

Options to think about...

First of all, if you're thinking about giving up your pet, please think again. And maybe give one of these solutions a try.

Behavior issues?

- Help yourself and your pet by spending more time together.
- Check with your vet to see if a medical condition might be causing your pet to act out.
- Look online for expert advice from trainers and specialists.
- Enroll in an obedience class.

Allergies the problem?

- Use air cleaners with HEPA filters.
- Keep a clean home.
- Reduce rugs, curtains, and other dust-gathering agents.
- Rub your pet with distilled water or a product like Allerpet
- Keep some areas of the house pet-free.
- Ask your doctor for advice.

Moving?

- Ask BHS for a listing of landlords that allow pets.
- See if your landlord is willing to compromise so you can keep your pet.
- Visit RentWithPets.org for information about finding a pet-friendly home.

But if you're left with no other choice...

Ask friends and relatives to help you find a home for your pet. Your network may be bigger – and more effective – than you think, and you'll rest easy knowing that your pet is going to a good home.

The truth about surrendering cats and dogs

When Gabbie, a one-year-old Boston terrier mix, arrived at the Bangor Humane Society, she was true to her name. Her owners said that she just wouldn't stop barking at the cats. So she was out.

And at the shelter, her yapping didn't stop. BHS adoption counselor Stephanie Moriarty remembered, "Gabbie was super sensitive from day one, and after quite a few screaming sessions, we put a restriction notice on her. Because of her uncontrolled barking, we knew we wouldn't feel comfortable placing her with young children. We feared that finding a home for her might be difficult – if not impossible."

During the surrender interview, Stephanie learned all she could about Gabbie. That's how it works at BHS. The interview process (routine procedure for all surrendered animals) focuses on information-gathering since – true to its mission to "provide all the love, care, and compassion we can for animals in need" – Bangor Humane Society accepts all owner-surrendered pets. During the session, staff members ask

why the owner is giving up the pet – and they hear just about everything.

As you already know, Gabbie barked at the cats. But the most common reason for surrender is moving, followed closely by allergies and the pet's inability to get along with children. Many pets are also brought in by people who say (either truthfully or under pretense) that the animals have been abandoned. "One woman actually told me that her two cats didn't match the couch," said Stephanie. "That's when interviews can be really tough. It's difficult for us to stay quiet when we hear excuses that just don't make sense."

BHS also trusts that the owners know their pets best, so they ask how the pet gets along with children and other animals, what its habits and behaviors are, and how it's special. And the question that helps the most: "What would make the best home for your pet?"

But finding homes for every surrendered animal is not easy. Gabbie, for instance – like the other 5,000 animals surrendered to the Bangor Humane Society every year – was up against some pretty tough odds. Since BHS serves more than 200 communities in eastern, coastal, downeast, and northern Maine and accepts every animal that owners decide to release – as well as strays from about 35 nearby towns – a lot of adoptive families need to be found.

First, however, the furry new visitor goes directly to a kennel and is evaluated for health and temperament. The BHS



▲ *Truth* from page 1

veterinarian, spays, neuters, and/or vaccinates the surrendered pet and attends to other medical conditions. Then, once approved for adoption, the hunt for a new home begins, a process that ranges from 48 hours to two months – or even longer. During that time, BHS spends about \$19 a day on every dog and \$12.50 on every cat, providing food, a clean, well-staffed environment, veterinary care, play, training, toys and treats, and a lot of time – and love – from staff and volunteers. It's easy to see why your donations are so important for the many animals at BHS.

And, during their time at BHS, animals do change. Gabbie got used to her surroundings and stopped her screaming. Before long, her true nature surfaced. "Gabbie ended up being a remarkably sweet pup," said Stephanie. "Craving attention, she did all she could to be near people. She would never settle just for being in the same room though – she always wanted to rub against legs like a cat or wiggle her way into laps and offer kisses!"

Then, thanks to the never-give-up attitude that BHS is known for, a miracle happened for Gabbie. Single dad Eric and his two boys, Mason 5 and Austin 10, came looking for a dog. When they spied cute little Gabbie, they asked – as kids do – if she could come out and play. Getting ready, Mason scrambled onto his father's knees, and Gabbie quickly followed suit – jumping up and snuggling calmly into the child's small lap. So a mere month after her arrival, Gabbie – soon to become DJ – was on her way home to Veazie with a brand new family.

"DJ's been a great dog. She's still tiny and a bit timid, but she's mild-mannered and well behaved – no chewing, no accidents. The boys love her. And best of all, she loves us. As soon as we sit down, she's right there cuddling, and at night she can't close her eyes until she's crawled into one of our beds," said Eric. "We couldn't be happier."

