



Another blink, another year has gone by. I remember my beloved grandma saying that, as you get older, time goes by faster. As a child, that didn't make much sense to me, but now I know what she meant, and I guess that makes me older, although not necessarily old. In fact, some days I feel like the rescue has only just started, as a couple of friends and I helped our local Toronto shelter dogs find a new leash on love and life. But, believe it or not, that was almost 20 years ago!

This Christmas message is dedicated to all the people who make up this extraordinary and accomplished organization. It may surprise you to know how many working parts there are to our dog rescue efforts and how many people give their time, talent, and support to help the dogs who come to need us.

It's important to keep in mind that every one of us is a volunteer – we have no paid

staff, including our board members (many folks seem to believe that a board position is a paid position, but it's not, at least not with Speaking of Dogs Rescue Program).

So what goes into making things tick, happen, proceed, and carry on? Hold onto your toque, and I'll list the tasks that are filled by our remarkable volunteer corps every day of the year, in no particular order: home visits; transport drivers; foster parents; fundraisers; website design and support; set-up, tear-down, and working educational and awareness booths; adoption and foster application screening; dog assessments; meet and greets; contacting references; board members; managing social media; storage locker "elves"; calendar team; "Ask the Trainer" columnists; newsletter team; photographers; email and

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DECEMBER 2018

THE OFFICIAL SPEAKING OF DOGS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

In this month's newsletter

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About Speaking of Dogs

Speaking of Dogs is a Toronto-based organization that launched in 2001 and is dedicated to educating and enlightening people about dogs through seminars, workshop forums, outreach and rescue. Our goal is to end cruelty, abandonment, mistreatment and homelessness of man's best friend.

Speaking of Dogs Rescue is the operating name of Speaking of Dogs Rescue Program, a Canada Revenue Agency-registered charity based in Ontario.

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Newsletters

If you no longer want to receive our newsletter, email newsletter@speakingofdogs.com, with "unsubscribe" written in the subject line.

Dogs Looking for Homes

A friend in need is a friend indeed

Without a doubt, a dog is a real friend. Our dogs come in all shapes and sizes, but they have one thing in common – they all need loving forever homes. Open your heart and your home to a rescue dog. You'll be glad you did. For complete information about the adoption process, please visit www.speakingofdogs.com/adoption-process. For more information on each dog, simply click on their name.

Sophia

DACHSUND MIX
SMALL / ADULT / FEMALE



FEATURED DOG:

Sophia a very charming 6-year-old, 12-pound dachshund mix. She is a kind and well-mannered little girl who just wants to curl up and read a book with you.

Her housetraining seems to be on track, but her adopter will need to be vigilant about getting her out – her signals are sometimes so subtle you might miss them.

She loves all of the small dogs that she's met in her foster home and is very playful with any pup that will engage with her. She had an injury to her eye before she came into the rescue, and although she has no sight in that eye, you would never know it. She does everything that a dog with full vision does, and her one blind eye doesn't slow her down at all.

Sophia walks nicely on her leash and loves her walks. She is not overly vocal and is an attentive lady. She loves playing in the backyard, so a house with a fenced in-yard would be ideal!

If you think this four-legged companion is the girl for you, she'd be pleased to make your acquaintance.





Hank

CATTLE DOG / BULLDOG MIX
LARGE, ADULT, MALE



Sarabi

MASTIFF
X-LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE



Gabby

LABRADOR / HUSKY MIX
LARGE, SENIOR, FEMALE



Nikki

LABRADOR RETRIEVER MIX
MEDIUM, ADULT, FEMALE



Shirley

GIANT SCHNAUZER
LARGE, ADULT, FEMALE



Peggy

PUG / BEAGLE
SMALL, ADULT FEMALE



Owen

HUSKY
LARGE, SENIOR, MALE



Teya

SHEPHERD / ROTTWEILER MIX
LARGE, SENIOR, FEMALE



Gomer

LAB / HOUND MIX
MEDIUM, SENIOR, MALE



Jack and Pippy

SCHNAUZER / POODLE MIX
SMALL, SENIOR, MALE AND FEMALE

CRUMPS' NATURALS #MATCHINGPAWS



Crumps' Naturals – makers of natural dog and cat treats from minimal ingredients that are sourced only within Canada and the United States – has launched #MatchingPaws, a new holiday season initiative!

From now until the end of the month, Crumps will match all treat donations purchased on their website for Speaking of Dogs Rescue. These nourishing treats are free from additives, colours, and preservatives, and they're sure to make any rescue dog's holiday season extra special!

