

## Dear Friend of Safe Haven:

As the long days of summer fade and we enter the holiday season, I find myself reflecting on another unusual year as Board Chair of Safe Haven. The early months of 2021 did not unfold as hoped, and indeed, some of the ups and downs of 2020 remained. But, our staff and volunteers rose to the challenge, making sure the shelter remained a bright light of hope for unwanted cats and dogs. I could not be prouder of their efforts. There are many stories I could share with you as an example, but one clearly stands out above the rest. This is the story of Oopsie.

Our Shelter Manager, Jeannette Thraen, was contacted by a regional shelter about a red-flagged dog that had run out of chances. Red-flagged indicates an animal that is scheduled for euthanasia unless someone steps in immediately. Additionally, Oopsie was pregnant and blind. Within days, Oopsie was safe inside Safe Haven's doors, but her saga did not end there and the staff remained vigilant.

Tragically, Oopsie's pregnancy was compromised by a uterine infection that led to an emergency c-section and only one puppy, named Daisy Bean, survived. Further, since the birth was two weeks premature, there was concern that Oopsie was not producing enough milk and staff was forced to intervene. Shelter staff slept on an inflatable mattress in the facility and round-the-clock care of Daisy began shortly after she was born. The task of caring for little Daisy was in addition to the daily schedule of running the shelter.

Soon, another challenge surfaced. Safe Haven's volunteer veterinarian advised staff that a surrogate mom needed to be found to raise Daisy Bean. She needed the interaction with other puppies to become a well socialized dog to have her best chance at a normal life. Once again, the staff sprang into action and five days later found a kind dog owner who had a litter of Dachshund puppies in her home! The momma dog nurtured Daisy Bean as one of her own almost immediately.

Today, Oopsie and Daisy Bean are alive and well with bright futures ahead. Both of these dogs are a testament to the love, dedication, and extra effort our staff and volunteers give to each dog and cat that finds shelter with Safe Haven.

Warmly,

*Tricia Bianchetto*

Tricia Bianchetto  
Board President

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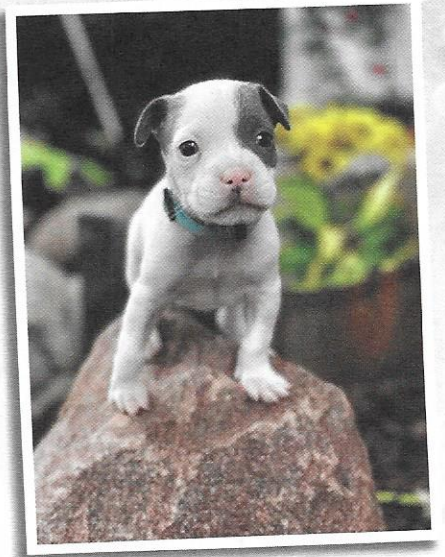
Safe Haven is on track to adopt a record a number of dogs and cats in 2021.

**75**

Cats Adopted YTD

**80**

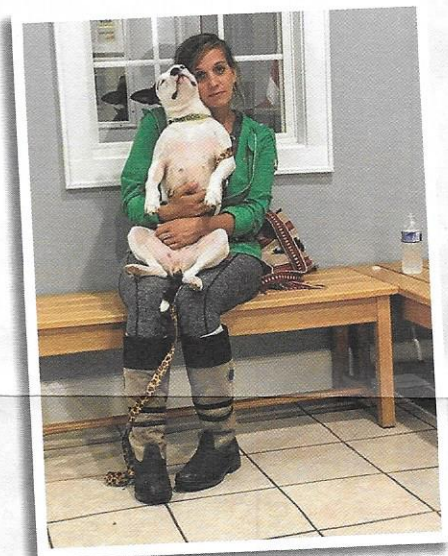
Dogs Adopted YTD



Daisy Bean



Daisy Bean feeding with Surrogate Dachshund Mom.



Oopsie and Foster Mom Kristle.