

# Tails from Minnesota

Winter 2012



Kadin and Truman pg. 3



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Kyle and Tally pg 11



*"I feel like a bird let out of a cage."*

Maureen Pranghofer and Bentley  
pg. 6



[www.can-do-canines.org](http://www.can-do-canines.org)

Volume 23 Issue 1



In 1988, Lucky, pictured above, was the first dog we adopted from an animal shelter. She was homeless and was scheduled to be euthanized that day. Lucky served as our demonstration dog for 11 years. She is symbolic of our commitment to save homeless dogs while fulfilling our mission to serve people with disabilities.

### Tails From Minnesota

Published quarterly for friends and supporters of

# Can Do Canines

## ASSISTANCE DOGS

### Editor/Layout/Design

Alan M. Peters Mary Rhatigan  
Shelly Hiemer

Can Do Canines is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs.

We envision a future in which every person who needs and wants an assistance dog can have one.

Assistance dogs provide the gifts of freedom, independence, and peace of mind to our clients and their families. Our fully trained dogs, often adopted from local animal shelters, are provided to our clients who live with disabilities that involve mobility challenges, hearing loss or deafness, seizure disorders, autism, or diabetes complicated by hypoglycemia unawareness.

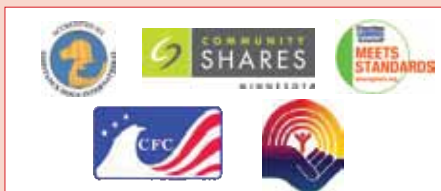
Dogs, training and supplies are provided to each client free of charge.

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## From the Executive Director

### Happy New Year!

On behalf of the board and staff of Can Do Canines I want to wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year. We are proud of the accomplishments achieved during 2011 and are excited to take on new challenges during 2012. As our partner in this work, I hope you will share in this pride and excitement as well.

### Looking Back

Thank you for the special ways you have helped our organization thrive this last year. With your help, we have made great strides. During 2011:

- We began a successful training partnership with Waseca Federal Penitentiary, placing 10 puppies with inmates for basic training.
- Can Do Canines continued our Capital Campaign and building project, completing a new bank of 10 new kennels, remodeling previously unfinished space to become a caretaker residence, an overnight room for clients, additional office space and a new volunteer center. We also constructed a new parking lot with better lighting, plentiful handicap accessible spaces and a convenient drive-through drop-off for Metro Mobility vans.
- We ended the year with 90 dogs and puppies in training to become assistance dogs, including 52 puppies originating from our own breeding efforts.
- Can Do Canines graduated 39 assistance dog teams during the year, **increasing the number of teams placed by 30%** over the number graduated during 2010. Five of the graduate dogs originated from rescue sources.
- We tightened our belt again this year and reduced our cost per team graduated from \$27,366 per team to \$22,800. We are doing more with the money you contribute.

### Looking Forward

We face unique opportunities and special challenges in 2012.

Now that our facility is near completion, we have the opportunity to again increase the number of teams graduated and dogs in training. We now have adequate kennel, training and office space to expand operations so we can reduce the waiting list for our assistance dogs. Our dedicated team of volunteer puppy raisers has grown and our breeding program has been successful.

But challenges remain. Near the end of 2011, one of our best Client Services Coordinators moved to California with her family. We decided to wait on hiring someone new for this position, as the economic difficulties that we face as a nation have had a negative impact on contributions to Can Do Canines as well.

We ended 2011 with more graduates than ever before, but with only a partial staff in place and a year-end funding gap of \$18,000. As we budgeted for 2012, we could not project enough income to fill our vacant staff position and it became apparent that hiring for this position now might jeopardize our financial stability. So I made the decision to keep this position open.

As a result of this reduced staff size, we expect to graduate fewer teams during 2012. It is frustrating for all of us to take a step back, especially when we know that the larger goal is within our grasp. However, I believe it is the right thing to do for now.

*It doesn't have to stay like this.* Our dedicated supporters, have made our work possible over the years and I believe you can help us now. If we can obtain commitments to help bridge our new funding gap, we will be able to resume a higher level of graduate teams.

I am reaching out to you for helpful ideas on ways to bridge this gap. The funding gap we face includes both the \$18,000 from year-end 2011 and \$40,000 staffing costs for 2012, for a total need of \$58,000. Meeting this need means we can increase the number of graduated teams during 2012 to 40 or more. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help.

### New Puppies

I am pleased to announce that our breeder dog, Hildie, gave birth to ten new Lab puppies in December! These puppies are scheduled to move into Waseca Federal Penitentiary at the beginning of March to begin their training. The ten dogs currently at Waseca will be returning for final training and placement at the same time. Be sure to check the Puppy Blog at <http://candopuppies.tumblr.com> and be sure to see the 2011 archive! Don't you just love a puppy? ♥



Al with "Savannah" and "Echo"

## Meant To Be

### Kadin Okerstrom and Autism Assist Dog Truman by Carrie Sherno

For a busy mom of three who has never owned a pet dog in her entire life, taking on the responsibility of an Autism Assist Dog seemed overwhelming. But Marjorie Okerstrom says it's the best thing that ever happened to her son, Kadin. "We can go anywhere, do anything," she says.

Kadin, a happy and energetic six-year-old, loves legos, architecture and camping. He lives in St. Paul, Minn. with mom, his dad, Brett, big sister, Ashtyn, and big brother, Tanner. Kadin is also living with autism spectrum disorder. His safety is a big concern because Kadin will bolt away from his parents, especially in situations that are stressful to him. This, along with his limited communication skills, have led to many tense and fearful moments for his parents.



**Kadin and Truman**

Marjorie first started to consider an assistance dog for Kadin four years ago, in 2008. He was drawn to dogs and responded well to the one used in his therapy sessions. She thought it would be a great way to help Kadin calm down and focus. Marjorie started researching what it would take to get a specially trained dog, learning about the organizations across the country and quickly realized it would not be easy.

That's when someone gave Marjorie an article about Can Do Canines. She read the article and thought, "I can't believe this place is in Minnesota." They filled out the application, were accepted, then began a long wait.

In July of 2011, Truman, a two-year-old black Labrador Retriever, was matched with Kadin. "I just knew they were meant to be together," Marjorie says while wiping a tear from her eye.

**Kadin and Truman with Mom, Marjorie and sponsor Bill McNeely**



Truman was ready for Kadin and Kadin was ready for him. But Marjorie worried about the training. Learning the commands and watching for his signals was like speaking a foreign language for this family that had never owned a dog. And it was hard for Kadin's brother and sister to understand why they couldn't play with Truman, especially during the training period. But Marjorie stuck to her guns. "We did not sign up for a family pet," she says. "We signed up for an assistance dog for Kadin and that is what he needs."

Marjorie says the family caught on faster than expected. Kadin quickly made the transition from learning how to feed Truman to wanting to do it. "I was surprised at how fast Kadin and Truman bonded," she says. They are now best friends.

Marjorie says Kadin's bond with Truman is unlike any she's seen, even with his own family. "It's just fun to watch them interact," she says. "He's Kadin's special dog." That bond has allowed the Okerstrom's a new freedom. Shopping at Target and trips to the doctor used to be difficult at best. Truman has changed all that. "He's a calming presence for Kadin. It's just amazing what we've been able to do," Marjorie says.