So how can you make a donation that doubles? Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit www.crumps.ca and choose which products you'd like to donate.

2. At the top of the checkout page, select the "edit the address" option under the shipping address.

3. Enter the following address:

Speaking of Dogs Rescue
PO Box 8058
RPO Hurontario
Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 0H1

4. Place your order!

Please note that only your original order will be shown on the confirmation page. You will get an email within 24 to 48 hours after your order is processed with an image of your #MatchingPaws donation in your name.

For more information please contact social@crumps.ca. Please note the deadline for #MatchingPaws donations is December 31, 2018.



WE'VE SCORED AGAIN!

Thanks to a generous donor, we have a pair of Leaf Tickets to raffle off just in time for the holidays!

The raffle starts on Monday, December 3rd and runs to Monday, December 10th. The lucky ticket will be drawn on Tuesday, December 11th by an independent volunteer.

The tickets are for the Leafs' game against the Colorado Avalanche on Monday, January 14, 2019, starting at 7 p.m. The seats are located in section 122, row 19. The retail value of this amazing pair of tickets is almost \$400!

Raffle tickets are only \$10 each or three for \$25. Your raffle stewards are Gerry and Lorraine, and you can get tickets by emailing info@speakingofdogs.com

All proceeds raised will go directly to helping our wonderful foster dogs and Forever in Foster dogs with vetting, grooming, supplies, food and other necessities.

The tickets have been donated in name and memory of beloved Cayenne.



Forever in Foster Pupdate

MEET TARA!

Tara originally came to Speaking of Dogs Rescue from a senior lady who had to go into a nursing home. Her granddaughter was overseeing Tara's care, but she was having trouble juggling Tara and her new baby. Tara needed walks, feeding, and eye drops daily, and it was just too much for her, so she called Speaking of Dogs Rescue for help.

A representative of our rescue went to visit Tara. The 13-year-old shih-tzu was struggling with her eyes and was quite overweight. Our rescue took her and got her to the vet right away. Most urgent were her eyes, which were infected, dry, and very sore, poor girl. After a short stay with a temporary foster mom, Tara was transferred to a Forever in Foster home in Toronto.

The rescue felt a Forever in Foster home was best for Tara for a number of reasons: her age and overall health, which included a thyroid issue and a chronic eye condition, and because she was not comfortable with having her eye drops administered. Her foster parents became eye drop professionals, and we didn't want to bounce Tara to another home, so Forever in Foster was the best solution! Thankfully, we have amazing volunteers who can provide special dogs like Tara with that option!

Her foster parents report that when Tara first came into their home about a year ago, she could often be defensive of her space, but she has come a long way since then. She's mastered their outside steps and eating from a bowl, and she loves her walks up and down the block. She has even accepted the cats and become a playmate for their dog, Juliette.



But Tara's biggest accomplishment has been learning to trust her Forever in Foster family and showing them her love and affection. She has even managed to shed a few pounds! And when bedtime comes, her loving foster parents carry her to the top of the stairs and watch her run to her bed, leap into it, and then snuggle up for the night. Sweet dreams dear Tara, your home to stay!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue focuses on compassionate care for senior dogs. When these beloved dogs come into our rescue, they often have needs that are beyond the scope of adoption. Still others are up for adoption for months without finding a forever home, and they eventually become attached to their foster parents. At that point we often feel that it is not in the best interest of the dog to be uprooted and put into a new home. And so, we keep some of our senior dogs in our Forever in Foster program, which has been running since 2005 and has seen many dogs live out their last chapter in a loving, caring foster home, cherished until they cross over to the Rainbow Bridge. Speaking of Dogs Rescue cares for these dogs financially for the rest of their lives, covering their vetting, food, and grooming costs.

As you settle in with friends and family and enjoy the warmth of the holiday season, please also think of our sweet Forever in Foster dogs. They've bravely faced adversities and difficulties, and now they're finally able to enjoy the warmth of friends and family of their own.

If you can spare a bit of holiday cheer, the easiest way to offer financial support to Speaking of Dogs Rescue is to visit our Canada Helps Giving Page at <https://www.speakingofdogs.com/donate/>

Thank you and happy holidays from our Forever in Foster dogs:

Annie	Lucy	Molly	Tara
Chance	Maxwell	Patch	Vanilla
Dustin	Minnie	Snooky	

Updates

THE BENJAMIN PROJECT IS SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER!

