

# Pet Talk

**SPRING 2024**

LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org / 402.817.1168

## Our mission

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is addressing the root causes of animal homelessness in Lincoln and the surrounding area.

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors assist pets and their people through a voucher-based low cost spay/neuter program, an income-based temporary assistance pet food bank and teaching people about being responsible pet guardians at community events.

## Donate

**Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program  
Pet Food Bank  
General Funds**

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

**Or donate through our website  
LincolnAnimalAmbassadors.org**

**Pet Food Bank drop off locations:**

Super Saver 56th & Hwy 2  
*(barrel at exit door)*

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

Super Saver 27th & Pine Lake  
*(barrel at exit door)*

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

Arnie's Pet Food, 56th & Hwy 2

Pet Central Station, 5591 S. 48th St.

Long Dog Fat Cat  
8340 Glynoaks Dr. #110

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

**16th Annual :: Fundraising Event**

# Wine & Howl

**SUNDAY  
JUNE 9**

**11:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**FOOD • VENDORS • RAFFLE • WINE TASTING**

• Deer Springs Winery, 162<sup>nd</sup> & E. Adams St.

• Suggested \$10 donation per person

• Bring your dog, a blanket, lawn chairs,  
and enjoy **FREE Dog Treats by Paw Bakery!**



**SPONSORED by**

**UBT**  
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**LIVE  
MUSIC  
from**



# Calendar of events

## Give to Lincoln Day May 30

givetolincoln.com

## Wine & Howl June 9

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Deer Springs Winery

LAA fundraiser

Entertainment by AM/FM

## Spay-ghetti & No Balls Dinner & Dessert Auction

November 16

6 - 10 p.m.

Unitarian Church

# By the numbers

## Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program

4,405 total alterations

## Pet Food Bank

4,057 families assisted

513,469 lbs of dry food distributed

122,814 cans of food distributed



Now Open!  
Call 402-473-5370



# STRANSKY

## VETERINARY CENTER



## Capital Humane Society Opens New Stransky Veterinary Center!

By Matt Madcharo, Executive Director Capital Humane Society

In late August of 2023, Capital Humane Society announced plans to construct and open its newest location, the Stransky Veterinary Center. The Stransky Veterinary Center is Capital Humane Society's third location in Lincoln in addition to the Admissions & Assessment Center and the Pieloch Pet Adoption Center.

Over the past couple of years, the number of pets, specifically canines, coming to the shelter has drastically increased. For canines, intake levels have returned to levels not seen since 2012. Inflation and other factors have led to more pets being surrendered to the shelter too. Additionally, more pet owners are unable to provide their pets with basic veterinary wellness care and get their pets spayed/neutered due to rising costs at veterinary clinics. Because of these issues, Capital Humane Society determined the Stransky Veterinary Center was desperately needed in the Lincoln and Lancaster County community.

The Stransky Veterinary Center provides all pet owners in the community with access to affordable preventative veterinary care, spay/neuter services, and pet dental care regardless of their income. The clinic offers preventative veterinary care like vaccinations, heartworm testing, flea/tick preventative, heartworm preventative, microchips, and deworming. Pet owners are also able to get their pets spayed/neutered,

so they do not reproduce and contribute to the pet homelessness issue with unwanted litters of puppies or kittens. And pet dental care including teeth cleanings and extractions, which is an often overlooked aspect of taking care of a pet.

The clinic offers two price structures including reduced pricing for income-qualified pet owners who receive some form of government assistance (Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, etc.). Those who are not income-qualified can also access the clinic for services at very affordable prices.

Ultimately, the number of homeless pets ending up at the shelter must change and the shelter can't continue to operate at or near capacity for pets. To accomplish this, more pets need to be spayed/neutered and provided preventative care to avoid illnesses or diseases that pet owners can't afford to treat. The Stransky Veterinary Center is the gamechanger to make this possible in our community.