The Okerstrom's have so much gratitude for the people who helped bring Truman to their family. She says having Truman in their lives is a game-changer for her family and one they likely wouldn't have been able to afford on their own. "I'm really, really thankful to the people who've volunteered their time to help out such a great organization. And I'm so grateful to the donors."

Marjorie got the opportunity to meet with one of those donors, Bill McNeely, who sponsored Kadin and Truman's team. "It's people like him who made this happen for our family," she says, "Thank you". ❤️

## New Teams



### **Bryce Madsen & Mobility Assist Dog Dallas**

**Bryce says, "I think the volunteers and people who donate are really nice to do this for people so they don't have to have their mom and dad do so much for them. And it gives them a partner to be with and help them."**

### **Thank You**

**Dog Source – Amy Ross  
Puppy Raiser – Melissa & Brian Hanson**

See their full story at [www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter](http://www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter)



### **Carrie Enea & Diabetes Assist Dog Ava**

**"These dogs are amazing. She's already helped me so many times since May. I can't imagine not having her in our house."**

### **Thank You**

**Dog Source – Amy Ross  
Vet Services – Maryland Avenue Animal Hospital  
Puppy Raiser – Inmates at the Federal Correctional Institute at Sandstone  
Foster Home – The Willms Family & The Furlough Families at Sandstone**

Read their story on page 10

## Picking Up a Little Independence

Elizabeth Barrie and Mobility Assist Dog Bailee

by Danielle Rasmussen

Elizabeth Barrie of Milwaukee, Wis. is an upbeat college student who is always on the go. One day, while passing out flyers on campus for a group dedicated to helping students with disabilities, someone told her about Can Do Canines. That conversation sparked an interest in Elizabeth so she investigated the organization and thought Can Do Canines might be a good fit for her. You see, even as active and resourceful as she is, Elizabeth still has her limits. She lives with Cerebral Palsy (CP) due to complications during her birth. She relies on a power wheelchair to get around and needs others to help with day to day tasks. Elizabeth wondered if a Can Do Canines Mobility Assist Dog could lend a paw to give her more independence.

One thing Elizabeth was looking for when she applied to Can Do Canines was to have a dog retrieve items when she dropped them, which, Elizabeth said, "Is pretty often". Every time she would drop anything at home, she would have to call on her mom to come and pick up the item for her. The worst situation for Elizabeth was when she would go for walks by herself and drop something; she has had to wait up to 20 minutes for someone to walk by and come to her aid. "That is very frustrating," Elizabeth says. It is also more than a little

unnerving having to ask a stranger for help. Mobility Assist Dog, Bailee, a beautiful black Labrador Retriever raised at the Federal Penitentiary at Sandstone, has made it possible for Elizabeth to become more independent. Bailee picks up items whenever Elizabeth drops them and gets her shoes for her in the morning. If Elizabeth drops something as small as a piece of paper on the floor, Bailee will gently pick it up and give it to her.



Elizabeth and Bailee

She makes Elizabeth feel safer and more comfortable in her home. During Elizabeth's transfers from her chair to her bed, her legs can give out and she slowly falls to the ground. Once Elizabeth is on the ground she gets stuck and can't get up. That's where Bailee comes in; Elizabeth can tell Bailee to fetch her phone, and Bailee knows right where to go to retrieve it, so that Elizabeth can make a call for help. "I feel safer that I could tell her to get the phone and she would go and get it," says Elizabeth.

Bailee helps Elizabeth with more than just her physical needs. Elizabeth can be shy and sometimes people are unsure how to approach her. A personal goal for her was to eliminate that barrier of communication with others. She feels that having Bailee has made

it easier for people to come up and talk to her, "It's funny, every fifth person comes up to me and says, 'oh she is a beautiful dog', and 'oh she is so cute'." Bailee is a great way for Elizabeth to start to break down that barrier.

Bailee has surprised Elizabeth in many ways. One time while outside, Elizabeth dropped her phone without realizing it. Later, when Bailee was let out to go to the bathroom, she was very confused when Bailee went off into a different direction than usual. Elizabeth quickly understood when Bailee returned. Bailee had gone back to where the cell phone was dropped and retrieved it, without any direction to do so.

Elizabeth is very appreciative for the sponsors and volunteers who donate to Can Do Canines "Thank you very much. There is a lot of time and money that goes into every dog. It is great that there is no cost, because in looking at other organizations, I could not afford the money they were asking for." Bailee and Can Do Canines have given Elizabeth new independence and security in her life. Elizabeth says Bailee is a great addition to the family. "She fits in really well here." ♥



Bailee opening the refrigerator door for Elizabeth

## New Lions Club Chartered at Can Do Canines!



On November 17, 2011 the Minnesota Lions officially welcomed a new Lions Club into their midst – the Minneapolis Can Do Canines Club. The new club will differ from traditional Lions Clubs in that the meetings will be held through emails rather than at a physical location. Members will simply respond to a newsletter to get credit for attending. The club will hold projects, fundraise and serve in their community like all other Lions Clubs.

Can Do Lions President Pat Heffernan said, "I am so proud to be leading this club. It is a great way for Can Do Canines volunteers, puppy raisers, graduates and staff to be involved in an organization that has given so much to us. I am looking forward to getting to know all of the other clubs out there and helping serve our greater community."

Anyone can become a member of the Can Do Canines Lions. For information, please contact Pat Heffernan at 651-771-2660.



Newly installed Lion President Pat Heffernan (center) is presented the official charter by Governor Jan Cariveau and Lions International Director, Brian Sheehan

## Coach Rules

*Emilie Koll and Autism Assist Dog Coach*

*by Carrie Sherno*

Mary Koll was looking for a way to make her little girl's life easier and calmer. Emilie is a very energetic, fun loving six-year-old who lives in Apple Valley, Minn. with mom, Mary, dad, Bryan, and older sister, Ashley. Emilie has been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). ASD impairs her ability to communicate and makes her act out or "melt down" when she is frustrated. Mary began investigating ways to help Emilie better interact with the world around her. One of the recommendations she found was an assistance dog.

"I did a lot of research before adopting Coach regarding what type of dog would best be suited for an assistance dog for Emilie. I decided even if he didn't work out as an assistance dog, Coach would be a great pet" Mary said. The training started right away. Mary enrolled Coach in several levels of obedience classes near her home. He became a great family pet and now he needed to learn to be a great assistance dog.



*Emilie and Coach*

That's when Mary reached out to Can Do Canines. Coach had to undergo testing to show he had the proper personality and that he could behave properly in social situations. He also had to pass the same health clearances that Can Do Canines dogs do before they are placed with a client. He passed with flying colors. Now Coach and Emilie needed to build a different kind of relationship, one based on Emilie's need for an assistance dog instead of a pet, and so a different kind of training began.

Emilie is now the one to feed Coach, the one to give him treats, the one to give him the majority of the attention. Mary says the transformation started to happen immediately once Can Do Canines Client Service Coordinator, Dora Schroeder, helped them understand how this technique differed from what they had been doing. "The relationship between Coach and Emilie

definitely changed, drastically," she said. Mary created "Coach Rules." These were simple, easy to follow steps that included suggestions by Dora that helped Emilie interact more positively with Coach. A small card was laminated with "Coach Rules" and Emilie carried them with her on her outings with Coach. For example, Emilie loves to give Coach kisses when on an outing, which was very distracting to the task at hand. One of the rules was that Emilie could only kiss Coach once before going and not during the outing. If she followed the rules their adventure would continue. If not, they would return home.