Speaking of Dogs Rescue is proud to be partnering with the Benjamin Project, which was created in memory of a very special dog who belonged to Malcolm and Helen Bernstein for 13 wonderful years. The project has a two-fold mission of educating about responsible pet and animal stewardship as well as raising funds for animal shelters and animal welfare organizations.

The Bernsteins adopted Benjamin from the OSPCA, and he was a beloved family member who brought unconditional love and incredible joy to countless others, both two- and four-legged. Malcolm wrote a book about Benjamin, which was published in 2014 and served to launch the Benjamin Project.



He published his second book about Benjamin, a children's book, in April 2018. The proceeds from these books are donated to shelters and rescues.

If you purchase one of these books through our special link – speakingofdogs.com/benjamin-book-order-form – the proceeds of your

purchase will be directed to Speaking of Dogs Rescue. These wonderful books are only \$20 each and would make great holiday gifts for the animal lovers in your life.

For more information about the Benjamin Project, please visit thebenjaminproject.net.

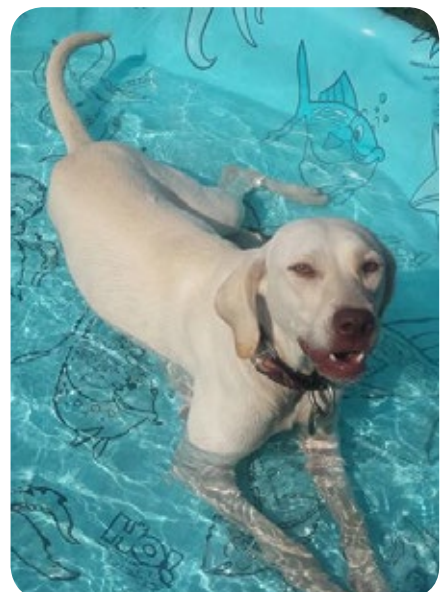
From: Jen Frayne and family
To: Speaking of Dogs Rescue
Subject: Birdie (now Meg)

Dear Speaking of Dogs Rescue,

We've renamed Birdie to Meg, and she's doing well. She is very keen to learn and gets along great with my other dogs. She's quite the snuggler too!

We have been working with a trainer, Emily Fisher, who also volunteers with SOD, for obedience because Meg loves to learn new tricks as well as assisting with her fears. She's unfortunately quite sensitive to new places, loud noises, children, and new people, so we've been working with Emily to help get Meg on track. She loves my husband but is still scared of men. However, she does have a few more women whom she adores and trusts them as well.

I definitely am so glad to have her in our home. Even with her fearful quirks, she's such a doll. Thanks so much, and wishing your team a wonderful holiday season filled with lots of love and good will!



Holiday Wags & Wiggles

Heartfelt thanks to our Toronto Christmas Pet Show volunteers:

Lorraine, Mari-Anne, Carl, Katie, Ritu, Nicole, Don, Gabe, Lorne, Dianne, and Kathy.



...Continued from page 1

telephone correspondence; updating adoptable dogs; bookkeeping; reviewing and updating policies and procedures; budgeting...

I could have possibly missed someone, and for that I apologize. These people don't ask to be thanked, recognized, or acknowledged. They just ask how the dogs are doing and if there is anything else that needs to be done. I know it sounds cliché, but we really and truly are blessed.

And speaking of how the dogs are doing, here's our proud pupdate for 2018: We currently have 11 dogs in our Forever in Foster program, we've found loving homes for over 100 dogs (many of them seniors) over the past 12 months, and we've sponsored a number of shelter dogs, helping with their vetting and medical needs.

On that note, I'll sign off with good job to all and to all a good night!

And to our dogs, sleep tight my friends. You're safe now and in the very best of hands – many hands indeed!

Lorraine



T-Shirt Fundraiser!

We've joined with multiple rescues to create the Group Tee Fundraiser! These are excellent quality, Fruit of the Loom t-shirts, and every sale helps rescues across Canada. Please share with family and friends and animal lovers in general. When you buy your t-shirt, Collie Rescue Network receives \$1.00 of the sale. When you choose Speaking of Dogs as an additional rescue, we will receive \$5.00 for every shirt sold! The more we sell together, the more we can change lives in rescue groups across Canada.

Please visit
www.collierescuenetwork.com/grouptees.html to order.

THANKS COUNTRY PAWS GROOMING!