The Stransky Veterinary Center is located at 5505 O Street Suite 1 & 2 in the middle of Lincoln so it is easily accessible to all community members. The clinic operates Monday-Friday each week from 8:00am-4:00pm. For more information or to book an appointment, visit [StranskyVeterinaryCenter.org](http://StranskyVeterinaryCenter.org).



## Volunteer Spotlight: Vida Bigley



### Where did you first learn about Lincoln Animal Ambassadors?

I found out about it through my aunt when I saw that she was doing work for the Animal Ambassadors.

**Tell us a little bit about yourself.** I go to a day program called Integrated Life Choices, I am a cat lover and I love to draw anime, enjoy listening to music, and in the summer I enjoy riding my bike and bowling on the weekends.

**What areas do you primarily volunteer for us at this time?** I volunteer at some of the events like Wine and Howl, Spay-getti and No Balls, Stuff the Truck events and deliver newsletters with my day service program.

**What do you find rewarding in your volunteer activities?** What I find rewarding is that I helped someone out by giving them food for their pet.

**Do you do other volunteer work in Lincoln?** Yes, I volunteer at the Help Center and Center for People during the

week. I also volunteer at Christian concerts for organizations like World Vision, Food for the Hungry and have one coming up for Childfund.

**What would you recommend to anyone looking to volunteer for Lincoln Animal Ambassadors?** I recommend the Stuff the Truck events, Spay-getti and No Balls and the Wine and Howl events. They are fun to do because you get to interact with people and their pets.

**If you could add one thing to the Lincoln Animal Ambassadors "wish list," what would it be?** I would add cat toys for the cats to play with and soft beds for the dogs and cats who need them.

## Thank you to our donors!

American Online Giving Foundation  
Andrew & Renee Benson  
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Sinda Dux  
St. Matthews Episcopal Church  
Target  
Tom & Karen Bassett  
Tractor Supply Company  
Yankee Hill Veterinary Hospital

## Remember LAA on Give To Lincoln Day

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors has been addressing the root causes of animal homelessness for 16 years by spaying or neutering over 4,500 companion animals and reducing unwanted litters and the number of animals being turned into local shelters and rescues.

LAA's pet food bank has distributed hundreds of thousands of pounds of pet food, and other related pet items, to help low-income families support their pets and keep them in their homes. In some cases, those pets may be the only family a person has. Pets are family and LAA works to help keep those families together. We help pets and their people.

LAA is grateful to participate again in this year's Give to Lincoln Day, a fundraising event supported by the Lincoln Community Foundation and its matching sponsors. This is a quick and easy way for you to support the amazing local causes that are dear to you and we hope you will remember LAA in

your contributions this year.

LAA is an all donation, all volunteer run organization that is supported completely by our community and Give to Lincoln Day is community supporting community. This annual event is critical to LAA's programs and to the care, support and spirit of the Lincoln community.

Your support on Give to Lincoln Day makes a BIGGER impact because nonprofits also get a proportional share of the largest challenge match fund so far of \$650,000 provided by Lincoln Community Foundation and their sponsors! Give to Lincoln Day is on May 30, 2024, but you can contribute between May 1 through May 30th to be eligible for the matching fund for your favorite charitable organizations.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, LAA relies on the support of our community to do what we do. Your donation is tax-deductible. You can choose your charities and donate at [www.givetolincoln.com](http://www.givetolincoln.com).

## Donations in MEMORIAM

Mark and Terri Butler

give  
TO LINCOLN DAY  
MAY 30, 2024

## From the community

“

You are super sweet! Our Jasmine guards the back door for us at night. And our Faith (a Great Dane) guards the front. We'll put in an application for Faith to get spayed too. At 100 pounds we haven't even been able to think about getting her fixed. Sometimes I wonder how can I afford to keep our dogs, but then there are times I know I can't afford not to! God has provided us protection, and we are so thankful! Thanks for giving us hope!

“

Thank you so much! You have absolutely no idea how much this means to me and my family.

