More details to come!

## Donations In memory of

Daisy Mae - Cat

Annie Petersen - Dog

Daisy Buamgartner

SueAnn Schwabauer-Sheridan

Willie Cathair Miller-Meier

## Rescue Spotlight: **Capital Humane Society**

Capital Humane Society welcomed a new Executive Director, Shannon Martin-Roebuck, on July 1, 2020 and she is thrilled to be in her new role. Like many organizations during the pandemic, Capital Humane Society experienced a reduction in surrenders and lost pets, but is seeing a return to normal this year. Under her leadership, the organization is focusing on keeping pets with their families and increasing community services and partnerships.

Through the first half of this year, they have increased the number of felines sterilized through their low-cost spay/neuter program by 81% and felines sterilized through their TNR partnership with Joining Forces Saving Lives by 67%. They are also seeing promising signs of reducing feline intake through the work of these two programs. Additionally, they added an SNR program this year.

They have reduced the adoption fees for their Working Cat Program and have increased the number of cats adopted through this program by 144% so far this year. Overall, their cat placement rates have increased to 80% this year compared to 60% in 2019 and their dog placement rate is 90% this year compared to 88% in 2019.

As part of the Admissions & Assessment Center remodel, the organization plans to establish a kitten nursery in 2022 to help save more neonatal and sick kittens in addition to giving them the ability to better help other local animal welfare organizations. They also plan to expand their behavior modification program to help more dogs find new homes.



### **CapitalHumaneSociety.org**

*Pictured from top: Shannon Martin-Roebuck and her dog, Lucca, Schnauzer mix; adoptable dog; feral cat TNR; Shannon's dog, Enzo, Cane Corso.*



Thanks so much for your help with getting my dog fixed. Thank God for organizations like yours. You really do make a difference in the world.

LAA Spay/Neuter Client



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LINCOLN COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



# We need your support!

Did you know that you can name Lincoln Animal Ambassadors on your United Way donation? Your donation helps provide services to pets and their people in and around the Lincoln area. We couldn't do it without the support of people like you!

**Donate through our website, [LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org](http://LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org) using PayPal** or mail this form to LAA. Pet Food Bank donation items can be dropped off at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 2325 S. 24th Street; Super Saver, 27th & Cornhusker; or both Petco Lincoln locations.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address (City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select your contribution amount:**

\$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  \$250  \$500  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program**

**Pet Food Bank**

**General Funds**

**Make checks payable to:**  
Lincoln Animal Ambassadors  
**Mail to:** PO Box 67072  
Lincoln, NE 68506



# Thank you!