"Having Coach definitely benefits our family" Mary says. "I am able to converse with people while out in public as Coach helps keep Emilie calm and helps to keep the stress level down. Following "Coach Rules" – holding onto the handle on his vest and staying close to him helps to keep Emilie busy and focused," Mary said. "Now shopping is much easier and a lot more fun for the whole family. Coach is able to help distract Emilie and has helped her become more verbal and comfortable in her environment. This has helped her interact with other children."

Coach now sleeps with Emilie. It's been a great thing for the entire family. "If Emilie wakes up in the middle of the night, she'll touch his fur and go back to sleep," Mary said. "Emilie has stopped waking us up, and as a result, she's getting more sleep and so are we!"

The special bond created between Emilie and Coach developed slowly with much patience and through the efforts of the entire family. Even Emilie's Personal Behavior Therapist, Amanda, helped reinforce the new bond and the Coach Rules. Mary is very thankful to the Can Do Canines staff who helped get them to this point. "They're doing a great thing," she says. "People don't realize how much of a difference it makes in a family's life. Just the little things like sleeping better and actually being able to go to a store."

Mary also thinks Coach has helped change how outsiders view their family. "I think before, people were just staring at us thinking we're bad parents who don't know how to control our child," she says. "Now I think there is more compassion." ♥

## New Teams



### Maureen Pranghofer & Mobility Assist Dog Bentley

*"Can Do Canines is so willing to think outside the box. (They) listen so much to the client. It's been an amazing process."*

#### Thank You

**Dog Source – Can Do Canines**  
**Puppy Raiser – Inmates at the Federal Correctional Institute at Sandstone**  
**Foster Home – The Furlough Families at Sandstone, and Deborah Hanson**  
**"Special Thanks" – Pam Smith, Deb Wolden, The Burdeski Family,**

*See their full story on page 6*



### Kadin Okerstrom & Autism Assist Dog Truman

*"He's a calming presence for Kadin. It's just amazing what we've been able to do," Marjorie, Kadins' mom, says.*

#### Thank You

**Dog Source – Stephanie Leddon Hunt & John Leddon**  
**Vet Services – Arden Shoreview Animal Hospital**  
**Puppy Raiser – Janie & Shauna Mullikin**  
**Foster Home – Lou Burg**  
**Sponsor – Bill McNeely**

*Read their story on page 3*

## Scouting Out Can Do Canines

Life Scout Sam Gentle of St. Michael, Minn wanted to do plan a project that really sparked his interest. He thought about service to his community, his church, or older people in his area. All were very worthwhile - but none of them really grabbed his heart.

When he learned about a fellow parishioner working with Can Do Canines, that sparked a real interest. He called on graduate and staff member Shelly Hiemer and an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project was born. Sam planned, developed, and implemented a multi-stage project that included moving the puppy play yard, building and installing a set of training stairs for the puppies in training, increasing awareness and recruiting possible volunteers through a program presented to his troop, and making new puppy raisers packs filled with training mats and toys. Along the way Sam also lead many members from his troop to help with not only his project but also with parking lot and cleanup crews for the November graduation. He has plans to create a book for families of children with autism. They will be able to use the book to prepare their children for graduation day at Can Do Canines.

Thank you Sam for all of your leadership and hard work! Best of luck as your project is presented to the Eagle Scout Review Board! ❤️.



Sam with the training stairs



Sam inspired other troop members to get involved.

## Bird Out Of A Cage

### Maureen Pranghofer and Mobility Assist Dog Bentley

by Allison Schildknecht

Maureen Pranghofer of Golden Valley, Minn. is no stranger to the powerful relationship between a person with a disability and their assistance dog. She's had an incredible ten canine partners throughout her life. Still, there's something special about her newest assistance dog; a black Labrador Retriever named Bentley. For the first time, a dog is helping Maureen with physical tasks and acting as her sight: Bentley is both a Mobility Assist and Guide Dog. "He's an incredible dog. I've never had a dog that would do both." Maureen says. Even though he's doing twice as much, Maureen says Bentley is ahead of the curve "Normally, it takes six months to a year before you feel like a team with a dog and we're already there after six weeks. I feel very confident with him. It's wonderful. I feel like a bird out of a cage."



Bentley finds a chair

Maureen has faced and overcome major challenges throughout her life. Born legally blind, she became totally blind after a fall in 1993. In 1996, she was in a serious car accident that worsened her physical health, leaving her with quadriplegia. Her need for a power wheelchair forced her to give up her guide dog. She was trapped in a conundrum: guide dog schools wouldn't consider training a dog to work alongside the wheelchair, while assistance dog organizations, experienced with helping wheelchair users, turned her down because she was blind. After four long years without a dog, she was ready to give up hope.

Eventually, she found Can Do Canines, who paired her with Ally, a Labrador Retriever donated by Minneapolis Animal Control. She discussed her needs with Can Do Canines. Ally was a perfect match, even without guide dog training. Ally was Maureen's loyal assistance dog for 7 years. Ally retired at age 10 and went to live out her golden years with one of the veterinary assistants who had cared for her in recent months. Can Do Canines was already searching for Ally's successor. Bentley was

in training with his seven brothers and sisters at Sandstone Federal Penitentiary. Can Do Canines trainers and the inmates began weaving guide dog skills like "find a door" and "find a chair" into his repertoire of other skills with Maureen in mind.

When Maureen and Bentley began training together, he quickly showed her he knew how to retrieve dropped items, help tug off her coat, open doors with a push plate, and retrieve a phone in case of emergency - all skills essential to her independence. He also confirmed his ability to guide her to doors and chairs, to Maureen's delight. Bentley needed one

other very special skill to work with Maureen: the ability to guide her while walking with an assistive device. Amazingly, through her own hard work and faith, Maureen has regained her ability to walk using a walker. Bentley may be the only guide dog who can work this way. "I've been in contact with Guide Dogs for the Blind all along and they've never trained a dog to guide a walker. As far as I know, he's the first in the world. I feel like I can go pretty much anywhere with him and be safe."

Maureen says, "It's been a dream of mine to have a dog who can guide again. Physically, I've gotten better, and that's contributed to that dream. Can Do Canines is so willing to think outside the box. They say, 'We don't care if there hasn't been a guide dog with a walker.' Can Do Canines listens so much to the client. It's been an amazing process." Now, Bentley is bringing freedom back to Maureen's life, too. ❤️



Bentley helping Maureen remove her jacket

## An Awesome Assistant

*Kyle McJames and Hearing Assist Dog Tally by Anne Ingvaldstad*

Kyle McJames of Forest Lake, Minn. really knows his way around a car; working as an auto mechanic and restoring classic cars on his time off. When he isn't tinkering with engines, he likes to spend time out of doors and with his family. As a single parent, Kyle especially values the time that he spends with his six-year-old son, Kordell.



**Kyle and Tally**

Kyle takes his responsibility as a parent seriously and sees himself as a role model for his son. So it did not feel right to him when he had to rely on Kordell to let him know when the doorbell rang or the smoke alarm went off. Because Kyle is deaf in one ear and has profound hearing loss in the other, he needs someone to let him know about those sounds. Without another adult in the house, that job fell to his young son.