Do the right thing

If you've tried everything, but still must give up your pet, please...

Do

- Take your pet to a reputable shelter – like the Bangor Humane Society. We will care for it and try to place it in a good, loving home.
- Supply your pet's health records... or the name and address of your veterinarian. That makes continued care for your pet much easier.
- Write up a summary that tells about your pet's behaviors, habits, likes, and dislikes – include best (loves children) and worst (not housebroken) features. Such details are important to prospective new owners.

Don't

- Abandon your pet at a farm or in a seemingly quiet rural area. Pets simply don't have the skills to survive on their own and may die from exposure, injury, or starvation.
- Leave your pet behind when you move out of your home. You can't be sure that a kind new owner will arrive to care for your pet. The pet may be long gone, the new owner may shoo him or her away, or worse.
- Give your pet to a stranger. Without knowledge about a person's nature, honesty, and ethics, you expose your pet to neglect and abuse.

The good, the bad, & the ugly

Reasons people surrender their pets

Good...

- ***I'm moving.*** If the time has come for you to move into a healthcare facility, you may have to say goodbye to a four-legged friend.
- ***I can't afford it anymore.*** Then, quite honestly, your pet may well be better off in a new home.
- ***I'm not well.*** Don't worry. With plenty of attention and affection, your pet will adjust to a new family.

Sometimes circumstances truly are out of our control and we're forced to make some hard decisions – for our own good and for the good of our pets. No matter what, please make an effort to find your pet a loving new home.

Bad...

- ***I'm having a baby.*** Studies show that children who grow up with pets are healthier, smarter, and more outgoing. Learn more about pregnancy, your baby, and your pets at americanpregnancy.org/pregnancyhealth/pets.html
- ***I'm dealing with personal problems.*** Well then, couldn't you really use a friend who loves you no matter what?
- ***I don't have the time.*** If you prioritize and organize, you just might get some time back – for you and your pet. And remember, pets bring down stress levels.
- ***I have allergies.*** With a bit of effort, you can manage both. See tips in Options To Think About (page 1).

Ugly...

- ***I'm moving.*** With just a little planning and a bit more effort, you can probably find housing that allows pets.
- ***I can't deal with my pet's bad behavior.*** Almost all behavior problems stem from isolation. If you spend time with your pet, you'll be amazed how quickly behavior problems disappear.
- ***I didn't spay my pet, so now I have too many critters.*** See if you can find homes for the babies and then take control of the situation. And, please – spay and neuter your pets!

And in case you haven't thought about it... make plans today for someone to care for your animals once you're gone.

Call me mommy

Four tiny kittens, just the length of my finger, came into the Bangor Humane Society at only two days old. Their mother had been hit by a car – bad news for babies. Without their mother’s warmth and milk, the odds were stacked against the cute little orphans.

My BHS coworkers and I quickly made up a bottle with Kitten Milk Replacer and fed them, but they didn’t eat much. Then I placed a bottle of warm water, plenty of towels – and (for company) a brown stuffed bunny with a pink bow – in a carrier for the kittens. Mewing for their mother, they struggled blindly for spots close to the bottle. After a few minutes they were sound asleep, but they certainly were not yet out of the woods. How could they possibly survive on their own?

They couldn’t.



So I volunteered to take home the fab four (three girls and a boy), and I named them Josie, Jelly, Junebug, and Willy. Feeling very much like a new mom – without the nine months to prepare – I

packed a bag with towels, formula, and bottles, and I loaded my new little family into the car and headed home.

Every three hours I awoke to feed, pet, and teach the babies about all things feline. And each time I fed them, they became more familiar with me. After three days, they would crawl awkwardly to the front of the kennel whenever they heard my voice. Though they still hadn’t opened their eyes, they knew their mommy.



At two weeks old, their eyes wanted to open just as mine wanted to close. I was finding this mom stuff exhausting, especially with four mouths to feed. After a month, my little bundles of joy had quadrupled in size, and they had vocal cords to rival the most famous opera stars. They were also walking on their own – even if a bit wobbly.

Then, as they reached eight weeks (the age appropriate for adoption), my little charges began to eat solid food, and I started the difficult process of detaching myself. I was sad to see them go, proud that I had made a difference, and joyful to find them loving forever homes.