“

Just wanted to send a quick email to say thank you for the voucher to get our cat Barbie spayed. We went through the humane society. She is done and is doing excellent. My girls are happy to have her back home.

# Wine & Howl

JOIN US!  
June 9, 2024

## Join us for another 'rockin' event!

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is planning another "Rockin" Wine & Howl event on June 9th at Deer Springs Winery. Deer Springs will have their wine tent up with wine and slushies pouring by 11 a.m. with the 70's and 80's AM/FM Band playing all afternoon. If you danced to it, sang along to it, cranked it up in your car, and you wanted to hear it.... AM/FM will play it. So get ready to rock out again this year! Last year was

so much fun!

Bring your dog (not required) a lawn chair or blanket and come out and enjoy the shady fresh air, live music, wine and food at Deer Springs. Lots of vendors and raffle baskets! FREE pup treats by Paw Bakery. Suggested \$10 donation per person.

We'd like to extend a HUGE thank you to this year's Wine & Howl sponsors:



**LIVE MUSIC!**  
**FREE DOG TREATS!**  
by Paw Bakery



## Pet Food Bank: Canned dog and cat food needed

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors Pet Food Bank is in need of canned dog food and canned cat food. The LAA Pet Food Bank has a distribution once a week for qualified families to help feed their pets. Currently we are in need of canned dog and cat food. We appreciate our communities support! You could help by donating these items at any of the donation sites.

### Pet Food Bank drop off locations:

Super Saver 56th & Hwy 2  
*(barrel at exit door)*

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

Super Saver 27th & Pine Lake  
*(barrel at exit door)*

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Arnie's Pet Food  
56th & Hwy 2

Pet Central Station  
5591 S. 48th St.

Long Dog Fat Cat  
8340 Glynoaks Dr. #110



## Volunteer with LAA!

Lincoln Animal Ambassadors is an all-volunteer organization. We are always looking for committed, skilled volunteers to help our programs thrive. LAA is not a hands-on animal group. We help pets and their people, but we don't rescue or re-home animals. If you are interested in helping animals in your community and would like to volunteer your time, we'd love to talk to you. Consider our current needs:

### Social Media Guru

If you have social media skills and enjoy creating and staying active on Facebook or other social media platforms, this may be the perfect opportunity for you. This position would require a monthly meeting with the LAA Board, as well as various on-line communications with Board members. A mind set incorporating LAA values and an interview with Board members would be required.

### Grant Writer

I know this sounds intimidating. LAA is completely donation driven and we sustain our programs with donations, fundraising events and private grants. Of course we like big grants, but we like small ones too!

They all add up to one more pet altered or one more can of food purchased. So if you have some experience writing grants, or want to gain grant writing experience, we'd love to talk to you. A mind set incorporating LAA values and an interview with Board members would be required.

### Events

LAA is completely donation driven and we sustain our programs with donations, fundraising events and private grants. An important part of our existence are fundraising events. We hold 2-3 fundraising events each year and we always need volunteers with good ideas and volunteers to help staff these events. I have to say, these events are so much fun! If you enjoy party and event planning, decorating or organizing serving on this committee might be the volunteer opportunity for you. You could be help in a big way or a small way, a one time event or several events. A mind set incorporating LAA values would be preferred. If this is your "cup of kibble" we'd love to talk with you.

## DOUBLE your donation

Will your employer match your donation? Some employers offer a match program where they match all or some of your monthly or yearly donations to charitable causes. If they do, it turns your \$50 donation into a \$100 donation. Doubling your gift allows your chosen charity to increase their efforts and means they can continue working toward their goals.

Check with your HR department to find out if your company offers a matching gift program or would be willing to consider implementing one. Every gift we receive is vital to the success of our mission in addressing the root causes of animal homelessness.







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 **LONG DOG FAT CAT**

 **PET CENTRAL STATION**



**BISSELL PET FOUNDATION™**  
Until every pet has a home.

# 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 various locations throughout Lincoln (see list elsewhere in newsletter).

**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!

