

WELCOME TO RESCUE, SWEET ONES

Welcome to rescue, babies.

Some of you are surrendered by families who can no longer care for you. Some of you are found wandering, tied to posts, or left inside empty buildings after everyone else has moved away. Some require days of patient trapping before we can bring you to safety. Sometimes we have a little time to find an open kennel and prepare for your arrival, and sometimes, there's no time at all.

We were loaded and ready to leave when we saw you. The van was full. Every crate and every available space had already been claimed. We had a plan. Rescue, as usual, had other ideas.



There you were—far too thin, obviously unwell, uncared for, and looking at us with eyes that seemed to ask the question we could not ignore: *Can you help me too?*

We just couldn't leave you. So somehow, we found room. Not in another kennel or an empty crate, because there were none. You rode away on the lap of the rescuer in the passenger seat—two dogs squeezed into the last possible place available. It wasn't the most elegant transportation plan we've ever created. But you were in the van, and you were coming with us.

That's rescue. It's counting kennels, checking with fosters, watching the budget, and deciding how many animals we can responsibly bring in. It is also seeing an injured, emaciated, or clearly suffering animal after every space has been filled—and beginning the calculations all over again.

We shift dogs, move crates, stretch budgets, and somehow make room where there is none. And when we can bring you with us, we are grateful.

You may not understand that yet. You don't know where we're taking you or whether the hands reaching toward you can be trusted. You don't know that food, medical care, and a warm bed are waiting. You only know that something has changed.

Welcome to rescue, babies. That full bowl is yours. You don't have to fight for it. That soft bed is yours too. You might circle it a few times or look at it as though it is some sort of elaborate human trick. But eventually, you will lie down. Your breathing will slow, your body will relax, and you will finally sleep deeply—with a full belly, in a warm room, where someone is keeping watch. We see your gratitude in that sleep. And we hope you can see ours too.

We are grateful for the sink full of dishes because it means hungry animals were fed. We are grateful for the bins heaped with laundry because they mean baths, clean towels, warm blankets, and soft beds.

Empty food cans and food bins mean full bellies. Muddy floors mean frightened feet made it through a safe door. Medication bottles mean pain is being treated and healing has begun.

Yes, it is work. There is always work—dishes, laundry, medications, appointments, feeding, walking, scrubbing, and sweeping again because dog hair is apparently a renewable resource.

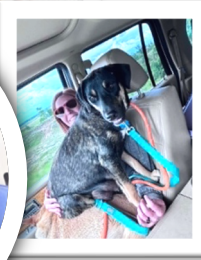
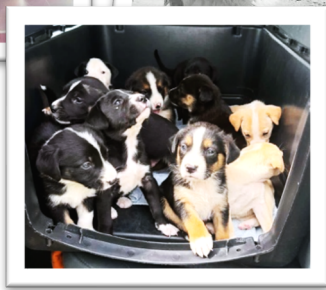
But we don't see only the work. We see YOU. We see an animal who was hungry and is now fed. One who was hurting and is receiving care. One who slept on the ground and is now tucked into clean bedding. One who had nowhere safe to go—but belongs here now.

Soon, you will have names. We'll learn your quirks, celebrate your first tail wag or purr, and take approximately 847 pictures trying to capture one perfect adoption photo. When you're ready, we'll help you find the people who will love you for the rest of your life.

But rescue CANNOT only be about finding you after you are already hungry, injured, or alone. We want something better for those who come after you. We want accessible spay and neuter services, vaccinations, basic veterinary care, education, and responsible pet ownership. We want communities to address overpopulation at its source so fewer animals are born into hunger, illness, abandonment, and fear.

Until then, we'll keep answering the calls, keep bringing the food, watching, planning, trapping, transporting, and making room.

We can't save you all. That truth breaks our hearts every time. But to those we can bring home—even when the van is full and the only space left is someone's lap: Welcome to rescue, babies. The beds are soft, the bowls are full, and **we are so very grateful you are here.**



SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT RESCUE

Some local businesses do more than serve great food, drinks, coffee, and entertainment—they help keep FFRR going. When you're making plans to go out, please consider supporting one of the places that supports our animals:

Tiff's Pub & Grub, Gideon's, and The Firepit in Bismarck; Harbor Bar & Grill in Coleharbor; Main Street Drive Thru & Liquor and 701 Venue in Mandan; and DJ's Pizza & Lounge, and Dakota Cat Café in Lincoln.

Each has something wonderful to offer—and every visit helps support a business that believes in our mission. You can also help by liking and sharing their social media posts. It costs nothing, takes only a moment, and helps spread the word.

When you support the businesses that support FFRR, everyone wins—especially the animals.