– *Danielle Arbour*, BHS Volunteer and Events Coordinator

A foster mother’s musings

While I am delighted at the opportunity to save lives, I am reminded that humans play a huge role in animal care. Had the mother of these kittens been spayed, she would not have gotten pregnant. Had she been kept inside, she would not have been hit by a car. When tragedy strikes, not all baby animals are lucky enough

to be found – just in the nick of time.

That’s why I cannot stress enough the importance of education and responsible pet ownership. With millions of unwanted animals left to starve or die from diseases, humans are the only hope. We alone have the power to stop it. It breaks my heart to know I can’t

save them all, but I am working as hard as I can to save a few.

You can too! Spay or neuter your pets... or become a foster parent. It’s hard work, but it’s well worth the time and effort. You really can make the difference between life and death.

*Thanks,
Danielle*

Donations...in memory and in honor

Feb 1, 2007 to Jun 30, 2007

In memory of

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Erdine Winslow David & Bernice Winslow

Norma Gilbert Vic's Appliance Center Inc., Joshua Garland, several anonymous gifts

Ami & Mia, beloved pets of Linda Bernia Judy Landry

Rocky, beloved pet of Connie Pettingal Christle Mahaffey

Pud, a 21 year old cat who passed 1-30-07 Eugene & Eunice Mountain

Abby (cocker spaniel), beloved dog of Sarah & Laurence Keezer Green Acres Kennel Shop

Samantha George & Marion Chebba

Magic Shirley St. Peter

Greg, beloved 11-year-old dachshund of Petra Kriz passed Feb 10, 2007 Paul Schneider

Bear, beloved pet of Sandra Haggard & Lynne Lamstein Sandra Butler & Susan Buzzell

Dudie Paul & Sirje Curtis

Brittany (13-year-old brittany-beagle mix adopted from BHS 13 years ago), best dog ever Nancy Page

Robert Bunt Ruth Bunt

Chester Donna Sokoloski

Schooner, beloved dog of Donna & George Thomas C. Elizabeth Trefts

Bosty, beloved pet of Jessie Bidol Green Acres Kennel Shop

Polly, beloved pet of Shanon Bodwell Green Acres Kennel Shop

Ishtar & Yoda of Holden, Maine Cathy Anderson

Dora Jean & Daussie, two awesome kitties Darlene & Frank Alley

His mother Gertrude Doughty Larry Doughty

Jack Roland & Cynthia Durost

Sunshine Shirley & Douglas Richardson

Chester, beloved dog of Will, Dede, & Dan McEvoy C. Elizabeth Trefts

Coco, beloved chocolate lab of Mr. & Mrs. Leo Ramanadha Ted & Jen Wilson

Babs, beloved pet of Richard & Judy Fessenden Green Acres Kennel Shop

Teesha, beloved pet of Shari Gervasi Green Acres Kennel Shop

Mystique, beloved pet of Don & Pattie Reynolds Mike & Della Gleason

Gus Heather & MJ Ball

Annie, beloved pet of Ginny & Barry Hodge Green Acres Kennel Shop

Devotion, beloved pet of Angela Sedgwick Green Acres Kennel Shop

Connie & Timothy Tracy Patrick Dean

Rooster, beloved dog Judith Williams

Zoe Carole & Randall Webber

Helen Girl Katherine Dunbar

Petey, beloved pet of Dennis Bouchard Green Acres Kennel Shop

Cody, beloved pet of the Gammon family Green Acres Kennel Shop

Cody Simpson Kindred Spirits Veterinary Clinic

Melanie, 9 1/2-yr-old Newfoundland passed 4/6/07 Gilbert & Joyce Magnan

Rusty Gail Fisher

Arlo Sheree & Jeffrey Castonguay

Ollie, longtime feline friend to Mrs. Valerie Levy Miles & Sharon Theeman

Bud Larson, Charles & Clementine Connor Ivan Brown

Lady & Pepe Rita Bigelow

Her sister & husband Elizabeth Noble

Rocco (1990-2005), adoptee from BHS Michael Crowley

Muriel Koritzky Laura Koritzky

Todd Morneault Randy & Patricia Way

Eileen Murphy Gary & Bette Tibbets

Toby (golden), Pebbles (cat), & Happy (her mother's kitty) Donald & Barbara Perry

Kitty James & Carolyn McKinnon

Keeko (1980- 1992), adpoted from BHS Lesley & Linwood Davis

Jade (a BHS alum), beloved pet of Kate Lemont & Ian Dutra Green Acres Kennel Shop

Samantha (dog), Allie (dog), & Smokey (cat), beloved family of Robert Cave Duane & Josephine Ford

Ralph & Virginia Gildred Sheila & Thomas Torrey

Queenie & Kabir Billy Budreau

A crazy Siamese cat who disappeared in 1980 & is still missing Loretta Logan & Richard Bissell III

Winston Frances Richards

Buddy, beloved pet of Lisa Dyer Green Acres Kennel Shop

Ivan Katherine & Thomas Turlo

Pepper, in care of Anita Diemand John & Elizabeth Whalen

Sydney Glueck, beloved greyhound of Lauren Glueck & Henry Poirer Mart & Mary Lapin

Kie Lord, their beautiful little boy cat Valerie Lord

In honor of...