As an infant, Kyle contracted spinal meningitis which caused a loss of hearing that has grown worse over time. He wears hearing aids which amplify sounds but do not help him to identify speech. Kyle communicates by lip reading and using American Sign Language.

Kyle found out about the Can Do Canines' Hearing Assist Dog program from his mother. She thought a dog that could alert Kyle to important sounds might be just what he needed to maintain his independence and provide security for himself and his son.

Tally is an enthusiastic and sweet natured two-year-old yellow Labrador Retriever who has been trained to alert Kyle to the sounds of the door bell, oven timer, alarm clock, smoke alarm and an intruder. At first she got a little confused by the different alarm sounds in Kyle's house, but she never failed to let him know that there was a sound that needed his attention. Now, Tally knows her job very well and does it with great joy.

Tally is especially enthusiastic about waking Kyle up when she hears the alarm clock go off, leaping onto the bed each morning with such excitement that she is practically flying. It seems as if Tally can't wait to get up and go to work with Kyle, where she spends the day at his shop.

Kyle's family had pet dogs as he was growing up, and while he was close to each of them, this relationship is different. He is looking forward to living with Tally for a long time, enjoying not only the wonderful friendship that every dog gives but also the independence and security that she will provide as his Hearing Assist Dog.

To Can Do Canines puppy raisers, volunteers and contributors Kyle says, "Thank you for giving me a wonderful dog. You make it possible for people like me to have an assistance dog. She is awesome!" ♥

## Volunteer Spotlight

It all began for Al Hiemer when he said no. It had been a long time dream of Al and his wife, Shelly, to become puppy raisers for an assistance dog organization. When Shelly brought home information in 2005, that is when he put on the brakes. He felt it was more important for Shelly to receive a trained dog than for them to raise a puppy. Grace, a Diabetes and Mobility Assist Dog was matched with Shelly in 2006.



**Al Hiemer**

Shelly wanted to give back to the organization, and as often happens, Al was frequently 'recruited' to volunteer. We soon discovered why he named his home improvement business "Hubby 4 Hire."

Al helped direct and took part in the demolitions at our New Hope facility, participated in painting projects, has completed numerous handyman projects around the building, and has been able to secure materials

and equipment from his employer to install the ballards to protect areas of our parking lot. He's been a huge help at events as well; helping direct traffic, doing event set up and take down, he's been Shelly's 'chauffeur' to speaking engagements, staffed booths, and is an important consultant on many projects. Al's knowledge on construction, and other fix-it projects has been invaluable for us to finish our building projects on time and within budget.

Al and Shelly have now realized their other dream. They raised Joy, a chocolate Labrador Retriever, Dazzle, a Smooth Coat Collie and have fostered many other dogs over the years as well.

Can Do Canines sincerely thanks Al Hiemer for giving so much of his time and talent to us, and enabling us to move forward in these exciting times of growth and innovation.

Thank you All! ♥

## New Teams



### **Donna Taylor & Mobility Assist Dog Virgil**

*"He is always there for me and does so many things for me, especially when others are not there to help. Virgil and dogs like him are so vital to people who need help like me. Thank you."*

### **Thank You Dog Source - Pet Dog**

See their full story at  
[www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter](http://www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter)



### **Elizabeth Barrie & Mobility Assist Dog Bailee**

*Elizabeth says Bailee is a great addition to the family. "She fits in really well here."*

**Thank You**  
Dog Source – Can Do Canines  
Vet Services – Valley View Pet Hospital  
Puppy Raiser – Inmates at the Federal Correctional Institute at Sandstone  
Foster Home – The Furlough Families at Sandstone  
"Special Thanks" – Pam Smith,  
Deb Wolden,  
The Burdeski Family

Foster Home - Kirstin Purvis

Read their story on page 4

## Wish List

### Dog Supplies

- ✓ Gift cards to pet supply stores
- ✓ **I.Click Training Clickers**
- ✓ **Car Seat Belt Harnesses – All sizes**
- ✓ **Halti Head Collars sizes 2&3**
- ✓ Martingale collars
- ✓ Soft Treats (BillJac, Zukes, Pupperoni)
- ✓ **Giant Nylabones and Ig. Kongs**
- ✓ L or XL Vari-Kennels, new or gently used
- ✓ Frontline Flea and Tick Preventative
- ✓ Easy Walk or Freedom Harnesses
- ✓ Wire Dog Kennels
- ✓ Donated veterinary services
- ✓ Purebred puppies

### Electronics

- ✓ **PC or Mac Laptops & Computers**
- ✓ Windows Business Server 2011
- ✓ Wall mountable server rack 19U
- ✓ LCD TV, 37" or larger
- ✓ Home Theater system for meeting room

### Automotive

- ✓ Gasoline cards
- ✓ Minivan
- ✓ Auto repair/maintenance
- ✓ Small Station wagon

### Equipment

- ✓ **6 and 8 ft. plastic folding tables**
- ✓ Office chairs
- ✓ **Office cubicles**
- ✓ **Commercial Treadmill, Exercise Bike, Elliptical, Rower**

### Miscellaneous

- ✓ Gift cards to:
  - grocery stores
  - office supply stores
  - Michael's craft store
  - Party City
- ✓ Office supplies (paper, markers, stamps)
- ✓ Bleach, glass cleaner, HE laundry detergent
- ✓ Framed dog-related art
- ✓ Nature's Miracle Cleaner

### Building Materials

- ✓ Bathroom storage cabinet, small
- ✓ Gift certificates home improvement stores
- ✓ **Pipe and drape, black (6 - 8ft x 10 ft sections)**
- ✓ **Stage skirting, black, (24 inch x 32 ft)**
- ✓ **Stage Lighting**

*Items in bold are our most pressing needs!*

*For more items, please visit [www.can-do-canines.org](http://www.can-do-canines.org)*

**A special thanks to all of you who previously supplied us with wish list items! You made our wishes come true!**

## Development News

To learn more about any Development News item, please contact Development Director Janet Cobus at 763-331-3000 ext. 153 or email [jacobus@can-do-canines.org](mailto:jcobus@can-do-canines.org)

### Give to the Max Day – Record-breaking success!



Can Do Canines received more than \$19,000 in donations from 170 contributors on November 16 - "Give to the Max" Day organized by GiveMN.org. These donations included \$5,000 in matching funds offered by one of our generous contributors and \$1,000 from winning the "Does this Make My Heart Look Big" video contest. More than 47,000 people statewide participated in Give to the Max Day, generating over \$13 million for 3,978 Minnesota nonprofits. Thank you to everyone that participated!

### Seventh Annual Tails of Independence Fundraising Luncheon

**Golden Valley Country Club  
Tuesday, May 1, 2012  
11:30 am – 12:30 pm**

A planning committee is being formed to organize the 7th Annual Luncheon and we could use your help! Our goal is to have 300 people attend this inspiring event to help raise \$75,000 to support our services, and increase awareness for our organization. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or serving as a Table Host by filling a table of 8 at the luncheon, please contact Janet Cobus: [jacobus@can-do-canines.org](mailto:jcobus@can-do-canines.org)

### 2012 Can Do Canines Partnership Program

We have a variety of ways to join Can Do Canines as a business partner! From the our graduation to our gala, your business can benefit while providing financial support or product donations for prizes, matching funds, food for event participants, silent and live auction items, naming a puppy, sponsoring a team, and providing general support for the organization.