Thank you so much to Samantha Bonilla of Country Paws Grooming for hosting Pet Pictures with Santa Paws! Everyone had a jolly time, and the holiday atmosphere was contagious to all. Representing Speaking of Dogs Rescue were Lindsay, Katie, and Riley, who managed our Christmassy booth of gently used goodies.

Huge thanks to Country Paws Grooming for choosing Speaking of Dogs Rescue! We are so grateful to be a part of such a well-organized, fun, and festive day. Many thanks also to all of Samantha's elves, who helped make the day so special!



Ask the Trainer

WHAT IS YOUR DOG REALLY SAYING?

As a trainer, many of my clients ask me things like “How did you know my dog was going to do that?” “Why did you interrupt at that time?” “Why does my dog do that?” “How do I know if my dog is aggressive or fearful?”

When I tell clients they might want to take a break during training since their dog is looking a little stressed, they ask me how I know, or they may tell me how cute it is when their dog asks for a belly scratch.

I tell clients one of the best ways to learn how to better interpret body language is to watch your own dog in different circumstances or do what I do: Head on down to your local dog park (without your own dog), and sit outside the park area and just watch the interactions between the dogs.

Calming Signals

Do you know what a calming signal is? According to Wikipedia, “Calming signals is a term coined by Norwegian dog trainer Turid Rugaas to describe the signals used by dogs to communicate with each other. According to Rugaas there are at least 30 calming signals. What signals dogs use depends on the dog. They may use a subset of these signals.”

What do you think the following behaviours have in common: lip licking, tail wagging, smiling, play bow, turning head away, yawning, blinking, jumping, walking in a curve, sitting and lifting a paw, belly up?

Every single one of them could be a calming signal, or a way for your dog to say “I’m uncomfortable,” “I’m concerned,”

“please don’t hurt me,” “I’m not a threat to you” or “please move away from me.”

Understanding a dog’s calming signals and body language will keep you and those around you safe. It opens a line of communication between you and your dog, thereby reducing stress (both theirs and yours).

You can learn more about what calming signals at en.turid-rugaas.no/calming-signals---the-art-of-survival.html.

Now It’s Your Turn!

Why not test your knowledge of dog body language? Below are two pictures each of Angel, Zoe and Molly. What do you think they are saying? Answers are on the bottom of page 8. In each picture, look at the dogs eyes and brows. Are the pupils dilated (enlarged)? Are the brows pulled together or open and relaxed? What about ears? Are they forward or pulled back? Is the mouth closed or open? Is the body position tense or relaxed?

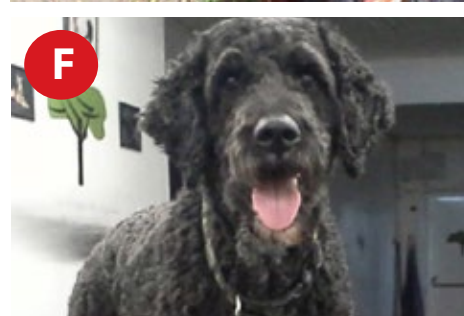
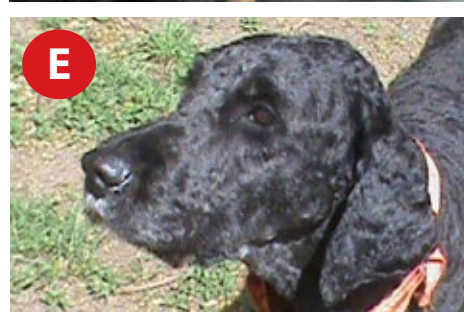
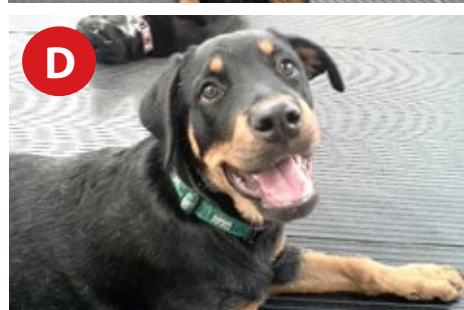
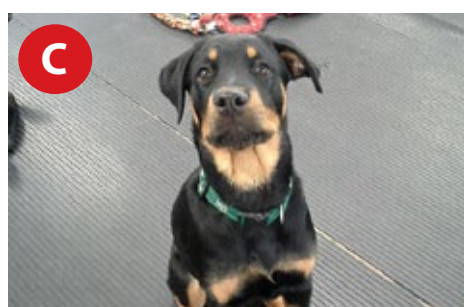
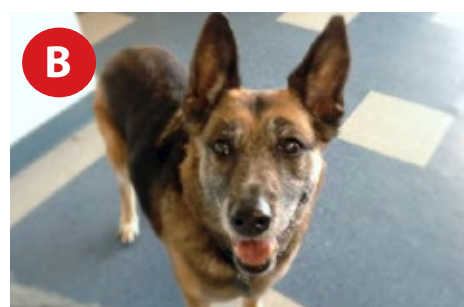
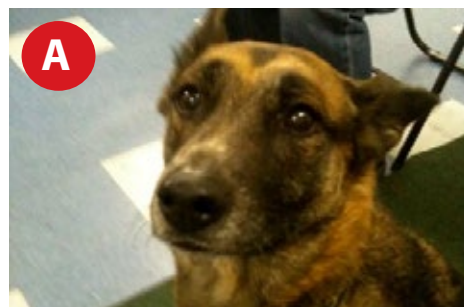
Additional Resources