Murphy, their beloved dachshund Bob & Denise Platt

Tuffy, Sam, Callie, & Loki Sterling & Sandra Britton

Sophie Foster's 6th birthday February 22, 2007 Vena & Scott Lary

Tizzy, adopted 6/10/2006 John & Marty Huckins

Pepper William Focke

Her beautiful Goofy dog, adopted from BHS Helen Gilbert

Durgin and Isaac Victoria & David Ballard

Rusty Gail Fisher

Mittens & Lightning Albert & Marilyn Worden

Rakim Margaret Johnstone

Rory Edith LaRoche

Abbie & Allie Gerard & Benita Deschaine

Fonzi & Hunter Frances Quirk

Hazey Hazey Atwood

Tinkerbell, Princess, Peaches, and Molly Malone Dorothy Jordan

Missy, adopted 11/14/01 - a special companion Theodora & Everett Beal, Jr.

Greta, beloved pet of Mo Kelleher & ML McEwen Harry & Caren (Littlefield) Bragg

Carol Hassard, for the great love of her dogs Jane Pierce

Ralph & Daisey William & Colleen Dahl

Magnus Lapin Georgia Nelson

Reba Marcella & Michael Eldridge

Lyla (newly adopted) Virginia Dempsey & Thayer Parkway

Trixie, beloved pet of Eric & Amanda McLaughlin Linda & Alton Smith

Bat Ears Loretta Logan & Richard Bissell III

Misty & Fred Veilleau Patricia Eames

Buddy Karen Barrett

Samantha & Nutmeg Karen Nichols

Tulip their cat Frank & Frances Hochmuth

Jayne Bartley's birthday Warren & Wilma Miller

Marv Loretta Logan & Richard Bissell III

Joe, Jessica, & Riley Bickford Knox's birthdays David & Cheryl Knox

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Rufus & Lady Grey Mary Holt & Robert Meyer

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Moe & Sassy Nancy Deyoung

Willie, his special cat Gregory Jamieson

Eleanor Roosevelt, their little "Ellie" the cat Loretta Logan & Richard Bissell III

Efthim Economu Frances & Robert Quirk

Maz & Ozzie, her BHS buddies Meghan Pojasek

Ebony the cat Elaine Piecuch

Rusty Marc & Heather Corey

Reven-Marie, adopted from BHS 3 years ago Agnes & Richard Gallagher

Silky Margaret Walker

Ginger & Coco Charlene & Peter Bucklin

Max and the gray stray Janet Sargent

Stubby Charlene & Austin Carter

Laurel Morrison's birthday Eda Morrison

Millie, German shepherd adopted June 2003 from BHS Dora & Ladd Sharp

Cathy, Booties Baby, Nosey Bear Coates Arthur Coates, Jr.

Martin Perfit & all the ways he makes this world humane Paula Matlins, Denise Cranson, Tina Roy, Karen Benson & Kimberly Hammill

Sonny (adopted June 05) Edward Tucker

Max, Duke, Riley, & Rosie Scott & Jane Folsom

Pookie & Sandy Christina Ouellette

Babe & Jag Barb & Ron Carlow

Luki the cat Carol Lavery

Emily Lowell's 14th birthday John & Kathleen Clapp

The poodles in BHS care Sunny & Lucy, Debbie & Dennis King's poodles

Whitey cat Connie & Alan Stubbs

Harry H. Bragg, Sr. & Everett A.

Littlefield, Jr. for Father's Day Harry Jr., Caren & Travis (grandson) Bragg

Oreo, Charlie, & Sierra Nancy Page

Cache Bryce & Janet Smith

Myndie (adopted 1996) & Coco Waseck

Jodi, beloved pet of Ralph Pettie Raymond & Kaye Parsons

Jackie Danforth's birthday Audrey Peavey

Pat & Bob Rock, for Mother's & Father's days Shannon Randall

Jerry Nadelhaft's birthday Ruth Nadelhaft

Tippy, adopted from BHS Lori & Clarence Boynton & Veronica Elwell

Snoop Devon & David Galvan

Dean Mayhew Rebekah Mayhew

We can't do it without you!