### Congratulations to Can Do Canines Team for a job well done!



Throughout the fall, Can Do Canines prepared for the recertification process with Assistance Dogs International (ADI).

In excerpts from a letter sent to Al Peters, ADI President Peter Gorbing stated:

*On behalf of (ADI), I'm pleased to inform you that Can Do Canines has successfully met all the professional standards and requirements necessary to achieve full accreditation from Assistance Dogs International."*

*ADI full accreditation represents a significant achievement for the staff and management of Can Do Canines. It is indicative of your organization's strong commitment to upholding the highest professional standards of excellence within the Assistance Dog Industry.*

Can Do Canines was first accredited by ADI in 2007. Only 86 of the organizations 165 members have received full accreditation. A significant achievement indeed!



Stella

Name	Breed
"Stella"	Australian Labradoodle
"Roger"	Can Do Canines Labrador Retriever
"Kelly"	Can Do Canines Labrador Retriever
"Breck"	Can Do Canines Labrador Retriever
"Theo"	Can Do Canines Labrador Retriever

If you are a school or youth group, you can name a puppy by raising \$1,500 or more. If you are a corporation or service organization, your group can choose a name by raising \$2,500 or more. Each group receives an educational presentation with a live demonstration by one of our wonderful assistance dogs. Contact Janet Cobus for more information!

## Name-a-Puppy

Named By:
Eden Prairie Lions Foundation
Rock Creek Lions Club
Patricia Hughes & Paul Pittman
Barbara Burwell
Anonymous



Kelly, Breck, Roger and Theo are among 10 new puppies born to the Can Do Canines mom, Hildie, on December 6, 2011.



## Volunteers and Puppy Raisers

Thanks to all of our volunteers and puppy raisers who gave of their time and talent from October 1 to December 31, 2011— we couldn't do it without you!  
Puppy Raisers are noted by a 🐾 beside their names

- 🐾 Diana Adamson
- 🐾 Jayson & Kathryn Alexander
- 🐾 Jon & Mary Alexander
- Linda Altermatt
- Employee volunteers of Ameriprise Financial
- Brianne Anderson
- Kelly Anderson
- Marie Anderson
- Tom Antikainen
- Ben & Peggy Armstrong
- 🐾 Dianne & Doug Astry
- Teresa & Keith Barnes
- The Barnes family
- Jamie Becker Finn
- Mary Bente
- Eric Bishop
- Darlene Blomberg
- 🐾 The Bloomquist family
- Jan Boe
- Natalie Boike
- Mike Branch
- Janet & Steve Bratkovich
- Sara Braziller
- Darlene & Vern Breamer
- Sarah Breidenbach
- Coco Brietkrietz
- Michelle Briggs
- Kathy Broten
- Max Brown
- The Brown family
- Julie Buege Freeman
- Lou Burg
- Deb Burke & "Pepsi"
- Jennifer Burt
- Joshua & Melinda Butler
- Manny Camilon
- Julie Carlblom
- 🐾 Ben & Pia Carlson
- 🐾 Dick & Nancy Carlson
- 🐾 Laurie Carlson
- 🐾 The Chang family
- Beth Cherryholmes
- Mike Chevrette & "Gabby"
- Gary Cobus
- Kara Cook
- Bob Copus
- Ron Copus
- Emily Cox & "Mason"
- Garrett Crosby
- Nacia Dahl
- Jan & John Day & "Louie"
- Jason DeRusha
- Andy Decker
- Kandy Dorlack
- Keith Dorsett
- 🐾 The Doyon family
- Amy & Katie Dudley
- Elizabeth Eagle
- Laurie & Ron Ehlert
- Megan Ehlert
- 🐾 Sara Ehlert
- Courtney Engberg
- 🐾 Lia Enger
- Galen Engholm
- Marky Engler
- Chad Engstrom
- Amy Erickson
- Sheila Erickson
- Mary & Steve Erickson-Kamp
- Jean Euteneuer & "Lexie"
- Donna Everett
- Mark Falstad
- 🐾 Mike Ferber
- Stacey Ferguson
- Natalie Ferris
- Tom Fiecke
- Duane Finger
- Jim Finley
- Kevin Florence
- Doug & Sue Forsberg
- Barb Frame
- Sharyn French
- 🐾 Holly Friday
- Linda Frolland
- John Fruth
- The Furlough families of Waseca
- Kathy Galiger
- Mania & Nicole Gallagher
- Bonnie Genin
- Sam Gentle
- Teresa & Tom Gentle
- Manilyn Gerrits
- Cheryl & Christopher Gibbons
- Diana Gillman
- Marcia Gilman
- Diana & Michele Gillman
- Mark Given
- Jackie Gohdes
- Diane Golden
- Katy Goodwin
- Donna Gora
- Esther Graney
- Tyann Grant
- Emily Greenwell
- Becky Groseth
- Savannah Gruber
- Johnathan & Rebecca Gust
- Susan Hager
- Becky & Steve Hallan
- Colleen & Sloan Hamilton
- Heidi Hamilton
- Danielle Hanson
- 🐾 Mel & Brian Hanson
- The Hanson-Nelson family
- Brooke Harms
- Ashley Hartley
- Kelly Hartloff
- Ronnie Hartman
- Kathy & Naomi Hatch
- 🐾 The Heffernan family
- 🐾 The Herberg family
- 🐾 The Herr family
- Nick Herrera
- Hillary Heyerdahl
- Al Hiemer
- Shawn Higdem
- Peter Hilger
- 🐾 Laura & Matt Hofkens
- The Holicky family
- 🐾 The Hollerud family
- Gailyn Holmgren
- Jeanette Howard
- Dawn Hughes
- Cory Hunter
- Anne Ingvaldstad
- Amber Johnson
- 🐾 Annette & Mark Johnson
- Connor Johnson
- Cera Jorgensen
- Ruth Joss
- Lauren Jung
- Natalie Kane
- Beth Kantor
- Rachel Kaul
- Mary Kelley & "Brinks"
- Lora Kennedy
- Christy Kierstead
- Sue Klein
- Pete Kleingartner
- Katherine Knauer & "Summer"
- Toni Knorr
- Don Knutson
- Shawn Knutson
- Kohls A-Team - Chaska
- Kohls A-Team - Rogers
- Kohls A-Team - Shakopee
- Ken Kolding
- Emily Korbel
- Teri Krake & "Brody"
- Alix Kron
- MarySue Krueger
- Colleen Kruse
- Kristina Kulp
- The Lamers family
- Theresa Landin
- 🐾 Julianne Larsen
- 🐾 Ray & Karen Larsen
- 🐾 The Larson family
- Lien Lee
- 🐾 The Lenneman family
- Steve Levins
- Steve Linder
- Joan Lisi McCoy
- Frank Loken
- Paul Loken
- The Lomauro family
- Travis Lott
- Sally & Whitney Lubrart
- Liz Lucast
- Jody Ludden
- Jan Lund
- Jean Lundquist & "Juno"
- Marie Lynch
- 🐾 The MacKay family
- Anne & Dale Mackereth
- Kathy Madison
- Stephanie Magelky & "Stevie"
- Carrie Maloney
- 🐾 Christina & Nick Martinez
- Jack Masterson
- Kevin McDonald
- Tom McDonald
- Dick & Bonnie McGinnis
- Kim Medin
- Dr Lindsay Merkel
- 🐾 The Merkel family
- Abbie Meyer
- Betty Miller
- Mike Molzahn
- Jenny Monson
- Mike Moore
- Peter Morlock & "Guido"
- Penny Morris
- Linda & Doug Mosier & "Hamel"
- Candee Murphy
- Jill Nelson
- 🐾 Mary Nelson
- Joanne Nichols
- The Niederloh family
- Ron Norton
- Rosalyn Nosco
- 🐾 Paul Oberhaus
- Marjorie Okerstrom
- Alison Olausen
- 🐾 Betty Otto
- Dee Otto
- Jenny Parker
- Janice Parrow
- Kyle Pavlik
- Julie Pelletier
- Alan Peters
- Jon & Sandy Pidde
- Nathan Pinter
- The Piotrowski family
- Maureen Pranghofer & "Bentley"
- Paul Pranghofer
- Marie Prevetti
- Kirsten Purvis
- Danielle Rasmussen
- Mary & Merlin Reed
- Jared Rhatigan
- Mary Rhatigan & "Ebony"
- Lois Richards
- The Roberts family
- Anika Robbins
- 🐾 The Ruppe family
- Sharon Russell
- Poornima Sathanarayanan
- Deb Schaber
- Mary Schelde
- 🐾 Jerry Schendel
- Allison Schildknecht
- Bernie Schmidt
- Jared Schramel
- 🐾 Dora & Howard Schroeder
- The Schroeder family
- Kate Schroven
- John & Judy Schwab
- Elizabeth Scipioni
- 🐾 Seth & Stephanie Scott
- 🐾 The Sears family
- Amanda Setala
- Adrianna Shannon
- Collin & Bob Shaughnessy & "Cher"
- Greg Singer
- Laura Shirley
- Janet Simons
- Jackie Singer
- Sharon Singleton
- 🐾 Dave & Marge Skeic
- Gail & Mark Skroch
- Jenny Smith
- The Sorenson family
- Melissa Stam & v"Kramer"
- Sharon Steinbrecher
- Greg Stevens
- Amber Stoner
- John Sturgess
- Natasha Sulaeman
- Susan Swanson
- Bill Tamlyn
- Doug Taylor
- Ashley Thomalla
- Lindsay Trader
- Jackie & Justin Trevis
- Jody Trisko
- Tonia Tuchscherer
- The Tuenge family
- The Turner family
- Mindy Urzua
- 🐾 Patty Van Landschoot
- Bailey Vey
- Janae Viring
- 🐾 Madhu Viswanathan
- Kathy Vogt
- Kim Walden
- Beth Walser
- Amanda Waltz
- Ashley Wancowicz
- Adam Warner
- Len Washko
- 🐾 Laura & Adam Waudby
- 🐾 The Wedul family
- JJ Welton
- 🐾 Bobbi Wenger
- Dani Werner
- Michael Wheelock
- Kuoth Wiel
- Nancy Winick
- Patty Wirz
- Jodi Wischart
- The Women of Today- Champlin
- The Women of Today- St Cloud
- Pam Wright
- Adrienne Young
- Sue Youngberg & "Bali"
- Karen Ziemniak