I am fortunate enough to know some wonderful trainers who, like me, spend a lot of time working with families and help them understand their dog’s body language. In fact, I created a resource list of websites, books, and videos that I send to many of my clients to help them learn more about what their dog is trying to say. I am pleased to share this list with you.

...Continued on page 9



Margaret R.
Pender, Owner,
DogGone Right!
Inc.



Bits & Bites

Simply click on a summary to be whisked away to the internet page where you can read the full story.

- The Ontario SPCA is asking Sault Ste. Marie residents to be on the lookout for imposter officers.
- Planning on having company over the holidays? Check out these tips for preparing Your dog for guests.
- Here are more tips to keep your pets safe during the busy holiday season.
- The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is investigating the death of a dog who was caught in a conibear trap in Dundalk.
- Weeks later, a dog in Winlaw, B.C., suffered the same fate. In that case, the B.C. Conservation Service found the trap had been lawfully set.
- A University of Alberta study suggests chronic pain sufferers sleep better when they share their bed with their dog.
- Dog stolen from Etobicoke home during break and enter reunited with owner after 20 long days and massive search.
- The ASPCA lists 11 reasons you should adopt instead of shop when adding a new four-legged family member.
- More than 70 dogs saved from the Asian dog meat trade arrived in Canada this fall, taking their first steps in their new lives as family pets.
- Due to a staffing shortage, the Emergency Service at the VEC has been restricted.

Huge thanks to our online auction volunteers: Karen, Patti, Kimberly, Katrin, Michelle, Colette, Shannon, Evguenia, and Martin. Big thanks also to our generous donors and everyone who placed a bid. Congratulations to everyone whose bids were successful!

THIS MONTH'S RECALLS:

Click on a recall to be directed to further information online.

- ANF lamb and rice dry dog food
- Elm chicken and chickpea recipe and K9 Naturals chicken recipe
- Evolve chicken and rice puppy dry dog food, Sportsman's Pride large breed puppy dry dog food, Triumph chicken and rice dry dog food
- Abound chicken and brown rice dog food
- Nature's Promise chicken and brown rice dog food
- Orlando Grain Free Chicken & Chickpea Superfood
- Nutrisca chicken and chickpea dry dog food
- Natural Life Pet Products chicken and potato dry dog food

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Books

Dog Language: An Encyclopedia of Canine Behavior by Roger Abrantes

Canine Body Language: A Photographic Guide to Interpreting the Native Language of the Domestic Dog by Brenda Aloff

Canine Behavior: A Photo Illustrated Handbook by Barbara Handelman

On Talking Terms with Dogs: Calming Signals by Turid Rugaas

Online Resources

Sunshine Dog Training & Behavior, "Resources"

Doggone Crazy, "How to Stop Your Puppy from Biting"

Silent Conversations

"Stress Signals: Canine Body Language, Dog Behavior"

"Understanding Dog Body Language: Learn How to Read Dogs' Behavior Better"

"Fearful Behavior in Dogs"

"Dog Play and Dog Interactions"

Whole Dog Journal, "Canine Body Language Danger Signs"

"Dog Communication: Dog Body Language"

"Zoom Room Guide to Dog Body Language"

The Family Dog, "Dog Body Language"

"Zoom Room Guide to Dog Play Gestures"

Answers from body language quiz: A concerned; B happy; C worried; D happy; E concerned; F happy

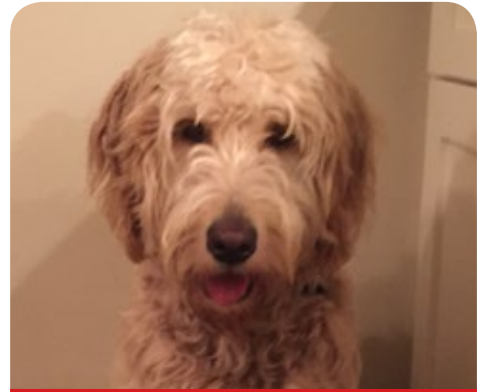
Happy Tails

NOVEMBER ADOPTIONS:

A big thank you to our foster parents and our new adoptive guardians for helping give these loving dogs a second chance.