SAVE THE DATE-

WoofStock IS BACK!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, August 22, because one of our biggest—and most fun—events of the year is coming back!

Woofstock will have all the favorites: vendors of every kind, a live band, inflatables, mini-train rides, games for the kids, an incredible bake sale and silent auction, and 10 kids' bikes will be given away. You'll also find some amazing deals for your pets at our Fill-the-Bag Bargain Bonanza—make a \$10 or \$20 donation, grab the corresponding bag, and fill it with as much designated merchandise as you can possibly squeeze inside. Consider it a challenge. We believe in you.

And yes—**DockDogs will be back and even bigger this year!** After making a huge splash at last year's Woofstock alongside some talented FFRR alumni, the competition returns for both Saturday and Sunday. You truly do not want to miss it.

You can count on some of our adoptable animals joining the fun! We're hoping Woodstock might be the day a love connection is made and they find their forever people.

Admission is by free-will donation, so bring the family, invite your friends, and plan for a full day of fun that helps animals in need. More details are coming—but for now, **save the date: Saturday, August 22!**



ADOPTED DOGS

Brin, Zena, Sally, Popeye, Porky, Atlas, Sweeney, Bertie, Socks aka Kevin, Cami, Marley, Scarlett, Charlie, Cisco, Aspen, Sunny Girl, Inacht/Innie, Katniss, Echo, Shadow, Timmy, Rooster, Rain aka Dot, Alice, Gigi, Cooper, Minnie, Kiara, Grey, Rosie, Brownie, Max, Rockett, Pluto, Millie the Little, Kova, Maverick, Cocoa, Gemma, Paige, Nibbles

ADOPTED CATS

Mr. Chester, Nathan, Bert, Boris, Aster, Rosette, Gabby, Campeones, Ganache, Doyle, Apollo, Fondant, Cream Puff, Mommatu, Mack, Ross, Hulk, Tawny, Whisper, Schroeder 5, Schroeder 10, Sterling Black, Sterling Gray, Winnie, Jabani, Miracle, Amery, Creamsicle, Karen, Bitsy, Tonic

ADOPTED TURTLE

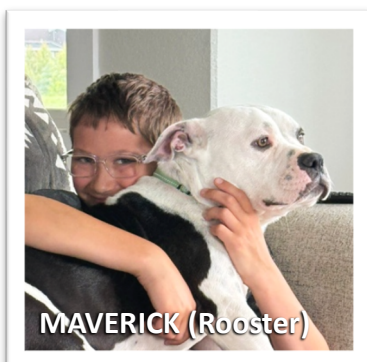
Bobbie

ADOPTED RABBITS

Douglas, Theodore

ADOPTED GUINEA PIG

Rocky

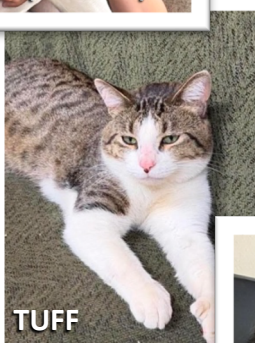


MAVERICK (Rooster)

HAPPY TAILS



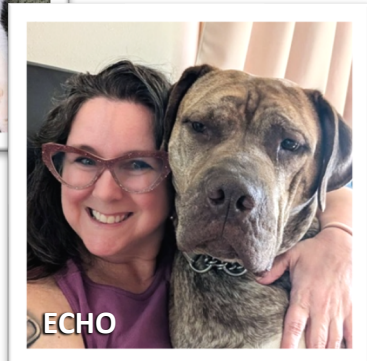
TAWNY



TUFF



love



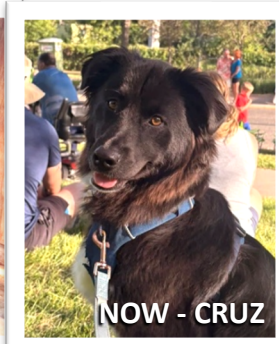
ECHO



WINNIE



THEN



NOW - CRUZ



Fireworks may be fun for us, but for our furry friends, they can be frightening and overwhelming. Every year, shelters see a heartbreaking increase in lost pets after Independence Day. It's the #1 day of the year for pets going missing.

Help keep your pets safe this holiday:

- Make sure they are wearing ID tags and are microchipped.
- Keep a current photo of your pet on your phone.
- Exercise them early in the day.
- Keep them indoors during fireworks and festivities.
- Create a quiet, safe space with calming music.
- Keep fireworks, sparklers, and grilling areas out of reach.
- **Never assume your pet won't run—fear can make even the calmest pet bolt.**



509

Animals currently
in our care

77

Furry Friends
adopted in
June



RESCUE MYTHS: BUSTED - WITH LOVE

Rescue comes with plenty of animals, plenty of laundry and, apparently, plenty of myths. Throughout this series, we've been taking a closer look at some of the things people commonly believe about animal rescue—and sharing what life behind the scenes actually looks like.