## New Teams



**Michael Ceminsky & Mobility Assist Dog Blake**  
"Blake quickly learned exactly what I needed him to do for me." says Mike,  
"Blake is a great dog, he is my little buddy."

**Thank You**  
Dog Source – Julie Mach  
Field Trainer – Dan Herald  
Puppy Raiser – The Scott Family and Michele & Shawn McLane  
Name a Puppy Donor – Barbara Burwell

See their full story at [www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter](http://www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter)



**Kyle McJames & Hearing Assist Dog Tally**  
"Thank you for giving me a wonderful dog. She is awesome!"

**Thank You**  
Dog Source – Stephanie Leaddon Hunt & John Leaddon  
Field Trainer – Joanne Nichols  
Vet Services – Inver Grove Heights Animal Hospital  
Puppy Raiser – The Merkel Family

See their full story at [www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter](http://www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter)

## GRADUATION

More than 280 people were in the audience as we celebrated the success of 15 newly certified teams. We honored three Autism Assist, four Diabetes Assist, two Hearing Assist, and six Mobility Assist Dog teams. Congratulations! Mark your calendars for our next graduation on May 19, 2012!



## Family Expansion

### Carrie Enea and Diabetes Assist Dog Ava

by Natalie Boike

Carrie Enea has lived with Type I diabetes for 23 years. She is used to the routine of meeting with her doctor every two months and wears an insulin pump, but still struggles to keep her blood sugars at their ideal levels. "As I strive to keep better control of my diabetes, I tend to go low (low blood sugars) more frequently," she says. "The continuous glucose monitor on my insulin pump isn't always accurate and doesn't alert me when my blood sugars are rapidly dropping." Carrie's husband, Thomas, has even called 911 to their Milwaukee, Wis. home a few times in the past year when Carrie's low blood sugar



Carrie and Ava

caused her to lose consciousness. After reading about a Diabetes Assist Dog program in California, Carrie began looking for local resources. As the couple considered starting a family, the idea of having help for Carrie became more important. "We want to take that extra precaution since I won't just be taking care of me," Carrie says. She eventually found Can Do Canines, applied, and was matched with a 16-month-old Smooth Coated Collie named Ava. Ava, and nine other puppies, were part of a pilot program at Sandstone Federal Penitentiary where prisoners raised and trained the dogs and employees' families socialized them in public on weekends.

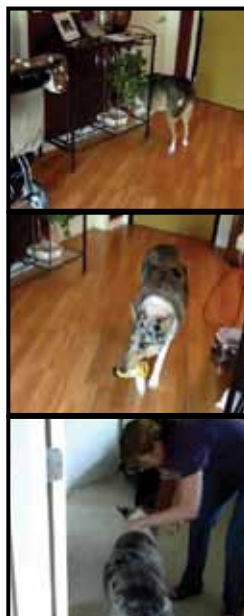
Ava went to work right away. Just two days after the placement, Carrie took Ava to introduce her to coworkers at Marquette University.

Suddenly, Ava began acting "funny", not her usual happy self. "I tested my blood sugar, and she was alerting me to the fact that my

levels were dropping quickly," Carrie recalls. Ava was already on the job alerting Carrie to blood sugar changes long before they became life threatening. Ava will also fetch juice, if Carrie can't get something herself, and can find help from another person if needed.

Carrie and Thomas welcomed their daughter, Sophie, into the family shortly after Ava's placement. Carrie says, "She's great with the baby and is very interested in her. It's like she's checking her; sniffing her to see if her blood sugar is low," she adds. Now, Thomas can rest assured that both Carrie and Sophie are safe when he's not around. "He loves Ava just as much as I do, if not more," Carrie reports.

Carrie says she's thankful not only to Can Do Canines for Ava, but also the donors who make the organization possible. "Everything donated to Can Do Canines is definitely well-spent money," she says. "These dogs are amazing. She's already helped me so many times since May. I can't imagine not having her in our house." ❤️



Ava fetching juice for Carrie



Thanks to our generous sponsors, attendees, auction donors and volunteers, The Fetching Ball was a stunning success!