Jazzy



Milo



Mildred



Elf



Lily



Charlie



Gizmo



Fiona



Sunday



Norman

THANKS BIG ON BEAGLES



Dexter

In Memoriam



Coco

LOVED BY SHARON R. AND FAMILY
ADOPTED APRIL 2010
PASSED NOVEMBER 2018



Chloe

LOVED BY SARA H.
ADOPTED OCTOBER 2006
PASSED NOVEMBER 2018



Tulip

LOVED BY ROB W., ERIKA M. AND FAMILY
ADOPTED MAY 2012
PASSED NOVEMBER 2018



Gracie

LOVED BY CHER, RON AND HOAGIE B.
ADOPTED OCTOBER 2016
PASSED OCTOBER 2018

In Memoriam



Jasper

LOVED BY STEVE, KEN AND FAMILY
ADOPTED NOVEMBER 2015
PASSED NOVEMBER 2018



Maisey

LOVED BY MARY KATE AND JOE F.
ADOPTED MAY 2017
PASSED NOVEMBER 2018



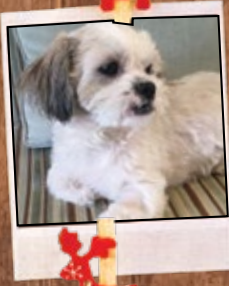
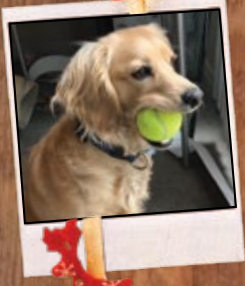
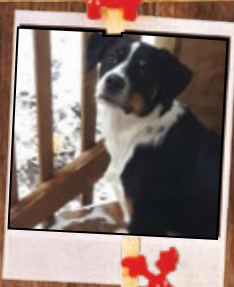
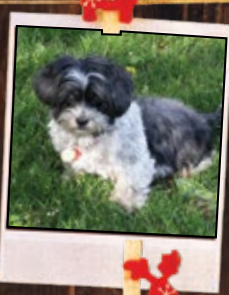
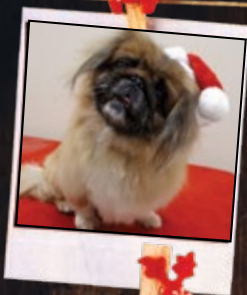
Diesel

FOREVER IN FOSTER APRIL 2016
TO NOVEMBER 2018
LOVED BY DEANNA S.



Maggie

FOREVER IN FOSTER DECEMBER 2016
TO NOVEMBER 2018
LOVED BY CATHY H. AND FAMILY



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from our 2018 adoptees

Alfred	Chico	Hanna	Manny	Robin	Stewie
Archie	Chino	Harriet	Marydale	Roxy	Summer
Baby	Coco	Henry	Maxi	Ruby	Tanka
Bailey	Cosmo	Jack	Millburn	Rufus	Theo
Baxter	Daisy	Kali	Minkus	Rusty	Toby
Beatrice	Darcy	Karma	Missy	Sarah	Tucker
Blacky	Dashie	Katarina	Munroe	Sassy	Tulip
Bonnie	Dawson	Kingsley	Nan	Scooter	Tyson
Brody	Dozier	Kya	Ozzy	Scout	Watson
Bubbles	Ebony	Lacey	Panda	Shadow	Willow
Buddy	Effie	Larry	Paws	Sherry	Yogi
Buster	Ella	Lemonade	Percy	Sierra	Zoey
Cashew	Elliot	Lester	Phoenix	Sophie	Zorro
Chanel	Freckles	Lokum	Prada	Stella	
Charlie	Gidget	Lola	Princess		
Charlotte	Gilbert	Lucy	Raven		
Chester	Ginger	Lulu	Rex		
Chewy	Hank	Maggie	Riley		