Since we receive no local, state, or federal funding, we rely on your gifts and support to keep the shelter running every day.

Thanks so much!

I'd like to donate \$500 \$250 \$100 \$75 \$50 \$25 other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

This gift is in memory/honor of _____

Please make checks payable to **Bangor Humane Society** and mail to 693 Mount Hope Ave., Bangor, ME 04401.

Bangor Humane Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Thank you!



Paws on Parade Extravaganza

Come on down to the Bangor waterfront.
It's the 14th Annual **Paws on Parade!**

Saturday, September 29, 2007

Our biggest fundraising event gets bigger
than ever this year.

Before the parade and after, you'll find lots to do... demonstrations, great food, pet-related vendors, pet contests and all sorts of fun stuff for the kids. And, we hope to have more pups and people in our parade than ever before!

Pre-register online at **bangorhumane.org** or visit us at 693 Mount Hope Avenue in Bangor any day from noon to 6 pm to pick up a registration/sponsorship form. Just \$20 for you and your pup – and only \$10 for each additional walker or dog – gets you a Paws on Parade t-shirt and mug as well as a place in the parade.

And don't forget to sign up sponsors for your walk. Ask just 10 people to sponsor you at \$10 each, and you'll raise \$100 for Bangor Humane Society – and all the animals we care for. Sign up a lot of sponsors, and you can win some great prizes – and help BHS even more. *That makes everyone a winner!*



The walk...

9:45 am Gather at the starting line for a pep talk.

10:00 am Take off! The walk around Downtown Bangor begins.

10:20 am Stop for a water break and the blessing of the animals at Norumbega Park.

10:45 am Return to the waterfront.

The prizes...

Stick around after the walk to celebrate with the prize winners.

- most money raised
individual
group
- best costume
- look-a-likes (owners and dogs dressed the same)
- farthest distance traveled



- biggest pet
- smallest pet
- youngest pet
- oldest pet
- longest tail

And extravaganza...

We'll have all kinds of fun all day long

- Check out the action.

9:00 am Check in on Railroad Street by the waterfront. Visit vendors and grab a bite to eat while you wait. And register for prizes at the contest tent.

9:30 am Learn clicker training from Green Acres Kennel Shop instructors so you can teach your dog how to walk nicely.

11:45 am Eastern Maine Agility Club
Marvel as amazing dogs leap over hurdles, weave through poles, and scale steep ramps in a race against time.

1:00 pm Green Acres Kennel Shop
Watch dogs work with their owners during clicker training – the same method used to train dolphins at Sea World.

1:30 pm Frisbee Tournament
Cheer for your favorite pooch. Or compete with your wonder dog – it's free to enter! (*registration begins at 1 pm*)

- Have fun with the kids.
bone toss | paw print paintings | coloring contest
face painting

- Visit our pet-related vendors and rescues.
Dogni Apparel Canine Coats
BONES Beagle Rescue Green Acres Kennel Shop
El Rancho Kennels *and more*



Lucky 7

It's true, they served cake and ice cream. Other than that, no one would have known it was a birthday party at all. But it was... a really special one!

Nine guests arrived at the Bangor Humane Society on July 7 to celebrate Whitney Thomas' 7th birthday (even though she'd already turned 7 on June 30). This year Whitney, a dedicated



animal lover devoted to four pet cats (Pumpkin, Finster, Precious, and Chocolate Chip), wanted a different kind of celebration. She was determined to do what she could to make a difference for her four-legged friends at BHS. And her birthday seemed the perfect opportunity. "I just want to help keep the animals alive," she said.

The fun started immediately. The kids filled tiny socks with catnip to create "happy socks." Some took a sock home to a furry feline friend, and they donated the rest to animals at the shelter. During a short tour, the children grabbed toys attached to cages and played with the cats and kittens through the bars. But the chance to pet baby bunnies was by far the highlight of the day. "I loved holding them," said Whitney. "They were so small and cute and soft and cuddly."

Still, what would a birthday party be without presents? "Better," said Whitney. "Instead of presents for me, my friends donated to the Bangor Humane Society. That was the best present of all!" Besides cash donations totaling \$110, partygoers got into the spirit of the day and also brought in cleaning supplies and food. "Pretty cool," said BHS Executive Director Jeff Mitchell.

The day was a dream come true for Whitney, but she'll have to see quite a few more birthdays before she realizes an even bigger dream – to become a veterinarian.

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