Nineteen program graduates, 32 assistance dogs and puppies in training, puppy raisers, a variety of Can Do friends and volunteers made a total of over 380 attendees!



Big winners at the wine toss game

Our master of ceremonies, Natalie Kane, provided commentary as our assistance dogs in training got to strut their stuff onstage with models in our first Calendar

Dogs Fashion Show – what the best dressed dogs wear in Minnesota.

Our new video – *Fetching Freedom, Independence and Peace of Mind* debuted inspiring guests to give generously. We are very pleased to report that \$100,000 was raised during the evening. Thank you to the Fetching Ball committee, led by Dee Hollerud, who made this event truly an evening to remember.

We look forward to seeing you in November 2012!



Emcee Natalie Kane with Executive Director, Al Peters



Natalie Kane, Emcee with Fetching Ball Chairperson, Dee Hollerud



Music by Big Toe and the Jam



Adrienne Yancy and Brinks are ready for Mardi Gras

To see all the Fetching Ball photos, go to [www.fetchingball.com](http://www.fetchingball.com)

## Gifts In Honor Of

Gifts given in honor of and in memory of have been received between October 1 and December 31, 2011

Erin Aldrich ..... My mom who taught us to love and respect dogs  
 Anonymous ..... Preston Reed  
 Anonymous ..... The Gibbons Family who puppy raised for Can Do Canines.  
 Peter Anthan ..... George Anthan  
 Marsha & Steve Astiel, Donna & Arlene Clercx, Holly Hendricks & Walter Portz, Mark & Jennie Lacy, Eric & Judith Larson, Memorial Lutheran Church, Matthew & Amber Pruner, Jeff Skinner, Melissa Wooters, Christine & Jason Wulf ..... "Teddy"  
 Joshua Becker ..... Koivu Becker-Finn  
 Jamie Becker-Finn ..... Pet Portraits by Risa Marie  
 Andrea Berger ..... "Bentley"  
 Patricia & Gerald Boen, James & Deborah Duchamp, Susan Dufault, Angie & Loyal LeFrooth .....  
 Pets on Parade - Karlstad Hardware Hank  
 Doug Bowen-Bailey ..... Janalee Reineke Lyth  
 Michelle Calvert ..... Mom  
 Steve Carnes ..... Jenny & Chris McCreight  
 Beth Cherryholmes ..... K.C. the puppy will do extraordinary things, just like the man, K.C  
 Richard Dahlager ..... Eric, Pam, Josie and Roxy Dahlager  
 Carrie Enea ..... Cole Earls  
 Carrie Enea ..... Travis Earls  
 Scott Engman ..... John Engman  
 Mark Falstad ..... "Brinks" would like to thank the staff at Can Do! Two paws up!!!  
 Katie Ferrier ..... "Sydney"  
 Joan Ficker ..... Anita Nerhus's Birthday  
 Roland Franceschi ..... Alvera Franceschi, Franceschi Family, The Russells, The Quinns, The Nicks and Sandra Nick's Birthday  
 Alvera Franceschi ..... Stuart & Romy Ackerberg, Leah Golberstein, Rahel Golberstein, Ezra, Sarah & Ilan Golberstein, Rafi Golberstein  
 Erica & Heather Freeman ..... Maud & Max  
 Lynda Friedman ..... Dora  
 Cheryl & Christopher Gibbons ..... Sarah  
 Marcia & Bill Guthrie ..... Amy Majsterski - Love from Alan and Sofia  
 Anita Hansen ..... Glenda Gilman  
 HealthPartners ..... Judith Schwab  
 Rosann Herbert ..... Kay Walker  
 Laura Hofkens ..... Joe and Rita Griesbach  
 June Holden ..... "Moxie"  
 Lynne Hvidsten ..... Arthur Hofkens  
 Lynne Hvidsten ..... Robin Gale's Special Birthday  
 Carolyn & Kelly Jewell ..... Dr Paul Yellin  
 Lianne Johanson ..... David Langfellow  
 Joanne Kardell ..... Anna Laufer and "Capri"  
 Nancy Kelly .."Jeff", Stephanie Magelky's Assistance Dog  
 Nancy Kelly ..... "Stevie", Stephanie Magelky's Assistance Dog

Lisa Knazan ..... Sylvia Knazan  
 David S Kostek ..... Bernie  
 Carol & Roy Kraft ..... Annie Kraft and "Cody"  
 Jacinta Kuhar ..... "Diva"- my new service dog  
 Nancy & Paul Laufer ..... Our daughter Anna and her Autism Assist Dog "Capri".  
 Liberty Diversified Industries ..... Lisa Traun  
 Kathryn Lyford ..... Jeff and Nancy Blomberg  
 Carson Lyons ..... Deborah Herzog  
 Leslie Matton-Flynn ..... Toni Yeamans  
 Susan & John McKendry ..... Bill and Jan Dubats  
 Jennifer McNertney ..... Dee Dee Heffernen  
 Marthanne Merton ..... "Lena"  
 Kathleen Murphy ..... Christi  
 Cindy Ness ..... Km Bloomer  
 Arthur Nielsen ..... Friends & Pets  
 Marjorie Okerstrom... Kadin and "Truman's" Graduation  
 Carolyn & Herbert Olin ..... Lori & Chuck Thorn  
 Stephanie Oman ..... Janet and "Buddy"  
 Alan M. Peters ..... "Sam"  
 Karen Peterson ..... Scott and Claudia Lindell  
 Matt Porter ..... Mike Ferber  
 Gini Power ..... "Morgan"  
 Bob and Laura Powers ..... "Will" - to The Bartkowski Family and The Lynch Family  
 Bob Powers ..... Jeanne, Barb and Karen Shanghai-Rummians - to the cards group!  
 Cora & Bill Quinn, Leah Golberstein, Roland Franceschi ..... Alvera and Roland Fanceschi.  
 Sheri Radoux ..... Zachary, Ethan and Emma  
 Barry Riven ..... Bob Lawson's 60th Birthday  
 Jolene Satre ..... Pam Satre  
 Robyn Schulke ..... "Rodney"  
 Jessica L. Smithson ..... "Beau", the best house guest ever!  
 Thomas & Pamela Snyder ..... Helen Michels & "Missy"  
 Carmaline Spurrier ..... Heather, Jake & Lance Carson  
 Carol Taylor ..... "Pondie" and Mark Taylor  
 Mark & Michelle Thorson ..... Greg & Cat Stevens  
 Karin Toston ..... In honor of our beloved "Star" who started our beautiful four generation of Golden's and in honor of "Gabby" who is a Mobility Assist Dog who graduated and "Marvin" & "Malcom" who are in training  
 Patryck Wallenbecker ..... "Paco"  
 Michael Walsh ..... For Polly, always loved.  
 Michele Warren, Anonymous, Harry Cuncliffe .....  
 Mary Decheine-Rhatigan and "Ebony"  
 Tim Weatherhead ..... Rosalie Eckhoff  
 Mary Wenck ..... "Basil"  
 Kristen Wesloh ..... In honor of our daughter, diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes at age 12, who hopes to one day have a Can Do Canine.  
 Michele White ..... Dora Schroeder  
 Mary Jo Wolfe-Haider ..... Scott Wolfe

## New Teams



### Emilie Koll & Autism Assist Dog Coach

"People don't realize how much of a difference it makes in a family's life. Just the little things like sleeping better and actually being able to go to a store."  
 Says Emilie's mom, Mary.