Some myths make us smile. Others make us sigh, refill our coffee and brace ourselves for the next phone call. But all of them are worth talking about, because when people understand what rescue is really facing, we can work together to prevent suffering and help more animals.

MYTH #8: Spay and neuter can wait. We'll be responsible.

Busted—with love, because we know most accidental litters were never part of the plan.

No one brings home a puppy or kitten thinking, "Someday, I'd like to be unexpectedly responsible for nine more of these."

Most people fully intend to schedule the appointment. But life gets busy. The animal seems too young. The cost feels difficult right now. One month turns into another—and suddenly, the dog who was still practically a puppy is having puppies of her own.

We see the results every day. Litters are born faster than homes can be found. Rescues and impounds fill up. Families who genuinely care about their animals find themselves overwhelmed, and puppies and kittens begin their lives without guaranteed homes, veterinary care, or protection.

Spaying and neutering is one of the most responsible and loving choices a pet owner can make. It prevents accidental litters, protects animals from the strain of repeated pregnancies and helps reduce the number entering an already overwhelmed rescue system.

We will always help whenever we can. But the truth is, rescue **cannot** adopt its way out of overpopulation. We cannot build enough kennels, recruit enough fosters or hold enough fundraisers to keep pace with an endless supply of unwanted litters.

Sometimes, the best rescue story is the one that never has to happen—the litter never born into uncertainty, the mother who never had to struggle and the animals who never needed rescuing in the first place.

Prevention may not come with dramatic before-and-after photos, but it saves lives all the same.

FACTS

MYTHS

THE TRUTH ABOUT SPAY AND NEUTER

Accidental litters don't always happen because people don't care. They happen because animals can reproduce much earlier—and much faster—than many people realize.

Spaying and neutering helps:

- Prevent unexpected litters.
- Reduce the number of animals entering rescues and impounds.
- Protect females from the physical demands of pregnancy and repeated litters.
- Eliminate the risk of certain reproductive cancers and serious infections. These are not rare, distant possibilities—we see them in rescue far more often than most people realize.
- Reduce some roaming and mating-related behaviors.

Most importantly, it gives every animal a better chance at a safe, healthy and wanted life.

UPCOMING EVENTS

B-I-N-G-O

Every Wednesday
DJ's Pizza & Lounge | 6 p.m.



B-I-N-G-O

Every Thursday, 6 p.m.
GIDEON'S BREWING COMPANY
Great Prizes | Cash Play only

WOOF WEDNESDAYS

Meet & Greet | July 15th & 28th
Lark's Baseball Games

BLACKJACK

Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays | 6 p.m.
DJ's Pizza & Lounge | 70 Santee Rd | Lincoln

PETSMART MEET & GREET

Every Saturday | 11am – 2pm

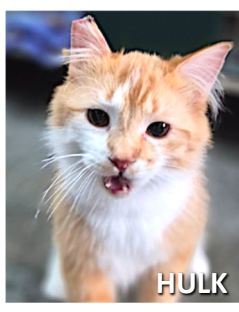
DOG TRAINING CLASSES

With Trainer Nancy Gerhardt
Basic | Intermediate | Advanced
Visit Eventbrite for details

KEEP YOUR EYE ON OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
MORE EVENT INFO!



LATKE



HULK



REGINA



ELLA BELLA



You don't have to foster every animal or make a huge donation to make a difference. Share a post, attend an event, support one of our partners, or tell a friend about rescue—small acts add up quickly around here.

These adorable faces are waiting for their forever families.



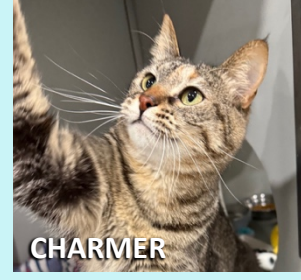
ARLO



RUSTY



MILLIE



CHARMER



JERRY



ZINGER



BOPPITT



BRUCE



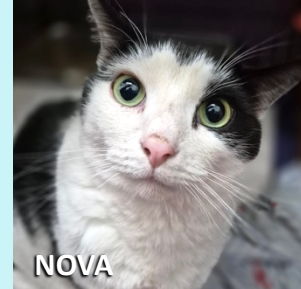
PIPER



VIDALIA



HANK



NOVA



GRETCHEN



DUDE



GINNY



LUNA



Rescue isn't one big moment—it's hundreds of small acts of kindness, generosity, and determination adding up to something life-changing. Thank you for standing beside us, supporting the people and businesses who support our mission, and helping us keep showing up for the animals who need us most.