Thank You

Dog Source - Pet Dog

See their full story on page 5



### Chuck Barstow & Mobility Assist Dog Dash

Dash is an ever-present comfort and help mate that has given Chuck greater peace of mind and more confidence.

Thank You

Dog Source - Amy Ross

Field Trainer - Jake Schneider

Puppy Raiser - Inmates at the Federal

Correctional Institute at Sandstone

Foster Home - The Larson Family

Special Thanks To: The Furlough Families

at Sandstone

See their full story at

[www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter](http://www.can-do-canines.org/newsletter)

## Gifts In Memory Of

Beth Alexander ..... Emmett Bowdall  
 Vicki Anderson ..... "Bailey"  
 Animal Wellness Center ..... "Argus" Tanita, "Charley" Baier, "Ishmael" Bohlig, "Lizzi" Carroll, "Max" Closset, "Moon Doggie" Apker, "Rocky" Carlson, "Sampson" McLaughlin, "Sasha" Robeck, "Zack" Evans, "Zeke" Lowden, "Zorba D. Tutweiler" Brantley, "Bagel" Henderson, "Boo" Braun, "Glory" Oja, "Lucy" Gilles, "Molly" Wood, "Nikki" Bazzachini, "Ray Charles" McKnight, "Tiffany" Becker, "Whiskers" Carroll  
 Jenna Booth ..... "Stretchy"  
 Robert Bayard, Judy Boushley, Kevin & Connie Derkey, Dawn Eckstein, John & Eunice Parlane, Steven & Brenda Henry, Mark Koefod, Richard & Beverly Norlin, Perham Lakes Lions, Ardis Rieken, Carolyn Schmidt ..... PDG Richard (Dick) Norlin  
 Michael Branch ..... "Jessie"  
 Beth Cherryholmes ..... Dr. Keith Cherryhomes  
 Lori Cornell ..... "Griffin"  
 Gerald & Lynn Cox ..... Keith Bedford  
 MaryBeth Crowley ..... "Moe"  
 Dailey Darlene ..... In memory of all the dogs who have been a part of my family over the years  
 Elaine Denton ..... "Cricket" and Tony  
 Trish Doss ..... "Moggy"  
 Janet Dubats ..... Glenn Barrott  
 Ruth Dutchak ..... "Yoda"  
 Elizabeth Lions ..... Heidi Helland  
 Bonnie Genin ..... Donald Forness  
 Bonnie Genin ..... Thomas Polifka  
 Frances Grun Estate ..... Frances Grun  
 Gailyn Holmgren ..... My recently passed Corgi, "Lola"  
 Barbara Hones ..... "Lola"

Lynne Hvidsten ..... "Daisy"  
 Susan Januschka ..... Del  
 Florence Knopick ..... Stanley Knopick  
 Connie Kopietz ..... Sydney Kittay  
 Christopher LaValle ..... "Titan"  
 Kaye & Mike Lebaron ..... "Harley"  
 Janice Loebel ..... "Buddy"  
 Mary Matthys ..... "Maverick" a police dog  
 Greg McClusky ..... Sheila McCluskey  
 Elizabeth Miller ..... "Pepper", my first Hearing Dog from Can Do Canines  
 Julie Miller ..... Devon Miller  
 Linda Mischke-Szurek ..... Vicky Pieper  
 Andriette & Keith Mortimore ..... "Dusty" & "Babe"  
 Julie Nielsen ..... Joel Edmundson  
 Jennifer O'Connell ..... "Lola" Singer  
 John Parzych ..... "Rudy", "Harley" and "Watson"  
 Karen Peterson ..... David Sorgatz  
 Karen Peterson ..... Mark Boelt  
 Bernadette Piotrowski ..... "Sparky"  
 Deborah & Thomas Reese ..... "Pepper & Simon"  
 Sandra Robin ..... "Lucy"  
 Vicki Roe ..... Boomer Flearman  
 Sandstone Quarry Lions ..... John Stinson  
 RG Schulke ..... Little pug buddy "Rodney"  
 David & Stephanie Selbo ..... Arvid Mann  
 Gayle Spannbauer ..... Catherine Graff  
 Brian & Jeanne Streeter ..... Dan Dorsey  
 Bruce & Nancy Thorson ..... "L.A."  
 Patricia Van Landschoot ..... To all my puppies over the Rainbow Bridge  
 Marian Veasen ..... Lion "Mary Dose"  
 Naomi & William Wilkins ..... Keith Cherryholmes

## Gifts In Memory Of

Kelly & Brian Bennefeld, Thomas & Suzanne Jones, Richard & Mary Mans, Spring Lake Park Lions ..... Tom Jones



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New Hope, MN 55428

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and tell us how to deliver  
your copy of *Tails!*



Can Do Canines is  
pleased to have  
**NutriSource Super  
Premium Pet Foods**  
as our sponsor

### Preventative Health Care Day Low Cost Vaccination and Heartworm Testing clinic at Can Do Canines

Can Do Canines, in collaboration with the Animal Medical Clinic, is hosting a vaccination and preventative health day for assistance dogs, puppies in training and pets belonging to the general public. Please tell your friends and relatives to join us for this fundraiser for Can Do Canines!



Join us on Sunday, April 15 or Sunday, May 6 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Can Do Canines. Dr. Joel Locketz and associates will provide vaccinations, microchipping,

heartworm, stool and feline leukemia testing at significant discounts from regular rates. Each animal will receive a free healthy pet exam. Heartworm and flea-tick preventative medications will be available to purchase. No appointments are necessary. Check [www.can-do-canines.org](http://www.can-do-canines.org) for pricing and more information.

## Upcoming Events

- February 12 Dog Day at the Hive, 2:00 p.m.
- February 25 Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
- March 22 Tails to Tell Tour, 7:00 p.m.
- April 15 Low Cost Vaccination Clinic
- April 17 Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
- May 1 Tails of Independence – see page 8 for details
- May 5 Tails to Tell Tour, 10:00 a.m.
- May 6 Low Cost Vaccination Clinic
- May 19 Graduation

\* All *Tails to Tell* tours take place at our facility,  
located at 9440 Service Center Drive, New Hope, MN 55428  
Please call our office at 763-331-3000 or email [info@can-do-canines.org](mailto:info@can-do-canines.org) to reserve your spot!

**WELCOME TO THE SWARM TO THE HIVE**

**Dog Day at the Hive WITH THE MINNESOTA SWARM**

This is the 3rd annual, bring your Best Friend to the Xcel Energy Center and experience the best kept secret in the Twin Cities . Watch a Minnesota Swarm Professional Lacrosse game with your Dog.

The \$15 Can Do Canines Package will include an Upper Level ticket, a Dog ticket, a wristband for the Dog Walk before the Swarm game, and a \$5 donation for Can Do Canines.

**Participate in the Dog Walk!**  
From 12:30 until 2:00, bring your Dog to the Xcel Energy Center and walk the 2nd Level with your furry friend prior to the Minnesota Swarm game.  
This is a great to stay active and out of the cold!

**Sunday February 12th, 2012 @ 2:00p.m. Order Tickets online: [www.mnswarm.com/starkey](http://www.mnswarm.com/starkey)**